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Monday, 7 August, 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

DKBA joining hands with Government and people for ensuring security and development of the region Emphasis to be placed on agricultural tasks for long-term benefit

Secretary-1 inspects education and health progress of Myainggyingu Special Region



*Secretary-1
Lt-Gen
Thein Sein
meets DKBA
Chairman U
Tha Htoo
Kyaw and
party of
Myaing-
gyingu
Special
Region.
MNA*

Peace and Development Council Col Khin Kyu, proceeded to Myainggyingu Special Region in Hlaingbwe Township of Kayin State.

First, the Secretary-1 and party paid homage to Bhesijjamuni Bronze Buddha Image at Gandakuti Building. They paid obeisance and donated Waso robes and provisions to Myainggyingu Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sujana.

At the Yeiktha of DKBA, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party

met Chairman U Tha Htoo Kyaw and party of Democratic Kayin Buddhist Association (DKBA) of Myainggyingu Special Region.

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said that they came with two purposes. The first purpose is to pay homage to the Sayadaw and provide necessary assistance to regional development such as construction of roads and bridges, enhancement of education and health sectors and

preservation of cultural heritage under the leadership of the Sayadaw.

The second is to render assistance to the DKBA to be able to carry out agricultural tasks within the frame of the law like to the people of the entire nation.

The Secretary-1 added that under the leadership of the Sayadaw, building of monasteries and pagodas, extension of roads in Hpa-an, construction of Myainggyingu-Methawaw earth road,
(See page 6)

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, accompanied by Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the ministers, the deputy ministers and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, arrived Kyaikto of Mon State on 4 August evening.

On 5 August, the Secretary-1 and party, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win and Chairman of Kayin State



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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 7 August, 2006

Myanmar's anti-narcotics campaign making a big success

The narcotic drug is an evil danger related to political, economic, social and health aspects. It is also a grave danger not only to a single nation but also to the entire world. Every nation is constantly carrying out anti-narcotic activities in their own ways.

In implementing eradication of narcotics, priority was given to control measures such as destruction of poppy fields and opium refineries under various operations before 1988.

In the law enforcement sector, more drugs seizures were made after the formation of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control. The total value of seized opium, heroin, stimulant tablets and related paraphernalia since 1976 has amounted to K 1,418.117 billion (US \$ 22.735 billion).

In launching the anti-narcotics campaign, emphasis was placed not only on drug control sector. Cultivation and production of poppy became less and less due to the harmonious efforts for poppy-growers to earn substitute income and to raise the quality of their life in poppy growing areas.

The government laid down the 15-year Drugs Elimination Plan (1999-2014) and has been implementing the New Destiny Project, part of the plan, since April 2003. Substitute crops were grown in the poppy growing areas and as a result, poppy production declined considerably year after year.

Kokang and Wa Regions were declared as opium free zones in 2003 and 2005 respectively. The 2005 annual report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) stated that poppy cultivation in Myanmar between 2001 and 2005 dropped by 61 per cent.

According to the opium yield survey conducted by Counter Narcotics and Crime (CNC) of the United States in 2004 poppy cultivation declined by 81 per cent and opium production fell by 88 per cent, compared to that of 1996. These figures firmly show that Myanmar's anti-narcotics drive is a big success.

Tasks of IPRD inspected in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 6 Aug — Director-General U Chit Naing of Information and Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Information went on an inspection tour of Patheingyi District on 28 July.

In meeting with service personnel at division and township levels at the office of IPRD in Ayeyawady Division, the director-general held discussions on objectives of the ministry to be implemented for development of self-reliant libraries in the long run.

On arrival at Ngwehsaung IPRD of Patheingyi District on 29 July, the director-general met with service personnel and looked into progress in building the office. Next, he held meeting with staff officers at township and district levels at the office of Ayeyawady Division IPRD on 31 July and gave instructions on realization of the eight main tasks of IPRD. — 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

Minister for Hotels & Tourism meets hoteliers



Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing meets hoteliers and responsible persons of hotel projects. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug — Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing met hoteliers and responsible persons of hotel projects at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Director-General U Htay Aung of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, hoteliers and responsible persons of hotel projects.

In his address, Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing said that he had explained schedules for construction of hotels in Nay Pyi Taw. He stressed the need to construct the building meeting set standards of Nay Pyi Taw. Efforts are to be made for timely completion of construction tasks. It is necessary to keep hotel areas clean and pleasant with greening tasks. The ministry will provide necessary assistance to completion of the hotel projects.

Hoteliers and responsible persons of Shwe Nan Taw Hotel of Htoo Trading Co, Thingaha Hotel of Edin Group Co, Myat Tawwin Hotel of Asia World Co, Shwe Myo Taw Hotel of Shwe Thanlwin Co, Shwe Myanmar Hotel of Ngwe Hsin Co, Kumudra Hotel of Max Myanmar Co and IGE Co reported on progress of construction tasks and requirements.

Director-General U Htay Aung and officials gave suggestions on development of Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone. After hearing the reports, the minister attended to the needs.

Htoo Trading Co had built 26 rooms of 13 bungalows at Shwe Nan Taw Hotel for the first phase.

The construction tasks were completed by 100 per cent.

Edin Group Co had built of 20 rooms at 10 bungalows of Thingaha Hotel for the first phase with 100 per cent complete. Ngwe Hsin Co had built 10 rooms at five bungalows of Shwe Myanmar Hotel for the first phase complete by 95 per cent. Asia World Co had also constructed 20 rooms at 10 bungalows of Myat Tawwin Hotel, and construction tasks were completed cent per cent.

Max Myanmar Co Ltd had completed construction of 28 rooms at 15 bungalows of Kumudra Hotel and construction tasks were completed 100 per cent. Shwe Thanlwin Co Ltd had built 18 rooms at nine bungalows of Shwe Myo Taw Hotel for the first phase, and 60 per cent of construction tasks have completed. Likewise, IGE Co Ltd is building 33 rooms at 30 bungalows for the first phase, and construction tasks were completed 9 per cent.

Hotel buildings are under construction at the hotel zone of Nay Pyi Taw. Efforts are being made for construction of the modern buildings.

After the meeting, the minister inspected construction of the dam near the ministry. The embankment of the dam is 300 feet long and 30 feet high. It can store 13 acre-feet of water.

The minister viewed construction of the earthen dam situated at the back of the ministry. — MNA

Minister meets athletes of Myanmar Archery Team

YANGON, 6 Aug — Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint today went to Myanmar Archery Federation at Kyaikkasan Sports Ground and met with selected athletes of Myanmar Archery Team under training for the international competitions.

It was attended by General Secretary of MOC Director-General U Thaug Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department, President Dr Khin Shwe of Myanmar Archery Federation, General Secretary U Kyaw Oo, executives and others.

The minister called upon them to achieve success at the 15th Asian Games to be held in Doha, Qatar, the Third World Ranking Asian

Circuit Archery Championship and the Second SEA Archery Championship to be held in Myanmar. Dr Khin Shwe and General Secretary U Kyaw Oo

reported on preparations for the Asain Games and the two competitions to be held in the country. And the minister fulfilled the requirements. — NLM



Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint meets selected athletes of Myanmar Archery Team. — NLM

ထုတ်တုန့်နှစ်ဆ ဝိုးမြဲမြဲ

Cuba says Raul Castro firmly at the helm

HAVANA, 5 Aug — Cuba said on Friday that acting President Raul Castro was running the country, but provided no new details on the condition of ailing leader Fidel Castro four days after he handed over power temporarily.

“Raul is firmly at the helm of the nation and the Armed Forces,” the ruling Communist Party newspaper said.

Rejecting calls by US

President George W Bush for a transition to multi-party democracy, the newspaper said the situation in Cuba was totally calm.

“The word transition does not exist in the vocabulary of Cubans here,” *Granma* said.

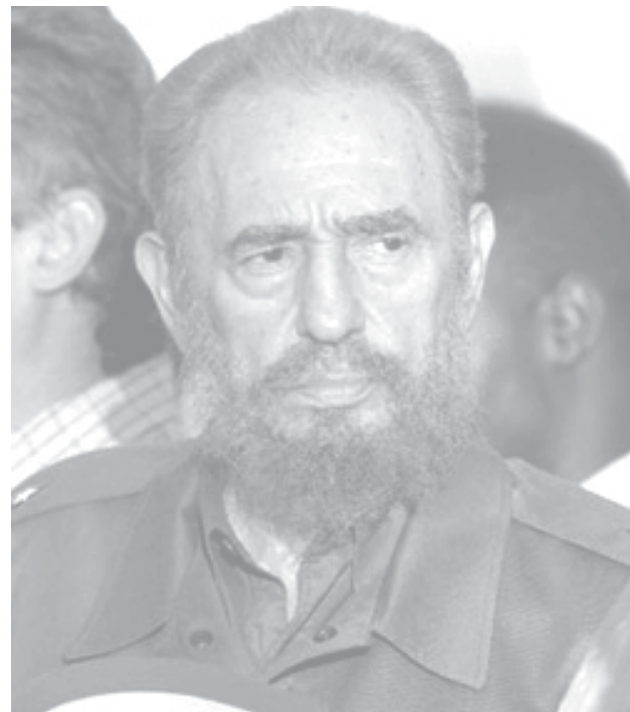
But with neither of the Castro brothers appear-

ing in public, uncertainty over Cuba’s political future was evident on the streets of Havana, where the hustle and bustle of more normal times was noticeably subdued.

Many wondered when Raul, 75, would address the nation.

The only sign of the younger Castro was a photo on *Granma*’s front page of his arrest at age 22 following the near-suicidal assault led by his brother on the Moncada garrison in Santiago in 1953 with a story recounting his heroism.

MNA/Reuters



Cuban leader Fidel Castro is recovering from surgery and will return to office soon, Health Minister Jose Ramon Balaguer said on 4 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Thousands evacuated amid west Texas flooding fears

HOUSTON, 5 Aug—About 2,000 people were evacuated from their homes in the west Texas border city of El Paso on Thursday due to fears a nearby dam in Mexico might burst and cause flooding, a city spokeswoman said on Friday.

El Paso has received more than seven inches (18 centimetres) of rain since Tuesday and is still under a flash flood warning.

The rain has put pressure on the earthen La Montada Dam, which cannot withstand further heavy rains, officials from Juarez, Mexico told the *El Paso Times* newspaper.

If the dam ruptures, it could flood neighbourhoods in south El Paso and north Juarez, two cities separated by the Rio Grande River, El Paso spokeswoman Juliet Lozano said.

