

Commander on tour of development tasks in Shan State (East)



Commander Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing inspects a paddy field in Monghsat. —MNA

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

NAY PYI TAW, 20 June — Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by departmental officials, inspected Kengtung-Mongphyat-Tachilek Road and bridges along it on 22 May.

The commander instructed officials to build the concrete retaining walls at the eroded areas of Yangkha-Takyauk section. He viewed thriving physic nut plantation of the departments in Tachilek in the afternoon.

On 23 May, the commander inspected Tachilek-Monghsat road and bridges. In Wamhon region of Monghsat Township, the commander discussed regional development with local national race leaders.

(See page 7)

Implementation of agricultural projects coordinated in Taunggyi

NAY PYI TAW, 20 June — A work coordination meeting for implementation of agricultural projects after reclamation of fallow and virgin lands by the agricultural companies in Shan State (South) was held at the hall of Eastern Command in Taunggyi on 13 June.

Present were Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Thaug Aye, staff officers, departmental officials and those in-charge of private companies.

The commander delivered a speech.

Manager of Shan State Myanma Agriculture Service U Kyaw Than reported on supply of quality crops to boost per acre yield and distribution of modern cultivation methods.

Director of Shan State Forest Department U Maung Maung Htwe reported on extraction of timber under the supervision of Myanma Timber Enterprise and timber extraction manager U Thin Kyu on extraction of timber in timber extraction areas.

(See page 7)

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**Whether
it should
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Countless are true stories about Myanmar women's brilliant performances carried out with heart and soul in the national causes and religious and social sectors. The Myanmar Women's Day was designated in honour of such brilliant and sacrificing Myanmar women and patriotic Myanmar women who put national interests in the fore.

PAGES 8+9

DAW WAI WAI MON

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 21 June, 2007

Strictly observe traffic rules

At present socio-economic progress has been made in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and major towns in the country and the number of vehicles has also increased. The rate of violation of traffic rules is also up due to the increase of motor vehicles.

The millions of automobiles in the world cause many traffic problems. The causes of car accidents are mostly due to reckless driving, engine failures, violation of traffic rules by slow-moving vehicles and pedestrians and poor condition of the roads.

With better roads, drivers tend to exceed the speed limits. This may cause road accidents. Hence, drivers are advised not to exceed the speed limit.

Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committees have been formed for the convenience of the travelling public and traffic safety. Action is being taken against drivers who violate the traffic rules.

The supervisory committees are launching educative programmes relating to traffic rules and road safety. Drivers and pedestrians can reduce the number of traffic accidents, injuries and deaths by following traffic control signs and signals.

It is believed that drivers and pedestrians will be safer by observing the rules and regulations issued by the Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee. In this way the accident rate will fall.

သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

နေပြည်တော် လမ်းမကြီးများပေါ်တွင် အချို့ ယာဉ်မောင်းသူများသည် လမ်းမကြီးများ ကောင်းမွန် ဖြောင့်ဖြူးသည်နှင့်အမျှ သတ်မှတ်အမြန်နှုန်းထက် ပိုမို မောင်းနှင် ကြကြောင်း တွေ့ရှိရပါသည်။ မိုးရာသီကာလ တွင် မြင်ကွင်းကန့်သတ်ချက်ရှိခြင်းကြောင့် ယာဉ်မောင်း တာဆမှု အန္တရာယ်များဖြစ်ပေါ်လာနိုင်သဖြင့် ယာဉ်မောင်းများ အနေဖြင့် သတ်မှတ်အမြန်နှုန်းအတိုင်းသာ မောင်းနှင်ကြရန် သတိပေး နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

နေပြည်တော် ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေး ကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

Peoples' Desire

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

Sacred religious objects hoisted atop Pagoda No 1497

NAY PYI TAW, 20 June—Shwehtidaw (tired decorated umbrella), Seinbudaw (diamond orb) and Hngetmyatnadaw (pennant-shaped vane) were hoisted atop Pagoda No 1497 in Bagan Archaeological Region in NyaungU District on 9 June morning.

The ceremony was graced by Member of the State Central Working Committee for the Sangha Abbot of Shwe Min Wun Monastery in NyaungU Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Vimala with his presence and members of the Sangha.

It was also attended by Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and wife, Magway Division PDC Chairman Col Phone Maw Shwe and wife, senior military officers, departmental

officials, local authorities, social organizations, guests and local people.

Lay persons presented Pariyatta flowers, water, sand and thread to members of the Sangha. The commander and wife and officials presented sacred religious objects and Shwekya robe to the Sayadaw, and offered alms to the Sayadaw and members of the Sangha.

Secretary of Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Abbot of Myazigon Monastery Bhaddanta Sujata delivered a sermon. The congregation shared merits.

The sacred religious objects were then hoisted atop the pagoda.

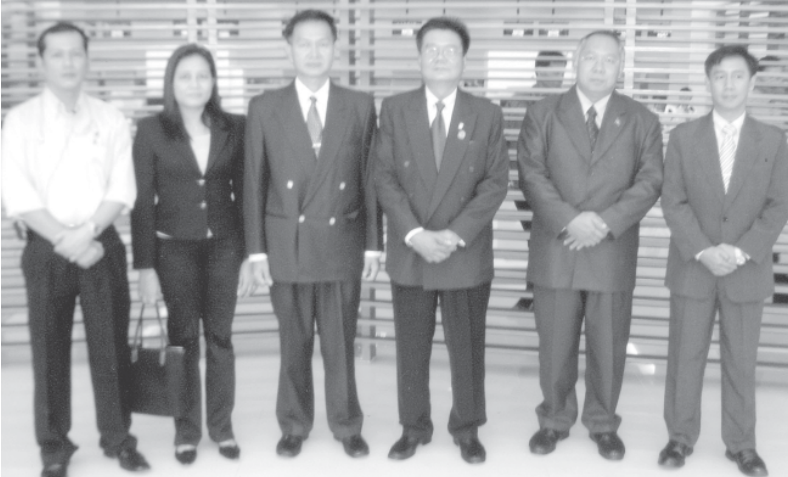
Members of the Sangha consecrated the pagoda.

The commander and wife and officials offered alms to members of the Sangha.—MNA

Chairman of MIFFA and party to attend meetings in Thailand

YANGON, 20 June— To attend the UNESCAP National Executive of National Freight Forwarders Association meeting, FIATA Asia/Pacific Regional Rap meeting, UNESCAP Regional Forum of Freight Forwarders, Multimodal Transport Operators and Logistics Service Providers meeting, Expert Group Meeting on Improving Road Safety on the Asian Highway meeting and the Enhancement of International Trade Logistics Development in Greater Mekong Sub-Region Forum, Chairman U Aung

Myanmar freight forwarder delegation being seen off at the airport prior departure for Thailand. MNA



Kyaw Min of Myanmar International Freight Forwarders Association and delegation members Treasurer U Waso Win Myint, Joint Secretary-1 Daw Hla Hla Yi, Joint

Secretary-2 Dr Khin Maung Kyaing, Joint Secretary-3 U Aung Khaing and Chairman of Myanmar Customs Clearance Representatives Association U Myo

Thant left here for Thailand yesterday. They were seen off at the airport by Vice-Chairman-1 U Kyaw Lwin Oo, Vice-Chairman-2 Dr Aye Aye and officials.—MNA

Fifth MOC Chairman's Cup, 38th Inter-State/Division Men's and Women's Boxing Championship continue

YANGON, 20 June — The Fifth Myanmar Olympic Committee Chairman's Cup A Class and the 38th Inter-State/Division Men's and Women's Boxing Championship continued at Aung San Gymnasium at 3 pm today.

A total of 29 women's fights — two 52-kilo junior matches, two 36-kilo, one 39-kilo, four 45-kilo and four 48-kilo women's junior class event, four light flyweight matches and four welterweight matches in the Class event, one featherweight, one light welterweight and two welterweight matches in the B class event, one flyweight, two bantamweight and one welterweight fights in the A Class event — were held today.

In the matches of 36-kilo class, Kyaw Win Htay (Kayin) won over Zaw Myint Moe (Yangon) and Paing Set Thu (Mandalay) defeated Aung Din (Sagaing). In the fights of 39-kilo class, Htet Aung (Yangon) defeated Hauk Deik Twa (Sagaing). In the fights of 45-kilo class, Kyaw Lin Tun (Mandalay) routed Shwe Naing Oo (Sagaing); Nyi Nyi Aung (Rakhine) won over

Soe Moe Naing (Magway) and Chan Myay (Ayeyawady) beat Aung Myat (Yangon). Hay Man Soe (Kayin) defeated Ya Min Soe (Bago) in the women's 52-kilo class.

The fights of the championship continue at Aung San Gymnasium tomorrow. — NLM



Zaw Myint Moe (Yangon Division) and Kyaw Win Htay (Kayin State) fight each other at 36-kilo-fight.— NLM

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Hamas outlawed by President Abbas

RAMALLAH, 19 June — Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas on Sunday announced the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) and its affiliated groups are outlawed. By issuing a presidential decree, Abbas banned Hamas-dominated Executive Force and other

Hamas-linked groups.

It accused the Executive Force of carrying out an armed rebellion against the Palestinian legitimacy and its institution.

“Anyone who has ties with these groups will be punished in accordance with the laws under the

state of emergency, said the decree. The ban came just minutes after Abbas swore in the Palestinian emergency government in the West Bank.

However, Hamas still rejected the new government, terming it as “illegitimate”.

MNA/Xinhua

One dead, one injured in Narathiwat drive-by shooting

NARATHIWAT, 19 June — An unknown number of gunmen killed a defence volunteer and wounded a member of the Provincial Administration Organization in Narathiwat on Tuesday

Provincial Administration Organization member Sadee Salae and defence volunteer Nutthan Kayaedae were attacked by unidentified gunmen while travelling to the municipality.

The gunmen, also in a passenger sedan and armed with assault rifles, opened fire at them on the

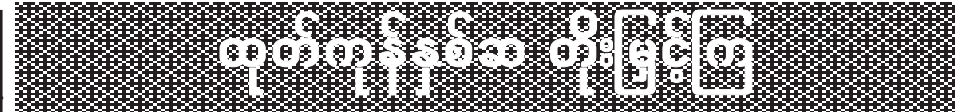
road. The two victims were rushed to hospital, where the defence volunteer was pronounced dead later.

Meanwhile, Col Akara Thiproj, an Army spokesman told a Press conference at the Internal Security Operations Command in Yala on Tuesday that a joint military and police force raided targeted houses in Bannang Sata district and detained 17 persons suspected of involvement in insurgent attacks for further questioning.

Police also found

explosive materials at the house, seizing power gel explosive, a firearm, ammunition, military uniforms, a radio transceiver, urea fertiliser, and explosive devices.—Internet

The building partly smashed by landslide is seen in the Tongchuan District of Dazhou City, southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 19 June, 2007. Flash floods and landslides triggered by heavy rainfall have left 15 people dead and two missing in Sichuan Province.—XINHUA



Chinese President Hu Jintao (C) meets with the Japanese youth delegation at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, on 19 June, 2007. INTERNET

Iraq ranks second among world's failed states

WASHINGTON, 19 June — Iraq has emerged as the world's second most unstable country, behind Sudan, more than four years after President George W Bush ordered the US invasion to topple Saddam Hussein, according to a survey released on Monday.

The 2007 Failed States Index, produced by *Foreign Policy* magazine and the Fund for Peace, said Iraq suffered a third straight year of deterioration in 2006 with diminished results across a range of social, economic, political and military indicators. Iraq ranked fourth last year.

trustworthy leaders, and realistic plans to keep the peace and develop the economy.”

