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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

Construction of No 1 Pauk Bridge (Ohndaw) across Yaw Creek on Pakokku-Pauk-Htilin-Gangaw Road in Pauk Township completed in June 2006

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects development facilities in Magway Division



Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Anawrahta Bridge (Ayeyawady) linking Chauk and Seikpyu. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence inspected the feeder conduit of Taungyay Dam and supply of water near Meiktila-Kyaukpadaung Road on 18 July.

In Chauk, Lt-Gen Ye Myint viewed thriving physic nut plantations of Chauk Township Women's Affairs Organization and Chauk Township Forest Department.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and officials inspected maintenance of Anawrahta Bridge (Ayeyawady) linking Chauk and Seikpyu. Deputy Chief Engineer (Upper Myanmar) U Kyu Hin of Public Works reported on maintenance tasks.

In the afternoon, they arrived at No 1 Pauk Bridge (Ohndaw) where they were welcomed by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West

Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye and departmental officials.

After inspecting maintenance tasks for the bridge, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave necessary instructions. At the briefing hall, Executive Engineer U Thi Hla of Public Works reported to Lt-Gen Ye Myint on construction of 1,380 feet long main bridge and 520 feet long approach road. Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw

Shwe gave supplementary reports.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on tasks to be carried out for durability of the bridge.

No 1 Pauk Bridge (Ohndaw) across Yaw Creek is located on Pakokku-Pauk-Htilin-Gangaw Road in Pauk

Township. The 1,380 feet long bridge has 12 feet wide motor road. Its clearance is 55 feet wide and five feet high. The bridge can withstand 13-ton loads. The entire project was completed in June 2006.

In the evening, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and

party viewed collective harvesting of paddy at the entrance to Kyaukhtu and conversed with local farmers. They proceeded to Mindat by car. Along Kyaukhtu-Mindat Road, they viewed monsoon paddy plantations and development of the region.

MNA

The 1,380 feet long No 1 Pauk Bridge (Ohndaw) has 12 feet wide motor road. Its clearance is 55 feet wide and five feet high.

INSIDE



Surrounded by pine trees, Panglong University stands magnificently at a pleasant place, about two miles from Panglong on the road to Laikha in Loilem District, Shan State (South). Students can study in peace at the university. It has a scenic natural beauty and gets a temperate climate all-year round.

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SAI SOE MIN LATT

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 21 July, 2006

Continuing fight against narcotic drugs

Narcotic drugs are not the concern of Myanmar only but of all nations in the world. Myanmar, on its part, is leaving no stone unturned to root out the danger of narcotic drugs from our soil once and for all by the year 2014.

Narcotic drugs seized in Shan State (South) were put to torch for the fifth time in the sports ground in Laikha on 16 July. Narcotic drugs destroyed at the ceremony were worth K 28,377.55 million (US\$ 46.99 million) and included 229.28964 kilos of raw opium, 0.0458 kilo of heroin, 345.398 kilos of morphine powder, 2.02764 kilos of solid opium oil, 1.1712 kilos of inferior opium, 0.18764 kilo of marijuana, 0.007 litre of cough syrup containing opium liquid, 670.45 litres of opium oil, 380 litres of ethyl ether, 232.5 litres of hydrochloric acid, 670.5 litres of ammonium chloride, 200 kilos of sodium carbonate, 758 litres of lyzol liquid, 47,286 stimulant tablets, 28,526.877 kilos of poppy seeds and 992.864 kilos of dry poppy seeds.

So far, narcotic drugs have been destroyed 20 times in Yangon and 39 times in border and other towns. In trying to get rid of narcotic drugs, it is not enough only to prevent the cultivation of poppy. It is also necessary to find other ways and means for former poppy growers to earn their living. Therefore, the government is taking necessary measures and rendering necessary assistance to them to raise their living standard. For example, arrangements are being made to ensure that they have a sustainable income from the cultivation of poppy-substitute crops and get a market share for substitute crops in neighbouring countries.

In May, 2006, CCDAC of Myanmar and NNCC of China inked an agreement to undertake joint surveys on poppy cultivation and to initiate alternative development programmes in Wa and Kokang special regions.

Myanmar is carrying out the task of eradicating narcotic drugs as a national duty by developing all the appropriate strategies and tactics. And we believe that, in the future also, Myanmar will continue fighting narcotics drugs in cooperation with international organizations, neighbours and other countries in the region and achieve greater success.

UMFCCI Vice-President receives Japanese Second Secretary

YANGON, 20 July — Vice-President U Aung Lwin, General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing and executives of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry met with Second Secretary Mr Ichio Mizuno from Embassy of Japan at the office of UMFCCI on 12 July.

At the meeting, they held comprehensive discussions on increasing trade between Myanmar and Japan, rules and procedures related to import and export, academic matters and future programme of UMFCCI, and technical assistance from Japan to Myanmar.

Later, the Second Secretary visited computer and lecture rooms provided by JODC in UMFCCI Training Centre.

MNA

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

63rd birthday of Bhaddanta Vepulla 8 Aug

YANGON, 20 July — A ceremony to mark the 63rd birthday of Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Vepulla Mahathera, Presiding Nayaka of Waiponlayama Monastery of Pyay and Chairman of Bago Division SanghaNayaka Committee, will be held in conjunction with the 79th re-ordination ceremony at the monastery on 8 July morning.

Disciples and lay person of the Sayadaw are invited to attend the ceremonies. — MNA

U Than Tun accredited to Portugal

NAY PYI TAW, 21 July — The Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Than Tun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Italy, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Portuguese Republic.

MNA

Tourism Training Program for Front-Liners opens



Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing delivers an address at opening of Tourism Training Program for Front-Liners course. — MNA

YANGON, 19 July — Jointly organized by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and ASEAN-Japan Centre, an opening ceremony of Tourism Training Program for Front-Liners was held at Dusit Inya Lake Resort yesterday morning with an address by Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing.

It was also attended by Director-General U Htay Aung of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, Managing Director U Soe Thein of Myanmar Hotels and Tourism Services, Chairman of Myanmar Hoteliers Association Dr Khin Shwe, Chairman of Union of Myanmar Travels Association U Khin Zaw, officials from Japanese Embassy, Assistant Director Mr Joukei-Fuchigami and course instructors of ASEAN-Japan Centre, Tourism Division, heads of department under

the ministry and trainees.

In his address, the minister said that the opening of the training course can contribute to promoting friendship between Myanmar and Japan, increasing the number of Japanese tourists visiting Myanmar. The ministry is working hard to promote the tourism services in cooperation with private enterprise.

Next, the Assistant Director of ASEAN-Japan Centre made an address and introduced those present to the course instructors. The minister cordially greeted the trainees. A total of 60 trainees from the ministry, travel agencies and hotels are attending the training course.

MNA

Aged people receive free eye surgeries in Mawlamyine

YANGON, 20 July — Mon State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee has provided free eye surgical treatment to over 100 aged people in 10 townships in Mon State.

The free medical treatment started on 17 July at Eye, Ear, Nose Hospital in Mawlamyine.

Chairperson of Mon State MCWSC Daw Myint Myint Soe and members went to the hospital on 19 July and

comforted the patients. Wellwishers also

donated K 1 million for the treatment and Daw

Myint Myint Soe accepted the cash donation. — MNA

Daw Myint Myint Soe accepts K 1 million donated by a wellwisher.
MNA



World's first pay digital radio service launched in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 19 July—The world's first digital subscription radio broadcasting service was launched in Singapore Tuesday, according to Channel NewsAsia report Tuesday night.

The pay Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) service is offered by Rediffusion, Singapore's only subscription radio broadcaster, which launched 10 channels on Tuesday. Rediffusion has developed a set of DAB receivers encrypted with conditional access to its service since it was awarded a DAB multiplex license by the Media Development Authority of Singapore in April last year.

The report said that it is the first and only digital DAB conditional access system for the mass market in the world.

Currently, only the digital hi-fi

receivers are available and Rediffusion plans to launch digital car-adaptor receivers, digital home-adaptor receivers and portable hand-held receivers by the end of this year.

Singapore became the first country in Asia to have commercial DAB service when its major free-to-air radio broadcaster MediaCorp Radio got a license in 1999, the report said, adding that the radio station now has six DAB channels to simulcast eight of its most popular FM (frequency modulation) channels.—MNA/Xinhua

Venezuelan President accuses US of pushing oil prices

CARACAS, 19 July—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on Tuesday accused the United States of being one of the forces that was contributing to the surging world oil prices.

In a speech in-

augurating a new subway line in Caracas, Chavez said he hoped the oil prices would not rise further, accusing Washington of fuelling the geopolitical tensions behind the price dilemma.

"It's not in our plans

that they (the prices) keep rising, but (US) imperial craziness and other factors disturbing world peace have raised the price of oil to 70 US dollars a barrel," he said.

Chavez promised to divert new revenue from surging oil prices to social and infrastructure development. "If the oil prices continue rising, this fund will continue receiving additional resources," he said.—MNA/Xinhua

Ceasefire needs to end Israeli-Lebanon conflict, says Syrian President

DAMASCUS, 20 July—Syrian President Bashar al-Assad said on Wednesday that a ceasefire is needed to stop Israeli attacks on Lebanon, the official SANA news agency reported.

President Assad made the remarks in a statement after a telephone discussion with Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan, SANA said.

The statement noted that during the phone conversation, the two

leaders exchanged views on "Israeli attack on Lebanon."

They also discussed "the international stance and how the international community is procrastinating on imposing a ceasefire and ending the crisis", added the statement.

This is the first time that Syria expresses the desire for a ceasefire between its ally Hizbollah and the Jewish state.

