### 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

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**Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to French President**

Yangon, 14 July — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Jacques Chirac, President of the French Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the French Republic which falls on 14 July 2005. — MNA

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**A handful of persons and some foreign nations are trying to interfere in Myanmar’s internal affairs USDA will have to ward off all attempts to endanger Our Three Main National Causes and to break up the Union**

Yangon, 14 July — The conclusion of Myanmar Affairs and International Studies Course No 8 of the Union Solidarity and Development Association was held at Pyidaungsu Hall of USDA training school in Hmawby Township this morning, with an address by member of Central Panel of Patrons of USDA Prime Minister General Soe Win.

Also present were members of the Secretariat of the USDA, CEC members, specially invited guests, course in-charge Lt-Col Khin Win, course supervisors and trainees.

In his address, member of Central Panel of Patrons of USDA Prime Minister General Soe Win said new generation youths are being nurtured continuously to become youth forces on whom the State and the USDA can rely. The government is making efforts for development of human resources and shaping the future State. Myanmar Affairs and International Studies Course is one of the efforts. The trainees studied national politics, State security, achievements in political, economic and social sectors and international affairs at the course while comparing the present, and past experiences and shaping the future in mind, he said.

He said he believed that all the trainees had learnt situations of the country and world affairs to some extent. He spoke of the need for the new generation youths to possess political, economic, defence and (See page 8)

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**INSIDE**

Certain Buddhist monks who once were famous for their wide knowledge in Pariyatti tried to tarnish and erode the pure Theravada Buddhism with their wrong thoughts, views and practices. The efforts of the eminent monks who tried to purify and promote the Sasana were ineffective because of the strong personality cult among the monks and lay persons.

YADANAH SAYADAW (LOILEM)

Member of Central Panel of Patrons of USDA Prime Minister General Soe Win addresses conclusion of Myanmar Affairs and International Studies Course No 8. — MNA

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**Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.**
Realization of discipline-flourishing democracy

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party visited Myitkyina and Bhamo in Kachin State from 8 to 10 July and inspected the construction projects and regional development work.

In his meeting with the state, district- and township-level departmental personnel, members of the social organizations and townselders in Myitkyina on 9 July, the Secretary-1 urged all those present to take an active part, together with the government and the Tatmadaw, in the fight against narcotic drugs, the preservation of natural resources and environment, the regional development projects and the process of democratization.

The Tatmadaw Government, which is leading the State, is carrying out the national development work together with the people in addition to discharge of the national defence duty to protect the life and property of the people. Amid all these duties, it is also implementing the Road Map for a discipline-flourishing democracy desired by the people.

The government successfully implemented the first four-year economic plan, the second five-year economic plan and the third five-year economic plan and, as a result, the economic growth rate of the nation is getting higher and higher.

Moreover, the development plan for border areas and national races, the special 24-region development plan and the five-rural-development tasks are being implemented for the harmonious development of hill regions, the plains and rural and urban areas. Due to the successful implementation of one development plan after another, the entire national people are enjoying the fruits of peace, security and development.

Now, the seven-point Road Map for transition to democracy has been laid down and the National Convention, the very first and most important stage of the programme, is in the process. More than 1,000 delegates representing the people from all walks of life are discussing basic principles to be embodied in the Constitution.

Successes achieved up to now in the political, economic and social sectors are due to the united efforts of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw. We believe the government, the people and the Tatmadaw will continue to work in concert for the successful realization of a discipline-flourishing democracy.

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

FM sends felicitations to France

Yangon, 14 July— U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Philippe Douste Blazy, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the French Republic which falls on 14 July 2005. — MNA

Culture Minister receives Nepalese Ambassador

Yangon, 13 July—Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung this morning received Nepal-ese Ambassador Li-Gen (Retd) Victory SJB Rana at the ministry in Bahan Township here and discussed matters on extending cultural exchange programme between the two countries.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, Director-General U Myint Thein Swe of Department of Cultural Institute, Director-General U Nwe Tun of Fine Arts Department, Deputy Director-General U Tun of Archaeology Department, Rector U Tin Soe of Culture University (Yangon) and officials. — MNA

U Khin Zaw Win appointed Ambassador to Indonesia

Yangon, 14 July—The Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Khin Zaw Win, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Indonesia.

U Nay Win presents credentials to Queen Elizabeth

Yangon, 14 July—U Nay Win, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, presented his Credentials to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 1 July 2005, at the Buckingham Palace. — MNA

Myanmar delegation to attend Thai Logistics Fair 2005

Yangon, 13 July—To display booths at Thai Logistics Fair 2005 to be held from 14 to 17 July, the Myanmar delegation led by Deputy General Manager U Nyunt Aung of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading under the Ministry of Commerce left here by air today.

Under the arrangement of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Chairman of Myanmar International Freight Forwarders Association U Aung Kyaw Min, Deputy General Manager U Kyaw Myint and Manager U Nanda Zin of Myanma Industrial Port, Executive Director U Than Myint of Computer Marketing Co Ltd and Manager U Myo Hlaing Aung of Inforithm-Maze Co Ltd will also attend the fair. — NLM

Development affairs tasks inspected

Yangon, 13 July—Director-General U Myo Myint of Development Affairs Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs toured townships in Mandalay Division and inspected development tasks on 10 July.

The director-general inspected Asphalt Concrete Mixing Factory in Kyaukse and gave instructions on worksite safety and minimizing loss and wastage.

Next, he inspected tarring of roads on Bogyoke street in the town.

In PyinOoLwin, the director-general heard reports on water supply to nine wards and installations on worksite safety and minimizing loss and wastage.

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased
**Philippines to continue economic reform**

MANILA, 12 July— The Philippine Government has pledged to continue its economic reform to win back confidence of investors after two international credit rating agencies downgraded Philippines’ ratings outlook.

In a statement Monday, Philippine Department of Finance (DOF) Officer-In-Charge Roberto Tan said the recent international rating actions are unfortunate consequences of the current political situation and take attention away from our economic gains.

“'We need to urgently shift our energies and attention to the economic imperatives ahead of us so that our successes will not be eroded by politics,' he said.

Fitch Ratings and Standard and Poor’s, two prestigious international ratings agencies, downgraded Monday Philippines’ ratings outlook from "stable" to "negative".

Analysts here said the current political crisis and suspension of the new value-added tax law known as EVAT by the Supreme Court are the reasons for the two agencies to downgrade ratings.

