

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



Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen

Curriculum Vitae of Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia

Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen was born on 5 August, 1952, in Peam Koh Sna Commune at Stoeung Trang District of Kampong Cham Province, Cambodia. Upon completion of local primary schooling he came to Phnom Penh in 1965 and continued his secondary schooling. At the age of 18, he joined the struggle against imperialism after Cambodia plunged into war in 1970. The country was liberated on 17 April, 1975.

One day before the victory, on 16 April, 1975, he was wounded in the left eye. Recovering after months of treatment, he married to Bun Rany. They have three sons and three daughters.

Witnessing the Pol Pot regime's policy of genocide, in 1977 he led a movement aimed at liberating Cambodia and its people from the genocidal regime. In 1978, Samdech Hun Sen became a founding member of the United Front for the National Salvation of

Kampuchea (UFNSK). In collaboration with other patriotic movements and with the support of Vietnamese volunteer forces, on 7 January, 1979, the UFNSK rescued Cambodia and its people from the genocidal regime of Democratic Kampuchea.

From 1979 to 1993, Samdech Hun Sen held various positions in the Cambodian administrations—the People's Republic of Kampuchea and then (See page 8)

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win on tour of Hopang, Namtit regions in Shan State (North)

Local people urged to participate in regional development undertaking

NAY PYI TAW, 20 May — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Shan State (North) PDC Chairman North-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Lt-Col Maung Maung Myint of Kunlong Station and departmental officials, inspected Kunlong suspension bridge linking the eastern part and western part of Thanlwin River and development of Kunlong on 18 May morning. Next, he and party on a motorcade inspected condition of Kunlong-Taungkye-Namhu road and thriving ly-chee plantations on both sides.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party went to Namtein Bridge across Namtein creek. They inspected the durability of the bridge that is 432 feet long and 16 feet wide. Through the bridge, people can go to the Wa regions of the eastern part of the Thanlwin River. On arrival at Hopang, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win met service personnel, social organisation members and local people and called for participation in regional development tasks. He next viewed the development of Hopang. After viewing opium-substitute rubber plantations and

summer paddy plantations along Hopang-Pankauk road and condition of Hopang-Mongmaw road, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party visited Pankauk village in

Hopang township and presented gifts to the local people.

(See page 8)

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of Ministry of Defence inspects production of rubber products for export at Yonlin Rubber Plant in Namtit.

MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 21 May, 2007

Reclamation of highland farming

With a view to eradicating the slash and burn farming practice, the government is implementing highland cultivation project on hilly regions in the country.

Reclamation of highland farming is being undertaken near Seikphyutaung and Thanmaye Villages in Kanbar Village Tract in eastern part of Pynmana Township. Under the project, altogether 894 acres— 642 acres of farmland and 252 acres of crop land will be reclaimed.

The government is also providing local farmers with high quality summer and monsoon paddy that are suitable for the region, seeds of perennial crops and cultivation methods.

Cultivation of mango, coconut, rubber and other crops are to be extended.

Crops and trees are to be grown in the present highland cultivation areas for forest and environmental conservation. Preventive measures for outbreak of forest fire are to be taken systematically. In order to protect forest depletion, it is necessary for local people to avoid clearing land by destroying and burning all the trees and plants and making brick and charcoal.

It is the duty of officials concerned and local farmers to actively participate in reclamation of highland farming that can benefit the nation and local people.



To mark their wedding, Ko Than Zaw and Ma Swe Swe Than of Singapore donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Treasurer U Aung Than of the home recently.— H

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

Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends opening of MRDA office building



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence formally opens the building of Myanmar Rice Dealers Association.— MNA

YANGON, 19 May — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the opening of a new office building of Myanmar Rice Dealers Association at the corner of Yuzuna Street and Nwethagi Street in Mayangon township this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Vice Chairman of Yangon City Development

Committee Vice Mayor Col Maung Pa, departmental officials, President U Win Myint and CEC members of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Chairman U Aung Than Oo and CEC members of MRDA.

The commander, U Win Myint and U Aung Than Oo formally opened the new office building and Lt-Gen Myint Swe formally unveiled the signboard of the building. They then inspected the office building.— MNA

Myanmar delegation leaves for Kazakhstan

NAY PYI TAW, 19 May—A delegation led by Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Col Thurein Zaw today left here by air to attend the ministerial meeting of the 63th annual meeting of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) to be held from 21 to 23 May in Almati city, Kazakhstan.

They were seen off at the airport by officials of the ministry.— MNA

Knitting, early childhood refresher course (Basic) courses concluded

YANGON, 17 May — The knitting course and early childhood refresher course (Basic) concluded at Yangon Command here today.

The courses were organized by Yangon Command's Maternal and Child Welfare Association.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win attended the concluding ceremony. Afterwards, Chairperson of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Mar Mar Wai awarded the outstanding trainees of the courses.

After the presentation, Chairperson of Yangon Command MCWA Daw Khin May Latt presented gifts to the course instructors.

Next, the commander and guests viewed the works of trainees.—MNA



Application for executive committee members of MCPA invited

YANGON, 20 May— Myanmar Computer Professionals Association (MCPA) will extend its executive committee to perform task for development of computer technology.

Those wishing to discharge duties as members of the executive committee must be ordinary members of the association and graduates. The persons must have at least three work experience in IT, and they must have abilities to actively participate in the tasks of the executive committee. The interesting persons may contact the office of MCPA, Room 4, Building 4, Myanmar Info-Tech Office (Tel: 652276), Hline Township, not later than 31 May.—MNA

Vice President of MVF U Thein Win presents gift to Indian University Champion Volleyball team. The federation hosted dinner in honour of the team at Karaweik Hotel on 19 May.

NLM

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Carter: Blair-Bush ties 'tragic'

LONDON, 19 May — Britain's support for the war in Iraq was a "major tragedy" for the world, former US President Jimmy Carter said Saturday, as he criticized Tony Blair's unwavering support for President Bush.

Asked how he would judge Blair's support of Bush, Carter said: "Abominable. Loyal.

Blind. Apparently subservient."

"And I think the almost undeviating support by Great Britain for the ill-advised policies of President Bush in Iraq have been a major tragedy for the world," Carter told British Broadcasting Corp radio.

Blair was in Baghdad Saturday morning for what

will be his last trip to Iraq as British prime minister.

Last week, Blair announced that he would step down 17 June, making way for treasury chief Gordon Brown.

The war in Iraq has been the defining foreign policy issue of Blair's premiership, and the decision to join the US-led invasion was an unpopular one at home. So far, nearly 150 British service personnel have died in Iraq.

Carter said Britain's support made it more difficult for critics of the war, and that things could have been different if Britain spoke out against the 2003 invasion.

"I can't say it would have made a definitive difference, but it would certainly have assuaged the problems that arose lately," said Carter, who was US president from 1977 to 1981 and has been a critic of the war.—*Internet*

Cambodian models wear dresses made from recycled material during The Recycled Fashion Show in Phnom Penh on 18 May, 2007. — XINHUA

**US military Sunday announces 7 soldiers killed in separate attacks**

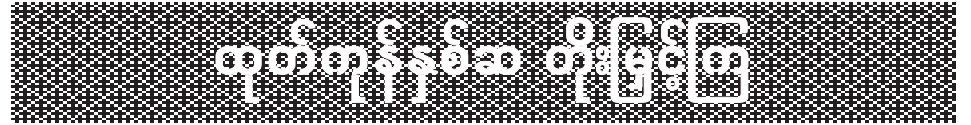
BAGHDAD, 20 May — The US military Sunday reported seven more US soldiers were killed in roadside bomb attacks on Saturday, bringing the number of American soldiers killed since Friday to 15.

A US soldier was killed and two more were wounded when an improvised explosive device detonated near their vehicle near Diwaniya shortly after midnight on Saturday.

Last month, the US military began a push against Shiite militias in the southern city of Diwaniya.

The US military Sunday also announced a roadside bomb attack on Saturday that killed six US soldiers and an Iraqi interpreter in western Baghdad.

That brings the monthly death toll for US military personnel to 71 and the death toll since the war began to 3,422. — *Internet*



China's top legislator Wu Bangguo (L, Front) arrives in Luxor, some 680 km south of the Egyptian capital Cairo, on 18 May, 2007. INTERNET

Moderate quake jolts N Japan

TOKYO, 19 May — An earthquake measuring 5.4 on the Richter Scale shook northern Japan early Saturday, the Japan Meteorological Agency

said.

No tsunami warnings was issued as to the 1 am (1600 GMT, Friday) quake centring on Aomori prefecture. There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage.

The focus was estimated at 60 kilometres below the seabed in waters off Urakawa.

The quake measured 4 on the Japanese seismic intensity scale of 7 in Hashikami town and Higashidori Village in Aomori Prefecture. It also affected Iwata prefecture, Hokkaido and other areas, the agency said.

MNA/Xinhua

Three missing Israeli mountain climbers rescued in Peru

LIMA, 19 May — Three Israeli mountain climbers, who disappeared on Tuesday while climbing the Santa Cruz Nevado, a mountain in Ancash department, 400 kilometres northeast of the nation's capital Lima, were rescued, the Interior Ministry said on Thursday.

The ministry said that these climbers were found alive Wednesday night and sent by a helicopter to Huaraz regional hospital, capital of Ancash department.

On Wednesday, police of Salvamento High Mountain of Peru's National Police found the two women and one man, lost contact with their guides at 4,900 feet above sea level, close to the peak.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Two ABC news journalists killed in Iraq

NEW YORK, 19 May — Gunmen killed two ABC News employees in Iraq in the latest attack on journalists in the war-torn country, the US news organization said on Friday.

