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

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**Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets local people in Thandaung**

*Nay Pyi Taw, 28 June — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko and departmental heads met officials, members of social organizations and townsmen in Thandaung and inspected the People’s Hospital there on 26 June morning.

Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Aung Ko Ko reported on data of the region, measures taken for rural development, cultivation of ten major crops, industrial crops, rubber and physic nut and livestock breeding. Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko gave a supplementary report.

In his discussions, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said the government is implementing border region development project, 24-special region development project and five rural development tasks for progress of the Union.

The government is making systematic arrangements for development of the regions that lagged behind development. After realizing the government’s goodwill, officials concerned and the people are to take part in regional development tasks in response to the goodwill. There are still a lot of fallow and vacant lands in Thandaung, he said.

He spoke of the need to grow ten major crops, rubber, physic nut, tea, coffee, pepper and cinchona in accord with the set targets.

Officials concerned are to make field tours down to grassroots levels, he added.

(See page 8)

In Thandaung Township a total of 14,046 acres of monsoon paddy, 125 acres of summer paddy, 1,699 acres of groundnut and 308 acres of sunflower and pigeon pea were grown in 2005-2006. Altogether 7,327 acres of coffee, 938 acres of tea, 524 acres of pepper and other crops are being grown.

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

Thursday, 29 June, 2006

**Build more roads and bridges for higher socio-economic status of people**

The Kayanchaung Bridge was inaugurated in Kayan, Yangon South District, on 24 June. It is a reinforced concrete bridge 220 feet long and 28 feet wide. It has two-lane motorway. As it is situated on the Bago-Thanatpin-Kayan-Thongwa-Thanthlyin Road, people living in Bago, Thanatpin and Kawa Townships in Bago Division can easily travel to Kayan, Thongwa, Thanthlyin and finally Yangon.

Kayan is one of the major townships that produce paddy, green gram, meat and fish. People can travel from Kayan not only to Bago but also to the gulf of Mottama. Therefore, it is an area that is important for transportation of marine products.

A total of 27 bridges have now been built in Yangon Division including Kayanchaung. No 2 thanthlyin Bridge and Kamakyi Bridge are being constructed across the Bago River and Nganomyeik Creek. When these two bridges are completed, the economic and social status of the people in the region will further improve.

Because of the Bayintaunang, Aungzeya and Shwepyitha Bridges across the Hline river, people living on the other side of the river can easily travel to Yangon and trading has become hectic. No with the emergence of the Kayanchaung Bridge, rice, beans and pulses and marine products of Kayan Township will be transported to Yangon easily in no time.

Nowadays, the government is building new roads and bridges all over the nation with the use of the resources available. The number of bridges 180 feet and above long is 217. With improvement in transport infrastructure, economic, social, education and health standard of the people will surely become higher.

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**Cash and kind donated to primary schools in Bogale**

**A responsible person of Ayeyawady Division USDA presents cash and kind to the head of a school in Bogale Township.** — PBANRDA

**District-to-district road under construction in Mandalay Division**

**Nav Pyi Taw, 27 June —Director-General U Myo Myint of the Development Affairs Department under the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt held a meeting with secretaries, executives and members of district and township USDAs and local people at the Education College in Bogale, on 25 June.**

**The CEC member elaborated on the development of the entire nation resulting from the efforts of the government to restore peace, stability and security, tasks of rural development and the association’s contribution towards the development tasks. He attended to the needs of rural development.**

**Myitha Township.**

**Next, he inspected stockpiling of gravels to construct a gravel road near Thungaton Village in Myindwin, Kyaukse Township, and the bridge project on Zawgyi River near Than Village.**

**On completion, the district-to-district road will be 213 miles and two furlongs long tar road from Shwesaryan in Pathetnigyi Township to Thitkyein Village in Lewe Township.**

**INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE DAY**

**1ST July 2006 (SATURDAY)**

**U Soe Kyi and Daw Than Nwe of Building No 3, Thuwanna SPED Housing in Thingangyun Township recently donated K 100,000 to the fund of Hninzigon Home for the Aged to mark Daw Than Nwe’s 60th birthday through member of the administrative board U Chit Myaing.** — IT
Costs of US Army equipment in Iraq, Afghanistan to balloon

WASHINGTON, 27 June — The US Army’s annual equipment costs in Iraq and Afghanistan are going to rise sharply to more than 17 billion US dollars in the budget year starting from 1 October, according to US military files revealed by local media on Monday.

The 17 billion dollars consist of 12 billion dollars for equipment expenses in the next budget year and an additional five billion dollars that the Army requested in previous years but has not been provided.

That contrasts the average of four billion dollars the US Army spent in repairing, upgrading and replacing equipment for Iraq and Afghanistan annually between budget year 2002 and 2006.

One factor that causes the expenses to grow is the replacement of Humvees, which are wearing out more quickly because of the added armour they are carrying to protect soldiers from roadside bombs.

The US Army is expected to present the budget to the Congress and ask for additional equipment funding.

Since 2001, all US war-related equipment costs have been financed with emergency bills adopted by the Congress, not with the regular annual defence budgets.

Such emergency bills are likely to continue two years beyond the time when the US troops finally withdraw from Iraq, in order to fully replace, repair and rebuild all of the equipment.

Altogether, US war-related costs since 2001 are approaching half a trillion dollars. — MNA/Xinhua

US military confirms two slain soldiers abducted

BAGHDAD, 27 June — The US military confirmed on Monday that two American soldiers found dead south of Baghdad last week were kidnapped and killed by guerrillas and said their “severely traumatized” bodies had been booby-trapped.

A military statement said Privates First Class Kristian Menchaca and Thomas Tucker were part of a three-man team guarding a canal crossing next to the Euphrates River when they were taken south of Yusafiyah on 16 June.

“The two bodies, severely traumatized, were found bound together with an IED (makeshift bomb) between one of the soldiers’ legs,” it said. The statement did not say where Menchaca and Tucker were killed nor which group was behind the killings, but it said two al-Qaeda in Iraq guerrillas were killed in a search operation launched after the soldiers went missing.

A military spokesman said it was not clear when the two, whose bodies were found on 19 June, were killed. — MNA/Reuters

Thailand burns 3.5 tons of seized narcotics

BANGKOK, 27 June — The Thai Government burned some 3.5 tons of seized narcotics worth nearly 11 billion baht (about 285 million US dollars) Monday morning in central Thai province of Ayutthaya to mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

Public Health Minister Pinij Jarusombat presided over the ceremony to destroy the seized drugs, the 34th of its kind over the past years.

The drugs, including 32 million tablets of amphetamines weighing 2,800 kilos and heroin, opium, ecstasy, cocaine, cannabis, were burned through an internationally-standardized environmentally-friendly system.

The event was witnessed by representatives of Thai and international agencies and organizations.

The Thai Government declared its war against drugs in 2001, according to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), where the seized drugs were stored before being destroyed.

The International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking is observed annually on 26 June to commemorate the signing of a declaration adopted at the International Conference Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in 1987. — MNA/Xinhua

Surgeon general warns of secondhand smoke

WASHINGTON, 27 June — Breathing any amount of someone else’s tobacco smoke harms non-smokers, the surgeon general declared on Tuesday — a strong condemnation of second-hand smoke that is sure to fuel nationwide efforts to ban smoking in public.

“The debate is over. The science is clear: Secondhand smoke is not a mere annoyance, but a serious health hazard,” said US Surgeon General Richard Carmona.

