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Merchants to be educated, organized to turn to legal border trade and taxes

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye meets with local authorities, officials from Border Trade Department, Customs Department, Immigration and National Registration Department, Myanmar Economic Bank, Internal Revenue Department and Myanmar Police Force, responsible persons of Muse and Namkham Chambers of Commerce.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July—Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, together with SPDC Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, SPDC Member Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Tha Aye, Lt-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung and Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing and Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Hla Htay Win of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State (North) PDC Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Construction and for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, and officials of SPDC Office, inspected Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone at 12.30 pm yesterday.

There, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye held a meeting with local authorities, officials from the Border Trade Department, the Customs Department, the Immigration and National Registration Department, the Myanmar Economic Bank, the Internal Revenue Department and the Myanmar Police Force, and responsible persons of Muse and Namkham Chambers of Commerce.

Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein reported on border trade services after transforming the border trade into regular trade through Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone, and annual increase in trade volume between the two countries, export of agricultural produce such as rice, beans and pulses, corn and

sesame, fruit such as mango, watermelon and muskmelon, and marine products such as fish, prawn and eel, minerals such as lead and jade, and timber and

forest products to the neighbouring country through Muse trade zone, and import of necessary things from (See page 8)



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greets local authorities, departmental officials and responsible persons of Muse and Namkham Chambers of Commerce.—MNA



PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 13 July, 2009

Implement public welfare tasks as a national duty

A work coordination meeting of Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs took place at Nay Pyi Taw City Hall on 3 July.

According to the five rural development tasks, only when rural transport is smooth, can rural products reach the urban markets easily in a short period. Thus, the education and health of the rural people will improve, contributing towards their socio-economic life.

Development Affairs Committees are building not only inter-village roads and village-to-city roads but also inter-district roads for villages that have difficult access to main roads in order that there can be links between towns and between districts.

Up to 2008-2009 fiscal year, 184 miles of tarred roads, 139 miles of gravel roads and 783 wooden bridges have been constructed on Inter-district Road No (1). Likewise, 63 miles of tarred roads, 191 miles of gravel roads and 750 wooden bridges have been built on Inter-district Road No (2).

The 10-year rural pure water supply project started in 2000-2001 fiscal and up to 2008-2009, 8024 villages of three arid divisions have been supplied with pure drinking water. Rural water supply tasks have been implemented in 22,410 villages out of 23,225 nationwide.

Overall, service personnel are to participate in their respective roles as a national duty for the emergence of a new democratic nation. They are also to shoulder their duties out of goodwill to fulfil the socio-economic needs of the rural folks.

TALKS ON ACADEMIC MATTER:
Professor Dr. Trevor Ashton of City of Sunderland College of England and Director Dr. Nay PhD (UK) of Valentine Organization of England explain best and proper academic institutions to enthusiast youths at Traders Hotel in Yangon on 12 July afternoon.—NLM



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

Monsoon tree growing ceremony for 2009 of PBANRDA held

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July—Monsoon tree growing ceremony for 2009 of Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs was held at surrounding areas of the Ministry and staff quarters, here, this morning. At the ceremony, Minister for PBANRDA Col Thein Nyunt and wife attended and grew perennial plants. First, the minister and wife grew Seintalon mango saplings at the mango tree plantation of Development Affairs Department, mayan saplings at the mayan plantation of Education and Training Department, jack fruit saplings at the jack fruit plantation of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department, and deputy minister, staff and their families continued to plant saplings.

Then, the minister and party grew Tadainhmwe flower saplings.

A total of 1593 perennial plants such as mango, jack fruit, mayan, coconut and others was grown at the plantations of respective departments at the ceremony.

Next, heads of departments and officials concerned viewed the

collective tree growing of the staff and their families at staff quarters in Mingalathiddi, Thukathiddi, Pyinyathiddi wards and hostel in Bawgathiddi ward.

In this rainy season, the ministry has grown a total of 7089 saplings.

The Ministry has planted a total of 13711 trees so far.

MNA

Minister for PBANRDA Col Thein Nyunt plants a Seintalon mango sapling at tree growing ceremony.

□PBANRDA



Rainy season tree planting ceremony held in Haka

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July—The rainy season tree planting ceremony was held in Haka of Chin State on 27 June.

Chairman of Chin State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Hon Ngai planted saplings at the ceremony. The Chairman of Chin State PDC viewed collective cultivation of paddy in the field

of farmer U Ke Lwe.

On 30 June, the ceremony to donate books to Chin State Information and Public Relations Department was held at Haka Township Library. The Chairman of Chin State PDC accepted books and journals donated by wellwishers.

MNA

Delegation of Guangxi Zhaung Autonomous Region concludes visit

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July—The goodwill delegation led by Mr Guo Shengkum, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the People's Congress of Guangxi Zhaung Autonomous Region and the Party Secretary of the Guangxi Communist Party of China (CPC), left Yangon by air this afternoon.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Director-General U Myint Soe of the Protocol Department and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Charge d' Affaires of the Chinese Embassy Mr Wang Zongying and embassy staff.

MNA

NAM summit to boost peace in Middle East

CAIRO, 12 July — Arab League (AL) Secretary General Amr Moussa expected that the 15th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit, which is scheduled for 15-16 July at Egypt's Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, will support the Arab position and all the efforts to establish peace in the Middle East.

All Arab countries in the AL are members of the movement and the issues

tackled by NAM include many Arab issues, said the AL chief in an exclusive interview with *Xinhua* recently.

"As for Palestine declaration, the NAM summit would support putting an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict provided that the establishment of a viable Palestinian state with its capital in East Jerusalem," Moussa said.

A "Declaration on Palestine," which is

among the final documents of the movement's previous summits, is expected to express its members' common stance over the thorny issue in the Middle East.

"They will call for an end of settlements policy and support the future peace between the Arabs and Israelis within the framework of the Arab initiative," Moussa said.

Internet



A rescue operation is in progress after a Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) flyover collapsed in New Delhi on 12 July, 2009. At least five people are feared to be dead and several others injured after a part of the flyover which was under construction collapsed on Sunday, local media reported.—INTERNET

Iraq bombings kill eight in capital, northern village

BAGHDAD, 12 July — A car bomb exploded in an alley Saturday in a village in northern Iraq, killing at least four people, wounding others and destroying eight homes, police said. Another six people died in bombings in Baghdad.

Thirty-eight people were wounded and several shops and cars were also damaged in the 3 pm explosion in the northern village of Kugjeli, according to a police officer in Ninevah Province, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to journalists.

Most of the victims were inside their homes when the bomb exploded near the main street of the predominantly Shiite village, about five kilometers (three miles) east of the city of Mosul.—Internet

Family members of three year old Hussein Ali, who was killed in a bombing the day before, grieve at his funeral in Baghdad, Iraq, on 10 July, 2009.—INTERNET



Five killed, 15 injured in New Delhi bridge collapse

NEW DELHI, 12 July — Police say a bridge under construction in New Delhi has collapsed, killing five people and injuring 15 others.

Police spokesman Mohammed Iqlaq said the accident happened Sunday morning as workers lifted heavy concrete slabs for the bridge, part of the city's new metro rail system. The slabs crashed to the ground.

Those killed and injured were labourers working on the bridge.

Iqlaq says rescue crews are still working to see if any others are trapped under the rubble. The cause of the accident was not yet known.

Internet

Foreign fighter may be among 16 killed in Somalia

MOGADISHU, 12 July — A foreign fighter and a top government security official are among 16 people killed in Saturday's fighting between UN-backed government forces and Islamist militants in the north of the capital, a Somali official said.

An *Associated Press* reporter saw the body of the man, who appeared to be of non-African origin, displayed at the presidential palace on a stretcher.

There are believed to be hundreds of foreign jihadi fighters in Somalia supporting an Islamic insurgency. Government officials have claimed there are thousands of foreigners fighting against them but most analysts dismiss this as a ploy to wring cash and support for the international community, which

is worried about the failed state becoming a haven for al-Qaeda-linked terrorists.

Saturday's attack also claimed the life of Nor Daqli. He was head of security for the capital, Mogadishu, and the surrounding Benadir region.

Internet

Nepali population to reach 27.5 mln by July 2009

KATHMANDU, 12 July—The 20th World Population Day was celebrated in Nepal Saturday amidst the organization of various programmes.

The theme of the World Population Day this year is "Fight Poverty: Educate Girls — Investing in Women is Smart Choice".

It was stated at a function organized by the Ministry of Health and Population that the population growth rate in Nepal is 2.5 percent at present.

The population of Nepal will reach approximately 27.5 million by the end of July 2009, it was shared at the function.

Reproduction rate in Nepal in 1981 was 6 and it has dropped to 3 in 2006, demographers said.

It is said the reproduction rate has decreased due to the increased investment by the state in the women's health and education as well as the increase in public awareness.