About a quarter of the evacuees were housed at

El Paso’s convention centre, Lozano said. The other 1,500 were staying with relatives in the area.

Until the downpours began, El Paso was drought-stricken, with only an inch (2.5 centimetres) of rain recorded for the year through Monday.

MNA/Reuters

At least 18 die in attacks in northern Iraq

MOSUL, 5 Aug—At least 18 people died in violence in northern Iraq on Friday, police said, including a senior policeman in the country’s third largest city Mosul. A suicide bomber killed 10 people when he drove his car packed with explosives on to a sports field in Hadhar, 90 kilometres (55 miles) to the south of Mosul, where a police team were playing a local side.

Police said the car ploughed into a group of police spectators, killing three policemen and seven civilians. Twelve people were wounded.

In Mosul, police Colonel Jassim Muhammad Bilal and two bodyguards were killed by a car bomb in the ethnically diverse city, which is 390 kilometres (240 miles) north of Baghdad.

MNA/Reuters

Court tells US troops shot detainees in cold blood

TIKRIT, 5 Aug — US soldiers stepped outside the law when they murdered three Iraqi detainees “in cold blood”, a prosecutor told a US military hearing

on Friday.

“US soldiers must follow the laws of war. That’s what makes us better than the terrorists, what sets us apart from the thugs and the hitmen,” said Captain Joseph Mackey, closing arguments for the prosecution of the four US servicemen.

“These soldiers did just the opposite. They cut them loose and murdered them in cold blood,” he said. The hearing into the deaths on 9 May during a raid on a suspected guerilla camp on an island in the marshy fringe of Thar Thar Lake, southwest of Tikrit, will determine whether the four soldiers should be court-martialled for the killings.

If found guilty of premeditated murder, they could face the death penalty.

It is one of several probes into suspected abuse by US troops in Iraq, including the alleged killing of 24 unarmed civilians by US Marines in Haditha. On Thursday, six Marines were charged with assault in an incident in Hamdaniya.

The soldiers — Private First Class Corey Clagett, Specialist William Hunsaker, Staff Sergeant Raymond Girouard and Specialist Juston Graber — are from the 101st Airborne Division and were serving in Samarra, north of Baghdad.

They have said the de-

tainees were trying to escape when they were shot, but military prosecutors have said they were freed before being killed.

“For this they are not war heroes, they are war criminals. And justice states that they face trial,” Mackey said. The prosecution presented testimony from another soldier that the men smiled as they fired, and also contested claims the men were urged by their commanding officer, Colonel Michael Steele, to “kill all” of the guerilla during the operation.

The defence argues the four soldiers simply did what they had to do in a dangerous situation.

MNA/Reuters



Lee Honey, winner of 2006 Miss Korea Pageant, smiles during the event in Seoul on 3 Aug, 2006. Lee, 23, is working on a master’s degree in traditional Korean music at a graduate school of Seoul National University. —INTERNET

Anti-smoking group disappointed companies funding smoking areas

VICTORIA, 5 Aug—The anti-smoking group, Quit, says it is disappointed by suggestions tobacco companies are funding outdoor areas in pubs and clubs to accommodate smokers.

A major tobacco company has confirmed it is looking at ways of helping hotels and clubs around the country comply with smoking bans, by providing

outdoor areas.

Tough smoking bans for enclosed spaces come into effect in Victoria next July.

Quit spokesman Todd Harper says young people represent an important market for tobacco companies.

“The tobacco companies have a lot of money and a lot is at stake here,” he said.

“For young people who take up smoking today, that represents a custom that could extend for decades for the tobacco industry, so young people are the target here.” Mr Harper says the tobacco companies are deliberately targeting young people.

“We’re not surprised, but incredibly disappointed,” he said.

“I think it certainly does ... reveal again the length that the tobacco companies will go to to protect their profits, and young smokers here are the primary target.”—Internet

MNA/Xinhua



People cycle through a flooded road in Kanisa village, about 95 km (59 miles) south of the western Indian city of Ahmedabad, on 3 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

Heavy rain kills at least 49 in east India

NEW DELHI, 6 Aug — At least 40 people have died as downpour hit parts of west India’s Andhra Pradesh in the past three days, New Delhi TV reported Saturday.

About 55,000 people have been evacuated to rescue camps in Khammam and Srikakulam districts in the state, the TV news said.



Soldiers pile sandbags up to reinforce the bank of Sankeng River in Qingyuan, southeast China's Guangdong Province, on 4 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Fiat, India's Tata to jointly produce Punto model cars in India

ROME, 5 Aug — Italian carmaker Fiat and Indian carmaker Tata Motors will invest some 350 million euro (455 million US dollars) in a plant in central India to jointly produce the Fiat Punto model, the Italian news agency ANSA said Friday. The two companies plan to produce 100,000 cars and 250,000 diesel engines yearly in the plant. — MNA/Xinhua

British consumer insolvencies surge to fresh record

LONDON, 5 Aug — The number of people in England and Wales unable to pay off their debts surged to a fresh record in the second quarter and home repossessions jumped by about a fifth, government figures showed on Friday.

But the number of companies declaring insolvency fell.

The Insolvency Service said 26,021 individuals had declared themselves insolvent by the end of June, up 66.3 per cent on the year and 10 per cent on the first three months of this year.

Mortgage possession actions rose 17 per cent on the year to 33,180, according to the Department for Constitutional Affairs, and orders for repossession

jumped 21 per cent.

The difficulties facing people with debts will be further aggravated by the Bank of England's shock move on Thursday to raise borrowing costs in Britain. "Many people have borrowed to their limits," said Howard Archer, an

economist at Global Insight.

"With unemployment continuing to rise, utility bills soaring, many home owners stretched to the maximum and debt bills at record high levels, it seems highly likely that individual insolvencies and mortgage repossessions will climb

markedly further over the coming months." The figures further illustrate the bleak picture of personal debt depicted by many British banks who have reported a marked increase in impairment charges for bad debts this year. — MNA/Reuters

Two US soldiers killed in western Iraq

BAGHDAD, 6 Aug — Two US soldiers were killed in Iraq's volatile western province of Anbar on Friday, the US military

said on Saturday. The two soldiers, assigned to the 1st Battalion of the 1st Armoured Division, were killed duo to "enemy action" while on patrol in

the province, the military said in a statement. More than 2,580 US military personnel have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003. — MNA/Xinhua

Death sparks Thai bird flu alert

BANGKOK, 6 Aug — A 27-year-old Thai man has died of bird flu, the country's second death this year, officials said on Saturday, as they put eight more provinces, including the Bangkok area, on a bird flu watchlist.

The man died on Thursday after the H5N1 virus killed chickens on his backyard farm in the province of Uthai Thani, 220 km (135 miles) north of Bangkok, the third province to suffer an outbreak since the virus re-emerged in July after an eight-month lull.

"He buried them without any protection and that's why he caught bird flu," Thawat Suntrajarn, chief of the Department of Disease Control, said of Thailand's 16th victim since the disease swept through parts of Asia in late 2003.

The World Health Organization, which says

bird flu killed at least 134 people worldwide before the latest Thai death, urged previously hard-hit countries to be vigilant.

"Even in a country as well prepared as Thailand, it can come back and you can never rest easy," said Chadin Tephaval, a spokesman for the WHO in Thailand.

In Uthai Thani, 116 chickens and fighting cocks were culled to prevent the virus spreading from the dead man's farm.

His wife was not sick, but was being monitored after she cooked and ate some of the dead birds, Thawat said.

Since the death of a Thai



South Korean residents in Japan offer prayers in front of a cenotaph dedicated to South Korean atomic bomb victims at Peace Memorial Park in Hiroshima on 5 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

275 die of malaria in N-E India

NEW DELHI, 5 Aug — Malaria has claimed 275 lives in northeast Indian state Assam so far this year, record high in past few years, a senior health official said Friday.

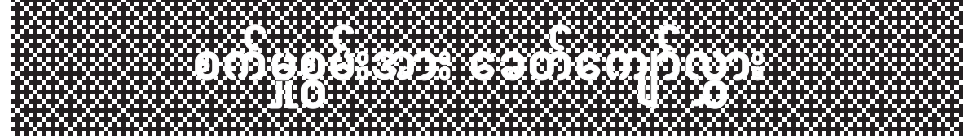
Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Panabaka Lakshmi told the Indian Parliament in a written reply that 85,633 malaria cases have been reported this year by 25 July, compared to 67,885 last year.

About 690 people had died in the past six years since 2001 with 472,965 cases reported.

The Indian central government and global agencies have been funding anti-malaria activities in the area to create awareness as well as to provide medical help, she said. — MNA/Xinhua



Children stage a "die-in" in a protest against nuclear armament in front of the gutted A-bomb dome in Hiroshima, western Japan, on 5 Aug, 2006, the eve of the 61th anniversary of the world's first atomic bombing which occurred in the city.—INTERNET



Senator Clinton calls for Rumsfeld's resignation

WASHINGTON, 5 Aug — New York Democratic Senator. Hillary Rodham Clinton on Thursday called on Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld to resign, after accusing him of "presiding over a failed policy in Iraq".

Clinton's spokesman confirmed the senator said President George W. Bush should accept Rumsfeld's resignation.

Clinton, a possible 2008 Democratic presidential candidate, at a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing earlier in the day, ripped into Rumsfeld for his handling of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

"We hear a lot of happy talk and rosy scenarios,

but because of the administration's strategic blunders and, frankly, the record of incompetence in executing, you are presiding over a failed policy," Clinton said.

"Given your track record, Secretary Rumsfeld, why should we believe your assurances now?" she asked him in a tense exchange.

Iraq is caught in the worst sectarian violence yet seen and faces the threat of civil war, two of the United States' senior generals said on Thursday, three years after the

invasion.

"Sectarian violence probably is as bad as I've seen it, in Baghdad in particular," Army General John Abizaid, the head of US Central Command, told the Senate hearing. "If not stopped, it is possible that Iraq could move toward civil war."

Marine Corps General Peter Pace, the most senior US military officer, also said there was a "possibility" of civil war in Iraq, where the violence has claimed about 100 lives a day.

MNA/Reuters



The Toyota's currently best-selling midsize sedan Camry. Toyota Corp, the world's second biggest automaker reported a 39 percent jump in profit in the first fiscal quarter Friday, according to the report of Los Angeles Times on 5 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

American On Line plans to cut 5,000 jobs worldwide

LOS ANGELES, 5 Aug—American On Line (AOL) announced on Thursday that it would cut 5,000 jobs, or 26 per cent of the Internet unit's worldwide workforce, within six months.

