

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

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Azerbaijan

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May— Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Heydar A Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Azerbaijan which falls on 28th May 2007. — MNA

Gangaw District sets the plan to grow 104,690 acres of monsoon paddy in 2007-08. The district has so far put 3,210.25 acres of land under physic nut in 2007 and 9,042 plants of other perennial crops have been grown.

Government making arrangements for equitable advancement of agriculture, economic, social and education sectors to contribute to development of Gangaw region

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects development of Gangaw, construction of Gangaw-Haka Road, tea business in Chin State

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Sagaing Division PDC Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Chairman of Chin State

PDC Brig-Gen Hon Ngai, Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe, Vice-Chairman of Chin State PDC Lt-Col Zaw Min Oo and officials, met servicemen and family members of the local battalion in Gangaw on 24 May.

They inspected thriving physic nut plantation of the local station and the physic nut nursery. They also attended the ceremony to grow physic nut in Gangaw.

(See page 8)



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence inspects upgrading of Gangaw-Haka Road.— MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 28 May, 2007

Nurturing innovative and thoughtful students

All the basic education schools nationwide will reopen and teaching and learning activities for 2007-2008 academic year will start on 1 June.

Students, the major strength for the future of the State, are to be nurtured to possess the Union Spirit and they are to be produced as human resources equipped with patriotism so that new generation youths with high education standard will emerge.

In the basic education sector there are 40,548 schools and over 250,000 teachers are teaching 7.83 million students.

The government provides schools with furniture, modern teaching aids and other facilities for turning out qualified new generation youths.

The teachers are to train students to become brilliant ones who can shape the future of a modern developed nation. Students on their part, need to work hard to be those who will be able to shoulder the State duties.

Today is Knowledge Age. Teachers and responsible educators will have to make arrangements for the students to learn their responsibilities and rights as citizens and become innovative and thoughtful human resources.



Education family of Kamayut Township Education Office donated K 122,500 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Joint-Treasurer U Maung Maung Gyi of the home recently.—H

People's Desire

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

Electric Power No 2 Minister inspects Load Dispatch Centre

YANGON, 26 May — Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Chairman of Yangon City Electric Power Supply Board Col Khin Maung Soe inspected Load Dispatch Centre in the office of YCEPSB on 24 May.

Chief Engineer U Tin Maung Tun explained work being done at the centre to the minister.

The minister stressed the need for measures to be taken to supply electric power through computer net work control and maintenance of power lines and machinery. He called for efforts to be made for the enterprise and ministry. And he later inspected the building of the centre.



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspects Hlinethaya sub-power station in Hlinethaya.—MNA

The minister and party went to concrete lamp post factory in Hlinethaya Township. Factory manager U Min Thaw explained the work of the factory. The minister

instructed the officials to produce more quality products.

On arrival at 33/11 KV main power station -2, the minister urged the officials to make ar-

rangements to protect the machinery and panel box against flooding. Chief Engineer U Aung Khine reported on arrangements being made to the minister.—MNA

Map of Mandalay (05-2007) distributed

YANGON, 25 May — With the aim of promoting tourism services of Myanmar, the Map of Mandalay (05-2007) will be distributed gratis to tourism-related enterprises. It embraces the map of Myanmar, statements about tourist magnet in Mandalay and its environs, emergency phone numbers, maps of Sagaing and Pyin Oo Lwin, lists of hotels, restaurants, Myanmar traditional handicraft shops. Facts in the map are stated in English and Myanmar languages.

The maps published by Design Printing Services (DPS) have been distributed not only in Myanmar but foreign countries. In addition, They are being sent to tourism services, Myanmar Embassies all over the world and embassies in Yangon through courier services. The map will be available at Yangon and Mandalay International Airports. Hotels, travel&tour operators, embassies in Myanmar, airlines, restaurants and souvenir-shop may contact Design Printing Services Co Ltd (DPS) No (165-167), 35th Street, First Floor, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Phone- 01- 204020, 204200, Fax-01-245230 and log on to e-mail-dps @ myanmar.com.mm as from 15 June.—MNA

K 58.1 million contributed to development tasks of Htantabin Tsp

YANGON, 25 May — CEC member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials inspected development of Htantabin Township in Yangon North District this morning.

He met with local farmers, members of USDA and townsenders at Township USDA's office and rendered cash assistance to undertake development tasks in the township.

The vice-mayor presented K 58.1 million to Secretary U Than Myint of Township USDA. Secretary U Aye Myint of Yangon Division USDA contributed K 100,000 to People's Hospital. The secretary accepts 324 USDA membership applications from residents of the township.

In the People's Hospital, the vice-mayor and party inspected medical store, surgery room, laboratory and cold chain room.

MNA

Bago Division (West) WAO holds educative talks

YANGON, 26 May — Bago Division (West) Women's Affairs Organization holds educative talks on women's affairs and membership applications presentation ceremony at the hall of nursing and midwifery training school in Pyay on 24 May.

Patron of Bago Division (West) WAO Daw Thein Paing delivered an address on the occasion. Chairperson Daw Myint Myint Ohn gave talks on women's affairs, Staff Officer Daw Khin Khin Pyone of Bago Division (West) Social Welfare Department,

on preventive measures against trafficking in persons and Pyay District Law officer Daw Khin Lay Nyo, on prevention of violence against women.

Next, the Patron accepted 160 membership applications presented by Principal Daw Khin Moh Moh Oo. Similar ceremony also was held at the hall of University of Computer Studies (Pyay) on the same day. The principal of the university presented 204 membership applications to the patron of Bago Division (West) WAO. —MNA

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Cyprus, India agree to enhance friendship, cooperation

NICOSIA, 26 May — Visiting Indian Foreign Minister Pranab Mukherjee agreed with his Cypriot counterpart on Friday to enhance the friendship and cooperation between the two countries. Pranab Mukherjee signed an agreement with Cypriot Foreign Minister Yiorgos Lillikas on combating international terrorism, organized crime and illicit drug trafficking.

“We jointly send the message that terrorism is not only condemnable but constitutes threat for peace and stability for the entire world and there must be zero tolerance on this issue,” the *Cyprus News Agency* quoted Lillikas as saying.

They also agreed to further cooperation in cultural field.

Moreover, the two countries reached a deal to abolish visa requirement for holders of diplomatic and official/service passports. Mukherjee, on his part, said they had a very productive and useful exchange of views.

He added that Cyprus

has always been supportive of India’s interests, including its quest for permanent membership of the Security Council of the UN, its desire to expand its civil nuclear energy programme and its fight against international terrorism.

MNA/Xinhua

Militants accuse US of sending nerve gas to Lebanon

SYDNEY, 27 May — Islamist militants have accused the US of sending nerve gas to the Lebanese army, which is struggling to defeat a group of rebels holed up inside a Palestinian refugee camp.

US transport planes continued to fly more

ammunition and military supplies to Lebanon on Saturday (local time) as new clashes erupted in the Nahr al-Bared camp.

The militant Fatah al-Islam group, which has vowed to fight to the death, said in a statement the US supplies included nerve gas and cluster

bombs.

“If they use unconventional weapons against us, we will respond with unconventional attacks everywhere,” said the statement, read by the group’s spokesman Abu Salim Taha.

A Lebanese military spokesman said he had no reaction to “these false allegations which are not worth commenting on”.

Internet

A US Marine patrols in the southern part of Fallujah, on 25 May 2007. US President George W Bush scored a key victory against Democrats in Congress over funding US troops in Iraq, but with no end in sight, the four-year-old war continues to encumber his administration.

INTERNET

Nan Zhengzhong (C), Editor-in-Chief of China’s Xinhua News agency, attends a Russian-Chinese media seminar in Moscow, on 25 May, 2007. —XINHUA



One killed, 2 injured in attacks in southern Thailand

BANGKOK, 27 May — Two paramilitary troopers were injured and a Muslim man killed in two separate attacks in Thailand’s southern border province of Yala Saturday morning, according to local newspaper the *Nation’s* website.

The two paramilitary troopers were injured when they and four others were patrolling a village road on foot in Yaha District at 6:20 am (2320 GMT).

The insurgents opened fire at the paratroopers and the two sides exchanged gunfire for about five minutes during which the two troopers were injured.

Muhamad Bahakiri, 30, was shot dead in Krong Penang District late Friday night while he was riding his motorcycle.

Yala and its neighbouring provinces of Narathiwat and Pattani have been hit by insurgents on an almost daily basis and nearly 2,200 persons have died in over three years of violence.