Tan, who was appointed officer-in-charge of DOF after Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima resigned last Friday, said the DOF assures the local and foreign investor community that the economic reform programme will be sustained under the current departmental leadership. On the fiscal front, the new DOF chief stressed that the revenue-enhancement measures that have been institutionalized at the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs will continue.

**1,758 US soldiers killed in Iraq**

WASHINGTON, 12 July—As of Tuesday, 12 July, 2005, at least 1,758 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,351 died as a result of hostile action. The figures include five military civilians.

The AP count is three higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EDT Tuesday. The British military has reported 89 deaths; Italy, 25; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovenia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,619 US military members have died, according to AP’s count. That includes at least 1,242 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

Since the start of US military operations in Iraq, 13,438 US servicemembers have been wounded, according to a Defense Department tally released on Tuesday.—INTERNET

**150 killed as three trains collide in Pakistan**

KARACHI, 13 July - Three commuter trains rammed into one another this morning in Southern Pakistan, leaving at least 150 dead and 1000 injured, railway and police officials said.

The number of dead and injured is expected to rise as rescue workers sift through the debris. The crash, one of the country’s worst train accidents, apparently occurred because of an error by the driver of one of the trains, officials said.

The train crash took place at about 3:52 am at a small railway station near Ghotki, a remote district about 370 miles northeast of Karachi in Southern Sindh Province.

A commuter train, the Karachi Express, rammed into another, the Quetta Express, which was idling at the station while repair work was being done on an engine. A third train, the Tezgam, coming from Karachi at the same time, then ploughed into the wreckage of the derailed cars, officials said. Five cars of the Tezgam train tumbled over, the officials said. According to Railway officials, a total of 19 cars from the three trains were damaged, 12 totally destroyed. Most of the dead are from Quetta Express and Tezgam Express, officials said.

President Pervez Musharraf expressed deep sorrow and described the loss of lives as a national tragedy. “I am deeply grieved,” said Mr Musharraf, who ordered an immediate inquiry.

**The historic Great Eastern Hotel is seen against monsoon rain clouds in the eastern Indian city of Kolkata on 11 July, 2005.—INTERNET**

**Frigate “INS Beas” joins Indian Navy**

NEW DELHI, 12 July— INS Beas, a guided missile frigate built by a state-run shipyard, was commissioned into the Indian Navy at Kolkata on Monday by Navy chief Admiral Arun Prakash, Indo-Asian News Service reported.

"This ship is one of the most modern and powerful in the world. We have built it at a very low cost. I am sure this ship is much better than any other in the country now," Prakash said of the warship that is 85 per cent indigenous. Built at a cost of nine billion rupees (206 million US dollars), the 3,600-ton Beas is densely packed with state-of-the-art weapons and sensors like the Israel-made Barak anti-missile defence system, Uran surface-to-surface missiles, a 76mm super rapid gun, torpedo launchers and Elobra electronic warfare suite.

The ship, built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), has a computerized system for command and control of all weapons and sensors.

**Dalian meeting important to provide directions**

DALIAN, 12 July— The WTO informal ministerial meeting is very important to provide trade ministers with directions at the crucial period of the Doha Development Agreement (DDA) negotiations, said James Peterson, Canadian International Trade Minister here Tuesday.

He was here to attend the WTO informal ministerial meeting, which will focus on the DDA negotiations. He and other trade ministers and WTO officials will have in-depth discussions on the five core areas of the conference: agriculture, non-agriculture market access, development, services and rules.

In November 2001, the declaration of the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference, an event held in Doha of Qatar, provides the mandate for negotiations on a range of subjects and other work, including issues concerning the implementation of the present agreements.

“We have come to see some very important decisions for the WTO and subjects as agriculture, goods, and services,” Peterson said Xinhua, stressing that agriculture is the core element for the meeting.

WTO members still have diverging ideas about reduction or exemption of the agriculture products subsidies. Peterson admitted that some products are closely linked to the core interests of some countries which “can not make huge changes overnight”, as he put it. He said that one reason for hindrance element in the progress of pushing forward multi-lateral trade is that everyone has its own interest to promote.

To meet the tight schedule set by WTO members to conclude Doha negotiations, Peterson hoped the “first approximation” — a preliminary framework — could come out in upcoming July as agreed by all.—MNA/Xinhua

**“TT” network to link villages across India**

NEW DELHI, 12 July — Indian villages will soon be linked by a net-work of information kiosks, bringing the seamless world of IT to the far reaches of the country and opening a win dow of opportunities, Indo-Asian News Service reported on Monday.

The National Alliance led by agricultural scientist MS Swaminathan, the father of India’s green revolution, and One World South Asia Monday announced “Mission 2007” for creating a net-work of information kiosks in 600,000 villages by India’s Independence Day on 15 August, 2007.

The mission, announced at a two-day policy makers’ workshop inaugurated by Indian President APJ Abdul Kalam, will connect 240,000 village councils in the first phase.

MNA/Xinhua
Malaysia needs to improve GDP growth to upgrade HDI ranking

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 July — Malaysia will have to improve on its gross domestic product (GDP) growth if it hopes to leapfrog from its current Human Development Index (HDI) ranking, a UNDP official said on Monday.

Malaysia currently ranks 59th out of 177 economies, the same position it held 10 years ago, Richard Leete, resident representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei, was quoted as saying by the Bernama news agency.

The HDI is the composite of three indicators of the life expectancy index, education index and GDP index. Leete said at a two-day conference here in Norway, Sweden, Canada, Australia and the Netherlands are the top five countries in terms of HDI ranking, Leete said.

Malaysia has shown significant improvements in terms of life expectancy and education but needs to do better in its GDP to move up the ladder, he said. The key towards this achievement is for Malaysia to invest more in science and technology, Leete added.

UNDP identifies HDI of 0.8 and above as those with high human development. Malaysia at 0.793 in 2004 is in the medium category.

Malaysia has made tremendous progress in human development with now less than five per cent living below the national poverty line compared to more than half the population in 1970, Leete noted.

Indian textile exports to register 25% growth

NEW DELHI, 12 July — Textile exports from India are expected to register a 25-per-cent growth during this year, a senior Textile Ministry official was quoted by Press Trust of India as saying on Monday.

Though there was a 10-per-cent decline during the first four months of the year, imports by the US and European countries have shown a quantum jump, which would enable India to register the 25 per cent growth, Indian Textile Secretary R Poornalingam said.

While total textile imports by the US have shown an increase of 24 per cent with India’s share (exports) being 10 per cent, the country’s share in European countries accounted for 11 per cent of the total imports there, Poornalingam said.