AOL Chief Executive Officer Jonathan Miller said on the company's website that the move was intended to help revive profit and sales after four years of subscriber losses.

Affiliated to Time Warner Inco., the biggest media organization in the world, the AOL earlier had announced about 7,000 job cuts since late last year to save money. The AOL has a workforce of about 19,000.

Time Warner said on Wednesday that it would offer AOL's e-mail and security software to high-speed Internet users for free early next month, a move designed to attract users to AOL's website and grab a bigger share of the online advertising market.

MNA/Xinhua



AOL is to cut 5,000 jobs in next 6 months. The United States Internet service provider AOL plans to cut about 5,000 employees as the company restructures its business to focus on online advertising instead of dial-up subscriptions, reported the Washington Post on 3 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Seventeen killed in plane crash in eastern Congo

KINSHASA, 5 Aug—Seventeen people were killed when a plane crashed in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on Thursday, a UN spokeswoman said.

The Russian-made Antonov 28 aircraft hit a mountain and crashed Thursday afternoon when it approached the runway of the airport at Bukavu in eastern DRC, killing 14 passengers and three crew members aboard, said Sylvie vanden Wildenberg, the spokeswoman for the UN mission in Bukavu.

The cause of the crash

was not immediately known, but local aviation officials said bad weather conditions were likely to blame for the accident.

Rescue teams have arrived at the scene and at least 12 bodies had been recovered, the officials said, adding that the plane was burned out. The plane was owned by a Congolese company.—MNA/Xinhua

Ho Chi Minh City taking preventive measures against bird flu

HANOI, 5 Aug—Vietnam's southern Ho Chi Minh City is taking preventive measures after reports that 53 storks in a large park in its outskirts are infected with bird flu virus, local newspaper *Saigon Liberation* reported Friday.

The city's Veterinary Bureau has asked the Suoi Tien Park to cull the 53 storks whose specimens have been tested positive to the virus, detoxify bird cages, and isolate them to prevent potential spread of the disease.

To prevent potential outbreaks of the disease among fowls and humans, Vietnam is intensifying surveillance; management over transport, trade

and import of poultry and related products at border gates; preparation for sufficient supply of relevant medicines and equipment, border quarantine activities; enhancement of public awareness about the potential relapse of bird flu, and vaccination among fowls nationwide against bird flu viruses.

Vietnam, which currently has to import bird

flu vaccines for poultry, mainly from China, plans to mass use vaccines developed by itself in 2008. Two local firms have so far produced 200,000 doses of bird flu vaccines on trial basis, according to the Department of Animal Health under the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Vietnam had a total poultry population of 254 million by late 2002, and it has annually grown by an average of 6.5 per cent. Bird flu outbreaks, starting in the country in December 2003, have killed and led to the forced culling of dozens of millions of fowls.

MNA/Xinhua



Samuel Dieteman (R), one of two men arrested for a string of shootings, is escorted by a Phoenix police officer (L) into the Mariocpa County Madison Street Jail after Dieteman was arrested along with Dale Hausner in Phoenix, Arizona, on 4 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Chief of Mosul police killed by car bomb

MOSUL (Iraq), 5 Aug—The chief of Mosul's police was killed by a car bomb on Friday and heavy clashes between guerillas and US and Iraqi forces were reported in the city, Iraq's third largest, police sources said.

Lieutenant-General Jasim Muhammad Bilal and two bodyguards were killed in the blast in the ethnically diverse city, 390 kilometres (240 miles) north of Baghdad.

MNA/Reuters

China hit by rising air pollution

LONDON, 3 Aug—Rising sulphur dioxide emissions in China are causing environmental harm and economic loss, the government says.

China is the world's largest sulphur dioxide polluter, emitting nearly 26m tons of the gas in 2005. This was a 27% increase since 2000 and coincided with a rise in coal consumption, the State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) said.

The gas contributes to acid rain, which damages buildings, soil and crops, and can cause health problems in humans.

Li Xinmin of SEPA's air pollution department told a Press conference that much of the pollution came from burning coal.

"Coal accounts for 70% of China's energy consumption. This fact is hard to change in a short term," he said.

China was working to cut sulphur dioxide emissions from power plants, he said, and the government had set a 10% reduction goal to be achieved by 2010.

Mr Li also pledged more effort to improve the air quality in Beijing ahead of the Olympics in 2008.

He said "remarkable re-

sults" had been achieved by phasing out things like coal-burning boilers, old vehicles and diesel-powered buses.

In July, China announced it planned to spend 1.4 trillion yuan (\$175bn) over the next

five years on protecting its environment.

The sum — equivalent to 1.5% of China's annual economic output — will be used to improve water quality, and cut air and land pollution and soil erosion.—Internet



Actress Maria Bello (L), film producer Trudie Styler (C) and her husband, musician Sting, attend the world premiere of "World Trade Center" at the Ziegfeld theatre in New York City on 3 Aug, 2006. The movie, directed by Oliver Stone, tells the true story of the heroic survival and rescue of Port Authority policemen John McLoughlin (played by Nicolas Cage) and Will Jimeno (played by Michael Pena) who were trapped in the rubble of the World Trade Center on 11 September, 2001, after they went in to help people escape. The movie opens in the US on 9 August.—INTERNET

It is necessary to extend paddy cultivation on more acres of farmlands for fulfilling the present requirements. Not only paddy but also maize, sugarcane and beans and pulses — suitable for the region — are to be cultivated on a manageable scale.



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein offers Waso robes and provisions to Myainggying Sayadaw.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein gives a present to DKBA Chairman U Tha Htoo Kyaw.

MNA

should place emphasis on carrying out agricultural tasks for the long-term benefit. Hence, it is necessary to extend paddy cultivation on more acres of farmlands for fulfilling the present requirements. Not only paddy but also maize, sugarcane and beans and pulses — suitable for the region — are to be cultivated on a manageable scale. Furthermore, the organization will have the opportunity to export products of some crops to the other country. Priority is to be given to cultivation of rubber in the region. So far, over 3,000 acres of land have been put under rubber against the target of 10,000 acres. The ministries concerned will assist the organization for thriving of rubber plantations and extended cultivation of rubber yearly.

The Secretary-1 asserted that the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs will provide assistance to 19 students who passed the matriculation examination in 2005-06 academic year for pursuing higher education. In conclusion, the Secretary-1 called on the DKBA to try to win the trust of the local people while living within the frame of the law and serving the interest of the local people.

Next, the ministers explained assistance to be provided by the ministries to agriculture and businesses that will benefit progress of Myainggying Special Region.

DKBA joining hands with Government and people for...

(from page 1)

assistance provided to local Kayin students to pass the matriculation examination, and participation of national races in the Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions annually organized by the State are being undertaken as good deeds in social and religious fields. Therefore, the Government will fulfill the requirements of these tasks, he said.



DKBA Chairman U Tha Htoo Kyaw explains development of Myainggying Special Region.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects Hpa-an People's Hospital. — MNA

He went on to say that the DKBA had returned to the legal fold for over one decade. The DKBA is joining hands with the Government and the people for ensuring security and development of the region. Today, the whole DKBA including family members

Chairman of DKBA U Tha Htoo Kyaw reported on undertakings of the DKBA for enhancement of education, health, agriculture, social and transport sectors of the special region and requirements.

(See page 7)

DKBA joining hands with Government and people for...

(from page 6)

After reviewing the reports, the Secretary-1 gave necessary instructions and attended to the needs. Next, he presented gifts to DKBA Chairman U Tha Htoo Kyaw.

The Secretary-1 and party flew back to Hpa-an from Myainggyingu. At the Hpa-an General Hospital, they were welcomed by Medical Superintendent Dr Hla Myint, doctors and health staff.

The Secretary-1 and party inspected the operation theatre, the intensive care unit and the child ward. While inspecting the units, the Secretary-1 said the Government is upgrading health care facilities for ensuring longevity of the people. Therefore, doctors and health staff are to cooperate with social organizations in providing medical treatments, controlling common diseases and giving health educative talks in the rural areas.



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein donates alms to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Indriya in Hpa-an. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially greets Pro-Rector and Professors at Hpa-an University. — MNA

At the Hpa-an University, the Secretary-1 and party were welcomed by Pro-Rector U Mya Thein and faculty members.

The Secretary-1 fulfilled the requirements of management and academic matters of the university.

Next, the Secretary-1 instructed the faculty members to try their best through constant learning for uplift of efficiency, nurture the students to become intellectuals and intelligentsia and to develop the good practice to abide by university disciplines and rules and regulations of the State. In addition, the faculty members are urged to train the students to realize importance of the patriotic spirit and Union Spirit.

The Secretary-1 and party proceeded to Government Technological College (Hpa-an) where they were welcomed by Principal Dr Tun Kyaw Myint and teachers.

At the meeting hall, the Secretary-1 heard reports on academic and management matters of the college presented by Principal Dr Tun Kyaw Myint.

The Secretary-1 attended to the needs and gave necessary instructions.

The Secretary-1 and party paid homage to State Ovadaçariya Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Indriya.

The Secretary-1 asked after the Sayadaw. The Secretary-1, the commander and the ministers donated alms to the Sayadaws.

This morning, the Secretary-1 and party flew back to Nay Pyi Taw from Hpa-an. — MNA

Commander inspects regional development in Seikkyi-Khanaungto Township

YANGON, 6 Aug—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win yesterday inspected regional development tasks in Seikkyi-Khanaungto Township, Yangon South District and gave necessary instructions.

The commander and party attended a ceremony to open the tailoring course held at the office of the Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association.

Next, the commander and party proceeded to Mogaung Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Seikkyi-Khanaungto and presented offertories and K 200,000 for renovation of the pagoda to Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sumangala.

After that, the commander and party viewed the rice shop of Myanmar Rice Merchants Association.

On arrival at the Township People's Hospital, the commander provided expectant mothers and elders with medicines and cash. After looking into the hospi-

tal, the commander presented cash assistance to patients receiving medical treatment.

Next, they arrived at the basic education primary school in East Ward in Khanaungto where the commander presented snacks to children.

The commander met with departmental officials and members of social organizations at the office of the Township PDC and stressed the need for officials concerned to actively take part in regional development tasks being undertaken by the State.

Afterwards, Chairperson of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee wife of the commander Daw Mar Mar Wai and party met with members of the women's affairs organizations and maternal and child welfare associations at the Township Hospital and discussed matters on development of social, health and social sectors of mothers and children.

MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win meets departmental officials, members of social organizations in Seikkyi-Khanaungto. — MNA

Ayeyawaddy Division MCWSC Chairperson meets with Township MCWA members

YANGON, 6 Aug — Patron of Ayeyawaddy Division Women's Affairs Organization Chairperson of Materanl and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Than Than Nwe met with chairperson and members of Pantanaw Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and accepted membership applications at the meeting hall of the association on 27 July morning.

In the evening, the chairperson met with members of District/Township MCWAs at the meeting hall of Maubin Township MCWA and inspected herbal nursery and pre-primary school of the association.

Similarly, she attended donation ceremony of equipment for fly-proof latrines held at Yale village in Maubin Township and presented medicines and K 100,000 to help assist local people in providing medical treatment and publications for village library on 28 July.

In Nyaungdon Township, the chairperson and party met members of Township MCWA and presented gifts and nutritious food for the Hsamalauk pre-primary school. — MNA

Myanmar's efforts to combat human trafficking (3)

Khin Yun San

It is apparent that for Myanmar, trafficking in persons is a type of crime that harms and tarnishes the dignity and prestige which Myanmar people value and preserve. And the government is therefore fighting such an organized crime with the use of own available resources as well as in harness with neighbouring countries, regional countries and international organizations.

At the same time, the government has been harmoniously implementing various kinds of construction projects phase by phase for the development of the entire Union, raising the socio-economic life of the people and developing the human resources.

Nevertheless, the western big nation under its strategy of hegemony is making unjust accusations against Myanmar, without taking objective views about the all-round efforts the latter has been making for its development and for wiping out trafficking in persons in it. Using the criteria prescribed in it, it listed Myanmar in Tier-3 of the countries complying with minimum standards in fighting human trafficking. Furthermore, it is lopsidedly imposing sanctions against Myanmar to block her drive for building a modern and developed country and for economic development.

In Myanmar, women make up 50.3 per cent of the population. Under the Myanmar's traditions and culture, rights are bestowed upon Myanmar women and men equally. The Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation was formed on 20 December 2003 for stepping up the tasks for the development of Myanmar women and ensuring their life security in various spheres. It has been implementing its fine objectives as follows:—

- (1) to enhance the role of women in the building of a peaceful, modern and developed nation

- (2) to protect the rights of women
- (3) to ensure the economic, health, education and general welfare of women and to provide measures for their security
- (4) to instill and foster in Myanmar women a greater appreciation for their national, cultural heritage and customs
- (5) to systematically protect women from violence and provide means for rehabilitation where necessary
- (6) to curb and finally eliminate trafficking in women and children as a national task
- (7) to collaborate with international as well as local organizations, to ensure the rights of women in accordance with the traditions and customs of the ethnic groups.

The MAAF is participating in the prevention, control and protection tasks for warding off acts of trafficking in women and children. As regards preventive measures, it is disseminating knowledge about human trafficking. Regarding the control tasks, it is conducting courses designed to train and educate womenfolk and giving advice and making suggestions with the help of counselling groups. With regard to protection tasks, in cooperation with the governmental departments concerned, and internal and international non-governmental organizations, it is giving advice to the trafficked persons in order not to fall victim to human trafficking again, rehabilitating, providing health care and sending them back to their families.

The MAAF knows best the conditions on human trafficking in Myanmar since it is taking part with heart and soul in monitoring trafficking in persons through its working group on preventing trafficking in women and children.

Myanmar has promulgated the Anti-Trafficking Law and has been taking preventive

measures against trafficking in persons in line with international standards. From 2001 to May 2005, it took action against 1,920 persons in 684 cases including giving life sentence to two culprits and sentence of ten years or above to 99 culprits. In the preventive measures, so far anti-trafficking units made up of MAAF members in concert with the Myanmar Police Force and local authorities have educated and held discussions with more than 830,000 people and prevented 28,840 persons from being trafficked.

In Kayin State from 2002 to 2005, it gave educative talks on trafficking in persons to 45,731 persons and prevented 16,103 persons from illegally entering the neighbouring country and sent them home. And it sent back 23 persons to their parents, exposed 82 cases and helped take action against 127 culprits.

A reception camp was opened in Myawady on 18 February 2002, and the government has been receiving victims, sending them back to their parents and rehabilitating them in cooperation with international organizations such as NIAP, Save the Children (UK) and World Vision.

Since 22 June 2005, the MAAF in collaboration with the Social Welfare Department has received three times the Myanmar women victims who were given protective custody at Kredtrakam women's centre under the Social Welfare Development Department in Bangkok, Thailand, at the Friendship Bridge in Myawady. So far, 20 victims have been received. They were consoled and then given vocational education for one month at Yangon Vocational Training Centre for Women and after the course, sent to their parents and relations.

Kayin State Women's Affairs Organization is taking steps such as conducting workshops designed to prevent trafficking in persons, making field trips down to the grassroots level to show video films on human trafficking, holding informative talks, and distributing booklets and pamphlets to local people.

The mobile team made up of members of the MAAF and UNIAP conducted the course on Training of Service Providers on Trafficking in Persons in Kayah State from 19 to 21 April 2006. District and township level officers from the departments concerned, and members of district and township level Myanmar Women's Affairs Organizations and Maternal and Child Welfare Associations numbering 32 persons completed the course. Moreover, in the entire Kayah State in 2004-2005, the team held ceremonies to give educative talks 93 times educating 9,114 persons and workshop on anti-human trafficking 24 times educating 3,120 persons. As a result, in Kayah State, there was only one person who was trafficked in 2004-2005. And the Kayah State Women's Affairs Organization explained the situation to the girl who was deceived by trafficking brokers and sent her back to her parents.

(See page 9)

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Myanmar's efforts to combat human trafficking (3)

Khin Yun San

(from page 8)

Shan State (East) shares the border with three Myanmar's neighbours—China, Laos and Thailand. Tachilek is one of the most important gateways in border areas to the other country from Shan State. Traffickers can deceive naive and artless girls from the interior parts of Myanmar and take them to the other country via Kengtung and Tachilek. Therefore, in order to prevent under-age women from being trafficked in a bid to wipe out the cases of trafficking in persons in Shan State (East), watch teams are assigned duties at Kengtung and Tachilek airports and bus terminals to find out anything suspicious about activities on human trafficking among the travellers who enter the regions, and action is taken against the traffickers.

Shan State (East) Human Trafficking Prevention Committee formed with 15 members under Order No 4/2006 issued on 27 February 2006 by the Central Committee for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons, has been taking an effective approach to the implementation of the provisions of Anti-Trafficking Law.

Mon State Women's Affairs Organization conducted ceremonies to give educative talks on prevention of women against violence 22 times in Chaungzon, Ye, Thaton and Paung townships. It also organized the educative talks on prevention against dangers of traffickers and human trafficking 169 times and educated 14,587 women. So far, in Mon State, 107 women—89 aged above 18 and 18 aged under 18—were trafficked. The Mon State Women's Affairs Organization coordinated with the departments

concerned, and local administrative bodies to give punitive punishments on 27 traffickers—18 men and nine women.

A case in which some young women in Mudon, Paung and Chaungzon townships were enticed into going to the neighbouring country was exposed in time. So, they were consoled and sent back to their parents. And a case in which some young women and men from Naungbo Village in Thaton Township and Mottama Village in Paung Township were being lured to go to the neighbouring country by traffickers was prevented and they were sent back home.

In addition, Mon State WAO educated 11 men and 22 women from Shwepyitha Township in Yangon Division and Thanatpin Township in Bago Division who were about to leave for the other country and sent them back home.

The number of the victims Mon State WAO educated and sent back home in 2005 stood at 194—92 men and 102 women.

The Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation gave a helping hand to the Social Welfare Department in making field trips to contact the families concerned to send to the parents of 18 persons—13 women and five men—who entered the neighbouring nation with various reasons and were given custody by the Social Welfare Department of that nation.

So, it is found unreasonable that the western big nation again put Myanmar in the list of countries assessed as neither complying with the minimum standards nor making significant efforts in combating trafficking in persons. Instead it has failed to recognize that Myanmar is a nation that is fighting effectively

traffickers and trafficking in persons in the region.

Anti-government organizations are concentrating on serving the interests of their own, while harming the interests of Myanmar and its people. For instance, to the liking of the western big nation, Myanmar's internal affairs was put forward as the international issue, with a call for economic and social sanctions against the nation. Subsequently, the call led to the closure of about 160 garment factories and many workers were laid off from about 40 factories. Therefore, the unjust decision consigned more than 80,000 workers to the scrap heap, of which over 70,000 were female workers. Being jobless due to the closure of the factories, some young women fell victim to the deception of human traffickers who took advantage of the hardships to earn living.

Showing total disregard for Myanmar's promulgation of the Anti-Trafficking Law and efforts to fight human trafficking internally as well as in cooperation with other nations in the region, the US State Department listed Myanmar in Tier-3 or the lowest level of countries that comply minimum standards, and imposed sanction. In consequence, export of the products of the factories in Myanmar were all banned. **Fearing that the jobless women could fall prey to human traffickers, local authorities concerned, departments and social organizations took special measures for those jobless persons.**

Instead of supporting with positive attitude the Myanmar's endeavours to fight trafficking in persons, the US State Department is levelling unjust accusations and imposing sanctions against Myanmar. Such unfair acts sent such women to end up without jobs becoming prey to human traffickers. So, the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation objected the listing of Myanmar in Tier-3 of the US State Department in June 2006.

Despite such disruptions, the Myanmar Government will continue to combat trafficking in persons in harmony with internal forces that do not accept the act, as well as regional countries and international organizations.

(Concluded)

Myanma Alin & Kyemon: 6-8-2006

Translation: MS

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Meeting for Ad-Hoc Committee of Tourism Manpower

&

18th Meeting of the Task Force on Tourism Manpower Development

Mandalay, Myanmar

9-11 August 2006



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ကျောင်းကျန်းမာရေးသီတင်းပတ်

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Lt-Gen Myint Swe donates alms to a Sayadaw. (News on page 16)

MNA



Lt-Gen Myint Swe accepts cash donations of wellwishers.