MNA/Xinhua



US military toll for May tops 100

WASHINGTON, 26 May — The US military on Saturday reported the deaths of eight more troops in Iraq, and fighters believed to be with Shiite cleric Muqtada Sadr’s Al

Mahdi militia pounded British bases in the southern port city of Basra.

Included in the latest US military deaths were three soldiers killed Saturday in a car bomb

attack in Salahuddin Province in the north; one killed south of Baghdad; one soldier who died in an ambush Friday in Taji, north of Baghdad and two more who were killed Wednesday in bombing east of Baghdad. A Marine was killed Saturday in Al Anbar Province. The deaths raised US military fatalities to 3,452 since the start of the war in 2003, according to the website icasualties.org, which tracks military casualties.

The deaths raised the number of US fatalities to 101 this month, making it the seventh time the death toll has surpassed 100 since the US-led invasion in March 2003.

Internet

Swiss high-hurry artist David Dimitri performs during a street artists competition in Ascona, southern Switzerland on 26 May, 2007.

INTERNET





Two high-speed trains — German one (C) and French one (R) arrive side-by-side into Paris' Gare de l'Est on 25 May, 2007. — XINHUA

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US and British forces clash with Mahdi Army

BAGHDAD, 26 May — US and British forces on Saturday clashed with Moqtada al-Sadr's supporters in Baghdad and Basra, even as Iraq's politicians cautiously welcomed the radical Shiite cleric's return to the political scene.

US-led forces seized a suspected militant with

ties to Iran and killed five others in an early morning raid in the cleric's Mahdi Army stronghold of Sadr City, the US military said.

The man detained had been "acting as a proxy for an Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps officer," and smuggling armour-piercing bombs

to local militias, it charged in a statement.

It added that five people were killed in an air strike on nine vehicles that had moved into the area following the arrest in an apparent attempt to ambush the troops taking part in the raid.

An Iraqi security official, however, said the cars hit in the air strike had been waiting in front of a petrol station, a common scene in a city where lines often stretch for several blocks, and that several houses were destroyed.

Meanwhile, in Basra, a coalition jet strafed militia positions killing several Mahdi Army gunmen who had bombarded a British base in retaliation for the death of one of their commanders on Friday.

Internet

Tanzania bans foreign tour guides in country

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 26 May — The government of Tanzania has banned the use of foreign tour guides in the country so as to promote employment of local people.

English newspaper *The Citizen* on Friday quoted Abdi Ijimbo, public relations officer of the immigration department under the Tanzanian Ministry for Home Affairs, as saying that tour operators from other countries are supposed to change tour guides once in Tanzania.

"Once they (foreign tour operators) reach Tanzanian boundaries they are supposed to change the tour guides because only Tanzanians are supposed to guide the tourists in the country," said the officer.

The immigration department has issued a directive concerning the tour guidance matter after the public had complained that people from other countries had come for tour guidance only to leave local Tanzanians unemployed. The directive stipulated that tour agencies are not allowed to use tour guides who are not Tanzanians unless they have asked for special permission from concerned authorities.

The immigration department issued the directive in accordance with the country's immigration, investment and employment laws. — MNA/Xinhua



The motorcade of the "China-Russia Friendship Tour—China Tour" departs from Tiananmen Square in central Beijing on 25 May, 2007 morning.

INTERNET

Israel renews air strikes across Gaza

TEL AVIV, 27 May—Israeli air strikes killed five Hamas members in Gaza on Saturday, shortly after fighters floated the idea of halting rocket fire on Israeli border towns if Israel ended its 10-day-old air campaign.

Following the attacks, Hamas said a truce was currently no longer on the table.

In all, Israeli aircraft launched 11 missile strikes on Saturday. Before dawn, they struck near the house of Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh of Hamas in a Gaza refugee camp, while troops in the West Bank arrested a Hamas Cabinet minister. Israel's offensive is aimed at halting Hamas rocket fire from Gaza at Israeli border towns.

Since last week, dozens of missile strikes have killed 48 Palestinians and

damaged many Hamas installations. Israel said some 225 rockets have landed in Israeli towns since 15 May, killing one woman and sending thousands of Israeli

residents fleeing. Two rockets landed in Israel on Saturday, including a direct hit on a home in Sderot. No one was injured.

Internet

US helicopter crashes in Jordan

AMMAN, 27 May — A US helicopter crashed during a routine training mission in Jordan, injuring two pilots on board, the US military announced Saturday.

The crash occurred Friday night in an uninhabited area south of Al Qatranah, some 80 km south of the capital Amman, the US military said in a statement.

The injured pilots, who had been flying an AH-1W Super Cobra helicopter, were treated at the scene and then flown to Amman for further tests, said the statement, adding they were in stable

condition, with one expected to be released soon and the other transferred to a US medical facility.

The helicopter was participating in exercise Infinite Moonlight, an

annual exercise between US and Jordanian forces, according to the statement. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

Internet



This file photo shows an AH-1W Super Cobra helicopter. —INTERNET

Thailand: Four bombings in Hat Yai

BANGKOK, 27 May — Four explosions in the southern Thai city of Hat Yai left at least seven dead on 27 May. The deaths occurred at the site of the first explosion, outside the Thongsia Siang Tueng Foundation, which occurred at around 9 pm local time.

Three other explosions followed in close succession, at the Big C Department Store and at a bar, both on Burapha Withi Road, and at the Lotus Superstore and Lee Garden Hotel.

Internet

ECONOMIC NEWS

OECD says world economic growth to slow down

PARIS, 27 May — The world economy will not expand at the rate of 2006, but will continue to clear up in 2007 and 2008, owing to dynamism in Europe and Asia, according to the biannual report published Thursday by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

For OECD countries, their gross domestic product (GDP) will grow at 2.7 per cent in 2007, compared with 3.2 per cent last year.

This forecast represents an upward revision

compared with the organization's estimate of 2.5 per cent at the end of November 2006.

The organization is expecting the GDP of the United States to grow by 2.1 per cent this year and 2.5 per cent in 2008, much less compared with 3.3 per cent in 2006 and OECD's forecasts at the end of November 2006. On the other hand, Japan is expected to record significant growth in 2007, with 2.4 per cent against 2.2 per cent in 2006.

According to the OECD, emerging markets

will continue play the principal role of spurring economic growth in the world, with growth of more than 10 per cent in China and more than 9 per cent in India in 2006 as well as rapid GDP growth rate in Asia generally. With more than 7 per cent, economic growth in Russia and also Brazil will continue to accelerate.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia reportedly sell 350 tanks to India

MOSCOW, 27 May — Russia will sell about 350 tanks to India according to a contract to be signed later this year, Russian news agencies reported on Saturday.

"India intends to buy in Russia new tanks T-90 in order to equip the division. This is about 350 tanks," Vladislav Polonsky, chief of the main tank forces management department of the Russian Defence Ministry, was quoted by *ITAR-TASS* news agency as saying.

The contract is expected to be signed in autumn, *ITAR-TASS* and the *RIA Novosti* news agencies said.

India has become a major importer of Russian military equipment. It has bought 310 Russian T-90S tanks, *RIA* said. — MNA/Xinhua



A foreign tourist learns to make Zongzi during the "Zongzi Culture Festival" held in Huzhou of East China's Zhejiang Province on 26 May, 2007. Zongzi, or rice dumplings is a traditional Chinese snack eaten on China's Dragon Boat Festival. —XINHUA

Vietnam's coal exports up in first five months

HANOI, 26 May — Vietnam is estimated to ship abroad nearly 14 million tons of coal worth 410 million US dollars in the first five months of this year, a year-on-year

A model presents a creation by Geraldina Sposa during a fashion show in Tirana, Albania on 25 May, 2007. —XINHUA

increase of 22 per cent and 17 per cent respectively, according to a local trade agency on Friday.

Vietnam has planned to ship abroad some 20 million tons of coal of different kinds this year, said the Trade Information Centre under the Trade Ministry.

Coal items either with high export value and limited domestic demand

or with abundant sources will be exported mainly to China, Japan, South Korea and Europe in 2007.

Recently, the Vietnamese Ministry of Planning and Investment has asked the government to reduce coal exports in the 2006-2010 period to ensure supplies for local energy-thirsty industries.

Last year, Vietnam

exported roughly 29.8 million tons of coal valued at 927 million dollars to over 20 countries and regions, including China, Japan, South Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, India, Brazil and the European Union, up 65.6 per cent and 38.5 per cent respectively, according to the General Statistics Office.

