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Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Pariyatti Sasana Pala Association offers Waso robes

YANGON, 21 July—The Pariyatti Sasana Pala Association of Pali Tekkatho Nyaungdon monastery in Bahan Township, Yangon West District, held its 24th Waso robes offering ceremony in conjunction with cash donations presentation for Abhidhaja three-storey refectory this afternoon at the refectory on Koemin Koechin Street in Bahan Township.

Present on the occasion were Presiding Nayaka of the monastery Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Sobhana and members of the Sangha, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay, Commander of No 3 Military Region Col Tin Hsan, senior military officers, local authorities, wellwishers and lay persons. Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife and officials presented Waso robes and offertories to members of the Sangha.

Yangon Division PDC donated K 100,000 to the funds for construction of a refectory; U Kyonkinyaw-Daw Aung Poe Hlyan and family, K 9.5 million; Presiding Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Sobhana, K 5 million; Administration Sayadaw Bhaddanta Indaka, K 2.5 million; U Hla Maimg-Daw Khin Hnin Wai and family K 2 million; U Chit Aye-Daw Than Than Swe and family, K 1.5 million; U Nyan Myint-Daw Shwe and family, K 1.1 million; and U Aung Kyi-Daw Ohn Khin and family, K 1 million to the commander.

Next, Hlayadana monastery Sayadaw of Pali



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife offers Waso robes and alms to a Sayadaw at Pariyatti Sasana Pala Association's 24th Waso robes offering ceremony. — YANGON COMMAND

Tekkatho Nyaungdon Kyaungtaik Bhaddanta Narada Bhivamsa delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits. — MNA

INSIDE

The motorway of the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) was opened on 5 February, 2005. Now efforts are being made to complete the railway in time.

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Art show to mark 30th anniversary of diplomatic ties between Union of Myanmar and ROK opened

YANGON, 21 July — The Myanmar-Korean Contemporary Art Show in commemoration of the

30th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between the Union of Myanmar and the Re-

public of Korea was held at the National Museum on Pyay Road, here, this morning, attended by

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win

Maung, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, departmental heads of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Culture, ambassadors and officials of foreign missions here, the Korean Ambassador and staff of the ROK Embassy, members of the Korean Association, officials of Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artists Asiayon and guests.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win formally unveiled the signboard of the art show. (See page 8)



Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung delivers an address at the Myanmar-Korean Contemporary Art Show in commemoration of the 30th Anniversary of Myanmar-ROK Diplomatic Relations. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 22 July, 2005

Unitedly take part in nation-building tasks

The national goal of the State is to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation and efforts are being made to realize the national goal by upholding Our Three Main National Causes and implementing the political, economic and social objectives.

For the emergence of a developed nation, the 24-region development plan is being carried out without outside help as the strength of the nation lies within.

As the government, the people and the Tatmadaw have been working in concert day and night, 175 dams and 186 bridges 180 feet and above long have emerged in so short a time. Of all the bridges 180 feet and above long, the longest one is the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine). It is the bridge not only Mon State and the State but also Myanmar engineers should always be proud of.

The Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) will surely serve the long-term interests of the nation and the people. More than 900 vehicles and 1,300 motorcycles are using the bridge every day.

As the bridge cost a lot of money, it is necessary for all those concerned to maintain the bridge as the bridge is situated near the place where three rivers meet, the water is deep and the current swift. Watercraft using the waterway under the bridge will have to follow rules and regulations. The bridge has both the motorway and the railway.

The motorway of the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) was opened on 5 February, 2005. Now efforts are being made to complete the railway in time.

When the railway is finished, people will be able to travel from Yangon to Dawei direct by train. The construction of the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) is one of the development endeavours of the government.

The government is carrying out development tasks for the perpetual existence of the Union and higher living standard of the people. Therefore, we would like to call on the entire national people to lend themselves to all the nation-building tasks being carried out by the government.

Waso robes offered, outstanding monks honoured

YANGON, 21 July—Waso robes and alms were offered to over 180 members of the Sangha led by Tipitakadhara Dhamma Bhandagarika (Yaw Sayadaw) of Maha Withuddhayon Pali Tekkatho Monastery on Nandawun Street in Bahan Township, and eight outstanding members of the Sangha who passed their examinations with distinctions were honoured at a ceremony at the monastery yesterday morning.

Lay persons offered Waso robes and alms to members of the Sangha. Ashin Vadhiraipani Lankarabhivamsa recited religious verses to honour the eight outstanding members of the Sangha.

Next, the Yaw Sayadaw delivered a sermon to the congregation.

MNA

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Departments, townselders in Kengtung offer Waso robes

YANGON, 21 July —The Waso robes offering ceremony organized by the state/district/township departments in Shan State (East) and townselders was held at Sasana Beikma in Kengtung on 18 July. Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and wife, military officers, departmental officials and townselders attended the ceremony.

First, the congregation took the Five Precepts from Dhammawdaya Pariyatti Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Arjeya. Next, Commander Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and departmental officials offered Waso robes and alms to 36 members of the Sangha.

After the ceremony, the commander and wife, and officials also offered 'soon' to the members of the Sangha.— MNA

Ministry of Foreign Affairs holds robes offering ceremony

YANGON, 21 July— Ministry of Foreign Affairs held Waso robes offering ceremony at Mingun Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery in Dagon Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were Sayadaw Tipitakadhara Bhaddanta Indaçariya and members of the Sangha of the Monastery, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife Daw Myint Myint Soe, Deputy Ministers U Kyaw Thu and wife Daw Lè Lè Kyi, U Maung Myint and wife Dr

Daw Khin Mya Win, the Myanmar ambassadors, directors-general and wives, deputy directors-general and wives, the directors and their families.

The minister and wife and party offered 'soon' to members of the Sangha.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pandiça administered the Five Precepts to the congregation.

The minister and wife, the deputy ministers and wives donated Waso robes and provisions to members of the

MYANMAR GAZETTE

YANGON, 21 July — The State Peace and Development Council has confirmed the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each on expiry of the one-year probationary period.

Names	Appointments
(a) U Ye Phone Myint	Managing Director Myanma Jute Enterprise Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
(b) U Kyaw Nyunt	Director-General Central Trade Disputes Committee Ministry of Labour
(c) U Chit Shein	Chairman Social Security Board Ministry of Labour

MNA

Appointment of German Ambassador agreed on

YANGON, 22 July — The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the proposed appointment of Mr Dietrich Andreas as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Union of Myanmar in succession to Dr Klaus Peter Wild.

Mr Dietrich Andreas was born in 1943. He pursued his studies in law and economics from 1962 to 1971. Subsequently he joined the Federal Foreign Office and attended the diplomatic academy for the Senior Foreign Service from 1972 to 1974.

Before being appointed Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to People's Republic of Bangladesh in 2001, he had served in various capacities at the Federal Foreign Office and the German diplomatic missions in Belgrade, Lagos, Bangkok and Zagreb. — MNA

Sangha and shared merits gained. — MNA

Waso robes offering ceremony to be held at Eindawya Monastery

YANGON, 21 July — Maha Dhammaramthi Eindawya Pagoda Board of Trustees will hold the 2nd Waso robes offering ceremony on 24 July morning at Eindawya Monastery in Dagon Township.

Sayadaws will deliver sermons every Sabbath Day at the pagoda. — MNA



Foreign Affairs Minister U Nyan Win and wife Daw Myint Myint Soe offer Waso robes and alms to a Sayadaw.—MNA

CASH DONATED: Cash donation ceremony for the prayer hall of PhaungdawU Standing Buddha Statue on 3rd Ka Street in Ka+Kha Ward, Insein took place at General Administration Department of Insein Township on 21-7-2005. Member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee ka Administrator Sayadaw of Ywama Pariyati Sarhintaik Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Tilokabhivamsa graced the occasion by his presence. Donor U Hla Kyi (Advocate) and daughters donate K 1 million to the chairman of Pagoda Board of Trustees. — H





Chinese soccer fans hold posters as they wait outside the hotel where Real Madrid soccer players are staying, Beijing, on 21 July, 2005. Real Madrid is on a four-day tour of China and will face Beijing Guoan in a friendly soccer match on Saturday. — INTERNET

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Indonesia to sell 10% stake of state-owned gas company

JAKARTA, 20 July—Indonesia plans to sell as much as 10 per cent stake of state-run gas distributor PNG this year, part of a strategy to bridge budget deficit, local media reported on Tuesday.

"For PNG, the stake that will be sold is maximum 10 per cent," State Enterprises Minister Sugiharto was quoted by the Jakarta Post as saying. The PNG stake, of which the government

owns 60.2 per cent, fell by 25 rupiahs (0.0028 US dollar) or 0.8 per cent, to 3.075 rupiahs (some 0.0034 US dollar) on Monday at the Jakarta Stock Exchange.

The government this year aims to raise 3.5 trillion rupiahs (some 3.6 billion US dollars) by selling stakes of state-owned companies, according to the country's 2005 budget. Indonesia's deficit is

swelling as higher fuel prices increase fuel subsidy expenditure.

This year budget deficit may rise to 35.2 trillion rupiahs (some 36.2 billion US dollars) or 1.3 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP), compared with the targeted 20.3 trillion rupiahs (about 21.3 billion US dollar) or 0.8 per cent of the GDP, according to the government.—MNA/Xinhua

Foreign insurance companies pressure domestic industry

BEIJING, 20 July —As more and more foreign insurance companies enter the Chinese market, which has been gradually opening after China's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), the domestic insurance industry has felt rising pressure.

Meng Shaoyi, director of the International Department of the China Insurance Regulatory Commission (CIRC), the country's watchdog for the industry, made the remark in an interview with the Beijing-based Economic Daily, a leading economic newspaper in China. Over 40 foreign insurance companies, including 27 of the 46 insurance companies among the top 500 companies, have set up agencies in China, according to the Economic Daily's report on Tuesday.

"China has implemented its commitments to the WTO by opening its domestic insurance market to overseas investment in stages, so the pressure brought by foreign companies was not big immediately after the country became a WTO member," Meng was quoted by the newspaper as saying.

At that time, only a small number of foreign insurance companies began offering services in

the Chinese market, and with limited investment volume, he said.

The situation has changed a lot, however. In Shanghai, foreign-funded companies now account for 14 to 15 per cent of the total market share, and in Guangzhou, the capital of southern Guangdong Province, the proportion is about 10 to 12 per cent, said Meng.

At the end of 2004, according to China's WTO obligations, the country fully opened its insurance market to overseas investment. Now more than half of the country's insurance companies are foreign-invested, according to figures from the CIRC.

Statistics with the CIRC show that the growth rate of China's insurance industry is about 30 per cent every year. It has become one of the fastest growing industries in China.

MNA/Xinhua

US soldiers in Iraq report low morale

WASHINGTON, 20 July—A majority of US soldiers in Iraq say morale is low, according to an Army report that finds psychological stress is weighing particularly heavily on National Guard and Reserve troops.

The report said substantially fewer soldiers had to be evacuated from Iraq for mental health problems last year.

The Army sent a team of mental health specialists to Iraq and Kuwait late last summer to assess conditions and measure progress in implementing programs designed to fix mental health problems discovered during a similar survey of troops a year earlier. Its report, dated 30 January, 2005, was released on Wednesday.

The initial inquiry was triggered in part by an unusual surge in suicides among soldiers in Iraq in July 2003. Wednesday's report said the number of suicides in Iraq and Kuwait declined from 24 in 2003 to nine last year.

A suicide prevention program was begun for soldiers in Iraq at the recommendation of the 2003 assessment team.—Internet

Vietnam reports more young cancer patients

HANOI, 20 July—The number of Vietnamese children suffering from cancer has risen in recent years. The number of children aged 5-15 being treated for the disease at the country's Central Pediatric Hospital in Hanoi capital rose to 1,708 in 2004 from 1,394 in 2003 and 1,262 in 2002, the hospital's Deputy Di-

rector Nguyen Van Loc told Xinhua on Tuesday.