(News on page 16)— MNA

Rice and alms of Tatmadaw families and wellwishers donated to monasteries, nunneries in Dagon, Yankin Townships



Military officers donate provisions to a Sayadaw. (News on page 16) — MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win accepts cash donations of wellwishers. (News on page 16) — MNA

Yangon Division SCMCWA Chairperson attends ceremony of World Breastfeeding Week

YANGON, 6 Aug — Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Maternal and Child Welfare Association Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai attended the ceremony to mark World Breastfeeding Week, organized by Yangon

Division SCMCWA at the office of Yangon South District Peace and Development Council on 4 August.

First, Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai made a speech on the occasion. Next, specialist Dr Daw Wai Wai Myint of Yangon

South District People's Hospital gave an educative talk on benefits of breastfeeding.

After the ceremony, Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai and party viewed posters and documentary photos on display at the hall. — MNA

Annual General Meeting of MWEA held

YANGON, 6 Aug — The 11th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association was held at Sedona Hotel this morning.

Also present on the occasion were patrons of MWEA, advisers, the chairperson of MWEA, executives, responsible persons of MAAF, vice-presidents of UMFCFI and members of MWEA.

Patron Daw Sal, Advisers Daw Sein Sein, Dr Daw Khin Aye Win and Daw Wah Wah Tun presided over the meeting. Chairperson of MWEA Daw Khin Myint Myint extended greetings and Secretary Daw Hla Wadi read out an annual report of MWEA.

At the meeting, a wide range of products of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association were displayed at the hotel from 8 am to 8 pm. — MNA

Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai of Yangon Division MCWSC makes a speech at the ceremony of World Breastfeeding Week in Yangon South District.

DISTRICT IPRD



Secretary of MWEA Daw Hla Wadi reads out a report at the 11th Annual General Meeting of MWEA.

MNA

A sonic bomb explodes in Tachilek

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug — Terrorists are committing destructive acts to disturb peace and stability and prevalence of law and order of the nation and harm innocent people with various ways and means.

A sonic bomb exploded in the compound of Aik Mon (a) Zaw Mon, No HsaHsaKa-6/1 on Meikhoung Road, Hsanhsaing A Ward of Tachilek at 8.20 pm on 4 August. The explosion caused a one feet square pit and damage to five corrugated iron sheets, but no one was injured

investigation, Aik Mon arrived in Tachilek in 2001 to do business. On 1 May, the extortion in-charge of SSA-S (Ywet Sit) terrorist group asked him on telephone to come to Mei Sai of the other country and give extortion money for his doing business. However, as he failed to do so, he was threatened to be killed by bomb or other sort of arm on 5 May. It is assumed that SSA-S (Ywet Sit) terrorist group made the attack.

Members of Myanmar Police Force and locals are cooperating to uncover who committed the bomb blast.

According to the

MNA



People light candles during a demonstration in Berlin on 4 Aug, 2006. On Friday several hundred residents of the German capital demonstrated for peace in the Middle East region.—INTERNET

Indonesia invites foreign investors to develop plantations for biofuel

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 Aug — Indonesia will provide six million hectares of land for local and foreign investors to develop plantations for biofuel, a senior official said here Friday.

“The doors are opened not only for domestic use but also for the export as worldwide biofuel demand is increasing now because of high oil prices,” Indonesian Energy and Natural Resources Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro told reporters. Purnomo made the

remarks after attending a business club roundtable session in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur.

A few Malaysian companies have expressed their keen interest to invest in the biofuel sector, Purnomo said, adding the opportunity is only for upstream activities.

The Indonesian

Government has decided to allow Pertamina, the state-oil company, to be in charge of the downstream activities, Purnomo said.

Current increase in the oil prices has pushed Indonesia to realize the need to prepare for alternative energy like biofuel, Purnomo added.

MNA/Xinhua

Monsoon rains, floods kill 42 in south, east India

HYDERABAD (India), 5 Aug— Monsoon rains and floods have killed 42 people in southern and eastern India and displaced tens of thousands of others, officials said on Friday.

Forty deaths have been reported from the southern state of Andhra Pradesh since Wednesday while two people were killed in neighbouring Orissa on Friday in flash floods. The deaths were mostly due to collapsing houses, falling trees and electrocution after hundreds of electric poles were knocked down by strong winds.

The airport in the port town of Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh was closed after the runway

was flooded and water entered the terminal building.

“Nearly 25,500 people have been displaced and 3,600 rendered homeless as landslides and floods have destroyed their homes,” said disaster management official Debabratha Kanta. Navy boats and helicopters rescued people stranded on the roofs of their houses while rail and road traffic had been blocked in several areas by flood waters and

landslides.

The rains were expected to continue for another 24 hours, said M. Satya Kumar at the meteorological centre in the Andhra capital of Hyderabad.

Dozens of people have been killed in other parts of India including in the western states of Gujarat and Maharashtra since the annual monsoons started in June. —MNA/Reuters

Ethiopia rescues over 1,200 from river flood

ADDISABABA, 5 Aug — More than 1,200 people have been rescued from flooded villages in the southern part of Ethiopia, IRIN reported Friday.

The UN humanitarian news and information service quoted Shewangzaw Worku, spokesman for the Oromia Food Security and

Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission, as saying that in the past three days 1,275 people had been evacuated from three villages and relocated to safe areas after the Awash River flooded.

Since the operation began on Wednesday, rescuers had used 13 boats and emergency personnel from the Ethiopian Defence Force to help the stranded villagers, Shewangzaw was quoted.

The worst-hit areas are in Sabata Awas and Ejere districts where about 2,285 people live. A number of livestock have also died in the flooding.

MNA/Xinhua



A 125-pound (57kg) beluga whale male calf, who was born on 17 July at the Shedd Aquarium, swims in Chicago, on 4 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Three Filipinos kidnapped by criminals in S Nigeria

PORT HARCOURT, (Nigeria), 5 Aug — Three Filipino oil workers were abducted early Friday morning by elements described as criminals by the Nigerian Police.

“They are criminal elements wanting ransom,” police spokeswoman Ireju Baarasua said Friday in Port Harcourt, the capital of Nigeria’s southern state of Rivers.

She said the police were intensifying efforts to track down the abductors and seek release of the Filipinos, who were reportedly abducted at 6 am (0500 GMT) and reportedly driven away in a boat to an unknown location. This incident came after a German working for BB (Berger Bilfinger), a German subsidiary of Nigerian construction giant Julius Berger, was kidnapped on Thursday at the Bonny LNG plant, where the current Nigeria’s sixth LNG plant is under construction.

Kidnappings of foreign oil workers and

attacks on oil facilities by militant youths since the beginning of this year have forced Nigeria, the largest oil producer in Africa or the world’s sixth largest oil exporter, to cut production by 670,000 barrels per day, or 26 per cent of its crude production.—MNA/Xinhua

Coach falls into abyss, killing 11 in Vietnam

HANOI, 5 Aug— A coach on Friday fell into an abyss in Vietnam’s central Binh Dinh Province, killing 11 people and injuring 53 others, Vietnam News Agency reported.

The accident occurred early Friday morning when the coach with 64 passengers fell into the abyss 100-150 metres

below the earth surface in Tay Son District.

Injured people have been admitted to the provincial General

Hospital. Local authorities are investigating the accident. The provincial People’s Committee has decided to offer two million Vietnamese dong

(VND) (126 US dollars) to each victim’s family, and one million Vietnamese dong (63 dollars) to injured persons each.—MNA/Xinhua



Firefighters walk past flames during a forest fire in Cerdedo in the northwest Spanish region of Galicia on 5 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

South Korean soldiers urged to have more babies

SEOUL, 5 Aug — South Korea needs soldiers and is calling on its troops to make them by turning out more babies. South Korea’s military this week unveiled a new policies aimed at making it easier for military couples to have and raise children.

The country has the lowest fertility rate among developed nations with an average of 1.08 children per woman. The birth rate among military couples is 0.83, officials said. “The low birth rate can seriously affect our economy, politics and even national security,” said Lieutenant Hong Kyung-moon, an Army personnel officer. The Army will try to keep newly-weds together by allowing them to stay in the same posting for five years so that they can start and raise a family, Hong said by telephone. —MNA/Reuters

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Child abuse cases in Japan hit record high

TOKYO, 5 Aug— Child abuse cases happened in Japan during the first half of 2006 logged a year-on-year rise of 14.3 per cent to hit a record high of 120, local Press reported on Friday.

The number of victims of such cases exposed by police in the January-June period climbed 18.5 per cent to 128, and the number of suspects arrested or referred to prosecutors in these cases reached 131, a jump of 12.9 per cent, the daily *Yomiuri Shimbun* said, quoting the figures released by the National Police Agency (NPA).

According to a statistics, the number of physical abuse cases stood at 86, up 7.5 per cent from a year earlier, sexual abuse cases at 23, up 4.5 per cent, and parental neglect cases at 11.

MNA/Xinhua

Honda motorcycle launches first scooter in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 5 Aug— Japanese motorcycle-maker Honda has launched its first scooter in Indonesia to grab the country's scooter market now dominated by Yamaha, local Press reported Friday.

The Honda Vario automatic-transmission scooter was unveiled Thursday with initial sales target of 20,000 units per month, reported *Bisnis Indonesia*.

The local unit PT Astra Honda Motor puts a price tag of 12.5 million rupiah (around 1,350 US dollars) for the standard model.

Scooter grabs only a tiny share of 3 per cent of last year's motorcycle sales.

But in the first half of the year, the share rose to 6 per cent of the total motorcycle sales of 1.81 million units.

Honda, relying on moped models, controls above 50 per cent of total motorcycle sales in Indonesia.

MNA/Xinhua

Drug dealer guilty of Toni-Ann Byfield murder

LONDON, 5 Aug— A drug dealer who shot a girl of seven in the back after she witnessed the shooting of her father was found guilty of two counts of murder on Friday.

Joel Smith, 32, killed Toni-Ann Byfield to eliminate her as a witness after he murdered her father, who was also a drug dealer, prosecutors had told the Old Bailey jury.

Smith had a string of convictions and was linked by police to a notorious criminal gang called the "Mus Luv Crew" in northwest London.

He had denied murdering Toni-Ann and her father Bertram Byfield, 41, at their home in Kensal Green in September 2003.

Prosecutor Richard Horwell said Smith killed the girl to cover his tracks after committing what he hoped was a near-perfect crime. There were no witnesses, forensic evidence or security

camera footage. "He would have got away with the crime but for one fact," Horwell told the jury. "The crime had shocked the nation and witnesses came forward that would not otherwise have done so."

Toni-Ann was a "bright and fun-loving" girl who had recently arrived in Britain from Jamaica, he added. Police charged Smith with murder in October 2005 after several televised appeals for witnesses.