MNA/Xinhua



A participant lights candles during global AIDS week of action in Chandigarh, India on 25 May, 2007. —XINHUA

Malaysia launches grand tourism showcase

KUALA LUMPUR, 27 May — Malaysia launched its grand annual tourism showcase called "Colours of Malaysia 2007" on Saturday as tens of thousands of people gathered at the country's administrative centre Putrajaya.

Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Malaysia's success proves that a multi-cultural and multi-religious nation can flourish as the people from the various races provide the diverse capability and dexterity for the country's good and development.

The Malaysian leader also urged the people in the country to support the government's strategies to attract tourists as he officially launched the

festival celebration, which will showcase Malaysia's kaleidoscope of arts, culture and traditions until 10 June.

This year's Colours of Malaysia themed "Millions of Colours, Millions of Smiles" kicked off with a five-part performance, including fashion shows, leaders' speeches, cultural dances, and fireworks display.

Malaysia will hold some other events coinciding with Colours of Malaysia, including a programme called "Flavours of Malaysia" which is designed to show the best cuisine of the country at hotels, restaurants and shopping malls in Kuala Lumpur and its nearby areas.

MNA/Xinhua



Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez attends the inauguration of the Metropolitan Stadium in Merida on 25 May, 2007. This stadium will be a venue of the Copa America, which will kick-off in Venezuela next 26 June.—INTERNET

World book fair kicks off in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 26 May — The 22nd Singapore World Book Fair kicked off here Friday, featuring over 100,000 books and book launches, meet-the-author sessions, educational talks and industry seminars.

The 10-day event attracted about 250 exhibiting companies from 11 countries and regions from across Asia, such as Singapore, Malaysia and China.

Popular authors, including Mao Jian from Shanghai, China and Liu Yung from Taiwan, will share with Singaporeans their wit and wisdom, as well as autograph their new books, according to the organizers.

In conjunction with the book fair, a Chinese publishers conference will be held and representatives from China's General Admin-

istration of Press and Publication, China's publishing trade and Google Book Search, as well as Taiwanese e-bookstore, will discuss "The traditional publishing industry in a digital age".

The book fair will also feature an exhibition on the existing and extinct writing systems of the 56 Chinese ethnic minorities.

MNA/Xinhua

Ang Lee's "Lust, Caution" to open Venice Film Festival

BEIJING, 26 May — Director Ang Lee's latest hit "Lust, Caution" has been confirmed to open this year's Venice Film Festival, domestic portal Sina.com reported.

The film, which started shooting in last year, is based on a short story by Chinese writer Eileen Chang. The work is

now undergoing final editing in New York.

Ang Lee's English-language work "Brokeback Mountain" won the Golden Lion at the 62nd Venice Film Festival on Tuesday, another Chinese director, Zhang Yimou, has been invited to chair the jury of the festival.

The 64th Venice Film Festival will kick off on 29 August. This year is the 75th birthday of the festival.—Internet

Director Ang Lee (R2) and cast members of the film, including Tony Leung (R1), Lee-hom Wong (L1) and Tang Wei (L2).—INTERNET



Bird flu hits two more Vietnamese localities

HANOI, 26 May — Bird flu has stricken Hai Phong City and Bac Giang Province in Vietnam's northern region over the past few days, raising the total number of affected localities nationwide to eight, according to a local veterinary agency on Friday.

The disease has killed 320 out of 500 ducks in a farm in Hai Phong's Kien Thuy District, and infected over 970 fowls in Bac Giang's Yen Dung District since 21 May, according to the Department of Animal Health under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The affected fowls have been tested positive to bird flu virus strain H5N1, said the department.

Local veterinary agencies have culled all fowls in affected flocks, disinfected affected areas, and established quarantine checkpoints around the areas. Bird flu has hit eight Vietnamese cities and

provinces, namely Quang Ninh, Son La, Nam Dinh, Hai Phong and Bac Giang in the northern region, Nghe An in the central region, and Can Tho and Dong Thap in the southern one, since early this month.

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.

MNA/Xinhua

Israel PM vows more Gaza action

JERUSALEM, 27 May — Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert says a crackdown against Hamas will continue, after an Israeli man was killed by a rocket fired from Gaza.

"No-one involved in terror has immunity," Mr Olmert told his Cabinet.

The Israeli man died after shrapnel hit him in the neck in the town of Sderot. Hamas militants said they had carried out the rocket attack.

About 40 people have been killed in Gaza in 12 days of Israeli air strikes designed to stop the rocketing.

Mr Olmert hinted that any Israeli action would be open-ended.

"We are not acting according to any timetable that is dictated externally. We will decide where, how and to what extent we act," he said.—Internet

Eight more US soldiers killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 26 May — Eight more US soldiers have been killed in five previously unreported attacks in different areas of Iraq over the past four days, the US military said on Saturday.

May is on track to be the bloodiest month this year for US forces, with 101 soldiers killed so far. April was the worst month so far this year for US forces, when 104 soldiers were killed.

A total of 3,452 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion to topple Saddam Hussein in 2003. In the worst of the latest attacks, three soldiers were killed and another two were wounded when their patrol was hit by an explosion in Salahaddin Province north of Baghdad on Saturday.

Another two soldiers were killed and three were wounded by a roadside bomb east of Baghdad, the military said.

In other attacks, one soldier was killed and two were wounded by a roadside bomb in southern Baghdad on Saturday. Another soldier was killed and three more were wounded in Taji, 20 km (12 miles) north of Baghdad, on Friday, the military said.

A US Marine was also killed in western Anbar province on Saturday.

Internet



Walters pass by "Still Life with Jug and Icon" by Russian painter Mikhail Larionov exhibited before a Sotheby's auction in the Russian History Museum in Moscow, on 23 May 2007. The international auction house Sotheby's opened an office in Moscow on 23 May 2007 in response to rapidly growing interest among Russian buyers in the international art market.—INTERNET

Pa-nga salt farm in Thanbyuzayat Township, Mon State

*Article: Nu Nu Yee and Tin Tin Win
Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)*

Pa-nga salt farm is astride the Mawlamyine- Ye railroad between Pa-nga and Karokpi cause climate changes, the trial production of salt by baking sea water with the use of heat through the process salt in the past, to have access to quality sun-baked salt, providing adequate amount of

measure the salt concentration of the sea water in a saltern.

Various kinds of salts can be produced from sea water.

In Thanbyuzayat Township, Pa-nga, Karokpi and Kyaikkhami village-tracts produce sun-baked salt on a commercial scale.

In the sun-baked salt production process, land



Manager U Kyi Win explains salt production process.



Workers placing coarse salt into the wooden vessel.

villages in Thanbyuzayat Township, Mon State.

In Myanmar in olden days, salt was produced by boiling sea water, and

sunshine was launched in 1964-65 in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State, and the test showed success.

quality salt to be used as a raw material to the industries, and producing iodized salt by adding iodine to quality sun-baked salt so as to prevent and control outbreak of the diseases resulting from iodine deficiency to people and animals due to decreasing content of iodine in the soil.

The salt farm produces common salt, coarse magnesium sulphate and magnesium chloride, mostly sun-baked coarse salt.

In the process of producing salt, the major material is sea water.

Sea water is pumped to the land to produce it.

In the process, a thermometer is used to



A worker levelling the ground with the use of a roller.

process calls for sunny weather.

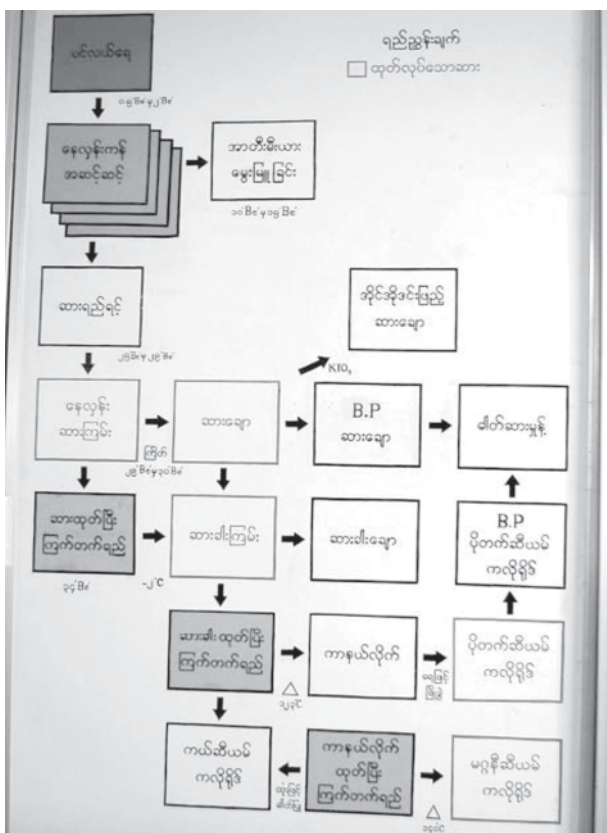
So, there needs many steps to get a single particle of salt. At the work site, workers have to do many processes under the hot sun such as carrying coarse salt and levelling the ground with the use of rollers.

