

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Portuguese President

NAY PYI TAW, 10 June — 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 Anibal Cavaco Silva, President of the Portuguese Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the Portuguese Republic which falls on 10 June 2007. — MNA

As Ayeyawady Division is the main region contributing to economic growth of the State with its agricultural and livestock breeding businesses, all are to make efforts for meeting the targeted acres in the respective townships of the division.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than attends physic nut plants growing ceremony in Pantanaw Township



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects monsoon paddy cultivation of Pantanaw Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June — After attending the opening ceremony of Ma Mya Dam in Myanaung Township, Hinthada District, Ayayawady Division, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence together with Chairman of the Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and officials of State Peace and Development Council Office on 7 June left Myanaung Township by car for Pantanaw Township and inspected condition of road sections, thriving monsoon paddy plantations and development of ru-

ral area along the Pathein-Monywa Road on a motorcade.

Next, they attended the physic nut plants growing and monsoon paddy cultivation ceremony of Talaingsu Village in Pantanaw Township for 2007-08. Pantanaw Township PDC Chairman U Mya Oo reported on progress on cultivation of physic nut plants for 2007 in the township and arrangements for meeting the target. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said in his instructions that respective townships have to meet the targeted areas of physic nut plants as a national duty and presented saplings to members of social organizations in the township.

The commander also presented saplings to departmental personnel.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and the commander planted physic nut plants at the designated places. Then they viewed the participation of departmental personnel, local people and members of social organizations at the ceremony and encouraged them.

Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and party met with departmental personnel of Pantanaw and Danubyu Townships at the office of Pantanaw Township PDC.

(See page 6)

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An open letter to Daw Suu Kyi

I would like to point out another mistake of yours in connection with the State constitution. You refused to accept the State constitution being drawn by the National Convention the Tatmadaw government was convening, saying that you would accept the State constitution you would write by yourself.

Do you think the State constitution to be drawn by yourself will be as extensive and comprehensive as the State constitution being framed through discussions of representatives of the people from all parts of the nation, representatives of political parties, intellectuals and intelligentsia and experienced persons?

PAGES 8+9

YEBAW TIN SHWE

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 10 June, 2007

Boost production of crops through efficient use of irrigation water

Ma Mya Dam in Myanaung Township, Ayeyawady Division, designed to scale up cultivation capacity of the region was put into commission the other day.

The newly-inaugurated irrigation facility will benefit some 10,000 acres of farmlands and prevent the arable fields along the Ma Mya Creek from flooding.

In the past, eight village-tracts around the dam grew more than 20,000 acres of monsoon paddy, summer paddy and cold season crops. Now, with the use of the water from the dam, they will be able to increase the sown acreage to over 30,000 acres.

A small-scale hydropower generator is installed in the dam to supply electric power to nearby villages. This will help raise the living standard of local people.

The government is building irrigation facilities across the country for improving the agricultural sector, and Ma Mya Dam is the 200th one. These irrigation facilities benefit more than two million acres of farmlands, thereby contributing towards extensive growing of mixed crops, multiple crops, vegetables and fruit along with monsoon paddy, summer paddy.

Farmers are urged to boost production of crops by efficiently using the water from the irrigation facilities throughout the nation in order to raise the socio-economic standard of the people.

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ

လစဉ် လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည့်ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေဖြစ်သည်။

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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

Foreign Affairs Minister felicitates Portuguese counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 10 June — U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Prof Dr Diogo Freitas Do Amaral, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Portuguese Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the Portuguese Republic which falls on 10 June 2007.

MNA

Communications stations, digital auto exchanges inspected

YANGON, 9 June — Accompanied by officials, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw arrived at Twantay digital auto exchange this morning, fulfilled the needs and inspected the exchange.

Next, he visited Kawhmu auto exchange, Kungyangon digital auto exchange and Dedaye auto exchange and inspected communication, post and telegraph services.

Afterwards, the minister and party visited the international underwater cable communications station in Pyapon, viewed communications services and attended to the needs. The mobile communications chief engineer reported to the minister on establishment of coastal, inland and offshore communications system. The minister fulfilled the requirements and called for timely completion of the project.

Later, the minister and party proceeded to Kyaiklat digital auto exchange and international underwater cable communications station and inspected the installation of communication systems. Then they met district and

township departmental staff in Maubin and fulfilled the needs for communications services.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspects international underwater cable communications station in Pyapon. — MNA

Bayintnaung Market to hold blood donation

YANGON, 7 June — Shopkeepers of Bayintnaung Market under Yangon City Development Committee will organize 6th blood donation ceremony at the market in Mayangon Town-

ship on 21 June.

The shopkeepers have donated 1,092 blood bottles and K 4 million to National Blood Bank (Yangon) so far.

Those wishing to donate the blood to the

NBB may contact chairman of the committee for organizing the blood donation ceremony Ph-726269, secretary of the committee Ph-0951-69092 and the market's office Ph-682019.—MNA

One injured in mine blast in Shwegyin Township

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June — Terrorist insurgents are jeopardising community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order, while perpetrating various kinds of atrocities with the intention of harming innocent people.

On 5 June morning, Zaw Min Naing, 21,

son of U Tin Than, of Eitchaingt Village, Shwegyin Township, stepped on a mine planted by terrorist insurgents, when he was on his way to the jungle to collect some fruits together with a friend. His right foot was blown off at the ankle and left calf seriously injured by the blast.

The victim was admitted to Shwegyin Township People's Hospital for medical treatment and provided with necessary assistance by authorities concerned.

Officials in cooperation with local people are exposing the terrorist insurgents.

MNA

**Don't
Smoke**

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

NATO wary on joint missile shield

LONDON, 8 June—Nato has reacted cautiously to a Russian offer to use a radar facility in Azerbaijan as part of a joint missile defence system with the US.

The alliance's secretary-general, Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, welcomed the proposal as a break with the "anachronistic" rhetoric

between the two countries.

But he warned the system would probably be too close to the "rogue states" it is designed to defend against.

Russia's President Vladimir Putin made the offer at the G8 summit on Thursday.

Mr Putin presented his proposal to US President George W Bush as an

alternative to US plans to deploy missile defences in Poland and the Czech Republic.

Speaking to the press on Friday at the end of the summit, Mr Putin also suggested that the US should consider locating the missile defence interceptors in Nato member Turkey, in Iraq or even on sea platforms.

Internet



Actress Shilpa Shetty attends an International Indian Film Academy celebrity cricket match in Leeds, northern England, on 8 June, 2007. — INTERNET

British soldier shot dead in southern Iraq

LONDON, 8 June — A British soldier has been shot dead while on a search and detention operation in the southern Iraqi city of Basra, the Ministry of Defence said on Thursday.

It said the dead soldier was with the 4th Battalion The Rifles, whose patrol came under small arms fire early on Thursday in the Al Atiyah District

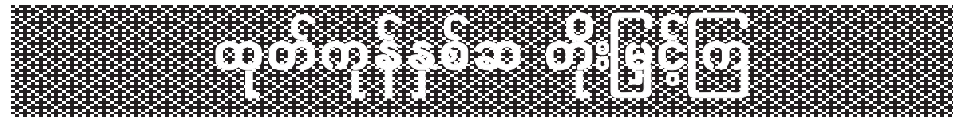
northwest of Basra City.

Three other members of the MultiNational Forces were injured in the operation, but their injuries are not believed to be life-threatening, the

ministry said.

The death brings to 150 the number of British soldiers killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion of March 2003.

MNA/Reuters



The space shuttle Atlantis, with seven crew members aboard, lifted off at 7:38 pm EDT (2338 GMT) on Friday from its seaside launch pad 39A at Kennedy Space Center in Florida, the United States. — XINHUA

Atlantis lifts off for 1st shuttle flight of 2007

WASHINGTON, 8 June — After a three-month delay, Atlantis finally blasted off Friday on NASA's first space shuttle mission of the year, continuing the construction of the International Space Station.

The shuttle lifted off at 7:38 pm EDT (2338 GMT) on Friday from its seaside launch pad 39A at Kennedy Space Center in Florida. It is the first launch from that launch pad in over four years.

Cheers and shouts can be heard throughout the KSC as Atlantis roars off the launch pad into a clear blue Florida sky, according to NASA TV.

Director Mike Leinbach wished the Atlantis crew members "good luck and Godspeed." Within 10 minutes after liftoff, Atlantis' solid rocket

boosters successfully separated and has fallen away from the orbiter, then main engine cut off followed by jettison of the external tank.

Now, Atlantis has reached orbit and Commander Frederick Sturckow has confirmed a good separation, according to NASA's real-time launch blog. By flight day 3, Atlantis will be ready to dock with ISS.

This is the 21st shuttle mission to ISS, with seven astronauts aboard — all American men. During the 11-day mission, the crew will install a 17.5-ton new truss segment, unfurl new solar arrays and fold up an old one in three planned space walks.

NASA describes the Atlantis mission, coded STS-117, as "just do it — again". "If you missed either of the last two missions, now would be the time to catch up,"

said NASA's space shuttle programme.

With two successful assembly missions leading the way, those involved with this flight are hoping it will be the best yet.