More than 126 million nonsmoking Americans are regularly exposed to smokers’ fumes — what Carmona termed “involuntary smoking” — and tens of thousands die each year as a result, concludes the 670-page study. It cites “overwhelming scientific evidence” that second-hand smoke causes heart disease, lung cancer and a list of other illnesses.

The report calls for completely smoke-free buildings and public places, saying that separate smoking sections and ventilation systems don’t fully protect non-smokers. Seventeen states and more than 400 towns, cities and counties have passed strong no-smoking laws.

But public smoking bans don’t reach inside private homes, where just over one in five children breathes their parents’ smoke — and youngsters’ still developing bodies are especially vulnerable. Secondhand smoke puts children at risk of sudden infant death syndrome, or SIDS, as well as bronchitis, pneumonia, worsening asthma attacks, poor lung growth and ear infections, the report found.

Carmona implored parents who can’t kick the habit to smoke outdoors, never in a house or car with a child. Opening a window to let the smoke out won’t protect them.

“Stay away from smokers,” he urged everyone else. — Internet

An Iranian narcotics policeman holds confiscated ampules as he prepares to burn 60 tons (54431 kg) of drugs confiscated in the past year to mark United Nations’ International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking in northeast Teheran on 26 June, 2006. — MNA/Xinhua

Chinese State Councilor Tang Jiaxuan (2nd L) and Former Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama (1st L) lay the foundation for the Peace Park during a ceremony in Huludao City, northeast China’s Liaoning Province, on 25 June, 2006. — Internet

US soldier killed in bomb attack in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 27 June — A US soldier was killed in a roadside bomb attack south of Baquba, some 65 kilometres northeast of Baghdad, the US military said on Sunday.

A soldier, assigned to the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, was killed on Saturday, the military said in a brief statement.

The latest death has brought to about 2,520 the number of US military personnel killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003. — MNA/Xinhua

A Miao ethnic woman shows herbal paper fans made in a traditional way at the Shiqiao Village, Nangao Town, Danzhai County, southwest China’s Guizhou Province, on 25 June, 2006. — Internet
China’s first maritime science exhibition opens

BEIJING, 27 June — China’s first maritime science exhibition opened here Sunday, one of major activities to celebrate the country’s 2006 Maritime Day.

Set in the tones of blue, the exhibition features more than 30 ship models, including a 300,000-ton oil tanker, a rescue ship and a foreign sloop.

Using electronic technologies, the exhibition demonstrates navigation techniques and rescue efforts jointly made by sea, air and land.

Visitors can learn about China’s navigation history, as well as basic knowledge of shipbuilding and inspection, ocean protection and fisheries.

The exhibition will run for the next three weeks at the China Science and Technology Museum.

Xu Zuyuan, Deputy Minister of Communications, said at the opening ceremony that the marine industry was one of China’s key industries, and the exhibition aimed to promote awareness of navigation, territorial waters and marine defence.

Since 2005, the government has set 1 July as China’s Maritime Day.

UN drug chief sounds alarm over cocaine demand in Europe

UNIITED NATIONS, 27 June — Cocaine consumption in Western Europe is reaching alarming levels while opium production in Afghanistan could rise again this year despite a welcome decline in 2005, but overall the world drug problem is being contained, the United Nations top anti-drugs official said on Monday.

“Drug control is working and the world drug problem is being contained,” Antonio Maria Costa, executive director of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), said in presenting an annual world drug report at the UN headquarters in New York.

In the report, which was issued on the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the Geneva-based UN agency said that global opium production fell 5 per cent in 2005 while cocaine production was broadly stable. Seizures of both drugs, especially cocaine, reached record highs.

Consumption of cannabis, the most widely used illicit drug, continued to increase while the market for amphetamine-type stimulants stabilized, according to the report. Africa is growing in importance for trans-shipments of cocaine and heroin to Europe.

Citing these new developments, Costa noted that trends in the global drugs market were moving in the right direction but governments needed to step up their efforts to reduce both supply and demand.

“This is true whether we look over the long term or even just over the past few years. Humanity has entered the 21st Century with much lower levels of drug cultivation and drug addiction than 100 years earlier,” he said.

“Even more importantly, in the past few years, worldwide efforts to reduce the threat posed by illicit drugs have halted a quarter century-long rise in drug abuse that, if left unchecked, could have become a global pandemic.”

Costa highlighted three key weaknesses in the global drug control situation: heroin supply in Afghanistan, the world’s largest opium producer; cocaine demand in Europe; and cannabis supply and demand everywhere.

He noted that cocaine demands is rising in Western Europe to alarming levels.

“I urge European Union governments not to ignore this peril,” he said.

“Too many professional, educated Europeans use cocaine, often denying their addiction, and drug abuse by celebrities is often presented uncritically by the media, leaving young people confused and vulnerable.”

2,525 US troops killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 28 June — As of Monday, 26 June, 2006, at least 2,525 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. The figure includes seven military civilians.

At least 1,988 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

The AP count is nine higher than the Defence Department’s tally, last updated Monday at 10 a.m. EDT. The British military has reported 113 deaths; Italy, 32; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, Denmark three; El Salvador, Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Romania, one each.

China’s aircraft imports rise 138% in value in first five months

BEIJING, 27 June — China’s aircraft import value reached 3.73 billion US dollars in the first five months, up 137.9 per cent on year, said sources with the General Administration of Customs (GAC).

A report from the Customs office said China imported 135 aircraft in the first five months, a year-on-year increase of 78.9 per cent. The rapid growth reflects the country’s increasing demand for air transportation. Figures show the air passenger and cargo transport volume rose at an annual average rate of 16 per cent in the past two decades.

A robot hand performs electronic organ by instructions in Harbin, northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, on 26 June, 2006. The four-finger robot hand was co-devised by Harbin Institute of Technology and German Aerospace Centre, which consists of thirteen movable parts and can accomplish multiple sense-and-action functions. —INTERNET

A man climbs a structure in the shape of a pair of jeans outside a store in Zhengzhou, capital of central China’s Henan Province, on 25 June, 2006. The structure is about 8 metres (26 feet) high, China Daily reported.—INTERNET

An abandoned dog stands under a mural at Beijing’s Human and Animal Environmental Education Centre, a shelter for homeless animals, on 26 June, 2006. —INTERNET

Rescuers search for survivors at Qingshan’ao Village in Longhua, central China’s Hunan Province, on 26 June, 2006. Heavy rainfall, flood and mud-rock flow hit the village early on 25 June. As of 10:00 pm on Monday, the death toll of the mountain torrents rose to 15, but the whereabouts of 12 others are still unknown. —INTERNET

MNA/Xinhua
Researchers say pesticides exposure increases risk of Parkinson

WASHINGTON, 27 June —Long-term, low-level exposure to pesticides can increase the chance of developing Parkinson’s disease by 70 per cent, researchers said Monday in the July issue of Annals of Neurology.

Their study supports previous research that linked pesticides with Parkinson’s, the team at the Harvard School of Public Health said, after examining data from a 2001 American Cancer Society Survey of 143,325 people.

“The findings support the hypothesis that exposure to pesticides is a risk factor for Parkinson’s disease,” they reported. The American Cancer Society was studying factors for cancer risk and all the people had reported on eating and lifestyle habits and environmental exposures.