The index said Sudan, the world's worst failed state, appears to be dragging down its neighbours Central African Republic and Chad, with violence in the Darfur region responsible for at least 200,000 deaths and the displacement of two million to three million. The authors of the index said one of the leading benchmarks for failed state status is the loss of physical control of territory or a monopoly on the legitimate use of force.

Other attributes include the erosion of legitimate authority, an inability to provide reasonable public services and the inability to interact with other states as a full member of the international community.—MNA/Reuters

Afghanistan, another war-torn country where US and NATO forces are battling a Taleban insurgency nearly six years after a US-led invasion, was in eighth place.

“Iraq and Afghanistan, the two main fronts in the global war on terror, both suffered over the past year,” a report that accompanied the figures said.

“Their experiences show that billions of dollars in development and security aid may be futile unless accompanied by a functioning government,



CCTV hosts Li Yong (L) and Wang Xiaoya arrive for a grand gala honouring Chinese TV hosts, sponsored by ongoing 13th Shanghai Television Festival, in Wuzheng, Zhejiang, on 12 June, 2007. INTERNET

Lebanon Army squeezes militants, three troops killed

NAHR AL-BARED (Lebanon), 19 June — Three soldiers were killed in combat on Monday as Lebanese troops advanced on Islamist militants at a Palestinian refugee camp where the Army made major pushes after a month of fighting. A Lebanese security source and a Palestinian political source said the Army appeared to be close to its main goal of crushing all of Fatah al-Islam's positions on the outskirts of the coastal Nahr al-Bared camp in

northern Lebanon.

“The Army is close to controlling all the areas outside the (official) boundaries of the camp,” the security source said, expecting the operation to end in the next few days. “It is not going to enter the camp.” A Palestinian source said efforts were underway to arrange a ceasefire that would put the Army in full control of all the camp's outskirts and leave the militants restricted to a small part of it. Negotiations would then

begin over the fate of the remaining militants.

Witnesses said battles raged between the Army and the militants at the camp. Army shells crashed into the battered settlement, sending smoke billowing from cinder-block buildings. “We achieved the destruction of the Samed position on the northeastern side of the camp yesterday and the Lebanese flag now rises from there,” a military source said.

MNA/Reuters

Computer time ups aches, pains for college kids

NEW YORK, 19 June—The more time college students spend on the computer on a particular day, the more likely they are to suffer from musculoskeletal problems during that 24-hour period, a new study shows.

However, because of the small size of the study — just 27 students participated — it was not possible to determine whether particular patterns of usage or postures made musculoskeletal problems more likely.

Musculoskeletal symptoms of the upper parts of the body are common among college and university students,

especially female undergrads, college seniors, and engineering grad students, Dr Jack Tigh Dennerlein of the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston and colleagues report in the *American Journal of Industrial Medicine*.

Given that heavy computer use is a major risk factor for such symptoms, Dennerlein and his team measured undergraduate students' computer time with usage-monitoring software to determine if daily time spent on a computer was related to musculoskeletal symptoms experienced on a particular day.

During the study,

which was conducted during three one-week periods during the spring semester, 96% of the students reported some type of musculoskeletal problem at least once.

About half the time, pain involved the neck, while the lower back, upper back and shoulders were the next most common pain sites.

MNA/Reuters

ဝက်ဘ်ဆိုက်များ အား ခေတ်တော်ပွား



Yahoo! co-founders Jerry Yang (C) and David Filo (R) pose with CEO Terry Semel in front of the NASDAQ MarketSite in a 2005 photo. Semel is stepping down as CEO and will be replaced by Yang, the company said on 18 June, 2007. XINHUA

Israel cuts back fuel supplies to Gaza

JERUSALEM, 19 June — Israel said on Sunday it cut fuel supplies to the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip, increasing pressure on the Islamist group after it seized control of the impoverished territory.

A representative of Palestinian petrol companies said the territory could run out of fuel for cars and cooking within two days.

Dor Alon, a private Israeli fuel company that supplies Gaza, will provide fuel only to Gaza's power stations, Israel's Infrastructure Ministry said.

"Fuel is only being allowed in to power stations in order to provide normal electricity," the ministry said in a statement.

Fuel will no longer be supplied to smaller gas stations, a Dor Alon spokeswoman said.

Electricity and water supplies were not affected, Israeli officials said. Israeli energy companies provide

about half of Gaza's electricity needs at peak hours.

Israel hopes to isolate Gaza after Hamas seized control of the territory in less than a week of fierce factional fighting with President Mahmoud Abbas' secular Fatah faction.

Israeli Infrastructure Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, whose office controls fuel supplies, called for a complete separation between the Gaza Strip and the occupied West Bank, where Fatah remains dominant.

"We should simply increase the isolation of Gaza," Ben-Eliezer told Israel's Army Radio.

"I want to stop everything until we understand what is going on there." Palestinian officials asked Dor Alon not to cut off any more fuel until further notice, the Infrastructure Ministry said. Israel's Deputy Defence Minister, Efraim Sneh, said Gaza will not be cut off completely. — MNA/Reuters



Nguyen Minh Triet, President of Vietnam, speaks during a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, in New York on 19 June, 2007.

INTERNET

Police, gunmen clash in Iraq's south, four killed

BAGHDAD, 19 June — At least four people were killed and 54 wounded on Monday in clashes between gunmen loyal to cleric Moqtada al Sadr and police in the southern Shi'ite city of Nassiriya, hospital sources and police said.

The sources said the clashes erupted overnight when police attacked a Sadr office in Nassiriya in an apparent response to an attack on the head of police which left him wounded.

The sources said the police accused the Mehdi Army of attacking the head of police. —MNA/Reuters

US-led forces kill 20 militants in south Iraq

BAGHDAD, 19 June — US-led coalition forces killed at least 20 militants after coming under attack from Shiite gunmen during raids in southern Iraq's Maysan Province early on Monday, the US military said.

An official in the office of anti-American Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr in the Maysan capital Amara said 17 members of the fire-brand's Mehdi Army had been killed and 45 wounded.

That would mark one of the deadliest incidents between US-led forces and the Mehdi Army since a major security crack-down was launched in Iraq four months ago.

MNA/Reuters

Smokers' infants have high nicotine levels

LONDON, 19 June — In homes where at least one parent smokes, infants have 5.5 times higher levels of a nicotine toxin called cotinine in their urine than infants of nonsmokers, a British study finds.

Cotinine is created as the body tries to get rid of the nicotine in inhaled smoke. The study of 104

12-week-old infants (71 with at least one parent who smoked and 33 with nonsmoking parents) also found that having a mother who smoked quadrupled urine cotinine levels. Having a father who smoked doubled cotinine levels in an infant's urine, the researchers found.

Sleeping with parents and lower-temperature

rooms were also associated with increased cotinine levels in infants, said the study by researchers at the University of Leicester Medical School and Warwick University.

"Babies affected by smoke tend to come from poorer homes, which may have smaller rooms and inadequate heating," the study authors wrote. — Internet



A mock wedding is held according to the royal custom of Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) at the Grand View Garden in Beijing, China, on 18 June, 2007, showing the Chinese aulic tradition and inviting historians and folklorists to view. —XINHUA

ECONOMIC NEWS

Japan eyes energy in free trade deal with Brunei

TOKYO, 19 June — Japan and Brunei signed a free trade deal on Monday, in resource-poor Japan's latest move to secure stable supplies of oil and gas.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Sultan Hassanal Bolkhiah of Brunei signed the agreement in a ceremony at Abe's official residence in central Tokyo.

Oil and liquefied natural gas account for virtually all Brunei's exports to Japan, while Japan exports mostly cars and auto parts to Brunei.

The pact requires existing energy contracts to be given serious consideration in the event Brunei were to restrict energy exports in a crisis, and commits the two countries to strengthening ties in the field of energy.

The deal also commits Japan and Brunei to eliminating tariffs on about 99.9 per cent of bilateral trade within the next 10 years.

That bilateral trade amounted to 264 billion yen (2.14 billion US dollars) in 2005, according to the Japanese

Foreign Ministry.

Tariffs on Japan's auto exports to Brunei are to be abolished within three years under the new deal.

"Prime Minister, we are now, in the fullest sense of the word, partners," Hassanal told reporters after the signing. "My government and people are delighted," he added.

Abe said he was very happy the two countries had been able to sign the deal after only a year of negotiations.

MNA/Reuters



Tourists view water of the Yellow River bursting forth at the Xiaolangdi Reservoir, the largest in the lower reach of the Yellow River, in central China's Henan Province, on 19 June, 2007. —XINHUA

Sony Ericsson makes China its global manufacturing base

BEIJING, 20 June — Sony Ericsson, one of the world's major mobile phone manufacturers, started construction of a new

factory Monday in Beijing in a move to make China its global manufacturing base.

The new factory, covering an area of 18,500 square metres, will manufacture mobile handsets and assemble surface mounted circuit boards to meet growing market demand.

Gunilla Nordstrom, president of Sony Ericsson China, said the establishment of the new factory would contribute to the consolidation of China's status as the company's strategic development base.

China is Sony Ericsson's sole strategic development base whose business covers design, manufacturing, sourcing, research and development, as well as global sales and

marketing, she said.

The new plant is located between the company's other two factories, Beijing SePutian Mobile Communications (BMC), which covers 25,610 square metres and produces mobile handsets, and Beijing Suohong Electronics (BSE), which covers 12,000 square metres and manufactures printed circuit boards.

After raising its stake in BMC to 51 per cent in 2004 and then acquiring BSE last November, the company's move to build a new factory is part of a drive to make Beijing the Sony Ericsson global manufacturing centre, said Roger Ericsson, president of BMC. —MNA/Xinhua

Singapore's non-oil exports up 3.7% in May

SINGAPORE, 19 June— Singapore's mainstay exports, the non-oil domestic exports (NODX), increased by 3.7 per cent year-on-year to 13.9 billion Singapore dollars (about 9.1 billion US dollars) in May, according to the figures released by the government on Monday.

The improvement in NODX, following a 0.4-per cent contraction in the previous month, was due to a stronger expansion of non-electronic exports offsetting the sustained fall in electronics shipments, Singapore's trade promotion agency, the International Enterprise Singapore (IE Singapore), the government said in a statement.

Domestic exports of electronic goods continued to decline for the fourth month in a row by 16 per cent in May.

MNA/Xinhua



Rada, a Siberian tiger, plays with her two-month-old cub during the first public appearance of the tiger family in an Almaty Zoo, on 19 June, 2007.

XINHUA

Airbus gets order boost at Paris show

LE BOURGET (France) 20 June—Airbus unveiled over 40 billion US dollars of orders or pledges on Monday, with a third of the business going to its A350XWB programme, giving it a much-needed lift in its battle against Boeing Co.

Boosted by fast-growing hubs in the Middle East, the European group used the opening day of the Paris air show to unveil a firm-up 17 billion US dollars sale to Qatar

Airways and to show it had beaten off a Boeing challenge to a 10-billion-US-dollar order from US

Airways.

Including orders from those two airlines and Kuwait aircraft financing

company ALAFCO, Airbus clinched a total of 114 deals for the A350 XWB— a plane vital to its hopes of catching up with Boeing and its hot-selling 787.

