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

Health not confined by national and geographical frontiers
Key challenge will be to address health issues through cooperative efforts in the spirit of partnership

8th ASEAN Health Ministers’ Meeting commences

YANGON, 21 June — Chairman of National Health Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivered an address at the opening ceremony of the 8th ASEAN Health Ministers’ Meeting at Sedona Hotel on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, at 9 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Health Ministers of ASEAN member countries, the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN, Deputy Ministers for Health Dr Mya Oo and Dr Paing Soe, deputy health ministers of ASEAN countries, ambassadors and charges d’affaires of ASEAN countries to Myanmar, senior officials of ASEAN countries and members, directors-general, deputy directors-general and rectors of departments and universities under the Ministry of Health, the President of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club, members and officials. In his address, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said: First and foremost, on behalf of the Government of the Union of Myanmar, I would like to extend my warmest welcome to Your Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates, attending the 8th ASEAN Health Ministers’ Meeting.

We are convening this year’s ASEAN Health Ministers’ Meeting against the backdrop of emerging health emergencies and crises in the region and around the world. During the last two years, we have been witnessing the challenges of more and more public health emergencies such as Tsunami caused by underwater earthquake on 26 December 2004, the spread of bird flu and subsequent possible outbreak of human influenza pandemic, and the recent devastating earthquake in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, which are beyond the capability of affected countries to cope with single handedly. Greater cooperation and coordination among nations is necessary in such health emergencies. Therefore, it is fitting that we have chosen the theme of this meeting as “ASEAN Unity in Health Emergencies”. We must show our unity, solidarity and ASEAN’s (See page 7)

Today’s gathering will be an invaluable opportunity for us to exchange knowledge, experiences and best practices in responding to the growing threat of public health emergencies which respect no national or geographical boundaries.

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

Nowadays, all nations in the world are working together to tackle the problem of human trafficking on a regional as well as on an international scale. Myanmar, on its part, has also laid down a policy to fight against human trafficking as a national duty. In December 2003, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Australia signed a memorandum of understanding on prevention of human trafficking in Asia.

In March 2004, Myanmar became a signatory to the UN convention on transnational crimes and the supplementary agreements on anti-human trafficking and smuggling. This reflects Myanmar's cooperation with the international community in the fight against human trafficking.

In 2005, Myanmar passed an anti-trafficking law. Since then, in accordance with the law, the government has taken action against those who broke the law and held national-level seminars on prevention of human trafficking. Moreover, the ministry concerned and related ministries are cooperating to combat human trafficking.

It is very hard to know the exact number of human trafficking cases being committed in the world today. According to researchers, it is expected that from one to two million people, including women and children, are being trafficked every year.

The Government of Myanmar has been giving protection to those being trafficked by promulgating the anti-trafficking law and giving protection to those being trafficked by those committing crimes.

In 2006, according to reports, 262 traffickers were brought to trial on charges of human trafficking.

*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

Minister Inspects Departmental Functions of Ministry of Industry-2

Nav Pi Taw, 21 June — Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Sawk Lwin together with departmental personnel arrived at Myanmar Industrial Development Bank (Meiktila Branch) in Meiktila, Mandalay Division, on 16 June.

First, the minister inspected remittance and banking services. Officials reported to the minister on banking services. Regarding the reports, the minister gave instructions on measures for banking services.

Upon arrival at farm equipment and electronic goods shop run by the Ministry of Industry-2, the minister looked into power-tillers, pumps, harvesters and electronic equipment. The minister gave instructions on sales of various goods.

The minister arrived at a construction project of Technical Training School (Mandalay) at the briefing hall, Project Director Daw Khin Swe Win reported to the minister on progress in building the school and road, greenning tasks and future plans.

After inspecting the construction tasks, the minister met with instructors of the school and gave instructions on timely completion of building the school meeting the set standard and occupational safety.

The next day, the minister arrived at Myanmar Industrial Development Bank (Mandalay Branch) and gave instructions on matters related to banking services and management for recovering the bank’s loans fully.

Chinese Deputy Minister of Health Dr Wang Longde seen on his arrival at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

Senior Officials from China, Korea Arrive

Yangon, 21 June — Deputy Health Minister from China and a senior official from the Republic of Korea arrived here today to participate in the 8th ASEAN+3 Health Ministers’ Meeting and the 1st ASEAN+3+China Health Ministers Meeting to be hosted by Myanmar.

Director-General of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Korea Dr Dukhyung Lee arrived this morning and Deputy Ministers’ of Health of the People’s Republic of China Dr Wang Longde in the afternoon. They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by ambassadors of the respective countries and officials of the Ministry of Health of Myanmar. — MNA
Two abducted US soldiers found dead in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 20 June — The bodies of two US soldiers kidnapped south of Baghdad before being tortured and killed were recovered, and an guerrilla group led by Al-Qaeda in Iraq said it had slit their throats.

“Coalition forces have recovered what we believe are the remains of our soldiers, who disappeared in the vicinity of Yusifiyah,” US-led coalition forces spokesman Maj Gen William Caldwell told reporters. “Their remains have been transported to a coalition base today and will be transported to the US for a positive DNA verification and for an autopsy to see how they died.”

Kristian Menchaca, 23, and Thomas L. Tucker, 25, went missing Friday night after they came under attack at a traffic control point near Yusifiyah, an guerrilla stronghold along the Euphrates River. One soldier was killed in the attack.

The US military launched a massive hunt for the pair involving nearly 8,000 troops. Caldwell said one US soldier was killed and 12 others wounded during the search operation.

Al-Qaeda-linked group says abducted US soldiers in Iraq

DUBAI, 20 June — A group linked to Iraq’s al-Qaeda said on Monday it had abducted two American soldiers near Yusifiyah, according to a statement posted on the Internet.

US and Iraqi forces are searching for two US soldiers who went missing on Friday after an attack on a checkpoint near Yusifiyah south of Baghdad that killed another soldier.

“Your brothers in the military wing of the Mujahidin Shura Council kidnapped two American soldiers near Yusifiyah,” the group said. “We will provide you with more details about the incident in the next coming days.”

The authenticity of the statement could not be verified. The posting on a website often used by Islamist militants did not provide any proof of the kidnapping. Iraqi militant groups have often posted pictures of identification cards of hostages or issued video tapes of them. The Council is an umbrella body composed of al-Qaeda in Iraq and some other Sunni Islamist militant groups.