Salt is an essential

ONE VILLAGE, ONE PRODUCT

so a lot of firewood had to be used in the process. In order to avert deforestation that can

The salt farm was put into commission with the aim of enabling the people, who consumed boiling-



Salterns in Thanbyuzayat Township.



Workers heaping sun-baked coarse salt.

preparations can be made and the salt concentration in the sea water will be increased only if the sun

shines brightly and successively for a long time.

Therefore the natural

item for human beings and animals to consume.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin: 26-5-2007





Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence visits tea booth of Chin State in Haka Township.— MNA

Government making arrangements for equitable...

(from page 1)

At Gangaw Township Hospital (50-bed), Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the patient wards and presented cash assistance to patients. Next, they inspected the site chosen for construction of the 100-bed hospital and attended to the needs.

While in Gangaw, they viewed sales of goods at Win Thuza Shop of the Ministry of Industry-1. At Myittha Hall of Gangaw, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met departmental personnel, social organization members and local people. First, local authorities and departmental officials reported on progress of Gangaw District and Gangaw, Saw and Kyauktu townships.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said that Gangaw Township is located in the main point on the network of roads linking western part of Ayeyawady River and Chin State, and progress can be witnessed in the region. Although it was difficult in the transport sector of the region in the past, at present local people enjoy fruits of better

transportation. The government is making arrangements for equitable advancement of agriculture, economic, social and education sectors to contribute to development of the region. Efforts are to be made for growing of rubber, avocado, mango and jack fruit trees in addition to paddy and other seasonal crops to ensure local food sufficiency, while cultivation of physic nut is to be extended. Local authorities and the people are urged to join hands for undertaking regional development tasks.

Gangaw District sets the plan to grow 104,690 acres of monsoon paddy in 2007-08. The district has so far put 3,210.25 acres of land under physic nut in 2007 and 9,042 plants of other perennial crops have been grown.

They left Gangaw. They viewed Myittha River Bridge (Saidu) and gave instructions on taking care of the bridge for its durability.

At the camp of Haka Timber Extraction Region, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard reports on extraction tasks of timber in the

region by officials.

Next, they inspected expansion task of the road at the junction of Gangaw-Kalay-Haka Road. At mile post 126/7 in Haka Township, they viewed progress of road construction tasks. They also looked into construction of the road section between mile posts 66 and 67 on Haka-Gangaw Road.

At mile post 65 near Bonzon Village, Lt-Gen Ye Myint cordially met with local people. At the briefing hall of Haka-Gangaw Road, Chin State Superintending Engineer U Ngung Hsan Aung of Public Works reported on construction of the tarred road section and the gravel section. Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on timely completion of the tasks meeting set standards. Haka-Gangaw Road is 77 miles and two furlongs long.

Director U Myint Thein of Agricultural Mechanization Department reported on progress in reclamation of highland farmland. Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected the highland farmlands and gave necessary instructions.

They viewed construction of the road and thriving various crops of Lonkywe Village.

During inspection tour, they inspected construction tasks at Lanthok and Zokhwa villages.

At the entrance to Haka, Lt-Gen Ye Myint viewed development of Haka and environmental conservation.

In Haka, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected tea plantation of Kyawbok Farm of Myanma Agriculture Service and production process of tea at the Aukchin Maunghan Tea Factory.

At Chin State Tea Showroom in Haka, they viewed charts on cultivation of tea in Chin State, districts and townships.

At the City Hall in Haka, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met departmental personnel, social organization members and local people and discussed regional development tasks.

Local authorities submitted reports on progress of their respective regions. Chairman of Chin State PDC Brig-Gen Hon Ngai and Vice-Chairman Lt-Col Zaw Min Oo briefed Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party on progress of regional development tasks. The commander

gave a supplementary report on growing of Shweyinaye paddy strain for local food sufficiency, extended cultivation of tea, arrangements for growing of physic nut to meet the target, extension of highland farmlands, breeding mythuns and arrangements for secure and smooth transport.

After attending to the needs, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said that local authorities, departmental personnel and local people are to join hands in undertaking tasks. Efforts are to be made for growing

Wah Wah, Patron of Chin State WAO Daw Swam Rek, Chin State USDA Executive U Thang Kyon, Chin State WVO Chairman U Thaung Khalai Lyan and representatives of Red Cross and Fire Brigades. He then gave gifts to Chin national race leader U Htan Mann and departmental officials.

At the hall of the local battalion, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party met local authorities and Agricultural Coordination Committee members. Lt-Gen Ye Myint instructed them to extend cultivation of summer and

Efforts are to be made for growing of rubber, avocado, mango and jack fruit trees in addition to paddy and other seasonal crops to ensure local food sufficiency, while cultivation of physic nut is to be extended.

500,000 acres of physic nut and 100,000 acres of tea.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint presented cash assistance to Chin State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Chairperson Daw

monsoon paddy, perennial crops, physic nut and tea for local food sufficiency, and explained opportunities for extension of tea production business for the local people.

MNA

Measures taken by Myanma Timber Enterprise for 2006-2007 reviewed

YANGON, 27 May — A review on measures taken by Myanma Timber Enterprise for 2006-2007 financial year and a ceremony to assign duties of 2007-2008 financial year to officials concerned were held at International Business Centre on Pyay Road here yesterday.

Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung made a speech. He then presented prizes for the best performance to officials of three timber extraction camps and marketing (External) and three sections of the MTE.

General Manager U Win Lwin of Timber Ex-

traction Section spoke words of thanks.—MNA



Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung presents prize to an outstanding person.

FOREST

Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport meets

YANGON, 27 May— Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport held its work coordination meeting at the Yangon Command on 25 May.

Chairman of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win delivered an address.

The commander called for driving within the speed limit, enforcement of traffic rules,



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win delivers an address at Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport meeting.—MNA

action to ensure hawkers-free pavements and taking action against traffic rule violators.

Afterwards, the committee members, the departmental officials and chairmen of

the private bus lines briefed the commander on arrangements for

convenience of the commuters. The meeting ended with the con-

cluding remarks of the commander.

MNA

CNG Filling Station (026) opens



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi open CNG filling station (026) in Htantabin.— ENERGY

YANGON, 27 May — Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise of the Ministry of Energy opened CNG Filling Station (026) at the corner of Anawrahta Road and the entrance road to Yogyi Village in Htantabin Township, Yangon Division, this afternoon. Present on the occasion were Chairman of

Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Yangon Chairman Command Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, departmental heads and staff, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and social organizations.

First, MOGE

General Manager U Thein Htay gave an account of the CNG filling station. The minister formally opened the station and the commander formally unveiled the signboard of the station.

Next, the commander, the minister and party inspected the gas station and greeted those present.— MNA

Functions of inspection teams supervised

YANGON, 27 May — Members of Dry Day Supervisory Committee together

with departmental officials supervised the functions of dry day inspection teams at the

main points of downtown Yangon this morning and afternoon.

MNA

Yangon Division retains shield in 12th Inter-State/Division Women's Soccer Tournament

YANGON, 27 May — A ceremony to honour Yangon Division Women's soccer squad defending title three times for the 12th Inter-State/Division Women's Soccer Tournament for 2007 was held at Yangon Railways Station this afternoon, attended by Patron of Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization Daw Mar Mar Wai.

First, Patron Daw Mar Mar Wai and

party and members of social organizations accorded rousing welcome to Yangon Division women's soccer team on arrival at Yangon Railways Station back from Mandalay. The victorious team went around Yangon City by car to celebrate their victory.

The victorious team bestowed the championship shield and duplicated shield to Patron Daw Mar Mar Wai. Next, Patron Daw Mar Mar Wai

presented K 1.5 million awarded by the Yangon Division WAO, Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council U Hla Soe, K 1 million by Yangon Division PDC and U Khin Maung Latt (Aungtagun Transport), K 500,000 to the victorious team.

The victorious team lifted the shield without conceding goals in all matches throughout the tournament.

