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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**Senior General Than Shwe congratulates Vietnamese President**

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr Nguyen Minh Triet, who has been elected as President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on 27 June 2006. — MNA

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**People need to be equipped with social requirements such as uplift of fitness, high education standard, national character**

**Special refresher course No 9 for faculty members concludes**

YANGON, 30 June — Special Refresher Course No 9 for Faculty Members concluded at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township this morning with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

The course conclusion ceremony was attended by ministers, the chief justice, the attorney-general, deputy ministers, the deputy auditor-general, members of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, departmental heads, the rector and heads of department of CICS (Phaunggyi) and course instructors.

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said, nowadays, the SPDC is striving for the development of political, economic and social foundations in order to transform the motherland into a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. In doing so, all the citizens need to take part in their respective roles with a sense of duty for equitable development of all sectors of the country. However, in an effort for the development of the country, weakness of a single sector may hinder the progress of other sectors, causing a great loss in the future. That is why, the Secretary-1 said, each and every faculty member is to work in view of State’s interest with duty-consciousness and goodwill as an education staff, an academic and a citizen.

If all the people work together for the development of the country based on nationalistic fervour, the bright future will surely await the country.

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**Myanmar women should join hands with the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation in demonstrating their skills, intellectual power and goodwill.**

(See page 8)

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**INSIDE**

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Strive for extended creation of beneficial literature

Literature is the main pillar of the culture of a people. Therefore, writers should exert their fresh ideas to produce creative and educative works for the flourishing of Myanmar literature.

After its birth in 1989, the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association systematically mobilized members of respective township writers and journalists associations. Now, more than 7,000 members are discharging literary duties in harmony.

The first conference of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association took place on 29 and 30 December in 1993, the second conference on 22 and 23 June 1998, and the third conference from 28 to 30 June in 2002.

The conferences focused on submitting papers on producing beneficial literature, steps for the flourishing of Myanmar literature, participation of the MWJA members in the nation-building tasks, and systematic formation of township WJAs.

Now, the fourth conference of the MWJA is in progress at Pyidaungsu Hall in Kyakkaikan Ground, Yangon, commencing 1 July (today).

As a gesture of honouring the literati who strive for uplift of the national prestige and integrity, the government presents the national literary awards, Sarpay Beikman manuscript awards and life-long national literary awards, while providing encouragement and assistance for the progress of the MWJA and well-being of the members.

In creating works to widen the scope of the public knowledge, writers and those who are engaged in the literary world should be equipped with a conception of giving priority to the interests of the nation and the people.

At a time when the government is providing encouragement for further flourishing of literature, the onus is put on men of letters to continue their fresh ideas to produce creative and educative works and fine books that serve the national interests.

Workshop on Tour

Guide held

YANGON, 30 June — Under the supervision of Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Myanmar Travels Association held the Workshop on Tour Guide at Mandalay Hill Resort, Mandalay, on 28 June.

Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu made an address at the ceremony. It was mainly sponsored by Myanmar Travels Association and Myanmar Hoteliers Association in Mandalay.

It was attended by committee and association members, responsible persons, tour guides and enthusiasts. The experienced tour guides took part in the workshop.

Cash donated for construction of World Vipassana Cave Pagoda

U Than-Daw Say Yin (Champion Family) presents K 12 million for the construction of World Vipassana Cave Pagoda. — MNA

Minister inspects factories of MTI

YANGON, 30 June — Minister for Industry-I U Aung Thaung went to Garment Factory No 17 in North Okkalapa Township and Towel Factory No 23 in Mayangon Township under Myanmar Textile Industries (MTI) today.

On his inspection tour, the minister met with officials of the factories and called for operation of the factories at full capacity. The Garment Factory in Mayangon Township produces sports wear and clothes.

At the Towel Factory, the minister viewed the production process.

In the afternoon, Minister U Aung Thaung and wife attended the ministry’s 9th Wazo Robes Offering Ceremony at the training school of the ministry here. — MNA

Foreign Minister sends message of congratulations to Vietnam

NAIPHTAW, 30 June — U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr Pham Gia Khiem, who has been appointed as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on 28th June 2006.

Archery contest to mark Int’l Olympic Day held

YANGON, 30 June — The prize presentation for the archery contest in conjunction with the archery equipment donation ceremony to mark the International Olympic Day 2006 organized by Myanmar Archery Federation was held at the shooting range at Kyakkaikan grounds of Myanmar Archery Federation at Kyakkaikan Ground this evening.

