

6th destruction of narcotic drugs seized in Shan State (North) held in Lashio Fully confident that goals will be achieved in very near future

If there is international cooperation and assistance, realization of the objectives will be much earlier than projected



YANGON, 26 June — To mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, organized by the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, the 6th destruction of seized narcotic drugs in Shan State North areas was held at Union Sports Ground in Lashio, Shan State (North) today.

Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut incinerated the seized drugs.

Also present were Chairman of CCDAC Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Dean of Diplomatic Corps Cambodian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hul Phany and foreign ambassadors to Myanmar, charge d' affaires, resident representative of UN, departmental officials and members of CCDAC, Police officers of Myanmar Police Force and mediamen.

First, Secretary of CCDAC Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi briefed on destruction of seized drugs.

In his address, Brig-Gen Khin Yi said: the ceremony being held today is to commemorate the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking which falls on 26 June every year. Similar

6th ceremony to destroy narcotic drugs seized in Shan State (North) in progress.—MNA

ceremonies are being held all over the world today and in Myanmar also, States and Divisions have been honouring this event by conducting these ceremonies annually. To honour the significance of this ceremony, we have added the destruction of seized drugs by setting them ablaze in front of the public since 1990 and have celebrated the event 20 times in Yangon up to 2006. Likewise, there have been 42 occasions of its kind held in the border regions.

Moreover, after last year's 20th destruction, two similar ceremonies were held at Laikha, Shan State (South), and another occasion to burn in Kengtung, Shan State (East), respectively.

During the period from 2002 to 2005, there had already been 5 occasions of destroying seized narcotic drugs in Shan State (North). Thus, this is going to be the 6th occasion to burn seized drugs to be held in Shan State (North).

In the previous years, the Central Committee held the annual occasions of honouring the International Day Against Drugs Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and destruction of seized drugs in Yangon only. This is the first time that the central level destruction of seized drugs is to be held in

(See page 8)



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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 27 June, 2007

Development affairs committees to create clean and pleasant society

Development affairs services are designed to enhance social well-being of the people. These services include building of roads and bridges to ensure smooth transport for the convenience of the people, and ensuring swift commodity flow and progress.

Development affairs committees are taking responsibilities for uplift of health standard of the people, enabling them to lead a peaceful life, and sprucing up towns, villages, markets and educational institutions in the municipal areas. They are also carrying out tasks in cooperation with relevant departments in sanitation works, ensuring proper drainage, and supplying electricity and safe water.

In reality, development affairs tasks are to be implemented every day. So, the committees have to inculcate the people, through educative talks, with a sense of duty of practising the systematic garbage disposal system, keeping houses, streets and shops clean, exercising systematic sewage system, and using fly-proof latrines.

The area of development affairs tasks is wide, and development affairs committees have to deal with the people daily. Therefore, employees of the committees are to avoid haughtiness in dealing with the people and abstain from misbehaviours and attend to the needs of the people within the framework of rules and regulations.

So, development affairs committees have to use effectively the taxes and revenues collected from the people in the public well-being services for bringing about a clean and pleasant society.

NLD disrupting interests of the nation and people, making nation alien follower, instead of carrying out pure party politics

One member resigns from Myaung Township NLD

YANGON, 26 June—Member of Myaung Township National League for Democracy in Sagaing Division U Myint Swe resigned from the NLD of his own accord on 16 June by sending his resignation letter to the NLD (HQ) and local administrative bodies.

In the letter sent to Sagaing Division Multi-Party Democracy General Election Sub-commission, he said that he no longer wished to be an NLD member as the party, instead of doing party politics only, blocking the interests of the nation and the people and making the nation a lackey nation of foreign countries, with many factions in the party. So, he made up his mind to leave the party of his own volition, he added.—MNA

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



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MYANMAR WOMEN'S DAY
3rd July 2007

Appointment of ambassador agreed on

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June — The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr Eduardo A Real as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Panama to the Union of Myanmar.

Mr Eduardo A Real is accredited to the Union of Myanmar with resident in Singapore.

MNA

Prizes presented to winners of short story, article, song, poem, cartoon, painting, poster, computer painting, computer digital poster and photo competitions

YANGON, 26 June—A ceremony to present prizes to those from Yangon Division who stood first, second and third and consolation prize-winners in the short story, article, song, poem, cartoon, painting, poster, computer painting, computer digital poster and photo competitions at central level to mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was held at the meeting hall of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Office this afternoon with an address by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win.

Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council U Hla Soe presents award to Senior Reporter Thaug Win Bo of the New Light of Myanmar Daily.
NLM



First, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win.

Next, the commander and officials presented prizes to those who stood first, second and third and consolation prize-winners.

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MNA

Myanmar youth to take part in 4th Asia Junior Wushu Championships

YANGON, 26 June—To take part in the 4th Asia Junior Wushu Championships to be held in Yeong Ju of the Republic of Korea, a Myanmar Youth Wushu team led by President Dr Sai Hsam Tun of Myanmar Wushu Federation left here for ROK on 24 June.

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Myanmar team includes Manager U Tint Naing (Vice-President), coaches U Aung Thu Naing and U Tun Tun Oo, Referees U Khun Ja Aung (Secretary) and U Khin Soe, and observer U Kyaw Htay.

Athletes are Thura Soe, Wai Phyo Aung, Kyaw Zin Thit, Kyaw Naing Oo and Saw Kyaw Soe Moe in men's team and Waimar Tun Thein, Thet Thet Naing, Eint Mi Mi, Sandi Oo and Thant Susan in women's team.

MNA



Myanmar Youth Wushu Team pose for a photo prior to departure for Republic of Korea at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Iraq prompts US Army rethink on nation-building

WASHINGTON, 25 June —Stung by failures in Iraq, the US Army says it is getting serious about nation-building, overcoming reluctance in its own ranks and reflecting a big change in Bush Administration policy.

Army officers prefer the term stability operations to nation-building, which became politically sensitive, but they mean much the same — helping provide basic services and build institutions to stabilize a foreign state, often after war.

The Army has traditionally seen major combat as its main mission and was wary of the stability and peacekeeping operations in Somalia, Bosnia and Kosovo undertaken on the orders of the Clinton admini-

stration in the 1990s.

“The word was ‘we don’t do nation-building,’” General George Casey, the Army’s chief of staff, recalled from his time in Bosnia in the mid-1990s.

“That was so ingrained in the force,” Casey said, that the Army would not let a senior US diplomat, the deputy head of international peace efforts, sleep on its compound.

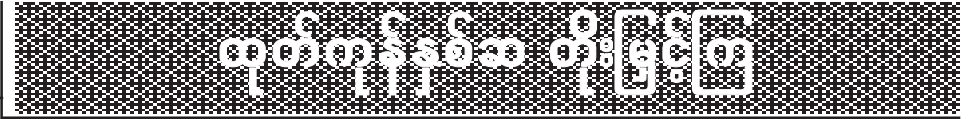
“We’ve come a long way from there with what we’re doing in Baghdad,” said Casey, formerly the top commander in Iraq.

US forces are involved in a huge range of nation-building tasks in Iraq — training the Army and police, building roads, schools and clinics and strengthening local governments.

It is not just the Army that has changed its outlook. “I don’t think our troops ought to be used for what’s called nation-building,” George W Bush said in October 2000 as he ran for president. “I think our troops ought to be used to fight and win war.”

But when US forces failed to stabilize Iraq after easily toppling Saddam Hussein, Bush’s Administration decided it had to take stability operations much more seriously.

MNA/Reuters



Mounted policewomen are seen training horses at a racecourse in Shi Zuishan City, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region on 23 June, 2007. A team of 15 young mounted policewomen has been set up there to serve in patrol, military parade and equestrian events. — XINHUA

Israel to free 250 Fatah prisoners in goodwill gesture

TEL AVIV, 26 June—Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert says he plans to release 250 prisoners from the Fatah movement of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

He made the announcement during a Middle East summit in Egypt, which is aimed at bolstering Mr Abbas since the violent takeover of the Gaza Strip by the rival Islamist movement Hamas 10 days ago.

The summit, in the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, was the first meeting between the two leaders since Islamist Hamas militants seized the Gaza Strip this month and left Mr Abbas and his secular forces in control of the larger West Bank territory.

Mr Olmert told a joint news conference with Palestinian, Egyptian and Jordanian leaders he would work with “moderates” like Mr Abbas against “terrorists” — a clear reference to Hamas militants — to secure peace in the Middle East.

