Me NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIV, Number 81

12th Waxing of Waso 1368 ME

Thursday, 6 July, 2006

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

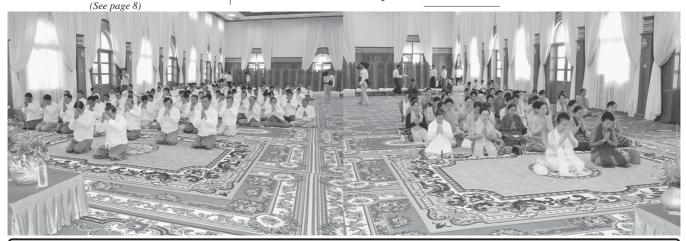
Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attend Waso robes offering ceremony of families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) of Ministry of Defence

Nay Pyi Taw, 5 July — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attended the Waso robes offering ceremony of families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) of the Ministry of Defence at Anawrahta Hall in Nay Pyi Taw at 9.15 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Magway Maha Withoddayama Taikthit Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Kumara and member Sayadaws, invited members of the Sangha, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commanderin-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, members of the State Peace and



Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party take the Nine Precepts from Savadaw Bhaddanta Kumara.—MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 6 July, 2006

Denounce all actions harmful to national interests

Some big nations in the West and destructive elements within and without the nation are making various kinds of accusations by exaggerating false news and making use of the news invented by anti-government organizations.

The regions in the Union of Myanmar where national races live are now developing as the government has built national unity. And the Union of Myanmar is constantly carrying out the national duty of eliminating narcotic drugs in close cooperation with her neighbours and UN organizations. In spite of all this, Myanmar has been accused of being one of the most dangerous nations where narcotic drugs are concerned.

Moreover, they made an unfounded accusation that Myanmar has the highest rate of HIV/AIDS cases in the region. However, according to the UN and WHO experts, the rate of HIV/AIDS cases in Myanmar is lower than that of Thailand and Cambodia.

The US Department of State placed Myanmar on tire 3 in the list of countries that are not conformity with the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of the American Congress, imposed sanctions on Myanmar and banned the import of products of factories in Myanmar. As a result, factories had to be closed and many young women became jobless. At this, authorities and departmental personnel and members of social organizations had to make special arrangements to prevent young women from falling victims to human trafficking.

The accusations of internal and external destructive elements are based on false and unfounded news invented by power-crazy elements and their masters behind the scenes. As these accusations are harmful to the interests of the entire nation, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation will always denounce such allegations.

Story telling competition held

YANGON, 5 July - Jointly organized by Myanma Radio and Television and No 3 Basic Education Department, the story telling competition at primary level was held at Studio (B) of MRTV

At the competition, Thingangyun BEPS No 8 won first prize, Kamayut BEPS No 2 second prize and Hline BEPS No 2 third prize. Sangyong BEPS No 12 got a consolation prize.

Then, officials of MRTV presented awards to winners.— MNA

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ့

လစဉ် လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)နှင့် နောက်ဆုံး ပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည့်ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ် များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ့ ဖြစ်သည်။

၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်စူလိုင်လအတွက်

(၉–၇–၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့

People's Desire

- 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

Information Minister receives Myanmar Affairs Scholar

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July Professor Robert H Taylor, a scholar of Myanmar affairs, called on Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Information, at his office in Nay Pyi Taw this evening.

Also present at the call were directorsgeneral, managing directors, deputy directors-general and head of office of the ministry.



Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives Professor Robert H Taylor. — MNA

Minister meets farming entrepreneurs in Taunggyi

YANGON, 4 July - Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein together with Director-General of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department U Maung Maung Nyunt and Director-General of Fisheries Department U Than Tun and responsible personnel arrived at the all-round farming camp of No 55 LID in Heho, Shan State on 30 June and inspected plantations for feedstuff and raising of pigs and attended to the needs.

The following day, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Thaung Aye and Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein made speeches at a ceremony to set-up Shan State Fishery Federation held in Taunggvi.

Next, the commander and the minister visited Thantzin and Aikmoung chicken cooperatives in Taunggyi and attended to the needs. Upon arrival at a laboratory of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, officer in-charge Dr Aye Aye Than reported to the commander and the minister on work.

Afterwards, the commander and the minister inspected plantations for feedstuff at the office of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department in Taunggyi and fulfilled the requirements. They met with farming entrepreneurs. The minister and the director-general held discussions on preventative measures against bird flu and they replied to the queries raised by those present.

MNA

Basic Football Coaching Course (1/2006) opens

Yangon, 5 July — Under the joint sponsorship of the Ministry of Sports and Ministry of Education, the opening ceremony of Basic Football Coaching Course (1/2006) conducted by Sports and Physical Education Department, No (3) Basic Education Department and Myanmar Football Federation was held at National Football Training Grounds (Thuwunna) this morning with an opening speech by General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General Thaung Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department.

Director-General U Aye | executives, guests, course | trainees. Kyu of No (3) Basic Education Department and officials President U Zaw Zaw of Myanmar

instructors and trainees.

Next. MFF President U Zaw Zaw presented sports suits and train-Football Federation and | ing equipment to the

Altogether 50 trainees are attending the course, which will last till 14 July.

NLM



It was also attended | Director-General U Thaung Htaik delivers an address at opening by officials of SPED, ceremony of Basic Football Coaching Course (1/2006). — NLM

Poll shows most Britons view US as cruel, vulgar

London, 4 July — Most British people view the United States as a cruel, vulgar and arrogant society, which is led by an incompetent hypocrite, according to a British newspaper poll published on Monday. In their damning verdict of the States, Britons also said America was riven by class divides and racism, as well as being crime-ridden and obsessed with money. The YouGov survey for The Daily Telegraph showed that Britons have never had such a low opinion of the leadership of the US. The poll found that only 12 per cent of Britons trusted them to act wisely on the global stage. This is half the number of people who had faith in the Vietnamscarred White House of 1975.

According to the poll, the majority of Britons think American culture and the actions of the present US Administration are making the world a worse place in which to live. A total of 77 per cent of respondents disagreed with the statement that the US is "a beacon of hope for the world".

More than two-thirds who offered an opinion said America was essentially an imperial power seeking world domination. And 81 per cent of those who took a view said US President George W Bush hypocritically championed democracy as a cover for the pursuit of American self-

In the YouGov poll, 54 per cent felt the US military was doing a bad job of helping to bring democracy to Iraq, and 67 per cent thought American troops were failing to win "hearts and minds" in the country.-MNA/Xinhua



Sri Lankan police officers leave for patrol duty at Kalpitiya, about 40 kilometres, (25 miles) north of Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 2 July, 2006. INTERNET

Singapore hosts 14th ASEAN Valuers **Association Congress**

SINGAPORE, 4 July-The 14th ASEAN Valuers Association (AVA) Congress opened in Singapore on Monday with the theme of "Valuation in Asia".

During the three-day meeting, participants from the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) will discuss issues such as regional competition and cooperation in valuation practice, maintenance and improvement of valuation competencies, as well as training and education of valuers.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Singapore's Minister of State for Finance and Transport Lim Hwee Hua said that the Congress "provides a valuable platform for networking and facilitating the understanding of regional real estate markets and crossborder transactions".

As of December 2005, the market capitalization of the Asian Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) has reached 31 billion US dollars, posting an annual compounded growth rate of over 200 per cent in less than five years, according to the minister.

She suggested that the valuation industry in Asia focus on three areas, which include promoting service innovation by using the latest technologies, upgrading practitioners' knowledge and competence, as well as organizing more training courses to promote the professionalism in the industry.

The bi-annual Congress is one of the major events organized by the AVA, which was constituted in 1981.

ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. — MNA/Xinhua



A woman gestures near the scene of a car bomb attack that wounded 10 residents and damaged a row of restaurants and shops in central Baghdad on 2 July, 2006.

INTERNET

Malaysia stepping up efforts to become net food exporter

Kuala Lumpur, 3 July—The Government together with the private sector is intensifying efforts to become a net food exporter by 2010 via a slew of initiatives which are already in place.

Malaysia currently imports RM17 billion worth of food products a year, but exports only RM10 billion, creating a trade deficit of RM7 billion. However, it plans to convert this trade imbalance into a surplus in four years. Agriculture and Agro-based Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Mohd Yassin said under the Ninth Malaysia Plan (9MP) (2006-2010), Malaysia's agriculture sector is on track to register a projected growth of 5.2 per cent.

According to a Bank Negara Malaysia report, the country's agriculture sector chalked a 7 per cent growth in the first quarter of 2006.

