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

Excerpts from speech delivered by Senior General Than Shwe
- The government has to make efforts to strengthen political, economic and defence sectors of the State, while striving for ensuring community peace and tranquillity, and national reconsolidation.
- It also has to produce human resources and raising the education standard of the entire nation for the emergence of a modern developed nation.
- MWVO members who are well-versed in military affairs and equipped with Union Spirit are to take charge of duties whatever role they may be under the leadership of the Tatmadaw.
- MWVO members’ wives and children are to be auxiliary WVO members as they possess military vigour and are family members of Tatmadaw men.
- Children of WVO members are admitted to be reserve members although their parents are no more.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Follow the leadership of the Tatmadaw and strive for all-round development

The third-day session of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference 2005 was held at the Myanmar Convention Centre in Yangon on 29 June and delegates to the Conference held discussions and reports on the national political sector, the national defence and security sector, the economic sector, the social and welfare sector and the public welfare sector. The MWVO Central Organizing Committee made clarifications on the discussions and reports.

In their report on the national political sector, the delegates requested the government to declare FTUB and NCGUB and related groups unlawful associations as the former headed by Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai was trying to undermine the stability of the State and cause disintegration of the Union and the latter headed by fugitive Sein Win were detering the progress of development of the entire national people of Myanmar.

In the report on the national defence and security, it was mentioned that some Western powers and non-governmental organizations had been trying to tarnish the political image of the government and harm the dignity of the people and apply constant pressure by making unfounded accusations. Although the government replied to the accusations and explained the true situations in accordance with the rules and regulations of international organizations, they turned a blind eye to the objective situations and continued to put pressure on our nation. The MWVO condemned those big nations and non-governmental organizations trying to tarnish the political image of the government by using UN and ILO as political forums.

Though Myanmar always cooperated with ILO with genuine goodwill, the 93rd ILO conference passed an unfair resolution to impose sanctions on Myanmar. ILO is always applying political pressure where only labour affairs are concerned. These are the insults not only to Myanmar but also to the international community that desire fair and just treatment. It is no wonder that the delegates to the Conference called for resignation from ILO.

Regarding Myanmar Women’s Day, which falls on 3 July, the people of Myanmar refuse to accept the idea to designate Myanmar Women’s Day in honour of an individual and supports the decision of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation to designate July 3 a Myanmar Women’s Day.

We firmly support the proposals in the discussions at the third-day session and believe that the organization will actively take part in the national political affairs and national development endeavours with other congenial organizations, following the leadership of the Tatmadaw.

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

Finance and Revenue Minister arrives back

YANGON, 30 June—Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun arrived back here by air yesterday afternoon after attending the 6th Asia-Europe Financial Ministerial Meeting held in Tianjin, the People’s Republic of China on 25 and 26 June.

They were welcomed at the airport by Minister at the Prime Minister’s Office U Than Shwe, Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, Deputy Governor of Myanmar Central Bank U Than Nyein and departmental heads and officials. Governor of Myanmar Central Bank U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Director of MCB U Nay Aye and Assistant Director of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue U Min Han Soe also arrived back on the same flight. — MNA

Law Officer Refresher Course concludes

YANGON, 30 June—The concluding of the Law Officer Refresher Course No 22 was held at Attorney-General’s office this morning.

Attorney-General U Aye Maung gave a speech and presented first, second and third prizes to outstanding trainees. Also present on the occasion were Deputy Attorneys Generals Dr Tun Shin and U Myint Naung, officials and instructors. — MNA

Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein cordially converses with local and foreign gem merchants at Jade and Gems Special Sales 2005. (News reported)— MNA
S’pore launches ComCare Fund to help lowest income group

**Singapore, 29 June** — Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong launched a ComCare Fund here on Tuesday to help the lowest income group in the country bounce back from their difficulties.

Targeting a small but growing minority of Singaporeans who face hardship in the process of economic restructuring, the fund is expected to serve as a springboard for them to become self-reliant.

“We must prevent an underclass from forming and growing, as that would undermine and fracture our social cohesion. This is a multi-faceted problem with no quick and easy solutions,” Lee stressed.

Under the ComCare Fund, funds will be allocated to initiate new programmes such as the ComCare Enterprise Fund (CEF) and the Citizens Consultative Committee ComCare Funds, as well as to enhance existing ones like the Kindergarten Financial Assistance Scheme.

With an injection of three million Singapore dollars (about 1.8 million US dollars) per year, the CEF is set up to encourage viable social enterprises to provide the lower income with jobs. Emphasizing the important role to be played by the community in reaching out to the needy, the ComCare also has an annual budget of 10 million Singapore dollars (about six million US dollars) to support new programmes run by grass-roots and community organizations.

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**Mid-East pessimism over Iraq chaos**

**London, 29 June** — On the first anniversary of the return of sovereignty to Iraq after the US-led invasion, papers across the Middle East reveal a resoundingly negative view of US policy in the country.

Several commentators believe that the insurgency has put the US military in Iraq in “deep trouble”. But one Iraqi paper is optimistic that a transfer of sovereignty to the withdrawal of foreign forces has begun in Iraq. How and growing, as that would undermine and growing, as that would undermine and fragment the national unity organizations.