MNA/Reuters

Cambodian HIV-positive man sentenced to 10 years in jail for sex

PHNOM PENH, 5 Aug— Cambodian Phnom Penh municipal court has sentenced an HIV-positive man to 10 years in prison for intentionally infecting his wife with the virus, local media reported on Friday.

Meas Mea, 40, was found guilty of forcing sex with his wife without wearing condom after he was confirmed as an HIV carrier, according to local Khmer newspaper *Rasmei Kampuchea*. The man also beat his wife when his sexual request was refused.

The man became the first person to be sentenced according to a 2002 law on AIDS prevention and control to punish those who knowingly spread the virus.

Cambodia has the highest HIV infection rate in Southeast Asia. Some 150,000 of

Cambodia's 13 million people are HIV-positive, which is equivalent to 1.9 per cent of all adult aged between 15 and 49. Up

to 90,000 infected people have died since the first case of HIV was diagnosed in 1993.

MNA/Xinhua

Two huge explosions rock southern Beirut

BEIRUT, 5 Aug— Two huge explosions rocked southern Beirut early Friday in an apparent resumption of Israeli air strikes on Hizbollah strongholds, reported Doha-based alJazeera TV channel.

Police sources confirmed that two missiles were fired at the Rweiss and Haret-Hreik districts in the capital's southern suburbs.

Haret-Hreik, where Hizbollah's headquarters is located, were pounded for two weeks since the start of the Israeli offensive against Lebanon on July 12 while Rweiss was first targeted the previous night.

No casualty was reported at the moment and the Israeli military had no immediate comment.

Earlier on Thursday, Israeli planes dropped flyers on southern part of the Lebanese capital, near the International Airport,

urging civilians to leave as "bombing of the area would be extended".

Israeli Defence Minister Amir Peretz on Thursday evening also ordered the Army to prepare for a new phase of its military offensive in southern Lebanon to push the area of its control to Lebanon's Litani River, Channel Two television reported.

Peretz has asked the Army to prepare for a possible push north to Lebanon's Litani River, about 30 kilometres from the border, to stop Hizbollah rocket fire, said the TV report.

MNA/Xinhua

Polish PM says no plans to restore death penalty

WARSAW, 5 Aug— Poland's President was speaking as a private citizen when said he supported the death penalty, Prime Minister Jaroslaw Kaczynski said on Friday, not as an official making a formal proposal.

President Lech Kaczynski, the Prime Minister's twin brother, told Polish radio last week the European Union should reconsider its ban on capital punishment, drawing a sharp rebuke from Brussels.

Rene van der Linden,

said his brother had not made a proposal, but merely expressed an opinion. "It was his private opinion," he told a news conference. "We are not aiming to make any such proposal right now."

The Prime Minister

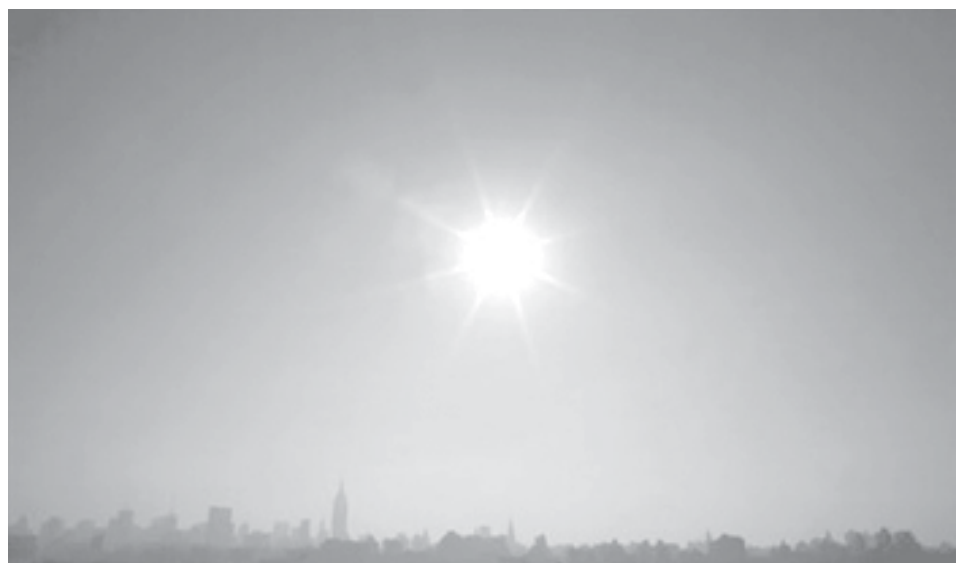
MNA/Reuters

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The sun beats down on the haze shrouded skyline of New York across the Hudson River from Hoboken, New Jersey on 3 Aug, 2006. With temperatures approaching 100 degrees for the third consecutive day, New York was the only power grid still forecasting electricity usage would reach record levels.—INTERNET

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဆက်ရေးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Silk Road aims at site in UNESCO world heritage list

TURPAN (Xinjiang), 5 Aug— China and central Asian countries on Friday made a blueprint to jointly apply for listing of historical sites along the ancient Silk Road in UNESCO's world cultural heritage list in the next three to five years.

Archeologists and cultural officials at an ongoing multinational application convention in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region reached the agreement titled "Action Plan for Multinational Application for Silk Road in UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List." "The action plan will be the initial step of the multinational application," said Gu Yucai, director of cultural relics protection department under the State Cultural Heritage Administration.

Under the plan, countries along the Silk Road would take measures to protect cultural relics, improve the environment at sites, and carry out promotional campaigns, said Gu.

The protection would focus on substantial relics such as ruins and tombs, as well as valuable non-material relics, such as traditional ballads and dances still performed along the route.

The 2,000-year-old Silk Road was mainly a trade route linking Asia and Europe. It extended from

the city of Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, to Europe via south and central Asia countries. It was 7,000 kilometres long, more than half of which is in China. Along this road, gunpowder, papermaking and printing technologies were sent to the West, while Western mathematics and medicine came to China.

In 1987, the Dunhuang

Mogao Grottoes, also known as the Caves of 1,000 Buddhas in northwest China's Gansu Province, were listed as a UNESCO world heritage site.

But in 1994, China had to withdraw its application for the world heritage listing of the ancient Jiaohe City, a cultural relics site along the Silk Road in Xinjiang, because of inadequate preparation.

MNA/Xinhua



A traveller walks along Silk Road with several camels. China and central Asian countries on 4 Aug, 2006 made a blueprint to jointly apply for listing of historical sites along the ancient Silk Road in UNESCO's World Cultural Heritage List in the next three to five years.—INTERNET



Huge waves hit the coast of Zhuhai, southern China's Guangdong Province, on 3 Aug, 2006, as the Typhoon Prapiroon approaches.—INTERNET

German zoo finds H5N1 bird flu in dead swan

BERLIN, 5 Aug— A swan found dead in a zoo in the eastern German city of Dresden was infected with the highly infectious H5N1 strain of bird flu which is dangerous for humans, the local government said on Friday.

A government spokeswoman in Dresden said tests carried out by the Friedrich Loeffler Institute, which advises the government on animal diseases, had confirmed the disease in the swan which was found on Wednesday. "We can confirm that this is the highly pathogenic strain," said the spokeswoman.

As a protective measure, authorities have sealed off

an area of 3 kilometres (1.9 miles) and created a 10-kilometre (6.2-mile) observation zone.

Dresden Zoo remains open but has confined its birds to cages, closed off visitor access to them and stepped up disinfection procedures. Poultry are being examined and the movement of cats and dogs in the area has been restricted.

MNA/Reuters

NEC Semiconductors to increase chip production in S'pore

SINGAPORE, 5 Aug— Japanese company NEC Semiconductors plans to increase its chip production in Singapore by 67 per cent to reach some 10 million units every month from September this year, according to Channel NewsAsia report Friday.

The company will close its plant in Ireland next month in order to reduce costs and improve utilization of resources.

Its production facility in Singapore, which was set up 30 years ago, is expected to serve both the Asia-Pacific Region and the European market.

As NEC's core test and assembly site, the Singapore plant manufactures

advanced devices like 32-bit microcontrollers, which are used in airbag systems in cars, the report said.

Currently, NEC's chip production in Singapore accounts for 20 per cent of the total supply in the global market and contributes 4.4 per cent of NEC Electronics' revenue from chips, according to the report.

MNA/Xinhua

Explosions wound 13 in southern Turkey

ANKARA, 5 Aug— Thirteen people, including five police officers, were injured in two explosions in the southern Turkish city of Adana, the state news agency *Anatolia* said on Friday.

The explosions took place in the city centre of Adana, which is home to an air base used by US forces.

Police director Mehmet Cebe said no one had claimed responsibility for the blasts which also damaged four police cars and some shops.

"One person has been seriously injured and taken to the university hospital," said Cebe.

He said the first explosion had wounded two bank security guards, adding a second blast wounded five policemen who had come to the area.

MNA/Reuters



Molten rocks tumble down the slopes of Mayon volcano after lava continued to flow at the foot of the volcano in Mabinit town at Legazpi city, Albay Province, south of Manila on 3 Aug, 2006. The government has told thousands of people living on Mayon's slopes to evacuate a danger zone of 6 km (4 miles) around the summit but hundreds of tourists, armed with cameras and tripods, were coming in droves to watch.—INTERNET

US, Japan auto unions seek ties

WASHINGTON, 5 Aug— The major US auto-workers union has reached an agreement with its Japanese counterpart to deepen ties, a move some insiders believe will lead to their cooperation at Japanese-run factories in the US, *The Wall Street Journal* reported on Thursday.

The agreement was made last week when United Auto Workers President Ron Gettelfinger met in Tokyo with representatives from the Confederation of Japan Automobile Workers' Unions, the report quoted people familiar with the

matter as saying.

According to these individuals, the two unions agreed to exchange delegations of key officials periodically to foster mutual understanding of each other's activities and specific issues they face in

Japan and the US. During the meeting, Gettelfinger did not specifically ask for JAW help in organizing hourly workers at auto factories operated by Toyota Motor Corp and other Japanese auto makers in the US, the individuals said.

Still, the individuals noted the agreement may shape up to be an important step toward forging a new chapter in the UAW-JAW relationship, which they said has cooled since the late 1990s, the report said.— MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Birmingham, West Brom start with victories

LONDON, 6 Aug— Relegated clubs Birmingham City and West Bromwich Albion both began their English Second Division campaigns with home victories on Saturday.