The men were identified as cameraman Alaa Uldeen Aziz, 33, and soundman Saif Laith Yousuf, 26, ABC News said in a statement.

"Today, we've lost two family members, and it really hurts," Terry McCarthy, ABC News' Baghdad correspondent, said on the organization's website. "We have Iraqi camera crews who very bravely go out without them we are blind, we cannot see what's going on."

The two were returning home from work at the ABC News Baghdad bureau on Thursday when they were stopped by two cars full of gunmen and forced out of their car, the statement said. They were confirmed dead

Friday morning.

There were no details available on their attackers.

The deaths brought the number of journalists killed in Iraq since 2003 to 104, making it the deadliest conflict for media in 25 years, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists.

"This senseless attack underscores why Iraq remains the most dangerous assignment in the world," CPJ Executive Director Joel Simon said in a statement. "No journalist is safe in covering this story, especially local Iraqi reporters who have suffered the brunt of media casualties."

MNA/Reuters

Demonstrators chant anti-US slogans during a protest in Baghdad on 19 May, 2007. Hundreds of demonstrators took to the streets denouncing the frequent raids of the US forces in Baghdad's Shi'ite neighbourhood. INTERNET



A life-size elephant dummy made of confiscated bare wire snares was unveiled as a mascot for the campaign against ivory trade in Nairobi, capital of Kenya, on 18 May, 2007. — XINHUA

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S Korean President hails inter-Korean railway test runs

SEOUL, 19 May — South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun on Thursday spoke highly of the test runs of two inter-Korean railways, describing them as “historically important stride toward peace”.

“Today is a very meaningful day. The opening of the inter-Korean railways will lead

to the opening of peace and economic unity on the Korean Peninsula,” the Presidential Office said in a news release.

“From now on, the government will gradually develop inter-Korean relations with patience,” it added.

Roh watched live television broadcasts of the event at his office and

said the railway recon-nections were result of South Korea’s sustained efforts to build cross-border trust with the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), Roh’s spokesman Cheon Ho-seon told reporters.

“The cross-border railways will drastically reduce inter-Korean logistics costs, thus elevating inter-Korean economic cooperation to a higher level. In particular, they will further boost the operations of the Kaesong industrial park and South Korean tourism business at Mount Geum-gang,” the Presidential Office said.

A South Korean and a DPRK train, each taking 100 South Koreans and 50 DPRK people, crossed the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) dividing the Korean Peninsula in the east and west coastal areas Thursday afternoon. It was the first time that trains get across the MDL since 1951. — MNA/Xinhua

Chinese, Vietnamese FMs agree to fulfil important consensus

BEIJING, 19 May — Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi and his Vietnamese counterpart Pham Gia Khiem agreed on Friday to seriously carry out the important consensus reached between leaders of the two countries and step up China-Vietnam all-round cooperation.

Yang told Pham Gia Khiem, also Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister, China is ready to join hands with Vietnam to deepen cooperation in the areas of politics, trade, technology, culture and education, and strengthen coordination in international and regional affairs.

The two foreign ministers agreed to give full play to bilateral specific cooperation committees and promote bilateral relations up to a new level.

MNA/Xinhua

72 climbers top Mt Everest this season

KATHMANDU, 19 May — Nepali Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation said over 65 members of 11 teams have scaled Mt Everest so far this spring, *The Himalayan Times* reported on Saturday.

According to the daily, 38 Nepalis, eight Americans and six British nationals were among those who scaled the world’s highest peak, the ministry said in a Press release on Friday.

Other climbers scaling the peak this season were from South Korea, the Philippines, Norway, Egypt, South Africa, Belgium, Ireland and Sweden.

MNA/Xinhua

Four injured by accidental gunshot at Indonesian airport

JAKARTA, 19 May — Four people were hospitalized after being hit by the shards of a bullet coming from a police handgun at an airport in the Indonesian province of North Sumatra on Friday.

The incident occurred at the Polinia Airport in the provincial capital of Medan when a policeman unloaded a gun of a fellow officer who would be aboard a passenger plane and shot at the floor to ensure the pistol was empty, which apparently was not.

The bullet deflected and injured passengers standing in line at the Garuda Indonesia airline counter inside the airport, reported leading news website Detikcom. — MNA/Xinhua



French director Christophe Honore (L) arrives with cast members Clotilde Hesme, Gregoire Leprince-Ringuet, Louis Garrel, Ludivine Sagnier and Chiara Mastroianni (2nd L - R) for the gala screening of the director's in-competition film "Les Chansons d'Amour" at the 60th Cannes Film Festival, on 18 May, 2007. — XINHUA

Dutch soldiers reportedly violated human rights in Iraq in 2003

AMSTERDAM, 19 May — Dutch soldiers violated the human rights of Iraqis in 2003 when they detained about 90 for a day without food and water, a newspaper quoted military police as telling an investigation.

The daily *Volkskrant* said on Friday the police made the allegations to an independent committee which is investigating possible abuse of Iraqi prisoners.

The Defence Ministry

ordered the inquiry in November after *Volkskrant* reported Dutch military intelligence had abused prisoners in Iraq in 2003 by hosing them with water to keep them awake and exposing them to bright

light. "Military police have reported 'violations of human rights' by Marines - in south Iraq to the investigative committee," the newspaper said.

Spokesmen for the committee and the Defence Ministry said they would not comment before the committee’s report was published, probably by mid-June. Dutch military police were not immediately available for comment.

Dutch soldiers detained more than 90 Iraqi suspects in the Iraq city of Samawa in October 2003 during an operation to stop weapons’ sales, the newspaper said. It printed one of more than 200 photographs of the operation it said it obtained.

MNA/Reuters



US soldiers carry a wounded soldier to a helicopter, following a blast at a road between Fallujah and Baghdad, at a military base in Abu Ghraib on 19 May, 2007. — INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

Beijing attracts record number of overseas tourists in first four months

BEIJING, 19 May — Beijing attracted a record 1.2 million overseas tourists from January to April this year, a 12.5-per-cent increase from the same period last year, showing signs of a booming tourism industry ahead of the 2008 Olympic Games.

According to data released by the Beijing Municipal Statistics Bureau, the 2008 Olympics host city received an influx of 407,000 foreign tourists in April alone, up 14.6 per cent from April last year.

Tourists from Japan, the Republic of Korea and the United States — the capital's three major sources of tourists — accounted for 40.9 per cent of the total number of foreign tourists in April, the bureau announced.

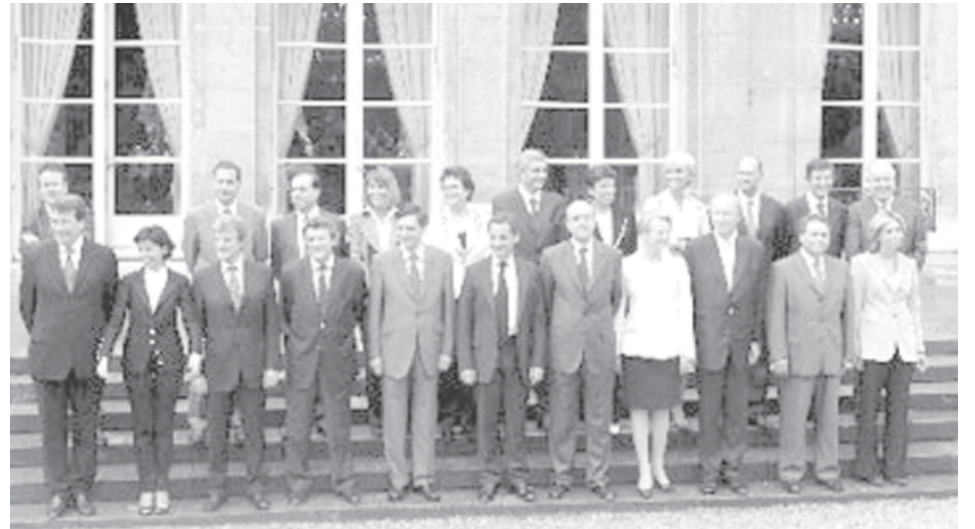
Beijing also saw a

steady increase of tourists from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan, receiving 173,000 tourists over the first four months of this year, an 8-per-cent rise over the same period in 2006.

Tourism in Beijing has been booming with the approach of the 2008

Olympic Games, which is scheduled to begin on August 8 next year.

Beijing expects to receive 550,000 foreign tourists during the Olympics, and an estimated two million domestic tourists are also expected to visit the capital city. — MNA/Xinhua



France's President Nicolas Sarkozy (C) poses with his newly named ministers at the Elysee Palace, after the first weekly cabinet meeting, in Paris, on 18 May, 2007. — XINHUA



Tourists watch high waves in Parangtritis beach outside Yogyakarta, Central Java, on 19 May, 2007. Massive waves have hit coastlines across Indonesia, sending hundreds of panicky residents rushing from their homes and also destroying fishing boats and beachside shacks, officials and media reports said on Friday. INTERNET

Chinese, Vietnamese companies deals worth more than \$2b

BEIJING, 19 May — Chinese and Vietnamese companies signed nine deals worth more than two billion US dollars at the China-Vietnam Business Forum in Beijing on Friday.

Among the deals, the China Merchants Group signed a letter of intent on investment in Ho Chi Minh City, with a contract value of about one billion US dollars.

The China Huadian Corporation signed a memorandum of understanding on power generation, which was worth 650 million US dollars. The China Airport Construction Group Corporation signed a 400-million-US-dollar deal on highway construction.