The researchers contacted those people who reported they had been diagnosed with Parkinson’s. More than 5,200 men and 2,600 women reported exposure to pesticides. After adjusting for age, sex, and other risk factors for Parkinson’s disease, the researchers found a 70-per-cent higher incidence of the disease among those who reported exposure than those who did not.

“People from other professions and who reported pesticide exposure most likely were using the chemicals at home or while gardening, according to the study.

Exposure to asbestos, chemicals, acids, solvents, or coal or stone dust was not associated with a higher risk, the researchers said. “Future studies should seek to identify the specific compounds associated with risk,” they added. Around 6.3 million people globally are reported with Parkinson’s, a disease for which there has been no cure. — MNA/Xinhua

Global carbon emission market to become prominent business

MANILA, 27 June —The global carbon emission market is expected to become a business of 100 billion US dollars in the coming years, a report by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) said Monday.

This prospect will be supported by recent scientific findings on climate change, the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol and the EU Emissions Trading Scheme, the ADB said in its feature report.

Industries groups in the European Union and Japan among others continue to require “carbon credits” in order to avoid penalties resulting from their greenhouse gas emission levels, according to the report.

In the EU alone, these penalties will amount to 100 euros per ton of carbon dioxide-equivalent during 2008-2012, the report predicted.

The industrial groups can often buy carbon offsets from “developing countries, who reduce emissions by more than the necessary amount”, it added. This trading system ensures reductions achieved at the lowest economic cost.

However, this potential market is a long way from reaching its potential because of financing and technical gaps between the sellers and buyers, the report said. “The financing gaps in the carbon market can be met through the establishment and management of a dedicated carbon cofinancing fund,” said Bindu Lohani, Director General of ADB’s Development Department, who was quoted by the report as saying. — MNA/Xinhua

Chartered Semiconductor to roll out new data transceivers in S’pore

SINGAPORE, 27 June —Chartered Semiconductor Manufacturing plans to roll out new high-performance data transceivers next year, Channel NewsAsia reported on Monday.

Said to be the world’s first product of its kind, the new data transceivers use a breakthrough technology which integrates several components into a silicon-C-MOS platform.

A 10-gigabit per second transceiver is expected to be introduced by next year, which will be followed by a second-generation 40-gigabit one, the report said, adding that the new products only cost one-tenth of the existing data transceivers.

This will be a joint effort by Chartered Semiconductor, Singapore’s Institute of Microelectronics and SiOptical, and an American company producing integrated optics and electronics for high bandwidth communications.

SiOptical expects the new products to gain some 15 per cent to 30 per cent of market share worldwide as the global sales of data transceivers are estimated to rise from the current 250 million US dollars to 900 million US dollars by 2009, the report said.

Nepal finds bodies of nine missing climbers

KATHMANDU, 27 June —Searchers in Nepal have found the bodies of nine climbers, including two French nationals, more than eight months after they were buried in an avalanche, a hiking official said on Monday.

The nine were among 18 climbers who went missing in October last year when an avalanche swept through their base camp from the 6,981-metre (22,903-feet) Kang Guru peak.

“It would take about a week to recover the bodies as they are buried 40 metres (130 feet) in the gorge,” said Padam Ghale, a trekking official who has coordinated the search for the 18 climbers. — MNA/Reuters

One-hundred-and-five-year-old bowler Bill Hargrove puts on his bowling shoes as teammate Tom Smith, 76, helps him unpack his bag at the Yonah Bowl & Skate lanes in Cleveland, Ga, on 18 June, 2006. Hargrove and his team of seventy and eighty year olds is known as ‘Billy & The Kids.’ — INTERNET

Wall collapse kills seven children in China

BEIJING, 27 June —Seven Chinese children died when the wall of a sports centre collapsed during a storm, a newspaper said on Monday. High winds on Sunday in northern Shaanxi Province blew down a telegraph pole which demolished the 20-metre wall next to where a group of 10-year-old children were having a taekwondo lesson. “The children died of head injuries before they got to hospital,” a doctor was quoted as saying by the Huashang newspaper.

Li Tangtang, vice-governor of the province, visited the 10 injured children in hospital and said officials were investigating the cause of the accident. — MNA/Reuters

A model displays a creation from the Burberry Prorsum Spring/Summer 2007 men’s collections during Milan Fashion Week on 25 June, 2006. —INTERNET

A ship is moored as its containers are unloaded at the Jebel Ali port in Dubai on 27 June, 2006. —INTERNET
Issuing a statement here on Monday, UNICEF said it will also now support the Global Campaign on HIV/AIDS, “Unite For Children, Unite against AIDS”.

There are so many uneducated people especially girls who are more vulnerable to avoidable diseases including AIDS. In South Asia cricket can help get over vital messages that could save the lives of millions and improve the condition of anonymity.

Three killed in bomb explosion in Baghdad market

BAGHDAD, 27 June — At least three people were killed and seven injured when a bomb went off in a busy market in central Baghdad on Sunday, an Interior Ministry source said. The blast took place at the busy Takiyah market, part of Iraq's main wholesale market of Shorjah in central Baghdad, the source said on condition of anonymity.

The blast came shortly before the Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki presented his new plan for national reconciliation to the Parliament, a move in which he hopes to curb the flaring Sunni Arab-led insurgency and help to bridge the country's deepening communal divisions.

The high-level seminar was organized by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Secretariat of ASEAN and the royal government of Cambodia. The official representatives from the Mekong countries — Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam — as well as academia, researchers and business people attended the seminar.

In this photo provided by the Southern Cross University Whale Research Centre shows the tail fluke of a white whale that has been affectionately named Migaloo, an Aboriginal word meaning white fellow, as it migrates along Australia’s east coast off Byron Bay, 500 kilometres (300 miles) north of Sydney, Australia, on 26 June, 2006 — INTERNET

Countries of Mekong region seek to accelerate development

SIEM REAP (Cambodia), 27 June — A two-day conference on accelerating development in the Mekong region opened here on Monday to ponder on ways of enhancing regional cooperation, bridging the development gap between the Mekong region and the rest of Asia; the benefits and risks for the Mekong countries toward bilateral and regional trade cooperation; the challenges faced by the Mekong region in their efforts to compete in an increasingly integrated regional and global economy; and the opportunities and obstacles to investment in the Mekong region.

A leaned bell tower is seen at a residential area in Liuzhou, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 27 June, 2006. The demolition of the tower earlier failed and made it leaned. — INTERNET

Trump Tower planned for Tel Aviv skyline

JERUSALEM, 27 June — Real estate tycoon Donald Trump said on Sunday he will build a “Trump Tower” in Tel Aviv, his first investment in Israel in what would be the largest building in the country.

Trump, along with US-based Crescent Heights Investments, will build the 70-storey tower of luxury apartments on the site of the current headquarters of food company Strauss-Elite, across from the Diamond Exchange, at a cost of about 300 million US dollars they said in a statement.

“We are developing a signature landmark property so impressive that it will set a new standard for luxury condominium living in Israel,” Trump said. “I am confident that Israel’s future can only go one direction and that is up,” he said, adding he had been negotiating to buy the site for a year.

“Trump Tower Israel will redefine the city’s spectacular skyline and bring the level of sophistication and design that Israel deserves.”