"We're really fortunate that we have those guys to follow," Atlantis' commander, Frederick Sturckow, said. "Almost everything went great on those missions, and the things that didn't go so well, we're able to learn from."

Along with Sturckow, the crew includes Pilot Lee Archambault and mission specialists Patrick Forrester, Steven Swanson, John Olivas, James Reilly and Clay Anderson, who will remain on the station to begin a long-duration flight.

Expedition 15 Flight Engineer Sunita Williams, who has been aboard the station since December 2006, will return home on Atlantis.

Xinhua

Five ill Malaysians hospitalized on bird flu fears

KUALA LUMPUR, 9 June — Five Malaysians with flu-like symptoms were in a hospital isolation ward Friday as a precaution for bird flu, the health minister said, after the country's first reported outbreak of H5N1 among birds in more than a year.

The four males and one female, ages 11 months to 35 years, were in stable condition and under observation after coming to Sungai Buloh Hospital on their own accord to seek treatment, said a statement from Health Minister Chua Soi Lek.

Chua stressed that so far, including the five patients, "no case that meets the definition of avian influenza infection among humans has been detected."

The statement did not specify whether the patients were being tested for bird flu. Other ministry officials said they could not immediately comment, and hospital authorities handling the matter could not immediately be contacted.

Veterinary officials said Tuesday that concerns about bird flu emerged after tests on 60 birds that died last week in Sungai Buloh, near Malaysia's commercial capital, Kuala Lumpur, confirmed they had the H5N1 bird flu virus.

Since then, health authorities have visited 4,556 villagers in 742 homes in the area to look for anyone suffering symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat or breathing difficulties, Chua said. — Internet

Pedestrians walk in front of a big screen in Tokyo on 8 June, 2007. Japan's weather is expected to stay mostly average to slightly warmer in the week from Saturday, the official weather forecaster said on Friday.

INTERNET





Chinese President Hu Jintao (2nd R) poses for a group photo with Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva (2nd L), Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh (1st L), Mexican President Felipe Calderon (C) and South African President Thabo Mbeki ahead of their meeting in Berlin, capital of Germany, on 7 June, 2007. — XINHUA

ဝက်မုတ္တမ်းအား ခေတ်တော်ဖွား

Israel willing to return Golan to Syria

JERUSALEM, 8 June — Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert secretly told Syrian President Bashar Assad that Israel would give up the Golan Heights in return for peace with Damascus, local daily Yedioth Ahronoth reported on Friday. The report said Olmert sent messages via

German and Turkish diplomats to Assad, indicating that Israel was willing to give up the Golan in exchange for a direct negotiation and the severing of Syrian's alliance with Iran and terror groups in the region. Syria has not responded to the offer, except for a few declaration of

willingness to enter the negotiation, the report said. A Syrian diplomat in London denied the report, saying that Damascus had not received any invitation from Israel to open negotiations, Israel Radio reported.

It was further reported that during a phone conversation with US President George W Bush last month, Olmert said he had decided to look into the possibility of renewing negotiations with Syria. Bush responded that US would not stand in Israel's way. However, some of Olmert's aids worried that the renewal of peace talks with Syria would hurt the relationship with the United States. In recent weeks it has been reported that the Olmert government was looking into different options for negotiations with Syria. — Xinhua

Vitamin D may cut cancer risk

MELBOURNE, 9 JUNE — Like many American women, Ivalynn Oudin has been taking supplements of calcium and vitamin D for years.

"My doctor said it would increase my bone density and help prevent hip fractures," said the 57-year-old mother of two.

But new research published today in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition suggests that vitamin D supplements may have another benefit: a 60 percent to 77 percent lower risk of cancer.

"Our study shows that with adequate vitamin D, cancer can be prevented -- or a high incidence of it can," said Joan Lappe, a professor of nursing and

medicine at Creighton University and the lead author of the study.

"This is the first study that shows, in a clinical trial, that adequate levels of vitamin D can reduce the risk of cancer."

The research may already be impacting public health policy in at least one country. According to a release posted on its Web site, the Canadian Cancer Society is planning an announcement Friday that all adults should start taking vitamin D supplements. It's the first-ever move by a major public health organization to endorse daily use of the vitamin as a cancer-prevention therapy for an entire population.

Internet



Team of Alternative Martial Arts, Wulin Waizhuan, collected the top award of China's 3rd TV Drama Awards at a ceremony this week. — INTERNET

Iranian judge says held US-Iranians admit "activities"

TEHERAN, 8 June — Two Iranian-Americans detained in the Islamic Republic on spying charges have "accepted that they carried out some activities", an Iranian judge was quoted as saying on Wednesday.

Judge Hossein Haddad said a third dual national, journalist Parnaz Azima, had been detained for cooperating with "anti-revolutionary" media. But a judiciary source later told Reuters she was released on bail and was not now under arrest.

The Iranian judiciary on 29 May said Azima, academic Haleh Esfandiari and social scientist Kian Tajbakhsh were accused of spying. The United States has called for their release and denied that they are spies.

Iran, which does not recognize dual nationa-

lities, has told Washington the arrests are none of its concern.

The detentions come at a time of increased tension between Teheran and Washington over

Iran's disputed nuclear programme, which Western powers suspect is a cover for building atom bombs. Iran says it wants only to generate electricity. Iran says Washington

is using intellectuals and others to carry out a "soft revolution" to topple the Islamic state. A charge of spying could carry the death sentence.

MNA/Reuters

Cambodia launches construction of Prek Tamak Bridge

KANDAL (Cambodia), 8 June — The Cambodian Government held ground breaking ceremony here on Wednesday for the construction of the Prek Tamak Bridge over Mekong River.

The project is one of the four Cambodian infrastructure projects under preferential buyer's credit loan from China, Chinese Ambassador Zhang Jinfeng said while addressing the ceremony, adding that she believes the construction of the

bridge will promote the economic development of Cambodia.

According to the project information, the Prek Tamak Bridge is 1,060 metres in length and 13.5 metres in width, with a designed speed of 60 kilometres per hour.

The construction period of the 43.5-million-US-dollar project will last 50 months, it said. The contractor of the project is China's Shanghai Construction (Group) General Company. — MNA/Xinhua



The Kukulcan pyramid at the Mayan ruins of Chichen Itza in Mexico's Yucatan peninsula, on 22 May, 2007. The Acropolis in Athens and Mexico's Mayan ruins at Chichen Itza are among the leaders in a competition, ending in one month, to choose the New Seven Wonders of the World, the organizers said on Thursday. — INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

Aeroflot will revive \$2b deal with Boeing

Moscow, 8 June — Russia's flagship carrier Aeroflot will revive a two-billion-US-dollar deal to buy 22 Boeing 787 jets, *Kommersant* business daily reported on Thursday, citing industry sources.

The deal was frozen in 2006 due to what analysts said was worsening political relations between Moscow and Washington.

In March, Aeroflot announced plans to buy 22 planes from rival producer Airbus despite the fact that the first A350 aircraft may be delivered much later than 2010 — a deadline that Boeing said

it would be able to meet.

Kommersant cited industry sources as saying the deal with Boeing will be revived at Russia's landmark economic forum in St Petersburg on Saturday with Boeing and Aeroflot signing a deal for the delivery of planes.

Boeing will also sign a protocol to expand its

cooperation with Russia's Sukhoi corporation.

The US firm is already consulting Sukhoi on the design, marketing and production of a *Sukhoi Superjet* regional airliner and will expand its involvement by agreeing to create personnel training and servicing centres. — MNA/Reuters



Chairman of Microsoft Corporation Bill Gates (L) receives an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Secretary of the Harvard Corporation Marc Goodheart during the 356th Commencement Exercises at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts on 7 June, 2007. — XINHUA



A salesman of Asustek Computer Inc shows the new Eee PC 701 notebook, 17.8 cms (7 inches) by size, during the first day of the annual 2007 Computex in China Taipei on 5 June, 2007.
INTERNET

S Africa extends tax amnesty for small business

CAPE TOWN, 8 June — South African small businesses were on Thursday granted a one-month extension to admit previous tax violations or to register for tax in an amnesty offered by the National Treasury.

Finance Minister Trevor Manuel said the one-month extension to June 30, 2007, was necessary after some organizations, including accountants and taxi owners, said they had

missed the original cut-off.

"We earlier this week met with some of the organizations who'd asked for extensions. We squeezed to try and get their participation out of the process going forward," Manuel told Parliament.

Manuel said 275,398 amnesty applications had been received in the six months ahead of the original deadline of May 31, 2007. — MNA/Reuters

Vodafone opens office in Vietnam

BEIJING, 8 June — Seeking an early toehold, British mobile phone company Vodafone Group PLC has opened a representative office in Hanoi and will seek investment opportunities in Vietnam, state-run *Vietnam Economic Times* reported.

Warren Finegold, chief executive for global business development, said Vietnam's mobile market has high growth potential, according to the report.

Vodafone, the world's largest mobile phone operator by revenue, is expected to invest in local

companies that have leading positions in Vietnam, Finegold said in the report.

"We want to study Vietnam's privatization programme, which will sell shares in state-owned mobile operators," he said in the report.

Vietnam has 33 telephones per 100 people, and two-thirds of the phones are mobile.