It was attended by General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik, Honorary President of Myanmar Archery Federation Dr Khin Shwe, President of MAF U Tint Hsan, Vice-President of MAF U Than-Daw Saw Yin (Champion Family) and executives. Director U Naw Taung of SPED presented prizes to winners at novice level contests, President U Tint Hsan, to winners at men’s compound and recurve contests, Dr Khin Shwe, to winners at men’s compound and recurve contests, President U Tint Hsan, to winners at men’s compound and recurve contests, and the Director of Korea International Cooperation Association, to winning teams at team events.

Director-General U Thaung Htaik also presented prizes to the winners. Mr. Lee Seung Min of KICA presented archery equipment worth US$ 4,022 to MAF through Director-General U Thaung Htaik. — NLM

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattened
* Do not be softened whenever appeared

President’s Desire

* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Minister for Industry-I

U Aung Thaung inspects quality of finished towels.

INDUSTRY-I
India, Russia eye more cooperation in oil sector

NEW DELHI, 29 June—India and Russia expressed their will to push forward cooperation in oil sector at a meeting between visiting Deputy Chairman of Russian Federation Alexander Zhukov and Indian Minister of Petroleum Murli Deora held here Wednesday. Indian companies led by state-owned ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) would like to participate in more ventures including the Sakhalin III Project in Russia as the national oil companies of the two countries have a very good experience of working together in the Sakhalin I Project, Deora said in a Press release.

Indian companies are keen to work with Russian companies both in India and Russia as well as in third countries, he added.

Zhukov also welcomed the interest shown by Indian companies to participate in more projects in Russia while noting that leading Russian gas company Gazprom is keen to participate in the proposed Iran-Pakistan-India gas pipeline project.

The two sides are expected to work out some specific arrangements for this sector during the forthcoming visit of the Indian Prime Minister to Russia, he added.

The two sides also discussed the issue of how to ship gas from Sakhalin I field at the meeting.

US pedophile arrested in northern Mexico

MEXICO, 29 June—Mexico’s Attorney General’s Office said in a statement on Wednesday that police had arrested Kevin Bruce Koper, a US citizen wanted by the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for sexually abusing minors.

Police arrested Koper in Tecoman, in the northeastern Mexican state of Colima, and took into custody four Mexicans, including Israel Rivera, the owner of a cabin that Koper was renting, Rebeca Guijaro Barbosa, and two minors who appeared to be her children.

The Attorney General’s Office said that Koper was known for adopting children and sexually abusing them. He had also travelled overseas several times in order to have sex with children and get child pornography.

Koper is on the FBI’s most wanted list and has been sought by authorities in the US state of Tennessee on child abuse charges.—MNA/Xinhua

Limited state of emergency declared in New Jersey’s flooded counties

According to National Weather Service, most points on the Delaware River were above their flood stages Wednesday and were expected to crest Thursday.—MNA/Xinhua

London rail fire brings mainline travel chaos

LONDON, 29 June—Thousands of commuters faced long delays on Tuesday after a trackside fire closed one of London’s busiest railway stations. All services in and out of King’s Cross, one of the main north-south stations, were suspended on Monday after a fire broke out on a nearby building site.

Tens of thousands of commuters were forced on to replacement trains and buses or struggled through the traffic to get to work.

About 1,000 people were evacuated from their homes when fire crews set up a 200-metre exclusion zone around the site where the fire started.

The station will stay closed until later on Tuesday or Wednesday because of fears gas cylinders caught in the blaze could explode.

“We are trying to minimize the impact on passengers as much as we can,” said a spokesman for Network Rail, the body which runs Britain’s rail infrastructure. “We are waiting for the London Fire Brigade to give us the all clear.”—MNA/Reuters

2,529 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 29 June—As of Monday, 26 June, 2006, at least 2,529 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 am EDT.

The British military has reported 113 deaths; Italy, 32; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, Denmark three; El Salvador, Estonia, Netherland, Thailand, two each; and Austria, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Romania, one death each.—Internet
China, Laos pledge to strengthen bilateral relations

BEIJING, 29 June — Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing met with his Laotian counterpart Thongloun Sisoulith in Beijing on Tuesday, vowing to strengthen bilateral relations and cooperation.