He said he was willing to resume a US-sponsored programme of fortnightly talks to push forward with efforts to found a Palestinian state, despite Hamas’ control of Gaza.—Internet

Two US soldiers killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 25 June— Two US soldiers were killed Monday in Iraq, the military announced.

One soldier died in a small arms attack in southeast Baghdad, and the other was killed when a roadside bomb detonated near a military vehicle during combat operations in an eastern section of the capital.

The deaths follow a deadly weekend for US forces: 12 troops died Saturday, 10 of them in attacks, mostly in Baghdad, the military said.

This brings the number of US military deaths in the war to 3,561 — 84 of them in June.

Internet



A general view of the newly renovated Hall of Mirrors is seen at the Versailles Palace near Paris on 25 June, 2007. — INTERNET

Senator Lugar urges Bush to change course in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 25 June —Republican support for President Bush’s Iraq war policy suffered a significant crack Monday evening, when Sen Richard Lugar of Indiana, a well-respected GOP voice on foreign affairs, took to the Senate floor to urge the president to change course in Iraq “very soon” to avoid further damage to

America’s military readiness and long-term national security.

Lugar, the ranking Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, also sounded a pessimistic note on the prospects for internal political progress in Iraq, saying he sees “no convincing evidence that Iraqis will make the compromises necessary

to solidify a functioning government and society, even if we reduce violence to a point that allows for some political and economic normalcy.”

The senator said continuing military operations in Iraq were putting a damaging level of stress on US forces, “taking a toll on recruitment and readiness.”

Internet



A car is driven through flood water on the A1079 in Market Weighton near Hull, northern England, on 25 June, 2007. A man died after becoming trapped trying to clear a flooded drain in Hull on Monday as torrential rain caused flash floods in many parts of the country, police said.— INTERNET



The Mario character in Nintendo video games waits for visitors at a booth being set up for 2007 International CES (Consumer Electronics Show) in Las Vegas, Nevada in 7 June, 2007 file photo. Doctors backed away on Sunday from a controversial proposal to designate video game addiction as a mental disorder akin to alcoholism, saying psychiatrists should study the issue more. — INTERNET

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Victoria may use radio signals at rail crossings

SYDNEY, 26 June—The Victorian Government is investigating using radio signalling to warn drivers of upcoming level crossings.

A rail safety committee will investigate the idea as part of the Government's \$33 million level crossing safety package, which was announced yesterday.

It comes just a few

weeks after a collision between a truck and a train near Kerang killed 11 people.

The package includes new warning signs at crossings, tougher penalties for drivers who break the law and a new education campaign.

Premier Steve Bracks says a committee will investigate whether a radio transmitter at crossings could send out warning messages, similar to those used in the CityLink tunnels.

"It's not only if you

have your radio on — we need to investigate if you can have a system when the radio is actually off, because not everyone has their radio on," he said.

"There is, I think, in the world a system which means it can operate where it turns on your radio but that has got to be investigated fully and that work is being undertaken now."

Assistant Police Commissioner Noel Ashby says such technology could be used.

Internet

12 die as Lebanese Army raids militant hideout

TRIPOLI (Lebanon), 25 June — Lebanese troops killed seven Islamist militants, most of them foreigners, in a raid on their hideout in the northern city of Tripoli on Sunday, while sporadic battles shook a nearby Palestinian refugee camp.

Security sources said one soldier was killed and 14 were wounded during the 10-hour siege of an apartment building. The militants killed a policeman, his two daughters, aged 4 and 8, and his father-in-law after using them as human shields.

A police statement said the policeman and his daughters were visiting the father-in-law who lived in the building when the militants stormed their flat and seized them at the start of the clashes. The militants later killed them, it said.

The Army said it had found weapons, am-

munition and electronic booby-trap equipment in the apartment.

The dead militants, who included a Lebanese woman, were not members of Fatah al-Islam, which has been fighting an Army assault on its stronghold in

the Nahr al-Bared camp north of Tripoli for the past five weeks, the security sources said.

But it was information from a captured Fatah al-Islam member that led the Army to the apartment where the shootout erupted.

Two floors of the five-storey building were blackened and burned in the fighting. Holes from shells, grenades and bullets punctured its facade.

A pool of blood lay on the pavement.

MNA/Reuters

British soldier killed, four hurt in Afghan blast

LONDON, 25 June — One British soldier was killed and four wounded when a blast struck an armoured Land Rover in southern Afghanistan on Sunday, the Ministry of Defence said.

The Ministry said the troops were escorting a military team surveying an area to build roads linking villages near Lashkar Gah, the capital of the southern province of Helmand, heartland of Taliban guerillas and the opium trade.

The soldier who was killed was from the Worcester and Sherwood Forrester Regiment. His

name was not released but his family was informed. The other four were being treated for injuries.

Taliban insurgents in southern Afghanistan have stepped up suicide attacks and roadside bombs against Western forces this year.

In Helmand Province, British troops make up the bulk of a NATO stabilization mission.

MNA/Reuters



People wade in knee-deep water in Mumbai, on 24 June, 2007. Continuous heavy rains have already flooded 4 states and killed at least 126 people in India. — XINHUA

A model takes part in DSquared2 Spring/Summer 2008 men's collection show during Milan Fashion Week on 25 June, 2007.

INTERNET

More schools torched, security tightened in restive south

YALA, 25 June — The latest arson attack occurred at Bantaladlammai school in the provincial seat of Yala early Monday, destroying two classrooms.

The police believe that the arson was the work of presumed insurgents who broke into the schools as security personnel were changing shifts during the night. The school has 80

students and eight teachers.

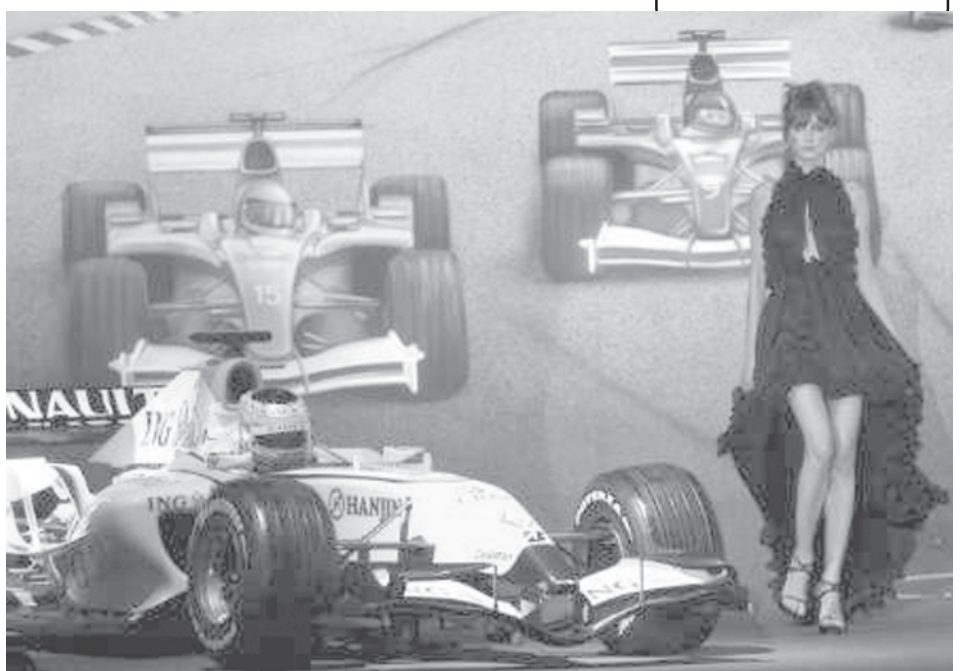
Combined police and military security for teachers in the increasingly targeted education sector of the three southern provinces on Monday was stepped up, with reinforcements being deployed to areas with higher incidences of violence.

Two schools in Narathiat's Rueso district

remained closed Monday after the schools were torched on Saturday night. It is expected that the schools will reopen Wednesday.

The six schools remain open but the number of students going to classes has dropped because parents fear for the safety of their children.

Internet



ECONOMIC NEWS

Malaysian rubber glove producer optimistic for robust growth

KUALA LUMPUR, 26 June —Malaysian rubber glove producer Supermax, the second biggest one in the world, is ready to achieve up to 35 per cent growth in both revenue and profit in 2007, local media reported on Monday.

The optimism is based on the company's robust growth over the past six years, riding on the world's voracious appetite for rubber gloves, said Datuk Seri Stanley Thai Kim Sim, the group managing director and chief executive officer.