Hundreds of wild mares trot during the “Saca de yeguas” event in El Rocio, southern Spain on 26 June, 2006. Every year on 26 June, hundreds of wild mares are grouped together by riders in Donana national park to move to a livestock fair in Almonte village. — INTERNET

In this photo provided by the Asian Cricket Council, Unicef and United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan and Secretary General of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)外 Hamaneh attend a keynote address in the seminar titled ”The Mekong region and the rest of Asia: the benefits and risks for the Mekong countries toward bilateral and regional trade cooperation; the challenges faced by the Mekong region in their efforts to compete in an increasingly integrated regional and global economy; and the opportunities and obstacles to investment in the Mekong region.”

Iran to use oil as weapon if interest violated

TEHERAN, 27 June — Iranian Oil Minister Kazem Vaziri-Hamaneh has said that his country would use oil as a weapon if the national interests are violated, the state television reported on Sunday.

“We will use all capabilities to resist if our interests are attacked, and of course oil is one of our choices,” Hamaneh was quoted as saying.

He warned that the sanctions on Iran would impact the international oil market and the price of crude oil could go up to 100 US dollars a barrel.

“I don’t think anyone would make such a choice, because they need energy and they know the effect to the market when Iran are imposed oil sanctions,” added Hamaneh.

European Union foreign policy chief Javier Solana on June 6 presented to Iran a new package over Iran’s nuclear issue, which had been agreed by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council plus Germany in a meeting in Vienna. — MNA/Xinhua
The NLD leader had no sympathy for those parties which were not prepared to peacefully cooperate with the government to march along the national political path towards the future nation, it said that it could not accept nothing except power. In addition, it incited protests and unrest throughout the nation. The attempts to form a parallel government with the encouragement of foreign embassies, fleeing to the border after the abortive attempts to form a parallel government through a clandestine meeting with the elected government representatives, were led by nine persons including NLD chairman Sein Win and NLD representatives-elect in conflict with the KNU, levelling baseless accusations against the government while serving as lackeys of the colonials and alien powers, and destructive acts committed in the nation in the form of women who were walking hand in hand with the acts committed by the NLD and its associates who are purportedly striving for democracy and human rights in Myanmar.

Similarly, the NLD said that it was all right to attend the National Convention being held for the framing of State Union Constitution, the latter would choose the way to hold dialogue or utter devastation. Every weekend, roadside talks were held in front of the residence on University Avenue by the party leader flanked by two dismissed military commanders.

She has never failed to receive diplomas from the embassies of certain Western countries, politicians and Senators and slandered Myanmar government till today, while opposing the government and condemning the National Convention. Its perpetration is to realize the race-tarnishing democracy and human rights.

Moreover, the NLD has been trying to bar investments from coming into Myanmar, encourage the withdrawal of foreign investments and businesses from Myanmar, and obstruct tourists from visiting the country. Such conspiracies the NLD has been committing to push Myanmar into extreme poverty may be seen; its gift of democracy ladies.

In response to the independence struggles of the Myanmar, and national independence struggles, with unyielding spirit. After the official permission of the formation of political parties in 1989, the number of political parties registered reached 293. Later, 158 parties organized under the leadership of U Nu, Widura Thakin Chi Maung and Bo Kyi Nyunt reached an agreement. They also held discussions with the woman NLD leader to build unity among the parties. During the meeting, the NLD woman party leader said that her party organized 33 parties; that those parties were organized as NLD’s subordinates; that NLD would not agree to the unity plan if it was regarded as an equal; that the NLD would permit the 188 parties as its subordinates if it merged its membership.

NLD said that it had not need to rely on anyone; that the entire people young or old were behind her and even NLD had been composed of members which was better than her father in organization; and that she was more successful than her father.

The woman just failed to realize her real situation, thinking that the popularity should be her father’s shadow as her own. No political pundit nor people have acknowledged the woman, who was dreaming about being the dictator of all political parties, as a public leader. A public leader or a national leader cannot be flattered or bought with so-called international awards and titles. The pamphlet mentioned as the public acknowledged democracy mother and public leader for she had won 82 awards including the Nobel Peace Prize. The Nobel Peace Prize is prestigious, but awarding her such a prize is ridiculous. If we study the required qualifications and norms designated for the Nobel Peace prize, she was unqualified for the prize. As a number of columnists have already revealed the plots that were being played behind her and behind the regime, the woman NLD leader does it is a puzzle for the global people.

Clear enough! The NLD leader has no sympathy for the hundreds of thousands of Japanese people who got killed or injured as well as deformed or disabled at the atomic bombing plus evil consequences in the aftermath. Instead, she was thankful to the US. This had been a blatant insult to the Japanese people who staged anti-atomic bombing protests nationwide every year. In response to the independence struggles of the Indian leaders starting from Mahatam Gandhi to Pandit Nehru, the British had to grant independence to the country without ruling her for long. She added that Myanmar did not become a democratic nation because the British restored independence to Myanmar.

In my view, it was like utter devastation. As regards the other awards, she always won an international award every time she attempted to incite an unrest in the country. In my view, it was like publicizing a puppet. Even the world’s famous persons who have made efforts for global peace, satisfying basic needs, and health and social development did not win international awards and titles as much as the NLD leader does. It is a puzzle for the global people.

The NLD leader said that she was the head, the woman NLD leader has been billed as the mother of democracy and the leader of the people.

Myanmar did not become democratic due to early restoration of independence by the British!
Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets …

(from page 1)

In Thandaung Township a total of 14,046 acres of monsoon paddy, 125 acres of summer paddy, 1,699 acres of groundnut and 308 acres of sunflower and pigeon pea were grown in 2005-2006. Altogether 7,327 acres of coffee, 938 acres of tea, 524 acres of pepper and other crops are being grown. Over 50,000 acres of physic nut will be cultivated in three years.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and party visited the People’s Hospital. They gave encouragement to the patients who were receiving treatment there.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than presented cash to the fund of the hospital to Head of Township Health Department Dr Paw Tun. They arrived back here in the evening.

MNA

Commander inspects development tasks in Hinthada District

NAV Pyi Taw, 28 June

— Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung inspected all-round renovation of Myothagy Pagoda in Shwegu Ward of Hinthada on 23 June morning.

The commander also inspected maintenance of the embankment along Ayeyawady River. He met with departmental officials at the city hall in Hinthada and explained regional development tasks.

Afterwards, the commander viewed cultivation tasks for growing monsoon paddy along Hinthada-Zalun Road.

While in Zalun, he inspected keeping the urban area of Zalun clean and pleasant. Next, he met with departmental personnel and local people at the office of Zalun Township PDC and heard reports on development of the region. At Thanhlinhwun agricultural farm in Zalun, the commander viewed thriving paddy plantations, applying of fertilizers and weeding works.

Zalun Township had put 30,429 acres of land under monsoon paddy against the target of 70,672 acres in 2006-07. So far, Hinthada District had grown 98,062 acres of paddy.

MNA

Work Committee for Organizing Myanmar Women’s Day holds meeting

YANGON, 28 June

— The Work Committee for Organizing the Myanmar Women’s Day held a meeting at the hall of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation on Thanlwin Road in Bahan Township on 26 June afternoon.

Vice-President of the federation Daw Khin Lay Myint gave a speech. Next, leaders of 12 work groups reported on progress of their respective sectors.

Likewise, leaders of 12 supporting groups presented reports on their tasks.

Also present at the meeting were Vice-President Daw Khin Myat Htay, the general secretary, members of the working groups, Patron of Yangon Division Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Mar Mar Wai, members of the supporting groups and guests.

— MNA

Coord Meeting of law officers held

NAV Pyi Taw, 28 June

— The Coordination Meeting of law officers was held at Attorney-General’s Office here yesterday with an opening address by Attorney-General U Aye Maung.

