Established 1914

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

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

Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Soe Win on his departure for PRC

YANGON, 3 July — Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Soe Win left here by air at noon today to attend the 2nd Greater Mekong Subregion Summit to be held in Kunming, the People’s Republic of China.

The delegation led by the Prime Minister was seen off at the airport by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, Vice-Chairman of SPDC Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, SPDC Member General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, SPDC members, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun and officials of the embassy, departmental heads and officials.

(See page 8)
Myanmar women in service of the State and the people

Myanmar women have been keeping abreast of men in the efforts for the progress of their own families, community and for the State and have enjoyed equal rights as man. The Myanmar women, who have been serving the interests of the State and the people in successive eras, are now actively taking part in the process of building a modern and developed nation as a national force.

The Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation was formed on 20 December 2003 with the aim of enhancing the social life of women and taking measures for their security and of getting in touch with the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). The MWAF has formed the women affairs organizations at different levels from states and divisions to ward/village level and is taking systematic measures for enhancing the role of Myanmar women.

The MWAF, with its six working groups—Working Group of Prevention of Violence against Women and Rehabilitation, Working Group of Social Affairs and Culture, Working Group of Raising Social Life of Women, Working Group of Nationalities Affairs, Working Group of Legal Affairs, and Working Group of Environmental Conservation, has been trying its utmost for enhancing the role of women and ensuring their security.

Four sub-working groups have been formed under the Working Group of Prevention of Violence against Women and Rehabilitation while three sub-working groups on education, health and culture have been formed under the Working Groups of Social Affairs and Culture, and work is well under way for promoting the role of women.

As a national force, the MWAF is at present serving the interests of the State and the people through its capabilities and efforts without relying on any others. We firmly believe that the Myanmar women under the leadership of the MWAF will continue making relentless efforts for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation by making better use of assistance provided by the State.
GMS member countries to promote practical cooperation

BEIJING, 2 July — The second summit of leaders of the Great Mekong Subregion (GMS) member countries will continue its "practical" style and discuss cooperation in related fields, Chinese experts said here on Friday.

The GMS embraces six countries — China, Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam. The second summit of leaders of the six countries will be held in China next week.

Under a mechanism for cooperation among GMS countries, established by the Asian Development Bank in 1992, the six countries focus their cooperation on five strategic areas including infrastructure, trade and investment facilitation, participation of the private-owned enterprises, human resources and environmental protection.

With the theme of "a stronger GMS partnership for common prosperity", the participants will discuss topics including achievements and challenges, common guidelines governing future GMS cooperation, and the road ahead towards sustainable development.

Shen Guofang, Assistant Chinese Foreign Minister, said the meeting will pass leaders' declarations, which reviews GMS ongoing programmes and outlines cooperation in the future.

Cooperative documents on transportation, information superhighway construction, power trade operation and animal epidemics prevention are also expected to be signed during the Summit, he said.

China has started the construction of the Chinese section of highways from Kunming to Bangkok and the highways in Laos China sponsors. These highways are expected to be completed by 2006.

The outbreak of bird flu in this region in recent years attracted international attention. In this Summit, the six countries will hopefully launch cooperation in preventing diseases among animals and poultry.

Iraqi PM lauds visit to Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY, 2 July — Iraqi Prime Minister Ibrahim Al-Jaafari said on Thursday that his visit to Kuwait had achieved its goal, the Kuwait News Agency reported.

Jaafari told reporters before returning home that the two sides discussed Kuwait's pledge to grant additional 60 million US dollars to help Iraq cope with electricity shortages and build more schools and hospitals.

The Iraqi Prime Minister arrived here on Tuesday after visiting Washington and Brussels where he attended an international conference on rebuilding Iraq on 22 June.

Jaafari said that the withdrawal of the US-led multinational forces from Iraq should be based on a request by the elected Iraqi Government.

Jaafari added that there were no obstacles to the Kuwaiti-Iraqi relations, indicating that the delay in opening embassies in each other's capital was due to technical and security reasons.

Kuwaiti Acting Premier and Interior Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah said that Jaafari's visit would do benefit to the bilateral relations marred by the 1990 Iraqi invasion of the oil-rich kingdom.

Chocolate bars off shop shelves due to extortion threat in NSW

CANBERRA, 2 July — Food manufacturer Masterfoods has withdrawn Snickers and Mars snack bars from shops in Australia's southeastern state of New South Wales (NSW) following an extortion threat.

Masterfoods' head office in Victoria has received letters in recent months saying seven bars in New South Wales have been contaminated and the police described the letters as rambling but threatening.

Italian Broadcasting Corporation radio quoted Masterfoods Australia New Zealand President Andy Weston-Webb, as saying on Friday that products have been withdrawn from 5,000 retail outlets across the state as a precaution, saying he is concerned for public health.

"No one should be eating a Mars or Snickers bar at this time," he said.

Weston-Webb said there is no evidence the threat has been carried out and the company is not aware of anyone falling sick from eating the products.

Two suicide attackers in Iraq kill six policemen

HILLAH, 2 July — Suicide bombers struck twice Saturday in this Shiite city south of Baghdad, killing six policemen and injuring 26 people, including police and bystanders who had rushed to the scene of the first attack, police said.

Earlier Saturday, a suicide bomber strapped with explosives struck a special police recruiting center in Baghdad, killing at least 16 other people gathered outside the gate. A Web statement claimed responsibility in the name of al Qaeda in Iraq.

In Hillah, the first blast occurred about 10:30 pm when a suicide bomber detonated a belt of explosives while being searched by members of the elite Scorpion police command at a checkpoint in the city center, according to Capt. Muthana Khalid Ali of the Babil provincial press office.

Six policemen and the attacker died in the blast, Ali said.

About 10 minutes later, the second suicide attacker blew himself up in a crowd of police and civilians who had rushed to the scene, Ali said. Twenty-six people were injured in the second explosion, according to Dr Hashim Salehman of the Hillah General Hospital.