MNA/Reuters
China’s Green Lighting programme saves 59b kwh of power

BEIJING, 20 June — The Green Lighting Programme, initiated by the Chinese Government in 1996, has saved an estimated $9 billion kilowatt hours of electricity through the use of energy-saving lighting, the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) said here.

He Bingguang, the deputy head of the NDRC’s department for environment and resources, said China sold 820 million high-efficient lights in 2004, compared to 51.1 million in 1995. NDRC figures show that China produced 10 billion lights in 2005, including 2.8 billion fluorescent lamps. In the same year, China produced 1.76 billion highly-efficient impact fluorescent lamps, the most in the world.

Thanks to improved technology, the quality of electricity-saving lighting has improved over the years. He said. A survey in 2003 show that the pass rate of impact fluorescent lamps increased from 49.5 per cent in 1998 to 95.1 per cent, while their average life span has risen by 4,000 hours.

He said there is still great potential for more energy savings. Fluorescent lights consume 60 to 80 per cent less electricity than the incandescent lamps. It is estimated that lighting now accounts for 12 per cent of China’s total electricity consumption.

The Green Lighting Programme is one of the 10 major energy-saving programmes to be undertaken by the government during the 11th Five-Year-Plan (2006-2010).

The priority will be given to the use of energy-saving lights in public utilities, hotels, office buildings, shopping malls, stadiums as well as homes, he said.

The government will also examine possible incentives that will encourage the production and consumption of high-efficient lighting, in addition to enhancing energy-saving awareness campaigns among the public, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Beijing animal hospital offers free sterilization for stray cats anniversary by offering free vaccination and sterilization for abandoned pets.

BEIJING, 20 June — An animal hospital in Beijing will sterilize 100 stray cats free of charge to the end of this year starting from Saturday.

The Xijiao animal hospital, an affiliate with the centenarian Beijing Zoo, is trying to pay a tribute for the zoo’s 100th anniversary by offering free vaccination and sterilization for abandoned pets.

“Huahua”, nicknamed by volunteer caretaker Wang Dongmei from the Capital Animal Protection Association, was one of the first four felines who received free sterilization operations on Saturday.

Huahua used to be a pet as she likes to stay with people. Most of stray animals in Beijing are cats and dogs. Some cats are abandoned just because they are too noisy in spring and summer, often causing their oestrum time.

MNA/Xinhua

World oil demand ‘to rise by 37%’

JAKARTA, 20 June — Higher oil prices have increased the appeal of other sources of energy. World demand for oil is set to increase 37% by 2030, according to the US-based Energy Information Administration’s (EIA) annual report.

Demand will hit 118 million barrels per day (bpd) from today’s existing 86 million barrels, driven in large part by transport needs, the EIA said. But oil cartel OPEC’s supply share will fall from 39.7% to 38.4% as West Africa and the Caspian increase production. Higher demand is expected to come from Asia, especially India and China.

At the same time, oil production in Europe’s largest producer, Norway, is expected to decline from this year’s 3.6 million bpd to 2.5 million bpd by 2030.

“Much of the world’s incremental oil demand is projected for use in the transportation sector, where there are few competitive alternatives to petroleum,” said the EIA, the statistics arm of the US Department of Energy.

The US will still be the single largest consumer of petrol, with the EIA predicting it will consume 27.6 million bpd, up from this year’s 20.8 million. —Internet

Brazil uses Ronaldinho as role model in anti-drug campaign

RIO DE JANEIRO, 20 June — The Brazilian Government started on Monday a National Anti-Drug campaign dubbed “Say Yes to Life” to educate and encourage youth to renounce illicit drugs.

Several comic books featuring Brazilian football idol Ronaldinho will be distributed in schools throughout the country, with the goal of helping “send kids an anti-drug message through their idols”.

Brazil’s National Anti-Drug Secretary Paulo Uchoa said the government intended to mobilize state and mayor’s offices, schools, religious groups, companies and everyone “who can help avoid young people being seduced by drugs”.

Uchoa said the anti-drug division’s major concern now was to improve and enlarge police assets for the fight against drug trafficking.

He added that the anti-drug law recently approved by the congress would help reduce drug trafficking. —Internet

Mount Merapi continued to spew out hot clouds towards Gendol and Krasak rivers on Monday morning.

The volcano produced hot clouds over a maximum distance of three kilometres toward the Gendol River, and over 2.5 kilometres toward the Krasak River in the first six hours of Monday, said the Yogyakarta Volcanological and Research Technology Development Centre (BPPTKG). —MNA/Xinhua

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Euro-southeast Asia ICT forum held in Singapore


More than 800 delegates representing the world's leading government, business and research organizations from over 60 countries and regions around the globe are participating in the two-day meeting.

They are expected to exchange views on issues concerning ICT policies, regulations and research, such as ICT for natural disasters, telecommunication framework and e-governance, in a total of 24 discussion sessions.

Speaking at the opening of the forum, Singapore's Second Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts Vivian Balakrishnan called for greater collaboration on ICT between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the European Union (EU).

"The first is expanded cooperation in research and development," said Balakrishnan, who is also the Minister for Community Development, Youth and Sports. He urged countries in the two regions to make full use of the second generation Trans-Eurasia Information Network.

He also suggested that members of the ASEAN and the EU cooperate in the areas of international Internet policies and telecom regulation. The Euro-Southeast Asia ICT Forum is organized with the support of the European Commission and the ASEAN.

— MNA/Xinhua

Russian cargo spaceship dumped into Pacific

MOSCOW, 20 June — The fragments of a Russian cargo vessel carrying space trash dipped into the Pacific Ocean on Monday after a three-hour flight since separating from the space station nearly three hours before its descent to Earth, the Mission Control outside Moscow said, quoted by Russian news agencies.

The ship, which blasted off almost six months ago with supplies for the ISS, was carrying more than a ton of space trash from the station, but most of the ship was burnt up during a fiery descent after it entered Earth's atmosphere.

The dumping operation was meant to make room for the arrival of a new supply vessel that is due to lift off on Saturday. Currently, another supply vessel, the Progress M-56, and the Soyuz TMA-5 spaceship are docked to the ISS. — MNA/Xinhua

Fentanyl-heroine cocktail kills hundreds of addicts

BEIJING, 19 June — Fentanyl-laced heroin has killed hundreds of addicts in Detroit, Chicago and Philadelphia recently, according to local police in U.S. Sunday.

Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic drug, a prescription painkiller. It is 80 to 100 times more powerful than morphine and can kill humans in small doses. "Fentanyl can be up to 50 times stronger than heroin," said Columbus Police Sgt. Steve Overholser.

The drug can be lethal just on its own, and matching it with heroin makes it even deadlier," said Mansfield police Sgt. Mike Bammann. According to Chicago police, a West Side gang member has been arrested. The police said the arrest will hopefully lead them to the main supplier of the deadly heroin cocktail. Fentanyl-laced heroin has now also appeared in central Ohio where, over the last month, three bodies were reportedly found in and around the city. — MNA/Xinhua

Iraqi group says holding four Russians in Iraq

DUBAI, 20 June — A group linked to Iraq's al-Qaeda said on Monday it was holding four Russian "diplomats" hostage in Iraq and gave Moscow 48 hours to pull out from Chechnya and free Muslim prisoners, according to an Internet statement.

The statement from the Mujahedin Shura Council said it had abducted the four and killed a fifth Russian. The group appeared to be referring to an attack on June 3 in which a Russian Embassy employee was shot dead in Baghdad and four others were abducted.

"God has enabled the lions of monotheism to seize four Russian diplomats in Iraq and kill a fifth," the group said in the statement posted on a website often used by Islamist militants. Its authenticity could not be verified.

"The Council's sharia court decided to give the Russian Government 48 hours to meet the following demands or bear the consequences: the immediate withdrawal from Chechnya and the release of all our brothers and sisters held in Russian jails." — MNA/Reuters

More storms expected in flooded Houston

HOUSTON, 20 June — Torrential rains sparked flash floods across Houston on Monday that engulfed homes and snarled traffic, and weather forecasters warned new storms overnight could bring even worse flooding.

Floodwaters that covered highways and swamped cars across sections of south and east Houston had receded by Monday afternoon, giving rescue teams a reprieve. But the storm system that deluged the city with up to 11 inches (28 centimetres) of rain in some areas appeared likely to return.

"We dodged the amount of rainfall that's expected, you can and probably should expect major flooding," Rusty Cornelius, administrative coordinator for Harris County Emergency Management told Reuters.

The National Weather Service predicted thunderstorms could return to the Houston area and continue until midday Tuesday, dumping as much as another 5-10 inches (13-25 centimetres) onto the already waterlogged ground. — MNA/Reuters

HK Mainland ferry boats collide in Zhuhai waters

HONG KONG, 20 June — A Hong Kong passenger ferry boat on the HK-Macao route collided with a Chinese mainland sight-seeing passenger boat in Zhuhai waters on Monday, no injuries have been reported so far though the Mainland boat was seriously damaged.

According to local media, about 140 people on board of the two vessels are safe and the cause of the accident is under investigation. Two sailors fell into water when the accident happened on Monday morning and were rescued by relief teams.

About 80 people were on board of the Mainland boat and some of them jumped into the sea waters with life vests and all of them had been rescued by relief workers from over a dozen of vessels. — MNA/Xinhua
Sound education system helps boost economic development

SINGAPORE, 20 June — A sound and robust education system plays an important role in Singapore’s economic development, Minister of State for Trade and Industry Lee Yi Shyan said here on Monday.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the Asia study visit for African policy makers including several education ministers, Lee said that the Singapore Government has invested heavily in education since its independence in 1965.

“In fact, the education sector has been the second largest recipient of government funding for many years, averaging 5 per cent of Singapore’s GDP (gross domestic product) annually,” Lee said.

He noted that Singapore’s education system underwent three major paradigm shifts to keep pace with the changing focus of the country’s economic policies and meet its rapid industrialization needs in the past four decades.

“Developing from survival-driven education to efficiency-driven education to the current ability-driven education, Singapore now emphasizes “the maximal development of talents, abilities and lifelong learning” as it moves towards a knowledge-based economy, according to Lee.

China to import electric power from Russia, Mongolia, Kazakhstan

BEIJING, 20 June — China will import electric power from bordering countries by building power plants overseas, according to Liu Zhaoshao, Chief Economist of the State Grid Corporation of China.

The projects in Russia, Mongolia and Kazakhstan are being researched, Liu said at a recent forum on strategic development and investment of energy.

Agreements with the three countries have been signed and details are under negotiation, he said.

The preliminary plan in Mongolia is to build three power plants, each with an installed capacity of 3.6 gigawatts. The first plant is expected to start operation by 2010, said another Liu, also from the State Grid Corporation.

Apart from supply to Mongolia, most of the power generated in the plants will be transmitted to China to meet the electricity demand of China’s northern regions.

Construction of the three plants may be carried out by domestic companies while the State Grid will build the transmission lines.

According to Liu Zhaoshao, the project cannot be launched until it receives permission from the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), China’s energy policy maker and project authorizing institution.

The power plants in Russia will be constructed by the Russian side and power will be transmitted to China.

The project in Kazakhstan, which is planned later than the projects in Russia and Mongolia, will follow a similar process to Mongolia, he said. — MNA/Xinhua

Bruce Willis sues Paparazzo

LOS ANGELES, 20 June — Actor Bruce Willis sued a photographer for one million US dollars in damages on Monday, claiming the man defamed him by charging that star of “Die Hard” hit him outside a West Hollywood restaurant last week.

Willis said in the suit, filed in Beverly Hills Superior Court, that he hit no one and merely held his hands in front of his face to avoid being blinded by camera flashes as he entered a Japanese restaurant popular with celebrities.

He said contact with photographer Anthony Goodrich was “exceedingly minimal and inadvertent” and Goodrich slandered him by telling the website TMZ.com that Willis had stiff-armed him, struck his camera lens and pushed it into his face.

The lawsuit claims Willis suffered at least one million US dollars in damage to his reputation and standing in the community, as well as shame, mortification, hurt feelings, embarrassment, humiliation and damage to the value of (his) name, likeness and goodwill.

Goodrich told TMZ.com he suffered a chipped tooth and a nose injury.

He claimed he filed a complaint with police, but a police spokesman said he had no knowledge of the incident.

