

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

Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspects parade drills

NAY PYI TAW, 10 March — Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, together with Chairman of the Management Committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, Chairman of Parade Working Committee Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Brig-Gen Zaw Win, Vice-Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe and officials inspected parade drills of the military columns which are to take part in the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade in Nay Pyi Taw parade ground.

Tatmadawmen from Anawrahta Column led by Col Aung Gyi, Kyansittha Column by Col Thein Zaw, Bayintnaung Column by Capt Zaw Oo, Aungzeya Column by Col San Win, Hsinphyushin Column by Col Than Lwin, Bandoola Column by Col Khin Maung Hsint and Myawady Column by Col Nay Win practised the parade drills under the command of Parade Commander Brig-Gen Myint Naing.



After inspecting the parade drills, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe met the parade commander and column commanders and gave necessary instructions.

MNA

Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspects parade drills of military columns that will take part in the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade. — MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 11 March, 2007

Myanmar strongly protests at report of the US State Department

The US State Department released Country Reports (2006) on Human Rights Practices of over 190 countries including Myanmar on 7 March.

As in the past, the report once again carried a litany of unfounded and unsubstantiated allegations of human rights violations in Myanmar. The source of these fabricated allegations must have emanated from the remaining insurgent groups and anti-government elements.

The government is putting earnest efforts into the border areas and national races development project, the 24 special regions development project and the five rural development programmes for all-round development of the entire nation, thus raising the social and economic conditions of the national races.

Failing to reflect the prevailing conditions of Myanmar, the report enumerates a series of baseless accusations against the nation.

Under the pretext of promotion and protection of human rights, the US is criticizing its targeted countries through the exercise of the double standard in its attempt to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries.

The US State Department is hostile towards the countries sensitive to its inconsiderate behaviours through its annual report on human rights. The accused countries have strongly responded to and categorically turned down all accusations as usual.

The entire Myanmar people firmly reject the biased assessment of human rights situations in Myanmar stipulated in the US State Department's 2006 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices.

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ

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Peoples' Desire

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

Commander inspects regional development tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 10 March — Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Thaug Aye, accompanied by Chairman of Kayah State Peace and Development Council Col Nyunt Tin and responsible personnel paid homage to Zinawzaya Yanayenyein Aungtawmu Pagoda in Loikaw on 2 March.

Next, the commander inspected Ngwetaung Dam and condition of roads and bridges on Loikaw-Dimawhso-Pruhso-Bawlake-Pasawng road.

At the hall of the local station in Pasawng, the commander met with officers, other ranks and their families, and presented cash assistance, refreshments and personal goods to them.

Afterwards, the commander and party met with departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people at the meeting hall of Pasawng Township PDC.

Next, chairman of township PDC U Thin Oo briefed the commander and party on regional development and agricultural services.

After fulfilling the needs of the tasks, the commander gave instructions on harmonious cooperation in realization of five development tasks and cordially greeted those present. — MNA

Stake driven to construct school building in Moegaung

NAY PYI TAW, 10 March — Deputy Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen San Tun attended a stake-driving ceremony for construction of a two-storey building of Basic Education High School No 1 in Moegaung, Kachin State, on 25 February.

The deputy commander spoke on the occasion and MOM Pharmacy Shop donated K 1 million for the school construction. The new school building will cost K 160 million. — MNA

Yangon South District Women's Affairs Organization meets

YANGON, 10 March — Yangon South District Women's Affairs Organization held a work coordination meeting at the office of Yangon South District Peace and Development Council in Thanlyin Township here on 7 March. Yangon Division WAO Patron Daw Mar Mar Wai spoke at the meeting and the chairperson of Yangon South District WAO and chairpersons of Township WAOs reported on future work programmes.

After the meeting, the patron and members of the Yangon Division WAO viewed documentary photos showing the activities of the organization.

MNA

Mayor inspects mass activities of prevention against DHF

YANGON, 10 March — The Health Department and Yangon City Development Committee jointly organized the mass activities of prevention against Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever in Kamayut Township this morning.

Chairman of YCDC Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin heard reports on infection of DHF and preventive measure taken presented by officials at the office of Township Development Affairs Committee.

The mayor instructed them to carry out sanitation and prevention against the DHF.

Next, the mayor and party viewed the talks on preventive measure against DHF and demonstration to the people at Aungchantha



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspects mass activities for prevention of dengue haemorrhagic fever being carried out in Kamayut Township. — YCDC

Dhammayon on Htantabin Street in Ward 1 of Kamayut Township.

Similar activities were held in Mayangon, Tamway, North Okkalapa, Yankin, Botahtaung, Dalla,

Hlinethaya, Hline, Shwepyitha, Dagon, Dagon Myothit (North), Ahlon and Lanmadaw townships simultaneously.

Afterwards, the mayor inspected progress

of the football ground and playground construction project being implemented by Parks and Playgrounds Department of YCDC in Ward 13 of Hline Township.

MNA

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Russia and China tough on new sanctions on Iran

UNITED NATIONS, 9 March — Russia and China have raised objections to nearly every Western proposal for new UN sanctions against Iran for its nuclear ambitions except a ban on arms export, according to a working paper.

The document, seen by Reuters on Thursday, shows some Russian and Chinese reservations about other proposals for a UN Security Council resolution. These include a mandatory travel ban, financial and trade restrictions and expanding a list of Iranian officials

and firms whose assets would be frozen, such as those controlled by Iran's Revolutionary Guards.

In an effort to break the logjam, senior foreign policy officials from the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China held another telephone on Thursday so UN ambassador could begin drafting a Security Council resolution. But progress was not clear.

The United States and leading European countries suspect Iran is seeking to build nuclear weapons under the cover of a civilian atomic programme. Teheran denies the charge and says its programme is for generating electricity

only.

The new resolution is a follow-up to one adopted by the Security Council 23 on December that imposed trade sanctions on sensitive nuclear materials and technology and froze assets of key Iranians individuals, groups and businesses.

MNA/Reuters

Smoke billows toward the sky at a wildfire on Thursday morning, 8 March, 2007, near Gate City, in south-west Virginia. Dry and windy conditions contributed to a number of wildfires, including one in south-west Virginia that had spread on Thursday to more than 1,000 acres, officials said. — INTERNET



Brazilian congressman indicted in NY for stealing public money

NEW YORK, 9 March — Brazilian congressman Paulo Maluf has been indicted in New York on charges of stealing more than 11.6 million US dollars from a public project in Brazil, the US prosecution service said on Thursday.

Maluf and four others were suspected of participating in a kickback

scheme during his second term as mayor of Sao Paulo, the largest city in Brazil, the Manhattan District attorney Robert Morgenthau said.

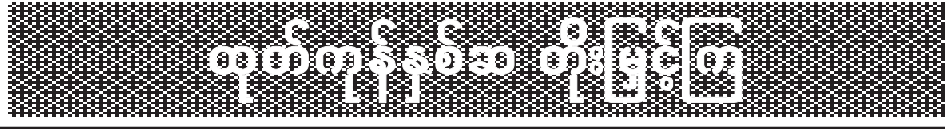
"We believe he stole a lot more...but the 11.6 million is what we have documents for," Morgenthau said.

The attorney said that in 18 months between

November 1997 and May 1999, at least 140 million dollars moved through the New York account Maluf used. "This case represents corruption and greed on a colossal scale," he added.

Morgenthau said Maluf, who still has his congressional seat, is in Brazil.

MNA/Xinhua



The government of Chongwen District in Beijing is committed to building the Cultural Circle of the Temple of Heaven, to develop the economy while preserving local characteristics, as the capital city advances the strategy of "accelerating the development of South Beijing" in preparation for the 2008 Olympic Games. —INTERNET



Number of violent crimes tops record in US

BEIJING, 9 March — There were 5.2 million violent crimes reported in the United States in 2006, up 2.5 per cent from the previous year, the highest rate in 15 years, says the Human Rights Record of the United States in

2006 issued here on Thursday.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) said murder, robbery and other violent crimes reported in the United States jumped 3.7 per cent in the first half of 2006 over the same period in 2005, with murders that occurred in cities with population of between 500,000 and 1 million in the same period were up by 8.4 per cent year on year.

Statistics showed in the first half of 2006 murder was up a whopping 27.5 per cent in Boston, 43 per cent up in Memphis and 19 per cent up in Cincinnati.

From 1 January to 10 December there were

384 slayings in Philadelphia, which exceeded the total toll of victims in 2005.

During the first 11 months in 2006, 147 murders were reported in New Orleans, and Orlando, Florida, reported 42 murders in the first 10 months in 2006, nearly double the 22 slayings last year in the city of 200,000 people.

And in Washington,

police department declared a crime emergency and a 10pm curfew for juveniles in July 2006, after the city had 11 homicides in 13 days.

The Washington Post reported on December 14, 2006 that there had been 35 bank robberies in Montgomery County in 2006, with three banks robbed on 13 December within minutes.

MNA/Xinhua

South Korea confirms 7th bird flu outbreak

SEOUL, 9 March — South Korea confirmed on Thursday its seventh outbreak in the past several months of highly virulent bird flu, despite a mass

culling and other measures to prevent the spread of the deadly H5N1 strain.

The latest outbreak was at a poultry farm in Chonan, about 90 kilometres (55 miles) south of Seoul, where a similar outbreak had taken place in January, the Agriculture Minister said.

In November, South Korea confirmed its first case of the H5N1 strain in about three years. As of 1 March bird flu had killed 167 people globally over the past four years, according to the World Health Organization.

It largely remains an animal disease, but the big concern is that it could mutate into a disease that easily passes from human to human, triggering a global pandemic.

MNA/Reuters



A female elephant stands next to its one-day-old baby at the Thai Elephant Conservation Center in Lampang Province, northern Thailand, on 8 March, 2007. XINHUA

Pakistan, India to exchange information to prevent terrorist acts

ISLAMABAD, 9 March — Pakistan and India have agreed to exchange information for investigations into terrorist activities and prevention of violence and terrorist acts in both countries, according to an official statement issued here on Wednesday.