On average, the hospital annually receives 200 new cancer patients in recent years, he said, noting that a large number of the children are suffering from leukemia and malignant brain tumour. The mortality rate among children infected with cancer is high, because most of

them are hospitalized too late. Some 90 per cent of the patients did not go to hospital until they exhibited complications like nervous disorder.

Vietnam has annually detected some 150,000 new cancer patients in recent years. Leading types of cancer include lung cancer, breast cancer, and leukemia.—MNA/Xinhua

Car bomb blast hits US patrol in northern Iraq

TIKRIT, 20 July — A car bomb detonated Wednesday next to a US military patrol in Iraq's northern town of Toz-Khormatu, causing casualties, police said.

"A booby-trapped vehicle, parked on the side of a road in Toz-Khormatu, blew up early morning as a US military patrol passed by, destroying a US Hamvee killing or wounding all on board," a police source from the US-Iraqi Joint Coordination Center, told Xinhua.

Two civilians were also wounded in the attack in the town, located some 90 km east of Tikrit, the source said. US troops immediately blocked the roads leading to the scene and cordoned off the area searching houses for suspects, said the police source.—Internet



Men stand outside their cars as they queue for petrol in Baghdad's Sadr City on 20 July, 2005.

INTERNET

Indonesia finds 74 bodies after ferry sank

JAKARTA, 20 July — Indonesian rescuers have found the bodies of 74 people who were on a ferry that sank off a remote eastern province earlier this month, but 100 more bodies could be trapped in the wreckage, an official said on Tuesday.

Most of the bodies were discovered washed up on shores near the coastal city of Merauke, about 2,300 miles east of the capital Jakarta. The vessel went down in rough seas off far eastern Papua Province on 7 July.

"We only managed to pull one body out of the ship wreckage," Sumpeno Yowono, head of the Merauke rescue agency, told Reuters by telephone.

"Based on the information from eyewitnesses and port officials, we

think there were still around 100 bodies inside the ship," he said.

Yowono added that rescuers and Navy divers planned to tear apart the vessel to retrieve the trapped bodies. But bad weather and strong waves had hampered efforts.

Fifteen people including two crew members were rescued after the ferry sank about 20 nautical miles off Merauke, near Indonesia's border with Papua New Guinea.—MNA/Reuters

India unlikely to meet 2012 forest cover target

NEW DELHI, 20 July — India is unlikely to meet a target of increasing forest cover to one-third of its territory by 2012 because some trees will be cut for industrial activity to meet the needs of economic development.

The environment and Forests Ministry said in its 2003 forest report released on Tuesday that 23.68 per cent or 778,229 square kilometres (300,373 square miles) of the nation's area was covered by forests, which included trees in non-forested areas, up a marginal 0.65 per cent from 2001.

"To reach the 2012 target is a herculean task. We may face hurdles," Andimuthu Raja, the Environment and Forests Minister, told a news conference.

"If we do not give some (forest) land to industrial and mining sectors, we would jeopardize economic growth."

But Raja said that with current afforestation efforts, India would reach its 2007 target of 25 per cent forest cover.

Illegal felling of trees is a huge concern as India's billion-plus popula-

tion increases and more people cut trees for fuel, they say.

The Forest Ministry said it could not ignore the development needs of Asia's third-largest economy while protecting the country's forests, mainly concentrated in Himalayan regions in the north and northeastern states.

Raja defended the policy of allowing limited mining in forested areas but added that mining firms had to compensate by planting twice the number of trees they cut.

The ministry's forest report said while the overall forest cover increased marginally in 2003, the area under dense forests — which have a canopy density of above 40 per cent — was down by 26,245 square kilometres from 416,089 square kilometres in 2001 due to deforestation.

MNA/Reuters

ဝက်မုတ္တမ်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား



Cambodian woman wearing a traditional headscarf or Krama, sells lotus flowers to visitors to a Buddhist pagoda in Phnom Penh on 21 July, 2005.

INTERNET

Wen Jiabao encourages university graduates to work in western China

BEIJING, 20 July — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao encouraged university graduates to go and work in the western region in his comments on a letter to him from graduates of China Geological University based in Wuhan of central China.

A total of 261 students who graduated this year from CGU wrote to Wen recently, saying they volunteered to go and work in the western region and dedicate themselves to the development of the west.

"I'm very glad to read your letter and deeply moved by your ambition, courage and determination.

You have made a right choice. I believe the tough experiences in the west will become the greatest treasure of your whole lives," the Premier wrote.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese, Mauritanian presidents exchange congratulatory messages

BEIJING, 20 July — Chinese President Hu Jintao and his Mauritanian counterpart Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya on Tuesday exchanged congratulatory messages on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

In his message, Hu said the peoples of the two countries have enjoyed profound traditional friendship. In the 40 years, the bilateral relationship developed smoothly through the efforts of the two countries.

The friendly relationship between China and Mauritania sets a good example for developing countries in terms of coexisting in harmony and mutually beneficial cooperation as their exchanges and cooperation have been fruitful in the fields of politics, economy and trade, culture and education, Hu said.

China and Mauritania support each other and act in close coordination in international affairs, Hu said. He also said in the new historical condition, China will joint hands with Mauritania to carry on and develop the

traditional friendship and push their mutually beneficial cooperation further to open up a new and more prosperous prospect for the friendly cooperation between the countries and peoples.

For his part, President Taya said Mauritania will as always remain committed to the strengthening and development of its relationship with China.

The two friendly countries are always advocates of the principles of peace, security and justice in international relations and this will be kept on as the solid cornerstone for their special relations, Taya said.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing also exchanged congratulatory messages with their respective counterparts on Tuesday. — MNA/Xinhua

Japanese FM visits Singapore

SINGAPORE, 20 July — Japanese Foreign Minister Nobutaka Machimura, who arrived in Singapore on Tuesday for one-day official visit, called on Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Foreign Minister George Yeo and Defence Minister Teo Chee Hean separately.

The two sides discussed issues including the reform of the United Nations (UN), the post-tsunami reconstruction efforts in Indonesia as well as the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue, according to Hatsuhsa Takashima, Press Secretary of the Japanese Foreign Ministry.

MNA/Xinhua

Poll says most Britons link London attack to Iraq war

LONDON, 20 July—A poll indicates that almost two-thirds of Britons think the London bomb attacks are linked to Prime Minister Tony Blair's decision to take part in the invasion of Iraq.

The poll, commissioned by the Guardian newspaper, found 33 percent of Britons said Blair bears "a lot" of responsibility for the London bombings, while 31 percent said he bears "a little" responsibility.

And 28 percent said his decision is not responsible for the atrocities. — Internet



US Army soldiers with the first Armoured Division prepare to secure the roof of a suspected guerilla leader's house in the town of Taji, on the outskirts of Baghdad, in this military handout photo released on 19 July, 2005. — INTERNET

Civilian deaths in Iraq set at 25,000

LONDON, 20 July—A British research group said on Tuesday that about 25,000 civilians died in violence in Iraq in the two years after the start of the US-led invasion.

Iraq Body Count compiled its figures of killings that occurred between 20 March, 2003, and 19 March, 2005, from reports by the major news agencies, including the Associated Press and British and American newspapers.

The results could not be independently confirmed. US and coalition authorities say they have not kept a count of such deaths, and Iraqi accounting has proven to be haphazard.

"There are no wholly reliable figures for civilian deaths," Britain's Foreign Office said. "It is recognized by everybody that statistics are very hard to collect under these circumstances."

The new estimate was much lower than the figure of 98,000 civilian deaths that appeared in a study in the medical journal *The Lancet* in October 2004.

"The ever-mounting Iraqi death toll is the forgotten cost of the decision to go to war in Iraq," said John Sloboda, a psychology professor at Keele University in central England and co-founder of the group.

Iraq Body Count found:

US-led coalition forces were responsible for 37.3 percent of the total. About three-quarters of those fatalities occurred during the invasion phase up to 1 May, 2003. — Internet

Japanese protest against US Army exercises in Okinawa

TOKYO, 20 July — Some 10,000 people staged a protest Tuesday against US Army exercises using live ammunition in the town of Kin, South Japan's Okinawa Prefecture, *Kyodo News* reported.

According to *Kyodo*, the protesters, including Okinawa Governor Keiichi Inamine, highlighted the danger posed by the exercises at a new combat facility at the US Marine Corps' Camp Hansen, which is only 300 metres away from residential areas.

Marching up to the front gate of Camp Hansen, the demonstrators called on the US Army to stop the exercises and remove the facility, claiming that people living in the vicinity risk the danger of being hit by stray bullets.

"I will do my utmost to have the facility shut down so that residents can enjoy their peace and quiet," Inamine was quoted by *Kyodo*.

The US Army started the exercises on 12 July amid protests by the local residents. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Chinese textile firms tap further into world market

BELING, 20 July — Chinese textile companies are striving to restructuring their export products and expanding further into the world market as the United States threatens to close the door to several lines of China-made textile and garment products.

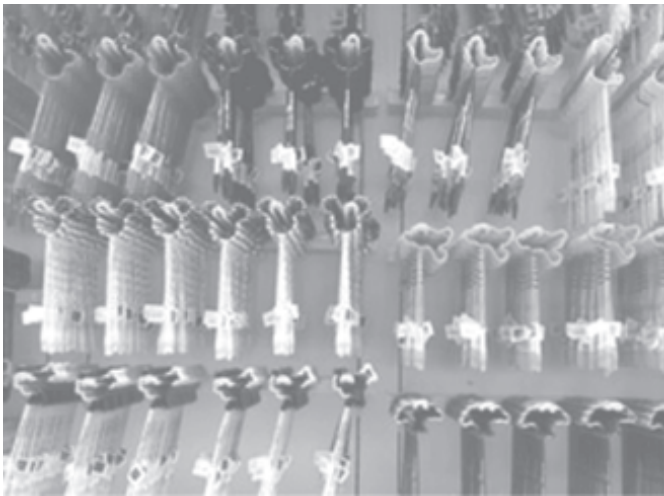
"It's a top priority for us to diversify our products and further tap the world market," said a business executive from Youngor based in the city of Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang Province. "We must not cling to the US market alone." "Domestic companies have to set up their own early warning systems," he said in a telephone interview with *Xinhua* on Tuesday but declined to be named. "We'd be in a passive and embarrassing position if we hastily seek countermeasures only after other countries have imposed restrictions."

As one of China's most recognized name brands for garments, Youngor has avoided production of "100 per cent cotton" shirts and jackets after the United States slapped quotas on Chinese-made cotton-knitted shirts and pants. Yet most textile firms are sober-

minded at the US restrictions.

"We cannot get anywhere by criticizing the United States alone," said Jin Changyi, general manager of Golden Globe Textile Corp in the provincial capital Hangzhou. "The only thing we can do at the moment is to fix our production and marketing strategies to minimize the impacts of such restrictions."

To be specific, Jin said his company will focus on the Middle East and African markets and will increase the proportion of high-end products, particularly genuine silk garments. Jin's company exports up to 400,000 pieces of cotton and silk garments every year, including approximately 50,000 pieces to the United States. Among its importers are leading US retailers including Wal-Mart. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Souvenirs display for sale in Hong Kong Disneyland on 20 July, 2005.

INTERNET

Singapore, Hungary to develop economic links

SINGAPORE, 20 July — Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and visiting Hungarian Prime Minister Gyurcsany Ferenc vowed here on Tuesday to develop economic links between the two countries.

During their meeting, Lee invited Hungarian companies to use the business infrastructure and facilities in Singapore to base their regional operations.

"Hungary can use Singapore as a springboard to exploit the opportunities in this new Asia," Lee said, adding that the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) is strategically located between China and India, the two emerging powers in the region.

Singapore expects to work with Hungary on the enhancement of Asia-Europe relations as both countries are part of the

ASEAN-European Union (EU) dialogue process, according to Lee.

Gyurcsany, who arrived in Singapore on Tuesday morning for a two-day official visit, introduced investment opportunities in Hungary to Singaporean businessmen during a business lunch.