During the quarter, livestock sub-sector recorded a growth of 20 per cent, fisheries (11 per cent), rice growing activities (8 per cent) and agriculture produce (9 per cent). "Should this current growth trend continue, the sector could surpass the growth forecast of 5.2 per cent by 2010 ... but we have to keep on pushing ahead," Muhviddin told reporters in Kuala Lumpur vesterday.

Muhviddin said under the 9MP, the Government had allocated almost RM7 billion to kick-start several agriculture activities which cover palm oil, rubber, vegetables, livestock, fruits, fisheries and aquaculture.-Internet

More Mainland cities open flights to Hong Kong

Beijing, 4 July— With another 11 cities on Chinese Mainland having direct flights to Hong Kong, there are now 56 Chinese cities that fly directly to the region, sources with China's General Administration of Civil Aviation said here Monday.

The administration and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region have established new arrangements on aviation transportation, said the administration. The 11 new cities include five in northeastern China, one in eastern Shandong Province, three in western China, one in southwestern China and one in central China.

According to the new arrangements, a total of 35 airlines will fly to Hong Kong starting from the winter of 2006. There will be no restrictions on the number of flights the airlines can make.

MNA/Xinhua

US military faces shortage of elite forces

WASHINGTON, 4 July -The US military faces a shortage of elite forces needed to play a leading role in the war against terrorism, the USA Today newspaper reported on Monday.

Reasons for the shortage include intense training and retention, the

The shortfall of Army special operations staff, Navy Seals and Air Force combat controllers persists as the Pentagon seeks to expand the forces by 15 per cent over the next four vears to bolster the antiterrorism campaign, the report said.

The Navy has 2,352 Seals but is authorized for 2,684, the Naval Special Warfare Command was quoted as saying. Another unit of special warfare combatants of the Navy, which is authorized to have 653 people, has 563 people.

MNA/Xinhua



An European tourist takes a mud bath at the Sultaniye Thermal in Dalyan province of Mugla, Turkey, on 3 July, 2006. Thousands of tourists visit the Thermal for mud baths to help the healing of muscular disorders and rheumatism. — Internet

The passenger train coded "Qing 1" passes the Tanggula Mountain Pass with an altitude of 5,072 metres above sea level, the highest of world's railway, in southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, at 18:37 recently.—Internet

another with a parang,

smashed the car windows

before grabbing the bag

to be in his 50s, was slightly

injured from the broken

three hours later, police

arrested two Indonesians

at the Stulang Ferry

terminal and seized a bag

from them containing

RM185,000. The suspects

were on their way to Batam

Island.—Internet

The Singaporean, said

However, less than

containing the money.

စက်မှုစွမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

German peace activists plan protest ahead of Bush visit

BERLIN, 4 July—Peace activists are preparing to protest ahead of US President George Bush's state visit to Germany next week, local reports said Monday.

Some 30 peace organizations are pre-

paring to demonstrate during Bush's visit to Stralsund in northeastern Germany on 12-14 July, said German radio Deutsch welle in a report.

War and human rights issues will be at the centre of the demonstrations with the motto, which was also used during a February 2005 demonstration in Mainz, "Not welcome, Mr President."

"We're not against Bush personally, or against the US in general, but against the American war policy," Peter Strutynski from the National Committee of the Peace Council Organization in Stralsund told reporters.

Monty Schaedel from the German Peace Society said that participants, expected from as far away as Hamburg, Berlin and the Ruhr region, will demand that Bush and Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel "end wars" and "stop war plans".

Bush is visiting Stralsund because Merkel invited him during her trip to Washington in early May to visit her electoral district in the state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania

MNA/Xinhua

Porcelain drums show ancient exchanges between E China and W Asia

Nanchang, 4 July — Chinese archaeologists said pieces of newly unearthed porcelain waist drums in East China's Jiangxi Province indicate there were close links between the province and both central and western Asian countries more than 1,200 years

The drums were found at a site of celadon potteries of the Tang Dynasty (618 AD-907 AD) in Yugan County. The site also proved for the first time that Jiangxi's celadon history dates back to the Tang Dynasty, according to archaeologists.

The remains of the porcelain waist drums, also unearthed in the province for the first time, were

Man robbed of RM200,000 soon after leaving bank

Johr Baru, 3 July— This was a robbery waiting to happen. A Singaporean businessman walked into a bank in Taman Sentosa yesterday and quietly told a teller he wanted to withdraw RM200,000.

Five minutes later, after collecting the money and as he was about to leave, the teller called out to him loudly: "Sir, can you please count if you have RM200,000 before leaving the bank?"

There were about 50 Is customers in the bank and they all heard her remark.

Several sniggered, several looked shocked, while others looked at the Singaporean with a curious smile.

The Singaporean, however, was not amused. He chided the teller for announcing how much money he had withdrawn. He also lodged a complaint with the bank manager before leaving.

He got into his Jaguar and stopped at a traffic light junction less than 100m from the bank when his fears were confirmed.

A Proton Waja with three men inside blocked his path. Two men, one armed with a wrench and delicate in quality and were made with advanced skills, said Yu Jiadong, a researcher with the Jiangxi Provincial Cultural Relics and Archaeology Institute.

The unearthed drums, which are shaped like a dumbbell, are up to 40 centimetres in length, and the diameter of their drumheads can reach 20 centimetres, according to Yu.

This kind of waist drum was originally a percussion instrument popular among people in central and western Asian countries, Yu said.

The porcelain waist drums were export-oriented products in ancient China which suggests there were close economic and cultural exchanges between Jiangxi and central and western Asia, said Yu.

MNA/Xinhua



Contestants compete in the Nathan's Famous Hot Dogs eating contest in New York, on 4 July, 2006. Takeru Kobayashi (3rd from R) of Japan ate 53 and 3/4 hot dogs to win his sixth championship.—Internet

Flood washes away houses in Kathmandu

Kathmandu, 4 July — Flood in the local Bagmati River following torrential

rain Saturday night washed away at least nine houses in the Nepali capital Kathmandu, a local government official said here Monday.

"Nine houses are already destroyed, and one more is about to collapse at Pashupati temple vicinity, one of the cultural heritage sites of Nepal," Sthaneshwor Devkota, Chief District Officer of Kathmandu District, told reporters.

A total of 227 persons from 57 families have been displaced due to the flood at the area, Devkota revealed.

MNA/Xinhua

Chopper crash kills crewman in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 4 July —One crewman was killed and another injured when a US-led Coalition AH-64 Apache attack helicopter crashed in Afghanistan's southern province of Kandahar Sunday night, said the Coalition on Monday.

The helicopter was crashed shortly after taking off from Kandahar Airfield around 8:30 pm (1600 GMT) Sunday, said the Coalition in its latest news release.

One crewman was killed and one was injured and evacuated to the military hospital on Kandahar Airfield.

Aircraft were responding to a reported rocket attack against Kandahar Airfield when the *Apache* went down, it added. There were no injuries reported from the rocket attack.

MNA/Xinhua



Afghan soldiers search the site after a bomb explosion in Kabul, on 5 July, 2006. Bombs hit two buses taking Afghan government workers to their ministries in the capital, Kabul, on Wednesday and at least seven people were wounded, government officials said.

INTERNET

The people are always right

Chit Naing (Psychology)

An individual may be right or wrong, but a study of history shows that people have been always right in making collective decisions in the affairs of the nation. Under the efficient kings the people formed with their collective strength a united and formidable nation winning the respect of the neighbours. But during the reign of less-powerful and incompetent kings, the people lived and earned their living in their own way in the jurisdiction of the respective governors. Never in any page of our history had we seen ethnic cleansing resulting from racial or religious prejudices between the nationalities. Throughout the thousands-year old history and till now, the national races have been living in unity and amity on the contiguous landmass, partaking water from the same source. Lovingkindness has been the core of amity. Not any race whether it is a majority or minority has dominated and oppressed another race. It is the traditions and culture and customs of the national people that never encourage antagonism or hatred against others.

Whether the nationalities are of the same faith or race, what they have in mind has been the unity with which they have lived through thick and thin. Culture and lifestyle flows freely between one race and another resulting from the bonds of love having existed for many many years, albeit the differences in race and religion. For example, Myanmar language has adopted many words of Mon, Shan, Dawei and Rakhine dialects. This may be studied in the dictionary.

The people have witnessed the powerful strength of unity and amity, and also the weakness due to lack of unity. Throughout the successive eras, the people have the ability to distinguish between good and bad based on their experiences during war or peaceful periods.