MNA



Patron of Yangon Division WAO Daw Mar Mar Wai welcomes victorious Yangon Division Women's football team.— MNA

Nay Pyi Taw Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport meets

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May— Nay Pyi Taw Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport held its meeting 15/2007 at the meeting hall of Nay Pyi Taw Command on 25 May, attended by Patron of Nay Pyi Taw Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Chairman of the committee Lt-Col Nyo

Saw , Commander of Wireless and Traffic Police Lt-Col Aung Naing, members of Pyinmana District and Townships committees, departmental officials and responsible persons of respective bus lines.

The commander said that bypass will temporarily be closed to the traffic while the road is being constructed as four-lane one. Arrangements are being made for the convenience of the drivers.

Next, the chairman reported on arrangements for vehicles to run on Yangon-Mandalay Road, traffic rules enforcement and reduction of traffic accident and Police Lt-Col Aung Naing on educative talks on traffic rules.

After hearing reports presented by subcommittee members and departmental officials, the commander gave concluding remarks and the meeting came to an end. — MNA

Progress of roads and bridges in Magway Division under supervision

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun arrived at Gwaygyo Camp on Pyinmana-Taungnyo-Taungdingyi Road, Magway Division, on 25 May.

The minister heard a report on upgrading of the road section of Pyinmana-Taungnyo-Taungdingyi Road presented by

engineers of Road Construction Special Group-5. The minister gave instructions on the plan to be made for making preparations on construction tasks in the rainy season, and he fulfilled the requirements of the task.

At Daungny Creek Bridge Construction Project site on Yangon-

Pyay-Mandalay Road, the minister heard reports on feasible study on the proposed bridge and presented by Senior Engineer in-charge U Kyaw Lin of the project. Superintending Engineer U Sein Maung gave a supplementary report.

Next, the minister attended to the needs.

MNA

School enrollment day marked, stationery and school uniforms presented

YANGON, 27 May — Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisor Committee marked school enrollment day and presented stationery and school uniforms to faculty members at No 1 Basic Education High School in South Okkalapa Township yesterday.

First, Chairperson of Yangon Division

MCWSC Daw Mar Mar Wai made an opening speech and accepted school bags, exercise books donated by No 3 Basic Education Department, K 900,000 by entrepreneurs from various wards, K 700,000 by industrialists from South Okkalapa Township and K 200,000 by Myanmar-Muslim Association.

Next, Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai

presented stationery and school uniforms to students of school-going age.

After giving an account of holding the ceremony, South Okkalapa Township Education Officer Daw Yi Yi Sein spoke words of thanks. Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai and party viewed school enrollment activities round the school.

MNA

Religious Affairs Minister accepts cash and kind for missionary



Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung accepts cash donated by wellwishers.— MNA

YANGON, 27 May — Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung attended the ceremony to present cash and kind for missionary of Department for Promotion and Propagation of Sasana held at the ministry this afternoon.

The ceremony was also attended by member of the State

Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Maha Suddhama Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Suriyadhaja and members of the Sangha, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Pro-Rector Dr Myint Kyi of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University, officials of the ministry and wellwishers.

The minister

accepted K 500,000 and 100 robes donated by wellwishers Thiha Dhamma Mani Jotadhara U Ba Khant -Daw Khin Shwe and family of Shwe Construction Materials Trading and presented certificates of honour to them.

The Sayadaw delivered a sermon and the congregation shared the merits gained.— MNA

PBANRDA Minister performs...

(from page 16) yesterday.

The gavel roads were constructed by Township Development Affairs Committees with the contribution of cash assistance of Development Affairs Department.

Next, the CEC member met with local people at the hall of Hsikhwa village Basic

Education Middle School (branch) in Yay Kyi Township and gave speech.

Later, the CEC member also attended the opening ceremony of Mingalar road built by Kyonpyaw Township DAC.

The minister proceeded to Hinthada and met with the secretary of Ayeyawady Division

USDA and executives, secretaries, executives and members of district and township USDAs at the office of Hinthada District USDA and gave necessary instructions. After hearing reports presented by service personnel of Hinthada Township DAC at the office of the committee, the minister attended to the needs.

MNA

Vice-Mayor inspects tax free markets

YANGON, 27 May — Vice-Chairman of

Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, accompanied by officials inspected tax free markets in Shwepyitha, Yankin and Tamway Townships this morning.

The vice-mayor looked into the sale of rice, edible oil, grocery, vegetables, fish, prawn, dairy products and kitchen utensils of Myanmar Rice Dealers Association, Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers Association, Ministry of Energy, Union

of Myanmar Economic Holding Limited, Ngwe Pinle Livestock breeding and Fisheries Co, No 90 Infantry Battalion, Livestock, Foodstuff and Dairy Enterprise and Hmawby Township Union Solidarity and Development Association.

Next, the vice-mayor urged officials to supervise the selling and buying in line with the five aims of tax free market.

MNA



Daw Mar Mar Wai, Chairperson of Yangon Division MCWSC, addresses donation ceremony for stationery and school uniform at No 1 BEHS in South Okkalapa.— MNA

UN expert faults US on human rights in terror laws

UNITED NATIONS, 27 May — The United States apparently violated international law in its military tribunals by using coercion to extract confessions and writing counter-terrorism laws that restrict immigration on questionable grounds, a UN investigator said on Friday.

But Martin Scheinin of Finland, a UN rapporteur on rights in countering terrorism, said his findings for the Geneva-based UN Human Rights Council did not mean the “the United States has become an enemy of human rights”.

“It is a country which still has a great deal to be proud of,” especially in exercising freedom of the Press, Scheinin said in a 12-page preliminary report on a 10-day visit to the United States. His full report will be presented to the Council later in the

year.

But US Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad rejected the allegations, saying, “We have a different point of view.”

“We are doing this under US laws and procedures and legitimate decision-making authorities that exist in the United States,” he said. “We are a rule of law country and our decisions are based on the rule of law.”

Scheinin spoke to officials from departments of Homeland Security, Defence and Justice,

members of Congress, academics and non-governmental groups. But he did not go to the US military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, because he was not allowed to interview prisoners in privacy.

Still, he said reports that information were obtained from terror suspects using “enhanced interrogation techniques” amounted to a form of torture or inhumane treatment that is illegal under international law, particularly the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights treaty the United States signed.

His report said the prisoners detained by the military at Guantanamo had been categorized by the United States as alien “unlawful enemy combatants”, which Scheinin called a “description of convenience” since there is no such category under international law.

MNA/Reuters



Gendarmes inspect a damaged river ship which struck a lock on the Rhine river, outside Rhinau, near Strasbourg, eastern France, on 26 May, 2007. More than 20 British tourists were slightly injured in the collision, police said. —INTERNET

Czech demonstrators protest missile shield plans

PRAGUE, 27 May — Two thousand demonstrators marched through Prague on Saturday to protest against a plan to host part of a US missile defence system.

The demonstration came less than two weeks before US President George W Bush arrives in the Czech Republic to drum up support for the missile shield.

The United States wants to place 10 interceptor rockets in Poland and a radar base in the Czech Republic as part of a system Washington says is aimed at “rogue states” like Iran and North Korea.

Waving banners and placards denouncing the

plan, which the Czech and US governments are currently negotiating, the peaceful demonstration snaked through the centre of the city before ending at Prague Castle.

Bush plans to visit Prague on 4-5 June in support of the missile defence shield, which is opposed by around two-thirds of Czechs, according to opinion polls, but supported by the centre-right Czech Government.

“It just doesn’t make any sense,” said 34-year-old Jan Cerny, who was carrying a poster with “We Don’t Want the Radar Here” written on it.

The missile defence proposal has also angered Moscow, which says it is

aimed at Russia and could eventually house attack missiles or be used to spy on Russian facilities. Washington denies this.

MNA/Reuters



A passionate ballet performance by the Ballet Nacional De Espana (BNE), concluded the closing ceremony of the 7th “Meet in Beijing” Art Festival, which ran from 28 April to 26 May, 2007. —INTERNET



The daguerreotype sold in Vienna is thought to be the only surviving camera made by Susse Freres, of France. Just a handful of daguerreotypes are in private hands around the world. —INTERNET

Over 436 kilos of heroin seized in Moscow

MOSCOW, 27 May — Moscow police have seized more than 436 kilos of heroin, the largest ever seizure in Russia, Moscow’s anti-narcotics service said at a Press conference Friday.

The drug, worth over 9 billion rubles (about 348 million US dollars), was hidden in fuel tanks of a truck carrying cabbage, Lieutenant-General Viktor Khvorostyan, chief of the Department of the Federal Drug Control Service for Moscow Police, was quoted by ITAR-TASS news agency as saying.

So far, four foreign citizens have been arrested in connection with the

seizure, the officer said.