The Singapore Business Federation and the Hungarian Investment and Trade Development Agency also signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Tuesday, aiming to grow and deepen bilateral business and economic relations. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Vietnam to import more sugar

HANOI, 20 July — Vietnam's Trade Ministry has just allowed local foodstuff producers to import additional 30,000 tons of sugar, partly due to the country's thinner sugar supply.

Early last month, the ministry allowed the firms to import 57,000 tons of sugar to make such products as cakes, candies, milk and monosodium glutamate, the Vietnam Sugarcane and Sugar Association said on Tuesday.

Vietnam produced over one million tons of sugar during the 2004-2005 sugarcane crop, which has just ended, down 10.7 per cent against last crop, due to prolonged drought. During this crop, plants nationwide turned out 902,000 tons of sugar in addition to 180,000 tons from households.

Sugar prices in the local market currently stand at around 50 US cents per kilo, up some 30 per cent against early this year, mainly due to the lower sugarcane out-

put and speculation. As a result, a large volume of sugar is being smuggled into Vietnam.

Vietnam's total area under sugarcane cultivation was 287,000 hectares in the previous crop whose output stood at more than 15.5 million tons of sugarcane, according to the country's General Statistics Office. — *MNA/Xinhua*



US Marines with the 2nd Marine Division conduct a patrol during Operation Guardian Sword in the Iraqi town of Hit, about 150 km (90 miles) west of Baghdad, in this military handout photo released on 19 July, 2005. — INTERNET

US, Australia reject call for troop withdrawal timetable from Iraq

WASHINGTON, 20 July — US President George W Bush and visiting Australian Prime Minister John Howard rejected on Tuesday calls for an Iraq withdrawal timetable.

Speaking to reporters after talks with Howard, Bush said that the American troops will be in Iraq "as long as necessary to complete the mission."

Bush said that US troops' mission in Iraq is really important. "We're laying the foundation for peace. A free Iraq, a democratic Iraq in the heart of the Middle East is part of a vision that understands free societies are peaceful societies."

Bush said that it does not make any sense to "tell the enemy how long you're going to stay somewhere," noting US troops will not leave Iraq until the Iraqis are

ready to do the fighting themselves. In his remarks, Howard also ruled out setting a timetable or withdrawing before Iraqi forces can ensure security and have built the foundations of a democracy.

"I'm not going to try and put a time limit on our commitment in Iraq. I'm not," Howard said. "We will stay the distance in Iraq. We won't go until the job has been finished. Australia, a staunch supporter of the US-led war on terror, currently maintains around 1,400 troops in and around Iraq. — *MNA/Xinhua*

"Haitang" brings heavy rainstorms to east China

HANGZHOU, 20 July — Affected by the Typhoon Haitang, two counties of Cangnan and Pingyang of Wenzhou City, East China's Zhejiang Province, reported 400 millimetres heavy rainstorms on Tuesday.

The provincial flood control and drought relief headquarters said the whole Zhejiang Province saw great precipitation since Sunday.

The precipitation of the township of Chanchang, Cangnan County amounted to 564 millimetres.

The rainstorms brought about a water level surge of Zhejiang's major rivers.

Vice-Premier Hui Liangyu urged on Tuesday governments of all the coastal provinces to launch their emergency plans against the disastrous weather.

Hui said the governments should make all efforts to safeguard the life security of the people and must be fully aware of the possible floods and geological disasters after the landing of typhoons. — *MNA/Xinhua*



An employee of Lumica Corporation displays the company's 'Glow Football' at a toy show in Tokyo on 20 July, 2005. The ball, which has 24 built-in illuminators, goes on sale in Japan on Wednesday for 2,800 yen (\$24.80). — INTERNET

Nepal to allow man-power firms to open branches abroad

KATHMANDU, 20 July — The Nepali Government is working to allow man-power companies to open branches in countries like Malaysia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia.

“The initiative for the branch offices is to enable Nepali companies to seek job opportunities directly. It will help in monitoring the numbers and their conditions,” Minister for Labour and Transport Management Ram Narayan Singh told reporters here on Tuesday.

Presently, Nepali companies deal with those countries through brokers, who are mainly Indians and Bangladeshis.

It would also minimize the possibility of cheating and fraud while sending Nepalis to work in those countries, the minister said.

He also said that the government is also thinking of developing communication network in those countries to make remittances legal and safe.

The government is also working to send labour attaches in countries where a large number of

Nepalis are working, he added. The Finance Ministry has even allocated budget for four labour attaches abroad, he said.

According to official data, in each of the countries like Malaysia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia, more than 100,000 Nepalis are working.

About 12,540 Nepalis went abroad to take up jobs last month, the minister said. — *MNA/Xinhua*

India seeks civil society inputs for AIDS control plan

NEW DELHI, 20 July — India’s nodal AIDS control body, National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) on Tuesday launched an e-consultation to seek civil society groups’ opinion/suggestions on the next phase of the national AIDS control policy (NACP).

The HIV prevalence rate in India at present is said to be around 1 per cent, and there are nearly 5.1 million people battling with the deadly scourge in the country.

According to the UNAIDS India officials, the third phase of the NACP has to come into force from March 2006, and the suggestions/opinions of the civil society

groups would help them design the AIDS control programme in a better way.

“We have an opportunity to develop a plan that in the next five years will effectively control and reverse the spread of the epidemic that touches our lives in several ways. Over 950 Indian NGOs are already working with us in this fight. We need their input and experi-

ence to develop a plan that takes in consideration everyone’s voice and concerns,” NACO Project Director, SY Quraishi, said on Tuesday while launching the programme.

This is the first time India will be consulting the whole civil society to input into its national AIDS control policy.

The e-discussion will be facilitated

through “Solution Exchange”, an initiative of the United Nations Country Team in India that offers a forum for communities of development practitioners.

On request from NACO, experts appointed by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) are moderating the dialogue.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam to vaccinate chickens, ducks against bird flu

HANOI, 20 July — Vietnam will use over 400 million batches of vaccine to inoculate its chickens and ducks against the deadly bird flu that has killed 40 people in the country, half of them since December.

Agriculture Deputy Minister Bui Ba Bong said in a plan seen by *Reuters* on Tuesday that the government would use 415 million doses of Dutch and Chinese vaccines in a programme starting in two provinces from 1 August.

Other provinces facing high risk of infection would follow between 1 October and 10 November, before the arrival of the winter when the deadly virus seems to thrive best.

Vietnam has an estimated 210 million poultry.

The Chinese vaccine against the H5N1 virus, which international health officials fear could mutate into a form which might trigger a human pandemic, would be used on ducks. A Dutch vaccine against the H5N2 virus, a less virulent strain which is not widespread in Vietnam, will be used on chickens.

“The vaccine against the H5N2 virus works well against the H5N1 virus as it functions against the H5 subtype,” Dau Ngoc Hao, deputy head of the Agriculture Ministry’s Animal Health Department, told *Reuters*. — *MNA/Reuters*



A Chinese farmer uses pesticide on his farmland in the suburb of Xi’an in northwest China’s Shaanxi Province on 20 July, 2005. — INTERNET

Jamaica opens embassy in Beijing

BEIJING, 20 July — Jamaica, one of the Caribbean nations, opened its embassy in Beijing on Monday.

Jamaican Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade KD Knight, Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi, and ambassadors from some other Caribbean nations were present at the opening ceremony.

In his address to the opening ceremony, Knight said that since the establishment of their diplomatic relations in 1972, China and Jamaica have increased their friendly relations steadily and kept good coordination in economic and cultural fields. Jamaica is firmly committed to the one-China policy. He expressed the hope to further enhance bilateral cooperation in the fields of trade, mining and tourism. — *MNA/Xinhua*

China, Japan, S Korea seek cooperation in youth exchanges

BEIJING, 20 July — Young leaders from China, Japan and South Korea gathered here on Monday to discuss trilateral cooperation between the Northeast Asian neighbours at a 11-day forum.

The Future Leaders Forum 2005: China-Japan-South Korea, an initiative for youth exchanges among the three nations, is co-sponsored by the All-China Youth Federation (ACYF), Japan Foundation and Korea Foundation. 14 delegates working in the three countries political, business and academic sectors partici-

pated in the forum.

Zhao Yaqiao, an official with the ACYF, said the participants will carry out open discussions on various topics in Northeast Asia so as to increase mutual understanding and trust between the three countries. “The forum is expected to consolidate the existing youth exchange mechanism.”

Besides Beijing, the

participants will also travel to Gifu Prefecture in Japan and Gwangju in South Korea for a further exchange of views.

Along with their fast-growing trade cooperation, the three Asian nations also enjoy close links in other fields. They are seeking diverse ways to enhance their interdependent relations.

MNA/Xinhua

HK robotic claw to help deep sea exploration

HONG KONG, 20 July — A Hong Kong-designed robotic claw will be used by Ifremer, a French oceanographic and environmental research agency, for deep sea exploration, reported *South China Morning Post* on Monday.

The titanium claw is slightly larger than a human hand with the weight of less than one kilo. It will be attached to a robotic arm on *Victor 6000*, an unmanned submarine made by Ifremer which,

with a reach down to 6,000 metres, is one of the deepest divers ever built.

According to designers of the gripper, it is designed to retrieve even a pin by blind-gripping or

passive self-adaptive motion, said Ng Tze-chuen, a private dentist who designed the claw with Yung Kai-leung, a Polytechnic University engineering professor.

MNA/Xinhua

China, six ASEAN members extend tariff cuts to each other

KUNMING, 21 July — China, Brunei, Malaysia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Singapore and Thailand gave tariff cuts to each other on 7,455 kinds of commodities as of Wednesday.

The practice was launched in compliance with the Trade in Goods Agreement of a Framework Agreement for Overall Economic Cooperation between China and countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) signed last November.

Experts believe that implementation of the tariff cut plan will enormously expand trade between China and ASEAN, and will be of far-reaching significance in the future development of Sino-ASEAN economic and trade relations. Beginning from Wednesday, Chinese Customs officers started to levy and clear commodities with certificates of origin issued by organizations authorized by the governments of Brunei, Malaysia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Singapore and Thailand according to tariffs readjusted in accordance with the Trade in Goods Agreement of a Framework Agreement for Overall Economic Cooperation between China and ASEAN countries.

In Kunming, capital of southwest China's Yunnan Province, 946 trade companies have applied for registering "Forme", or the certificate of origin.

The General Administration of Customs has opened a special office in the Customs house of Shenzhen, another major port of imported commodities from ASEAN in south China's Guangdong Province, to specialize in granting certificates of origin.

By 2010, China and six old ASEAN member nations, including Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, will impose zero tariffs on most normal products, while China and the other four new ASEAN members of Cambodia, the Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam will do the same in 2015 when free trade between China and ASEAN nations will be made possible.

The Sino-ASEAN Free Trade Zone has a population of 1.7 billion and 2 trillion US dollars in gross domestic product (GDP), plus 1.2 tril-

lion US dollars in trade terms. It will become the third largest global trading region after the European Union and the North American Free Trade Zone.

China has already signed a zero-tariff agreement on fruits with Thailand, in implementation since last year.

China now mainly imports from ASEAN countries electronic products, crude and liquefied petroleum and gas and vegetable oil, and exports electronic and machinery products, textiles and garments, processed oil and cereals to ASEAN.

The trade volume between China and ASEAN reached 105.9 billion US dollars last year, a rise of 35 per cent from a year ago.

ASEAN has been China's fifth largest trade partner for 12 consecutive years.

China's imports from ASEAN went up by 28 per cent on average in the past five years, four percentage points higher than the growth rate for China's global imports. — *MNA/Xinhua*

China dismisses US concerns on military rise

BEIJING, 21 July — China's Foreign Minister dismissed on Wednesday a Pentagon report warning that its modernizing military could pose a threat to the region, and said its rise would be peaceful.

The report reflects concern in Washington over China's growing military and economic power, and in particular the fear a changing balance of power in Asia could threaten Taiwan, the self-governed island Beijing claims as its own.

"China, remember, will continue to pursue a path of peaceful development," Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing said at a signing ceremony to establish the offices of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Beijing.

