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

Lt-Gen Ye Myint looks into regional development in Magway Division

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected cultivation of physic nut and party inspected cultivation of physic nut of Division Marine Administration Department and Forest Department.

Members of the social organizations, departmental personnel, students and local people participated in cultivation of physic nut.

Division Manager of Myanmar Agriculture Service U Kyawt Maung reported on physic nut cultivation target of the division.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected cultivation of physic nut on both sides of Magway bypass on 12 June.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint attended the collective cultivation of physic nut of Magway Station near Aungpon Village and planted saplings.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected cultivation of physic nut of Division Marine Administration Department.

Magway Division is one of the divisions the State relies on. Efforts are to be made for exceeding paddy cultivation target of one million acres.

**InSIDE**

- A generous blood donor means the one who donates blood of his or her own volition without charging or receiving something in return for his or her blood donation.
- Every day, millions of people are in need of blood to receive treatment. Although blood transfusion can save many lives, some get into trouble when infectious and impure blood is transfused into them.
- In developed countries, HIV infection rate is more than five per cent due to impure blood transfusion.
- That is why public health officials are taking measures to get and distribute safe and pure blood.
Economic growth through smooth flow of goods

Nowadays, the government is rendering assistance to the private sector for the emergence of a market-oriented economic system. The agriculture sector is the main pillar of the national economy. Therefore, with the purpose of developing the agriculture sector, the government is taking measures for sufficient water supply and fulfilling other requirements.

All over the nation, vacant and virgin land is being reclaimed for cultivation of paddy, beans, and pulses, oil palm and rubber suitable to the climatic and geographical conditions of respective regions. Farmers and national entrepreneurs are endeavouring to produce more export crops. The government and private entrepreneurs are working together in animal husbandry and fisheries on a joint-venture basis.

Rich in aquatic and terrestrial resources, Rakhine State has a lot of potential for economic development. To improve the transport infrastructure of the region, the Yangon-An-Sittway road, the Yangon-Taungup-Kyaunkpun road, the Yangon-Ngamthinechaung-Gwa-Thandwe road and 34 bridges 180 feet and above long have been built. With better transportation, the potential for expansion of business in the region has become greater. Last year in Rakhine State, 1.1 million acres of farmland were put under monsoon paddy but this year it has been planned to increase the cultivated acreage for monsoon paddy up to 1.2 million acres. At the same time, steps are being taken to grow physic nut plants for production of bio diesel. Moreover, efforts are being made to reclaim vacant and virgin land and to boost the per-acre yield of crops.

Offshore gas reserves are being explored in Rakhine State. Offshore fishing and shrimp farming are also flourishing there. Because of its peaceful and pleasant beach resorts and ancient cultural edifices, tourism industry can be successful.

Peace and stability, better transport, abundance of natural resources and smooth flow of goods are the fundamental requirements for higher social and economic status. Rakhine State being endowed with all these requirements, the economy of the region will further improve if regional authorities, local people and entrepreneurs work hard in concert.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects agriculture, regional development in Shan State (North)

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspected agriculture, regional development and greenery of Kyaukme Township. — MNA

Stationery, furniture donated to schools in Mandalay Division

YANGON, 14 June — Secretariat Member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met with secretaries and executives from PyinOoLwin, Kyaukse, Myingyan, Yamethin, NyaungU, Pyinnuma in Mandalay Division on 9 June and held discussions on measures to be taken for carrying out five rural development tasks and active participation in nation-building endeavours.

Next, the minister met with factory managers from Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions at Kanaung hall of Myanmar Foodstuff Industries in Mandalay Division and gave necessary instructions.

Regarding the reports on productivity and distribution procedure presented by factory managers, the minister attended to their needs.

A ceremony to donate stationery and furniture to primary and middle schools in seven townships was held at the meeting hall of Mandalay Division USDA. Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khan Zaw made a speech on the occasion. Next, the minister urged well-wishers to donate stationery and furniture to be used at schools in Mandalay District.

Today’s donation amounted to K 22.93 million. Next, Assistant Director of Basic Education Department U Kyaw Win spoke words of thanks. — MNA

NC Alternate Chairmen meet

YANGON, 14 June — Alternate chairmen of the National Convention held a meeting at National Convention Convening Work Committee Office in Kyaikkaesan Ground here today.

Member of the panel of alternate chairmen U Mya Sein chaired the meeting, which discussed compilation of papers for the chapters — Citizens, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens and the Tatmadaw to submit the panel’s study of the presentations concerning the detailed basic principles for the legislation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw and Region and State Hluttaws, Citizens, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens at the National Convention.

Award winning books in circulation

YANGON, 14 June — Sarpay Beikman’s (Literary House) manuscript award winning books for 2002 and 2003 are published today by the Printing and Publishing Enterprise of the Ministry of Information. The books including novel, novel series and poem books are available at Sarpay Beikman book shops in Yangon and Mandalay and sale agents.

Meeting of alternate chairmen of the National Convention in progress. — MNA
EU says suicides show Guantanamo should be closed

LUXEMBOURG, 13 June—The suicides of three Arab detainees at Guantanamo show that the US prison camp should be closed, the European Union said on Monday. Two Saudis and a Yemeni hanged themselves with clothes and bed sheets in maximum security cells on Saturday — the first prisoners to die at Guantanamo since the United States began sending suspected al-Qaeda and Taliban captives to the prison on the island of Cuba in 2002.

“Guantanamo should be closed. This is an occasion to reiterate that statement,” EU External Relations Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner told reporters on arrival at a meeting of the bloc’s foreign ministers in Luxembourg. Luxembourg’s Foreign Minister criticized a statement by a US official on Sunday that the suicides were a “PR move”. “It’s hard to understand why when three people kill themselves, that is an attack on America. Something has to change in the American mentality,” Jean Asselborn told reporters.

Colleen Grafy, US deputy assistant secretary of state for public diplomacy, told the BBC World Service the suicides were a “good PR (public relations) move to draw attention.” But another senior US official rowed back from this remark on Monday.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for Detainee Affairs Cully Stimson, speaking to BBC radio, said: “I wouldn’t characterize it as a good PR move. What I would say is that we are always concerned when someone takes his own life. Because as Americans, we value life, even the lives of violent terrorists who are captured waging war against our country.”

The prison at the US naval base in Guantanamo Bay holds about 460 foreigners captured during the US-led war to oust al-Qaeda from Afghanistan after the 11 September attacks. They are held indefinitely without trial or the right to family visits.

Four US citizens drown in Costa Rica

SAN JOSÉ (Costa Rica), 13 June—Three US students and their teacher are believed to have drowned in swollen seas off Costa Rica’s Pacific coast, authorities said on Sunday.

The four were part of a group of six — including another teacher and student — who chose to go swimming near the town of Parrita on Saturday when strong currents dragged them out to sea, said Carlos Bolanos, a Red Cross official.

Two of the swimmers were rescued, but the bodies of Kansas high school students Danielle Tongier, 18, and Andrew Harpstrite, 17, were recovered by local police. The two others are missing and presumed drowned.

A group of a dozen students and teachers from a Kansas high school trip in Costa Rica for language study, said Bolanos.

France, Italy to discuss Suez row

LONDON, 13 June—Italy has urged France to open up to foreign deals.

France and Italy are to hold talks to try to resolve a row over the future of French energy firm Suez.

Italian PM Romano Prodi called for France’s President Jacques Chirac to open French borders, saying many French firms had recently moved into Italy. Mr Prodi said French and Italian ministers would discuss the issue soon.

Italian firm Enel had hoped to snap up Suez but its ambitions were thwarted when it emerged Suez had agreed to merge with Gaz de France. Italy complained the move aimed to block a possible takeover and urged the European Union to intervene. “There are rules of symmetry for the openness of the markets... a symmetry that we expect to be respected,” Mr Prodi said following a meeting with Mr Chirac and French Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin.

The Italian leader also pointed out that many French companies had a large presence in Italy — including power group Electrique de France, which holds a 20% share of the Italian market.