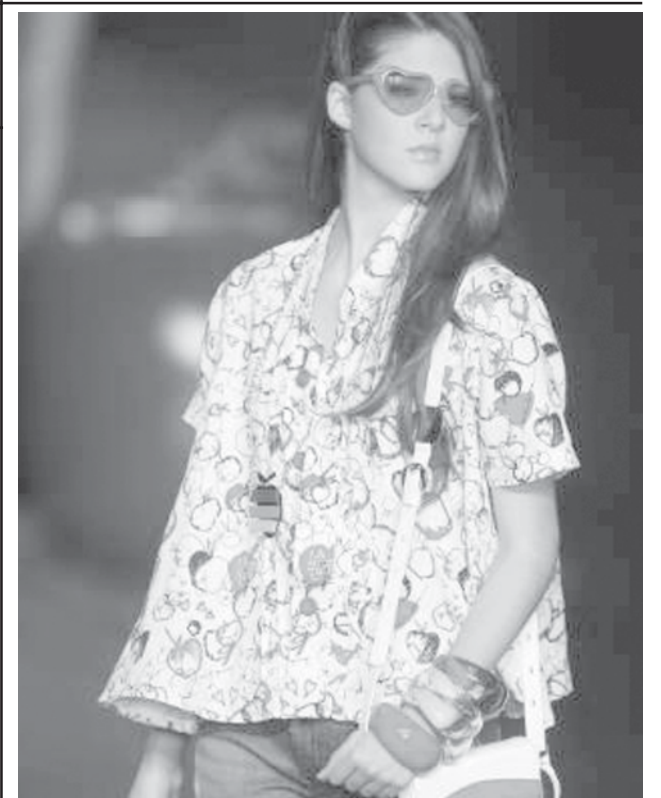
Qatar ordered 80 of the A350 XWB and added three of the A380 superjumbos to its shopping list, as well.

Qatar will be the first airline to get the A350 in 2013, Airbus President Louis Gallois told a news conference.

MNA/Reuters



Employees from Eurocopter take a group picture with Chinese journalists in front of a sea rescue helicopter specially made for China, on the Paris Air Show at Bourget, Paris suburb in France on 18 June, 2007. —XINHUA



A model wears a creation from 2nd Floor's 2008 spring/summer collection during Sao Paulo Fashion Week, Brazil on 19 June, 2007. —INTERNET

Canadian scientists develop chip to test cancer progress

OTTAWA, 20 June — Canadian scientists have developed a new chip that can locate chromosomes abnormalities in cancer patients, marking a major breakthrough for cancer treatment, local media reported Tuesday.

The new technology could one day allow doctors to quickly decide on and tailor a treatment programme to the needs of cancer patients, scientists say.

Created by the University of Alberta, in collaboration with the Alberta Cancer Board and other researchers and engineers, the glass chip performs a diagnostic test that allows abnormalities in chromosomes, that hold vital genetic information, to be located. Chromosomes are often broken, abnormal or

rejoined incorrectly when cancer is present, according to a report by Canadian Television (CTV).

“Basically what we’ve done is develop a test that takes something that’s already done conventionally and do it in a miniaturized fashion on what we call a chip,” Dr Linda Pilarski, University of Alberta oncology professor and Canada Research Chair in Biomedical Nanotechnology said.

The chip allows doctors to assess the effectiveness of cancer

treatment and to determine if cancer is returning after remission.

The test, which is called FISH for fluorescent in situ hybridization, involves attaching coloured dyes to chromosomes to detect abnormalities and is usually performed in labs. But it is rarely carried out because it is too expensive. As a result patients have to take a variety of drugs and treatments so that doctors can detect any abnormalities in chromosomes.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia celebrates Dragon Boat Festival

KUALA LUMPUR, 19 June — Malaysia held Dragon Boat race and rice dumpling wrapping race on Sunday to celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival, one of the Chinese traditional festivals.

About 25,000 people gathered Likas Bay as early as 7 am to watch the 22nd Sabah Dragon Boat race on Sunday in East Malaysia’s Sabah State. The annual event attracted 31 national and international participants. Followed by the beating of 24 Chinese drums, the invited guests tossed rice dumpling into the sea to mark the beginning of the event.

Shangri-La Rasa Ria Resort B emerged cham-

pion for the Sabah Tourism Trophy category while the Tawau Confederation of Chinese Associations won the Sabah Chinese Cultural Association (SCCA) Chinese Men’s Trophy and the Oriental Dolphin won the Sabah Dragon Trophy, according to Malaysia’s national news agency *Bernama*.

Sabah’s local team Terayung won the Sabah Minister’s Trophy while the Brunei Darussalam National Boat Race Team

A won the Sabah Head of State Trophy, reported by *Bernama*. The Selangor and Federal Territory Hainan Association of Malaysia also held rice dumpling wrapping race to celebrate the festival on Sunday morning in Kuala Lumpur.

MNA/Xinhua

Australia helps Solomon Islands in post-tsunami reconstruction

CANBERRA, 19 June — Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer said Tuesday Australia will provide additional fund to its tsunami relief assistance package to the Solomon Islands following the devastating earthquake and tsunami in the Pacific nation in April. The latest contribution is 2.7 million Australian dollars (2.3 million US dollars), bringing Australia’s total contribution to tsunami relief to over 5.7 million dollars (4.8 million US dollars).

“The additional funds will go to the Solomon Islands Ministry of Health to assist with rehabilitation of essential health infrastructure in Western and Choiseul Provinces which bore the brunt of the disaster,” Downer said in



A cowboy tries to turn over a bull by pulling it during a “Coleo” sport event in Bogota, Colombia on 18 June, 2007. —XINHUA

Japanese teetotaler named world’s oldest man at 111

TOKYO, 19 June — An 111-year-old Japanese just named the world’s oldest man said he owed his longevity to steering clear of alcohol. “I don’t drink alcohol — that is the biggest reason for my good health,” Tomoji Tanabe told reporters on Monday. He also told media he does not smoke and likes a glass of milk a day.

Asked how much longer he wanted to live, the besuited Tanabe, a former local government worker, said simply: “I don’t want to die.”

Tanabe, who lives with

his 66-year-old son and the son’s wife in Miyakonojo, about 900 kilometres (560 miles) southwest of Tokyo on the island of Kyushu, met the

city’s mayor to receive a certificate from the *Guinness Book of World Records* recognizing him as the oldest man.

MNA/Reuters

Bird flu spreads in Bangladesh, more fowls culled

DHAKA, 19 June — Bird flu has spread to another district in Bangladesh, forcing authorities to cull 7,000 chickens, officials said on Monday.

The infected chickens were buried after the H5N1 strain of bird flu was detected on two farms in Jaipurhat District, 300 kilometres (188 miles) northwest of the capital, Dhaka.

With the latest cull, about 172,000 chickens have now been slaughtered and more than 1.6 million eggs destroyed on 68 farms in 14 districts since the virus was first detected near Dhaka in March.

There have been no reported cases of human infection. More than 110,000 farms have been inspected and 133 million chickens vaccinated since the outbreak emerged, a Fisheries and Livestock Ministry statement said.

Bangladesh has more than 125,000 poultry farms producing 250 million broilers and six billion eggs annually. About four million Bangladeshis are directly or indirectly associated with poultry farming.

MNA/Reuters



An aerial view shows rescue workers investigate at an annex to a spa’s main building where it exploded in Tokyo on 19 June, 2007. An explosion ripped through a women’s-only hot spring spa in downtown Tokyo on Tuesday, killing at least one woman and injuring at least four other people, police said. —XINHUA



Giant tortoises are seen on the Galapagos islands recently. The United Nations said Ecuador should step up efforts to protect the Galapagos, 1,000 km off Ecuador’s coast, from growing tourism and immigration. The UN will decide in July if the Pacific archipelago is officially “in danger”. —XINHUA

USDA S-G meets rural people, discusses rural development tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 20 June — Secretary-General of Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htay Oo together with departmental officials, executives of Meiktila and Thazi Township USDAs and members viewed rural development and boosting agricultural production in Kontaung Village, Thazi Township in Mandalay Division on 17 June.

First, the S-G and party gave encouragement to those who were engaging in the harvesting and winnowing of summer paddy in the farm of peasant U Win Sein in Kontaung (West) Village.

Next, they held a meeting with the local people and departmental officials and then the S-G called on them to use farm machinery in the

agricultural works and to save farm cost.

Afterwards, the S-G fulfilled the requirements for boosting agricultural production and attended ceremonies to offer robes to Myasantaw Pagoda and donated cash for its all-round renovation and made cash donations.

Later, the S-G viewed physic nut plantations and the artesian well.

Next, he watched inflow of water into Kontaung lake and water supply tasks.

Upon arrival at Apyauk Village Basic Education Primary School in Thazi Township, the S-G and party inspected

collective renovation tasks carried out by wellwishers, members of township USDA and rural people. Next, the S-G and party met with faculty

members and held discussions on rural development tasks, enhancement of national education, school enrolment of the school-going age and donated cash for the funds of the school.

Afterwards, the S-G and party paid homage to Hmankyaung Sayadaw U Tilawka of Meiktila Township Magyipinpu Village and donated alms to the Sayadaw.

Next, they met with the rural people and discussed rural development works and boosting agricultural production with them.

After that, the S-G and party paid homage to Lawka Yan Naing, Lawka Manaung and Lawka Hteik Pagodas and viewed renovation tasks of the pagodas. — MNA

Commander on tour of development tasks ...

(from page 1)

In Monghsat, the commander instructed officials to strive for boosting per-acre yield of paddy and ensuring local food sufficiency. The commander inspected progress in building the gymnasium of Monghsat District near Aungzeya Sports Ground.

On 24 May, the commander inspected Monghsat-Mongton-Pungpahkyem Road. At noon, he attended the opening ceremony of the new tarred road.

In Nakaungmu Village of Pungpahkyem, the commander viewed free medical treatments being

provided by specialists of Kengtung General Hospital to local people. In the evening, the commander met departmental personnel of Monghsat District and Pungpahkyem at the local battalion.

On 25 May, the commander inspected progress in construction of Namhupakwe Bridge being undertaken by MDX Co from Tarhsan Hydropower Project on Nakaungmu-Mongton Road.

On his inspection tour, the commander oversaw progress in construction of Mongton-Monghsat road section and Monghsat-Mongkhok

road section. At the local battalion in Mongkhok, the commander met departmental officials from Monghsat District and Mongkhok and attended to the needs.

On 26 May, the commander arrived at a coal mine near Mongkhok. Officials of Myanma Economic Corporation and Geological Survey and Minerals Exploration Department reported on excavation of sample coal. On his way back to Kengtung, the commander inspected Mongkhok-Panli-Kengtung road and bridges along it.

MNA

Implementation of agricultural projects ...

(from page 1)

Officials of the companies reported on reclamation of cultivable lands, cultivation of perennial crops and physic nut. The

commander fulfilled the requirements.

The meeting ended with the concluding remark by the commander.

Thirty three compa-

nies are reclaiming 111,300 acres of fallow and virgin land project in Mongpyin, Kenghkam and Naungpo regions.

MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo views harvesting in Kontaung Village, Thazi Township. — A & I

Deputy Minister looks into hospitals in Taunggyi

NAY PYI TAW, 20 June — Secretary of National Health Committee Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo inspected medical units of Maternal and Children's Hospital in Taunggyi on 12 June.

At the hospital, the deputy minister met the medical superintendent and health staff.

At Sao San Tun Hospital in Taunggyi, the deputy minister inspected medical units, patient wards and others.