Goodrich could not be reached for comment. — MNA/Reuters

A cyclist rides next to the building of L’Hemisferic (Hemispheric), designed by Spanish architect and engineer Santiago Calatrava, in Valencia on 20 June, 2006. —INTERNET

A worker sprays a stupa as he cleans Borobudur temple following an ash fall from the Mount Merapi volcano, central Java, on 19 June, 2006. —INTERNET

Bruce Willis has thrown a legal left hook at the photographer who claimed the actor didn’t pose pretty for him. —INTERNET

People run away from breaking waves in Jiquilillo, Nicaragua, 160km north of Managua, on 20 June, 2006. A freakishly powerful storm far off in the South Pacific propelled huge swells to the Americas, causing a surge of waves that battered homes and beachfront businesses from Peru to Mexico, authorities said on 20 June. —INTERNET

Nokia, Siemens to merge phone equipment units

HELSINKI/FRANKFURT, 20 June — Nokia and Siemens have agreed to combine the bulk of their telecom equipment businesses to create one of the biggest players in the industry, sending shares in both firms higher.

The units in the 50-50 venture, “Nokia Siemens Networks”, had sales of 15.8 billion euros (20 billion US dollars) last year, which would make it the second biggest mobile equipment player and third in fixed infrastructure, the companies said on Monday.

Siemens shares jumped 8.3 per cent to 68.03 euros by 0818 GMT, while Nokia was up 3.1 per cent at 16.14 euros.

No money will change hands between the German and Finnish parents in the deal, which will put the new group in the same league as current industry leader Cisco Systems Inc and the merged Alcatel-Lucent by sales.

The combination of Nokia’s networks unit and the Siemens carrier business in fixed and mobile networks will offer some savings, and up to 9,000 jobs are expected to be cut.
Health not confined by national... (from page 1) resilience in facing these challenges.

This meeting will also be complemented by our ASEAN+3 partnership’s process in developing better understanding and coordination for Emerging Infectious Diseases. At this meeting, Your Excellencies will be deliberating on the rapid response and pandemic preparedness for Avian Influenza. I wish to emphasize that in addressing Avian Influenza, close coordination and pooling of resources are needed in regional cooperation for effective prevention and control activities. Today’s gathering will be an invaluable opportunity for us to exchange knowledge, experiences, and best practices in responding to the growing threat of public health emergencies which respect no national or geographical boundaries. It is now time for countries to be more aware of these threats and to strengthen our existing disease surveillance network and equitable strategies for rapid diagnosis and response for protection of our population.

I am pleased to learn that China, Japan and Korea will also join in health collaboration activities with the ASEAN countries as the 2nd ASEAN+3 Health Ministers’ Meeting commences tomorrow.

It is gratifying to note that the first ever ASEAN+China Health Ministers’ Meeting will convene in Yangon in the coming days. It is the fulfillment of our leaders’ wishes at the 9th ASEAN-China Summit held in Kuala Lumpur last December to convene such a meeting in order to take necessary actions to prevent and combat Avian Influenza, including setting up of a regional network of anti-viral drugs stockpile.

I am encouraged to learn that important issues such as ASEAN+3 Responding to Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) Programme Phase II workplan, Operationalization of ASEAN+3 Framework for Cooperation on Integration of Traditional Medicine/Complementary and Alternative Medicine into National Health care system, Home care for Older People in ASEAN Countries, ASEAN China Workshop on Social Safety Nets in Health, Capacity Building for Health Professionals, ASEAN Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Curbing Societies, Japan’s assistance to ASEAN Countries to control Avian Influenza and for Pandemic Preparedness Plan will be deliberated at the ASEAN+3 Health Ministers’ Meeting. I am confident that positive outcomes for cooperation will materialize at the meeting.

I am happy to note that the Senior Officials were very pleased and enjoyed working together within ASEAN and also their counterparts from the ASEAN+3 countries in their Preparatory Senior Officials Meeting for the Second ASEAN+3 Health Ministers’ Meeting conducted prior to this meeting.

I wish to underscore the fact that health is not confined by national and geographical frontiers, and that the key challenge for us today will be to address health issues through cooperative efforts in the spirit of partnership. Therefore, this is an important meeting, not only for us as individual countries but also for our region. It is our hope that at the end of this meeting, each of us will be well-equipped to develop sustainable programmes for cooperation within our organization.

It is indeed an honour for Myanmar to host the 8th ASEAN Health Ministers’ Meeting and related meetings in Yangon. After the meeting, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint, the Health Ministers and the Deputy Health Ministers of ASEAN countries and the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN posed for the documentary photo.—MNA

8th ASEAN Health Ministers’ Meeting opens

YANGON, 21 June — Under the theme of “ASEAN Unity in Health Emergencies”, the 8th ASEAN Health Ministers’ Meeting kicked off at Sedona Hotel here today.

It was attended by delegates and senior officials from the 10-nation ASEAN.

The meeting was presided over by Myanmar’s Health Minister Dr Kyaw Myint and Under Secretary of Health of the Philippines Dr Ethelyn P Nieto.

At the meeting, Health Ministers from ASEAN and the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN discussed the theme of “ASEAN Unity in Health Emergencies”.

Participants of the meeting also discussed and signed the report of the 8th ASEAN Health Ministers’ Meeting.

Among the delegates were Minister for Health of Myanmar Dr Kyaw Myint, Minister for Health of Cambodia Dr Nuth Sokhom, Minister for Health of Singapore Mr Khaw Boon Wan, Minister for Health of Brunei Darussalam Mr Pehin Dato Sayau Osman, Minister for Health of Malaysia Dato’ Chua Soi Lek, Minister for Health of Laos Dr Ponmek Dalaloy, Deputy Minister for Health of Thailand Mr Anutin Charnvirakul, Deputy Minister for Health of Vietnam Dr Tran Chi Lien, Under Secretary of Health of the Philippines Dr Ethelyn P Nieto, Director-General of the Ministry for Health of Indonesia I Nyoman Kandun and Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN Dr Wilindo V Villacorta.

ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Health Minister of Myanmar Dr Kyaw Myint hosted a dinner in honour of health ministers and senior officials from ASEAN nations, ASEAN Secretariat and WHO and ambassadors of ASEAN nations to Myanmar at Sedona Hotel.—MNA
The plots of saboteurs inside and outside the nation and the truth that should be realized — 2

Soe Mya Kyaw and Saw Mya Aung

The unrest that broke out in 1988 was the worst and gravest situation and toughest time the people of Myanmar faced during the past 50 years. Giving trouble to a person was so easy during the unrest. And taking vengeance for any antagonism or displeasure was nothing difficult. Just point a finger at someone you hate as an informant or as a person trying to poison others, he was sure to be beheaded. People’s lives were at risk, and all lived in constant fear of losing their property. The country was in dire need of community peace and the rule of law.

