

## Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Montenegro

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July— Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Filip Vujanovic, President of the Republic of Montenegro, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Montenegro which falls on 13 July 2007. 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

## Bago Division to put 3m acres of land under monsoon paddy, 1.6m acres under pea, 400,000 acres under summer paddy and 500,000 acres under edible oil crops

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Bago Division PDC Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko and Vice-Chairman Col Sein Myint, Col Maung Maung Aye of Inma Station and departmental officials, viewed running of small-scale hydropower generator in Bogyikon Village of Thayawady District yesterday.

In meeting with local people, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on participation of local people in construction of self-reliant hydropower generators in their respective areas. The two 3-kilowatt generators at Bogyikon Village can supply electricity to 300 fluorescent lamps. At present, the generator supplies power to 80 fluorescent lamps and one TV.

In Thayawady, Lt-Gen



*Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of Ministry of Defence visits monsoon paddy transplanting ceremony for 2007-2008 in Letpadan Township. — MNA*

Khin Maung Than met departmental personnel, social organization members and local people at Saya San Hall.

Chairman of Thayawady District PDC U Kyaw Khaing Soe reported on progress of the district. The commander gave a supplementary report.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than stressed the need to grow 10 major crops including monsoon and

summer paddy in Thayawady District for exceeding the target. Officials are to supervise cultivation of monsoon paddy, pulses and beans and summer paddy on the designated areas to meet the target acreage. It is necessary to organize local farmers to extend 10,000 acres of rubber in Thayawady District and to provide necessary assistance and agricultural technologies to them.

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**INSIDE**

**Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)**

**The first Summit held in Bangkok in July 2004 changed the body's name to Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC).**

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**ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND  
ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

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

# PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 13 July, 2007

## Boost commodity production for national economic growth

The government is providing necessary assistance for national entrepreneurs and encouraging export services through the exercise of the export and import policy to achieve one of the economic objectives — Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system.

It is also giving encouragement for extensive reclamation of vacant and fallow lands and cultivation of the 10 major crops including paddy, along with edible oil crops, perennial crops, new crops and other suitable crops throughout the nation. National entrepreneurs, farmers and livestock breeders are engaged in growing marketable crops, raising farm animals and producing marine products through mutual interests system.

The nation can enjoy economic development only when it is able to boost production of goods. National entrepreneurs with investments should have to make investments extensively not only in service and trade sectors but also in the manufacturing sector.

In the process, national entrepreneurs are to engage systematically in the enterprises that can bring benefits not only to individuals and groups but also to the State.

Furthermore, they are to work hard so as to speed up export of goods and earn more foreign exchanges and to spread their wings in manufacturing import-substitute goods for helping the nation reduce its reliance on imported goods and stand on its feet.

Therefore, making use of the assistance of the government effectively, national entrepreneurs should make harmonious efforts to boost production and export of goods, manufacture import-substitute items, minimize loss and wastage and practise thrifty for great national economic development.

## People's Desire

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

## PBANRDA holds Waso Robes Offering Ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 11 July — Under the patronage of Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt and wife Daw Kyin Khaing, the 14th Waso Robes Offering Ceremony of the ministry was held at the meeting hall of the ministry, here, this morning.

The ceremony was attended by members of the Sangha led by Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Visara of Zaygon Monastery, Minister Col Thein Nyunt and wife Daw Kyin

Khaing and family members of the staff.

First, the congregation received the Five Precepts from the Sayadaw and members of the Sangha recited parittas. Next, the minister and wife, departmental heads and wellwishers offered Waso robes and provisions to the Sayadaw and members of the Sangha. Later, those present shared the merits gained.

After that, the congregation offered 'soon' to the members of the Sangha.

MNA

## MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July — The State Peace and Development Council has confirmed the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each on expiry of the one-year probationary period.

Name	Appointment
(a) Dr Myint Thein	Rector University of Veterinary Science Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries
(b) U Thein Lwin	Managing Director Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise Ministry of Energy
(c) U Tun Lwin	Director-General Department of Meteorology and Hydrology Ministry of Transport

The State Peace and Development Council has appointed Deputy Director-General U Than Tun of Department of Consular and Legal Affairs under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Director-General of the same department on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties. — MNA

### Minister Col Thein

Nyunt and wife offer

Waso Robe to a

Sayadaw.

MNA



Under the patronage of U Kyi Myint, his family donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged to mark 70th birthday of Daw Khin Hla of Baho Road, Hledan, Kamayut Township, Yangon, recently. Lt-Col Kyaw Shein (Retd), Chairman of the executive committee of the Home accepts the donation. —H

## Joint Secretary of MFPTMA leaves for Singapore

YANGON, 12 July — Joint Secretary of Myanmar Forest Products and Timber Merchants Association Dr Myo Thet today left here for Singa-

pore to attend the work committee meeting of 15th ASEAN Furniture Industries Council to be held in Singapore from 13 to 15 July.

The joint secretary was seen off at Yangon International Airport by General Secretary U Nay Tun Min and Executive U Min Thaw Kaung and responsible personnel. — MNA



Dr Myo Thet, Joint Secretary of MFPTMA, being seen off by officials at Yangon International Airport. — UMFCFI

## China develops water-skimming plane

BEIJING, 12 July — Chinese scientists have developed a "Wing-In-Ground" (WIG) aircraft which can fly long distances just a few feet above the sea surface, state media said on Wednesday.

The plane can fly as low as half a metre (1 foot 7 inches) off the surface, hitting speeds of up to 300 kilometres (180 miles) per hour and can carry up to four tons on takeoff.

MNA/Reuters

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## Iran starts new probe over detained Iranian-Americans

TEHERAN, 11 July— Iran's judicial authorities have launched investigations based on fresh evidence in the cases of two Iranian-Americans detained on spying charges, a judiciary spokesman said on Tuesday.

Haleh Esfandiari, a Middle East expert at the US-based Woodrow Wilson International Centre for Scholars, and Ali Tajbakhsh, urban planning consultant with

George Soros' Open Society Institute are being held on security charges.

Two other Iranian-Americans are accused of the same charges. One of them has been freed on bail but is banned from leaving the country.

"We have received fresh evidence about (Esfandiari and Tajbakhsh's charges ... fresh investigations have started based on this evidence," judiciary spokesman

Alireza Jamshidi told a weekly news conference.

The United States has called for the release of the Iranian-Americans, denying any involvement by them in spying activities.

Iran, which does not recognize dual nationalities, accuses Washington of using intellectuals to carry out a "soft or velvet revolution" to topple the Islamic state.

Jamshidi said last month that the cases of the four "were in the final stages and results of the investigations will be announced in the next one to two weeks."

MNA/Reuters

## Suicide bomber kills four people in N Iraq

MOSUL, 12 July — A suicide bomber stormed a wedding ceremony in a town near the northern Iraqi city of Mosul on Thursday, killing four people and wounding five others, local police source said.

"A suicide bomber wearing an explosive-belt blew himself up in a wedding party inside a house in the town of Tal Afar, 70 km west of Mosul," Staff Brigadier Ibrahim al-Jubouri, chief police of the town told *Xinhua* by telephone.

The attack targeted the house of a brother of an Iraqi police officer in the town, killing four people and wounding five others, most of them in critical condition, al-Jubouri said.

In a separate incident, a car bomb detonated in the Bab Sinjar neighbourhood in western Mosul, local police source said.

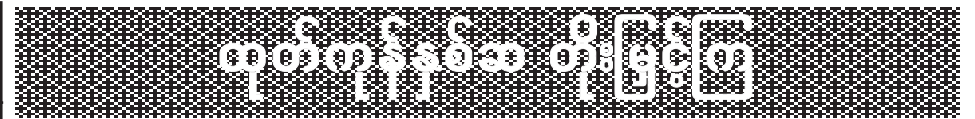
The attack targeted a passing police patrol in the neighbourhood, wounding two policemen and four civilians, the source added.

Mosul is the capital of the Iraqi Nineveh province, some 400 km north of Baghdad.

*Xinhua*



A soldier carries an elderly woman in the flood water in Chizhou city, east China's Anhui Province, on 10 July, 2007. The city witnessed heavy rainfall recently, which caused over 30 villages and townships flooded, six people dead and two others missing.—XINHUA



Chinese President Hu Jintao (R) shakes hands with Navinchandra Ramgoolam, Prime Minister of Mauritius, at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, on 11 July, 2007.—XINHUA

## Car bombing at military post kills up to 10 soldiers

ALGIERS, 11 July— A suicide bomber blew up a refrigerated truck allegedly packed with up to a ton of explosives inside a

military encampment southeast of the Algerian capital, killing 10 soldiers and wounding up to 35, a security official said.

Al-Qaida's North African affiliate claimed responsibility for the truck attack on Wednesday, saying the truck carried more than a ton of explosives, the Al-Jazeera TV network reported, quoting a recorded message from an alleged spokesman for the extremist group.

The truck drove into the small post on the edge of Lakhdaria, some 80 kilometres (50 miles) from Algiers, as the doors opened in the morning for arriving personnel, the security official said. He was not authorized to discuss the bombing and spoke on condition of anonymity.—Internet

## US Army misses recruit target, Marines beat goal

WASHINGTON, 11 July— The US Army, strained by the war in Iraq, fell nearly 1,400 recruits short in June, the Pentagon said on Tuesday, marking the second straight month the military's largest branch missed its target for new soldiers.