"China not only poses no threat to anyone, we also are willing to establish friendship and all kinds of win-win cooperation with other countries to push forward cooperative development," Li said in response to a question about the Pentagon report.

The Pentagon report said Beijing's military buildup had already begun to change the regional balance of power but it also said its ability to project conventional power was limited and China did not have the capability to re-take Tai-

wan by force.

Beijing considers Taiwan a part of China, and in March passed an anti-secession law authorizing it to use "non-peaceful means" to bring it back into the fold should the island democracy of 23 million move toward formal independence. The Taiwan issue puts the US in a quandary, with Washington having vowed to defend the island should China attack it, but also recognizing Beijing as China's sole legitimate government.

Last week, a Chinese general was quoted as saying China was ready to use nuclear weapons against the United States should Washington attack over Taiwan, remarks the

US criticized as "irresponsible".

China also shrugged off on Wednesday an agreement earlier this week in which Washington promised India full cooperation in developing its civilian nuclear power programme without demanding it sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The agreement was seen as a counterbalance to China's rise, but the Foreign Ministry had little reaction.

"We hope the relevant cooperation between China and India will benefit the safeguarding of peace and stability in the Asian region," it said in a statement faxed to *Reuters*. — *MNA/Reuters*

World faces massive increase in CO₂ emissions

PARIS, 21 July — The world faces a massive increase in carbon dioxide emissions due to population growth and the failure of wealthy countries to reduce greenhouse gases.

Tim Dyson, professor of population studies at the London School of Economics, said on Tuesday at the start of the four-day 25th International Population Congress, which will last to 23 July in the French central city of Tours, "We're on a toboggan and we've gone over the edge."

"It (global warming) will screw everyone up, no matter where you are," he said at the conference grouping 2,000 demographers, economists, geographers and sociologists from 110 countries.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), world scientific authority on global warming, predicted in its 2001 report that rising levels of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide will increase temperatures by between 1.4 degrees and 5.8 degrees Celsius by the end of the century and sea levels by between 9 and 88 centimetres. — *MNA/Xinhua*

London blasts cause chaos on Tube

LONDON, 21 July — London's Tube network has been plunged into chaos with stations cleared after minor blasts on two trains and a bus.

Met Police chief Sir Ian Blair said three Tube lines were suspended but it was time London returned to normal. The minor explosions - two weeks after blasts killed 56 - involved detonators only, a BBC reporter said. There was one injury.

Police sources say the blasts may have been near simultaneous and that they are being linked with the 7 July bombs.

They say a number of fugitives are being sought. Two people have been arrested in Whitehall.

Eyewitnesses heard bangs and saw abandoned rucksacks at the sites of the incidents at Warren Street and Oval tube stations as well as the number 26 bus in Bethnal Green.

There was an attempt to cause an explosion at Shepherd's Bush Hammersmith and City line, police said.

At Warren Street and Oval a man was seen running away from the scene.

On the bus, there were no injuries and the bus suf-

fered no structural damage. Large areas around all four sites were cordoned off. Tests for chemical, biological and radiological weapons proved negative.

One person was injured at Warren Street. There were reports the injured person may have been holding a rucksack containing the detonator.

The BBC's Andrew Winstanley said devices had been found but appeared to have been dummies, containing no explosives.

Police said armed officers were deployed to

University College Hospital after an incident. A large area was cordoned off.

The hospital has not received any casualties or been alerted to casualties.

The whole of the Northern Line has been suspended, along with the Victoria Line and the Hammersmith and City line.

A number of other stations were closed during the alert, including Great Portland Street, Westminster, Waterloo, St Paul's and Oxford Circus tube stations, as well as Waterloo tube station and King's Cross Thameslink.

There were also alerts at Wood Lane in Shepherd's Bush, around St Paul's and, outside London, at St Albans station.

London Underground went to an amber alert with trains taken to the next station and evacuated.

An eyewitness at Oval station said there had been a small bang, and a man had then run off when the Tube reached the station.

INTERNET

Astronauts re-dock Russian craft before spacewalk

MOSCOW, 21 July — Two astronauts briefly left the *International Space Station* unmanned on Tuesday to re-dock their transport vessel so it would not hamper a spacewalk next month, mission control said.

Russian cosmonaut Sergei Krikalyov and US astronaut John Phillips needed two attempts to close the hatch between the *Soyuz* craft and the space station, taking a few minutes longer than scheduled at the start of

the procedure.

A mission control spokesman said the manoeuvre had nevertheless been completed in 30 minutes rather than the expected 40. "They re-docked quicker than expected," the spokesman said.

The pair, stationed in orbit since April, flew the vehicle and re-docked it in a different section of the station so that it would not hinder access for a spacewalk scheduled for August.

MNA/Reuters



Popular Japanese cartoon character 'Doraemon' flies in front of an employee of Taiyo Kogyo at a toy show in Tokyo on 20 July, 2005. The radio controlled helicopter toy goes on sale in Japan on Saturday for 5,480 yen (\$ 48.50) — INTERNET

Waso robes, provisions offered to members of the Sangha

YANGON, 21 July — A ceremony to offer Waso robes and provisions to members of Sangha at Yadanabodhi Sarthintaik, East Ywama Ward, Insein Township, Yangon North District yesterday afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Administrator Sayadaw of Yadanabodhi Sarthintaik Bhaddanta Nanrikabodhi, members of the Sangha, Secretary-General of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Agriculture Maj-Gen Htay Oo, executives of district and township USDAs and members and townsellors.

First, the congregation received the Five Pre-

cepts from Bhaddanta Nanrikabodhi. Next, Secretary-General Maj-Gen Htay Oo and wife offered Waso robes and provisions to the Sayadaw and members of the Sangha.

Afterwards, the congregation shared merits gained following a sermon delivered by the Sayadaw.

After the ceremony, Maj-Gen Htay Oo encouraged members of USDA and townsdwellers participating in digging drain on both sides of KanU monastery's 1470 feet long road, repair of road and rebuilding of KanU Pariyatti Sarthintaik and made arrangements to fulfil the requirements.

MNA

Art show to mark 30th Anniversary Diplomatic...

(from page 1)

Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung delivered an address, saying that today's Myanmar-Korean Contemporary Art Show commemorates the 30th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Korea.

At the same time, the art show presents classical and modern works of Korean and Myanmar artists with their different views based on Eastern culture. The enthusiasts can enjoy pleasure and peaceful essence from the works of Myanmar and Korean artists at the art show.

In his greetings, ROK Ambassador Mr Lee Ju-Heum said that Myanmar friends will have the opportunity to enjoy one more aspect of Korean culture at the works of the contemporary art show like the presentation of Korean TV and drama series.



Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and guests view round works at the art show.—MNA

Next, Chairman Cha Young Kyu of the International Arts Exchange Association of ROK extended greetings.

Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, ROK Ambassador Mr Lee Ju-Heum, Chairman Cha Young Kyu of the International Arts Exchange Association of ROK, Chairman of Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Asiayon

U Thaug Han and Chairman of the Korean Association Mr Kim Man Young formally opened the art show.

Next, the ministers, the deputy ministers and guests viewed round the works of the show.

Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung presented a bouquet to the chairman and party of the International Arts Exchange Association of ROK.

The Korean Ambassador gave away gifts to the Myanmar artists. Next, the ministers, the deputy ministers and guests posed for documentary photos.

Altogether 23 works of Myanmar artists and 52 of the Korean artists are displayed at the art show that will be kept open from 10 am to 4 pm up to 27 July. Admission is free.

MNA

Fire Services Department holds coordination meeting

YANGON, 21 July — Work coordination meeting of the Fire Services Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement was held this morning at the ministry here.

It was attended by SWRR Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, the

director-general and deputy directors of the department and officials. At the meeting, principal of the Central Training School of the department and heads of the state/division Fire Services Departments reported on tasks being undertaken. The meeting will continue tomorrow. — MNA



Minister for SWRR Maj-Gen Sein Htwa addresses coordination meeting of Fire Services Department.

MNA

Poem

Hands off!

- * He who loves me, more than I do with bigger love, who could that be Well, tell me.
- * My body's heat and cold The difference, more than I do Who can feel it, who could that be Well, tell me.
- * In my feelings, the happiness And sadness felt, who could that be What kind of person, knows my feelings Who knows more than me, could there be Well, tell me.
- * In my matters, with much interest One who's arguing, right or wrong What kind of person, can match me Taking interest in what I'm doing Well, tell me.
- * In my affair, with keen interest In all matters, only when I assert When I do it by myself, all is Fulfilled, that's a fact.
- * So, hands off You Western media.
- * No such goodwill, as on Myanmar No one better, special Can exist, none can.
- * Know it you, that Myanmar's wellbeing Can be served, by Myanmar only.

Po Wa (Trs)

Timorese minister arrives



Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint welcomes Senior Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Dr Jose Ramos Horta of Timor.—MNA

YANGON, 21 July — Dr Jose Ramos Horta, Senior Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Democratic Republic of Timor Leste arrived here by air at 9 am today.

The Timor Leste Minister was welcomed at the airport by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint and responsible officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Timor Leste Minister Dr Jose Ramos Horta was accompanied by Rev Arlindo Marcal, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Timor Leste in Jakarta, Mr Nelson Santos, Secretary General for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and Mr Juvencio de Jesus Martins, Director of Regional Affairs Directorate of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Timor Leste. — MNA

Veterans provided with cash in Mingala Taungnyunt Township

YANGON, 21 July — War veterans in Mingala Taungnyunt Township on 17 July received cash assistance provided by the Central Organizing Committee of the Myanmar War Veterans Organization at MWVO Conference-2005.

Chairman of the township WVO and officials presented cash to 21 war veterans aged over 75, one disabled veteran and three students of the township WVO members at the cash presentation ceremony held at the township WVO office on 17 July.

MNA

Commander, Mayor inspect task to beautify Yangon

YANGON, 21 July — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected the task to beautify Yangon city this morning.



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspect repaving Bayintnaung Road in Hline Township. —YANGON COMMAND

First the commander and the mayor observed the tarring of the Strand Road in Kyimyindine Township and the Bayintnaung Road in Hline Township.

They then inspected the work to ensure proper drainage system in Hline, Mayangon and North Okkalapa townships in the city.

The commander and the mayor made arrangements for opening the Kyaukyedwin railway overpass linking North Okkalapa and Mingaladon townships

soonest. The project has already been completed

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin urged offi-

cial to organize the social organizations and the people to take part in the task to beautify and upgrade Yangon City.

MNA

Waso robes offering ceremony held in Kyaikhtiyoe Pagoda

YANGON, 21 July — Families of Kyaikhtiyoe Hill Missionary in Thakayta Township, Yangon Division held the 28th Waso robes offering ceremony on the platform of Kyaikhtiyoe Pagoda, Kyaikhtiyoe Township, Mon State on 19 July.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Kyaikhtiyoe Hilly Missionary Sayadaw Bhaddanta Nandiya and members of the Sangha, members of pagoda board of trustees and wellwishers totaling over 2,000.

First, the congregation received the Five Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Nandiya.

Next, wellwishers offered Waso robes to Sayadaw and members of the Sangha and the congregation shared merits gained.

Today's donations were : K 3 million by U Tin Hlaing and Daw Yin Yin, provisions and K 300,000 by U Tin Sein and Daw Myint Myint San, K 500,000 by Daw Kyi on behalf of Waso families, K 200,000 by U Hant Khin, a generator worth K 300,000 by U Tin Hlaing and Daw Yin Yin, a generator worth K 300,000 by Daw Hla Kyi and Daw Phyu, K 300,000 by U Lan Kon and Daw Khin Ti, 108 rice bags worth K 900,000 by Aungthiri Rice Trading and K 250,000 by U Hsan Win and Daw Than Myint.

MNA

Talks on health for women given



Health Working Group Leader Daw Nilar Thaw of MMCWA speaking at the health educational talks.

MNA

YANGON, 21 July — Organized by Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, talks on health were given at Myanmar YES garment

factory in Hlinethaya Industrial Zone this morning. Present on the occasion were CEC members of MMCWA, officials from Yangon Division

Health Department, local authorities, social organizations and workwomen.

