

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

Only when there are sound foundations will enduring democratic state stand tall among nations of the world

National Convention will be reconvened in second week of October 2006

Secretary-1 addresses meeting (2/2006) of NCCC, NCCWC and NCCMC

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Sept — The meeting (2/2006) of the National Convention Convening Commission, the Work Committee and the Management Committee took place at the meeting hall of the commission here at 2 pm today with an address by Commission Chairman State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Present at the meeting were Commission Vice-Chairman Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Secretary Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and members, Work Committee Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe, the vice-chairman, the secretary and members, Management Committee Chairman Auditor-General Maj-

Gen Lun Maung, the vice-chairman and the secretary and members.

Commission Joint-Secretary-2 Director-General of Pyithu Hluttaw Office U Myint Thein acted as master of ceremonies.

(See page 8)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein addresses the meeting (2/2006) of the National Convention Convening Commission, the Work Committee and the Management Committee. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 3 September, 2006

Produce vegetable and fruits on commercial scale

The population of cities has been on the increase day by day while trade and commerce is making progress. The population of Yangon is now over 5 million. Extended farming work is being carried out to meet the demand for vegetable and fish and meat of the growing population.

The Yangon Division Vegetables Cultivation and Poultry and Fish Farming Special Zone has been established near Nyaungnnapin Village in Yangon North District. Progress has been made in zone-wise producing of vegetable and fish and meat.

In the agricultural zone in Hlegu Township, the Myanma Agriculture Service and some private companies are now producing fresh and wholesome vegetables and fruits. Some agricultural companies are striving to export their produce to European countries as well as ASEAN nations while selling vegetables and fruits to major hotels in Yangon and Mandalay. Altogether 12 kinds of fruits including musk melon, cucumber, tomato, beet root, lettuce, small pumpkin and pulpy chilli that are in high demand in the international market are being grown in the zone.

Ginger grown in Myanmar is popular among foreign markets. European countries such as Germany and Greece are buying dried Myanmar ginger. Out of over 14,000 ginger sown acreage in the nation in 2004-2005, there were over 6,000 acres in Shan State alone.

To satisfy the demand of growing population for vegetable and fish and meat and to export the surplus, the entrepreneurs and farmers are to produce vegetable and fish and meat on a commercial scale applying modern methods and setting up more farming zones.

“သတိပေးနို့ဆော်ချက်”

ခရီးသည်တင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်များအား မြို့တွင်းသို့ နေ့/ည ခရီးသည် ပို့ဆောင်နိုင်ရေးအတွက် သတ်မှတ်ခေါက်ရေနှင့်အညီ စက်သုံးဆီ ထုတ်ပေးထားပြီးဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ယာဉ်စီးခများအားလည်း သတ်မှတ်နှုန်းထားများအတိုင်းတောင်းခံရန် ညွှန်ကြားထားရှိပါသည်။ သို့ရာတွင် အချို့ယာဉ်လိုင်းများမှ ယာဉ်မောင်းနှင့် ယာဉ်နောက်လိုက် တို့သည် ယာဉ်စီးခများကို ညပိုင်းတွင် ပိုမိုတောင်းယူနေကြကြောင်း ကြားသိရပါသည်။ ယင်းသို့ ယာဉ်စီးခပိုမိုတောင်းခံပါက ထိထိ ရောက်ရောက် အရေးယူနိုင်ရေးအတွက် အောက်ပါဖုန်းနံပါတ်များသို့ တိုင်ကြားနိုင်ပါသည်။

- (၁) မြန်မာနိုင်ငံရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့၊ ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း ၁၉၉
- (၂) ကြီးမဲ့ကြေးနန်းနှင့် ယာဉ်ထိန်းတပ်ဖွဲ့မှူးရုံး ၂၉၁၂၀၅/၂၉၁၂၀၄
- (၃) မော်တော်ယာဉ်လုပ်ငန်းပေါင်းစုံထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကော်မတီ ၅၄၁၉၀၅/၅၄၁၉၀၄

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

Peoples' 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

Yangon East District MCWSC organizes quiz, cooking contest to mark Nutrition Week

YANGON, 1 Sept — As a gesture of hailing the Nutrition Week, Yangon East District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee organized a quiz and cooking contest at the township hall of Dagon Myothit (South) Township today.

First, Chairperson of Yangon Division MCWSC Daw Mar Mar Wai accepted 10,000 membership applications of the township MCWA presented by Chairperson of Yangon South District MCWSC Daw Nan Shwe Yin.

Next, a wellwisher donated K 500,000 to Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win.



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai observe the meals of cooking contest.—MNA

Before the cooking contest, winners of the quiz were awarded by Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win. Fourteen teams representing 14 townships in Yangon East District participated in the cooking contest. Pazundaung, Yankin and North Okkalapa townships won the first, second and third prizes respectively and the Yangon Division MCWSC Chairperson awarded the winners.

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the first, second and third prizes respectively and the Yangon Division MCWSC Chairperson awarded the winners. MNA

Opportunity Journal organizes talks on business management

YANGON, 2 Sept — The talks on business management matters to mark the 1st anniversary of Opportunity Journal published by Two-Four DMA Media Group took place at Myanmar Info-Tech in Hline Township this afternoon, attended by Editor In-Charge U Than Soe and editorial staff of the journal, businessmen, editorial staff of other journals, trainees of MBA course, fan club members of the Opportunity Journal and guests.

Firstly, Editor In-Charge U Than Soe extended greetings.

Next, Professor Dr Daw Khin San Yi of Management Department, Institute of Economics gave talks on Selling and answered the questions raised by those present.

Editor In-Charge U Than Soe expressed thanks and the talks came to an end. Arrangements are being made to hold talks four monthly aiming at benefitting youth and entrepreneurs. — MNA

Development task in Shan State (South) inspected

YANGON, 2 Sept — Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe, accompanied by Director U Thaug Sein of Shan State (South) Development Affairs Committee, on 26 August inspected tarmacking of Kyargaung Street being undertaken by Taunggyi Township DAC, No 1 Nursery, Myakantha Lake, Hthitain Lake and spring, and gave necessary instructions.

The deputy minister also inspected 3,000-gallon tank in Heho and the nursery of Kalaw Township DAC. At the meeting hall in Kalaw, he heard reports by officials and fulfilled the requirements. — MNA

Professor Dr Daw Khin San Yi of Management Department, Institute of Economics gives talks on Selling.

MNA



ASEAN, Chinese diplomats join Indonesian language course

JAKARTA, 1 Sept — The Indonesian Foreign Affairs Ministry opened Thursday the Bahasa Indonesia course for young diplomats from China and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Cambodia and Laos send three diplomats each to participate in the three-month course, while China, Myanmar, Singapore, Vietnam, the Philippines and Thailand send two diplomats.

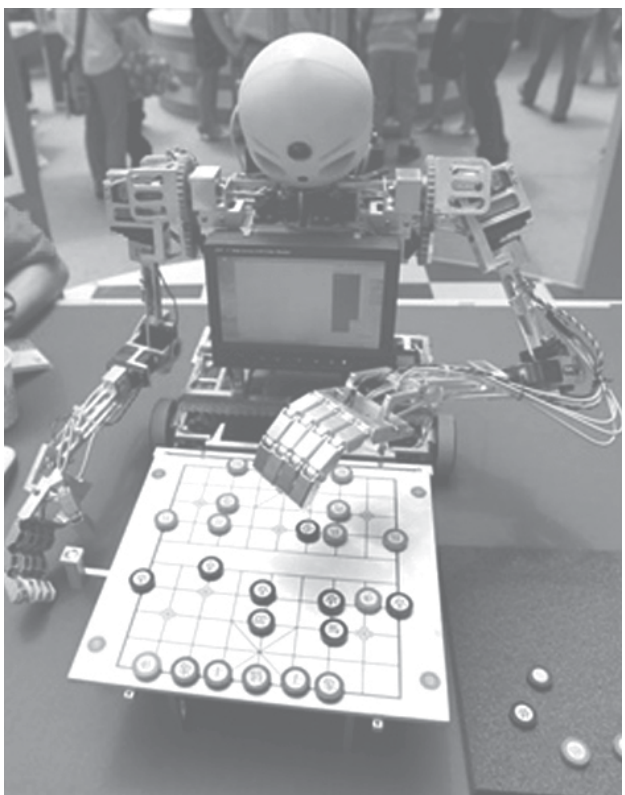
Only Malaysia, one of the ASEAN members, will skip the course as their Malay language is roughly similar to the Indonesian language.

The ministry's secretary general Imron Cotan

said apart from language, the diplomats will also learn Indonesia's culture, political system and recent economic developments.

He said other ASEAN countries will run the similar programmes for their neighbours.

"I hope such courses will help us better communicate and understand each other in the future," he said. — MNA/Xinhua



A robot plays Chinese chess with an engineer at the China (Taipei) International Invention Show & Technomary on 31 Aug, 2006. XINHUA

ထုတ်ကုန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ခြင်း



Artists from China and countries of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) take part in the opening ceremony of the 8th Asia Arts Festival in Beijing, capital of China, on 31 Aug, 2006.—XINHUA

US Democrats rebuke Rumsfeld for remarks on war critics

WASHINGTON, 1 Sept — US Democrats rebuked Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on Wednesday for likening critics of the Iraq war to appeasement with Nazis during World War II.

In a speech on Tuesday at the national convention of the American Legion, a veterans' group, in Salt Lake City, Utah, Rumsfeld said critics of the Iraq war suffered from "moral or intellectual confusion" about what threatened the nation's security.

He cited "lessons" of history, including the fail-

ure to confront Hitler in the 1930s, and recalled a string of recent terrorist attacks, saying that terrorists must be confronted, not appeased.

"I recount this history because once again we face similar challenges in efforts to confront the rising threat of a new type of fascism," he said.

"It's clear that if anyone's confused about what's happening in Iraq, it's Rumsfeld," the Democratic Party struck back in a statement posted on its website.

Representative Ike Skelton, the top Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee, said it was a "dangerous business to accuse those who disagree with you of moral and intellectual confusion".