Hillah is a largely Shiite city about 60 miles south of Baghdad. On 28 Feb, a suicide car bomber struck a crowd of police and army recruits in Hillah, killing 125 and wounding more than 140 in the second deadliest attack since the 2003 fall of Saddam Hussein.
In the nation’s history, Myanmar women have been developing gradually through the preservation of fine traditions, culture and customs that women and men share equal responsibilities. Myanmar women joined hands with men in anti-colonialist movements and anti-fascist resistance for regaining independence. Active and brilliant performances of Myanmar women’s organizations went down in the annals of the nation’s anti-colonialist struggles. In addition, the mass of Myanmar women at risk to their lives got involved in the anti-fascist resistance launched by the entire national people holding whatever arms they had for independence.

In this way, Myanmar women fully equipped with patriotic fervour played an active role and showed their remarkable performances throughout the period of the nation’s independence struggles. And there have also been a variety of impressive performances carried out in the interests of the nation and the people by Myanmar women throughout the period of national defence and reconstruction after regaining independence.

They have been bringing honour to their motherland and enhancing national prestige and integrity by catching up with world nations in various sectors. In fact, Myanmar is a nation that never yields to alien domination; that is transforming itself into a democratic nation through the concept “The strength of the nation lies within”; and that practises independent and active foreign policy.

The State leaders have got present positions, after making a lot of sacrifices pragmatically, instead of talking big, in the interests of the nation and the people. According to some political analysts, a State leader is not easily available unlike an object that can be created easily. To become a State leader depends completely on to what extent one has done and is capable of doing significant performances practically in the interests of one’s nation and people.

The entire Myanmar women are therefore not to place too much reliance on others but on own abilities and capabilities and are to exert own qualifications and efficiency for the development of the State and the people.

The Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation has come into existence during the period of transition to democracy under the leadership of the Tatmadaw Government. The federation, fully imbued with nationalistic fervour, is also playing an active role in building a democratic nation in cooperation with the entire national people, while braving different types of attacks and wicked schemes designed to break up the Union by those relying on external elements, and pressure and economic sanction imposed against the nation and interference by certain foreign countries. It is joining hands firmly with the national people in implementing the State’s seven-point Road Map for flourishing of democracy in the nation.

The federation is making unremitting endeavours to see to accomplishment of its objectives:
- To promote the role of women in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation
- To safeguard women’s rights
- To develop economic, health and education sectors of women and to safeguard their social security
- To nurture women to cherish and value the traditional culture and customs of the national races
- To systematically carry out tasks for prevention of violence against women and rehabilitation
- To carry out eradication of trafficking of women and children as a national duty, and
- To cooperate with international, regional, internal and external organizations in carrying out matters on women’s rights in accord with traditional culture and customs of national races.

Simultaneously, the MWAF is dealing with congenial international NGOs to take effective measures on a broader scale for ensuring further development and security of the mass of Myanmar women.

The MWAF is constituted widely with respective groups and departments and state/division, district, township, ward and village level organizations to look after women’s affairs.

And under the federation are six working groups — Working group of Prevention of Violence against Women and Rehabilitation, Working Group of Social Affairs and Culture, Working Group of Raising Social Life of Women, Working Group of Nationalities Affairs, Working Group of Legal Affairs, and Working Group of Environmental Conservation. The groups are cooperating with other groups in various sectors in implementing the objectives.

The six departments of the federation — Organizational Department, Administration Department, Discipline Enforcement Department, Finance Department, Information Department and International Relations Department are shouldering duties for the development of women.

In a bid to put the objectives into motion, the MWAF gives priority to basic principles that can enhance national interests. The basic principles are:
- The “National Basic Principle” — For the entire national people to serve only the real national interest in unity, with Our Three Main National Causes as the foundation
- The “Nationalities Affairs Basic Principle” — To give priority to unity and mutual respect of national races and promotion of national unity
- The “Social Basic Principle” — To provide support to community peace and tranquility, social needs, welfare, education, health and cultural development; and
- The “Women’s Affairs Basic Principle” — To develop the women’s sector and ensure their life security.

With effective encouragement of the State, the MWAF has been making continued endeavours to ensure further development of more than 27 million Myanmar women out of the nation’s population of more than 54 million people, while employing own efficiency and skills without relying on any other nations or organizations.

Translation: MS
Honorary Patron Daw Kyaing Kyaing attends ceremony to mark Myanmar Women’s Day

MWAF President Daw Than Than Nwe delivers an address at the Myanmar Women’s Day commemorative ceremony.

Honorary Patron Daw Kyaing Kyaing attends ceremony to mark Myanmar Women’s Day at Myanmar Convention Centre — MNA

Secretary of Information Department Daw Than Than Win and member Daw Lein Maung Pan act as masters of ceremonies. — MNA

MWAF Honorary Patron Daw Kyaing Kyaing attends ceremony to commemorate Myanmar Women’s Day

(from page 16) Intellectuals and intelligentsia, departmental heads, members of the agencies and officials, representatives of social organizations and State/Division OWAs, prize winners, and supporting groups, wives of ambassadors and chargés d’affaires of foreign missions, resident representatives of UN supporting groups, wives of ambassadors and chargés d’affaires of foreign missions, resident representatives of UN

MWAF Honorary Patron Daw Kyaing Kyaing attends ceremony to commemorate Myanmar Women’s Day

President Daw Than Than Nwe delivered an address. She said:

Allow me first of all to wish physical and spiritual wellbeing to the Honorary Patrons of the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, MWAF patrons, Central Executive Committee members, delegates from State and Division Organizations of Women’s Affairs, representatives from social organizations, guests and the entire mass of Myanmar women. May you be able to further contribute towards development of Myanmar women’s sector as well as to enhance and promote MWAF to enable it to firmly stand as a national force serving the interests of the nation and people.

Today is an auspicious day as MWAF leads the celebration of Myanmar Women’s Day in honour of Myanmar women who are not only traditionally polite and cultured, but also possess exemplary cultural traits of upholding lineage and promoting national culture.

In reviewing Myanmar history of many thousands of years, Myanmar women seen to have been brilliantly dutiful in playing their roles demanded by history. Myanmar women have splendidly been performing their respective roles of serving the interests of the nation and the people, of the ensuring the development of Myanmar society and in nurturing new generation youths. Myanmar Women’s Day has been designated to pay tribute to the outstanding prestige of the entire mass of Myanmar women and every Myanmar woman should take pride in the fact.

In Myanmar society, the expression “woman” possesses a unique character of its own and consequently every woman is accorded all respect in accordance with her status.