At Health Department of Taunggyi Township, the deputy minister met officials, members of social organizations and local people. He urged those present to combat HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria diseases as a national duty.

MNA

Mya Ayeya Market Boat sets forth

YANGON, 20 June — Yangon-Mandalay Mya Ayeya Market Boat of Inland Water Transport of the Ministry of Transport carrying 1,376 tons of goods and 60 passengers has set forth its journey from Gawwun jetty of Mandalay to Yangon at 10 am on 19 June. Such a running service of the market boat is due to the guidance given by the Head of State. It aims at offering goods to consumers living in the towns along the bank of Ayeyawady river at reasonable prices. It will stop alongside the shores of the towns and sell goods to the consumers. — MNA

Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa greets dwellers after inspecting preventive measures against dengue fever in Punhlaing Estate in Yangon. — YCDC



DHF preventive measures taken in townships

YANGON, 20 June — As part of mass activities, the Health Department under the Ministry of Health and the Health Department of Yangon City Development Committee jointly took preventive measures against dengue hemorrhagic fever in Kyimyindine Township this morning, inspected by Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa.

At Kyimyindine Township Development Affairs Committee Office on the Strand Road, the Vice-Mayor heard reports on population of the township, education matter, supply of drinking water, infection of DHF and preventive measures presented by officials.

The Vice-Mayor and party inspected sanitation tasks and spraying of insecticide in Panhlaing Ward and Punhlaing Housing Estate.

Similar activities were held in Mingala Taungnyunt, Thingangyun, Insein, Ahlon and Thakayta townships today. — MNA

Whether it should be like this or not

Daw Wai Wai Mon

I got up early in the morning and was preparing to attend the talks of Division Organization for Women's Affairs. Looking at myself in the mirror, I noticed signs of ageing. I have already passed 60. As I was thinking about it the car arrived at my house to fetch me. When I arrived at the venue of our talks, I found groups of the members of the Township Women's Affairs Organizations of the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation preparing to participate in the talks. When I saw those energetic young members, I would like to be young and active again like them. In reality, age doesn't matter. What matters is the will. I have always been actively participating in the social welfare activities since my youthful days. And till today, I still have the conviction to play a role in discharging the national duty as a grain of sand and a lump of brick or in other words as much as I can. Some will say that a seed of sesame will not increase oil output. But a large number of raindrops can fill lakes and creeks to the brim. A large number of raindrops or people like me will serve as a dynamic force for national development. My husband and I are both serving the national interest to the best of our ability. I joined the MAAF from the time it was formed on 20 December 2003. Its age will reach four years on 20 December this year. I was thinking about the history of the federation. The Fourth Women's Conference held in Beijing, the People's Republic of China, in 1995, passed a resolution calling for the formation of a National Mechanism in every country. In accord with the resolution, Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs was formed on 3 July 1996. There were limitations as the National Mechanism was just a committee enabling only the members to serve the interest of womenfolk. Hence, the nation formed the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation to extend the coverage of its functions to ensure progress and life security for every woman and to establish relations with fraternal international NGOs. The MAAF was formed with the following objectives:

To promote the role of women in building a peaceful, developed and modern nation, To protect the rights of women, To develop economy, health and education of women and ensure life security for them, To train and nurture women to uplift their spirit to value the traditions and customs of national races, To systematically implement the task — prevention of violence against women and rehabilitation, To

eliminate trafficking in women and children as a national task, To cooperate with international organizations, regional organizations and local and foreign organizations to realize the rights of women in accord with traditions and culture of national races.

MAAF held talks on prevention of violence against women and children for 7980 times, opened 77 departments to educate women, ran counselling activities for 387 times, asked help from police for 188 times, referred 274 cases to the court, and hired lawyers for six times in 2006 in states and divisions. Concerning human smuggling and trafficking, the federation gave talks for 4621 times, rescued and sent back home 2369 male victims and 1040 female victims, and helped took actions against 110 male traffickers and 75 female traffickers in 90 cases. As regards the rehabilitation, the federation for made counselling 1329 times, conducted 967 vocational training courses for 20,921 persons, repatriated 572 victims back to their families in 199 cases, and provided assistance to 4922 persons. In the education sector, it provided K 34,269,940 worth of stipends, K 51,875,631 worth of stationery, K 20,459,600 worth of uniforms, opened 222 evening schools for 12,535 persons, conducted adult reading circles and learning circles for 1050 times for 25,647 persons, and presented a stipend of K 1,253,240 for 585 primary school students, K 2,690,670 for 536 middle school students and K 3,684,510 for 607 high school students. In the health sector, the MAAF held health talks for 26,955 times, cooperated with departments for 20,497 times. Moreover, 288,833 MAAF members took part in the public health care activities. It held talks on culture for 3242 times and staged 239 culture shows. Concerning the environment, the federation took part in the environmental greening task for 5640 times, environmental cleaning task for 9835 times, clean water supply for 2999 times and held talks on the environment for 3292 times. As for social development, the federation ran 1814 vocational science courses, found jobs for women for 2565 persons, and provided K 56,382,374 to 8608 persons. To help strengthen national solidarity, the federation conducted study tours for 538 times, held talks for 1046 times, traditional festivals for 144 times, traditional dance shows for 246 times and traditional food festivals for 301 times and ran national races culture activities for 178 times. As regards the information services, the MAAF held wall paper exhibitions for 898 times and photo exhibitions for 955 times, distributed 128,118

copies of periodicals and pamphlets, showed video and films for 6259 times to educate the public and donated books to libraries for 2673 times. **The federation implemented such colossal task annually with greater acceleration during the past three years due to the ardent efforts of the women mass of Myanmar under the leadership of MAAF.**

Another thing I remember is that Myanmar Women's Day which falls on July 3 is just around the corner. The third of July is designated as Myanmar Women's Day in honour of the National Committee for Women's Affairs which was formed on 3 July 1996 with the objectives of ensuring the security, development and dignity of the mass of Myanmar women.

Myanmar Women's Day was designated as a gesture honouring the Myanmar women who have had fine traditions in the course of history. Myanmar women are the ideal ones who possess significant characteristics for the uplift and preservation of their traditional cultures. Just because they are women, they cannot always be regarded as calm and soft-hearted ones.

There did emerge many brilliant and courageous Myanmar women in times of emergency. History has it that Myanmar women participated in the independence struggles by forming Kummayi associations. As far as I know, Thakin Magyi Daw Se, Daw Kyin Ein, Daw Kyin Myaing, Daw Daw Thein, Deedok Daw Hla May, Daw Hla May (Hpa-an), Daw Saw Tin, Thakin Magyi Daw Thein Tin and Daw Kya Zan were famous Myanmar women who actively participated in political, religious and social affairs after forming various associations such as Brahmachariya Kummayi Myanmar Women's Association, YWBA, Danathukha Association and Myanmar Women's National Council.

Thakin Magyi Daw Se was not only a patriotic woman but also a woman leader who was able to mobilize the mass of Myanmar women by risking her life under alien rule. In 1944, she herself got involved in the killings of the Japanese Fascists. One day, she kicked a Japanese into a lake while he was fishing in a lake as he took by force two pairs of slippers from her house the day before. I also learnt one thing about her. She employed a tactic in which she pretended to teach a Japanese how to catch a horse. But what a pity for him was that he was killed soon after he was kicked by the horse.

Likewise, Thakhin Magyi Daw Thein Tin was a political woman leader who had to serve prison terms due to her opposition to the British government for national liberation. At the 11th Paungde Conference held in 1924, she broke her comb made of turtle shell as she didn't want to hear about the British. (The Myanmar pronunciation of turtle is linked to that of English.) Besides, she persuaded all the women attending the conference to burn their turtle shell combs.

(See page 9)

I assume that it is appropriate to designate the 3rd of July as the Myanmar Women's Day because on the day, the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs was established to honour outstanding Myanmar women and represent the entire Myanmar women. The Myanmar Women's Day does not represent a particular woman.

(from page 8)

Another one is Daw Kyin Myaing who was famous for her giving lectures in Shan, Chinese and Indian and making satires. In the 1930 Saya San uprising, she announced her donation to the governor and ministers. But actually, she sent them old stuff such as old shoes, broken kitchenwares, and rags. In this way, she thumbed her nose at the British administration.

Likewise, among the Myanmar women who actively participated in social affairs were famous Daw U Zun (a) nun Daw Sumalar and Florence Nightingale Award winners captain Daw Khin Ohn Mya and nurse Daw Thein Yi. In 1276 ME, Daw U Zun visited the home for the aged built by Christian nuns on Theinbyu Road while in Yangon to pay homage to the famous pagodas. The older Myanmar people were also found to be under care at the home. However, when she witnessed that they were not allowed to perform meritorious deeds in Buddhist way, she became desirous of establishing homes for the aged of Buddhist. One year after she had arrived back in Mandalay, she arranged to build three meditation centres between Mingun bell and the Mingun Pagoda after asking permission from Ariya Magginchaung Sayadaw from Sagaing Hill. Elderly people were permitted to stay at two centres. As the funds increased eight years later, more buildings were constructed. At the request of the people from Thaton, Paungde, Yangon, Hninzigon and Pakokku to build homes for the aged, Daw U Zun, U Maung Gyi and U Ba Gyan donated funds and built one at the foot of Myathabeik Mountain in 1289 ME, one in Paungde in 1290 ME, one in Hninzigon, Yangon, in 1295 ME and one in Pakokku in 1299 ME.

At about 3 pm on 2 April 1995, a house of a compounder in Thaingthut Village, where Florence Nightingale Award winner nurse Daw Thein Yi was serving, caught fire. Daw Thein Yi rushed to the scene where the house was in big flames and a child was trapped in the fire. She was a niece of the compounder. Daw Thein Yi made up her mind to rescue the child ignoring the fact that her own house was very close to the fire. She tried her utmost to get the child out of the fire by risking her life.

The exit and both sides of the road were completely covered with flames and she could lose her life if she chose that way to get out of the site. And she could not jump over the flaming site to get to the road. In desperation, Daw Thein Yi tightly embracing the child lay down on the ground and rolled herself to the road. Then, both lost consciousness. In the event, she got severe burns in her legs, head, face and back. She received treatment about 11 months, and fortunately, she survived the injuries.

Countless are true stories about Myanmar women's brilliant performances carried out with heart and soul in the national causes and religious and social sectors. The Myanmar Women's Day was designated in honour of such brilliant and sacrificing Myanmar women and patriotic Myanmar women who put national

Her brilliant performances are defiance of all orders issued by the government, confrontation, utter devastation, four blockages and too much reliance on external elements. As is known to all that with negative policies, the daughter of Bogyoke Aung San is making the people upset. Owing to her negative activities to obstruct the interests of the nation and the people, members are resigning from the NLD.

interests in the fore.

Assuming that the Myanmar Women's Day was designated by the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation given birth by the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs, the entire Myanmar women are actively taking part in the women's affairs activities.

I assume that it is appropriate to designate the 3rd of July as the Myanmar Women's Day because on the day, the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs was established to honour outstanding Myanmar women and represent the entire Myanmar women. The Myanmar Women's Day does not represent a particular woman.

However, it is public knowledge that attempts were made to designate the 19th of June as the Myanmar Women's Day beginning the 52nd anniversary birthday of Daw Suu Kyi that fell on 19 June 1998. Even before that date, the 3rd of July had already been designated as the Myanmar Women's Day. It was as though Daw Suu Kyi did not know this. It was just an improper idea to designate Daw Suu Kyi's birth day as the Myanmar Women's Day. The designation is totally unacceptable to the entire mass of Myanmar women including me.