MNA/Xinhua



Residents flee from the fighting between Islamists and government forces in the Somali capital Mogadishu on 3 July, 2009.—INTERNET

Egypt calls for establishing new world order to overcome crises

SHARM EL-SHEIKH (Egypt), 12 July — Egyptian Assistant Foreign Minister Naela Gabr said here Saturday that the world society should make joint efforts to set up a new world order to deal with various crises.

Gabr made the appeal when addressing the senior officials' meeting of the 15th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit, which opened Saturday in Egyptian Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheik. The current world situation is quite different from 48 years ago when the NAM was founded, with increasing population, outbreaks of epidemic and deteriorating environment, she said.

The world society should reconsider the international financial system and be more democratic in decision-making so as to avoid the global financial crisis which has hampered the economic growth of developing countries, Gabr said.—Internet



Models perform at the Mongolian National Costumes and Decorations Festival held in Huhhot, capital of north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, on 11 July, 2009. The 3-day-long festival kicked off on Saturday.—INTERNET

EU, Turkey set to sign Nabucco pipeline deal

ANKARA, 12 July—European Union countries and Turkey are Monday to sign a key intergovernmental agreement on Europe's flagship Nabucco gas pipeline, coming a step closer to realizing a project that still lacks key suppliers.

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan is to host the signing ceremony in Ankara for the transit deal that would link Turkey, Bulgaria, Ro-

mania, Hungary and Austria in a conduit that Europe hopes will reduce its dependence on Russian gas. The 3,300-kilometre (2,000-mile) pipeline is expected to pump as much as 31 billion cubic metres from the Caspian Sea to Austria via Turkey and the Balkans, bypassing Russia.

It is a rival to Russia's South Stream project, developed by Russian gas giant Gazprom and Italy's

Eni, which will channel Russian gas through Bulgaria to Western Europe under the Black Sea.

Internet

Volvo to recall 409 sedans on faulty engine cooling fans in China

BEIJING, 12 July—Volvo Car Corp is recalling 409 units of S80 vehicles because of a problem with the engine cooling fan, said the State Administration of Quality Supervision and Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) here Saturday.

The fan may stop working because of a software programming error in the fan controlling module. Depending on driving conditions, the customer may experience reduced air conditioning performance or a rapid increase in engine coolant temperature, said the quality supervisor. This condition might cause cooling system malfunction and engine failure, and thus would increase the risk of accident, it said.

Dealers will replace the fan control module free of charge. The recall will start from 13 July.—Internet

British tourists have distant friends

LONDON, 12 July—European hoteliers rate British tourists as their worst guests, while those on other continents find them polite and generous, a travel Web site says.

Expedia released its annual survey of 4,500 hoteliers on Friday. They rated the Japanese as the top guests, valued for their politeness and cleanliness

and described as quiet and unlikely to complain.

Worldwide, the British were in the second spot, followed by Canadians, Germans and Swiss. The French placed at the bottom among 27 nationalities.

European hotel-owners, however, described the British as rude and messy whiners who leave

meager tips.

US travelers were in the No 8 position, with a reputation for generous tips but also loudness.

Generally, tourists from Mediterranean countries have a bad reputation. Turks and Greeks tied for the 24th spot, while Spain followed at No 26.

Internet

More banks refuse California IOUs

SACRAMENTO, 12 July—Four major banks, including Bank of America Corp, say they stopped accepting IOUs Saturday from the cash-strapped state of California.

Bank of America, JPMorgan Chase & Co, Wells Fargo & Co, and Union Bank of California said they no longer would redeem the state IOUs for cash value, the *Los Angeles Times* reported.

The state expects to issue nearly \$3 billion worth of interest-bearing IOUs this month as the Legislature struggles

to close a \$26 billion budget deficit.

Citibank and Bank of the West, meanwhile, agreed on Friday to honor the IOUs. Bank of the West said it would take the IOUs indefinitely and Citibank said it would accept them until 17 July, *the Times* reported.

"We do not want to penalize our business and consumer customers for the impasse in Sacramento," Rebecca Macieira-Kaufmann, president of Citibank California, said in a statement Friday.—Internet

Nomura tie-up with India's largest life insurer

TOKYO, 12 July—Japan's top securities firm Nomura Holdings has agreed to an asset-management capital tie-up with Life Insurance Corp (LIC), India's largest life insurer, a newspaper has reported.

Under the accord, Nomura will take a 35 percent stake in LIC Mutual Fund Asset Management Co, a LIC subsidiary, for about six billion yen (65 million dollars), the *Nikkei* business daily reported.

Nomura is expected to

send executives and staff to LIC Mutual Fund Asset Management, which currently has 600 billion yen in assets under management, the newspaper said.

Nomura, which began stock trading operations in India last year by taking over the business base of the collapsed Lehman Brothers, now plans to start selling bonds in the country later this year.

Internet



An internally displaced Somali woman prepares "canjeero", a pancake-like bread traditionally eaten for breakfast, outside her temporary shelter at a camp in the outskirts of the capital Mogadishu on 11 July, 2009.

INTERNET

China's auto prices see slight increase in June, NDRC

BEIJING, 12 July—China's domestic auto prices were steady with a slight increase in June while imported vehicle prices rose at a faster rate, according to the price monitoring center under the National Development and Reform Com-

mission (NDRC), China's top economic planner.

Prices of domestic cars saw a month-on-month increase of 0.9 percent last month, while the year on year figure stood at 1.35 percent, said a report released on NDRC's Web site on Fri-

day, based on a survey conducted in 36 large and mid-size cities in China.

Price of imported vehicles rose 1.22 percent from the previous month, with a year-on-year growth of 7.26 percent.—Internet

Asia Rivera, 5, left, and Jasmine Miles, 5, get a face full mud after they slid into a mud pit during the Queen Creek, Ariz. Seventh annual Monsoon Madness at Frontier Park on 11 July, 2009. High temperatures are expected to reach 114 degrees Saturday and Sunday in the Phoenix area.—INTERNET



Abbas says to accept any Egyptian proposal for reconciliation

GAZA, 12 July—Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said on Saturday that he will accept any Egyptian proposal to achieve a national Palestinian reconciliation to end the current internal rift, said a source with the presidential office.

Abbas told the Cairo-based Egyptian Magazine "October" in an interview which will be published on Sunday that "We will accept any Egyptian pro-

posal that ends the internal rift and lifts the siege imposed on the Palestinian people."

Egypt is sponsoring the inter-Palestinian dialogue which aims at ending rivalry between Abbas' Fatah party and Islamic Hamas movement which routed his security forces and seized control of Gaza in June 2007. A seventh round of dialogue between the two rival groups is scheduled to be held in

Cairo on 25 July. Previous six rounds of dialogue held in Cairo since March had failed to reach a reconciliation agreement between the two groups.

Abbas revealed to the Egyptian magazine that he had given instructions to the Fatah delegation "to accept any Egyptian proposal that doesn't lead to a continuation of the siege," according to the source who insisted anonymity.

Xinhua

NASA delays launch of shuttle Endeavour to Sunday

WASHINGTON, 12 July—NASA has decided to postpone the scheduled Saturday launch of space shuttle Endeavour until Sunday due to lightning strikes, the US space agency said.

The next launch attempt will be at 7:13 pm

(2313 GMT) Sunday, according to NASA.

Endeavour should have blasted off to the international space station in mid-June, but was postponed by potentially dangerous leaks of hydrogen gas. Endeavour's 16-day mission will feature

five spacewalks and complete construction of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency's Kibo laboratory. Astronauts will attach a platform to the outside of the Japanese module that will allow experiments to be exposed to space.—Xinhua



A sign near the space shuttle Endeavour at Kennedy Space Center in Florida. NASA officials are hoping that the third time is the charm for the space shuttle Endeavour, which is due to launch Saturday on a mission to the International Space Station.—XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Floods leave seven dead, 12 missing in SW China

CHONGQING, 12 July—Seven tourists were killed and 12 others remained missing after a rainstorm triggered floods in a canyon in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality Saturday, the local government said on Sunday.

A 35-member tourist

group entered an undeveloped mountainous area of the Tanzhangxia Canyon scenic spot in Wanzhou District Saturday afternoon under the guidance of a local resident, according to the government of Wanzhou District.

However, a downpour

quickly triggered mountain torrents and flushed away most of the tourists at about 4 pm.

The expedition was set up via a Chongqing-based travel website and they did not notify the administration of the scenic spot about their journey or get approval of the local tourism authorities, said Pu Binbin, secretary-general of the Wanzhou District Committee of the Communist Party of China.

More than 400 rescuers retrieved the bodies of seven people and rescued 16 others as of Sunday morning after more than ten hours of efforts.

The injured are in stable conditions in a hospital.