The extent of the destruction which the occupation forces have inflicted on Iraq confirms one plain reality: the failure of US plans in Iraq and the collapse of US plans to reconstruct and bring about freedom there.

**Jordan’s Al-Dastur**

The occupation forces have suffered heavy losses to the guerrillas and the need for a “middle ground” solution has become inevitable so that the US forces can at least exit Iraq with dignity.

**UAE’s Akhbar Al-Arab**

George W Bush’s early morning speech [to US troops] will make no difference to the burden on his shoulders: he and his country are in deep trouble. The nightmare forecast by his defence secretary—that the US could be stuck in Iraq “for five, six, eight, 10” and even more years — is materialising before our very eyes.

Israel’s Yedioth Aharonot

The Iraqi people’s resistance has become a part of what is taking place in Iraq. It has become impossible to disregard it in finding a solution to the Iraqi problem.

Libya’s Al-Shams

Americans describe Bush’s policy in Iraq as the policy of a lame duck... This political stumbling started with the beginning of Bush’s presidency, from the time he appointed Paul Bremer as the country’s chief administrator. It was Bremer who abolished the Iraqi army and police forces so that chaos prevailed.

Egypt’s Al-Akhbar

Iraqi people are at another historic juncture of writing a permanent constitution for their country. Moving ahead with the political process can put an end to the foreign military presence by decision of the Iraqi government and people, rather than extremist and terrorist groups.

Iraq’s Al Bayan

A US convoy of armoured vehicles patrols the heavily fortified Green Zone in central Baghdad on 28 June, 2005. — Internet

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**Cambodian legislature approves Mekong Sub-region electricity pact**

**Phnom Penh, 29 June** — Cambodia’s National Assembly has approved an intergovernmental agreement on electricity commerce for the Mekong Sub-region countries, local media reported on Tuesday.

After less than two hours of debate, the electricity agreement was passed on Monday with 87 of 88 lawmakers’ votes. The pact should boost Cambodia’s energy purchasing power in the coming years, The Cambodian Daily said.

The energy agreement has been waiting for approval from the National Assembly since 2002, according to Suy Sem, Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy.

Prime Minister Hun Sen had pushed for the pact to be passed before he leaves for China on 3 July to sign an agreement with regional leaders on trading electricity across national borders, the report said.

The agreement is designed to make buying and selling electricity easier for Cambodia, which will be important for the country in the future, when it begins producing enough energy to export, Suy Sem was quoted by French Cambodia Soir as saying.

Several bilateral agreements with Thailand and Vietnam in the past have allowed Cambodia to buy electricity at the average cost of about 0.07 US dollar per megawatt, Cambodian daily newspaper Jornal da Camboja quoted.

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**China, ASEAN set to lower tariffs**

**Beijing, 29 June** — China and the Association of South-East Asian Nations are scheduled to lower tariffs on traded industrial goods from 20 July, the Chinese Ministry of Commerce said here.

The tariff reduction is the second phase in a strategy to forge a free trade area (FTA) between China and ASEAN.

In line with a bilateral agreement on commodity trade reached in November last year, tariffs have gradually been reduced for more than 7,000 industrial commodities excluding agricultural products, which are not subject to a tariff.

“The tariff reduction is to be carried out step by step,” the state-run China Daily quoted Fan Ying, a scholar at the Foreign Affairs College as saying.

She explained negotiations are expected to be more complicated than those covering agricultural produce, a sector that has already been opened.

Some manufacturing enterprises based in ASEAN countries may be afraid that low-priced Chinese products will undermine their businesses.

“The two sides might encounter real rocks concerning services and investment,” Fan said. “Most of these 11 countries are so weak in this area that few of them dare to open their domestic markets to foreign rivals,” she said.

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Out of Myanmar saying referring to emotion, there are two sayings “Stress and strain makes one look older”, and “Being young at heart one looks younger”. All of one’s movements are under the control of one’s emotional conditions. Even a young person who often suffers stress looks older than he really is, and an old person who often enjoys and thinks emotional pleasure and joy looks younger than he really is.

In Myanmar’s history was King Alaung Si Thu, who was still tall and hearty at 80. The episode “Oo-paungya-ne Myin-gya-shin” (Man with striped head-dress on horseback) of the chronicle “Maha Yazawingyi” by U Kalar featured that King Alaung Si Thu became old, but was still active, alert and light and was fully imbued with military vigour. In addition, he was always like a young man whenever he he shoulered national defence duties in the interests of motherland.

In this period in Myanmar, there are many persons who are still tall and hearty like King Alaung Si Thu. They always are ready to show their arts of warfare to protect and safeguard motherland if necessary like the man with striped head-dress on horseback. They are war veterans who have retired with good reputation from the Tatmadaw. When the war veterans were organized into one, there emerged the Myanmar War Veterans Organization.