History has witnessed the war-torn years during which people on both sides of the warring parties suffered loss of lives and limbs because of the man-made calamity. Women lost their husbands and families lost their fathers leading to a decline in the number of persons to run businesses especially farming, followed by the fall of crop yield that gave birth to a famine.

The evil consequences of war never stopped with famine. Pandemic broke out because of malnutrition. Hence wars always gave birth to three kinds of calamities — death and destruction, famine and pandemic. The people already have had the experience of war and its followers — the

The people do not want war, and they are no warmongers. Unrest and rebellion are never in their mind. They know very well about the evil consequences of confrontation or antagonism. What they adore is peace.

They know the taste of peace and of being free from wars, enjoying happiness, tranquillity and higher standard of living under peace and stability and the rule of law.

The entire people oppose and loath those who are trying to disturb and undermine peace and stability and development of the nation. They

oppose and hate and are against external elements attempting to divide the Union through various means. The people never support minions and axe-handles however much they are publicized and flattered by their masters. Throughout the successive eras of history, people were able to make right decisions.

There were political parties in Myanmar that tried to grab power through armed struggle line for over 40 years. But they never won public support. Instead, they became traitors relying on aliens as their dreams were distancing them away from public opinion. They met with their tragic end after facing severe public punishment.

No party that ever ignores public desire meets with a happy ending. People want to lead a peaceful and secure life. They are in favour of the rule of law and justice. They are eager to develop the nation at a greater pace. They have in mind to shape a better future. The Tatmadawmen have the same wish as the people.

The people oppose pessimists with evil and wicked plots of utter destruction and devastation, isolation and oppression to discredit Myanmar in the international community.

The people love and respect the Tatmadawmen who are good at always standing by them and daringly and calmly facing and warding off all the external and internal enemies bent on murdering and giving trouble to the people. They admire and rely on the Tatmadaw government that always proves with deeds, but not with words in building with might and main a large number of infrastructures within a short span of time. The people are determined to join hands with the Tatmadaw to eliminate all the external and internal enemies. The people are always right.

> (Translation: TMT) Myanma Alin: 5-7-06

The people do not want war, and they are no warmongers. Unrest and rebellion are never in their mind. They know very well about the evil consequences of confrontation or antagonism. What they adore is peace.



A cow gets stranded after a random running that hurts several pedestrians on a street inDalian on 2 July, 2006.

Thai Cabinet has new Secretary-General

Bangkok, 5 July — The Thai Government on officially appointed a new Secretary-General to the Cabinet said an official here.

Rongphol Charoenphanthu, former permanent secretary for the Office of the Prime Minister, was appointed to be the new Secretary-General to the Cabinet. replacing Mr Borwornsak Uwanno who resigned last Deputy Government Spokesman Danuporn Punnakan told a Press conference after a

Thaksin Shinawatra, was appointed to be the new Permanent Secretary for the Office of the Prime Minister. replacing Rongphol. The Cabinet also endorsed a Prime Minister's order on authorizing Deputy Prime Minister Liptapanlop to oversee government agencies which were previously under the supervision of former deputy prime minister Wissanu Krea-Ngam, who also resigned last month.

The agencies include Major-General the Office of the Council Peeraphan Prempooti, of State, the Office of the

adviser to Prime Minister | Civil Service Commission (OCSC) and the Office of Public Sector Development mission (OPSDC).

Meanwhile, the authorized Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office Newin Chidchob to look into draft Cabinet resolutions, a task formerly handled by Wissanu, the spokesman said. Newin was also authorized by the Prime Minister to supervise Mass Communication of Thailand (MCOT), the country's largest media organization.

MNA/Xinhua

Only with stability of the State, will lives of women...

(from page 16) monsoon and summer paddy has been doubled and that has ensured the region's surplus food. In addition, 18,722 acres of fallow and virgin lands have been reclaimed. On completion of the Paungnet Dam Project being implemented with an investment of K 3,622 million in Shwegu Township, Bhamo District, it will benefit more than 5,000 more cultivable acres. The output of fish and meat has been nearly trippled. It is running the fishery on 863 756 acres

It has a jade land and copper, gold, coal and ruby are produced in it. In 2005-2006 fiscal year, it produced over 2,740,000 kilos of jade. The Myanma Enterprise Gems discovered a jade boulder weighing more than 3,000 tons in Phakant Township,



Mogaung Bridge built to develop the transportation sector of Kachin State.

been upgraded. It has also seen 80 post offices, 28 telegraph offices, 46 fax stations, seven computer telegraph offices, 56 auto exchanges, 13 microwave stations, 17 rural auto exchanges, six e-mail and Internet centres and three satellite stations.

Myitkyina Union Highway, people can travel between the northern part and the southern part of the nation.

The government has made peace with Kachin Special Regions (1) and (2). And their contribution towards regional The government has development

State enjoved unprecedented progress.

The government is transforming the nation into a modern and developed one. It has designated 24 areas as development regions for ensuring equitable development of urban and has rural areas. Members of

people have been contributing towards construction of self-reliant roads and bridges of their own volition. Those who used the norms practised in western countries to make accusations of forced labour have not participated in the con-

women, owing to the sanctions imposed by certain western powers finding pretexts to install a puppet government, their encouragement and support for antigovernment groups that are perpetrating subversive acts to disrupt struction of a road or a stability of the State and

Those who used the norms practised in western countries to make accusations of forced labour have not participated in the construction of a road or a bridge

Kachin State.

Now the number of basic education schools in Kachin State has reached 134, and the number of teachers has been two times the previous figures with more than 280,000 students. In the past, there was only one degree college. Now, the region has been served with a university, two computer colleges and technological colleges. The number of its hospitals has risen to 44, up from 35. Moreover, one traditional hospital and five dispensaries have

constructed medium-scale hydropower stations. After 1988, government built 667 under-180-foot bridges and 33 over-180-foot bridges in Kachin State including 2,688 feet long Bala Min Htin Bridge. It has also constructed 124 miles of tarred roads, 190 miles of gravel roads, 259 miles of macadam roads and 16 miles of earth roads. Thanks to 350-mile Mandalay-Shwebo-Myitkyina Road and 417mile Mandalay-Tagaung-NgaO-Shwegu-Bhamoenhanced the spirit of national unity and Union

Due to their trust in the government, NDAK exchanged arms for peace on 15 December 1989 and KIO, on 24 April 1994 and they are now joining hands with government in the tasks for the progress of national races. So far, a total of K 200.93 million from the funds for the development of border areas has been spent for the development of the Special Regions (1) and (2). As a result, Kachin

affairs women's organizations at different levels are taking part in these tasks. So, the accusations on cleansing the ethnic groups are totally groundless.

With goodwill and loving-kindness, Myanmar people by nature make voluntary contribution towards the building of pagodas, monasteries, roads and bridges. Myanmar people were saddened when their voluntary contribution are labeled as forced labour.

From time immemorial. Myanmar national bridge. She said she objected the sanctions imposed and actions taken against the nation by the

Of the Kachin State's population of 1,422,890 people, 540,763 are Kachins; 416,775, Bamars; and 144,132, Shans. Regarding the religious faiths. Buddhists make up 5.81 per cent, Christians, 36.4 per cent, Hindus, 1.56 per cent, and Muslims 1.15 per cent and other faiths, 3.07 per cent. The accusations such as detecting, keeping a watchful eye and control of religious activities are absolutely baseless. Local people with different faiths have freedom of their religious activities.

In conclusion, she said that only with stability of the State, will the lives of women be secure. She said that she was deeply concerned over the security of the lives of the entire people including

peace, and various forms of fabrications

Next, the chairperson and leaders of respective working groups presented gifts to the outstanding members. chairperson accepted 7.100 membership applications.

Well-wishers made cash donations to the Kachin State WAO.

Forty-one Tatmadaw members. social organization members and well-wishers donated blood to Kachin State Hospital General in Myitkyina. The chairperson and party encouraged the blood donors and pre-sented gifts to them. They also grew 300 physic nut plants near the preprimary school of the Social Welfare Department in Thida Ward, Myitkyina, and inspected the feeding of nutritious cereals to the

Kachin State WAO chairperson said that only with stability of the State, will the lives of women be secure. She said that she was deeply concerned over the security of the lives of the entire people including women, owing to the sanctions imposed by certain western powers finding pretexts to install a puppet government, their encouragement and support for anti-government groups that are perpetrating subversive acts to disrupt stability of the State and peace, and various forms of fabrications.

The developments and new infrastructures stand witness...