Xinhua



Local officials visit an injured tourist at the People's Hospital in Yunyang County, southwest China's Chongqing municipality on 11 July, 2009.

XINHUA

Iran successfully clones its first calf

TEHRAN, 12 July—Iranian researchers have successfully cloned a calf, which is the first in Iran as well as in the Middle East, Iran's English-language satellite channel Press TV reported Saturday.

The cloned calf named "Bonyana," which means foundation and principle, was successfully born through a cesarean section at Royan Institute in central Iranian city of Isfahan after 270 days of preg-

nancy, Press TV reported.

Iran's ISNA news agency said the cloned calf was born on Saturday afternoon and the Royan Institute was hopeful to announce the birth of the second cloned calf in a few days. According to Press TV, the cloned calf, which is the result of a considerable number of in-vitro fertilizations (IVF) in more than 100 recipient cows, is in good health.

Royan Institute re-

searchers hoped to clone certain species at high risk of extinction in the near future, Press TV said.

In April, Iran's first cloned goat, named Hanna and also known as R-CAP-C1, was born at the Isfahan campus of the Royan Institute. The cloned goat was developed in a surrogate uterus of a black Bakhtiari goat for 147 days and was born through a cesarean section.

Xinhua

Italian ICRC worker released in Philippines, ending six-month ordeal

MANILA, 12 July—An Italian Red Cross worker was freed by his militant captors early Sunday, after spending almost six months in captive in southern Philippine jungles, officials said.

Eugenio Vagni, 62, was released by the Al Qaeda-linked Abu Sayyaf militants and picked up by the authorities at around 12:30 am local time (1630 GMT Saturday) at a remote village in the township of Maimbung on Jolo island, Sulu Province, Navy spokesman Lt Col

Edgard Arevalo said.

The Italian, who has reportedly developed hernia in the humid jungles, appeared in good shape, according to the footage of a local television channel showing Vagni, in a mud-stained white T-shirt, walking with security officials after the release.

"I am now free," the smiling Italian told television reporters.

Vagni and two of his co-workers of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in the Philippines — Andreas

Notter of Switzerland and Filipina Mary Jean Lacaba — were kidnapped on 15 Jan. this year after they finished a humanitarian mission in Jolo. Lacaba was freed on 2 April and Notter escaped from his captors weeks later.

Arevalo said skilful negotiations and "incessant pressure" by the security forces won the release of Vagni. Philippine officials insisted that no ransom was paid for Vagni's freedom despite speculations of the opposite.

Xinhua



Freed Red Cross International Committee worker Eugenio Vagni (C) is seen at a military camp moments after his release in Jolo, the Philippines, early on 12 July, 2009.—XINHUA



Children who lost their home in the 6.0-magnitude earthquake play with a volunteer in a tent at Guantun Village, in Yao'an County, Chuxiong Ethnic Yi Autonomous Prefecture in southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 11 July, 2009. Psychological aid and group activities are conducted by some teachers and volunteers to help homeless children erase the bad impact of the earthquake on their future life. —INTERNET

British Airways sends team to check evacuated 747

PHOENIX, 12 July — British Airways is flying a team of engineers from London to Phoenix to inspect a Boeing 747 that filled with smoke before takeoff, forcing hundreds of passengers to escape on the plane's emergency slides. Airline spokesman John Lampl says the 298 passengers who were on board Flight 288 as it prepared to take off late Friday were being rebooked onto Saturday flights to London from Phoenix, Los Angeles or Denver.

More than a dozen people suffered minor injuries when they used the jumbo jet's inflatable slides to evacuate. Lampl says one passenger and one of the 18 crew members were hospitalized overnight but were being released on Saturday. —Internet

Hurricane Carlos strengthens off Mexican coast

MEXICO CITY, 12 July — Hurricane Carlos swirled far off Mexico's Pacific coast on Saturday and was headed farther out to sea.

The Category 1 hurricane had maximum sustained winds near 85 mph (135 kph) with additional strengthening expected, according to the National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida. As of 11 pm EDT Saturday (0300 GMT Sunday), Carlos was centered about 1,045 miles (1,680 kilometers) southwest of the southern tip of Mexico's Baja California peninsula.

Carlos was moving westward about 13 mph (20 kph) and was expected to follow a course of just north of due west for the next couple of days, the centre said in an advisory on its Web site. —Internet

NOAA: El Nino developing in Pacific

WASHINGTON, 12 July — Rising sea surface temperatures in the equatorial region of the eastern Pacific show an El Nino is developing, US weather forecasters say. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said on Thursday the El Nino is expected to last through the coming winter.

El Nino, Spanish for "little boy," was named after the Christ child because the phenomenon was associated with Christmas. The El Nino effect is a combination of air and ocean cur-

rents and oscillations that can have a major effect on global weather.

"Advanced climate science allows us to alert industries, governments and emergency managers about the weather conditions El Nino may bring so these can be factored into decision-making and ultimately protect life, property and the economy," said Jane Lubchenco, under secretary of commerce for oceans

and atmosphere and NOAA administrator.

El Nino's negative effects can include stormier weather in the southern United States, less-productive fisheries in the Pacific and heavy rains and mudslides in Central America. Positive effects include less-violent Atlantic hurricanes, milder winters in the northern United States and more rain in the southwest. —Internet

Rising obesity changes perceptions

BOSTON, 12 July — Researchers say that as the US population becomes heavier perception of what is a normal weight has also increased. A group led by Mary Burke, an economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, compared the results of surveys done between 1988 and 1994 and then between 1999 and 2004 by the US Centers for Disease Control, CNN reported.

The researchers said women questioned for the later survey actually tended to have a more realistic perception of their own weight than those in the earlier one. Women with a normal Body Mass Index were more likely to describe themselves as overweight between 1988 and 1994.

Dr Melina Jampolis, who was not involved in the research, said some of the change in perception could come from campaigns aimed at discouraging women from seeking fashion-model thinness. But she said the general increase in overweight is more likely to make normal weight seem even more normal. —Internet



In this photo taken Sri Lankan fishermen, also known locally as stick fishermen, sit perched on stilts fixed into the ocean floor as they fish in Koggala area, south of Galle, Sri Lanka.

Customers decide barbershop price

A barber shop in China has taken customer service to a new level by letting clients determine the price of their haircuts.

The facility in Xian, capital of the northwest Shaanxi Province, initiated the marketing strategy in December and the response has been quite good, local media reports quoted by *China Daily* said. Under the strategy, customers are asked to rate the service on scale of one to 10.

"If the customer gives us 10 marks, he has to make the full payment, if he says eight, he gets a 20 percent discount," said the shop's manager.

Whatever a customer pays then become his barber's wage.

Clients aren't complaining. One of them was quoted as saying it a "brilliant way to improve customer service."

Stolen wallet found years later in tree

A New York woman said a wallet stolen nearly 27 years ago in Central Park was found inside a hollow tree.

Ruth Bendik, 60, said she was greeting runners at the end of the New York marathon on 24 Oct, 1982, and "when I got out of the crush of people, I realized my purse was much lighter," CNN reported.

Josh Galiley, tree-care supervisor for the Central Park Conservancy, said he was chopping down a 65-year-old hazardous black cherry tree in the park last week when he found the blue leather wallet in the hollow trunk.

"I started poking in the soft stuff and this wallet turned up. Having been that low in the tree ... the location indicated it had been there for quite some time," Galiley said.

He said finding a wallet inside of a tree was a first for him.

NEWS ALBUM



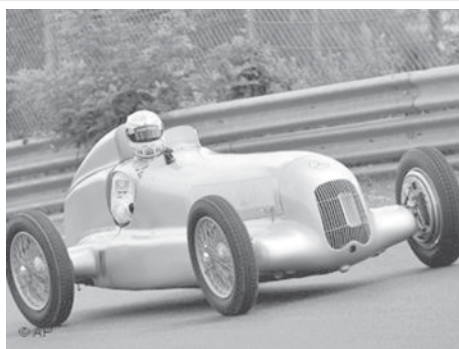
A man holding a skeleton on fire performs during the annual Caribbean festival in Santiago de Cuba, Cuba.

Inmate uses toilet paper 'bomb' to attempt escape

The Iron County sheriff's office said an inmate tried to escape from a correctional facility by fashioning a fake bomb. Sheriff's Deputy Aaron Pallesen said the 28-year-old inmate cornered an officer in a lobby while holding what looked like a silver device with a red detonator.

Pallesen said deputies tackled the inmate, who allegedly threatened to blow up himself and anything around him if he wasn't released.

A bomb squad found the device was made from toilet paper rolls, headphone wires and a pencil eraser. The inmate, who was already charged with possession of a stolen vehicle and illegal firearms, could face additional charges.



McLaren-Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain drives the vintage W25 Silver Arrow on the Nuerburgring. The defending Formula One drivers' champion is not expected to be among the contenders in Sunday's German Grand Prix.