The agreement was reached during the first meeting of the Pakistani-Indian Joint Anti-Terror

mechanism held in Islamabad to identify and implement counter-terror initiatives.

The two sides “agreed that specific information will be exchanged through the mechanism for helping investigations on either side related to terrorist acts and prevention of violence and terrorist acts in the two countries”, the joint statement said.

Both sides also agreed

that while the Anti-Terrorism Mechanism would meet on a quarterly basis, any information which is required to be conveyed on priority basis would be immediately conveyed through the respective heads of the mechanism, according to the statement.

Pakistan and India decided to institutionalize a joint anti-terrorism mechanism to identify and

implement counter-terrorism initiatives and investigations, during a meeting between Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in Havana last September.

MNA/Xinhua

Japanese Emperor Akihito (R) greets Georgia's President Mikhail Saakashvili at the palace in Tokyo on 9 March, 2007.

Japan's emperor and empress should be freed of some of their official duties, the Imperial Household Agency said.

INTERNET

ဝက်ဘ်ဆိုက်များအား ခေတ်တော်ပြည့်စုံစေရန်



A group of women teachers from the Wenzhou Vocational School for Overseas Chinese in Zhejiang Province learn how to put on makeup recently.—INTERNET

Malaysian oil Co signs new pact with Japanese gas firm

KUALA LUMPUR, 9 March — Malaysia LNG Sdn Bhd (MLNG), a subsidiary of the country's state-run oil company Petronas, signed a new sale and purchase

agreement with Japan's Saibu Gas Co, Petronas said Thursday.

Under the new pact, MLNG will supply up to 390,000 tons of liquefied natural gas (LNG) per annum to Saibu Gas Co for 15 years beginning from October 2013.

MLNG will supply the LNG from its plant in Bintulu in Malaysia's eastern state of Sarawak

to the terminals in Japan's Nagasaki and Hakata, Petronas said in a Press release.—MNA/Xinhua

Strong winds kill 6 in Bali, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 10 March — Strong winds hitting the resort island of Bali, Indonesia, over the past two days killed at least six persons and injured nine

others.

Falling trees caused most of the fatalities and injuries, Antara news agency Friday quoted I Wayan Redika, a spokesman of the Bali electricity supply service, as saying in Denpasar, capital of Bali Province.

A number of big trees were uprooted after being stricken by the wind. Some of the falling trees hit electricity poles and wire causing electricity black out in some areas.

The weather in Bali is currently improving following the two-day strong winds which were triggered by Cyclone George from neighbouring country Australia.

MNA/Xinhua

US lawmakers take sponsored trips worth \$50m

BEIJING, 9 March — Over the past five and a half years, US Republican and Democratic lawmakers accepted nearly 50 million US dollars in trips, often to resorts and exclusive locales, a rights report issued here on Thursday says.

“The United States touts itself as the ‘beacon

of democracy’, but the US mode of democracy is in essence one in which money talks,” says the Human Rights Record of the United States in 2006, released by the Information Office of the State Council of China.

From January 2000 through June 2005, House and Senate members and their aides were away from Washington for more than 81,000 days — a combined 222 years — on at least 23,000 trips, the report says.

US lawmakers

accepted thousands of costly jaunts to some of the world's choicest destinations: at least 200 to Paris, 150 to Hawaii and 140 to Italy, it says.

Twenty-five individual lawmakers accepted more than 120,000 US dollars' worth of travel during the period and private trip sponsors spent most money on about two dozen congressional offices, it says, citing a report of *Seattle Times* in June 2006.

MNA/Xinhua

A little boy watches an otter in an aquarium at Prague's Zoo during a warm day on 6 March, 2007.

INTERNET



Mrs World 2007 Diane Tucker of the US (C) is congratulated by other contestants after she is crowned in a Mrs World 2007 contest in Russia's Black Sea resort of Sochi on 8 March, 2007.

XINHUA

ECONOMIC NEWS

Brazil, Cuba register record trade volume in 2006

RIO DE JANEIRO, 9 March — Trade between Brazil and Cuba amounted to a record high of 374.85 million US dollars in 2006, the Brazilian Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade said on Wednesday.

Last year, Brazil's exports to Cuba reached 343.25 million dollars, while imports from Cuba amounted to 31.59 million, generating a surplus of 311.66 million, the ministry said.

Meanwhile, Cuban Vice-Foreign Minister Alejandro Gonzalez Galiano said Brazil is

Cuba's second biggest trading partner in the region after Venezuela.

The vice-minister was in Brazil to participate in an annual bilateral meeting designed to address issues of mutual interest, such as scientific cooperation and cultural exchanges.

Galiano said Cuba's

trade relations with the rest of Latin America are currently at their best ever, despite the 47-year-old embargo imposed by the United States on the Caribbean island. In 2006, Cuba registered the highest GDP growth rate of 12.5 per cent among Latin American countries.

MNA/Xinhua



Students dance on the game "Dance Dance Revolution" in Japan. Reality, mobility and community were prime themes at the international video game developers gathering that ends on 9 March, 2007 in San Francisco. — INTERNET

India likely to ban cement exports to lower prices

NEW DELHI, 9 March — The Indian Government is likely to ban cement exports soon in a bid to bring down prices, Indian Commerce and Industry Minister Kamal Nath told Xinhua here Wednesday.

He said the Indian Government will look at whether the ban helps bring down cement prices or not, but the minister failed to mention the exact date when the government plans to announce the ban.

Demand for cement is growing at an annual 10 per cent as India improves its infrastructure to sustain high economic growth.

Moreover, cement makers in the country have vowed to add 100 million tons to capacity at a cost of 400-450 billion rupees (some four billion US dollars) over the next five years.

MNA/Xinhua

The Caesar Twins of Poland perform during the gala premiere of the Crystal Mirror in Singapore on 9 March, 2007. The Crystal Mirror is dinner theatre performance that combines fine dining with performances by acrobats, singers, comedians and musicians. — INTERNET

EU agrees renewable energy target

BRESSELS, 9 March — EU states will have to embrace wind, solar and hydroelectric power

European Union leaders have agreed to adopt a binding target on the use of renewable energy, such as wind and solar power, officials say.

European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said Europe was now able to lead the way on climate change. The 27 EU states will each decide how they

contribute to meeting a 20% boost overall in renewable fuel use by 2020.

The measures could include a ban on filament light bulbs by 2010, forcing people to switch to fluorescent bulbs.

The bulbs last longer but more are more expensive to buy. In another key measure, agreed on Thursday, EU leaders said they would cut carbon dioxide emissions by 20% from 1990 levels

by 2020. Mr Barroso described the agreement as historic, saying it was the most significant in which he had played a part.

"We can say to the rest of the world, Europe is taking the lead, you should join us in fighting climate change," he said. — Internet

Wealth management key for Malaysian finance sector

KUALA LUMPUR, 9 March — Wealth management will become a key engine for the growth of Malaysia's financial sector, an asset management institution said here on Thursday. The prospect was seen based on the country's macroeconomic and demographic profiles, Paris-based fund manager BNP Paribas Asset Management said in a statement released here.

Malaysia has a modern diversified and rapidly developing economy, with a young urbanized population, a high savings rate and rising income levels, the asset institution said.

MNA/Xinhua

A model parades an outfit by Australian designer Tina Kalivas during the Melbourne Fashion Festival recently. INTERNET



Zambian coffee wins Starbucks Award

LUSAJAM, 9 March — A Zambian coffee company has won a top quality award presented by the Starbucks Coffee Company of the United States, Zambia's Coffee Growers Association (CGA) has said.

CGA general manager Joseph Taguma was cited by Wednesday's newspaper *The Post* as saying coffee grown by Terranova Coffee Estates in Eastern Province is now allowed to be served in prestigious Starbucks coffee shops around the world effective 13 March this year.

Terranova Coffee Estates is the first Zambian coffee outfit to win the star

quality award known as the "Black Apron Exclusive", according to Taguma.

"The year 2006... marked one of the major milestones in the industry's quest for recognition on the international coffee market as an origin that produces and offers the market top quality coffee products," Taguma said.

According to Starbucks, Black Apron Exclusive coffees represent the best in a line-up of already outstanding coffees.

Terranova won a cash prize of 15,000 US dollars which will be used by the company for a social project, according to the paper. — MNA/Xinhua



Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva delivers a speech during the launch of an HIV/AIDS education programme and World Women's Day celebration, which falls on 8 March, in Rio de Janeiro on 7 March, 2007. — XINHUA

Japanese Empress braves illness to attend flower show

TOKYO, 9 March — Japan's Empress Michiko attended a flower exhibition on Thursday, two days after an announcement that she is suffering from what appears to be a stress-related illness, in another sign of tension in the royal family.

Dressed in a beige kimono, Michiko, 72, smiled and nodded as she viewed an exhibition of traditional flower arranging.

The Empress is expected to receive Sweden's King Carl Gustaf and Queen Silvia when they visit from March 25-29 but will then take some more time to rest at a royal farm north of Tokyo.

The announcement of her illness came just weeks after the government protested over a book by an Australian journalist about Michiko's daughter-in-law, Crown Princess Masako, for what Tokyo said were errors and insults to the royal family.

MNA/Reuters

Strong earthquake hits eastern Indonesia

JAKARTA, 9 March — A powerful earthquake with magnitude of 6.0 rocked eastern part of Indonesia on Friday, but there were no potential of tsunami and report of damages, Metcorology and Geophysics said here.

The quake struck at 5.38 pm Jakarta time (1038 GMT) with epicenter at 190 kilometers northwest of Saumlaki town of Matuku Province and 122 kilometers under seabed, an official of the agency told Xinhua.

MNA/Xinhua

Beijing, Shanghai airports boomed in 2006

GENEVA, 9 March — China's Beijing and Shanghai were by far the world's fastest growing major airports for passengers and cargo in 2006, a year that saw booming business in Asia, the global airports body ACI reported on Wednesday.

Also expanding passenger business fast, although from a much lower base, are India's New Delhi and Mumbai, gateways to Asia's other burgeoning trade power, figures released by ACI, the Geneva-based Airports Council International, showed.