(from page 16)

fingerlings to Yangon and Mandalay divisions and Kayah State. It is conserving Inlay Lake and its environs and protecting it against silting. Roads have been built to link southern Shan State and northern Shan State and other regions of the nation. The government has built 28 bridges in the state including major facili-

In the past the state has only 125 miles of railroad. Now new railroads including 37.5-mile Shwenyaung-Yaksawk railroad, 165-mile Nyaungshwe-Namhsam railroad and 101.92-mile Aungban-Pinlaung-Loikaw railroad have been built. Namhsam airport was built and Heho airport was extended to handle domestic jet passenger flights. Myanma Posts and Telecommunications erected 31 post offices, 15 telegraphic offices, 44 domestic fax stations, 26 telephone exchanges and ten rural telephone stations in the state.

Industries of 992 entrepreneurs were relocated in newly-established Ayethaya industrial estate that is producing cars, farm machinery and other goods. The estate also has foundries. The state now has two heavy power plants, one light power station, one steam-run power station, and 17 diesel-fired power stations. A 54-megawatt power station is under construction in the state. The Border Areas and National Races Development Project covers rural power supply programme. The state that is rich in mineral resources has extended its mining sector. A coal-fired power station in Tikyit village, Pinlaung Township is generating 120 megawatt of power. As part of the development of border areas 138 new schools have been built The state has two universities, two government computer colleges, two government technological colleges, and one education college. Not long ago, children in the borders areas of state lost opportunity to attend classes due to insurgency. Thanks to the preva-



Coal-fired power station being run in Tikyit Region in Shan State (South).

lence of peace and stability and the rule of law almost all the villages in the state has schools.

The Tatmadaw government laid down and implementing the 15-year narcotics elimination plan covering the New Destiny Project. It is combating the problem of drugs in accord with its two strategies and three tactics. From January 2006 to this date, the state seized 3.5427 kilos of heroin, 222.41217 kilos of opium, 355 kilos of morphine, 1609.693 litres of liquid opium, 1.53303 kilos of solid condensed opium, 201,888 stimulant pills, 652.5 kilos of ammonium chloride, 190 litres of hydrochloric acid and 818.5 litres of chemical liquid. It is also running rehabilitation centres, destroying poppy fields, and implementing alternative crops programmes. CCDAC provided K 12.7 million to the state to grow various kinds of alternative crops.

Shan State (South) has three districts, of them Taunggyi District is totally free from insurgency. Local nationalities in Loilem and Langkho districts are not able to enjoy peace fully because of the SSA (Ywet Sit) terrorist insurgent group that is active in the two regions. On 23 March 2005, SSA insurgents led by Sai

Chit burnt down 98 houses and two schools in five villages of Hopong Township. An SSA grenade attack injured 26 persons including two novice monks at a religious ceremony in Wanyein village, Laikha Township. SSA (Ywet Sit) terrorist insurgents led by Liya seized 14 villagers at Kadugyi village in Maukmai Township. The insurgents destroyed buildings and robbed workers of their valuables at a coal mine near Wanhok village, Kehsi Township. The insurgents seized 35 men for forced recruitment at villages in Laikha and Langkho townships. The Tatmadaw was able to save 14 persons including nine monks from forced recruitment of the SSA (Ywet Sit) terrorist insurgents. The insurgents stopped five passenger buses on Homein-Langkho road and robbed passengers of their money and valuables. The developments and new infrastructures stand witness to the fact that southern Shan State is enjoying progress in all sectors and prove that all slanderous accusations against it are wrong.

Members of the Shan State Organization for Women's Affairs presented gifts to winners in the competitions marking Myanmar Women's Day.

Entire women in Bago Division condemn...

(from page 16)

She said Bago Division is on the transport route and it is a significant one. There are 858 miles of roads and 2,202 bridges including 31 which are over 180 feet and above. Development of roads and bridges and community peace and tranquillity in Bago Division is very

The cultivation acreage in the division is over 1.7 million acres and the division produced over 110 million baskets of paddy and the surplus of paddy is over 70 million baskets. Altogether 28 dams were built in the division and there are over two million of irrigated farmlands and there 9,000 acres of fish breed-

In Bago Township, Indakaw Industrial Region was established and over 40 factories and workshops are in



Chairperson of Bago Division WAO Daw Khin Swe Nyunt speaking at the ceremony to mark Myanmar Women's Day. —MNA

Yenwe hydel power station which can generate 125 million kilowatt hours per year.

operation. Therefore local people are working in those

Six hydro-electric power projects in the division are under construction. In education sector, one university, one degree college, three colleges, basic education high, middle and primary schools and 79 monastic education schools were opened.

In health sector, health care services are provided to the people in the division after opening of 14 hospitals, 30 station hospitals, 85 rural health care centres, 390 rural health care branches and one nurses training school.

Despite government's endeavours for all-round development with the Union spirit, terrorist insurgents planted bombs in 2005-2006 and seven explosions were occurred in the division. Time bombs and mines were exposed in time in some townships with the cooperation of local people.

(See page 15)

Senior General
Than Shwe and wife
Daw Kyaing Kyaing
attend Waso robes
offering ceremony of
families of Defence
Services (Army, Navy
and Air) of Ministry of
Defence

(from page 1)
Development Council
and their wives, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy)

Chairman Sayadaw.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San also



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing offer sets of Waso robes to a Sayadaw. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing donate sets of Waso robes and provisions to a Sayadaw. — MNA

donated Waso robes and provisions to the Sayadaw. in-Chief (Air), the ministers, senior military officers and officials

General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet presented Waso robes and offertories to the Savadaw.

Likewise, Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe offered Waso robes and donations to the Sayadaw.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win presented Waso robes and alms to the Sayadaw.

Afterwards, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commanderin-Chief (Air), the ministers, senior military officers and officials donated Waso robes and offertories to the Sayadaws.

Secretary Nyaungdon Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Osadhabhivamsa delivered a sermon, and the Senior General and wife shared merits gained.

The ceremony concluded with three-time recitation of Bud-dha Sasanam Çiram Titthatu.

After the ceremony, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party offered 'soon' to the Sayadaws. — MNA

and the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and their wives, the Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command and wife, ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and their wives, families of the Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air).

The ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of Namo Tassa.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party took the Nine Precepts from the Chairman Sayadaw. Members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

The Senior General and wife offered Waso robes and alms to the



robes and alms to the | Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party offer 'soon' to members of the Sangha. - MNA

Vice-Chairman of the State
Peace and Development
Council Deputy Commander-inChief of Defence Services
Commander-in-Chief (Army)
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye
and wife Daw Mya Mya San
offer Waso robes and provisions
to a Sayadaw.—MNA





Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet donate Waso robes and alms to a Sayadaw.

MNA



Prime Minister General
Soe Win and wife
Daw Than Than Nwe
present Waso robes and
offertories to a Sayadaw.

MNA







Secretary-1
Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife
Daw Khin Khin Win offer
Waso robes and donations
to a Sayadaw.

MNA

Mon State Women's Affairs Organization in cooperation with MCWA, USDA, and specialist physicians provide free medical services

YANGON, 5 July - Mon State Women's Affairs Organization observed the Myanmar Women's Day in Mawlamvine on 3 July.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairperson of the organization Daw Nyein Nyein Htaik said that the Mon State Women's Affairs Organization has two district organizations, 10 township organizations and 463 ward and village organizations and 143,228 members. The Mon State Women's Affairs Organization conducted 302 courses, talks and workshops to enhance the qualification and patriotism of its members and to counsel victims. A total of 23,783 women attended them.

The organization in cooperation with Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Union Solidarity and Development Association and specialist physicians has provided free medical services for the people of ten townships in Mon State. It has also launched anti-AIDS activities. In the education sector, the organization has set up evening classes and adult learning centres, and has provided cash assistance to outstanding students. Over 2.8 million people including Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Bamar, Rakhine, Shan and Pa-O are living in

Mon State Organization for Women's Affairs conducted talks on prevention of violence against women and anti-human trafficking in the state. The organization has been cooperating with the respective bodies to take severe action against 27 male and female traffickers. The organization was able to save in time young women of Mudon, Paung, Chaungzon and Thaton Townships who were deceived for trafficking to the other country. It could send back 11 young men and 22 young women of $Shwepyitha\,Township\,in\,Yangon\,Division\,and\,Than atpin$



Mon State WAO Chairperson Daw Nyein Nyein Htaik delivers a speech at the ceremony.-

Township in Bago Division home before they were lured | Myanmar as a nation trafficking in persons is totally into going to the other country.