"Global demand for rubber gloves continues to surge due to greater awareness of health

standards," Thai told the *New Straits Times* in a recent interview.

Supermax will boost marketing initiatives in fast-emerging markets such as China and India as well as introduce innovative glove products.

The world's rubber glove demand has been increasing at an annual average rate of 12 per cent, especially in the consumer usage segment, according to Thai.

The company will continue to supply this segment as well as the other traditional sectors such as hospital, medical, food, industrial, scientific laboratories, dental and home healthcare, which

will also continue to register faster growth.

Supermax plans to spend 106.2 million ringgit (31.2 million US dollars) this year on its various expansion initiatives. As a combined group, Supermax owns and operates 11 factories and spends 800 million ringgit (235.3 million US dollars) a year on research.

MNA/Xinhua



A large sturgeon leaps from the water on the Suwannee River at Branford, Fla recently. These fish reach a length of 8 ft, weighing 200 lbs, and have been responsible for a number of injuries on the Suwannee River when they jump into recreational boats. — INTERNET

Vietnam's export revenues surge in first half

HANOI, 26 June —Vietnam is estimated to gain export revenues of 18.81 billion US dollars in the first half of this year, posting a year-on-year rise of 19.4 per cent, local newspaper *Investment* reported on Monday.

The export revenues during the first six months account for 48 per cent of this year's target, while foreign-invested fields contribute nearly 10.9 billion dollars, up almost 16 per cent, the newspaper said. In June alone, the country is expected to earn 4.1 billion dollars from shipping abroad goods. The National Assembly of Vietnam, the country's highest legislative body, and the government have eyed export revenues of 46.5 billion dollars this year, up from 39.6 billion last year. — MNA/Xinhua



A woman examines square watermelons before shipment at Zentsuji, western Japan, on 25 June, 2007. — INTERNET



Spanish King Juan Carlos I delivers a speech at the China-Europe International Business School (CEIBS) in Shanghai, on 25 June, 2007.

INTERNET

China, Saudi Arabia to boost engineering project cooperation

RIYADH, 25 June—Chinese construction enterprises can tender for projects directly in Saudi Arabia, according to an agreement signed by China and Saudi Arabia on Saturday.

The memorandum of understanding on engineering project cooperation, signed by Vice-Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs Mansour bin Motaab bin Abdel-Aziz and visiting Chinese Assistant Minister of Commerce Chen Jian, will boost bilateral cooperation in economic and trade, said Chen at the signing ceremony. In the past, Chinese construction enterprises could only be engaged in business in Saudi Arabia as subcontractors, and the signing of this memorandum will offer them the rights as direct bidders in projects under the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs such as roads, bridges and buildings.

The agreement, marking a significant fruit of the two countries' economic and trade cooperation in recent years, will expand the bilateral cooperation in engineering as other sectors of Saudi Arabia will act accordingly, said Chen. — MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia revises assumption of oil price for 2007 to \$60

JAKARTA, 26 June—Indonesia revised on Monday the assumption of oil price for this year from 63 US dollars per barrel to 60 US dollars per barrel, Mines and Mineral Resources Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro said here.

Minister Purnomo told reporters after a cabinet meeting discussed the revisions of the assumptions of state budget for 2007 at the presidential office. The minister said that when the assumption of 63 US dollars per barrel was made last year, the average oil price in the country was 64 US dollars

per barrel. But, then at the first quarter this year, the oil price decreased sharply. — MNA/Xinhua

Lotus garden ecological tourism area in the Sheyang Lake of Baoying County in northern Jiangsu Province, east China, has built a typical centre, which features on a bend bridge, long corridors, a lotus pavilion and a display of lotus root products by capitalizing on local natural ecological advantages. And it has become a famous tourist area. —INTERNET





Women walk past an Andy Warhol painting at the Berardo Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Lisbon on 25 June, 2007. Berardo's museum of contemporary art collections opened on Monday evening in Lisbon with more than 200 paintings and art installations. — INTERNET

Wildfire still raging in California, Alaska

LOS ANGELES, 25 June — Firefighters were still battling wildfire in the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska, and at Lake Tahoe in California, which started Tuesday and Sunday respectively, US media reported Sunday.

The fire on the Kenai Peninsula has engulfed an area of 210 square kilometres, destroying 75 homes and cabins, the report quoted state fire information officials as saying.

The blaze is threatening another 600 residences and cabins, and residents

were ordered to evacuate Friday. But some residents refused to leave and chose to stay to protect their houses, the report said.

Some 400 firefighters were mobilized from around Alaska and other states to fight the fire, which began when sparks from a grinder used to

sharpen a shovel fell into dry grass.

In California, a forest fire was moving fast at Lake Tahoe and had consumed 12 homes or outbuildings Sunday. Dozens of homes and the Angora Lakes Resort have been evacuated.

MNA/Xinhua

Fish-oil supplements may protect against blindness

BEIJING, 26 June — A recent study has produced new evidence that omega-3 fatty acids, found in popular fish-oil supplements, may protect against diseases that affect retinal blood vessels, known as retinopathy, according to media reports Tuesday.

The study, published online by the journal *Nature Medicine* Sunday, got the encouraging results in tests on mice. In the study, mice were fed diets rich in either omega-3 fatty or omega-6 fatty acids.

The researchers found mice on the omega-3 diet had less blood vessel loss in the retina than the omega-6-fed mice.

The blood vessel loss was also cut by up to a half.

The researchers will soon begin testing the

effects in premature babies, who are at risk for vision loss. It could benefit millions of people if the clinical trials find that omega-3 fatty acids is as effective in protecting humans against retinal disease as the findings of

this study.

Aside from fish-oil supplements, the most widely available source of omega-3 fatty acids is coldwater oily fish (wild salmon, herry, mackerel, anchovies, sardines).

Internet



Meteorological officials check a seismograph screen. An earthquake measuring 5.9 on the Richter scale hit central Iran on Monday, rocking the capital Teheran as well as surrounding cities, state media reported. — INTERNET

Malaysians set massive dance record

KUALA LUMPUR, 25 June — More than 8,500 people gathered downtown here on Sunday in a dance fiesta, setting a new record in the country.

The event, organized by the Malaysian People Dance Association and other non-governmental women groups, saw the participation of 8,571 people, mostly women, in the Muhibbah (Unity)

dance fiesta, breaking the old record of 7,325 people in 2003.

The Malaysia Book of Records has booked it as an event having the most people dancing at the same time for over an

hour.

The event, launched at the Dataran Merdeka, or Independence Square, was also aimed at celebrating the country's 50th anniversary of independence.

MNA/Xinhua



A tourist takes pictures of a group of vicunas at a corral in Pampa Galeras National Reserve during the traditional ceremony of "Chaccu" in the Andean highlands of Ayacucho, Peru on 24 June, 2007. Farmers rounded up the protected wild animals, a delicate relative of llamas and alpacas, to shear their highly prized wool during the traditional ceremony where people cut the vicunas' wool. — XINHUA

Karzai flays foreign troops for causing civilian casualties

KABUL, 25 June — Afghan President Hamid Karzai on Saturday severely criticized the international troops deployed here for successively causing heavy civilian casualties during

their operations.

Foreign troops caused civilian casualties due to lack of coordination with Afghan troops in their operations, Karzai said, adding such "careless operations" had no benefits for Afghanistan.

Karzai said some 90 civilians had been killed in operations by foreign troops over the past 10 days. "Afghan life is not cheap and it should not be treated in such a way," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Road accidents kill five, injure six in S-E Bangladesh

DHAKA, 25 June — Five people were killed and six injured in a couple of road accidents in southeastern Chittagong Region Saturday, private news agency UNB reported.

In the first one, two potato traders were killed and another two injured as a truck overturned on Dhaka-Chittagong Highway and then tumbled into a roadside ditch.

Local sources said the accident occurred when the driver of the potato-laden truck lost control over the steering at about 6:00 am, killing two on the spot.

The injured people, including the truck driver, were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH). Another accident left three people dead and four others injured when a container lorry rammed into a three-wheeler at 8:30 am. — MNA/Xinhua

Hailing Myanmar Women's Day**The strength of Myanmar women with fine traditions and virtues***Yenatha Maung Kyaw Nyunt*

Myanmar women are straightforward, brave, sincere, cordial, modest and intelligent. They have high vision and they always cherish the race and religion. They are patriotic enough to safeguard and preserve the dignity of race.