The two sides agreed to implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries to promote the development of the China-Laos good-neighbourly and friendly relationship of cooperation.

Thongloun is a member of the entourage of the Chinese President.

Spanish police arrest 30 in $3b fraud case

MAJORCA, 29 June — Spanish police on Tuesday arrested 30 people in connection with a three-billion-US-dollar property fraud and corruption case in the southern city Marbella.

Among the detainees, 13 were former town councilors from the administrative body which had been dissolved in April after the mayor and other senior officials were arrested in March, and the others were real estate developers, the police said.

Tuesday’s arrests included three people who had been arrested in the previous phase of the investigation and then were released on bail. One of them was the former police chief of Marbella.

The 30 detainees could face charges of corruption, bribery and money laundering. Marbella’s city council allegedly demanded large amounts of bribes in exchange for building permits.

In the previous phase of the investigation called Operation Malaya, police arrested 23 people including the Mayor of Marbella, and confiscated 2.4 billion euros ($3.02 billion dollars’ worth) of property, ranging from helicopters to race horses, as well as artwork and antique guns.

Oil spill in Louisiana leaves ships stranded

LAKE CHARLES, 29 June — Ships have been stranded, seafood sources threatened and the nation’s oil reserve tapped as the result of 47,000 barrels of oil spilling into a southwestern Louisiana shipping channel, forcing its closure.

“For this area, it’s a major spill. They haven’t had anything like this in 20 years,” Chief Warrant Officer Adam Wine of the U.S. Coast Guard said Thursday.

The 19 June spill at a Citgo Petroleum Corp refinery in Lake Charles forced the closure of the Calcasieu Ship Channel, a key lane for transporting petroleum in and out of the region’s four refineries. About 11 miles of the channel remained closed Thursday. The entire 40 miles to the Gulf of Mexico had been closed.

About 31,000 barrels had been cleaned up by Thursday, the Coast Guard said. A Citgo spokesman said the cleanup was going well partly because a lack of wind kept oil patches in place and the dry, sunny weather was evaporating much of the oil.

“If you have to have a spill, this is the weather you want,” Citgo spokesman David McCollum said.

The oil killed two birds: a cormorant and a laughing gull, the Coast Guard said.

Authorities describe the product as “waste oil” leftover after the refining process. It came from two holding tanks at the Citgo refinery at the north end of the channel.

MNA/Xinhua

India seeks Bangladesh’s support for post of UNSG

DHAKA, 29 June — India on Wednesday sought Bangladesh’s support to its candidate for the post of Secretary General of the United Nations (UN), private news agency UNI reported.

Indian High Commissioner in Bangladesh Veena Sikri sought the support when she met with Bangladesh Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan here Wednesday.

India has nominated UN Under Secretary-General Shashi Tharoor as its candidate for the top post in the global body, Veena Sikri told the Foreign Minister.

The Foreign Minister and the envoy exchanged views on issues of UN reforms and also the candidate scenario for the post of UN Secretary General.

MNA/Xinhua

Aid agency blames US, EU for Doha Round stalemate

GENEVA, 29 June — International aid agency Oxfam on Wednesday blamed the United States and European Union for the long-time stalemate of the Doha Round talks.

“If this deal collapses there should be no doubt as to why and who to blame,” said Celine Charveriat, head of Oxfam’s Make Trade Fair campaign.

“The US wants more access to European farm markets than Europe will give, and the EU wants more cuts in US subsidies than the US will grant and both seem prepared to sacrifice this round, along with all its promise and potential, rather than compromise,” she said.

“The US and the EU have played their game of brinkmanship for too long and unless they make a last minute U-turn, a once in a generation opportunity to agree new trade rules that would really drive development will be lost,” she added.

Charveriat was making the statement on the eve of a key gathering of some 60 trade and agricultural ministers of the World Trade Organization aiming to overcome major obstacles in the Doha Round negotiations.

The complex negotiations was initiated in 2001 with a lofty ambition of lifting millions of people out of poverty through fairer trading conditions.

But deep differences among major WTO players, particularly the US, the EU and the G-20 of developing countries, have blocked the negotiations from making substantial progress for the past five years.

The end-of-year deadline of concluding the Doha Round will be put at risk if WTO ministers could not reach agreement on farm and industrial trade, two vital fields in the talks, in the next few days.