Vietnam sees beer production boom

HANOI, 12 July — Vietnam’s beer plants now have combined annual capacity of nearly 1.5 billion litres, while the plan on developing the local alcohol, beer and beverage industry approved by the government in 2002 aims to turn out only 1.2 billion litres in 2005 and 1.5 billion litres in 2010.

As a result, Vietnam’s Industry Ministry has recently submitted a new plan to the government for approval, under which new large-scale beer, alcohol and beverage plants will be built and major existing ones will be expanded in the next five years with estimated investment of 905 million US dollars, the ministry said Monday.

Under the new development plan, all economic sectors will be allowed to freely engage in making beer, alcohol and beverages. Preferential treatment will be given to production of beverages from locally-grown fruits.
China celebrates 600th anniversary of Zheng He's voyages

BEIJING, 12 July — China commemorated here on Monday the 600th anniversary of China’s first navigator to circumnavigate the world, believing it demonstrates early China’s peaceful diplomacy as well as dissemination of Chinese culture.

The navigator, named Zheng He, in the imperial Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), made voyages to more than 30 countries in West Asia and East Africa from 1405 to 1433. Zheng’s voyages were 87 years earlier than Columbus, 92 years earlier than Vasco da Gama and 114 years earlier than Magellan.

Addressing a meeting held on Monday at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, Chinese Vice-Premier Huang Ju said, “Zheng’s voyages helped dissemination of Chinese culture, promoted economic and trade exchanges between China and other parts of the world, boosted Sino-foreign friendly ties and contributed to world’s navigation cause.”

Huang called on Chinese people to carry forward Zheng He’s spirit of dedication to the Motherland, be bold in scientific exploration and expand friendly cooperation with people of other countries.

Historical records show that Zheng, commanding the most powerful ocean-going fleet of the day, neither colonized any newly discovered areas nor set up any military fortresses.

On the contrary, he provided local inhabitants with silk, chinaware, calendars and agricultural tools.

China has decided to designate every July 11 as China’s “Navigation Day” to popularize marine knowledge among Chinese people and enhance people’s awareness on environmental protection and marine economy.

Senior Chinese leaders including Li Changchun, Liu Yunshan attended the meeting.

MNA/Xinhua

Japanese PM ends China visit

SHANGHAI, 12 July — Japanese Prime Minister Koizumi and his Chinese counterpart Li Changchun held talks here on Monday morning, continuing their five-day official visit to China, during which they exchanged views on various bilateral and international issues.

Prime Minister Koizumi, in his concluding remarks, said that the visit was very successful and constructive and the two sides were fully satisfied with the meeting.

The two leaders also signed a series of cooperation agreements.

The visit was a milestone in promoting the two countries’ relations. Mitchell said it is conducive to the social and economic development of Grenada and it is poised to consolidate Grenada-China relations. Mitchell hoped the two countries will further boost exchanges and expand bilateral cooperation in the fields of trade, investment and tourism. He reiterated Grenada’s adherence to the one-China policy.

MNA/Xinhua

Former Indonesian insurance chief arrested on graft suspicion

JAKARTA, 12 July — A former President director of Indonesia’s state labour insurance company PT Jamsostek has been arrested on suspicion of involvement in a 250 billion rupiah (about 25.5 million US dollars) graft case.

Ahmad Djunaid, accompanied by his wife, was arrested on arrival at the Soekarno-Hatta International Airport on Sunday after returning from a minor hajj on board a Malaysian aircraft, official news agency Antara reported on Monday.

Supriatna Anwar, head of the Immigration Directorate General’s administration and public relations division, said Djunaid was actually banned from overseas travel. According to him, Djunaid said he did not know that he was banned from leaving the country. Police had originally planned to question Djunaid on Tuesday (July 5) but the suspect did not show up, chief of inter-departmental corruption eradication team (Tasipikor) Hendraman Supandi said.

MNA/Xinhua

Grenada PM visits China

SHANGHAI, 12 July — Grenada Prime Minister Keith Mitchell left Shanghai on Monday morning, concluding his five-day official visit to China, with the expectation of a fruitful result.

Grenada and its people were committed to consolidate Grenada-China relations. Mitchell hoped the two countries will further boost exchanges and expand bilateral cooperation in the fields of trade, investment and tourism. He reiterated Grenada’s adherence to the one-China policy.

MNA/Xinhua

Thai Govt to offer new fund to eliminate poverty

BANGKOK, 12 July — An additional 20 billion baht (476 million US dollars) fund will be injected into villages throughout Thailand to accelerating the poverty eradication process, local Press reported on Sunday.

Addressing an Interior Ministry forum on fighting poverty Saturday, Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra said 80,000 villages across the country will receive the supplementary fund by mid-July. “I would like district chiefs to capitalize on the opportunities and put the state policy into action immediately so we can strengthen sustainable economic development and help people get away from poverty faster,” he was quoted by Bangkok Post as saying.

Different from the village fund approved previously, the money will be used to boost micro-economic development and extend investment opportunities for rural communities under the small, medium and large (SML) funding schedule.

Since the village fund programme started four years ago, some 75 billion baht (1.8 billion US dollars) has been spent to finance businesses, tackle poverty and generate incomes for villagers.

MNA/Xinhua

Two US soldiers killed in western Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 12 July — Two US soldiers were killed in combat operations in the Iraqi town of Hit in the volatile Anbar Province, the US military said on Monday.

“Two Marines assigned to Regimental Combat Team 2, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), were killed in action on July 10,” the military said in a statement. The two were killed by indirect fire while conducting combat operations in Hit, some 160 kilometres west of Baghdad, the statement said.

The statement gave no further details about the incident, but said, “the names of the deceased are being withheld pending notification of next of kin.” — MNA/Xinhua

Sony Corp’s robot ‘Aibo’ fights for the ball during the four-legged league at the RoboCup 2005 in Osaka, western Japan, on 13 July, 2005. RoboCup 2005 will be hosted by Osaka from 13 to 19 July, 2005. — INTERNET
Eight State-owned industries for auction

YANGON, 13 July — The Privatization Commission will auction eight State-owned industries here, with floor prizes ranging from less than K 100 million to over K 700 million.

The floor prices of No 7 Garment Factory in Mayangon and No 28 Thread Factory in Yankin are K 377.012 million and K 712.529 million respectively, while No 10 Garment Factory in Thingangyun will be auctioned at the initial price of K 527.563 million. MRTV programmes transmission station in Myitta, Tanintharyi Division, was completed on 7 July. MRTV programmes have been on the air beginning 8 July, it is learnt.