Other deals include cement production, real estate and communications.

China has more than 400 investment projects in Vietnam, with a total value of more than 800 million US dollars. Trade volume between the two countries in 2006 reached 9.95 billion US dollars.

Vietnamese President Nguyen Minh Triet attended the opening

ceremony of the forum and delivered a keynote speech.

Nguyen said China was the major market and trading partner of Vietnam. The two countries shared broad prospects of cooperation in economy and trade.

MNA/Xinhua



Actress Gemma Arterton, left, Italian actress Caterina Murino, centre, and actress Talulah Riley pose during a photo call for the film 'St Trinian's,' at the 60th International film festival in Cannes, southern France, on Sunday, 20 May, 2007. INTERNET

S'pore announces initiatives to attract talented foreign professionals

SINGAPORE, 19 May — Singapore's Ministry of Manpower on Friday announced two new initiatives to lure more talented foreign professionals to work in the country.

According to a statement by the ministry, from 1 June this year, the ministry will raise the S-Pass quota for mid-skilled manpower to 15 per cent from the current 10 per cent. From December, it will also introduce a new Work Holiday Programme, which will allow bright university students from overseas to enjoy an experience of living and working in Singapore for up to six months.

Starting with 2,000 places for students and graduates from universities in Australia, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand, Britain and the United States, the programme is open to those aged between 17 and 30. Those who wish to work during a period of six months are not restricted to any type of job.

MNA/Xinhua

India clears 26,000 tons of raw sugar export to US, EU

NEW DELHI, 19 May — The Indian Government has allowed export of 26,000 tons of raw sugar to the US and European Union.

While 16,000 tons of raw sugar would be sent to EU nations, the remaining would be exported to the US under preferential raw cane sugar tariff rate quota, according to a notification issued by Director-General of Foreign Trade.

"DGFT has allocated a total quantity of 26,000 tons of raw sugar out of free sale portion of 2006-07 seasons's production for exports to US and EU," the notification said.

Indian Sugar Exim Corporation Limited will be the designated agency for undertaking these exports under preferential quota, it said.

MNA/PTI

Vietnam wants closer comprehensive cooperation with China

HANOI, 19 May — Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung said here Friday his country wants to “foster fine friendship and cooperation in all spheres, especially science and technology with China”.

Dung made the statement while meeting with Xu Kuangdi, vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and president of the Chinese Academy of Engineering. “We want and do our

best to strengthen co-operation on all fields, including economy, trade, investment, culture, science, technology, education, training, and party building,” the Prime Minister said, noting that Vietnam will step up scientific, technological and technical cooperation with China in a brotherhood, comradeship and win-win manner.

Vietnam spends 20 per cent of its state budget on education, and 2 per cent on science, Dung noted.

In response, Xu said China is willing to share successful experiences and valuable lessons with Vietnam to help the country keep on implementing its renovation policy and cultivating young talents.

The friendly and all-round cooperative relations between China and Vietnam will be expanded and deepened because the two countries have many similarities, Xu said, noting that they are both pursuing socialism.

MNA/Xinhua



Photo taken on 18 May, 2007 shows the Chinese naval frigate "Xiangfan" in Changi naval base of Singapore. More than 20 warships from 14 countries gathered here for the International Maritime Defence Exhibition Asia and a multilateral naval exercise held in the South China Sea off Singapore from 15 to 20 May. — XINHUA



Winner Karishma Pradhan (C), first runner-up Debjanee Chakrabarty (L), and second runner-up Dimpay Ganguly, smile during the 'Sananda Tilottama 2007' beauty contest in the eastern Indian city of Kolkata on 19 May, 2007. — INTERNET

Australian mum defends children during shark attack

CANBERRA, 19 May — A woman bitten by a shark as she waded in knee-deep water at a remote Australian holiday beach told on Friday how she fought off the predator with her camera to stop it from turning on her children.

The woman, Becky Cooke, 38, was bitten on the lower left leg on Wednesday as she was

strolling in the shallows at Warra Beach, 1,100 kilometres (683 miles) north of Perth, in the Western Australia state.

She was carrying her three-year-old son Ethan at the time of the attack, and her 13-year-old son Brandon was walking alongside.

“I started hitting it with my camera and shaking my leg trying to get it off,”

Cooke told reporters on Friday from a hospital bed in Perth.

“At first I thought something had just hit me, not bitten me,” she said. “It let go. I took a couple of steps and fell into the water because my leg was pretty bad. As I fell into the water the sea just turned to blood,” she said.

Cooke said she feared

the shark might attack her children.

“Brandon came running over and I said to him ‘take Ethan’ and he grabbed Ethan and ran back to shore.”

Cooke suffered severe wounds to her calf and could lose her foot. Experts said a reef shark might have been to blame for the attack.

MNA/Reuters

Museums urged to ride on digital technology to engage audience

SINGAPORE, 19 May — Singapore's Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts Lee Boon Yang on Friday urged museums around the world to ride on pervasive digital technology to engage the audience.

“A challenge for heritage museums is to move in line with the changing economic and social landscapes brought about by the digital revolution. While our museums continue to attract visitors, it is also important that we leverage on the power of the Internet to reach out to even more people,” the minister said while addressing the launch of International Museum Day.

He stressed that in this digital age where people can see and read about

practically anything online, museums remain just as relevant today as before the advent of Internet.

Museums are key institutions that preserve a nation's heritage, forge national identities and promote goodwill through international cultural exchanges, he added.

Noting that museums all over the world are reinventing and repositioning themselves from being mere repositories of artifacts and artworks to becoming experience-rich cultural destinations, he said that museums in Singapore are also reinventing themselves.

Currently, Singapore has 45 museums, and of which, 44 museums hit a new high of 4.3 million visitors last year.

MNA/Xinhua

Over 1,000 flee homes after waves hit Indonesian coastlines

JAKARTA, 19 May — More than 1,000 people left their homes after tidal waves destroyed houses and school buildings along the coastlines of Indonesia, Disaster Management Agency said here on Saturday.

The huge waves devastated coastal areas in West Sumatra and Aceh Province in Sumatra Island, and south coast of Java Island on Thursday, said Setio Sutarto, an official of the agency.

“About 650 people take refuge in West Java and some 600 others in West Sumatra, because their houses have been leveled,” he told Xinhua. The waves destroyed hundreds of houses, three school buildings, inundated several hundred acres of rice field, and damaged scores of fishermen's boat in the

coastal areas, said Sutarto. A television footage of local Metro TV showed that people in panic were leaving their inundated homes in the coastal areas of West Java and carrying their belongings.

A deadly tsunami in December 2004 left over 170,000 people dead or missing in Aceh Province, and about a half million others were made homeless.

As the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency

predicted that the huge waves would continue until Sunday, weather officials have warned fishermen from sailing and those in Bali's beautiful beach of Kuta from surfing.

Internet



A resident looks at his damaged house after high waves hit Pasir Putih beach in Padang, West Sumatra on 19 May, 2007. — XINHUA

Out-of-date 1990 election results

Yebaw Tin Shwe

It is common knowledge that the National League for Democracy (NLD) won the majority of seats in more than 300 constituencies in the 1990 election.

Soon after its victory, the NLD through Gandhi Hall conference called for soonest handing over power to it.

At the time, views about the multi-party democracy general election differed.

The NLD deemed the election to be the one through which power would be handed over.

Then I was the general secretary of the People's Democracy Party, and in my view, the upcoming election would not be a problem of power, and it would be just the one designed to call a constitutional Hluttaw (legislative body) that would be responsible for drawing a constitution.

As we realized, we party members informed the procedures to other political parties and the people through a Myanmar TV programme. And the leaders of the People's Democracy Party headquarters held open talks on our party's stance to local people in the townships and villages where we canvassed for votes.

The election law (draft) the State Law and Order Restoration Council presented to the people before the election did not mention that the Hluttaw had power to exercise legislative, executive and judicial powers.

The leading parties suggested that the multi-party democracy general election commission fulfil the requirement on powers. However the approved law did not manifest it.

And it did not mention the time frame for calling a Hluttaw session, either. (That point was understood because the situation needed to restore peace and stability in the nation.)

So, it was apparent that the general election held in accordance with the election law was intended just to formulate a constitution.

However, the NLD did not view so, and made a demand for handing power to it.

Therefore, power was not handed over and any Hluttaw session was not convened. Even representatives-elect did not become legitimate representatives though taking of oaths.

The election law did not stipulate any point of handing over power. To make matters worse, the NLD lacked knowledge of political tactics. Due to the situations, the NLD was further away from the opportunity to come to power.

One of those situations was that the NLD leaders, being conceited with the votes of the electorate, arbitrarily expressed harsh words that were most inappropriate.

In the meantime, the neo-colonialists the US and its associates resorted to various means to put pressure on the State Law and Order Restoration

Council, which was formed based on Tatmadaw members, to hand over power.

Being a national force that came into existence in the anti-colonialist struggles and anti-Fascist Resistance, the Tatmadaw did not show any fears or pay any heed to the pressure put by the neo-colonialists. It put the national interests in the fore.

To write a constitution, the Tatmadaw convened the National Convention, at which those representing the people from all walks of life could participate in the discussions.

The government invited representatives of the political parties including the NLD to the National Convention. The NLD accepted the invitation and sent its representatives to the NC.

So, the people were pleased with the political situation, considering that the door had opened for national reconsolidation.

The NLD no longer said matters for handing over power, calling a Hluttaw session and dialogue, and it took part in the discussions at the NC. It was a very heartening political climate.