An analysis of the situation during the short period reveals the respective roles and sinister aims of the following internal and external saboteurs:

Burma Communist Party (BCP) made attempts to grab power through short cut, while linking civil commotion and underground armed revolts as the force for its cause; this was in accordance with the programme they laid down in 1948.

Old expatriates and their followers who arrived back in Myanmar after 1980 have concentrated on grabbing power with the assistance provided by the West bloc. Opportunist politicians who had emerged overnight, taking advantage of the unrest, were at the helm acting according to the situation despite their lack of experience. They, in the process, were applying cheap political means to grab power.

Western powers on their part were interfering in Myanmar’s affairs. Their aim was to install a puppet government under their authority. The BCP was aggravating the unrest under underground elements (UGs). The policy of remove, dismiss and kill the BCP had been practising was what it instilled in destructive elements.

In its policy included the practice of revealing the life experience of a person a disclosed his sufferings more than he faced or by adding fabrications. In reality, it was a psychological method of public instigation and scapegoat searching. The activities of BCP UGs and those of the Western agents in the later period of 1988 were found to be of the same. Moreover, the BCP’s programme of establishing an authoritarian rule was similar to the method lectured to expatriates and insurgents by Jean Sharp. After the government permitted the legal existence of political parties in the late 1988, the BCP UGs set up and took over important posts. These BCP UGs also permitted other political parties and took over important posts. They also formed clandestine groups and cajole and organized political opportunists.

Some foreign radio stations under the influence of the West bloc were trying to fuel the 1988 unrest. They were airing daily programmes for saboteurs to act according to their programme. The radio stations were also broadcasting fabrications to cover up the anarchistic acts of the destructive elements. To make matters worse, Christopher Gunness in collusion with some saboteurs created a story saying that some girl students were subject to rapes. BCP made various accusations against the NLD and acts. Nevertheless, it can be found that throughout the period, lackeys of the colonialists, SSA-S and associates have copied that method and made diverse accusations against the government, one of which is “Licensed to Rape”.

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The photo shows the arrival of the British ambassador and a diplomat at NLD headquarters on 19 June 2006 by an embassy car.
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Having reviewed the country to Fight AIDS, TB and malaria was made to leave and presented a report that

As the Myanmar case is obvious that the training of theMinutes on Myanmar was in a state of decline and education in Myanmar was in that order to secure international aid, the present government was to be made a de jure or lawful one. Hence, it said, Hluttaw should be convened with the representatives-elect and that the Hluttaw would declare the present government as a legal one. Various announcements of NLD show that there are of the same voice in publicizing with the use of the electronic and print media the scheme to seize the State power through inciting internal unrest and they are trying to materialize it.

French embassy official seen at NLD headquarters on 6 June 2006.

The US government insisted that, according to the report of Havel and Tutu, the situation in Myanmar was threatening regional and international security and pressed the United Nations Security Council to take action against Myanmar.

As attacks are being launched from inside and outside the nation and above ground and underground coupled with the attacks of the expatriates in succession, internal and external destructive elements incollusion with the west bloc broadcasting stations have adopted the scheme to incite internal unrest while at the same time relying on the outside pressure put on the country. We have observed that remnants of the army and political parties in the west and the axe-handle lackeys inside the nation. Only those concerned will know better what adverse actions are being taken at these courses and what their plans for the future are.

This was closely followed by various announcements including the special announcement issued by NLD on the Union Day. In the special announcements, they demanded mainly for the release of Daw Suu Kyi and political prisoners and a meeting between the government and NLD. It was stated that international aid was needed because education, health and social conditions in Myanmar were in poor shape. It said that in order to secure international aid, the present government was to be made a de jure or lawful one. Hence, it said, Hluttaw should be convened with the representatives-elect and that the Hluttaw would declare the present government as a legal one. Various announcements of NLD show that there are of the same voice in publicizing with the use of the electronic and print media the scheme to seize the State power through inciting internal unrest and they are trying to materialize it.

Today, all the internal and external destructive elements are employing all means to incite riots and unrest in the country. They are of the same voice in publicizing with the use of the electronic and print media the scheme to seize the State power through inciting internal unrest and they are trying to materialize it.

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Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspectys Yeywa Hydel Power …

(Yangon, 21 June) — Lt-Gen Ye Myint, commander of Yangon Command, inspected the Naya Shwevin Hydel Power Project site. He was accompanied by officials of the division.

During his inspection, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with departmental officials and social organizations in Shwegyin. As Bago Division includes six divisions that underpin the country’s economy, officials of the division are to put more efforts for a high production of the division, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said at the meeting.

The commander attended to the needs and tasks of the women. He continued to say that while striving to achieve its target of over 3 million acres of monsoon paddy, Bago Division should also grow rubber and pepper included in 10 major crops. During his tour of inspection, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with officers and other ranks of Shwegyin Station and urged them to participate in the five rural area development tasks joining hands with local people and to do farming on manageable scale.

On his inspection tour of Bago Division, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than first inspected five acres of physic nut plantation of Shwegyin Station and urged officials concerned to extend the cultivation to exceed the target.

Final-year cadets of DSMA visit MMCWA

(Yangon, 21 June) — Defence Services Medical Academy’s final year (Part-I) cadets led by Prof Lt-Col Nay Soe Maung visited the multi-functional building of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association here today. First, Executive Director of MMCWA Professor Dr Tun Yi extended greetings and to the queries of the cadets. Afterwards, they visited the clinic and primary schools of early childhood development centre of the association.

Secretary Daw Wai Wai Tha explains tasks of MMCWA to final part-I cadets of DSMA. — MMCWA

Shwevin Hydel Power Project …

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Minister inspects No 1 Fertilizer Plant in Sale

YANGON, 21 June — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspects No 1 Fertilizer Plant (Sale) in Magway Division. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspects No 1 Fertilizer Plant (Sale) in Magway Division. — MNA

1,871 merchants visit Special Sales of Jade, Gems and Pearl

YANGON, 21 June— Up to 4 pm today, 1,871 merchants — 1,224 from 324 gems companies of foreign nations and 647 from 303 local companies — have visited the Special Sales of Jade, Gems and Pearl for 2006 being staged by the Central Committee Managing Director-General of Myanmar Gems Enterprise U Thein Maung and Managing Director of Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise U Thein Lwin on machines and renovation.