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw visits fish/prawn cold storage in Myeik

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July—Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence met with servicemen and family members of regiments and units at Myeik station hall on 11 July and presented exercise books and stationery to them.

Accompanied by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw visited the Fish/Prawn Cold Storage on Pahtet Island.

At Pahtet Village Basic Education Middle School in Kyunsu Township, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw inspected learning of students at the school and donated computer, school uniforms, exercise books and stationery to the school.

He visited soft crab breeding farm and wood-based finished goods factory, cold storage and fish meal factory in Myeik.

At the local military hospital in Myeik, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw comforted the patient Tatmadawmen and family members and presented gifts to them.

MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence views processing of fish and prawn at cold storage in Myeik.—MNA

Inter-Township Basketball Tournament held in Shan State (North)

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July — Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut attended the final match and prize presentation ceremony of the Shan State (North) PDC Chairman's Trophy Inter-Township Basketball Tournament at the gymnasium of the command headquarters on 30 July.

The commander and officials presented prizes to the winners.

Next, the commander delivered an address at the opening ceremony of Commander's Shield Soccer Tournament and watched the debut match.

MNA

ISD Basketball Tournament commences

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July—Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe and Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint attended the opening ceremony of 40th Inter-State/Division Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament 2009 at Bahtoo Gymnasium in Mandalay yesterday evening.

The commander accepted championship shields 2008 presented by champions Sagaing Division Women's Team and Shan State (North) Men's Team.

The minister opened the tournament. Next, the commander, the minister and officials accepted cash and sports equipment donated to MBF by well-wishers.

MNA

A&I Minister meets staff who attended agriculture course

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July— Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo met staff who attended the 10-month agriculture training course at the Araba International Center in Israel, at the ministry here on 10 July evening.

The minister instructed them to apply their experiences and technology from the training courses in undertaking the tasks on agriculture development of the country. Next, the trainees recounted their experiences on cultivation of crops in the training course.—MNA

Kyaunggon Township, a region of banana

Article: Maung Maung Myint Swe; Photos: Kyaw Myint Than (Lanmadaw)

(from page 16)

Then, we visited Moepya Village in Moepya Village-tract that grows banana more than any other part in the township, and conducted an interview with U Thein Tun.

He said, "I farm a land of 50 acres to grow banana, and I grow Pheegyan. Last year, I grew 4000 plants of Pheegyan and got about 4000 bunches. I have a plan to grow 10,000 plants, and I think I will get a bumper harvest of banana this year. For the time being, I harvest the



U Myo Kyaw Kyaw, Chairman of Kyaunggon Township Peace and Development Council.

farm once 15 days, and I get about 200 bunches a time."

"After cutting down the main plant, I leave only

one of the outgrowths. I can collect banana bunches when the outgrowths are mature in coming month of Pyatho.

I send up my products by motorized boat to Bargayar Port in Yangon. Last year, banana was priced at 2000 kyats a bunch, so I got about eight million kyats," he said, conducting us round the farm.

It was very heartening to see heaps of banana bunches, which were without underdeveloped fruits among them. Now, local farmers are growing species of Khunwa, Israeli fragrant banana, and other marketable species on an extensive scale.

The village-tracts that grow mainly banana in

Kyaunggon Township are Ywathagon, Kwingyi, Minmanaing and Zayatkwinn. Bananas from Kyaunggon are in demand



U Thein Tun, a banana grower.

because they are big with thin skins and sweet flavour. So, the township sends up its bananas by two 10-wheel trucks and by boat daily.

During our trip, we saw bananas being loaded onto many trucks on Kyaunggon-Yangon Road and onto motorized boats in the port and stockpiles of bananas. So, it is fair to say that Kyaunggon Township makes a huge contribution to the agricultural sector of Ayeyawady Division.

Translation: MS
Kyemon: 8-7-2009

Merchants to be educated, organized...

(from page 1)
the neighbouring country such as iron, steel construction materials, machine and machine tools, computer and accessories, farm implements, fertilizers, raw materials and household utensils.

He continued to report that in the past, sea lane was the usual means of transport for trade with foreign countries; that now export and import tasks are expedited with one



Customs officers inspecting a truck using X-ray machine at 105th Mile Border Trade Zone.—MNA

and Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone have launched regular trade through land routes. Now, regular trade for mutual interest has been put into

bilateral trade with regular trade system through the trade zone and transforming the trade into the major land trade centre like Yangon port, the

have been no more. He called on local authorities and service personnel of the border trade zone to educate and organize merchants to turn to legal

seven miles from Muse. It has an area of 370.83 acres in the first phase. It is constituted with brokerage houses, warehouses, cold storages,

vehicle stand, vehicle checkpoint, and hostels. Bilateral regular trade has been boosted year by year since 2006.

MNA

Only in the time of the Tatmadaw government, could border trade with immediate neighbouring countries be launched through land routes.

Regular trade for mutual interest has been put into effect through Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone in Muse that shares border with China.



Import checkpoint of Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone.—MNA

stop services through Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone; that regular trade by land has proved successful; that the turnover of the trade with the People's Republic of China makes up over 70 per cent of the total volume of regular trade with the neighbouring countries through land routes; and that so the trade zone is a thriving regular trade camp.

In response to the report, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that previously Yangon port was the major source of transport for trade with foreign countries. Only in the time of the Tatmadaw government, could border trade with immediate neighbouring countries be launched through land routes.

Now, Myawady and Tamu border checkpoints

effect through Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone in Muse that shares border with China. The trade volume of the zone is larger than any other land trade centre.

He stressed the importance of boosting

entrance to the sea.

He called for systematically improving trade services through other land trade routes.

Permission has been given for regular trade between the two countries, so black market should

border trade and pay taxes.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected functions and development of Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone.

Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone is



Merchants applying for permits at 105th Mile Border Trade Zone.—MNA

Lt-Gen Tha Aye on inspection tour of NyaungU, Meiktila districts

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July—Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe and departmental officials, viewed ancient stone inscriptions, paintings and fine arts works of Bagan era displayed at Bagan Archaeological Museum in Bagan on 7 July morning.

At Ngathayauk People's Hospital, Lt-Gen Tha Aye presented cash

to the funds of the hospital.

At the hall of Ngathayauk General Administration Department, he met with departmental officials, townsenders and social organization members. He heard reports on development of the town and attended to the needs.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspected conditions of Ngathayauk-Seiktein-Welaung-Taungtha inter-village road by car and greeted local people of villages in NyaungU and Kyaukpadaung townships.

Next, they inspected Vest Factory of Myanmar Textile Industries in Taungtha Township.

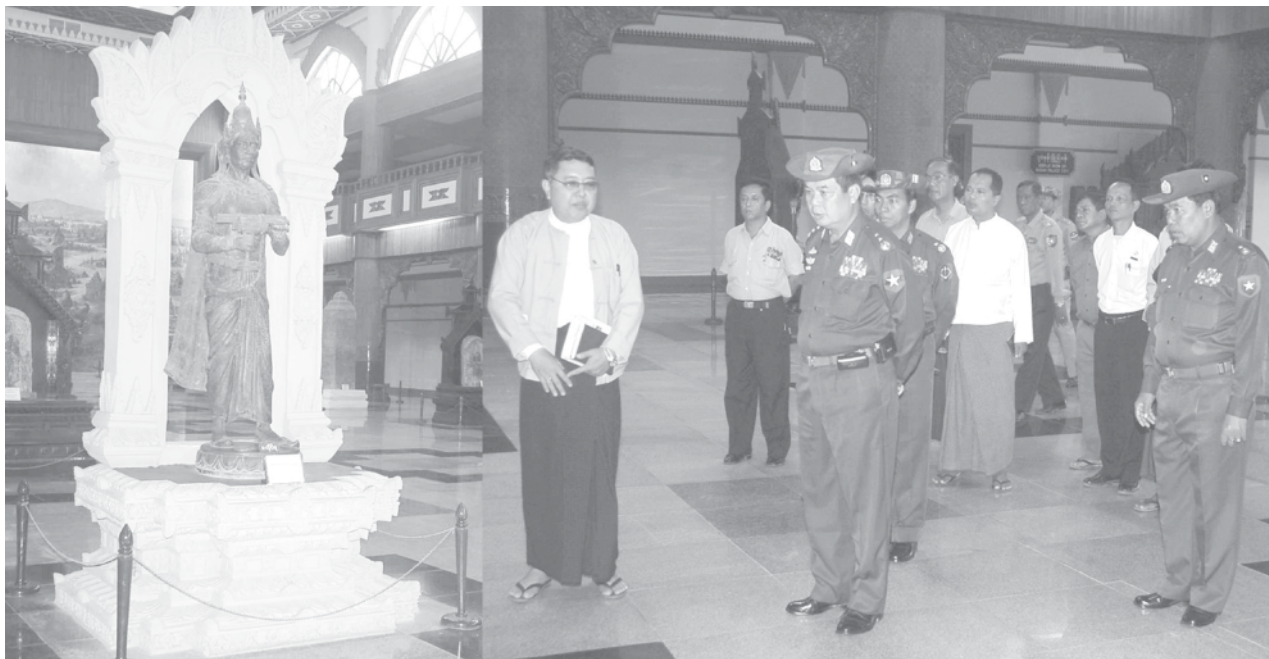
In Yonsigyi Village of Taungtha Township, Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspected construction of the self-reliant station hospital and fulfilled the needs of the hospital.