However, when the restrictions on Daw Suu Kyi were lifted, there was an immediate difference in the then situation and a change in the political climate for the worse.

Daw Suu Kyi, a puppet of the neo-colonialists, danced to the tune of the US and its associates, but hers was the

ogress dance, not the dance of the female leading dancer.

She issued an ultimatum, saying that the government would have to choose either of the two ways—utter devastation or dialogue.

The NLD representatives walked out of the NC, thus culminating in the adjournment of the NC.

Then, the NLD again made its usual demand for handing over power according to the election result. Moreover, it formed a Hluttaw representative committee and launched political movements.

Daw Suu Kyi made an around-the-nation trip as the confrontation movement. The Dabayin affairs led to restrictions on her again.

Daw Suu Kyi's unilateral decisions created disunity among the party members. And there was a conflict between party leaders and followers.

NLD's Hluttaw members resigned from the party one after another by sending their resignation letters to the general election commission of their volition.

A large number of representatives-elect of the NLD have fled abroad. In addition, many NLD members have died. So, the number of NLD members has reduced by more than 50 per cent.

The term for implementing the election results is not longer than four or five years. So, the 1990 election results have been illegitimate since four or five years after the election.

The purpose of the 1990 election was just to draw a constitution. Now most of the basic principles have been adopted in the National Convention with the participation of the representatives-elect.

It has been 17 years since the 1990 election was held. So, the 1990 election results have been out-of-date.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 20-5-2007

Being a national force that came into existence in the anti-colonialist struggles and anti-Fascist Resistance, the Tatmadaw did not show any fears nor pay any heed to the pressure put by the neo-colonialists. It put the national interests in the fore.

To write a constitution, the Tatmadaw convened the National Convention, at which those representing the people from all walks of life could participate in the discussions.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win on tour of Hopang,...

(from page 1)

They then inspected condition of Hopang-Pankauk-Chushwe-Monglon road and paddy plantations on both sides. They arrived at Panglong Village in Hopang Township at 11 am. At the basic education middle school, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, the commander and party met with service personnel, townsenders and Wa and Kokant nationals. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win heard reports on matters related to communications, transport, education, health, economy and agriculture in Monglong region. The commander gave a supplementary report. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win fulfilled the needs.

Speaking on the occasion Lt-Gen Kyaw Win said he was delighted to see Panglong region developing in the sectors of agriculture, livestock breeding and economy. The government on its part will provide all necessary assistance and the local people are also urged to



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of Ministry of Defence gives presents for townsenders in Panglong.—MNA

take part in regional development tasks. Afterwards, he made cash donations for educational and health purposes. presented gifts to the local people and donated exercise books to students.

Later, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party proceeded to Namtit in the special region-2. At the hall of Namtit special region-2, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party met with Administrator U Aik Yon and responsible officials.

They then inspected the development of Namtit by car, opium-substitute rubber plantations, summer paddy plantations. Hopang and Namtit have cultivated 3,713 acres and 5,152 acres of rubber respectively. Later, they visited Yonlin rubber plant and inspected production of rubber products for exports. The plant can produce 400 to 800 tons of rubber per year. They then arrived back at Kunlong.

MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects tasks for...

(from page 16)

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party oversaw clearing of rubbish and silt for proper flow of drainage at No 5/7 ward in South Okkalapa Township, Anawma No 6 block in Thakayta Township and Setsan block in Mingala Tuangnyunt Township.

After inspecting clearing of rubbish and silt by the use of excavator at Khuhintpin creek in Yankin Township, Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave necessary instructions. Next, Lt-Gen

Myint Swe and party looked into clearing of rubbish and silt for proper flow of drainage in Bahan Township.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party oversaw clearing of rubbish and silt for proper flow of drainage in North Okkalapa, South Okkalapa, Thakayta, Mingala Taungnyunt, Yankin and Bahan Townships carried out by YCDC in order to keep Yangon pleasant and beautiful. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe urged

officials concerned to take constant measures for keeping Yangon clean and beautiful with a view to ensuring convenience and comfort of the people, clear rubbish and silt in the drains. Townsenders are to carry out sanitation works at their houses and environment and cooperate with officials concerned to keep their environments clean and hygiene in accord with characteristics of the city, he added.

MNA



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence inspects sanitation work in South Okkalapa Township.—MNA

Curriculum Vitae of Samdech Hun Sen,...

(from page 1)

the State of Cambodia. As Foreign Minister in 1979, as Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister from 1981 to 1985, and then as Prime Minister and Foreign Minister from 1985 to 1991, Samdech Hun Sen brought about several remarkable achievements, laying the basis for the implementation of peace, national reconciliation, and the development of Cambodia. He was proved as an indispensable architect of the Paris Peace Agreement on Cambodia.

As a result of the implementation of the Agreement and the 1993 national election, from 1993 to 1998 Hun Sen served Cambodia as the Co-Premier and then the Second Prime Minister of the first coalition government.

In July 1998, the general election brought victory to the Cambodian People's Party, of which Hun Sen was the Vice-President. He became the sole Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, leading the second coalition government of the two major parties—the CPP and FUNCINPEC — and solemnly declared his Government to be an “economy-oriented government”. Under his leadership Cambodia became the 10th member of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Samdech Hun Sen, as the candidate of the Cambodian People's party for the post as Prime Minister,

again led the CPP to a victory in the July 2003 general elections. After eleven months of political difficulties, once more he succeeded in forming a coalition with FUNCINPEC. On 15 July, 2004, under a new law allowing of a package vote, the National Assembly re-elected him as Prime Minister, and ratified the third-term coalition Government between the Cambodian People's Party and FUNCINPEC.

For his great efforts and contributions to national reconciliation, peace and the socio-economic development of Cambodia, Hun Sen was awarded the title of ‘Samdech’ by His Majesty the King Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk.

He has a B.A in Politics from the Cambodian Tertiary Education, a Ph.D in Political Science from the National Political Academy in Hanoi (1991), and two Honorary Doctorates—a Ph.D in Politics from the Southern California University for Professional Studies, USA (1995), and a Ph.D of Law from IOWA Wesleyan College, USA (1996).

He was awarded the World Peace Award by the World Peace Academy in December 1996.

Other academic institutions from several countries also awarded him with their Honorary Dectorate Degrees in recognition to his leadership in bringing peace, stability and socio-economic development of Cambodia.

MNA

Development tasks in Loikaw inspected

YANGON, 20 May — Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe inspected dredging of the drain near Lawpita Iron Bridge in Kyitha Ward of Loikaw on 14 May.

The deputy minister

inspected hostels and mess halls of the trainees at Border Areas and National Races Youth Development Training School in Loikaw.

At Loikaw Township Development Affairs Committee Office, the deputy minister instructed

officials to carry out development tasks and systematic use of the fund.

Next, the deputy minister inspected functions to No 2 Ottara Water Pumping Station and No 1 Nursery of Loikaw Township DAD.

MNA

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ကျောင်းအပ်နှံရေးသီတင်းပတ်
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ကျောင်းနေအရွယ်ကလေး ကျောင်းအပ်နှံရေး
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Baingda Diversion Dam inaugurated in DaikU...

(from page 16)

In conclusion, the commander thanked the Head of State and the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation for construction of the diversion dam, and urged the officials, local people and farmers to maintain and safeguard the diversion dam for its durability, for supply of water to the farmlands and for prevention against floods.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo delivered an address. He said that successful completion of Baingda Diversion Dam will contribute to boosting production of the



Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko delivers an address at opening of Baingda Diversion Dam in DaikU Township.— A & I

General Than Shwe had given guidance to supply water for agricultural purpose to the respective regions. The Head of State gave guidance to build large, medium and small scale dam projects, river water pumping projects and underground water

opened as the 199th irrigation facility.

There were 138 irrigation facilities in 1988. So far, a total of 199 dam projects have been implemented to supply water to 2.63 million acres of farmland. Likewise, 305 river water pumping

Diversion Dam, the region will have the opportunity to grow over 90,000 acres of monsoon paddy and summer crops.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation manufactures and distributes agricultural equipment to the farmers

construction of the diversion dam, and urged the local people to maintain the diversion dam for its durability.

On behalf of the locals, U Thein Myint of DaikU Township expressed gratitude of the government for construction of the diversion dam.

The commander formally unveiled the stone plaque of the diversion dam and sprinkled scented water on it together with the minister.

Next, the commander, the minister and party posed for documentary photo together with local people. The commander and the minister inspected the feeder canal and

buildings of the diversion dam.

Director U Myint Than of Construction-1 of Irrigation Department reported on construction of the diversion dam and water supply. The commander and the minister gave instructions on boosting agricultural products and supply of water to officials.

Baingda Diversion Dam is located, 16 miles downstream of Baingda Dam. It is 20.5 feet high, 250 feet wide and 98 feet long reinforced concrete embankment. The main canal is 15 miles long. The diversion dam can irrigate 46,700 acres of land. While the diversion dam was being built, summer paddy



Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko unveils the stone plaque of Baingda Diversion Dam.— A & I

agriculture sector in the region and prevent floods at Pyundaza plain and Yangon-Mandalay Highway and railroad to a certain degree in rainy season. Due to boosting production of agricultural sector, trading of crops and transport of commodity will develop soon. As a result, local people can enjoy fruits of economic social sectors and living standard.

Head of State Senior

projects in upper and middle regions of the country and the places where water is scarce. Furthermore, the Head of State gave guidance to construct dams, diversion dams and sluice gates for agricultural purpose and build embankments and sluice gates for prevention of floods in lower regions of Myanmar. As part of implementation of the guidance, Baingda Diversion Dam was

stations irrigate 0.464 million acres of land, while 7,569 artisan wells are supplying water to 91,388 acres of land. Irrigated areas increased up to 5.91 million acres from 2.5 million acres in 1988-89.