(See page 6)
History reveals that Myanmar womenfolk, in tandem with menfolk, have been serving the interest of the nation and the people, and Myanmar society, in a fraternal spirit according to the responsibility sharing concept, in addition to enjoying equal rights with men.

Throughout successive eras, the nation has witnessed many women who are well-known for their loving-kindness, their reputations safeguarding the site at the risk of their lives, and of their endeavours to protect and glorify the nation.

- **Vice-President of MWAF**

  *Daw Khin Lay Myint*

reads out proclamation of MWAF.
With kind assistance and encouragement of Government, role of Myanmar women today is being enhanced

(From page 6)

history of Myanmar; who have been preserving Myanmar traditional cultural heritage, national character and lineage; and who are taking part in their respective roles in the development of Myanmar society. It is indeed an auspicious day of which all Myanmar women are to be proud of.

At the Myanmar Women’s Day celebrations observed by MWAF to enhance the role of the entire mass of Myanmar women, the following nine papers were presented:

— The role of Myanmar women in the anti-colonialist struggle
— The role of Myanmar women in building the nation
— Adorable customs and traditions of Myanmar women
denouncing acts of pessimists committed with outside help for the benefit of a particular person or group are adversely affecting not only innocent persons but also hurting the national interest and security, peace and development of the entire mass of Myanmar people.

On behalf of the entire mass of Myanmar women, MWAF which is actively carrying out tasks for protecting women from violence, denounces that cruel terrorist act committed on the people of one’s own race by terrorists with the assistance of external elements.

Assessing developments in Myanmar while at the same time exerting efforts to enhance development of Myanmar women, MWAF has come to the conclusion that external sanctions and destructive acts of pessimists are being put on and sanctions imposed on Myanmar by external elements and opposing groups, the Government has been able to continue its endeavours for stability, unity and development of the nation and the people. In various fields, national tendencies being put on and sanctions imposed on Myanmar by external elements and opposing groups, the Government has been able to continue its endeavours for stability, unity and development of the nation and the people. In various fields, national

In pretext of exerting political pressure simultaneously, terrorists detonated bombs at three separate public places on 7 May this year. Altogether 23 persons were killed and 149 persons wounded. Women were among them. It is internationally accepted that attacks on public places are indeed terrorist acts. On behalf of the entire mass of Myanmar women,

(half a page)

In pretext of exerting political pressure simultaneously, terrorists detonated bombs at three separate public places on 7 May this year. Altogether 23 persons were killed and 149 persons wounded. Women were among them. It is internationally accepted that attacks on public places are indeed terrorist acts. On behalf of the entire mass of Myanmar women,
Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Soe Win ...
(from page 1)

Together with Prime Minister, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Thein Lwin, Director-General at SPDC Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein, Director-General at the Prime Minister’s Office U Soe Tint, Director-General of the Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Director-General of the Political Department U Thaung Tun of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, departmental heads and officials left here on the same flight. — MNA

Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinjun and embassy officials see off Prime Minister General Soe Win at the airport. — MNA

Diplomats of foreign missions in Yangon see off Prime Minister General Soe Win at Yangon International Airport before his departure for People’s Republic of China. — MNA

YANGON, 3 July — Honouring the Myanmar Women’s Day today, the ceremony to perform skill demonstration of women athletes was held at National Indoor Stadium-1 (Thuwunna) on Weizayanta Road in Thingangyun Township this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Member of Panel of Patrons of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation Daw Khin Lay Thet, Vice-President of the Ministry of Sports and guests.

The women athletes of the groups of Aerobic, Myanmar Martial Arts, Karatedo, Taekwando, Wushu and pon-pon dance, band troupe and school girls performed their skill demonstrations to the guests.

Next, the demonstration groups greeted the guests and the ceremony ended. — MNA

For all citizens to enjoy equality

* National characteristics, traditions
  Politely, held at bosom
  Pride of roots, of all categories
  Long-lasting, known worldwide
  That is the way it has been, placing New generations, on the right path
  That is the MWAF.

* For women to enjoy life security
  To be kept safe at all times
  With hands held together, permanently
  To organize, working together
  That is MWAF.

* Peaceful, developed manifold
  Striving hard for Myanmar
  Shoulderering responsibilities, as men do
  Lending helping hand, effectively
  Trying to be equally capable
  That is MWAF.

* Among women of all nations
  Treating each other reciprocally close
  Exchanging mutual goodwill
  For interest of one and the other
  Working toward that very end
  That is MWAF.

* Will not swap Myanmar honour, sovereignty
  Will not see the woe of citizens
  What trouble they go through
  Will not accept such designs
  Only equality of all citizens
  Is being considered, perpetually
  That is MWAF.

Milekkhu (Trs.)
Honouring Myanmar Women’s Day

Skill demonstrations of women athletes performed

Member of Panel of Patrons of MWAF Daw Khin Lay Thet, MWAF President Daw Than Than Nwe, MMCWA President Daw Khin Khin Win and party enjoy skills demonstration of women athletes. — MNA
6. The Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation objects to the reports annually submitted to the United Nations’ General Assembly which were based on the groundless fabricated information made up to defame Myanmar in international community by insurgent groups from border areas and groups opposing the government.

7. On May 7, 2005, due to terrorist bomb explosions at three crowded places simultaneously in Yangon simply to put political pressure on Myanmar, 172 innocent people, including women, lost their lives. It is internationally acknowledged that attacking, for whatever reason, civilians, is a terrorist act. Getting external assistance to perpetrate cruel and violent acts against innocent fellow nationals and those who provide support and assistance to such dastardly characters, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, which prevents violence against women, strongly rejects such cowardly people.

8. On the occasion of the Myanmar Women’s Day which falls on 3 July, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation declares as follows:
(a) All Myanmar women will cooperate in all sectors of the Government’s nation-building tasks.
(b) In nation-building only practical contribution will be acknowledged.
(c) Condemn external pressures that disregard national interest in favour of group or individual interests.
(d) Urge foreign countries and organizations to approach responsible persons in seeking the actual situation of Myanmar.
(e) Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation will unitedly cooperate with other social organizations which share a common purpose of fulfilling the interest of the state and its citizens.
(f) Condemn terrorists and their supporters who target innocent civilians for whatever reason.