Mr Prodi said: “I underlined the need for having the same openness in France,” Mr Prodi said.—INTERNET

Florida nervous as “Alberto” on verge of hurricane

ST PETERSBURG, 13 June—Tropical Storm Alberto was on the verge of becoming the first hurricane of 2006 on Monday after it unexpectedly gained power over the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico and aimed at northwest Florida.

Anxious officials ordered thousands of residents to evacuate barrier islands, flood plains and trailer parks as the storm’s maximum sustained winds accelerated to near 70 miles per hour (110 kilometres per hour), just shy of the 74 mph (119 kph) threshold at which tropical storms become hurricanes.

“Just a little increase here of five miles (eight kilometres) an hour would put it over the edge and make it a Category 1 hurricane,” US National Hurricane Centre director Max Mayfield told CNN, referring to the five-step Saffir Simpson scale of hurricane intensity.

“It’s not a major hurricane, in fact it’s not even a hurricane yet, but it’s strong enough to do some damage.” Florida Governor Jeb Bush declared a state of emergency even though the most likely area of landfall was sparsely populated swampland and farming country in Florida’s “Big Bend”. The area has no big cities like New Orleans, which was devastated last August by Hurricane Katrina.

Florida officials said 26 shelters in 16 counties had been opened for evacuees. “This is a serious storm and we are taking it seriously,” said Bush. “We’re not dealing with large numbers of people. But given the storm surge we anticipate and given the velocity of these winds, I hope people aren’t being defiant.”

Around 21,000 people were affected by evacuation orders, local media reported. The emergency director in one rural area, Citrus County, was going door to door to urge people to move to higher ground.

The storm was about 120 miles (195 kilometres) south of Apalachicola, in Florida's panhandle, at 8 p.m. EDT (0000 GMT), according to a bulletin from the hurricane centre. It was moving northeast at about eight mph (13 kph).—INTERNET

A security guard stands near the logo for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games in a department store in Beijing on 13 June, 2006. More than 40,000 police officers in China’s capital are being trained to handle potential terrorist attacks ahead of the 2008 Summer Olympics.—INTERNET

Darren Whiddon (L) and Cody Allen (R) paddle their way through the woods to check on the condition of Allen’s house in Jena, Florida, on the banks of the Steinhecher River in Dixie County, that was flooded by the combination of high tide and the storm surge of Tropical Storm Alberto on 13 June, 2006.—INTERNET

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 15 June, 2006 3
Zambia loses 800 hectares of forest every year

LUSAKA, 13 June — Zambia is losing 800 hectares of forest every year due to excessive exploitation, an official with the Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources has said.

David Siame, chief nature resource management officer, was cited by Monday’s newspaper The Post as saying high poverty levels and over-exploitation of natural resources had contributed to the loss of forest as well as wildlife.

“It is estimated that we are losing about 800 hectares of forest every year. The loss of species and habitats is quite pronounced simply because of these poverty issues where our communities depend on forests and wild animals,” Siame said.

Though the country has made steady progress in economy in recent years, poverty levels remain as high as 68 per cent among its 11 million population, Finance Minister Ng’andu Magande said recently.

A large number of people in rural areas make a living by selling charcoal which is made of wood cut from local forest. In the meantime, a large quantity of hard wood was processed into woodcarvings which are widely seen in markets in big cities like Lusaka and Livingstone. — MNA/Xinhua

Tonga builds Convention Centre for upcoming forum

WELLINGTON, 13 June — Tonga is building a three-million US dollar Convention Centre for the October Pacific Islands Forum of Pacific Leaders at the Fa’otewa Garden, Nuku’alofa, its capital.

According to Monday’s reports from Matagi Tonga Online, a local news service, the Director of the Ministry of Works Stone Taumoepenu said that work began earlier this month and is expected to be completed by early October, just in time for the Pacific Islands Forum Meeting, from 23-26 October.

Sione was confident that the work would be completed in time for the Forum, “because building materials will arrive from China, already pre-fabricated, making construction work much easier and faster”.

He said the first shipment of building supplies has arrived.

Sione said that the 900-square metre Convention Centre will accommodate one main conference hall, offices, meeting rooms, a lounge and bathroom facilities. The hall will also be equipped with sound system and Internet access facilities.

The construction is funded with a grant from the Chinese Government and will be carried out by the China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation CCECC, with the Ministry of Works as the local contractor. The CCECC is the same Chinese contractor that built the new Tonga High School campus. — MNA/Xinhua

Coffee may reduce liver disease

LONDON, 13 June — Drinking coffee may protect against alcohol-related liver disease.

Drinking coffee could reduce the risk of alcohol-related liver disease,

A US study of 125,580 men and women over 20 years found a 22% reduced risk of developing alcoholic cirrhosis for each cup of coffee drank per day.

But tea was not associated with a reduced risk, indicating caffeine may not be the link, the study in Archives of Internal Medicine concluded.

Experts warned that even if coffee was protective, reducing alcohol intake was the only way to avoid liver damage.

The researchers from California looked at health records of patients who had undergone voluntary examinations between 1978 and 1985.

“The impact of drinking too much on an individual often does vary dependent on a number of factors, and that may well include diet”.

By 2001, 330 people were diagnosed with liver cirrhosis, 199 of whom had cirrhosis due to drinking.

Drinking less than one cup of coffee a day was found to reduce the risk of alcoholic cirrhosis by 30%; one to three cups by 40%; and four or more cups by 80%. — MNA/Xinhua

Thermal imaging equipment available in cars in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 13 June — Thermal imaging equipment has been introduced in passenger cars in Singapore, according to Channel NewsAsia report on Monday.

Said to be the first of its kind in the city state, this night vision equipment displays black and white images on the centre console of a car. The warmer a captured object is, the whiter it appears on the screen.

With a detecting range of about 300 metres, the equipment can alert a driver to warm objects, such as cyclists, pedestrians and animals, five seconds earlier than conventional high beams do when the car goes at the speed of 90 kilometres per hour, the report quoted an engineer at BMW (Bayerische Motoren Werke) as saying.

It is expected that the equipment can help drivers better assess hazardous situations on the road and react appropriately to enhance road safety. — MNA/Xinhua

27 Taleban militants killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 13 June — Twenty-seven Taleban militants, probably including a brother-in-law of Taleban leader Mullah Mohammad Omar, were killed in two separate battles in south Afghanistan, a local officer told Xinhua on Monday.

Fifteen Taleban were killed in Dehrawood District of the southern Uruzgan Province on Sunday night by the Afghan National Army (ANA) and coalition forces, said Rahmatullah Raofi, the ANA regional commander in south Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, six militants were arrested during the operation, in which there were no casualties of the ANA and coalition forces, he added.

Intelligence information showed a group of Taleban militants were gathering in Syachawk region of Dehrawood District, preparing for attacks. — MNA/Xinhua

Samsung to build memory chip line with $646m

SEOUL, 13 June — Samsung Electronics Co, the world’s largest computer memory chip manufacturer, announced Monday that it will build a new memory chip production lines with about 646.2 million US dollars.

The move is to prepare for a rising demand for memory chips, the company said in a regulatory filing. — MNA/Xinhua

Philippine students walk through a flooded street following a rainstorm in Manila, on 13 June, 2006. The country’s student population have all returned to school following a two-month summer break. — MNA/Xinhua
World Cup gives boost to TV sales in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 13 June — The advent of FIFA World Cup 2006 has pushed the sales of television in the domestic market in Nepal.

Showrooms are running short of television sets to meet the skyrocketing demands of customers during the football mega-event, the television dealers are more than happy to see such a surge in sale. “We are selling 300 televisions in an average through various outlets across the country,” said Amitesh Roy, brand division head at Him Electronics, which deals exclusively with Samsung products.

“Our innovative schemes like breaking of coconut which ensures a guaranteed win, reduced prices for World Cup schemes, tie up with more than 30 financial institutions to help customers owe a television now and pay it later and five years warranty that includes replacement and service charges has put us on the top of the sales chart,” Roy told reporters on Monday.

