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Tuesday, 25 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

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects Yadanabon Myothit Project in PyinOoLwin Township

Investments from private entrepreneurs invited to ICT business

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July—Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye yesterday morning inspected the Yadanabon Myothit Project in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division where Teleport and Incubation will be constructed, and gave necessary instructions.

At the briefing hall, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Secretary-1

of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, the Chairman of Mandalay Division PDC Commander of Central Command and ministers heard a report presented by Chairman of e-National Task Force Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw. Minister Brig-

Gen Thein Zaw said that the area of Yadanabon Myothit is about 10,000 acres, and arrangements are being made for construction of Teleport and Incubation in the satellite town.

The minister added that the stake driving ceremony was held on 30 June 2006 for construction of Teleport as the first phase and the most important part of the project. And efforts are being made in coordination with other relevant ministries to ensure water supply, electricity and human

resources for the project.

After that, Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw reported on other salient points concerning the Yadanabon Myoyhit project.

After hearing the reports, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave

instructions, saying that efforts are to be made for Yadanabon Myothit to become a silicon mountain town; that invitation of investments from private entrepreneurs to the ICT business of the project is to be made, and that efforts are required for

acquisition of local and foreign markets in future.

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected the map of Yadanabon Myothit, the scale model of Teleport and Incubation and the site chosen for the construction of buildings—MNA

Yadanabon Myothit is about 10,000 acres, and arrangements are being made for construction of Teleport and Incubation in the satellite town.



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye hears a report by Chairman of e-National Task Force Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 25 July, 2006

Build more roads for socio-economic development

Nowadays, the government is implementing plans for parallel development of various regions across the Union. In doing so, construction of new roads and bridges have been given a top priority as the transport infrastructure plays a pivotal role in regional development.

Networks of roads are being built the length and breadth of the nation. In 1988, the total length of roads was over 13,000 miles and now it has increased up to more than 19,000 miles. In a region like Chin State where there are mountain ranges 5,000 feet and above high, more than 1,000 miles of roads have been built.

For transport in Chin State, the Haka-Gantgaw, Haka-Matupi, Kalay-Falam-Haka and Mindat-Matupi roads are the arteries of the region. All these roads were upgraded from earth roads and gravel roads to tarred ones.

Construction of the Mindat-Matupi road started in 1995 but even in 1988, it was an earth road 16 feet wide and serviceable only in the dry weather. It was widened and paved with gravel year by year and now it has emerged as a 102-mile tarred road. It was inaugurated on 20 July.

The Midat-Matupi road serves as an access to other parts of the country from Matupi. Moreover, the Mindat-Kyaukhtu-Pauk road has also been upgraded. Therefore, it takes only half a day to travel by car from Mindat in Chin State to Pakokku in Magway Division.

In the past, it took nearly five days to travel from Mindat to Matupi but now it takes about six hours. We believe that the Mindat-Matupi road will contribute not only to health, education, economic and social status of the people in Mindat and Matupi townships but also to all-round development of Chin State.

Shwedaung Association to hold Waso robes offering ceremony

YANGON, 24 July—Shwedaung Township Association (Yangon) invited its members to participate in the association's Waso robes offering ceremony to be held on 6 August at the Buddh Gaya Monastery in Sangyoung Township.

Those wishing to donate robes and offertories may contact U Aung Myint (Ph 384190), U Ye Hla Myat (Ph 095130245) and U Maung Maung Sein (Ph 095004909). — MNA



Wellwishers Ko Kyaw Zaw Nyunt and Dr Judy Tin Lay donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Secretary of Administrative Board Major Aung Than (Retired). — H

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

Foreign Minister leaves for Malaysia to attend 39th AMM, 13th ARF, ASEAN+3 FM Meeting and PMCs

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July —At the invitation of Chairman of the 39th ASEAN Standing Committee and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malaysia Mr Syed Hamid Albar, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win left here by air this afternoon for Malaysia to attend the 39th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM), 13th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN+3 Foreign Ministers' Meeting and Post Ministerial Conferences (PMCs) to be held on 24-28 July in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Ambassador of Myanmar to Malaysia U Myint

Aung, Ambassador of Myanmar to the Philippines U Thaug Tun, Director-General of the Political Department U Nyan Lynn, Director-General of the ASEAN Affairs Department U Aung Bwa, General Staff Officer Grade I (Planning) of the Ministry of Defence Lt-Col Ohn Cho, Minister Counsellor of Myanmar Embassy in KL U Win Myint, Deputy Director of the ASEAN Affairs Department U Aung Htoo, Head of Branch U Zaw Naing Win of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will also participate in the meetings. — MNA

Myanmar-Korea Friendship Association donates fans to Ministry of Sports

YANGON, 24 July—Myanmar-Korea Friendship Association donated a total of 60 electric fans to the Ministry of Sports today.

At the donation ceremony held at Zekaba Co Ltd in Mingaladon Garden City, Myanmar Olympic Committee Chairman Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint accepted the donation and spoke words of thanks.

Myanmar-Korea Friendship Association received fans from President of Korea-Myanmar Friendship Association Dr Kim Jung Ho and party on their visit to Myanmar.

The ceremony was also attended by General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaug Htaik and officials of Korea-Myanmar Friendship Association.

NLM



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint accepts 60 electric fans presented by Myanmar-Korean Friendship Association. — NLM

ACMECS Workshop on Avian Influenza Prevention and Control held

YANGON, 24 July—A ceremony to open ACMECS Workshop on Avian Influenza Prevention and Control sponsored by Myanmar and Thailand was held at Hotel Nikko Royal Lake Yangon on Natmawk Road here this morning.

It was attended by Director-General of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department U Maung Maung Nyunt, Deputy Director-General of Health Department Dr Tin Nyunt, Acting Director-General of Medical Research Department Dr Kyaw Min, the Thai Ambassador and diplomats from other embassies, directors of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and the Ministry of Health, medical superintendents, professors/heads of department, experts, Deputy Permanent



Deputy Director-General Dr Tin Nyunt made an opening address at ACMECS Workshop on Avian Influenza and Control. — HEALTH

Secretary Dr Narongsakdi Aungkasuvapala of the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand and members, and guests.

Deputy Director-General of Health Department Dr Tin Nyunt made an opening speech.

Director-General U Maung Maung Nyunt, Dr

Narongsakdi Aungkasuvapala and WHO Resident Representative Dr Leonard Ortega spoke. After that, Dr Narongsakdi Aungkasuvapala presented five sets of SRRT kit, vaccines and lab equipment to Director-General of Health Department Dr Tin Nyunt.

Next, those present had a documentary photo taken together with the Myanmar-Thai experts.

This was followed by the workshop in which 43 experts took part. The workshop continues up to 28 July.

MNA



Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (C) hugs a twelve-year-old boy whose mother died in the rescue work, in Zixing City of central China's Hunan Province, on 22 July, 2006. Wen Jiabao is inspecting tropical storm Bilis-ravaged areas in the province.—INTERNET

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Russia, Germany urge coordinated action to end M-E conflict

Moscow, 23 July — Russian President Vladimir Putin and German Chancellor Angela Merkel called on the world community on Friday to take coordinated action to defuse the latest crisis between Israel and Lebanon.

In a telephone conversation initiated by the Germany side, Putin and Merkel discussed the crisis in Lebanon, the Kremlin said in a statement.

“They emphasized the need for the international community to take coordinated action to normalizing the situation in the Middle East and noted the UN Security Council’s role in this process,” the statement said.

Israeli warplanes struck Lebanon overnight in an escalating war against Hizbollah, now in its tenth day, in response to rocket attacks by Hizbollah militants, who kidnapped two Israeli soldiers and killed eight

others last week.

Four Israeli troops were killed in fierce battles with Hizbollah guerillas, who lost two of its fighters, inside Lebanon on Thursday. Russia on Thursday criticized Israel for using excessive force in its offensive against Hizbollah militants, saying the operations “went far beyond an anti-terrorist operation”.

Putin and Merkel met over the weekend for the Group of Eight (G-8) summit in St Petersburg, during which the two and other G-8 leaders called on Hizbollah militants to “immediately halt their attacks” and urged Israel to “exercise utmost restraint” in its actions to defend itself.

MNA/Xinhua

Space scientist says China has stones from moon, Mars

BEIJING, 23 July — Although China has not sent any space craft to the moon and the Mars yet, it has got three stones from them.

“Chinese explorers found nearly 10,000 stones fallen from space in the Antarctic area, including one from the moon and two from the Mars,” said Ouyang Ziyuan, a member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, at the ongoing 36th Committee on Space Research Scientific Assembly here Friday.

He said humanity has altogether obtained 26 stones fallen from the moon in the past. In addition, human beings have taken back samples of moon in the previous moon landings.—MNA/Xinhua

FDA warns of lead use in lunch boxes

WASHINGTON, 23 July— The government is warning manufacturers to stop using lead to make lunch boxes. The officials aren’t talking about the hard, metal lunch boxes that had

or grandma carried, but the soft-sided vinyl kind, whose lining could contain lead.