First, health group leader Daw Nila Thaw, CEC member of

MMCWA made an opening speech.

The health professionals then gave talks on health for women and the ceremony ended. — MNA

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vijaya passes away

YANGON, 21 July — The Religious Affairs Department today announced that State Ovadacariya Presiding Nayaka of Shweyayhsaung Monastery in Yekyi Township, Patheingyi District, Ayeyawady Division, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vijaya (Agga Maha Pandita), aged 91, vasa 70, passed away at 11.45 am on Full Moon Day of Waso 1367 ME (20-7-2005). — MNA

Trainees of Basic Buddhist Cultural Course observe Dhammacakka Akhadaw

YANGON, 20 July — The second year trainees of Basic Buddhist Cultural Course led by Instructor Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Paññasami (Magadi-Thazi) observed the Dhammacakka Akhadaw on Fullmoon Day of Waso on Maha Ordination Hall on Kaba Aye Hill, here, yesterday morning.

All the trainees led by master of ceremonies trainee Ma Aye Aye Aung opened the ceremony by reciting Namo tassa three times. Next, trainees Ma Sein Sein Win and Ma Theint Theint Thu recited the religious verse. The trainees offered Waso flowers, water and oil lights to the Buddha Image.

Wellwishers donated Waso robes and alms to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññasami (Magadi-Thazi).

The trainees led by trainee Ma Soe Soe Khaing read out facts about the Dhammacakka

Akhadaw on Fullmoon Day of Waso. Trainees Ma Thinza Hein and Ma Win Win Swe presented matters related to Desanas of Lord Buddha. Trainees Ma Htar Htar Win and Ma Nwe Nwe Win analyzed social energy and Dhamma energy. Ma Theint Theint Thu and Ma Myint Thida Khaing recited Dhammacakka Sutta. Next, the trainees recited Dhammacakka Desana in Pali and Myanmar versions. The recitation of trainees Ma Aye Aye Tint and Ma Moe Sanda Myint and others on religious verses followed.

Later, they shared merits gained and recited Buddha Sasanam Çiram Tittathu three times. After the ceremony, Thiha Thudhamma Manijotadhara Thiri Thudhamma Manijotadhara Duiyinthee U Soe Myint-Daw Khin Mar Yi donated booklets on Dhammacakka Sutta in Myanmar language to those present. — MNA

Factories in Magway Division inspected

YANGON, 21 July — Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Thein Tun together with officials, inspected the site chosen for construction of horse and sheep breeding project of Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries near Yanpe village in Taungdwingyi Township, Magway Division on 17 July afternoon and gave instructions to the officials.

Afterwards, the deputy minister and party arrived at cereal foodstuff factory project and looked into the progress of constructing the buildings and installation of machines for the factory.

On arrival at textile factory (Pwintbyu) in the evening, the deputy minister met with officials and heard reports on the matters related to the construction tasks of the factory, getting the raw materials to run the factory, producing finished products and running of machines. Next, the deputy minister left instructions.

On 18 July morning, the deputy minister oversaw the progress of constructing Hyacinth Lake for textile factory (Pwintbyu) and producing the products.

Later, the deputy minister went to Seikpyu

Winthuza shop and Salingyi Winthuza shop, and attended to the needs.

At Salingyi Textile factory project, he heard the report by the officials

on constructing the buildings and test run of machines and gave instructions on the early completion of the factory to be able to put it into service. — MNA

ကျေးရွာတိုင်းကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များ
ထူထောင်ဖို့၊ ဝိုင်းဝန်းကူညီဆောင်ရွက်ဖို့။

၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ်၊ ဇူလိုင်လ (၂၁)ရက်နေ့အထိ
နိုင်ငံအဝန်းတွင်ကျေးရွာကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုး
စာကြည့်တိုက် (၂၂၆၄၁)တိုက် ဖွင့်လှစ်ပြီးဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ကျေးလက်နေပြည်သူများ ဗဟုသုတတိုးပွားစေရန်
ကျေးရွာကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုး စာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက်
စာအုပ်များကို ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေး
ဦးစီးဌာန ခရိုင်/မြို့နယ်ရုံးများသို့ လှူဒါန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။
ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့်ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန

Developing Kengtung, capital...

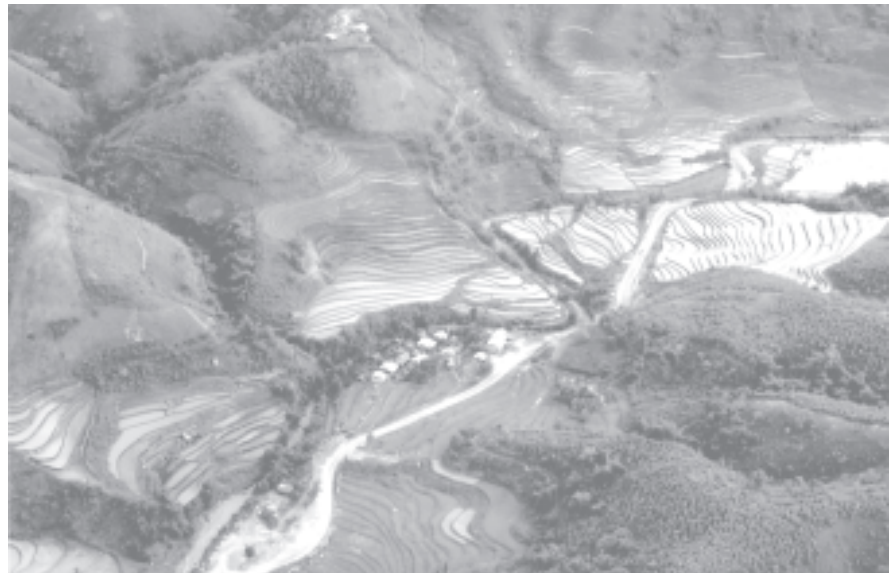
(from page 16)

The section, which is part of Meiktila-Taunggyi-Kengtung-Tachilek Union Highway, occupies 79 miles in Mongpyin Township and 35 miles in Kengtung Township in Shan State (East), totalling 114 miles.

The 12-foot-wide tar road was upgraded from a gravel road in the past. To complete that section, 170 small bridges and rock-filled retaining wall and drains stretching 10,500 feet had to be built.

In an interview, Ma Nan Yone Kham, a local resident of Mongpyin, said, "Now, I've enjoyed a golden opportunity to join Kengtung Degree Col-

our region. Previously, we local people had to spend a lot of time and energy to travel to Kengtung from Mongpyin due to poor transport. And Taunggyi-Kengtung section was a poor facility in the past. Some of its parts were rather narrow and some parts were often blocked with sand due to erosion of the sides of sand hills. So, we could not get to our destinations easily. But, Tarkaw-Kengtung tar road has been completed and we can now go to Kengtung from Mongpyin with peace of mind at any time. I'm a student of Kengtung Degree College. This road section will make significant contribution to-



A breathtaking view of Tarkaw-Kengtung Road and highland crops plantations.

Now both youths and adults are very happy with the fine facility".

Asked about the facility, U Soe Oo, driver of a ten-wheel truck who was waiting for the completion of the road section opening ceremony, said, "I'm a driver, so I'm happy if the road I'm taking is fine. In the past, we often found it difficult to transport goods from Kengtung to Taunggyi because many parts of the road were buried with sand from sand hills, and in the rainy season, sometimes we even could not find a place to park to stop over the night.

"We drivers had a lot of difficulties in driving along the road cov-

ered with sand and water. Sometimes, we had to stay on the road for four or five days with whatever we had. Previously, the road was full of potholes, and at that time, the breakdown of a truck blocked the others following it. And if a truck had a flat tyre, the truck in opposite direction could not have enough room to pass by the truck with flat tyre. At such times, we drivers had to eat what we found in the forest and stay with whatever we had until the truck that broke down had been repaired.

"Now, the road is 12 feet wide and is a tar one, so it is convenient for us to drive. Besides, there is the drain along the road and it prevents damage of the road to an extent. I'd say I thank the government very much for its upgrading

tween hill regions and the plains.

Public Works faced and overcame a number of difficulties in

such as the 200-bed hospital, Kengtung Degree College, Government Computer College and Government Tech-



This road section will make significant contribution towards promotion of the education of us youths. (Ma Nan Yone Kham)

lege. I'm very pleased with the development of

wards promotion of the education of us youths.

ing along the road cov-

I'm happy if the road I'm taking is fine. I thank the government very much for its upgrading the road. (U Soe Oo, driver)



upgrading Tarkaw-Kengtung section, a hill road. It also had to use heavy machinery to level steep hills, deep small valleys and detour parts in reconstructing the facility.

nical Institute, Kengtung has been developed from a town to the capital city on the east bank of Thanlwin River.

Besides, it has also been facilitated



An aerial view of Tarkaw-Kengtung Road snaking its way through forests and mountains.

With fine facilities such as the 200-bed hospital, Kengtung Degree College, Government Computer College and Government Technical Institute, Kengtung has been developed from a town to the capital city on the east bank of Thanlwin River. Besides, it has also been facilitated with an airport that can be used by jets to possess characteristics of a major city.

the road."

After the interview, about ten trucks including the one driven by U Soe Oo headed for Taunggyi.

No doubt, all the witnesses felt deeply pleased with that fruitful result from the government's drive for ensuring secure and smooth transport as a major task to effectively reduce the development gap be-

The government has been carrying out tasks with added momentum for the development of Shan State (East) that consists of four districts and 11 townships.

Local people can travel to the plains at any time thanks to the emergence of the Union Highway and the newly-reconstructed road.

With fine facilities

with an airport that can be used by jets to possess characteristics of a major city.

On my way home, I was captivated by an aerial view of Kengtung developing with Naungton Lake and modern buildings that reflect the rapid development of Myanmar.

Translation: MS

China's GDP grows 9.5% in first half year

BELING, 21 July — China's gross domestic product (GDP) for the first half of this year reached 6,742.2 billion yuan (812.3 billion US dollars), a year-on-year increase of 9.5 per cent.

"It was 0.2 percentage points lower than the growth rate for the same period of last year," said Zheng Jingping, spokesman of the National Bureau of Statistics, at a Press conference here on Wednesday.

In the first half of this year, regions and departments at all levels made all efforts in implement-

ing the scientific approach to development and various policies set by the central authorities on economic work, with the aim to consolidate the achievements brought by macro-control, he said.

"As a result, fairly good overall economic performance was recorded in the first half of this year".

In breakdown, the primary industry reported a value added of 670.7 billion yuan, up 5.0 per cent; the secondary industry, 3,963.5 billion yuan, up by 11.2 per cent; and the tertiary industry, 2,108.0 billion yuan, up by 7.8 per cent, according to the National Bureau of Statistics.

MNA/Xinhua

Honda to increase vehicle sales to 4 million units

TOKYO, 21 July — Honda Motor Co plans to expand its global automobile sales to 4 million units in fiscal 2007 from 3.24 million in fiscal 2004 which ended in March, the company said on Wednesday.

Honda will introduce new models in major markets, including the United States where vehicle sales have been robust, as well as China where demand is expected to grow, Honda's President Takeo Fukui told a news conference.

The new models include the remodelled Civic that will debut this fall, he said. In Japan

where auto sales have levelled off, Honda will enhance its marketing efforts to achieve a sales increase, the president said.

With an expansion in motorcycle and power generator sales as well as an increase in automobile sales, Fukui said, Honda plans to boost its consolidated sales to more than 10 trillion yen (89 billion US dollars) in fiscal 2007

from 8.65 trillion yen (77 billion dollars) in fiscal 2004. Fukui also said Honda will improve fuel efficiency in order to contribute to slowing global warming. In this respect, Honda plans to launch a fuel cell motorcycle model for lease by 2009, based on the fuel cell stack technology developed for automobiles, he said. — MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam builds 13 industrial parks in first half of '05

HANOI, 21 July — Vietnam started construction of 13 industrial parks (IPs) in the first half of this year, raising the total number to 123, according to the country's Ministry of Planning and Investment on Wednesday.