"Daw Suu Kyi, have you carried out any brilliant performances and made self sacrifices in the interests of the motherland, the people or a person? To my knowledge, you have done nothing brilliant like above-mentioned Myanmar women. There might be a question "What are Daw Suu Kyi's brilliant performances?"

Her brilliant performances are defiance of all orders issued by the government, confrontation, utter devastation, four blockages and too much reliance on external elements. As is known to all that with negative policies, the daughter of Bogyoke Aung San is making the people upset. Owing to her negative activities to obstruct the interests of the nation and the people, members are resigning from the NLD.

It is absolutely impossible for me to support the designation of the Myanmar Women's Day with reference to such a woman concentrating all her activities on destruction of the nation and the people.

I have another reason why I disagree with their proposal. Myanmar women are exemplars in preserving own lineage, and a Myanmar woman has her greatest respects for and put reliance on her husband as well as the son. Myanmar women practise monogamy. A Myanmar woman does not commit extramarital affairs. The most important matrimonial principle for a Myanmar woman is to refrain from marrying an alien person. A Myanmar woman violating the principle is designated as the one who brings dishonour to the nation and the people. In the Myanmar history, Princess Shwe Einsi, daughter of King Kyansit, fell in love with an alien man Patikkhara, but in the end she decided to break off relations with him due to her spirit of preserving own lineage and patriotic fervour.

Unlike Shwe Einsi, Daw Suu Kyi chose as her life partner a citizen of Britain that colonized and exploited Myanmar for more than 100 years, undermined unity among national races when it had no choice but to grant Myanmar independence, and assassinated her father. Suppose her birth day is designated as the Myanmar Women's Day and I were in her place, I think I will disfigure my face with a knife out of shame and return to England.

Through this article, I pour out my feelings because as a Myanmar woman, I do not stand for and accept such an awkward and unreasonable programme with the aim of enabling Myanmar women to review the situation. I do not mean I hate her personally and I do not have any sympathy for her.

The entire Myanmar women are therefore to do their bit in the tasks for development of the nation and the people and to make sure that there emerge no woman who brings dishonour to and breaks up the nation, while preserving own lineage.

The Myanmar Women's Day that falls on 3 July is an auspicious day for the entire mass of Myanmar women. So, I would like to urge Myanmar women to safeguard the people and Sasana and serve the interests of the nation.

Translation: TMT+ST+MS

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 19-6-2007

Cambodia detains 8 Westerners over rights protest

PHNOM PENH, 20 June — Cambodian police detained eight Westerners on Tuesday for protesting for the release of two men whom human rights campaigners say were framed for the 2004 murder of a prominent union leader.

Phnom Penh police chief Touch Naruth said the group — three Americans, two Canadians, one New

Zealander, one Briton and one Dane — had been arrested for “protesting illegally”. He did not give their names.

“We are asking them to write statements saying they will not repeat this in the future. If they do not agree to give such statements, along with their signatures, they will be deported,” he told *Reuters*.

The eight were arrested as they attempted to drive a truck emblazoned with pictures of the convicted pair, Born Samnang and Sok Samoeun, past the venue of Cambodia’s annual meeting of international donors.

The two men were sentenced in August 2005 to 20 years in jail for the murder of Chea Vichea, president of the Free Trade Union of the Workers of Cambodia (FTUWKC), who was shot dead in January 2004 in central Phnom Penh.

MNA/Reuters



A computer-generated image of a EADS Atrium aircraft which will enable space tourists to experience weightlessness that will carry passengers briefly outside the earth’s atmosphere from 2012. The aircraft, about the size of an executive jet will be able to carry four passengers around 100 kilometres from the earth, where they will be able to experience about three minutes of weightlessness and see the curve of the earth at a price of between 150,000-200,000 euros (\$199,500-\$265,900), it was announced in Paris on Wednesday, 13 June, 2007. — INTERNET



Members of the African circus “Mama Africa” perform during the show in Dortmund on 15 June, 2007. — INTERNET

Nine US firefighters killed in furniture store blaze

CHARLESTON (South Carolina), 20 June — Nine firefighters died battling a blaze that raced through a furniture store and warehouse in Charleston, South Carolina, on Monday night, triggering a rolling ball of smoke and flames that destroyed the roof and pelted onlookers with hot ash.

The warehouse was packed with furniture and the blaze “rolled through it like a fireball” while the firefighters tried to put it out, said Pam Blevins, secretary to the Charleston City fire chief, Russell Thomas.

“All we know is nine firefighters, all at once...” Blevins told *Reuters* by

telephone on Tuesday, choking up with emotion. “The building collapsed on them.”

The tragedy was the single-worst loss of firefighters since 343 firefighters and paramedics died in New York on 11 September while searching for survivors in the World Trade Centre towers before they collapsed, the US Fire Administration said.

Charleston Mayor Joe Riley said the magnitude of the loss for the South Carolina city was “difficult to fathom or quantify.”

“But what we know is that nine brave, heroic, courageous firefighters of

the city of Charleston have perished fighting fire in a most courageous and fearless manner,” Riley told a news conference with the ruins of the warehouse-store smoldering behind him.

The fire began at about 6:30 pm (2230 GMT) at the Sofa Super Store around five miles (8 kilometres) west of the city’s historic district, the fire department said. The front of the store collapsed just over an hour later.

“It was like a 30-foot (9-metre) tornado of flames,” said Mark Hilton, who was standing nearby.

MNA/Reuters

Israeli force moves into Gaza near crossing

GAZA, 20 June — Israeli tanks crossed into the Gaza Strip on Tuesday near a key crossing point where some 150 Palestinians have been trapped while trying to flee from the territory since Hamas Islamists took it over.

An Israeli Army spokesman said the tanks entered Gaza to protect the Erez crossing, where a gunman from Gaza shot dead a security officer loyal to Palestinian President Mahmoud

Abbas and wounded several others on Monday.

Israeli civilian medics have been put on standby to evacuate wounded and ill Palestinians at the crossing who seek to flee to the West Bank or to Israeli hospitals amid violence between gunmen from Hamas and Abbas’s Fatah group.

An Israeli Army bulldozer was seen razing concrete barriers at Erez. Several water bottles were thrown from a tank to Palestinians.

The Israeli military spokesman said the Army had not begun any evacuation efforts.

The operation came ahead of talks between Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and US

President George W Bush at the White House. The Israeli leader aims to bolster Western-backed Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, a moderate.

Hamas gunmen took over the Gaza Strip last week after deadly clashes with security forces loyal to Abbas, the Fatah leader.

MNA/Reuters

A young Eurasian Crane eats from a litter picker disguised as an adult crane at the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust in Slimbridge, England on Monday, 18 June, 2007. Staff at WWT Slimbridge will be rearing the chicks using crane costumes and crane heads made out of litter pickers so the birds don’t become too accustomed to humans. The Great Crane Project aims to re-establish a breeding population of cranes in Britain, securing its future as a breeding species. — INTERNET



Lebanese soldier dies in refugee camp fighting

NAHR AL-BARED (Lebanon), 20 June — A Lebanese soldier was killed on Tuesday at a Palestinian refugee camp in north Lebanon where fighting between troops and Islamist militants is in its fifth week, security sources said.

They said another Lebanese soldier died on Tuesday from wounds sustained earlier.

Witnesses said Army shelling resumed early in the morning of al-Qaeda-

inspired militants entrenched in the Nahr al-Bared camp and later intensified on the camp’s eastern side.

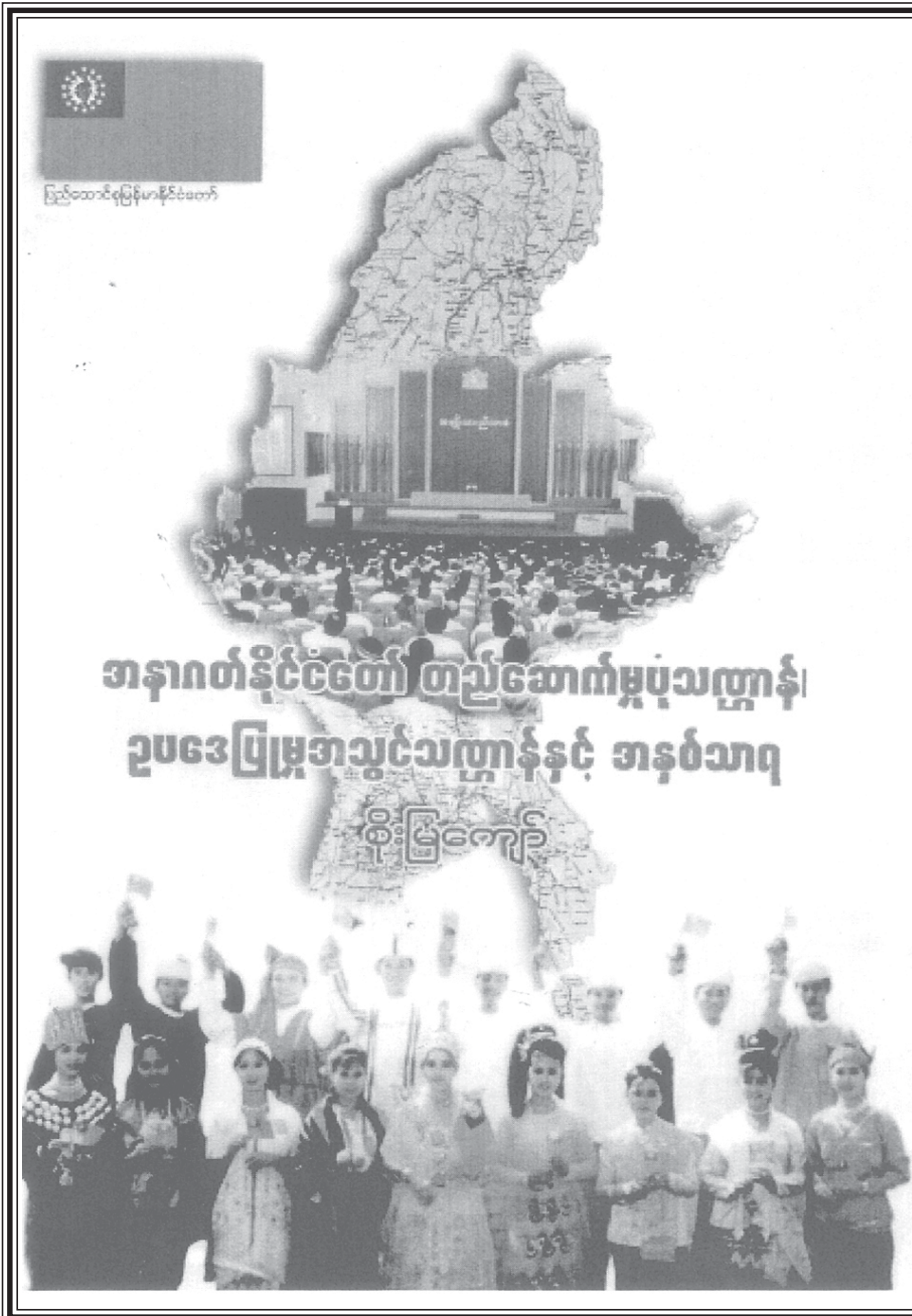
Television footage showed smoke billowing from punctured buildings.

On Monday, sources said the Army seemed close to its goal of crushing Fatah al-Islam’s positions on the camp’s edges and had destroyed a main position it had used as a weapons store and training centre.