Food and Drug regulators said the lunch boxes pose no immediate danger, but they’ve told firms to find new manufacturing techniques that don’t use lead. Lead can cause learning disabilities and behavioral problems. But an FDA official said it’s not clear whether this lead can contaminate the food stored inside.—Internet

Serial killings terrorize US western city

LOS ANGELES, 23 July — Two serial killers have killed 11 people since May, 2005 in Phoenix, a sprawling metropolis in the desert state of Arizona, terrorizing the city of 1.4 million.

The nightly attacks with guns have taken place at mostly across a 70-square-mile area of central metropolitan Phoenix, police sources said on Saturday. The area includes immigrant neighbourhoods bursting with taco stands and auto body shops, and high-end streets fronting upscale apartment complexes.

The killers apparently chose the victims at random, which include men and women of all ages, said the sources who refused to be named.

Police described one killer as a Black man who may use a disguise that includes a long-haired wig and a floppy-brimmed hat. He has killed five women and one man ages 19 to 39, and committed eight robberies and seven sexual assaults.

Police said the second killer, whose gender remains unknown, has shot at least 22 men and women ages 16 to 56. Five have died. Police believe the shots have come from a light-coloured, four-door sedan. Police said it was possible that more than one person was firing from the car.

The Phoenix Police Department has assembled a 120-person task force to investigate the crimes and is working with the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms, Tobacco and Explosives.—MNA/Xinhua



Rescuers carry a passenger injured in an "air crash" to an ambulance at the Beijing Capital International Airport in Beijing on 21 July, 2006. INTERNET

Coalition soldier killed in rocket attack in S-E Afghanistan

KABUL, 23 July—A US-led coalition soldier was killed Friday in Afghanistan southeast province of Paktika by rocket and mortar rounds fired by extremists, said the military. Extremists fired seven

rocket and mortar rounds at the coalition base in the Sharana District of Paktika, some of which landed inside the compound, the coalition said in its news release.

The wounded soldier was taken to the aid station at the base, but died before a medical evacuation aircraft arrived.

“We will continue the fight until extremism is defeated in this country,” Major-General Benjamin C Freakley, commander of Combined Joint Task Force — 76, was quoted as saying in the news release. — MNA/Xinhua

Roadside bomb hits US patrol in eastern Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 23 July—A roadside bomb went off near a US military patrol in eastern Baghdad on Saturday, causing casualties, a police source said.

A makeshift bomb detonated shortly after 9:00 am (0500 GMT) on main

road near Zaiyouna neighbourhood, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. “Our patrols reported that a US Humvee was damaged and several US soldiers wounded in the blast,” the source said, adding that US troops

cordoned off the area.

Earlier, another roadside bomb struck a US patrol on Qanat Street in eastern Baghdad, but it was not clear whether there was any casualty as US troops sealed off the area, police said.— MNA/Xinhua



A foreign visitor learns embroidering skills in the Qiongdongnan Branch of China Nationality Museum in Kaili, a city of southwest China's Guizhou Province on 22 July, 2006. —INTERNET

Study links calcium to breast cancer

MELBOURNE, 23 July—A Queensland researcher has found calcium might be good for strong bones, but may also have a role in contributing to breast cancer.

The University of Queensland's Won Jae Lee says calcium cells control many essential biological processes and may help propagate tumours.

"Most of the publicity—is focused on calcium's role as a mineral in the body—as in teeth and bones—but the other side of calcium is its signalling role," Dr Lee said.

"It's involved in

virtually all biological processes but it's because it acts as a signalling molecule that it acts as an important position there.

"Calcium is a generic signalling molecule it can be used to do pretty much anything—so what I mean by a signalling molecule is something that portrays messages in the body—essentially it is a mes-senger."

He says there are a variety of tools that the body uses to control calcium signals and one of them—the plasma membrane calcium pump—is used to stop calcium signals.

"By inhibiting the calcium pump we could alter the calcium signal and also inhibit the proliferation of our breast cancer cell model."

He says his research has found partial blocking of the calcium signal yielded significant results.

"It was partial in terms of 50 per cent inhibition we were looking at and that was enough to see dramatic inhibition," he said. "Whereas the cells that weren't inhibited, they continued to grow."

The cells which the calcium pump partially inhibited, these would grow slightly.—*Internet*



More than 100 Alphon blowers perform during the International Alphon contest in the southern part of Switzerland, on the Alp Tracouet in Nendaz, on 23 July, 2006.—INTERNET

Death toll in S-W China earthquake rises to 20

ZHAOTONG (Yunnan), 23 July—Death toll from the magnitude 5.1 earthquake in southwest China's Yunnan Province Saturday has risen to at least 20, said local government sources.

Sixteen fatalities in Yanjin County and at least two in neighbouring Dagan County were reported, said a source with Zhaotong municipal government.

The epicenter of the quake, which occurred at 09:10 Saturday, was at 28

degrees North Latitude and 104.2 degrees East Longitude, about 90 kilometres from Zhaotong City, which administers Yanjin and Dagan.

The quake has left more than 106 injured and also destroyed over 1,400 houses, local officials said.

Houses in Yanjin, a county on the Yunnan-Guizhou Plateau with a population of 350,000, were mostly built near hillsides and therefore are vulnerable to earthquakes, said experts with China

Seismological Bureau. Several hundred workers have joined in the rescue operation.

The local civil affairs department has sent 500 tents, 1,000 quilts and 500 blankets to the quake-hit areas. — *MNA/Xinhua*

A fire helicopter flies past a wall of flames during fire fighting efforts at a fire burning about 40 miles (64 km) east of San Diego, California, on 23 July, 2006.—INTERNET

Space cookies to add flavour to astronauts' diet

BEIJING, 23 July — A newly-developed space cookie made of silkworm pupa powder is set to add more taste to astronauts' diet.

Masamichi Yamashita, a researcher with Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), released a recipe for the pupa cookies during the

36th scientific assembly of the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR). The recipe comprises three to six grams of silkworm pupa powder,

200 grams of rice powder, 50 grams of soy powder and 300 cubic centimeters of soymilk, with soy sauce and salt.

All these ingredients will be available in space as soybeans and wheat have been grown successfully in simulated space chambers and methods of raising silkworms in space are under development, said Yamashita.

Astronauts may blend these materials with water and divide the mixture into small pieces.

"They will be flavoured cookies after being fried for 15 minutes in a 600-watt inductive heating machine," Naomi Katayama, a renowned Japanese nutritionist and member of Yamashita's group, told *Xinhua*.

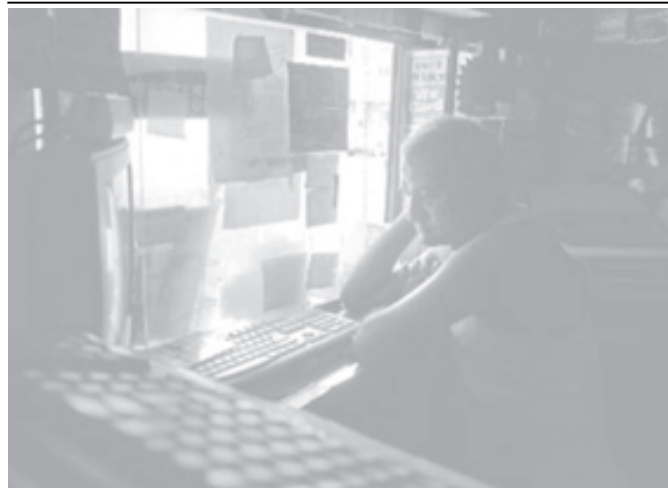
— *MNA/Xinhua*



US Marine killed in western Iraq

BAGHDAD, 23 July — A US Marine was killed by "enemy action" while operating in Iraq's volatile western Anbar Province, the US military said on Saturday.

The soldier, assigned to the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, was killed on Friday, the military said in a brief statement. The name of the soldier was being withheld pending notification of next of kin, the statement added. At least 2,554 US military personnel have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003, according to media count. — *MNA/Xinhua*



A man sits in his darkened convenience store in the Astoria neighbourhood in the Queens borough of New York on 22 July, 2006.—INTERNET

Blackout in New York may continue past Sunday

NEW YORK, 23 July — A blackout in northwest Queens, New York may continue past the weekend with 15,000 to 20,000 customers still without power, said Mayor Mike Bloomberg Saturday.

He said at a morning briefing that chances are dwindling the problem will be repaired by the end of the weekend.

The Mayor said that it was not the time to point fingers that, though there will be a time to assign blame.

He stressed it was necessary to focus on recovery, and he also said there is no estimate on how much this blackout has cost the city.