MWAF condemns external pressures that disregard national, . . .

With kind assistance…

Taking advantage of there favourable conditions and at this apportune time, I would like to urge all Myanmar Women—
— to mobilize themselves as a national force with their good and fine traditions and high capabilities
— to cooperate and work together with other NGOs
— to join hands with the State, the people and the Tatmadaw in building the country into a peaceful, modern and developed nation.
— all Myanmar women to actively participate in endeavours, in line with the seven-step Road Map for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democracy.

General Secretary Professor Dr Khin Mar Tun read out messages sent by USDA, MWVO, MMCWA, MRCS, Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs’ Association, Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science, Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forest, Livestock Breeding and Fishery Science, Myanmar Academy of Medical Science and Myanmar Academy of Technological Science. (Messages are reported separately.)

Vice-President Daw Khin Lay Myint read out the proclamation of MWAF on Myanmar Women’s Day for 2005.

(The proclamation is reported separately.)

At the prize presentation ceremony, the master of ceremonies read performance of the prize-winning persons. Honorary Patron Daw Kyaiing Kyaiing awarded cash prizes to State Service Personnel and Technocrats and Intelligentsia, Social and Cultural Working Group member Daw Yin Yin (writer Saw Mon Nyin) who has ardously promoted Myanmar and culture with might of pen 2003 National Literary Award winner writer Dr Ma Tin Win; Ma Ei Ei Chun, outstanding gold and silver medals winner in Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions; and outstanding student Ma Thi Thi Htwe of Mahaaungmye BEHS No 13 who passed the matriculation examination for 2004 with six distinctions and 557 marks.

Honorary Patron Daw Mya Mya San presented cash prizes to outstanding Platoon Commander Ma Myint Myint Than of Mayangon Township Red Cross Battalion who actively participated in rescue and relief tasks in natural disasters, and in social work.

(See page 15)
Social organizations send messages to honour Myanmar Women’s Day commemorated by Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation

YANGON, 3 July — Various social organizations sent messages honouring the high efficiency of the mass of Myanmar women to the Myanmar Women’s Day ceremony organized by Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation held at Myanmar Convention Centre in Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township here this morning.

The social organizations which sent the honorary messages included the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association, Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science, Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forest and Livestock Breeding Sciences, Myanmar Academy of Medical Science and Myanmar Academy of Technological Science.

Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy by upholding Our Three Main National Causes in the fore

YANGON, 3 July — The following is a message sent by the Union Solidarity and Development Association on the occasion of the Myanmar Women’s Day (2005) which falls on 3-7-2005.

It is a great pleasure to welcome and honour the Myanmar Women’s Day, the third of July, because it was designated to honour the high efficiency of the mass of Myanmar women after founding Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation.

It is also admirable that the MWAF upheld the seven noble objectives is striving its utmost to protect and improve the life of Myanmar women who represent more than half of the country’s population. One point of the MWAF’s objectives — to strive for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation — is the same as that of the USDA.

That is why the two organizations are like brother and sister riding in the same boat and going on the same journey.

Besides, another objective of the MWAF is similar in essence to that of the USDA, which says ‘to revitalize patriotic spirit for the uplift of national prestige and integrity’. It is, therefore, needed to crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy by upholding the three main national causes in the fore.

In the future, the forces representing the nation will further enhance cooperation and mutual understanding and respect between them. And the USDA wished the MWAF to be successful in the implementation of its objectives.

CEC members
Union Solidarity and Development Association

MWAF is not only a guiding organization for Myanmar women but also a reliable one for them

YANGON, 3 July — The following is a message sent by the Myanmar War Veterans Organization on the occasion of the Myanmar Women’s Day (2005) which falls on 3-7-2005.

It gives great pleasure for Myanmar War Veterans Organization to send the message to Myanmar Women’s Day organized by Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation. Myanmar Women’s Day was observed after holding the MWVO Conference (2005). This reflects the strength of two forces.

Myanmar women possess equal rights as men and they have equality in social affairs and are powerful and brilliant. It is found that they preserve races and culture and participate in nation-building tasks. It is Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation that leads the women.

The third of July is a milestone and it is the day on which Myanmar National Committee for Women’s Affairs came into being for promoting the role of Myanmar women. Designating 3 July as Myanmar Women’s Day is meaningful and appropriate.

Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation was formed in 2003 for the mass of Myanmar women to join the federation. MWVO would like to express that the federation is not only a guiding organization for Myanmar women but also a reliable one for them. MWVO has sent the message in honour of MWAF that makes endeavours in the interest of the entire Myanmar women in every sector, passing many Myanmar Women’s Days.

Myanmar War Veterans Organization

Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association supports MWAF which has the same objectives of MMCWA

YANGON, 3 July — The following is a message sent by the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association on the occasion of the Myanmar Women’s Day (2005) which falls on 3-7-2005.


The strength of 27 million women, 50.3 per cent of the population of Myanmar and plays an important role in building a modern developed nation. Myanmar Women’s Day is a day of honour of endeavours of Myanmar women under the leadership of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation. It is seen that MWAF with the strength of 27 million women is making concerted efforts for enhancing the role of women in nation-building tasks, improving their economy, education and health, safeguarding their life security, cherishing and valuing traditional culture and customs, protecting them against violence, carrying out rehabilitation tasks, undertaking the eradication of human trafficking as a national task and creating the rights of women in accord with traditional culture and customs in cooperation with local and international organizations.

Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association contributes towards the raising of living standard of family by providing assistance to education, health, economic and social sectors of mother and children. Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association supports MWAF which has the same objectives of the MMCWA and brings about the interest of women and children forever.

On behalf of 27 million women, MMCWA on this occasion wishes for MWAF to be able to serve the interest of Myanmar women for years.

Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association
MWEA solemnly pledges on Myanmar Women’s Day that while observing the noble tradition in highest performance of Myanmar women, utmost efforts will be made for development of the entire Myanmar women

**Endeavours of the MWAF are contributing much to enhancing the image and standard of the State and the people**

**Side by side with men Myanmar women fought against colonialists when the aliens waged aggressive wars on the country**

**CEC Member Forestry Minister attends tree-planting ceremony, inspects regional developments in Loikaw**
Bird flu outbreak in Qinghai “under control”

BEIJING, 2 July — A spokesman with the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture said on Monday that the bird flu outbreak in Qinghai Province in northwestern China has been “brought under control.”