Of the 123 IPs with combined land area of 25,156 hectares, 71 are operating with average occupancy rate of nearly 60 per cent, and 52 others are under construction.

IPs attracted 131 foreign-invested projects worth 450 million US dollars or nearly 30 per cent of the total registered capital of foreign-invested projects licensed in the first six months of this year.

In the period, the IPs saw 169 operational foreign-invested projects increase their capital by 469 million dollars, accounting for 55 per cent of additional capital of foreign-invested projects nationwide.

Meanwhile, they made combined revenues of 4 billion dollars, including export turnovers of more than 2 billion dollars.

Vietnam plans to build additional 101 IPs,

and expand 27 existing ones from now to 2010. The proportion of production value of IPs in the country's total industrial production will increase to 35 per cent in 2010 from current 26.4 per cent, and that of their export turnovers in the country's total to 32 per cent from 18.8 per cent, respectively, the ministry said.

IPs have so far housed over 1,500 foreign-invested projects with total registered capital of more than 12 billion dollars, and over 1,600 domestic projects totalling 80 trillion Vietnamese dong (nearly 5.1 billion dollars).

Last year, IPs nationwide with total workforce of 700,000 posted industrial production of more than 11 billion dollars, and export revenues of 5 billion dollars, the ministry noted.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam eyes bigger seafood export in next 5 years

HANOI, 21 July — Vietnam has targeted seafood export turnovers of 16.1 billion US dollars between 2006 and 2010, up 46.3 per cent over the 2001-2005 period, the Fishery Ministry said on Wednesday.

To reach the target, the country is enhancing the capacity of forecasting seafood prices and demand of export markets, penetrate into the Middle East, East Europe, Africa and South America, while boosting export to traditional markets such as the United States, the European Union, Japan and China.

It is also promoting trademarks of its key seafood products, including shrimp, catfish and tuna, and helping more local enterprises and farmers to meet strict hygiene and safety standards set by importers. Vietnam eyes seafood production of more than 18.7 million tons from 2006 to 2010, up from over 14.3 million tons in the 2001-2005 period.

Vietnam, which earned nearly 1.1 billion dollars from supplying seafood to the world market in the first half of this year, posting a year-on-year rise of 9.3 per cent, has targeted to make seafood revenue of 2.6 billion dollars in 2005. — MNA/Xinhua



Chinese park greeters dance at Hong Kong Disneyland on 20 July, 2005. The \$3.6 billion entertainment theme park, to be opened on 12 September, 2005, is expected to draw hundreds of thousands of visitors from Mainland China. — INTERNET

Dhaka takes move to reduce mounting trade deficit

DHAKA, 21 July — In view of a record trade deficit, the government of Bangladesh has taken a move to restructure the Commerce Ministry by creating a new office of Director General of Foreign Trade and increasing the number of officials in the trade cadre.

The country's external trade balance has come under growing constraints during the 10 months of the last fiscal (July 2004 - June 2005) as export earnings fell sharply compared to a rise in import payments, *The Independent* reported on Wednesday.

Exports grew 15.37 per cent to 6.9 billion US dollars between July 2004 and April 2005 while imports went up 26.74 per cent to 9.78 billion dollars in the same period.

Bangladesh lost substantive export orders when the business procedure and banking have also come under growing

constraints, causing a net loss to the country's exports.

On the other hand, a rise in oil price in the international market has caused a rise in the government's import bills for crude oils. It is also forcing importers to pay high prices for capital machinery and intermediary goods for industrial units.

According to trade figures released by Bangladesh Bank, the central bank of the country, and the Export Promotion Bureau, the trade deficit reached a record 2.88 billion dollars in the first 10 months of the 2004 - 2005 fiscal, while the deficit in the correspond-

ing period of the 2003 - 2004 fiscal was 1.74 billion dollars.

In the last fiscal year, the trade gap widened by 37.5 per cent during the 10 months period over the same period in the previous fiscal.

The foreign exchange reserves dip below the 3 billion dollars mark with the Asian Clearing Union payment of 350 million dollars due last week. In this perspective the Ministry of Commerce has initiated to reorganize its offices instituting the office of Director General of Foreign Trade aiming to boost export income.

MNA/Xinhua

Afghan Govt burns 60 tons of drugs

KABUL, 21 July — Afghanistan has destroyed 60 tonnes of illegal drugs with a street value of hundreds of millions of dollars in the past two weeks in a bid to avoid becoming a narco-state, an official said on Wednesday.

Confiscated caches of hashish, opium, morphine and heroin were burned after being seized from traffickers trying to smuggle them outside Afghanistan, Interior Ministry spokesman Lutfullah Mashal said.

In total, 60 tonnes of drugs have been destroyed. It is a historical move globally in terms of the short period of time in which the destruction took place," Mashal told *Reuters*.

Afghanistan is the world's leading producer of heroin, and the narcotics trade dominates the economy, accounting for 60 per cent of gross domestic product, according to estimates by the United Nations. President Hamid Karzai said this month that drugs posed a greater risk

to Afghanistan than terrorism, and that the world would turn its back on Afghans if they failed to curb the trade. The government has admitted that some senior officials are thought to be involved in the drugs trade.

Officials say the area under cultivation of opium-producing poppy — the raw material for heroin and morphine — has fallen since last year as a result of a foreign-backed crackdown, but good growing weather could limit the size of any fall in output.

Encouraged by Western countries, Karzai has vowed a "holy war" on production of opium, which soared to record levels after the overthrow of the Taliban in late 2001. Washington has earmarked 700 million US dollars for the campaign against drugs while Britain is putting up 100 million US dollars and seeking 300 million US dollars more from other countries.

But with an estimated 10 per cent of Afghans dependent on opium production, the government fears that rapid eradication could worsen security in southern and eastern areas where poppy is mostly grown and where militants are most active.

MNA/Reuters

ADVERTISEMENTS

လုပ်ငန်းလုပ်ကိုင်ခွင့်အမှာချထားရန်

ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာခေါ်ယူဖြင့်

ရက်စွဲ၊ ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် ဇူလိုင်လ (၁၃)ရက် ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီက ကန်တော်ကြီး အပန်းဖြေ ဥယျာဉ်အတွင်း တည်ဆောက်ထားသော (၅) ထပ်ကျောက်တောင် အဆောက်အအုံ တွင် ပါဝင်သည့် စားသောက်ဆိုင်များနှင့် ပစ္စည်းအရောင်းဆိုင်များအား လုပ်ငန်းလုပ်ကိုင်ခွင့် အမှာချထားလိုပါသဖြင့် စိတ်ပါဝင်စားသည့် ကျမ္မာတို့များ၊ လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များ အနေဖြင့် ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာများ တင်သွင်းနိုင်ပါကြောင်း စိတ်အော်ပံပါသည်။

ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာများကို တစ်စုလျှင် ကျပ် ၁၀၀၀/- (ကျပ်တစ်ထောင်တိတိ)နှုန်းဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူရရှိနိုင်ပြီး ၂၉-၇-၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် (၁၆:၀၀)နာရီ နောက်ဆုံးထား၍ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့သို့ တင်သွင်းနိုင်ပါသည်။ သိရှိလိုသည် အသေးစိတ်အချက် အလက်များရှိပါက ဖုန်းအမှတ်- ၂၄၉၅၂၅၊ ၃၇၁၀၀၃ နှင့် ၂၈၂၅၃၄ သို့ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ဆက်သွယ်မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ
ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့
ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V. YANGON STAR VOY: NO (383)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V. YANGON STAR VOY NO (383) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22-7-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EAGLE SHIPPING CO., LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V. BOUGAIN VILLA VOY: NO (087)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V. BOUGAIN VILLA VOY NO (087) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22-7-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S PREMIER SPECTRUM
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V. GEE HONG VOY: NO (510)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V. GEE HONG VOY NO (510) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21-7-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EAGLE CORPORATION
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Ex-FBI agent sentenced as China spy case closes

LOS ANGELES, 20 July — A former FBI agent who failed to tell his superiors about an affair with an informant later arrested as a double agent for China was sentenced on Monday to three months' home confinement.

The sentencing of James J Smith was a low-key conclusion to a case that started as a high-profile prosecution of a supposed spy and ended with the dismissal of all charges

against the main defendant.

Smith pleaded guilty in May to lying to the FBI about his adulterous 18-year affair with FBI informant Katrina Leung. Leung, who was known as "Parlour Maid", was arrested in 2003. Prosecutors portrayed her as a double agent for China, but she was ultimately charged only with taking

classified documents from Smith.

The charges against Leung were thrown out in January by a federal judge who cited "willful and deliberate misconduct" by prosecutors. Prosecutors barred Smith from talking to defence lawyers, depriving Leung of a critical defence witness.

The news of Leung's arrest and lengthy affair

caused a sensation in Los Angeles, where she was a prominent businesswoman, society hostess and political activist.

Smith, who worked for the FBI for almost 20 years, was also ordered to perform 100 hours of community service. His sentence was lighter than the two months in prison requested by federal prosecutors. — MNA/Reuters

World population growth slows

PARIS, 20 July — World population growth is slowing due to impressive drops in fertility rates in Asia and Latin America, but Africa remains the exception, according to local reports on Tuesday.

Jean Pierre Guengant of the French Institute for Research and Development said on Tuesday that between 1960 to 1965 and 2000 to 2005, fertility rates declined in Latin America from six children for one woman to 2.9, and in Asia from 5.6 to 2.2 children for one mother.

But in Africa, the rate fell only from 6.9 to 5.0, said the French expert on the second day of the 25th International Population Congress that will last to 23 July in the French central city of Tours.

"In Asia, a strong commitment to family planning programmes is the main reason behind the success of many countries to achieve high levels of contraception," he said.

However in Africa, population rates are fast on the rise, with populations expected to triple by 2050 in a number of countries, including Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia and Uganda.

Niger has the highest fertility rate in the world with eight children born for each woman followed by Mali at 7.1, the Democratic Republic of Congo at 6.7 and Burkina Faso at 6.2.

The world's population of 6.5 billion people is expected to reach 9.1 billion in the next fifty years, but its annual rate of growth has slowed from a 2 per cent annual increase in 1960 to 1.2 per cent today.

MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese vendor and buyer weigh a basket of vegetables at a wholesale market in Nanjing, in eastern China's Jiangsu Province, on 20 July, 2005. —INTERNET

India to be next world giant to face baby-boom

PARIS, 20 July — Experts gathering in the French city of Tours for the 25th International Population Congress said on Tuesday that India is facing up to baby-boom.

India will be world's biggest country in population in 2050, with a population of 1.628 bil-

lion habitants, compared with today's 1.104 billion, said the International Union for scientific study of the population.

"There's in India a demographic impetus, with 2.8 children per woman, while China will have less than two per woman," said Christophe

Guilmoto, executive director of the international committee in national research on demography.

India has however a rapid decrease of birth-rate, lower infant mortality, and at the same time a longer longevity, experts said.

MNA/Xinhua

Spaniard tells of escape from "giant wave" of fire

MADRID, 20 July — A Spanish firefighter who saw 11 colleagues die battling a forest fire told on Tuesday how they were overtaken by a "giant wave" of flame heading straight towards them at furious speed.

Jesus Abad, the only survivor of 12 firefighters trapped on Sunday in a remote area of Guadalajara Province, 90 miles east of Madrid, escaped with burned arms and broken ribs by sheltering under a water truck that had water pouring out of it, his wife told the newspaper *El Pais*.

In his own first account, Abad told Spanish television: "The hurricane of fire was very big. I think it saw us and said 'You're mine'. Because it came

from a very long way off."

"The next time we turned our heads, the flames were leaping out at us and we got in the vehicles to get away ... but it didn't give us time and it caught us. As if it were a giant wave, but of fire."

Blinded by smoke, Abad said he had driven into a gully. He jumped out of the window and crawled under a water truck that was standing on the road.