Security sources said soldiers discovered bodies of seven militants in a building where they were checking for boobytraps.

The fighting is Lebanon’s worst internal violence since the 1975-1990 civil war. At least 162 people, including 73 soldiers, more than 57 militants and 32 civilians, have been killed.

MNA/Reuters



- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကို ကျင်းပကာ နိုင်ငံတော်ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံ အခြေခံဥပဒေ ရေးဆွဲရေးအတွက် အခြေခံရမည့်မူများနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အခြေခံရမည့်မူများကို အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကိုယ်စားလှယ်များက ညှိနှိုင်းဆွေးနွေး အတည်ပြုချက် ချမှတ်ပေးလျက်ရှိသည်။
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- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တွင် ပေါ်ပေါက်လာမည့် ဥပဒေပြုမှုနှင့်စပ်လျဉ်းသည့် အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ထင်လင်းစွာ ပုံဖော်လာရေးအတွက် စာရေး သူ၏တွေ့ရှိချက်များကို တိုင်းရင်းသားပြည်သူများအား အကိုးအထောက် မှန်ကန်စွာဖြင့် လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းဝေငှထားသည့် —

စိုးမြင်ကျော် ၏

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- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော် တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အခန်း (၁) ခန်းနှင့် အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်၏ ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အပိုင်း (၁၃) ပိုင်းပါရှိသည်။
- ရောင်စုံ သရုပ်ဖော်ပုံများနှင့် စာမျက်နှာ (၁၅၀)၊ ရောင်းဈေး ၃၅၀/-

ထွက်ပြီ

- စာပေဗိမာန် စာအုပ်ဆိုင် ၅၂၉-၅၃၁၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
ဖုန်း - ၃၈၁၄၄၈၊ ၂၄၉၀၃၁
- သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ ၂၁၂၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
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Pakistani Army pilots receive medals for rescuing mountaineer

BELGRADE, 20 June — Two Pakistani Army pilots received medals on Monday for their rescue of a famous Slovenian climber trapped in the Himalayas nearly two years ago, reports reaching here from the Slovenian capital Ljubljana said.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rashid Ullah Beg and Khalid Amir Rana received the Golden Order for Services from Slovenian President Janez Drnovsek for their highly risky rescue in August 2005, the Slovenian news agency STA reported.

The two pilots rescued Slovenian climber Tomaz Humar by dropping a sling from the helicopter and lifting him from a 6,350-metre-high ledge.

Humar had been trapped on the world's ninth highest mountain Nanga Parbat for six days, suffering from hunger and cold. Two previous rescue attempts had failed.

Drnovsek praised the courage and unselfishness of the pilots, who showed that "human solidarity has no boundaries and should not have any".

He said that differences in nationality or religion should not prevent people helping others.

Pakistani military regarded it as the most dangerous rescue in the history of climbing in the Himalayas since it was conducted above the normal ceiling for flying.

The 8125-metre-high Nanga Parbat, nicknamed Killer Mountain, has claimed many of the climbers who have tried to conquer it.

MNA/Xinhua

Abbas dissolves Palestinian National Security Council

RAMALLAH, 20 June — Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas Monday issued a presidential decree to dissolve the Palestinian Council of National Security.

Official sources with Abbas office said that the Palestinian Council of National Security formed in late March by both Abbas of Fatah and the former prime minister

Ismail Haneya of Hamas has been dissolved under a new presidential decree. The sources said that

Abbas whereat ordered to form a new national security council and appointed Prime Minister

of the emergency government Sallam Fayyad as the head of the council. MNA/Xinhua

Catholic priest kidnapped in Iraq released

ROME, 20 June — A Catholic priest has been released in Iraq after being kidnapped and held for ransom this month, the Rome-based Catholic news agency Misna said on Monday.

Father Hani Abdul Ahad was snatched by unidentified gunmen in Baghdad on 6 June. Four fellow Christians who

were held with him were released two days later.

Misna quoted Shlemon Warduni, auxiliary bishop of

Baghdad, as saying the priest had been released on Sunday and was well. The kidnapers had asked for a ransom, he said, without giving further details.

"We ask everyone to pay attention to our situation because at this moment Christians in Iraq are in a terrible state," he was quoted as saying. "We have nothing against anyone, we only want to rebuild Iraq."

Another Chaldean Catholic priest, Ragheed Aziz Kani, was killed this month by gunmen in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul. The Chaldean rite is one of the ancient rites of the Catholic Church. Its members, mostly in Iraq and Syria, are in unity with Rome.

MNA/Reuters



A car bombing casualty is brought to a hospital in the Shiite enclave of Sadr City in Baghdad, Iraq, on Tuesday, 19 June, 2007. The man was among over 200 wounded and 75 killed when a car bomb exploded outside the Khillani mosque in Baghdad's commercial area. —INTERNET

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 (For. Domnern Somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand)
 Dated. 21 June 2007

Fiji's exports up 10%

WELLINGTON, 19 June —Fiji's exports have increased by 10 per cent in the first four months of 2007, said interim Finance Minister Mahendra Chaudhry Monday.

Chaudhry said Fiji's foreign reserves are also stable "at the moment" and imports are down, according to *Fijilive*, a local news service. Compared with the same period last year, Fiji's "agricultural sector has performed well," said Chaudhry.

He said Fiji has also been able to export an extra 55,000 tons of sugar to the European Union that is "over and above our usual sugar quota and this should fetch us a good price".— *MNA/Xinhua*

Nicaraguan police find tons of heroin, arrest two

MANAGUA, 19 June — Nicaraguan police on Sunday seized 2.5 kilos of heroin hidden in shoes and arrested a Nicaraguan and a Guatemalan in the south of the country.

Police said the two entered Nicaragua from Costa Rica in the South via a blind spot on the southern border in the Penas Blancas border region, and that they suspect the final destination for the drug was Guatemala as there is no heroin market in Nicaragua due to its high cost.— *MNA/Xinhua*

In fondest memory of Sayama Zam Cing Khai

Sayama Zam Cing Khai (Cing Khai) each and every passing day during the past decade (21 June, 1997-June 2007) seemed to your bereaved husband and 4 broken hearted children like eternity itself. Nevertheless let us take comfort in the words of our Lord that we shall all meet together some future day.

Inserted by Dr Pau Za Nang (Alan) Wendy Neam Khan Dim (ung ung)-Malay & Thang Do Tual-(Vancouver)-Kanada Cladys Mang Hau Cing (Mang Nu)- galang Ngin Za Kim Mang (Kim Mang) Henry Thawng Taung Khai (Thawng Tui)

INVITATION FOR TENDER (TENDER NO. 5(T) MPE/ HSD (3)/ 2007-2008)

1. Sealed Tenders are invited for the Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of High Speed Diesel Oil (24,000 ± 10%) Metric Tons (Gas Oil Regular 0.5%).
2. Tender Closing Date : (2-7-2007) at (12:00) noon.
3. Tender Opening Date : (2-7-2007) at (13:00) hrs.
4. Delivery Time : Within July/August 2007.
5. Tender Documents and detail information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing (22-6-2007) on payment of one hundred (100) FEC per set.
6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender documents officially from Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director,
 Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise

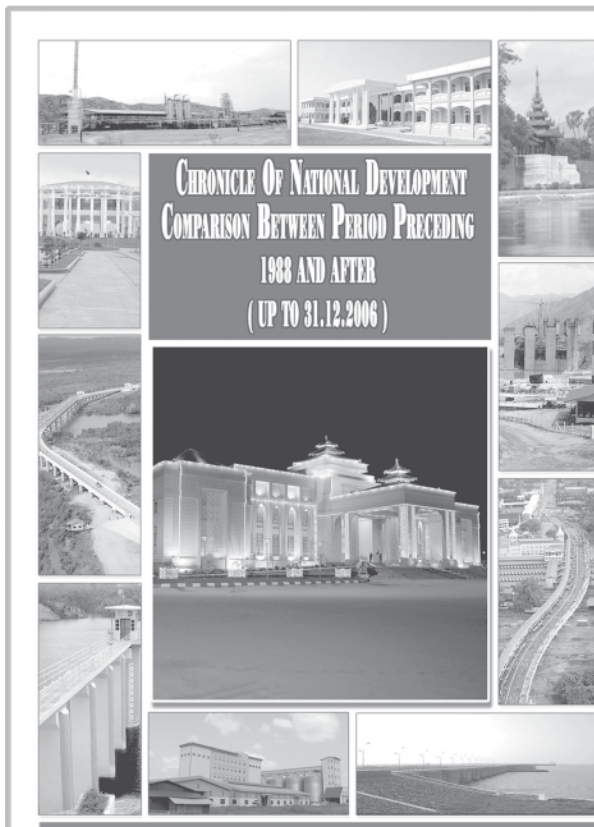
Mongolian helicopter found crashed in N province, killing 14

ULAN BATOR, 19 June — Rescuers have found the wreckage of a helicopter that crashed in the northern province of Selenge and killed 14 people on board, a Mongolian emergency official said on Monday.

The Russian-made *Mi-8* helicopter lost contact with the ground after taking off on 14 June on a firefighting mission in Selenge where a forest fire had been raging since 7 June, a spokesman of the General Authority for Emergency Management said.

The helicopter crashed into a mountain at 1,400 metres above sea level, the spokesman said.

MNA/Xinhua



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United Nations Development Programme



Vacancy Announcement

Applications are invited from interested Myanmar nationals for the post of Programme Associate, Internal Oversight Unit, UNDP, Myanmar.

Detailed Terms of Reference of the post is posted on UNDP Bulletin Board at No. 6, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon.

Qualifications Requirements: University degree preferably in accounting, business or public administration, or economic or political science. Minimum 5 years of progressively responsible experience in programme management/auditing/financial management. Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc) and advance knowledge of spreadsheet and database packages, experience in handling of web based management systems desirable; good team player, ability to work under pressure. Fluency in oral and written English essential.

Interested candidates should submit their applications in writing clearly indicating the title of the post on the envelope to UNDP Resident Representative, No. 6, Natmauk Road, Yangon - **Attention: Human Resources Unit**

Closing Date: Thursday, 5 July 2007 (COB)

Only those candidates in whose qualifications and experience the Office has further interest will be contacted for subsequent interviews.

UNDP practice relating to recruitment prohibits hiring of persons currently engaged by Government service during the past 6 months.

UNDP regrets its inability to reply individually or attend to telephone queries on the advertised post.

China will offer tax break to promote clean energy

BEIJING, 19 June — China, the world's second-largest energy consumer, will this year begin offering corporate income tax preferences to overseas investors in natural gas processing, marketing and construction of urban gas pipelines in a move to use more of the clean energy source.

Overseas companies investing in these fields will be exempted from the corporate income tax during their first two years of profitability, according

to China's tax laws, the State Administration of Taxation said.

Over the following three years they will be charged half of the tax. When the preference ends, overseas firms investing in construction of urban gas pipelines will pay a tax of just 15 percent.

China now levies a 17 percent corporate income tax on overseas companies, compared with 33 percent on domestic firms.

However, according to a new corporate income

tax law passed in March, charges on both overseas and domestic companies will be 25 percent next year.

Zhang Deyong, a researcher from the institute of finance and trade economics under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said the government expects to bring more foreign capital and advanced technologies in the natural gas sector by providing the tax preferences.