With family spirit, Myanmar women have been standing shoulder to shoulder with their male counterparts in serving the national interest with might and main throughout the years till now. They are a reliable force of Myanmar. Myanmar women have enjoyed equal rights with men in the Myanmar society and have their own role in discharging the historic duty of the nation. Myanmar Women's Day has emerged in honour of the fine traditions of women mass.

The Myanmar National Committee for Womens' Affairs was formed on 3 July 1996. In 1998, the government designated 3 July as Myanmar Women's Day. The Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation was formed on 20 December 2003 with the following objectives:

- (1) To uplift the role of women in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation;
- (2) To protect the rights of women;
- (3) To develop women's economy, health and education and to ensure a secure life for them;
- (4) To nurture women to foster their spirit to cherish and value traditions and culture and customs of national races more;
- (5) To systematically protect women against violence and carry out rehabilitation work;
- (6) To curb trafficking in women and

children as a national task;

- (7) To cooperate with international organizations, regional bodies and local and foreign organizations in realizing the rights of women in accord with traditions and culture and customs of national races.

The MWAF laid down the following policy guidelines in implementing the objectives:

- (1) The policy of national cause — to mobilize the entire nation to unitedly serve the national cause, with Our Three Main National Causes as the base;
- (2) The policy of national races affairs — to pay serious attention to extending mutual love, respect and unity among the national races;
- (3) The social policy — to help develop food, clothing and shelter condition, public welfare undertakings and health, education and culture;
- (4) The policy of women's affairs — to uplift the role of women and to ensure a secure life for them.

The following six task forces are implementing the policy guidelines:

- (1) Protection and rehabilitation task force for women's development and security;
- (2) Social and culture task force;
- (3) Women's social development task force;
- (4) National races affairs task force;
- (5) Legal affairs study and consultancy task force;
- (6) Environmental conservation task force.

Protection and rehabilitation task force has the following four work groups:

- (1) Violence prevention work group

- (2) Human trafficking prevention work group

- (3) Nurturing and rehabilitation work group
- (4) Young women work group.

Social and culture task force also has the following work groups:

- (1) Education work group
- (2) Health work group
- (3) Culture work group

The MWAF has subsidiaries at different levels all over the country to protect women's rights and ensure a secure life for them. In addition to women's affairs, the federation has been taking part in national affairs and social welfare undertakings. Hence, all women of Myanmar races who have community spirit, nationalism and patriotism are joining the federation.

The main duty of MWAF is to run organizational and educational campaigns for spiritual development of the entire Myanmar women. Especially, it has been organizing and educating young women and searching ways to promote women's rights, generate job opportunities for them, develop their economies, provide a secure and happy family life and improve their living standard.

The federation is nurturing young women to cherish and protect the race and traditions and culture and strengthen Union Spirit, national solidarity and patriotism. It is also teaching them to stay away from emulating Western culture and wearing immodest dress.

The government has been striving to promote the education standard of the entire nation. The MWAF is helping all children of school age attend classes till completion of primary level, providing financial assistance, exercise books and stationery and taking part in ending the problem of illiteracy among adults, post-literacy campaign, opening libraries, running non-formal education activities, increasing the income of women and other activities.

Women are also participating in the task of building a peaceful, modern and developed nation and helping realize the objectives of the federation, while keeping in their hearts the basic principles.

All will have to render assistance to the task of promoting Myanmar women in accord with the motto — Let's join hands in developing the lives of women.

(Translation: TMT)

(Myanma Alin: 26-6-2007)

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6th destruction of narcotic drugs seized...

(from page 1)

Lashio. One of the reasons we have invited you all up to Lashio is to give recognition and credit of the significant successes achieved in Shan State (North), particularly in the annual reduction of opium poppy cultivation and production and the excellent programmes undertaken by the authorities for crop substitution, alternative development and law enforcement.

Being aware of the menace of drugs to mankind, Myanmar has not spared any efforts to totally eradicate the problem from the face of the earth, by using all means, even sacrificing lives, blood and sweat.

Drug is a prob-

lized.

For the first time within a decade we have witnessed the significant decline of poppy cultivation. This is undeniably the results of collaborative efforts among nations that we can take pride of. Lao People's Democratic Republic is a classic example among the 10 ASEAN countries declaring to the world that it is opium free in 2006.

Similarly, the result of the efforts of Myanmar to eliminate opium poppy cultivation and production within the decade is clearly reflected in the World Drug Report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The World Drug Report stated that there had been 155,150



Ambassadors, charge d' affaires and resident representatives of UN agencies inspect seized drugs to be destroyed.—MNA

achieve our goals in the very near future. If there is international cooperation and assistance, that realization of the objectives will be much earlier

than projected.

While we are striving to reduce and stop poppy cultivation on one hand, we are also strengthening law enforcement

suppression on drug producers and traffickers. In this regard, I wish to take this opportunity to brief you on some significant cases from the Northeast-

ern Shan State where the Lashio Anti-narcotics Task force together with other law enforcement agencies managed to search and raid clandestine refineries seizing drugs, precursor chemicals as well as assorted arms and ammunitions.

On 29 July 2006, a combined team of law enforcement officials raided a clandestine refinery near Man Lin village in Kutkhai township and seized 4 assorted small arms, 27 kg of raw opium, 175,000 ATS tablets, 27 liters of opium liquid and paraphernalia.

On 19 January 2007, another clandestine refinery was raided in a (See page 9)



Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi briefs on destruction of seized drugs.—MNA



lem that affects the health, social and economic fabrics of the community and accordingly due to this fact, Myanmar is addressing the problem hand in hand with the general public.

This morning we have heard an encouraging message from Mr Antonio Maria Costa, the Executive Director of UNODC. The 2007 World Drug Report issued today by the UNODC provides further evidence that the world drug problem is being controlled. There are signs of overall stability in cultivation, production and abuse. We have heard that from a global perspective, the problem seems to be contained and the world drug situation has stabi-

lized. hectares of poppy cultivation producing an estimate of 1,676 tons of opium in 1997. This has decreased to 21,500 hectares and 337 tons in 2006. These figures stand testimony that we have laid down a consistent and pragmatic strategy in the fight against drugs in Myanmar. The 15-year Plan launched in 1999 is a comprehensive plan covering not only supply reduction but also demand reduction and law enforcement programs with the objective of establishing an opium free country by 2014. We have implemented this program without any international assistance by relying on our own resources. However, we are fully confident that we will be able to

Estimate value in the US of narcotic drugs and precursor chemicals to be destroyed in Shan State (North)

Sr	Subject	Weight		Price (dollar)	Value (dollar)	Remark
		Kilo	Litre			
1	Opium	334,686,476		12,500	4,183,580.95	
2	Heroin	67.4764958		125,000	8,434,561.97	
3	Morphine	7.3024		125,000	902,800	
4	Opium oil	5.5705				
5	Low grade opium	537.6830847				
6	Cannabis	.5		5,260	2630	
7	Stimulant tablets	4057395		200,000	81,147,900	
8	Stimulant powder	137.90048		200,000	87,584,000	
9	Ephedrine	98.19		600,000	58,914,000	
10	Caffeine	104.2		300,000	31,260,000	
11	Ketamine	1		1,600	1,600	
12	Chemical liquid		6319.1421	10.458	66,085.56	
13	Chemical powder	2209.95		.526	1,162.43	
14	Poppy seed	685.247				
15	Poppy plant	419.625 (pyi)				
16	Paraphernalia	459 plants				
		70 kinds				
Total					272,508,320.91	

6th destruction of narcotic drugs seized...

(from page 8)
ravine near Loi Kye Kham and Man Lin villages in Hsenwi Township and seized 20.3 kg of No 3 heroin, one side arm with ammunition and precursor chemicals and paraphernalia.

On 23 April 2007, 146.7kg of opium and 300 grams of heroin were seized at Pan Se village in Namkham Township.

On 26 May 2007, 191,000 ATS tablets, 376 of ephedrine, 46.5 kg of opium, 2 tablet punching

and arrest of the Chinese gang leader Xiao Wu, who fled into Myanmar. Forming a joint investigation team on 30 April, the operation took 3 weeks to track and flush out Xiao Wu who was arrested on 24 May and rendered back to China on 30 May.

With regard to collaboration with neighboring countries, Myanmar has rendered 63 drug traffickers to China since 2001 and China, in return, has rendered 3 drug offenders to Myanmar

production has declined in the past decade from 1997 to 2007 and opium and heroin are not easily available for interdiction.