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**Korean Contemporary Painting Exhibition to be held**

YANGON, 13 July — Under the co-sponsorship of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea and the Ministry of Culture of the Union of Myanmar, a Korean Contemporary Painting Exhibition will be held at the National Museum in Yangon starting from 21 to 27 July in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Korea and the United Nations of Myanmar. The exhibition will be kept open from 10 am to 4 pm and admission is free.

The works of the 10 Myanmar artists including U Hla Min and the 50 Korean artists including Cha Young-Kyu, Professor of the Kangneung International University in Korea, will be put on display in the exhibition.

The Korean works consist of well-handled traditional Korean techniques and modern style of traditional Korean arts. — MNA
Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects regional development tasks

YANGON, 13 July—Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Maung Swe, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, senior military officers and officials, inspected road conditions and bridges along Bhamo-Taungguyan Road on 10 July.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected Sinkhan Bridge Project in Bhamo Township and gave instructions on matters for durability of the facility.

He looked into progress of laying asphalt on Udaungtaung Road. On arrival at mile post No 152 on Bhamo-Sinbin Road, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard a report on progress of building roads and bridges.

He also inspected No.2 Basic Education High School in Shwegu, Bhamo District, and Shwegu Township People’s Hospital.

At the meeting with those in charge in No 1 BEHS in Shwegu, Lt-Gen Ye Myint dealt with matters on regional development.

Officials reported on progress of expanding roads, cultivation of rice and edible oil crops, regional progress, education, health, social and economic sectors and regional climates, and work progress.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint said that Shwegu has seen gradual development thanks to the transport network constructed by the government. respective departments and local people are to make combined efforts for ensuring harmonious development.

He added that the people should expose and inform destructive acts to authorities, and only then will the region enjoy development with peace and stability, and will local people lead a peaceful life within the frame of laws.

MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than oversees development of Gwa Township

YANGON, 13 July — Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and officials spent the night at Kanthaya in Gwa Township.— MNA

Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun and officials, left here by car and arrived at Bo Myat Tun Bridge in Nyaungdon Township on 11 July morning.

Accompanied by Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at Bayda Camp at mile post 28 ⅓ on Ngathuung- chaung-Gwa-Thanwe-Toungup Road.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with departmental officials, members of social organisations and townsiders in Gwa. — MNA

They proceeded to Rubber Farm of Myanma General and Maintenance Industries in Twathitgon Village of Gwa Township. They inspected seeding of polyclone rubber strain at the nursery.

Officials reported on seeding of rubber strain, distribution tasks and nurturing of 40,000 rubber saplings.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and officials spent the night at Kanthaya in Gwa Township.— MNA

Solo cyclist on long trip to Bago Division, Kayin, Kayah and Shan States

YANGON, 13 July— For turning out the new generation cyclists, Vice-President of Myanmar Cycling Federation U Thet Win greeted U Myo Myint, 60, of Thukha Chantha Cycling Club.

He will strive for emergence of the outstanding cyclists who can bring honour to the country, and ensuring development of cycling standard, and giving educational talks on HIV/AIDS and no smoking.

Through Myanmar Sports and Physical Education Department, MCP requested the state/division sports and physical education committees to provide necessary assistance to him for the success of his tour.— MNA

U Myo Myint of Thukha Chantha Cycling Club. — MNA
Strong will of the entire people to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation is the driving force for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

All the people should see their perpetration as the scheme to encroach on the independent stand of the nation that is in the process of transition to democracy.

It is the national duty for every citizen to be handed down, he pointed out. The national association that came into existence to discharge the national duty bestowed by history laid down tasks every year and is implementing them together with the government and the Tatmadaw and the people. He said every citizen has to safeguard and defend non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty after realizing the value of the Union.

The State has been a sovereign one for hundreds of years and it was colonized after aggressive wars by the colonialists and lost independence in the late 19th century. However, it regained independence and became a sovereign nation again in the middle of the 20th century due to the unity and struggle of the people and patriotism. Political, economic and social sectors deteriorated under over 100 years of colonial rule. It was bitter experiences and lessons and national character and rights were lost, he said.

The youths are learning knowledge, technology and vocational education for uplifting national capabilities, qualifications of good citizens, concept and belief, keeping patriotism alive, preserving national prestige and integrity, national development and skills, he said. He said they are to build a peaceful, modern developed nation applying good capabilities such as thoughts, knowledge and technology in the already-built infrastructures. Only when these capabilities and basic foundations are utilized harmoniously, will the country be perpetual and the life of the people be secure and prosperous.

The strong will of the entire people to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation is the driving force for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. A handful of persons and some foreign nations are trying to encroach on the independent stand of the nation that is in the process of transition to democracy according to the annual work programmes and objectives. All should make efforts for harmonious development of the political, economic and defence strengths in building the nation. Political strength will lay foundations for peace, stability and progress. The economic power will help build up the defence sector. A strong defence force will strengthen the political strength and peace and the rule of law. The political, economic and defence sectors have interrelations between one another. The messages issued and discussions made at the Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference and Myanmar Women’s Day celebrations eagerly stated the will to expose and crush plots and acts to endanger the national interest and vitally destroy patriotism, while placing in the fore Our Three Main National Causes. It is the will that comes out from the hearts of the entire people.

The youths are learning knowledge, technology and vocational education for uplifting national capabilities, qualifications of good citizens, concept and belief, keeping patriotism alive, preserving national prestige and integrity, national development and skills, he said. He said they are to build a peaceful, modern developed nation applying good capabilities such as thoughts, knowledge and technology in the already-built infrastructures. Only when these capabilities and basic foundations are utilized harmoniously, will the country be perpetual and the life of the people be secure and prosperous.

He said every citizen has to safeguard and defend non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty after realizing the value of the Union.

Prime Minister General Soe Win cordially converses with USDA trainees. — MNA

MNA
Myainggyingu Special Region witnessing...

perennial crops; Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, on schedules for exploration of minerals; Minister Col Thein Nyunt, on arrangements for progress of border areas including Myainggyingu Special Region; and those present, on respective sectors for regional development; Lt-Gen Maung Bo, on opportunities in agriculture, livestock breeding and economic sectors for regional development. The Secretary-1 assessed the reports and provided assistance for the projects.

After the meeting, the Secretary-1 presented blankets, clothes and household utensils provided by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement to DKBA member newcomers to Myainggyingu Special Region through U Tha Htoo Kyaw.