He said the heroin, along with some three kilos of hashish, had been transported to Moscow and St Petersburg from Tajikistan. The quantity of heroin amounted to the equivalent of 61 million individual doses.

“The criminal group, which organized the delivery of the heroin, was spotted more than a year ago,” Khvorostyan said.

According to police, this particular criminal group was engaged in smuggling heroin to Moscow, St Petersburg and West European countries.

MNA/Xinhua

AU says UN officer killed by robbers in Darfur

KHARTOUM, 27 May — A UN officer deployed to Sudan’s war-ravaged Darfur region to support African Union peacekeepers has been killed by robbers at his residence in el-Fasher, an African Union spokesman said on Saturday.

The spokesman said the officer was an Egyptian national deployed to Darfur as part of a United Nations light support package to assist roughly 7,000 African

Union peacekeepers trying to quell violence in Sudan’s west.

“The robbers entered the house, shot the officer and took some property,” AU spokesman

Noureddine Mezni said. “He is an Egyptian military officer.”

Mezni said the officer, a lieutenant colonel, was shot and wounded on Friday evening and died of his wounds on Saturday morning in el-Fasher, the capital of north Darfur state.

He said the man was killed at a rented house used by UN personnel working with AU peacekeepers. He said the house was located about one kilometre from AU force headquarters in el-Fasher.

Mezni said the acting head of the African Union mission in Sudan, Monique Mukaruliza, had “expressed her shock and condemned the killing in the strongest terms”.

MNA/Reuters

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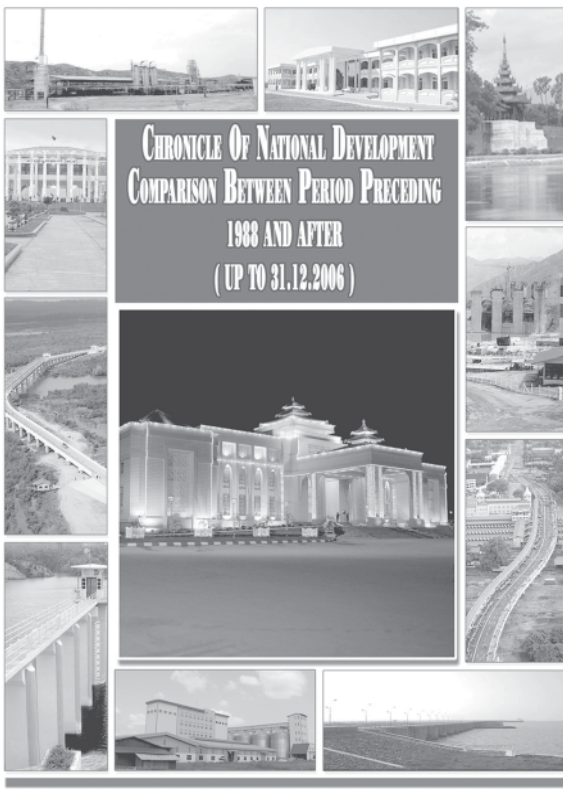


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ရက်စွဲ၊ ၂၀၀၇ ခုနှစ် မေလ ၂၁ ရက်

ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

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ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ

ဝစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

Bush says China-US strategic economic dialogue "important"

WASHINGTON, 26 May — US President George W Bush, at a White House Press conference on Thursday, said the just-concluded China-US Strategic Economic Dialogue is "important" and there has been some progress achieved at the dialogue.

"This is an important

dialogue. And it's one that I thank the Chinese Government for engaging in," Bush said.

Bush said he met with Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Yi in the White House Oval Office on Thursday, and asked her to pass a message to Chinese President Hu Jintao that he appreciates China's willingness "to work with strategic dialogues in order to put in place the type of measures that reflect a complex relationship".

Bush also said that the United States values its relationship with China. The President made the remarks after the second China-US Strategic Economic Dialogue, co-

chaired by Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Yi and US Secretary of Treasury Henry Paulson, concluded on Wednesday.

MNA/Xinhua

Highway pileup kills three, injures 36 in S-W China

CHENGDU, 26 May — Three people were killed and 36 others injured in a six-vehicles pileup on a national highway in southwest China's Sichuan Province on Friday morning.

The accident occurred at about 3:00 am Friday on a highway from Guang'an City to Nanchong City in Sichuan, when a pickup truck rammed into the rear of a truck which triggered another two accidents, involving a bus and three trucks, said local traffic police. Three people in the pickup truck were trapped in the vehicle.

Two of the trapped people were killed, said rescuers. Police said another person was killed and many were injured when a bus collided into a truck since after failing to steer clear of the pileup. — MNA/Xinhua

US Senate plans no-confidence vote on Gonzales

WASHINGTON, 26 May — The US Senate said on Thursday that it will vote on a no-confidence measure on embattled Attorney General Alberto Gonzales in mid-June, even as President George W Bush reaffirmed his support to Gonzales.

The measure, sponsored by Democratic Senators Chuck Schumer of New York and Dianne Feinstein of California, pointed out that Gonzales "no longer holds the confidence of the Senate and of the American people". Democrats predicted that with at least five Republican votes on their side, they will get enough votes to pass the measure in Senate. Meanwhile, Bush said he still supports Gonzales. "I've got confidence in Al Gonzales doing the job," he said at a Press conference in the White House on Thursday. — MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပုံပြုတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Scientist observes brain cell development in “real time”

WASHINGTON, 26 May — For the first time anywhere, a researcher at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel has succeeded in observing in vivo the generation of neurons in the brain of a mammal, the American Association for the Advancement of Science reported on Thursday.

Dr Adi Mizrahi used mouse models to study how neurons, or nerve cells, develop from an undifferentiated cellular sphere into a rich and complex cell.

This has great significance for the future of brain research, said Dr Mizrahi, since “the structural and functional

complexity of nerve cells remains one of the biggest mysteries of neuroscience, and we now have a model to study this complexity directly”.

The results of Dr Mizrahi’s groundbreaking work appeared in the on-line edition of Nature Neuroscience.

Using special microscopic imaging techniques, combined with virus gene technology, Dr Mizrahi was able to develop an experimental model to study development of neural dendrites in vivo. The dendrites are the string-like extensions of the neuron that spread out to reach other neurons and serve as

the points of communication between the neurons.

The model employed by Dr Mizrahi in his research was the newborn neuron population which develops into the olfactory bulb of adult mice, providing them with a sense of smell.

The development and maintenance of newborn neurons in this area was assessed by time-lapse imaging over several days at different stages of development.

MNA/Xinhua



Clay figures showing activities of daily life dating back to 2,100 BC have been found by a Belgian excavation team working in the Barsha Monastery, 124 miles south of Cairo, as seen in this picture made available by the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities on 20 May, 2007.—INTERNET

Nepal on alert to deter bird flu

KATHMANDU, 26 May — Nepal was on a high alert considering the possible entry of the avian flu to the country from border areas of India and Bangladesh, the national news agency RSS reported on Friday.

While managing tight security, Biratnagar Regional Livestock Service Directorate has urged not to import and use the eggs, chickens and any bird related products from neighbouring countries.

Director Baikuntha Parajuli said the import of chickens and its products from the neighbouring countries is banned especially in some districts of Eastern Development Region citing the possible risk of the deadly disease. According to the directorate, thousands of chickens died in Sawar near Dhaka, the capital city of Bangladesh, three months ago. Bird flu has been spread in the border areas of India abutting Bangladesh, the RSS said.—MNA/Xinhua



Indian actress Bipasha Basu accepts the best actress award for her role in “Corporate” at the 2007 Bollywood Film Awards in Uniondale, New York on 26 May, 2007.—INTERNET

India urged to wake up as tiger numbers down again

NEW DELHI, 26 May — India should have received a wake-up call this week about the future of its dwindling tiger population, but conservationists are far from convinced it will be heard. Initial findings from a tiger census showed far fewer of the big cats than previously thought.

But tigers, unlike people, do not have a vote, and tiger conservation is not big enough business to capture the development agenda, say wildlife activists.

“The main problem is authorities are too interested in short-term development benefits such as destroying tiger habitat through deforestation and mining,”

said SC Dey, secretary-general of the Global Tiger Forum.

“But this is reckless development.” India is home to half the world’s surviving tigers, but conservationists say it is losing the battle to save them. There were about 40,000 tigers in India a century ago. A count conducted in 2001 and 2002 suggested that number had fallen to around 3,700, after decades of poaching and habitat destruction.