After looking into the conditions of Taungtha-Mahlaing road section, Lt-Gen Tha Aye viewed thriving monsoon sesame and monsoon pigeon pea plantations in Letgyi Village-tract of Mahlaing Township.—MNA



An aerial view of buildings at 105th Mile Trade Zone of Border Trade Department in Muse. (News on page 1) —MNA

Lt-Gen Tha Aye of Ministry of Defence views fine arts works of Bagan era displayed at Bagan Archaeological Museum in Bagan. —MNA



Commander's Shield Sepak Takraw Tournament concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July— A ceremony to present prizes to winners in the Southern Command Commander's Shield Sepak Takraw Tournament was held at the hall of the command headquarters in Ketumati of Toungoo Township on 7

July evening.

Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Hla Min presented the best player award and the championship shield to the respective winners.

On 8 July, he attended the coordination meeting of Division, District and Township PDCs and departmental officials at the hall of the command headquarters and attended to the needs.

MNA

Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Shield Chess C'ship commences

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July— The Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Shield Chess Championship kicked off at the hall of Toungoo Station on 7 July

morning.

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief (Air), Brig-Gen Hsan Oo Hlaing of Toungoo Station delivered an address and

opened the championship.

Later, he watched participation of chess players in the championship.

MNA

Commander attends ceremony to honour officers, other ranks, families

YANGON, 12 July – A ceremony to honour

officers, other ranks and their families of regiments and units who brought honour to Yangon Command was held at the hall of Yagon Command headquarters here this afternoon, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council

Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint.

First, the commander made an opening speech on the occasion and then presented cash assistance for outstanding students of the families. Next, officials awarded the respective winners.—MNA

Mr. & Miss Quench Contest held

YANGON, 12 July— The Myanmar Body Building and Physical Culture Federation and M.G.S Beverages Co. Ltd

jointly organized the Mr. Crusher & Miss Quench Contest to mark Olympic Day 2009 at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township yesterday.

Officials presented life-time fitness prizes to U Hla Kyaing, U Pe Win and U Hla Aung, first prizes to U Pyar in the senior body-building class, Tun Win Naing in the Mr. Star Cola contest, Aung Khaing Win in the Mr. Crusher contest, Hay Thi Hteik Htar in the Miss Popa Aqua contest and Swe Sin Phyoo in the Miss Quench contest and second and third prizes to respective winners.—MNA



Director-General U Thaug Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department presents first prize to Aung Khaing Win in Mr. Crusher Contest. YCDC

Organize people through media to actively participate in national development drives

Information Minister attends 63rd Anniversary of Myanma Radio and Television



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan speaking at ceremony to mark the 63rd Anniversary of Myanma Radio and Television of Ministry of Information.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July —A ceremony to mark the 63rd Anniversary of Myanma Radio and Television of the Ministry of Information took place at the auditorium of MRTV here this morning. Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attended the ceremony and awarded the outstanding staff.

It was also attended by departmental heads of the departments and enterprises under the ministry, technicians, staff members, chairmen and executives of Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon and Myanmar Music Asiayon and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said the anniversaries of the departments and enterprises of the ministry were marked with two aims. The first aim was that departments concerned were to review their strong points and weak points in implementing their tasks in the previous year and then to try to make more progress this year.

The minister said the second aim was to award those who deserve so. And this can facilitate the progress of the departments concerned. Departments and enterprises would make

more progress only when they were to perform their duties by adopting systematic aims and objectives, added the minister.

The main duty of the staff of the ministry was to organize the people through the media to actively participate in national development drives realizing prevailing peace and stability of the State and prevailing conditions of the nation.

The ministry has adopted and is realizing 12 objectives for the year 2009-2010.

Myanma Radio and Television is to realize the following 11 objectives:

- (1) to actively cooperate in successful implementation

of the seven-step Road Map of the State through media

- (2) to work hard in order to earn more domestic income and foreign exchange and ensure balanced budget in respective departments
- (3) to practise thrift
- (4) to try to make the radio media coverage across the country
- (5) to try to make the television media coverage across the country
- (6) to try to transform analog system into digital system and use DVB-T system

- (7) for networking the whole country to try for the Myanmar media to cover not only the country but also the whole world
- (8) To extensively undertake agricultural and livestock breeding tasks in Central Myanmar, Yangon and other places
- (9) To try to become an active, quality media that is good in both form and essence.
- (10) to nurture and train media persons into reliable professionals,

- and (11) to accelerate agricultural and livestock farming for staff welfare.
- Now, the nation has got prosperity for rapid development, he said, spotlighting the importance of inspiring the people to take lessons from the past untold miseries and to assess the objective conditions for long-term maintenance of stability, peace and development momentum. He urged all service personnel to try to become reliable, competent media professionals.
- The minister presented gifts to five staff who won Medal for Excellent Performance in Social Field (Third Class), three staff who won Good Public

Service Medal, Chairman of the Scrutiny Board for Classical Songs writer-cum-film director Bogale Tint Aung, Chairman of the Scrutiny Board for Modern Songs U Maung Maung Latt, and service personnel for their brilliant performances in airing programmes.

MRTV Director-General U Khin Maung Htay, IPRD Director-General U Ye Htut, NPE Managing Director U Soe Win, MMPE Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint, and PPE General Manager U Ye Tint presented gifts to outstanding staff and schoolchildren.

Next, MRTV staff members presented song programme and a role play. MNA



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan enjoys songs presentation of staff of Myanma Radio and Television.—MNA



Milsa Grant of New York holds her dog Lulu Madonna, as she waits to check-in at the Delta terminal at LaGuardia Airport in New York, in this Nov. 23, 2005, file photo. A half-million pets fly each year, according to statistics compiled by the U.S. Department of Transportation.—INTERNET

Small island nations demand more emissions cuts

UNITED NATIONS, 12 July—This week's pledges by G-8 leaders to cap increases in the world's temperature are insufficient, a group of small island countries that face potential catastrophe from climate change said on Friday. The Alliance of Small Island States, a United Nations-based group of 42 island nations, called on the world's richest countries and major economies to take more concrete and ambitious steps to fight global warming.

The G-8 countries and another 17-country group, the Major Economies Forum, agreed in L'Aquila, Italy, that global average temperatures should not be allowed to rise more than two degrees

Celsius (3.6 Fahrenheit) by 2050. "Two degrees of temperature rise is unacceptable," AOSIS Chair Dessima Williams told reporters at the United Nations.

If global temperatures increased that much, many island countries—already vulnerable to hurricanes, cyclones and other adverse weather—could get wiped off the map by rising sea levels, Williams said. "The world has an obligation to ensure that no island is left behind," said Williams, who is also Grenada's Ambassador to the United Nations. The group counts Barbados, Seychelles and Trinidad and Tobago among its members.—MNA/Reuters

A/H1N1 flu virus may get chance to mutate

SINGAPORE, 12 July—Singapore's Health Minister Khaw Boon Wan warned here on Saturday that there is still a chance the A/H1N1 flu virus may mutate and get deadlier, according to Channel NewsAsia reports on Saturday night.

Studies have shown that the virus seems to be getting weaker as time goes by, but there is still a chance the virus may mutate and get deadlier, the minister said at a health event.

There are bound to be complicated cases, with some possibly resulting in death, Khaw said, adding that Singaporeans have fought off the virus well by being well-informed and complying with precautionary measures.

Believing that the city state is in the final leg of its battle against the A/

H1N1 flu virus, the minister highlighted the priorities his ministry is now focusing on, besides high risk groups.

"We are taking a pause and reflecting on what have we learnt in the last three months, what are the lessons. So we are

doing a post mortem on how we have reacted to this first wave, to learn from it, where can we do better is to prepare for the next wave. Of course we hope there is no next wave, but we can not tell," he said.

MNA/Xinhua



This Friday, 10 July, 2009 picture shows the home of Byrd and Melanie Billings in Beulah, Fla. The two were found dead in their bedroom at Thursday evening, July 9, 2009. Investigators asked the public to be on the lookout Friday for a red van they believe carried three men involved in the deaths of a Florida Panhandle couple who were shot in their rural home while eight of their children slept.—INTERNET

G-8 nations vow to curb ENR technology, surprise India

NEW DELHI, 12 July—The group of eight developed countries have vowed to curb transfer enrichment and reprocessing (ENR) technology and equipment, surprising India as it goes against the spirit of Nuclear Suppliers Group's "clean" waiver to it.