This morning, the Secretary-1 and party met officers and other ranks and families of local regiments in Mawlamyine Station at the Southern Command in Mawlamyine. Also present on the occasion were Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Myo Hla and senior military officers. The Secretary-1 elaborated on participation of the entire national people in upholding of Our Three Main National Causes, building of a strong and capable Tatmadaw, and implementing the seven-point Road Map for transition to democratic nation with flourishing discipline. Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party went to Thanlwin Bridge construction project (Mawlamyine).

Chief Engineer (Bridge) of Public Works U Khin Maung Aye reported on progress of the construction of motorway of the bridge, maintenance of piers, condition of the bridge and tasks being carried out to maintain flow of water in Thanlwin River.

Regarding the approach roads (railway) of the bridge, Senior Engineers U Tint Lwin and U Myo Win of the bridge construction, reported on construction of piers, installation of cross beams, construction of railway and related works.

Next, Senior Engineer U Lwan Thu of Myanma Railways also reported on construction of railways on the bridge and approach roads. Lt-Gen Maung Bo also gave a supplementary report.

After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Thein Sein said that the biggest and longest bridge in Myanmar, Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) will be the pride of Myanmar engineers and Mon State. Moreover, the new bridge will be of benefit to the State and the people, he added.

He also urged officials concerned to construct the railway meeting the set standard and to make efforts to minimize loss and wastage.

Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement to DKBA member newcomers to Myainggyingu Special Region through U Tha Htoo Kyaw.

Next, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party inspected the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) daily.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents offertories to the Sayadaw of Mebaung Monastery in Hpa-an, Kayin State. — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein meeting with Chairman of DKBA U Tha Htoo Kyaw and party in Hpa-an. — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein meeting with locals in Myainggyingu Special Region in Hlaingbwe Township in Kayin State. — MNA

DKBA Chairman U Tha Htoo Kyaw reports on regional development tasks. — MNA

The Secretary-1 assessed the reports and provided assistance for the projects.

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Regarding the approach roads (railway) of the bridge, Senior Engineers U Tint Lwin and U Myo Win of the bridge construction, reported on construction of Railway Station construction has been built. Construction of railway on the main bridge is nearing completion and railway construction from Mawlamyine Station to Ye railway station is under construction. The main railway is parallel with the motor road on Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine).

Myanma Railway banks are being built by Public Works, and approach roads by Myanma Railways. At the same time, Myanma Railways is building new Mawlamyine Station and its yard. On completion of the railroad on Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), travellers can go through Yangon to Dawei. The road section of Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) was opened on 5 February 2005. Employees are making efforts for timely completion of the railroad section at the bridge. Over 900 vehicles, over 1,300 motorcycles and bicycles and travellers on foot pass through the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) daily.

At the General Hospital (Mawlamyine), Chairman of National Health Committee Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said that the Government is performing more health care services for ensuring health and fitness of the people. So, health staff are to provide not only medical treatment but also educational talks to the people and to study improvement of medical science.

Furthermore, it is necessary to set up medical funds for giving health

(open page 10)
Myainggyingyu Special Region witnessing...

(from page 9)

care service to needy people and cooperate with social organizations for taking measure of using hygienic latrines in the state.

On arrival at Perennial Crops Applied Research Centre of Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise, the Secretary-1 and party inspected functions and research works of the centre. Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Hay Oo and Deputy General Manager U Aye Pe of the centre reported on matters related to the research centre.

The Secretary-1 gave instructions that research works are to be conducted continuously, and findings and progress of research works are to be distributed to the agriculturists.

Perennial Crops Applied Research Centre is performing research works on hybridization of rubber, oil palm, cashew, macadamia and others, soil and insect tests and tissue culture of oil palm.

The Secretary-1 and party arrived back here from Mawlamyine by Tatmadaw helicopter.

USDA Secretary-General Minister Maj-Gen Hay Oo, CEC members Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, who accompanied the Secretary-1, met with secretaries and executives of Mawlamyine, Chaungzon, Kyaukmaraw, Mudon, Thanybyuzayat and Paung Township USDA's at Mawlamyine District USDA Office on 12 July evening.

Mon State USDA Secretary U Tin, See Mon Naing, Mawlamyine District USDA Secretary Dr Toe Toe Aung and officials reported on progress of their regions.

USDA Secretary-General Minister Maj-Gen Hay Oo explained organizational matters of the association, participation in successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map, public welfare tasks and rural development tasks, and efforts to be made for nurturing outstanding persons on whom the State can rely. Similarly, Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Sein Htwa met with staff of the ministry at Mon State Immigration and National Registration Department this morning.

Head of the Mon State INRD Deputy Director U Thaung Shwe, Head of Mon State Fire Services Department Assistant Director U Tin Aye and officials of Social Welfare Department, and Relief and Resettlement Department submitted reports on their respective sectors.

The minister instructed them to abide by rules and regulations of the respective departments in implementing the plans and discharge duties with Union Spirit. — MNA

YANGON, 13 July — The 26th ASEAN Food Security Reserve Board Meeting was opened this morning at Sedona Hotel here with an address by Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint.

Also present on the occasion were heads of department and officials under the ministry, delegates of ASEAN countries and East Asia Rice Reserve Board, resident representatives of FAO and JICA and invited guests. In his address, the deputy minister said: Being an agro-based country, Myanmar is fulfilling the basic needs of its populace and in addition, it is somewhat contributing to the food security of the region. In order to meet the growing food demand, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is striving towards increased production of paddy, oil crops, beans and pulses, while efforts are also being made in livestock, fishery and forestry sectors. Total crop sown area accounts for 41.32 million acres (16.72 million hectares) in Myanmar. Exerted efforts are being made to increase the production of agricultural commodities so as to meet the domestic requirements and also to increase export to international market. Formerly, paddy was grown once a year in Myanmar as monsoon rice. Since 1992-93, summer paddy has been introduced and rice is now being produced throughout the year. In 2003-2004, that is last fiscal year, area of summer paddy reached 2.7 million acres. Myanmar produced 1,108.81 million baskets (23.14 million metric tons). These efforts bring the significant increase in rice production of Myanmar to stand as one of the top rice producing countries in ASEAN.

In order to strengthen the regional food security, the 19th Meeting of the ASEAN Food Security Reserve Board (AFSRB) held in Bangkok in 1996 endorsed the proposal of the establishment of ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS). I strongly believe that the achievement of ASEAN Food Security Information System would provide more accurate information for strengthening food security among the ASEAN member countries.

Next, Director-General U Win Kyi of Settlement and Land Records Department extended greetings. After the opening ceremony the deputy minister and representatives had a documentary photo taken.