A total of 13 village-tracts in DaikU Township put 46,700 acres of land under monsoon paddy and 32,000 acres under summer paddy, edible oil and pulses and beans. Thanks to the Baingda

for the increase of cultivation capability during the transition period to mechanized farming. The ministry also renders necessary assistance to cultivation of physic nut to produce bio-diesel. In conclusion, the minister thanked local authorities, the Ministry of Industry-1, the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Mines and workers of Irrigation Department for their participation in

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo.
A & I



was grown with the use of water from creeks and drains. At present, the diversion dam can contribute to cultivation of double cropping, prevention of floods in the region in rainy season and uplift of living standard of the local farmers.

Also present on the occasion were departmental officials, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, social organizations and local people. —MNA



Newly opened Baingda Diversion Dam.— A & I

Cash donated to Yangon Division Upathanbhaka Group



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win accepts cash donation from a wellwisher.— MNA

YANGON, 20 May — A ceremony to donate cash to the fund to be used in religious ceremonies of Yangon Division Upathanbhaka Group was held at the Dhammayon of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee on Gyartawya

Street in Bahan Township this afternoon.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai presented K 300,000 to Head of

Division Religious Affairs Department Deputy Director U Soe Naing.

Next, the commander and officials accepted cash donations from wellwishers. Today's donations totalled K 11.9 million.

MNA

Three quit Sagaing Township NLD NLD leaders emphasize on gaining power with selfishness

YANGON, 20 May — U Pauk Si, U Thuang Htay and U Ni Gyi of Hnondwin Village-tract, who were members of Sagaing Township National League for Democracy of Sagaing Division, resigned from the NLD on their own accord on 7 May and they sent resignation letters to the NLD Headquarters and local authorities.

In their resignation letters they sent to Sagaing Division Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommission, they said that they

witnessed the activities of the NLD without exact political programme, estrangement of party leaders and lack of participation in regional development tasks. In addition, they said that the leaders of the party are placing emphasis on gaining power with selfishness. Furthermore, the party leaders have less political experiences and they are seeking political advantage only. That is why they no longer wish to discharge duties of the party and they resigned from the party on their own accord. — MNA

Japanese police raid naval college over defence leak

TOKYO, 20 May — Civilian and military police raided a historic naval college in western Japan on Saturday over leaked data on the missile defence system Tokyo shares with Washington.

The leak of sensitive information on the high-tech Aegis radar system, used by the United States on ships fitted with SM-2 ballistic missile

interceptors, worried Washington and came as the two countries pledged closer defence ties.

US Defence Secretary Robert Gates voiced his deep concern when he met Japanese counterpart Fumio Kyuma in April.

Police believe the unauthorized information may have circulated at the First Service School in Etajima, about 700

kilometres (440 miles) west of Tokyo, *Kyodo* news agency said.

The case came to light in March when a junior naval officer married to a Chinese woman was found with a computer disk containing confidential information about the Aegis system, which he was not authorized to possess.

MNA/Reuters

Myanmar delegation leaves for PRC

NAY PYI TAW, 20 May — At the invitation of Information Office of the State Council of People's Republic of China, under the arrangement of Myanmar-China information and culture cooperation programme, a Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan left here by air yesterday to pay a visit to China.

The Minister for Information was seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and



Ministers Maj-Gen Thein Swe and Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint see off Information Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.— MNA

departmental officials of the departments and

enterprises under the ministry.—MNA

NASA probes Mexican sinkhole as proxy for icy moon

EL ZACATON (Mexico), 20 May — NASA is testing an underwater robot in one of Earth's deepest sinkholes in a first step toward searching for life on Jupiter's icy moon, Europa.

El Zacaton, near the Gulf coast of northeastern Mexico, is about 100 metres (328 feet) wide and more than 1,000 metres (1,000 feet) deep. It could easily hold the Eiffel Tower.

Scientists plan to map and take samples in the dark, water-filled fissure with the 1.5-ton DEPTHX robot over the next two weeks as a prelude to the proposed navigation of Europa's ice-capped

oceans in about 20 years.

The mission is the latest step in a 400-year-old endeavour to understand Jupiter and its distant moons.

"We're so sure there's water on Europa that the real question is whether there is also life, whether there's something in the ocean that bugs can eat," said Chris McKay of the NASA Ames Research Centre in California.

"This robot is the ideal way to search," he said.

Lowered by a 60-ton crane, the battery-powered robot, nicknamed "Clementine" for its round shape and orange colour, will make daily descents into the vertical cave

known in Mexico as a cenote.

It will produce three-dimensional maps, collect rock samples and using floodlights, film nooks and crannies too deep for divers to reach.

Mars, Europa and Saturn's moon Enceladus are the only known places in the solar system known to have or have had water, the basis for all life.

Findings organisms different from those on Earth may provide scientists with answers to questions ranging from where diseases come from to how our sun and planets formed more than 4.5 billion years ago.

MNA/Reuters

Court says Liz Taylor can keep Van Gogh painting

SAN FRANCISCO, 20 May — Actress Elizabeth Taylor can keep a Van Gogh painting that may have been illegally seized by Nazis, after a US appeals court ruled on Friday the family who once owned it waited too long to ask for it back.

"This affirms my great belief in the American judicial process; I am very grateful," Taylor said in a statement. "It's wonderful to have Monsieur Vincent Van Gogh in my living room."

Taylor, 75, bought the 1889 painting "View of the Asylum and Chapel at Saint-Remy" at a Sotheby's auction in London in 1963 for 92,000 British pounds — about 257,000 US dollars at the time. She keeps it in her Los Angeles-area home.

The painting, made by Van Gogh near the end of his life, is worth many times more, perhaps tens of millions, in today's red-hot art market.

The Orkin family, South African and

Canadian descendants of Margarete Mauthner, a Jewish woman who fled Germany in 1939, sued Taylor in 2004, claiming that Nazis forced the sale of the painting under duress and thus it should be returned to them under the 1998 US Holocaust Victims Redress Act.

Taylor said she was the rightful owner of the painting and asserted it had passed through two Jewish art dealers without any sign of Nazi coercion before she bought it.

MNA/Reuters

Bank of America sued for race discrimination

NEW YORK, 20 May — Five Black current and former employees of Bank of America Corp have sued the second-largest US bank, accusing it of racial discrimination by steering lucrative clients to their White counterparts.

The 29-page complaint, filed Thursday with the US District Court in Boston, contends that the bank discriminates against African-Americans in pay, promotions, training and support services.

It said the Charlotte, North Carolina-based bank regularly teams African-American workers together and assigns them to largely minority neighbourhoods and low net-worth clients.

When the workers complained, according to the lawsuit, the bank said

it believed that clients are more “comfortable” dealing with bankers and brokers of their own race.

“There is a perception at the bank that predominantly White, wealthy customers in high net-worth neighbourhoods are only going to be comfortable with Caucasian financial advisers and bankers,” said Darnley Stewart, a partner at Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP who represents the plaintiffs, in an interview. “It’s a complete stereotype.”

MNA/Reuters



Picture taken on 15 May shows apple tree flowers damaged by frost at an orchard in Miroslaw Maliczewski near Grojec. Officials warn that the disaster could mean Poland will lose its role as a leading player in the European apple market, with China and Italy the likely winners. — INTERNET

Three Indians kidnapped in Nigeria

NEW DELHI, 20 May — Three Indians including two engineers working for a petrochemical company in Nigeria were kidnapped Saturday in the third incident of abduction of Indians in the West African state in recent weeks.

Debashish K Davale and another unidentified Indian were abducted outside their residential complex in Port Harcourt in southern Nigeria early Saturday after gunfire that left one Nigerian dead.

The incident has sent shockwaves among a larger number of Indians employed in Nigeria and their families back home.

“We are in close touch with the Nigerian Government and the Indian High Commissioner is in constant touch with the authorities there to secure the safe return of the three abducted Indians,” Minister of State for External Affairs Anand

Sharma told PTI here.

Asked who could be behind the kidnapping, he said “it is a clear work of criminal gangs operating in that region” and added “we are not aware whether any demand for ransom has been received by the company for freeing the Indians”.

Noting that this was the third incident of abduction of Indians in recent weeks, the Minister recalled that officials of ISPAT group had been taken hostage but were released safely.

Sharma said a general advisory relating to safety concerns has been issued for Indians working in foreign companies abroad.

MNA/PTI

Beach closed as high waves pound Thailand’s Phuket

BANGKOK, 20 May — Thailand’s southern Phuket provincial authorities Saturday closed beaches in this Thai tourist resorts, banning swimming and access to the beaches due to dangerously strong winds and high tide.

Local Disaster Prevention and Mitigation chief Aroon Kerdson was quoted by the Thai News Agency as saying that

unusually high tide peaks Saturday at Phuket Island, which is considered one of the world’s best-known beach resorts.

Life has slowed to a standstill with the rising tide affecting beachfront shops, homes, and seaside restaurants. Waterfront residents were also advised to move their belongings to higher ground.

Meanwhile, in concern for the well-being of both locals and overseas visitors, many guards

dispatched by the Phuket authorities are preventing onlookers from coming too close to the larger-than-usual waves.

However, the authorities said the wave this year is not the same as the twin giant waves in tsunami 2004 which killed many tourists and residents.