MNA/Xinhua



Models display Sony Corp's new digital high-definition video cameras 'HDR-SR1' (L) and 'HDR-UX1' during an unveiling in Tokyo on 19 July, 2006. The HDR-SR1, equipped with a 30GB harddisk drive, will be priced around 180,000 yen (\$1,532), and HDR-UX1, which records on 8cm DVD discs, will carry a price tag of around 170,000 yen (\$1,448) and will go on sale worldwide from September.—INTERNET

Death toll rises to 57 in suicide car bomb in southern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 19 July—The death toll of a suicide car bomb among a crowd of construction workers in the holy Shiite city of Kufa on Tuesday rose to 57, an Interior Ministry source said.

"Our latest reports said that 57 people were killed and 93 others wounded in

the suicide car bombing," the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Earlier, a ministry source said that 45 people were killed and up to 65 others wounded when a suicide bomber detonated his explosive-laden vehicle at about 7:30 am (0330 GMT) near the holy

Shiite mosque of Kufa, where dozens of construction workers gathered to wait for daily work.

The source said that ambulances and Iraqi security forces rushed to the scene to evacuate the victims.

Kufa, some 150 kilometres south of Baghdad, is a stronghold of radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.

Violence and sectarian strife have persisted despite the formation of a new unity government in the war-torn country in late May.

MNA/Xinhua

Zimbabwe to sign accords with Namibia

HARARE, 19 July—Zimbabwe will strengthen bilateral ties with Namibia through signing a cooperation agreement and extradition treaty that is expected to assist the two nations to fight crime and improve relations, a Namibian official has said.

Visiting Namibian Minister of Justice and Attorney General Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana on Monday said the accords would go a long way in combating crime in the two African countries.

She said the purpose of her visit was to familiarize and learn more from the Zimbabwean justice system.

MNA/Xinhua



Lava flows down the slopes of Mayon volcano in Legazpi city, Albay Province, south of Manila, on 20 July, 2006. Mayon volcano has been erupting slowly since Friday.—INTERNET

Junk food banned in school meals

LONDON, 19 July—School meals have been criticised for their poor nutritional content

School dinners in England will be free from chocolate, crisps, fizzy drinks and "low-quality" meat from the autumn, the government has announced.

Education Secretary Alan Johnson has published nutrition guidelines banning meals high in salt and fat.

These would "undo

decades of neglect" and improve pupils' health, he said.

The standards, based on recommendations by the School Meal Review Panel, follow a campaign by TV chef Jamie Oliver to improve the quality of school dinners.

From September, caterers will ensure "high-quality meat, poultry or oily fish is available on a regular basis", the Department for Education and Skills said.

Pupils will get "a minimum" of two portions of fruit and vegetables with every meal, while deep-fried food will be restricted to two portions per week.

Mr Johnson said: "These new standards will start to undo decades of neglect and ensure that healthy eating is the norm in every school.

"The health of our young people is not an area for compromise," he added.—Internet



Vehicles move on a flooded street in Yangzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province on 20 July, 2006. Heavy rain hit Yangzhou on Thursday.

INTERNET



British transport pioneer Sir Clive Sinclair launches the A-bike during a Press launch at the Design Museum in London. Conceived in Britain, built in Malaysia and sold via the Internet, it's the latest — and potentially one of the most successful — ideas to come out of the mind of prolific inventor Sir Clive Sinclair.—INTERNET

ဝက်ပူပွမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

US researcher detained in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 19 July — A doctoral candidate from Columbia University in New York was arrested on Tuesday at an airport in Indonesia's easternmost province of Papua.

Brigham Golden was arrested when he was waiting a flight to Jakarta at the Moses Kilangin

Airport in Timika Re-

gency. His colleague said Golden was arrested for failing to report to the local police upon his arrival Sunday, reported the *Kompas* online news service.

Officers in charge were not available for comments.

Last month, two US citizens were detained for misusing their tourist visas to attend a meeting of local tribal group in the

province.

The Indonesian Government is very restricted against international visits to the most remote province, a scene of rebellion for nearly 30 years since it was taken over by Jakarta from the Dutch colony in the 1960s.

Earlier in June, the Papua immigration office deported four Russians and a Japanese for illegally working in a local airline company.

MNA/Xinhua

Turkish PM slams US envoy over mily operation in N Iraq

ANKARA, 19 July — Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan slammed US ambassador to Ankara Ross L Wilson's statement over Turkish cross-border military operation into northern Iraq, Turkey's *Cihan* news agency reported on Tuesday.

Erdogan said that it is the Turkish Government, not the US ambassador, who will decide on possible Turkish military operation into northern Iraq. He was responding to Wilson's remark that it would not be sensible for Turkey to launch a unilateral cross-border offensive into northern Iraq.

Erdogan noted that Wilson's statement was very wrong. "Such a decision is taken by the Turkish Government and the authorized institutions of Turkey, not by the ambassador. We decide and implement the decision", he added. On Monday, Wilson said that Israel was exercising its right to self-defence by making incursions into Lebanon. However, he claimed that Turkey

should not carry out similar cross-border operation "unilaterally" into Iraq.

These statements came just days after the killing of 15 Turkish soldiers by the militants of outlawed Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK). Turkish Government spokesman Cemil Cicek said after the Cabinet meeting Monday that Turkey was going to make full use of its international rights to prevent terrorist attacks on the country, adding that Turkey would continue to combat terrorism at any cost.

Turkey has repeatedly called on US forces to take "concrete" action against the PKK militants based in northern Iraq. But the US officials had continually claimed that stability must be restored

and a government should first be formed in Iraq before the PKK is tackled, said the report.

In early 1990s, the Turkish army crossed the border to combat PKK militants based in Iraq.

Turkish intelligence sources believe that nearly 4,000 to 5,000 PKK militants are hiding in the mountainous northern Iraq from where PKK's terrorist activities were emanating.—MNA/Xinhua



A Uros woman walks next to tiger headed totora reed boats on Uros Island in Lake Titicaca on 19 July, 2006. The Uros Islands are a group of 70 man-made totora reed islands floating on the lake, the world's highest navigable lake at over 4,000 metres above sea level. The Uros people fish and hunt, but tourism is their main source of livelihood.—INTERNET

Trapped whale freed from nets

MELBOURNE, 19 July— Rescuers have freed a whale from shark nets on the Gold Coast in south-east Queensland.

The eight-metre humpback was trapped in nets at Broadbeach and was cut

free by rescue teams from the Department of Primary Industries (DPI).

The teams attached a large buoy to the whale and then cut net away from the trapped animal.

The whale is again moving up the coast after being freed. DPI district officer Jeff Krause says rough sea conditions would have tired the animal and helped rescuers.

"That is an advantage for the release team as they are able to get a lot closer to the whale without any fear of being injured by flukes or the tails or the pectoral fins," he said.

Internet

Six-month-old baby survives tsunami in Indonesia

PANGANDARAN (Indonesia), 19 July — A six-month-old baby survived the tsunami which has ravaged Pangandaran beach resort in Indonesia's Ciamis District.

Sri Sulistiawati was found by local residents when she was lying under a coconut tree on Tuesday morning. Suwondo, the baby's grandfather Suwondo told reporters.

Sri Sulistiawati's mother Sri Sulastri, 26, and brother Arief Yulianto, 5, died while her father Tarno, 35, and sister Jihan, 9, also survived the disaster.

Suwondo, 64, said that residents found her grandchild lying under the tree about 50 metres from the coastline.

"She was crying and was immediately rushed to a local health centre for treatment," he said, adding she is in good condition. Suwondo said that Sri Sulastri and her three children were on a holiday on the beach.

MNA/Xinhua

Britain braced for record high temperature this week

LONDON, 19 July — Temperatures could reach an all-time high in Britain on Wednesday as a heatwave tightens its grip, forecasters said.

There is a 30-per-cent chance Britain would swelter in its hottest-ever day, leaving Bangkok, Athens and the Caribbean in the shade, the Met Office said on Tuesday.

The highest temperature ever recorded in Britain was 38.5 Celsius (101.3 Fahrenheit) at Faversham in Kent, on 10 August, 2003.

"It is possible that the all-time record could be broken," the Met Office said. The Department of Health warned that elderly people and young children should stay indoors and drink plenty of water.

"These temperatures are high enough to give rise to significant health risks," the government said.

Bookmakers have slashed the odds on thermometers reaching 100 degrees Fahrenheit (37.7 Celsius).

MNA/Reuters



Maya and 18-month-old Euan, Asian elephants keep themselves cool in the elephant pool at Whipsnade Zoo, England, on 19 July, 2006, as temperatures in southern England soared, by mid-afternoon, the temperature at Charlwood, near London's Gatwick Airport, hit 35.9 Celsius (96.6 Fahrenheit) — the hottest temperature ever recorded in Britain in July.—INTERNET



Champion Yan Yuting (C) from China, second prize winner, Polish competitor GaLina (1stR) and third prize winner, Italian girl Lisa hold up their trophies during the final of the 2006 International Silk Road model pageant in Urumqi, capital of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on 18 July, 2006.—INTERNET

Rice-sized radio chip developed in Britain

LONDON, 19 July—A radio chip the size of a grain of rice has been developed at Hewlett Packard (HP)'s research labs in Britain.

The chip, called a Memory Spot, is small enough to be attached to a postcard or a photograph and could be used to append video, audio or hundreds of pages of text to all sorts of everyday objects. The HP unveiled the concept at an event in London on Monday.

A Memory Spot can be read by a specialized device, an appropriately modified cell-phone or a personal digital assistant (PDA).