Jia Youling, the spokesman and also director general of the ministry's Veterinary Bureau, said the number of migratory birds killed by the disease has dropped to about 20 a day since June 8.

Thus far, more than 6,000 migratory birds have died since the disease was reported on 4 May. Jia said the ministry has reported the latest developments to relevant international organizations.

The governments at all levels in China attach great importance to the prevention and control of bird flu and related departments have taken many measures to prevent the disease from spreading.

A flu outbreak was reported in Qinghai, the local government has done a lot to prevent the epidemic from spreading, he said, adding that no fowl or human beings have been infected so far. Jia said the Agriculture Ministry is studying and testing the virus drawn from the birds killed by the fatal disease in Qinghai, and the result will be reported to concerned international organizations.

China has provided five viral strains to the World Health Organization (WHO) since bird flu cases were reported in the country last year.

The Agriculture Ministry hopes for closer cooperation with international organizations and welcomes international experts to Chinese labs for study, Jia said.

The WHO has asked China to test some of the birds in the area to determine if any species were infected with the virus.

Each summer, some 189 species of birds flock to Qinghai Lake, a mating ground for migratory birds, before heading south and west.

Qinghai Lake has become a popular tourist attraction.

In late May, more than 1,000 wild birds, including gese and gulls, were killed by the H5N1 flu strain in Qinghai.

In Asia, at least 54 people have died so far this year after being infected by sick birds, reports said.

Chen said domestic companies should be united among themselves and with European importers as well. “We’ve got to be firm and well-prepared in working out countermeasures and resolve to oppose any unfair practice from the European side, particularly manipulation of figures.”

Chen’s company, which reported 200 million yuan (24 million US dollars) of work shoe output and 17 million US dollars of export in 2004, is one of the biggest Chinese shoe manufacturers threatened by the EU probe.

“The European Commission, EU’s executive arm, opened a probe on Thursday into possible dumping of Indian and Chinese shoes into the 25-member European Union.

Chen, the company’s spokeswoman for trade, said that the probe began at the request of European manufacturers and could last as long as 15 months, but that the Commission hoped to complete it in nine months.

At the call of China Laser Association, shoe-makers from the country’s leading shoe manufacturing regions, including Zhejiang, Guangdong and Fujian provinces and Chongqing municipality, gathered in Zhejiang this week to exchange ideas on how to face up to the new situation and help their factories, companies and international trade experts.

“We’ll resort to World Trade Organization rules in order to protect our legitimate rights and avoid heavy tariffs in the post-quota world,” said Chen.

Chen, the Chinese Ministry of Commerce spokesman, said earlier that the Chinese side "strongly opposes" EU’s launching of anti-dumping litigation against China, which is being done without a practical or legal basis.

"China urges the EU to proceed from facts, avoid making false accusations and avoid trade frictions,” he said. EU has produced figures showing imports of Chinese-made shoes surged in the beginning of the year after the end of a global textile quota system on 1 January.

HK students celebrate 8th anniversary of reunification

BEIJING, 2 July — To mark the eight anniversary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR)’s return to the Motherland, 260 HK students visited Beijing for a week-long stay.

On 1 July, these Hong Kong students and 100 Beijing students gathered at Beijing Sports University to attend a signing ceremony in name of “tying with 2008 Olympics”, expressing their love for the Motherland and good wishes to the coming sport pageant.

"Only when I set foot on the capital do I feel indulged in mother’s arms,” said Chen Hungyu, a 19-year-old Hong Kong student.

These Hong Kong students, from 10 Hong Kong-based middle schools, visit the capital’s tourist sites including the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace and the Temple of Heaven. They will communicate with their Beijing counterparts as well as visit some museums for academic research.

Chinese shoemakers stand up against EU anti-dumping probe

HANGZHOU, 2 July — Chinese shoemakers have vowed to act in unity after the European Union opened an anti-dumping investigation into its work shoe exports.

“We have to stand up against the EU probe,” said Chen Zemet, president of Saima Group in Rui’an, east China’s Zhejiang Province. “All domestic shoe makers have a role to play here.”

Chen said domestic companies should be united among themselves and with European importers as well. “We’ve got to be firm and well-prepared in working out countermeasures and resolve to oppose any unfair practice from the European side, particularly manipulation of figures.”

Chen’s company, which reported 200 million yuan (24 million US dollars) of work shoe output and 17 million US dollars of export in 2004, is one of the biggest Chinese shoe manufacturers threatened by the EU probe.

“The European Commission, EU’s executive arm, opened a probe on Thursday into possible dumping of Indian and Chinese shoes into the 25-member European Union.

Chen, the company’s spokeswoman for trade, said that the probe began at the request of European manufacturers and could last as long as 15 months, but that the Commission hoped to complete it in nine months.

At the call of China Laser Association, shoe-makers from the country’s leading shoe manufacturing regions, including Zhejiang, Guangdong and Fujian provinces and Chongqing municipality, gathered in Zhejiang this week to exchange ideas on how to face up to the new situation and help their factories, companies and international trade experts.

“We’ll resort to World Trade Organization rules in order to protect our legitimate rights and avoid heavy tariffs in the post-quota world,” said Chen.

Chen, the Chinese Ministry of Commerce spokesman, said earlier that the Chinese side "strongly opposes" EU’s launching of anti-dumping litigation against China, which is being done without a practical or legal basis.

“China urges the EU to proceed from facts, avoid making false accusations and avoid trade frictions,” he said. EU has produced figures showing imports of Chinese-made shoes surged in the beginning of the year after the end of a global textile quota system on 1 January.

Cyprus police seize large quantity of drugs

NICOSIA, 2 July — The Cypriot Drug Law Enforcement Unit seized Friday 107 kilos of cannabis and “scan” smuggled to the island in a container that reached the southern town of Limassol port from South Africa.

In Press statements, the unit chief Charitos Yiagou said that it was one of the biggest drug quantities smuggled to Cyprus. The police will be in position to proceed with arrests when the container’s Custom clearing papers examination is completed, he added.