Internet

Foreign Cos should give Cambodia big share of oil revenue

PHNOM PENH, 8 June — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen on Wednesday said that the foreign companies which invested and explored oil fields at offshore Cambodia should provide high share to this country from their oil revenue.

"I requested some countries that cared about the curse of oil benefit in

Cambodia. They should tell their companies which invested oil field in Cambodia to provide high share of oil revenue for the Cambodian side," Hun Sen said at a ceremony in Kandal Province, adding that the companies should also pay high tax to the Cambodian Government.

"They did not talk about how to earn money but they

started talking about spending money and cursing," he said.

The international institutions should consider how to provide high benefit from oil revenue to Cambodia, but nobody has talked about the issue, he added.

At least 700 million barrels of crude oil are estimated to lie off the Cambodian coast and the government is now preparing an oil and gas management law in anticipation of oil and gas revenues starting from 2009 or 2010. The United States oil giant Chevron, together with LG from South Korea and a Japanese company, is allowed by the Cambodian Government to invest and conduct exploration at its western sea

MNA/Xinhua



A Dell LCD television in an image courtesy of the company. Dell is leaving the LCD television business to focus on its core PC products amid an ongoing company overhaul by founder Michael Dell, China Taipei media reported on Thursday.
INTERNET

Roman bronze sculpture fetches record \$28.6 mln

BEIJING, 8 June — A bronze sculpture of the Roman goddess of hunt brought 28.6 million US dollars on Thursday at auction in New York. Sotheby's said it was a world-record auction price for a sculpture of any period.

London art dealer

Giuseppe Eskenazi purchased "Artemis and the Stag" on behalf of "a European private collector," according to Sotheby's spokeswoman Lauren Gioia.

The price of 28.6 million dollars, including seller's commission, is the highest ever paid at

an auction for a sculpture from any era, Gioia said. The previous auction record for a sculpture was 27.4 million dollars for a marble version of Constantin Brancusi's modernist "Bird in Space." It was sold in 2005 in New York at a Christie's auction. — Internet



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than presents physic nut saplings to a member of social organizations.—MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than attends...

(from page 1)
At the meeting, the Township PDC Chairman reported on matters related to cultivation of monsoon paddy, summer paddy, jatropa curcas (physic nut) and 10 major crops and livestock breeding task.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than made a speech. As

Ayeyawady Division is the main region contributing to economic growth of the State with its agricultural and livestock breeding businesses, all are to make efforts for meeting the targeted acres in the respective townships of the division. It is necessary to cultivate 10 major crops along with

new crop pepper and special crop jatropa curcas (physic nut). He urged departmental personnel to take part actively in the development of rural area and cordially greeted them.

Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party left Pantanaw for Yangon by car. — MNA

Myanmar delegation attends World Tourism Conference

NAY PYI TAW, 8 June — A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing attended the World Tourism Conference held at Shangri-la Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 4 to 6 June. It was also attended by 826 representatives from 72

countries including ASEAN members countries.

Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing and party discussed matters related to boosting of the hotel industry, foreign investments and promotion of tourism sector with Thai Minister for Tourism and

Sports Dr Suvit Yodmani, Malaysian Minister for Tourism Dutuk Seri Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor, Vice Chief of Malaysia Industrial Development Authority Mrs Jalilah Baba and Singaporean Ambassador to Malaysia Mr T Jasudasen. — MNA

USDA Secretary-General performs regional development task in Hinthada Township

YANGON, 9 June — Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htay Oo accompanied by departmental officials, secretaries and executives of Division/District/Township USDAs visited Hsutaungpyae Datpaungsu Kyaikhtiyo Alesu monastery in Hinthada Township, Ayeyawady Division on 5 June and offered provisions to the Sayadaw U Kusala .

strong wind with local people.

The Secretary-General and family donated 300 corrugated iron sheets and 60 bags of cement to the headmaster. Well-wishers also presented K 5 million for the reconstruction of the school to the headmaster.

Later, the Secretary-General and party paid homage to Shwethalyaung Pagoda in Nathmaw village in the township and met with locals and members

of social organizations and farmers at the pagoda.

Next, the Secretary-General presented 20 sets of text books for Nathmaw village BEMS to the headmaster and cash donations for the all-round renovation of the pagoda to the responsible persons.

Later, the Secretary-General met with local farmers and attended to the needs.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing attending World Tourism Conference.

MNA

Next, the Secretary-General held discussions on reconstruction of village Basic Education Middle School damaged by

Staff exhorted to serve interests of the State with duty-consciousness

YANGON, 9 June — Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, accompanied by

Managing Director of Myanma Economic Bank U Myat Maw and Director-General of

Internal Revenue Department U Hsan Tun inspected Myanma Economic Bank of

Kyaiklat in Ayeyawady Division yesterday.

The managing director reported on banking that contributes to economic development of the region to the minister.

The minister called for efforts to be made for serving interests of local residents. Next, he inspected Township Revenue Office in Kyaiklat Township.

The minister oversaw work of Myanma Small Loan Enterprise (Branch) in the township.

In Pyapon, he met with officers and staff of the ministry in Kyaiklat,

Pyapon, Bogale and Dedaye townships.

Officials reported on work done and future tasks, banking and revenue to the minister.

The minister exhorted them to carry out the tasks on finance, monetary and revenue in an effective way and to serve the interests of the nation with duty-consciousness.

Thereafter, he inspected Myanma Economic Bank (Branch), IRD (Branch) and MSLE (Branch) in Dedaye, Kunggyangon, Kawhmu and Hlinethaya townships.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun meeting with officers and staff of the F&R Ministry in Pyapon.—F&R

Lt-Gen Maung Bo attends physic nut...

(from page 16)

He said the Ministry of Health takes charge of prevention of diseases, raising of health standard, treatment and rehabilitation. In the changing world, circumstances in socio-economy, environment, technology, population, outbreak of disease and disease-related factors are the 21st century's challenges on health.

Malaria is one of the

major health problems in Myanmar. In the world 300 to 500 million people are at risk from malaria each year and there are one to two million of deaths each year. In Myanmar there are about 700,000 cases of malaria and 2,700 deaths each year.

He said malaria affects both the families concerned and economic progress of the State. Ar-

rangements are being made for reduction of mortality rate from malaria by fifty per cent by the year 2010.

There are largest outbreaks of malaria in the regions in Mon State. That is why the government is taking malaria preventive measures such as education, distribution of mosquito nets treated with insecticide and early diagnosis.

Altogether 15,080 mosquito nets were distributed to 95 villages in two townships and 25,991 mosquito nets to 101 villages in three townships in 2005 and 2006 respectively in Mon State.

The government provided 10,000 mosquito nets to two villages in Bilin Township, a mountainous one.

Deputy Director-General of Health Department Dr San Shwe Win reported on distribution of mosquito nets, prevention of malaria and disease control.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and the commander presented mosquito nets to officials of the villages and they visited the station hospital. Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party arrived back here in the evening.

MNA



Ministry of Health takes charge of prevention of diseases, raising of health standard, treatment and rehabilitation. In the changing world, circumstances in socio-economy, environment, technology, population, outbreak of disease and disease-related factors are the 21st century's challenges on health.

Yangon Mayor inspects construction of Water Purification Plant (Ngamoeyeik)

YANGON, 9 June — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials attended tree planting ceremony in Hlawga Park in Mingaladon Township, Yangon North District this morning.

The mayor and officials planted palm and

physic nuts in the park. Next, the staff grew a total of 41830 trees. Parks and Playgrounds Department under YCDC will grow 600,000 physic nuts and 2300 palm trees.

Afterwards, the mayor and party inspected road repairs at the entrance to Nyaungnapin Camp in Hmawby Township and gave instructions.

At Water Purification Plant (Ngamoeyeik) of Yangon City Water Supply Project, officials reported on construction of the plant and conducted the mayor around the plant. The mayor exhorted the officials concerned to make efforts for supplying more purified water to Yangon City.

Now, Yangon City

Water Supply Projects are supplying 140-million gallons of clean water to Yangon City. Of them, the plant is supplying 45-million gallons of drinking water to the city for the first phase of the plant. Upon completion of the second phase of the plant, additional 45-million gallons of drinking water can be supplied.—YCDC



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin waters a palm tree in Hlawga Park.—YCDC

Lucky draw programme held for Power Tree UPS purchasers

YANGON, 9 June — Direct Channel Distribution (DCD) Co Ltd held a lucky draw programme for its customers of Power Tree UPS at the Traders Hotel here yesterday evening.

First, President Daw Tin Tin Aye of KMD Group of companies extended greetings and CEO Mr William Foo explained products of Power Tree Private Ltd.

Three sales reps who sold the products most were awarded with 1250

Power Tree UPSs. Then followed the lucky draw programme and the winners were presented with 15 gold coins weighing 5 gram each. Then the UPS were sold to the guests at special prices.

UPS purchasers can get two years' guarantee cards and UPSs that break down within a year after being purchased will be replaced with new ones. Power Tree UPSs are now available at reasonable prices.—MNA



Lucky draw programme of Power Tree UPS in progress at Traders Hotel.—MNA

A football match marked for opening of Myanmar League



Commerce Team seen after clinching trophy to mark opening of Myanmar League for 2007-2008 Football Season.—NLM

YANGON, 9 June — A football match in commemoration of the opening of the Myanmar League Football Tournament for 2007-08 football season, organized by Myanmar Football Federation, was held at Aung San Stadium, here,

this afternoon.