With regard to Amphetamine Type Stimulant (ATS), since our first seizure in 1996 yearly seizures increased until 2001 when we seized 32 million tablets. Some sources alleged that Myanmar has increased production of ATS in lieu of heroin. We have repeatedly clarified that ATS is a synthetic drug that is produced in a lab from chemicals and the source of all the precursor



Those present at the 6th destruction ceremony of seized narcotic drugs. — MNA

trafficking in Myanmar. The interdiction of Ketamine and Ecstasy which are trying to infiltrate and establish a bridgehead in the country, the traffickers changed to psychotropic substances trafficking into the country.

In 2006 December, we arrested 2 Pakistanis at Yangon international Airport trying to smuggle in 230,000 Ativan tablets, 1,950 bails and 17,700 tablets of Bunorfin, 5,900 tablets of Frisium, 4,800 tablets of Sosegon. The drugs addicts are trying out with psychotropic drugs because of the scarcity of heroin and ATS in the market.

Another indicator is the escalating prices of drugs. Even when we compare with prices of 4 years back, heroin fetches K 20 million a kilo then is now K 80 million per kg. Similarly, one tablet of methamphetamine costing K 700 four years back is now K 5,000 a tablet.

These indicators reflect the decrease of opium and heroin production causing a drought in the country, while the scale up

interdiction by law enforcement agencies makes it more difficult for traffickers as well as small time pushers.

In conclusion, Police Brig-Gen Khin Yi stated the list and amount of drugs to be destroyed at 6th occasion in Lashio, Shan State (North) that included 334.68 kilos of opium, 67.47 kilos of heroin, 4,057,395 tablets of methamphetamine (4.05 Million), 7.3 kilos of no 3 heroin, 437.9 kilos of stimulant in powder form, 537 kilos of low grade opium, 98.19 kilos of ephedrine, 104.2 kilos of caffeine, 0.5 kilo of cannabis, 1 kilo of ketamine, 6319.14 liters of liquid chemical, 2209.95 kilos of chemical powder, 419.62 kilos of opium poppy seeds, 495 poppy plants and 70 related materials.

The street value of the narcotic drugs we will destroy today is estimated over 272.5 million US dollars. All the guests are invited to examine and conduct tests on these drugs for their authenticity before they are burned and destroyed.

Next diplomats, resident representatives of UN agencies and officials destroyed seized precursor chemical liquid and inspected authenticity of seized narcotic drugs before they were incinerated.

Afterwards, Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Cambodian Ambassador Mr Hul Phany, Chairman of CCDAC Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Nobutake Odano, Director-General of MPF Brig-Gen Khin Yi, Ambassador of Vietnam Mr Tran Van Tung incinerated the seized drugs.

After the ceremony, the commander, the minister, ambassadors, the charge d' affaires, resident representatives visited the booths staged by CCDAC, Rehabilitation Group, group for raising awareness of danger of narcotic drugs, group for growing opium substitute crops and Department for Progress of Border Areas and National Races.

MNA



Diplomats and resident representatives of UN agencies attend the 6th destruction ceremony of seized drugs. — MNA

machines, precursor chemicals were seized near Nam Luk village in Mong Yaw area of Lashio district.

One significant and successful case of cross-border cooperation with China occurred recently in May 2007. In an incident along the Myanmar-China border on 25 March 2007, 3 officers from Border Defence Force, Yunnan Province of China were killed in a shootout with drug traffickers. Chinese authorities requested assistance in investigating

during 2005 and 2006. Also, Myanmar has rendered 3 drug offenders to Thailand during 2004 and 2005. Thailand, in return, has rendered one drug offender to Myanmar in 2005.

We look into the data of the seizures of opium and heroin, 7,880 kgs of opium were seized in 1997 but only 2,320 kgs were seized in 2006. Likewise, heroin seizures dropped from 1400 kgs in 1997 to 192 kgs in 2006. Looking at the data we can generally analyze that

chemicals necessary for the production are illegally smuggled in from neighboring countries. We have seized 39,000 liters in 2003, 17,000 liters in 2004, 17,800 liters in 2005 and last year 16,700 liters. We do not point fingers and blame others but have opted for closer cooperation with neighboring countries to control and interdict precursors crossing the border illegally to the clandestine labs.

He next explained the changing trends of drugs



Drugs being seen at the 6th destruction ceremony of seized drugs. — MNA



Drugs on display at the 6th destruction of seized drugs. — MNA

Commander addresses International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Shan State (North)



Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut addresses the celebration of International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking . — MNA

YANGON, 26 June— International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking ceremony was held at the City Hall of Lashio this morning with an address by Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut. Present were Chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Dean of

the Diplomatic Corps Cambodian Ambassador Mr Hul Phany, Ambassadors of Foreign Missions in Yangon, ambassadors and charges d' affaires, resident representatives of the UN agencies, departmental heads, CCDAC and work committee members, police officers of Myanmar Police Force, members of social organizations and local and foreign journalists. Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen

Aung Than Htut said: Today's occasion is to commemorate the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking that falls annually on 26 June and I can say it with certainty that similar commemorative events are being held at the nations around the world. From the time Myanmar gained its independence, successive governments struggled in vain to quell the internal insurgency and narcotic

drugs problems, through military, political and organizational means as well as through negotiations. For these

minorities with the emphasis on eliminating narcotic drugs and development of border areas.

and cooperated with the government. This led to marked victories in decreasing the cultivation and production of narcotic

In the efforts to eliminate narcotic drugs, the national races are fully committed and actively involved. Similarly, they are also cooperating enthusiastically with the authorities in enforcement measures such as searching, uncovering, arresting offenders and destroying the seized drugs.



Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut presents prize to a winner of competitions to mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. — MNA

attempts to be more effective the Tatmadaw government since 1988 has laid down policies and guidelines to forge reunion among the ethnic

In response to the sincere initiative of the government ethnic minority groups who once took arms to commit destructive acts returned to the legal fold

drugs. Peace and tranquillity that evolved through out Myanmar paved increased access to far-flung areas (See page 11)



Diplomats and resident representatives of the UN agencies attending the celebration of International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. — MNA



Local and foreign journalists and guests attending the celebration of International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. MNA

Commander addresses International...

(from page 10)

along the borders where opium was produced. Realizing that the efforts to develop these areas along the borders can be more effective than enforcement measures undertaken to eliminate drug problems, the Head of State laid down the strategies to eliminate narcotic drugs.

1. to strive towards eliminating narcotic drugs as a national task and to take all possible actions towards this end and,
2. to promote living standards of all national races residing along the border areas and to totally eradicate poppy cultivation.

These two strategies are supported by three tactics namely, to reduce the supply of drugs, to reduce demand for drugs and to increase enforcement measures.

In addition to these guidelines, the government has embarked upon a 15 years drugs eradication programmes from 1999/2000 to 2013/2014 to step up our efforts from all directions to eradicate illicit narcotic drugs. The priorities set there include eliminating the cultivation and the production of narcotic drugs, increasing enforcement measures, organizing for expanded participating of local community members and ensuring international cooperation. In addition, the government has also placed emphasis on improving the agriculture and livestock breeding sectors; expanding roads and bridge construction; ensuring efficient communication, energy and trade facilities; overseeing the effective health, education and rehabilitation programmes and stepping up the present enforcement measures to eliminate drugs. All these



Dr Ronal Renard presents a prize to a winner competitions to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. — MNA

initiatives are reinforced through the New Destiny Project launched by the CCDAC to eradicate poppy cultivation.

In line with the guidelines laid down by the Head of State, the North-East Command in close cooperation with Peace and Development Councils and with the support and assistance of respective ministries is distributing plants and seedlings to farmers for alternative development and rice and salt for nutritional supplements. We have identified highland fallow areas to expand cultivation and have encouraged them to cultivate high yield paddy strains like Hsinshweli in order to elevate their income and lifestyles. In the livestock breeding sector, the government is also providing technical support and quality stocks to farmers and ethnic organizations and has demonstrated ways and means to raise pigs, chickens and bees that can produce high quality meat, eggs and honey on a commercial scale by sending up model farms.

**International
Programme
Coordinator Dr
Ronal
Renard.
MNA**



In the past, the grand schemes of colonialists have guided the farmers in Northern Shan State to cultivate poppy plants as their sole means of livelihood for decades. The present thrust of the government to eliminate narcotic drugs as a national cause together with the self-realization of poppy growing farmers themselves that the menace of the narcotic drugs has become a common enemy of the people around the world encouraged them to give up their age-old cultivation habits. Their close cooperation with the government in combating narcotic drugs is now leading to victories.