The minister gave instructions on boosting production of fertilizers. The minister inspected repair of synthesis gas compressor, main bearing and crant pin bearing.

The minister inspected sale of fuel at No 0366 filling station in NyaungU and gave instructions on fire preventive measures and satisfaction of custom- ers in dealing with them. — MNA

Preparatory meeting for ASEAN+3 Health Ministers’ Meeting held

YANGON, 21 June — Preparatory Senior Officials Meeting of 2nd ASEAN+3 Health Ministers’ Meeting in progress at Sedona Hotel. — MNA

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Myanmar, India eye mutual interests

YANGON, 21 June — Myanmar-India Foreign Office Consultations focusing on wide-ranging areas of mutual interests as well as follow-up activities to the recent visit to Myanmar of Indian President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam was held on 18 June here.

The agreement minutes of the foreign office consultations was signed yesterday by the leaders of the two sides at Thande Hotel, Bagan. Following the signing ceremony, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu hosted a dinner in honour of the visiting Indian delegation at Thande Hotel.

During his stay in Myanmar, Indian Foreign Secretary Mr Shyam Saran called on Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung on 18 June.

The Indian delegation left here by air today. — MNA

Progress of Tarhsan Hydel Power Plant inspected

YANGON, 21 June — Minister for Electric Power No (1) Col Zaw Min arrived at Tarhsan Hydel Power Project near Thanlwin River between Monggan and Mongton townships, 95 miles from Taunggyi, on 17 June morning. Vice-President Mr Noppon Prapaitrakul of MDX Group of Companies reported on progress of the project and future tasks.

The minister gave instructions on environmental conservation, fulfillment for needs of local employees in health and social matters and worksite safety.

The minister inspected the scale model of the project site and the site for the embankment, the sites for construction of two diversion tunnels and the hydel power plants.

Furthermore, the minister inspected construction of the staff quarters, offices and the road. Next, the minister and party oversaw completion of the 150 kilowatt hydel power station near Wamsala Village.

The preliminary engineering works commenced in the early 2004. The plan is being implemented to build a 200-megawatt power plant for the first phase, three 771-megawatt hydel power plants for the second phase, and seven 771-megawatt hydel power plants for the third phase. On completion, the project will generate 7,310 megawatt. — MNA

Minister Col Zaw Min inspects a scale model of Tarhsan Hydel Power Project. — MNA

Local and foreign gem merchants observe gems at Myanma Gems Emporium. — MNA

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Preparatory meeting for ASEAN+3 Health Ministers’ Meeting held

YANGON, 21 June — Preparatory Senior Officials Meeting of 2nd ASEAN+3 Health Ministers’ Meeting held at here yesterday.

Senior officials from 10-nation ASEAN and its dialogue partners — China, Korea and Japan, ASEAN secretariat and WHO — participated in the meeting and discussed the theme “ASEAN Unity in Health Emergencies”. — MNA

Director-General of the Health Department of Myanmar Dr Tin Win Maung presided over the meeting together with Assistant Minister for Technical Affairs Dr Takashi Toguchi of Japan and Daw Moe Thuza of ASEAN Secretariat. — MNA
A D V E R T I S E M E N T S

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 22 June, 2006

Three George Reservoir ready for any possible grave floods

YUCHANG (Hubei), 20 June — The mammoth Three Gorges Reservoir is now ready for any possible grave flood with its water storage to hit 150 metres high in the coming rain season.

It will then prevent 15 million population in the middle reaches of Yangtze River from flooding, said an official with China Yangtze River Three Gorges Project Development Corporation (CYRTGPDC). Completed on 20 May, the 185-metre-high main dam of the Three Gorges Project is in place for flood control two years ahead of schedule. Its cofferdam was demolished on 6 June.

"With a storage capacity of over eighty billion cubic metres, the dam is capable of withstanding the gravest flood in the past century," said Yuan Jie, director of the Cascaded Discharge Centre of CYRTGPDC.Composed of 23 floodwater sluices and 14 bottom floodgates, the dam is able to handle a crest at speed up to 88,400 cubic metres per second. The flood control plan approved by the State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters required the water level of the dam to be kept within 150 metres high during the flood season this summer.

MNA/Xinhua

Two Dutch men arrested for drug smuggling in Costa Rica

KATHMANDU, 20 June— The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) have pledged support for the Education For All (EFA) Pool Fund in Nepal from next year, The Himalayan Times reported on Tuesday.

According to the report, the recent commitment by the two donors in the core funding group has relieved the government which was already worried over how to bridge a shortage of fund the EFA will face at the end of its five-year programme that began in 2004. The EFA programme, which would cost 814 million US dollars, is expected to fall short by 250 million dollars at the end of its first five-year term. At present there is a pool fund of 150 million euros, which the ADB has expressed commitment to provide 30 million dollars for the remaining term of the EFA and that the purse of the fund to be provided by the UNICEF is yet to be discussed, but it is a huge relief for the government.

ADB, UNICEF pledge support for education programme in Nepal

Death toll in southwest China landslide rises to 11

CHENGDU, 20 June— A landslide in southwest China’s Sichuan Province has left 11 people dead and six others injured Sunday, local officials said.

The accident occurred at 10:58 a.m. at Shiji Village in Kangding County of Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture.

Nearly 100 cubic metres of rocks fell in slide, smashing 12 houses and hitting 40 others in the village, said an official with the county’s disaster-relief office.

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Cancer test delays force women into surgery

LONDON, 20 June — Some women with a family history of breast cancer are opting to have surgery rather than wait up to two years for test results which would confirm whether they are at risk, a charity said on Monday.

A report by Breakthrough Breast Cancer said waiting times for test results have risen for three years to reach an average of six months, well above the government’s two-month target.

Women with relatives who had breast cancer can take genetic tests to check whether they are at a higher risk of developing the disease and could receive early treatment.

“The scheme planned to have their breasts removed without knowing their results, simply because they are too worried to wait any longer,” the charity said.

About 4,500 women who fear they have a heightened risk of breast cancer have the genetic tests each year. Hughes had no figures for the number who choose to have breast removal surgery rather than wait for the results.

The charity urged the government to set up a task force to tackle the problem.

The Department of Health said it had allocated an extra 18 million pounds to modernize NHS genetic laboratories and cut waiting times.