Internet

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Breast cancer risk may hide in smaller family

BEIJING, 20 June — Women who have smaller families and fewer female relatives may underestimate their breast cancer risk, since the current methods of gauging the risk rely on their family history, US medical researchers said Tuesday.

A team led by Dr Jeffrey Weitzel of the California-based City of Hope cancer hospital has found that some women with breast cancer had inherited genes that put them at a greater risk for the disease—but because off fewer female relatives, they did not have a family history of the disease to act as an early warning.

The study suggests thousands of young women with breast cancer — an estimated 8,000 a year in the US — aren't offered testing to identify faulty genes and clarify their medical decisions.

When Weitzel tested over 1,500 women under age 50 with breast cancer, he found about 300 to have mutations in one of the so-called BRCA genes which increased their risk for developing early and multiple breast and ovarian cancers.

But fully half of these women had what he called a "limited"

family history for breast cancer — less than two female relatives on either side of the family who had lived past age 45.

Most of the risk models used now to determine who might get genetic testing are based on large families and families where there are multiple cases. If a woman's family history suggests she might carry such a gene, she might be offered a test to screen for the mutations.

"In some circumstances, we have to qualify what family history can tell us," said Weitzel. "It's now medically necessary that access to care should be broader, and more people should be able to take advantage of (gene screening), because it may make a big difference in outcome. Failure to recognize that a woman happens to be a BRCA carrier and do appropriate prevention procedures could cost a woman her

life."

The study also shows that three commonly used predictive models don't accurately estimate the genetic breast cancer risk for women without a family history of cancer.

Internet



The leading cast members of Hong Kong comedy "Mr Cinema", attend a premiere ceremony in Beijing on 18 June, 2007.—INTERNET

China chooses 48 Silk Road sites for world cultural heritage status



A trade caravan of camels on the ancient Silk Road—INTERNET

URUMQI, 19 June — Chinese heritage experts and officials have selected an initial list of 48 sites along the country's sections of the ancient Silk Road for its joint application with five central Asian countries for world cultural heritage status.

The sites include graveyards, temples, remains of

ancient cities and grottoes in six provinces or regions along the route. They were selected at a two-day meeting which ended on Monday in Xinjiang.

The preliminary list still needs further discussion by experts and final approval from the State Cultural Heritage Administration, before being submitted to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, according to Lu Qiong, an official with the administration.

The 2,000-year-old Silk Road, a trade route linking Asia and Europe, began in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, and ended in Europe after passing through southern and central Asia countries. More than half of the 7,000-km-long route was in China. Along this road, gunpowder, papermaking and printing technologies, three of the four great ancient Chinese inventions, were introduced to the West, while Western mathematics and medicine came to China. Guo Zhan, a heritage protection expert with the administration, urged local heritage authorities from the six provinces to draw up plans and lay down rules to better protect these sites. —*Internet*

Atlantis undocks from ISS



In this image from NASA TV, the shuttle Atlantis is seen from a camera aboard the International Space Station as the orbiter departs the station on 19 June, 2007. —INTERNET

WASHINGTON, 19 June — The US space shuttle Atlantis undocked from the International Space Station (ISS) at 10:42 am EDT (1442 GMT) Tuesday, wrapping up a 10-day joint operation, according to NASA TV.

"Houston (Mission Control Centre) and ISS, Atlantis, confirmed physical separation," shuttle commander Frederick Sturckow reported.

When the scheduled undocking occurred, both spacecraft flew over the

Coral Sea northeast of Australia. As a tradition, space station commander Fyodor Yurchikhin rang a bell and said "Atlantis departing." After Pilot Lee Archambault backs the orbiter 450 feet (about 137 metres) from the station, he will perform a full fly-around to allow crew members to collect video and imagery of the station and its newly expanded solar wings.

He will perform the final separation engine burn at 12:25 pm EDT (1625 GMT) to begin the trip home.

Later in the day, the crew will use the shuttle robot arm and the 50-foot (15 metres) long Orbiter Boom Sensor System to conduct a late inspection of the thermal protection system. Atlantis reached the station on 10 June. The mission, designated STS-117, continued the on-orbit construction of the station with the installation of the new S3/S4 truss segment. The crew installed the truss on 11 June and conducted four spacewalks to activate the S3/S4 and assisted in the retraction of a set of old solar arrays. —*Internet*

Harry Potter month is coming

BEIJING, 20 June — July will be a great month for Harry Potter fans as the final book of the blockbuster series "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" and the fifth movie "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix" will sweep the world again then.

The fifth movie was screened in He Tokyo on Tuesday, ahead of a Japan premiere later this month that will be the world's first.

Schoolboy wizard Harry Potter battles for recognition as a grown man in the latest movie, in which he finds himself torn between good and evil — and experiences his first on-screen kiss. Daniel Radcliffe, who has played Harry throughout the series, turns 18 next month and is seeking to build a reputation as an adult actor outside the Potter franchise.

Radcliffe and his two main co-stars, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint, are to appear in the final two films of the series, the first of which, "Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince," is set for

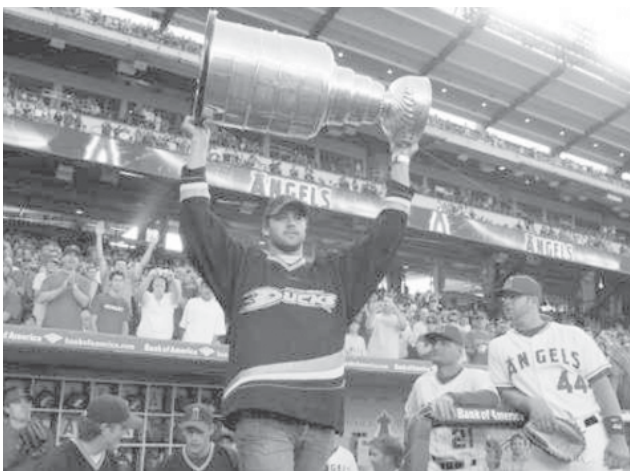


Daniel Radcliffe as Harry Potter in a scene from 'Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix' in a photo courtesy of Warner Bros.—INTERNET

US release in November 2008.

The last book in the series is set to hit bookstores on July 21. It is forecast to become the fastest selling title in history with three million copies expected to be sold in the UK alone within 24 hours of publication. Bookshops large and small reported Tuesday that the discount war on the 17.99 pounds (about 36 US dollars) cover price of the book had become so "crazy" that they expected to make a loss or at best cover their costs. —*Internet*

SPORTS



Members of the NHL Stanley Cup-winning Anaheim Ducks team Dustin Penner (C), Brad May (2nd L), and Ryan Getzlaf (3rd L) walk onto the field to throw the ceremonial first pitch before the MLB interleague baseball game between the Houston Astros and the Los Angeles Angels in Anaheim, California on 19 June, 2007.—INTERNET

Serbian FA chief slams racism at U-21 C'ship

BELGRADE, 20 June — The president of the Serbian Football Association (FSS) Zvezdan Terzic has criticized Serbian fans who directed racist abuse at England's Black players during their European Under-21 championship match in the Netherlands. "For all their enthusiasm and patriotism, our fans must understand that outbursts of nationalism and racism will only cause damage to our soccer and our country's reputation," Terzic told Belgrade's B92 television website.

"They have to control themselves and be aware that such behaviour will be of no benefit to our

team," he said. UEFA has charged both England and Serbia for incidents during and after the match with the Serbs facing charges of racism and improper conduct after England's second goal in their 2-0 win. England have been charged for incidents in the tunnel after the game.

Serbian fans behind a banner reading "Serbian Ultras" subjected England's Black players to monkey chants during the match. The referee stopped the game and ordered an announcement to be made over the stadium's public address system.

European soccer's governing body UEFA said its disciplinary committee will consider all the charges at its next meeting on July 12 but would take no action before then.

But Terzic also poured scorn on England for "unsporstmanlike conduct" for the manner they scored their second goal while a Serbian player was down injured.

MNA/Reuters

Blatter says World Cup hosts face transport challenge

CAPE TOWN, 20 June — FIFA president Sepp Blatter says South Africa still faces challenges around transport and hotel accommodation for its hosting of the 2010 World Cup finals. Blatter said he told South African President Thabo Mbeki in a meeting in Cape Town on Tuesday that while stadium construction was well underway, the country now had to turn its attention to ensuring enough facilities for thousands of visitors during the tournament.

"We have seen progress in the building of the stadiums but the system of transport definitely has to be looked at. There will be a lot of visitors and there is a great need from companies to help with extra capacity for airplanes, buses and local transport," Blatter told reporters after the meeting.

South African organizers expect at least 350,000 visitors for the tournament, considerably down on the initial estimates of some 900,000 when they first bid for the tournament.—MNA/Reuters



Los Angeles Dodgers' Juan Pierre (bottom) steals second base safely in front of the throw to Toronto Blue Jays' Aaron Hill during the second inning of their MLB interleague baseball game in Toronto on 19 June, 2007.—INTERNET

Roberto Carlos says Real losing experienced players

ISTANBUL, 20 June — Real Madrid are losing their experienced players and will end up with just youngsters, Brazilian Roberto Carlos said on Tuesday as he joined Fenerbahce.

Real, who won the Spanish League title on Sunday, have seen a string of so-called Galacticos leave the club, culminating in the exit of David Beckham who heads for the United States.

"Ronaldo left, Figo left, (Zinedine) Zidane left, now Beckham and me," Roberto Carlos told Reuters in an interview on the sidelines of a signing ceremony attended by thousands of fans in Istanbul.

"Real Madrid is getting rid of a lot of players with experience and is going to end up with young ones," he said, though he added that he respected the club's policy of favouring youth.

"The important thing now is that Beckham in the United States and I in Fenerbahce can play great games...so

Real Madrid will miss us," he said.

The 34-year-old fullback and 2002 World Cup winner has moved to the Turkish league champions after 11 years at Real Madrid, whom he joined from Inter Milan.

"The end of my career will be here, in this club," he said.

MNA/Reuters



Brazilian football star Roberto Carlos on Tuesday signed the official two-year contract with Turkish league champion Fenerbahce football club.—INTERNET

Capello could quit coaching if he leaves Real

MILAN, 20 June — Real Madrid coach Fabio Capello has said he may quit coaching if he leaves the new Spanish champions. Real won their first title in four years on Sunday after a 3-1 comeback victory over Real Mallorca helped them pip Barcelona on the final day of the season.

Despite Capello delivering the title in his first season back, his future remains uncertain with club president Ramon Calderon offering only lukewarm support.

"The best squads already have coaches, which means I could even quit with two years pay," Capello told Gazzetta dello Sport in an interview on Tuesday.

"It is like tossing a coin into the air," he said when

asked about the chances of staying at Real.

"I only know that I would like to stay to win the Champions League. I have already booked a plane ticket to return on 19 July, because we start training on the 20th."

Since February, when Real looked to have blown their chances of winning a trophy, the club have hinted that the Italian would leave.

MNA/Reuters

Calderon says Metzelder secured, three more players on way

MADRID, 20 June — Real Madrid President Ramon Calderon has said Germany international Christoph Metzelder and three other players are lined up for next season with the newly-crowned Primera Liga champions.

"We've been working on new signings for the last three months. Metzelder is signed up and there are three more who are almost done," Calderon told sports daily AS on Tuesday.

Metzelder, whose contract with Borussia Dortmund finished at the end of the season, has been linked with a move to Real in the media for some time, though the club has yet to officially confirm the deal.

AC Milan's Kaka has been a target for Calderon since he promised to sign the playmaker in his election campaign last June. But the Serie A side have consistently said the player is not for sale.