The sales is amazing and considering the available market we are no doubt the market leader, he added. “We offer wide range of products. Our new arrival is DNI range and premium television like plasma and LCD televisions. These televisions ensure better quality for motion scenes,” general manager at Him Electronics Prabhakar Thapa said.

LG is another important player in the electronics goods sector, which at present is facing difficulty in meeting the soaring demand.

Indonesia’s Merapi may come off top alert soon

MOUNT TERAP (Indonesia), 13 June — Indonesia’s Mount Merapi could be downgraded from its top alert status soon as the volcano has spewed less hot gas and molten lava in recent days, an expert said on Monday.

Merapi — in central Java near the ancient royal city of Yogakarta, 440 kilometres (270 miles) east of Jakarta — is considered one of the most dangerous volcanoes in the Pacific “Ring of Fire”. It has been threatening a major eruption for weeks, forcing the evacuation of about 18,000 people from its slopes.

Some residents who had refused to move were spurred into action after an earthquake shook the Yogakarta area on 27 May, killing more than 5,700 people and intensifying Merapi’s activity.

But after massive clouds and fresh lava flows last week, Merapi was calm on Saturday and Sunday, said Triyani, from the state-run Centre for Vulcanological Research and Technology in Yogakarta.

“Its status is in top alert still. Let’s see in one to two days ahead whether it will be downgraded or not. I hope so,” she told Reuters.

Omega-3 improves children’s behaviour

LONDON, 13 June — Scientific research and trials in Britain show that Omega-3, the fish oil supplement, boosts children’s brain power and improve their behaviour and ability to concentrate.

Results of a scientific research reported in the London-based Journal of Prenatalatology showed that the health and well-being of the child in the short and long term appears to be improved by the availability of adequate amounts of Omega-3 during foetal and postnatal development.

Miss Universe Natalie Glebova arrives at the Viva Glam Casinos 5th Anniversary commemoration which benefits the DIFFA (Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS), co-sponsored by MAC VIVA GLAM, on 13 June, 2005, in New York. — INTERNET

The avalanche swept the bodies into a canyon and the spring thaw has revealed them, the source said on condition of anonymity.

“Three bodies have been identified as French climbers killed when an avalanche triggered by heavy snow hit their base camp while they were attempting to climb the 6,981-metre Mt Kanguru last October,” Himalayan Times reported on Sunday.

Climbers’ bodies found after eight months in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 13 June — The remains of three French climbers killed in a massive avalanche last autumn in western Nepal have been recovered, the himalayantimes.com reported on Sunday.

“Three bodies have been identified as French citizens,” the website was quoting the source close to the search as saying.

Seven French and seven Nepali climbers were killed when an avalanche triggered by heavy snow hit their base camp while they were attempting to climb the 6,981-metre Mt Kanguru last October, according to the source on condition of anonymity.

The avalanche swept the bodies into a canyon and the spring thaw has revealed them, the source said close to the recovery operation said.

The remains of three Frenchmen and of three Nepali Sherpas were found on Friday, the source said. — MNA/Xinhua

In this photo released by NASA, large sections of the Genesis space probe that survived the hard-impact landing in the Utah desert on 8 Sept, 2004, are examined by scientist at Lockheed Martin’s facilities on 24 Sept, 2004, in Denver. NASA releases a final report, on Tuesday, 13 June, 2006, on what caused the Genesis space probe to slam into the Utah desert.—INTERNET

Six oil ministry employees killed in Baghdad bomb attack

BAQUBA, 13 June — Six employees of the Iraqi Oil Ministry were killed and 12 others wounded when their bus hit a roadside bomb in southern Baghdad on Monday, a police source said.

“A roadside bomb went off at about 8.15 am (0415 GMT) near a bus carrying employees working for the Iraqi Oil Ministry in the al-Doura District,” Captain Ahmed Abdullah from the Baghdad police told Xinhua. Iraqi security forces rushed to the area and cordoned off the scene, he added.

Guerrillas frequently attack the Iraqi Government employees and the security forces, accusing them of collaborating with the US occupation troops. — MNA/Xinhua

Seven killed in two attacks northeast of Baghdad

BAQUBA (Iraq), 13 June — Seven Iraqis were killed, including three soldiers, and seven others wounded in two attacks in Baquba, northeast of Baghdad, on Monday, the US and Iraqi liaison office said in a statement.

Three Iraqi soldiers were killed and seven other people wounded including a woman when a suicide car bomber drove his explosive-laden vehicle into an Iraqi Army checkpoint in the northwestern district of Baquba, the website was quoting the source close to the search as saying.

In a separate incident, unidentified gunmen shot dead four people working in a shop, including three women, in the Mairafl area in western Baquba, the Centre said in another statement.

Baquba, some 65 kilometres northeast of Baghdad, is the provincial capital of Iraq’s Diyala Province which is within Iraq’s so-called the Sunni Triangle—a guerilla stronghold. — MNA/Xinhua

A Tibetan vendor displays a pile of caterpillar fungus, a traditional Tibetan medicine now popular in China and across the world, at Hehuachi Medical Herb market in Chengdu, capital of west China’s Sichuan Province, recently. — INTERNET

A Tibetan vendor displays a pile of caterpillar fungus, a traditional Tibetan medicine now popular in China and across the world, at Hehuachi Medical Herb market in Chengdu, capital of west China’s Sichuan Province, recently. — INTERNET
US scientists isolate liver stem cells

LOS ANGELES, 14 June — A stable line of human fetal liver stem cells has been isolated and characterized for the first time, US scientists reported on Monday.

The liver stem cells, which have shown the ability to repopulate damaged livers in mice, could be valuable for the treatment of liver diseases in the future, said a research team at the University of Washington.

Their findings appeared in the June 12 issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

The adult liver contains a reservoir of progenitor cells, which provide the organ with a high regenerative potential. But so far these cells have not been successfully isolated from human livers.

According Nelson Fausto, a professor at the University of Washington who led the study, the researchers derived for the first time progenitor cells from livers in human fetuses of 74 to 108 days.

First, they removed and maintained human fetal livers in culture. Then the researchers treated the colonies with a selective antibiotic, and mechanically isolated stem cells from the liver cells.

Like other stem cells, these liver progenitors displayed the ability for long-term self-renewal, and the capacity to differentiate into multiple cell types.

In laboratory conditions, the liver stem cells can differentiate into not only liver tissue cells (hepatocytes) and bile duct cells, but also fat, bone, and cartilage tissue cells, the researchers said.

When transplanted into mice with damaged livers, the human stem cells survived and repopulated part of the damaged tissue.

"They can differentiate into functional hepatocytes and biliary duct cells in experiments," the researchers wrote in the paper.

An unprecedented rainstorm lasting nine hours last Thursday triggered landslides, mud flows and flash floods in the city, leaving 14 people dead and 27 injured. — MNA/Xinhua

China steps up bird flu controls despite lack of new human cases

BEIJING, 13 June — China is strengthening prevention and control of bird flu although no new human cases have been confirmed for more than a month, a health official said Monday. "We are still keeping a close eye on bird flu and have strengthened scientific research and nationwide surveillance," said Ministry of Health spokesman Mao Quin'an.

So far, the virus outside of the human infections had shown no sign of mutation, and human-to-human transmission was still unproved in clinical studies, he said. China had enhanced research in human vaccines and drugs as well, he added.

Monitoring of unexplained pneumonia cases had also been strengthened by the ministry, which required local health institutes to screen pneumonia cases and report immediately to health authorities with known causes. — MNA/Xinhua

Flood relief aid pouring into south China city

WEIZHOU (Guangxi), 13 June — Relief aid, including government funds and public donations, has been pouring into flood-hit Wuzhou City on the upper reaches of the Xijiang River, a tributary of the Pearl River, in eastern Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

The regional and city governments had set up a fund of 13 million yuan (1.61 million US dollars) to ensure basic food and shelter for the people who were forced to evacuate their homes, said Yu Yuanhui, mayor of Wuzhou, on Monday.