It does not require a

battery as it draws power from the reading device's radio field.

In comparison with existing radio frequency identification (RFID) tags that can store up to a few kilobytes of data and transmit this wirelessly over a range of a few metres, the new chip provides much more memory — between 32 and 500 kilobytes. The chip can be read at about 10 megabits per second, fast enough to download everything from a 500 kilobyte model in one-third of a second and around 10 times faster than a typical RFID chip.

“A Memory Spot uses

similar principles to RFID but significantly extends them in terms of reading speed and memory capacity,” said Huw Robson, director of media technologies at Hewlett-Packard's labs in Bristol, Britain.—MNA/Xinhua

Singapore conveys sympathy to quake, tsunami victims in Indonesia

SINGAPORE, 19 July—Singapore's Minister of Foreign Affairs George Yeo said on Tuesday that the city state conveys its sympathy to victims of the earthquake and tsunami which hit Indonesia on Monday, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA).

“We are saddened to hear that yet another natural disaster has hit Indonesia causing the loss of lives and property. We convey our sympathies to all those affected, especially the families of those who have lost loved ones in this latest calamity,” Yeo said.

The MFA said that there had been no reports of any Singaporean casualties in the areas affected as of 9:00 am Singapore Time (0100

GMT) on Tuesday. MNA/Xinhua

Amsterdam Airport runway reopened

BRUSSELS, 19 July—One of the two runways closed at Amsterdam International Airport to allow a precautionary landing by a damaged freight plane was reopened early on Tuesday morning.

The Boeing 747 suffered several burst tires and damaged the lighting along the Polder runway at Schiphol Airport during takeoff on Monday night, Dutch news agency ANP reported on Tuesday.

Once airborne, the pilot turned the plane around and landed safely on the other affected runway, Kaag. No one was injured in the incident.

The plane, however, suffered damage to its undercarriage, nose wheel and fuselage and had to be towed off the runway, the report said.

The Polder runway was reopened shortly before 1 am on Tuesday morning, while Kaag was set to remain closed for a longer period. An airport spokesman said the incident had not delayed other flights.

On 4 October, 1992, a Boeing 747 cargo plane, operated by Israel's El Al airline, crashed into an apartment complex in Amsterdam's Bijlmer District shortly after takeoff. A total of 43 people, including the plane's crew, were killed.—MNA/Xinhua

Australia grounds “F-111s” after wheel falls off

CANBERRA, 19 July 19 — Australia grounded its fleet of F-111 combat aircraft after a wheel fell off one of the combat jets during a training flight on Tuesday.

A junior pilot who qualified to fly F-111s two weeks ago was forced to circle for three hours before landing the ageing plane safely with its wheels up. The emergency landing was televised live across Australia.

The wheel fell off just after take-off. “When he retracted the undercarriage,

the left main wheel fell off. Now that's an occasion without precedent with 34 years of flying the F-111 in the Royal Australian Air Force,” Air Force Chief Air Marshal Geoffrey Shepherd told reporters.

Australia has lost eight F-111s in crashes.

Defence Minister Brendan Nelson said Australia's remaining 25 F-111s would be grounded until the cause was determined. All the aircraft could all be checked. — MNA/Reuters

Indonesia says tsunami killed 528, displaced thousands

PANGANDARAN (Indonesia), 20 July —The tsunami that smashed into the heavily-populated south coast of the Indonesian island of Java this week has killed at least 528 people, the Indonesian Government says.

As many as 275 are still missing and 400

people have been injured, the National Disaster Management Coordinating Agency says.

The agency estimates more than 50,500 people have been displaced.

The deaths include five foreigners: one Dutch, a Swede, a Pakistani and two Saudis, the agency

says. A French national is among those missing.

The agency also says two Dutch, a Japanese, Austrian, three Saudis and two French nationals have been injured in the tsunami, which smashed ashore after a 7.7-magnitude quake struck off Java island.

Survivors of the tsunami are trying to pick up the pieces of their lives, despite repeated aftershocks that have been shaking parts of the island and spreading fresh fear.

Although tens of thousands displaced by the disaster remain in temporary shelters, officials and aid workers say they are generally getting adequate care.

In the early morning hours in the beach town of Pangandaran, fishermen have combed through debris, searching for nets and equipment lost in the tsunami.— Internet



A woman clears up the ruins of the house damaged in the storm Bilis, in Zhangpu County of southeast China's Fujian Province, on 17 July, 2006.

INTERNET

Indonesian military sends 1,392 personnel to tsunami-hit areas

JAKARTA, 19 July—The Indonesian Defence Force (TNI) has deployed 1,392 soldiers to help tsunami victims in west Java and Central Java provinces, a military spokesman said.

The soldiers came from different Army units including healthcare units in West Java, Antara news agency on Wednesday quoted TNI spokesman Rear Admiral Mohammad Sunarto Sjoekronoputra as saying.

Apart from these, TNI has also sent a number of ambulances, heavy equipment, trucks, excavators and field kitchens to the disaster

areas, he said Tuesday night. The Air Force on Monday and Tuesday sent its Fokker 27 plane on an aerial photography mission to the tsunami-

stricken areas. Its helicopter and Puma aircraft are also on standby at Wiryadinata airbase in Tasikmalaya.

MNA/Xinhua



Mount Etna spews lava on the southern Italian island of Sicily in the early hours of 17 July, 2006. The volcano has been erupting since Saturday, local media reported.

INTERNET



Models show off a Panasonic 103-inch plasma TV, the world's largest, during a launch event of its new plasma TVs in Tokyo on 19 July, 2006. Panasonic brand maker Matsushita Electric Industrial Co Ltd will start taking orders in Japan for the 103-inch plasma TV, priced at around 6 million yen (\$50,000), on 1 September, the company said on Wednesday. —INTERNET

Pakistan asks India to share information on Mumbai blasts

ISLAMABAD, 18 July — Pakistan asked India on Monday to share any “solid information or concrete evidence” about the 11 July Mumbai blasts on trains, which had killed some 200 people.

India had suspected Pakistan-based hard-line groups to have connections with the Mumbai blasts, a charge denied by the groups.

“There is a standing offer from Pakistan to cooperate in investigations if evidence or information is provided to us,” Pakistani Foreign Secretary Riaz Muhammad Khan told a news conference in

Islamabad.

“Pakistan is also investigating killing of about 50 people by terrorists in Karachi early this year and if there are leads it would approach those countries for investigating those leads,” the Foreign Secretary said. He said Pakistan has not received any formal communication from India to substantiate its allegations in connection with the Mumbai blasts.

Pakistan does not allow its territory to be

used against any other country, said the Foreign Secretary while answering a question.

“Pakistan is part of the international coalition against terror and has done more than any one else on this account,” he said.

He said Pakistan and India must learn to resolve problems rather than to live with them, adding that Pakistan would not like reversing any of the Confidence Building Measures already agreed between the two countries. —MNA/Xinhua

Pacific mangroves disappearing under rising seas

SYDNEY, 18 July — Global warming could lead to the destruction of more than half the mangrove wetlands of some Pacific islands, wiping out or reducing marine breeding grounds that support multi-million-dollar fisheries, a UN report says.

A UN Environment Programme (UNEP) report looking at the impact of rising seas on mangroves in 16 Pacific nations found the worst hit-islands would be American Samoa, Fiji, Tuvalu and the Federated States of Micronesia.

The report, released on Monday, found that these island nations could lose more than half their mangroves by the end of the century.

“The true economic value of ecosystems like mangroves is now starting to emerge,” said report coordinator Kitty Simonds.

“Mangroves are important nurseries for fish, act to filter coastal pollution and are important sources of timber and construction materials for local communities,” she said.

“Pacific islanders also harvest dyes from mangroves to treat textiles, nets

and fish traps.” The report said goods and services generated by mangroves may be worth an average of 900,000 US dollars per square kilometres, depending on their location and uses.

An estimated 75 per

cent of commercially caught prawns in Australia's tropical state of Queensland depend on mangroves. In Malaysia, a 400 square kilometres (154 square miles) managed mangrove forest in Matang supports a

fishery worth 100 million US dollars a year.

Mangroves also protect islands from flooding during storms, with mangroves estimated to reduce wave energy by 75 per cent, said the report.

MNA/Reuters



A part of the Earth Simulator supercomputer, one of the world's fastest supercomputers, is seen at the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology's Earth Simulator Centre in Yokohama, near Tokyo, on Tuesday, 18 July, 2006. Harnessing the supercomputer, Japan is planning to start next year ultra long-range 30-year weather forecasts that will predict typhoons, storms, blizzards, droughts and other inclement weather, an official said on Tuesday. —INTERNET

Singapore sets up new office to boost environment industry

SINGAPORE, 18 July — Singapore's Ministry of Environment and Water Resources has set up a new office to boost the growth of the environmental and water industry, the ministry said in a statement on Monday.

The office, called the Environment and Water Industry Development Council (EWI), will oversee the development of the industry ecosystem by attracting more foreign players and growing local companies.

It will also help Singapore-based companies expand their businesses and operations to overseas markets, as well as encouraging more companies and research institutes to develop cutting-edge water technology.

“With the growing global emphasis on water and the environment, Singapore is well-placed to take the lead in this industry as an R& D (research and development) base and as a provider of water solutions,” the statement said.

Singapore aims to triple the value-add in the industry to 1.7 billion Singapore dollars (about 1.1 billion US dollars) and double the number of jobs to 11,000 by 2015.