According to the police officer, “a few days ago we received a tip-off that a container coming from South Africa with a label that it was carrying furniture had a large quantity of drugs”.

The police in cooperation with the Customs authorities searched the container and found four boxes with 107 kilos of cannabis and scan instead of home appliances that they were labelled to be containing. Yiagou said.

He said his unit had faced drugs smuggling from South Africa in the past. “Now we can definitely say that South Africa is a route by which drugs are smuggled to Cyprus.” — MNA/Xinhua

Macedonian police seize 20 kilos of heroin

TRIKA, 2 July — Macedonian police seized 20 kilos of heroin in a vehicle and arrested the driver on the spot at Kicevo, western Macedonia, the local media reported on Friday.

During a routine traffic check-up, the drugs, which were packed in 40 packages of 0.5 kilos, were found in a large metal box in the trunk of the car. He is a Macedonian citizen, has been arrested, pending criminal charge for illicit circulation of narcotics. According to the arrests’ statement, the heroin was procured in Turkey and was intended for the Macedonian market. — MNA/Xinhua

NATO-Russia anti-terrorism conference concludes

BULGARIA (Serbia-Montenegro), 2 July — The anti-terrorism conference of the NATO-Russian Council concluded in Slovenia on Friday, with the calls for international cooperation to effectively fight terrorism, said reports reaching here from Ljubljana.

The four-day conference, which gathered 150 representatives from 27 countries, showed that intelligence exchange should be improved and partnership between private and public organizations promoted in order to better fight terrorism, the Slovene Press Agency reported.

It quoted Slovenian Foreign Ministry officials as saying that the civilized world should get together to suppress terrorism and eradicate the conditions which encourage terrorism.

Director of the George C Marshall European Centre for Security Studies John Rose said he was convinced that terrorism could be fought successfully, but individual countries could not do it on their own.

Rose said he believed that military means were not enough to fight terror. On the contrary, he has been advocating a comprehensive approach which would take into account also its economic, educational, cultural, financial and information aspects.

The conference was organized by the George C Marshall European Centre for Security Studies and the US mission at NATO in collaboration with the Slovenian Foreign Ministry. Representative discussed the experience gained after the latest terror attacks in Russia, Spain, Turkey and the United States.

MNA/Xinhua

HK students celebrate 8th anniversary of reunification

BEIJING, 2 July — To mark the eight anniversary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR)’s return to the Motherland, 260 HK students visited Beijing for a week-long stay.

On 1 July, these Hong Kong students and 100 Beijing students gathered at Beijing Sports University to attend a signing ceremony in name of “tying with 2008 Olympics”, expressing their love for the Motherland and good wishes to the coming sport pageant.

“Only when I set foot on the capital do I feel indulged in mother’s arms,” said Chen Hungyu, a 19-year-old Hong Kong student.

These Hong Kong students, from 10 Hong Kong-based middle schools, visit the capital’s tourist sites including the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace and the Temple of Heaven. They will communicate with their Beijing counterparts as well as visit some museums for academic research.

— MNA/Xinhua
Mission scientists and engineers told a Press briefing at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, Calif., that the spacecraft is about 2.4 million kilometres away from Tempel 1.

The time of comet encounter is near and the major mission milestones are getting closer and closer together,” said Rick Grammer, Deep Impact project manager. “After all the years of design, training and simulations, we are where we want to be. The flight and science teams are working the mission plan, and we are good to go for encounter.”

Deep Impact consists of a subcompact-car-sized flyby spacecraft and an impactor, about the size of a washing machine. The spacecraft carries three imaging instruments, two on the flyby and one on the impactor.

Several major mission milestones occurred during the past week. The spacecraft’s third trajectory correction manoeuvre was successfully executed on 23 June. The burn of the spacecraft’s motors changed Deep Impact’s speed by 21 kilometres per hour. Another trajectory correction for final targeting before impactor release is scheduled for 17:00 PDT.

Mission planners separated the spacecraft’s flight operations into six mission phases. The phases are launch, commissioning, cruise, approach, encounter and playback. The five-day encounter phase incorporates the final approach to the comet and transmission to Earth of collected data.

“We’ve completed the final pre-release checkout of the impactor. The impactor probe will have a short, 24-hour life from release to impact, but an incredibly important role,” said Dave Spencer, Deep Impact mission manager at JPL.

The impactor has an auto-navigation system that will make final corrections to its flight path just minutes before the scheduled collision. Scientists hope the resulting crater will expose fresh material from below the comet’s surface and subsurface.

“That is the whole point of Deep Impact,” said mission principal investigator Michael A’Hearn. “We want to find out what are the guts of a comet.”

China, Thailand to expand cooperation

BEIJING, 2 July — China is ready to enhance cooperation with Thailand in the construction of the China-ASEAN free trade area, and the cooperation in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) to promote regional economic development, Chinese Vice-Premier Huang Ju said here on Friday.

During a meeting with visiting Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, Huang said China and Thailand, as close neighbours, enjoy a traditional friendship based on blood ties and similar cultural background. Since the establishment of Sino-Thai diplomatic ties, the two countries sincerely treat each other and trust each other despite changes in the international situation.

Sino-Thai relations serve as an example for building friendship between China and its neighbouring countries, Huang said.

The Chinese Government highly values Sino-Thai relations, and is ready to work with Thailand to upgrade bilateral cooperation, and make the two countries “good neighbours, friends, partners and brothers forever”, he said.

To further expand Sino-Thai trade and economic cooperation, Huang suggested the two countries facilitate the trade of high-value-added products such as machinery, electronics, and high-tech products. The two countries should also encourage mutual investment and develop more large-scale cooperation projects.

On tourism cooperation, Huang said China will continue to offer possible assistance to help the restoration of Thailand’s tourism industry, which suffered from last December’s massive tsunami.

Thaksin said the two countries enjoy very close relations as brothers. The Thai Government and people treasure its traditional friendship with China, and are ready to take the opportunity of the 30th anniversary of diplomatic ties to expand bilateral cooperation, and promote the development of Thailand-China strategic cooperation.

MNA/Xinhua

China, US have more common interests than differences

WASHINGTON, 2 July — Chinese ambassador Zhou Wenzhong said here on Thursday that Sino-US relations are very important and the two countries have more common interests than differences.