In the meantime, more than 500 apartments have been made available and supplies such as quilts and clothing, as well as money have been donated to the city, said Yu.

An unprecedented rainfall lasting nine hours last Thursday triggered landslides, mud flows and flash floods in the city, leaving 14 people dead and 27 injured. — MNA/Xinhua

S. California adopting new technologies for water conservation

LOS ANGELES, 13 June — Southern California, with a fast growing thirst for water, is adopting new technologies to slash the amount of water while stretching supplies, according to the Los Angeles Times on Sunday.

A powerful thirst is building in Southern California as forecasters predict the addition of about two million new households in the region over the next 20 years.

Old ways of finding a water source are no longer effective as the easy sources have been tapped out, experts said.

"Water customers across the region, including vineyards, housing subdivisions, parks, restaurants and farms, feel the urgent need to find more efficient ways to use the state's most precious natural resource."

Pushed by the urgency, the Loyola Marymount University in S. California has found part of the answer — it has developed a new cleaning process which slashes the amount of water needed to flush giant cooling towers that regulate the campus' heating and air-conditioning system, saving 1.4 million gallons a year, according to the paper.

The university also switched to front-loading washing machines, turned to treated wastewater for landscaping and installed motion-sensing faucets and low-flow urinals that require one-fourth less water. — MNA/Xinhua

Labourers clean school desks after floods in Jianou, in east China's Fujian Province, on 9 June, 2006. South China is regularly hit by floods and typhoons in the summer, but state media reports say this year's rainfall has been unusually high. — Internet

Mine explosion kills two, wounds six in southeast Afghanistan

KABUL, 13 June — Two Afghan civilians were killed and six others including a woman and a child injured as a planted mine struck two vehicles in the southeast Paktia Province on Monday, the provincial police chief Abdul Haman Raufi said.

"They were on the way between Gardiz and Khst cities when suffering the fatal incident at 11:00 am," Rauf told Xinhua.

It was not clear why the civilians were the explosion's intentional target. Militancy in Afghanistan, especially in its south, a former stronghold of the Taliban, has been on a rise over the past couple of months.

Unknown militants set on fire a US base-bound oil tanker in the southern Ghazni Province on Monday, leaving the driver dead and the conductor wounded. Over 700 people have lost their lives in Taleban-linked insurgency over the past six months in Afghanistan. — MNA/Xinhua

China steps up bird flu controls despite lack of new human cases

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A woman dusts ash from corn at her farm covered with volcanic ash from Mount Merapi on Wednesday, 14 June, 2006, in Babadan, outside Yogyakarta, Indonesia. — Internet
Blood donors donated their blood, without pinning their hopes on any gains and benefits. Annual blood donation amounts to 80 million units, among them, 38 percent are from developed countries.

In some countries blood transfusion costs a lot. However, there are those across the world who donate safe and pure blood free of charge with strong compassion. World Health Conference held in 1975 passed a resolution urging members of World Health Organization to launch voluntary blood donation at national level. Since then, those countries have made collaborative efforts to continuously provide safe and pure blood.

In 1999 the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies also declared a policy of standardization concerning blood donation services. World Blood Donor Day was designated by World Health Day-2000 with the motto 'Blood Save Lives. Safe Blood Starts With Me'. Blood donor organizations of IFRCRCS had urged the world since 1995 to mark World Blood Donor Day annually. Blood Donor Day is organized by the three organizations — International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, International Federation of Blood Donor Organization and International Society of Blood Transfusion. These organizations are collaborating with WHO which represents 192 countries, National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of 183 countries, 50 blood donor organizations and blood transfusion experts.

World Blood Donor Day was designated not to substitute their designated national blood donors day in world’s countries but to represent the entire international community so as to forge global cooperation. June 14 which is the birthday of Karl Landsteiner, who discovered the method of classifying blood groups into A, B and O, was designated as World Blood Donor Day.

The purpose was to raise the public awareness for the importance of voluntary blood donation and emergence of regular blood donors, to express thanks to voluntary donation of blood, and to highlight the fact that saving lives by donating blood is a help that can be compared to nothing. It also aimed to promote blood donation and to organize new generation blood donors especially youths to donate pure blood.

Those who donate blood free of charge as a gesture of goodwill provide safe and pure blood. Their blood is least likely to be infected with HIV or hepatitis-B. World Blood Donor Day was also designated to let the world know that safe and pure blood comes from generous blood donors.

A generous blood donor means the one who donates blood of his or her own volition without charging or receiving something in return for his or her blood donation. Every day, millions of people are in need of blood to receive treatment. Although blood transfusion can save many lives, some get into trouble when infectious and impure blood is transfused into them. In developed countries, HIV infection rate is more than five per cent due to impure blood transfusion. That is why public health officials are taking measures to get and distribute safe and pure blood.

Nowadays, emphasis thus has to be placed on ensuring safe and pure blood rather than just getting blood. Everyone can donate blood out of goodwill but all blood donors cannot be regarded as donors of pure blood. A reliable blood donor means his or her blood is free from infection. Evidence from many countries has proved that regular blood donors are found to be free from infection. Therefore, when one needs a blood transfusion one should look for a regular donor. Besides, a blood donor needs a testimony to show that his or her blood is safe and pure. Only then will it be a noble donation.

World Blood Donor Day has been celebrated internationally since 2004 and this year is the third. As this year’s motto is “I’m … and I save lives!” I would like to urge the people to save lives through your pure blood donation.

(Translation: ST)
Kyemon: 14-6-2006
Lt-Gen Ye Myint looks into…

Principals and teachers of the Magway Institute of Medicine. Rector Dr Maung Maung Win explained teaching hospital between Villages in Magway. Officials from the education learning centres, summer literacy courses, and research programmes, condition of the distance universities and physic nut plant cultivation.

Regarding the meeting held at the ministry was also joined in by deputy ministers U Myo Nyunt and Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min. The minister also discussed opening of post-graduate, pre-graduate and diploma courses, and research programmes, condition of the distance universities and physic nut plant cultivation.

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YANGON, 14 June — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspected cultivation on his tour of the dry zone in upper Myanmar from 9 to 11 June. During his trip to Kyaukpadaung, Chaung and NyaungU townships on 9 June, the minister inspected saplings and called for successful cultivation of plants. In an attempt to turn the dry region into a green one, Kyaukpadaung Township will grow over 250,000 saplings and Chaung Township will put 3,000 acres under neem trees and physic nut, according to reports of the officials to the minister.

On 11 June, Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Minister for Forestry Min. Myint Aung and Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint went to the command’s mixed cropping cultivation in Monywa and planted physic nut saplings.

Afterwards, Forestry Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung and party went to Kanbalu Township and inspected 500-acre teak plantation and 700-acre teak plantation of private companies.

Commander Brig-Gen Hla Hay Win (R) awards a blood donor who donated blood over 110 times. — MNA

Patron of Yangon Division Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Mar Mar Wai (R) presents a prize to responsible persons of blood donation associations. — MNA

World Blood Donor Day observed

Lt-Gen Ye Myint waters a physic nut plant at the physic nut plants cultivation ceremony in Magway. — MNA

organizations are found organizing blood donors when blood is needed. Under the aegis of local authorities, the MRCS supervises state/division Red Cross supervisory committees in organizing blood donors and donating blood. It is heartening to see that social organizations and wellwishers are donating blood as separate programmes. President of the MRCS Dr Hla Myint delivered a speech. The commander presented cash awards and certificates of honour to those who have donated blood more than 110 times.

The commander and officials observed the documentary photos of activities of the MRCS. Vice-President of the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation Daw Khin Thet Hui presented gifts to those who contributed towards organizing people to donate blood, Yangon Division Women’s Affairs Organization Patron Daw Mar Mar Wai, to blood donors associations, Adviser to the MRCS Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe, to college Red Cross societies, and Dr Hla Myint, to township Red Cross societies. After the ceremony, wellwishers donated blood. — MNA

Education Ministry holds meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 14 June — Ministry of Education held its meeting for 2006 here on 12 June. Speaking at the meeting, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein spoke of the need to work with might and main according to rules and regulations, to observe school discipline and to improve the qualifications of teachers.