The active-duty Army recruited 7,031 soldiers in June, missing its goal of 8,400. That followed a shortfall in May, when the Army signed up 5,101 recruits, below its goal of 5,500. Other active-duty branches of the US military

met or exceeded goals, according to Pentagon data.

For example, the Marine Corps, which too has been strained by deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, recruited 4,113 new Marines, exceeding its goal of 3,742 for June. Of the reserve forces, all except the Air National Guard met or exceeded monthly recruiting targets, the Defence Department said.

Defence officials, speaking on Monday ahead of the release of the June figures, called the Army's shortfall troubling. June is typically a strong recruiting month, given the timing of high school graduation in the United States. Pentagon

polling data has shown parental support for recruitment has declined.

If the downward trend continues at current rates, the Army could miss its annual target of 80,000 new soldiers for the current fiscal year, ending 30 September.

The Army last missed annual recruiting goals in fiscal years 2005 and 1999. —MNA/Reuters



This hand out from Colegio de la Frontera Sur (CFS) shows a man holding a 20kg (41lbs) white mushroom at a coffee farm of Chiapas state, Mexico, near the border with Guatemala, where it was discovered.—XINHUA

# Poll shows US opposition to Iraq war hits new high

WASHINGTON, 11 July — Opposition to the Iraq war has climbed to a record high and President George W Bush's approval rating dropped to a new low amid growing dissent from members of his own Republican Party over his war strategy, according to a new *USAToday/Gallup* poll.

Bush's approval dropped to 29 per cent in the poll taken Friday through Sunday, down from 33 per cent in early June, *USA Today* reported on Tuesday.

One in five Americans said the increase in US forces in Iraq this year has made the situation there better while half said it has made no difference, the newspaper said.

More than seven in 10 Americans favour withdrawing nearly all US troops from Iraq by April, the newspaper said.

More than half, 55 per cent, said Congress should wait to hear an assessment from General David Petraeus before developing new Iraq policy, the report said.

Petraeus, the commander of US forces in Iraq, is due to deliver his findings in September, but 40 per cent of those polled said Congress should act now, the paper said.

Sixty-two per cent of those polled said the United States made a mistake in sending troops to Iraq, marking the first time that number has topped 60 per cent in this survey, *USA Today* said.

The poll also showed support for Bush slipping among Republicans who gave him a 68-per-cent

rating, down from an average 92 per cent in his first term and 82 per cent earlier in his second, *USA Today* said.

According to the report, nearly four in 10 Republicans cited the immigration debate, which ended in defeat for Bush's overhaul proposal, as the reason for losing confidence in him.

The poll of 1,014 adults, taken Friday through Sunday has an error margin of plus or minus three percentage point. — *MNA/Reuters*

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Sailboats set out at Xinghaiwan Harbour in Dalian, a coastal city in northeast China's Liaoning Province, on 11 July, 2007. XINHUA



Singaporean Deputy Prime Minister Wong Kan Seng (rear 5th R) and Chinese Vice Premier Wu Yi (rear 4th L) attend the ceremony of signing memorandums of understanding during the Meeting of the 4th Singapore-China Joint Council for Bilateral Cooperation in Singapore on 11 July, 2007. — XINHUA



## Hundreds of thousands stranded in India floods

KOLKATA (India), 11 July — Hundreds of thousands of people remained stranded with little food and water for a

seventh day in eastern India, while heavy rains continued to pour in the west sparking more flooding, officials said on Tuesday.

At least 187 people have died and seven million have been affected by flooding caused by the annual June-September monsoon rains across eastern, western and southern parts of the country.

The rains, which have caused rivers and dams to overflow, swamping towns and villages, have killed around 770 people across India, Pakistan,

Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

In India, hundreds of flooded villages in the eastern state of West Bengal remained cut off, with some residents stranded in trees and on rooftops with only coconuts to eat.

"It was distressing to see so many people perched on rooftops and crying for help," said Ramesh Kumar Das, a defence official, who is helping the Indian Air Force distribute food to marooned villagers from helicopters.

MNA/Reuters

## FDA: tomatoes do not help prevent cancer

BEIJING, 12 July — The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Wednesday concluded that tomatoes do not really help prevent cancer after its review of all known lycopene studies.

"(The) review found no evidence that tomatoes reduced the risk of lung, colorectal, breast, cervical or endometrial cancer. However, there was very limited evidence for associations between tomato consumption and reduced risk of prostate, ovarian, gastric and pancreatic cancers."

"Very limited and preliminary scientific research suggests that eating one-half to one cup of tomatoes and/or tomato sauce a week may reduce the risk of prostate cancer.

(The) FDA concludes that there is little scientific evidence supporting this



The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Wednesday concluded that tomatoes do not really help prevent cancer after its review of all known lycopene studies. — INTERNET

claim."

The review, which appears in Tuesday's issue of the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, refutes numerous studies which have pointed to a link between eating lycopene, the antioxidant that gives tomatoes their red color, and a reduced risk of certain cancers.

Internet

## Iraqi police say Green Zone mortar barrage kills three

BAGHDAD, 11 July — A big mortar and rocket attack on Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone compound on Tuesday killed two Iraqis and a Filipino and wounded 25 other people, Iraqi police said.

Police said some 30 mortars and rockets were fired at the compound, which houses the Iraqi Government along with the US and British embassies.

It was one of the biggest barrages against the zone since the US-led invasion in 2003.

A US embassy spokesman said he was not aware of anyone getting killed, adding there had been around a dozen explosions inside the zone, which covers a large area of central Baghdad and is bounded on one side by the Tigris River.

Reuters reporters saw smoke rising in the vicinity of the US Embassy just after the strike.

Police said many of the wounded were Iraqis. Contractors of numerous nationalities work inside the compound, often employed by security companies.

MNA/Reuters



A dancer from Peru's Jallmay Dance Company waits for the start of the 'Ciudad de Burgos' festival in Burgos, northern Spain, on 11 July. INTERNET

## ECONOMIC NEWS

## S Korea, EU exchange tariff offers ahead of FTA talks

SEOUL, 11 July—South Korea and the European Union (EU) have exchanged proposals on tariffs in preparation for the second round of negotiations for free trade agreement (FTA), South Korea's *Yonhap* news agency said on Tuesday. In the proposal, South

Korea asked the EU to exempt rice and about 150 agricultural and fisheries goods, out of 1,452 such items, from the agreement, *Yonhap* quoted an official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade as saying.

South Korea and the EU held their first round of

FTA talks in Seoul in May. They agreed to have the second FTA negotiations from 16 to 20 July in Brussels.

In the first round of FTA talks, the two sides agreed to eliminate tariffs on 95 per cent of bilateral trade. South Korea's average tariff is 11.2 per cent, far higher than the EU's 4.2 per cent. The EU is South Korea's second-largest trading partner after China. The trade volume between South Korea and the EU totalled 79.4 billion US dollars in 2006.

MNA/Xinhua



A model wears a creation by Indian fashion designer Neeta Lulla during the *Alta Roma Fashion week in Rome* on 10 July, 2007. —XINHUA

## Indonesia, Singapore to renegotiate defence agreement

JAKARTA, 11 July—Indonesia and Singapore have agreed to discuss several contentious articles in the Defence Cooperation Agreement (DCA) that hamper the implementation, a senior official said here Monday.

"The heads of the two governments agreed to continue with the negotiations," Indonesian Defence Minister Juwono Sudarsono was quoted by the national *Antara* news agency as saying.

The negotiating teams will be led by the foreign ministers, he said.

The DCA, which grants Singapore the right to conduct military exercises in the Indonesian territories, was signed on 27 April along with the ex-

tradition treaty.

But Indonesia has expressed objection to several proposals from Singapore, including a request for the right to hold the exercises 15 times a month.—MNA/Xinhua

## China appreciates Switzerland's recognition

BEIJING, 11 July—Chinese Vice-Premier Hui Liangyu expressed his appreciation on Monday of Switzerland's recognition of China's full market economy status.

"I appreciate the Swiss Government's recognition of our full market economy status, and I believe that decision will create a better environment and a broader space for bilateral economic and trade cooperation," Hui told visiting Swiss Federal Councillor Doris Leuthard. Leuthard, who is also head of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, held talks with her Chinese counterpart Bo Xilai on Sunday and, on behalf of the Swiss Government, announced that Switzerland officially recognized China's full market economy status. Hui said Switzerland is an important economic partner for China and that Swiss products are very famous in China.

He pointed out that China is the largest source of imports and the second largest export market for Switzerland, and he hoped firms from the two countries would strengthen cooperation in areas such as high-tech, resource utilization and environmental protection.—MNA/Xinhua



A total of 73 oil paintings by 12 young painters from Shenzhen are on display at an exhibition in the National Art Museum of China in Beijing until 17 July, 2007.—INTERNET

## ASEAN Elenex targets to increase 20% in sale

KUALA LUMPUR, 11 July—ASEAN Elenex, the 7th Power Generation, Transmission and Elec-

trical Engineering Exhibition to be held from 18 to 21 July in Malaysia, is expected to generate a 20-per-cent increase in sales to 800 million ringgit (235.29 million US dollars).

About 600 companies from 40 countries will attend the event, the organizer said in a statement on Tuesday.

The exhibition at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre has attracted national pavilions from China, India, Singapore, South Korea and the United Kingdom.

About 12,000 trade visitors are scheduled to

network and pursue business opportunities during ASEAN Elenex.

The event is held concurrently with the biennial ASEAN Industrial Automation Exhibition (IA) 2007 at the same venue, the national news agency *Bernama* reported.