At the meeting, Attorney-General U Aye Maung urged law officers to hone their skills by themselves and to observe personal codes and disciplines in doing a duty to serve the community.

Present at the meeting were Deputy Attorney-Generals Dr Tun Shin and U Mynint Naing, the director-general of attorney general’s office, deputy directors-general, directors and law officers.

— MNA

Basic education curriculum to be upgraded

YANGON, 28 June

— The Work Committee for Upgradation of Basic Education Curriculum under the Ministry of Education held its first meeting today at Department of Myanmar Education Research Bureau here.

It was attended by Patron of the work committee Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, directors-general, deputy directors-general, directors and officials of the Education Ministry. At the meeting, participants discussed tasks of the work committee and matters on upgrading of the basic education curriculum.

Members of the committee should take into account the new curriculum which could produce the human resource who could face the Knowledge Age and could improve the quality of teachers and students, said Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min in his opening address.

— MNA

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased
Home Affairs Minister meets with employees in Bago

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo holding a meeting with service personnel, social organizations and local authorities in Bago.—HOME AFFAIRS

YANGON, 28 June — Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo yesterday met with employees of the ministry and chairmen and secretaries of ward and village Peace and Development Councils in Bago at Thiri Oaktha Hall.

At the meeting, the minister urged employees to discharge the duty in accordance with rules and regulations. He also called for thrifty use of electricity and fuel and cultivation of physic nut plants. Members of socials organizations also attended the meeting. — MNA

Mayor inspects sanitation, upgrading roads in downtown Yangon

YANGON, 28 June — Unblocking of drains was carried out by employees of Engineering Department (Road/Bridge) on Setyon Road in Mingala Taungnyunt Township this morning.

Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected sanitation tasks.

The mayor viewed repairing of the road in front of the National Library, dredging of the drain for proper flow of water in front of Myanmar Umbrella Factory in Hline Township and upgrading of Mindhamma Road between Parami and Kyaikwaung Roads in Mayangon Township.

Accompanied by YCDC member U Kyaw Soe, the mayor inspected production of furniture at the Furniture Factory of YCDC on Tawwin Road in Mayangon Township. — MNA

C-in-C (Air)’s Shield Football Championship opens

NAY PYI TAW, 28 June — The Commander-in-Chief (Air)’s Shield Football Championship 2006 commenced at Ground Training Base in Meiktila on 26 afternoon.

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief (Air), Commander of Ground Training Base Col Thura Khin Maung Win delivered an opening address.

Also present on the occasion were Commander of Flying Training Base Brig-Gen Khin Maung Tin, squadron leaders and officers of departments and units of Flying Training Base and Ground Training Base, family members and guests. — MNA

Commander inspects cultivation of physic nut plants in Taungnyo Station

NAY PYI TAW, 28 June — Taungnyo Station physic nut plant growing ceremony of Nay Pyi Taw Command was held at the local Training Depot in Moeswe Village in Nay Pyi Taw on 23 June morning.

It was attended by Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, Col Myint Kyang of Taungnyo Station and senior military officers, other ranks and family members of regiments and units, village authorities and members of social organizations.

Col Myint Kyang of Taungnyo Station reported on the purpose of growing physic nut plants. The commander explained benefits of growing physic nut plants.

Next, the commander presented physic nut saplings to officials and viewed participation of the local people in cultivation of 12,000 physic nut saplings.

The commander inspected progress in construction of the two-storey building at Moeswe Village BEMS and fulfilled the requirements. — MNA

Thriving mango, physic nut plantations, progress of dam project inspected in Yaksaw

NAY PYI TAW, 28 June — Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Thaung Aye inspected Seintalon mango and physic nut plantations in Bahtoo Station on 23 June morning.

Bahtoo Station has grown over 10,000 Seintalon mango plants and 1,700 acres of physic nut plants.

The commander viewed thriving mango plantations at TatU farm of Pwintkaung and Khin Nwe Yi Co Ltd near TatU Village in Yaksawk Township.

On arrival at Kengkham Dam Project, the commander heard reports on preliminary engineering works by officials.

As part of contributions to greening Meiktila Plains, Kengkham Dam is being built on Namet Creek near Kenglam Village of Yaksawk Township. The dam will be 13,200 feet long and 154 feet high. The dam will have 345,350 acre-feet water of storage capacity it will generate 6 megawatt.

The commander met with Tatmadawmen and family members at the local battalion and gave necessary instructions. — MNA

Gem merchants examine jade lots at Special Sales of Jade, Gems and Pearl. (News on page 16).—NLM
Wason robes to be offered at Saddhamaramthi meditation centres

YANGON, 28 June — Wason robes will be offered to members of the Sangha at Saddhamaramthi Meditation Centre in Mayangon Township.

15 July, Majjhima Patipada meditation centre (Kyaukayedwin) on 16 July, Saddhamaramthi Meditation Centre in Indaing (branch) on 22 July and Thukha Patipada Saddhamaramthi Meditation Centre in Yankin Township (branch) on 23 July respectively. — MNA

5,000 sets of clothing donated to nuns

YANGON, 28 June — Under the aegis of parents U Aung Thein-Daw Lou Tin of Mogok, Mandalay Division, U Tu Maung-Daw Htar Htar Aye and Dr Kyaw Khang-Daw Sein Htwe donated clothing to 5,000 nuns at Chanmye Gonwai Nunnery on Baho Road in Ward 2 of Mayangon Township this morning.

Also present on the occasion were vice-chairmen of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and members of the Sangha, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Adviser U Arnt Maung, and departmental heads of the Ministry of Religious Affairs.

Vice-Chairman Abhidhaja Maha Rattha

Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bahan Maha Aungmye Bonsan Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññindabhivamsa administered the Five Precepts.

The Deputy Minister, departmental heads and wellwishers donated alms to the Sayadaws. Next, the wellwishers presented 5,000 sets of suits to Nun Daw Hsekavati.

Vice-Chairman Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Pyay Zawtikaryon Pali Tekkatho Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kundalajoti delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits. — MNA

UMFCCI holds meetings with Indian delegations

YANGON, 27 June — President of Apexlynx Agritech System based in India Mr Barhm Majithia met with officials of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry yesterday and discussed on exchange of post harvesting technology and agrucultural technology for quality paddy.

Similarly, officials of UMFCCI held a meeting with a commerce delegation of India focusing on holding a meeting of the two sides in September and holding an industrial exhibition of India in January 2007.

At the meeting, the Indian commerce delegation was led by President of Indo-Myanmar Chambers of Commerce & Industries Mr GL Goenka while UMFCCI was headed by its Vice-President U Aung Lwin and General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing. — MNA

“Power and Truth”

* If there were true love
  Don’t you dare give a sarcasm
  Want you to tell only the truth
  What they’ve been thinking, doing
  what should not
  Is that Myanmar has bad human
  rights record

* With all these malicious concoctions

  Adamantly correct with facts
  Poise themselves to take issue to UN.
  Because he’s made up to be a Power

  All other such nations unavoidably
  Will try to tread his path
  And strut along together

  Reckons he’d achieve his act.
  Though he may be a Power
  Because he’s made wrong

  appearances

  At the venue based on truth
  Attended by a concert of nations
  He’d surely come to shame.