"Debate in our democracy is based upon respect,

not vilification," he said.

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi said that if Rumsfeld was so concerned with comparisons to World War II, he

should explain why US troops had been fighting in Iraq longer than it took American forces to defeat the Nazis in Europe.

MNA/Xinhua



Singer Shakira performs with dancers at the 2006 MTV Video Music Awards in New York, on 31 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

Hollywood films 'worshipping war'

LONDON, 1 Sept—Director Oliver Stone has accused the Hollywood film industry of promoting the idea of the US at war.

He singled out Pearl Harbor and Black Hawk Down as films that "worshipped the machinery of war".

Stone was speaking at the Venice Film Festival, where his latest film World Trade Center will be screened.

Starring Nicolas Cage, it tells the story of two policemen who were pulled from the rubble of the Twin Towers after the 11 September 2001 attacks.

The two officers, Will Jimeno and John McLoughlin, joined Stone in Venice along with their two wives.

Speaking at a press conference ahead of the screening, Stone said violence is a "cultural

problem" for the US.

He said the late 1990s onwards saw a return of cinema which celebrated the idea of war - unlike his Vietnam films, Platoon, and Born on the Fourth of July.

"We watched movies that promoted the concept of war, that promoted shock and awe," Stone said.

"Pearl Harbor and Black Hawk Down—these movies worshipped the machinery of war and I think America went back to the concept of war too easily.

"I have reasons to be depressed as a Vietnam veteran, and I can say many Vietnam veterans are depressed about why we are in Iraq."—Internet



Director Oliver Stone (L) receives a helmet from an Italian firefighter as he arrives at the Cinema Palace in Venice on 1 Sept, 2006. Stone's latest movie "World Trade Center" is showing at the Venice film festival. INTERNET

Three killed as building collapses in Pakistan

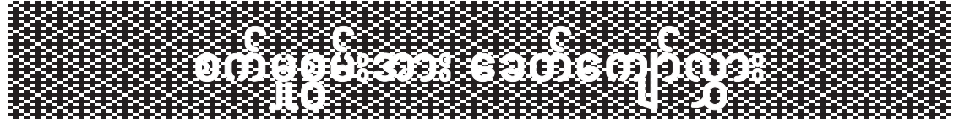
ISLAMABAD, 1 Sept — A nine-storey building damaged in an earthquake in Pakistan last year collapsed on Thursday, killing at least three people, police said.

The apartment block in the northern hill town of Murree collapsed at around 3 am (2200 GMT). Police initially said up to 15 people were believed trapped in the rubble but later said five people, including the owner and his family, were inside.

"We've recovered three dead bodies including that of the owner, his wife and son," said police official Sajid Kiyani. A guard was also believed to be in the rubble. The owner's daughter was pulled out alive. She had made a phone call for help while trapped in the ruins, he said. Last year's earthquake killed about 73,000 people in northern Pakistan and destroyed and damaged buildings across the region. —MNA/Reuters



Members of a circus group perform during Chilean Circus Day celebrations in front of the Government Palace in Santiago on 1 Sept, 2006.—INTERNET



Ahmadinejad vows not to yield to pressure

TEHERAN, 1 Sept — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad vowed not to yield to pressure or accept violation of its rights in a televised speech Thursday, the UN deadline for the country to suspend uranium enrichment work.

Iran would not back down an “inch” in the face of “intimidation”, Ahmadinejad said in a speech to a large crowd in Orumiye, the provincial capital of West Azarbaijan Province.

He stressed that the West “should know that Iranian nation will not yield to pressure and will not accept any violation of its rights”.

Ahmadinejad also criticized the country’s

“enemies” of trying to stir up division inside the Iranian people, saying “the Iranian nation is united and you (enemies) are wrong”.

Meanwhile, he deprecated the White House for its rejection earlier this week of his offer to hold a live televised debate with US President George W Bush, saying they said they support dialogue and the free flow of information, but they opposed a proposed debate.

The UN Security Council adopted a resolution late July, urging Teheran to suspend by 31 August all enrichment-related and reprocessing activities, including re-search and development, or face prospect of sanctions.

MNA/Xinhua

Provider axes credit card cheques

LONDON, 1 Sept—One of the country’s biggest credit card providers has said it will no longer issue credit card cheques following a trial suspension earlier in the year.

RBS, which also issues cards under its NatWest brand, said research among its customers suggested they didn’t see any value in the cheques and that from 1 October it would no longer honour those still in circulation.

“We temporarily suspended the cheques at the beginning of the year and that is now a permanent decision,” said a spokeswoman for the bank. “The demand just wasn’t there for them.”

Credit card cheques allow customers to draw funds against an existing credit card account and are marketed by banks as an alternative way to pay in circumstances where credit cards are not accepted.

But the cheques, and the practice of sending them out to customers who have not requested them, which is used by many providers, have come under fire from consumer groups.

Internet



Singer and actress Jennifer Lopez (R) poses for photographers as her husband singer Marc Anthony (L) watches as they arrive at the 2006 MTV Video Music Awards in New York on 31 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Singapore receives over 900,000 foreign tourists in July

SINGAPORE, 1 Sept — Singapore received 913,000 foreign tourists in July this year, a record high for monthly tourist arrivals in the history of the state’s tourism industry.

According to a statement by the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) on Thursday, in the first half of this year, Singapore welcomed 4.7 million foreign tourists, up 11.8 per cent over the same period last year.

The STB, which set annual targets for this year’s foreign tourist arrivals at 9.4 million and tourism receipts at 12 billion Singapore dollars (about 7.6

billion US dollars), is confident that the foreign tourist arrival targets will be met, due to potentially higher tourist arrivals in the school holiday months of July, August and December and the Singapore 2006 meetings in September, which include the International Monetary Fund and World Bank Group Boards of Governors Annual Meetings.

Last year, Singapore received 8.9 million foreign tourists, most of them came from the countries such as Indonesia, China and Malaysia.

MNA/Xinhua

US Airways plane evacuated in Miami after fire

MIAMI, 1 Sept — Passengers on a US Airways Boeing 737 were evacuated down slides on Thursday after their aircraft’s landing gear caught fire as it landed at Miami International Airport on a flight from Charlotte, North Carolina, officials said.

They said no one was hurt.

“The crew reported smoke and fire from the left main landing gear,”

a spokeswoman for the Federal Aviation Administration said.

US Airways said Flight 431 carried 113 passengers and five crew.

The fire was extinguished, a Miami-Dade fire service spokesman told Miami’s WSVN television, adding that flames anywhere near a fuelled aircraft were always a big concern.

MNA/Reuters



A United Airlines passenger jet sits on the tarmac after landing at Miami International Airport on 31 Aug, 2006.

INTERNET

A model showcases a creation by Indian designer Gaurav Gupta during the third day of India Fashion Week in New Delhi, capital of India, on 1 Sept, 2006.

XINHUA



Cambodia, Laos to boost bilateral trade, economic ties

PHNOM PENH, 1 Sept — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen on Thursday held talks with visiting Lao Prime Minister Bouasone Bouphavanh. Both leaders agreed to further strengthen their cooperation in the fields of politics, economy, trade, culture and tourism.

During the meeting, the two premiers briefed each other on political and economic situations in their respective countries.

Bouasone Bouphavanh spoke highly of the progress achieved by the Cambodian Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Hun Sen.

He expressed hope to further strengthen the mutually beneficial

cooperation between the two countries.

Moreover, both leaders expressed their confidence that the remaining issues of border demarcation between the two countries will be finished soon, and determined to make their common border a peace and friendship one in order to benefit the two countries and two peoples.

Hun Sen called on the

two countries to boost cooperation in preventing the spread of bird flu as well as in combating crimes such as forestry and environment destruction along their common borders. The two premiers also agreed to open flights between Cambodia's Siem Reap and Lao's Luang Prabang as early as possible in an effort to promote tourism. — MNA/Xinhua



Dancers perform during Independence Day celebration in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on 31 Aug, 2006. — XINHUA

Canadian pilot locked out of cockpit during flight

OTTAWA, 1 Sept — The pilot of a Canadian airliner who went to the washroom during a flight found himself locked out of the cockpit, forcing the crew to remove the door from its hinges to let him back in, the airline said on Wednesday.

The incident occurred aboard a flight from Ottawa to Winnipeg on Saturday. The regional jet, capable of carrying 50 people, was operated by Air Canada's Jazz subsidiary.

Jazz spokeswoman Manon Stewart said that with 30 minutes of the flight to go, the pilot went to the washroom, leaving the first officer in charge. But when he tried to get back into the cockpit, the door would not open.

"The door malfunctioned ... this is a very rare occurrence," Stewart said, adding that the crew's decision to remove the door had been in line with company policy.

A report in the *Ottawa Citizen* newspaper said that for about 10 minutes "passengers described seeing the pilot bang on the door and communicating with the cockpit though an internal telephone, but being unable to open the door". Stewart said the

paper's report was "a bit dramatic" and stressed that at no time had the plane or passengers been in danger. She did not say how many people had been on board. Air Canada is a unit of ACE Aviation Holdings Inc.

MNA/Reuters

Bomb scare stops traffic near US base in Netherlands

AMSTERDAM, 1 Sept — A major road and railway in the south of the Netherlands were closed off briefly on Wednesday after a bomb scare at a US military base, Dutch officials said.

"It was a false alarm," said a military police spokesman. A bomb squad was called in after a suspicious package was found underneath a truck at the entrance to the base at Schinnen which provides logistics and support for the US military.