MNA/Xinhua

Mexico’s Army seizes \$194,000 hidden in passenger bus

MEXICO CITY, 20 May — The Mexican authorities confiscated 194,000 US dollars they found hidden in a passenger bus in the state of Chiapas, south-

eastern of Mexico, the National Defence Ministry (Sedena) said Friday.

The money, hidden in a cardboard box inside the driver’s luggage compartment, was discovered during a routine check at an inspection site on the Tonala-Pijijiapan federal highway, Sedena said in a communique released Friday.

A total of 193,750 dollars were seized, mostly in 100 dollar bills but with 1,150 50-dollar bills, the communique said.

Bus driver Domingo Malpica Ramirez was arrested and handed over to Arriaga municipality’s Public Ministry to begin the investigation.

Sedena has seized some 1,090,371 dollars so far in May in actions related to organized crime and drug trafficking.

MNA/Xinhua

US forces detain 9 suspects in Baghdad in hunting for missing soldiers

BAGHDAD, 20 May — US troops detained 11 suspects, including nine people suspected of involvement in the kidnapping of three US soldiers, the US military said on Saturday.

Based on intelligence, the American regulars in the morning broke into a building near the Amiriyah area west of Baghdad and detained nine suspected insurgents.

“Coalition forces continued to follow tips and information leads in the disappearance of three US soldiers, raiding a building near Amiriyah Saturday morning,” the military said in a statement.

“During the raid, coalition forces detained nine individuals suspected of involvement in the kidnappings,” it said.

Thousands of US troops continue a massive search operation for more than a week looking for

three soldiers who were kidnapped near the town of Mahmoudiyah when insurgents attacked a US patrol on 12 May, killing four US soldiers and an Iraqi interpreter while three other soldiers went missing.

“We will make every effort available to find our three missing soldiers,” Major-General William Caldwell, chief military spokesman for US forces in Iraq, said.

Separately, two more suspects “allegedly associated with the command network of al-Qaeda in Iraq” were detained on Friday in Baquba, some 65 kilometres northeast of Baghdad, the statement added. — MNA/Xinhua



Pampa, a one-year-old male white tiger, yawns at the Metropolitan Zoo in Santiago, on Thursday, 17 May, 2007. The white tiger is one of the most endangered species in the world with an estimate of 240 in existence. Pampa arrived from the Argentina’s Temaikén zoo. INTERNET

Recommended cell phone charging time misleading



A selection of modern cell phones with their batteries removed.

BEIJING, 19 May — When charging the batteries of your newly bought cell phones or digital cameras for the first time, do you always charge them for at least 15 hours because the instructions tell you it will extend the life span of your batteries? Well, this advice actually misleads consumers.

Shanghai's famous home appliance expert Luo Renxiao told the *Xinmin Evening News* that if people charge their batteries for too long at a time, they will accelerate the speed with which the battery enters a stable state, which in fact speeds up the aging process. He suggested 2 to 3 hours is an appropriate length of time when you charge your batteries for the first time.

He also said that some manufacturers claim that batteries can memorize electrical quantity, therefore, the first-time charge aims to maximize the space for a battery to hold electricity, and the amount of electricity will decrease gradually from the maximum amount in the following recharges. But Luo Renxiao said that this is not the case because most of the digital products on sale at present use lithium batteries, which have no memory.

He also recommended people use original cell phone batteries and chargers instead of imitation ones, as they help the phone to work in its optimum state.

Internet

US rescuers play songs to lure injured whales

BEIJING, 18 May — A team of US marine rescuers on Thursday played recorded humpback songs, hoping to lure an injured female whale and her wounded calf from California's Port of Sacramento back toward the Pacific Ocean, according to media reports Friday.

Marine biologists said both animals had suffered what appeared to be boat-propeller lacerations, lending urgency to a rescue effort. On Thursday, rescuers played whale sounds amplified by underwater audio devices and intended to coax the two seaward.

"Several segments of sound have been introduced," said Bernie Krauze, a researcher who spoke by cellphone from the Coast Guard cutter *Pike*, a vessel involved in the rescue.

"We call ourselves the whale whisperers," said Krauze, "But we are not whispering loud enough. These guys are not responding."

The humpbacks were first spotted in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Sunday and have since meandered almost 145 km upriver from their natural habitat in the Pacific Ocean along Northern California.

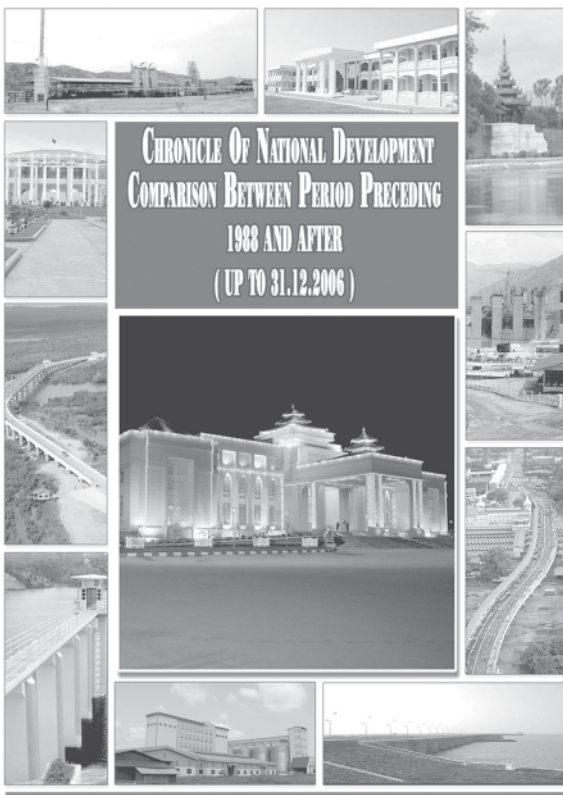
Krauze said the 10-second vocals

from whales feeding were being played in intermittent 10-second intervals. In theory, he said, the recordings are turned off when the animal moves toward the song, and on when it veers away.

"Sometimes these animals respond to the process in 15 seconds," Krauze said. "Today the animals are not responding. They are just swimming in circles in this large, industrial basin." Marine experts said the wounds did not appear to be life threatening. The adult, which appeared to be roughly about 13.7-metre long, had a gash between the blowhole and the dorsal fin. Injuries to the calf, believed to be a juvenile about 6 metres long, were undetermined. — Internet



Spectators watch as one of two humpback whales surfaces in California's Port of Sacramento on 17 May, 2007.



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Madonna releases song for Live Earth concerts

LOS ANGELES, 19 May — Madonna has written a new song for the 7 July Live Earth concerts around the world and the first million downloads will result in a donation to a climate protection group, Live Earth organizers said on Thursday.

The song "Hey You" is now available for free download on Microsoft's home page (www.msn.com) and the software giant

said it would donate 25 cents per download to the Alliance for Climate Protection for the first million downloads.

Madonna is one of dozens of artists who have agreed to perform in concerts in eight cities around the world on 7 July

in a bid to spur governments, corporations and the public to take action on global warming.

She will perform the song during her appearance at the 7 July concert in London. Other concerts are planned for New York, Sydney, Tokyo, Shanghai, Johannesburg, Rio de

Janeiro and Hamburg, Germany.

Live Earth founder Kevin Wall said in a statement that the 16 May release of the Madonna song was "an incredible boost to our efforts to get people engaged in the environmental cause".

MNA/Reuters

China's birth defects rise as pre-marital check-ups down

BEIJING, 19 May — China's falling pre-marital medical check-up rate has led to an increase in the number of babies born with congenital physical defects, an official report said here Friday. The report said the percentage of new couples taking pre-marital medical check-ups plummeted from 68 percent in 2002 to 3 percent in 2005. "Consequently, the rate of new-borns with congenital defects has risen from 11 per thousand in 2002 to 14 per thousand in 2005," said the report, written by the National Working Committee on Children and Women under the State Council.

Pre-marital health checks used to be compulsory for couples applying for a marriage permit in China, especially in urban areas. But under the new regulations on Marriage Registration adopted in October 2003, the process was made voluntary. Since most of the tests cost money, 97 percent choose not to have them. In 2001, the State Council issued a ten-year plan on children's development (2001-2010), which says that the country hoped to raise pre-marital check-up rates in urban and rural areas to 80 percent and 50 percent respectively in 2010 and significantly lower the congenital defect rate.



Siamese twins sleep on a bed before their separation operation at No 1 Affiliated Hospital of Fujian Medical University in Fuzhou, on 30 Nov, 2006 file photo. — XINHUA

"In the current situation, achieving the targets is rather difficult," said the report in a burst of understatement.

Statistics from the Ministry of Health show that birth defects affect one in ten Chinese households, imposing a total annual financial burden of one billion yuan (125 million US dollars). Nearly 30 million households are raising or have raised babies born with defects. Cleft palate, neural tube defects, excessive numbers of fingers or toes, congenital heart disease and water on the brain are the top five birth defects among Chinese babies. — Internet

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့



One of Japan's artificially bred white storks in Toyooka city, Hyogo prefecture, September 2005. Endangered Oriental white storks have naturally hatched a chick in Japan for the first time in more than four decades, according to a park official on 20, May. — INTERNET

Brazil, India set up work team for space programme

BRASILIA, 19 May — Representatives of Brazil's Space Agency (AEB) and India's Space Department (ISRO) have set up a team to study cooperation in the space sectors of both countries, the AEB announced on Thursday.

The two countries' team space study will be presented in September, in India, at the 58th International Space Congress sponsored by the International Space Federation.

Satellite projects, such as satellite tracking, satellite launching and development projects, are the main areas the two countries will focus on.

Brazil has shown an interest in tele-medicine and tele-education

programmes, interchange of scientists.