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Farmers should not be...

(from page 16)
The commander gave a supplementary report.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win called for parallel completion of irrigation system with construction of dams, emphasis to be placed on storage and systematic recording of regional development including the agricultural sector before and after the completion of irrigation system with construction of the facility and courses; on background history of the college.

He attended the collective growing of physic nut near the Government Technological College (Lashto) on Lashto-Hsenwi Road near Hopeik Village. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Commander Brig-Gen Aung Than Htut and Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint grew physic nut saplings. They also attended the growing of landscaping plants held near the college.

At the ceremonies, 3,600 physic nut saplings and 500 flower plants were grown. At the college, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win heard a report by Rector Dr Myo Nyunt on background history of the college and courses; project manager of AMC.

Commander, Minister participate in physic nut cultivation in Mogauk Township

YANGON, 14 June — Member of the Panel of Patrons of Union Solidarity and Development Association Commander of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Secretariat Member of USDA Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw on 11 June went to Namti Village in Mogauk Township, Mohnyin District, and participated in the physic nut cultivation held at the village’s primary school.

During the tour of the village, they inspected the village’s exchange office, and accepted 5,000 USDA membership applications from the village. They also donated cash to primary schools in Mohnyin District.

Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw also accepted 1,000 USDA membership applications at Donban Village in the district.

On 12 June, they also met with departmental officials, USDA members and social organizations at the town hall in Myitkyina and gave instructions for the development of the region. — MNA

Wellwishers donate cash for MWJA

YANGON, 14 June — Hailing the 4th Literary Conference of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, writers donated cash and kind to MWJA and MWJA Vice-Chairman U Tin Kha accepted the donation.

Today’s donation are 200 bottles of medicine worth K 150,000 and K 77,000 in total. Those wishing to donate cash and kind to MWJA may contact Ph 252417, 254173. — MNA

Pacific Congress on Marine Science and Technology PACON 2006 opens

YANGON, 12 June — Pacific Congress on Marine Science and Technology PACON 2006 opened at Traders Hotel this morning, with an address by Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe. Also present on the occasion were Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Vice-President of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation Daw Khin Thei Htay, the Head of Management Department, the Deputy Ministers, Diplomatic Corps to Myanmar, heads of departments, guests, resource persons at home and abroad. First Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe made a speech on the occasion, saying that the congress was the first of its kind in South East Asia. In building a peaceful, modern developed nation through added momentum, it is necessary to pay attention to ensure the development of marine science and technology through. More coop-erative measures are to be taken for the sustainable development of appropriate marine resources through management.

Next, the Rector of Nihon University of Japan, Deputy Minister for the Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar, the President of the United States of America, Germany, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Thailand and United States of America attended the congress. It is required to ensure constant flow of human resources capable of carrying out nation-building tasks and tasks for ensuring perpetual existence of the nation.

In conclusion, he urged the teachers to guide and nurture the students and serve as organizers. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspected the project site and gave instructions on the construction tasks.

The 331-foot-long and 358-foot-wide Government Technological College (Lashto) is under construction on the 55.36-acre plot near Hopeik Village in Lashto Township. It is nearing completion. — MNA
Minister visits sub-power stations

YANGON, 14 June — Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspected linking of overhead cables between Myaungdala sub-power station in Hmawby Township and Hlinethaya sub-power station in Hlinethaya Township.

Officials presented linking of aerial cables across Hlin river. At the sub-power stations, the minister inspected Kv switch gear rooms, installation of switch gears and control equipment and power distribution process.

The minister observed erection of transformers and gears, installation of cables, and other accomplishments. He then inspected laying of ground cables and type of cables used in distributing power.

He said that special assignments have been made to supply adequate power to Yangon city; and that officials should be dutiful and should make cooperative efforts.

Energy Minister inspects oil fields

YANGON, 14 June — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi visited an oil field in Myanmar Township, Ayeyawady Division, on 12 June.

The minister heard a report on production, drilling of new wells, drilling plans and cultivation of edible crops, physic nut plants and shade trees, and planting and cultivation of crops, physic nut plants, and shade trees, and planting and cultivation of crops, physic nut plants and shade trees.

The minister stressed the need to discover new oil fields, increase oil production, observe financial rules and regulations and grow physic nut plants on all vacant land. He then met with staff.

In Shwepyitha oil field, he heard a report on daily production capacity and drilling work and plans presented by officials. He gave instructions.

The No 58 well in Shwepyitha oil field is producing about 54 barrels of oil per day. The minister inspected Kv switch gear rooms, distribution process, and observed erection of switch gear rooms, and control equipment and power distribution process.

Energy Minister approves report

THETTANTYAUNG, 14 June — Thettantyaung Cooperative Society Ltd held its annual general meeting at the Cooperatives Ministry here yesterday. Chairman of the society U Tin Win gave a speech. In his address, Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Tin Htut said that the society is making profits to a certain degree. However, priority should be given to increasing profits. The meeting approved the report of the board of directors and financial report, and elected new members of the board of directors and new auditors. The meeting chairman gave the concluding speech.

Minister U Aung Thaung receives guests of PRC

NAY PYI TAW, 14 June — Minister U Aung Thaung receives Mr Sun Jian Rong, Chairman of Tanjin Machinery Import & Export Corporation of People’s Republic of China called on Industry-1 Minister U Aung Thaung yesterday at the ministry here. Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thein Tun, directors-general and managing directors of the departments and enterprises under the ministry.

Water transport services inspected

YANGON, 14 June — Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than, together with House of Representatives Member Mr Fumio Kyuma and Japanese Ambassador Mr Nobutake Odano yesterday morning took a boat trip in Yangon river and viewed the water transport services. During the boat trip, they inspected tasks for development of water transport.

Mr Fumio Kyuma arrived here to participate in the 12th Pacific Congress on Marine Science and Technology 2006.
Cuba rebuffs US charges of diplomatic harassment

HAVANA, 14 June — Cuba on Tuesday rebuffed the US charges of harassment against its mission in Havana, saying Washington is making up stories aiming to create a bilateral crisis.

The rebuff was carried by the official newspaper Granma after US diplomats told international Press that the Cuban Government had cut off supplies of electricity and reduced drinking water in a bid to harass them.

Accusing the US officials who had discussed the problems of telling “bare-faced liars”, the newspaper said they were trying to create a diplomatic crisis in order to revive migratory accords and food purchase agreements signed between Cuba and US business people.

The newspaper said that the US office had never been under attack, either overtly or covertly, even though it was using an electronic screen to show anti-Cuban messages.

“Chinese citizens enjoy full and broad freedom of religious belief in accordance with the law,” Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu told a news conference, adding that China expressed its “strong dissatisfaction” with the resolutions.

“We advise some in the United States Congress to pay more attention to their own problems and think about how to resolve their own human rights issues,” Jiang said. — MNA/Reuters

Bomb damages Philippine police van, no one hurt

MANILA, 14 June — A Filipino police van was damaged on Tuesday morning by a bomb planted inside the headquarters of the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) in the suburban town of Taguig east to Manila, but nobody was hurt, said police.

A rarely-known group calling itself “Taong Bayan at Kawal” (People and Soldier) later claimed responsibility for the bombing, according to local television network ABS-CBN News.

Initial reports said a bomb exploded just beside a Special Weapons and Tactics van at 04:40 a.m. (2040 GMT Monday). The explosion gouged a hole on the right side of the vehicle.

Local radio said the bomb was apparently a small home-made device placed inside a pit-box.

NCRPO chief Director Vidal Querol said security was tightened inside the camp after the explosion and investigations are underway to determine how the bomber managed to sneak inside the camp and plant the bomb.