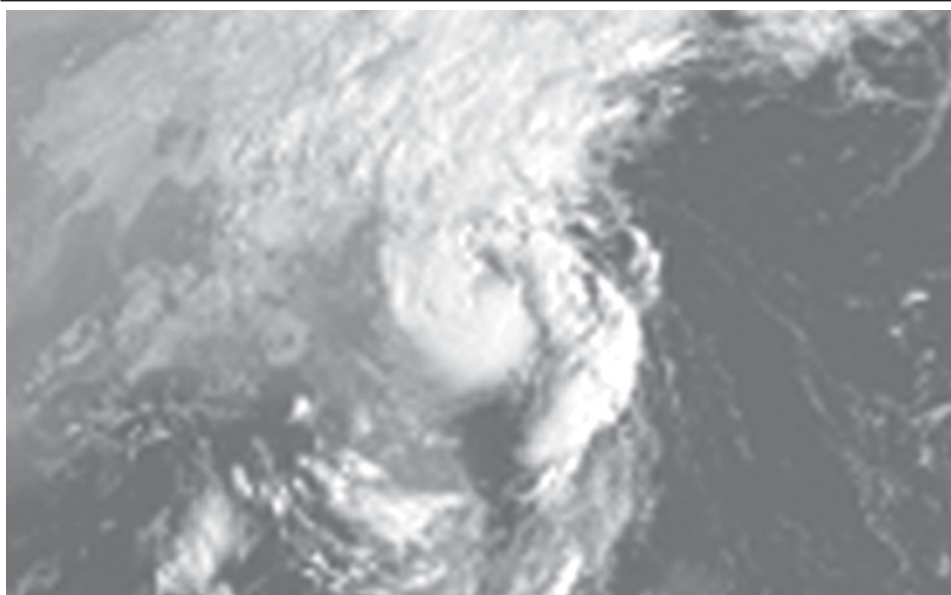
Transport and security

officials have been on heightened alert after this week's bomb blasts in Turkey, and after British police said earlier this month they foiled a plot to blow up planes over the Atlantic using liquid explosives.

"We took precautions and stopped traffic on the motorway for one hour," said Peter Tans, a spokesman for the local police. A major highway nearby connects Germany and Belgium through the southern part of the Netherlands. — MNA/Reuters

Snow leopard cub Gul'cha, born on 8 July, 2006, gets the first prophylactic vaccination of its life at Zurich Zoo, on 31 Aug, 2006.

INTERNET



US factory orders decline 0.6% in July

WASHINGTON, 1 Sept — New orders for US manufactured goods decreased 0.6 per cent in July, following two consecutive monthly gains, the Commerce Department reported Thursday. The drop came after factory orders rose by 1.5 per cent in June but was slightly better than the 0.8 per cent decline expected by analysts.

In July, new orders for durable goods, big-ticket items expected to last at least three years, fell by 2.5 per cent, compared with an increase of 3.3 per cent in June. Durable goods orders make up a little more than half of total factory orders. But demand for nondurable goods increased 1.6 per cent in July.

Shipments of durable goods dropped 1.3 per cent in July, following a 0.2 per cent gain in the previous

month. Nondurable goods shipments advanced 1.6 per cent. Factory shipments are considered a good indication of current demand. — MNA/Xinhua

Tropical Storm Ernesto hit North Carolina near hurricane strength on 31 Aug, 2006, dumping heavy rain on both Carolina states and forecasters warned it could trigger life-threatening floods and tornadoes. — XINHUA

Red Cross worker killed in Darfur after abduction

GENEVA, 1 Sept — A Sudanese national working for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), who was abducted in Sudan's Darfur Region by an armed group two weeks ago, is dead, the humanitarian agency said on Wednesday.

The Swiss-based agency said that it had not yet recovered the body of the 31-year-old man, who was not named, nor had it any details of how he was killed.

He was the first ICRC staff member to die in Darfur, where tens of thousands of people have been killed and 2.5 million forced from their homes since a revolt began in early

2003. "The ICRC is shocked by his death, which comes amid a deterioration in security conditions in Darfur that has claimed

the lives of other humanitarian workers in recent weeks," the agency said in a statement.

MNA/Reuters



Arrests made as protesters target British power plant

SELBY (England), 1 Sept— Four people were arrested at Britain's biggest power station, the Drax plant in northern England, a police spokesman said, as some 600 protesters gathered for an environmental demonstration on Thursday.

The Camp for Climate Action group which organized the event said nine protesters were also inside the plant. The group's aim is to invade the station and force it to close. Drax Power, which generates about 7 per cent of Britain's electricity, has hired extra security staff and police have been drafted into the area.

A Reuters photographer

said small scuffles had already broken out between police and protesters.

He said many children were present, mingling with demonstrators who had painted their faces and were carrying a banner reading "You Must Be Choking".

A spokesman for North Yorkshire Police said the mood was "so far so good"

but that he could not predict what would happen later.

One protester, 28-year-old Michelle Bernstein, said they were determined to make a difference.

"Many of us are prepared to break the law, because the powers-that-be are addicted to planet-trashing economic growth," she said. "Shutting down a power station isn't enough to stop

climate change but it's a start."

A spokeswoman for the plant said they had increased security for the day and expected business to operate as usual.

"If we had to shut down the plant, this could destabilize the grid and cause localized blackouts," she said.

Coal-fired Drax, at Selby in Yorkshire, is the Britain's biggest single industrial emitter of carbon dioxide (CO2), the main greenhouse linked to global warming and climate change.

Drax's carbon dioxide emissions in 2005, at 20.8 million tons, were higher for example than Sweden's 19.3 million tons.

MNA/Reuters



The new Japanese music robot Miuro, designed to turn an iPod music player into a scuttling boombox-on-wheels, is shown during a Press conference in Tokyo on 31 Aug, 2006. Equipped with speaker systems developed with Japanese audio-maker Kenwood Corp, the 35-centimeter (14-inch) long machine, which looks like a ball popping out of an egg, from Tokyo-based venture ZMP Inc will roll and twist from room to room blaring music. Apple Computer Inc's iPod portable player locks into the top of the 108,800 yen (US\$ 930; euro 725) robot.—XINHUA



Workers clean a single seater three-wheeler car designed as a camera during a photo-exhibition in the southern Indian city of Hyderabad on 1 Sept, 2006.—INTERNET

China, Russia pledge more media exchanges amid warm relations

BELJING, 1 Sept — More than 50 Chinese and Russian media groups gathered in Beijing on Thursday to discuss closer cooperation and exchanges.

"Since Sino-Russian relations have entered a new phase of development, and the media from

the two countries need to work together to provide an information bridge between the two peoples," said Chinese Vice Premier Wu Yi in a congratulatory message at a media seminar.

Wu, who chairs a friendship programme of the "Year of Russia" and "Year of China", believed the media could help increase mutual understanding between the peoples of China and Russia.

The Year of Russia, which is being held in China, has staged more than 130 activities. The Year of China in Russia will take place in 2007.

Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Dmitri Medvedev said in a letter that the media is irreplaceable in increasing understanding and trust between Russia and China.

The two-day seminar, co-sponsored by Xinhua news agency and Russian Information Agency, is an important part of the Year of Russia in China and will centre on how to fulfil media's responsibility.

Ma Shengrong, vice president of Xinhua, said information exchanges among the media could contribute to friendly cooperation between China and Russia, and the seminar added another platform for cooperation.

MNA/Xinhua

Death toll in Baghdad bombing rises to 43

BAGHDAD, 1 Sept — The death toll in a series of bombings, including one at a popular market, in eastern Baghdad on Thursday rose to 43, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua.

A total of 160 people were wounded in the attacks.

A car bomb ripped through a market in al-Ameen District in eastern Baghdad shortly after 7:00 pm (1500 GMT), the source said on condition of anonymity, adding several shops and cars were also damaged.

Within minutes, another car bomb hit al-Baladeat District and two mortar rounds hit buildings in al-Qahera District, the source said, adding a roadside bomb detonated in another neighbourhood in eastern Baghdad.— MNA/Xinhua

Body of Iraqi judge found north of Baghdad

TIKRIT (Iraq), 1 Sept — Iraqi police found the body of a Tikrit court judge who disappeared four days ago north of the capital Baghdad, a local police source told Xinhua on Thursday. "Our patrols found the body of Turkey al-Dulaimi, judge of Tikrit court, in a street near Samarra, some 120 kilometres north of Baghdad," the source said on condition of anonymity.

Four days ago, Dulaimi left Tikrit, the capital of Salahudin Province, after being transferred from Tikrit court to a court in Abu Ghraib, just west of Baghdad, the source said.— MNA/Xinhua

Locomotive falls into river in N Thailand

BANGKOK, 1 Sept — The locomotive of a passenger train fell into the Yong River after the train derailed and crashed into a mountain in Thai northern province of Phrae on Thursday night, a local source told Xinhua.

The accident occurred at about 8:00 pm local time (1300 GMT). The casualties could not be immediately known, the source said.

The driver of the train was missing after the accident, the source said.

The train was operating between Bangkok and northern province of Chiang Mai. Thai railway authority has confirmed the accident and an official told Thai Radio FM100 that the heavy rain in the area may be the cause of the accident.

The rescue operation has been delayed because of the bad weather, the official said. Railway authority in Bangkok said the train service from Bangkok to Chiang Mai, which passes Phrae, has been closed temporarily.

MNA/Xinhua



A monkey is seen as it arrives with the music group Fall Out Boy at the 2006 MTV Video Music Awards in New York on 31 Aug, 2006.

INTERNET

Distinct and unique features of Myanmar performing arts

Aung Than Tun (Monywa)

No country in the world and Southeast Asia except Myanmar has staged the Performing Arts Competitions of their Fine Arts regularly and annually. It is a great honour and pride we, Myanmar people are able to hold such competitions annually that we have reached the 14th consecutive year with flourishing and amazing success.

Our fine arts is the peerless and matchless Myanmar cultural heritage, that has come down to us from our forefathers from time immemorial, scrupulously and carefully preserved, embellished and improvised to attain great heights for thousands of years. There is a concrete evidence that our fine arts is of very high standards even in the Pyu Period gleaned from the contemporary Chinese records and artifacts excavated in the ancient Pyu cities.

In the year 802 AD, a Nanchao Diplomatic Mission was deputed to the Court of China at *Hsi-an-Fu*, including a Pyu cultural troupe. The said Pyu cultural troupe executed a fine performance with grace, charm and elegance. The Chinese Emperor was much delighted and pleased.