In 2005, Mon State Organization for Women's Affairs was able to send back home 194 victims of human trafficking. The organization rendered assistance to Social Welfare Department to bring back 13 women and five men who were detained by the Social Welfare Department of the other country to their families in Myanmar. Thus, accusations of some other nations against wrong. It is clear that Myanmar has been effectively curbing human trafficking and traffickers.

Mon State Organization for Women's Affairs conducted anti-narcotic drug talks for 121 times in the state. Although Mon State has no poppy cultivation or illicit drug production, it is not totally free from crossborder trafficking. On 10 July 2004, Mon State seized 592.9 kilos of heroin and 240 stimulant tablets valued at US\$ 72 million. It was able to expose the traffickers and related persons in cooperation with the respective bodies of the other country. It is obvious that Myanmar has been cooperating with international bodies in addition to regional organizations in eliminating drugs. The country has been curbing transnational crimes. Hence Myanmar is not a country that ignores the drug elimination drive and is weak in curbing human trafficking.

Thanks to government-built dams and sluice gates, Mon State can now effectively utilize its land and water resources. Double paddy cropping and mixed cropping have helped increase per capita income of the local people. The government has built major and minor bridges, tarred roads, growel roads and earth roads in addition to the Mawlamyine Railway Station in Mon State.

Members of the organization presented gifts to those who won the respective competitions hailing Myanmar Women's Day. Cash donations were also presented to the organization at the ceremony. - MNA



Mawlamyine Station puts into commission on Myanmar New Year Day (17-4-2006). — MNA

It is only the insurgents, not villagers, who have taken shelter in a neighbouring country as refugees It is only insurgents who pose a threat to regional peace Taninthayi Division WAO holds Myanmar Women's Day

YANGON, 5 July - Taninthayi Division Women's Affairs Organization celebrated Myanmar Women's Day on 3 July in Myeik, Taninthayi Division.

In her address, Chairperson of Taninthayi Division WAO Daw Aye Aye Kyaw briefed on the division WAO's efforts to curb human trafficking in the division.

Action was taken against 116 culprits - 91 men and 25 women — so far in 56 cases of human trafficking in the division, 2.789 were sent back to their own regions before they fell victims to the human trafficking and 569 victims were saved, she said.

According to Daw Aye Aye Kyaw, majority of the population in the division are rural people and they are lack of general knowledge and awareness of human trafficking and believed lies of traffickers. This is the reason why some fell victims to the human trafficking.

Taninthavi Division is located in the southern-most

part of the country and a transit to a neighboring country. In an attempt to curb the human trafficking in the region, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation organized the workshop on prevention of human trafficking joining hands with Myanmar Police Force and UNIAP at Kawthoung. Moreover, the division WAO had conducted educative talks on human trafficking for 22 times, she

Regarding the environmental conservation, Taninthayi Division WAO conducted tree planting ceremonies in cooperation with other NGOs and so far over 4.5 million of plants have been grown. The division is 2215.39 sq miles in area and there are 4,526 acres of reserve forest and 357 acres of protected public forest in it. Over 9,795 acres of forest plantations and 7,275 acres of wood plantations have been established.

(See page 15)



Taninthayi Division WAO Chairperson Daw Aye Aye Kyaw presents prize to an outstanding athlete.-MNA

Creation of job opportunities for local women reflect decline of cases in human trafficking in Rakhine State Rakhine State WAO observes Myanmar Women's Day 2006

YANGON, 5 July - A ceremony to mark the Myanmar Women's Day organized by Rakhine State Women's Affairs Organization was held at U Ottama Hall in Sittway on 3 July morning.

On the occasion, Chairperson of Rakhine State WAO Daw Kyi Kyi Wai delivered an address. She said that as part of flourishing religious affairs, Rakhine State has been preserving ancient pagodas and statues built in BC 600. All the Rakhine women have the spirit to realize the nationalism. Improvement of Rakhine culture in changing the traditional costumes can be observed at Dokkathein Pagoda and other stupas in MraukU by reviewing cultural works of statues being flourished in the Neolithic Age to Danyawady, Vesali, Laymyo and MraukU periods. To hand down 60 methods of traditional hair styles to new generation, Rakhine State WAO organized the traditional costume fashion shows, hair style shows and traditional dancing contests. The women play a key role in preserving and safeguarding the cultural heritage and national character. Rakhine women are willing to accept the concept that all the women are to serve the duty to safeguard the land and the nationals. Therefore, voice of some countries with the use of media that Rakhine State has racial discrimination and lack of religious freedom were only one-sided accusations.

Over 3 million population are residing in Rakhine State and the state is constituted with four districts, 17 townships and three sub-townships. In implementing the education plan in Rakhine State, one university, one Government Computer College, one Education College, one Government Technological College and one Government Technical Institute have been opened. In the basic education sector, 57 Basic Education High Schools. 136 BEMSs, 2,515 BEPSs, 32 BEHSs (branch), 27 BEMSs (branch), one BEPS (branch), 13 Affiliated BEHSs, 209 Affiliated BEMSs, 16 pre-primary schools and 77 monastic education schools have been opened. In the 2005-06 academic year, Rakhine State stood first in the entire nation with 37.97 per cent pass rate of matriculation examination. Due to flourishing traditional culture and having good situation in the education sector, only least number of human trafficking cases occurred in

According to the documentary photos in 1997 through satellite, Rakhine State was covered with 46.63 per cent of forest area and 64,752 hectares of mangrove forest. Till today, international scholars are studying the best conservation of bio-diversities at 88-square-mile Wunphaik mangrove forest in Yambye. The mangrove forests of Myanmar could block tsunami waves that occurred on 26 December 2004. The authorities of the state cooperates with Forest Department to prevent depletion of mangrove forest and organize the people to use wood-substitute fuels. In 2005-06, mangrove forest were replanted in the vacant areas as part of the



Three-storey main building of Government Technological College (Sittway) in Rakhine State.

environmental conservation. Therefore, local people have the opportunities to extend business of marine products

With regard to the transport sector, local people travel from Sittway in northern part of Rakhine State to Gwa Township through 413 miles motor road along An, Maei, Taungup and Thandwe. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe inaugurated 635 miles long Sittway-An-Minbu-Yangon Road and 407 miles long Kyaukpyu-Taungup-Pyay-Yangon Road on 17 April 2006. Now, island circular road Thandwe-Gwa-Ngathainggyoung-Yangon Road measuring 223.5 miles road is under construction.

From 1988-89 to date, 47 bridges above 180 feet have been built in Rakhine State. Wunphaik Bridge on Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road and Kyauktan Bridge on Yangon-Sittway Road are under construction, Local people in Rakhine State have easy access not only to

The Government had laid down and is implementing four economic objectives in line with decentralization, development of private sector, termination on price control, allowing direct foreign investment, institutional reforms and financial systems.

Yangon but also to other townships in a short time by enjoying fruitful results of the transport sector. Therefore, economic growth of the state reflects realization of the Union Spirit and patriotic spirit. Creation of job opportunities for the local women reflect decline of cases in human trafficking in Rakhine State.

As Rakhine State is rich in aquatic resources, it is making progress in fishery. Fresh water and sea prawn breeding farm is one of the development matters of the state. Rakhine State earns foreign exchange from the fishery sector. Establishment of cold storage, ice factories and canning factories creates job opportunities to the local women. To attract tourists, one of the famous relaxation area namely Ngapali Beach is being preserved. For rising family income of the local people, Rakhine State WAO had opened bakery courses, cookery courses, receptionist courses and tailoring courses. In addition, the organization is undertaking small loan service. In the state, the increased number of factories, workshops and fishery works cut jobless number.

The Government had laid down and is implementing four economic objectives in line with decentralization, development of private sector, termination on price control, allowing direct foreign investment, institutional reforms and financial systems. It is not true that Myanmar did not carry out any economic reform. In transition period from the central planning economic system into the market economic system. opportunities for private sector and good infrastructures for business and economic policies were created for development of market economy.