Bad weather on Friday hindered efforts to repair a series of unexplained electrical failures in the borough. Power has been out in some neighbourhoods since Friday's thunderstorms knocked out some circuits that had only recently been restored. Electrical crews from as far away as

Columbus, Ohio and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania were on their way to New York to assist in the restoration of the network. Con Edison, the city's major power supplier, has estimated that as many as 100-thousand people have been without electricity.

Its initial underestimate of only 2,000 customers affected by the blackout has left some politicians and many Queens residents angry with the power company.— *MNA/Xinhua*

China hopes to expand reciprocal cooperation with Micronesia

BEIJING, 23 July—China's top political adviser Jia Qinglin said here Friday that China hopes to expand reciprocal cooperation with Micronesia and push ahead with bilateral ties to a higher level.

Jia, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, made the remarks in a meeting with Vice-President Redley Killion of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Jia said the Chinese Government has attached great importance to relations with Micronesia and will work with the Micronesian Government to keep high-level ex-

changes and expand the cooperation for mutual benefit. He said China hopes the two countries would support each other on multilateral issues and enhance the development of bilateral ties.

Jia also expressed China's appreciation to Micronesia for its adherence to the one-China policy.

Killion said the Mi-

cronesian Government is committed to deepening friendly ties with China and will continue to promote comprehensive cooperative ties with China based on the one-China policy.

Besides Beijing, Killion will visit northeast China's Liaoning Province and east China's Shandong Province.

MNA/Xinhua

India requested to help evacuate stranded Nepalis in Lebanon

KATHMANDU, 23 July—As the Israeli attack on Lebanon entered its 10th day, Nepal Government on Friday requested the Indian Government for as-

sistance to help evacuate the stranded Nepalis in Lebanon. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Khadga Rasa Oli said that the government asked the Indian Government to help evacuate Nepali workers along with the Indians.

The Indian Government has already evacuated six Nepalis and pledged to bring 10 others from the Lebanese capital Beirut on Saturday, according to Oli.

The government also asked the Nepalis in Lebanon to contact the concerned Nepali office in Lebanon for possible evacuation.

MNA/Xinhua

People protest near the entrance of the Bohemian Grove camp ground in Mote Rio, California, on 22 July, 2006. —INTERNET



Iran to use reserve dollars to skirt fuel crisis

TEHERAN, 23 July — Iran's Government will try to avoid rationing gasoline from 23 September by seeking to dip into dollar reserves to pay for fuel imports, a member of Parliament said on Saturday.

Parliament has cut the budget for gasoline imports in the year to March 2007, prompting the oil minister to say Teheran would have to stop buying in gasoline shipments and start petrol rationing on 23 September.

Iran's final decision on how to cope with the budget cut is being keenly awaited by European and Asian gasoline traders who send a gasoline tanker to Iranian quaysides every two days.

Kamal Daneshyar, head of Parliament's energy commission, said the

government would submit a bill to Parliament seeking 4 billion US dollars to 4.5 billion US dollars to pay for extra imports as a way of sidestepping rationing that could spark social discontent.

"A bill to withdraw a sum of 4 billion US dollars to 4.5 billion US dollars from the Oil Stabilization Fund will be submitted to Parliament for importing gasoline and diesel in the coming days," he said.

Iran's dollar earnings above budgeted levels go into the Oil Stabilization Fund which, strictly speaking, is only supposed to be tapped if oil prices become perilously low. Daneshyar could give no indication of how such a bill would be received by lawmakers.

MNA/Reuters



A tiger swims in a pool to relieve heat in a zoo of Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, on 21 July, 2006. The city is now in scorching days. INTERNET



An employee works at a electricity cable factory in Baoying, Jiangsu Province, on 23 July, 2006. Three or four top Chinese copper smelters have reduced production due to low fees for processing imported concentrate, an official representing eight smelters said on Friday. —INTERNET

Indian boy rescued from 17m hole

HARYANA (India), 24 July—A five-year-old Indian boy stuck in a 17-metre deep hole for two days has been lifted to safety in a massive rescue effort seen on live television.

Troops and police had mounted a major operation, digging a tunnel from a nearby dry well to pull out the boy, who slipped into the hole while playing on Friday. As a tense nation watched the drama unfold on television, the boy was lifted out by crane and went off on the arms of a burly army officer.

The boy looked dazed but in good condition.

"Yes, they have pulled the child out. He is safe," a police official said from Kurukshetra town in Haryana state where the accident happened.

Rescuers had spread plastic sheets to keep rainwater from entering the hole amid fear the mud could cave in.

They kept the boy alive by pumping in oxygen and sending down milk and food.

Earlier, closed-circuit camera showed pictures of the bare-chested child, looking dazed and covered in mud, sitting at the bottom of the hole as a huge crowd anxiously waited. —Internet

Diplomacy intensifies in Israel over Lebanon war

JERUSALEM, 24 July — Envoys from three European countries joined intensifying diplomacy in Israel on Sunday aimed at ending fighting between Israeli forces and Hizbollah that has wrecked swathes

of Lebanon and left hundreds dead.

Ministers from France, Germany and Britain held separate talks with Israeli officials ahead of US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's arrival in the Middle

East. She was due to leave Washington for the region on Sunday and expected to hold meetings in Israel on Tuesday. Among questions up for discussion was a possible beefed up peacekeeping force for south Lebanon, an idea backed by Israel's Defence Minister as a way to keep Hizbollah from the border.

European countries have been far more critical of Israel's offensive than its mainly, the United States, which has resisted growing calls for a ceasefire and made clear that it blames Iranian-backed Hizbollah for the crisis. Few expect diplomacy to deliver swift results and an Israeli newspaper reported on Sunday that Israeli officials believe they have a green light from Washington to continue the onslaught on Hizbollah for at least another week.

MNA/Reuters

Handler killed by elephant at Tennessee sanctuary

NASHVILLE (Tennessee), 23 July—An elephant killed its female handler and injured a male handler at a Tennessee sanctuary on Friday, a Tennessee Wildlife Re-

sources Agency official said.

The female handler died instantly after being stepped on or kicked by "Winkie", a 40-year-old, 7,600-pound female

Asian elephant, and a second attendant received minor injuries when he tried to intervene, TWRA official Doug Markham said.

MNA/Reuters

Cuba, MERCOSUR sign tariff-eliminating trade pact

CORDOBA (Argentina), 23 July — The Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR) and Cuba on Friday signed an agreement on eliminating tariffs and boosting complementary trade, on the sidelines of the 30th MERCOSUR Summit in Cordoba, Argentina.

The group deal, known as the Economic Complementarity Accord, is an integration of the four agreements that the MERCOSUR members already have with Cuba, and was signed by presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay on behalf of MERCOSUR, and Cuban President Fidel Castro for his nation.

Cuba-MERCOSUR trade reached 405 million US dollars in 2005, with

MERCOSUR member states registering a surplus of 323 million dollars.

Cuban authorities said the deal would help offset the consequences of the 40-year-old blockade imposed on Cuba by the United States.

Analysts say the agreement is of more political than economic significance, showing that MERCOSUR rejects the US way of treating the Caribbean island nation. *MNA/Xinhua*



Hong Kong awarded actress Sammi Cheung returned to shoot a new advertisement after a long time holiday.—INTERNET

Unruly giant Panda gives birth after artificial insemination

CHENGDU, 23 July — A giant panda who fled captivity and remained at large for four and a half years gave birth to a female cub in southwest China on Saturday, eight months after she was recaptured, an expert said.

The cub, weighing 160 grams, was born at 8:50 am at the China Wolong Giant Panda Protection and Research Centre, which is based in Sichuan Province, said the centre's head Zhang Hemin.

The delivery, the first fruit of artificial insemination this year among the endangered species, turned the celebrity giant panda, known for her unruliness, a heroine again, said Zhang.

The mother, named Bai Xue, or Snow White, received artificial insemination three months ago.

Both mother and daughter are in good condition, Zhang said.

MNA/Xinhua



An Airbus A380-800 aircraft arrives at Farnborough International Airshow in Farnborough, England, on 23 July, 2006.—INTERNET

New members angry as EU stalls on US visas

BRUSSELS, 23 July — New eastern members of the European Union are angry that the European Commission has again stalled retaliation against the United States for continuing to impose visa requirements on their nationals, diplomats say.

The United States does

not require visas for citizens of 15 of the 25 countries in the EU. The Commission has warned Washington the EU could impose a visa requirement on US diplomats and government officials if it does not extend its visa waiver scheme to Greece and nine mostly ex-

Communist states that joined the EU in 2004.

The EU executive was due to present a report to justice and interior ministers next Monday recommending such steps, but the document has been delayed for two months, prompting threats of unilateral action by the Czech Republic, normally one of Washington's most faithful allies on foreign policy.

"We received the information from Canada and the United States too late to present it at the Council next week," European Commission spokesman Pietro Petrucci confirmed.

He said the report would be issued in the second week of September.