Byan Hiwar (Trs)

Myanmar did not become democratic due to early…

(from page 7)

Sometimes, the NLD leader woman made remarks that were laughable. She said the Tatmadaw her father had founded was not the one like this or what her father wished for was not this type of the Tatmadaw. She made such remarks in an overbearing manner. As far as I know, the new generation leaders of the Tatmadaw have not veered from the national path laid down by the Tatmadaw leaders including Bogyoke Aung San; all of the new generation leaders have ensured non-disintegration of the Union, non-disregarding of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty sacrificing lives, blood and sweat of the Tatmadaw members. The numerous instances have been chronicled in the annals of history.

But I would like to put a question? In her life of the NLD leader, has she fulfilled the wish of her father Bogyoke Aung San? The British beheaded her grandfather Bo Min Yaung and the British conspired the assassination of her father Bogyoke Aung San and other martyrs. Still, she got married with a British citizen. So, I would like to ask if it was the wish of her father. I want the democracy ladies of NLD to answer the question.

It was totally irrelevant to compile a list of heroic Myanmar women who took part in the anti-colonialist, anti-fascist, national liberation historic independence movements. In fact, it was incomparable.

There had been some instances in which Myanmar freedom fighter women valiantly stood against the suppression of the British imperialists. Daw Sein Pwint of Ngaphyulay Village in Thonze Township who had been giving speeches in the villages slapped the face of a British mounted policeman who ridiculed and insulted the nationalist leaders. She did so with the use of her sandal and she was imprisoned for one month for that. During the oil-field workers strike in 1938, Thakinma Daw Aye Than slapped the commissioner and she was sent to jail.

All the people of Myanmar know very well how the NLD leader woman and democracy ladies of NLD have been preserving the anti-imperialist heritage handed down by the historic Myanmar women. They have been committing destructive acts, usually perpetrated by axe-handle national traitors relying on external powers. If they take hold of Myanmar women’s day and undermine the fine traditions Myanmar women will be punished by the mass of Myanmar women who uphold the anti-imperialist traditions.

Fugitive and destructive elements and the pamphlet of the NLD democracy ladies have designated the birthday of the NLD leader woman as Myanmar women’s day accepting her as the leader of the people and the mother of democracy. As I see it, it is nothing but they are making a mountain out of a molehill.

Translation: MS, TMT, AK
Two US citizens arrested in Papua over immigration offence

JAKARTA, 28 June — The Indonesian authorities have detained two US citizens for immigration offence when they were attending a meeting of local tribal group in the easternmost province of Papua, a newspaper said on Tuesday. The two, identified as Brian Joseph Keane, 44, and Casey Kellar Box, 21, were arrested Monday on suspicion of misusing their visas.

The Papua police have transferred the suspects to the provincial immigration office for further questioning, reported Kompas.

“Police told us the two US citizens had attended activities which was held without (government) approval,” local immigration head Giri Hariyanto was quoted as saying.

He said the suspects would be released if police failed to present evidence of their crime.

Malaysia formally launches Non-Aligned Movement News Network

KUALA LUMPUR, 28 June — Malaysia formally launched the Non-Aligned Movement News Network (NNN) here on Tuesday, saying it would provide a window of the movement to the world.

“The NNN must be supported, nurtured and developed to become an important window of NAM to the world,” Malaysian Information Minister Zainuddin Maidin said at a ceremony here for launching the online news portal.

“I sincerely believe that the NNN will remain one of the required communication tools for the continuing and continual revitalization (of) NAM,” he said.

The creation of the NNN was initiated by Malaysia in November last year.

The Sixth Conference of the Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries approved Malaysia’s initiative to replace the now-defunct Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool.

Syed Jamaluddin, general manager of Malaysia’s National News Agency Bernama, said that the Internet-driven NNN would serve as a new mechanism for sustained flow of information and an affordable and speedy communication tool for NAM citizens.

Khamenei says talks with US would not benefit Iran

TEHERAN, 28 June — Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Tuesday that talks with the United States would not benefit the Islamic Republic, which is embroiled in a dispute over its nuclear programme with the West.

Washington has offered to join the European Union’s direct talks with Iran if Teheran agrees to halt its uranium enrichment work. The demand was made in a package that has the backing of six world powers but Iran has not yet replied.

“Negotiating with America does not have any benefit for us and we do not need such negotiations,” Khamenei was quoted as saying by state television.

Iran denies Western claims that it aims to produce nuclear weapons, saying it is only seeking atomic power.

However, if they recognize this right for us, we are prepared to talk about international controls, supervision and guarantees, and the grounds for such negotiations have been prepared,” he said.

Iranian officials have said Iran will not back down on what they say is Iran’s right to produce nuclear fuel, a demand Western nations have said is unacceptable.

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Xinhua

Cartoon-lovers paint on the 1,000-metre wall in Beijing on 25 June, 2006. A total of 350 cartoon-lovers from Animation College of Communication University of China and Academy of Arts and Design of Qinghua University gathered to draw the cartoon wall to greet the IAAF World Junior Championships, to be held in Beijing in August.—INTERNET
Indonesia targets to produce 111,663 BPD of oil in Q2

Jakarta, 27 June — Indonesia’s state oil firm PT Pertamina projected to produce 111,663 barrels per day (bpd) of oil in the second quarter of this year, higher than the first quarter of 101,963 bpd, president director of the company Ari Soemarno said Monday. The country imported 29,427,000 bpd of oil from January to April this year, said Soemarno while making a statement at a hearing with the Parliament members.

Concerning the improvement of the company’s performance and productivity, he said that the company needed about 18.7 billion US dollars of investment.

Most of the investment would be used to build new refineries and maintain old plants, he added.

PT Pertamina now operates seven oil refineries across the country.

ASEAN needs engagement of key strategic players

Singapore, 27 June — The Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) needs the engagement of key strategic players, like China, India, the United States and Japan, in the region, said Singapore’s Minister for Trade and Industry Lim Hng Kiang Monday.

Speaking at a seminar on the theme of “a new stage for Asian economic integration”, Lim said that to ride on China’s economic growth and prosper by working with it would be the key for the region.

“China’s efforts to engage ASEAN through the ASEAN-China FTA (free trade agreement) are a reflection of its own intentions for greater regional cooperation, and which is welcome by all in the region,” Lim said.

India, which has also seen significant increases in economic growth and foreign direct investment in recent years, is another key player in the region, according to the minister. “India will serve to integrate all of these key strategic players in our quest for economic integration,” he said.

As for the US and Japan, the first and second largest economies in the world, Lim said that they will remain major trading partners and investors for many regional countries and thus key players in the region.

“We must find a way to integrate all of these key strategic players into a regional framework that will benefit all of us. This should be based on cooperation and peaceful competition,” Lim said.

San Jose, 27 June — Police smashed on Monday an international network that smuggled cocaine into Europe in plant pots, the Costa Rican Public Security Ministry said in a statement. A total of 10 suspects, including two chiefs of the gang, were arrested during an operation conducted by Interpol, Costa Rica’s Drug Control Police and the Netherlands’ Police Service Brigade, said the statement.

The two men hid the drug in plant pots, which were to be exported to Europe, in a rented farm in the Costa Rican region of Limon. They worked with a Colombian and a Costa Rican who were arrested by Costa Rican police in San Jose on Monday. The police also arrested the gang’s supplier, a Panamanian who imported cocaine, supplied by Colombian drug runners, by truck to Costa Rica from a warehouse in Panama.

The five people, accused of international drug-trafficking, will face jail terms of up to 20 years if convicted.