Birmingham had new signing Cameron Jerome sent off during the second half of their 2-1 victory against Colchester United who were playing their first ever match in English football's second tier.

Dudley Campbell put Birmingham in front after 28 minutes and Nicklas Bendtner, on loan from Arsenal, scored the winner 12 minutes from time after Richard Garcia had equalized for Colchester.

Former Celtic striker John Hartson scored both goals for promotion favourites West Brom in a 2-0 victory over Hull City.

Sunderland, the third team to drop out of the Premier League last season, play at Coventry City on Sunday.

Crystal Palace's new manager Peter Taylor enjoyed a good start with a 2-1 victory at Ipswich Town, while Leeds United, beaten in last season's promotion playoff final by Watford, kicked off with a 1-0 defeat of Norwich City.—MNA/Reuters



Defending champions Olympique Lyon were off to a flying start of the season when they clinched a 3-1 away win at Nantes on 4 Aug, 2006 in the kickoff of the 2005-06 French Ligue 1 soccer season.—INTERNET

Lille start season with 2-1 win at stade Rennes

PARIS, 6 Aug— Lille opened their Ligue 1 season with a 2-1 win at Stade Rennes in an early game on Saturday.

Midfielder Mathieu Bodmer volleyed home from inside the box to put the northerners ahead after 10 minutes. The Brittany side were trailing 2-0 at halftime after a powerful strike by Ivory Coast striker Kader Keita on 42 minutes.

Rennes, who lost Switzerland

striker Alexander Frei during the close season, cut the deficit when playmaker Olivier Monterrubio scored from the penalty spot.

Five-times champions Olympique Lyon won the season opener with a 3-1 victory at Nantes

Other games on Saturday feature Girondins Bordeaux, runners-up to Lyon last season, hosting Toulouse and Paris St Germain entertaining promoted Lorient at the Parc des Princes. Olympique Marseille travel to promoted Sedan on Sunday.

MNA/Reuters

Rangers need own goal to hold Dundee United

GLASGOW, 6 Aug— Rangers needed a late own goal to snatch a 2-2 draw at home to Dundee United in the Scottish Premier League on Saturday.

Noel Hunt shocked the home crowd with a 14th-minute opening goal for Dundee and Norwegian Christian Kalvenes made it 2-0 after the interval.

Rangers pulled back a goal from substitute Chris Burke before Steven Robb turned the ball into his own net with 11 minutes left.

Dundee United manager Craig Brewster praised his team for emerging with a point.

"It was nearly, but not quite," Brewster told BBC Radio Scotland. "But I am delighted with a point...and also what delighted me was the performance."

"I thought we rode our luck in the early stages. When we went 2-0 up I thought, 'Here we go!' but then boom, Chris Burke

came on for Rangers and with his second or third touch hit a great strike...and suddenly the roof opened up with the noise here.

"Unfortunately we lost another goal and I was disappointed in the manner in which we did but I am very proud of the performance."

Premier League newcomers St. Mirren beat Motherwell 2-0 to go top of the standings on goal difference along with Falkirk who beat Dunfermline 1-0 at home.

MNA/Reuters



Nantes' Mauro Cetto (R) is stopped by Olympique Lyon's goalkeeper Remy Vercoutre during their French Ligue 1 soccer match in Nantes on 4 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Bordeaux start season with 2-0 win over Toulouse

PARIS, 6 Aug— Two goals by Marouane Chamakh and Julien Faubert earned Girondins Bordeaux a 2-0 victory over Toulouse in their season opener on Saturday.

Morocco striker Chamakh headed home on 57 minutes to open the scoring with midfielder Faubert wrapping up the victory two minutes from time.

Bordeaux, runners-up to Olympique Lyon last season, were without new signing Johan Micoud, who was suspended for the game.

Five-times champions Lyon got off to a flying start on Friday with a commanding 3-1 victory at Nantes and already lead the standings after scoring one goal more than Bordeaux.

Lille, who finished last season in third place, also grabbed three points on Saturday with a 2-1 win at Stade Rennes courtesy of goals by Mathieu Bodmer and Kader Keita.

Olivier Monterrubio scored a consolation goal from the penalty spot for the Brittany side.

MNA/Reuters

Clement, Murray power into Washington final

WASHINGTON, 6 Aug— Experienced Frenchman Arnaud Clement and British teenager Andy Murray roared into the Legg Mason Classic final with straight-sets victories on Saturday.

Clement needed two hours to outduel former world number one Marat Safin 7-6, 7-6, while Murray eased past Russian Dmitry Tursunov 6-2, 7-5 to reach his second final of the year.

The 11th-seeded Clement traded crisp groundstrokes with the power-hitting Safin, each player losing his service only twice in the match. Safin opened the door for the Frenchman by getting only 58 per cent of his first serves in. A costly double-fault by Safin in the first-set tiebreak gave Clement a 6-5 lead. Clement won the set on the next point when the Russian punched a forehand volley into the net.

The 28-year-old Clement, ranked 57th and searching for his fourth career title, won the second-set tiebreak 7-4, securing a mini-break to take a 5-4 lead before serving out the match. Safin, ranked 92 in the world and unseeded in Washington, had leads of 3-1 in the first set and 4-2 in the second before Clement battled back.—MNA/Reuters

Werder Bremen outclass Bayern in League Cup final

BERLIN, 6 Aug— Croatia striker Ivan Klasnic scored twice as Werder Bremen beat Bayern Munich 2-0 to win the pre-season German League Cup final on Saturday.

Germany striker Miroslav Klose set up Klasnic for the first goal in the 29th minute with a fine pass and the 26-year-old drilled a free kick

through a gaping hole in the Bayern wall for the second goal after 66 minutes.

"We not only wanted to win more than Bayern, we were also quite clearly the better team," said Bremen captain Torsten Frings after the match played before 41,300 at a neutral venue in Leipzig's Zentralstadion.

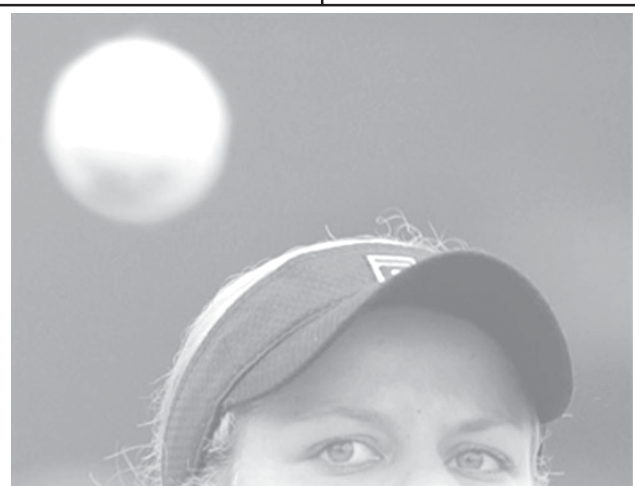
Bremen won two million euros (2.56 million US dollars) for their first League Cup title.

It was the first time Bayern have been beaten in the final of the "Ligapokal" tournament after they won all five of their previous appearances in the competition made up of the top six Bundesliga finishers from the previous season.

MNA/Reuters

Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

1	S	2	F	3	A	4	H	5	B	6	A				
7	C	H	A	N	C	E	8	S	E	L	L	E	R		
	O	C	R	T			9	M	A	I					
10	R	O	U	T	I	N	E	11	L	I	N	K	S		
	P	L	S	D	M			O	K	E					
12	I	O	T	S	E	P	O	C	H						
	O	Y		14	F	O		K		15	H		16	P	
				17	D	I	A	R	Y		18	S	O	L	E
19	B		20	X		A		21	S		L		N		
22	L	I	G	H	T		23	R	A	M	A	D	A	N	
	A	R	U		Y			E		A		A			
24	S	H	E	R	R	Y		25	K	A	O	L	I	N	
	T	E	E					R		L		T			



Belgium's Kim Clijsters keeps her eyes on the ball as she hits a shot to Serbia's Jelena Jankovic during play at the 2006 Acura Classic women's tennis tournament in Carlsbad, California on 3 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Davydenko breezes into Polish final

SOPOT (Poland), 6 Aug— Russian top seed Nikolay Davydenko eased into the final of the Poland International Open on Saturday with a straight sets win over Italy's Filippo Volandri.

The world number six powered to a 6-2, 6-4 victory and in Sunday's final will meet unseeded German Florian Mayer.

Mayer, ranked 62 in the world, was well on the road to victory in the other semifinal when Argentina's Agustin Calleri withdrew with a groin injury.

Mayer, in the final for the second year running, was 6-2, 4-3 up with a break of serve at the time.

MNA/Reuters

Snow traps many on S Africa-Lesotho border

JOHANNESBURG, 6 Aug— South African military helicopters saved about a dozen people trapped by heavy snow on the mountainous border with Lesotho on Friday, and officials said rescue missions were searching for more victims.

A cold front sweeping through much of the region has wreaked havoc in parts of South Africa, particularly in the Eastern

Cape area bordering the mountain kingdom of Lesotho. At least two people have died there, according to local me-

dia. A South African Foreign Ministry statement said a reconnaissance mission by the Lesotho Air

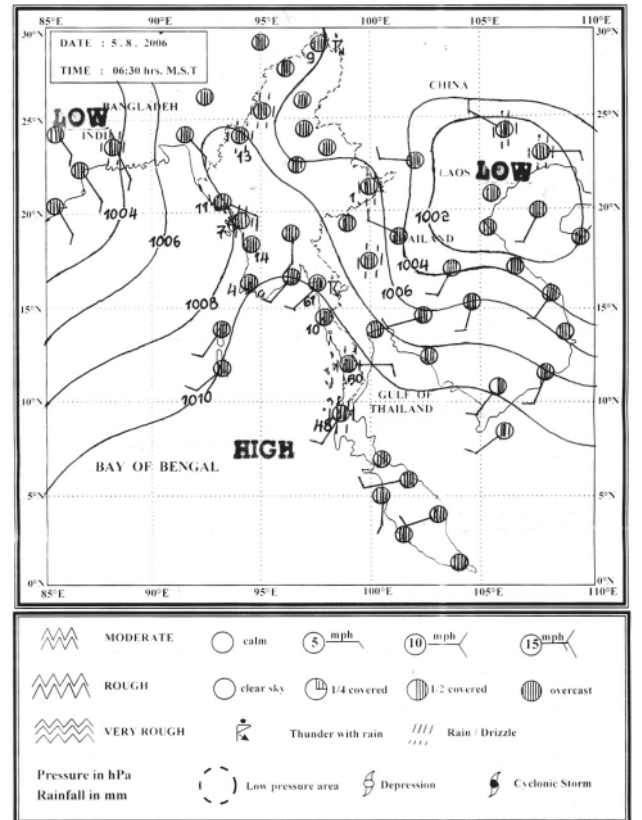
Force to locate trapped people, both South African and Basotho, was called off on Thursday because of bad weather. South African Air Force helicopters joined the effort on Friday.