In a joint statement on non-proliferation, the G-8 nations also pushed other members of the 45-nation NSG to reach a consensus within this year to disallow transfer of ENR to countries which are not signatories to NPT.

The statement was issued after the Summit that was attended by India's Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in L'Aquila in Italy.

The move, which would have an impact on India, comes even though the NSG had last September given New Delhi "clean" and "full" waiver for civil nuclear cooperation with the world despite it being a non-signatory to NPT.

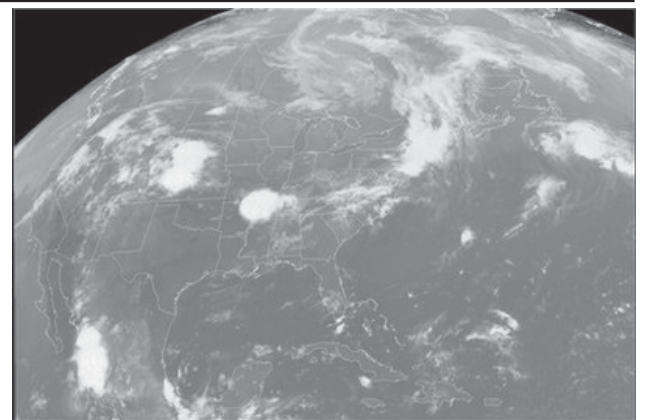
"To reduce the proliferation risks associated with the spread of enrichment and reprocessing facilities, equipment and technology, we welcome the progress that continues to be made by the NSG on mechanisms to strengthen controls on transfers of such enrichment and reprocessing items and technology," said the statement issued Friday.—MNA/PTI

Somali pirates hijack Indian cargo ship

KUALA LUMPUR, July 12 — An Indian cargo vessel with 15 crew members on board has been hijacked by Somali pirates off the port city of Bosasso in Gulf of Aden waters, a media report said Saturday.

The vessel with 15 Indian crew was captured Friday just 14 nautical miles off the port city of Bosasso after it had discharged goods from UAE at the Somali harbour from where it was sailing off, the Australian.to website reported.

MNA/PTI



This NOAA satellite image taken Sunday, July 12, 2009 at 1:15 a.m. EDT shows multi-layered clouds with patches of precipitation and thunderstorms highlighting a front that extends from the Northeast through the Central Plains. Impulses along the tail end of this front instigate rain showers and isolated thunderstorms across the Central High Plains.

INTERNET

Cheney told CIA to withhold information

WASHINGTON, 12 July—The CIA withheld information about a secret counter-terrorism programme from Congress for eight years on orders from former US Vice President Dick Cheney, the *New York Times* said on Saturday.

Citing two unidentified sources, the newspaper said Central Intelligence Agency Director Leon Panetta disclosed Cheney's involvement in closed briefings to congressional intelligence committees late last month. Panetta, who was named to head the agency earlier this year by President Barack Obama, ended the programme, which remains secret, when he first learned of its existence from subordinates on June 23, the *Times* said.

Intelligence and congressional officials told the newspaper the agency began the programme after the September 11 attacks and said it never became operational and did not involve CIA interrogation programmes or domestic intelligence activities. The newspaper said its efforts to reach Cheney through relatives and associates were unsuccessful.

Asked about the *Times* report, CIA spokesman Paul Gimigliano said it was not the agency's practice to discuss classified briefings. "When a CIA unit brought this matter to Director Panetta's attention, it was with the recommendation that it be shared appropriately with Congress. That was also his view, and he took swift, decisive action to put it into effect," Gimigliano said, declining to comment further.

MNA/Reuters

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(For. Domnarn Somgiat
& Boonma,Attorneys at
Law, Thailand)
Dated:13 July,2009.

Haitian ferry capsizes; at least five people dead

PORT-AU-PRINCE, 12 July—A ferry cap-sized off Haiti's south-ern coast Saturday morning, killing at least five people. Authorities said it wasn't clear how many people were on board, but as many as two dozen could be missing.

Officials had initially said six people were known dead, but later lowered the figure.

Civil protection official Jean-Michel Sabbat said the search

was suspended late Satur-day afternoon and will resume on Sunday.

He said the boat over-turned en route from Anse a Pitre, near the border with the Dominican Republic, to the southern peninsula city of Jacmel.

Twenty-two survivors were rescued. Sabbat said rough estimates indicated that perhaps as many as 60 people were aboard the ves-sel. Officials could not im-mediately say what kind of boat it was or what caused it to overturn.—Internet



The performers give the stage play of "Hello Kitty's Dream Light Fantasy" in Suzhou, a city of east China's Jiangsu Province, on 10 July, 2009. The stage play "Hello Kitty's Dream Light Fantasy" is making a China tour in recent days.—XINHUA

Space companies eye HI as potential new frontier

HONOLULU, 12 July—Tourists coming to Hawaii for high-end getaways could some-day be launched from the sand to the stars, tak-ing island-hopping to new heights. Hawaii could even be the first state where space

travelers use rocket planes to get from one place to an-other. Rather than launching and landing in the same spot, planners envision the planes taking off in one place, traveling through space, then coming down in another, going from the Big Island to Oahu. Within a decade, space travelers could island hop from Ha-waii to Japan in 45 minutes.

And promoters promise

a unique perspective dur-ing the Hawaii flight.

"Flying down the Ha-waii island chain, it's a completely different view of the planet than you'll see when you launch from landlocked states," said Chuck Lauer, vice presi-dent of business develop-ment for Oklahoma City-based Rocketplane Global. "It's the blue planet view of the world."—Internet

Nigeria rebels, government agree amnesty

LAGOS, 12 July—Nigerian rebel leader Henry Okah has agreed to the terms of a government amnesty programme and his lawyers said they would meet Presi-dent Umaru Yar'Adua on Sunday to discuss a timetable for his release.

The release of Okah, suspected leader of Nigeria's most prominent militant group, would raise hopes some rebels would lay down their arms and halt an offensive in the Niger Delta, heartland of Africa's biggest oil and gas sector.

"Terms of the amnesty have been settled. The agree-ment we are going to discuss (with the president) is the timeline for his release," one of Okah's lawyers, Wilson Ajuwa, told Reuters by telephone.

He said Okah, who has been facing charges of gun-running and treason, could be freed as early as Sunday after more than a year in detention.

Internet

Magnitude 5.3 earthquake hits southern Peru

LIMA, 12 July—An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5.3 has struck southern Peru. The coun-try's seismic institute says there are no immediate re-ports of damage or injury.

Peru's Geophysics Institute says the quake struck at 1:12 am (0612 GMT) Sunday in Cuzco Province, 44 kilometers (27 miles) southeast of Yauri.

The US Geological Survey recorded the initial mag-nitude as 6.0.—Internet

London's Royal Ballet to make Cuba debut

HAVANA, 12 July—The Royal Ballet of Lon-don said it will perform in Havana on Tuesday for the first time in its 78-year-old history, fea-turing an appearance of its star Cuban dancer Carlos Acosta.

The storied classical ballet company and its 96 dancers arrived late Fri-day in Cuba accompa-nied by 50 technicians for five performances, in-cluding a tribute to Cu-ban ballet legend Alicia Alonso, said Royal Bal-let artistic director Dame Monica Mason.

Despite suffering

from partial blindness, Alonso, 88, continues to head the National Ballet of Cuba, which she helped found 60 years ago.

Mason told reporters she was honored to be in Cuba, where, she said, dance is at the heart of the people and the culture.

In a quid pro quo, Cuba's National Ballet is scheduled to perform in the United Kingdom next year, accompanied by Acosta, the Royal Bal-let's principal guest dancer.