Costa Rican police also said their Dutch colleagues arrested a man and seized 326 kilograms of cocaine in his possession.

Four of his henchmen were arrested in the same swoop, the statement said.

Colombian Army seizes one ton of explosives from rebels

Bogota, 27 June — The Colombian Army on Monday seized at least one ton of explosives hidden by the rebels of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in the department of southern Putumayo.

According to Marulino Tamayo of the Army’s 27th Brigade, the seized was in Orito, close to the Ecuador border.

“There are 64 boxes, with around 14 kilos of explosives in each one, or around one ton of explosives,” he said, adding that the FARC has been using explosives to destroy oil well facilities in the region.

He did not say if there had been fighting or arrests in the region.

Putumayo is the focus of the so-called Plan Patriota (Patriot Plan), an ambitious offensive targeting the FARC, which began three years ago.
Singapore launches wheelchair-accessible buses

SINGAPORE, 27 June — Singapore launched its first 10 wheelchair-accessible buses Monday to facilitate the mobility of senior citizens, wheelchair users and other groups like families with babies in strollers.

The new public buses, each equipped with a manually-operated ramp for boarding and alighting, as well as a parking space for one wheelchair, according to a statement issued by the Land Transport Authority (LTA).

These buses will be put into service on Route 21 which passes by a

Rehabilitation Centre for Drug Addicts opens in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 27 June — Cambodia Monday held a series of celebrations to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in the whole country.

Senior government officials, including Prime Minister Hun Sen and Deputy Prime Minister Sar Kheng, attended the events together with senior representatives of international organizations as well as diplomats.

Similar events were also organized by various government institutions, especially at the municipal and provincial levels, in cooperation with Phnom Penh Municipality, concerned NGOs in Phnom Penh and priority provinces.

This year’s commemoration of the international day is being celebrated with the theme, “Children and Drugs”, and the slogan, “Drugs are not Child’s Play”.

The celebration aims at getting the attention of various key players — policy makers, planners, relevant government institutions, concerned NGOs, religious networks, local authorities and communities as well as parents and more importantly youth/children themselves — about youth/children’s attitude toward all forms of drugs.

Family and Community Development, Youth and Sports Vivian Balakrishnan said at the launch.

He added that there is a need to step up efforts to create a more barrier-free living environment in the city state as it is expected to face new challenges arising from its aging population.

The LTA said that all new public buses registered here from 2006 are required to be wheelchair-accessible, adding that they will be introduced progressively to replace the existing non-wheelchair-friendly ones.

Senegalese President expects more Chinese investment

SHANGHAI, 27 June — Senegalese President Abdoulaye Wade on Sunday expressed his hope that more Chinese companies would invest in his country.

Wade said this during a bilateral business seminar held in Shanghai, China’s financial hub.

He suggested that a forum on investment between Shanghai and West Africa be held in Senegal this year.

Shanghai Mayor Han Zheng met with Wade and briefed the president on Shanghai’s economic and social situation.

Wade praised Shanghai’s development and expressed his hope that the two sides can strengthen cooperation in energy resources, infrastructure construction, communication and information technology.

Trade volume between Shanghai and Senegal in the first five months of 2006 reached 5.33 million US dollars, up 15.95 per cent year-on-year.

Wade and his party are visiting Shanghai after their visit in Shenzhen City, south China’s Guangdong Province Saturday.

During his six-day state visit to China from June 21, Wade had met with Chinese President Hu Jintao, China’s top legislator Wu Bangguo and top political adviser Jia Qinglin in Beijing.

Suez Canal to build new waterway

CAIRO, 27 June — Egypt’s Suez Canal Authority plans to dig a new waterway to reduce transit time for ships, the official MENA news agency reported on Sunday.

MENA quoted canal authority chief Ahmed Ali Fadel as saying that the new waterway, upon completion, would cut sailing time by some two hours on average. The new branch, which is under feasibility study, would be 26 kilometres long, it said, without giving further details.

The 190 kilometre-long Suez Canal was opened in 1869 after ten years of work. Running north to south across the Isthmus of Suez in northern Egypt, it connects the Mediterranean Sea with the Red Sea. It provides a shortcut for ships operating between both European and American ports and those Asian ports.
During the round of 16 World Cup football match between Brazil and Ghana in Dortmund. Brazil won 3-0.—INTERNET

Ukraine President phones coach, may attend next game

KIEV, 28 June—Ukraine President Viktor Yushchenko phoned coach Oleg Blokhin on Tuesday to congratulate the national team on their latest World Cup victory and said he might come to support them in the quarter-finals.

Kisses, chocolates and cakes were distributed and champagne drunk across Ukraine as Blokhin’s side surpassed expectations by knocking out Switzerland 3-0 in a penalty shootout to set up a last eight meeting with Italy.

“President said he and his family, together with millions of other fans, watched yesterday’s game until late at night and he kept his fingers crossed, especially during the penalty shootout,” Yushchenko’s Press service said.

“The President also hasn’t ruled out turning up in person to support our team in the next game.”

Hundreds of Ukrainians poured into the streets chanting “Forward Ukraine!” and waving flags in the national colours of blue and yellow after the second-round game went extra time and penalties before ending in the early hours of the morning.

MNA/Reuters

Late goals send France into last eight

HANOVER, 28 June—Late goals from Patrick Vieira and Zinedine Zidane gave France a 3-1 win over Spain in the World Cup second round on Tuesday.

Vieira headed in at the far post in the 83rd minute after a free kick had been deflected towards his own goal by Spain’s Xabi Alonso. Vieira’s header flicked off Spain’s Sergio Ramos on its way into the net.

Zidane finished things off in style after stoppage time, beating goalkeeper Iker Casillas after a swift counter-attack. France now meet Brazil in the quarter-finals in Frankfurt on Saturday, a repeat of the 1998 final won by the French.

France, written off by many as too old, came back from a goal down.

Coach Raymond Domenech was full of praise for his team. “It was very tough for the players. It was a remarkable match in every way. We may have a team of old men but we know how to be patient,” said Domenech. “Younger people run out of breath. There’s something exceptional waiting for us, unique emotions,” he added.

Spain had opened the scoring on 28 minutes, striker David Villa firing home from a penalty after Pablo Ibanez had been fouled by Lilian Thuram. France reacted in style four minutes from halftime.

Lively winger Franck Ribery raced on to a fine through ball from Vieira and rounded keeper Casillas to score his first goal for France with a cool finish. Spain, eager to shake off their tag as under-achievers and to erase memories of their last competitive meeting with France, a 2-1 defeat in the quarter-finals of Euro 2000, looked fresher and more imaginative throughout the first half.

After a cautious start from both sides, Spain were the first to threaten when left back Mariano Pernia curled a free kick just over the left upright with 25 metres on nine minutes.

France, relying on their trademark,watertight back four, showed little initiative up front and both Ribery and Vieira just failed to connect with a perfect downward header than Brazil.

Ghanaian goalkeeper Richard Kingston in scoring.

Alessandro Del Piero was certainly involved, collected the ball but he was certainly involved, and probably still marginally offside, as he drove into the six-yard box to nudge home his captain’s low cross.

The Ghana players protested to no avail as did their Serbian coach rat. RV, who was sent to the stands at halftime for his troubles.

MNA/Reuters

Brazil too good for Ghana in 3-0 win

DORTMUND, 28 June—A moment of Ronaldo class and a disputed Adriano goal helped give Brazil a 3-0 win over Ghana on Tuesday but their path to the World Cup quarter-finals was far from smooth.