The Environmental and Water Technologies programme was approved to be one of Singapore's three strategic research programmes for the next five years by the Research, Innovation and Enterprise Council chaired by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong earlier this month. The government will also invest 330 million Singapore dollars (about 207 million US dollars) in the research and development in the industry over the next five years. —MNA/Xinhua

Bulgaria accepted as member of Antarctic Research Committee

SOFIA, 18 July — Bulgaria has been accepted as a fully-fledged member of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), local media reported on Monday.

SCAR, an inter-disciplinary committee of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU), is in charge of initiating, developing and coordinating high quality international scientific research in the Antarctic region. The committee also focuses on the region's role in the Earth system, said Nicola Petkov, programme manager of the Bulgarian Antarctic Institute.

There are three categories of membership in the committee: full members, ICSU members, and associate members. Full members are countries that have active scientific research programmes. Bulgarian scientists are among the most active, said the report. They mapped Livingston Island in 2005, giving all landmarks Bulgarian names, and added a bit of fun to their scientific work by tying Spain in the first ever football game played on the continent. — MNA/Xinhua

China to establish modern travel insurance system by 2010

BEIJING, 18 July — China's tourism and insurance watchdogs have launched a campaign to raise public awareness of the need for travel insurance and to encourage insurance firms to sell travel policies.

The China National Tourism Administration is hoping that the travel and insurance sectors will be able to offer comprehensive and competitive policies for the ever-increasing number of Chinese

tourists by 2010.

MNA/Xinhua

A model dressed in Qi-pao, a traditional Chinese dress for ladies, performs during the final of the 2006 International Silk Road model pageant in Urumqi, capital of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on 18 July, 2006.

INTERNET



Panglong University Celebrates 10th Anniversary of Graduates

Sai Soe Min Latt

The students who were about to receive their degrees at the convocation of Panglong University were with intense delightful satisfaction and smiles on their faces. So were their relatives who accompanied them on the occasion.

The parents' tiredness due to a variety of sacrifices they had made for a good education of their children was no more at

that time, and this also applied to their teachers.

Panglong region in Loilem District is one of the 24 development zones designated by the government. The government facilitated the region with Panglong University, a technological university, a computer college and a 200-bed hospital in 2002. In honour of the late martyrs, the government built a 135-foot-high Shwedagon Pagoda replica under the

name of Maha Ratthabhi Samaggi in the compound of Panglong Kyauktaing (independence monument) in Panglong region where Union Spirit was conceived.

The pagoda looks very sublime and enhances the prestige of the region.

The 21st of May 2006 (Sunday) was an auspicious day because the first-ever convocation of Panglong University took place.

There have come out 137 graduates who got their degrees from Panglong University. At the convocation, degree certificates for English were conferred on two students, for mathematics on 25, for Physics on 36, for Chemistry on 16, for Botany on 11, for Zoology on eight, for Geology on 19, for Geography on 13, for History on three, and for Philosophy on four.

Among 539 day students of Panglong

University, 17 students are attending ordinary classes and honours classes in Myanmar, 17 in English, 23 in Geography, 12 in History, 37 in Philosophy, eight in Oriental Studies, 70 in Law, 53 in Chemistry, 81 in Physics, 71 in Mathematics, 52 in Zoology, 50 in Botany and 48 in Geology. And among 1,558 students (distance education), 162 students are attending ordinary classes in Myanmar, 42 in English, 395 in Geography, 169 in

History, 110 in Philosophy, eight in Oriental Studies, 200 in Law, 54 in Chemistry, 81 in Physics, 71 in Mathematics, 52 in Zoology, 50 in Botany, 48 in Geology, 94 in Economics and 22 in Economics/Management.

Surrounded by pine trees, Panglong University stands magnificently at a pleasant place, about two miles from Panglong on the road to Laikha in Loilem District, Shan State (South). Students can study in peace at the university. It has a scenic natural beauty and gets a temperate climate all-year round.

Now, Panglong University has been capable of nurturing flowering plants until they are in bloom. And the university will continue to nurture the youth in Loilem District to produce more and more human resources.

Translation: MS



Panglong University in Panglong, Loilem District, Shan State (South).

Scientists probe origin of most powerful explosions in universe

BELJING, 20 July — A scientist from the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) said here on Wednesday that tremendous progress has been made in understanding the most powerful explosions in universe, the gamma-ray burst.

Delivering a speech at the 36th Committee on Space Research Scientific Assembly, Neil Gehrels, from NASA said gamma-ray bursts are among the most fascinating occurrences in the cosmos.

"They are thought to be the birth cries of black holes throughout the universe," Gehrels said.

NASA launched a satellite, *Swift*, in November 2004, carrying an international multi-wavelength observatory designed to determine the origins of the gamma-ray bursts and use them to

probe the early universe, he said.

During its two-year mission, *Swift* is expected to observe more than 200 gamma-ray bursts. Three instruments of *Swift* work together to observe gamma-ray bursts and afterglows in the gamma ray, X-ray, ultraviolet, and optical wavebands.

He said the satellite would determine the origin of gamma-ray bursts, classify gamma-ray bursts and search for new types, determine how the blast waves evolved and interacted with the surroundings, use gam-

ma-ray bursts to study the early universe.

"A huge step forward has been made in our understanding of the mysterious short gamma-ray bursts," Gehrels said.

He said two types of gamma-ray bursts had been identified: the long bursts lasting for tens or hundreds of seconds, and shorter ones lasting a few milliseconds to a second. They had different origins.

There was sufficient research evidence to show that long bursts were the death throes of massive stars in distant, young, and vigorously forming

galaxies, while the origin of the short gamma-ray bursts had been shrouded in mystery until now.

MNA/Reuters

China eyes exploration of Mars

BELJING, 20 July — China's space exploration plans include not only missions to the Moon but also Mars, the official *Xinhua* news agency on Wednesday cited a

government official as saying. China will also seek international cooperation for its deep space plans, it quoted Sun Laiyan, head of the China National Space Administration, as saying.

"In the coming five years, China will on the basis of its Moon probes actively plan deep space exploration, focusing on lunar and Mars exploration," *Xinhua* said in a brief report. China expects to launch its first lunar probe next year, state media has said. It will spend a year orbiting the moon to collect three-dimensional images and data on the moon's surface and environment.

MNA/Reuters

Japan to launch 3rd spy satellite in September

TOKYO, 20 July — Japan plans to launch a spy satellite in September aimed at helping it keep an eye on neighbouring North Korea following Pyongyang's launch of a series of missiles earlier this month.

The information-gathering satellite will be Japan's third, after the successful launch of a pair of satellites in March 2003. Two other satellites were lost when a rocket failed in November that year.

The optical satellite will be launched from Tanegashima in southern Japan on 10 September, an official at Japan's Cabinet Satellite Intelligence Centre said on Thursday. — MNA/Reuters



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence inspects a canal of Taungyay Dam. (News on Page 1) — MNA

Minister receives guests



Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw receives Director-General Mr S N Zindal of Software Technology Parks of India. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 July — Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw received Director-General Mr S N Zindal of Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) at the minister's

office here yesterday. At the call, they discussed bilateral cooperation in information technology sector. Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Science and

Technology U Kyaw Soe, Col Kyaw Nyunt of the Ministry of Defence, officials of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications and President of Myanmar Computer Federation U Thein Oo. MNA

Health Deputy Minister inspects Universities of Medicine-1, Nursing and Traditional Medicine Hospital

YANGON, 19 July — Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe accompanied by Acting Director-General Dr Kyaw Min of Medical Research Department, Deputy Director-General Dr Aye Thauang of Medical Science Department and officials met with rectors and professors/heads of department at the meeting hall of Yangon University of Medicine-1 yesterday afternoon. The deputy minister

heard the reports on maintenance of buildings and academic matters presented by Rector Dr Myo Myint. The deputy minister and party inspected Student Affairs Department, Computer Room, Library, Reference Room, Electronic Library Room and Stack Room, and fulfilled the requirements. The deputy minister and party also met with Rector Dr Khin May Ohn and Professors/

heads of department at the meeting hall of Yangon University of Nursing and gave necessary instructions. Later, the deputy minister and party proceeded to Yangon Traditional Medicine Hospital and met with Medical Superintendent Dr Thein Kyaw and officials. Deputy Minister Dr Paing Soe inspected the out-patient department at the hospital. MNA

Minister inspects power supply tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 20 July — Minister for Electric Power No (2) Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, accompanied by officials of Electric Power Supply Enterprise, arrived at 230-kv Pynmana Sub-Power Station on 17 July afternoon.

Manager of the Sub-Power Station U Soe Win reported on supply of electricity from the national grid to Pynmana Township and Nay Pyi Taw Region. Managing Director U Tin Aung and Deputy Chief Engineer U Aung Khaing gave supplementary reports.

The minister gave instructions on supply of more power to the people.

Next, the minister inspected the power control room.

At Nay Pyi Taw Printing House of the Ministry of Information, the minister and party inspected power supply system, construction of the sub-power station and printing works of the house. The minister left instructions on systematic use of power.

In Tatkon Township, the Township Electric Engineer briefed the minister on supply of power to Tatkon and its environs.

The minister gave instructions on efforts to be made for minimizing loss and wastage of power,

and staff of the finance section were urged to perform their tasks dutifully.

At TV Station (Nay Pyi Taw) of Myanmar Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information, the Deputy Director-General, the Chief Engineer and officials reported on location of the project site and power supply matters.