ABS-CBN News said it received a call from a person who claimed that Taong Bayan at Kawal planted the bomb. The group earlier claimed separate bombings of a business building in Makati last week and two police precincts in Manila and Quezon City over the weekend. — MNA/Xinhua

China rejects US criticisms on religious freedom

BEIJING, 14 June — China dismissed US resolutions criticizing it for religious persecution on Tuesday, saying it was based on “groundless accusations” and constituted interference in its internal affairs.

The US House of Representatives approved resolutions on Monday that condemned what it said were escalating levels of religious persecution in China and rejected the state-sponsored ordination of Catholic leaders.

“Chinese citizens enjoy full and broad freedom of religious belief in accordance with the law,” Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu told a news conference, adding that China expressed its “strong dissatisfaction” with the resolutions.

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Domestic sales currently account for 12 per cent of Vietnam’s rubber output, and they are on the rise, the report said.

Vietnam exported 574,000 tons of rubber valued at 787 million US dollars last year mainly to China, South Korea, Japan, Germany and the United States, up 11.9 per cent, 101.3 per cent, 40.5 per cent, and 11.9 per cent, respectively. It sold overseas 221,000 tons of the product worth 376 million dollars in the first five months of this year, recording respective year-on-year surges of 40.5 per cent and 101.3 per cent, according to the country’s General Statistics Office.

China to add 22 passenger, cargo road transport routes to Kazakhstan

Urumqi, 13 June — Twenty-two additional international passenger and cargo road transport routes between China and Kazakhstan will be added by 1 September, bringing the highway routes between the two countries to 64.

Kazakhstan will become best-linked nation in Central Asia with China in terms of the number of highway transport services, according to Wang Shuiping, deputy head of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Regional Bureau of Communications.

Chadian military plane crashes, kills five

N'DJAMENA, 13 June — A Chadian military C-130 aircraft crashed during a dust storm at an airport near the eastern town of Abeche on Sunday, killing five crew and injuring two people on the ground, the regional governor said on Monday.

“It crashed because of poor visibility, there was lots of dust,” Mahamat Nimr Mahamat Taha, regional governor of the eastern Ouaddai region, told Reuters from Abeche, not far from Chad’s border with Sudan’s restive Darfur region.

President Idriss Deby, himself a former fighter pilot, faces an armed rebellion in the east of his oil producing country, which he blames on Sudanese President Omar Hassan Al-Bashir.

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CAIRO, 12 June.— An AEGtitre, along with EgyptAir, Egypt’s national airline and the National Oil Company, is to build a new oil and gas terminal here by the end of the year.

Cairo, 12 June.— The terminal will be built on a plot of land near the airport and will be used to store and transport the country’s oil and gas resources.

 foreign to foreign tourists

PHNOM PENH, 13 June — Cambodia will offer visas on Internet for tourists’ convenience, The Cambodia Press Review reported on Monday.

Foreigners wishing to visit Cambodia can now apply for visas on the Internet and do not have to visit Cambodia’s embassies, according to a declaration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs earlier this month. The so-called electronic visa or e-visa system enables foreign tourists to fill necessary forms online to get a visa that is valid for three months from the issuance date and allows a stay of 30 days in the country.

Tourists can use the Internet-based visa if they arrive and leave Cambodia through the Phnom Penh or Siem Reap Phnom Penh or Siem Reap

Stolen Egyptian artifact removed from NY auction

NEW YORK, 13 June.— A 4,000-year-old Egyptian alabaster container shaped like a duck and used for a funeral offering has been withdrawn from auction because it may be stolen property, Christie’s auction house said on Monday.

The Old Kingdom alabaster offering vessel dating from 2575 to 2134 BC was expected to sell for 20,000 US dollars to 30,000 US dollars before it was withdrawn from the sale, according to the Christie’s online catalogue for its 16 June sale of antiquities in New York.

“Upon receiving information which led us to believe that the object had possibly been improperly taken out of Egypt, we contacted the appropriate US authorities and withdrew the item from the sale,” Christie’s said in a statement.

“We are pleased that the transparency of the public auction system has led to the possible identification of a stolen work of art and its return to its country of origin,” it said, adding that the item would be returned as soon as possible.

The catalogue listing described the vessel as “composed of two halves, sculpted in the form of a trussed fowl.”

It said the item was used to contain offerings of food and drink which, according to ancient Egyptian burial practices, the deceased required for survival in the afterlife.

“In richly appointed tombs the offerings were often stored in containers mirroring the contents inside,” it said.

MNA/Reuters

SCO to join int’l efforts to build anti-drug belt around Afghanistan

BUKHOR, 13 June— The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) will join international efforts to build an anti-drug belt around Afghanistan to combat drug smuggling, said a senior Chinese diplomat here on Monday.

Chinese Assistant Foreign Minister Li Hui made the remarks at a Press briefing for the upcoming SCO summit slated for 15 June in Shanghai.

“An anti-drug drug around Afghanistan, and conduct anti-drug cooperation with the country under the framework of SCO-Asian lien group,” he said.

MNA/Xinhua

China to produce five more LNG tankers

SHANGHAI, 13 June — China will build five liquid natural gas (LNG) tankers in the next three years to cope with rising demand for the import, according to a ship maker here on Monday.

The second China-made LNG tanker was launched on Monday in Shanghai. The producer, the Hudong China Ship Manufacturing (Group) Co Ltd said, it will build five more such tankers to ease the country’s transportation bottleneck for the LNG import.

Built at a cost of 160 million US dollars, the LNG tanker has a carrying capacity of 147,000 cubic metres of LNG, which is sealed under a temperature condition of 163 degree Celsius below zero during transportation.

MNA/Xinhua

Smoke rises from the Mount Merapi volcano, as seen from Deles village, outside the district of Klaten, Central Java, on 14 June, 2006. —INTERNET

Thailand’s King greets royal guests on accession jubilee

BANGKOK, 13 June— Thailand’s King and Queen on Monday received world royalties from 25 countries and accompanied them to watch the royal barge procession, the highlight of the ceremonies marking King Bhumibol 60th anniversary of accession to the throne.

The King and Queen received royal guests in a grand ceremony at Ananda Samakom Throne Hall at Bangkok’s Royal Plaza. In his brief royal address, King Bhumibol thanked the Thai people as a whole for their full support to his royally-initiated projects and urged all Thais to do their duty as best as they can to strive for the well-being of the country.

“The prosperity of the country does not rest with any individual, but is the duty of all Thais,” the King said. “As a Thai, I have the same duty, as do all the people in the country, to do their utmost.”

During the grand Royal Barge procession along the Chao Phraya River, 2,082 oarsmen in traditional costumes from Royal Thai Navy rowed 52 Royal Barges from the Wasukri Landing to the Memorial Bridge in Bangkok. The King and Queen and their royal guests viewed the spectacular procession at the Royal Navy Institute, a highlight of the diamond jubilee celebration.

They then proceeded to the Royal Thai Navy Convention Hall, where they watched an exhibition featuring the King’s activities and projects over the 60 years of his reign.

On Tuesday, the King and Queen will host a state dinner for the visiting world monarchs and royal representatives at the Chakri Throne Hall in the Grand Palace to conclude the celebrations which began on 9 June.—MNA/Xinhua

China offers visa over Internet to foreign tourists

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Tourists can use the Internet-based visa if they arrive and leave Cambodia through the Phnom Penh or Siem Reap
Patrick Mueller’s hand on 37 minutes. after a shot towards goal by Thierry Henry hit defender inside the area. bounced through untouched to hit a French post. minute after a distant Tranquillo Barnetta free kick Frei wasted an effort from close range in the 24th players having to deal with stifling heat at first before foot. The match, a close affair with few thrilling 65 minutes with a header from close range by substi-

France held to scoreless draw by Swiss

STUTTGART (Germany), 14 June — A lacklustre France failed to tame Switzerland in their World Cup opener on Tuesday, having to content with a 0-0 draw from a tight, tactical battle at the Gottlieb Daimler Stadion. The 1998 champions, who had drawn with their neighbours twice in World Cup qualifying, could not surprise a compact and well-organised Swiss side on a hot, sunny evening. They have not scored in the finals since they won the title eight years ago.