After renouncing poppy cultivation, farmers in the border areas are not only engaged in cultivating alternative crops and breeding quality livestock but also participating actively in the development programmes of their respective areas in close cooperation with the government. The result is that the economic, social, education, health, transport and



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo delivers an address at ceremony to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. — MNA

communication structures along the border are quite different from the past with visible rapid progress.

In the efforts to eliminate narcotic drugs, the national races are fully committed and actively involved. Similarly, they are also cooperating enthusiastically with the authorities in enforcement measures such as searching, uncovering, arresting offenders and destroying the seized drugs. Based on these developments, it is firmly believed that problem of narcotic drugs will soon be disappearing not only Northern Shan State but from the face of Myanmar's soil itself.

Next, Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo delivered a speech. On behalf of Resident Representative of UNODC, International Programme Coordinator Dr Ronal Renard read out the message of UNODC Executive Director. MPF Director General Brig-Gen Khin Yi accepted donations including cash and stationery.

Then followed the prize-presentation ceremony. The commander, Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Brig-Gen Khin Yi, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint, Dr Ronal Renard, Police Col Kham Aung and Police Col Kan Hlaing presented first, second and third prizes to the winners of short story, article, poem, painting, cartoon, poster, computer painting and computer poster contests. — MNA



Dr Daw Myint Myint Zin reads out paper on women and family nutrition (News on page 16). MNA

Yes, she is Myanmar maiden

- * Young and fresh with flamboyant personality
Oh Maiden! So lively and pretty
Say where you were born
- * Myanmar it is
With amazing beauty
Truly, I was born in Myanmar
- * Another question Maiden
Do thou love native land?
And beyond doubt?
- * Why! Thy asks it
My Myanmar! I love her
For she excels in beauty
- * Maiden, tell me how
Thou art going to serve
Thy native land
- * Will preserve ancestral dignity
Never marry different race
Whether dark or fair
Never long for aunt over mother
Prefer to help country achieve peace, progress
Whereas condemnation for traitors
Daughters and sons of high qualification
Produce I will for nation
While always preserving traditions
- * Excellent Maiden!
Honour thee for race, dignity preservation
Thou art true Myanmar.

**Hailing the Myanmar Women's Day
Khun Ye Thwe (Ayethaya)
(Trans)**



Professor Dr Chaw Sein reads out paper on Myanmar women (News on page 16). MNA

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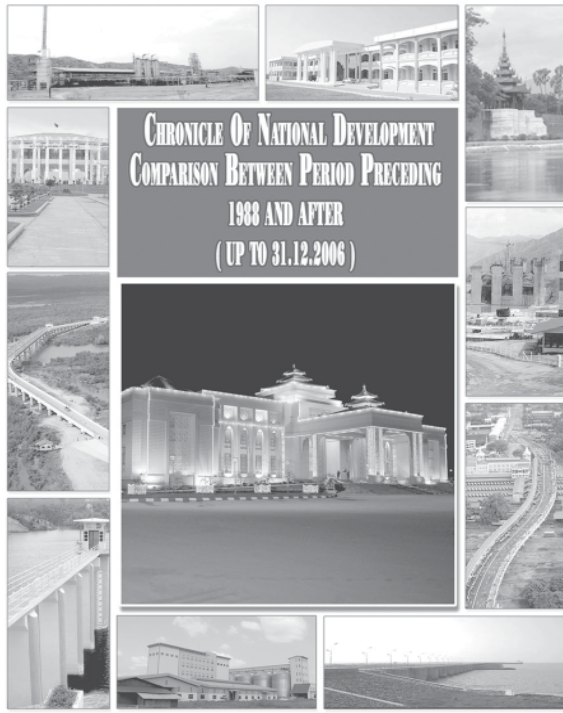
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Maung Nay Myo Htut,

son of

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Mingala Taungnyunt Township,

Yangon Division

and

Ma Khin Cho Oo,

daughter of

U Tin Aye-Daw Hla Tin in Mawlamyine, Mon

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Both parents and

Maung Nay Myo Htut-Ma Khin Cho Oo

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Iraqi President visits Shaanxi

XI'AN, 25 June— Iraqi President Jalal Talabani will leave for east China on Monday after a two-day visit to northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

Talabani, the first Iraqi president to visit China since the establishment of China-Iraq diplomatic ties 49 years ago, started his China tour on 20 June and flew to Xi'an, capital city of Shaanxi, on Saturday. During his stay in Xi'an, Talabani had a meeting with executive vice governor Zhao Yongzheng. Talabani said he hopes his visit will promote mutual understanding between Iraq and China. He said Iraq, which respects the one-China policy, hopes to build a closer relationship with China as 2008 is the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties.

MNA/Xinhua

Spanish King starts China visit

SHANGHAI, 25 June — Spanish King Juan Carlos I arrived in Shanghai Sunday evening, starting a six-day state visit to China, at the invitation of President Hu Jintao.

This is the third visit of Juan Carlos I to China, during which he will meet with Hu, as well as top legislator Wu Bangguo and Premier Wen Jiabao in Beijing.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi soldiers enter a base after a patrol in Baquba on 24 June, 2007. — XINHUA

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Echinacea 'can prevent a cold'

LONDON, 25 June — Taking the herbal remedy echinacea can more than halve the risk of catching a common cold, US researchers say.

They found it decreased the odds of developing a cold by 58% and the duration of colds by a day-and-a-half.

The results in The Lancet Infectious Diseases conflict with other studies that show no beneficial effect.

Experts believe echinacea, a collection of nine related plant species indigenous to North America, may work by boosting the body's



The flower, stem and root of echinacea is used in products.

INTERNET immune system. Researchers, led by Dr Craig Coleman from the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy, combined the results of 14 different studies on Echinacea's anti-cold properties.

In one of the 14 studies the researchers reviewed,

echinacea was taken alongside vitamin C.

This combination reduced cold incidence by 86%.

When echinacea was used alone it reduced cold incidence by 65%.

Even when patients were directly inoculated with a rhinovirus — the most common cold-causing virus — echinacea reduced cold incidence by 35%.

The researchers' report said: "With over 200 viruses capable of causing the common cold, echinacea could have modest effect against rhinovirus but marked

effects against other viruses."

They found that more than 800 products containing echinacea were available, and that differing parts of the plant — flower, stem and root — were used in different products.

They said more work was needed to check the safety of these different formulations.

Professor Ron Cutler, of the University of East London, said: "The true benefits, and more importantly, how the agents work remains unclear and further better-controlled actual clinical trials still have to be carried out. — Internet



Chinese film maker, Tian Zhuangzhuang, receives the best director award, at the closing ceremony for the 10th Shanghai International Film Festival, on, 24 June, 2007. — XINHUA

Royal Palaces of Abomey, Kathmandu Valley off World Heritage Danger List

WELLINGTON, 25 June —The World Heritage Committee decided Monday here to remove Royal Palaces of Abomey, Benin, and Kathmandu Valley, Nepal, from the List of World Heritage in Danger, recognizing progress in the two sites' state of preservation.

The Palaces of Abomey, inscribed simultaneously on UNESCO's World Heritage List and on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 1985, are a unique reminder of the once powerful Kingdom of Abomey. They were damaged by a tornado in 1984.

The removal of the

Palaces from the Danger List marks the success of Benin's conservation plan, partly financed by the World Heritage Fund.

The cultural heritage of Kathmandu Valley, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1979 and on the Danger List in 2003, features seven groups of monuments and buildings which display the full range of historic and artistic achievements for which the Kathmandu Valley is world famous.

The World Heritage Committee commended Nepal's efforts to protect the outstanding universal value of the site in the face of urban development.

The 10-day session started

Saturday also decided here Sunday that improvements in the preservation of the Everglades National Park (Florida, US) and Ro Pltano Biosphere Reserve (Honduras) were sufficient to remove both UNESCO World Heritage site from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Internet

Haneya wants unconditioned dialogue with Fatah movement

GAZA, 25 June — Ismail Haneya, prime minister of the unity government sacked by Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas last week, on Friday called on Fatah movement for an unconditional national dialogue.

Haneya manifested his demand in a telephone conversation with Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Salleh late Friday evening, Haneya's office in Gaza said in a statement.

Haneya was quoted as saying that the only way to end the recent crisis is through dialogue without preconditions, adding that the focus of the talks should not be the winners or losers.