The minister explained arrangements of the Ministry of Electric Power No (2) for supply of power to the station. He inspected installation of 33 kv power line and construction of the 33 kv sub-power station. MNA

MMCWA holds educative talks



Dr Than Oo of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central) gives talks on health at No 1 BEHS in North Okkalapa. — MNA

YANGON, 20 July — Educative talks on health conducted by Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central) was held at BEHS No (1) in North Okkalapa Township this afternoon. It was attended by CEC member Daw Tin Tin Mya and executives,

members of Yangon East District MCW Supervisory Committee, Township MCWA Chair-person and members, teachers and students.

MMCWA CEC member Daw Tin Tin Mya briefed on the purpose of holding educative talks

and CEC member Dr Khin Mya Win and Dr Than Oo gave educative talks on health. Daw Tin Tin Mya presented prizes to students in pre-test and final test of the talks.

Headmaster U Sein Win expressed words of thanks. MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects development of Shan State (South)

NAY PYI TAW, 20 July — Member of State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence accompanied by Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt and Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and officials left Taunggyi for Laikha on 11 July.

On arrival at Mongpun Bridge Construction Project being implemented by Public Works, the officials of Public Works conducted Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party around the project. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win urged them to meet targeted standard and complete

work ahead of schedule.

The bridge, which is of reinforced concrete type is 208 feet long and it has 24-foot wide mortar road and can withstand 60-ton loads.

The construction of bridge started since March this year.

Later, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party went to physic nut plantation at the entrance to Loilem and encouraged officials and locals taking part in growing of physic in the plantation. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win urged them to go all-out for the cultivation of physic nut.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party arrived in Laikha in the afternoon. — MNA

H&T Ministry offers Waso robes

YANGON, 20 July — Families of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism held a Waso robes offering ceremony at the ministry dhammayon here on 18 July.

Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing and wife Daw Tin Tin Latt, Director-General of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung, Managing Director of Myanma Hotels and Tourism Services U Soe Thein, staff and families offered Waso robes to Sayadaws led by Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Pañindabhivamsa.

The congregation received the Five Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pañindabhivamsa.

Merits gained were shared. — MNA

Reproductive health tasks to be stepped up

NAY PYI TAW, 20 July — Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint called for stepping up efforts for reproductive health tasks to meet the UN's millennium development goals at the Advocacy Meeting on Reproductive Health for Key Stakeholders on 18 July at the Health Department here.

The meeting was

jointly organized by Ministry of Health and World Health Organization (WHO).

At the meeting, the minister also urged NGOs to cooperate in implementing the tasks to reduce the infant and child mortality rate and death rate in labour in Myanmar. He also stressed the need to disseminate general knowledge on reproduc-

tive health to the public.

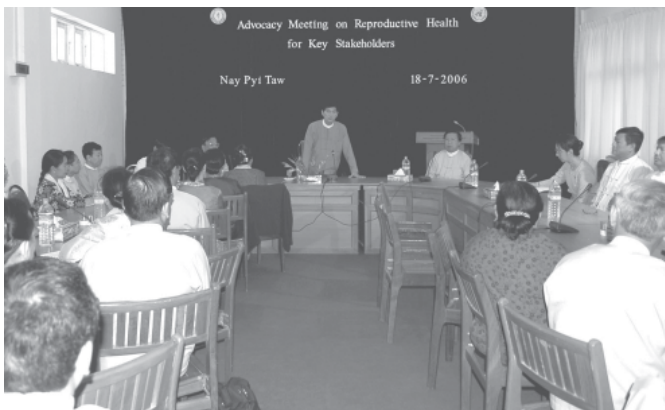
The meeting was also participated by Deputy Ministers for Health Dr Mya Oo and Dr Paing Soe, professors of the medical institutes, obstetric and gynecologists, pediatricians and representatives of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central).

MNA



Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing and wife Daw Tin Tin Latt present Waso robes to a Sayadaw.

H&T



Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint delivers an address at Advocacy Meeting on Reproductive Health for Key Stakeholders. — HEALTH

Education Minister visits University, College in Toungoo

YANGON, 19 July — Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein met with departmental officials, Principal Daw San San Myint and faculty members of Toungoo Education College at the meeting hall of Toungoo Education College on 17 July.

The minister gave necessary instructions on academic and administrative matters and fulfilled the requirements. He viewed the

study of trainees at the science lab, language lab and computer room.

He visited Practicing High School of Toungoo Education College.

The minister also met with headmasters and headmistresses and teachers in Toungoo Township at No (1) BEHS, Toungoo and inspected science lab, library, computer room and language lab.

Later, the minis-

ter proceeded to Toungoo University and met with rector, pro-rector, heads of department and professors at the multimedia room. The minister heard the reports on academic matters presented by the heads of department and fulfilled the requirements. Minister Dr Chan Nyein inspected Computer Training Centre, Language Lab, Resource Centre, e-Learning Centre and science labs.

MNA

Arrangements under way to rebuild Nanwum bridge Trains can regularly run on Yangon-Mottama rail road section

YANGON, 20 July — A bailey bridge locally-called Nanwum bridge at the mile post No 25-4 on Kenglat-Tarle motor road was destroyed by the heavy rains in Kenglat,

Tachilek District in Shan State (East) on 19 July. The officials concerned are making arrangements for rebuilding the bridge.

Likewise, the rail road section between

Theinzayet station and Theinzayet bridge was temporarily closed in Kyaikto Township in Mon State on 19 July owing to the flooding on the rail track caused by the torrential rains.

After the flood waters had retreated at 10.30 pm, the rail road section was reopened and the trains can regularly run on it. — MNA

Villager loses leg in land mine explosion

NAY PYI TAW, 20 July — A villager lost left leg when a land mine exploded on 16 July near Kyaukkipauk Village in Htantabin Township, Bago Division.

A land mine planted by insurgents exploded when a villager

Kyaw Myint, 35, stepped on it on his way to a forest near the village to get bamboo shoots.

The victim is undergoing medical treatment at Zayatkyi Hospital in the township.

Insurgents have been committing atroci-

ties to jeopardize the community peace and tranquility.

MNA

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased

Donate blood

Information Minister offers Waso robes in Loilem



NAY PYI TAW, 20 July— Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and Director-General of Myanmar

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan offers alms to Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Silananda.

MNA

Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi offered Waso robes and alms to member of Loilem Township Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Silananda of Yadanasi monastery in Loilem on 14 July.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan on 15 July went to Information and Public Relations Department in Loilem and inspected Pynnyaalin library, training hall, office building and wall magazine. Then, the minister gave instructions to officials. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan inspects Loilem District IPRD.

MNA



“Superman” records “satisfactory” box office in China

BEIJING, 20 July — “Superman Returns” recorded box office sales of 31.71 million yuan (about four million US dollars) over its opening weekend in China ahead of the release of “Mission: Impossible III”.

“The figure is satisfactory following our earlier prediction of the movie’s gross box office - 60 million yuan (7.5 million US dollars),” Weng Li, deputy distribution manager of the China Film Group Corporation, one of the movie’s two China distributors, told *Xinhua* on Tuesday. But he admitted the film may lose out on sales to “M:I:3,” which is due to be released on the Mainland on July 20 and is estimated to reap over 100 million yuan (12.5 million US dollars). “Cinemas with a single screen will replace ‘Superman’ with ‘M:I:3’ and cineplexes will devote most of their screens to ‘M:I:3’ after Tom Cruise returns to Chinese screens,” Weng added. — MNA/*Xinhua*

Quake jolts Jakarta

JAKARTA, 20 July — Tall buildings swayed as an earthquake struck the Indonesian capital and nearby parts of Java Island on Wednesday, sowing fear two days after an undersea quake triggered a tsunami on the southern coast, witnesses said.

There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage, but people in several areas fled from office buildings and homes.

The quake’s strength was 6.2 at its epicentre in the Indian Ocean off the southwestern tip of Java, Fauzi, an official at the national earthquake centre, told *Reuters*.

A quake of 7.7 magnitude on Monday off the southern Java coast triggered a tsunami that killed at least

550 people.

Asked on Indonesian news radio Elshinta whether the quake on Wednesday could cause a tsunami, Fauzi said: “If there is a tsunami it won’t be big.”

Indonesia’s 17,000 islands sprawl along a belt of intense volcanic and seismic activity, part of what is called the “Pacific Ring of Fire”, and is prone to frequent earthquakes.

MNA/*Reuters*



Hollywood couple Angelina Jolie (R) and Brad Pitt give a Press conference at a Namibian hotel recently. Hollywood celebrity couple Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie would make the most popular cycle pillion passengers, a poll just published has revealed.—INTERNET

The best time to plant a tree was
20 years ago.
The second best time is now.

Human trafficker Soe Myint arrested

YANGON, 20 July — Cases of trafficking in persons for sexual abuse and forced labour have been occurring in countries throughout the world. Human trafficking harms dignity and prestige of the people as well as national prestige and integrity of Myanmar.

Accepting the prevention against trafficking in persons as a national duty, the Government is joining hands with the social

organizations at home and international community and countries in the region in preventing human trafficking.

At 8 pm on 4 July, Yangon Division Committee for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons rescued Khin Maung Swe and five persons who were bound for the other country via Yangon Railway Station. Furthermore, the authorities seized Soe Myint of No 1249, Bonma

Street, Ward 10, North Okkalapa Township. He worked as Boedaw (faith-healer) at his office at No 570, 7th Street, Ward 8, Thakayta Township.

According to the investigation, Soe Myint sent Kalar and Cherry Oo to the other country in February 2006, and Khin Yi Yi Tun, Aye Aye Win, Sargale and Maung Thein from Ayeyawady Division in April on payment. Action is being taken against him. — MNA

Indonesia urges UN to sponsor ceasefire in Middle East

JAKARTA, 20 July — Indonesia, the biggest Muslim country urged the United Nations to take a lead to impose a ceasefire and set up a peacekeeping force in a bid to stop the bloody conflict in the Middle East, which has killed hundreds of innocent people, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said here on Tuesday.