The Commission said in January it wanted progress before it reported in July and warned it had the power to recommend sanctions. *MNA/Reuters*

Chinese police launches campaign against piracy

BEIJING, 23 July — The Ministry of Public Security has launched an anti-piracy campaign throughout the country, to crack down on illegal reproduction of copyrighted materials.

The campaign, to last from late July till the end of October, is targeted at bringing organizers and chief culprits of such illegal activities to justice.

The Ministry on Thursday issued a notice to police organs all over the country, asking them to further investigate and uncover illegal DVD production lines and arrest heads of gangs engaged in illegal reproduction of DVDs and books.

Police will intensify patrol and examination at railway stations, bus stops, harbours and airports searching for clues on pirated materials production, transportation and sales.

Police will strengthen management of rented houses and apartments to prevent them from being used for producing or storing pirated DVDs or books.

Chinese law provides that a peddler will be sentenced to three to seven years behind bars, if he/she has sold 5,000 or more pirated DVDs.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Iraqi detainee's abuse was widespread, routine

WASHINGTON, 23 July — Iraqi detainees were routinely subjected to beatings, sleep deprivation, stress positions and other forms of abuse by US interrogators, according to a Human Rights Watch report released on Sunday that offers first-hand accounts from three former soldiers.

The US-based watchdog group said its report discredits government arguments casting mistreatment of detainees as the aberrant and unauthorized work of a few personnel.

It included accounts by former soldiers who said detainees were regularly subjected to beatings, sleep deprivation and stress positions—practices that started to come to light two years ago when pictures of physical abuse and sexual humiliation at Iraq's Abu Ghraib Prison surfaced.

"These accounts rebut US Government claims that torture and abuse in Iraq was unauthorized and exceptional—on the contrary, it was condoned and commonly used," said John Sifton, author of the report and the group's senior researcher on terrorism and counter-terrorism.

A Defence Department spokesman, however, said 12 reviews have been conducted and none found the Pentagon promulgated a policy that condoned, directed or encouraged abuse.

"The standard of treatment is and always has been humane treatment of detainees in DoD's custody," said Lieutenant-Colonel Mark Ballesteros, a Pentagon spokesman. *MNA/Reuters*



People gather at the site where the bomb exploded in Baghdad's eastern neighbourhood of Sadr City on 23 July, 2006.—INTERNET

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gives instructions to officials on Yadanabon Myothis Project in PyinOoLwin.

(News on page 1) — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects site chosen to build Yadanabon Myothis and site for Teleport building.

(News on page 1) — MNA



CNG filling station opened in Insein Township

YANGON, 24 July — The number of CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) filling stations in Yangon reached 19 after one more station was opened today in Insein Township.

The opening ceremony of the station No 019 near Sawbwagyigon Junction in Insein Township was attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, departmental officials, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association and guests.

Managing Director of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise U San Lwin and Chairman of Yangon North District Peace and Development Council Lt-



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi observe CNG filling station No 019 in Insein. — ENERGY

Col Myat Min formally opened the station.

After the opening ceremony, the commander, the minister and party inspected the station and its services.

The fuel gas for vehicles are available at the stations around the clock. — MNA

Thagaya Industrial Zone under construction

YANGON, 24 July — Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin yesterday inspected construction of factories in Thagaya Industrial Zone in Yadashe, Bago Division, and called for timely completion of the projects.

Officials of Directorate of Myanma Industrial Planning and Myanma Industrial Construction Services reported on the construction of factories including diesel engine factory in the zone.

The general manager of the diesel engine factory reported to the minister on arrangements for transportation of steel structures from Thilawa Port to Thagaya Industrial Zone to be used for factories and stockpiling of machinery. — MNA

Minister for Sports on tour of Sagaing Division

YANGON, 24 July — Member of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Organizing Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint met with chairmen of the Sagaing/Monywa/Shwebo District War Veterans Supervisory Committees and the Township War Veterans Organizing Committees at the office of Sagaing Division WVO on 17 July and gave necessary instructions. And he presented war veteran Longyis worth K 420,000 to those from the Supervisory Committees and the Organizing Committees.

The minister on 19 July attended the ceremony to donate desks to Kyigon Village Basic Education Primary School held at the school in ChaungU Township and made a speech on the occasion.

He also attended the ceremony to donate desks to the basic education primary schools held at Gwebintaw Village in Myinmu Township and presented desks, sports gear and exercise books. On arrival at the Basic Education High School in Myaung, the minister met members of social organizations, teachers and students and presented 28 desks and sport gear for the school.

The minister and well-wishers donated 2,129 desks worth K 17 million to 416 primary schools in Sagaing Division. — MNA

MWEA to hold 11th Anniversary General Meeting

YANGON, 24 July — Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association will hold 11th Anniversary Annual General Meeting at Sedona Hotel on 6 August. The market festival of MWEA will also be organized at the hotel from 8 am to 8 pm on 6 August. Members of MWEA may book tickets for dinner. — MNA

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

The second best time is now.

To the peace station via the peace path

Yadanasi Sayadaw (Loilem)



Eastern Command Commander Brig-Gen Thauung Aye presents cash assistance to vice-chief of staff and Brigade 758 commander U Mein Sin.

On 7 July 2006, I watched the evening news on the screen about the return to the legal fold of a national race armed group.

The news item said that putting trust in the government, the entire people and the benevolent attitude and nation-building drive of the Tatmadaw, 848 members led by Brigade (758) commander U Mein Sin with the rank of vice chief of staff from Shan State Army (South) (SSA-S) (Ywet Sit) returned to the legal fold on 6 July 2006 after making contacts with the Eastern Command.

As the news was announced, the scenes appeared one after another on the screen. Hundreds of members were standing in rows and holding various kinds of heavy weapons and small arms. Their faces were bright with hopes.

The SSA-S members brought together with

them 24 kinds of heavy weapons, 834 assorted small arms, 1,990 magazines, 157,971 rounds of ammunition, 55 hand grenades, 63 mines, 15 communication sets and 120 walkie-talkies.

Local people in Loilem and Lankho districts in Shan State (South) felt encouraged most among the people who watched the news across the nation.

Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Thauung Aye and officials gave a warm welcome to U Mein Sin and party and allocated a region for them to live, earn their living and carry out regional development undertakings. Moreover, the commander made arrangements to provide food, clothing and shelter for their convenience.

In the next scene, the commander received the leaders of Brigade (758) at the hall of the Eastern Command. At the call, he gave words of advice and

presented K 30 million provided by the State to them. Next, they shook hands.

The massive return to the legal fold based on reaching total understanding brought a great pleasure to local people in Shan State (South, North and East) who were hungry for peace, stability and development of their region, the entire national people and the Tatmadaw. They also received a tumultuous welcome.

The news reflected the feelings and images of those who entered the legal fold after their realization and the people who offered a rousing welcome to them.

Although the news story and scenes were brief, the happiness and joy of local people in Loilem, Lankho and Taunggyi districts would linger on. Just after the news programme, many local people were on the phone to exchange their views on the news. In the following morning, the good news became the talk of the people everywhere especially in the tea shops, markets and busy places. The people of the entire nation took great delight for long in watching and hearing the news.

It was because the news directly contributed towards one of the State's political objective "Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order", indicated the achievement of the Tatmadaw Government, depicted patriotic spirit and Union Spirit equipped by those who returned to the legal fold, and sent the message to local people that the days of living in fear were over.

About a month before the announcement of the news report on the return to the legal fold of 848 men under the command of U Mein Sin together with various kinds of arms and ammunition, a Government Computer College, built by the Tatmadaw government, was opened in Hpa-an, Kayin State, at a grand ceremony at which Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivered an address. The address itself shed light on the regional peace.

At the ceremony, the Secretary-1 said, "The local people know best the evil consequences of armed insurgency in which they had lived in fear as their regions were lacking peace and stability, and were also suffering from a lot of hardships resulting from loss of lives and property and harassment and terrorism in the absence of the rule of law.

"The entire education system set up by the government fell apart at the villages lying in the nation's far corners where schools were destroyed by the armed insurgents who denied local children's access to education and drove local people out of their homes."

(see page 9)

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To the peace station via the peace path

Yadanasi Sayadaw (Loilem)

(from page 8)

His address reflected the true condition in some parts of Kayin State, Shan State and Kayah State where armed insurgency has not ceased yet.

His address also applies to the region in southern Shan State where the author resides still suffering from the atrocities of Ywet Sit's SSA-S insurgents.

The way Ywet Sit's insurgents are recruiting new members is that they take by force one if a

subordinates are enjoying a luxurious life in the other country, running business enterprises, acting as drug agents, producing and trafficking narcotics and appeasing the Western powers, while failing to do anything good for the nation and the people. They have never built even a furlong of road, a classroom or a ten-foot bridge.

They have been following the armed struggle line for over forty years, but they instead of serving the interest of the nation, the people and the region,

are committing evil deeds.