The meeting continues tomorrow. — MNA
The body that is leading over 400,000 members of the Sangha of the Union of Myanmar in the religious sector is the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee (SSMNC). With the leadership of the SSMNC, the State and Division Sangha Nayaka Committees, the Township Sangha Nayaka Committees and the Ward and Village Sangha Nayaka Committees are also serving the interest of the Sasana with greater momentum.

The SSMNC was founded in Myanmar in the month of Nayon, 1342 Myanmar Era, in commemoration of the unity that was achieved by all the ganas of the Sangha in the entire nation. It has become a 25-year old body in Nayon, 1367 ME. Now I would like to recount the past experiences of many monks concerning the situation of the religion before the emergence of the SSMNC, and during the 25 years of the SSMNC and see to the future of the Sasana.

Thanks to the efforts of the Buddhist monks and lay persons, the nation was able to hold the Sixth Buddhist Synod after regaining of independence. Eminent Buddhist monks, Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovidha Dhamma Bhandagarika Chathassingiti Visajjakaj Bhaddanta Vittacitararhavansa, and Agga Maho Pandita Chathassingiti Pucchaka Bhaddanta Sobhana, were held well versed in the Pariyatti and Patipatti, did emerge in the nation before the convening of the Synod.

The entire Pitaka treatises were translated into Myanmar most comprehensively for all to study. At the same time, confusion and deterioration occurred in the country. Because of the prejudices, Buddhist monks of different ganas lost loving-kindness among themselves.

And there also appeared differences among the monks not because of the disagreements in the Vinaya rules, but due to different ganas. Different Sangha organizations came into being and unity broke up among the members of the Sangha. Although there were many Sangha organizations at all levels then, they were not effective in uniting the members of the Sangha of the whole nation due to lack of government intervention and authority. Many weaknesses and loopholes did occur in the Myanmar Sasana history.

Certain Buddhist monks who once were famous for their wide knowledge in Paripatti were trying to tarnish and erode the pure Theravada Buddhism with their wrong thoughts, views and practices. The efforts of the eminent monks who tried to purify and promote the Sasana were ineffective because of the strong personality cult among the monks and lay persons.

The religion of Myanmar was in a state of decline for 30 years after the regaining of independence. Thus, many learned monks retreated into their own monasteries and were serving the interest of the Sasana individually in their own way. In 1342 ME, all the ganas of the Sangha achieved unity among themselves. The meeting of the Sangha of all the ganas was held that year, attended by over 1,200 Sangha representatives. The meeting elected 300 members of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha (SCWCS) from among the 1,200 representatives. The meeting then elected 33 members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee from among the 300 SCWCS members.

Since then the SSMNC has emerged in the nation and has been taking a leading role in serving the interest of the religious sector of the nation in a correct way, thereby opening a new chapter in the history of the Sasana.

And since then, the religious sector has entered the golden age. The meeting of all ganas of the members of the Sangha paved the way to purify, promote and propagate the Sasana. The first SSMNC Chairman was Abhidhaja Maha Ratthā Guru Bago Myoma Sayadaw, and the Secretary was Abhidhaja Maha Ratthà Guru Tipitaka Dhamma Bandagarika Mingun Sayadaw.

Thanks to the emergence of the SSMNC, out of the numerous Ganas, only nine Ganas were prescribed — Suddhamma, Shwekyin, Dhammanu Dhamma Maha Dvaranikaya, Dhamma Vinayunuloma Maladvara Nikaya, Anaukchaung Dvara, Weluwun Nikaya, Catubhumika Maha Satipatthan Hngettwin, Ganavimut Kutoh, and Dhamma Yutti Nikaya Maharin.

The nine Ganas are responsible for the sole State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, whose directives are followed by all members of the Sangha. The SSMNC is divided into three bodies namely, Vinichaya (judgment) affairs, religious affairs, and academic affairs, and they have to carry out respective religious tasks constantly, thereby making remarkable contribution towards further purification and flourishing of the Theravada Buddha Sasana in Myanmar.

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After eight years, the SSMNC faced the 1988 unrest which halted the flourishing of the Sasana and later threatened to put an end to the Sasana.

The Sangha Nayaka committees at different levels were on the verge of collapse due to a large range of destructive acts of the demonstra tors. There emerged illegal religious associations such as Sangha Samaggi association, young monks' association, and abbot's association. The legal Sangha associations at various levels came under the influence, and even member Sayadaws of the SSMNC, under coercion of the illegal associations of members of the Sangha.

These undesirable incidents embodied an unforgettable lesson in the nation’s history that without peace and stability, the future of the Sasana would be uncertain. So, the interdependence between the stability of the State and that of the Sasana had highlighted the bounden duty of the members of the Sangha and the entire Buddhists to exert efforts in concert and harmony to ensure the flourishing of the Sasana and prevalence of peace and tranquillity in the nation.

Looking back on the world’s religious history, the Sasana of Theravada Buddhism went into a sharp decline and the Sasana of Bhikkhuni (female members of the Sangha) in Ceylon (Sri Lanka) met its end due to the instability in the nation that was perpetrated by the Brahmana Tissa uprising for 12 years.

If the 1988 unrest went on for one more month or an interim government emerged during the unrest, the survival of the SSMNC would be very uncertain. As the Tatmadaw Government restored peace and stability in the nation with duty consciousness, the SSMNC and other Sangha Nayaka Committees at different levels still exist and are able to continue their religious tasks unceasingly.

The following are firm evidences of the Tatmadaw Government's correct actions:

1. Order No 6/90 and 7/90 issued by the State Law and Order Restoration Council, and Law No 20/90 on Sangha Committees by the State Law and Order Restoration Council.

2. After promulgating such orders and laws, the Tatmadaw Government applied its authority decisively in carrying out its duties for promotion and propagation of the Sasana. Hence, the SSMNC and respective Sangha Namaka Committees have been able to exert efforts steadfastly to fastly to date to ensure the purification, perpetuation, promotion and propagation of the Sasana.

As the first step, the SSMNC was reconstituted with 33 Sayadaws, and later the number of member Sayadaws rose to 45, then 47. In the silver jubilee of the SSMNC, 47 member Sayadaws are taking a leading role in the tasks in the service of the Sasana.

With the supreme qualities of virtue, equanimity and wisdom of Chairman Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Ratthā Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Suddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Kumara (Magway Sayadaw) and member Sayadaws, the SSMNC is held in high esteem and wins high admiration of over 50 million people of the nation including more than 400,000 members of the Sangha.

Up to its silver jubilee, the impurities have been removed from the Sasana, Paripatti (academic) Sasana has flourished, and Patipatti (meditation) has borne fruits.