Since that time, Pyus were using 22 kinds of musical instruments producing 8 kinds of sounds. They had 12 songs based on the religious themes. Pyu artistes wore red garments and wrapped thin cotton shawls from shoulder to arm-pit. They wore gold bracelets decorated and adorned with gems and precious stones, links and gold head-gears, ornamented with little golden bells. Their hair was adorned with fragrant flowers.

We, Myanmar have *Duriyar-Nga-Par* (Five Kinds of Musical Instruments), viz, Brass (*Kyay*), String (*Kyo*), Leather (*Thayay*), Wind (*Lei*) and Clappers, (*Let-Khup*).

1. Brass Instruments: Thanlwin, Kyay-Naung, Kyay Pattala (Xylophone) See-Skup, Na-Yee, Nyin, Moug (Gong), Kye-Si (Triangular gong)
2. String Instruments: Harp, Mi-Chaung, Aung, Ta-Yaw (Violin)
3. Leather Instruments: Saing (Drum Circle), Ou-zi, Doe-bat, Byaw, Bone-Gyi, Bone-

Shay, Bone-To, See-Skup, Sa-Kunt

4. Wind Instruments: Hne (Oboe), Palwe (Flute), Kha-Yu-Thin, Ka-Doe, Kha-Yar
5. Clappers: wooden gong or bamboo for timing

Of these Myanmar musical instruments, to play the drum circle, harp and Hne (oboe) is rather difficult. Just imagine, how difficult it would be to play a circle of drums strung around to produce sweet and melodious sound. It is, in fact, the Myanmar orchestra, composed of drum circle, Hne (oboe), Pat-Ma (Big Drum), Sa-Khunt, Brass gongs circle, Moug-Saing (gong circle), Chauk-Lone Pat (six drums), See (little brass cymbals) and Lin-Kwin (Brass cymbals).

Myanmar Saing-waing had a complete ensemble during the reign of King Bagyidaw (1819-1837) in sets of 3 1/2 feet highest and 2 1/2 feet longest being tied together in the shape of a circle, arranged in a descending order in size and musical scale. There are 21 drums hung around. When this Myanmar Saing-waing is in play, all the said instruments performed in their respective role in harmony. When a virtuoso like Nay-Myo-Bala-Kyaw-Thu Sein Beda, Alinka Kyaw Swa U Ba Maung and Wunna Kyaw Htin U Han Pa were in action, just see how they managed to produce soft, sweet and melodious tone, hitting the drums with two hands, turning and swinging in harmony with other members of his ensemble.

U Khin Zaw (K) the doyen of Myanmar Music graphically described Sein Beda's performance in the following words:-

"It was 30 years ago in the pandal of the donor of alms in Mandalay, the music he and his orchestra brought forth, heard when the present writer was a school boy, remains in my memory to this day."

I have had a similar experience when I was a young high school student in Monywa in WW II.

It is learnt that there are about records of his orchestral music. We do not know how many remain. One of his best known Byaw Music is, "Mingala Byaw Nyunt." It is the best of its kind. It runs:-

"Pandal in mid-town, communal alms-giving

Old, old monastery with balustrade in ruins
Since our novice lives there, abundant rains!
As I walk east and gaze west over my
shoulder

I see the pagoda with its gold banner and
streamers.

That's where my darling is, the reverend
novice

How lovely is the entrance leading to it
The Gold Enlightened Monastery.'

We have already seen very young boys and girls dexterously playing and winning gold medals at the annual performing arts competitions. If not for this competitions, there could not be young up-and-coming maestros and virtuosoes — young masters of Myanmar Saing-waing. One day, there would be another Sein Beda in the offing.

Myanmar Harp is another musical instrument very difficult to play, not to say of mastering the instrument. Myanmar Saung (Harp) has already been in use since pre-Pyu and Bagan periods. Figures of Saung instruments are found in the famous Ananda Temple. It is not only graceful in its form, the sound produced is also sweet, soft, soothing and pleasing.

Myanmar Hne (oboe) is the lead instrument in the Myanmar Saing-waing. It is the Maid of All and the Princess of Articulation. It has been remarked that, "A good oboe (hne) sounds like a violin". Myanmar Hne (oboe) still plays an important part in modern Myanmar music. It has been a star performer since the old days under Myanmar Kings, colonial British period, age of Silent Films, later Modern Myanmar Music Ti-Waings (Musical troupes or associations).

Myanmar Rama Yana is also of very high standard and quality, the portrayal is graceful and elegant; invoking pathos and emotions and at the same time, giving priceless lessons on morality, virtue, loving-kindness, honesty and integrity and the goodness over evil.

Thus, Our Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions have a multi-purpose objective, geared towards sound national and cultural motives to vitalize patriotism and nationalism; preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage; perpetuate genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts; preserve Myanmar national character; nurture spiritual development of the youth; prevent the influence of alien culture; and strengthen national, unity and Union Spirit.

After all, Myanmar Fine Arts is fully blessed with justice, integrity, straightforwardness or honesty or probity, sympathy, loving-kindness and equanimity, fear and shame to commit evil deeds and actions, and four essential and cardinal virtues, (Brahma-Vihara Taras) that have been deep-rooted and profoundly attached to our Myanmar Society since time immemorial.

Our Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions have a multi-purpose objective, geared towards sound national and cultural motives to vitalize patriotism and nationalism; preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage; perpetuate genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts; preserve Myanmar national character; nurture spiritual development of the youth; prevent the influence of alien culture; and strengthen national, unity and Union Spirit.



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.
MNA



Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung.
MNA



Chief Justice U Aung Toe.
MNA

National Convention will be reconvened in second week of October 2006

(from page 1)

Speaking at the meeting, the Secretary-1 said the National Convention Convening Commission, Work Committee and Management Committee have been making preparations for

democracy to be practised in the future are of utmost importance. Besides, the emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens. Therefore, all the responsible officials are required to do the task till successful completion.

the government. That is why the National Convention is none other than an august forum which will help decide and discuss the future of the State with the participation of more than 1,000 delegates.

He said the

there are sound foundations will the enduring democratic state stand tall among the nations of the world.

He said that is why the government is building the nation taking time. The National Convention has been held for three

October 2006.

Detailed basic principles on communications between the Hluttaws, the Tatmadaw sector and fundamental rights and responsibilities of citizens discussed at the previous National Convention are to be laid down at the forthcoming National Convention. The delegates would discuss the headings of the respective chapters, he added.

He also called on members of the respective committees to make arrangements for invitations, accommodation, transport, security, health and welfare of the delegates.

Next, Secretary of the National Convention Convening Commission Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan reported on arrangements

for invitations, observers and local and foreign correspondents.

Chairman of the National Convention Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Chairman of Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung reported on work done for the National Convention by various committees.

Members of the NCCC, Work Committee and Management Committee took part in the discussions.

Next, members of the NCCC put suggestions on the proposals submitted by the Work Committee. The Secretary-1 took part in the discussions and the meeting came to a close with the concluding remark by the Secretary-1.

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The convening of the National Convention and the constitution that will be in conformity with a democracy to be practised in the future are of utmost importance. Besides, the emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens. Therefore, all the responsible officials are required to do the task till successful completion.

reconvening the National Convention at weekly regular meetings. And now the arrangements are all in place for reconvening the National Convention. The Tatmadaw government has already laid down the seven-point road map of the State to transform the nation into a discipline-flourishing democratic one. To do so, the convening of the National Convention and the constitution that will be in conformity with a

The Secretary-1 said the delegates representing the National Convention are divided into eight groups coming from various backgrounds. Particularly, the delegate group of national races is the largest in number representing various states/divisions, districts and townships. Included in the group of other invited guests are some national race leaders who have returned to the legal fold after rising against

government is implementing the policies laid down. At the same time it is making concerted efforts day and night for fulfilling the basic requirements for the emergence of a democratic state such as the state security, peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order, strong economy, development of human resources including the tasks to turn out intellectuals and intelligentsia. Only when

times since May 2004. The fourth National Convention will be held in the second week of

The National Convention is none other than an august forum which will help decide and discuss the future of the State with the participation of more than 1,000 delegates.

Locals urged to extend cultivation ...

(from page 16)

Lt-Gen Ye Myint accepted K 60 million donated by a wellwisher and presented a certificate of honour to her. Next, he inspected progress of construction tasks.

At the office of Mogok Township PDC, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people.

Chairman of the Township PDC reported on development tasks in the township, and departmental offi-



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence inspects construction of People's Hospital (100-bed) in Mogok. — MNA

cial, on their respective sectors.

The commander gave a supplementary report.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Ye Myint stressed the need to reclaim farmlands for

cultivation of crops to ensure local food sufficiency in the township and to grow quality paddy strains. In addition, cultivation of perennial crops such as rubber, teak, tea and coffee are to be ex-

tended. Physical plants are to be grown on vacant and virgin

lands. And, emphasis is to be placed on carrying out of agriculture

and livestock breeding tasks in addition to gem mining works. — MNA

Commander attends conclusion of ploughing for cultivation of monsoon paddy in Pyinmana District

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Sept — A ceremony to conclude ploughing for cultivation of monsoon paddy in Pyinmana District for 2006-07 was held in conjunction with the paddy transplanting contest at plot No 1607 of farmer U Myint Aye at the junction of Pinlaung-Ywadow Road in Thittat Village-tract in Pyinmana Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, senior military officers, departmental officials and members of social organizations.

First, the commander explained extension of cultivation tasks and efforts to be made for meeting the per-acre yield target of crops.

Next, Pyinmana, Lewe and Tatkon Township PDC Chairmen presented reports on conclusion of ploughing for cultivation to Acting Chairman of Pyinmana District Peace

and Development Council U Khin Maung Zaw.

Later, the commander and party viewed participation of members of Union Solidarity and Development Association of Pyinmana, Lewe and Tatkon Townships and Pyinmana District in the paddy transplanting contest.

The commander and party visited the booths of Myanma Awba Co Ltd, Fisheries Department and Agricultural Mechanization Department.

Acting Chairman of Pyinmana District PDC U Khin Maung Zaw and officials presented prizes to winners in the paddy transplanting contest and direct seeding contest.