President of MFF U Zaw Zaw presented footballs to managers of football teams from Myanmar League, First, Second and Third Divisions.

In the match, Commerce beat Finance

and Revenue 3-0.

Treasurer U Than Zaw of MFF Presented K 100,000 to best player award winner Yazar Win Thein of Commerce. MFF President U Zaw Zaw also gave K 500,000 to second prize winner Finance and Revenue team.

Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General U Thuang Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department awarded K 1 million to first prize winner Commerce.

MNA

An open letter to Daw Suu Kyi

Yebaw Tin Shwe

Daw Suu Kyi,

It has been long since I began to think of sending an open letter to you. Daw Suu Kyi, you are about the age of my daughter or niece. But I address you Daw Suu Kyi as a show of respect as you are the secretary of the NLD, a political party.

As you are the top leader of the party, you need to accept criticism and to apply self-criticism to be able to give long-term leadership and to maintain your political role.

I notice you are weak in making comments and self-criticism.

I have seen you showing so much arrogant pride with ego in the political world.

Daw Suu Kyi, you founded the National League for Democracy when the nation permitted the formation of political parties. I also set up the People's Democracy Party. What I am going to tell you about is based on our experiences then as evidence.

Your party was named the National League for Democracy and formed with the inclusion of intellectuals and intelligentsia and Myochit Yebaw Haungmya (patriotic ex-soldiers). So I assumed the NLD as a united front. So, our party decided to join the NLD. We made a proper request to meet with the NLD brass. I came to the NLD together with Yebaw Aung Myint. I think you remember this.

You and U Win Tin received us and held a meeting. At the meeting, when I said, "As we assume that your party is a united front, we wish to join you like the Myochit Yebaw Haungmya did", you asked, "What is united front?" I was so disappointed to hear your question. It was too bad that a person who was leading a political organization did not understand what united front was.

We both explained the meaning of the united

front to you based on our experiences of the anti-Fascist struggle during the World War II.

When we had finished our explanation, you rejected our offer categorically.

I still remember both of us making an embarrassing retreat from our plan to join NLD.

Your acts showed your haughty manner that sprang from your extreme egoism.

Now, I will tell you about an incident I always remember.

It was during the time when an NLD youth was arrested in front of your headquarters.

At that time, we of the league of democratic Allies decided to visit NLD with our conception — the arrest was the first step of the administrative pressure and to tell NLD that it was not an isolated organization as the league of ours was a friend in need.

After the decision, we made an appointment with Daw Suu Kyi on phone. It was a gentle political step forward.

You and your CECs accepted our offer to hold a meeting.

Led by U Aung Than, (elder brother of Bogyoke Aung San and your uncle) I came to the NLD together with Dr Maung Maung Kyaw, Yebaw Ye Myint and Yebaw Nyunt Thein on the appointed date.

When we arrived at the NLD headquarters, we were told that you were not there. All our efforts were in vain. With the thought that you might have a more important case, we asked, "Where has she gone?", U Win Tin who welcomed us said that you went shopping at Bogyoke Market in downtown Yangon.

How inconsiderate you were! We were all shocked. Instead of paying attention to a political turmoil looming, you were going shopping.

We left after having some conversation with U

Win Tin, U Chit Khaing and Daw Myint Myint Khin in your absence.

Please let me tell you what U Aung Than said while we were on our way back to our party in a car.

He said, "She should wait for me as I am her uncle."

Your act showed that you never valued fellow politicians and gave consideration to work.

As my letter will be somewhat long, I would like to request you to read till the end.

Another thing I would like to mention is about an incident that occurred when the NLD and allies were canvassing for votes during pre-multiparty-election period.

A meeting of the alliance was held at NLD HQ. The hall was full of participants as each party sent two representatives. Widhura Thakin Chit Maung and me were also there.

The top agenda of the meeting was to hold a dialogue between the State Law and Order Restoration Council and the multiparty representatives. From the political point of view, such dialogue was a very important matter. So, it was unanimously approved by all the representatives.

After the matter was approved, the representatives who in accord with their prior agreement they made with the NLD tabled a motion to choose you as the representative to hold talks with the government.

Widhura Thakin Chit Maung made a suggestion, saying that as it was a matter of great importance, a group of representatives should be sent, instead of choosing Daw Suu Kyi alone for the mission. I hope you still have it in your memory.

At the meeting, Vidhura Thakin Chit Maung came under harsh criticism of other attendees. You responded that only a single representative of you was enough to hold talks.

Then, youth members of the NLD cried out "Get out, Thakin Chit Maung, we don't want you". So, he had to leave the meeting room.

I would say, actually, it was a heartbreaking event that indicated your conceit.

Another incident took place before the election the SLORC government would hold under Election Law it had promulgated.

At a meeting, we presented a proposal to NLD to combine democracy parties as a multiple force to win victory over the National Unity Party (NUP), but your party did not accept the proposal.

So, we had to seek an alternative means. Formation of a multiple force of democracy parties was unacceptable to NLD, so our party made a suggestion that the representative of the

(See page 9)

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(from page 8)

multiple force vie with the representative of NUP in a constituency. And if so, there would be representatives of various parties in the Hluttaw (legislative body). Leaders and representatives of Da Ma Pha party would not take part in the constituencies where NLD leaders would stand for election, and in return, leaders of NLD and NLD headquarters would not have to take part in the constituencies where leaders and representatives of Da Ma Pha party would stand for election. And a prospective candidate from NLD or one of the democracy parties would be chosen to stand for election in each constituency, it said.

At the time, you had been under restrictions.

However, in response to the proposal, NLD leaders under your influence said that they could not cooperate and share the seats with any other party. In fact, their response completely lacked regard for the opinion of others.

By the way, I would also like to present the cause of why you have been gradually losing public support.

You did not understand even the most fundamental work programme of a political party. A political party needs to win the support and favour of the people. In the process, it has to stand firmly by the people in the most fundamental and most effective work programme of fulfilling the basic needs of the people. In a word, any act of a person must not cause physical and mental sufferings of others. And his acts should help the people lead an easy and peaceful life.

In that regard, you made a serious mistake for which the people will never forgive you.

It was your demand for global action to impose economic sanctions against Myanmar, making no foreign investments in and withdrawal of ongoing foreign enterprises from the nation, and not visiting Myanmar.

Your expectation was just a soap bubble that the blockage would lead to hardships of the people, high rate of unemployment and hunger and to mass demonstration. Then, you would get an opportunity to seize power through short cut.

But your dream would not come true. The crises the nation is facing are due to the scheme

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you plotted in collusion with the US, not because of the Tatmadaw government. It is very distinct to the people, so, they will never get involved in any movements designed to protest the government. They have no choice but to brave the undesirable effects of the acts you have committed.

You would have your wishes fulfilled if such crises were owing to a wrong policy of the Tatmadaw government.

Because of the mistakes you have made, you are losing the support of the people and at the same time members of your party are resigning from the party en masse.

I would like to point out another mistake of yours in connection with the State constitution. You refused to accept the State constitution being drawn by the National Convention the Tatmadaw government was convening, saying that you would accept the State constitution you would write by yourself.

Do you think the State constitution to be drawn by yourself will be as extensive and comprehensive as the State constitution being framed through discussions of representatives of the people from all parts of the nation, representatives of political parties, intellectuals and intelligentsia and experienced persons?

I have heard that you have a plan to wage attacks on the State constitution to be formulated and then adopted by the National Convention after formulating a rival.

It is such a piece of inauspicious news to the

people because the plan may serve as barrier to the drive for the practice of multiparty democracy aspired by the people and establishment of a democratic government.

You showed your arrogance before the election, and your conceit reached its peak after the election.

You took pride for the fact that the majority of the electorate supported NLD, and your party won votes much more than any other party.

In reality, the people cast their votes for NLD not because they liked the policy, leadership and future programmes of the party, but because you are the daughter of Bogyoke Aung San, the people at that time were weary of the one-party Socialism, and the party members canvassing for votes offered an entice to the people that if they wanted to see your release, they had to vote for NLD, and soon after NLD won the election, a government would be formed and if so restrictions placed on you would be lifted.

As a matter of fact, these votes were not firm ones and were related to personal attachment and they absolutely lacked political value. So, it will be totally wrong if you think you won the majority of the votes.

My letter is a little long. In conclusion, I would say that you should deduce from what I have presented and make self-criticism.

May you notice and correct your mistakes!

Translation: TMT+MS

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 9-6-2007

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China says rich nations must lead on greenhouse gas cuts

BEIJING, 8 June — Chinese President Hu Jintao has called for developing countries to play a role in tackling climate change, but said the onus was on industrialized countries to take the lead, *Xinhua* news agency reported on Friday. Hu made the comments in Germany, where he attended G-8 meetings at which world leaders agreed to pursue substantial, but unspecified, cuts in greenhouse gases and work with the United Nations on a new deal to fight global warming by 2009.