While Atlanta in the United States remained the busiest world airport for passengers with a total of nearly 85 million, its figures were down 1.2 per cent on 2005.

Memphis, US hub for major air cargo services,

remained the top freight airport, processing nearly 3.7 million tons, but this was just 2.6 per cent more than in 2005.

Beijing, which next year hosts the Olympic Games, saw an 18.3-per cent climb in travellers passing through to a total of 48.5 million, making it the globe's ninth busiest airport, six places up from 2005.

In freight handled, Beijing also saw whopping growth of 31.6 per cent, making it the 20th busiest world cargo airport, while Shanghai,

China's top business city, climbed from ninth to sixth place, with freight figures up by 16.3 per cent.

Overall, ACI said, global passenger traffic through domestic and

international airports increased by five per cent last year over 2005, and cargo was up by nearly 4 per cent — figures in line with similar returns from the airlines body IATA.

MNA/Reuters

Bird flu hits Hanoi

HANOI, 9 March — Bird flu has stricken Vietnam's capital Hanoi over the last few days, raising the total number of current affected localities in the country to four.

The disease killed 1,150 out of 1,300 chickens in two farms in Dong Anh District, the Department of Animal Health under the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development said Wednesday.

Specimens from the fowls, which had not been vaccinated against the disease, have been tested positive to bird flu virus strain H5N1, said the department.

The local Veterinary Bureau has slaughtered all fowls in the farms, and detoxified and disinfected the farm to prevent the disease's spread.

Bird flu outbreaks in Vietnam, starting in December 2003, have killed and led to the forced culling of dozens of millions of fowls in the country, said the department.—MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia Customs seizes 25 kilos of drugs at airport

KUALA LUMPUR, 9 March — Malaysian Customs officers recently have seized 25 kilos of drugs, with an estimate market price of 1.3 million ringgit (370,000 US dollars) at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA), local Press reported on Thursday.

The drugs were found in a canvass baggage carousel on 2 March, which was left uncollected, *The Star* newspaper reported.

This is the third drug seizure at KLIA in recent weeks, the newspaper said.

On 14 February, two Indian nationals carrying a total of 42 kilos of ketamine were arrested in separate incidents, it said.

Malaysian Customs officers also said that they had several branded goods brought in without taxes paid, including handbags, the newspaper added.

MNA/Xinhua

Many US inmates die in prisons with diseases untreated

BEIJING, 9 March — Each year, approximately 7,000 Americans died in US prisons and jails, and many of the deaths resulted from mental disorders left undiagnosed and diseases left untreated, says the Human Rights Record of the United States in 2006 issued here on Thursday.

A report published by the US Justice Department in November 2006 showed that an estimated 37 per cent of county and municipal jail inmates reported having a current medical problem other than a cold or virus in a national survey.

During 2004, the number of confirmed AIDS cases in state and federal prisons increased from 5,944 to 6,027. The rate of confirmed AIDS cases in state and federal prisoners, 50 per 10,000 prison inmates, was more than three times higher than in total US population, 15 per 10,000 persons.

MNA/Xinhua

Philippines, S Korea sign bilateral police cooperation document

MANILA, 9 March — The Philippines and South Korea on Wednesday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on cooperation between their police forces in fighting transnational crimes and terrorism, the *Philippines News Agency* said on Thursday.

Under the MoU signed in Kuala Lumpur, the two governments pledged to increase the exchange of crime information and intelligence to assist both the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Korean National Police (KNP) in conducting investigation of transnational crime, the report quoted PNP spokesman Samuel Pagdilao as saying.

The two sides also agreed to work together to ensure the safety of their nationals residing in each other's territory.

The PNP Director-General Calderon said that the MoU is expected to boost the cooperation between the two police agencies, so as to meet their common goal of maintaining peace and security in the East-Asian Region.—MNA/Xinhua



A female police officer rappels down a wall during a Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) training class at the Regional Mobile Group 1, Philippines national police camp in San Fernando, La Union north of Manila on 7 March, 2007. Around 30 female police officers are taking part in the all-women SWAT training course, which also includes hostage negotiation and explosives training. — INTERNET

Have to say when need arises to be said

Kyaw Soe (All Myanmar Moulvi Organization)

Today, the national objective of Myanmar is “building of a peaceful, modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic state”. The entire national people irrespective of race or religion closely united as the same kin, following the guidance of the Government, are participating actively in nation-building tasks. So, there have been good foundations and good opportunities in political, economic and social sectors of the state. In the political field, 17 national-race armed groups many other small groups have made peace with the Government. In the economic field there are many good opportunities and prospects for foreign investment and domestic investment of our nationals. Likewise in the social field, covering education and health sectors, culture, art, literature and religious sectors have witnessed much progress.

Based on these favourable general conditions, the seven-step Road Map has been laid down for the building of a future State. In implementing the first basic step, the National Convention is in progress. The National Convention, in drafting the State Constitution, the soul of the nation, is holding discussions on laying down basic principles and detailed basic principles. It has now made much headway and the State Constitution is almost within reach.

However, the imperialist group and its internal and external saboteurs who are anxious and jealous of emerging peaceful, modern and well disciplined new democratic State are putting pressures, making interventions and hinderances incessantly in political, economic and social sectors. They have fabricated false news, made accusations and spread rumours purposely and systematically to arouse suspicion

between the Government and the Myanmar nationals.

They made these accusations with malice through their baseless statements and announcements saying that Myanmar produces narcotic drugs, that it is a country that is spreading infectious diseases such as AIDS and TB, and that it is a nation oppressing national races and suppressing religion, practising discrimination in its administration. Here, I would like to say what needs to be said.

Out of those accusations, I would like to respond to the point that Myanmar government oppresses national races and suppresses religions and that it adopts divisive rule in administration. As Myanmar is home to more than 100 national races residing in unity sharing weal or woe, the Government upholds the Union Spirit. Among nation-building tasks, the border areas and national races development projects were given priority and today there are tangible results. Socio-economic life of national races in the border areas has changed much for the better.

In the same manner, in professing religion, Buddhism, Islam, Christian or Hindu, every citizen has the right to profess freely. Buddhist religious buildings, Islamic mosques, their religious schools, Christian Churches and buildings and structures were permitted to be constructed and the people of different faiths can worship at their respective places in all States and Divisions including border areas.

Actually, Myanmar is an independent sovereign State. For many years, Myanmar national races have enjoyed the right to profess any religion of their choice. As there is freedom of worship, a believer of one religion never insults the other’s faith and maintains mutual respect. In fact, freedom of worship is one of the most basic human rights in society. Myanmar

nationals fully enjoy that basic human right through successive eras and up to this day.

But the internal and external saboteurs and some foreign big powers, without rhyme or reason, are levelling slanderous accusations against Myanmar government. These saboteurs using religion as a political weapon falsely accused that Myanmar is devoid of religious freedom and instead the government oppresses Christians and Muslims.

In like manner, Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW) accused that the Christians in Myanmar were oppressed. In a CSW report, it accused that the Ministry of Religious Affairs issued a record which included destruction plan of Christians in Myanmar and the wording that there shall be no homes where Christian religion is practised.

The CSW report urges UN Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Religion and Belief to investigate suppression of religious freedom widely practised in Myanmar; and to take necessary action against violation of religious freedom and human rights in Myanmar; to release all political prisoners; to permit all international humanitarian organizations to function in Myanmar; to conduct tripartite talks among NLD, national races and (the government). The CSW report also urged the UN Security Council to adopt resolutions which would force Myanmar to fulfil the aforesaid demands.

There is not a grain of truth or positive attitude in the accusations enumerated in the report. It is visible that the accusations are designed just to attack the Myanmar government under the pretext of lack of religious freedom in the nation. The phrase carried in the accusation of the CSW says that the document released by the Ministry of Religious Affairs shows uncertainty. In other words, it is just an accusation based on hearsays.

The report cites a document, allegedly from the Ministry of Religious Affairs, which begins: “There shall be no home where the Christian religion is practiced.” In fact, the accusation is totally different from the prevailing situation. In Myanmar, Churches are seen in various regions in states and divisions, and Christmas Day commemorative ceremonies are held freely. State level dignitaries including the minister for Religious Affairs grace these ceremonies by their presence.

(See page 8)

Actually, Myanmar is an independent sovereign State. For many years, Myanmar national races have enjoyed the right to profess any religion of their choice. As there is freedom of worship, a believer of one religion never insults the other’s faith and maintains mutual respect. In fact, freedom of worship is one of the most basic human rights in society. Myanmar nationals fully enjoy that basic human right through successive eras and up to this day.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects

(from page 16)

officials. They inspected classrooms on the first floor, marine science museum and shops on the ground floor. Lt-Gen Maung Bo called for display of rare aquatic creatures at the museum.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo met with faculty members of the university. First, the pro-rector elaborated on history of the university, formation and trainings being conducted, and U Htay Myint of Yuzana Company on completion of construction of the university.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo called for development of education sector and human resources in the region. He also called upon the faculty members to strive for turning out highly trained educated students, and then cordially

A total of 3,382 students are pursuing their education at the university. The main building is nearing completion. It is 358 feet in length and 281 feet in width, and has classrooms and the convocation hall that holds 1200 students.

greeted the faculty members.

A total of 3,382 students are pursuing their education at the university. The main building is nearing completion. It is 358 feet in length and 281 feet in width, and has classrooms and the convocation hall that holds 1200 students.

Thereafter, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party proceeded to Myeik General Hospital and inspected advanced computerized health medical equipment in the surgery room. They observed medical store, wards and renovations to the hospital undertaken by Rainbow Bridge Foundation and health medical equipment to be used in intensive care units. Lt-Gen Maung Bo called on the officials to provide health care services for the people in rural areas and prevent the sales of contraband counterfeit medicines at the pharmacies and hospital.

Coord meeting of Management Committee for Observance of 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day held



Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin addresses meeting of Management Committee for Observance of the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 March — The Management Committee for Observance of the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day held a coordination meeting at the hall of the parade ground, here, this morning, with an address by Chairman of the Management Committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin.