“Clearly long waits are unacceptable,” it said in a statement. “Laboratories are now working very hard to get their new equipment and working practices up to speed.”

China begins testing on super telescopes for moon-probe project

KUNMING, 20 June — Chinese scientists have for the first time tested the ability of four super radio telescopes to monitor a moon-orbiting satellite, sources with the project announced here.

The project aimed to test the joint function and ability of the radio telescopes, which would monitor China’s first moon-probe programme scheduled for launch in 2007, sources with the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) said.

The moon satellite detected and tracked by the super telescope belongs to European Space Agency (ESA).

The monitoring project had done successfully and it proved that China was able to detect and track moon-orbiting satellites, according to Li Yan, director of the CAS Yunnan Observatory.

The telescopes set up in Beijing, Shanghai, the southwestern Yunnan Province, and the northwestern Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region are 2,000 to 3,000 kilometres apart from each other.

Vice-Premier says China should improve city planning

BEIJING, 20 June — Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan on Monday said China should improve its city planning.

The first 20 years of the 21st century is a crucial period for China’s urbanization, said Zeng in the written speech to the first annual conference on Chinese urban development and planning.

Land, water and energy conservation should be the primary considerations in city planning and historical culture should also be given better protection, he said. Zeng also stressed the need for more coordination in the development of rural and urban areas.

With the theme of building energy-saving and environmentally-friendly Chinese cities, the conference attracted more than 1,000 participants from China and abroad.

Wildfire forces evacuation in southern US state

WASHINGTON, 20 June — Some 500 homes and businesses were forced to evacuate on Monday in the southern US state of Arizona, as a wildfire was spreading to about 1,200 hectares, media reports said.

The fire started Sunday in a wooded area near northern Arizona’s scenic Oak Creek Canyon, and its cause was under investigation.

Firefighters were trying to put out the fire, with helicopters dropping water to keep the fire from approaching homes around the canyon.

In Colorado, a wildfire spread to some 200 hectares on Monday, and officials urged residents of over 200 homes to evacuate.

Some 1.24 million hectares have been burned by wildfires in the United States so far this year, according to the National Interagency Fire Centre.

Meanwhile, torrential rainfall was recorded in parts of Texas and Louisiana on Monday.

With some homes and highways flooded, Texas Governor Rick Perry has sent National Guard troops to the flooded area, and in Louisiana, over 100 patients had to be evacuated from a nursing home because of the rising water.

Workers fix scaffolding on a bridge pillar at a road construction site in Dubai on 19 June, 2006. Labourers in Dubai often work in high temperatures that reach more than 45 degrees centigrade.
**Klose doubles fires Germany to top spot**

BERLIN, 21 June—Miroslav Klose scored twice to lead Germany to a 3-0 win over a half-hearted Ecuador on Tuesday, sealing first place in Group A for the World Cup hosts.

Klose, who also scored two in the opening day 4-2 win over Costa Rica, swooped for his first in the fourth minute of a match played in stifling humidity after the Olympiastadion had been cleared of any remaining water.

The Polish-born forward made it 2-0 just before the interval as Ecuador, who go through to the last 16 in second spot, showed little desire to scrap out. Fellow striker Lukas Podolski slid in the third in the 57th minute after a goal from midfielder Bernd Schneider.

German coach Juergen Klinsmann said it was mission accomplished for a team capturing the imagination of fans across the host nation.

"When you play at home you have the crowd behind you and that gives the players an extra push. It's World Cup fever," Klinsmann said after the game.

"Our goal was to win the group and we achieved that. It was difficult to keep the pace up because it was hot out there but overall we are happy and looking forward to the knockout games," Ecuador coach Luis Fernando Suarez said his team had not been at their best.

"Germany played a great match but we contributed to their good display," he told reporters. "It was a bit of both.

"I don't want to take away from the performance of the German team but I think we could have done better."

Klose has now scored nine World Cup goals after a five-goal burst on Germany's route to the final four years ago.

**Paraguay’s 2-0 wins trim Trinidad hopes**

KASSEL, 21 June—Paraguay ended World Cup debutants Trinidad & Tobago’s slim hopes of reaching the last 16 with a 2-0 victory on Tuesday.

The South Americans, already eliminated, claimed their first points of the tournament through Brent Sancho’s first-half own goal and an 86th-minute effort from set pieces. Today we did. I'm happy. It was very hot today and I’m glad the team responded to my tactics," he told German television.

Costa Rican defender Luis Marín said his team would return home toe with their heads held high.

"The team played fairly well but they took advantage of our mistakes," he said.

"The team fought right to the end and so we are going home with a clear conscience."

Both teams fell to defeats by Ecuador and Germany in their first two games. Roared on by a 43,000-sellout crowd overwhelmingly dominated by their colourful and loud fans, the Poles had started confidently on a hot and humid afternoon, stroking the ball around well in midfield.

**Bosacki double sends Poles home happy**

HANOVER, 21 June—Two goals by centre-back Bartosz Bosacki gave Poland a 2-1 victory over Costa Rica in their final Group A game on Tuesday and sent a huge Polish support home with some consolation for an early World Cup exit.

A Ronald Gomez free kick put Costa Rica in front against the run of play in the 24th minute before Bosacki got on the end of corners from Maciej Zurawski and Jakc Krynowoek either side of half time.

They were Bosacki’s first goals in international football.

Poland coach Pawel Janas was understandably chuffed with the victory following calls from home for him to resign after their early exit here.

"We scored through the set-pieces. We had been criticized because we couldn’t score through set-pieces. Today we did. I’m very happy. It was very hot today and I’m glad the team responded to my tactics," he told German television.

Costa Rican defender Luis Marín said his team would return home toe with their heads held high.

"The team played fairly well but they took advantage of our corner kicks and their physical strength," he said.

"The team fought right to the end and so we are going home with a clear conscience."

Both teams fell to defeats by Ecuador and Germany in their first two games. Roared on by a 43,000-sellout crowd overwhelmingly dominated by their colourful and loud fans, the Poles had started confidently on a hot and humid afternoon, stroking the ball around well in midfield.

**England play out exciting draw with Sweden**

COLOGNE, 21 June—England drew 2-2 with Sweden on Tuesday to earn a second round World Cup clash with Ecuador while the Swedes go through to face hosts Germany.