“Considering both historical responsibility and current capability, developed countries should take the lead in reducing carbon emission and help developing countries ease and adapt to climate change,” Hu told a meeting of five developing powers — China, Brazil, India, Mexico and South Africa.

“For developing countries, achieving economic growth and improving the lives of our people are top priorities,” *Xinhua* quoted Hu as saying. “At the same time, we also need to

make every effort to pursue sustainable development in accordance with our national conditions.”

China, the world’s number two emitter after the United States, is facing growing calls to sign up to quotas for taming greenhouse gas emissions, but it has resisted specific targets. It says sacrificing economic ambitions to international demands for cuts will dent growth in poor nations and do more damage than climate

change.

The head of China’s Meteorological Administration chimed in on Friday, saying that rich countries were never bound by restrictions on emissions in the process of their development. “Particularly China, India and other developing countries, they are developing very quickly, and (developed countries) could use the climate change card to curb their growth,” Zheng Guoguang said in an online forum.

MNA/Reuters



Visitors look at the photos at the Tibet photo exhibition in Bucharest, capital of Romania, on 7 June, 2007. A total of 115 photos taken by the photographers from all over the world were displayed at the exhibition sponsored by the Romanian culture ministry and the Chinese Embassy in Bucharest. — XINHUA



Spanish bullfighter Alejandro Talavante goes for the kill during San Isidro’s bullfighting fair at Madrid’s Las Ventas bullring on 7 June, 2007. Madrid honours its patron saint San Isidro every year with a fair which includes cultural events and concerts as well as three weeks of bullfights. — XINHUA

Study shows sugar supplement may treat immune disease

LONDON, 8 June — A sugar supplement may treat immune disease by sweetening the overactive immune cells responsible for autoimmune diseases such as multiple sclerosis (MS) and Type 1 diabetes and stopping them from attacking the body’s tissues, a study shows.

Naturally occurring N-acetylglucosamine (GlcNAc) molecules attach to T-cell receptors and these GlcNAc “branches” form a lattice on the cell surface that prevents the receptors from clustering near where the antigens are located, US researchers found, according to the latest issue of *New Scientist* available here Thursday.

GlcNAc is a similar but

more potent compound like glucosamine, a dietary supplement commonly taken by people with osteoarthritis, which has some immunosuppressive effects.

A large number of proteins in the body are modified by the attachment of sugar molecules to their surface through a process called glycosylation, and altered glycosylation has been implicated in some autoimmune diseases triggered when receptors on the outside of immune cells called T-helper 1 (Th1) cells start binding “self” antigens rather than pieces of foreign invaders. And anything that decreases the amount of binding should suppress the autoimmune response.

Researchers under the leadership of Michael Demetriou at the University of California, Irvine, US, found that mice given oral GlcNAc supplements had twice as much GlcNAc branching on their T-cell receptors as untreated mice.

The researchers also found that T-cells engineered to cause the mouse equivalent of MS failed to do so if they had been incubated in GlcNAc first.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

A restaurant in Suzhou presents various innovative zongzi (Chinese-style rice pudding) on 6 June, 2007 to celebrate the forthcoming Dragon-Boat Festival, which will fall on 19 June this year. — INTERNET



Death toll rises to 12 by Cyclone Gonu in Oman

ABU DHABI, 8 June — The death toll rose to 12 persons killed by Cyclone Gonu, which swept Oman this week, a Royal Oman Police spokesman told state-owned Oman TV on Thursday.

“So far, 12 deaths have been confirmed,” Abdullah al-Harhi told Oman TV. Cyclone Gonu, the strongest tropical storm to hit the Gulf in three decades, reached the Omani coastal areas early Wednesday.

The storm battered Oman’s coastal areas, including the Omani capital Muscat, with strong winds and heavy rains

before heading northwards on Thursday on its way to southeastern Iran.

MNA/Xinhua

Russian pilot dies in plane crash

MOSCOW, 8 June — A pilot died after a small plane crashed in Russia’s eastern Ryazan Region Wednesday morning, the *ITAR-TASS* news agency reported.

The plane was on an agricultural mission when it hit the ground at about 9:29 am Moscow Time (0529 GMT), regional emergency bureau officials was quoted as saying.

The pilot died later when he was rushed to a hospital. There are no immediate reports about casualties on the ground.

The crash also smashed a transformer substation on the ground and caused power failures in two nearby villages.

World's first solar-powered mobile phone developed in China

BEIJING, 9 June — A Chinese company says it has developed a mobile phone that uses solar energy to recharge itself and can provide 40 minutes of talk-time after sitting in the sun for an hour.

Hi-Tech Wealth, a well-known telecommunication products supplier in China, claims its mobile phone is the world's first to use solar power to recharge its battery.

The company says a

scale-like solar panel on the top side of the clamshell-designed phone can also be recharged by light from other sources including candles.

Hi-Tech Wealth says it has developed the most advanced solar power technology and owns eight patents and has applied for numerous others.

Many companies around the world are working on similar mobile phones but their products are still at the experimental stage, said an official with

Hi-Tech Wealth.

Zhang Zhengyu, chairman of Hi-Tech Wealth, said the company began researching the use of light as an energy source in 2000 and has invested hundreds of millions of yuan.

"With more than 400 million mobile phones in the country, China would save a great amount of electricity if all its mobile phones were recharged by light," Zhang said, adding that the lifespan of the battery in the new phone is 2.5 times longer than traditional batteries.

MNA/Xinhua



A fresco painted by Renaissance master Sandro Botticelli depicting one of the four medieval virtues, temperance, is seen in the chapel of the castle of Esztergom, 50 km (31 miles) northwest of Budapest on 8 June, 2007. The painting belongs to a group of four frescos originally recovered in the 1930s but the fresco was found to have been by Botticelli only during a third round of renovations which began in 2000. —INTERNET

Bracelet? Knocker? Experts divided on gold rings' function

BEIJING, 8 June — Bracelet or door-knocker? Archeologists are proffering their guesses as to the function of a pair of rings excavated from the "Nanhai No 1" undersea archeological site, according to *Guangzhou Daily* reports.

Tong Mingkang, vice director of the State Administration of Cultural Heritage, made the guess after he visited the archeological site in person, saying the so-called bracelet made of pure gold may actually be a semi-finished pair of dazzling knockers.

Tong said that this pair of rings is too big to be bracelets: bracelets often measure six or seven centimeters in diameter, while this pair of gold rings measures about 10 centimeters. Furthermore, they are not complete circles, with the upper part left open. Tong said he thinks this part to have been attached to a door, or a trunk.

Tong's opinion gained support from some warm-hearted local citizens, who concurred that the pair of rings do indeed resemble the knockers on the doors of their traditional housing.

Other experts stick to the opinion that the salvaged objects are bracelets.

Archeologist Du Yubing said that, in ancient Chinese society, human hierarchy was evident in every nook and cranny, and strictly adhered-to. This pair of rings, made from valuable gold, should, like royal palaces, match the style of their imperial class. Besides, even if they are knockers, he said, they are too soft to make very satisfying knockers.

Based on the fact that the cargo carried on "Nanhai No 1" were all exporting goods to consumers at the other end of the maritime Silk Road, Du said, this pair of rings are more likely to be bracelets. Indeed, there is a chance that they were aimed at some fat, jolly merchants from central Asia. — Internet



More scientific studies are still needed to review these gold rings' function. —INTERNET



Cast member Ginnifer Goodwin poses at the premiere of the HBO original series "Big Love" at the Cinerama Dome in Hollywood, California on 7 June, 2007. The television series premieres in the US on 11 June. — INTERNET

Singapore leaders, GCC chief discuss FTA

SINGAPORE, 9 June — Visiting Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Abdulrahman Hamad Al-Attiyah and Singapore leaders on Friday discussed the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two sides.

Abdulrahman, who is paying a five-day visit to Singapore started from Wednesday, met with Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong separately.

According to a statement by Prime Minister's Office, Abdulrahman and Goh discussed the cooperation between Singapore and the GCC, including the proposed GCC-Singapore FTA.

They also talked about broader opportunities for countries in Asia and the Middle East to work together, and exchanged views on developments in the Middle East, especially the situations in Iran and Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua

14 Killed in Diyala Province attack

BAGHDAD, 9 June — Gunmen attacked the house of a senior police official in Diyala Province on Friday, killing 14 people including his wife, and kidnapped his four children, police sources said.

They said the two brothers of Colonel Ali Delyan Ahmed, the head of police in Baquba north of Baghdad, were among the dead.

It was not clear if Ahmed was at his house in Kanaan, southeast of Baquba, at the time of the attack.

Diyala is a large religiously and ethnically mixed province which has seen some of the worst violence in Iraq since the US-led invasion to topple Saddam Hussein in March 2003.

Killings and attacks by al-Qaeda occur regularly in Diyala, which is a mainly Sunni Arab Province but also has significant Shiite and Kurdish populations.

About 3,000 extra US troops have been sent to Diyala to combat a recent spike in violence.

MNA/Reuters

Genes contributing to common diseases identified

LONDON, 7 June — An unprecedented selection of genes that contribute to common diseases has been identified by the biggest survey of the human genome, promising to transform treatment and diagnosis of everyday health problems.