The acting chairman of the District PDC presented paintings to local station commander Lt-Col Aung Naing and U Nay Win of Myanma Awba Co Ltd who donated K 1 million, and Manager U Hmat Gyi of District Myanma Agriculture Service. — MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence accepts cash donation to construction of People's Hospital (100-bed) from a wellwisher. — MNA

Health facilities in Ahlon, Mingaladon, North Okkalapa Townships inspected

YANGON, 2 Sept — Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo yesterday morning inspected functions of Worksite Health Unit on Lower Kyimyindine Road in Ahlon Township and gave necessary instructions.

In the afternoon, the deputy minister also inspected the bacteria unit and laboratories at Public Health Laboratory Division.

Next, the deputy minister looked into tasks of the Food and Drug Administration,

and met officials and personnel of the department.

Accompanied by officials of Health Department and Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar), the deputy minister inspected renovation of the buildings at the station hospital in Mingaladon Township.

In North Okkalapa Township, the deputy minister heard reports on management and treatment presented by Specialist Prof U Htin Aung Saw at the Specialist Hospital

(Waibagi).

MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin views the paddy transplanting contest in Pyinmana District. — MNA

A&I Minister inspects Plant Biotechnology Laboratory, plantations in Hmawby

YANGON, 2 Sept — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo accompanied by officials inspected Plant Biotechnology Laboratory of Myanmar Agriculture Service under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and plantations at Yangon Division Vegetable Cultivation and Poultry Farming Special Zone in Hmawby Township this morning.

The minister heard reports on hybridizing new paddy species and targeted per acre yield by officials and met with agriculturists at the laboratory.

The minister oversaw plant propagation of herbal orchid with the use of tissue



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects a plant biotechnology laboratory.

MNA

culture method and heard reports on the plan to distribute herbal orchid saplings.

The minister gave instructions on conducting market survey and production of the

saplings to meet the target.

The minister also viewed physic nut plant propagation with the use of tissue culture method.

Later, the minister and party inspected test

of engine oil extracted from physic nut at the laboratories in Kyaikalot Agricultural Mechanization Department in Mingaladon Township and attended to the needs.— MNA

Screening of film “Hmyaw-Lint-Chin-Myaswa” begins

YANGON, 2 Sept — The new film namely “Hmyaw-Lint-Chin-Myaswa” jointly produced by Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and UN Fund for Population Activities has begun screening in the cinemas in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay as of 18 August. MMCWA has donated the film to the State.

The film started its screening in the Thamada cinema in Yangon this afternoon.



The film stars who took part in the film offered their signatures to mark

the first screening of the film and presented gifts to the audience. — MNA

The film stars who starred in the film “Hmyaw-Lint-Chin-Myaswa” present gifts to the audience.

MNA



A responsible person gives demonstration of fire prevention measures. — MNA

Documentary on biography of The Venerable Ledi Sayadaw to be telecast

YANGON, 2 Sept — As of 4th September, the documentary on the biography of The Venerable Ledi Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Ashin Nanadhaja will be telecast on Myawaday TV after the evening National News programme daily except Sundays.

In the documentary, the contributions of the Venerable Ledi Sayadaw to the Sasana are featured.

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Vice-Mayor inspects tax-free markets in Yangon City

YANGON, 2 Sept — Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, the Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee and officials inspected the tax-free markets in Tamway, Yankin and Kamayut Townships this morning.

The vice-mayor also observed sales of vegetable, meats, rice and edible oil and household goods at the markets and called upon the officials to supervise the sales at the markets. — MNA

Miss Royal Gold Beauty Soap contest held



Miss Royal Gold Beauty Soap (2006) contest and Lucky Draw programme being held at Excel Treasure Tower. — MNA

YANGON, 2 Sept — Excel Co Ltd organized the first round of the Miss Royal gold Beauty Soap (2006) in conjunction with the lucky draw programmes for customers at Excel Treasure Tower on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Bahan Township this evening.

The second round of the Miss Royal gold Beauty Soap (2006) will be held on 16 September and the last round on 30 September.

The duration for the lucky draw programme will last from 1 September to 22 October. Customers at Excel Shopping Mall will have the opportunities to take part in the lucky draw programme worth K 15 million. — MNA

Fire prevention demonstrated

YANGON, 2 Sept — The educative talks and demonstration on putting out fire was held at Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Office Tower at 29 on Minye Kyawswa Road in Lanmadaw Township on 31 August.

President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint and Head of Yangon Division Fire Services Department U Aung Kyaw Myint gave

speeches.

Assistant Director U Kyaw Min of FSD and District FSD Officer U Zaw Win gave lectures on rescue operation at high-rise housing and fire prevention. Managing Director U Kyaw Min Oo of Myanmar Thiha Service Co Ltd demonstrated use of fire extinguisher.

Later, employees of the federation participated in the demonstration to put out the fire.

MNA



Tourists ride camels at the foot of the Mingsha Hill in Dunhuang, northwest China's Gansu Province, on 31 Aug, 2006. Consisting of a group of sand dunes, the Mingsha Hill is famous for its desert scenery and the mysterious sound made by wind blowing over its surface. — XINHUA

Study shows HK most competitive financial centre in Asia

HONG KONG, 2 Sept — Hong Kong takes the lead in Asia in most factors which are considered as important to a financial centre, said the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) of Hong Kong on Thursday.

"Hong Kong has a critical mass of expertise in the financial services and related professional sectors," said the agency in a study conducted for the corporation of London.

"Its regulatory framework is sound and of international standards, and it also has a responsive government," it said.

As the freest economy

in the world, Hong Kong has ready access to international financial markets and customers, the study said, adding that the business infrastructure is advanced and sophisticated, and the business environment open and competitive.

In addition, tax rates in Hong Kong are very low and the tax system is simple and efficient.

Moreover, these factors ensure that market forces work well, according to the study.

"Nevertheless, there is no room for complacency. Globalization is levelling the playing field," said the study, noting that other markets in the region are striving to become more significant players in the region.

MNA/Xinhua

Launch of Russia's "Soyuz" craft delayed to 18 September

Moscow, 2 Sept — Russian space officials decided on Thursday to delay the launch of a Soyuz spaceship to the International Space Station (ISS) to 18 September, four days later than its original blast off date.

The decision on the launch date was made at a meeting of senior officials of the Federal Space Agency (Roscosmos), agency spokesman Igor Panarin said, according to an *Interfax* news agency report.

The *Soyuz* craft will send a new crew — Russian cosmonaut Mikhail Tyurin and US astronaut Michael Lopez-Alegria — to the ISS and carry the world's first female space tourist, Iranian-born American Anousheh Ansari, for a 10-day trip to the orbiting lab.

The ship was originally set to lift off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on 14 September. *Interfax* earlier quoted Panarin as saying that the *Soyuz*' launch date depended on the liftoff date of the US space shuttle *Atlantis*.

"The Americans have promised that the undocking (of the shuttle) will definitely be done before 17 September. They will clear the ISS portal for us and we will be able to launch the *Soyuz*," Roscosmos head Anatoly Perminov was quoted as saying after the meeting.

The 18 September launch date followed repeated delays of *Atlantis* due to severe weather at the launch site. No new launch date has been set for *Atlantis*, but

NASA wants to fly the shuttle by 7 September.

The unfinished space station depends on US shuttles to bring large equipment for further construction, but NASA grounded the shuttle fleet for more than two years following the *Columbia* shuttle disaster, which killed seven astronauts onboard in February 2003.

MNA/Xinhua



Thai artists perform folk dancing during the opening ceremony of the 8th Asia Arts Festival in Beijing, capital of China, on 31 Aug, 2006. — XINHUA

India to search for Helium-3 on moon's surface

MUMBAI, 2 Sept — India's ambitious lunar mission *Chandrayaan* will search the moon's surface for deposits of Helium-3, which can be used to power future nuclear reactors, a top scientific official said here.

"It's quite possible (to extract Helium-3 from the moon)," said Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) Chairman Madhavan Nair, adding that the regions that hold the inert gas on the lunar surface need to be found.

"The quantity of Helium-3 is also very important as it will determine the economics before we exploit it," he said while speaking at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre here.

Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) Chairman Anil Kakodkar, who was also present, said, "Our energy requirements are increasing by the day and for how long will we be dependent on terrestrial fuels? We have to look at external sources."

Kakodkar said Helium-3 would be very useful for nuclear fission purposes. There are minuscule deposits of Helium-3 on the earth but the moon is believed to have abundant reserves of the element.

Instruments for *Chandrayaan*, which is scheduled for launch in 2007, are being built now and preliminary tests are also going on, Nair said.

MNA/PTI

Armed man enters British Embassy car park in Tel Aviv

JERUSALEM, 2 Sept — An armed man identified by Israeli media as a Palestinian informer shunned by his former handlers and his own people broke into the British Embassy's car park in Tel Aviv on Thursday demanding asylum in Britain.

No hostages were taken and no shots fired as Israeli security forces surrounded the car park and snipers took up positions.

"We are attempting to solve the situation peacefully and calmly. There has been no initial danger to any of the individuals working inside the embassy," police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said.

"We know the individual. He's seeking asy-

lum through the British Embassy ... and is armed with a pistol," Rosenfeld said.

Israeli media said the man was threatening to kill himself. They identified him as a Palestinian from the West Bank who worked briefly as an informer for Israel's Shin Bet intelligence agency and has been living illegally in the Jewish state.

MNA/Reuters



An armed man stands beside vehicles at the British Embassy car park in Tel Aviv on 31 Aug, 2006. — INTERNET

HK Customs seize 45 kilos of cannabis

HONG KONG, 2 Sept — Hong Kong Customs have netted the largest cannabis haul in a drug-trafficking case recently at the Hong Kong International Airport, seizing 45 kilos of suspected marijuana valued at about three million HK dollars (384,615 US dollars) from two South African women, the Customs said on Thursday.

At 8:40 am local time on Tuesday, the Customs officers stopped a 32-year-old South African woman arriving from Johannesburg at the arrival hall and found 25 kilos of suspected marijuana in her luggage.