According to the organizer, interest in IA 2007 has been high due to Malaysia's current position as Asia's leading source of machine-building and systems integration expertise, especially for the electronics manufacturing sector.

MNA/Xinhua

## Vietnam's automobile sales surge in 1<sup>st</sup> half

HANOI, 11 July—Automobile joint ventures in Vietnam posted total sales of 28,528 vehicles in the first half of this year, up 79 per cent over the same period last year, according to a local industrial association on Tuesday.

In June alone, the country's automobile sales stood at 6,083 units, increasing 62 per cent over last June, said the Vietnam Automobile Manufacturers Association.

Last month, Toyota Vietnam kept on holding the biggest local market share, with 1,774 units sold, followed by local bus and truck maker Truong Hai with 956 vehicles, and Vinaxuki with 608.

Automobile joint ventures in Vietnam, sole producers of cars and main makers of other kinds of automobiles in the country, sold 39,876 vehicles in 2006, down from 40,853 in 2005, said the association.

Last year, Vietnam with a population of over 83 million housed 13 automobile joint ventures with total registered capital of nearly 700 million US dollars and combined annual capacity of 173,000 units.

MNA/Xinhua



Fresh from taking a billion-dollar hit for flawed Xbox 360 video game consoles, Microsoft has unveiled a line-up of new titles and a deal to distribute Disney movies online. INTERNET



North Carolina State women's basketball coach Kay Yow (L) wipes away tears as she accepts the Jimmy V award from actress Ashley Judd (C) and women's basketball coach Pat Summitt (R) at the "2007 ESPY Awards" in Hollywood on 11 July, 2007. —INTERNET

## China, Australia, New Zealand to hold first joint maritime drill

BEIJING, 11 July— China, Australia and New Zealand will hold their first-ever joint maritime drill in September near Australia.

The news came out of the talks between Chinese Defence Minister Cao Gangchuan and Australian counterpart Brendan Nelson on Monday.

Nelson said Chinese vessels would visit Australia in September and hold a "search-and-rescue

exercise" with Australia and New Zealand.

That will be good to "build trust and increase friendship", he said.

Cao lauded the drill, China's first multilateral maritime drill, as "a step to show the expansion of our substantive military cooperation".

China has conducted bilateral search-and-rescue drills with countries including Britain, France, Pakistan, India, Australia, Thailand and the United States since 2003. Nelson is here on his first visit to China since he assumed the post in January 2006.

His visit comes just days after Australia issued

a defence policy paper that said "the pace and scope of (China's) military modernization ... could create misunderstandings and instability in the region".

The Chinese Foreign Ministry last week brushed aside Australia's concerns over China's military development, saying the country was firmly on the path of peaceful development.

Yet, neither Cao nor Nelson directly touched upon the defence policy paper in their 90-minute talks. Instead they both hailed the good momentum of China-Australia military ties.

MNA/Xinhua

## UN chief highlights men's life-saving role in supporting maternal health

UNITED NATIONS, 11 July— UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon highlighted on Wednesday the significance of men's care for maternal health and their support for women's sexual and reproductive health rights.

"As partners for maternal health, men can save lives," Ban said in a message marking this year's World Population Day.

In case of immediate medical care, the support of an informed husband,



UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon

who often makes decisions about family planning and the use of household resources, improves pregnancy and childbirth outcomes and can mean the difference between life and death in cases of complications, Ban said.

More than half a

million women die each year during pregnancy and childbirth, 99 percent of them in developing countries.

Many more suffer serious complications that can have a severe impact on the quality of life for women and their families, he noted.

However, "almost all of this death and suffering is preventable," the UN chief said.

Despite the progress in terms of reducing maternal death rates in several countries over the past decade, much more needs to be done to achieve the Millennium Development Goal of improving maternal health around the world by 2015, he said.

"Partnering with men is an important strategy for advancing reproductive health and rights,"

Ban stressed. "Gender equality, another Millennium Development Goal, is most likely to be achieved when men recognize that the lives of men and women are interdependent and that the empowerment of women benefits everyone," he said.

Internet

A policeman inspects the site where three Chinese workers were killed by unidentified gunmen in the outskirts of the northern city of Peshawar on 8 July, 2007. — XINHUA



## Soldiers wounded in Thai southern blast

BANGKOK, 11 July— Five soldiers were wounded when insurgents detonated a roadside bomb in Thailand's southern province of Pattani on Tuesday, local media reported.

The soldiers were ambushed when they were patrolling on a pick-up in Mayo District shortly before noon, the *Bangkok Post* said on its website.

Police said the bomb, hidden near a trash can, was detonated when they were passing by. The vehicle was partly damaged. Five soldiers were injured during the blast and were rushed to Mayo District hospital.

Thailand's three southernmost provinces — Pattani, Narathiwat and

Yala have been troubled with insurgency-related violence which has claimed more than 2,300 lives since it resumed in early 2004.

MNA/Xinhua



The Beastie Boys perform during a concert at the 41st Montreux Jazz Festival on 9 July, 2007. —XINHUA

## Nine Iraqi soldiers killed in bomb attack

TIKRIT (Iraq), 11 July — Nine Iraqi soldiers on Monday were killed and 21 others injured in a roadside bomb followed by gunfire attacks near the town of Balad, some 80 kilometres north of Baghdad, local police and medics said.

"Gunmen blew up a roadside bomb near an Iraqi Army convoy and then opened fire with their machine-guns and small arms fire on the convoy," local police source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

Qasim Abbud, director of Balad Hospital, said they have received nine bodies and 21 injured soldiers. The convoy encountered the attack on its way from Tikrit, 170 kilometres north of Baghdad, to the capital, said the police source, adding that several military vehicles of the convoy were damaged by the attack. — MNA/Xinhua

# Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

*Economic Department*

*International Organizations and Economic Department*

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) has reached its tenth anniversary in June this year.

Widely known as BIMSTEC, the regional organization is a sound result of the integration of Thailand's Look West policy and India's Look East policy. **Thailand adopted the Look West policy with the aim of extending economic and trade ties with its western neighbours — South Asian countries. Likewise, countries of the Indian Sub Continent laid down the Look East policy to establish close economic relations with Southeast Asian nations after witnessing the latter's economic growth.**

BIMSTEC is formed with countries touching the Bay of Bengal or relying on the said sea for trade, with the objective of promoting multi-sectoral cooperation for economic and social progress of the region. Its seven members are: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand. BIMSTEC was formed in June 1997 and it had six sectors of cooperation in 1999. In 2006, the number of sectors was increased to 13.

With an idea of forming an economic cooperation group comprising Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand in the Bay of Bengal region, Thailand initiated talks with India on the matter. As Myanmar had not joined the body yet then, the ministerial meeting hosted by Thailand in Bangkok on 6 June 1997 formed the Bangladesh-India-Sri Lanka-Thailand Economic Cooperation (BIST-EC).

As India aimed at forming the body with the participation of Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand, it approached Myanmar and invited her to attend the ministerial meeting. As Myanmar wished to wait and see the situation, she attended it as an observer.

Myanmar began to make preparations to join the BIMSTEC in June 1997. In accord with the procedures, the country presented a proposal to the body through Thailand that was taking the alternate chairmanship to enter the body in early July 1997. Without any objection, all the four founding member nations accepted Myanmar's proposal. Myanmar started to attend the monthly meeting of the Bangkok-based BIST-EC Task Force at the second meeting held on 25 August 1997.

For the first time, Myanmar delegation led by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs took part in the BIST-EC special ministerial meeting and the senior officials meeting held for four days from 19 to 22 December 1997. The special ministerial meeting held on 22 December, officially welcomed Myanmar and changed the body's name from BIST-EC to Bangladesh-India-Myanmar-Sri Lanka-Thailand Economic Cooperation (BIMST-EC) with the proclamation signed by deputy foreign ministers of the five member countries. Later, Bhutan and Nepal joined the body.

The first Summit held in Bangkok in July 2004 changed the body's name to Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC). The two acronyms "BIMST-EC" and "BIMSTEC" are the same in pronunciation but totally different in meaning.

The BIMSTEC is organizing two senior officials meetings and one ministerial meeting annually and a Summit every two years to lay down future work programmes and to implement them through coordination.

The regional body is holding its Task Force meeting

monthly in Bangkok at which every Lead Country presents sector-wise cooperation activities and the participants discuss other matters including the sponsoring of a BIMSTEC film festival, the issuance of BIMSTEC business travellers card, the cooperation with Asian Development Bank, the establishment of main BIMSTEC website and setting up of the BIMSTEC Secretariat.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs can serve as a coordinator for other ministries to present their developments, work programmes, stance and opinions to the Task Force meeting.

MOFA also serves as the central liaison department, and Myanmar is the Lead Country in energy and agriculture sectoral cooperation.

The first BIMSTEC Summit was hosted by Thailand in Bangkok on 31 July 2004. The regional body is not able to sponsor its second Summit till now, although the planned date was in 2006. At present, it is planning to hold the Summit in New Delhi in the early 2008.

Member countries take BIMSTEC chairmanship for a year in rotation in alphabetical order. The country holding the chairmanship is responsible for hosting senior officials' meetings, ministerial meetings and summits, and taking a leadership role in discussions about BIMSTEC affairs. At present, India is holding the

chairmanship. After the Second Summit to be held in New Delhi, Myanmar will have to take over the chairmanship.