In his address, the commander said that the

On arrival at Pale Yadana Hall in Myeik, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met with local authorities, departmental officials and social organizations and left instructions. He said all were to take part in nation-building endeavours and tasks for the stability of the State, community peace and the rule of law. Only when there are stability and peace throughout the nation can development tasks be carried out, he added.

On arrival at Myeik Port, Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected relocation of jetties from Myeik Port to Myothit and gave instructions to the officials.

In the evening, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party went to San Monastery on Phaya road in Myeik, paid homage to the Sayadaw of the monastery and offered provisions to the Sayadaw. They visited Laykyun Pagoda and Maha Theikdzaya Pagoda on Sandawut hilllock, offered flowers, water and lights to the pagodas and signed the visitor's books. Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party spent the night at Myeik.—MNA

management committee is to fulfill the requirements of Tatmadawmen participating in the drill of the parade. Officials of the camp are to submit reports on health, accommodation, parade drill and entertainment for the Tatmadawmen to the management committee on time. Furthermore, the management committee and working committees are to strive for completion of their respective tasks before the Armed Forces Day Parade.

Chairman of the Parade Working Committee Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Brig-Gen Zaw Win and Parade Commander Brig-Gen Myint Naung reported on progress of the parade drill.

Officials of respective working committees presented their reports.

After attending to the needs, the commander gave the concluding remarks. — MNA

Fire breaks out in Buthidaung

YANGON, 10 March—A fire broke out at a tea shop in Ward 4, Buthidaung, Rakhine State at about 3.30 pm yesterday. The fire destroyed seven houses and 13 shops and rendered 56 people homeless.

The authorities concerned provided necessary assistance to the fire victims. — MNA

Have to say when need arises...

(from page 7)

Indeed, the report of the CSW is aimed at obtaining political gains through religious affairs. It is supported by the fact that the report carries the reasons stated in the draft resolution the US government had submitted to the UN Security Council to take action against Myanmar and demands made by anti-government groups at home and abroad.

I am a native Muslim of Myanmar. I assure that every citizen has the right of religious faiths of their choice and there is no religious freedom violations.

Since the times of Myanmar kings, native Muslims have enjoyed equal rights and have been appointed as officials and vested with responsibilities according to their qualifications. For instance, in the Yadanabon Period, King Mindon built a prayers hall in Saudi Arabia for Myanmar Muslims to stay for rest and relaxation on their pilgrimage to Haj in the nation. Since 1980, under the arrangements of the government, Myanmar Muslims have been sent to that country for pilgrimage.

The government has recognized five Islam religious organizations as legal ones. The Ministry of Religious Affairs occasionally renders assistance through coordination for Islam religious services. Whenever asked by such religious organizations for religious help, the Ministry extends a helpful hand. In addition, through coordination with leaders of religious organizations, local administrative organs render necessary assistance for the religious rites held annually in the nation on Muslims' significant days. The Religious Affairs minister and officials grace such Islam religious ceremonies and festivals.

However, there occurred small religious conflicts sometimes in some regions at the instigation of certain destructive elements. Every time, local authorities and leaders of religious organizations managed to settle such undesirable incidents through coordination and cooperation. The people are now working in concert to safeguard stability, peace and friendship and relations between organizations of different religions to tackle such problems that sometimes take place due to the

instigation of certain politicians desirous of gaining political benefits through religious affairs.

In Myanmar, every citizen enjoys religious freedom fully. Certain powerful country and its associates intervened in Kosovo affairs, Yugoslavia affairs and internal affairs of some Middle-East countries on the pretext of democracy movement. As a result, there have been religious and racial conflicts in those countries and a great number of people have lost their lives in the incidents. So, the entire national people of different religions, Islam, Christianity, Hinduism or Buddhism, are to notice who are stirring up religious and racial conflicts and trying to dominate other countries politically, economically and militarily.

It can be deduced from above-mentioned facts that there has been a wedge driven among the people of different religious faiths and different races, but national unity is still consolidated, and every citizen is entitled to enjoy religious freedom. I write this article as the need arises to do so.

(Translation: MS)

Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends Annual...

(from page 16)

The building has 12 flats including one basement. The ground floor includes the reception hall, the lobby, the training room and the exhibition hall. The first, second and third floors include offices and meeting rooms of UMFCCI and five training halls. From the fourth to the 12th floors are put a side to open offices of its brother organizations and companies. There is one car parking each on the basement and in the compound of the building.

Chairman of YCDC Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Vice-Presidents of UMFCCI U Zaw Min Win and U Aung Lwin formally opened the UMFCCI Trade Fair-2007.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party viewed products of brother organizations, goods of industrial entrepreneurs of States and Divisions and other companies at the trade fair.

At the 16th Annual General Meeting of the federation, Lt-Gen Myint Swe delivered an address. He said that the government encourages realization of

the proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system, one of the four economic objectives. The UMFCCI was formed to be able to contribute to enhancement of economic sector and all-round development of the nation. It is obvious that the federation has been successfully organizing merchants and entrepreneurs for development of their tasks. Progress can be witnessed in foreign trade of the private sector thanks to correct foreign trade policies of the government, supervision of the federation and concerted efforts of private entrepreneurs.

He urged entrepreneurs and farmers to extend sown acreage by reclaiming fallow and virgin lands. Moreover, it is necessary to boost production applying modern agricultural technologies, using necessary inputs and minimizing wastage and loss in cultivation and harvesting periods. In addition, they are to make efforts for exporting value-added products.

It is known to all that the government is striving for supplying power demand of industrial zones. The government is undertaking establishment of special industrial zones as soon as possible for development of industries and economic growth of the State.

In the previous year, the federation could carry out its functions not only for the local tasks but

for the foreign relations. In addition, the federation organized 1,118 more members and four brother organizations and set up branches in states and divisions. In conclusion, Lt-Gen Myint Swe urged the federation to take part in the respective sectors to ensure development of the national economy and to build a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation while maintaining its success.

Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein also gave a speech.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party cordially greeted those present and left there.

Also present on the occasion were diplomats of foreign missions in Yangon, advisers to the UMFCCI, chairmen and executives of brother organizations of the federation and guests.

Afterwards, the annual general meeting of the federation followed. Deputy Director-General U Myo Oo of Directorate of Trade announced the list of new CEC for the 2007-08 and 2008-09 term of the federation including President U Win Myint and General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing.

The annual general meeting ended with concluding remarks by President U Win Myint.

MNA

Production sharing contract inked for exploration, drilling and production of oil and natural gas



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi addresses signing ceremony of production sharing contract for exploration, drilling and production of oil and natural gas at M-1 block offshore Mottama.

ENERGY

NAY PYI TAW, 10 March—Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, Rimbunan Petrogas Ltd established in British Virgins Island and UNOG Pte Ltd formed in Singapore signed a production sharing contract for exploration, drilling and production of oil and natural gas at M-1 block in Mottama offshore at the Ministry of Energy here on 9 March.

Present were Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen

Thein Zaw, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Minister for Science and Technology and Minister for Labour U Thaug, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, Deputy Auditor-General Daw Thin Thin, Malaysian Ambassador Dato Shaharuddin Bin Mohd Som, Executive Chairman of Rimbunan Petrogas Ltd Tan Sri Datuk Tiong Hiew King, Managing Director of UNOG Pte Ltd U Win Kyaing and officials.

Minister Brig-Gen Lun

Thi, CEO of Rimbunan Petrogas Ltd Mr Andrew Ngu Hew Tak and Managing Director of MOGE U Myint Kyi spoke on the occasion.

Managing Director of MOGE U Myint Kyi, Executive Chairman Tan Sri Datuk Tiong Hiew King and Managing Director U Win Kyaing signed the contract and exchanged the documents.

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Minister U Thaug presented the work permit of the ministry and the permit of MIC to Executive Chairman Tan Sri Datuk Tiong Hiew King.

Under the contract, MOGE and two companies will explore, drill and produce oil and natural gas at M-1 block in Mottama offshore.—MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspects Ahlon Power Station.—MNA



Myanmar cruise into final

YANGON, 10 March—Myanmar Youth Team blanked out Malaysian Youth Team 2-0 in the second semifinal of the Hassanal Bolkiah Trophy for U-21 ASEAN Youth Football Championship 2007 at Stadium Negara Hassanal Bolkiah in Brunei at 10 pm Brunei Standard Time today.

Two winning goals for Myanmar came through Aung Myo Thant in the 21st minute and Sithu Than the 27th minute of the first half.

In the first semifinal, Thai Youth Team trounced Cambodian Youth Team 10-1.

On 12 March, Myanmar will play against Thailand in the final at 8.15 pm Brunei Standard Time. — MNA

Commander, Member of Secretariat of USDA tour Mandalay Division

NAY PYI TAW, 10 March — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung visited special market festival of the ministry at Maha Nwezin sports ground in Maha Aungmyay Township, Mandalay Division yesterday.

The minister visited traditional weaving factory and inspected weaving process.

Patron of Mandalay Division USDA Chairman of Mandalay Division PDC Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Minister U Aung Thaung and Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han attended a ceremony to submit USDA membership applications of shoppers of Zegyo Market today.

Market in-charge U Soe Nyein presented 500



USDA Secretariat Member Minister U Aung Thaung accepts USDA membership applications from shopkeepers of Manmyo market in Maha Aungmyay Township.

INDUSTRY-1

membership applications to Minister U Aung Thaung.

The minister also urged them to participate in five rural development tasks with firm belief and try to become qualified USDA

members.

On behalf of shoppers, U Aung Thein Win, presented K 100,000 for USDA to acting Secretary of Maha Aungmye Township USDA U Soe Tun.—MNA

Outbreak of H5N1 virus confirmed

YANGON, 10 March — Suspected cases of H5N1 virus were detected in a poultry farm in Mayangon Township and one in Hlinethaya Township, Yangon, Division. The two farms were destroyed and sprayed with pesticide on 28 February and 2 March respectively.