"The wide national dialogue should focus on the establishment of a united Palestinian government," the statement quoted Haneya as saying.

Last week, Haneya's Islamic Hamas movement militarily took control of all the Palestinian

National Authority (PNA) security headquarters, including Abbas' headquarters in the Gaza Strip.

In response, Abbas dissolved Haneya's national unity government and decreed to form an emergency government in the West Bank. Abbas refused to hold any talks with either Haneya or other Hamas political leaders.

Gaza Strip now remains in the grip of Hamas movement, while the West Bank is fully controlled by Abbas and Fatah movement.

The Arab League has formed an inquiry committee to investigate the Palestinian crisis.

MNA/Xinhua



A stealth aircraft is displayed during the 47th Paris Air Show at the Le Bourget airport near Paris on 22 June, 2007.

XINHUA

Hubble photos of Ceres, Vesta guide robotic probe

BEIJING, 25 June — The Hubble Space Telescope has imaged Ceres and Vesta, two of the largest known asteroids, revealing craters and other features that will soon be the targets of close-up observations by NASA's Dawn spacecraft.

Ceres, also considered a dwarf planet under the

new planet definition, is round and 590 miles (950 kilometres) wide.

About the size of Texas, Ceres contains some 30 to 40 percent of all the mass in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.

Vesta, the other target, is irregularly shaped and about 330 miles (530 kilometres)

wide — about the size of Arizona.

On 7 July, NASA plans to launch Dawn on a four-year journey to the asteroid belt.

The robotic probe will go into orbit around Vesta in 2011 and Ceres in 2015.

The new images will help astronomers fine tune mission plans.

The picture of Vesta

enabled astronomers to map the asteroid's southern hemisphere. A crater there, caused by an ancient collision, is 285 miles (456 kilometres) across.

Researchers have known the collision created many smaller asteroids that they call vestoids.

Internet



Actors Daniel Radcliffe and Katie Leung pose during a photocall to promote the new film "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix" at County Hall in London on 25 June, 2007.

INTERNET

SPORTS

Ancelotti was tempted by Real job last year

MILAN, 26 June — AC Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti said on Monday he was tempted to leave for Real Madrid last year.

Real appointed Fabio Capello instead in July after the Italian quit Juventus ahead of their demotion for match-fixing, while Ancelotti went on to lead Milan to their seventh European Cup triumph.

"Last year with Real Madrid there was a good feeling," Ancelotti told Sky Sport. "But my affection (for Milan) prevailed and I stayed."

Capello helped Real win their first Spanish title in four years but his future at the Bernabeu is still in doubt.

Real pipped rivals Barcelona to the title, prompting the Catalans to agree a fee for Arsenal striker and Milan target Thierry Henry.

"The Spanish clubs have an advantage from a tax point of view," Ancelotti added, referring to Real's ability to pay Henry more. — MNA/Reuters

UEFA announces smaller qualifying groups for 2010 World Cup

LONDON, 26 June — European teams will play fewer matches to qualify for the 2010 World Cup finals in South Africa than they did to reach the 2006 tournament, UEFA has decided.

The competition will consist of eight groups of six teams, and one group of five. The nine group winners will qualify directly and the best eight runners-up will play home and away playoff matches for the remaining four places.

One group runner-up will fail to make the playoffs with the top eight runners-up chosen follow-

ing a recalculation after the results of the bottom-placed team in each of the eight larger groups are erased.

"It's a good compromise solution, because I wasn't really happy with the format for the last qualifying

competition with groups of seven and eight teams," said UEFA President Michel Platini, who is in favour of smaller groups.

All 53 UEFA members will compete for the 13 places open to European teams. — MNA/Reuters

Former Sociedad boss Lotina takes charge of Deportivo

MADRID, 26 June — Former Real Sociedad boss Miguel Angel Lotina has agreed to take charge of Deportivo Coruna next season, the Primera Liga side said on Monday.

Lotina, who steered Deportivo's local rivals Celta Vigo into the Champions League in 2003, stepped down as Sociedad coach last week after the Basque side were relegated from the top flight for the first time in 40 years. He had only been at Sociedad since October.

"I'm very happy and really looking forward to working for Deportivo," said the 49-year-old on his arrival at La Coruna Airport on Monday.

Deportivo finished 13th in the Primera Liga in the season just ended, their lowest placing since returning to the top flight in 1991.

Lotina made his name by leading Numancia and Osasuna to promotion to the Primera Liga in the late 1990s and after his stint at Celta he took charge at Espanyol, winning the King's Cup with them in 2006.

MNA/Reuters



Defending champion Roger Federer of Switzerland plays a shot to Teimuraz Gabashvili of Russia during their men's singles match at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, on 25 June, 2007. — INTERNET

Henry completes 24-million euro move to Barca



FC Barcelona's new signing Thierry Henry of France and President Joan Laporta pose with his new jersey during his presentation at Nou Camp Stadium on 25 June, 2007. Henry, who turns 30 in August, was unveiled at the Nou Camp after passing a medical and putting pen to paper on a four-year deal with the Primera Liga side. — INTERNET

MADRID, 26 June — France striker Thierry Henry completed his 24.0 million (32.30 million US dollars) move from Arsenal to Barcelona on Monday.

Henry, who turns 30 in August, was unveiled at the Nou Camp after passing a medical and putting pen to paper on a four-year deal with the Primera Liga side.

"Thierry Henry is a player we've been after for many years and now he's here," Barca president Joan Laporta told a news conference.

"Johan Cruyff wanted to sign Thierry Henry for Barcelona when he was a young player. When I was elected president in 2003 I wanted to sign him, we also wanted to sign him last year and today it is a great pleasure to see him here.

"He is one of the best players in the

world and given his quality, experience and commitment he comes to Barcelona at the perfect time." Barcelona were denied a third straight Primera Liga title on the final day of the season a week ago, losing out to arch-rivals Real Madrid on head-to-head results.

A great deal of soul-searching has gone on since then after a season with no silverware, and the club has moved quickly to strengthen the squad and appease the fans.

Henry was the focal point at Arsenal and their top scorer in four of the five Premier League seasons between 2001-06, though he spent much of the last campaign sidelined with injury.

He turned down a move to Barca and signed a four-year contract with Arsenal after they lost to Frank Rijkaard's team in the 2006 Champions League final in Paris.

MNA/Reuters



Britain's Tim Henman leaves the centre court during a rain delay in his match against Spain's Carlos Moya at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London on 25 June, 2007. — INTERNET

Japanese player banned for spitting at referee

TOKYO, 26 June — Ventforet Kofu's Takehito Shigehara was suspended for seven games by Japan's J-League on Monday after spitting at a referee in a furious outburst.

Shigehara was booked for dissent during a J-League game against FC Tokyo last week and reacted by spitting at the match official, earning him a red card.

The J-League's disciplinary committee banned him for four games for that indiscretion and added two more after hearing that the player had abused the referee before leaving the pitch.

To compound his trouble, Shigehara was suspended for a further game for smashing stadium equipment in a rage on his way back to the showers. — MNA/Reuters

FIFA leadership to re-examine altitude ban

BERNE (Switzerland), 26 June — World soccer's governing body FIFA is to re-examine its controversial ban on playing football at high altitude when the organization's executive committee meets in Zurich on Wednesday.

The altitude ban will be one of two main topics to be discussed — the other being the already announced re-shuffle of FIFA's administration following the re-election of president Sepp Blatter in May and the subsequent departure of former general secretary Urs Linsi is the other main issue.

FIFA's executive committee announced an immediate ban in May on

international matches played above 2,500 metres, arguing that high-altitude sport was bad for the health of players unaccustomed to high levels and gave an unfair advantage to the home team.

The ban drew immediate criticism from several high-lying South Ameri-

can nations including Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador and Colombia.

Bolivian president Evo Morales even suggested he might fly to Zurich to speak to Blatter about the issue, but FIFA says no such meeting has yet been scheduled.

MNA/Reuters

Israel's Shahar Peer gestures during her women's singles match against Thailand's Tamarine Tanasugarn at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London on 25 June, 2007. INTERNET



MWAF holds paper reading ...

(from page 16)

and Head of International Relations Department of Yangon University Dr Chaw Chaw Sein on "21st Century Myanmar Women".