The Foreign Affairs Minister has to lead the delegation of the country concerned to attend ministerial meetings accompanied by high-ranking officials of relevant ministries as members. The 9th Ministerial Meeting

took place in India in August 2006.

The 2nd BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting held in 1998 passed a resolution to propose BIMSTEC sectors of cooperation into six and share the duty of the leading country sector-wise. The Eighth Ministerial Meeting held in Dhaka in December 2005 laid down seven more sectors, so the number of the chapters reached 13. The sectors and leading countries are as follows:

Sectors (1999-2005)	Lead/Chairman Country
(1) Trade and Investment/Sub-sector	Bangladesh
(2) Technology/Sub-sector	India
(3) Energy/Sub-sector	India
(4) Transportation & Communication/ Sub-sector	Myanmar
(5) Tourism/Sub-sector	Sri Lanka
(6) Fisheries/Sub-sector	Thailand
Sectors expanded in 2006 Lead / Chairman Country	
(7) Poverty Alleviation/Sub-sector	Nepal
(8) Agriculture/Sub-sector	Myanmar
(9) Cultural Cooperation/Sub-sector	Bhutan
(10) Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime/Sub-sector	India
(11) Environment and Disaster Management/ Sub-sector	India
(12) Public Health/Sub-sector	Thailand
(13) People-to-People Contact/Sub-sector	Thailand

**BIMSTEC consists of certain ASEAN countries and members of SAARC-South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation. So, BIMSTEC serves as a bridge to link the two regional organizations. India enjoying rapid economic growth and Thailand enjoying economic growth are playing a leading role in the BIMSTEC.** So, the organization will contribute towards sector-wise economic cooperation in the region.

Under the political encouragement given by Heads of State/Government of the member countries, cooperation meetings are being held to cooperate at the departmental level. However, the plan has not been able to mobilize the active participation of private sector and commercial sector that can make significant contribution towards economic growth and trade development. And it is still needed to build infrastructures to link transport and communication among the members of smooth transport of commodities and people.

BIMSTEC has come into existence for 10 years only. Some salient works of the BIMSTEC are endorsement of Framework Agreement on BIMST-EC Free Trade Area, designating 2004-2005 as Visit BIMSTEC Year, establishment of BIMSTEC Chambers of Commerce and Industry, holding the first BIMSTEC youth football tournament in Phuket, forming of Central



Department on BIMSTEC activities in Bangkok, and implementing bio-gas project in Kokke village, Myingyan Township, Myanmar. There have still been limitations on cooperation of the member countries due to the difference on national development, areas, culture and historical backgrounds. However, if small members are able to apply the strong points of globalization in human resource development with the use of technological advancement, they will be able to catch up with big countries in the international economic sphere. Therefore, Myanmar joined the BIMSTEC soon after becoming a member of ASEAN—and this may be seen as the right step.

**The BIMSTEC is located in a strategic area. The members with economic growth and technological advancement are in a position to provide assistance to other members. Members can expand their markets with the use of their economic growth. Intellectuals and intelligentsia from related departments and private organizations are urged to work hard together for the development of respective sectors so that the BIMSTEC can help members to enjoy greater economic growth and practise the market economic system.**

Translation: TMT + MS

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## Bago Division to put 3m acres of land under monsoon paddy, ...

(from page 1)

The government has created good infrastructures for development of the nation. Development tasks for rural areas reflect improvement of the State. As a result, it is necessary to strive for undertaking five rural development tasks. Despite ensuring sufficiency of rice, meat and fish and vegetables, the country still needs edible oil sufficiency. He stressed the need to extend cultivation of edible oil crops in the nation for producing edible oil at home instead of importing the items into the country.

He added that Thayawady District is to imple-

ment to grow edible oil crops on 110,000 acres of land including 70,000 acres. This year, Bago Division is to put three million acres of land under monsoon paddy, 1.6 million acres under pea, 400,000 acres under summer paddy and 500,000 acres under edible oil crops. Likewise, efforts are to be made for planting of 500,000 acres of physic nut in three years to extract bio-diesel. For prevention against overflow of water in Thayawady District, preparations are to be made for maintenance of the embankments on eastern bank of Ayeyawady River. Departmental personnel are to join hands with the people in undertaking regional development.

They attended the collective monsoon paddy cultivation ceremony of Letpadan Township for 2007-08 in Kyayni Village.

Chairman of Letpadan Township PDC U Chit Thein reported on cultivation of monsoon paddy in the township. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than viewed paddy transplanting in the field.

Letpadan Township has so far put 55,858 acres of land under monsoon paddy against the target of 115,000 acres in 2007-08, and the plan is under way to grow paddy on the remaining acres of land this month.

At the local battalion in Minhla Township, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with servicemen and families. He instructed them to join hands with local people in undertaking five rural development tasks while serving the defence duty of the State.

Afterwards, they proceeded to Pyay. — MNA



**Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi receives Ambassador of India to Myanmar Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 July. — ENERGY**

## Special Envoy Deputy Foreign Minister winds up five-nation tour

NAY PYI TAW, 11 July — Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint and delegation members today arrived back after paying goodwill visits to Brazil, Peru, Cuba, Panama and Venezuela from 25 June to 9 July.

On 25 June, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint met with the Deputy Minister Level Secretary-General Mr Samuel Pinheiro Guimaraes Neto and Sub-Secretary General (Political) Mr Jose Antonia Garcia Revilla of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil separately in Brasilia.

The goodwill delegation arrived Peru on 27 June, and Special Envoy U Maung Myint held talks with Under Secretary-General Mr Jose Antonia Garcia Revilla of the International Organizations and United Nations Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru.

They arrived at Havana in Cuba on 29 June

**Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint shakes hands with Foreign Minister of Venezuela Mr Nicalars Maduro Moros.**  
MNA



and attended the working dinner hosted by Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba Mr Abelardo Moreno Fernandez in the evening.

While in Cuba, the deputy minister met with Deputy Minister for Tourism Ms Maria Elena Loepz Reyes on 1 July and Heads of Department of the Ministries led by Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Abelardo Moreno Fernandez in the evening.

On 3 July, Deputy Minister U Maung Myint called on Deputy Foreign Minister Mr Recardo

Duran and held talks with Adviser to the Foreign Minister Dr Mr Neel Castro at the ministry in Panama.

Myanmar Delegation arrived Venezuela on 5 July. The deputy minister called on Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Vladimir Villeges of Venezuela on 6 July and also met with the representatives of various ministries led by the Deputy Foreign Minister of Venezuela. The deputy minister also called on Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Nicalars Maduro Moros.

Myanmar goodwill delegation left Caracas, Venezuela, for Myanmar on 9 July. Members of the delegation Director-General U Phae Than Oo of the Department of Political Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Deputy Director U Kyaw Zaw of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration of the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and Assistant Director U Kyaw Thi Wa of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also arrived back on the same flight.—MNA

## Sri Lankan delegation concludes visit

YANGON, 11 July — The delegation led by Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka Mr Rohitha Bogollagama returned home by air this evening.

They were seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Deputy Director-General U Soe Win of the Protocol Department and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sri Lankan Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Samarasekera and embassy staff.

MNA

## NLD members fed up with selfish acts of party's leaders

### 11 quit Ayadaw NLD

YANGON, 11 July — A total of 11 members—U Ya Thaung of Wa Taw Ma village, U Khin Maung, Daw Sein Shwe, U Tat Pwa, Daw Thein Lwin, U Nyunt Lwin, U Thein Win, U Myint Swe, Daw Thein Aye, Daw Kywe and U Po Nya of Kaing Village of Ayadaw Township National League for Democracy of Sagaing Division resigned from NLD of their own accord on 19 June.

They sent their resignation letters to NLD headquarters and local authorities concerned.

They said in the letters sent to Sagaing Division Multi-party Democracy General Election Sub-commission, that they became fed up with the selfish acts of party's leaders and they no longer wished to be members of NLD owing to the acts detrimental to the State and the people. Therefore, they resigned from the party of their own volition.

MNA



## Wellwisher donates medicines to MMCWA

YANGON, 12 July — Wellwishers donated medicines worth K 107,000 to Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association today.

The donation ceremony was held at the association here and Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Daw Myint Myint Yi and daughter Dr Thin Nwe Win of Royal Ruby Co Ltd donated medicines to be used in health care services of the association. President of MMCWA Daw Khin Khin Win accepted the



donation and presented certificate of honour to the wellwishers.

MNA

**Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Daw Myint Myint Yi and Dr Thin Nwe Win donate medicine to MMCWA through President of MMCWA Daw Khin Khin Win. — MNA**

## Foreign Minister sends felicitations to Montenegro

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July— U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Milan Rocen, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Montenegro, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Montenegro which falls on 13 July 2007. — MNA

## Minister visits Yeywa Hydro Power Project

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July —Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min went to Yeywa Hydro Power Project located at 31 miles south-east of Mandalay on 6 July and inspected construction work of the project.

Yeywa Hydro Power Project is being implemented on Myitnge River near Yeyaman Village by Construction-2 of Hydropower Projects Implementation Department under the Ministry of Electric Power No 1.

At the briefing hall, officials concerned reported to the minister on progress of the project, tasks being undertaken and future tasks for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and condition of machinery.

After hearing reports, Minister Col Zaw Min urged officials concerned to make efforts for timely completion of work, to cooperate with departments concerned and to carry out preventive measures against natural disasters in the rainy season. He also called for work site safety and stockpiling of materials to be used in construction works in the open season.

Afterwards, the minister and party went to the construction site and inspected construction of the separation wall, concrete dam and intake structure. He also inspected construction of the power supply station and other works.