India's space activities are mainly focused on satellite programmes linked to food safety, management of natural resources and disaster monitoring.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese publishing house, Yale cooperate to promote Chinese language

BEIJING, 19 May —The China International Publishing Group (CIPG) and US-based Yale University signed here Thursday a memorandum of understanding to compile and publish Chinese teaching materials and promote the Chinese language around the world.

It will be the first ever multimedia Chinese-language instruction programme jointly developed by a foreign university and a Chinese publishing house, according to CIPG. CIPG President Cai Mingzhao said the programme is designed for foreign students in high schools and universities and those who operate businesses in China.

In the coming two

years, the two parties will compile and publish a series of teaching materials including textbooks and digital publications and an interactive online programme will also be developed to meet the needs of different learners.

At present, more than 30 million foreigners are studying Chinese around the world.

MNA/Xinhua

Report: Lohan won't be charged with theft

BEIJING, 19 May — Lindsay Lohan won't be charged with theft because prosecutors can't confirm she walked off with someone's clothes. The district attorney's office declined to file felony grand theft charges on 9 May because of insufficient evidence, spokeswoman Jane Robison said on Thursday.

An e-mail to a representative for Lohan seeking comment was not immediately returned.

A woman claimed that Lohan walked away with a shirt and other clothing after visiting her apartment while she was away for a few days.

The rejection notice said a



American actress and pop music singer Lindsay Lohan. —INTERNET

housesitter had invited Lohan over and told authorities that she had given Lohan some clothing.

However, a plaid shirt that Lohan supposedly was wearing didn't match photos of a shirt that the alleged victim said was missing.

"The bottom line is that Lohan can't be shown to have been seen either taking or to have been later in possession of missing items and items she can be shown to have possessed were with (the housesitter's) permission," Deputy District Attorney Greg Somes wrote in the rejection notice.

Internet

Famous Chinese actress passes away

SHENZHEN, 19 May — Chen Xiaoxu, a famous Chinese actress who converted to Buddhism earlier this year, died of breast cancer in south China's Guangdong Province, confirmed local sources on Thursday.

Chen, 42, passed away at 6:57 p.m. Sunday in Shenzhen, according to an

announcement on the website of the newly founded charity foundation named after her.

Her farewell ceremony will be held on Friday, said the announcement.

Born in the Anshan City of northeast China's Liaoning Province, the comely Chen beat other contestants in 1985 to act

Lin Daiyu, heroine of the novel A Dream of Red Mansions, with a poem she wrote and thus earned her fame. Quite and fond of literature, she has always been recognized as a "real Lin Daiyu" even after she quit the stage in 1991 and established her own advertising company in 1996. — MNA/Xinhua

Olsen twins may be Bond girls

BEIJING, 19 May — It is reported that Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen are set to be the first Bond girl twins.

The report, quoting online gossip columnist Janet Charlton, says that the sisters are considering an offer to take roles in the next 007 adventure, starring the latest Bond, Daniel Craig.

It is understood that producers are offering the 20-year-olds a contract clause ruling that they will not have to strip off or shoot any sex scenes.

The plan is for the Olsens to play characters who help Bond with his mission.

Other beauties rumoured to be in line

for starring roles include Australian star Abbie Cornish, who recently appeared with Russell Crowe in A Good Year.

"ER" actor Goran Visnjic is reported to be playing a villain.

Shooting—of both sorts—is due to start next year.

Internet



It is reported that Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen are set to be the first Bond girl twins.

Vietnam needs more five-star hotels

HANOI, 19 May — Vietnam should have additional 15,000-20,000 four or five-star hotels from now to 2010, local newspaper Vietnam Tourism reported on Friday.

The Vietnam National Administration of Tourism (VNAT) has proposed major cities and tourism

centres nationwide allocate land for luring projects on building luxury hotels and resorts. It is also calling for localities, organizations and enterprises to upgrade their guesthouses or mini-hotels into star-rated hotels.

According to statistics of the VNAT's Hotel Department, Vietnam has

only 90 four or five-star hotels with over 15,000 rooms, accounting for one per cent of the country's total hotel number, and 9 per cent of the total room number. The shortage of star-rated hotels in Vietnam in recent years results in higher room prices.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Valencia keep title hopes alive with late win

MADRID, 20 May — Valencia kept alive their slim hopes of winning the Spanish title when a late strike from midfielder Joaquin earned them a 1-0 win at Real Mallorca on Saturday. The winger swept a well-struck shot low into the corner after Jorge Lopez had prised open the Mallorca defence with a clever back heel a minute from time to break the islanders' seven-match winning streak at Son Moix.

Valencia's fourth victory in a row pushed them up to third place in the table, one point behind leaders Real Madrid and Barcelona and one ahead of Sevilla, all of whom play on Sunday.

Real Zaragoza tightened their grip on fifth place after an extraordinary 4-3 victory at home to struggling Athletic Bilbao whose striker Aritz Aduriz hit a hat-trick but still ended up on the losing side. Struggling Real Betis scrambled a 1-1 draw at home to basement side Gimnastic Tarragona to earn themselves a vital point that helped stave off the threat of relegation.

Betis appeared to be heading for a costly defeat when striker Javier Portillo gave Gimnastic the lead from the penalty spot in the 89th minute, but forward Xisco headed home deep into injury time to level the game.

MNA/Reuters



The English Premier League powerhouse Arsenal has made an offer for young Icelandic footballer Kolbeinn Sigthorsson, said reports reaching here from Reykjavik on Saturday. INTERNET



Beijing veteran Zhang Lin swept his second gold medal in the men's 400 meters freestyle at the Chinese Spring National Swimming Championships in Shunde on 19 May, 2007. — XINHUA

FA Cup final opens to flypast, nostalgic parade

LONDON, 20 May — The FA Cup final returned home to Wembley Stadium on Saturday with a nostalgic opening ceremony, complete with flypast, marching band and royalty to inaugurate the new 90,000-seat stadium.

Dance troupes, balloons and banners greeted Chelsea and Manchester United fans as they arrived at the new stadium topped by a 133-metre arch that has become a familiar sight to Londoners during the five-year building project. Gone are the twin towers of the 1923 ground but fans now have an unobscured view of the pitch and can stay dry in the largest stadium in the world with every seat under cover.

Chelsea were the last team to win

the final at Wembley in 2000. Manchester United won it a record nine times at the old ground. Their fans ensured a colourful and noisy blue and red reception greeted players when they warmed up on the pristine pitch.

School children dressed in the colours of the 42 FA Cup winning teams paraded round the ground. Their procession was followed by an appeal for the safe return of a British child Madeleine McCann abducted in Portugal earlier this month.

Former FA Cup players from 1957 to 2000 then took to the pitch including for Chelsea Ron Harris and Dennis Wise, captains in 1970 and in 1997 and 2000.

MNA/Reuters

Inverness Caley end season with rare away win

GLASGOW, 20 May — Inverness Caledonian Thistle beat St Mirren 1-0 in the Scottish Premier League season on Saturday, a Stuart McCaffrey header sealing their first away league victory this year.

McCaffrey back-headed the ball over keeper Chris Smith at the near post after 74 minutes following an angled ball into the box from the left by Richie Hart.

Thistle's last away league win was in October at Rangers.

Second bottom Saints

ended their SPL campaign with 36 points from 38 games while relegated Dunfermline bowed out of the top flight with a 3-0 defeat at Falkirk. They finished bottom with 32 points from 38 games.

Champions Celtic are at Hibernian on the last day of the season on Sunday and top the SPL standings with 84 points from 37 matches.

MNA/Reuters



BSC Young Boys' (YB) Thomas Haeberli (L) reacts as FC Zurich players celebrate after Santos scored the first goal for their team during their Super League soccer match in Bern on 19 May, 2007. — INTERNET

Levski win second consecutive Bulgarian title

SOFIA, 20 May — Levski Sofia clinched their second consecutive Bulgarian Premier League title with a 5-3 win at city rivals Lokomotiv on Saturday.

The Blues, who became the first Bulgarian team competing in the Champions League's group stages this season, have an unassailable five-point lead over tradi-

tional foes CSKA Sofia and Lokomotiv with one match remaining. "We were the best team throughout the championship and we deserve the title," said delighted Levski coach Stanimir Stoilov. Bulgarian Under-21 international Valeri Domovchivski put Levski ahead in the second minute from close range before Lokomotiv midfielder Marcho Dafchev levelled the score with a free kick after 13 minutes.

Domovchivski restore Levski's lead with a crisp shot from Dimitar Telkiyski's cross in the 15th minute and Frenchman Cedric Bardon made it 3-1 with a header midway through the first half. —MNA/Reuters

VfB Stuttgart lift fifth German League crown

BERLIN, 20 May — VfB Stuttgart won the Bundesliga title on the final day of the season on Saturday when a 2-1 comeback win over Energie Cottbus kept them

two points ahead of runners-up Schalke 04.

Stuttgart were trailing 1-0 to Cottbus after Sergiu Radu deflected a pass to beat Timo Hildebrand in the 19th minute but Tho-

mas Hitzlsperger soon equalized and Sami Khedira scored the winner just past the hour to hand them their first Bundesliga title in 15 years.

Stuttgart won their final eight matches to erase a seven-point deficit, moving up from third to overtake Werder Bremen and Schalke in a stunning finish. It was their fifth championship and third since the Bundesliga was founded in 1963.

The victory unleashed euphoric celebrations in Stuttgart — at the Gottlieb Daimler Stadium and in the centre of the southwestern German city where tens of thousands followed the match at a World Cup-style public viewing area.