Thursday. The report said that the discovery by the Wellcome Trust Case Control Consortium is a landmark in humanity's ability to understand genetic code, illustrating how variations in DNA make different people susceptible to diseases, and opens new approaches to research into type-1 and type-2 diabetes, obesity, heart disease, Crohn's disease, bipolar disorder and rheumatoid arthritis.

Thursday.

Twenty-four genetic variants influencing seven common conditions that together affect tens of millions of people have been identified in the study which screened DNA samples from 17,000 British volunteers, according to the latest issue of the *Nature* published here on

Xinhua

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G-8 calls for world joint efforts to secure freedom of investment

HEILIGENDAMM (Germany), 8 June — Leaders of the Group of Eight (G-8) industrialized nations called here on Thursday for joint efforts around the world to secure freedom of investment and maximize the benefits from cross-border investment.

The G-8 reaffirmed its commitment to the freedom of investment, and urged efforts to promote an open investment environment in industrialized nations and emerging economies, according to a G-8 summit declaration published on the official website of the annual event.

"We reaffirm that freedom of investment is a crucial pillar of economic growth, prosperity and employment," it said.

Meanwhile, the group of the world's leading economic powers promised to help achieve

greater benefits from and sustainability of foreign direct investments (FDI) for developing countries.

It also pledged efforts to promote and strengthen corporate and other forms of social responsibility concerning the freedom of investment.

MNA/Xinhua

Dutch students develop powdered alcohol for minors

AMSTERDAM, 8 June — Dutch students have developed powdered alcohol which they say can be sold legally to minors.

The latest innovation in inebriation, called Booz2Go, is available in 20-gramme packets that cost 1-1.5 euros (1.35-US dollars - 2 US dollars).

Top it up with water and you have a bubbly, lime-coloured and -flavoured

drink with just 3 per cent alcohol content. "We are aiming for the youth market. They are really more into it because you can compare it with Bacardi-mixed drinks," 20-year-old Harm van Elderen told Reuters.

Van Elderen and four classmates at Helicon Vocational Institute, about an hour's drive from Amsterdam, came up with the idea as part of their final-

year project.

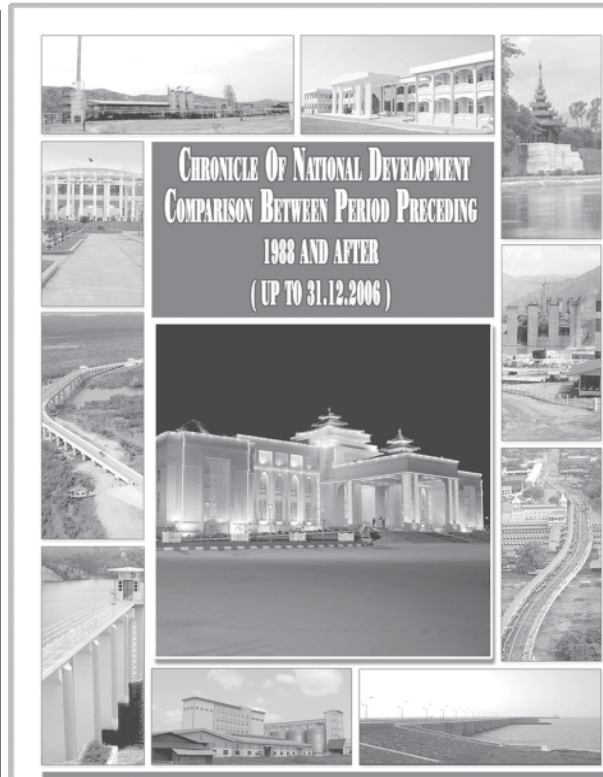
"Because the alcohol is not in liquid form, we can sell it to people below 16," said project member Martyn van Nierop. The legal age for drinking alcohol and smoking is 16 in the Netherlands.

In Germany, alcopops — sweet drinks containing alcohol and in powder form — caused quite a stir when launched on to the market. Alcohol powder, classified as a flavouring, was sold in the United States three years ago. The students said companies interested in making the product commercially could avoid taxes because the alcohol was in powder form. A number of companies are interested, they said.

MNA/Reuters



An Iraqi woman holds her child inside a bus as they wait to leave for Syria, in Al-Salhiyah bus station in Baghdad, on 7 June, 2007. Hundreds of Iraqis leave Baghdad daily by travelling to Syria on buses to avoid the sectarian violence, a manager in the bus station said. — XINHUA



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China's Bank wins FT Sustainable Award

LONDON, 8 June — China's Industrial Bank emerged as runner-up after Deutsche Bank in the Sustainable Deal of the Year category at the Financial Times Sustainable Banking Awards ceremony held here Thursday night.

The 19-year-old bank, a commercial bank head-

quartered in southeastern China's Fujian Province, won the award mainly for its utility-based Energy Efficiency Finance Programme, aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the country.

The programme, kicked off merely six months ago, has financed nine projects with a total loan of 17

million US dollars, helping China reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than two million tons of CO2 and equivalent.

The bank's energy efficiency programme, supported by International Financial Corporation, offers tailor-made financing tools to support industrial, commercial and residential entities implementing energy efficiency improvement projects and use of cleaner fuels and renewable energy. "This is very encouraging for such a young bank like ours, and we will try harder to contribute our efforts for

a greener and healthier world, which is also in the long-term interests of our development as a commercial bank," Zhu Liyong, general manager of the corporate banking department of the bank said.

The FT Sustainable Banking Awards, an annual event started last year, has five categories, namely, Achievement in Carbon Finance, Sustainable Deal of the Year, Sustainable Bankers of the Year, Emerging Markets Sustainable Bank of the Year and Sustainable Bank of the Year.

MNA/Xinhua

Fertility rate at 26-year high in England

LONDON, 8 June — The fertility rate in England and Wales is at a 26-year high.

The average number of children per woman in England and Wales rose to 1.87 in 2006 — the highest since 1980, the latest total fertility rates (TFRs) from the Office for National Statistics showed.

It is the fifth year in a row that the figure has risen, with the latest representing nearly a 4-per cent rise on 2005.

The lowest point in the

recent past was in 2001 when the TFR was 1.63.

The highest percentage increase last year was observed among women in their late thirties. There were 53.8 live births per 1,000 women aged between 35 and 39, an increase of more than 7 per cent compared with the previous year.

Fertility rates for women aged 40 continued to rise, to 11.4 births per thousand for those aged between 40 and 44 — more than double the 1986 figure. The average age of women giving birth increased to 29.1 years in 2006, up slightly from 29 the year before.

MNA/Reuters

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Two diabetes drugs get "black box" warning

BEIJING, 8 June — The US Food and Drug Administration has asked that two controversial type 2 diabetes drugs carry a "black box" warning on the potentially heightened risk of congestive heart failure in some patients, according to media reports on Thursday.

There's already a warning on the drug's label that Avandia raises the risk of heart failure in some patients but the FDA said it is asking for a more prominent "black box" warning. The agency also said it has asked the maker of a similar drug, Actos, to apply the same warning. Actos is made by Takeda Pharmaceutical Co and is co-marketed in the US by Eli Lilly & Co.

risks but is focusing on more recent data suggesting it increases the risks for heart attacks. Heart failure is typically a condition that develops over time and characterized by the heart's inability to properly pump blood.

In von Eschenbach's testimony, he said the agency sent letters to the makers of Avandia and

Actos requesting a so-called black-box warning in the drugs to "more prominently address the risks of congestive heart failure associated with the use of these drugs in certain patients." Von Eschenbach said despite existing warnings, the drugs were still being prescribed to patients with heart failure.

Internet



The GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) headquarters compound in west London. Controversy over diabetes drug Avandia heated up Wednesday as experts pointed to studies linking it to greater heart attack risk, while a GSK study claimed rosiglitazone is safe. — INTERNET

The FDA's comments were made in the written testimony of FDA Commissioner Andrew von Eschenbach that was prepared for a US House hearing looking at the FDA's role in evaluating safety issues with the drug.

The current safety debate, however, isn't whether Avandia increases the heart failure



Apple Inc's new iPhone. —INTERNET

Three million iPhones ready on opening day

BEIJING, 8 June — When the iPhone was first introduced in January, Steve Jobs said he expected to sell 10 million of the devices by the end of 2008. That sounded like wishful thinking then. But with all the global hype around the device leading up to its 29 June launch, Jobs' projection sounds almost conservative.

Around 2009, when the lower cost version of iPhone appears, Business Week believes

the yearly market for iPhones could be over 10 billion US dollars a year. Its an interesting prediction; if those numbers come to pass, iPhone could become a bigger source of revenue than the traditional iPod.

The answer may not come until 2009. By then, Apple should have begun creating lower-cost iPhone variants to reach consumers scared off by the introductory price of 499 US dollars. It also will

probably have moved into overseas markets and cut deals with more carriers to utilize higher-speed wireless networks. So while most analysts look for Apple to sell around 3 million units this year and 10 to 12 million in 2008, many figure that 20 million will move in 2009.

According to BusinessWeek, Apple will have 3 million iPhones ready for sale on opening day.