After the fire passed he saw that his companions had all burned to death. Abad was rescued by a helicopter and is now recovering in hospital.

"You have no oxygen, you see yourself burning, you see yourself ... dead," he said. "The will to live saved me, because I think

we all have courage."

The fire scorched up to 13,000 hectares (32,000 acres) of forest and brush. By Tuesday, it was contained and close to being brought under control thanks to an 80-metre wide fire break, eight times wider than usual, officials said.

Police were questioning a group of day-trippers who told them they had lit a barbecue on Saturday in the area, which had been turned into a tinder box by Spain's worst drought since the 1940s.

Causing a fatal fire can be punished in Spain with up to 20 years in jail.

The government says Spain has around 20,000 forest fires a year, 90 per cent of them started by people. — MNA/Reuters

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Antiviral drug supresses deadly H5N1 avian flu in animal tests

LOS ANGELES, 20 July—An antiviral drug currently used against annual influenza strains has in mice experiments suppressed the deadly avian flu virus H5N1, US scientists reported on Monday.

This study, the first published one conducted on oseltamivir against the H5N1 influenza strain circulating in Vietnam, found that the drug commercially labelled as Tamiflu can dramatically boost the survival rate of infected mice. The researchers at St Jude Children's Research Hospital have published the paper online in the *Journal of Infectious Diseases*.

The H5N1 virus strain, which spread from birds to humans, has killed dozens of people in Vietnam,

Cambodia, Thailand, and Indonesia since early 2004. Public health experts fear that the avian flu virus could develop the ability to spread easily from person to person and kill millions in a deadly flu pandemic.

In this study, the research team gave one of three possible daily dosage levels of oseltamivir or a placebo to mice infected with H5N1 influenza virus. The highest dosage level, adjusted for weight, was equivalent to the dose currently recommended for humans sick with the

flu. Although the recommended human dose of oseltamivir is taken for five days, the researchers also tested an extended eight-day course in half of the mice. Oseltamivir decreases the ability of influenza virus to spread from infected cells to uninfected cells by inhibiting neuraminidase, which is an influenza protein required for the virus to exit infected cells.

Of 80 mice infected with H5N1 virus, 20

received a placebo, 30 were given oseltamivir at one of three dosage levels for five days, and 30 received the drug at one of three dosage levels for eight days.

None of the mice receiving a placebo survived, and only five of 10 mice given the highest daily dose of oseltamivir for five days survived. Although oseltamivir suppressed the virus in the mice, the virus continued to grow if the drug was stopped after five days, the researchers said.

MNA/Reuters

Egypt retrieves antique taken by American in 1958

CAIRO, 20 July—Egypt received on Tuesday a rare antique made of alabaster with hieroglyphic writings which was taken by an American national from a tomb at the Valley of the Kings in Luxor in 1958, the official MENA news agency reported.

Zahi Hawwas, secretary-general of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, said Egypt reclaimed the antique after Jack A Graves, a professor at the US University of California, sent him a letter in which he explained how he had got the antique.

In Graves' letter, the US professor said one of his friends had recently given him the piece.

Graves has translated the hieroglyphic text written on the antique monument and found it was about the ancient Egyptian god Osiris, said Hawwas.

The inscription also referred to King Seti I who ruled Egypt from 1318 to 1304 BC, said Hawwas, adding that the antique arrived in Cairo by courier on Monday.

MNA/Xinhua



A sailor repairs masts and rigging of a boat during wet weather at the harbour of the Baltic sea coastal village of Schilksee near Kiel, Germany, on 20 July, 2005.—INTERNET

New device to detect arsenic level evolved in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 20 July—A new, simple and cheaper method to detect arsenic level in water has been evolved in Kushtia District in western Bangladesh by a group of foreign scientists.

Arsenic level less than 10 microgram per liter can be measured by using the method while those now used in the country can not detect the contamination if it is below 50 microgramme per litre, The *Daily Star* reported on Tuesday. The World Health Organization (WHO) prescribed that tolerable limit of arsenic in water for humans is 10

micro-gramme per litre.

Thousands of people are being affected in the country with the deadly poison as they are unknowingly taking water with arsenic contamination of around 50 microgramme per litre. The new method is more accurate and precise and does not need use of atomic absorption spectrometre or other expensive equip-

ment, according to the innovators.

In the "arsenomolybdate" method, arsenic can be detected by using a simple spectrophotometre, distillation unit for purifying water, analytical balance, top-loading balance, glassware, an arsine generator, scrubber and absorber and some very common reagents.

MNA/Xinhua

Study says ducks may silently pass along bird flu

WASHINGTON, 20 July—The bird flu virus that experts fear will jump from birds to humans seems to be mutating yet again, and may be able to hide in healthy-looking ducks, thus putting both other birds and people at risk, experts said on Monday.

They said the H5N1 virus could kill some ducks after causing only mild symptoms — which means it could lurk, undetected, in flocks while spreading silently. "There is a real possibility that if these H5N1 viruses continue to circulate, further human infection will occur, increasing the potential for human-to-human transmission," the researchers write in this week's issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

The H5N1 strain has killed more than 50 people in Asia since 2003. More

than 140 million chickens have been slaughtered in the region in a bid to halt the disease. Public health experts say the avian flu virus is mutating and fear it could develop the ability to spread easily from person to person and kill millions in a flu pandemic.

Dr Robert Webster of St Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, and colleagues found more evidence of the virus mutating.

"Wild waterfowl, including ducks, are natural hosts of influenza A viruses," they wrote.

MNA/Reuters

Ancient Peru city reveals 5,000-year-old 'writing'

LIMA (Peru), 20 July—Archaeologists in Peru have found a "quipu" on the site of the oldest city in the Americas, indicating the device, a sophisticated arrangement of knots and strings used to convey detailed information, was in use thousands of years earlier than previously believed.

Previously the oldest known quipus, often associated with the Incas whose vast South American empire was conquered by the Spanish in the 16th Century, dated from about 650 AD.

But Ruth Shady, an

archaeologist leading investigations into the Peruvian coastal city of Caral, said quipus were among a treasure trove of articles discovered at the site, which is about 5,000 years old.

"This is the oldest quipu

and it shows us that this society... also had a system of "writing" (which) would continue down the ages until the Inca empire and would last some 4,500 years," Shady said.

She was speaking before the opening in Lima

on Tuesday of an exhibition of the artifacts which shed light on Caral, which she called one of the world's oldest civilizations.

The quipu with its well-preserved, brown cotton strings wound around thin sticks, was found with a series of offerings including mysterious fibre balls of different sizes wrapped in "nets" and pristine reed baskets.

"We are sure it corresponds to the period of Caral because it was found in a public building," Shady said. "It was an offering placed on a stairway when they decided to bury this and put down a floor to build another structure on top."

MNA/Reuters

Canadian planes to monitor Arctic for ship pollution

OTTAWA, 20 July—Canadian spotter planes will for the first time start monitoring Arctic waters for illegal discharges of waste by ships which could damage the region's delicate environment, officials said on Tuesday.

As part of an experiment, the aircraft, which currently monitor ice conditions in the North, will look for signs of pollution from ships until the end of October, when the waters freeze. We have observed an increase in shipping and oil drilling and exploration activities in the past few years," Environment

Minister Stephane Dion said in a statement.

Officials fear that an oil spill in the Arctic could have catastrophic effects on the environment, in part because the region's remoteness means it would take a long time to send help to the affected area. Canada will decide whether to repeat the Arctic patrols

next summer once the data from this year's experiment has been studied. Canada already conducts aerial pollution surveys over major shipping routes in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, throughout the Gulf of St Lawrence and in the Great Lakes and St Lawrence River system.

MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Miguel wants to cancel extended Benfica contract

LISBON, 20 July — Benfica defender Miguel Monteiro is seeking to cancel an extension to his contract which would keep him at the Portuguese champions until 2008.

"We received on Monday an 11-page letter in which Miguel asked for the cancellation of the contract. Our lawyers are going to analyse it and we'll make a statement afterwards," club spokesman Antonio Cunha Vaz told *Reuters* on Tuesday.

Miguel's lawyer, Dias Ferreira, told local newspapers the Portuguese international had the legal right to cancel the deal.

He said there was a provision for 30 days between the old contract which ended in June and the new extension when the player could decide his future.

Miguel, who began playing for the club in 2000, agreed to extend his original contract in 2003.

The Portuguese league and the soccer federation say the contract extension is legally binding.

According to local media, Miguel has shown interest in joining other teams including Valencia, Juventus and Inter Milan.

The matter is likely to be decided by a soccer council which would include representatives from the league and the players' union.

MNA/Reuters

Cole completes move to Manchester City

LONDON, 21 July — Striker Andy Cole has completed his free transfer to Manchester City from Fulham on a two-year deal.

The 33-year-old has already joined his teammates on their pre-season tour of Thailand and could play in Saturday's FA Premiership League Asia Trophy.

Cole is seen as a direct replacement for Jon Macken, who joined Crystal Palace last month.

"Andy has a top-class pedigree and I know our younger players can learn from him," City boss Stuart Pearce said.

Pearce has called for supporters to give their backing to the former England international, despite his time with rivals Manchester United.

MNA/Xinhua

Shelbourne beat Glentoran 4-1 in all-island clash

DUBLIN, 21 July — Ireland's Shelbourne beat Northern Irish neighbours Glentoran 4-1 in an all-island clash on Wednesday that put the Dublin side into the second qualifying round of the Champions League 6-2 on aggregate.

They will now face newly-crowned Romanian champions Steaua Bucharest for a place in the final qualifying round.

Owen Heary headed Shelbourne in front in the 13th minute after a late challenge from Glentoran captain Paul Leeman -- who was later sent off -- gave David Crawley a free kick.

Peter McCann, on his Glentoran debut, replied for the visitors seven minutes later in what proved to be their best passage of play during a match that tested the fitness of the Northern Irish side at the start of their league season.

Shelbourne, midway through their campaign and who this week slipped to third in the Eircom League, otherwise gave Glentoran few chances to test a defence that has proved porous in domestic games.

Jason Byrne, who scored both Shelbourne's first-leg goals in their 2-1 win last week, found the net in the 30th minute after Leeman was sent off for deliberate handball in the box.

With Glentoran down to 10 men, Shelbourne dominated the second half. Glen Crowe volleyed in a cross from Heary in the 57th minute and Byrne headed his second goal in the 70th.

Shelbourne manager Pat Fenlon was delighted with the performance but said they would focus on a domestic game on Friday before worrying about next week's match with Steaua.—MNA/Reuters

Liverpool signs Southampton striker Crouch

LONDON, 20 July — Southampton striker Peter Crouch agreed to join European champions Liverpool after the clubs approved the transfer on Tuesday.

Southampton said they had accepted a contract of around seven million pounds (12.18 million US dollars) for the England international. The 6-foot-7 Crouch have to undergo a medical on Wednesday and to sign later on that day.

"A fee of seven million is good money and obviously it was too good to turn down," Southampton manager Harry Redknapp said on the club's web site.—MNA/Reuters

Manchester United signs goalkeeper Ben Foster

LONDON, 20 July — Manchester United signed goalkeeper Ben Foster a four-year contract from Football League Championship team Stoke.

It is reported that the transfer fee will rise to three million pounds (5.2 million US dollars).

"This is a great move for Ben and a great opportunity for him to join one of the biggest clubs in the world," Stoke's director of football John Rudge said.

Foster, 22-year goalkeeper, has only played at youth and reserve level for Stoke. He was loaned out to Wrexham and Kidderminster last season.

MNA/Xinhua

Hiddink almost certain to be new Australia coach

SYDNEY, 20 July — PSV Eindhoven coach Guus Hiddink is almost certain to take over as Australia coach, Football Federation Australia chief executive John O'Neill has said.

"It's fair to say (Hiddink) is our preferred candidate," O'Neill told Australian web site Fox Sports. "The ink is not dry on the paper but very close. It's a matter of days, not weeks.

"We expect that once his duties (in Korea) are over we'll get his undivided attention. It will be a great coup if we get him and I'm 99 per cent sure we will."