According to the rapid test, PCR, cultured bacteria method, samples of the chickens at the farm and examination of experts from FAO and UNAID between 6 and 9 March 2007, the outbreak of H5N1 virus was confirmed. In accord with the procedures, it was announced that the suspected cases at the poultry farms in Mayangon and Hlinethaya Townships were confirmed as H5N1 virus.

Under the risk prevention programme, domestic fowls within one kilometre from the farms where the virus was found in the restricted zone were culled and destroyed.

Disinfection was carried out two times at the affected poultry farms and their environs. Four disease surveillance groups are conducting disease diagnostic measures and laboratory tests in Mayangon and Hlinethaya Townships.

According to routine laboratory

diagnosis, bird flu was detected on the dead fowls and birds. The transport of poultry and poultry products was restricted after designating controlled zones with temporary closure of poultry markets.

As part of public awareness measures, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, the Health Department, the Development Affairs Department and the Education Department are making concerted efforts under the IEC Programme of UNICEF in distributing posters, pamphlets, gloves and masks and soaps to the people.

Disease surveillance, disinfection, restriction on transport of poultry and poultry products and closure of poultry markets in the controlled zones will run to 21 days starting from the date when H5N1 virus was confirmed.

The LBVD has requested the people to strictly follow the restriction on transport and sale of poultry and poultry products in the controlled zones while boosting bio-security at poultry farms in cooperation with the LBVD, the Health Department, the Development Affairs Department, Yangon City Development Committee, local authorities and Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation.—MNA

Minister inspects sales of 44th Myanmar Gems Emporium

YANGON, 10 March — Patron of Central Committee for Myanmar Gems Emporium Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint this morning inspected sales of the 44th Myanmar Gems Emporium at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township.

Next, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee Col Kyaw Kyaw Tun and Secretary Managing Director U Thein Swe of Myanmar Gems Enterprise looked into jewellery shops and uncut jade stones at the centre. Later, they greeted the gem merchants.

MNA

97 lots of pearl sold at Gems Emporium

YANGON, 10 March — Foreign gem merchants purchased 97 lots of pearl through tender and competitive bidding system at the 44th Myanmar Gems Emporium at Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, today.

Tomorrow, 380 lots of gem will be sold at the same venue through tender and competitive bidding system.

At Myanmar Convention Centre, gem merchants may put proposals into the tender boxes from 8 to 20 March after observing 5,858 lots of jade.

A total of 3,077 gem merchants —1,214 local merchants and 1,863 from abroad —have so far arrived here. More merchants from abroad will arrive here till 12 March. —MNA

Agreement on technical assistance to strengthen emergency preparedness for avian flu signed

YANGON, 10 March — FAO and Myanmar signed an agreement on immediate technical assistance to strengthen emergency preparedness for highly pathogenic avian influenza at the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department in Insein Township here this morning.

Present on the occasion were FAO Resident Representative Dr Tang Zhengping, Director General of LBVD U Maung Maung Nyunt and departmental officials. The agreement includes US\$ 600,000 worth equipment to be used in preventive measures against bird flu donated by USAID. —MNA

Signing ceremony for immediate technical assistance to strengthen emergency preparedness for highly pathogenic avian influenza in progress.

MNA



Pyinmana (South) Timber Extraction Region inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 10 March — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung went to Pyinmana (South) Timber Extraction Region in Yonepin reserved forest in Lewe Township yesterday. He inspected extraction of timber there and held discussion with officials of East Shwe Yoma Company and the manager of reserved forest. Director-General U Soe Win Hlaing of Forest Department and General

Manager U Win Lwin gave supplementary reports.

Next, the minister inspected thriving 500-acre teak plantations. On arrival at Aungchantha raft jetty, Manager U Win Maw reported on work being done and deputy general manager U Win Shein of Myanmar Timber Enterprise in Mandalay Division gave a supplementary reports to the minister.—MNA

Japan-made Topcon brand surveying instruments introduced

NAY PYI TAW, 9 March — Under the arrangement of Topcon South Asia Pte Ltd and Concordia International Co Ltd, Topcon brand surveying instruments developed by Japan were introduced at May hall on Bogyoke road in Pyinmana today.

Manager U Nyi Nyi Min of Concordia International Co Ltd extended greetings first. Next, Regional Support Engineer Mr Micheal Goh elaborated on advanced technologies of the instruments. He later demonstrated

how to use Imaging Total Station GPT-7000i and PI-3000 Software.

Topcon Imaging Total Station GPT-7000i is equipped with CCTV Cameras. Moreover, contour lines can be quickly drawn.

Those wishing to acquire further information on the instruments are to dial 067-21675, Pyinmana and 09-500-5912, 544199, 544824, 558386, 558438 in Shwegon Plaza on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Bahan Township, Yangon.

MNA

Pakistani plane makes emergency landing

ISLAMABAD, 10 March — A passenger plane on Thursday made an emergency landing in southern Pakistani city of Nawabshah following a bomb threat which turned out to be a hoax, according to a local news agency report.

The private Shaheen Airlines, carrying more than 100 people, was en route from Multan, a major city in eastern Pakistan's Punjab Province, to south port city of Karachi, according to the *News Network International* news agency.

An airport security official reportedly said the threat was received before the emergency landing and the warning was conveyed to the pilot.

The plane was evacuated in Nawabshah and bomb disposal crews subsequently entered the craft.

MNA/Xinhua



Photographers with the aid of a camel take pictures of a sand sculpture of the ICC World Cup trophy made by sand artist Sudarshan Pattnaik, unseen, to wish the Indian cricket team for the upcoming Cricket World Cup, at the Puri golden beach in Bhubaneswar, India, on Friday, 9 March, 2007. — INTERNET

Nepali women join hands against human trafficking

KATHMANDU, 10 March — More than 120 Nepali women survivors of human trafficking from across Nepal gathered at a conference in Kathmandu to press their points on fighting against trafficking of women, local newspaper *The Rising Nepal* reported on Thursday.

The first national conference was organized on Wednesday by Shakti Samuha, an NGO formed by trafficking survivors, the first of its kind in the

world. Representative of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Nepal (OHCHR-Nepal) Lena Sundh at the conference cited two fundamental principles for a credible anti-trafficking strategy. She said, "First, human rights must be at the core of any credible anti-trafficking strategy and second, all stakeholders must work from the perspective of victims of trafficking and those who are vulnerable to it."

"Shakti Samuha" can be literally translated into "Strength group". Shakti Samuha was established in 1996. It

focuses on preventing trafficking of members of vulnerable groups, particularly adolescent girls, providing services for trafficking survivors, and ensuring that their human rights are respected.

MNA/Xinhua

Dutch young women better educated than men

BRUSSELS, 10 March — Dutch women between 25 and 34 are better educated than their male counterparts and a majority of university enrollments are now women, figures from Dutch national statistics agency CBS showed on Wednesday.

The percentage of women between 25 and 34 that have completed higher education has risen to 36 per cent in the 2005/06 academic year, while the percentage of men has remained stable at 32 per cent, data showed.

In the age bracket from 55 to 64, only 17 per cent of women have completed higher education, compared to 29 per cent of men.

In the 2005/06 academic year, 56 per cent of graduates from Dutch universities of applied sciences were women, and 53 per cent of graduates of academic universities were women.

Dutch women also tend to complete their study in a shorter period of time and are on average a year younger than men at graduation.

MNA/Xinhua



Mardan Mamat of Singapore tees off on the second hole of the Classic course during the Singapore Masters golf tournament in Singapore on 9 March, 2007. — INTERNET

Probe launched into British policeman punching woman

LONDON, 10 March — South Yorkshire Police said on Thursday they were carrying out a full investigation after an officer was filmed on a security camera repeatedly punching a woman while arresting her.

CCTV pictures obtained by the *Guardian* newspaper and broadcast widely on television showed the officer punching Toni Comer five times while apprehending her last year for damaging a car, an offence she has

since admitted.

The officer involved, named by the *Guardian* as police constable Anthony Mulhall, said he was acting in self-defence.

He has been withdrawn from public

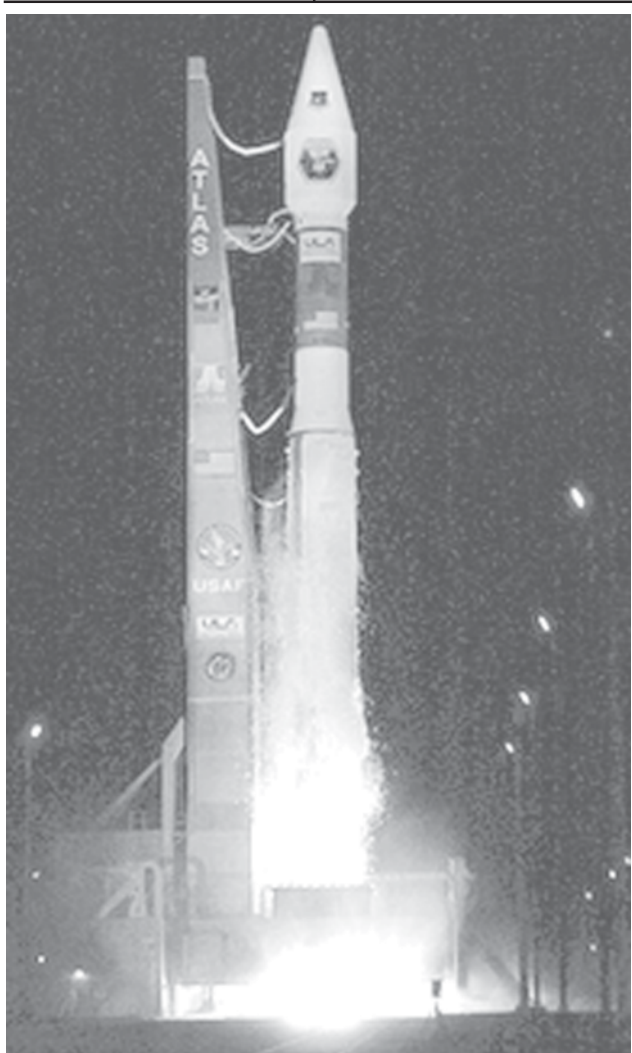
duties, but not suspended, while the inquiry is carried out.