Susilo made the statement after a hearing with envoys of 10 countries in the Middle East to Indonesia at the State Palace.

Indonesia vowed to contribute to the peace process in the region, by appointing a special envoy to voice the country’s messages in various international forum, preparing one battalion troops to join

with the possibly-established international peacekeeping force and to provide one-million-US-dollar humanitarian assistance to Palestine, Susilo said.

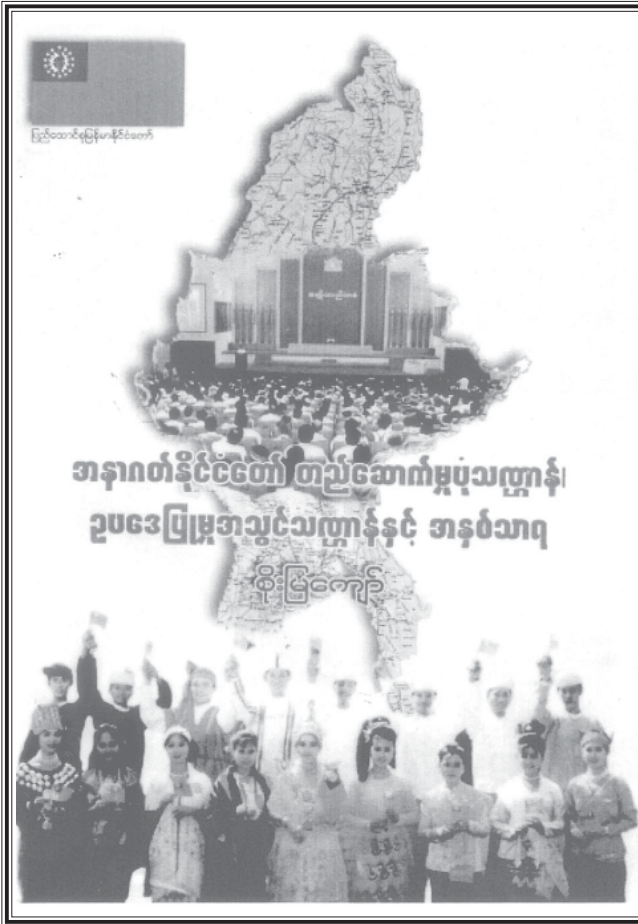
During the hearing, Indonesia and the ambassadors as well as the representatives of the 10 countries hoped for resuming political negotiation that can be done after the ceasefire,

said the President.

“It needs a global step, and the United Nations needs to play an important roles... the necessity to impose a ceasefire soon,” he said.

The President said that the ceasefire then must be monitored by a peacekeeping force, which its establishment also must be organized by the United Nations.

MNA/*Xinhua*



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

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- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော် တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အခန်း (၁) ခန်းနှင့် အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်၏ ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အပိုင်း (၁၃) ပိုင်းပါရှိသည်။
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Ecuador volcanic eruption destroys 19,000 hectares of farmland

QUITO, 20 July — The Ecuadorean President’s Office said on Tuesday that the Tungurahua Volcano, currently erupting in central Ecuador, had destroyed 19,000 hectares of farmland.

Tungurahua had destroyed 12,000 hectares in Chimborazo and 7,000 in Tungurahua, the Foreign Ministry said. The 5,029-metre-high volcano, which is showering the region with ash and burning hot lava, entered a critical phase on Friday that might last for months or years.

It has devastated villages that have maize, potato, cereal and livestock farms and affected more than 13,000 people.

The Ecuadorean Government has evacuated around 1,000 families from

Bilbao and Cusua, two of the badly-affected areas and is preparing to evacuate residents from Chacauca, Juive and Ponton.

Ecuador’s President Alfredo Palacio has ordered the Cabinet to come up with an emergency plan. The government decided on Monday to spend 4.9 million US dollars to tackle the disaster, and has already spent 300,000 dollars delivering food, medicine and drinking water to refugees.

MNA/Xinhua

Italian police free 113 Polish slave labourers

ROME, 20 July — Italian police on Tuesday freed 113 Poles living “like slaves” in forced labour camps, where those refusing to work were raped, tortured with metal batons and attacked by dogs.

Authorities in both countries said that at least four workers had apparently committed suicide in the camps in Italy’s southern region of Puglia, but those deaths were being investigated as suspicious.

Twenty people were arrested for human trafficking in a joint operation in Italy and Poland, codenamed “Promised Land”, and police were looking for seven more people.

They were alleged-ly members of a criminal ring that recruited people in Poland through adverts in newspapers promising them a safe job as agricultural workers in Italy.

“Those who applied were charged 400-800 zlotys (124.50 US dollars-248.90 US dollars), plus another 150 euros when they reached Italy,” Polish police chief Marek Bienkowski told a news conference in

Warsaw. He said the workers in the camps were held in rooms without heating, light or gas and were watched by Ukrainian, Italian and Polish armed guards.

He added there was evidence of forced prostitution, rapes, torture with metal batons of those who tried to resist. Some victims had dogs set against them and were threatened with guns.

MNA/Reuters



Two white tigers play water to cool themselves in the Qinling Wild Animal Zoo of Xi’an recently. The zoo has taken various measures to help animals get through the scorching summer. —INTERNET

Blair mocked as US poodle

LONDON, 20 July — Prime Minister Tony Blair was roundly mocked as a US poodle on Tuesday after an off-the-cuff chat with President George W Bush was accidentally broadcast.

Bush and Blair enjoyed a gossip over lunch at the Group of Eight summit in St Petersburg on Monday, unaware that a microphone in front of them was switched on and their words would be relayed around the world.

Breaking with diplomatic formalities, Bush hailed Blair, his closest European ally, with the words “Yo, Blair”. His solution to the Middle East crisis was that Syria should press Hizbollah to “stop doing this shit”.

The British media pored over the text of the conversation, saying it cast Blair in a subservient role and showed the unequal nature of Britain’s

much-vaunted “special relationship” with the United States.

“Yo, Bush! Start treating our prime minister with respect,” the popular tabloid *Daily Mirror* said, joining others in seeing the US President’s greeting as disrespectful.

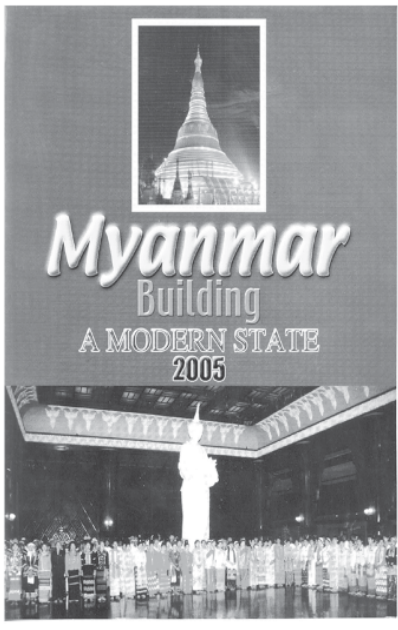
The broadcast chat “reinforces the damaging public image of Blair as the US President’s poodle”, it said.

But most damaging to Blair was what commentators saw as his plea — rebuffed by Bush — to be allowed to visit the Middle East to try to stop fighting between Israel and Hizbollah guerillas. — MNA/Reuters

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Floods retreat in south China, nearly 200 dead
 BEIJING, 19 July— Rain and flooding eased across most of south China on Tuesday after killing nearly 200 people as survivors faced water shortages, severed roads and damaged homes.
 The downpours were triggered by Tropical Storm Bilis, which killed dozens in the Philippines and Taiwan before striking heavily populated southern China on Friday. Rain was still forecast for the worst-hit provinces of Hunan and Guangdong over the next two days, but officials and residents there reached by telephone on Tuesday reported only intermittent drizzle and even sunshine.— MNA/Reuters

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲများတိုးတက်လာ နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့



Colombian Jonathan Marin celebrates with a Colombian flag after winning the gold medal at the cycling sprint competition in the Central American and Caribbean Games in Barranquilla, Colombia narrowly missing a dog that had wandered onto the track on 19 July, 2006.

INTERNET

Iran says six-nation package good start point for negotiations

TEHRAN, 19 July — Iranian Government spokesman Gholam-Hossein Elham said on Tuesday that a package of proposals offered by six world powers aimed to defuse the standoff over Iran's nuclear issue was a good start point for negotiations.

"We still believe that the proposed package is a good start point for negotiations on the nuclear issue," Elham was quoted by the official IRNA news agency as saying at a weekly news conference.

"We are optimistic and believe that the issue can be resolved," he added. The spokesman reiterated Teheran's

stance that Iran wanted to resolve the current standoff through diplomacy, talks and cooperation, saying "the Islamic Republic of Iran calls for continuation of cooperation within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and international rules and regulations".

Meanwhile, Elham stressed that Iran was not trying to acquire nuclear weapons. "Iran pursues peaceful policies. Our political and military

doctrine is transparent in this regard. We are not after nuclear weapons and do not need them," he said.

"We do not accept these kind of weapons by any country and believe in international disarmament," he added.

In addition, Elham stressed that Iran respected international laws, saying that Teheran "never intended to move in a way contrary to accepted international regulations or even beyond them".

MNA/Xinhua

Privately funded spacecraft carries NASA "Genebox" into space

LOS ANGELES, 19 July — The Genesis-I inflatable module, the world's first privately funded spacecraft, has a shoebox-size device for life experiment in orbit, US space agency NASA said on Monday.