The latest numbers, gleaned using more modern methodology but only covering part of the country, show the situation could be far worse.—MNA/Reuters



Tourists rest at the Baishi Spring in Jinan, capital of east China’s Shandong Province, on 26 May, 2007. A heat wave hit Jinan on Saturday, with the highest temperature reaching 36.3 Celsius degrees. Many people chose to cool themselves off beside a spring.—INTERNET

Telephone heart checks a success

LONDON, 27 May—Heart checks via the telephone could save the NHS millions of pounds, the results of a six-month trial suggest.

During the pilot in north west England, the telemedicine system reassured hundreds of people with chest pain, but spotted those who needed medical help.

Patients had their heart rhythms monitored with a hand-held ECG device at GP surgeries or NHS walk-in centres.

The readings were then sent down a phone line for analysis, saving the cost and time of a hospital visit.

The government’s heart tsar has praised the potential of the system and BroomWell Healthwatch, which ran the pilot, claims that if it was in use throughout England, a minimum of £46m



The handheld monitor can be used in GP surgeries

would be saved every year, with 90,000 unnecessary A&E visits, and 45 unnecessary admissions prevented.

And wider use of the system for home visits and routine heart testing could save the NHS as much as £250m a year, it says.—Internet

SPORTS



China's Ma Lin (R), Chen Qi raise the winners' trophy during the awarding ceremony of the men's doubles event at 2007 World Table Tennis Championships in Zagreb, Croatia on 26 May, 2007. Ma Lin/Chen Qi won the match 4-2 over compatriots Wang Liqin/Wang Hao and claimed the title of the event. — INTERNET

Real stay top after win but Barca keep pace

MADRID, 27 May — Leaders Real Madrid edged closer to the Primera Liga title beating Deportivo Coruna 3-1 in the Bernabeu on Saturday.

Barcelona remained hot on their heels, overcoming King's Cup finalists Getafe 1-0 at home thanks to a second minute goal from Ronaldinho, who was later sent off.

Real and Barca stay tied at the top on 72 points, though Fabio Capello's side hold first place due to their superior head-to-head record.

Real, on course for their first major title in four years, have a tough visit to face fifth-placed Real Zaragoza next, and finish with a home game against Real Mallorca.

Barca are at home to city rivals Espanyol and away to bottom club Gimnastic Tarragona in their remaining games.

Third-placed Sevilla (67) host

Zaragoza on Sunday, while Valencia's title challenge was derailed when they were beaten 3-2 at home by local rivals Villarreal. They stayed fourth on 65 points.

Villarreal's sixth straight victory put them sixth with 56 points, in the UEFA Cup places. Real were always in control against Deportivo but took the lead in controversial circumstances in the 29th minute.

The Los Angeles Galaxy-bound David Beckham, who has just earned a recall to the England squad, was at the centre of much of Real's forward play and crossed from the left.

His former Manchester United teammate Ruud van Nistelrooy nodded the ball down near the line with the help of his arm, and as the Depor players appealed for handball, defender Sergio Ramos pounced to score. —MNA/Reuters



Real Madrid player Miguel Torres from Spain, left, duels for the ball with Deportivo player Julian 'Bobby' de Guzman from Canada, right, during their Spanish League soccer match at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid, on 26 May, 2007. — INTERNET

Becks reveals Milan temptation

LONDON, 26 May — David Beckham has revealed that he came close to accepting a contract offer from Milan, but opted to put his family first and head to LA Galaxy.

Beckham agreed a deal with LA Galaxy earlier in the year, following his failure to find a new accord with Real Madrid.

At the time reports suggested Beckham had turned down a host of offers to head to America and he has now confirmed European champions Milan attempted to take him to Serie A.

"It wasn't easy saying no to Milan, one of the world's strongest sides," Beckham told Gazzetta dello Sport. "The team,



David Beckham

the coach, the president, the city. Then also Ronie (Ronaldo) went there.

"The choice was hard. I was honoured, pleased and tempted, but I had to think of my family and I wanted a different challenge. "I'd have liked to play in Serie A. Italy is a country I like because it has everything: big football, big players the best food, wine, fashion..."

Internet

Elmander sends Toulouse into Champions League

PARIS, 27 May — Toulouse won a spot in the Champions League qualifying round by beating Girondins Bordeaux 3-1 courtesy of a hat-trick by Sweden striker Johan Elmander on the last day of the Ligue 1 season on Saturday. Toulouse climbed three spots to finish third behind champions Olympique Lyon and runners-up Olympique Marseille, who will both enter the main draw of European club soccer's premier event.

Toulouse were helped by the decision by the Professional Football League (LFP) to award them three points after their match at relegated Nantes last weekend was abandoned when angry fans invaded the pitch. The match was level at 0-0 when it was stopped by the referee three minutes from time after hun-

dreds of Nantes fans descended on to the pitch.

Stade Rennes held third place until four minutes into added time. The Brittany side were leading 1-0 at Lille when striker Nicolas Fauvergue equalized for the home side with a header 20 seconds before the final whistle. —MNA/Reuters

Celtic win Scottish Cup with 1-0 victory over Dunfermline

GLASGOW, 27 May — Celtic clinched their 34th Scottish FA Cup with a late winner against relegated Dunfermline from Jean-Joel Perrier Doumbe for a 1-0 victory on Saturday.

He scraped home a low shot from 12 metres on the right of the penalty area past goalkeeper Dorus de Vries and under defender Greg Shields into the bottom corner after 85 minutes.

It was Cameroon defender Doumbe's first goal for the club and earned Celtic their 14th league and cup double in 119 years. — MNA/Reuters

Ajax Cape Town win South African Cup

JOHANNESBURG, 27 May — Ajax Cape Town won the South African FA Cup final on Saturday, denying champions Mamelodi Sundowns the league and cup double with a 2-0 win in the final in Durban.

It was only the second major cup success for the club set up by Dutch giants Ajax Amsterdam eight years ago. —MNA/Reuters



Olympique Marseille's Michael Pagis (R) challenges Nadir Belhadj (L) of Sedan during their French Ligue 1 soccer match at the Velodrome stadium in Marseille, on 26 May, 2007. —INTERNET

Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

1	T	E	N	U	R	E	4	R	O	L	L	E	6	D		
	H		G		A			A		U			I			
	E		7	P	L	A	T	I	T	U	D	8	E	T		
9	S	T	A	Y		I		I		10	O	U	C	H		
	I		L		11	S	N	O	12	P		P		E		
13	S	E	A	D	O	G		14	N	E	T	H	E	R		
			T		U					R		O				
15	C	H	A	I	N	16	S		17	S	T	I	N	G	18	O
	H		B		19	D	I	T	C	H		I		F		
20	O	W	L	21	S		M		A		22	C	U	F	F	
	K		23	E	L	B	O	W	R	O	O	M				E
	E			E		O			C		O					N
24	D	I	A	D	E	M			25	E	X	P	A	N	D	



Boxer Cecilia Braekhus of Norway and Olga Bojare of Latvia, left, compete during their light-welterweight fight at the Jako-Arena in Bamberg, southern Germany, on 26 May, 2007. Braekhus won the match. —INTERNET

Rapid win Romanian Cup with 2-0 win over Timisoara

BUCHAREST, 27 May — Rapid Bucharest ended a miserable season on a high note by beating 10-man Politehnica Timisoara 2-0 to win the Romanian Cup on Saturday and secure a place in the UEFA Cup.

Striker Mugurel Buga opened the scoring in the final in Timisoara from an excellent pass by Iannis Zicu in the 15th minute and Zicu helped himself to Rapid's second after a mistake by home goalkeeper Costel Pantelimon four minutes into the second half.

Timisoara's Nigerian substitute Peter Omoduemuke was sent off for violent conduct just three minutes after he came on in the second half.

MNA/Reuters

Chinese media blast Pentagon report

BEIJING, 27 May — Chinese state media on Sunday blasted a Pentagon report on Beijing's defence plans as distorted and insulting, and said the gap between wealthy countries' military might and China's is growing, not shrinking.

The US Defence Department report released on Friday said that while Beijing maintained its traditional focus on the Taiwan Strait as a potential flashpoint, it also seemed to be looking to project its growing military strength elsewhere.

Beijing has yet to give a formal reaction to the report, but official news websites signalled China's displeasure. While Beijing

and Washington have been working closely on North Korea and other international crises, the tough words underscored the distrust that overshadows military perceptions on both sides.

"As with previous reports, this one makes outrageous comments about China's security and military strategy and its military capabilities," said the commentary which

appeared on the websites of the Xinhua news agency (www.xinhuanet.com) and People's Daily (www.people.com.cn).

"This report is strikingly distorted about the 'Chinese military threat' and is really just too exaggerated."