The MWVO came into being in 1948 when the nation regained independence, and since then it has been discharging its duties by doing their bit for enabling the nation to march smoothly on the correct national political path. It was reconstituted on 21 October 1998 in the time of the State Peace and Development Council with the aims — for WVOs at all levels to stand firmly with prestige and dignity, to organize all organizations into one, to participate in national political movements with might and main, and to become a strong reserve force of the Tatmadaw.

The MWVO is made up of retired service persons who have been endowed with Union Spirit, sacrificing spirit, and esprit de corps since they were soldiers. Of the five major tasks of the MWVO, the national political task plays a vital role.

The war veterans already have the ability to defend the nation and organize the people and have the good management skills. They have also been endowed with Union Spirit, sacrificing spirit, and esprit de corps since they were soldiers. Of the five major tasks of the MWVO, the national political task plays a vital role.

As it has been implementing the border areas development project, the 24-development-zone project, and the five rural tasks, the whole Union is achieving harmonious development.

We all have witnessed the emergence of major irrigation facilities, bridges across rivers and creeks, large-scale hydel power plants, water pumping stations, airports, institutions of higher learning, new railroads and motor roads and industrial zones.

Thanks to the high efficiency of the State leaders led by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, the correct national policy, topographical conditions and favourable climate of the nation, rich natural resources, abundant food supplies, the people’s education qualifications, good socio-economic system, health, fitness and morale of the people, smooth transport, diplomatic skills, and the strength of the national defence force and its reserve force, the nation is achieving success after success in her development drive.

In reality, the nation is achieving the unprecedented development in the political, economic, and social sectors. Thus, a peaceful, modern, and developed discipline-flourishing democratic state is within our reach now.

The MWVO members have been taking part in the task of developing the nation and ensuring peace and stability in it to the best of their ability. Moreover, they will always be young, energetic and active in carrying out the task of building a discipline-flourishing democratic state.

(Translation: MS+TMT)
Of the many national traitors the worst...

From page 16

WO Yi Yi Soe and WO Mi Mi Maung Htwe of Yangon Division WVO acted as masters of ceremonies. The master of ceremonies announced the start of the conference with the permission of the Patron of MWVO (Central).

First, Patron of MWVO (Central) Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance. (The guidance of Senior General Than Shwe was reported separately.)

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented cash assistance to five 75-year-old and above veterans, five disabled veterans, five students attending academies of Defence Services, and five outstanding students in the 2004 matriculation examination. The first session of the fourth-day conference went into recess.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe and members of the Panel of Patrons posed for documentary photos with COC members and State/Division delegates.

The Senior General and members of the Panel of Patrons cordially greeted the delegates.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presided over the second-session of the Conference together with COC members Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint.

Vice-Chairmen Vice-Admiral Kyi Min (Retd) and Maj-Gen Saw Tun presented K100,000 each to five staff of MWVO Headquarters; K10,000 each to over-75, 2,245 veterans; K50,000 each to 128 disabled veterans, K30,000 each to 162 students, offspring of veterans, undergoing training at academies of Defence Services, and K5,000 each to 77 students who passed the matriculation exam with flying colours through representatives of States and Divisions.

The Secretary-1 sought approval of the delegates for the resolutions to be adopted at MWVO Conference 2005. The MC announced that the Conference passed two resolutions, approved one matter and put five matters on record.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 delivered the concluding remarks. He said:

Now the Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference 2005 has successfully concluded. The conference began on 26 June 2005. During the conference, the representatives actively and eagerly discussed the presenting constructive suggestions and proposals at the conference.

Patrons of the MWVO Senior General Than Shwe and leaders of the Tatmadaw attended the conference this morning. It is an honour for the MWVO as the Senior General gave guidance at the conference. The MWVO will have to accept the guidance as its work guideline and the different levels of the MWVO from the central (See page 6)
Of the many national traitors...

(from page 5)

to the most basic level should precisely follow and implement the guidance.

The MWVO is a social organization giving priority to the national cause. The national politics — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity; and perpetuation of sovereignty — or in other words Our Three Main National Causes have been the national policy, the veterans have upheld since they were soldiers. History has proved that national policy is always correct for the nation, and it is the bounden duty for all the people to realize it.

The majority of the war veterans have passed through the parliamentary era, after regaining of the independence, and the Burma Socialist Programme Party era. Only about three months after the regaining of independence, there broke out armed insurgency in the nation due to disagreements. The national unity eroded badly and the nation had to exist without peace and stability. Multi-colour insurgency broke out and the people had to live in constant fear. The administrative power of the then government was effective only in Yangon area that the world even ridiculed Myanmar and called her 'Yangon government'. With valour and sacrificing spirit, the Tatmadaw gathered all available forces to wipe out the insurgency active almost the whole country.

The Tatmadaw had to exist without State stability. The insurrection based on single party system was ratified. But the agro-based economy of the system failed to fulfill the needs of the growing population. During the time, some neighboring nations were able to set up the industrial economic system and gained rapid progress. Myanmar lagged behind in every aspect and in the end an unrest occurred in the nation. Hence, the Tatmadaw had to take over the State duties in 1988. It was not its wish to grab power, but just to discharge the historic duty.