Internet



In this photo made on 7 July, 2009, Joanna Blaszczak, a student at Cornell University, wires up an electric probe at a worm research test site at a University of Idaho research farm in Moscow, Idaho.—INTERNET

Quake hits Sumatra of eastern Indonesia

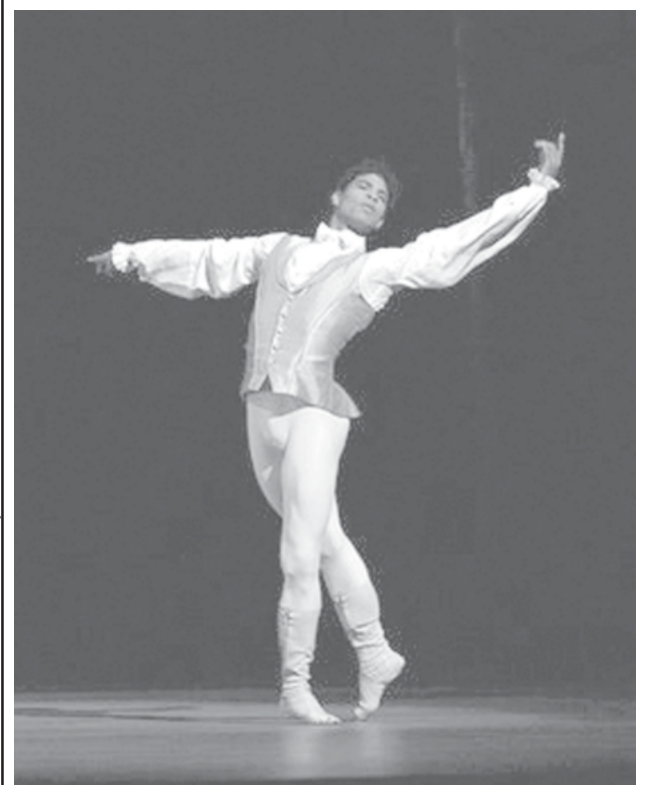
JAKARTA, 12 July—A moderate quake with magnitude of 5.2 rocked Sumatra Island in west-ern parts of Indonesia earlier Sunday, but no re-port of damage or casu-alty, Meteorology Agency and Geophysics said here.

The quake jolted at 02:35 Jakarta time (1935 GMT Saturday) with epicenter at 1206 kms southwest Pagai Utara of

Mentawai in West Sumatra Province, the agency said.

Indonesia with over 230 million population sits on a vulnerable quake-hit zone known as th Pacific ring of Fire, where two conti-nental plates, stretching from Western hemi-sphere to Japan that of-ten cause seismic and volcanic movements.

Internet



The Royal Ballet of London said it will perform in Havana on Tuesday for the first time in its 78-year-old history, featuring an appearance of its star Cuban dancer Carlos Acosta (pictured in 2006).

INTERNET



Mexican professional wrestler and environmental activist Hijo del Santo or Son of the Saint, poses with a pink sea snail at the Xel-Ha eco-park near Tulum, Mexico, on 11 July, 2009. Hijo del Santo was on hand to participate in an activity to preserve the endangered pink sea snail.—INTERNET

Tropical fish enduring off Sydney coast

SYDNEY, 12 July—More tropical fish species are thriving off the Australian coast near Sydney because ocean temperatures have warmed, an ecologist says.

Marine ecologist David Booth of Sydney's University of Technology said when combined with the increasing strength of ocean currents in the region, warmer temperatures have made the tra-

ditionally cold waters more hospitable to fish species, the *Sydney Morning Herald* reported in its Sunday edition.

"More and more of the fish are surviving winter down here," Booth said. "So long as the temperature environment is correct, a lot of them will do just fine." Booth said the growth of tropical fish species off Sydney's coast and the increasing temperatures are indica-

tive of global climate change.

Peter Doherty, Australian Institute of Marine Science director, said the warming current has also allowed the New South Wales black sea urchin to survive in Tasmanian waters.

Doherty told the *Morning Herald* the undersea creatures wreak havoc on the sea floor by destroying kelp beds.

Internet

Did dinos burrow to survive harsh climate?

ATLANTA, 12 July—Dinosaurs of different species in different hemispheres — millions of years apart — burrowed, perhaps to survive, an Emory University paleontologist says.

Anthony Martin, the paleontologist, and other researchers had discovered 95-million-year-old skeletal remains of dinosaurs in a fossilized burrow in southwestern Montana in 2006.

The researchers said

the find suggested burrowing may have allowed some dinosaurs to survive extreme environments, in contrast to some theories about how they became extinct.

Now, Martin has found evidence of more dinosaur burrows, on the other side of the world, in Victoria, Australia, findings to be published this month in *Cretaceous Research* say.

"This research helps us to better understand long-

term geologic change and how organisms may have adapted as the Earth has undergone periods of global cooling and warming," said Martin, a senior lecturer in environmental studies at Emory and an honorary research associate at Monash University in Melbourne.

The Victoria fossils are about 110-million-years-old, dating to one of the last times Earth experienced global warming.

Internet

Knee surgery may not cut careers short

KEYSTONE, 12 July—Knee surgery doesn't necessarily cut short a professional football career, a researcher reported at an orthopedic conference in Keystone, Colo, on Saturday.

Robert H Brophy, an assistant professor in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at the Washington University School of Medicine and assistant team physician for the St Louis Rams,

delivered a paper on his study of two new surgeries at the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine's annual meeting.

He found football players who had anterior-cruciate ligament reconstruction have a longer playing career than those who have a simple meniscus repair. The ACL is the ligament that restricts forward motion of the shin. An injury to the ACL

makes the knee less stable and more prone to arthritis and cartilage tears.

The meniscus is a disc that cushions the knee. The meniscus surgery has a briefer recovery time than ACL reconstruction, but apparently leads to a shorter career, Brophy said. Players who have had ACL reconstruction have careers of similar length to those of players without ACL injuries.

Internet

Offshore quake confuses squid

LAJOLLA, 12 July—An offshore earthquake that rattled the Southern California coastline early Saturday may have confused squid, sending them toward a beach.

The squid were first spotted at La Jolla Shores beach about 45 minutes after the 7:30 a.m. quake, San Diego 6 reported. The squid, most of them 3 feet to 4 feet long, not only turned up in shallow water, they moved up onto the beach. Some swimmers and joggers launched an

informal squid rescue, getting the invertebrates back in the water.

Scientists say the earthquake, which measured 4.0 on the Richter scale, may have disoriented the squid, sending them landward.

The US Geological Survey reported the earthquake was centred about 30 miles west of La Jolla and 37 miles off San Diego, the *Los Angeles Times* reported. While it was large enough to be felt in much of western San Diego County and to

do some damage if it had been closer, no injuries or property damage was reported.

Internet

A woman and her children wear face masks as a precaution against swine flu. Pregnant women are at a greater risk than the rest of the population of suffering serious complications from swine flu, Canadian health authorities warned —INTERNET



Argentina reports six new A/H1N1 flu deaths

BUENOS AIRES, 12 July—Argentina reported six new A/H1N1 flu deaths on Saturday, the Health Ministry said.

With the newly-reported casualties, the country's death toll caused by the A/H1N1 flu rose to 94.

The number of confirmed cases in the country was 2,929, Health

Minister Juan Manzur said.

Argentina is the third worst-hit country in the world, behind Mexico, which has reported 121 confirmed deaths, and the United States, which has reported 221.

To help stem the spread of the virus, Argentine authorities have taken a number of special meas-

ures, such as extending school vacations and canceling public celebrations.

Argentina's economy is headed for a monthly loss of six billion pesos (about 1.57 billion US dollars) because of the A/H1N1 flu spread, according to a report released a research institute on Tuesday.—Internet

Thailand's death toll from A/H1N1 flu rises to 17

BANGKOK, 12 July—Thailand has one more death related to A/H1N1 influenza virus infection, bringing the country's death toll to 17, local media reported on Sunday.

The latest victim is a woman from Rachaburi Province, some 80 km southwest to the capital of

Bangkok, the Thai-language news agency, *INN* quoted public health ministry sources as saying.

The woman is an internet bar staff with a weight of some 150 kg, the *INN* said. The government has advised internet bar to close temporarily from 13 July to 28 July

to avoid the risk of infection among net surfers.

As of Sunday morning, Thailand has confirmed 247 infection cases, bringing the country's cumulative total to 3,475.

Thailand had its first two confirmed patients on 12 May.

Internet



Spanish matador Jose Lillo makes a pass to a bull during a bullfight of the San Fermin festival in Pamplona, northern Spain.—INTERNET

Indian Air Force to place order for 10 "C-17" transport aircraft

NEW DELHI, 12 July—Indian Air Force (IAF) has shortlisted US Boeing's C-17 Globemaster III to replace its heavylift Russian IL-76 transport aircraft, said Defence Ministry sources on Saturday.

"The C-17s have been shortlisted after Indian Air Force carried out a thorough study on its capability to take-off and land on short runways with heavy loads," sources in the Defence Ministry said.

The Russian IL-76 transport aircraft is an aging fleet and the government realized this after taking the assessment of the military, they said.

They also revealed that IAF would place an initial order for 10 of the C-17s through the US Government's Foreign Military Sales (FMS) route, and may later go in for a follow-on order.

There are about 100 medium-lift AN-32 aircraft and around 20 heavylift IL-76 aircraft in the IAF fleet at present.