MNA/Reuters



Jelena Jankovic of Serbia celebrates after winning her semi-final match against Switzerland's Patty Schnyder at the Italian Open tennis tournament in Rome on 19 May, 2007. —INTERNET

Federer beats Moya to reach Hamburg Masters final

HAMBURG, 20 May — Roger Federer put a poor start behind him to beat Carlos Moya 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 and reach the final of the Hamburg Masters on Saturday.

Federer, needing every bit of match practice he can get on clay before the French Open, seemed determined to go for his shots from the start and he initially paid the price for this high-risk strategy. The world number one hit 20 unforced errors in losing the first set to the unseeded Moya before finding his rhythm and winning out in two hours seven minutes, finishing off with a stinging forehand pass. —MNA/Reuters

Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

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



Joint-Secretary of Board of Trustees U Aung Ko Latt accepts cash donated by wellwishers for all-round renovation of Insein PhaungdawU Standing Buddha in Insein Township on 20 May.

H

Moore's film attacks US health care, wider society

CANNES (France), 20 May— Director Michael Moore says the US health care system is driven by greed in his new documentary "SiCKO", and asks of Americans in general, "Where is our soul?"

He also said he could go to jail for taking a group of volunteers suffering ill health after helping in the 11 September, 2001 rescue efforts on an unauthorized trip to Cuba, where they received exemplary treatment at virtually no cost.

The controversial film maker is back in Cannes, where he won the film festival's highest honour in 2004 with his anti-Bush polemic "Fahrenheit 9/11".

In "SiCKO" he turns his attention to health, asking why 50 million Americans, 9 million of them children, live without cover, while those that are insured are often driven to poverty by spiralling costs or wrongly refused treatment at all.

But the movie, which has taken Cannes by storm, goes further by portraying a country where the government is

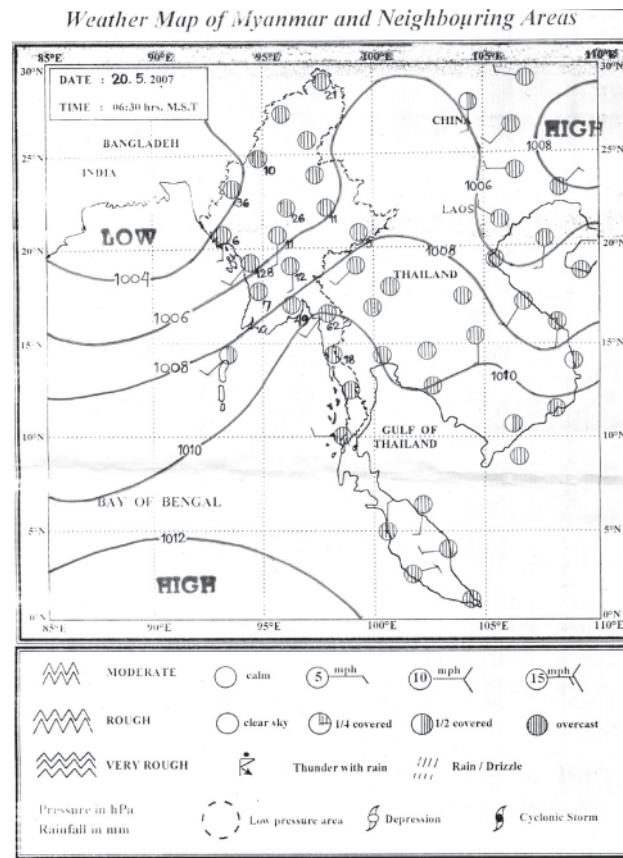
more interested in personal profit and protecting big business than caring for its citizens, many of whom cannot afford health insurance.

"I'm trying to explore bigger ideas and bigger issues, and in this case the bigger issue in this film is who are we as a people?" Moore told reporters after a Press screening.

"Why do we behave the way we behave? What has become of us? Where

"SiCKO" uses humour and tragic personal stories to get the point across, and had a packed audience variously laughing and in tears. There was loud applause at the end of the two-hour documentary, which is out of the main Cannes competition.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Sunday, 20 May, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in Magway and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Mandalay and Bago Divisions, Kayin, Rakhine and Mon States. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below May average temperature in Kachin, Rakhine and Mon States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below May average temperature in Shan State, Bago, upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions and about May average temperature in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyaukpataung (6.42) inches, Kyaukpyu (5.04) inches, Thaton (4.17) inches, Bago (3.27) inches, Hpa-an (3.15) inches, Yangon (Mingaladon) (2.84) inches, Mawlamyine (2.48) inches, Pyinmana (1.38) inches, Meiktila (2.09) inches, Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Yamethin (1.06) inches each.

Maximum temperature on 19-5-2007 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 20-5-2007 was 73°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 20-5-2007 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 19-5-2007 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 20-5-2007 was (2.83) inches at Mingaladon, (1.93) inches at Kaba-Aye, (2.20) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (24.37) inches at Mingaladon, (26.89) inches at Kaba-Aye and (25.51) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (12) mph from Southwest at (16:15) hours MST on 19-5-2007.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the North Bay and monsoon is moderate to strong in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 21-5-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Kayah State and Magway Division, fairly widespread in Shan State and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of thundery conditions in Central Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 21-5-2007: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 21-5-2007: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 21-5-2007: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).



Monday, 21 May

Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: - At your side
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: - Lesson in love
- 8:50 am National news
- 9:00 am Music: - All the small thing
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: - Book of love
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch time music
- I turn to you
- Loverman
- My wonderful sir with love
- 9:00 pm Spotlight on the star
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:35 pm Vocal gems - Lionel Ritchie
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Monday, 21 May
View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌ ဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

5. Song of national races

8:10 am

6. Cute little dancers

8:25 am

7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. Grammer Made Easy

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. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ - တတိယနှစ် (သင်္ချာအထူးပြု) (သင်္ချာ)

5:15 pm

6. Dance variety

5:25 pm

7. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

5:35 pm

8. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

5:45 pm

9. Song and dances of national races

5:50 pm

10. "ပျော်ရွှင်ကျန်းမာ သန့်စင်သောအစာ" (ဆုပန်ထွာ၊ ပွင့်၊ ဝမ်းပုံကြီး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုးထွန်း)

6:00 pm

11. Evening news

6:30 pm

12. Weather report

6:35 pm

13. အလှူရှာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်

7:00 pm

14. မူဟန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်

7:10 pm

15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သစ္စာဘဝပင် ခြားသော်လည်း" (အပိုင်း-၂၀) (ဇာတ်သိမ်းပိုင်း)

8:00 pm

16. News
17. International news
18. Weather report
19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရေသူမလေး ဒုတိယချစ်ပုံပြင်" (အပိုင်း-၁၁)

8:00 pm

20. The next day's programme

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Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects tasks for keeping Yangon clean and pleasant

YANGON, 20 May— Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence inspected tasks for keeping Yangon clean and pleasant and proper flow of water at drains being carried out by Yangon City Development Committee with the use of heavy machinery and fulfilled the needs this morning.

First, Lt-Gen Myint Swe together with Com-

mander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and officials looked into progress in building 6,400 feet long Ngamoeyeik creek embankment with the use of heavy machinery in North Okkalapa Township. Officials concerned briefed Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party on 850 feet long earth work of the embankment and future tasks with the use of charts.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Myint Swe fulfilled the needs and gave necessary instructions.

On arrival at Khatawmi Dhammayon in North Okkalapa Township, Lt-Gen Myint Swe paid homage to the Ovadacariya Sayadaw and members of the Sangha and supplicated on measures for sanitation task and dredging of drains and earth work.

(See page 8)

Baingda Diversion Dam inaugurated in DaikU Township

Baingda Diversion Dam to contribute to cultivation of monsoon paddy against target of 3m acres, summer paddy against 400,000 acres



Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko and Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo visit Baingda Diversion Dam in DaikU Township.— A & I

NAY PYI TAW, 20 May — A ceremony to inaugurate Baingda Diversion Dam built by Construction-1 of Irrigation Department was held in DaikU Township, Bago District, yesterday morning.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko said that Baingda Diversion Dam is the 199th facility of its kind in the entire nation in the time of the State Peace and Development Council, and it is also

the 43rd dam in Bago Division. Among the dams, sluice gates and diversion dams throughout the nation, the government has built 22 per cent of irrigation facilities in Bago Division. Thanks to construction of Baingda Diversion Dam, it is sure to supply water to summer paddy plantation through Baingda canal. As a significant matter, Myanmar women engineers built the diversion dam.

At present, arrangements are being made to supply water to 10,000 acres of summer paddy planta-

tion this year and 10,000 more acres of summer paddy next year. Furthermore, the diversion dam will contribute much toward cultivation of monsoon paddy against the target of 3 million acres and cultivation of summer paddy against 400,000 acres in Bago Division.

In addition to Baingda Diversion Dam, Kawliya and Yenwe diversion dams are under construction with momentum. On completion, these diversion dams will irrigate farmlands to produce triple crops.

(See page 9)

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Out-of-
date
1990
election
results

- * Daw Suu Kyi, a puppet of the neo-colonialists, danced to the tune of the US and its associates, but hers was the ogress dance, not the dance of the female leading dancer.
- * She issued an ultimatum, saying that the government would have to choose either of the two ways—utter devastation or dialogue.
- * Daw Suu Kyi made an around-the-nation trip as the confrontation movement. The Dabayin affairs led to restrictions on her again.
- * Daw Suu Kyi's unilateral decisions created disunity among the party members. And there was a conflict between party leaders and followers.