The footage shows Comer, 20, wrestling with the officer outside a nightclub in Sheffield from which she had been ejected. Other officers then come to assist.

"She now began to kick, spit and made attempts to bite me, Mulhall said in a statement after the arrest, according to the *Guardian*.

"At this point I struck her as hard as I was physically able with my right fist in an attempt to subdue her. There was no effect so I did it twice more."

MNA/Reuters



An Atlas 5 rocket lifts off its launch pad at Space Launch Complex 41, on 8 March, 2007 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla. The Atlas 5 is carrying a payload of six research satellites for the US Air Force. —INTERNET

Eight Australians feared dead in Malawi plane crash

LUSAKA, 10 March — Eight Australian engineers were feared to have died after the private plane carrying them crashed Thursday morning in central Malawi, according to reports reaching here.

"We do not know how many people were on board but it is believed that there were eight engineers who were flying from Lilongwe to the uranium project

site in Karonga," police spokesman Willie Mwaluka was cited as saying.

Mwaluka said there was no signs of survivors.

He added that the plane crashed in Dowa, 40 kilometres northwest of Malawi's capital Lilongwe. The uranium project located 400 kilometres north of Lilongwe is owned by Australian mining company Paladin. — MNA/Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENTS

Japanese name card promises dazzling impression

TOKYO, 9 March — If you want to shine in a first meeting, a Japanese firm may have the answer — a name card made of gold. Mitsubishi Materials Corp is selling gold business cards of 99.99 percent purity. Each card costs 10,000 yen (86 US dollars).

“There is very little difference between this and the usual business card, they both feel about the same,” a spokeswoman for the precious and base metals firm said on Thursday.

MNA/Reuters

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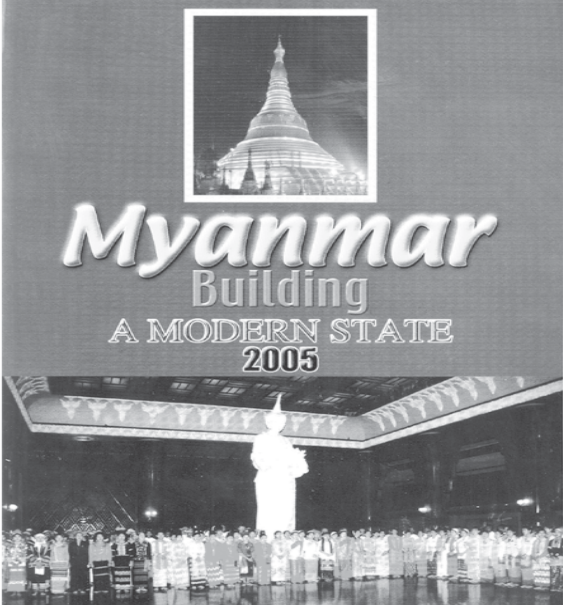


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TENDER. IFB No. TRA07 (TRANSPORT SERVICES)

Supply of transport services for the transport of copper cathode, general cargoes, sulphuric acid and other hazardous chemicals from/to the port of Yangon, MICCL's main warehouse at mine site in Monywa, Myanmar.

CLOSING DATE & TIME

30th March 2007 at 4pm

Tender documents are available at the following address and queries can be done between 10 am to 4pm at MICCL Yangon office before the tender closing date.

Myanmar Ivanhoe Copper Company Limited

70 (I) Bo Chien Street, Pyay Road, Hlaing Township
Yangon, Myanmar (Tel: (95) 1514194 to 7/ Fax: (95) 1514208/ Email: miccl@miccl.com.mm)

US has world's largest number of prisoners

BEIJING, 9 March — Nearly 2.2 million inmates were held in state and federal prisons or county and municipal jails in the United States by the end of 2005, which was the largest in the world, says the Human Rights Record of the United States in 2006 issued here on Thursday.

Statistics of the US Department of Justice showed that the adult US correctional population, including those on probation or parole, reached a high of more than seven million men and women for the first time.

About 3 per cent of the US adult population, or one in every 32 adults, were in the nation's prisons and jails or on probation or parole, according to a Human Rights Watch report on 1 December, 2006.

As a result, state prisons were operating between 1 per cent under and 14 per cent over capacity.

The *Agence France-Presse* reported on 30 November, 2006 that the federal system was operating at 34 per cent over capacity.

And another report of New York-based *China Press* on 4 October, 2006 said there were currently 173,000 people jailed in the prisons of California, and 1,700 of them failed to have normal living conditions. — MNA/Xinhua

Latin American countries slam US human rights report

MEXICO CITY, 9 March — A series of Latin American nations has condemned the US human rights report for 2006 which criticized the region's human rights record, with only Colombia saying it was pleased by the report, according to media reports reaching here on Thursday.

The annual report, released by the US Department of State on Tuesday, was described as disrespectful, unilateral and out of line, and the US Government was also said to be not qualified to comment on human rights in other

nations. Brazil's Foreign Ministry said it "does not recognize the legitimacy of reports that are compiled unilaterally", while Mexico's Interior Minister Francisco Ramirez said that the United States itself does not score well in human rights.

The US report said that Brazilian security forces had abused detainees, and described persistent "impunity and corruption" in Mexico.

Bolivian Deputy Justice Minister Renato Pardo said that Washington had made biased observations, and the Ecuadorian Foreign Ministry said the United States lacks an international mandate to rate other countries.

Bolivia was described as respecting rights in general, but security forces were

abusive in conflict zones. The report also said that the Ecuadorian police committed abuses. Colombian Interior Minister Carlos Holguin said he was satisfied that Washington had recognized the progress on human rights the nation had made.

Despite the progress, however, murder, kidnapping and impunity are rife in Colombia, the report said.

Venezuelan people's ombudsman, German Mundarain, said the United States used the report to attack countries that disagreed with US policy, and the nation's Attorney General, Isais Rodriguez, said it was a bid to attack and discredit Venezuelan institutions.

Guatemalan President Oscar Berger did not slam the report, but said it was a shame that the police is linked to killing and

kidnapping in his country. The report said that discrimination against women, indigenous people and homosexuals was widespread in Guatemala, and that labour laws were poorly enforced.

A representative of Amnesty International in Uruguay said that the US detention and torture of hundreds of people at Guantanamo military base in Cuba, showed the US contempt for human rights.

Experts in Costa Rica said that Washington has neither the political nor moral jurisdiction to evaluate human rights in other countries.

The US report came out just two days before a five-nation tour of Latin America by US President George W. Bush, which is expected to spark strong protests across the region.—MNA/Xinhua



Stephen Garcia works on 8 March, 2007, on an ice sculpture of Steve Irwin and a crocodile in the front yard of his home near Grand Rapids, Mich. Garcia, 41, who has been working on this piece about a month, raced against the spring thaw to finish this year's masterpiece. — INTERNET

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲများတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့



Tourists climb on the ancient site of Athens' Acropolis on 6 March, 2007. Greece expects another bumper tourist season this year, despite the strong euro, as investment in an international advertising campaign, refurbished hotels and better services pay off, officials said on Thursday. —INTERNET

“Babel” to premiere in China

BEIJING, 9 March.— The movie “Babel,” which received seven Oscar nominations this year, will premiere in select Chinese cities in theaters on 13 March, with promotional activities in the country leading up to its opening.

It is the latest Oscar-nominated movie to be screened for Chinese audiences in theaters this year.

It will air without dubbing so moviegoers can watch the film with Chinese subtitles.

Shot in Africa, North America and Asia in five different languages, the gritty drama revolves around the repercussions of the shooting of an American woman (Cate Blanchett) vacationing with her husband (Brad Pitt) in Morocco.

It received seven nominations at the 79th Academy Awards, including best picture, screenplay and director for Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu.



Poster of the movie “Babel”. — INTERNET

Internet

Human error suspected in Indonesian plane accident

JAKARTA, 9 March — Improper landing process by pilots was blamed in the preliminary inquiry into the Indonesian jetliner accident that killed 22 people in the town of Yogyakarta Wednesday, police said Thursday.

“We suspected human error that led (the plane) to make a hard landing and thus ignited fire,” national police spokesman Sisno Adiwino was quoted by leading news website Detikcom as saying.

The suspicion is based on testimonies by

the pilots, he added. “But we are still investigating thoroughly to find out where the fire came from,” he said.

The state-run carrier Garuda Indonesia’s Boeing 737-400 with 140 people onboard burst into flames on landing at the Adi Sucipto Airport in

the southern Java town, some 500 kilometres east of Jakarta, overshooting its runway and slamming into a rice field.

There were conflicting reports of death toll, but an official statement by Garuda puts the figure at 22.

MNA/Xinhua

Ban urges single world agency for women

UNITED NATIONS, 9 March — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urged the world body on Thursday to create a single agency to empower women and girls and fight for their rights.

In an address to mark International Women’s Day, Ban said the 192-member United Nations should take the lead in the global battle with a fully funded new agency that combines the work currently done by three different UN bodies.

“Such a new body should be able to call on all of the UN system’s resources in the work to empower women and realize gender equality worldwide,” Ban said. “It should mobilize forces of change at the global level

and inspire enhanced results at the country level.”

A UN panel recommended in November that the UN Development Fund for Women, the UN Division for the Advancement of Women, and the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues be combined into one ambitiously funded agency.

The combined budgets of the three units is currently less than 80 million US dollars annually.

Ban said much more

needed to be done in the fight for women’s rights, particularly in combating violence against women and girls around the world, which is the theme for this year’s International Women’s Day.

“Most societies proscribe such violence—yet the reality is that too often, it is tolerated under the fallacious cover of cultural practices and norms, within the walls of the home,” Ban told a UN International Women’s Day event in New York.