“What is more important is to handle the differences through consultations and dialogue,” he said in a speech at a ceremony held on the Capitol Hill to mark the formation of the US-China Working Group under the House of Representatives of the US Congress.

Zhou said some people in the United States are claiming that oil prices in the world market are getting higher and higher because of China’s oil imports. But the fact is that China is the fifth largest oil producer in the world and its oil imports only account for about seven per cent of total global oil trade.

As to the bid for US Unocal Corp by the China National Offshore Oil Corporation, Zhou stressed this is pure business and should not be politicized.

Zhou welcomed the establishment of the US-China Working Group and expressed his hope that the group will help US Congressmen know more about China and play a positive role in promoting Sino-US relations.

Republican Congressmen Mark Kirk and Democratic Congressman Rick Larsen, who jointly initiated the launching of the working group, said the bipartisan congressional group of more than 20 Republicans and Democrats is aimed at promoting diplomatic and economic relations between the United States and China and increasing congressional engagement in bilateral issues.

MNA/Xinhua

NPC, CPPCC leaders meet US delegation

BEIJING, 2 July — Senior Chinese legislator Cheng Siwei and adviser Xu Kungdi met here on Friday with a US delegation of the National Conference of State Legislatures, respectively. Cheng, vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress (NPC), the country’s top legislature, and Xu, vice-chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), the country’s top advisory body, discussed the Sino-US relations and other issues of common concern with the US delegation.

MNA/Xinhua

3rd Mozambican peacekeeping contingent leaves for Burundi

MAPUTO, 2 July — A group of 180 Mozambican soldiers left Maputo for Burundi on Thursday to join the peacekeeping force in that country.

This is the third Mozambican contingent to operate in Burundi, alongside troops from South Africa and Ethiopia. Mozambican President Armando Guebuza bid farewell to the group on Wednesday.

Guebuza urged the Mozambican troops to behave responsibly, and abstain from any “undignified” contact with Burundian citizens. They should also follow scrupulously the basic principles of the United Nations that guide peacekeeping missions, namely neutrality, trust and impartiality, he stressed. The Mozambican troops were also required “to respect the laws and customs of the host country.” “Your mission is a matter of pride for all Mozambicans,” said Guebuza.

“Our mission is to help ensure that the instability that still prevails in Burundi is replaced by peace, and that uncertainty is replaced by harmony and a greater fraternity among Burundians.” — MNA/Xinhua

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“Our mission is to help ensure that the instability that still prevails in Burundi is replaced by peace, and that uncertainty is replaced by harmony and a greater fraternity among Burundians.” — MNA/Xinhua
Brazil beat Germany 3-0 in FIVB World Grand Prix

MACAO, 3 July—Defending champions Brazil beat Germany in straight sets here on Saturday at the Macao leg of the 2005 World Grand Prix women's volleyball tournament.

It was the fifth straight win for the South Americans in the tournament and the second in Macao.

Carvalho Jaqueline scored 15 points to lead the Brazilians to the 25-16, 25-16 and 26-24 victory over the Germans as the team's captain Menezes Valeska added eight.

The South American powerhouse, who swept the European champion Poland 3-0 on the first day of the Macao's competitions, did not meet any resistance in the first two sets, taking just 39 minutes to make it 2-0 with double 25-16.

The German women came into the third set with a flying start as they jumped to a 9-4 lead, but the Brazilians soon found back their rhythm to level it 10-10.

The German kept on holding the strong rivals and make the scoreboard eight ties until they finally got one set break with 24-23.

The Brazilian women survived it and rallied to a 26-24 win.

"I am very satisfied with my players' first two sets performance. They did very well in every aspect," said Brazil coach Jos Guimaraes.

"Yes, our team did not play well in the third but I think I should take the responsibility as I changed the squad to send three new players into the third set but they failed to play well enough when the Brazilians played really concentrated."

In Sunday's match, the unbeaten Brasil will fight against the top ranked China, who also have won all matches of the tournament so far.

"China is a very tough team. They are very strong and all-around. I hope we can play our game tomorrow," added Guimaraes. — MNA/Xinhua

China sweep Poland 3-0 at women's volleyball Grand Prix

MACAO, 3 July—World women's volleyball powerhouse China rocked Poland in three straight sets here on Saturday at the women's volleyball Grand Prix Macao leg.

China came across a scary moment at the start of the first set when the 27-year-old captain Feng Kun fell down on the ground to make a save.

The gritty Poland was in a hard bid to drag China's legs to win the set but the World Cup and Olympic dual-winner elbowed away at a 18-12 lead.

Wang Yimei and Ma Yunwen, two of the rookies in the Chinese team, displayed their determination and helped the seniors to seal the set at a 25-18 win.

The Polish put up a gallant fight in the second set and the Chinese did not save their spiking fire power and blocking skill.

Chu Jinling, another green hand of the Chinese team, got the chance to show up her excellent serving in the set, helping the team to clinch the set at 25-13. It seemed a no easy game for the hot Chinese team when Poland grabbed a 4-1 lead at the start of the third set, but the Olympic gold medalists harshly counter-attacked to a 7-7 draw.

Then it was a show time for the Chinese spiking power as the 17-year-old Wang Yimei dominated the net with her jumping and the 1.90 metre height.

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Argentina the 5th crown

UTRECHT (Netherlands), 3 July — Argentina were crowned FIFA World Youth Champions for a record fifth time after overcoming Nigeria 2-1 in a tight final at the Galgenwaard Stadium in Utrecht on Saturday.

Two penalties in each half from the exceptional Lionel Messi proved enough to defeat a Nigerian side who, for long periods of the match, appeared to have the power, skill and desire to become the first African winners of the competition.

For his sensational efforts, Messi picked up Adidas Golden Shoe and Adidas Golden Ball awards.

"I am very satisfied with my players' first two sets performance. They did very well in every aspect," said Brazil coach Jos Guimaraes.

"Yes, our team did not play well in the third but I think I should take the responsibility as I changed the squad to send three new players into the third set but they failed to play well enough when the Brazilians played really concentrated."

In Sunday's match, the unbeaten Brasil will fight against the top ranked China, who also have won all matches of the tournament so far.