France and Switzerland kept their chances of progressing from Group G, led by South Korea after they overcame Togo 2-1 earlier on Tuesday. Both sides, however, need to improve dramatically if they are to go anywhere in the tournament. Switzerland missed the best chance of the game on 85 minutes with a header from close range by substitute midfielder Daniel Gygax that France goalkeeper Fabien Barthez somehow managed to save with his foot. The match, a close affair with few thrilling moves, was played at a relatively low tempo, the players having to deal with stifling heat at first before it cooled down a bit.

The first half was fairly even with arguably the best opportunity for Switzerland, when striker Alexander Frei wasted an effort from close range in the 24th minute after a distant Tranquillo Barretta free kick bounced through untouched to hit a French post. The France fans breathed a sigh of relief and hoped for a goal seven minutes later when newcomer Franck Ribery snapped a shot narrowly over the bar from just inside the area. The French contingent then shouted for a penalty after a shot towards goal by Thierry Henry hit defender Patrick Mueller’s hand on 37 minutes. There were a couple of scares for France in the second half, notably with a powerful run into their box by Philipp Degen on 62 minutes. — MNA/Reuters

World Cup organizers send Koller bouquet

BERLIN, 14 June— The World Cup organizing committee took the unusual step on Tuesday of sending injured Czech Republic striker Jan Koller a bouquet and wishes for a speedy return to his side. Koller was carried off on a stretcher with what was initially described as a “serious injury” during the Czech Republic’s 3-0 win over the United States on Monday. He had earlier scored the opening goal in the victory. A team spokesman said later the injury was not as bad as they had first thought and that the 2.04-metre (6 feet 7 inches) tall striker might be fit enough to play later in the competition.

Charlotte Sting’s LaToya Bond (10) drives the ball around Washington Mystics’ Nikki Blue (19) during the first half of their WNBA game, on 13 June, 2006 at the Verizon Centre in Washington, Internet. MNA/Reuters

Kaka gives Brazil record-breaking win

BERLIN, 14 June— World champions Brazil became the first team in World Cup history to win eight successive matches in the finals when they opened their campaign with a 1-0 win over Croatia at the Olympiastadion on Tuesday.

It was not the most memorable of victories, but Brazil clinched all three Group F points with a truly memorable goal from Kaka a minute before halftime. He controlled a pass from Cafu and made space for himself by holding off a challenge from two defenders before lashing home an unstoppable left-foot curler from 25 metres that gave Croatia’s impressive goalkeeper Stipe Pletikosa no chance. Pletikosa made two vital saves to keep his side in the game: first from a blistering long-range Roberto Carlos shot from 25 metres after 15 minutes and then from a point-blank Ronaldinho header in the 62nd minute.

That inspired the Brazilian forwards to go in search of the equalizer and goalkeeper Dida was kept busy at the other end as Dado Prso, Marko Babic and Jerko Leko kept the Brazilian defence under pressure. That is more than can be said for Ronaldo, who had a poor game in the Brazil attack, recalling his woeful performance in the 1998 World Cup final, and it was no surprise when coach Carlos Alberto Parreira replaced him with Robinho after 69 minutes.

Parreira paid tribute to Croatia’s stubborn performance and was very pleased to get off to a winning start.

Dado Prso, left, andLucio, right, challenge for the ball during the Brazil v Croatia Group F World Cup soccer match at the Olympiastadion, Berlin, Germany, on Tuesday, 13 June, 2006. The other teams in Group F are Japan and Australia. — INTERNET

“...The result was exceptional, excellent. The performance could be better but it will improve in the next game. For us today it was so important to start with a win.”

“...Croatian coach Zlatko Kranjar said he thought his team were unlucky...”

Ahn saves South Korean blushes versus Togo

FRANKFURT, 14 June— South Korea were given an almighty scare by Togo on Tuesday before a second-half revival earned them a 2-1 victory to launch their World Cup campaign.

Substitute Ahn Jung-hwan iced off the winner in the 72nd minute after debutants Togo had been reduced to 10 men in their Group G clash at the Waldstadion.

Togo’s preparations for their first World Cup had bordered on a soap opera, with globetrotting coach Otto Pfister quitting on Monday before a second-half revival earned them a 2-1 victory to launch their World Cup campaign.

Confusion still reigned about who was coaching the African side in the hours leading up to kick-off and the sense of farce continued inside the stadium when the Korean anthem was played twice before Togo’s was heard after the start of the game. Togo’s colourful contingent of fans might have feared the worst but instead their team went for the Koreans in lively fashion.

Mohamed Kader Coumbadja shot over from a narrow angle after 11 minutes and the French-based forward caused panic in the Korean defence once time he got the ball.

It was no surprise when he broke the deadlock after 31 minutes. Taking a pass neatly on his thigh, he sped into the right side of the penalty area, steadied himself, then fired a low shot into the corner of the net. Togo almost went further in front four minutes before halftime when Yao Senayo’s curling free kick was tipped over the bar by Lee Woon-jae, Korea coach Dick Advocaat sent on forward Ahn at the start of the second half, although it was Togo who continued to impress as Coumbadja forced another fine save from Lee.

Ahn sliced a shot wildly over the bar after 50 minutes as the Koreans finally began to gather some momentum. The match swung in South Korea’s favour within the space of two minutes, though. — MNA/Reuters

Zico says beaten Japan in deep trouble

KASERLÀUERN, 13 June— Japanese coach Zico acknowledged his team had a mountain to climb after their 3-1 defeat by Australia in their World Cup opener on Monday.

“We are in an extremely difficult situation now,” the Brazilian told reporters after Japan squandered the lead with an astonishing late collapse.

“We have to beat Croatia. Goal difference will also be a problem for us now...” Japan play Croatia in their next Group F match on 18 June.

Japan went ahead through Shunsuke Nakamura’s controversial 26th-minute goal but two late strikes from Tim Cahill and a third from John Aloisi in injury time left the Asian champions’ hopes in tatters.

“To lose by two goals really hurts us,” said Zico, whose shattered players sank to their knees in despair at the final whistle. — MNA/Reuters

Phil Mickelson plays from a bunker during the Tuesday practice round for the 2006 US Open Championship at Winged Foot Golf Club, on 13 June, 2006 in Mamaroneck, New York. — INTERNET

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Substitute Ahn Jung-

BERLIN, 14 June— World champions Brazil became the first team in World Cup history to win eight successive matches in the finals when they opened their campaign with a 1-0 win over Croatia at the Olympiastadion on Tuesday.

It was not the most memorable of victories, but Brazil clinched all three Group F points with a truly memorable goal from Kaka a minute before halftime. He controlled a pass from Cafu and made space for himself by holding off a challenge from two defenders before lashing home an unstoppable left-foot curler from 25 metres that gave Croatia’s impressive goalkeeper Stipe Pletikosa no chance. Pletikosa made two vital saves to keep his side in the game: first from a blistering long-range Roberto Carlos shot from 25 metres after 15 minutes and then from a point-blank Ronaldinho header in the 62nd minute. That inspired the Brazilian forwards to go in search of the equalizer and goalkeeper Dida was kept busy at the other end as Dado Prso, Marko Babic and Jerko Leko kept the Brazilian defence under pressure. That is more than can be said for Ronaldo, who had a poor game in the Brazil attack, recalling his woeful performance in the 1998 World Cup final, and it was no surprise when coach Carlos Alberto Parreira replaced him with Robinho after 69 minutes. Parreira paid tribute to Croatia’s stubborn performance and was very pleased to get off to a winning start. About who was coaching the African side in the hours leading up to kick-off and the sense of farce continued inside the stadium when the Korean anthem was played twice before Togo’s was heard after the start of the game. Togo’s colourful contingent of fans might have feared the worst but instead their team went for the Koreans in lively fashion. Mohamed Kader Coumbadja shot over from a narrow angle after 11 minutes and the French-based forward caused panic in the Korean defence every time he got the ball. It was no surprise when he broke the deadlock after 31 minutes. Taking a pass neatly on his thigh, he sped into the right side of the penalty area, steadied himself, then fired a low shot into the corner of the net. Togo almost went further in front four minutes before halftime when Yao Senayo’s curling free kick was tipped over the bar by Lee Woon-jae, Korea coach Dick Advocaat sent on forward Ahn at the start of the second half, although it was Togo who continued to impress as Coumbadja forced another fine save from Lee. Ahn sliced a shot wildly over the bar after 50 minutes as the Koreans finally began to gather some momentum. The match swung in South Korea’s favour within the space of two minutes, though. — MNA/Reuters