MNA/Xinhua

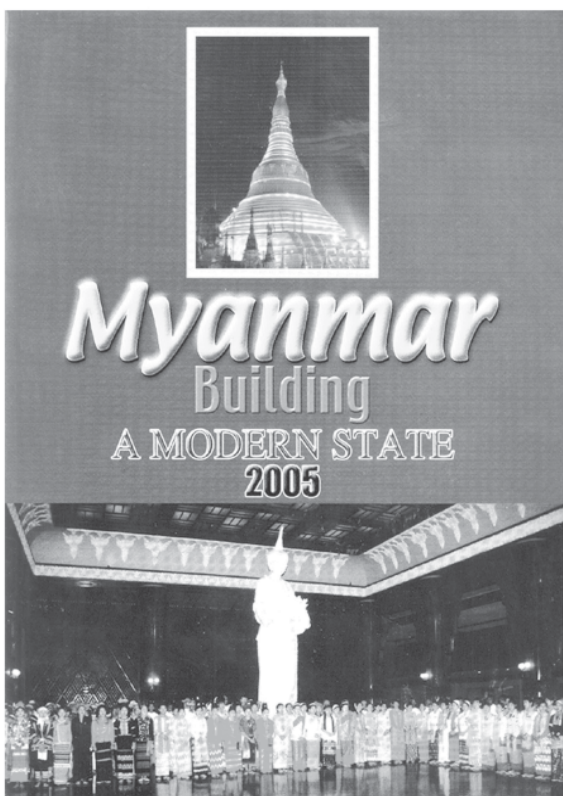
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Turkish Govt sponsors scholarships for study in NZ

WELLINGTON, 1 Sept— Up to 100 Turkish students will be eligible for places in New Zealand tertiary education institutions under a new government sponsorship programme.

New Zealand Tertiary Education Minister Michael Cullen said Thursday this is another endorsement of New Zealand's growing reputation for international education. The announcement follows high-level visits to New Zealand by Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan last year and Education Minister Husseyin Celik in April this year.

The new scholarships are available in 32 subject areas and will provide opportunities for a number of New Zealand's tertiary education institutions, particularly those with strengths in agriculture, forestry and science. Turkey's decision follows the government's recent announcement outlining its new direction for international education.—MNA/Xinhua



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Kuwait to export low-sulphur fuel oil by 2011

KUWAIT CITY, 1 Sept— Kuwait planned to export up to 300,000 tons of low-sulphur fuel oil (LSFO) per month by 2011, local media reported Thursday.

By 2011, a new refinery at al-Zour with a capacity of 615,000 barrels per day (bpd) of oil products will have been come up, the state-run Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) said on Wednesday.

The new refinery is expected to sell over 300,000 tons of LSFO per month during the low-

demand winter seasons but how much it can actually sell will depend much on the market as well as its own inventory levels, said KPC. This will be the first time for the emirate, which now exports only supercracked fuel oil, to produce LSFO to meet new abroad and local demands. One per cent of the sulphur fuel oil is

expected to be sold into East Asia, either as refinery feedstock, where it can be cracked further, or as blendstock for high-sulphur cargoes.

The new refinery is also expected to yield about 270,000 bpd of higher value products such as naphtha, diesel and kerosene, all of which will be exported.

MNA/Xinhua

Annan says Israel should quit Lebanon within 10 days

PARIS, 1 Sept— Israeli forces will pull out of southern Lebanon within about 10 days once 5,000 UN troops and 16,000 Lebanese soldiers reach the area, United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan said on Thursday.

Annan is on a tour of the Middle East trying to calm tensions following the recent fighting in Lebanon and held talks with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert on Wednesday. "We agreed that with 5,000 UN troops and with 16,000 Lebanese troops who will go down to the south (of Lebanon), we will have a big enough and a credible force to allow the Israelis to pull out entirely," Annan told Europe 1 radio.

"I hope that within a week or 10 days we will have the 5,000 troops there and the Israelis will be obliged to withdraw," he said, adding "It is very

important because at the moment the situation is fragile." Annan said he also expected the Israelis to start lifting their air and sea blockade of Lebanon before the 5,000 troops were fully in place.

Olmert told reporters on Wednesday that Israel would only lift the seven-week-old blockade and fully quit southern Lebanon once all aspects of a ceasefire were in place—a longer time frame than Annan indicated on Thursday.

UN Resolution 1701 which governs the ceasefire halting the war between Israel and Hizbollah guerillas, calls

for a deployment of 15,000 UN peacekeepers by 4 November, alongside Lebanese Army forces.

France has promised to provide 2,000 of the troops. Some 400 are already in place and Defence Minister Michele Alliot-Marie said on Thursday a battalion of some 900 men, with 13 tanks and heavy artillery, would reach Lebanon by 10 September.

"The soldiers of the 1st battalion will leave on 4 September, reach the area on 10 September and from 15 September be fully deployed," Alliot-Marie told reporters.

MNA/Reuters

Frustration in Germany as ties with Poland fray

BERLIN/WARSAW, 1 Sept— German Chancellor Angela Merkel took power last year vowing to mend frayed ties with Poland, but relations have become so fraught since that hopes for a rapprochement have all but vanished.

German officials and analysts say that after months of failed attempts to engage Poland and its twin leaders Jaroslaw and Lech Kaczynski, Berlin has shifted from a policy of active diplomacy to one best described as damage control.

The change reflects both a deep frustration in Germany at the direction of policy in Poland on issues like the death penalty and the European Constitution, but also a view that the Kaczynski Government is simply not prepared to nurture the relationship for now.

"I think Angela Merkel

has been disappointed on a number of fronts," said Gesine Schwan, the government's coordinator for Polish relations. "In the long run I am optimistic. But for now one simply can't rule out more turbulence and negative twists."

Merkel, who grew up near the Polish border in the former Communist East, came into office critical of her predecessor Gerhard Schroeder's cozy ties with Russia, which she argued alienated new EU members like Poland.

In its coalition programme, Merkel's

Government vowed to inject "new quality and intensity" into relations with Poland and intensify work within the "Weimar Triangle"—a loose forum to promote cooperation between France, Germany and Poland.

Merkel sent another signal within weeks of taking power. At an EU summit in Brussels last December, she helped seal an eleventh hour deal on the bloc's budget by agreeing to give Poland 100 million euros (130 million US dollars) out of German coffers.

MNA/Reuters



A fisherman ties up a boat as others are moored as Hurricane John lashed heavy rain on the port city of Manzanillo on 31 Aug, 2006, as the storm skirts Mexico's Pacific coast. —INTERNET

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ADB launches student essay competition on Asia's future

BEIJING, 1 Sept— The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has called on the young Asian and Pacific students to write essays on “Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific” for an international competition next year.

“Young people in Asia and the Pacific need to be fully engaged in order to effectively address the long-term development challenges confronting the region,” said Bindu Lohani, director-general of the ADB’s Regional and Sustainable Development Department.

“The competition provides an opportunity to publicize the vision of today’s youth for the future world in which they will live, work, and

govern.” English language essays of up to 2,000 words are invited from university students aged 18 to 29 who are citizens of ADB developing members, as well as Japanese students at Japanese universities.

The essays written from a country or regional perspective should address one of three specific topics: economic growth and environmental conservation, human resource development and insti-

tutions, or industry and infra-structure.

Three development experts will judge the essays on the basis of originality and creativity of thought, structure and coherence of arguments, awareness of sustainable development within the context of the writer’s environment and realities, and relevance to the theme.

Fifteen winners will be selected from across Central and West Asia,

East Asia, the Pacific, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. Another 10 winners will be chosen from among students at Japanese universities, including seven from developing members and three Japanese citizens.

All 25 winners will be invited to participate in the week-long Asian and Pacific Youth Forum on Sustainable Development in Kyoto next March.

MNA/Xinhua



Singer Jessica Simpson performs on NBC’s Today Show in New York on 1 Sept, 2006. INTERNET



A Japanese tourist views a version of Norwegian artist Edvard Munch’s masterpiece, “The Scream”, in the Munch Museum in Oslo on 1 Sept, 2006. “The Scream” and another stolen painting by Munch were recovered by police on Thursday, two years and nine days after they were seized by gunmen from the museum. —INTERNET

IMF chief says global economic growth prospects “still very good”

WASHINGTON, 2 Sept — Managing Director of International Monetary Fund (IMF) Rodrigo de Rato on Thursday expressed his optimism about growth prospects of the global economy.

“The global economy has been resilient in the past year, and growth prospects are still very good,” Rato told a news conference here.

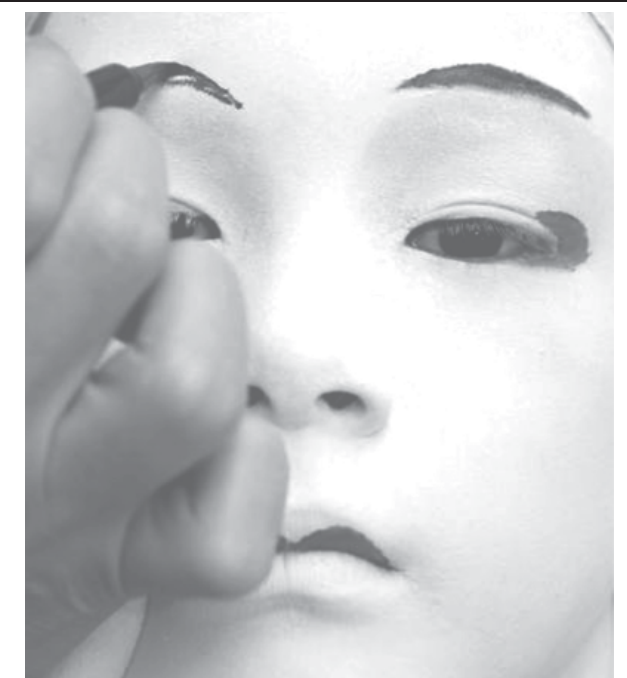
In the United States, the pace of expansion is moderating, largely reflecting the slowdown in the housing market. But elsewhere in the world, growth prospects are encouraging, he said.