As regards the FDI, Government promulgated the Union of Myanmar Investment Law to encourage the private sectors in 1988. Law promulgation played an important role in reforming the economic system as well as in the reformation and development of the whole economic system. Furthermore, the Myanmar Citizens Investment Law was promulgated in 1994. The Government gives priority to economic growth of the basic strata. In 1992, the Government constituted the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas for National Races and Development Affairs for ensuring equitable development for all regions of the nation. In conclusion, the chairperson said that today, it is witnessed that Ministry of PBANRDA is undertaking uplift of living standard of the local people in rural areas and border

Next, the Chairperson of Rakhine State WAO and responsible persons presented certificates of honour and prizes to winners in the essay contest and 32 outstanding women. Wellwishers donated K 1 million to the Chairman of the WAO and officials. On 1 July, Rakhine State WAO organized the ceremony to plant trees in the precinct of Lawkananda Pagoda as a gesture of hailing the Myanmar Women's Day. — MNA



With the length of 2,704.2 feet, Minkyaung Creek Bridge in Rakhine State is the longest one among the 13 completed major bridges built on Taungup-Kyaukpyu road section in Rakhine State in the time of the Tatmadaw Government.

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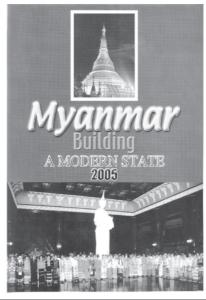
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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV BANG SA PHAN VOY NO (48)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANG SA PHAN VOY NO (48) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.7.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W.(3) 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.

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4.5 tons of marijuana seized in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO,4 July- The Brazilian authorities seized about 4.5 tons of marijuana in three operations over the weekend, local media reported on Sunday.

In the first operation, the Narcotic Investigations Agency seized 2.5 tons of marijuana in two houses in Cotia of Sao Paulo and arrested Manoel Marques Filho, 42.

MNA/Xinhua

Gong Li, Zhang Ziyi vie for "Queen" of Oscars

Beijing, 4 July — Chinese director Zhang Yimou's martial arts films "Curse of the Golden Flower" and Feng Xiaogang's "The Banquet" are the two hottest movies in China this year to receive nominations for the Best Foreign Film Award at the 79th Academy Awards

The movies pit the two lead actresses, Gong Li of "Curse of the Golden Flower" and Zhang Ziyi of "The Banquet," up against each other.

Zhang Ziyi will promote her film "The Banquet" at this year's Venice Film Festival along with cast members Ge You and Zhou Xun. The film will premiere in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan on 15th September.

'Curse of the Golden Flower" is scheduled to hit cinemas during the Christmas season.



Gong Li -INTERNET

The Academy Award nominations will be announced in January and the 79th Awards ceremony will be held on 25 February, 2007.—Internet

Drug addiction in Malaysia worse than expected

KUALA LUMPUR, 4 July- The problem of drug addition in Malaysia is worse than expected, a local newspaper reported on Monday.

The actual number of drug addicts could be three

times higher than the official figures which registered 296,000 drug addicts nationwide in Malaysia, the New Straits Times quoted Malaysian Deputy Internal Security Minister Mohd Johari

Baharum as saying.

Johari on Sunday said that he believed that the actual figure of addicts in Malaysia could stand between 900,000 and 1.2 million, according to the newspaper.--MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဗွံ့ဖြူးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Discovery lifts off from Cape Canaveral on Independence Day

Washington, 4 July — Space shuttle Discovery lifted off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, at the scheduled time 2:38 pm (1838 GMT) on 4 July to become the second space flight after the Columbia disaster in 2003.

'Discovery" on way to space crew will test new equipment and station The shuttle, carrying seven crew members, soared into partly cloudy Florida skies in a thunderous blast of smoke and fire. Two minutes after launch, Discovery's solid rocket boosters cleanly separated from the shuttle.

This is the 18th US flight to the International Space Station and the 32nd flight for Space Shuttle Discovery, and also the first manned launch by the United States on the nation's birthday, just like "a nice fireworks display" for America.

During the 12-day mission, the

procedures to improve shuttle safety, as well as make crucial repairs to the station. At least two spacewalks are planned.

One crew member Thomas Reiter, the astronaut from the European Space Agency, will remain with Expedition 13 crew on the station for a six-month stay.

In Discovery's payload bay, the multi-purpose logistics module Leonardo, built by the Italian Space Agency, will deliver supplies, equipment and tools on its fourth trip to the station.

Internet



The space shuttle Discovery lifts off from the launch pad at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida, the United State, on 4 July, 2006.—Internet

US to sell "F-16" fighters to Pakistan

WASHINGTON, 4 July The United States announced plans on Monday to sell up to 36 F-16 fighters to Pakistan, in a deal that was valued at about 5 billion US dollars.

The proposed sale included 18 new F-16 aircraft, and an option to purchase another 18 new planes, a support package for up to 26 used F-16 fighter, an upgrade for Pakistan's current fleet of 34 F-16s, and logistical support, White House spokesman Tony Snow said in a statement.

Pakistan was a major non-NATO ally for the United States and had cooperated closely with Washington in the war against terrorism, said Snow."This proposed sale demonstrates our commitment to a longterm relationship with Pakistan," he said.



Technicians help Mission Specialist Lisa Nowak (C) into her seat aboard the shuttle Discovery as seen in this still from a NASA TV grab, as NASA prepares to launch the spacecraft on 4 July, 2006.—Internet

Zambia able to produce quality goods for world market

Lusaka, 4 July — Zambia is now able to produce internationally competitive quality goods for the global market owing to the enhancement of standards in many areas, Times of Zambia reported on Monday.

Commission (ZCC) executive director George Lipimile was quoted as saying that the quality of many local products exhibited at ongoing Zambia International Trade Fair

MNA/Xinhua

Zambia Competition | in Ndola, the capital of Copperbelt Province, are as good as the foreign goods, which means that Zambian manufacturers have make positive strides in improving the quality of the products.

> He said in Ndola that small scale miners have also made progress in adding value to the gemstones by polishing and cutting the stones, a development that has made Zambian stones popular on the international gemstone market apart from the natural good quality of the local stones.

> He said many new manufacturers exhibited at the fair this year and attributed the increase the number of

manufacturing companies to the positive economic strides of the southern African country

MNA/Xinhua

Study says bird extinction to speed up

Los Angeles, 4 July — The actual rate of bird extinction is much higher than previous estimates, and likely to increase dramatically mainly due to the impact of human actions, according to a study published on Monday.

Over the next decades, at least five bird species could extinct annually, while about 1,300 endangered bird species could expire over the next century, the scientists predicted.

The study, led by Duke University professor Stuart Pimm, appeared in the July 3 edition of the Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences.

Earlier studies believed only about 130 of the 10,000 bird species are known to have gone extinct since 1500, with a rate of roughly one species extinction every four years

But Pimm and his colleagues indicated this estimate might have

overlooked three factors: the continual identification of extinct species from skeletal remains, numerous missing species that have not yet been declared extinct. and extinction rates not using the date the bird was first identified as a baseline since most species of birds are known only after 1850.

With all these factors taken into consideration. the researchers said, the bird extinction rate since 1500 is closer to one extinction per year, although it could be even higher if not for recent bird conservation efforts

MNA/Xinhua



A pack of riders cycles past a group of masked spectators during the 3rd stage of the 93rd Tour de France cycling race between Esch-Sur-Alzette in Luxembourg, and Valkenburg in the Netherlands, on 4 July, 2006.—INTERNET

Canadian journalist shot dead by girlfriend in Thailand BANGKOK, 4 July — A Canadian journalist living in

Thai northern city of Chiang Mai was shot to death by his girlfriend during an argument, police said Monday. George Patrick Dubie, 52, was killed on Sunday night by his girlfriend, Margaret Crane, 48, who was detained shortly after the shooting.

It is reported by local media that Dubie had been working as a freelance journalist for CNN, but the CNN Bureau in Bangkok said they had no knowledge of the man. According to witnesses, the couple met at a restaurant in downtown Chiang Mai and had a big argument when the woman pulled out a pistol and opened fire to Dubie three times before fleeing by car. Dubie died at the spot. — MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Blatter condemns new trend of feigning injury

Berlin, 5 July — FIFA president Sepp Blatter criticized the growing practice by players of feigning injury in an attempt to pressurize their opponents into kicking the ball into touch to stop a promising attack.

"Lying on the ground and pretending to be injured is just abusing (the convention) of stopping play for injury," said Blatter.

"It is just cheating and we must look at this in the future. I have seen it myself and I do not like it.

"The fans don't like it, but what it does is: it makes the team with the ball stop when perhaps there is nothing wrong."

There has been an increasing tendency of this practice at the World Cup and Blatter is also against the growing trend of players trying to get other players booked by wagging an imaginary card at the referee.

"I agree that there is an exuberance of the players going towards the referee and inviting him to show cards.

"This is a tendency that at the beginning of the World Cup I didn't see but now in the decisive matches it is happening."