The Tatmadaw understands that it has the duty to ensure peace and stability, develop the national development, and gently transfer power back into the hands of the people. To discharge these duties well, it made an open declaration to build a new nation according to the 12 objectives, while placing in the fore Our Three Main National Causes. It is a common knowledge that the national development drive cannot be launched without State stability, community peace and tranquility and prevalence of law and order. Thus the Tatmadaw government gave priority to the fact. A total of 17 armed groups have returned to the legal fold and are joining hands with the government for development of the their regions located in the border areas. The result is that a number of major towns and a large array of infrastructures in various sectors have emerged in the border areas. The national economy has been developing significantly thanks to the economic plans of the government. The nation has witnessed the increase in the per capita income, decrease in the inflation, rise in the foreign trade value, and surplus income from exports. The government is in the process of implementing the border areas development project, the 24-development zone project and five rural development tasks for harmonious development of the whole nation. In addition, it has laid down and is implementing the seven-point future policy programme of the State or the Road Map for transition to democracy according to the wish of the people.

The National Convention, the first step of the Road Map, is being held. The people of all works of life including the representatives of... (See page 7)

In 1974, the constitution based on single party system was ratified. But the agro-based economy of the system failed to fulfill the needs of the growing population. During the time, some neighboring nations were able to set up the industrial economic system and gained rapid progress. Myanmar lagged behind in every aspect and in the end an unrest occurred in the nation. Hence, the Tatmadaw had to take over the State duties in 1988. It was not its wish to grab power, but just to discharge the historic duty.
Of the many national traitors...  

(from page 6)  

townships, representatives of political parties, representatives-elect, the delegates of peasants, workers, intellectuals and intelligentsia, and State service personnel and the representatives of peace groups have been holding discussions to lay down basic principles and detailed basic principles to write a constitution. At present, the National Convention has already laid down detailed basic principles for the distribution of the legislative power. The Convention is now in the process of holding discussions to lay down basic principles for the judicial and executive powers. The government will successfully implement the Road Map, it has already presented to the world and the nation, step by step till reaching the goal.

The government has been trying to overcome all the disturbances and obstacles with various means. Of the many national traitors — traitors relying on aliens, traitors in the nation, the ones who are longing for the neo-colonialists, and the power craze demanding the transfer of power — the worst are the ex-military personnel who although recited the Four Oaths have no loyalty to the nation and the Tatmadaw at all. If there are many disturbances and hindrances, the democracy transition will face a delay. If all join hands with sincere goodwill for the nation and the people, the democracy transition will successfully and swiftly reach its goal.

The Tatmadaw government will strive with zeal and perseverance till reaching the goal. It will overcome all the internal and external disturbances and destructive acts with the combined strength of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw. MWVO is a body formed with war veterans who are free from wrongdoing and misdeeds. As they have already discharged duties with endurance and valour, they dare to make sacrifices for the country at present also. The MWVO will have to join hands with other reserve forces of the nation — USDA, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, the Red Cross and the Fire Brigades — that are also its congenial bodies in the nation-building tasks.

The Myanmar War Veterans Organization will have to accept the guidance of the MWVO Patron Senior General Than Shwe. All the WVOs at different levels will have to strictly follow the guidance. The MWVO members should try to implement their major tasks and achieve success. And with Union Spirit, they should ward off and crush the destructionists together with the government, the people and the Tatmadaw.

The conference ended with chanting of slogans. MNA

Myanmar beat Canada 5-1 in friendly match

YANGON, 30 June — Myanmar beat Canada 5-1 in the women’s soccer match. The second friendly match is to be played on 2 July afternoon.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint watches Myanmar-Canada women’s friendly football match. MNA
Tatmadaw will... systematically...
Tatmadaw will systematically...

(from page 8) Tatmadaw has been constantly looking after the members. So, all the retired members are to uphold the leadership of the Tatmadaw with loyalty for ever.

As is known to the members that the Tatmadaw has to unavoidably take State’s duties in addition to national defence duties. The task for building a discipline-flourishing democratic nation is very huge and it is to be implemented step by step.

The government has to make efforts to strengthen political, economic and defence sectors of the State, while striving for ensuring community peace and tranquillity, and national reconsolidation. It also has to produce human resources and raising the education standard of the entire nation for the emergence of a modern and developed nation. Simultaneously, it is taking measures for raising per capita income, living standard, and health and fitness standard of the entire national people.

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MWVO Conference passes two resolutions, approves one matter and places five matters on record

YANGON, 30 June — Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference 2005 held at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindamma Road here from 26 to 30 June, the findings of the group discussions on the social and welfare sector and the community welfare sector on 29 June, and the activities of social organizations and the State defence and security duties under the leadership of the Tatmadawmen. Now, children of WVO members are admitted to be reserve members although their parents are no more. The MWVO is looking after the members’ family members, and in return, they become reserve members of the Organization.

As regards the public welfare sector, it has shown its exemplary performances in implementing the five rural development tasks. All in all, the progress of the Organization is encouraging.