“Europe has been above most people’s

expectations. Japan appears to have put deflation behind it. China and India continue to grow strongly.” “Many other countries, including in sub-Saharan Africa, are enjoying a continuation of the strong growth that we saw last year,” the IMF chief said.

Nonetheless, “there are more clouds on the horizon than there were a year ago: inflation risks are a concern, high oil prices could adversely affect both inflation and growth, and there has been a major setback in the Doha Round of trade talks.”

MNA/Xinhua



Aruka Osawa, nine, has make-up applied in preparation of his Kabuki play at Edo Tokyo Museum in Tokyo on 1 Sept, 2006. Eighty-six children between the age of seven and 12 have gone through three months of practice to master Kabuki plays for their public performances from 1 to 18 September. Kabuki, a traditional Japanese entertainment originated in the 17th century, has not been as popular as it once was in Japan, but this occasion seeks to bring more appeal for the traditional art to the younger generation. —INTERNET

Russian steel baron buys “Kommersant” newspaper

MOSCOW, 1 Sept— Russian steel tycoon Alisher Usmanov has bought leading business daily *Kommersant* in a move likely to be viewed by liberals as part of the Kremlin’s tightening grip on the media ahead of national elections.

“The purchase has already been announced by our general director (Demyan Kudryavtsev) and I hereby confirm it,” *Kommersant’s* Editor-in-Chief Vladislav Borodulin told Reuters on Wednesday.

Interfax news agency quoted Usmanov as saying the deal to buy 100 percent of *Kommersant* would be closed in a few days.

The move will eliminate what is virtually the last major independent newspaper in Russia ahead of

parliamentary elections in December 2007 and a presidential poll in March 2008. President Vladimir Putin, barred by the Constitution from seeking a third term, is widely expected to ask voters to back a successor.

Usmanov, 52, owns Metalloinvest steel conglomerate and is ranked Russia’s 25th richest man by *Forbes* magazine with a personal fortune of 3.1 billion US dollars.

MNA/Reuters

China to increase support for drug research, production

BEIJING, 1 Sept— The Chinese Government is to increase investment in the development of new drugs and encourage innovation in domestic pharmaceutical companies, an official said here Thursday.

Insufficient funding for research and development and a lack of innovation had hampered development of China’s pharmaceutical industry, said Zhang Guobao, deputy director of the State Development and Reform Commission.

The commission has issued guidelines for the development of the medical and pharmaceutical industries, which set goals for the 11th five-year plan (2006-2010) period, said Zhang.

The goals are:

— to industrialize production of 20 chemically-processed raw pharmaceuticals which have potential demand growth and high value added.

— to try to secure five medical preparations listed in the United States and the European Union.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Utility player Sibierski joins Newcastle

LONDON, 2 Sept—Newcastle United have signed French utility player Antoine Sibierski from Premier League rivals

Manchester City for an undisclosed fee.

Sibierski agreed a one-year contract with his new club, Newcastle said on their official website on Thursday.

The 32-year-old, who can play in midfield or up front, scored 11 goals in 92 appearances for City. Sibierski previously had spells with Lille, Auxerre, Nantes and Racing Lens.

MNA/Reuters

Villarreal agree deal for Arsenal defender Cygan

MADRID, 2 Sept—Villarreal have agreed a deal with Arsenal for French central defender Pascal Cygan, the Primera Liga club said on Thursday. The 32-year-old, who joined the London club from Lille in 2002, will move on a two-year contract once he has passed a medical.

Villarreal, who lost to Arsenal in the semifinals of the Champions League in April, drew 0-0 with Real Madrid last weekend in their opening game of the season.

MNA/Reuters

Juventus withdraws appeal to civil court

ROME, 2 Sept—Juventus decided to drop its appeal to a civil court against a match-fixing ruling on Thursday, diminishing the threat of a further delay to the start of the Serie A season.

"The board has decided unanimously to withdraw the appeal it made in the past few days to the regional court of Lazio and to turn instead to CONI's (the Italian Olympic Committee's) court of arbitration," the club said in a statement.

Juventus' lawyers were due to appear in front of the regional court of Lazio on Friday.

The first round of Serie A matches has already been put back two weeks to September 9-10 as a result of the legal wrangling following the judgements

in the match-fixing scandal.

"It's a decision that is good for Juventus, but not only for Juventus," club president Giovanni Cobolli Gigli said at the end of the board meeting.

In its statement, Juventus said the decision was "in line with the principles of loyalty and sporting values that are at the base of its activity and tradition" and based on a change in the attitude of the Italian Football Federation (FIGC), who seemed ready to "resolve the case with fairness".

MNA/Reuters



European champion Greece upset title favorite the United States 101-95 here on 1 Sept, 2006 to make the final of the 2006 World Men's Basketball Championship.—XINHUA

Li Na kept the Chinese flag flying at the US Open on 1 Sept, 2006 qualifying for the third round. Her 6-0, 1-6, 6-4 win over Greece's Eleni Daniilidou made her the only one of China's super-six contingent to make it past the second round at Flushing Meadows.—XINHUA



Jorgensen leads Denmark to 4-2 friendly win over Portugal

BRONDBY (Denmark), 2 Sept—Martin Jorgensen helped Denmark stun World Cup semi-finalists Portugal 4-2 on Friday as the teams warmed up for their opening Euro 2008 qualifiers.

Jorgensen had a hand in two goals and then got on the scoresheet himself to cast doubt on the effectiveness of Portugal coach Luiz Flpe Scolari's defensive tactics.

Jon Dahl Tomasson

opened the scoring after 14 minutes when Jorgensen found Dennis Rommedahl to set up the chance. However, two minutes later Portugal's Ricardo Carvalho equalized when he thrust the ball into the roof of the net.

Thomas Kahlenberg restored Denmark's lead after 21 minutes by firing under goalkeeper Ricardo Pereira after Jorgensen had again shown his magic by conjuring up a precise cross.

With Barcelona midfielder Deco rested and stalwarts Luis Figo and Pauleta having retired from international football, Portugal had to rely on youngsters such as debutant Luis Nani of Sporting and Manchester United winger Cristiano Ronaldo.

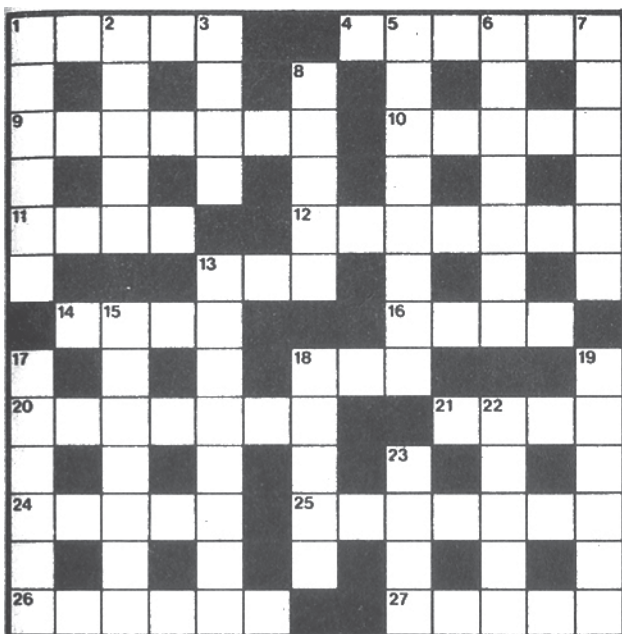
Ronaldo wasted a glori-

ous opportunity to bring Portugal level again when his penalty was saved by Thomas Sorensen just before the hour mark and the visitors had to wait until defender Carvalho popped up to score his second in the 65th.

Denmark refused to give up though and Jorgensen capped a fine display by firing home between Ricardo's legs before substitute Nicklas Bendtner wrapped up the win in added time.

MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Isthmuses
- 4 Give pleasure
- 9 Wicker boat
- 10 Din
- 11 Eager
- 12 Deadly
- 13 Public transport
- 14 Eyesore
- 16 To press
- 18 Obscure
- 20 Kitchen sideboard
- 21 Stake
- 24 Arbiter
- 25 Overpraise
- 26 Girl's name
- 27 Piece of ground

DOWN

- 1 Beverage of gods
- 2 Welsh dog
- 3 Violent blow
- 5 Floor covering
- 6 Continual
- 7 Vigour
- 8 Emoluments
- 13 Best dead (anag.)
- 15 Pedal
- 17 Casual task (3,3)
- 18 Draw an outline of
- 19 Stiffener
- 22 Group of eight
- 23 Coarse file

Seventh coach in a month falls in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 2 Sept—Paulo Cesar Gusmao has become the seventh coach to lose or leave his job in Brazil this month, departing after only two weeks at Sao Caetano.

"It's very difficult to get to know a squad in only 14 days," he told Brazilian television on Thursday.

"I left without getting to know the names of some of the players. Unfortunately, we didn't get the right results. It's something we have to live with in football."

Gusmao, who took over when Emerson Leao left to coach Corinthians, departed by mutual agreement after Sao Caetano picked up one point from four matches under him. In a bizarre twist to Brazil's coaching circus, it was the second time this month that Gusmao had lost his job following his dismissal by Cruzeiro on 13 August.—MNA/Reuters



A group of cyclists compete during stage six of the Tour of Spain cycling race between Zamora and Leon on 31 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Boavista sign Moroccan Zairi from Sochaux

LISBON, 2 Sept—Boavista have signed Moroccan winger Jaouad Zairi from French club Sochaux, the Portuguese Premier League club said on Thursday.

The 24-year-old international, who has 28 caps, agreed a three-year contract with the club. He has also played for Gueugnon in France and Al Ittihad in Saudi Arabia.

Last week, former international Zeljko Pretrovic was appointed as Boavista's new coach, replacing Jesualdo Ferreira who has quit the club to coach champions Porto.—MNA/Reuters

“Flood Bulletin”

(Issued at 13:30 hrs MST on 2-9-2006)

According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an is (770) cm. It may remain above its danger level (750) cm during the next (48) hours commencing noon today.