Ronaldo struck after five minutes but Ghana paled on the pressure and exposed the world champions’ defence on several occasions before Adriano broke their hearts, if not their spirits, in first-half injury time.

Midfielder Ze Roberto added the third in the 84th minute when he slipped the Ghanaian offside trap once more.

Ghana ended the match with 10 men after striker Asamoah Gyan sent off in the 81st minute for diving, his second yellow card. Brazil, seeking a fourth successive final appearance and a sixth triumph, now face France.

Brazil got the ideal start when Kaka sprung the off-side trap with a pass into the path of Ronaldo and the striker bamboozled Ghana goalkeeper Richard Kingston with a quick-step dummy before tucking in his 15th World Cup goal, overhauling the record shared with Germany’s Gerd Mueller.

Ghana, without suspended midfield inspiration Michael Essien, looked in disarray in the first 20 minutes but gradually settled to attack the shaky heart of the Brazilian defence and create a series of chances had that the world champions rated.

They almost equalized in the 42nd minute when John Mensah then met a corner with a perfect downward header that Brazil.

Ghana were then stunned on the break with a controversial goal as Kaka fed the overlapping Cafu, making a Brazilian record 19th World Cup finals appearance.

Adriano was well offside at that point but play continued as he had not collected the ball but he was certainly involved, and probably still marginally offside, as he drove into the six-yard box to nudge home his captain’s low cross.

The Ghana players protested to no avail as did their Serbian coach rat. RV, who was sent to the stands at halftime for his troubles.

MNA/Reuters

French coach Fabien Barthez fails to save a penalty kick of Spanish forward David Villa during the World Cup 2006 round of 16 football game Spain vs France, at Hanover stadium. France won 3-1.—INTERNET

French midfielder Zinedine Zidane (R) celebrates with French midfielder Patrick Vieira at the end of the World Cup 2006 round of 16 football game Spain vs France, at Hanover stadium. France won 3-1.—INTERNET

President of the Vatican, Benedict XVI, greets Pope Benedict XVI, on his visit to the Vatican, in Rome, Sunday 2 June 2006. AP Photo/Domenico Stinellis.
Pandawinttaung Tawya Sasana area marks its 9th anniversary

YANGON, 27 June—Pandawinttaung Tawya Sasana area in Taikkyi Township, Yangon North District, celebrated its 9th founding anniversary at Pandawinttaung Tawya monastery at noon today.

Well-wishers presented cash donations to Pandawinttaung monastic education school (high school).

Taikkyi Station Commander Col Win Maung, Hmawby Township Union Solidarity and Development Association Secretary U Hla Oo and well-wishers presented stationery and cash each worth K 5,000 to 194 outstanding trainees of cultural course, and school uniforms and K 2,000 each to 440 students, and prizes to the outstanding students. Patron of the area principal of the school P and awinttaung Sayadaw Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Panhasara delivered a sermon. — MNA

**Consolences**

The Management and staff of Focus Energy Limited convey their deepest sympathy to the family of HE U Tin Tun 74 years, Deputy Minister (Retired), Ministry of Energy, who passed away on 26-6-2006.

Focus Energy Limited

**Chinese senior official calls for people’s war against narcotics**

BEIJING, 28 June — Zhou Yongkang, state councillor and director of the National Narcotic Control Committee, called for more efforts to mobilize people to take part in the current anti-drug war, so as to realize the goal for the country’s three-year anti-drug programme.

The official urged local officials in charge of the matter to study recent instructions on the issue by President Hu Jintao and Premier Wen Jiabao. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and volunteers should be encouraged to join in the anti-drug efforts, he said. Zhou, who is a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, said on Monday while meeting with a group of people who have been elected “2005 Top 10 Non-governmental Anti-drug Persons”.

**WEATHER**

Wednesday, 28 June, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain have been isolated in Magway Division, scattered in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread to widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Sagaing, Magway and Tanintharyi Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myeik (3.62) inches, Homalin (3.07) inches, KBZHL (2.76) inches, Ann (2.71) inches, Dawei (2.17) inches, Kyaukpyu (1.58) inches and Aunglan (1.54) inches.

Maximum temperature on 27-6-2006 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 28-6-2006 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 28-6-2006 was (93%). Total sunshine hours on 27-6-2006 was nil.

Rainfalls on 28-6-2006 were (0.12) inch at Mngaladon, (0.12) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.16) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2006 were (25.35) inches at Mngaladon, (33.58) inches at Kaba-Aye and (36.93) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (05:10) hours MST on 28-6-2006.

Bay influence: Monsoon is moderate in Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 29-6-2006: Rain will be widespread in Kachin, Chin, Kayin, Mon and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Tanintharyi Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan State and Bago Division and isolated to scattered in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar Waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Slight increase of rain are likely in eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 29-6-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 29-6-2006: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 29-6-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).
Irrigation facilities, undertakings for meeting target production of crops inspected in Magway Division

NAY PYI TAW, 28 June — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo viewed thriving 700 acres of Hsinthwelat strain summer paddy plantations in Magyibinpu Village-tract in Salin Township on 18 June afternoon.

The minister explained boosting production in agriculture sector.

At Kyeeohn-Kyeewa Multi-purpose Dam Project of Irrigation Department near Wunlo Village in Pwinbyu Township, the minister inspected construction of the main embankment and earth work.

Director U Tun Aung Lwin of Construction-3 reported on construction of the embankment and the spillway and matters related to hydel power production. Director-General U Kyaw San Win of the Irrigation Department gave a supplementary report. Director U Tun Win also reported to the minister on flow of water into the dam and water utilization.

Next, the minister met with members of Magway Division and Township Agricultural Coordination Committees and instructed them to strive for boosting production and meeting the target production.

On 19 June morning, the minister and party viewed progress in construction of the dam project, and inspected soil test being conducted at the site for building the spillway and other construction matters.

The minister and party viewed renovation of the retaining walls at the upper footprint of Shwesettaw Pagoda.

In Kanbya Village of Magway Township, the minister looked into thriving white sesame plantation and gave instructions to local farmers on efforts to be made for meeting the target production by using quality sesame strains and use of systematic harvesting methods.

The minister viewed groundnut plantations. In meeting with local farmers, the minister praised local farmers for production of 50 baskets of groundnut that met the target, and urged them to try their best to produce other crops for meeting the target production.

In the afternoon, the minister and party inspected Hsinthwelat paddy plantation in Kimpantaung irrigated area of Taungdwingyi Township, and attended to the needs.

Afterwards, the minister viewed thriving sugarcane plantations of local farmers at Kimpantaung camp of Myanma Sugarcane Enterprise in Taungdwingyi Township. He instructed service personnel to assist the local people for production of the sugarcane to exceed the target.

MNA

Sales of jade lots spiraling upward

YANGON, 27 June — The sales of jade lots of the Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales for 2006 at Myanmar Convention Centre is spiraling upward and so far 2,062 lots have been sold through tender in four days.

Yesterday’s total sales reached 533 lots and 25 jade lots have been fetched so far this morning. The sales of remaining jade lots continues today.

The sales started on 24 July at Myanmar Convention Centre here and drew 2,379 gem merchants at home and abroad. The auction will continue tomorrow.— MNA

Weather Forecast for (29-6-2006)

Nay Pyi Taw & neighbouring areas
Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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