At the ceremony, the Secretary-1 also said, "Years of armed insurgency put the people of the state still in evil quagmire that has been depriving them of peace and stability, destroying lots of lives and property, and forbidding them to earn their living and develop their native land as much as they can.

"The policy of armed struggle line, that has never produced any actual benefits for the race and the region, has been weakening gradually with the passage of time until it is overwhelmed by terrorism that cannot distinguish between friend and foe. A result is that the insurgents are relying more on aliens. It is high time they realized it."

Of the persons who are preparing to return to the legal fold after realizing the objective conditions, the return to the legal fold of 848 men led by U Mein Sin can be seen as a new page in the history towards peace or the rays of hope for the nation. They will be able to serve the interests of the region all the more with the government's leadership.

All the people are looking forward to welcoming the armed groups who are about to return to the legal fold.

They've made it to the peace station via peace path

In reciprocal embrace, hearts throp in tandem

Reverberating Shan Ozi music

They've made it incessantly, there're more to come.

(Translation: MS+TMT)

The way Ywet Sit's insurgents are recruiting new members is that they take by force one if a family has two sons, and if it has only one son they take that one. Ywet Sit's men never allow children and young persons to pursue education. Instead, the insurgents are using them as their source of reinforcements. They take local youths away to the bases in the remote border areas along the jungle passages passing through mountains and gorges. At the base, the recruits are totally cut off from the outside world. The only two things they are permitted to hold are arms and the racial hatred.

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At the base, the recruits are totally cut off from the outside world. The only two things they are permitted to hold are arms and the racial hatred.

After being infused with racial hatred, the new members are sent to far-off areas with orders to cultivate poppy, collect opium taxes and extortion money, commit armed robberies and armed threats, kill people, plant mines and ambush people. But if the insurgents encounter a Tatmadaw column they flee in disarray.

But the top brass of the insurgent group although giving random orders as they like to their



Arms and ammunition brought by national race armed group led by Brigade (758) commander U Mein Sin with the rank of vice-chief of staff from Shan State Army (South) (SSA-S) (Ywet Sit).

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Bontalar...

(from page 16)

Wellwisher U Lian Tang presented K 300,000 to Chin State additional Assistant Education Officer U Myint Swe. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and the commander presented stationery, sports gear, computers and a printer for the school.

Member of the School Board of Trustees U Lian Tang explained the opening of the multimedia classroom and U Myint Swe thanked the donors.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint greeted those present at the ceremony and discussed maintenance of the classroom, teaching and development of the education sector. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the development of Matupi and Winthuza Shop of the Ministry of Industry-1 and the People's Hospital. They provided cash to the patients undergoing treatment at the hospital and health staff. They inspected cultivation of tea on 3.5 acres of land in the hospital compound.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party met local authorities at Matupi Township Peace and Development Council Office. Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Nyunt Soe reported on cultivation of paddy, physic



Lt-Gen Ye Myint meets departmental officials, townsenders and members of social organizations at Township PDC's office in Matupi. —MNA

nut and tea, sufficiency of rice in the region, raising of mythum and education, health and transport matters and Lt-Col Pe Thein on condition of Mindat and undertakings of rural development.

The commander and Col San Aung gave supplementary reports.

In his discussions, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said he came to Chin State to fulfil the requirements and departmental officials are to make efforts to become a tea-producing state. Local people of Matupi have opportunities to grow perennial crops on a commercial scale, he added.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint presented medicines and equipment used in operation theatre and clothes and the commander exercises books and sports gear to officials concerned.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint greeted those present at the meeting and inspected tea plantation in the compound of Township Peace and Development Council Office.

He also inspected tea plantation of regional battalions and border areas and national races development vocational training school. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and the commander presented clothes and exercise books and sports gear to the officials.

They also inspected the domestic science and vocational training school for women. Lt-Gen Ye Myint presented cash for the trainees.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and the commander presented offertories and cash to members of the Sangha of the monastery in Matupi. They also visited No 1

BEHS in Matupi.

They proceeded to Bontalar hydel power project site where project in-charge Major Ye Htut reported on the data of the project and Managing Director of Myanmar Machine Tool and Electrical Industries U Kyaw Win on installation of generators.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected the hydel power station and gave instructions on upgrading of road to the project site, power supply and worksite safety. Two 250 kilowatt turbines will generate power and over 88 per cent of the project have completed. They left the site for Matupi in the afternoon. — MNA

Minister inspects Maubin Paper Factory

YANGON, 24 July — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo yesterday went to Myanmar Jute Enterprise's Maubin Paper Factory in Maubin Township and inspected production process of the factory.

He called for production of marketable papers and increasing the share of the market. He also urged officials concerned to seek ways for running the factory at

full capacity.

Factory Manager U Ko Lay reported to the minister on the stockpiling of raw materials to run the factory at full capacity and the factory's paper production.

After his tour of inspection, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo met with members of the supervisory committee for agriculture and called for exceeding the target of per acre yield.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects production process of Paper Factory in Maubin Township. — A&I

Culture Minister receives Korean Ambassador



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint receives Mr Lee Ju Heum, Ambassador of Republic of Korea to Myanmar. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July — Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint received Mr Lee Ju Heum, Amba-

sador of Republic of Korea to Myanmar at the minister's office in Nay Pyi Taw this evening.

Also present at the

call were directors-general and officials of the departments under the ministry.

MNA

YCDC strives for smooth transportation in Yangon

YANGON, 24 July — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lynn today inspected road works in Kyauktada, Dawbon and Thingangyun Townships.

As part of an effort for the smoothful transportation in Yangon, road repairs were being carried out along the Merchant Street in Kyauktada Township, Minnanda Road in Dawbon Township and Ledaukkan Road in Thingangyun Township.

MNA

Gems and Jade Sales of UMEHL on 28 August

YANGON, 24 July — Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd will hold its 21st Gems and Jade Sales-2006 from 28 August to 1st September at Myanmar Convention Centre here.

The sales will be organized through the bargain and auction systems from 31 August to 1st September.

Merchants will be allowed to examine the gems and jade from 28 to 30 August.

Those wishing to buy gems and jade may register as from 26 August. sellers will have to pay 0.4 per cent commission on each items to be sold at the sales.

One per cent commission will be charged for sales in foreign currency while three per cent in Myanmar currency.

More information are available at Myanmar Ruby Enterprise Co Ltd of No 24/26, Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Township, Ph 371053, 370561 and Myanmar Imperial Jade Co Ltd of No 24/26, Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Township, Ph 371027, 370564. — MNA



Miss Puerto Rico Zuleyka Rivera Mendoza reacts after being named Miss Universe 2006 at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles on 23 July, 2006. — INTERNET

Miss Puerto Rico crowned Miss Universe

LOS ANGELES, 24 July — Miss Puerto Rico, Zuleyka Rivera Mendoza, the youngest of the five finalists, was crowned Miss Universe on Sunday night.

The first runner-up was Miss Japan, Kurara Chibana, 24.

The 55th Miss Universe contest was held at the fabled Shrine Auditorium near downtown Los Angeles. It was a homecoming of sorts. The first Miss Universe pageant was held about 25 miles (40 kilometres) away in Long Beach, California, in 1952.

Ending her year as Miss Universe was Canadian Natalie Glebova, who was born in Russia. Among the issues she helped herald during her reign was the need for assistance to people with HIV/AIDS in Africa.

MNA/Reuters

Another aftershock hits Indonesia's Pangandaran

JAKARTA, 24 July —

A minor earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter Scale jolted Pangandaran region at 10:21 am on Saturday, Tretes Meterological and Geophysical office head Hariyanto said on Saturday.

He said in Surabaya, the second largest city in Indonesia, the epicentre of the earthquake which took place at 9.40 degrees Southern Latitude and 108.41 degrees Eastern Longitude in the Indian Ocean, some 600 kilometres from Java

Island.

"The scale of the quake is small as it is a tremor of the previous earthquake which occurred on Monday, 17 July," Antara news agency quoted Hariyanto as saying.

The southern coast of Java was hit by a series of earthquakes triggering tsunami on 17 July, killing more than 600 and destroying or damaging 1,651 houses, buildings, boats and motor vehicles along the coast from West Java to Yogyakarta. It also forced 51,759 people to evacuate. — MNA/Xinhua

Chinese scientists to focus 4 tasks in Moon exploration

BEIJING, 24 July — A leading Chinese lunar scientist said on Friday that the Chinese lunar exploration programme would focus on four major tasks.

Chinese scientists were scheduled to sketch a three-dimensional lunar map, and analyze 14 mineral elements, including titanium and helium, said Ouyang Ziyuan.

The other two tasks were to measure the temperature of the lunar surface by microwave radiation technology, and probe the space environment between the Earth and the Moon, he told the 36th Scientific Assembly of the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR).

China's space agency plans to launch its first lunar orbiter *Chang'e 1* in 2007. In 2010, it will launch an unmanned spacecraft for a soft landing on the Moon.