MNA/Xinhua

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (13-7-2009) (Monday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am ~ 10:00am) MST
Europe	- (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm) MST
North America	- (23:30pm ~ 07:30am) MST

Local Transmission

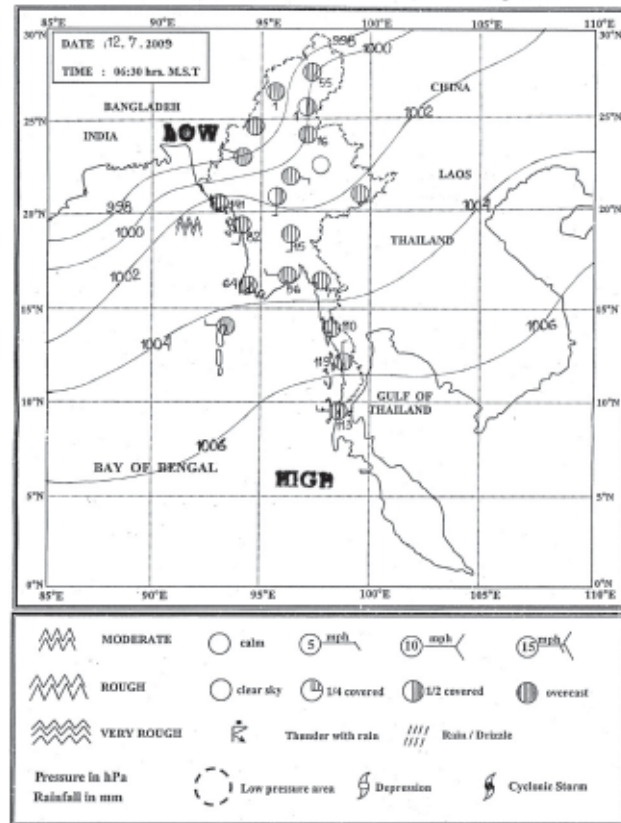
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * Scenic Beauties and Sentiment (Myeik, Bagan)
- * Rakhine State Cultural Museum
- * The Making of a Myanmar Saung (Harp)
- * Mularsheedi we Love!
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * Heart and Soul of Myanmar Culture
- * A Day in the life of the Pao Family
- * A Mirror Reflecting Rakhine Architecture (Shithaung Stupa)
- * A Safe Haven-For Older Persons (Kayah State)
- * Palm Leaf Inscription
- * Bead Gallery
- * A Pilgrimage to Dhammayangyi
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Scenic Beauties and Sentiment (Myeik, Bagan)
- * Rakhine State Cultural Museum
- * The Making of a Myanmar Saung (Harp)
- * Mularsheedi we Love!
- * Myanmar Roasted Bean
- * Sightseeing around Mandalay (Mandalay)
- * Parabaik Writings
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Sunday, 12 July, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing Division, rain have been isolated in Shan, Chin and Kayah States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Bago Division and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfall in Rakhine, Mon States and Tainingthayi Division, isolated heavyfall in Kayin State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Launglon (8.70) inches, Kawthoung (7.76) inches, Dawei (6.06) inches, Sittway (5.95) inches, Myeik (4.76) inches, Nay Pyi Taw (Pyinmana) (0.35) inch, Nay Pyi Taw (Lewe) and Aunglan (0.12) inch each.

Maximum temperature on 11-7-2009 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 12-7-2009 was 69°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 12-7-2009 was 88%. Total sun shine hours on 11-7-2009 was (6.8) hour Approx.

Rainfall on 12-7-2009 was (2.04) inches at Mingaladon, (2.20) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.67) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (46.65) inches at Mingaladon, (50.90) inches at Kaba-Aye and (52.91) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 11-7-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 13th July 2009: Rain will be fairly widespread in Kachin State, widespread in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyarwady and Taninthayi Divisions and isolated to scattered in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine, Mon Kayin States and Taninthayi Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally strong monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 13-7-2009: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 13-7-2009: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 13-7-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).



Monday, 13 July
View on today

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြု ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning News

7:40 am

4. To be healthy exercise

7:50 am

5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:55 am

6. Musical programme

8:05 am

7. "အဆုံးအဖြတ်"

8:20 am

8. "မိဒီယာရဲ့အလင်းတန်းများ သွေးချင်းတို့ရခိုင်"

8:30 am

9. Song of National Races

8:40 am

10. International News

8:45 am

11. Cute Little Dancers

4:00 pm

1. Martial Song

4:10 pm

2. Dance Variety

4:20 pm

3. Musical Programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

4:30 pm

4. ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအမှတ်(၃)အခြေခံပညာဦးစီးဌာနဆရာမအကြိမ်၊ ဓမ္မစကြာဝတ်ရွတ်ပူဇော်ပွဲပြိုင်ပွဲ (တတိယဆု) (အထက-၁ ကျောက်တန်း) (အမျိုးသမီးဝတ်ရွတ်အဖွဲ့)

5:00 pm

5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရှုပေးအထူးပြု) (ရှုပေး)

5:15 pm

6. Songs of National Races

5:20 pm

7. "သဘာဝပတ်ဝန်းကျင်နှင့် ကြွပ်ကြွပ်အိတ်"

5:30 pm

8. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:35 pm

9. "တားဆီးကာကွယ် လူတုပ်ကွေးအန္တရာယ်"

5:40 pm

10. စူပါတေးသံရှင်ရွေးချယ်ပွဲ

6:00 pm

11. Evening News

6:30 pm

12. Weather Report

6:35 pm

13. Sing & Enjoy

7:00 pm

14. "တန်ခိုးတော်အနန္တ ပြည့်ဝမွမ်းမံရွှေစည်းခုံ"

7:15 pm

15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သမင်အလိုရှိသည်" (အပိုင်း-၂၁)

8:00 pm

16. News
17. International News
18. Weather Report
19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မေ့မေတ္တာ" (အပိုင်း-၈)
20. တရုတ်ပြည်တွင်းရိုးရှင်မြင်သံကြားရက်သတ္တပတ်ပြပွဲ (Ethnic Customs in Guangxi)



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

Kyaunggon Township, a region of banana

Article: Maung Maung Myint Swe; Photos: Kyaw Myint Than (Lanmadaw)

Kyaunggon Township is 40 miles away from Patheingyi in Ayeyawady Division. It was raining heavily when we arrived in Kyaunggon Township, which has a good reputation as a region of quality banana.

Soon after our arrival in Kyaunggon Township, we interviewed the chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council.

In response to our question about the progress in the agricultural farming of the region, he told Kyemon Daily, "The common paddy species we grow here are Manawthukha, Meetauk, Shwetaskok and Yadanawin. We grow not only vegetables and kitchen crops but also areca nut, corn, ponlon (creeper), sugarcane and banana on a commercial scale."

In Kyaunggon Township, the areca nut sown acreage is about half of the total sown acreage of other crops. It



Bunches of bananas to be loaded onto trucks.

sends up areca nut surplus to Patheingyi and Yangon.

"Here, the yield of banana reaches at its peak in June and July. The total

sown acreage of banana is 526 acres. Commonly, we grow

Khunwa, Khunsein, Pheegyan (plantain) and Shwehngetpyaw. We send

up the banana surplus by car mainly to Yangon." (See page 7)

Seals quickly respond to gain and loss of habitat under climate change

SCIENCE DAILY, 12 July — Southern Elephant seals responded rapidly to climate and habitat change and established a new breeding site thousands of kilometres from existing breeding grounds, according to new research.

An international research team, including post-doctorate Dr Mark de Bruyn and collaborators from the US, South Africa and Italy, led by Professor Rus Hoelzel from the School of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Durham University, found that when the Antarctic

Southern elephant seals respond rapidly to climate and habitat change and established a new breeding site thousands of kilometres from existing breeding grounds.



ice sheets of the Ross Sea Embayment retreated in the Holocene period 8,000 years ago, elephant seals, *Mirounga leonina*, adopted the emergent habitat and established a new population which flourished.

DNA sequences from

the ancient remains of seals from the now extinct Antarctic colony showed high levels of genetic diversity, probably due to the very large population size sustained there.

Internet

Myanmar beat Jordan in debut of AFC Women's Soccer Championship 2010 qualifier

YANGON, 12 July — The qualifier match of the AFC Women's Soccer Championship 2010 took place in China (Taipei) this evening.

Myanmar National Women's Football Team routed Jordan's Women's Team 3-0.

In the first half, Khin Marlar Tun of Myanmar scored the opening goal at the

17th minute and Than Htwe doubled for Myanmar team at the 35th minute. In the second half, Myint Myint Aye added the third goal for Myanmar team at the 37th minute.

On 14 July, Myanmar National Women's Team will play against host Chinese (Taipei) Women's Team.

MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded

Launglon	8.70 inches	Myeik	4.76 inches
Kawthoung	7.76 inches	Nay Pyi Taw Pinyinmana	0.35 inch
Dawei	6.60 inches	Nay Pyi Taw Lewe	6.06 inches
Sittway	5.95 inches	Aunglan	0.12 inch