Therefore, no doubt, the Sasana has a promising future for its perpetual purity, promotion and propagation.

Translation: TMT + MS

Myanna Alin, Kyemon — 13-7-2005
UNSG calls for gender equality as way to defeat poverty

Kyrgyz Ambassador says withdrawal of Western base possible

General Assembly debates UNSC reform resolution
Facilities donated by Japan to help giant pandas online

CHENGDU, 12 July — The giant pandas in Chengdu, capital of southwest China’s Sichuan Province, will go online soon, thanks to a digital video monitoring system donated by Japan CS (Chengdu-Sapporo) Giant Panda Association late last week.

According to the Chengdu Giant Panda Breeding and Research Base, the system, valued at about 42,169 US dollars, is the state-of-the-art animal monitoring system in the world, said Yu Jianqiu, deputy director of the Chengdu Giant Panda Breeding and Research Base.

The system will be used to observe daily behaviors and breeding of giant pandas. It can also be applied to disease control and prevention of the endangered species.

Installed in the delivery room of the giant pandas, it will help researchers monitor every corner of the breeding ward and issue warnings against smoke, intrusion and improper temperature and humidity.

The system is able to transmit real-time video data to the Internet and local networks, according to Yu Jianqiu. Giant pandas are not only the national treasure in China but also a common treasure of human beings worldwide, said Aoki Yoshinaka, president of Japan CS Giant Panda Association.

The service gantry is rolled back from Space Shuttle Discovery at Cape Canaveral, on 12 July, 2005. —INTERNET

Germany offers help in Czech wind power project

BERLIN, 12 July — German Environment Minister Juergen Trittin signed here on Monday an agreement offering official help for a pilot wind power project in the neighbouring Czech Republic. Under the bilateral project “Windpark Rusova”, the Czech company “green lines s.r.o.” is building and operating a wind power park consisting of three wind generators.

The first ever in the republic with more than 2 megawatts generating capacity. The German environment official pledged to help finance the Rusova facility with 2 million euros (2.4 million US dollars). — MNA/Xinhua

UNESCO urged to protect world heritage glaciers from climate

DURBAN, (South Africa), 12 July — The United Nations’ cultural arm, UNESCO, has been urged to place the world’s highest peak Mount Everest and tropical coral reefs in central America on its list of World Heritage in Danger due to the impacts of global warming.

A group of non-governmental organizations have handed a petition to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee (WHC), currently meeting in Durban, South Africa, with hopes that the inscription on the list could help enhance monitoring and precautionary measures.

The melting of Himalayan glaciers in the Nepali side as a result of climate change has swollen Himalayan lakes, increasing the risk of cataclysmic flooding that could kill thousands of people. And if these lakes were to burst, it would destroy large tracts of farmland and devastate the regions that rely on the water for irrigation.

The WHC has expressed concern over the issue, and some officials have suggested that a committee be formed to look into the situation.

Scientists discover secret of staphylococcus infection

LOS ANGELES, 12 July — The golden pigment that coats the surface of staphylococcus is not just for decoration, rather, the molecules that give the bacteria its golden hue also help it resist killing by the immune system, US scientists reported on Monday.

The researchers at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine have discovered that staphylococcus, or the “Staph” bacteria, use a protective golden armour to ward off the immune system, a finding with the potential to lead to new treatments for serious infections now increasingly resistant to standard antibiotics.

The study, focusing on the major human pathogen Staphylococcus aureus and the characteristic yellow-orange colour for which it is named, is published in the latest issue of The Journal of Experimental Medicine.

Among the deadliest of all disease-causing organisms, “Staph” is the leading cause of human infections in the skin and soft tissues, bones and joints, abscesses and normal heart valves. It especially flourishes in the hospital setting, producing bloodstream and surgical wound infections. The spread of antibiotic-resistant strains of Staph, referred to as methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus or MRSA, has reached epidemic proportions and poses a major threat to the public health.

Staph’s colouration reflects the production of molecules called carotenoids, similar to those present in carrots and other colourful vegetables and fruits. Dietary carotenoids have long been touted for their antioxidant properties with hope that they could slow aging or fight off cancer.

The scientists found that pathogenic Staph took advantage of the antioxidant effects of its carotenoid pigment to extend its own life, by inactivating chemicals deployed by neutrophils that are lethal to most bacteria. The team used a molecular genetic approach for their studies, knocking out the genes for carotenoid synthesis to generate a mutant strain of Staph that appeared white in color instead of the normal gold.

They also found that the nonpigmented Staph mutant became much more susceptible to oxidants such as hydrogen peroxide and singlet oxygen produced by neutrophils. Without its golden pigment, the Staph lost its ability to survive in human neutrophils or blood, and could no longer form an abscess when injected into the skin of experimental mice. — MNA/Xinhua

British police reportedly to identify one London bomber

LONDON, 12 July — British police are making progress toward identifying one person involved in last week’s London bomb attacks, which left more than 50 dead and 700 others injured, according to local media Tuesday.

The suspect who was responsible for a bus explosion last Thursday morning will soon be named, The Financial Times quoted an unnamed official as saying. “I think we are going to see photographs of one or more suspects being posted within days,” said the official, who was involved in international efforts to find the bombers.

In a separate report, The Times newspaper said forensic pathologists have speculated that one of the two bodies found inside the wrecked bus might have been the bomber. Experts said the bus bomb might have exploded accidentally as being carried by the terrorist. Meanwhile, the Daily Mirror said the police had placed up to 100 suspects considered the “most likely” to have been involved in the attack, among whom were British residents known to have been trained in al-Qaeda-type camps overseas. In the United States, the National Broadcasting Company (NBC) television reported that British investigators have found fingerprints on bomb materials in the London attacks, adding that at least four operatives are believed to have taken part in the attacks. — MNA/Xinhua

The service gantry is rolled back from Space Shuttle Discovery at Cape Canaveral, on 12 July, 2005. —INTERNET

The service gantry is rolled back from Space Shuttle Discovery at Cape Canaveral, on 12 July, 2005. —INTERNET
MEXICO CITY, 13 July — Mexico coach Ricardo La Volpe apologized after criticizing the CONCACAF Gold Cup match against Trinidad and Tobago.

Colombia close to Gold Cup quarters

WASHINGTON, 13 July — Colombia are close to advancing to the quarter-finals of the CONCACAF Gold Cup after beating Trinidad and Tobago.

Colombia's goal-keeper Farid Mondragón (2R) was sent off after a foul on Trinidad's Marvin Andrade.