MNA/Xinhua

Box office success of British films draws in cinema goers

LONDON, 24 July — One in four Britons went to the cinema at least once a week last year, making British film fans amongst the keenest in the world and defying a global decline in ticket sales, the UK Film Council said on Saturday.

A raft of successful home-grown films like "Harry Potter And The Goblet Of Fire", "Wallace And Gromit: The Curse Of The Were-Rabbit" and "Batman Begins" helped draw in audiences.

Admissions around the world fell in 2005, by nine per cent in the United States, 10 per cent in France and 19 per cent in Germany.

"2005 was a great year for British films at the cinema with the largest slice of box office taking since records began," the chief executive of the UK Film Council said.

"In addition we are seeing the public becoming more adventurous in their film choices with a growth in audiences for foreign language films," John

Woodward said in a statement.

British films accounted for a third of cinema receipts in Britain and brought in over 3 billion US dollars worldwide while the three most successful foreign films were "Down fall" (German), "A Very Long Engagement" (French) and "Kung Fu Hustle" (Cantonese).

The report showed the market share of British films at the US box office was 16 per cent, up from 11 per cent in 2004.

The UK Film Council *Statistical Yearbook 2005* showed box office revenue in Britain was 770 million pounds, steady on 2004 figures but up 87 per cent against the level in 1996.

MNA/Reuters

Thai 2006 economic growth projected at 4.5%

BANGKOK, 24 July — Driven mainly by the export and service sectors, Thailand's economic growth in 2006 is projected at 4.5 per cent, almost the same as last year, according to the official *Thai News Agency* on Sunday.

The news agency quoted deputy spokesman of the Finance Ministry's Fiscal Policy Office Ekniti Nititunpraphas as saying that it was rather negative for the country to depend mainly on exports which could be affected by a slowdown in the global economy as the United States is suffering from a huge trade deficit.

During the second half of 2006, Thailand's economy is projected to slow down due to local political uncertainties which depressed investment in both the public and private sectors so far this year, particularly on construction and property businesses, he said.

MNA/Xinhua



An Indonesian woman reunites with a family member in front of her damage house in Pangandaran, west Java Province on 22 July, 2006. Fears of diseases grew in Indonesia's tsunami-hit areas on Saturday as thousands of people camped out in the heat with no clean water five days after the disaster that killed nearly 700 people. — INTERNET

6,700 Canadians evacuated from Lebanon

OTTAWA, 24 July — About 6,700 Canadian citizens have been evacuated from Lebanon as more people are struggling to leave the war-torn country, Foreign Affairs officials said on Sunday.

In an interview Sunday, Foreign Minister Peter MacKay updated the number of Canadian citizens in Lebanon to 40,000, from the original 50,000.

Canada has arranged several ships and more than

ten planes to help transport the evacuees from Lebanon back home via Cyprus or Turkey.

Travellers have complained that the Canadian Government had been too slow to react to the crisis and the

evacuation process had been disorganized and exhausting.

MacKay said of particular concern is an estimated 2,000 to 3,000 Canadians trapped in the south of Lebanon and that efforts were continuing to get them out.

He said Canadian Government has contacted with the Israeli Government on the issue and has managed to pinpoint the locations of many of them.

The violence that erupted between Lebanon-based Hezbollah militants and Israeli Army on 12 July has killed at least 375 people in Lebanon, including at least eight Canadians, and 36 people in Israel. About 600,000 people, mostly in Lebanon, are thought to have fled their homes. — MNA/Xinhua



More than 2000 athletes start the swimming leg of the Ironman Triathlon in a lake near Frankfurt on 23 July, 2006. — INTERNET

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Diana coroner quits over work pressure

LONDON, 23 July — The inquest into Princess Diana's death is likely to be delayed after the royal coroner quit, blaming the work load of his main job as the coroner for the county of Surrey in southern England, newspapers said on Saturday.

The inquest conducted by Michael Burgess into Diana, who was killed along with her companion Dodi al Fayed and their driver in a Paris car crash nine years ago, has been under way since 2004.

Burgess has asked for a senior judicial figure to take on the case, the newspapers said.

An inquiry headed by John Stevens, the former head of the Metropolitan Police, into the circumstances surrounding Diana's death was expected to deliver a report to Burgess next month.

Burgess had asked Stevens to examine allegations that Diana's death was not an accident.

A French inquiry in 1999 ruled that the accident was caused by Paul being drunk and driving too fast did little to stem rumours of a conspiracy and that Diana and Dodi were killed.

Burgess previously said he wanted the inquest to put an end to the speculation.

On the day the inquest began in January 2004, reports said that Diana had written a letter to her former butler Paul Burrell 10 months before her death in which she said she suspected Charles was trying to kill her.

"This particular phase in my life is the most dangerous," the letter said, according to excerpts leaked to the British media. "My husband is planning 'an accident' in my car, brake failure and serious head injury."

Royal commentators said the letter raised questions about Diana's state of mind and in fact reduced the credibility of any of the allegations aimed at Charles.

MNA/Reuters

China, US work jointly to repatriate illegal immigrants

BEIJING, 23 July — Police from China and the United States joined hands for the first time to repatriate 119 illegal Chinese immigrants by a chartered flight recently, a source from the Ministry of Public Security said Saturday.

An official with the Ministry of Public Security said US officials submitted a 288-person list of illegal immigrants and asked Chinese police to confirm their IDs, prior to the visit of Michael Chertoff, the newly appointed US secretary of the Department of Homeland Security in early April.

During Michael Chertoff's visit in Beijing, China and the United States reached agreement on repatriation of illegal immigrants. On 26 June, a panel, consisting of a Chinese police liaison officer and diplomats from the Chinese Embassy and General

Colombian singer Shakira waves to her fans during her news conference in Red Square with St Basil's Cathedral in the background before her concert "Oral Fixation World Tour 2006" in Moscow on 22 July, 2006.—INTERNET



Consulate in Houston, Texas reached El Paso, Texas to check preparation and safety measures for the repatriation.

On 28 June, the chartered plane left the United States for Changle International Airport in east China's Fujian Province, marking the first success in Sino-US co-operation in repatriating illegal immigrants via chartered flight, the official said.

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲများတိုးတက်လာ ခိုင်ခံ့တော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

China to enjoy more int'l cooperation in future lunar exploration

BEIJING, 23 July— China will cooperate more closely with space agencies in Russia, Europe and the United States in future lunar exploration, announced a leading Chinese space scientist on Friday.

At the ongoing 36th Committee on Space Research Scientific Assembly, Ouyang Ziyuan, a member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, said that China has already worked closely with Russia in the fields of space instruments, facilities

and observation and control of spacecraft.

“We have also cooperated with the European Space Agency (ESA) in the fields of observation and control technologies,” Ouyang said, adding that the cooperation will be extended to the United States.

International cooperation is necessary in lunar exploration, the scientist added.

MNA/Xinhua



Young musicians perform during a rehearsal in a theatre in Havana, on 22 July, 2006. Youngsters from all over the island are getting together for a theatre performance which includes dancers, musicians and singers.

INTERNET

Iranian cleric accuses UN of tyranny on atomic work

TEHERAN, 23 July — The UN Security Council risks committing “a historic act of tyranny” against Iran if it passes a resolution demanding Teheran stop making nuclear fuel, powerful cleric Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said on Friday.

UN Security Council permanent members are wrangling over the text of a draft resolution that includes the threat of sanctions if Iran fails to halt making enriched uranium, which the West argues will be used in atomic warheads.

“On our nuclear issue, we are now witnessing a cruel act,” Rafsanjani told Friday prayers worshippers in Teheran. “They are going to commit another historic act of tyranny against Iran, despite Iran announcing several times that it is ready to negotiate,” he added, referring to the UN Security Council resolution.

He said it would be humiliating for Iran to end its domestic nuclear fuel cycle, which it says it needs to run nuclear power stations. “If Iran accepts, that would mean putting our hands up and surrendering,” he continued. — MNA/Reuters

Tanzania bans pool playing during work against crimes

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 23 July — The Tanzanian police forces have banned playing pool games during working hours in an effort to crack down on crimes, especially organized crimes.

According to a police statement issued in Dar-es-Salaam, the ban disallows people to play the game either during working hours or after midnight.

Police spokesman Isaka Mugasa explained that police investigations had found out that idlers and potential criminals were roaming recreation spots and bars and most of them were often found playing the game of pool during working hours.

MNA/Xinhua



Hundreds of locals swim in a pool in Wuhan, central China's Hubei Province on 22 July, 2006. Temperatures hit 38 degrees Celsius (100 degrees Fahrenheit) in Wuhan on Saturday, local media reported.—INTERNET

Six Iraqi security force members killed in S Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 23 July — Iraqi security forces fought unknown militants in the volatile town of Mahmodiyah on Friday, during which six members of security forces were killed, an Interior Ministry source said.