The Organization has possessed organizational capability, correct conviction and conceptions, and solidarity. In conclusion, MWVO members are urged to maintain already achieved development momentum and to ensure quantitative and qualitative progress; to stand firmly with correct attitude in the interests of the nation and the people; to shoulder tasks with a sense of duty in diverse sectors; and to stand ready for national defence duties, the bounden duty of all citizens. — MNA

Central Organizing Committee Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein announces approval of resolutions to be passed by the MWVO Conference (2005). — MNA

TWO RESOLUTIONS

* To accept and regard the guidance given by Patron of MWVO (Central) Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe at the fourth-day session of the Conference on 30 June 2005 as working guidelines.

FUTURE TASKS

— To keep patriotism alive and dynamic and strengthen Union Spirit by upholding Our Three Main National Causes;

— To join hands with the people to implement the Seven-Point Road Map of the State for emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation until it meets with success;

— MWVO to participate in State defence and security duties under the leadership of the Tatmadaw;

— To give priority to welfare service of war veterans and reserve members; and

— To cooperate with congenial organizations in undertaking five rural development tasks.

— MWVO to participate in State defence and security duties under the leadership of the Tatmadaw;

— To give priority to welfare service of war veterans and reserve members; and

— To cooperate with congenial organizations in undertaking five rural development tasks.
YANGON, 30 June — Hailing Myanmar Women’s Day which falls on 3 July 2005, paper reading session to mark Myanmar Women’s Day was held at International Business Centre on Pyay Road this morning with an address by President of Myanmar Women Affairs Federation Daw Than Than Nwe.

Present on the occasion were President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Khin Win, members of Panel of Patrons of MWAF, the Vice-President of MWAF, the intellectuals and intelligentsia and others.

At the first session, Dr Ma Tin Win presided over the session and extended greetings.

The education professionals from various universities and institutes read out a wide range of papers, replied to queries raised by those present and the session went into recess.

At the second session, the school girls from Sangyoung Township No 2 BEHS entertained those present with the songs.

In second session, Saw Mon Nyn presided over the session. Lecturer Daw Than Than Yin, Additional Director Daw Thein Thein Nyunt, Additional Director Daw Dr Ma Tin Win presided over the session and extended greetings.

Lecturer Dr Chaw Chaw Sein and Lecturer Daw Mi Mi Myint Shein submitted the papers.

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After the first session, the school girls from Sangyoung Township No 2 BEHS entertained those present with the songs and the paper reading session ended.

A total of 9 papers were submitted today session. — MNA

YANGON, 30 June — Organized by Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association, the educative talks on women’s health took place at Summit Park View Hotel on Ahlon Road this morning.

Chairperson of MWEA Daw Nu Nu Yi extended greetings. Next, Chairman of Frontier International (M) Sdn Bhd Dr SJ Jong gave a talk on women’s health-hormonal imbalance and anti-ageing and Dr Khin Thiri on summary of the topic and antioxidant-in healthier ageing. Later, the officials answered the queries raised by those present. — MNA

MYANMAR WOMEN'S DAY

3rd July 2005

STRIVE TOGETHER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Secretary of Yangon East District Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Khin Moe Thu extended greetings and township WAO organizers gave a talk on Myanmar Women’s Day. Similarly, talks on MWD and presenting the membership applications took place at Myoma BEMS on the same day. Likewise, talks on MWD was held at No 1 BEHS, Insein Township, Yangon North District at 9 am on the same day. — MNA
India’s 1st commercial biodiesel plant coming up in Andhra

Hyderabad, 29 June—India’s first commercial biodiesel plant to produce fuel from seeds of plants such as Pongamia and Jatropha, is coming up in South India’s Andhra Pradesh State.

The plant is being set up in Nalgona District of Andhra Pradesh by the Southern Online Bio Technologies Ltd (SBT) that is spearheading a movement to popularise cultivation of the Pongamia and Jatropha seeds that help produce biodiesel.

“Apart from educating farmers about the economic viability of pongamia and jatropha cultivation, we are also preparing a list of farmers who are interested in cultivating these plants to offer them guidance and help,” city-based SBT managing director N Satish Kumar told PTI.

The plant work is in progress and we will start production by January next year, Satish said adding, “we can get 10,000 acres signed,” Satish added.

“Currently, the company is offering a price of five rupees per kilos. We don’t have any bar on how much quantity. We are ready to take any quantity down to 5-10 kilos,” he added.

The company has recently secured SEBI’s approval for a rights-cum-public issue of 171 million rupees, out which 36.6 million rupees will be raised through rights issue, 138.4 rupees through Public Issue and 40 million rupees reserved for FIs/NRIs.

“We are planning to open the issue in August. Post-public issue, the total investment for the plant will be 228 million rupees,” Satish said.

Kolkata, 29 June—As cybercrimes make headlines, computer forensic experts say Indian investigating agencies need to be a step ahead of the criminals in putting together sophisticated tools to discover evidence.

Billions of rupees are stolen each year by criminals with credit card crimes. Tapping the list as the digital revolution in India brings to fore new frauds, says Sameer Datt, Director of Computer Forensics and Investigations in Pune-based software firm Visionindia.