The payload, called "GeneBox," contains a miniature laboratory designed to analyze how the near weightlessness of space affects genes in microscopic cells and other small life forms, according to NASA's Ames Research Center based in Silicon Valley, California.

The micro-laboratory includes sensors and optical systems that can detect proteins and specific genetic activity.

In about two weeks, the device will be activated and send its experiment data to Earth for further analysis. The Genesis-I spacecraft, built by Las Vegas-based

Bigelow Aerospace, is a one-third scale prototype of the commercial space station module in future.

Launched into orbit atop a Russian rocket on 12 July, the module now

seems to be in good shape, and is expected to circle the planet for several years while scientists study its durability.

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese workers planting grass near the third terminal under construction for the Beijing Capital International Airport in Beijing, China, on Wednesday, 19 July, 2006. The new terminal, being built at a cost of 25 billion yuan (US\$ 3.2 billion; euro 2.7 billion), is part of efforts to double the airport's capacity to 60 million passengers a year in advance of the 2008 Beijing Olympics.—INTERNET

Diet drug may help obese adolescent

NEW YORK, 19 July — The weight-loss drug Meridia may be a safe, effective treatment for severely overweight children as young as 12, researchers reported on Monday.

In a study of nearly 500 obese 12- to 16-year-olds, investigators found that children who took Meridia, and also underwent behavioural counselling, lost an average of 14 pounds over a year. In contrast, those who received counselling alone continued to gain weight.

The findings are published in the Annals of Internal Medicine. Meridia, known generically as sibutramine, is approved in the US as a weight-loss aid for people ages 16 or older. The new findings suggest the drug is "relatively safe and effective" for younger teens as well, said lead study author Dr. Robert I. Berkowitz of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

However, he told Reuters Health, more research is needed to see how effective the drug is in the long term — including whether young users keep the weight off and whether they develop fewer obesity-related health problems, like type 2 diabetes and heart disease.

Berkowitz also stressed that medication is an option only for teens with severe weight problems. "This is not for children who need to lose 20 pounds," he said.

MNA/Reuters

Japan PM hopeful envisions "Beautiful Country"

TOKYO, 19 July — Chief Cabinet Secretary Shinzo Abe, who tops opinion polls as the politician most Japanese would like to see as the next premier, will publish a book this week calling for changes to the pacifist Constitution, a Japanese newspaper said on Wednesday.

Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi is due to step down in September. His successor as Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) leader is effectively guaranteed the premiership due to the LDP's dominance in Parliament.

Public opinion polls show Abe is the most popular of the politicians likely to stand in the party election.

But many poll respondents cite Abe's looks and clean-cut image as his strengths, rather than his policies.

Abe may be hoping his book, an unofficial manifesto entitled: "Beautiful Country — towards a Japan with confidence and pride," will change that. The volume details his views on changing the US-drafted postwar Constitution, strengthening Tokyo's alliance with Washington and educational reform, the Nihon Keizai Shimbun said.

MNA/Reuters

Heavy rains hit two Koreas, some 130 dead

SEOUL, 19 July — At least 129 people are confirmed or reported dead in North and South Korea in flooding and landslides over the last few days, according to officials and a leading international relief agency.

In secretive North Korea, over 100 people died and thousands of people were left homeless, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies said citing reports.

At least 29 people have been killed and another 32 are missing in South Korea after a week of torrential

rain, officials said MNA/Reuters

Balloons fly over a fashionable Shinjuku amusement street in Tokyo on 20 July, 2006 to promote the FIBA World Basketball Championship to be held in Japan from 19 August to 3 September. INTERNET



SPORTS

Zidane set to face FIFA over World Cup head butt

BERN (Switzerland), 20 July — Former France captain Zinedine Zidane will appear before FIFA's disciplinary committee in Zurich on Thursday to give his account of the incident in which he head-butted an opponent in the World Cup final.

The 34-year-old was sent off in the closing stages of the final match of his illustrious career after butting his head into the chest of Italian defender Marco Materazzi.

Zidane, three-times FIFA's World Player of the Year, had already announced his decision to retire as a player long before the final took place.

Without their captain, and regular penalty-taker who had scored their goal from the spot in the game that eventually ended in a 1-1 draw, France lost the subsequent shoot-out 5-3.

The five-member disciplinary panel will also consider possible punishments against Materazzi who admitted insulting Zidane in the moments leading up to the head butt.

Materazzi has, however, denied several me-

dia reports, based on the opinions of lip-readers, that he used racist insults to provoke Zidane.

The Inter Milan player, who had his own hearing before the disciplinary committee last Friday, told Italy's *Gazzetta dello Sport* newspaper that it was "one of those insults you hear dozens of times and that often slips out on the pitch".

FIFA has been tight-lipped about the exact charges being brought against the two players, and about the size of the punishments that could be handed out.

According to the organization's disciplinary code, any player who "deliberately assaults someone physically or damages his health will be suspended for at least four matches", and handed a minimum fine of 5,000 Swiss francs (3,984 US dollars).

A lesser assault in which the victim is not considered to have been physically harmed is sanctioned with a ban of at least two matches and the same minimum fine.

MNA/Reuters

China, Japan post victories in women's Asian Cup

CANBERRA, 20 July — Han Duan and Pu Wei each scored a goal to give China a 2-0 win over Taipei in the first Group A match of the AFC Women's Asian Cup in Adelaide, Australia on Wednesday.

In another Group A clash, Japan thrashed Vietnam 5-0. The strike duo of Ma Xiaoxu, top-scorer in the AFC U-19 championships this year and Han posed as big threats to their opponents before Han opened scoring on 11 minutes off a set-piece by midfielder Bi Yan. China doubled their advantage on 65 minutes when Pu tapped the ball in after a goalmouth melee sparked by a Bai Lili corner.

Japan were merciless toward Vietnam when they poured in five goals by Sawa Homare (39, 52), Sakaguchi, Mizuho (65, 78) and Nagasato, Yuki (81).

After the first round of group matches, Japan top the group and China stand second on goal difference. Taipei come third and Vietnam, fourth.—MNA/Xinhua



Cincinnati Reds second baseman Brandon Phillips fields a ball from a New York Mets hitter during the third inning of their MLB baseball game at Great American Ballpark in Cincinnati, Ohio, on 19 July, 2006.—INTERNET

Wembley, Berlin bidding to host Champions League final

LONDON, 20 July — The newly rebuilt Wembley Stadium and Berlin's Olympiastadion, the venue for the World Cup final on 9 July, are in the running to stage the 2008 or 2009 Champions League finals.

The decision will be taken in early October when the UEFA Executive Committee meets in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Wembley and the Olympiastadion are on the short list for both finals along with the Stadio Olimpico in Rome and Moscow's Luzhniki Stadium.

The Estadio Olimpico in Seville, which staged the 2003 UEFA Cup final between Porto and Celtic is also in contention for both showpieces.

The Olympiastadion has never hosted a European final but profited

from a 242-million euro (302.4-million-US-dollar) overhaul for the World Cup.

Wembley, scene of the 1966 World Cup final and five European Champions' Cup showpieces, is in the final stages of being rebuilt with a 90,000-seat capacity at a cost of 1.2 billion euros. After a series of delays it is expected to open next year.

Wembley, also the main venue for the 1948 Olympics, has staged the finals of Europe's premier club competition in 1963, 1968, 1971, 1978 and 1992.

Rome provided the setting for the 1960 Olympic Games and the 1990 World Cup final and has staged the European Cup finals of 1977, 1984 and 1996.

The Luzhniki was the main venue for the 1980

Moscow Olympics and also held the 1999 UEFA Cup final.

UEFA will evaluate the bids according to the capacity and infrastructure of the stadium, the city and airport agreements, accommodation

and promotional plans, and the principle of geographical rotation. The 2007 Champions League final is being staged in Athens and the UEFA Cup final at Hampden Park, Glasgow.

MNA/Reuters



Discovery Channel's team rider George Hincapie of the US cycles after the 15th stage of the 93rd Tour de France between Gap and L'Alpe D'Huez, on 18 July, 2006.—INTERNET

He takes men's 1m springboard gold at World Cup

CHANGSHU (East of China), 20 July — Chinese diver He Chong took the gold of men's 1-metre springboard event at the 15th edition of FINA Diving World Cup here on Wednesday.

The 19-year-old He, who grabbed the gold of 3m springboard synchronized event with Wang Feng at 2005 World Aquatic Championships in Montreal, Canada, firmly held the first place on Wednesday since the first dive.

Although he did not performed well in the fourth round while executing a reverse two-and-a-half somersault and earned 72 points, his lowest score tonight, He convinced the judges with his last two dives, one receiving 90.00 points and the other 96.90 points. He took the gold with a total score of 505.65 points.

"I didn't spend much time training on the 1m springboard, so I think I performed well enough tonight," said He.—MNA/Xinhua

Orlando Pirates draw in African Champions League

JOHANNESBURG, 19 July — Emmanuel Umoh scored an injury-time equalizer as Ivory Coast's ASSEC Abidjan forced a 1-1 draw with hosts Orlando Pirates in their African Champions League Group B match at Ellis Park on Tuesday.

A header from Blaise Mbele had given Pirates the lead just before half-time.

ASEC threatened to equalise for the last quarter of the game with Abdul Moustapha Ouedraogo hitting the post in the 85th minute.

The draw means Nigeria's Enyimba, who won 2-0 at Ghana's Hearts of Oak on Sunday, top the Group B standings.