“Fierce clashes erupted earlier in the day between Iraqi security forces and unknown gunmen in the Askari neighbourhood of Mahmodiyah Town, some 30 kilometres south of Baghdad,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

“Our first report said that three Iraqi soldiers and three policemen were killed in the clash,” the source said.

MNA/Xinhua

MERCOSUR summit ends, pledging further regional integration

CORDOBA (Argentina), 23 July — The 30th summit of the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR) ended here on Friday, with leaders of South America's biggest trade bloc pledging to promote regional integration.

The leaders praised the progress made on MERCOSUR'S planned Customs union, particularly on reducing the double taxation for outside nations, said the final declaration adopted at conclusion of the two-day meeting that was held in the Argentine city of Cordoba on Thursday and Friday.— MNA/Xinhua



A gold monkey holds a piece of ice to relieve heat in a zoo of Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, on 21 July, 2006. The city is now in the scorching summer.

INTERNET

Brazilian federal police launches anti-corruption operation

RIO DE JANEIRO, 23 July — Brazil's Federal Police on Friday launched an internal anti-corruption operation within the agency, making 17 arrests in Rio de Janeiro.

Among the detainees were a current Interpol representative in Brazil and eight federal agents, including two former superintendents of the agency, four chiefs, a regular agent and a stenographer.

The arrested were charged with crimes against public administration.

Attorney Tarcisio de Figueiredo Pelucio, a suspected gang leader, was believed to have bribed the agents to distort police investigations so as to get the acquittal of his clients.

The intelligence agency of the Federal Police, along with the Social Security Institute (INSS) and public

prosecutors, had been investigating the corruption case for more than one year.

In Friday's crack-down, two attorneys who worked for Pelucio's office were also arrested.

In the same raid, police also searched the house and office of former vice superintendent of the Federal Police, Ricardo Prel, who currently represents Interpol in Brazil.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Zambia through to Cosafa Castle Cup semifinal

WINDHOEK, 24 July—Zambia booked a place in the semifinals of the Cosafa Castle Cup with a 2-0 win over the Seychelles in the Group C mini-tournament on Sunday.

First half goals from James Chamanga and Ignatius Lwipa secured the win over the islanders, who had secured a surprise victory over hosts Namibia on Saturday.

Zambia, twice winners of the annual southern African championship, will host Botswana in the semifinal next month while defending champions Zimbabwe are up against World Cup finalists Angola in Harare in September.

Zambia dominated their island opponents and opened the scoring in the 33rd minute through Chamanga, who tapped-in a square pass from Dube Phiri.

A second goal was added by Lwipa, latching on to a pass from deep in defence and lobbying over the head of Seychelles goalkeeper Nelson Sopha in the 44th minute.

Zambia also hit the woodwork through Rainford Kalaba, who also had a close-in header late in the game ruled offside.

Hosts Namibia came from behind to beat Malawi 3-2 in the third place playoff match earlier in the day.

MNA/Reuters

Japan edge China 1-0 in AFC Women's Asian Cup

ADELAIDE (Australia) 24 July—Aya Miyama scored the only goal of the match to help Japan clinch a 1-0 victory over China at the Hindmarsh Stadium in Adelaide in the AFC Women's Asian Cup 2006 on Sunday.

Miyuki Yanagida sent the freekick straight into the crowded penalty box and as Chinese goalkeeper Zhang Yanru was preparing to pouch it Miyama dived to reach the ball first with her head on 18 minutes.

In another clash of Group A, Vietnam also booked a 1-0 win, over Taibei.

Vietnam's sole goal was fired by substitute midfielder Vu Thi Huyen Linh on 71 minutes in the match which kicked off simultaneously at the Marden Stadium.

MNA/Xinhua



Spain's Sergio Garcia jumps after his shot on the 11th hole during the third round of the British Open Championship at the Royal Liverpool Golf Club in Hoylake on 22 July, 2006.—INTERNET

Celtic hand Everton pre-season defeat

GLASGOW, 24 July—Scottish champions Celtic edged out Everton 1-0 with a winner from substitute Aiden McGeady in a pre-season friendly on Sunday.

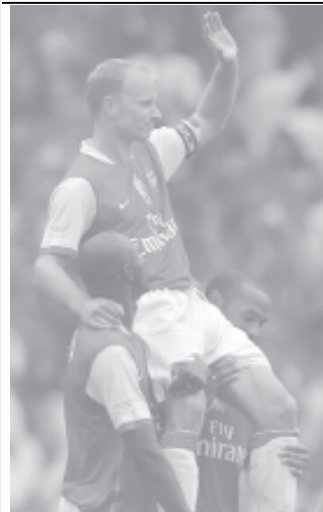
He blasted a brilliant 25-metre shot into the bottom left hand corner after 78 minutes to settle a tight encounter.

Celtic's Polish goalkeeper Artur Boruc produced two fine first-half stops to deny new Everton striker Andy Johnson and the English side's former Rangers midfielder Mikel Arteta also grazed the bar with a free kick.

Everton goalkeeper Tim Howard saved Celtic's best first-half effort when he parried a Derek Riordan shot and Kenny Miller failed to convert the rebound.—MNA/Reuters

Corinthians sink to bottom despite Tevez leveller

RIO DE JANEIRO, 24 July—Brazilian champions Corinthians slumped to the bottom of the table at the weekend de-



Arsenal's Dennis Bergkamp is lifted up by team-mate Thierry Henry (R) and former team-mate Patrick Viera (L) following a pre-season friendly testimonial match against Ajax at the Emirates Stadium in London on 22 July, 2006.—INTERNET

spite drawing 2-2 at home to Fortaleza and ending a run of six straight defeats.

Argentina forward Carlos Tevez salvaged a point for Corinthians with a second-half equalizer and celebrated by running to his team's fans and putting his finger over his lips, implying they should be quiet.

Tevez later said he had become fed up with the fans jeering the team.

"Myself and my teammates won the Brazilian championship last year but if we lose one game, they start insulting us," he said. "But that's Corinthians."

Corinthians, whose partnership with London-based Media Sports Investments have made them Brazil's richest club, went ahead in the 31st minute when teenager Ramon scored with an angled shot.

But Fortaleza hit back as Finazzi headed home in first-half injury-time and Andre Cunha pounced on a defensive mistake to put them in front in the 62nd minute.

With the Corinthians fans already protesting, Tevez, playing his first game since the World Cup, blasted the equalizer 11 minutes later.

Corinthians prop up the table with 10 points from 13 games, two behind Fortaleza and Santa Cruz and three behind their arch-rivals Palmeiras.

Former South American champions Palmeiras moved off the bottom by beating Goias 3-1 to chalk up their third successive win.

Nen gave Palmeiras an early lead and, although Souza levelled two minutes later, they went back in front with a looping 30-metre free kick from midfielder Paulo Baier in the 24th minute.

A second-half penalty converted by veteran Edmundo wrapped up the points.

Leaders Sao Paulo won 3-1 at Ponte Preta despite fielding a reserve team, saving their regulars for Wednesday's Libertadores Cup semifinal first leg in Mexico against Guadalajara.

Tuto put Ponte ahead from a twice-taken penalty in the 12th minute after goalkeeper Rogerio Ceni saved his first effort but was judged to have moved.

MNA/Reuters



China's Wu Minxia smiles after the women's 3-metre springboard event at the FINA World Cup competition in Changshu, a city in east China's Jiangsu Province, on 22 July, 2006. Wu grabs China's 100th World Cup gold with 373.40 points.—INTERNET

Adriano to stay in Inter Milan

RIO DE JANEIRO, 24 July—Brazil striker Adriano said on Sunday he was staying at his Italian club Inter Milan.

Adriano had an unhappy season with Inter last year and was also below par for Brazil in the World Cup, despite scoring two goals. "I'm not leaving Inter Milan but I'm happy to hear that other teams want to sign me," he told reporters.

"The Inter Milan fans like me a lot and so does the club president. That's why I'm at Inter today." He added he was determined to get back to his best.

"When the Italian championship starts, I want to go back to being the Adriano the fans knew before -- The Emperor," he said. Adriano, who imposed a media silence during the part of the World Cup, also commented on his omission from the starting line-up for Brazil's quarterfinal against France. Brazil lost the game 1-0.—MNA/Reuters



Douglas Diaz from Venezuela (L) and Tonky Frans from Bonaire Island cross paths during a freestyle training session of the Fuerteventura Windsurfing & Kiteboarding World Cup 2006 in Fuerteventura on 22 July, 2006.

INTERNET

Hayden wins US GP as Rossi falters

LOS ANGELES, 24 July—American Nicky Hayden boosted his MotoGP championship hopes with a second straight US Grand Prix victory on Sunday, while Valentino Rossi's bid for a sixth 500cc crown suffered a punishing blow.

Hayden, who claimed his maiden career win on the undulating Laguna Seca circuit last year, stalked pole sitter Chris Vermeulen through the early stages of the race until passing the Australian on lap 17 then charging home 3.18 seconds ahead of Honda teammate Dani Pedrosa of Spain. Italy's Marco Melandri, racing with a broken collar bone, was third, also on a Honda.