Mourinho requires Dein to quit FA

LONDON, 13 July — Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho required on Tuesday Arsenal vice-chairman David Dein to step down from the board of the Football Association.

Chilean Marcelo Salas leaves River Plate

SANTIAGO, 13 July — Chilean international Marcelo Salas will leave River Plate of Argentina, because of the economic conditions offered, according to information from the Buenos Aires team, received on Tuesday at this capital.

MEXICO CITY, 13 July — Mexico coach Ricardo La Volpe apologized after criticizing the CONCACAF Gold Cup match against Trinidad and Tobago.

Colombia's goal-keeper Farid Mondragón (2R) was sent off after a foul on Trinidad's Marvin Andrade.
Cuba rejects humanitarian relief from US after hurricane
HAVANA, 13 July—Cuban President Fidel Castro said his country will reject humanitarian relief from the United States and the European Union (EU) after the hurricane Dennis killed at least 16 people and caused serious damage in the island, local Press reported on Tuesday.
“Either the United States offered one billion dollars we would say no. Better remove the genocidal blockade on our country,” Castro said.

Death toll in Costa Rican hospital fire rises to 18
SAN JOSÉ, 13 July—The number of dead for toxication after the fire in the early hours of Tuesday, in a hospital in central San José rose to 18, according to latest reports released by rescue institutions.
“The number of deceased is 18,” Health Minister María del Rocío Samán told a Press conference, who estimated material damage at eight million dollars.
The fire started at 2.20 hours, local time (0820 GMT), in the third and fourth floors of State-run Rafael Angel Calderón Guardia Hospital, one of the oldest hospitals of the country, built in 1943.
The cause of the fire is not known. The victims have not been identified either, although bodies have been found already, and rescue service institutions.
Costa Rica’s President appointed a commission to study the possibility of declaring a state of emergency, which would allow the government to channel resources in an expedient way to cope with the problem, and “to review security conditions in public buildings.”

Annan hails civil society participation in search for M-E peace
UNITED NATIONS, 13 July—The support of civil society is indispensable in all efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said on Tuesday.
“The United Nations, for its part, will spare no effort in advancing the peace process and, meanwhile, continuing to help the Palestinians cope with socio-economic hardship,” Annan said in a message delivered to an international meeting in Paris by the director-general of the UN Office at Geneva, Sergei Ordzhonikidze.
The two-day UN International Conference of Civil Society in Support of Middle East Peace was being held under the auspices of the UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.
It will promote civil society organizations from all regions of the world with an opportunity to discuss the situation on the ground, develop action-oriented proposals in support of Middle East peace, and coordinate their activities in promoting a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine.
Non-governmental organization (NGO) representatives and other participants will have an opportunity to discuss issues of particular interest to civil society organizations. It is envisaged that a plan of action will be adopted by participants at the close of the Conference.
“This conference is a fine example of the evolution that has taken place in the relationships between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations—a relationship that goes back to the Charter itself,” Annan declared.
He said he was encouraged by the progress achieved since the February summit between Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Israël Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

WEATHER

Wednesday, 13 July, 2005
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the last 24 hours, rain have been widespread in Kachin, Kayin and Mon States, scattered in Shan, Kayah, Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, Taninthayi Divisions and isolated in lower Sagaing with locally heavyfalls in Bago and Mandalay Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas.
The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nyanglaybin (6.02) inches, Shwegyin (3.70) inches, Myingyan (3.35) inches, Yamethin (3.15) inches and Myeik (0.99) inches. Maximum wind speed in Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is 80%.
State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.
Outlook for subsequent two days: Weak monsoon.
Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 14-7-2005: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%.
Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 14-7-2005: Likely of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Earthquake Report
Issued at 09:30 hours MST 13th July 2005
An earthquake of moderate intensity (5.4) Richter Scale with its epicenter Andaman Islands (India Region) about (430) miles Southwest of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (07) hrs (00) minute (02) sec MST on 13th July 2005.

New Rainfall Record
Issued at 09:00 hours MST on 13th July, 2005
The amount of rainfall 85mm (3.35) inches observed at 09:30 hours MST on 13th 2005 in Myanmmar have been the 24 hours maximum rainfall record of the station for the month of July during the last (24) years. The former record of the station was 46mm (1.81 inches) on 24th July 2003 and 6th July 2004.
Myainggyingu Special Region witnessing cumulative development in various sectors, local people leading peaceful life

Extended cultivation of paddy and suitable crops for ensuring food security and raising income of DKBA members stressed

Yangon, 13 July—Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, together with member of SPDC Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, senior military officers and officials, helicoptered to Hpa-an in Kayin State yesterday morning.

They were welcomed there by Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Chairman of Kayin State PDC Col Khin Kyu, senior military officers and officials. The Secretary-1 and party, accompanied by the commander and the officials, paid homage to member of State Ovadacariya of Mebaung monastery in Hpa-an Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhuddanta Indriya, Chairman of Kayin State Sangha Nayaka Committee Dhamma Kathika Babjunahatadhara Bhuddanta Kavithaja and members of the Sangha and offered alms to members of the Sangha.

They also visited Besija Muni Bronze Buddha Image in Gandakutitak in Myainggyingu Special Region, Hlaingbwe Township, and donated obertories to Myainggyingu Sayadaw Bhuddanta Sujauna.

The Secretary-1 and party held a meeting with Chairman of DKBA form Myainggyingu Special Region in Hlaingbwe Township U Tha Htoo Kyaw, Vice-Chairman U Kyaw Than and members at No 22 LID in Hpa-an Township. The Secretary-1 said that Myainggyingu Special Region is witnessing cumulative development in transport, education and health sectors with local people leading a peaceful life.

He called for extended cultivation of paddy and suitable crops such as beans and pulses and corn for ensuring food security and raising income of DKBA members and their families.

He called on the members to put all the vacant land under rubber on a commercial scale. He said the government will render all necessary assistance to the farmers, calling for expansion of transport services and exploration of minerals in accord with rules and regulations.

The Secretary-1 urged officials concerned to make endeavours to raise the living standard of the members and local residents.

Chairman U Tha Htoo Kyaw and members reported on their plans for regional development and local food sufficiency, extended cultivation of rice, beans and pulses, herbal plants, rubber and other suitable crops, education, health, livestock breeding and transport sectors, and requirements.

Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing and Col Khin Kyu gave supplementary reports on assistance for progress of Myainggyingu Special Region; Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo, on assistance of the Ministry for regional food sufficiency and growing of seasonal and (See page 9)