Over 37 per cent of the work of the project has been completed. Generators of the project will have a total capacity of 790-megawatt and the project is expected to produce about 3,550 million kwh annually. — MNA

## MMCWA carries out social welfare tasks in Shwedaung, Pyay

YANGON, 12 July — Vice-President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Aye Aye and Secretary Dr Daw Wai Wai Tha went to the delivery unit of Shwedaung Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association in Shwedaung on 10 July and donated cash to the unit.

During the tour, they also visited the day-care nursery of the township MCWA.

They also went to the General Hospital in Pyay and donated over K 2 million to the funds for giving treatment to 48 cleft lip and palate patients.

Afterwards, Daw Aye Aye and party proceeded to Thiri Khittara Home for the Aged in Pyay and donated cash and kind to the home for the aged.

On behalf of the association, Vice-President of MMCWA Daw Aye Aye also donated rice bags and stationery to Dhammaw Daya Monastic Education School in Pyay.

They held educative talks at Swetaw Sanpya Village in Padaung Township yesterday and accepted applications for membership of MMCWA. Next, Specialists gave talks on health at the talks. — MNA

## MWAF educates women in three villages in Taungtha Township



**Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe briefs on Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation at Thigon Village in Taungtha Township. — MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July — Under the arrangement of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, educative talks and round-table discussions were conducted in three villages in Taungtha Township, Myingyan District, on 6 and 7 July separately.

The talks were held at Kyaukka, Titmaittha and Thigon villages in Taungtha Township. Women from the villages gathered at the talks and participated in the

discussions related to women's affairs.

Head of the Organizing Department Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe briefed on MWAF and responsible personnel of Myingyan District Women's Affairs Organization gave talks on matters related to prevention against trafficking in persons and culture. Those present also discussed matters related to trafficking in persons and culture in groups.

After the talks, Daw Khin Hsan Nwe and party presented uniforms of MWAF, periodicals and gifts to those present.

They also donated K 500,000 to Ziwitadana Association in Titmaittha Village and K 500,000 to the funds for the maintenance of sinking tube-well in Thigon Village. At the talks, they also accepted applications of villagers for membership of MWAF.

MNA

## NC delegates from Chin State, Sagaing Div arrive

YANGON, 12 July — The National Convention delegates from Chin State and Sagaing Division arrived here by air to attend the National Convention this evening.

They were welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Organizing, Invitation and Accommodation Subcommittee Col Htein Lin and officials. They were accommodated at the Nyaungnnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division. — MNA



**Delegates to the National Convention from Chin State and Sagaing Division arrive at Yangon International Airport. — MNA**

## Cash donated to funds for missionary task



**Wellwishers donate K 1 million to funds for missionary work through an official.**  
H

YANGON, 12 July — A ceremony to donate religious books and tapes of Sayadaw U Wizaya of Bagayataik, Beikman Yadana Monastery in Amarapura Township,

Mandalay Division was held at the Dhamma Thabin hall of Seikkan Dhammaryon in Botahtaung Pagoda this evening.

Wellwishers Daw

Khin Mya Lwin and son Ko Moe Kyaw Naing and family from New York, USA donated K 1 million to the funds for missionary task of Sayadaw U Wizaya. — H

## First round of First Inter-Ministry Football Tournament continues

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July — Ministry of Defence Team beat Ministry of Religious Affairs Team 4-1 in the first round of the First Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament at Paunglaung Sports Ground in Pyinmana today.

Likewise, Ministry of Sports Team trounced Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Team 6-1 at Paunglaung Sports Ground in the afternoon.

Attorney-General's Office Team was defeated by Ministry of Health

Team 2-0 at the sports ground in Lewe Township.

Among the spectators were Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and wife, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura

## I&P Minister receives UNFPA Resident Representative

NAY PYI TAW, 12 July — Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe met Resident Representative Mr Daniel B Baker of United Nations Fund for

Population Activities at the minister's office, here, this morning.

Present also at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Win Sein, Director-General U Maung Maung Than of

Immigration and National Registration Department, Director-General U Tin Yi of Population Department, Head of Office U Than Naing Tun and officials.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe receives Resident Representative of UNFPA Mr Daniel B Baker. — MNA

Myint Maung, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Deputy

Attorney-Generals U Myint Naing and U Tun Tun Oo, departmental officials and government employees.

Ministry of Labour Team and Ministry of Electric Power No 2 team will meet at Paunglaung Sports Ground, and

Ministry of Rail Transportation Team and Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation Team at the same ground tomorrow. Ministry of Information Team will play against Ministry of Energy Team at the sports ground in Lewe tomorrow. — MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint watches football match of Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Team and Ministry of Sports Team. — MNA

## English Proficiency Course No 1 of USDA opens

YANGON, 9 July — An English Proficiency Course No 1 organized by the Union Solidarity and Development Association began at the association headquarters on new University Avenue in Bahan Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were CEC members of USDA, officials of USDA

Headquarters, course instructors and trainees.

USDA CEC Member U Aung Thein Lin made a speech on the occasion, saying that USDA members are discharging duties while trying to improve their qualification. They are to do their best to successfully implement the objectives and future tasks laid down yearly.

There are two points that a nation has its future. The first point is that there are citizens who are making endeavours for development of the nation while removing obstacles that undermine the interests of the nation. Another point is strong foundation of education, knowledge and skill. The citizens with a above-mentioned qualifications can make the

nation develop.

He said English proficiency courses are being conducted as English is a major language for international relations and other studies.

After the ceremony, CEC members and officials cordially greeted the trainees.

The 12-week course is being attended by 40 trainees. — MNA

## Deputy Foreign Minister signs Book of Condolences for demise of Former Indian Prime Minister

YANGON, 12 July — Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint signed the Book of Condolences at the Embassy of the Republic of India, at No 545-547, Merchant Street at 10.30 am today, opened for the demise of Mr Chandra Shekhar, former Prime Minister of the Republic of India, who passed away on 8 July 2007. — MNA



Deputy Foreign Minister U Maung Myint signs the Book of Condolences for demise of Former Indian Prime Minister Mr Chandra Shekhar. — MNA

## China flood toll hits 360

BEIJING, 12 July — Floods and landslides have killed at least 360 people across China this summer and destroyed more than four million hectares (15.4 million square miles) of crops, *Xinhua* news agency said on Wednesday.

Direct economic losses were 24.3 billion yuan (3.21 billion US dollars), according to latest figures from the State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters.

“Apart from 217,000 houses wholly or partially destroyed, more than 4.28 million hectares of grain crops have been hit, with 2.03 million hectares totally destroyed,” headquarters deputy director Cheng Dianlong was quoted as saying.

MNA/Reuters



Indonesian rescue workers carry an injured survivor at a port in Ambon on 12 July, 2007. Heavy seas around Indonesia's Ambon Island hampered search efforts on Thursday for a missing boat after the bodies of two young children were found along with 31 survivors, rescue officials said. — INTERNET

## Indonesian boat missing with dozens on board

JAKARTA, 12 July — A boat with about 60 people on board has disappeared near Ambon Island in eastern Indonesia, a rescue official said on Wednesday.

The boat set sail from Buru Island on Tuesday but ran into bad weather just short of Ambon early on Wednesday, Abraham Lesnussa, head of the rescue team in Ambon, told *Reuters*.

He said about 15 survivors had been rescued from waters around Tiga Island, about 12 kilometres (seven miles) from Ambon, part

of the Moluccas chain of islands.

“The boat experienced engine failure and was hit by bad weather. The meteorology and geophysics agency reported that the waves in the waters reached up to six metres high,” Lesnussa said.

Indonesia has about 17,000 islands and ferries and boats are a popular means of transport.

Sea connections are cheaper and more readily available than aircraft, but safety standards are not always strictly enforced and accidents occur fairly often. — MNA/Reuters

## Russian police arrest US pastor for bribery

SAKHALIN, 12 July — Police on Russia's Pacific Island of Sakhalin have detained a US missionary on suspicion of bribing a local official, prosecutors said.

Hio Sun Pak, a 65-year-old US citizen and Pentecostal pastor, and his interpreter were held in a police sting operation.

MNA/Reuters

## UAE firm delivers natural gas from Qatar to Abu Dhabi

ABU DHABI, 12 July — Dolphin Energy of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) announced on Tuesday that it has started the delivery of natural gas from its production

wells offshore Qatar to Abu Dhabi, the UAE capital.

It is the culmination of the company's Dolphin Gas Project, which involves the production and processing of

natural gas from Qatar's North Field and transportation of the refined gas to the UAE and Oman, according to a Press release by the company.

MNA/Xinhua



Gloria, the first calf born to a cloned cow, Vitoria (L), is seen on a government farm outside Brasilia in this 4 October, 2004 file photo. Cloning animals will not be useful on a large scale but the technology offers farmers an important tool to increase food production and protect animals from disease, scientists said on Tuesday. — INTERNET

## Scientists say large scale animal cloning unlikely

LONDON, 12 July — Cloning animals will not be useful on a large scale but the technology offers farmers an important tool to increase food production and protect animals from disease, scientists said on Tuesday.

Critics contend that not enough is known about cloning to make it safe, while advocates say it can improve the quality of meat and dairy products.

Scientists at a briefing to address the intense debate said the technology was just the next step in artificial breeding and would only ever account for a small part of food production.

“Cloning is never going to be a large scale breeding system,” Simon Best, chairman of the UK-based BioIndustry Association, told reporters. “It has niche

applications.”