Tuesday's match was halted for 23 minutes after the first half hour of the game when the floodlights at Ellis Park went out. The stadium will be one of the 10 venues to be used by South Africa for their hosting of the 2010 World Cup finals.—MNA/Reuters

Colombia govt says ready to host 2014 soccer World Cup

BOGOTA, 19 July — Colombia's vice-president, Francisco Santos, told media on Tuesday that the nation was ready to host the 2014 soccer World Cup and that the government had not been hasty in presenting its candidature.

Alvaro Uribe, President of Colombia, said on Saturday, at the opening ceremony of the 20th Central American and Caribbean Games that Colombia would seek to host the Cup; a statement that was greeted with skepticism by the nation's sporting media.

Uribe said at the same ceremony that Santos would take charge of preparing Colombia's proposal to the International Federation of Football Associations (FIFA).

"The prospect makes my mouth water," Santos said on Tuesday. "I would love to see all we saw in Germany here in Colombia in eight years."

MNA/Xinhua

UN calls for quick Middle East ceasefire

UNITED NATIONS, 20 July — Israel and Hizbollah must stop fighting before a broader settlement of the conflict can be reached, a top UN official said on Wednesday, clashing with the United States which said a ceasefire made little sense.

The UN call came hours after Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said his country's military campaign against Hizbollah guerillas would continue "as long as necessary" to free two captured soldiers and ensure the group was no longer a threat.

"What there needs to be now is a cessation of

hostilities," UN Deputy Secretary-General Mark Malloch Brown told reporters, a day after France suggested the Security Council adopt a resolution calling for a ceasefire underpinned by political and security steps.

"The Middle East is littered with the results of people believing there are military solutions to po-

litical problems in the region," Malloch Brown said.

Council members said they were waiting for a briefing by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Thursday before deciding on next steps. US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice was having a private dinner with Annan on Thursday, UN officials said.

Washington frowns on the idea of a ceasefire now. US Ambassador John Bolton said a ceasefire between a state and a "terrorist group" like Hizbollah made little sense. He said the Council should instead focus on disarming Hizbollah and extending Lebanese Government control over all its territory.

MNA/Reuters



He Chong took the gold of men's 1-metre springboard event at the 15th edition of FINA Diving World Cup on 19 July, 2006.—INTERNET

India's DM says terrorism cannot destroy spirits of citizens

CHENNAI, 20 July — Condemning terrorism of all forms, India's Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee Tuesday night said terrorism might kill some people, but could not destroy the individual spirits of the countrymen.

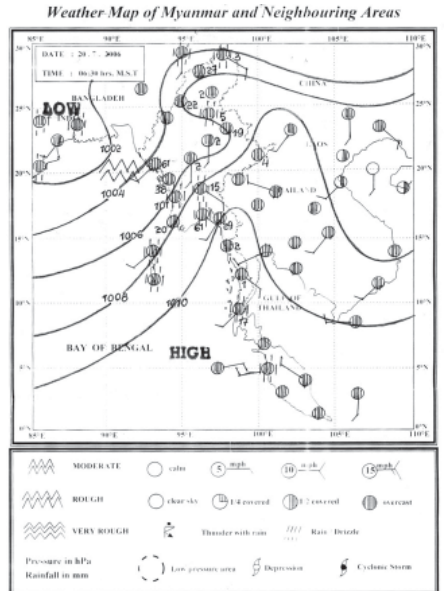
Unveiling Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Arch at the Kathipara Junction, the southern entrance to the city, he said the country was passing through a difficult time as forces of destruction and destabilization were bent upon to divide the country on the basis of religion and caste.

"As long as Congress is at the helm of affairs, we will not allow the country to be divided nor any attempts to harm it," he said. He asked the Congressmen to stand united and fight the forces of

communalism, which were attempting to divide the country.

The arch, which has the busts of Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, Kamaraj and GK Moopnar, symbolized the unity of the nation, he said.

All the leaders have contributed greatly to the nation's development, he said.—MNA/PTI



WEATHER

Thursday, 20 July, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain has been isolated in Chin State, fairly widespread in upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State and Ayeyawady Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Pyapon (4.96) inches, Thandwe (4.01) inches, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (2.48) inches, Sittway (2.41) inches, Bago (2.20) inches and Pyinmana (0.63) inch.

Maximum temperature on 19-7-2006 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 20-7-2006 was 66°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 20-7-2006 was (100%). Total sunshine hours on 19-7-2006 was (0.4) hour approx.

Rainfalls on 20-7-2006 were (1.69) inches at Mingaladon, (2.48) inches at Kaba-Aye and (1.14) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (47.95) inches at Mingaladon, (57.64) inches at Kaba-Aye and (62.48) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southeast at (18:30) hours MST on 19-7-2006.

Bay inference: Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and generally strong elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 21-7-2006: Rain will be scattered in Chin, Shan and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Mandalay and lower Sagaing Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State and Ayeyawady Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times Deltaic off and along Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon. **Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 21-7-2006:** One of two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 21-7-2006: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 21-7-2006: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Flood Warning
(Issued at 12:00 hours MST on 20-7-2006)
According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Bago River at Bago is (869) cm. It may reach its danger level (910) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.
According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Toungoo is (548) cm. It may reach its danger level (600) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.

မြစ်ရေကြီးမှု၊ ကြိုတင်သတိပေး



Friday, 21 July
View on today

- 7:00 am
- 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:25 am
- 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
- 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
- 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am
- 5. လှုပ်ရှားပုံပြင် စိတ်ပျော်ရွှင်
- 8:00 am
- 6. The mirror images of the musical oldies
- 8:10 am
- 7. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

- 8:20 am
- 8. ဆွာရောင်း ရေလှောင်တံခွန်
- 8:30 am
- 9. International news
- 8:45 am
- 10. English for Everyday Use
- 4:00 pm
- 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
- 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
- 3. Practice in Reading
- 4:45 pm
- 4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm
- 5. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (ရှုပေးခါး) ဓာတုဗေဒ၊ သင်္ချာအထူးပြု(များ) (ရှုပေးခါး)
- 5:15 pm
- 6. Song of national races
- 5:25 pm
- 7. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းစား ရိုးတောင်း
- 5:35 pm
- 8. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 5:45 pm
- 9. "မျှော်သူမမောစေချင်" (နိုးသီဟ၊ ဆုပန်ထွာ၊ နန်းကလျာလှိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စောစောလှိုင်)
- 5:50 pm
- 10. Song of yesteryears
- 6:00 pm
- 11. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
- 12. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
- 13. သုတနံလင် ရွှေညာဏ်ရှင်
- 7:05 pm
- 14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရွှစ်လိပ်ပြာလေး တစ်လည်လည်" (အပိုင်း-၈)
- 8:00 pm
- 15. News
- 16. International news
- 17. Weather report
- 18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မေတ္တာသံစဉ်" (အပိုင်း-၄)
- 19. The next day's programme



Friday, 21 July
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Good morning sunshine
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -Closer to you
- 8:50 am National news / Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -I remember you
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: -Tarzan boy
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch time music -I wish it would rain down -Could you ever -Fight for our love
- 9:00 pm WOM -Japan, Korea, Russia, Italy, Thailand
- 9:15 pm Article
- 9:25 pm Music at your request -Holiday -Tropical loveland -Let it be
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PML

Laikha Township to put 37,900 acres under paddy



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of Ministry of Defence views transplanting competition in Laikha. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence attended a paddy transplanting competition in Laikha Township, southern Shan State, on 12 July.

Also present were Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Thuang Aye, Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, senior military officers, departmental personnel, social organi-

zations and local people.

Seven teams took part in the competition. Honaungoum team won the first prize, Ward 1 team, the second prize, Nongmein team, the third prize, and other four teams, the consolation prize. The commander and officials gave away the prizes to the winners.

In meeting with members of the teams and local people, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win said that as Shan State has been striving to boost food production, some

paddy strains are yielding over 250 baskets of paddy per acre. They should apply the advanced techniques disseminated by Myanmar Agriculture Service in cultivating paddy strains that grow well in the region.

Laikha Township put 36,821 acres of land under paddy in 2005-2006. In 2006-2007, the township has cultivated over 24,880 acres of paddy up to now against the target of 37,900 acres.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win spent the night in Laikha. *MNA*

Cash donated to funds of Monywa General Hospital

NAY PYI TAW, 20 July — Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye on 14 July attended the ceremony to set up the blood trust-fund of Monywa General

Hospital, at the City Hall in Monywa.

The commander and officials accepted K 1 million for the hospital donated by Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council; K 1 million All Bus-lines Control Committee of Monywa; K

600,000 by Sagaing Division Health Department and K 10.7 million by 39 wellwishers.

Afterwards, well-wishers donated K 18.3 million to the funds of the hospital.

Head of Sagaing Division Health Depart-

ment Dr Kyaw Shein spoke words of thanks.

At Monywa District Law Office, the commander attended the ceremony to recount the 28th work coordination meeting between the Attorney-General and law officers. Sagaing Division Law Officer U Tin Thein Maung reported on tasks being carried out. Later, the commander gave necessary instructions. — *MNA*



Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye accepts cash donation for Monywa General Hospital presented by a wellwisher. — MNA

Weather Forecast for (21-7-2006)

Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas

One or two rain.

Degree of certainty is (80%).

Yangon and neighbouring areas

Some rain. Degree of certainty is

(80%).

Mandalay and neighbouring areas

One or two rain.

Degree of certainty is (80%).

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded

(20-7-2006)

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Pyapon | (4.96) inches, |
| Thandwe | (4.01) inches, |
| Yangon (Kaba Aye) | (2.48) inches, |
| Sittway | (2.41) inches, |
| Bago | (2.20) inches, |
| Pyinmana | (0.63) inch. |