Russia's Maria Sharapova serves to France's Emilie Loit during their match at the US Open tennis tournament in New York on 31 Aug, 2006. — INTERNET

Chandra's film produced entirely on the Internet

MUMBAI, 2 Sept — Arguably the first experiment of its kind for Indian cinema, director Tanuja Chandra's venture “Hope, and a Little Sugar” has been produced almost entirely on the Internet, from location hunting to costumes and script changes.

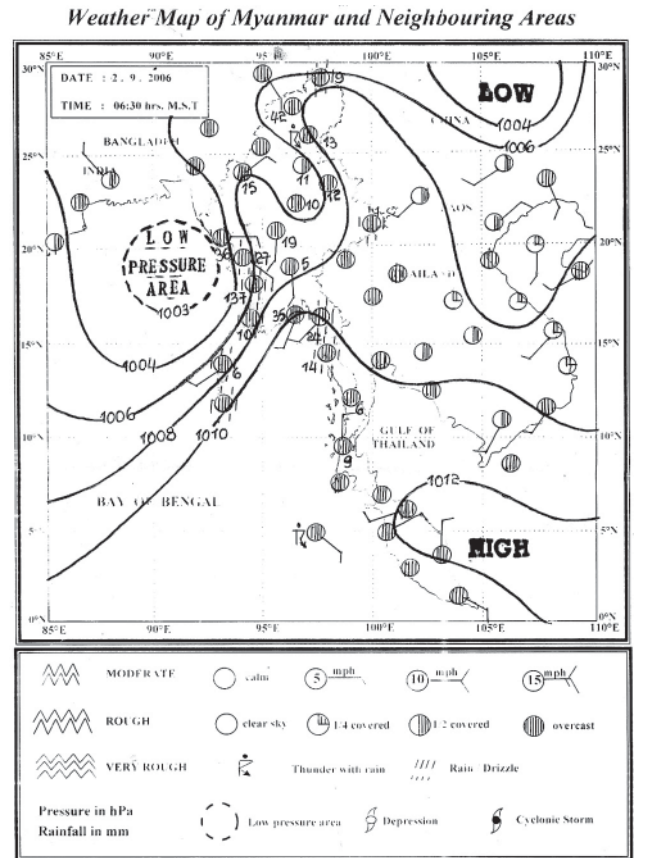
“The film has been produced by two US producers and since I could not be there during the whole pre- and post-production, the entire thing was done solely over the Internet,” Chandra told PTI here.

The film, which stars Anupam Kher and Mahima Chaudhary among others, will be premiered at South Asian International Festival on 6 October and has been produced by Glenn

Russow and Scott Pardo, two New York based film producers.

“They read the script and were interested in making the movie, but since I could not be present throughout the preproduction in the US, everything was done on the Internet. Right from the location, which I chose on the basis of photographs they mailed me, to the curtains, which we got stitched here according to the measurements, everything was done on a protected website,” she said.

MNA/PTI



WEATHER

Saturday, 2 September, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State and rain have been fairly widespread to widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Rakhin State and isolated heavyfall in Magway Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thandwe (5.47) inches, Maungtau (5.12) inches, An (4.41) inches, Mindat (2.32) inches, Chauk (1.81) inches, Hkamti (1.69) inches, Bago (1.61) inches and Magway (1.42) inches.

Maximum temperature on 1-9-2006 was 82°F. Minimum temperature on 2-9-2006 was 73°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 2-9-2006 was (92%). Total sunshine hours on 1-9-2006 was nil.

Rainfalls on 2-9-2006 were (0.75) inch at Mingaladon, (1.38) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.35) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (81.30) inches at Mingaladon, (93.23) inches at Kaba-Aye and (96.73) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from West at (15:30) hours MST on 1-9-2006.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, yesterday's low pressure area over East Central Bay of Bengal still persist. Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and vigorous elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 3-9-2006: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin and Kayin States, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 3-9-2006: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 3-9-2006: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 3-9-2006: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).



Sunday, 3 September

Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Fallen angel (EYC)
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -I don't want your love (Duran Duran)
- 8:50 am National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -Takin' back my heart (Cher)
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Cultural images of Myanmar -Picked tea, the best among leaves
- 9:20 am Music: -Can you feel the love (Elton John)
- 1:30 pm News & Slogan
- 1:40 pm Children's delight -Story for children "The frog and the rat" -Songs for children
- 9:00 pm Weekly news review
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Music/latest hits/let's improve English through songs -True love takes time (John Denuers) -Throwing takes time (Genesis)
- 9:45 pm News & Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Sunday, 3 September View on today

- 7:00 am
 - 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
 - 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
 - 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
 - 4. “တော်ပါပေတယ် ဘွားဘွားရယ်” (မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊ မြတ်ကေသီအောင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သိန်းဟန်)
- 7:45 am
 - 5. Nice and sweet song
- 8:00 am
 - 6. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈)ဖြာ မင်္ဂလာ
- 8:10 am
 - 7. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:15 am
 - 8. ရွှေလင်ပန်းတံတား
- 8:25 am
 - 9. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:30 am
 - 10. International news
- 8:45 am
 - 11. Say it in English
- 11:00 am
 - 1. Martial song
- 11:10 am
 - 2. Musical programme
- 11:25 am
 - 3. Round up of the week's international news
- 11:35 am
 - 4. Yan can cook
- 11:55 am
 - 5. Myanmar movie “ဘယ်သူပြိုင်လို့ လှပါတော့နိုင်” (ဇော်ဝမ်း၊ ဝင်းလှိုင်၊ အံ့ကျော်၊ တင်တင်ညို၊ တင်တင်လှ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဦးသုခ)
- 2:05 pm
 - 6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:15 pm
 - 7. ကချင်ပြည်နယ် မိုးကောင်းတံတား
- 2:20 pm
 - 8. “သတိနဲ့ယှဉ် အသိနဲ့ပြင်” (အပိုင်း-၂) (ဝါးခယ်မရဲအောင်၊ ဘုန်းလျန်း၊ မြတ်ကေသီအောင်၊ ရတနာခင်၊ ဟန်နီထွန်း၊ ပြည့်ဖူးခိုင်၊ နီနီရွှေရည်၊ ဆောင်းနှင်းဝေ၊ ဝိုင်းစုခိုင်သိန်း၊ အိုင်းရစ်လေပြေဦး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မင်းအုပ်စိုး)
- 2:30 pm
 - 9. ရင်းငြိမ် ရေထိန်းတံခါး
- 2:45 pm
 - 10. International news
- 4:00 pm
 - 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
 - 2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
 - 3. English for everyday use
- 4:45 pm
 - 4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)
- 5:00 pm
 - 5. Dance of national races
- 5:15 pm
 - 6. ၂၀၀၆ခုနှစ်(၁၄)ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီး ပြိုင်ပွဲ ဝင်များ လေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန် (မဟာဂီတ)(ဝါသနာရှင်အဆင့်) (အမျိုးသား/အမျိုးသမီး)
- 5:30 pm
 - 7. Sing and enjoy
- 6:00 pm
 - 8. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
 - 9. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
 - 10. သီရိဂေဟာ
- 7:00 pm
 - 11. Discovery
- 7:10 pm
 - 12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ဟောမန်ဆောင်းရဲ့နေ့ရက်များ” (အပိုင်း-၄)
- 8:00 pm
 - 13. News
- 14. International news
- 15. Weather report
- 16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ဓမ္မတ္တပန်းတိုင်” (အပိုင်း-၁၆)
- 18. The next day's programme

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Locals urged to extend cultivation of perennial crops

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects development facilities in Mogok



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence inspects coffee and tea plantations in Mogok Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Sept — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Kachin State PDC Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Chairman of Shan State (North) PDC Commander of North-East Command Brig-Gen Aung Than Htut and senior military officers, inspected

the water tank for supply of water to Momeik Station on 31 August morning.

At Shwethaya Village on Momeik-Mogok Road, they were welcomed by Chairman of Mandalay Division PDC Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and senior military officers.

They viewed physic nut, paddy, coffee and tea

plantations along Momeik-Mogok Road. At Mogok Township Hospital (100-bed), Lt-Gen Ye Myint attended the ceremony to donate K 60 million for construction of an annex to the hospital donated by Daw Tin Shwe and family of Panma Ward of Kyatpyin Village-tract.

(See page 9)

Bago Division sets plan to grow 3 million acres of monsoon paddy this year

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets departmental personnel in Pyay

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Sept — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence discussed regional development with departmental officials at the hall of Bago Division (West) PDC in Pyay on 29 August morning.

Chairman of Bago

Division (West) PDC Col Sein Myint reported on cultivation of monsoon paddy, physic nut and other crops in Pyay and Thayawady Districts, progress of education, health and transport.

After fulfilling the requirements, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that Bago Division has been extending cultiva-

tion of monsoon paddy at the rate of 200,000 acres a year since 2004-05. This year, the division set the plan to grow 3 million acres of monsoon paddy. Arrangements are to be made for efficient use of irrigated water in cultivation of pulses and beans. In addition, it is necessary to exceed the targeted acres of edible oil crops.

Moreover, pepper is to be grown in hilly regions.

He stressed the need to extend the growing of rubber in Thayawady District and the land is to be put under 300,000 acres of rubber within three years. Furthermore, continued cultivation of physic nut is to be carried out in the cold season.

He instructed depart-

Special express train service begins 4 Sept

Special express train begins its Yangon-Mandalay service on 4 September 2006, leaving Yangon at 5 pm and Mandalay at 4.15 pm everyday, with Pyinmana as the only stopover.

Myanma Railways

mental personnel to implement the projects of the respective ministries for regional development, and urged officials to supervise prevention against flooding in the rainy season. Bago Division (West) has planted 1,220,075

acres of monsoon paddy against the target of 1,242,471 acres, 26,468.82 acres of physic nut against the target of 36,900 acres, 495 acres of coffee and 189 acres of pepper in 2005-07. While in Pyay, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with Tatmadawmen and families at the local battalion.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than viewed the collective weeding at the model paddy plot in Thayettabin Village in Minhla. After viewing the thriving monsoon paddy plantation along Yangon-Pyay Highway, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than went back to Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than observes scattering of fertilizers in Thayettabin village in Minhla Township.—MNA