Cloning involves taking cell nuclei from adults and fusing them into egg cells that are implanted into a surrogate mother.

Scientists said some uses could be to clone animals that are less resistant to certain diseases or to reproduce “elite” livestock that can churn out more milk or produce healthier offspring.

MNA/Reuters

## Hungary, Ukraine discuss border, Customs issues

BUDAPEST, 12 July — Hungary and Ukraine plan to open new crossing points along their common border, the Hungarian President said here on Tuesday after talks with visiting Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko.

The two nations will

also discuss the introduction of joint Customs clearance, the Hungarian President Laszlo Solyom added.

Solyom noted that Hungary had recognized Ukraine's independence before the Soviet Union disintegrated in the early 1990s

and it was the first country to open an embassy in Kiev.

Solyom asked Yushchenko's support for allowing ethnic Hungarian school-leavers to take their university entrance examinations in the Hungarian language.

MNA/Xinhua



Ryan Gunning, 5, of Flower Mound, Texas, looks at high water on Lake Texoma in Pottsboro, Texas, on 10 July, 2007. Officials were assessing damage from intense weekend flooding as the heaviest storms subsided across the state. — INTERNET

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Htain Lin Oo (LL.B) Advocate  
**MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM**  
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Tel:254037 G.P.O Box:666  
Yangon. 13 July 2004

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(IV/3198/2003) (IV/7866/2006)

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Thein Aung B.Sc,R.L,D.B.L Advocate  
**MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM**  
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(For. Domnern Somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand.)  
Dated. 13 July 2007

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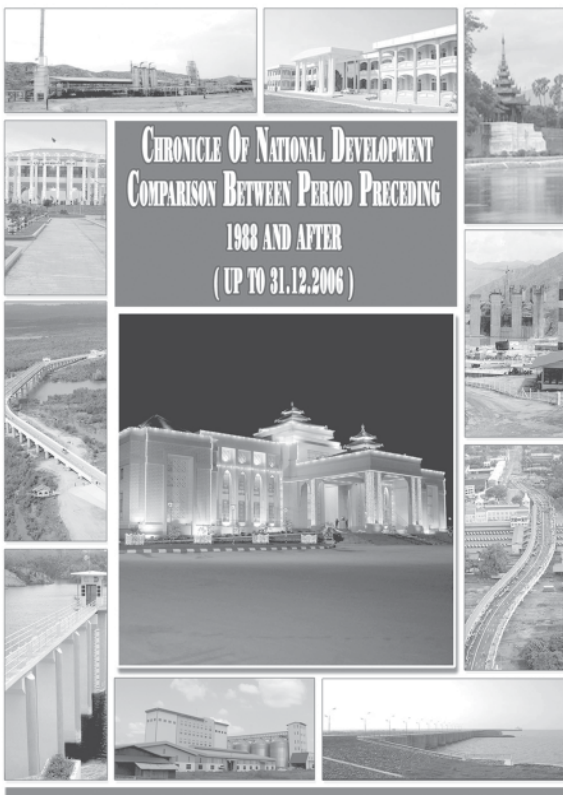
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Yangon. 13 July 2007

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Win Mu Tin  
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.,  
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P. O. Box 60, Yangon  
Dated: 13 July 2007

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C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,  
Unit 701-702, Traders Hotel,  
Yangon, Union of Myanmar  
utm.kcy@mptmail.com.mm  
Dated 13 July 2007

**UAE recalls 4,545**

**Honda vehicles**

**ABU DHABI**, 11 July —  
The United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Monday announced a recall of 4,545 Honda vehicles of several models in the country, the official *Emirates News Agency* reported.

The recall issued by the UAE Ministry of Economy's Consumer Protection Department involves models of *Accord 05*, *Accord 06*, *Jazz 05*, *Civic 06* and *Odyssey 05*, according to the report.

An official with the ministry said that owners of those Honda models should report to Honda's service centres so that appointments would be made to effect the repairs.—MNA/Xinhua

**Serbia plans to join WTO by end of 2008**

**BELGRADE**, 11 July—The World Trade Organization has told Serbia it can join by the end of next year and Belgrade plans a series of reforms to meet membership requirements, Economy Minister Mladjan Dinkic said on Tuesday.

"Our delegation was told today that Serbia could become a WTO member by the end of 2008," Dinkic told *Reuters* after meeting WTO Director-General Pascal Lamy in Geneva.

"We have agreed a timetable of activities that need to be completed...These include regulatory changes and a revised list of goods," he said.

Serbia must improve hygiene standards at border crossings where goods leave the country, strengthen food safety regulations, lift non-Customs protection and reduce customs protection from the current average of 6.5 per cent. Regulatory improvements and other activities will be discussed at a joint working group meeting due in late October.

"These legal changes should be completed by mid-2008. Then, we must embark on a series of bilateral talks with WTO member states to negotiate trading rules for agricultural and industrial goods and services," he said.—MNA/Reuters

**US space shuttle Endeavour moves to launch pad for 7 August lift-off**

**WASHINGTON**, 11 July—The US space shuttle Endeavour rolled out to its sea-side launch pad in Florida early Wednesday, in preparation for the 7 Aug



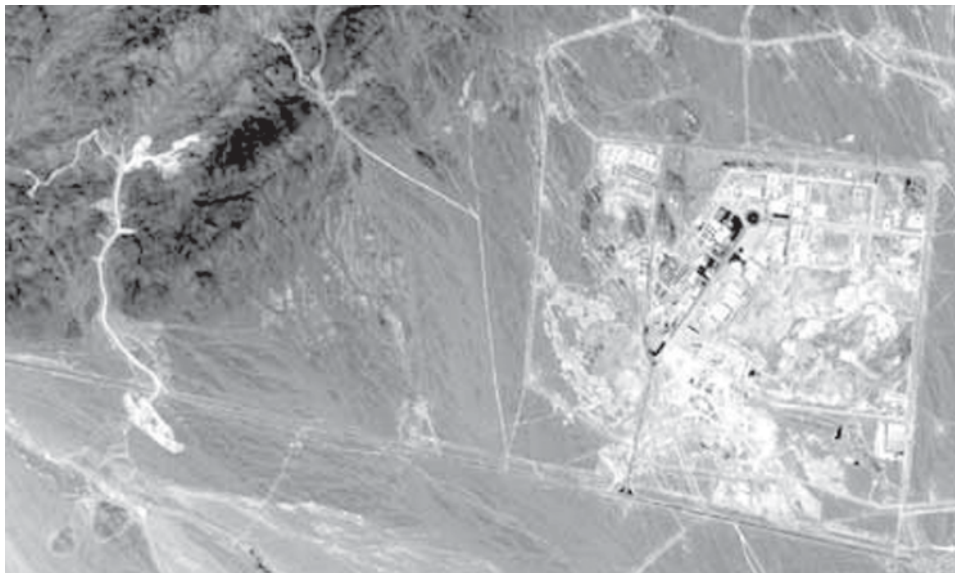
The space shuttle Endeavour sits on launch pad 39A after rolling out of the Vehicle Assembly Building at Kennedy Space Centre in Cape Canaveral, Florida, on 11 July, 2007.—INTERNET

launch to the International Space Station, according to NASA website updates.

The rollout began at 8:10 pm EDT Tuesday (0010 GMT Wednesday) at Kennedy Space Centre in Florida. The crawler-transporter carrying the massive shuttle assembly completed the 5.5-kilometre journey to the launch pad at approximately 2:30 am EDT (0630 GMT) on Wednesday morning and was set up there half an hour later. The mission, designated STS-118, will be NASA's second shuttle mission this year, but Endeavour's first flight in almost five years, according to NASA.

The last time Endeavour was at the launch pad was in November 2002 on a construction mission to the ISS.—Internet

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့



This handout satellite image of the Natanz Uranium Enrichment plant in Iran, taken on 11 June, 2007, shows the facility being built by Iran with a new tunnel facility (L) inside a mountain near a key nuclear complex — a possible attempt to protect parts of its uranium enrichment programme from aerial attack, nuclear analysts said on 9 July, 2007. —XINHUA

Statistical agency: Portugal becomes world's seventh oldest nation

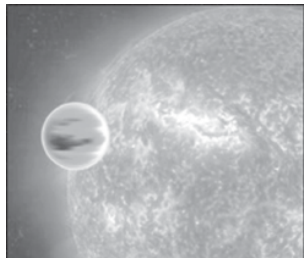
LISBON, 11 July — Portugal has become the world's seventh oldest nation, due to a falling birth rate and a rising proportion of senior citizens, the country's National Statistical Agency said on Wednesday. On average, a Portuguese woman has 1.36 children during her fertile years, down from the previous 1.41. In 2006, Portugal's birth rate was 105,351, down 4,100 from 2005,

the agency said in its latest report. The birth rate has been falling for 20 years. If the trend continues as it is, the nation will lose a quarter of its population by 2050, and will have a net population of 7.5 million people, according to the report. The birth rate drop from 1987 to 2006 is largely attributed to women choosing to have children at older ages. Twenty years ago the

highest number of pregnancies was registered for women between 20 and 29 years old. From 2005 to 2006, pregnancies were mostly linked to women between 30 and 34. Experts said that the low birth rate is resulted from women's job insecurity, warning Portugal's aging population in the long run will cause problems for the nation's pension system. Internet

Astronomers find water on extra-solar planet

WASHINGTON, 11 July — An international team of astronomers report the first conclusive discovery of the presence of water vapour in the atmosphere of a planet beyond our Solar System.



vapour does not necessarily make it a good candidate in the search for planets that harbour life. "This is a far from habitable world," she adds. Instead of a rocky world like Earth, HD 189733b is large, about 1.15 times the mass of Jupiter. Located just 4.5 million kilometres from its star, it orbits it in 2.2 days. In comparison, Earth is 150 million kilometres from the Sun; even Mercury, the innermost planet, is 70 million kilometers away. Astronomers classify such worlds as "hot jupiters." —Internet

The findings appear in the 12 July issue of journal Nature. Giovanna Tinetti, European Space Agency fellow and colleagues from around the world, used data from NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope. They targeted planet HD 189733b, 63 light-years away, in the constellation Vulpecula. The planet was discovered in 2005 as it dimmed the light of its parent star by some three percent when transiting in front of it.