MNA/Reuters

600,000 homeless in US

BEIJING, 9 March — There are estimate 600,000 or so homeless people in the United States, says a rights report issued here on Thursday, noting that hunger and homelessness “remain a critical issue” in the US society. Among the homeless, 16,000 are in Washington D C and 3,800 are in New York City, says the Human Rights Record of the United States in 2006, released by the Information Office of the State Council of China.

“It is estimated there are 3,000 to 4,000 homeless people in Baltimore on any given night. In Hawaii, around 1,000 homeless people are living in tents along beaches,” it says, citing US media reports.

About 34.8 million Americans did not have enough money or other resources to buy food, the report says, citing a previous report released by US Department of Agriculture. A survey on 23 US

cities including Chicago, Boston and Los Angeles by the US Conference of Mayors found that in 2006 requests for emergency food assistance increased by an average of seven percent over 2005, with 74 percent of the cities registering an increase, the report said.

Also, requests for emergency shelter assistance increased by an average of nine per cent over 2005, it said.

MNA/Xinhua



Part of an annual mass wedding ceremony linked to the Shanghai Tourism Festival will be held in St Petersburg this summer to mark Shanghai Week in Russia, organizers said on 8 March, 2007. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Becks: Ron simply the best

LONDON, 9 March—David Beckham says Manchester United fans have helped turn Cristiano Ronaldo into one of the best players in the world.

The Portugal winger was condemned at the World Cup last summer



Cristiano Ronaldo

after appearing to play a part in United team-mate Wayne Rooney's dismissal for England.

There was even speculation he would be forced to quit Old Trafford after the tournament.

But instead Ronaldo has gone on to become a cult figure at United, scoring 19 goals to keep them on track for the treble.

Beckham came in for similar flak after he was sent off against Argentina in the 1998 World Cup, but the following year helped United to complete the treble.

Internet

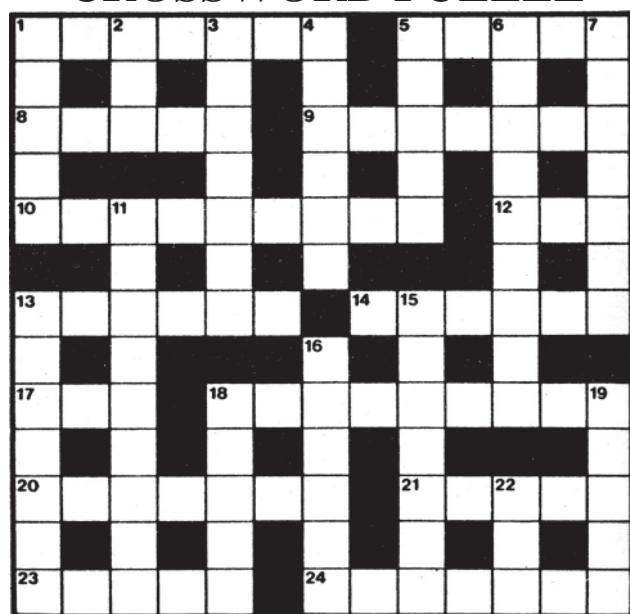
FIFA lifts ban on Kenya after govt assurances

NAIROBI, 10 March—FIFA lifted its five-month suspension on the Kenya Football Federation (KFF) on Friday after securing a promise that the government would not interfere in the running of the sport in the East African country.

FIFA, world soccer's governing body, said it had also been assured that earlier agreements with the KFF, including a 28-point accord signed in Cairo in January, would be respected by the government.

MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Counting money
- 5 Evening suit
- 8 Arrogant
- 9 Handcuff
- 10 Invite to contest
- 12 Intestines
- 13 eg Lapwing
- 14 Conflict
- 17 Tea (sl.)
- 18 Indian rat
- 20 Fried batter
- 21 Precise
- 23 Church decree
- 24 Cooking room

DOWN

- 1 Subject for discussion
- 2 Constellation
- 3 Gratify
- 4 Gambling
- 5 Nervous
- 6 Disguised
- 7 Royal staff
- 11 Worship
- 13 Ocean
- 15 Nuclear missile
- 16 Weatherproof jacket
- 18 Police weapon
- 19 Giant
- 22 Tree

Season over for Henry



Thierry Henry

LONDON, 9 March—Thierry Henry will play no further part in Arsenal's campaign. The France striker has suffered an injury-plagued season, with Henry having returned from World Cup duty at less than full fitness.

He returned to action for Arsenal against PSV

Eindhoven on Wednesday, but his substitute appearance at Emirates Stadium came at a cost as he damaged groin and stomach muscles.

Henry was sent for a scan and the results have prompted the club to draw a line under his season. Arsenal bowed out of the FA Cup and UEFA Champions League this month and with the Premiership effectively out of reach, manager Arsene Wenger has opted not to take any risks with Henry.

"Thierry Henry will be out for a minimum of three months," said Wenger.

Internet

Real exit for Roberto Carlos

MADRID, 9 March—Roberto Carlos has confirmed that he is to end an 11-year association with Real Madrid in the summer. The Brazilian left-back has decided against renewing his contract in the Spanish capital in order to take up a fresh challenge elsewhere.

In over a decade at Madrid the 33-year-old has established himself as one of the club's greats, with a highly decorated career seeing him swell his trophy cabinet with three European Cups, three league titles and two World Club Cups during his time at the club. "I'm not going to renew my contract. I think the moment has come for me to put an end to my time at the club and leave them to start a new project," he told Marca.



Roberto Carlos

"I'm sure about it. My time at Real Madrid has ended. After three years without winning anything I had to take a decision.

"I don't know whether I will continue in Europe or maybe I need to be back in Brazil close to my family."

Roberto Carlos has previously been strongly linked with Chelsea but while he concedes he is ready to try 'another country', it remains to be seen where he pitches up next.—Internet

Germany's Petra Wimbersky, right, challenges for the ball with Sandrine Dusang from France during their women's soccer Algarve Cup group A match on 9 March, 2007, at the Algarve stadium in Faro, southern Portugal.



Nuremberg scramble draw with 2 late goals

BERLIN, 10 March—Nuremberg scored twice in the last nine minutes to salvage a 2-2 home draw with Eintracht Frankfurt in the Bundesliga on Friday.

The hosts were lucky to score their first goal when Frankfurt keeper Oka Nikolov fisted away a powerful shot from Horacio Javier Pinola and the ball bounced off the face of Christoph Spycher for an own goal.

Robert Vittek then grabbed the equalizer for fifth-placed Nuremberg with three minutes to go after beating three defenders and drilling the ball between the legs of Nikolov. Frankfurt had gone in front after 26 minutes, Greece defender Sotiris Kyrgiakos outjumping defender Michael Beauchamp to head in an Albert Streit corner.—MNA/Reuters

King conquers nerves to advance at Indian Wells

INDIAN WELLS (California), 10 March — American teenager Vania King overcame a bout of nerves to beat Ukraine's Katerina Bondarenko 6-4, 3-6, 7-5 in the Pacific Life Open first round on Thursday.

King, who next meets 10th-seeded Ana Ivanovic of Serbia, was relieved to win her opening match at a WTA event for only the second time this season. "Late in the second set, I just decided you can't play with nerves and told myself to relax. Thankfully it worked out in the end." King reached the second round in Pattaya City last month before losing to Australia's Nicole Pratt.

Lucky loser Anastassia Rodionova of Russia, who gained a late entry into the 96-strong draw after compatriot and fifth seed Elena Dementieva pulled out with a rib injury on Wednesday, brushed aside Finland's Emma Laine 6-1, 6-4.—MNA/Reuters

Kresge moves 2 shots clear at Tampa Bay

MIAMI, 10 March — American journeyman Cliff Kresge charged into a two-shot lead after firing a six-under-par 65 in the Tampa Bay Championship first round on Thursday. Back on the PGA Tour for a fourth year, the 38-year-old reeled off two eagles, four birdies and two late bogeys in bright sunshine on the Copperhead Course at the Westin Innisbrook Resort.

The fast-starting Kresge got to eight under with three holes to play before dropping shots at the 16th and the last, where he missed the fairway off the tee and found a greenside bunker with his approach.

A former student at the University of Central Florida, Kresge regained his PGA Tour status for this season by finishing third in the 2006 Nationwide Tour money list.

Swede Daniel Chopra fired a five-birdie 67 to share second place with Americans Arron Oberholser, Anthony Kim and Doug Labelle II.—MNA/Reuters



Jason Lamy Chappuis of France jumps during the individual gundersen competition at the Nordic World Cup in Lahti on 9 March, 2007.

INTERNET

US agents under greater attack on Mexico border

LAREDO (Texas), 10 March— Frustrated by tighter security on the US-

Mexico border, illegal immigrants and drug traffickers are taking it out on US agents, increasingly attacking them with guns, rocks and petrol bombs.

at night, although no one has been killed.

They are also using riskier routes to bring drugs across the border, leading to clashes with US law enforcement.

Laredo lies across the Rio Grande from Nuevo Laredo, one of the Mexican cities worst hit by a fight between rival drug gangs that killed around 2,000 people last year. The area is a key entry point for cocaine.

In the Yuma sector, which covers a 125-mile (200-kilometre) desert strip in southwest Arizona, attacks on agents rose 60 per cent between last October and 31 December 1, official data shows.

Large groups of illegal immigrants regularly pelt Border Patrol agents with softball-size rocks, fireworks and Molotov cocktails, leaving agents with burns, bruises and head wounds.