“Computer forensics is an emerging field that could help victims of computer crimes discover evidence. It has wide applications in investigation and analysis techniques to acquire potential legal evidence,” says Datt whose firm helps police forces of many Indian states in busting cybercrimes and employs software used by the FBI as well as police departments of countries like the US and Germany.

Alongside credit card crimes, the number of cases of insurance and medical fraud, money laundering, espionage and intelligence gathering were also on the rise.

“We receive loads of forged and manipulated documents from investigating agencies across the country. The volumes have been increasing every year”, he says.

Senior officer of West Bengal’s Police Academy Gourav Dutt says the police is well-equipped to handle cybercrimes as technology had made things a lot simpler for criminals to avoid the net laid down by sleuths. —MNA/PTI

Tanzania to build, renovate 944 kilometres of new roads

DAR ES SALAAM, 29 June—Tanzania is set to spend 2.4 billion shillings (2.16 million US dollars) on building and upgrading six roads in the country.

The planned road projects combine to cover 944 kilometres in all and incorporate into the country’s current infrastructure programme all are located in areas with high economic potentials.

The Tanzania National Roads Agency has signed six local firms to design the roads and prepare in seven to 12 months the tenders for construction contracts.

“Road infrastructure is essential for socio-economic development, especially for a country like Tanzania where roads carry over 80 per cent of passenger traffic and over 70 per cent of internal freight,” said Frederick Addo-Abedi, chief executive officer of the Tanzania National Roads Agency.

Tanzania has planned to pave 10,400 kilometres of the country’s trunk road network with hard surfaces of either tarmac or concrete by the year 2021.

According to projections by the Tanzanian Ministry of Works, the East African country is expected to pave some 7,700 kilometres of trunk roads with hard surfaces by the end of 2006.

Road construction in Tanzania, a tropical country just south of the equator, has been hampered by scorching sunshine, excessive rainfalls, and eternal salty moist winds from the Indian Ocean.

The local firms are therefore charged with designing roads with long service life, resistance to oil chemicals, endurance of weather, strength increase with use, and better resilience to heavy axle loads. —MNA/PTI

Developing nations need UNSC representation to achieve goals

UNITED NATIONS, 29 June—Emphasizing that the United Nations must be given a “pivotal role” in setting the global development agenda, India has said developing nations should be given a representation in the UNSC which would help them realize their political and economic agenda.

India’s Minister of State for External Affairs E Ahamed, who addressed the UN General Assembly’s special session on ‘Financing For Development’ on Monday, also asked the industrialized countries to demolish their trade barriers with developing states and increase official Development Assistance which would enable them achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

He also called for a major reform in the agriculture sector, making the farm a high priority, one year earlier than scheduled.

Germany’s consumer confidence drops

BERLIN, 29 June—Germany’s consumer confidence fell for the third consecutive month, a survey said on Tuesday.

The fall resulted from high unemployment, record high oil price, and the political uncertainty created by a planned early election, according to the Dresdner Bank’s GfK market research group.

The group forecast the index of consumer confidence to 3.5 points in July down from 4.5 points in June based on a survey of about 2,000 people in the country.

“As summer 2005 started, consumers were still unable to see any real sign of recovery in the economy so far,” the group said in its Press release.

The political development in Germany has helped to reinforce the pessimism mood among business leaders and investors.

German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder is looking to hold a federal election in mid-September, one year earlier than scheduled.


India, along with Japan, Germany and Brazil is a strong contender for a permanent seat in the Council.

Stressing that a “pivotal role” be given to the UN in setting the global development agenda including in relations to trade, external debt, money and finance and technology, Ahamed said the world body has to provide political guidance to its specialized agencies as also World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization.

Disagreeing with Secretary-General Kofi Annan’s recommendation for establishing an executive committee of Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to facilitate cooperation with multilateral institutions dealing with finance and trade, he pointed out that the United Nations has to play a “predominant role” in setting the direction and delineating and guiding the international macro-economic agenda. —MNA/PTI

Henny van Andel-Schipper is seen on her 115th birthday in Hoogeveen, the Netherlands, on 29 June, 2005. Van Andel-Schipper has been the oldest person alive in the world since 29 May, 2004. —INTERNET

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**Three tragic events were witnessed by the Deep Impact spacecraft, the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) reported on Tuesday.**

The outburst was detected as a dramatic brightening of the comet on 22 June, just days before the spacecraft was to launch a probe to bombard Temper 1, according to NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). It was the second of two such events observed in the past two weeks. A smaller outburst was seen on 14 June by Deep Impact, the Hubble Space Telescope and by ground-based observers.

"This most recent outburst was six times larger than the one observed on 14 June, but the ejected material dissipated almost entirely within about a half day," said Michael A. Hearns, principal investigator for the Deep Impact mission. He noted that data from the spectrometer aboard the spacecraft showed that during the June 22 outburst the amount of water vapor in the coma doubled, while the amount of other gases, including carbon dioxide, increased even more.

"Outbursts such as this may be a very common phenomenon on many comets, but they are rarely observed in sufficient detail to understand them because it is normally so difficult to obtain enough time on telescopes to discover such phenomena," Hearns said in a JPL statement. "We likely would have missed this exciting event, except that we are now getting almost continuous coverage of the comet with the spacecraft’s imaging and spectroscopy instruments."