Instead, as the planet's tenuous outer atmosphere slipped across the face of the star, the starlight absorbed showed a different, distinctive pattern. The atmosphere absorbed less infrared radiation at 3.6 micrometres than at the other two wavelengths. "Water is the only molecule that can explain that behaviour," says Tinetti. The presence of water

Using Spitzer, Tinetti and the team observed the star, which is slightly fainter than the Sun. They watched its starlight dim at two infrared bands (3.6 and 5.8 micrometres). Had the planet been a rocky body devoid of atmosphere, both these bands and a third one (8 micrometres), recently measured by a team at Harvard, would have shown the same behaviour.

Oscar winner Spacey to reprise role in "Superman"

BEIJING, 12 July — Two-time Oscar winner Kevin Spacey has agreed to reprise his role as arch-villain Lex Luthor in "Superman: The Man of Steel," media reported Wednesday. Spacey played Luthor in last year's "Superman Returns," which saw the iconic American superhero return to the big-screen after a 19 years of absence. "Superman: Man of Steel," Bryan Singer's



Kevin sequel to last summer's blockbuster "Superman Returns," is due for release in 2009. Spacey, 48, won

MOSCOW, 11 July — Thieves stole a collection of rare paintings worth millions of dollars that an elderly Russian had been storing unguarded in his empty apartment, Russian newspapers reported on Tuesday. The 13 paintings stolen from retired judge Kamo Manukyan included works by Frenchman Georges-Pierre Seurat, the founder of neo-impressionism, Russian seascape painter Ivan Aivazovsky, and Russian expressionist Alexej Jawlenski. "This is a real nightmare. This is a real fortune stolen, you just don't realize how much all this may cost. Millions," Sofya Chern-

yak, secretary of the Moscow Fine Arts Collectors' Club, told the Izvestia daily. "All of these painters are widely known ... A Seurat painting alone costs more than 500,000 US dollars." Manukyan returned home from a trip abroad to find the paintings gone,

the newspaper said. An art collector and dealer, Manukyan supplies artworks to clients including Russian billionaire Mikhail Fridman, said Izvestia. Police said they could not understand why the art collector did not have an alarm in his Moscow apartment. MNA/Reuters



Andrew Scott of the United States, waits in his Star class boat for better wind conditions to race on 9 July, 2007, during the 2007 Sailing World Championships in Cascais, outside Lisbon, Portugal. Strong winds delayed all sailing races throughout the day. — INTERNET

# SPORTS

## Moscow to bid for first Youth Olympics in 2010

Moscow, 12 July — Moscow will bid to host the first Youth Summer Olympics in 2010, a senior Russian sports official said on Wednesday.

Alexander Polinsky, general director of Moscow's bidding committee for the 2012 Olympics, said the Russian capital was the ideal choice to stage the youth version of the world's greatest sporting spectacle for athletes aged 14-18.

Moscow officials scheduled a news conference on Thursday at City Hall where they planned to make the announcement.

Moscow, which hosted the boycott-affected 1980 Summer Olympics, also staged the first Youth Games under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 1998.

Last week at its session in Guatemala, the IOC approved a plan to stage summer and winter Youth Games to try to overturn the dwindling interest of teenagers in the Olympic movement. — MNA/Reuters

## Beijing airport gears up for Games "challenge"

BEIJING, 12 July — Beijing's main airport will likely handle more flights than London Heathrow or Paris Charles de Gaulle during the 2008 Olympics and be "challenged" by the increased passenger numbers, a state newspaper said on Thursday.

"An average of 1,150 flights take off and land at the airport every day now. But during the Games, the number will be between 1,700 and 2,000," the *China Daily* quoted Zhang Yuehua, in charge of air traffic plans for the Games, as saying.

Even with the opening of a third runway next March, that number could prove hard to handle, he said.

"When the daily movement reaches 1,700 or the capital airport encounters thunderstorms that last less than an hour, we will launch the blue scheme, under which additional air routes will be opened," Zhang said.

When that number hits 1,900, or flights need to be diverted to Beijing from another Olympic host city — like Qingdao where the sailing will take place — non-Olympic flights will be suspended and the military asked to open up its airspace, he said. — MNA/Reuters

## Top seeds washed out in rainy Gstaad

GSTAAD (Switzerland), 12 July — Russian top seeds Nikolay Davydenko and Mikhail Youzhny both suffered first-round exits on Wednesday as persistent rain continued to dog the Swiss Open.

Davydenko, the world number five, bowed out in just 12 minutes after resuming his rain-interrupted match against 20-year-old Frenchman Gael Monfils with the pair tied at 5-5 in the deciding set.

The Russian first seed had beaten Monfils at Wimbledon last Tuesday

in a third-round match also held over by rain, but was unable to repeat the feat in Gstaad and was beaten 3-6, 6-4, 7-5.

Resuming play with two unforced errors, Davydenko was forced to defend two break points before conceding a crucial break with an over-hit shot from the baseline.

Monfils then suffered a few wobbles of his own, offering Davydenko three chances to break back.

An ace and two service winners saw the Frenchman dig his way out of trouble with two further aces finally com-



Saudi Arabia's Malek Alhawsawi (back) fights for the ball with South Korea's Kim Sang Sik during their 2007 AFC Asian Cup Group D soccer match in Jakarta on 11 July, 2007. —INTERNET

## LA Galaxy ready for Beckham factor

LOS ANGELES, 12 July — The waiting is almost over for the Los Angeles Galaxy with their biggest signing, England midfielder David Beckham, scheduled to arrive in the world's entertainment capital on Thursday afternoon.

The hype and speculation have escalated ever since the January announcement that Beckham would join the Galaxy from Spanish giants Real Madrid on a deal that will earn him a reported 250 million US dollars over five years.

Beckham is one of the world's most marketable sports figures and his hotly anticipated move to Major League Soccer (MLS) has already given the embryonic American game much-needed credibility and plenty of buzz.

Although the former England captain himself has never claimed he can

become the saviour of US soccer, he is determined to make a difference.

"I am not saying my coming to the States is going to make soccer the biggest sport in America because that is going to be very difficult to achieve," Beckham said earlier this year.

"But I wouldn't be doing this if I didn't believe I could make a difference and take soccer to a different level. This is something that I believe in."

Beckham, whose basic annual salary with the Galaxy is 5.5 million US dollars, has a vested in-

## South Korea, Saudi Arabia draw after power failure

JAKARTA, 12 July — South Korea and Saudi Arabia battled out a 1-1 draw in their opening Asian Cup Group D match after the game was halted for 20 minutes due to a power failure on Wednesday.

Following a cagey first half, Korea took the lead though Choi Sung-kuk in the 66th minute, the diminutive winger some-

how rising high enough to nod home Oh Beom-sok's cross.

Saudi Arabia levelled with a controversial penalty 10 minutes later when Malek Mazz went down in the box. Yasser Al Qahtani stepped up to score from the spot.

The game was suspended with five minutes remaining after the lights went out at Gekora Bung Karno Stadium, leaving the players to wander aimlessly around the pitch for 20 minutes.

MNA/Reuters



Czech Republic's Jakub Mares (10) scores against Japan on a penalty kick during the second half of their Round of 16 match at the FIFA Under-20 World Cup soccer tournament in Victoria, British Columbia on 11 July, 2007. —INTERNET

## Iran battle back to beat Uzbekistan

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 July — Substitute Javad Kazemian struck in the 77th minute to give Iran a come-from-behind 2-1 victory over Uzbekistan in their Asian Cup Group C match on Wednesday.

The 26-year-old rescued a largely disappointing Iran side, who struggled to find their rhythm against the combative Central Asians.

Uzbekistan, with main striker Maksim Shatskikh suspended, took the lead on 15 minutes through an own goal by Iran defender Rahman Rezaei.

Iran levelled in the 55th minute when Seyed Jalal Hosseini scored from a corner before Kazemian emerged as the hero. Iran coach Amir Ghalenoei said his team's superior fitness was the

key. The victory put Iran in second place in Group C behind China, who beat hosts Malaysia 5-1 on Tuesday. The top two teams advance to the quarterfinals.

With both teams playing cautiously, Uzbekistan took an unlikely lead. Captain Server Djeparov sent a high ball forward trying to find striker Ulugbek Bakaev. Rezaei, under pressure from Bakaev, tried to head back to goalkeeper Hassan Rodbarian but only succeed in finding the back of his own net.

Iran came out more determined in the second half and equalized after captain Mehdi Mahdavia made his first foray upfield.

The skipper sent in a testing corner from the left and defender Hosseini rose high to head past Uzbek goalkeeper Pavel Bugalo.