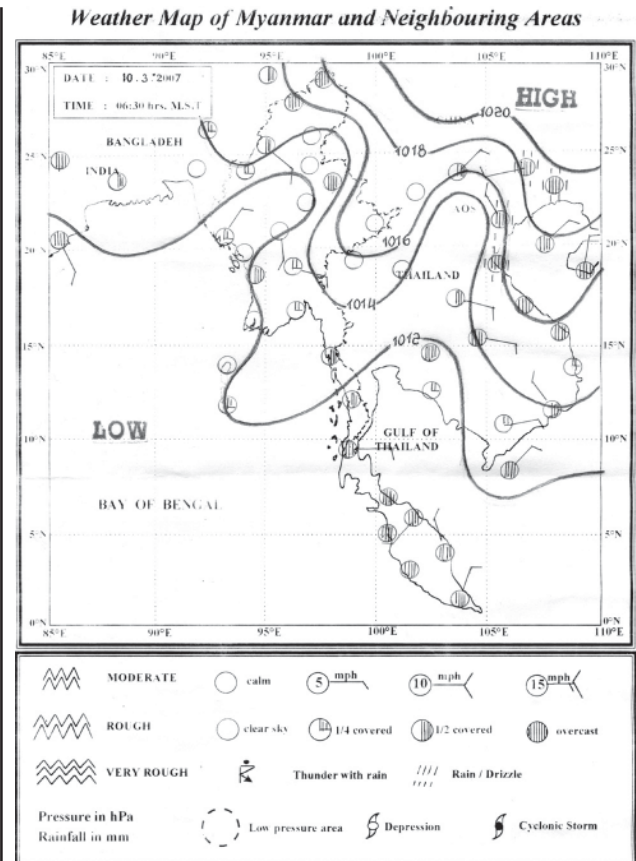
MNA/Reuters

Assaults against Border Patrol officers rose 10 per cent to 843 incidents in the year to September 2006 from the same period a year before, officials say. It is also a near three-fold increase from two years previously.

Mexican drug cartels, locked in a turf feud and under pressure from an Army crackdown, are lashing out at law enforcement officers in Texas.

“The attacks against us are becoming more brazen. Drug cartels have instructed their people to go down fighting, to do whatever is necessary to get the narcotics through,” said Rick Flores, Webb County sheriff in Laredo, Texas.

He said drug smugglers are increasingly taking pot shots at agents with assault rifles from inside Mexico



Rest In Peace
George Alexander D’Cruz
 Managing Director, G.D. International Co, Ltd,
 Manager, Myanmar Hotel & Tourist Corporation
 (retired)
 Age (80)
 Beloved husband of Sheila (nee Bharatan),
 loving father of Barry @ U Moe Naing, Director (G.D.
 International Co., Ltd) - Daw Tin San Nwe (Petronas)
 and Suzanne @ Daw Mi Mi Thet (WHO), fell asleep
 in Jesus on 8th March 2007 at 11:45 pm at his residence
 No. 40A, Pyay Road, 6-1/2 Miles, Yangon. The funeral
 service will be held at St. Augustine’s Church, 64 Inya
 Road, Yangon at 1 pm on Sunday 11th March 2007,
 after which the cortege will leave for Yay Way Christian
 Cemetery for entombment.
The bereaved family.

U Van Hre (Kevin)
Age 59
 U Van Hre, Mechanic Grade I, Public Works, Chin
 State, Haka, son of U Lal Bik, Supdtg Engineer (Retd)-
 Daw Sa Tin Zing, beloved husband of Daw Hoi Pen, father
 of Ma Sui Za Tial, Ma San Kil Cin, Mg Van Biak Lal and
 Mg Van Hniang Hmung and eldest brother of U Lal Tin
 Mang-Daw Tial Tin Par, Daw Ni Siang, U Henry Tin Kio
 Bik-Daw Sui Hniar, and U Mang Tin Lian passed away at
 Haka on 9th March 2007 after a long illness. Burial will
 take place at Hakha Baptist Cemetery after worship service
 at his residence at 1 pm on 10th March 2007.
Bereaved Family

WEATHER
Saturday, 10 March, 2007
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Day temperatures were (5°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division, (3°C) above normal in Kachin State and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperature was Aunglan (37°C).
 Maximum temperature on 9-3-2007 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 10-3-2007 was 64°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 10-3-2007 was 62%. Total sunshine hours on 9-3-2007 was (8.5) hours approx.
 Rainfall on 10-3-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (12) mph with South at (15:30) hours MST on 9-3-2007.
Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South bay and generally fair in the Bay of Bengal.
Forecast valid until evening of 11-3-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, Upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).
State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.
Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated rain or theundershowers in Taninthayi Division.
Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 11-3-2007: Fair weather.
Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 11-3-2007: Generally fair weather.
Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 11-3-2007: Fair weather.

TV Myanmar
Sunday, 11 March
View on today

<p>7:00 am 1. Recitation of parittas by missionary Sayadaw U Uttamathara</p> <p>7:25 am 2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am 3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am 4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:55 am 5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈)ဖြာမင်္ဂလာ</p> <p>8:05 am 6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:20 am 7. ပဗ္ဗဝတီတံတား(ပြင်းကဆိပ်)</p> <p>8:30 am 8. International news</p> <p>8:45 am 9. Say it in English</p> <p>11:00 am 1. Martial song</p> <p>11:10 am 2. Musical programme</p>	<p>11:25 am 3. Round up of the week’s international news</p> <p>11:40 am 4. Yan Can Cook</p> <p>11:55 pm 5. Myanmar Movie: “အချစ်တစ်ပွဲစစ်ပွဲတစ်ရာ” (ကျော်ဟိန်း၊ ခင်သန်းနု) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စိန်ဖေတင်)</p> <p>14:00 pm 6. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ (ဆာသပ်လှပညီညာ သရက်ကိုင်းသင်ဖြူးဖျာ)</p> <p>14:10 pm 7. အတိုးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>14:20 pm 8. တမာနှင့်ပိုးနီရေလှောင်တစ်</p> <p>14:25 pm 9. “ချစ်သောမြေချစ်သောရေ” (ရာဇာနေဝင်း၊ နိုင်နှင်းမေ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ခင်နွဲ့နွဲ့မှု)</p> <p>14:35 pm 10. စက်မှုထုတ်ကုန်မှစွာစက်မှုစနစ်</p> <p>14:45 pm 11. International news</p> <p>4:00 pm 1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm 2. Song to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm 3. English for everyday use</p>	<p>4:45 pm 4. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရူပဗေဒ)</p> <p>5:00 pm 5. Song of national races</p> <p>5:15 pm 6. တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြု တေးသီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုရတေးများ(၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ်)</p> <p>5:25 pm 7. Sing and enjoy</p> <p>6:00 pm 8. Evening news</p> <p>6:30 pm 9. Weather report</p> <p>6:35 pm 10. သီရိဂေဟာ</p> <p>7:00 pm 11. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ (အိမ်အပြန်လက်ဆောင်ကောင်း ပုသိမ်ဟာလဝါအကြောင်း)</p> <p>7:10 pm 12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “သမားတော်”(အပိုင်း-၉)</p> <p>8:00 pm 13. News</p> <p>8:00 pm 14. International news</p> <p>8:00 pm 15. Weather report</p> <p>8:00 pm 16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်ပန်းနင်းဆီ” (အပိုင်း-၂)</p> <p>8:00 pm 17. The next day’s programme</p>
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Radio Myanmar
Sunday, 11 March
Tune in today

<p>8:30 am Brief news</p> <p>8:35 am Music: -Love is a wonderful thing</p> <p>8:40 am Perspectives</p> <p>8:45 am Music: -You don’t have to see</p> <p>8:50 am National news/Slogan</p> <p>9:00 am Music: -That’s the way I like it</p> <p>9:05 am International news</p> <p>9:10 am Cultural images of Myanmar</p> <p>9:20 am Music: -The better end</p> <p>1:30 pm News / Slogan</p> <p>1:40pm Children’s delight (Story) -The brave dog</p> <p>1:50pm Songs for Children</p> <p>9:00 pm Weekly news review</p> <p>9:10 pm Article</p> <p>9:25 pm Music: -Not me, not I -Close</p> <p>9:45 pm News / Slogan</p> <p>10:00 pm PEL</p>
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Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects development of Myeik

NAY PYI TAW, 10 March — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by departmental officials arrived in Myeik, Taninthayi Division by air yesterday. They were welcomed by Chairman of Taninthayi Division PDC Commander of Coastal Region Command Brig-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, senior military officers and division level officials.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party went to Myeik University and inspected desks, tables and plastic chairs donated by Yuzana Company and paintings depicting Myanmar Traditional 12-month Festivals and paintings on division's economic and social development.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo also inspected materials to be used in the language lab, completion of the conference room, IT centre and classrooms, and Protector U Than Swe, U Htay Myint of Yuzana Construction and officials conducted him around the classrooms.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and the commander later looked into completion of the convocation hall in four-storey main building and gave instructions to the

(See page 8)



Lt-Gen Maung Bo of Ministry of Defence inspects Myeik General Hospital. — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends Annual General Meeting of UMFCCI

YANGON, 10 March — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the 16th

Annual General Meeting of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Indus-

try at its office tower on Minye Kyawswa Road in Lanmadaw Township this morning.

First, Chairman of the Panel of Patrons of UMFCCI Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin

Naing Thein, UMFCCI President U Win Myint and Vice-President U Win Aung formally opened the

UMFCCI Office Tower.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win unveiled the signboard of the federation. The minister planted a Gangaw tree (*Mesua ferrea*) in front of the building.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence unveiled the plaque of the tower and sprinkled scented water on it. The commander, the minister, the mayor, the president and party also sprinkled scented water on it.

(See page 9)



Lt-Gen Myint Swe unveils the plaque of UMFCCI Office Tower. — MNA

14 members resign from Dabayin, Sagaing Township NLDs

YANGON, 10 March—Member of Dabayin Township National League for Democracy of Sagaing Division U Pya of Paratan Village, ten members of Sagaing Township NLD including Vice-Chairman U Hla Chit and members U Khin Maung Swe, U Kaung Nyunt, U Maung Maung Soe and U Myint Than of Padu Village, Organizer U Than Aung, U Zaw Win Lay and U Saw Myint of Kyaung Phyu Village resigned out of volition from the party by sending letters of resignation to the NLD (Headquarters) and the authorities concerned.

In their letters of resignation to the Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-Commissions, they said that they resigned from the party out of volition as they lost trust in the NLD party and its leaders and no longer took interest in its activities.—MNA



Gem merchants observe jade lots at 44th Myanmar Gems Emporium. (News on page 10) — MNA