Observing such activity twice in two weeks suggests outbursts are fairly common and significant parts of the processing that occur on comets as they heat up when approaching the sun, scientists said.

"The dual spacecraft carries three imaging instruments, two on the flyby spacecraft and one on the impactor. A spectrometer on the flyby spacecraft uses the same telescope as the flyby’s high-resolution imager."

The final prelude to impact will begin early on 3 July, 24 hours before the 13:00 EDT on 4 July (20:52 GMT 3 July) impact, when the flyby spacecraft releases the impactor into the path of the comet. Deep Impact consists of a sub-compact-car-sized flyby spacecraft and an impactor probe about the size of a washing machine.

The impactor carries three imaging instruments, two on the flyby spacecraft and one on the impactor. A spectrometer on the flyby spacecraft uses the same telescope as the flyby’s high-resolution imager.

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Chelsea striker Kezman signs for Atletico Madrid

MADRID, 30 June — Chelsea striker Mateja Kezman has signed a three-year contract with Atletico Madrid, the Spanish club said on Wednesday.

The Serbia & Montenegro international, who struggled to earn a regular first-team spot at Chelsea, has moved in a deal reported to be worth nine million euros (10.85 million US dollars).

"I am pleased to come to a club that was once bigger than Chelsea and I hope that, in the future, they will eventually become bigger than them again," Kezman told a news conference.

"I was happy at Chelsea, it was a big experience for me. It was a pity I didn’t get to play much but that’s why I decided to move," he added.

Kezman, 26, recorded only four goals in his one season at Chelsea, but proved himself a prolific goalscorer in his four years with Dutch side PSV Eindhoven, where he found the net 105 times in 123 games. — MNA/Xinhua

Robinho wants to play for Real Madrid

RIO DE JANEIRO, 30 June— Brazilian striker Robinho told Brazilian media Wednesday that he will talk to Santos President Marcelo Teixeira to facilitate his transfer to Spain’s Real Madrid.

"The moment has come to leave Santos," said Robinho in an interview in Germany for Brazilian Rede Globo television station after the 4-1 win of Brazil at the Confederations Cup final against Argentina.

"I will go back to Brazil and talk with Santos president. I expect he understands me," said the 21-year-old. "I wish to play in Real Madrid."

"It is the best club for a Brazilian to play with, where you can find the best players of the world; I know coach Vanderlei Luxemburgo and his work. Also, I am thinking on the security of my family."

Robinho’s mother was kidnapped for 41 days between November and December last year.

Luxemburgo led Santos last season to the title of the Brazilian championship, the second in the club’s history.

Real Madrid and Santos failed to reach an agreement about the transferring fee for the striker, as the Brazilian club wants 50 million dollars and Real offers half of that amount.

Real is not the only European club who are seeking for Robinho. England’s Arsenal and Italy’s Juventus are also interested. — MNA/Xinhua

UEFA to stage out-of-competition drug tests in Champions League

GENEVA, 30 June — European soccer governing body UEFA announced Wednesday that for the first time it will instigate out-of-competition drug tests on players involved in next season’s Champions League.

There will also be test for erythropoietin (EPO), a blood-doping agent.

The move means any player can be tested at any time as well as the regular random post-match testing.

The announcement will affect 960 players from 32 clubs and “we have always taken a tough stance against any form of cheating in football, especially doping or the use of any substances that are banned according to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA),” said UEFA Chief Executive Lars-Christer Olsson. — MNA/Xinhua

Osasuna midfielder Garcia to join Real

MADRID, 30 June — Uruguayan midfielder Pablo Garcia is set to leave Spanish club Osasuna and to sign with Real Madrid, said Wednesday the sources from the former Primera Liga champion.

Garcia, coming out as the first signing of Real during the summer transferring windows, is expected to be followed by his compatriot and Argentina’s River Plate full-back Carlos Diogo.

Real will spend about four million euros on Garcia, while two million euros more on Diogo, according to the sources. — MNA/Xinhua

Italian soccer forward Zola retires

ROME, 30 June — Italian soccer forward Gianfranco Zola retired on Wednesday after a glittering career in the English Premier League and Serie A.

"I think this is the right thing to do," local agencies quoted 38-year-old Zola as saying on Wednesday.

"Some time has passed since the end of the (Serie A) championship but I needed to reflect a bit." His career spanned 21 years and included spells at Napoli, Parma, Chelsea and Cagliari. He won 35 international caps. — MNA/Xinhua

Eto’o extends contract with Barcelona

MADRID, 30 June — Cameroon striker Samuel Eto’o has signed a contract extension with Barcelona until 2010, the Primera Liga champions said on Wednesday.

“The most important thing for me now is to win the Champions League,” Eto’o told a news conference.