Hiddink, who guided

co-hosts South Korea to the semi-finals of the 2002 World Cup, has returned to the country where he is a hero for the Peace Cup tournament with Dutch champions PSV.

Sydney's *Daily Telegraph* newspaper said on Wednesday Hiddink was expected to arrive in Australia to sign the contract once PSV's run in the tournament was over.

PSV play French club Olympique Lyon later on Wednesday. If they win they will advance to the final on Sunday.

Hiddink will replace Frank Farina, who stepped down after six years in charge following Australia's elimination from the Confederations Cup last month.

MNA/Reuters



Bolton Wanderers's Ivan Campo (L) fights for the ball with Manchester City's Joseph Barton during a friendly soccer match at Rajamangala Stadium in Bangkok on 20 July, 2005.—INTERNET

Lyon draw with PSV to reach final of Peace Cup

SUWON (South Korea), 21 July — French champions Olympique Lyon drew 1-1 with Dutch side PSV Eindhoven on Wednesday to reach the final of the Peace Cup pre-season tournament.

Robert de Pinho de Souza scored in the 37th minute for PSV after being put through by Lee Young-pyo but Florent Malouda equalized for Lyon early in the second half after a goalmouth scramble.

The French club therefore went through to the final on goals scored in the group matches.

Once Caldas of Colombia beat K-League side Seongnam Ilhwa 1-0 in the other match in Group A in Taejeon.

On Thursday Boca Juniors of Argentina play Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa, while Real Sociedad of Spain take on English Premier League side Tottenham to decide the other finalist from Group B.

Lyon and the other top finisher from Group B meet on 24 July for the final in Seoul, with two million US dollars awarded to the winner.

MNA/Reuters

Thailand beat Everton in penalty shootouts

BANGKOK, 21 July — Thai national team defeated Everton 5-3 on penalty shootouts after a 1-1 draw in regulation time in the first match of the Premier League Asian Trophy competition here on Wednesday.

Thus, Thailand enters the final on Saturday to face the winner between Bolton and Manchester City.

In a hot and humid weather, midfielder Pichitpong Choeichew put the hosts ahead 1-0 in the ninth minute with a drive beyond the reach of Everton keeper Nigel Martyn.

Everton found the equalizer before the first half break when Marcus Bent slotted the ball from a pass off Leon Osman.

During penalty shootouts, Thai goalie Kosin Hathairattanakul stopped Joseph Yobo's attempt, while Datsakorn Thonglao, Teeratep Winothai, Pichitpong Choeichew, Chakrit Buathong and Jakkrit Bunkham all scored for Thailand.

David Weir, James McFadden and Kevin Kilbane made shots for Everton. "We didn't play the way we should have and the fitness wasn't there," said Everton manager David Moyes.

Thai coach Chanvit Polchivin explained that "what's more valuable

than the victory is the experience that players gained from this match".

MNA/Xinhua



Thailand's Datsakorn Thonglao (L) challenges Everton's Duncan Ferguson during a match in Bangkok, Thailand, pulled off a 6-4 penalty shootout upset over Everton in the opening match of the Premier League Asia Trophy tournament.—INTERNET

Obasanjo inaugurates 2014 Commonwealth Games Bid Committee

ABUJA, 21 July — Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo here on Tuesday inaugurated the 18-member 2014 Commonwealth Bid Committee which has former Head of State General Yakubu Gowon as chairman.

Speaking on the occasion, Obasanjo said Nigeria was eminently qualified to bid for the games.

“This is a very serious mission that requires that we put our very best foot forward, be focused, dedicated and committed to winning the bid.”

He added that “it is for this reason that a former Head of State is requested to lead the committee”.

The president said Nigeria, the most populous African country with a population of over 138 million, was a very important member of the Commonwealth and had all it takes to host the games, adding that the Nigerian Government decided to bid because of its belief that it was the right time to do so.

He said that winning the bid would afford the country an opportunity to remove the stereotypes held by many foreigners as well as assist in opening up its tourism potentials.

“We believe this is the right time, we have paid our dues and this is our century,” he said.

Obasanjo noted that 2014 would be the centenary celebration of the 1914 union of the country and that winning the bid could be part of the celebrations.

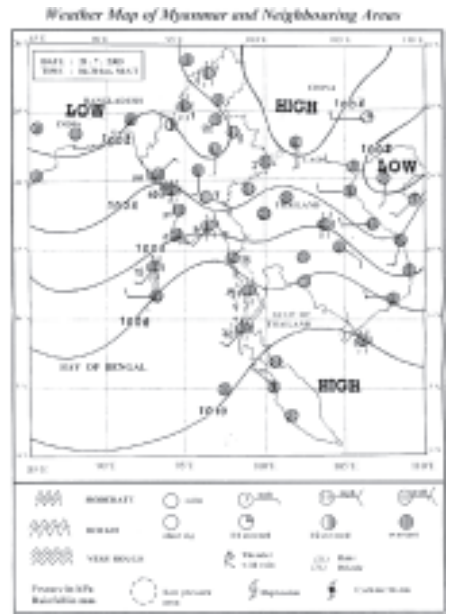
He said the committee could co-opt any experts that it needed to serve it and, as current chair-in-office of the Commonwealth, he had already commenced the campaign for the games.

According to Malam Samaila Sambawa, newly

appointed Federal Minister of Sports, the decision to bid for the games followed the successful hosting of the All Africa Games twice. Sambawa said he believed that the country was in a very good position to win the bid following its string of successful hosting of other major engagements.—MNA/Xinhua



CASH DONATED: His Excellency Ambassador of Thailand Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal & Madam Sukunya Dhirakaosal of the Royal Thai Embassy donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently. Chairman of Administrative Board of the Home U Maung Tin and Vice-Chairman Lt-Col Kyaw Shein (Retd) accept the cash donation from the wellwishers.—(H)



WEATHER

Thursday, 21 July, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain have been isolated in Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kayah State, Sagaing, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Mon State and isolated heavyfalls in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Dawei (3.70) inches, Bhamo (3.62) inches, Thaton (3.58) inches, Mudon (3.40) inches, Theinzayat (3.39) inches and Mawlamyine (3.15) inches.

Maximum temperature on 20-7-2005 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 21-7-2005 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 21-7-2005 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 20-7-2005 was (4.3) hours approx. Rainfalls on 21-7-2005 were (0.47 inch) at Mingaladon, (0.35 inch) at Kaba-Aye, (0.55 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (38.54 inches) at Mingaladon, (36.61 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (41.02 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (12:25) hours MST on 20-7-2005.

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 22-7-2005: Rain will be isolated in Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kayah State, Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Mon State and Taninthayi Division. Degree of certainty is 80%.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in the coastal areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 22-7-2005: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 22-7-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is 60%.

ASLEEP IN JESUS
U Aung Myint (a) Frank Aung Myint (Age 81)
 Son of (U Sein Htun-Daw Thein Hsin), eldest brother of (Daw Colleen), (Daw Cynthia), Daw Khin Mya Yin-(Keith), (Daw Si Win)-Rev U Tin Mg Tun, (George Than Win)-Jeanne, Daw Thein Su Wai-Rev U Mg Mg Din (Taunggyi) and Daw Mi Mi Lay, Dr Boh Zaw Win, father of Ann-Bryan, Sonya-Danny, grandfather of 3 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild, passed away peacefully at 6.10 pm on Sunday 17th July 2005 at his residence No 9 E/2, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, 8th Mile, Yangon. Funeral service at 9.00 am on Friday July 22, 2005 at Yayway Christian Cemetery Hall and then entombment at Yayway Christian Cemetery.
 Bereaved Family

အိမ်တိုင်းမှာသစ်ပင်
ရွာစဉ်မှာတောတန်:
 တစ်တောင်
 တစ်တောင်တက်
 မြို့တက်မယ့်လမ်း

Radio Myanmar
Friday, 22 July
Tune in today:
8.30 am Brief news
8.35 am Music:
 -Facts of love
8.40 am Perspectives
8.45 am Music: Unbreak my heart
8.50 am National news/Slogan
9.00 am Music: Torn
9.05 am International news
9.10 am Music: More than a feeling
1.30 pm News/Slogan
1.40 pm Lunch time music
 -Sing baby sing
 -If I were you
 -You are till the one
9.00 pm World of music
 Song from: Laos
9.15 pm Article/Music
9.25 pm Music at your request
 - I'm in love for the very first time
 - Words
 - I'll never stop loving you
 - All my love
9.45 pm News/Slogan
10.00 pm PEL

TV Myanmar
Friday, 22 July
View on today:
7:00 am
 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Oattamathara
7:15 am
 2. တီပိဋကဓရ ဓမ္မာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသီရိဗုဒ္ဓိသံသယ(ယောဆရာတော်)မဟာဘိက္ခုဝေတီအုဗ်ဓသာ ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်
7:25 am
 3. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am
 4. Morning news
7:40 am
 5. Nice and sweet song
7:50 am
 6. လွယ်လွယ်ပျဉ်းစိတ်ပျဉ်းစိတ်

8:00 am
 7. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
8:10 am
 8. The mirror images of the musical oldies
8:20 am
 9. ဝုလင်းရေလှောင်တစ်
8:30 am
 10. International news
8:45 am
 11. English For Everyday Use
4:00 pm
 1. Martial song
4:15 pm
 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
4:30 pm
 3. Practice in Reading
4:45 pm
 4. Musical programme
5:00 pm
 5. အစေးသင်တန်းသို့လုပ်ညှာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရက္ခစော၊ သက္ကစောအထူးပြုများ) (ရက္ခစော)
5:15 pm
 6. Song of national races

5:30 pm
 7. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
5:45 pm
 8. Musical programme
6:00 pm
 9. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေညာထံရွှင်
6:30 pm
 10. Evening news
7:00 pm
 11. Weather reports
7:05 pm
 12. နိုင်ငံခြားဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်ဝတ်ပါ” (အပိုင်း-၂)
7:40 pm
 13. Song of yesteryears
7:50 pm
 14. ဒေသဝတ်စားမှုလုံခြုံ ဆင်းရွေလိမေးခိုက်ကြိုမိုး (အပိုင်း-၅)
8:00 pm
 15. News
 16. International news
 17. Weather report
 18. နိုင်ငံခြားဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်ဝတ်ပါ” (အပိုင်း-၆)
 19. The next day's programme

The precinct of the Shwedagon Pagoda teeming with members of the Sangha and people on Fullmoon Day of Waso (20-7-2005).

NLM



Developing Kengtung, capital of Shan State (East)

Article & photos by Thaung Win Bo

Kengtung is the capital city of Shan State (East). Throughout the successive periods, local people had to face a number of difficulties and take a long time to

travel from Kengtung to Mongyan, Tachilek and Taunggyi in the rainy season.

In compliance with the guidance of the Head of State, Public Works

under the Ministry of Construction launched the project for upgrading of Meiktila-Taunggyi-Kengtung Union Highway in November 2002. Tarkaw-Kengtung Sec-

tion was put into service on 14 June 2005.

Thanks to the emergence of Tarkaw-Kengtung Section, one can travel from Meiktila to Tachilek via Taunggyi

and Kengtung. Local people are really pleased with the completion of the section as they can now make Taunggyi-Kengtung trip at ease although it took several

days in the past.

Kengtung is an access to the border, through which national people can travel to the People's Republic of China, Thailand and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and it will help promote border trade.

In order to ensure secure and smooth transport in the region, the Tatmadaw Government has constructed or upgraded Kengtung-Tachilek, Kengtung-Mongla, Kengtung-Mongkhat-Mongyawng, Kengtung-Lwemwe, Mongphyat-Mongyawng-Mongyu, Tarlay-Pasho-Kengpak, Namhsan-Mongton-Mongsat-Tachilek, and Monghsat-Mongpyin roads, thereby enhancing communication, friendship, and mutual cooperation between local national race people.

The emergence of Tarkaw-Kengtung tar road in Mongpyin Township will help raise the living standard of local national races.

(See page 10)



An aerial view of developing Kengtung with Naungton Lake and modern buildings.