Zico says beaten Japan in deep trouble

KASERLÀUERN, 13 June— Japanese coach Zico acknowledged his team had a mountain to climb after their 3-1 defeat by Australia in their World Cup opener on Monday. “We are in an extremely difficult situation now,” the Brazilian told reporters after Japan squandered the lead with an astonishing late collapse. “We have to beat Croatia. Goal difference will also be a problem for us now...” Japan play Croatia in their next Group F match on 18 June. Japan went ahead through Shunsuke Nakamura’s controversial 26th-minute goal but two late strikes from Tim Cahill and a third from John Aloisi in injury time left the Asian champions’ hopes in tatters. “To lose by two goals really hurts us,” said Zico, whose shattered players sank to their knees in despair at the final whistle. — MNA/Reuters
Harvard study blasts US treatment of child refugees

BOSTON, 14 June —

Unaccompanied children fleeing to the United States to escape persecution often meet a harsh, hostile reception, slipping through the cracks of a system designed for adults that compounds their trauma, a Harvard University study said on Tuesday.

About 8,000 children sought sanctuary in the United States alone — arriving with no family or adult guardian — in 2003, the most recent year studied. Many had no legal counsel and were vulnerable to exploitation, according to a report on the findings.

The 218-page report said the children faced risks that included military recruitment, sexual violence, exploitative work and physical abuse.

The two-year study of US immigration laws and agencies said courtrooms often treat unaccompanied child migrants like adults, or simply assume they arrived with family.

“There is a void in the immigration law because the law was based on a faulty assumption,” Jacqueline Bhabha, a lecturer at Harvard Law School and co-author of the report, told Reuters. “A lot of children are not attached when they arrive.”

“Far from attracting a compassionate response, children frequently attract the opposite — a punitive, harsh, even vindictive attitude. Children often... are treated worse than adults, not better.”

She said some children arrive with smugglers; others with siblings or someone from their village. “Our laws do not reflect the reality,” she said.

Most fled Central and South America to escape gangs and religious or political persecution. About 30 per cent were from Honduras, 26 per cent from El Salvador, 20 per cent from Guatemala, 10 per cent from Mexico, 2 per cent from Brazil and 2 per cent from Ecuador, the study said. Another 2 per cent were from China.

The report was part of an international research project in the United States, Britain and Australia whose findings will be published this year with an analysis on all the three nations.

Chinese workers perched precariously during construction of a giant canopy roof in Beijing, China, on 13 June, 2006. China’s outstanding bank loans rose nearly 16 per cent in May over a year earlier to 209.4 billion yuan (US$26 billion; euro20 billion), state media reported last week. The figures show efforts to curb an investment binge in real estate and other construction may not be working. — Internet

Radio Myanmar

Thursday, 15 June
Time in today
7:30 am Brief news
8:35 am News: Mysterious girl (Marko)
8:40 am News: Perspectives
8:45 am News: Mysterious girl (Marko)
9:00 am National news / Slogan
9:05 am News: To me you are everything (98)
9:10 am National news
9:15 am News: How Mr DJ (Marko)
1:30 pm News / Slogan
1:40 pm Lunch time music
4:00 pm Music programme
5:45 pm Musical programme
6:00 pm Evening news
7:30 pm News
8:55 pm News: The next day’s programme
7:00 pm News
7:15 pm News
7:20 pm News
7:25 pm News: National Spirit
7:30 am News
7:40 am News
5:30 pm News
5:45 pm News
12:00 pm News: National news
12:15 pm News
12:30 pm News
12:45 pm News
1:10 pm News
1:20 pm News
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WEATHER

Wednesday, 14 June, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah and Mon States, rain have been isolated in Shan and Kayin States, scattered in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Ayeeyawady Divisions, fairly widespread in: In the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and isolated heavyfall in Tanintharyi Divi- sion. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawkhoun (3.30) inches, Sittway (2.96) inches, Maungtaw (2.91) inches, Myikyina (2.80) inches, TadaU (2.13) inches, Kyaukse (2.04) inches, Shwebo (1.50) inches and Pakokku (0.44) inch.

Maximum temperature on 14-6-2006 was 88°F. Minimum temperature on 15-6-2006 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 15-6-2006 was (89%). Total sunshine hours on 14-6-2006 was (1.6) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 14-6-2006 were (0.59) inch at Mingaladon, (0.51) inch at Kabu-Aye and (0.28) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (21.26) inches at Mingaladon, (28.74) inches at Kabu- Aye and (31.42) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (12) mph from Northwest at (14:10 hours MST on 13-6-2006.

Monsoon: Monsoon is weak to moderate in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 15-6-2006: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah and Kayin States, scattered in Shan State, lower Sagaing. Most of Mandalay, Magway, Bago Ayeeyawady Divisions will be fairly widespread in Mon and Rakhine States, Yangon and Tanintharyi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Sea state: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar water.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Weak to moderate monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 15-6-2006: One or two rain or thunder- showers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 15-6-2006: One or two rain or thunder- showers with sunny period. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 15-6-2006: One or two rain or thunder- showers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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Farmers should not be complacent about already-achieved success

NAY PYI TAW, 14 June—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence attended the harvesting of Hsinshweli strain summer paddy on the 705-acre plot in Lashio Township on 12 June.

Chairman of Shan State (North) PDC Commander Brig-Gen Aung Than Htut reported on cultivation of summer and monsoon paddy in the region; Member (1) of Shan State PDC Additional Commissioner of Shan State General Administration Department U Soe Min, on regional food security; and Manager of Shan State Myanma Agricultural Service U Hla Gyi, on pursuing of the target of 200 baskets per acre.

At the prize-presentation ceremony for cultivation of summer paddy for 2005-2006, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented the first prize and trophy to Muse District, the second prize to Lashio District, and the third prize to Kyaukme District.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win observed the harvesting of paddy on the model plot of local farmer U Saw Kyaw. He met with local farmers and dealt with the agricultural progress.

He said that national farmers should not be complacent about the already-achieved success, calling for extended growing of rubber, cooperation with the MAS for agricultural methods, and rendering assistance to the farmers.

He inspected Hsinshweli strain paddy, organic and inorganic fertilizers, pesticides, samples of crops, and machines.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win also inspected Kaukkwechaung Dam near Mansu Village in Lashio Township.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects tax-free markets

YANGON, 14 June — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and responsible personnel inspected tax-free markets and gave necessary instructions this morning.

First, Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspected sales of goods at Shukhintha tax-free market in Thakayta, tax-free markets in Dagon Myothit (South), Dagon Myothit (North), Tamway and Yankin Townships. There are altogether 11 tax-free markets in Yangon Division.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave necessary instructions and cordially greeted buyers and sellers at the markets. The tax-free markets were packed with buyers. — MNA

Weather Forecast for (15-6-2006)

Nay Pyi Taw & neighbouring areas
One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Yangon & neighbouring areas
One or two rain or thundershowers with sunny period. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Mandalay and neighbouring areas
One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence inspects Government Technological College (Lashio). — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe (C) inspects Shukhintha tax-free market in Thakayta Township. — MNA

WORLD CUP 2006

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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<td>Spain</td>
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<td>Tunisia</td>
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