The 24-year-old, who scored 24 goals last season, turned down an offer to join English champions Chelsea earlier this month. Eto’o becomes the third first-team player to sign a contract extension at the Nou Camp since May, along with Portugal midfielder Deco and Spain midfielder Xavi. — MNA/Xinhua

European soccer: Germany finish third at Confederations Cup

LEIPZIG, 30 June — Hosts Germany finished third in the FIFA Confederations Cup with a 4-3 win over Mexico after extra time here on Wednesday.

The German team played with ten men after the sending off of striker Mike Hanke, but captain Michael Ballack sent a beautiful free-kick home to secure the 4-3 win for the hosts.

Germany coach Jurgen Klinsmann made four changes to the line-up of the semifinalists. Three were expected: Oliver Kahn took over from Jens Lehmann, Andreas Hinkel replaced injured Arne Friedrich, and Bastian Schweinsteiger returned from suspension for Fabian Ernst. The surprise choice saw youngster Mike Hanke replace regular striker Kevin Kuranyi.

Mexico started strongly with Fonseca’s shot went narrowly wide two minutes into the match. At the 10th minute, Jaret Borgetti’s effort was blocked by Kahn.

The host team gradually found their form and picked up tempo after 20 minutes. Being set up by a Schweinsteiger backheel cross, Radoski fired home a powerful left-footer at the 37th minute.

Mexico immediately fought back with an equalizer at the 40th minute thanks to an angled ball from Zinha. But Germany again surged ahead one minute later when Bayern Munich midfielder Schweinsteiger slotted home from close range.

Hanke was sent off after a dangerous tackle on Carlos Salcido and Mexico took the chance to level the score at 2-2 through a powerful header from Borgetti four minutes later.

The German played with tremendous resolve despite the one-man disadvantage. Defender Robert Huth forced home the loose ball following a Schweinsteiger corner to put Germany 3-2 ahead at the 79th minute.

ITALY

Brazil’s Lucio, left, challenges Argentina’s Luciano Figueroa during the final of the Confederations Cup between Argentina and Brazil in Frankfurt, Germany. Brazil won 4-1. — INTERNET

MNA/Xinhua
1,377 gem merchants arrive

Yangon, 30 June — A total of 761 gem merchants of 285 companies from seven countries and 616 merchants of 253 local companies, totalling 1,377 arrived at Jade and Gems Special Sales 2005 being held at Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, today.

The gem merchants checked jade and gems lots displayed at the mart from 9 am to 5 pm. The merchants from abroad were 666 merchants of 245 companies of the People's Republic of China, one merchant of one company of Italy, six merchants of three companies from Japan, four merchants of three companies of Singapore, 79 merchants of 29 companies from Thailand, three merchants of three companies of Sri Lanka and two merchants of one company from India.

Gems lots will be sold through tender and competitive bidding systems on 1 and 2 July. — MNA

UMFCCI President meets JODC representatives

Yangon, 29 June — President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint and Vice-Presidents U Win Aung and U Zaw Min Win met Former Resident Representative Mr Kunihiko Shinoda of JODC in Bangkok, Thailand and his successor Mr Izuzu Koba Yashi at the federation on 28 June.

They cordially discussed the matters related to providing the assistance for giving lectures at the training organized by UMFCCI education working committee which is designated as JODC, and future plans.

President of UMFCCI U Win Myint receives Former Resident Representative Mr Kunihiko Shinoda of JODC.

WEATHER

Thursday, 30 June, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State and lower Sagaing Division and rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfall in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Maungtiaw (10.51) inches, Kyauktauw (5.51) inches, Kyaukpyu (4.80) inches, Yangon (Central) (2.92) inches, Yangon (Mingaldon) (2.79) inches and Sittway (2.56) inches.

Maximum temperature on 29-6-2005 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 30-6-2005 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 30-6-2005 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 29-6-2005 was (2.1) hours approx. Rainfalls on 30-6-2005 were (2.79) inches at Mingaldon, (2.20) inches at Kaba-Aye and (2.92) inches at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (29.33) inches at Mingaldon, (25.39) inches at Kaba-Aye and (25.08) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (13) mph from South at (13.55) hours MST on 29-6-2005.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong in North and Central Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 1-7-2005: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Rakhine State. Degree of certainty is 80%.

State of the sea: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally strong monsoon.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-7-2005: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-7-2005: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.
Of the many national traitors the worst are ex-military personnel who have no loyalty to nation, Tatmadaw at all although they have recited the Four Oaths. MWVO is a body formed with war veterans who are free from wrongdoings and misdeeds.

YANGON, 30 June — Patron of Myanmar War Veterans Organization (Central) Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council General Than Shwe gave guidance at the fourth-day session of MWVO Conference 2005 at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township this morning.

Also present on the occasion were members of the Panel of Patrons of MWVO (Central) Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Prime Minister General Soe Win, Chairman of MWVO Central Organizing Committee Secretary of the State Peace and Development Council, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the State Peace and Development Council, Adjutant-General Li-Gen Thein Sein, members of SPDC, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command, ministers, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon Mayor, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, vice-chairmen and members of MWVOCOC, departmental heads, presidents and representatives of USDA, MWAF, MWJA, MRCS, Myanmar Auxiliary Fire Brigade and UMFCCI and delegates from the States and Divisions. (See page 5)