The Pentagon's annual report to the US Congress on China's military power said that Beijing maintained its traditional focus on the

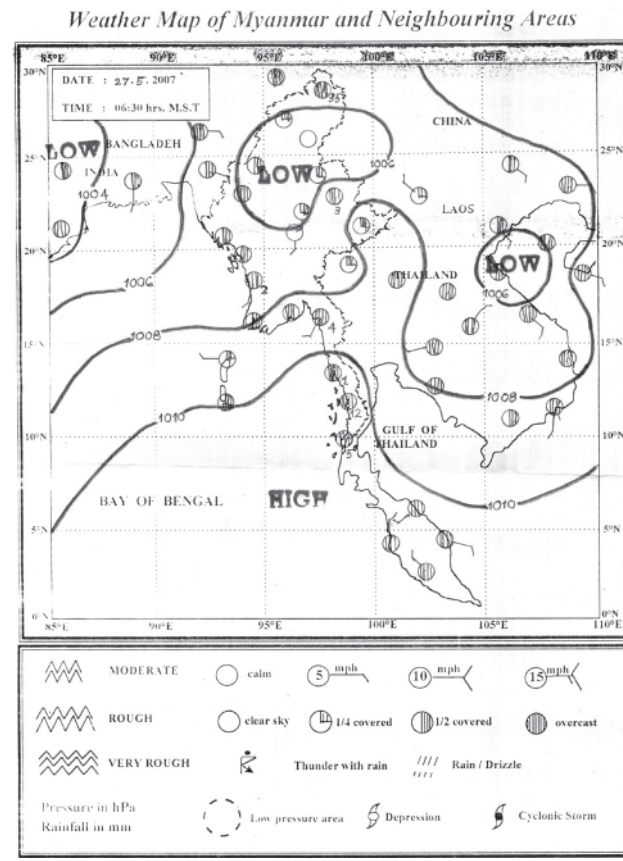
Taiwan Strait, and Taiwan island which Beijing says must accept eventual reunification.

But the report stressed that China was looking beyond the island in making and buying weapons and crafting strategy.

"Analysis of China's military acquisitions and strategic thinking suggests Beijing is also generating capabilities for other regional contingencies, such as conflict over resources or territory," the report said.

The report said new Chinese missile units could be used for crises not involving Taiwan and advances in China's air force would allow extended air operations over the South China Sea.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Sunday, 27 May, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Taninthayi Division, fairly widespread in Kachin State, scattered in Shan, Kayin and Mon States, isolated in Chin and Rakhine States, Mandalay, Bago and Yangon Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above May average temperature in Kachin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Magway and Yangon Divisions, (5°C) above May average temperatures in Shan State, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions, (7°C) above May average temperatures in Taninthayi Division and about May average temperatures in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Putao (1.38) inches, Hpa-an (0.63) inch and Myeik (0.46) inch.

Maximum temperature on 26-5-2007 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 27-5-2007 was 77°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 27-5-2007 was 97%. Total sunshine hours on 26-5-2007 was (8.3) hours approx.

Rainfall on 27-5-2007 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (Tr) at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (25.28) inches at Mingaladon, (29.49) inches at Kaba-Aye and (28.66) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from West at (13:10) hours MST on 26-5-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 28-5-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Kachin, Mon and Kayin States, Yangon, Taninthayi Divisions and isolated in Shan, Chin, Kayah, Rakhine States, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and partly cloudy in remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon in the Andaman Sea.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 28-5-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).


Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 28-5-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 28-5-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).




Elena Dementieva of Russia returns the ball to Aravane Rezaï of France in the final of the WTA Istanbul Cup 2007 Tennis Tournament in Istanbul, Turkey, on Saturday, 26 May, 2007. Dementieva won her first WTA title of the year after Rezaï withdrew from the match during the second set due to a knee injury.

INTERNET



Monday, 28 May
View on today

<p>7:00 am 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara</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. Songs of national races</p> <p>8:05 am 6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:15 am 7. Cute little of dancers</p> <p>8:30 am 8. International news</p>	<p>8:45 am 9. Grammar Made Easy</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. Musical programme</p> <p>4:40 pm 4. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့လှည့်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - စတုတ္ထနှစ် (ဥပဒေပညာအထူးပြု) (ဥပဒေပညာ)</p> <p>4:55 pm 5. Dance variety</p> <p>5:10 pm 6. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစကား</p> <p>5:20 pm 7. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)</p> <p>5:30 pm 8. Song and dances of national races</p> <p>5:45 pm 9. "မြို့တစ်ကင်းသောနေ့" (ထွန်းထွန်းဝင်း)</p>	<p>မင်းထက်ကျော်ဇော်၊ စိုးမိုးကြည်၊ ပုလဲဝင်း၊ (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သိန်းဟန်-ဖိုးနစ်)</p> <p>6:00 pm 10. Evening news</p> <p>6:30 pm 11. Weather report</p> <p>6:35 pm 12. အလှူရှာမယ်လှူကမ္ဘာဝယ်</p> <p>7:00 pm 13. "အာဆီယံနိုင်ငံများ အချင်းချင်းပေါင်းစပ် ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း" (အာဆီယံယဉ်ကျေးမှု၊ ပြန်ကြားရေးကော်မတီနှင့် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ)</p> <p>7:20 pm 14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သန်းတစ်ရာ ရွှေအိပ်မက်" (အပိုင်း-၂)</p> <p>8:00 pm 15. News</p> <p>16. International news</p> <p>17. Weather report</p> <p>18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရေသူမလေးဒုတိယ ချစ်ပုံပြင်" (အပိုင်း-၁၃)</p> <p>19. The next day's programme</p>
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Monday, 28 May
Tune in today

<p>8:30 am Brief news</p> <p>8:35 am Music: -The answer to our life</p> <p>8:40 am Perspectives</p> <p>8:45 am Music: -If only you were here</p> <p>8:50 am National news /Slogan</p> <p>9:00 am Music: -Sweet kisses</p> <p>9:05 am International news</p> <p>9:10 am Music -The way to my heart</p> <p>1:30 pm News/ Slogan</p> <p>1:40pm Lunch time music -Stay with me -Oh baby -Other side of love -Tell me Sunshine</p> <p>9:00pm Spotlight on the star: 9:10pm Article 9:35pm Vocal gems 9:45 pm News /Slogan 10:00 pm PEL</p>
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Physic nut growing ceremony organized in Tatkon Township



Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin visits harvesting of summer paddy in Tatkon Township.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May —Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin delivered an address at the ceremony to grow physic nut in the farm of Khitaye Village in Tatkon Township, Pynmana District, this morning.

Speaking on the occasion, the commander said that physic nut plants are being cultivated to supply the fuel demand of the nation. Global countries are

seeking ways to produce substitute fuels like that of physic nut. Myanmar sets a plan to run agricultural equipment with the use of physic nut oil in 2008. It is necessary to make efforts for growing more physic nut plants this year than that of last year. In doing so, officials concerned will provide all necessary assistance to growers.

The commander presented physic nut saplings

to departmental personnel through Township Law Officer U Aung Myint. The commander of Tatkon Station, the Chairman of Pynmana District PDC and officials presented the saplings to responsible persons.

Afterwards, the commander and party grew physic nut saplings. Tatkon Township has so far put 970 acres under physic nut against 11,149 acres this year.

The commander and party viewed harvesting of summer paddy near Saya San Ward. Assistant Director U Thein Htay of Agricultural Mechanization Department explained matters related to harvesting task. — MNA

PBANRDA Minister performs rural development tasks

YANGON, 27 May — CEC member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minis-

ter for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt attended

the opening ceremonies of Watchaung Village gravel road and Chingon-Chaungphyay-Ngapiseik

gravel road in Kyaunggon and Yekyi Townships, Ayeyawady Division (See page 10)



USDA CEC member Minister Col Thein Nyunt attends the opening of Watchaung Village gravel road in Kyaunggon Township.— PBANRDA

No longer takes interest in NLD's activities that do not serve the national interest

Twenty-two Mawlamyinegyun Township NLD members resign

YANGON, 27 May—Altogether 22 members of Mawlamyinegyun Township National League for Democracy, Ayeyawady Division, including U Tin Shwe of Layeintan Village collectively resigned of their own volition from the party on 25 May, sending letters of resignation to the NLD Headquarters and local authorities concerned.

In their letters sent to the Mawlamyinegyun Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-commission Office, it is stated that they resigned of their own volition from the party as they no longer took interest in the party's activities that do not server the national interest and no longer trust the party's leaders.

MNA