"We all know that Kaka will have to force his exit from Milan...and I continue to believe that he will try," Calderon added.

MNA/Reuters



Argentine soccer great Diego Maradona attends a soccer match in Ezeiza, on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, on 8 May, 2007.—INTERNET

Juventus sign Italy striker Iaquina

MILAN, 20 June — Juventus have signed Italy striker Vincenzo Iaquina from Udinese on a five-year deal, the Serie B champions said on Tuesday.

The 27-year-old, who scored 14 top flight goals last season, has moved for 11.3 million euros (15.2 million US dollars) after the two clubs finally struck a deal following weeks of speculation over the transfer.

"I have grown up year-on-year and after seven seasons in Udine the moment has arrived to make a jump of quality in order to test myself with a challenge that only a great club like Juventus can offer," the striker said in a statement.

"I believe that I am the right age to realize this dream. I like pressure and I cannot wait to start this new adventure."—MNA/Reuters

Singapore minister says China catalyzed Asia's restructuring

SINGAPORE, 19 June — Without China's growth and the Asian restructuring it has catalyzed, the recovery of the Asian economies from the financial crisis would have been much more difficult, a Singapore minister said on Monday.

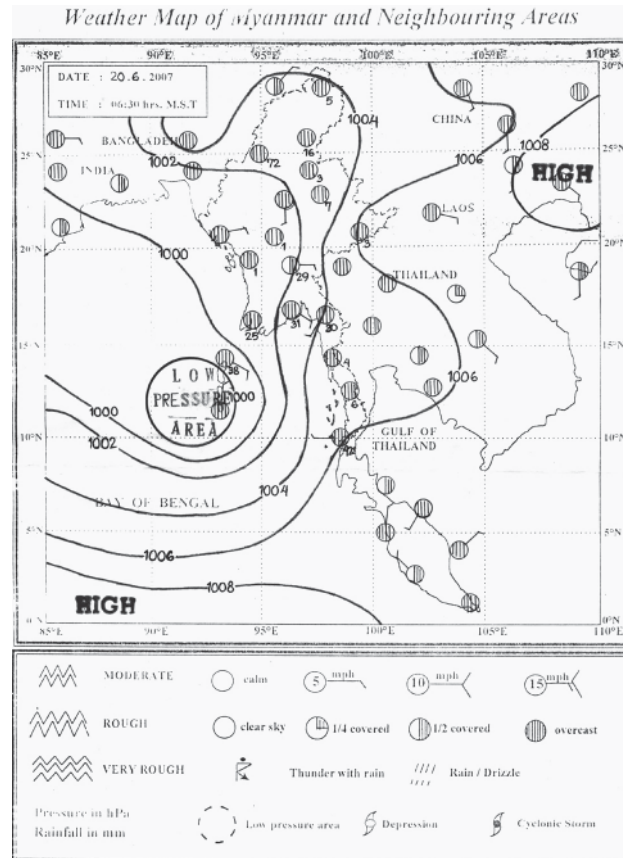
In his opening address at the East Asian Institute's (EAI) 10th anniversary conference, Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Education Minister and Second Minister for Finance, praised China for providing a boost to the regional economy.

He noted that Asia has undergone two major restructure over the last decade. The first is the restructuring of financial systems and corporate governance following the Asian crisis which began in 1997. The second is the restructuring of production

and trade patterns in the region that has accompanied the ascendancy of China as a major global economic player.

He said that China's unbroken high growth averaging 10 per cent per year over the last 10 years has altered the pattern of

production, trade and capital flows throughout Asia. In pattern of exports for example, Tharman said the East Asian economies excluding China and Japan have seen a significant shift from exporting to the United States to exporting to China.—MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Wednesday, 20 June, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah State and Magway Division, scattered in Rakhine State, Mandalay and Ayeyawady Divisions, fairly widespread in Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Homalin (2.83) inches, Thaton (2.00) inches, Kawthoung (1.97) inches, Taunggyi (1.93) inches, Machanbaw and Yangon (Central) (1.89) inches each, Thayawady (1.74) inches, Co Co Island (1.54) inches and Kanbulu (1.50) inches.

Maximum temperature on 19-6-2007 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 20-6-2007 was 76°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 20-6-2007 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 19-6-2007 was (0.6) hour approx.

Rainfall on 20-6-2007 was (0.95) inch at Mingaladon, (1.22) inches at Kaba-Aye, (1.89) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (42.72) inches at Mingaladon, (47.60) inches at Kaba-Aye and (43.98) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (12) mph from Southwest at (04:15) hours MST on 20-6-2007.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30)hrs today, the low pressure area has formed over the Southeast Bay and adjoining East Central Bay. And it is likely to intensify further into a depression. Monsoon is strong to vigorous in the South Bay and Andaman Sea and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 21-6-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Rakhine State and upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 21-6-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 21-6-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 21-6-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).



South Korean actress Song Hae Gyo shoots new photo album recently.—INTERNET

Four killed in Thailand's rebellious Muslim south

BANGKOK, 20 June — Suspected Muslim separatist rebels killed four people, including a district chief and an Army colonel, in Thailand's rebellious Muslim south, police said on Tuesday.

One soldier was killed and two wounded late on Monday as they clashed with militants who set fire to a school in Pattani, one of three southernmost Thai provinces where more than 2,300 people have been killed in a three-year insurgency, police said.

The district chief, the colonel and their driver were killed early on Tuesday by

a 15-kilos (33 pound) roadside bomb as they returned from another school fire in Pattani, police said.

Anti-government slogans were written on a small bridge near the explosion accusing the Pattani governor of involvement in the killing of four Muslim politicians on their way home from a meeting with him. The governor said militants were to blame.

MNA/Reuters



Thursday, 21 June

- Tune in today**
- 8:30 am Brief news
 - 8:35 am Music: -Whoops now
 - 8:40 am Perspectives
 - 8:45 am Music: -Wake up Bool
 - 8:50 am National news/Slogan
 - 9:00 am Music: -Tell me when
 - 9:05 am International news
 - 9:10 am Music: -Stuck in the heart
 - 1:30 pm News / Slogan
 - 1:40pm Lunch time music: -Far from love
 - 9:00pm Aspects of Myanmar
 - 9:10pm Article
 - 9:20pm Pourri -Bird flu virus H5N1
 - 9:30 pm Favourite songs chosen by music lovers -Baby it's you -Happy go lucky
 - 9:45 pm News /Slogan
 - 10:00 pm PEL



Thursday, 21 June View on today

- 7:00 am
 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်တော်သံဃာ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am
 5. Dance of national races

- 8:00 am
 6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:10 am
 7. Dance variety
- 8:20 am
 8. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:25 am
 9. လယ်ယာစီးပွားမြှင့်တင်ရေးနှင့် ပဲခူးလှောင်တံခံ
- 8:30 am
 10. International news
- 8:45 am
 11. Let's Go
- 4:00 pm
 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
 2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
 3. English for Everyday Use
- 4:45pm
 4. Musical programme
- 4:55 pm
 5. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)

- 5:10 pm
 6. Cute little dancers
- 5:20 pm
 7. Musical programme
- 5:35 pm
 8. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ
- 5:50 pm
 9. "ငါးရစ်မျိုးငါး---- တို့မစား" (ဇရာ၊ နိုင်သင်းကြည်၊ မေပိုးအိ၊ ညိုညိုစိမ့်၊ မြသက်ထား) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ရိုင်းနီ)
- 6:00 pm
 10. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
 11. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
 12. သီရိဓမ္မာ
- 6:55 pm
 13. မြန်မာမလေးတွေ မြန်မာလိုလှစေချင်
- 7:05 pm
 14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရွှေရောင်သမီးသောအသည်း နုလုံး" (အပိုင်း-၁၂)
- 8:00 pm
 15. News
- 16. International news
- 17. Weather report
- 18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကံကြမ္မာနတ်သမီး" (အပိုင်း-၁၃)
- 19. The next day's programme

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Ayeyawady Division launches National Immunization Days

YANGON, 20 June— Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung inspected the harvesting of physic nut fruits on the four-acre plot of the Myanmar Correctional Department on Htaunggon Street, Ward 5, Pathein, on 9 June.

Officials conducted the commander round the field. The commander gave instructions on production of more grafts for boosting per-acre yield and calling for sowing successful physic nut seeds as soon as possible.

He inspected the dredging of Zay creek by members of Township Development Affairs Committee and social or-

ganizations and local people, and the construction of the archway of Pathein University.

He addressed the launching of the National Immunization Days for respective regions of Ayeyawady Division held at Ayeya Shwewah Hall in Pathein. Also present on the occasion were Chairperson of Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee wife of the commander Daw Than Than Nwe, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Tint Swe, senior military officers, local authorities, medical specialists, departmental officials, members of social organizations, and mothers of under-five children.

The commander called for harmonious participation of social organi-

zation members in sanitation and safe water supply tasks for achievement of national immunization processes and disease control being undertaken by the government.

Head of the Division Health Department Dr Swe Win gave an account of the programmes as to national immunization days to be launched region-wise in the division.

The commander and wife launched the programme by presenting polio vaccine drops to under-five children from Ward 4 and presented toys to them. They viewed giving vaccine drops to the children by health staff.

The first stage was



Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung drops polio vaccine to a child at opening of National Immunization Day in Ayeyawady Division.

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held from 9 to 13 June and the second stage is due to be held from 4 to 8 July.

The commander and wife viewed the World Population Day commemorative poster contest

held at No 3 Basic Education High School in Pathein.

MNA

Forecast valid until evening of 21-6-2007

Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Rakhine State and upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

10 members resign from Hlinethaya Township NLD

NLD does not serve interest of people, relying on external elements to undermine State, people

YANGON, 20 June — Members U Aung Yin, U Sein Maung, U Tun Tun, Daw Kyi Nwe (a) Daw Than Than Shwe, U Maung Maung Myint, U Maung Maung Aung, Daw Aye Aye Myint (a) Daw Than Than Shwe, Ah Nge Lay (a) Win Maung, U Soe Tint and U Than Tun Kyaw of Hlinethaya Township National League for Democracy of Yangon Division resigned from the NLD on 13 June and sent letters of resignation to the NLD Headquarters and local authorities.

In their resignation letters sent to Hlinethaya Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommission, they said that the NLD does not serve the interest of the people and the party relies on external elements to undermine the State and the people. They no longer trusted wrong acts and thoughts of the party and its leaders, and that was why they resigned from the NLD on their own accord, they said.

MNA

Preventive measures against DHF carried out at schools in Mawlamyine

NAY PYI TAW, 20 June — Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win inspected preventive measures against dengue haemorrhagic fever at schools in Mawlamyine, Mon State, on 13 June.

Staff of the Health Department and members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association and social organizations took part in fumigation and carried out sanitation tasks at two Basic Education Middle Schools and one primary school in the town on 13 June. They

also distributed pamphlets raising awareness of the DHF and sanitation for the school.

Commander Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win donated K 100,000 to a free evening school through Headmistress Daw Khin Ohn Myint during his tour of inspection.

Afterwards, he also visited Thukhawady Basic Education Middle School in Zayyathiri Ward and a Post Primary School in Hmyawlink Ward where members of social organizations and health workers volunteered for fumigation and sanitation at schools. On his tour, the commander fulfilled the requirements of the tasks. —MNA

Weather Forecast for (21-6-2007)

Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas
Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Yangon and neighbouring areas
One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Mandalay and neighbouring areas
Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).