MNA/Reuters



Uruguay's midfielder Luis Suarez (foot at left) kicks a goal past US goalkeeper Brian Perk during their Round of 16 match at the FIFA Under-20 World Cup soccer tournament in Toronto on 11 July, 2007. —INTERNET

# US accused of insulting Serbia's intelligence

**BELGRADE, 12 July** — Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica on Wednesday accused the United States of insulting his country's intelligence by pledging friendship while backing independence for breakaway Kosovo province.

He vowed that no amount of declarations by Washington would make Kosovo independent and again warned that future relations would suffer if the United States and its European Union allies back independence for Kosovo's two million ethnic Albanians.

Kostunica has made Kosovo the top policy issue for Serbia's two-month-old

government, although polls show most Serbs are far more concerned about jobs, wages and prosperity.

He has turned to Russia for help in blocking Kosovo's independence, and his rhetoric has become anti-Western.

"Kosovo will not be independent and that fact cannot be changed by American officials with

their daily statements advocating independence for the province," he said in a statement given to the government-backed news agency, *Tanjug*.

Kostunica was responding to comments by US envoy Daniel Fried, who on Tuesday reaffirmed American friendship for Serbia while repeating that Kosovo would inevitably be independent.

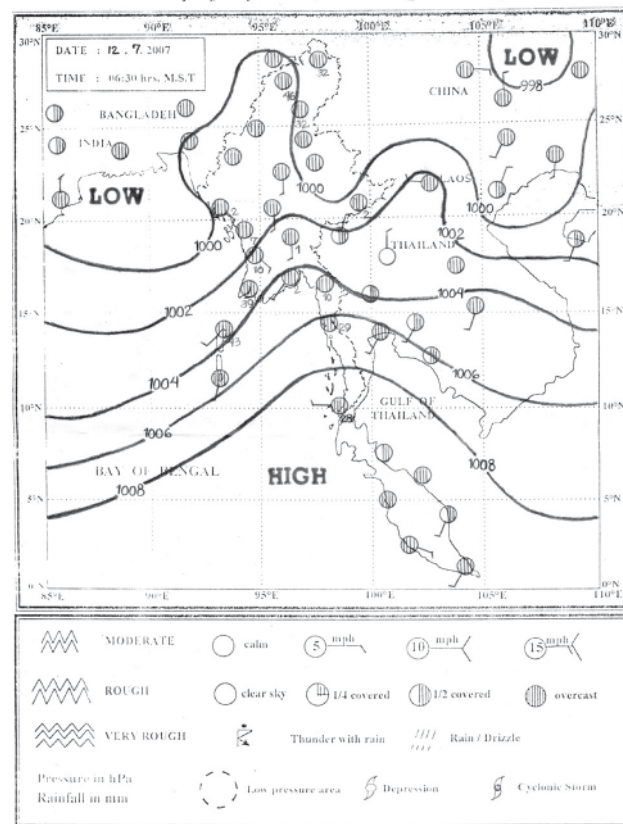
"It is particularly unacceptable to explain this attempted seizure of Kosovo as a form of honest friendship towards Serbia," the Serbian Premier said.

"Such an explanation is an insult to common sense."

Serbian Foreign Minister Vuk Jeremic on Tuesday called independence for Kosovo "an indecent proposal".

Serb forces killed between 7,500 and 12,000 Kosovo Albanians in the 1998-99 counter-insurgency war and drove 800,000 out of the country before NATO intervened with a bombing campaign. That forced the Serbs out after 11 weeks and ushered in United Nations rule eight years ago. — *MNA/Reuters*

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



## WEATHER

Thursday, 12 July, 2007

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, lower Sagaing Division, rain have been isolated in Shan State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Gwa (3.03) inches, Myeik (2.60) inches, Dawei (2.24) inches, Pathein (2.17) inches and Hkamti (1.80) inches.

Maximum temperature on 11-7-2007 was 88°F. Minimum temperature on 12-7-2007 was 75°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 12-7-2007 was 82%. Total sunshine hours on 11-7-2007 was (7.1) hours approx.

Rainfall on 12-7-2007 was (0.27) inch at Mingaladon, (0.08) inch at Kaba-Aye, (0.23) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (70.35) inches at Mingaladon, (74.76) inches at Kaba-Aye and (72.12) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southwest at (19:20) hours MST on 11-7-2007.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 13-7-2007:** Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, Mandalay, Magway and lower Sagaing Divisions, fairly widespread in Chin State, Bago and upper Sagaing Divisions 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 Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Strong Monsoon.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 13-7-2007:** Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 13-7-2007:** One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 13-7-2007:** Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).



**Project leader German botanist Dominique Görlütz on the Abora III, a boat made of reeds and wood, waves during launch in New York harbour for a trans-Atlantic crossing. Görlütz is trying to show pre-historic Atlantic crossings were possible. An 11-strong crew of mostly German explorers set out from New York on Wednesday on a reed boat bound for southern Spain, in a historic bid to prove that Stone Age man made similar trans-Atlantic voyages.**

INTERNET

## Suspected insurgents detained in S Thailand

**BANGKOK, 12 July** — Thai Army soldiers and officials raided a village in Thailand's southernmost province of Narathiwat on Wednesday and detained a dozen suspected insurgents, local media reported.

About 200 military, police and Interior Ministry officers raided the Bluglahulume Village in the morning and the raid lasted about five hours.

A total of 12 suspects were detained, local news network *The Nation* said. The officials also sought a

0.38 revolver, a shotgun, an air gun and some fertilizers during the raid.

— *MNA/Xinhua*



Friday, 13 July  
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music:  
-Is it love you're after (Rose Royce)
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music:  
-Forget me not (Patrice Rushes)
- 8:50 am National news / Slogan
- 9:00 am Music:  
-We are family (Sister Sledge)
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music:  
-I'm everywoman (Chaka Khan)
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40pm Lunch time music
- 9:00pm WOM
- 9:15pm Article
- 9:25pm Music at your request
- 9:45 pm News /Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Friday, 13 July  
View on today

- 7:00 am
  - 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 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. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:00 am
  - 6. The mirror images of the musical oldies
- 8:00 am
  - 7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:20 am
  - 8. ဟင်းရွက်ရေလှောင်တံ
- 8:30 am
  - 9. International news
- 8:45 am
  - 10. English for Everyday Use
- 4:00 pm
  - 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
  - 2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
  - 3. Practice in Reading
- 4:45 pm
  - 4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရက္ခဗေဒ)
- 5:00 pm
  - 5. Song of national races
- 5:20 pm
  - 6. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစကား
- 5:30 pm
  - 7. Song of yesteryears
- 5:40 pm
  - 8. "လက်တွေ့ပြချင်လို့" (မြိုးရွေးစိုး၊ မြတ်ကောသီအောင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုး)
- 5:50 pm
  - 9. "တက္ကသိုလ်လဲ့လဲ့၏ တေးများ"
- 6:00 pm
  - 10. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
  - 11. Weather report
- 6:45 pm
  - 12. သုတစုံလင် ရွှေညောင်ရှင်
- 7:10 pm
  - 13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဒုတိယအရွယ်၏ ချစ်မေတ္တာ" (အပိုင်း-၃)
- 8:00 pm
  - 14. News
- 15. International news
- 16. Weather report
- 17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကံကြမ္မာနတ်သမီး" (အပိုင်း-၂၀)
- 18. The next day's programme

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# Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects progress in growing physic nut plants at battalions in Bago Township



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence and party view thriving physic nut plantation at local battalion in Thayagon Village-tract in Bago Township. — MNA

YANGON, 12 July — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the physic nut growing ceremonies of battalions in Bago Station in Bago Township this morning. Accompanied by

Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint of No 77 LID and senior military officers, Lt-Gen Myint Swe attended the ceremony to plant physic nut saplings at the local battalion in Thayagon Village of Indagaw Village-tract in Bago Township.

At the briefing hall, Lt-Gen Myint Swe heard reports on cultivation of 381 acres of physic nut at local battalions against the target of 600 acres presented by Bago Station Commander Major Kyaw Kyaw Win.

Deputy Bago Division

Manager U Tin Maung Win of Myanmar Agriculture Service presented a report on cultivation of physic nut in the division.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Myint Swe stressed the need to exceed the target of physic nut plants and nurture the farm.

He presented physic nut saplings to servicemen and family members. No 77 LID Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint and officials also gave physic nut saplings to the people.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe

planted a physic nut sapling in commemoration of the ceremony.

Brig-Gen Win Myint and officials also grew the saplings.

Next, they viewed the participation of servicemen and family members in cultivation of physic nut plants.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party inspected 104 acres of thriving physic nut plantations at the local battalion in Thayagon Village-tract in Bago Township and left necessary instructions.

MNA

## 4,032 jade lots sold in Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales

YANGON, 12 July — So far, 4,032 jade lots have been sold through tender and competitive bidding systems in Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales for 2007 being held at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township.

Yesterday, a total of 980 jade lots were bought through tender system by local and foreign gem merchants. Gem merchants bought 31 jade lots through competitive bidding system today.

Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen

Aung Thein Lin, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials visited the special sales this morning and greeted the gem merchants.

A total of 4,068 gem merchants from home and abroad are attending the special sales that run till 16 July.—MNA



Gem merchants evaluate the value of jade lots at Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales. — MNA

## Weather Forecast for 13-7-2007

### Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas

Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

### Yangon and neighbouring areas

One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

### Mandalay and neighbouring areas

Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).