"China is a very tough team. They are very strong and all-around. I hope we can play our game tomorrow," added Guimaraes. — MNA/Xinhua

Argentina were obviously not used to the West Africans' sharp-ounce, whose back and midfield seemed to be a total mess. However, the Albiceleste relied on more functional tactics, playing the counter-attack strategy patiently, and created some good chances by Messi as the half wore on.

Messi showed off his talents with a wonderful solo run on 38 minutes, dash- ing 50 metres from the midfield to round two defenders and finally earned a pen- alty after brought down by a defender inside the area. The Barcelona future star converted without problem to send his side ahead.

Put through by a neat flick from Prom- ise Isaac, Owoeri had a fine chance to equalize seven minutes after the restart but his touch let him down and the chance went begging.

A minute later though Chinedu Ogbuke made no mistake. The striker stole a march on his marker and, 10 yards out, glanced Olubayo Ademfun's right-wing centre into the bottom corner to spark thunderous applause on 53 minutes. The Flying Eagles' tails were up and after another superb flick from Isaac, David Abwo fired into the side netting.

Messi was not done either though. He skipped past Monday James and fired across goal with Zabaleta inches away from connecting. Two minutes later Isaac fired just wide as the crowd began an appreciate wave.

On top once more, Nigeria inexplica- bly conceded another penalty to fall be- hind. Substitute Sergio Aguero was hauled down and Messi calmly stroked the ball into the bottom corner in the 74th minute to seal victory.

"The reason we lost was because of the two penalties we gave away," said Sanmor Siasia. "We have got to have better discipline... we lost our concentra- tion. The Argentina players were not in a good position to score and weren't dan- gerous to us out there, so I don't know why they were brought down." — INTERNET

Brazil's Arasova, centre, in a duel for the ball with Rachid Tiberkhamme, right, of Morocco while Rafael of Brazil, left observes the action during the World Championships soccer U20 match for third place Brazil versus Morocco at the Galgenwaard Stadium in Utrecht, central Netherlands, on 2 July, 2005.

Brazil won 2-1. — INTERNET

Golden Messi's penalty-double sends Argentina the 5th crown

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With kind assistance...

(from page 9)

and health activities in 2004; outstanding Wushu athlete Ma Sse Wse Thant of Myanmar Wushu Federation for 2004; outstanding disabled athlete Ma Naw Phaw Ray Htoo who brought honour to the State in 2004; outstanding Sub-IP Theingi Myint of Computer Section of Yangon Division Police Force Commander’s Office; and outstanding Fire Sergeant Su Nanda Nyein of Central Fire Services Training School of PyinUoLwin.

Member of the Panel of Patrons Daw Khin Lay Thet also presented first, second and third prizes to Aung Kyaw Tun (Pathinegyi), U Myo Aung (Moe Aung-Kachin Myay) and Aung Myat (Aung Thha) in the colour photo contest.

President Daw Than Nwe gave consol- lation prizes to Kyaw Win Haing (University of Culture), Kyaw Kyaw (Dahtan), Ko Soe Nuynt (the New Light of Myanmar Daily), Soe Nuynt (Kyemon Daily) and Shweintha Khin Maung Win in the colour photo contest.

After the ceremony, Honorary Patron Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party together with the guests viewed round digital photos concerning tree planting ceremonies to mark Myanmar Women’s Day, the Third Meeting of ASEAN Women’s Af- fairs Committee, activities in international relations of MWAf, paper-reading sessions in commemora- tion of the Myanmar Women’s Day, photos of outstanding Myanmar women, booklets and pamphlets of MWAf, National Literary Award winning works of women writers, prize winning colour photos, May Myanmar journal and newslet- ter published by MWAf.

MNA

WEATHER

Sunday, 3 July, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State and rain has been isolated in lower Sagaing Division, Kachin and Chin States, scattered in Shan and Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions, widespread in the remaining areas with lo- cally heavyfall in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Sittway (8.19) inches, Ann (5.91) inches, Gwa (4.02) inches, Kyaukpyu (3.94) inches, Maungtaw (3.78) inches, Kyauktaw (3.46) inches and Thandwe (3.35) inches.

Maximum temperature on 2-7-2005 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 3-7-2005 was 66°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 3-7-2005 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 2-7-2005 was (2.2) hours approx. Rainfalls on 3-7-2005 were (1.81) inches at Mingaladon, (1.97) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.63) inch at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (32.01) inches at Mingaladon, (28.66) inches at Kaba-Aye and (27.99) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (16) mph from Southwest at (13:30) hours MST on 2-7-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 4-7-2005: Rain will be widespread in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, scattered in Shan State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and isolated in th remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Rakhine State. De- gree 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: Generally strong monsoon.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 4-7-2005: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 4-7-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Earthquake report

(issued at 09:00 hours MST on 3-7-2005)

An earthquake of moderate intensity (5.3) Rich- ter Scale with its epicenter in Myanmar water about (300) miles Southwest of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (00:36) hr (36) min (26) sec MST on 3rd July 2005.
MWAF Honorary Patron Daw Kyaing Kyaing attends ceremony to commemorate Myanmar Women’s Day

Myanmar women seen to have been brilliantly dutiful in discharging their roles demanded by history

In Myanmar society, the expression “woman” possesses a unique character of its own

MWAF condemns external pressures that disregard national interest in favour of group or individual interests

Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation issues Proclamation on Myanmar Women’s Day 2005

Presently, there are about 1.5 million members in the MWAF.

2. While upgrading Myanmar women’s rights, finances, health and education, MWAF attaches great value to and safeguards the historically significant culture and traditions.

3. In order to provide protection of human security to Myanmar women, MWAF is also taking preventive measures to eliminate violence against women, trafficking of women and children and rehabilitating victims of such inhuman violations.

4. As women are an indivisible part of the nation, the all-round development of the nation will affect the progress and development of women’s life and welfare, just as sanctions against the nation are regressive and obstructive to women’s progress and development.

5. The Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation is greatly concerned with the subsistence of Myanmar female workers who are part of all the workers that are massively deprived of their livelihoods. They work in trades that are peripherally linked to major industries and businesses that suffered a great deal from limitation and blockage of external aid, restrictions on international credit and currency, sanctions on foreign investments, bans on the tourist and hotel industries all imposed by some powerful countries as part of their pressure on the country.