During the afternoon session, Prof Dr Khin San Yi of Yangon University of Economic read a paper on "Administration and Myanmar Women"; Deputy Rector of University of Culture Daw Nandar Hmun on "Review on tasks of women affairs committee of ASEAN"; Deputy Director of Health Department Dr Myint Myint Zin on "Women and family nutrition" and Deputy Director-General of Department of Archaeology Daw Sandar Khin "Preservation of culture and Women's Sector". — MNA

West told to stop blaming developing countries for pollution

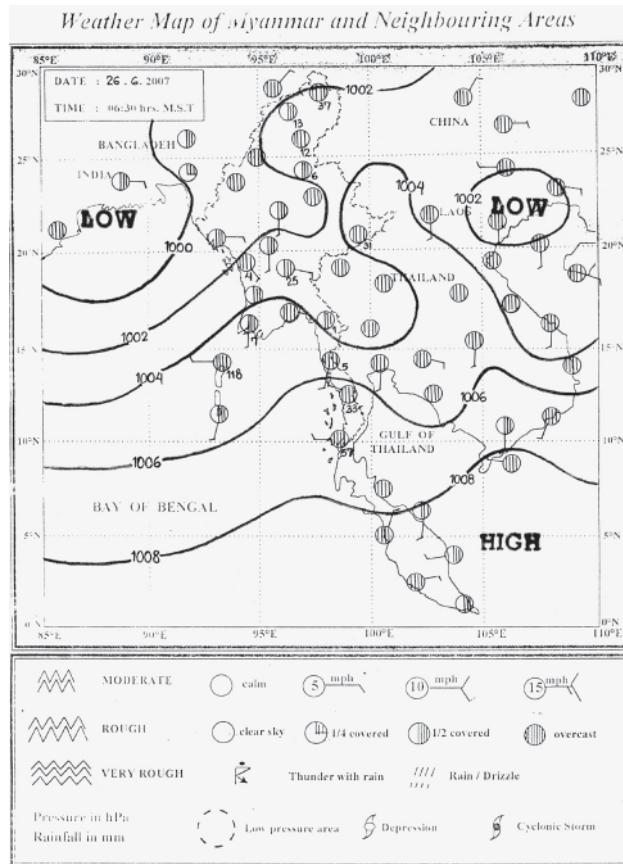
SINGAPORE, 26 June — The West should stop the hypocritical blame game and work collectively with developing countries to fix the global warming problems, Asian panellists said on Monday at a session on sustainable growth on the second day of the World Economic Forum on East Asia.

Commenting on a recent Dutch Government-funded study that showed that China has overtaken the US as the world's biggest polluter producing

the highest level of carbon dioxide emissions in 2006, Nor Mohamed Yakcop, Malaysia's Second Minister of Finance, said that singling out China was pointless. "It's wrong, there should not be hypocrisy," he added. Yakcop pointed out that factories in China contributing to the pollution are mostly owned by American and European multinational companies (MNCs) that are benefiting from China's cheap labour resources. China and other developing countries have little choice but to continue to welcome foreign investments, he said.

"We can't slow down because we've got plenty of poverty," the Malaysian minister said, adding:

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Tuesday, 26 June, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin and Mon States, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan State, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions, scattered in Chin and Kayin States, Magway and Yangon Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Maubin (5.31) inches, Co Co Island (4.64) inches, Kawthoung (3.23) inches, Myeik (1.66) inches, Kengtung (1.49) inches, Putao and Magway (1.46) inches each.

Maximum temperature on 25-6-2007 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 26-6-2007 was 77°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 26-6-2007 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 25-6-2007 was (3.3) hours approx.

Rainfall on 26-6-2007 was (0.55) inch at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye, Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (47.56) inches at Mingaladon, (51.89) inches at Kaba-Aye and (47.56) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from South at (16:15) hours MST on 25-6-2007.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (12:30) hrs MST today, a low pressure area has formed over the West Central Bay and adjoining North West Bay. Monsoon is generally strong in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 27-6-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Mon and Rakhine States, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin, Shan and Kayin States, upper Sagaing Division, scattered in Chin State and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squall may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon. **Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 27-6-2007:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 27-6-2007: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 27-6-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Earthquake report

(Issued at 09:30 hours MST Today)

A moderate earthquake of intensity (5.0) Richter Scale with its epicentre outside Myanmar (near India-Myanmar border) about (460) miles Northwest of Mandalay Seismological observatory was recorded at (00) hrs (41) min (02) sec MST on 26th June 2007.



Young party goes dance with Emile the Rat after the premiere of the Pixar animated film "Ratatouille" in Hollywood, California, on 22 June, 2007.

XINHUA



Wednesday, 27 June

Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Real life
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -Faint
- 8:50 am National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -Mano
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: -Dreams
- 1:30 pm News /Slogan
- 1:40pm Lunch time music
- All out of love
- Height
- 9:00pm Variations on a tune
- Do I love you
- 9:15pm Article
- 9:25pm Music at your request
- Friend
- 9:45 pm News /Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Wednesday, 27 June
View on today

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>7:00 am
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara</p> <p>7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am
3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:50 am
5. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွ သင်္ဃာတော်အဖွဲ့</p> <p>8:05 am
6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:15 am
7. မြန်မာအမျိုးသမီးများနေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်</p> <p>8:30 am
8. International news</p> <p>8:45 am
9. Let's Go</p> | <p>4:00 pm
1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm
2. Song to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm
3. Practice in Reading</p> <p>4:45 pm
4. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့လှည့်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)</p> <p>5:00 pm
5. Song of national races</p> <p>5:10 pm
6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>5:15 pm
7. Classical song</p> <p>5:25 pm
8. ရှုဖွယ်စုံလင် အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်</p> <p>5:35 pm
9. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်</p> <p>6:00 pm
10. Evening news</p> <p>6:30 pm
11. Weather report</p> <p>6:35 pm
12. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေညောင်ရံ</p> | <p>7:00 pm
13. Discovery</p> <p>7:15 pm
14. နိုင်ငံတော်အလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ (တီကွမ်-ကျောက်မီးသွေး သတ္တုတွင်း)</p> <p>7:30 pm
15. "ချစ်လွန်းလို့" (မိုးဖြူ၊ ခင်မိုးပိုင်၊ မျိုးမျိုးခိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုး)</p> <p>7:35 pm
16. ကြားမြင်သုတပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပဒေသာ</p> <p>7:40 pm
17. မြန်မာအမျိုးသမီးများနေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်</p> <p>7:50 pm
18. စွမ်းဆောင်ရည်မြှင့်မား မြန်မာအမျိုးသမီးများ(အပိုင်း-၁)</p> <p>8:00 pm
19. News</p> <p>20. International news</p> <p>21. Weather report</p> <p>22. "မိုးသက်လေကို မြွေတံဆောင်း" (နိုင်ငံခြား၊ နေအောင်၊ အိန္ဒြာကျော်စင်၊ ပပဝင်းခင်၊ ခင်သန်းနု) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စင်ရော်မောင်မောင်)</p> <p>23. The next day's programme</p> |
|---|---|--|

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

Press conference on International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking commemorative ceremony and 6th ceremony to destroy seized narcotic drugs held

YANGON, 26 June—A press conference on International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (2007) commemorative ceremony and the 6th ceremony to destroy seized narcotic drugs took place at the city hall of Lashio at 1.15 pm today.

It was attended by Secretary of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Director-General of the Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi and CEC members, members of work groups, officials, local and foreign journalists, and responsible persons from journals and magazines.

Joint-Secretary of the CCDAC Head of the Anti-Narcotics Department of the MPF Police Col Kham Aung made an introductory speech on the occasion.

Brig-Gen Khin Yi, Police Col Kham Aung and officials replied to the queries raised by local and foreign journalists.

The press conference ended at 2 pm.—MNA

Diplomats and resident representatives of UN agencies destroy seized precursor chemical liquid.— MNA



MWWAF holds paper reading session to hail Myanmar Women's Day

YANGON, 26 June — As a gesture of hailing the Myanmar Women's Day which falls on 3 July, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation organized paper reading session on Myanmar women at International Business Centre here today.

National Literary Award Winner Dr Ma Tin Win of MWWAF delivered an opening address and presided over the paper reading session.

Head of Myanmar Department of Yangon University Prof Daw Khin Swe Myint read a paper on " Myanmar Women and Myanmar Culture", Head of the History Department of University of Distance Education (Yangon) Prof Dr Daw Mo Mo Thant on "Myanmar Women's participation in social sector" (See page 15)



Dr Ma Tin Win addresses the paper reading session on Myanmar women at International Business Centre.—MNA