England, who lost striker Michael Owen to a knee injury after just two minutes, took the lead with a stunning 34th-minute volley by Joe Cole from over 30 metres.

Sweden levelled with a Marcus Allback header in the 51st minute and were unlucky not to knock England off the top of Group B after creating a string of chances.

Steven Gerrard put England back in front with a header from a Cole cross four minutes from time, but Henrik Larsson brought the scores level again after a long throw deceived the defence.

England were rattled by the sight of Owen leaving on a stretcher and struggled to keep possession for the opening 20 minutes against a combative Swedish side, who have not lost to them in 38 years. Fredrik Ljungberg was a threatening presence while defender Teddy Lucic sent in a superb angled drive from a corner that was charged down by Frank Lampard.

Wayne Rooney, in his first World Cup start after a substitutes’ appearance in last week’s 2-0 win over Trinidad & Tobago, helped redress the balance with some nice passes and a shot that ricocheted off Lucic. It was nothing compared to the subsequent candidate for one of the goals of the tournament.

Cole controlled a headed clearance by Niclas Alexandersson with his chest and struck a long-range shot that keeper Andreas Isaksson could only touch on to the inside of his post as it flew in.

However, the sense of euphoria among England fans and the team’s clean sheets at these finals lasted only six minutes after the break. Tobias Linderoth curled over a corner from the right and Allback’s glancing header beat keeper Paul Robinson and Ashley Cole on the line.

Sweden were nearly 2-1 up minutes later when Ljungberg’s header was parried on to the underside of the bar by Robinson in a goalmouth melee.

**WORLD CUP FIXTURES**

**Thursday, 22 June 2006**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Match</th>
<th>Time (MST)</th>
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<td>Ghana v American</td>
<td>20:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Czech v Italy</td>
<td>20:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 23 June 2006</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Japan v Brazil</td>
<td>1:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australia v Croatia</td>
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**INTERNET**

**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR** Thursday, 22 June, 2006
US Democrats propose pullout of troops from Iraq this year

WASHINGTON, 21 June — US Senate Democrats proposed on Monday that the United States start pulling out its troops from Iraq this year.

Under the proposal, the United States should begin the phased redeployment or pullout of US troops from Iraq in 2006, and the administration should submit a plan by the end of 2006 for continued phased redeployment from 2007 on.

It would also transform the role of troops left in Iraq to a “limited mission” of training and logistical support for Iraqi security forces, protection of US personnel and facilities, and targeted counterterrorism operations.

The proposal, to be offered as an amendment to a defense bill that the Senate took up last week, was designed to give Democrats a unified position on Iraq as the November midterm elections were less than five months away.

The amendment, “would not establish a timetable for withdrawal, but would signal to the Iraqis that the US deployment was not open-ended, said Democratic Senator Carl Levin, the ranking member on the Senate’s Armed Services Committee.

“Our amendment does not address the speed or the pace of the phased redeployment that we call for. In other words, our amendment does not establish a timetable for redeployment,” he said. MNA/Xinhua

US Embassy in Cambodia receives misdirected shipment of bullets

PHNOMPENH, 21 June — US Embassy in Cambodia said on Monday it received a misdirected shipment of bullets on 7 June. Late in the evening on 7 June, the US Embassy received a shipment labelled as art work.

The shipment was immediately rescaled and returned to Cambodian Customs, according to the statement. MNA/Xinhua

WEATHER

Wednesday, 21 June, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kayah, Kayin States, Magway Division, fairly widespread in Kachin, and Shan States, widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in lower Sagaing Division, isolated heavyfalls in Tannintharyi Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Sagaing (3.15) inches, Kawthoung (3.03) inches, Hkamti (2.28) inches, Kalewa (1.96) inches, Kanbalu (1.86) inches, Katha (1.77) inches, Mandalay (1.37) inches, Nyaung U (1.06) inches and Kayuakse (0.78) inch.

Maximum temperature on 20-6-2006 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 21-6-2006 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 21-6-2006 was (93%). Total sunshine hours on 20-6-2006 was (1.9) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 21-6-2006 were (0.59) inch at Mingaladon, (0.51) inch at Kabalo-Aye and (0.36) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (22.32) inches at Mingaladon, (30.35) inches at Kabalo-Aye and (35.08) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kabalo-Aye) was (12) mph from Southwest at (12:40) hours MST on 20-6-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 22-6-2006: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Kayah and Kayin States, Magway Division, fairly widespread in Shan and Chin States and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Tannintharyi Division. Degree of certainty is (80%). State of the sea: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar Waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 22-6-2006: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 22-6-2006: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 22-6-2006: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Earthquake report

(Issued at 22:00 hours MST, Today)

A strong earthquake of intensity 6.0 Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (Nicobar Islands, India Region) about (770) miles Southwest of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory, was recorded at (19) hrs (07) min (27) sec MST on 21st June 2006.

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Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Yeywa Hydel Power Project, factories in Kyaukse Industrial Zone

YANGON, 20 June — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko, on 18 June inspected the Shwegyin Hydro Electric Power Project being implemented on Shwegyin Creek, six miles northeast of the town in Bago District. He called for timely completion of the project, meeting the set standard as the project will benefit the region improving the social standards of residents on the completion.

The embankment of the project is 3,610 feet long and 40 feet high, and upon completion, the project is expected to generate 75 megawatts.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than went to the Myanna General and Maintenance Industries’ rubber farm. A total of 2,000 acres of rubber plantation will continue to be nurtured. MGMI extended 450 acres of plants last year. It is set to grow 350 acres of rubber this rainy season and so far 100 acres have been put under the plant. On his tour of Shwegyin, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with factory managers. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw planted physic nut saplings.

In the industrial region, 420,000 physic nut plants will be cultivated on 350 acres of land under the three-year plan. At present, 50 acres of land have been put under physic nut plants. At the briefing hall, Cement Plant Manager Lt-Col Sein Aung and officials reported on tasks of factories. Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected production of cement and packaging process. Next, he inspected production process of Bicycle Factory, Sewing Machine Factory and Vest Factory.

(See page 10)

INSIDE

A US Senator met with opportunist politicians and suggested them to form an interim government. He interfered in Myanmar’s affairs by urging government officials to form an interim government. It was because of the meddling of the US Ambassador to the UN Albright that the representatives of National League for Democracy left the National Convention.

WORLD CUP 2006

Portugal 2
Mexico 1
Iran 1
Angola 1