Play can be stopped immediately by the referee if he suspects a player has suffered a serious injury, but increasingly at the World Cup, referees have let play continue, only for the team with the ball stopping play by putting it into touch.

The practice is not enshrined in the laws nor is it part of the regulations of the World Cup but has become an established practice of "good sportsmanship" in recent years.

MNA/Reuters

Second false start in Italy's match-fixing trial

ROME, 4 July — Italy's biggest soccer trial made a second false start on Monday when a series of legal objections raised by defence lawyers prevented questioning of the four top clubs and 26 officials facing match-fixing charges.

Champions Juventus, AC Milan, Lazio and Fiorentina risk being thrown out of the top Serie A league as well as European competition if found guilty of conspiring with referees to rig matches. Individuals face hans

Tribunal president Cesare Ruperto adjourned the trial after about three hours to consider objections raised in the morning session.

It was due to restart at 4pm (1400 GMT), but eventually reconvened at 7.40pm (1740 GMT) -- too late to prevent another day slipping by without questioning and was due to resume on Tuesday.

The trial at Rome's Olympic Stadium opened last Thursday, but was immediately adjourned until Monday to allow five Serie B clubs hoping for promotion -- Bologna, Brescia, Lecce, Messina and Treviso -- to prepare their cases.

MNA/Reuters



Russia's Maria Sharapova plays a shot to Russia's Elena Dementieva during their quarter-final match at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London on 4 July, 2006. —INTERNET

Late goals drive Italy to final

DORTMUND, 5 July — Goals in the last two minutes of extra time by Fabio Grosso and Alessandro del Piero spared Italy the agony of another World Cup shootout and sent them to the final with a deserved 2-0 win over Germany on Tuesday.

The match seemed destined for penalties after 119 minutes of high-intensity action in which Italy gradually took charge, hitting the woodwork twice at the start of extra time.

The predominantly German 65,000 crowd were quite happy with that prospect knowing their side had won all four of their previous World Cup shootouts while Italy had lost all three.

However, Italy poured forward and Grosso ended the hosts' dreams with a superb curling shot and Alessandro del Piero, one of two attacking substitutions by coach Marcello Lippi, finished it off with the killer second. Italy will now play in the final for the sixth time, seeking their fourth win, against either France or Portugal who meet in the second semifinal in Munich on Wednesday.

"It would have been a great shame if we had not won this match on the pitch. Even if it had gone to penalties we would have deserved to go through," Lippi said. "Tonight we played better than the Germans



Germany's Jens Lehmann (1) lets in a goal by Italy's Fabio Grosso (not pictured) during their World Cup 2006 semi-final soccer match in Dortmund on 4 July, 2006.—INTERNET



Germany's Miroslav Klose (L) battles for the ball with Italy's Gianluca Zambrotta during their World Cup 2006 semi-final soccer match in Dortmund on 4 July, 2006.—Internet

in front of 50,000 of their fans in their own backyard.

"These lads never gave up, they kept on attacking right to the end. Now we want to complete the task on Sunday." Italy go into the final having conceded just one goal in six games — and that an own goal — and they defended superbly again on Tuesday.

The first half was played at a terrific tempo but generally both defences were able to cope with the threat

The end-to-end approach continued after the break though neither side were able to muster the necessary precision to force the goalkeepers into serious action and Sebastian Kehl, in for the suspended Torsten Frings, and Italy's Gennaro Gattuso were both dominant in screening their defences.

MNA/Reuters

Swiss club president banned for 2-1/2 years for attack

Berlin, 5 July —The president of Swiss cup winners FC Sion has been banned from all soccer activities for 2-1/2 years after he attacked a lines man in December 2004.

The Swiss Football Association said it was forbidding any of its clubs from dealing with Christian Constantin during the 30-month period "with the consequence that Constantin will not be able to act as Sion president during the length of the ban".

The association said in a statement on Tuesday it had also fined Constantin 5,000 Swiss francs (4,000 US dollars).

A criminal court in Lucerne has already handed Constantin a six-week suspended sentence for his actions following a 2-2 draw with Kriens.

The court found that Constantin had deliberately tripped referee Markus von Kaenel as he ran from the pitch pursued by Sion fans angry at his decision to award the home side a stoppage time penalty.

Constantin then kicked linesman Jose Antonio Gonzalez in the groin, rendering him unconscious for around five minutes.

MNA/Reuters

FIFA to consider three yellow-card ban

BERLIN, 5 July — Players are likely to be suspended from playing in future World Cups after receiving three yellow cards in a round and not two as happens now, FIFA president Sepp Blatter said on Tuesday.

Blatter, speaking to journalists at FIFA's daily briefing, said: "In a competition like the World Cup it should perhaps be three yellow cards in the first round and three in the second. This is a wise suggestion and we will take it up."

He said there would be no change to the current rules in matches with two yellow cards still leading to a sending-off. There is no intention to change that, he said.

But he added: "In some national leagues, players are suspended after three, four or five matches and three yellow cards in the World Cup makes sense.

"A player can go into the semifinals now with one yellow card, sometimes for bad luck, and get a second one then miss the World Cup final.

"On a larger scale, the referees should also be more consistent with yellow cards. It is something we must look at."

A record number of 27 red cards have so far been shown in the finals, but Blatter said that after some problems in the middle of the competition, the refereeing had returned to the high standard seen at

the start of the tournament.

In the last World Cup, Germany captain Michael Ballack missed the final because of a second yellow card. Germany went on to lose the match 2-0 to Brazil in Yokohoma in Japan.

MNA/Reuters

Blatter regrets criticism of referee Ivanov

Berlin, 5 July — FIFA President Sepp Blatter said on Tuesday he regretted criticizing Russian referee Valentin Ivanov for his handling of the heated second-round World Cup match between Portugal and the Netherlands.

"I would just like to say that I regret what has happened," Blatter told reporters at FIFA's daily news briefing. "I regret what I said about his actions in the match between Portugal and the Netherlands."

Ivanov set a World Cup finals record on June 25 in Nuremberg by sending off four players and handing out eight additional yellow cards. Both the Portuguese and the Dutch finished the match, which Portugal won 1-0, with nine men.

Blatter was quoted on Portuguese television after the clash saying that Ivanov should have yellow-carded himself for his poor refereeing performance.— MNA/Reuters

Entire women in Bago Division ...

(from page 7)

Those who involved in the explosions were arrested and the security units removed planted mines in six incidents in time.

She said she would like to present atrocities of insurgents. Thabyaynyunt Village, 30 miles from Toungoo, is between Htantabin Township in Division Bago Thandaung Township in Kayin State. It is a big village where national races such Kayin, Bamar and PaO live Under the arrange-

ments of the government those who returned to the legal fold settled in the village. The insurgents burnt down the village and KNU attacked innocent people. Local and foreign journalists and diplomats visited the incident in May 2006.

National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma (NCGUB) made accusations that thousands of Kayin nationals in Nyaunglebin, Thandaung and Toungoo regions fled to the other country due to the Tatmadaw's offensive

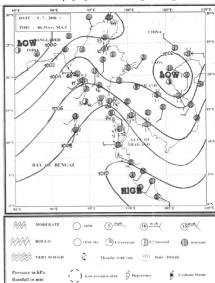
and villagers were homeless. Evidences showed that their accusations were not true. She said the entire women in Bago Division condemned the terrorists who planted mines, and anti-government organizations that rendered assistance to them.

She said she hears that the anti-government organizations and the insurgents in the border areas are trying to submit reports based on made-up facts to the UN Security Council in order to exclude Myanmar

from international communities. The facts in the reports are wrong and contradict the prevailing conditions of Myanmar. She said FTUB and NCGUB do not represent the people of Myanmar and they are just terrorist organizations.

Next, officials concerned presented gifts to those who received Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Theingi, Thiri Thudhamma Theingi and Thiha Thudhamma Theingi titles and prizes to winners of essay contests in commemoration of Myanmar Women's Day and other contests. — MNA

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



It is only the insurgents, not villagers,...

(from page 10) Chairperson

Taninthayi Division WAO Daw Aye Aye Kyaw criticized exile groups for their accusations of human rights against Myanmar.

She said that Myanmar government has carried out genocide is totally false accusations. While striving for the development of national races in border areas. the government has fought a handful of enemies so that community peace and tranquillity can prevail in the areas. As the division shares a long border with a neighbouring country and has a plenty of rivers, creeks and forests. Besides, the region is heavily forested, it serves the strongholds of

insurgents. They extorted money from travellers, committed armed robberies, planted mines and destroyed roads and bridges harming to peace and stability of the region.