"Between 10-12 people have been rescued and brought to safety," it said, adding that they had been taken to a University Hospital outside the Lesotho capital Maseru.

"No casualties have been reported thus far and the rescue mission is combing the area under drastic snowing conditions to search for more people who might be trapped," it added.

MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Sunday, 6 August, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain have been widespread in Kachin, Mon and Kayin States and Taninthayi Division, scattered in Mandalay and Ayeyawady Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas with locally heavyfall in Taninthayi Division and weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State and Yangon Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Dawei (5.94) inches, Myeik (3.34) inches, Ye (1.73) inches, Mandalay (0.47) inch, Pakokku (0.44) inch.

Maximum temperature on 5-8-2006 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 6-8-2006 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 6-8-2006 was (79%). Total sunshine hours on 5-8-2006 was (3.4) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 6-8-2006 were (Nil) at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (59.72) inches at Mingaladon, (72.40) inches at Kaba-Aye and (77.09) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from West at (14:50) hours MST on 5-8-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 7-8-2006: Rain will be widespread in Kachin, Kayin, Mon States and Taninthayi Division, scattered in Rakhine State, Mandalay, Bago, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas, Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of decrease of rain in Deltaic areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 7-8-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 7-8-2006: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 7-8-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Flood Bulletin

(Issue at 11:00 hr MST on 6-8-2006)

According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madauk is (1112) cm. It may remain above its danger level (1070) cm during the next (48) hours commencing noon today.

ရေကြီးမှုအန္တရာယ်ကင်းစေဖို့၊
ကြိုတင်ပြင်ဆင်ကြပါစို့။

Dutch designer creates 1.2m euro floating bed

AMSTERDAM, 6 Aug— A young Dutch architect has created a floating bed which hovers above the ground through magnetic force and comes with a price tag of 1.2 million euros (1.54 million US dollars).

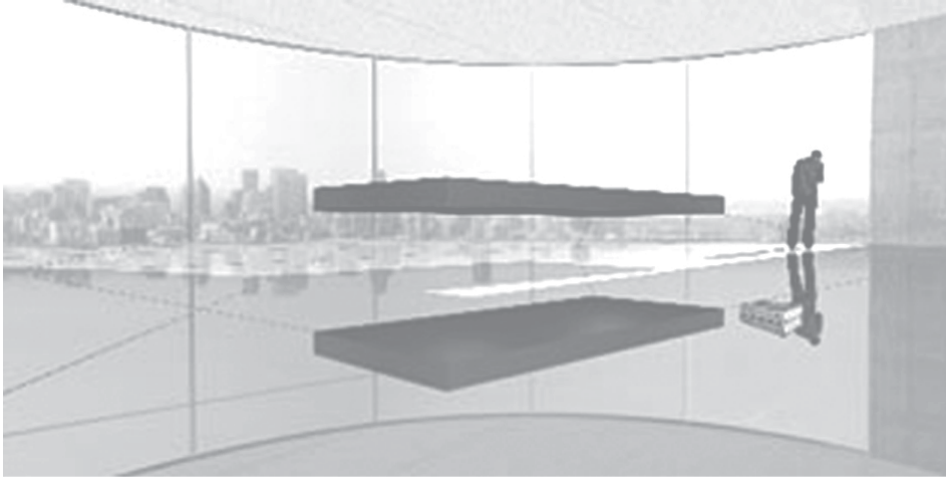
Janjaap Ruijssenaars took inspiration for the bed — a sleek black platform, which took six years to develop and can double as a dining table or a plinth — from the mysterious monolith in Stanley Kubrick's 1968 cult film "2001: A Space Odyssey". "No matter

where you live all architecture is dictated by gravity. I wondered whether you could make an object, a building or a piece of furniture where this is not the case — where another power actually dictates the image," Ruijssenaars said. Magnets built into

the floor and into the bed itself repel each other, pushing the bed up into the air. Thin steel cables tether the bed in place.

"It is not comfortable at the moment," admits Ruijssenaars, adding it needs cushions and bedclothes before use.

MNA/Reuters



A floating bed created by Dutch architect Janjaap Ruijssenaars is seen in this handout illustration on 5 Aug, 2006. The bed hovers above the ground supported by magnets in the bed and the floor and comes with a price tag of 1.2 million euros (\$1.55 million).—INTERNET

Donate blood



Monday, 7 August
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music:
-World of my own
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music:
-Be my girl
- 8:50 am National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am Music:
-I still carry on
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music:
-Feel good
- 1:30 pm News & Slogan
- 1:40pm Lunch time music
-So much in love
-You are everything
-When you love someone
-Here for you
- 9:00pm Spotlight on the star:
-Tracy Huang
-You never can tell
-What'll I write
-Blue Bayou
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Drug & Women Affairs
- 9:35pm Golden Land melody & vocal gems
- 9:45 pm News & Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Monday, 7 August
View on today

- 7:00 am
1.ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
4. တိတ်ဆိတ်ငြိမ်းချမ်း စိတ်ချမ်းမြေ့စရာ ဓမ္မစွမ်းရည် သာသနာ့ရိပ်သာ
- 7:50 am
5. Nice and sweet song
- 8:05 am
6. Dance of national races
- 8:15 am
7. Cute little dancers
- 8:30 am
8. International news
- 8:45 am
9. Grammar made easy
- 4:00 pm
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
2. Song to uphold national spirit
- 4:30 pm
3. ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း အမှတ်(၃) အခြေခံ ပညာဦးစီးဌာန၊ ပဉ္စမအကြိမ် ဓမ္မစကြာဝတ်ရွတ်ပူဇော်ပွဲ (ပထမဆု) (အထက-၂ ဒဂုံ) အမျိုးသမီးဝတ်ရွတ်အဖွဲ့
- 4:50 pm
4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (ခေတ်ဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ခေတ်ဗေဒ)
- 5:05 pm
5. Dance variety
- 5:15 pm
6. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 5:25 pm
7. Song and dance of national races
- 5:35 pm
8. "ပေါင်ပေါကျတဲ့မီး" (ရဲအောင် ထွန်းထွန်းနိုင်၊ ဘုန်းလျှံ၊ ညိုညိုမင်းထက်၊ ဟန်နီထွန်း၊ ဝိုင်းစုနိုင်သိန်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်မောင်မင်းလွင်၊ မင်းအုပ်စိုး)
- 5:45 pm
9. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troup)
- 6:00 pm
10. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
11. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
12. မဟာဝံသ မြတ်ဗုဒ္ဓ(ဒုတိယပိုင်း) (မြတ်ဘုရားရှင်၏ ဝါဆိုစဉ်) (ကုန္ဒာရွှေ ရေးဖွဲ့ပူဇော်သည်)
- 7:00 pm
13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဇူလိုင်နံနက်ခင်း" (အပိုင်း-၁၅)
- 8:00 pm
14. News
- 15. International news
- 16. Weather report
- 17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သူအိပ်မက်လှလှ" (အပိုင်း-၁၇)
- 18. The next day's programme

Rice and alms of Tatmadaw families and wellwishers donated to monasteries, nunneries in Dagon, Yankin Townships

YANGON, 6 Aug — Families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated cash and kind to Dagon and Dakkhinayon Pariyatti monasteries in Dagon Township at Kyagu Dhamma Beikman of Kyagu Monastery on Shwedagon Pagoda Road in Dagon Township this afternoon. Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence offered alms and provisions to members of the Sangha.

The ceremony was graced with the presence of Presiding Nayaka Sayadaws and members of the Sangha of monasteries, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, departmental heads, local authorities, members of social organizations and wellwishers.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence offered robes and provisions to Chairman of Dagon Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Bhaddanta Revata of Kaba Aye Monastery. The commander, the vice-mayor and senior military officers donated provisions to members of the Sangha.

Lt-Col Myo Naing of Yangon Command Head-



Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wellwishers share merits gained at the donation ceremony of rice and cash to Dagon Pariyatti, Dakkhinayon Pariyatti and Kyagu monasteries in Dagon Township.

MNA



quarters, Cmdr Min Zaw of Ayeyawady Naval Region Command and Lt-Col Maung Maung Kyaw of Mingaladon Air Base offered alms and provisions donated by families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and

Air) to the Sayadaw.

Later, Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win presented alms and provisions donated by Yangon Division PDC and the wellwishers to the Sayadaw.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander, the vice-mayor and senior military officers accepted cash donations of the wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them.

Today's donations to the monasteries in Dagon Township totalled 116 bags of rice, 50 viss of edible oil, 79 viss of gram, 397 viss of iodized salt, 80 tubes of toothpaste, 679 bottles of traditional medicine and K 7,619,000.

Similarly, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay, Vice-President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, attended a ceremony to donate alms and provisions to nine monasteries and two nunneries in Yankin Township, at Mahabawdi Pariyatti monastery in Yankin Township.

Next, the commander, the vice-mayor and senior military officers offered provisions to the members of the Sangha and nuns.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party accepted cash donations by the wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to the latter.

Today's donations to the monasteries and nunneries in Yankin Township totalled 395 bags of rice, 161 viss of edible oil, 302 viss of gram, 1,512 bags of iodized salt, 302 tubes of toothpaste, 2,727 bottles of traditional medicine, 1,512 bars of soap and K 20,044,840. — MNA

INSIDE

The MWF knows best the conditions on human trafficking in Myanmar since it is taking part with heart and soul in monitoring trafficking in persons through its working group on preventing trafficking in women and children.

Myanmar has promulgated the Anti-Trafficking Law and has been taking preventive measures against trafficking in persons in line with international standards. From 2001 to May 2005, it took action against 1,920 persons in 684 cases including giving life sentence to two culprits and sentence of ten years or above to 99 culprits. In the preventive measures, so far anti-trafficking units made up of MWF members in concert with the Myanmar Police Force and local authorities have educated and held discussions with more than 830,000 people and prevented 28,840 persons from being trafficked.

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KHIN YUN SAN



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win offers alms to a Sayadaw.

MNA