Five-time 500cc champion Rossi started well back from 10th position after another disappointing qualifying effort, but was quickly on the charge working his way up to sixth midway through the 32-lap race.

But with three laps remaining disaster struck as blue smoke began pouring out of the back of the Italian's Yamaha leav-

ing him on the sidelines and out of the points.

Hayden's second victory of the season gives the American 194 points and a 34-point lead over Pedrosa with six races remaining.

Rossi, who had arrived in California trailing Hayden by 26 points, slips to fourth in the standings with 143 points. After coming from 11th to take victory last week at the German Grand Prix, Rossi had looked poised to stage another riveting fightback and put more pressure on Hayden until his engine expired, marking the third time he has failed to finish this season.

The MotoGP schedule now shifts back to Europe for the Czech Grand Prix on 19 August.—MNA/Reuters

South China's island province reports 362 centenarians

HAIKOU, 24 July — The number of centenarians in south China's island province of Hainan has climbed to 362, 76 more than in 2000, latest statistics show.

Of the total, 87.2 per cent are women and 86.5 per cent are living in the countryside, according to the statistics released by the Hainan Provincial Working Committee for the Aged People.

The province has now 16 seniors aged 106 and older, with only one of them a male. The oldest centenarian is Fu Yongfeng, a female aged 113, who lives in the Qicha Town of the Li Autonomous County of

Changjiang.

The pleasant climate and environment are considered to be the main reasons Hainan has become "an island of longevity"; said Xu Yongjian, of the Hainan Provincial Working Committee for the Aged People.

China will remain an ageing society during this

century in which 11 per cent of its present population, about 145 million, are over 60.

It is predicted that the Chinese elderly population will reach 170 million in 2010, 12.5 per cent of the total, and 243 million in 2020, 17 per cent of the total.

MNA/Xinhua



A member of the Spanish environmental group "Asociacion Ecologistas en Accion" releases a Caretta-Caretta sea turtle into the Mediterranean sea in the vicinity of the Spanish southern town of Almeria on 22 July, 2006. The turtle spent four years at an environmental centre recovering from a wound caused after getting tangled in a fishing net. — INTERNET

Nepal announces free health services

KATHMANDU, 24 July — The Nepali Ministry of Health and Population has announced free health services in emergency and in-patient departments of all the district hospitals and primary health care centres, the *Himalayan Times* reported on Saturday.

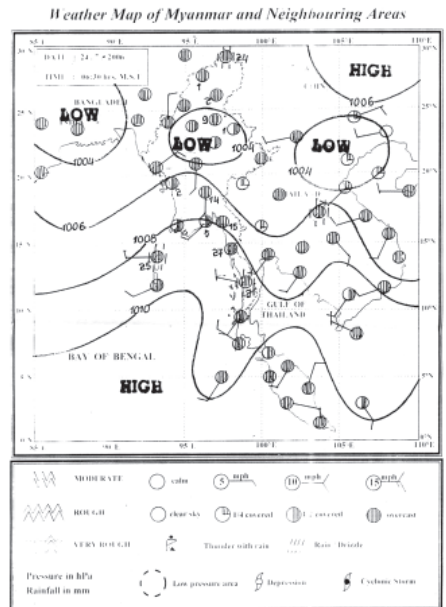
Releasing the major health programmes for this year in a Press conference at Health Ministry Friday, Mahesh Maskey, adviser to Health Minister, said the free health programme will be expanded to smaller hospitals next year.

He said the government has allocated 50 million Nepali rupees (714,285 US dollars) for the programme this year.

To reduce the scar-

city of doctors in health institutions, the government also announced that around 150 doctors who graduated under the government scholarships will have to serve in primary health care centres and district hospitals, Maskey told the newspaper.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Monday, 24 July, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayin State, Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan and Chin States, Bago Division, fairly widespread in Rakhine State and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavyfall in Mandalay Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Ye (1.73) inches, Kyaukpadaung (1.53) inches, Dawei (1.26) inches, Co co Island (1.22) inches and Aunglan (0.94) inch.

Maximum temperature on 23-7-2006 was 87°F. Minimum temperature on 24-7-2006 was 96°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 24-7-2006 was (92%). Total sunshine hours on 23-7-2006 was (2.4) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 24-7-2006 were (0.20) inch at Mingaladon, (0.20) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.24) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (48.94) inches at Mingaladon, (59.33) inches at Kaba-Aye and (64.45) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (12) mph from Southwest at (14:20) hours MST on 23-7-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 25-7-2006: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Southern Shan, Rakhine and Kayin States, Ayeyawady and Bago Divisions, fairly widespread in Chin and Northern Shan States, upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Decrease of rain in Coastal areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 25-7-2006: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 25-7-2006: One or two rain or thundershowers with sunny period. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 25-7-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 12:00 hours MST on 24-7-2006)

According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an is (771) cm. It may remain above its danger level (750) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.

မြစ်ရေကြီးမှု၊ ကြိုတင်သတိပြု။



Tuesday, 25 July
View on today

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အစည်းတော် ဆောင်ရွက်အတိစေမဟာရဋ္ဌ ဂုဏ်အဘိဓမ္မာအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မစောတိကတိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာ ဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

- ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်

8:00 am

- အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am

- Song of yesteryears

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Let's Go

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:15 pm

- Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

- English for Everyday Use

4:45 pm

- အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ဂုဏ်ပြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ - ဒုတိယနှစ် (ခါတုပေးအထူးပြု) (ခါတုပေး)

5:00 pm

- Dance of national races

5:15 pm

- "ခံစားနားဆင်ထားဇာတ်ဝင်"

5:25 pm

- "ဆွေမျိုးတော် ပေပယ်" (ဒု-ရဲမျိုးတင်လင်း၊ ဆောင်းအိမ်မြေထွန်း၊ စေဒါ)

5:25 pm

- အထူးပြု (ခါတုပေး)

5:25 pm

- ဒီဂင်ခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သူအိပ်မက်လှလှ" (အိုင်း-ဝဂ္ဂ)

8:00 pm

- News

8:00 pm

- International news

8:00 pm

- Weather report

8:00 pm

- The next day's programme

5:30 pm

- ဒီကြိမ်မယ်၊ ဖျော်ကြိမ်မယ်

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

6:45 pm

- The mirror images of the musical oldies

7:00 pm

- News/Slogan

7:00 pm

- Lunchtime music - Candle in the wind - Tears in heaven - I'll be missing you

9:00 pm

- English Speaking Course Level (I) Unit (17)

9:10 pm

- Article

9:20 pm

- Weekly sport reel

9:30 pm

- Music for your listening pleasure - If you love me (Ronan Keating) - Oh! baby (Eternal) - Out of blue (MLTR) - Unchained melody (Robinson Jeromr)

9:45 pm

- News/Slogan

10:00 pm

- PEL

Prime Minister General Soe Win receives Vice-Governor of Yunnan Province

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July— Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win today received Mr Liu Ping, Vice-Governor of Yunnan Province, the People's Republic of China at the Prime Minister's office in Nay Pyi Taw.

Also present at the call were Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Deputy Ministers for Foreign Af-

fairs U Kyaw Thu and U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Col Thurein Zaw, Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe, Director-General of the Prime Minister's office Col Thant Shin, Director-General of Myanmar Police Force

Brig-Gen Khin Yi, Director-General of Protocol Department U Kyaw Kyaw of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Director-General of Forest Department U Soe Win Hlaing of Ministry of Forestry, Director-General of Mining Department U Than Myint of Ministry of Mines and Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Guan Mu.

MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win receives Vice-Governor Mr Liu Ping of Yunnan Province, PRC at Prime Minister's Office in Nay Pyi Taw. —MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win cordially greets Vice-Governor Mr Liu Ping of Yunnan Province, PRC at Prime Minister's Office in Nay Pyi Taw. —MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Bontalar Hydel Power Project in Chin State

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence together with Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council

Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Vice-Chairman of Chin State Peace and Development Council Col San Aung, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and the min-

istries, Chairman of Mindat District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Pe Thein and members attended the opening ceremony of multimedia classroom at No 2 Basic Education High School in Matupi on 21 July.

The commander, Chairman of Mindat District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Pe Thein and Chin State Joint Assistant Education Officer U Myint Swe formally opened the classroom.

Next, the commander and party inspected computer room, language lab, audio visual room, domestic science room, painting room and laboratory.

(see page 10)



Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Bontalar Hydel Power Project in Matupi. —MNA

INSIDE

At the ceremony, the Secretary-1 said, "The local people know best the evil consequences of armed insurgency in which they had lived in fear as their regions were lacking peace and stability, and were also suffering from a lot of hardships resulting from loss of lives and property and harassment and terrorism in the absence of the rule of law."

PAGE 8+9 YADANASI SAYADAW (LOILEM)