She continued to say that KNU insurgents committed an atrocity in 2005. On 21 April 2005, a 92member excursion group of the Geology Department of Dawei University was attacked by KNU near Heindar Village, Kaleinaung Sub-Township, on their way to Pindaya/ Taunggyi. A total of 8 peonle—one assistant lecturer, three students, two people and two policemen were killed and 15 were injured.

There is an accusation

that the Government destroyed villages in the division and forced villagers to leave the region. It is also a false accusation. Taninthavi Division is home to over 15 million of people and comprises three districts, 10 townships,six Sub-Township 264 villagetracts 83 Wards and 1,230 villages. When sub-townships were established for better administration, villagers moved of their own accords to other areas where business is brisk and local authorities also provided assistance to them. Another reason is that they do not want to give extortion money to insurgents and to avoid the recruitment. It is only the insurgents, not vil-

lagers, who have taken shelter in a neighbouring country as refugees. It is only insurgents who pose a threat to regional peace.

Concerning the accusation of forced labours in the region, she continued to say that Unocal Myanmar Offshore Co Ltd was accused of forced labour when it laid a gas pipeline in Dawei Township. After looking into the case in 28 villages for 11 times, an investigation group led by Director-General of the Labour Ministry U Chit Shein confirmed that there was no forced labour. Besides, Liaison Officer of ILO Mr Richard Jose made field trip to villages in Launglon Township, Dawei District, from 18 January, 2006 to 21 January 2006 and met with villagers. We regret that ILO's decisions were not based on labour affairs in Myanmar but on voices of

opposition groups. In 2005, Mr Va'clav Havel and Bishop Desmond M Tu Tu tried to send a paper—Threat to the Peace: A Call for the UN Security Council to Act in Burma — to UN Security Council. Only when a nation poses a threat directly to regional and community peace, shall the topic be discussed within the rights of UN Security Council. Myanmar has good relations with neighbouring countries.

Some big countries interfered in internal affairs of Myanmar. In conclusion, on behalf of Mvanmar women, she pledged to strive for the interests of the country with patriotic spirit.

At the ceremony, personnel of Taninthayi Divithe division WAO.

sion WAO presented prizes to outstanding members of

MNA

WEATHER

Wednesday, 5 July, 2006 Summary of observations recorded at 09:30

hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, rain have been isolated in Kayah State, scattered in Chin State, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and fairly widespread to widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfall in Mon State and isolated heavyfalls in Kachin, Kayin and Rakhine States and Taninthayi Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mawlamyine (9.05) inches, Mudon (8.55) inches, Ye (6.61) inches, An (6.30) inches, Dawei (4.96) inches, Myitkyina (3.66) inches, Hpa-an (3.62) inches, Yangon (Mingaladon) (2.79) inches, Sittway and Hmawby (2.67) inches each and Nay Pyi Taw (1.45) inches.

Maximum temperature on 4-7-2006 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 5-7-2006 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 5-7-2006 was (93%). Total sunshine hours on 4-7-2006 was (0.2) hour approx.

Rainfalls on 4-7-2006 were (2.79) inches at Mingaladon, (2.09) inches at Kaba-Aye and (1.26) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (35.94) inches at Mingaladon, (45.63) inches at Kaba-Aye and (47.48) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (13:30) hours MST on 4-7-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 6-7-2006: Rain will be isolated in Mandalay, Magway and lower Sagaing Divisions, scattered in Chin and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Shan and Kayin States, Bago and upper Sagaing Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine, Mon States and Taninthayi Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35 to 40) mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 6-7-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 6-7-2006: Some rain. Degree of certainty is

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 6-7-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).



Thursday, 6 July View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးစူးရှင် မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓဇမဟာရဋ္ဌ ဂုရ၊ အဘိဓေအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မ စောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္ထ ဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song 7:50 am

5. Dance of national races

8:00 am 6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ 8:05 am

7. Dance variey

8:15 am 8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am

9. စစ်ကိုင်းတိုင်းပုထိုးလုံးတံတား 8:30 am

10.International news

8:45 am 11. Let's Go

4:00 pm 1. Martial songs

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. English for Everyday Use

4:45 pm

4. Musical programme 5:00 pm

5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ –ပထမနှစ်(သိပ္ပံအထူးပြုအားလုံး) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)

5:15 pm

6. Cute little dancers 5:25 pm

7. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေးဂီတတေး

5:35 pm 8. "စည်းကမ်းလိုက်နာ ဘေးကင်းမှာ"

(ကျော်ရဲအောင်၊ ချစ်သူ၊ စေ**ာ်ဝင်းမောင်**၊ လင်းဧာနည်စော်၊ ပွင့်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–ခင်မော် မြင့်စိုး (၀/သ ရန်ကုန်) 5:45 pm

9. Musical programme 5:55 pm

10. အာရှ-ဥ ပြိုင်ပွဲတွင် ခြင်းလုံးစတ် ပြသ

6:00 pm

11. Evening news 6:30 pm

12. Weather report 6:35 pm

13. သီရိဂေဟာ 7:00 pm

14. ထူးရွန်ထင်ရှား မြန်မာ အမျိုးသမီးများ (အပိုင်း–၂) 7:10 pm

15. နိုင်ငံခြားဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ ချစ်လိပ်ပြာလေးတဝဲလည်လည် (အဝိုင်း–၃)

8:00 pm 16 News

17. International news

18. Weather report 19. မြန်မာဗီဒီယိုဇာတ်လမ်း ်နှောင်ကြိုး၏ လက်ဆောင်"

(အ၀ိင်း-၁) (လွင်မိုး၊ အောင်လွင်၊နန္ဒာလှိုင်၊ (ဒါရိုက်တာ–မောင်မျိုးမင်း) 20. The next day's

programme

Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 22/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newlight, PO Box No. 43, Telephones: Editors 296115, Manager 392226, Circulation 297093, Advertisement 392223, Accounts 392224, Administration 392225, Production/Press 297028

Only with stability of the State, will lives of women be secure Kachin State marks Myanmar Women's Day

YANGON, 5 July-Kachin State Women's Affairs Organization marked the Myanmar Women's Day at the City Hall in Myitkyina on 3 July.

Chairperson of the organization Daw Tin Tin Ohn in her address said that Kachin State, a peaceful and pleasant region, is home to various national races such as Bamar, Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Kayin and Naga besides six Kachin ethnic groups

and five Shan ethnic groups. And the national brethren have been living in the region through thick and thin in amity for thousands of years. Kachin State is located in the northernmost part of the nation, sharing the border with India in the west, the People's Republic of China in the north and in the east, with Sagaing Division in the south and in the north, and with Shan State in the south

It is the second largest state with an area of 34,378.38 square miles. It is made up of four districts, 18 townships and six sub-townships with a population of more than 1.4 million, over 710,000 of which are women.

Its sown acreage has increased to more than 580,000, up from over 440,000. The sown acreage of (See page 6)

The developments and new infrastructures stand witness to the fact that southern Shan State is enjoying progress in all sectors and prove that all slanderous accusations against it are wrong Taunggyi District in Shan State (South) totally free from insurgency



Chairperson of Shan State Women's Affairs Organization Daw Swe Swe Myint delivers an address. — MNA

Yangon, 5 July - Shan State Organization for | Women's Affairs observed the Myanmar Women's Day in Taunggyi on 3 July. Speaking on the occasion, Chairperson of the organization Daw Swe Swe Myint | highland farms were reclaimed and 384,914 more

water pumping stations were built. They benefitted 48.640 acres of farmland. A total of 3.361.18 acres of

said that in southern Shan State 83 drains and two | acres of cultivation land were extended. The state is raising over 3.2 million chicken, over 190,000 pigs, and over 130,000 cattle. It is distributing

Entire women in Bago Division condemn the terrorists who planted mines and anti-government organizations that rendered assistance to them Bago Division WAO celebrates Myanmar Women's Day

YANGON, 5 July - The Myanmar Women's Day sponsored by Bago Division Women's Affairs Organization was observed at Thiri Oktha Hall in Bago

At the ceremony, girls from No 1 Basic Education

High School, Bago sang a song, Myanmar Women's

Chairperson of Bago Division WAO Daw Khin Swe Nyunt delivered a speech.

She said over 3.04 million people including Kayin,

Bamar, Mon, Shan and PaO nationals live in Bago Division. There are two districts and 14 townships in the division and woman population in the division is 1.5 million and 178,318 are members of Division WAO.

(See page 7)



Government Technical Institute in Mohnyin Township in Kachin State built to produce highly qualified human resources.—MNA