Internet

Study: new STD replaces gonorrhea as No 1

BEIJING, 8 June — Mycoplasma genitalium, a relatively new sexually transmitted infection, has become more prevalent among young adults in the United States than Neisseria gonorrhoea, according to a new study.

The infection was first identified in the 1980s. It can cause inflammation of the urethra (the urinary passage from the bladder), in men, and inflammation of the cervix and the lining of the uterus in women, possibly leading to infertility. However, it seems many cases of the infection are symptom-free.

"Many M genitalium infections are asymptomatic, like chlamydial infections," principal investigator Dr Lisa Manhart told Reuters Health. "However, unlike chlamydia, it is probably too soon to recommend widespread screening for M genitalium."

In the current study, researchers at the University of Washington, Seattle, tested 1,714 women and 1,218 men between the ages of 18 and 27 years participating in Wave III of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health.

Results of the study are published in the American Journal of Public Health. The investigators found Mycoplasma genitalium infection in 1 percent of the participants. In contrast, the prevalence of gonorrhoea was 0.4 percent. The prevalence of chlamydia infection was 4.2 percent.

The occurrence of Mycoplasma genitalium

infection was 11 times higher among individuals living with a sexual partner, seven times higher among blacks and four times higher among those who use condoms during sex. — Internet

Scientists light bulb with "wireless electricity"

BEIJING, 8 June — Scientists may have signaled an end to electric cords and batteries when they lit a 60-watt light bulb from a power source seven feet away without using a physical connection. The researchers have named their concept "WiTricity" as in "wireless electricity."

MIT physicist Marin Soljacic started thinking years ago about

how to transmit power wirelessly so his cell phone could recharge

without ever being plugged in.

The problem with wireless power transmission is that broadcasting energy in all directions can be very wasteful because a vast majority of power ends up being squandered into free space.

Soljacic and his colleagues devised WiTricity based on resonance. Two objects resonating at the same frequency tend to exchange energy efficiently, while interacting weakly with objects not resonating at the same frequency.

Internet



Actors Emraan Hashmi (C), Geeta Basra (R) and Sayali Bhagat (L) arrive for the premiere of the Bollywood film "The Train" in Castleford, northern England, on 7 June, 2007. — XINHUA

SPORTS



Switzerland's Roger Federer hits a return to Russia's Nikolay Davydenko in a semi-final match at the French Open tennis tournament at Roland Garros in Paris on 8 June, 2007. — INTERNET

Federer wipes out 73-year record

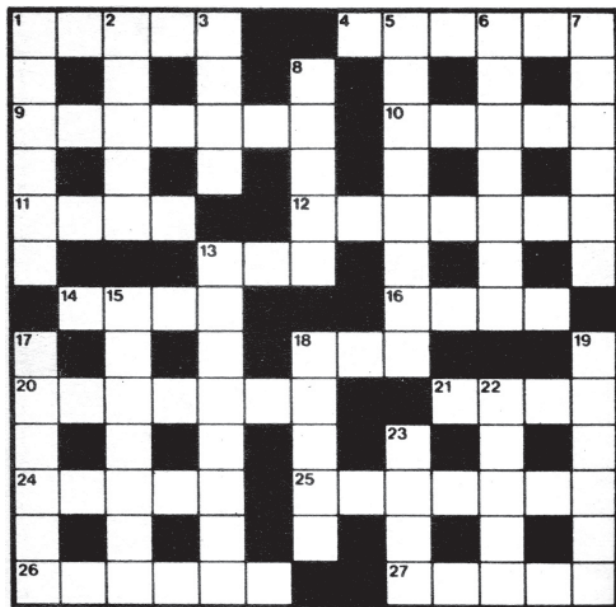
PARIS, 9 June — Roger Federer wiped out a 73-year-old record on Friday when he became the first man to reach eight consecutive Grand Slam finals at the French Open. Jack Crawford's name had stood the test of time for generations as the Australian had contested seven successive finals in 1933 and 1934.

On Friday, Federer made the record his own when he subdued Nikolay Davydenko 7-5, 7-6, 7-6 to set up a final date with defending champion Rafael Nadal.

Federer last failed to reach a showpiece match in 2005, when nemesis Nadal sent him packing in the semis of the French Open.

Having had to wait until one month before his 22nd birthday for his first Grand Slam, at Wimbledon in 2003, Federer felt the the latest achievement was a testament to how he was able to overcome his shortcomings.—MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Feathered creatures
- 4 Feeling concern
- 9 Opposite
- 10 Mouldy
- 11 Aid
- 12 Flagrant offence
- 13 Is able
- 14 Farinaceous food
- 16 Consumes
- 18 Cushion
- 20 Sad
- 21 Festivity
- 24 Girl's name
- 25 Something left over
- 26 Item in register
- 26 Oxford college
- 27 Item in register

DOWN

- 1 Shining
- 2 French composer
- 3 Kind
- 5 Acknowledged
- 6 Immediate
- 7 Hot spring
- 8 Devil
- 13 Finish
- 15 Accomplish
- 17 Useless
- 18 Electricity tower
- 19 Larder
- 22 Representative
- 23 Rim

Panama beat Honduras 3-2 in CONCACAF Gold Cup

EAST RUTHERFORD (New Jersey), 9 June — Panama, the beaten finalists two years ago, beat Honduras 3-2 on Friday in the opening Group C match of the CONCACAF Gold Cup.

Honduras, who lost to the United States in the 2005 semifinals, dominated the opening stages, with Maynor Figueroa heading a corner over and Jorge Aaron Claros forcing goalkeeper Jaime Penedo to push his long-range effort round the post.

But the game changed in the 25th minutes when Honduras' Wilson

Palacios was sent off for a lunging tackle on Carlos Rivera. Eight minutes later, Rivera put Panama ahead, bursting into the penalty area and firing a low angled left-foot shot through the hands of Orlin Vallecillo.

Honduras equalized in the 40th minute when Amado Guevara, a crowd favourite at Giants Stadium from his days in the New York Red Bulls midfield, bent a free kick around the Panamanian wall into the top corner from the edge of the area.

But Panama went ahead again

when Blas Perez rose to power a header past Vallecillo from a Roman Torres cross two minutes before halftime.— MNA/Reuters



Salvador's Ronald Cerritos (R) and Trinidad and Tobago's Thomas Nickolson jump for the ball during their CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer match in Carson, California, on 7 June, 2007. — INTERNET

Rijkaard sees title race going down to final day

MADRID, 9 June — Barcelona coach Frank Rijkaard said on Friday he did not think the Primera Liga title would be settled in Saturday's penultimate round of matches.

Real Madrid lead the standings

with 72 points, ahead of Barcelona due to their superior head-to-head record, with two games left. Sevilla are two points behind in third place.

The defending champions are at home to city rivals Espanyol, while Real have to visit bogey team Real Zaragoza. Sevilla travel to play Real Mallorca.

"Whoever finishes this weekend's round of matches on top will have a big advantage, but the title will not be decided until the final day," Rijkaard told a news conference.

Barca's final match on June 17 is away to already relegated Gimnastic Tarragona, when Real are at home to receive Mallorca.

Much has been made of the rivalry between the two Barcelona-based sides, and the fact that even though Espanyol have nothing left to play for on Saturday they will be determined to deny Barca a third consecutive title.

"We know all about them and will have to play very well. It is also a motivation for us," the Dutchman continued.— MNA/Reuters



America's Cup defender Alinghi practises in preparation for the 32nd America's Cup match race against challenger Emirates Team New Zealand, in Valencia on 8 June, 2007. — INTERNET

Blanc takes over from Ricardo at Bordeaux

BORDEAUX (France), 9 June — Former France defender Laurent Blanc has been named as the new coach of Girondins Bordeaux, the Ligue 1 club said on Friday.

Blanc, 41, was a member of the France squads that won the 1998 World Cup and 2000 European Championship, although he missed the World Cup final itself after being contentiously sent off in the semifinal against Croatia.

He replaces Brazilian Ricardo, who has moved on to Ligue 1 rivals Monaco.

The much-travelled Blanc notably played for Barcelona, Marseille, Inter Milan and Manchester

United during a prolific career in which he won 97 caps for France.

Since retiring as a player in 2003, he has passed all his coaching

diplomas and despite having no previous coaching experience, he has signed a two-year contract with the club.

MNA/Reuters



Italy's national soccer team goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon tries to stop a ball during a training session in Milanello training grounds, near Milan, on 4 June, 2007. Italy and Lithuania will play their Euro 2008 Group B qualifying soccer match in Kaunas on Wednesday. — XINHUA

Israeli, French win mixed doubles at French Open

PARIS, 9 June — Andy Ram from Israel and France's Nathalie Dechy won the French Open mixed doubles title on Thursday, beating the pairing of Serbia's Nenad Zimonjic and Slovenia's Katerina Srebotnik 7-5, 6-3.

Ram and Dechy were eighth seeds and underdogs against the Zimonjic and Srebotnik pairing, who were the reigning champions.

The Israeli/French pairing were supported by a partisan crowd and triumphed in one hour and 12 minutes. Dechy and Ram was particularly aggressive at the net and their go-for-break attitude paid off in the end. — MNA/Xinhua

Cedar, rosewood fail to win protection at UN talks

THE HAGUE, 9 June — Bids to curb logging of South and Central American cedar and rosewood trees, the source of some of the world's most valuable timber, failed on Thursday at a United Nations wildlife meeting.

Germany, acting on behalf of the European Union, withdrew proposals requesting the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) regulate cedar and

rosewood trade, after strong opposition from Central and South America.

Brazilwood, used to produce violin bows, was the only tree species to win

tighter protection after Brazil sought trade curbs at the 3-15 June meeting in The Hague.

The EU and conservationists had argued the cedar and rosewood, both used to make furniture and musical instruments, needed protection due to a significant depletion in

numbers resulting from too much logging, some of it illegal.

But Mexico and South American countries, where cedar and rosewood logging is a lucrative business, said there was not enough evidence to suggest the trees were in danger.

MNA/Reuters



Soccer players attend an exhibition soccer match on the Jungfrau glacier during the Euro 2008 "one year to go" official ceremony on 8 June, 2007.

INTERNET

Morales visits mentor Castro in Cuba

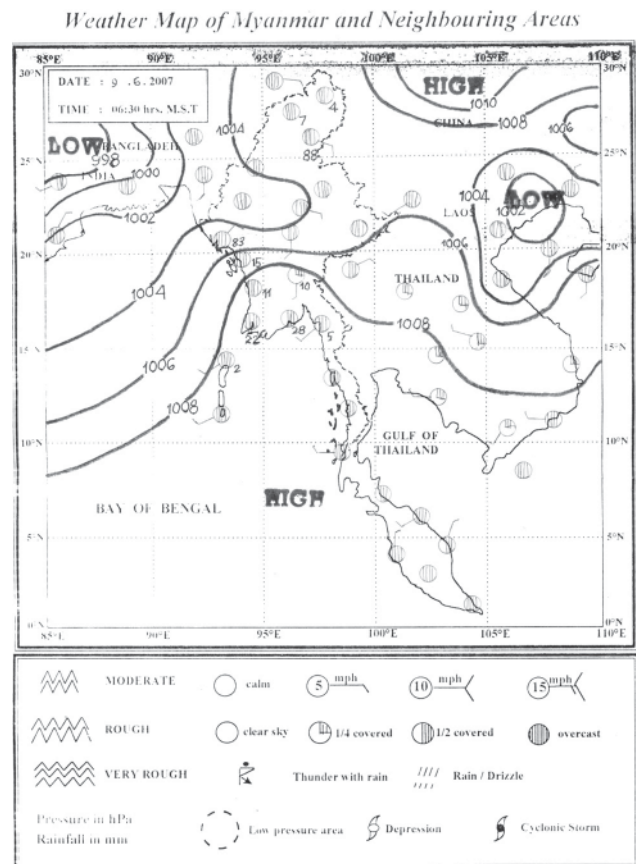
HAVANA, 9 June — Bolivian President Evo Morales visited convalescing Fidel Castro on Thursday and said the Cuban leader looked like he had recovered well from a health crisis that sidelined him from power.

In a quick one-day trip to Havana, Morales met with Cuba's acting president, Raul Castro, who took over from his brother 10 months ago, and other Cabinet members.

Morales, Bolivia's first indigenous President, said he spoke with Fidel Castro for two-and-a-half hours

about health, education and energy issues facing Latin America's developing nations.

"He looks much recovered," a beaming Morales said of the 80-year-old leader, whom he considers an ideological beacon.— MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Saturday, 9 June, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway Divisions, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in lower Sagaing and Taninthayi Division, scattered in Shan and Chin States, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavy fall in Rakhine State and isolated heavy fall in Kachin State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.08) inch, Maungdaw (4.17) inches, Sittwe (3.78) inches, Myitkyina (3.54) inches, Mogok (1.57) inches, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and Yangon (Central) (1.10) inches each, Machanbaw (1.06) inches and Hpa-an (1.03) inches.

Maximum temperature on 8-6-2007 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 9-6-2007 was 75°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 9-6-2007 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 8-6-2007 was (3.0) hour approx.

Rainfall on 9-6-2007 was (0.59) inch at Mingaladon, (1.10) inches at Kaba-Aye, (1.10) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (33.03) inches at Mingaladon, (38.38) inches at Kaba-Aye and (35.31) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from West at (15:30) hours MST on 8-6-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 9-6-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin, Chin, Rakhine States, upper Sagaing Division, fairly widespread in Shan and Kayah States, scattered in Mon and Kayin States, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Ayeyawad and Yangon Divisions and isolated in the 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. **Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 10-6-2007:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 10-6-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 10-6-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).



Sunday, 10 June
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -All I want is you
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -Viva forever
- 8:50 am National news
- 9:00 am Music: -Beautiful life
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Cultural Images of Myanmar
- 9:10 am Music: -Non-stop drops of libation water marking the endless charity of the donors
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40pm Children's delight (story) -Mae Htwe & the big tortoise
- 1:50pm Songs for children
- 9:00pm Weekly news review
- 9:10pm Article
- 9:20pm Music / LIETS -I will be back for more -You belong to me
- 9:45 pm News /Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Sunday, 10 June
View on today

- 7:00 am
 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
 2. To be healthy exercises
 3. Morning news
 4. Nice and sweet song
 5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈) ဖြာမင်္ဂလာ
 6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
 7. ယာကြီးရေထိန်းတံ
 8. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
 9. Internetaional news
 10. Say it in English
- 7:25 am
- 7:30 am
- 7:40 am
- 7:50 am
- 8:05 am
- 8:10 am
- 8:20 am
- 8:30 am
- 8:45 am
- 11:00 am
 1. Martial song
 2. Musical programme
 3. Round up of the Week's International news
 4. Yan Can Cook
 5. Myanmar Movie: "သီတာရေကြည်" (ညွန့်ဝင်း၊ ခင်သီတာထွန်း၊ မြင့်မြင့်ခင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်မြင်မြတ်)
 6. ဥတုရာသီတောကိုဖို့
 7. Musical programme
 8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
 9. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ (တောထန်းထွက်ကုန်အမယ် စုံကျေးရွာအလူးဝင်ငွေထူး)
 10. Internetaional news
 1. Martial song
 2. Song to uphold National Spirit
 3. English for everyday use
- 11:10 am
- 11:25 am
- 11:40 am
- 11:55 pm
- 1:50 pm
- 2:00 pm
- 2:15 pm
- 2:30 pm
- 2:45 pm
- 4:00 pm
- 4:15 pm
- 4:30 pm
- 4:40 pm
- 5:00 pm
- 5:30 pm
- 6:00 pm
- 6:30 pm
- 6:35 pm
- 7:00 pm
- 7:10 pm
- 8:00 pm
- 8:15 pm
- 8:30 pm
- 8:45 pm
- 9:00 pm
- 9:10 pm
- 9:20 pm
- 9:30 pm
- 9:40 pm
- 9:50 pm
- 10:00 pm

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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Lt-Gen Maung Bo attends physic nut cultivation, distribution of mosquito nets treated with insecticide in Mon State

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departments arrived at Naungkala Village in Thaton Township on 7 June.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party attended the physic nut cultivation ceremony.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Commander Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win and Brig-Gen Myint Soe of Thaton Station presented physic nut saplings to departmental personnel, members of the social association and local people.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and

the commander planted physic nut saplings and visited those who participated in the cultivation.

Over 10,000 acres of physic nut out of 20,000 have been grown for 2007-2008.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party went to Daukyat Village in the township and they attended a ceremony to distribute mosquito nets treated with insecticide free of charge to local people at the station hospital.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo said the government has given priority to the uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the people. It also promotes public health care service while building infrastructures on health in the country including far-flung areas. In order to carry out the tasks for development of the health sector sys-

tematically, the National Health Committee was formed, he said.

He said the NHC formulated national health plan in accord with the national health policy for successful implementation of the tasks calling for uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the people, one of the four social objectives.

(See page 7)

Lt-Gen Maung Bo presenting mosquito nets at Daukyat Village, Bilin Township, Mon State.—MNA



World Population Day marked

YANGON, 9 June — Poster contests to mark World Population Day (2007) organized by the Ministry of Immigration and Population and the

UN Funds for Population Activities took place simultaneously at the designated places in states and divisions from 9 am to 1 pm today.

Chairman of Yangon

Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win visited the contest of Yangon Division held at No 1 Basic Education

High School in Lanmadaw Township, Yangon West District.

Altogether 139 students took part in the contest.

MNA



Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win visits poster contests to mark World Population Day (2007). — MNA

NLD harming nation-building endeavours of the government

26 resign from Mawlamyinegyun Township National League for Democracy

YANGON, 9 June — Altogether 26 members of Mawlamyinegyun Township National League for Democracy of Ayeyawady Division including U Than Tun of Tagundaing Kyonwa Village resigned from the party of their own volition on 1 June 2007, sending letters of resignation to the NLD Headquarters and local authorities concerned.

In their letters of resignation to Mawlamyinegyun Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-commission, they said that they resigned from the party of their own volition as it is harming the nation-building endeavours of the government instead of serving the interest of the State and the people, the acts of the party have turned out to be a great obstacle to peace and stability and they no longer wished to be a member of the party.—MNA