MNA/Xinhua
Argentina tax man hits soccer fan where it hurts

BUENOS AIRES, (Argentina), 29 June — Argentine tax officials hit a tax cheat where it hurts most on Wedsday, confiscating the man’s plasma TV two days before Argentina plays Germany in the World Cup quarterfinals.

It was the latest move in a “shock” campaign by Santiago Montoya, the top tax man in Buenos Aires province, the country’s biggest, to curb rampant tax evasion in Argentina. Tax officials carted off the new big-screen television from a man who owes some 6,100 pesos (2,000 US dollars) in back taxes.

“We’ve taken the plasma as a guarantee against the debt he owes,” said Juan Manuel Prada, a provincial tax official.

Officials say tax evasion in Buenos Aires province costs the government some 1 billion US dollars in lost revenue each year.

Montoya’s highly publicized attempts to crack down on tax delinquents have included mailing letters to the spouses of evaders and leaving messages on people’s cell phones. His latest campaign is sure to catch the eye of soccer-obsessed Argentines. A tournament favourite, Argentina, faces Germany on Friday.—MNA/Reuters

Arab League urges US to play honest M-E broker role

WASHINGTON, 29 June — Arab League Secretary-General Amr Moussa said in Houston, Texas on Tuesday that the United States should play a honest broker role in the Middle East, US media reported.

“There’s no doubt that this conflict cannot be resolved without an active involvement of the United States playing a role of an honest broker,” Moussa, Arab League Secretary General, said during opening remarks of the US-Arab Economic Forum being held in Houston.

“Only the role of an honest broker played by the US will clear the image of the US policy in the Middle East,” Moussa said.

Moussa said that the conflicts between Israel and the Palestinians could “make or break” stability in the Middle East region and his message to the United States is to “help solve this problem fairly and honestly.”—INTERNET

Canada investigates US accessing of its banking records

OTTAWA, 29 June— Canada is investigating whether the United States has been im-properly given access to its banking records following allegations that an international banking consortium provided Washington with confidential informa-tion about money transfers, The Toronto Star newspaper reported on Wednesday.

Canada’s privacy commissioner is also trying to determine whether or not the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) was given unauthorized access to the confidential files, the daily said.

“This is something we’re looking into. Any time personal informa-tion of Canadians is obtained by a foreign government in circum-stances that may not provide the same privacy protections that exist in Canada, we have concerns,” Anne-Marie Hayden, spokeswoman for the privacy com-missioner’s office, told the newspaper.

On Tuesday, a human rights group filed formal complaints in 32 countries, including Canada, against a Brussels-based banking consortium for providing the United States with confidential information about international money transfers, according to reports.—MNA/Xinhua

Pakistan angrily reacts to Rice remarks on democracy

ISLAMABAD, 29 June — Pakistan on Wednesday angrily reacted to remarks from the US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice that she expects President Musharraf to fulfil his promise to hold democratic elections next year.

“In the democratic processes in Pakistan, we do not require advice from outside,” the Foreign Office Spokesperson Tasneem Aslam said at a Press conference here, adding that “these matters essentially concern the people of Pakistan”. Regarding reported comments by the US Secretary of State on free and fair elections in Pakistan, the spokes-person said, “Such a subject was not discussed during Sec-retary Rice’s call on the President on 27 June, 2006.”

“There should be no doubt in anyone’s mind that the elections will be free and fair,” she said, adding that Pakistan had strong and functioning democratic institutions.

“This is the com-mitment of the leader-ship and government of Pakistan,” the spokes-person said.—MNA/Xinhua

Mililants conduct suicide attack as Rice visits Afghanistan

KABUL, 29 June — Anti-government militants have carried out a suicide bomb attack against the US-led coalition troops in the troubled Zabul Province in south Afghanistan while the US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice is touring the post-Taliban country.

“A car laden with explosive material apparently targeted the coalition convoy Wednesday around noon left two persons, both attackers, dead in Zabul’s provincial capital Qalat,” provincial police chief Noor Mohammad Pakin told Xinhua.

There was no casualty on the coalition side, he said. However, the Taliban operatives in another attack stormed a police checkpoint in Nowzad District of Helmand Province Wednesday morning, wounding one policeman, a senior police official in the area Mohammad Nabi Mullakhil confirmed.

Two militants were killed in the exchange of fire, Mullakhil added. — MNA/Xinhua

Visitors to Launch
Pad 39B view the space shuttle
Discovery as it is prepared for Mission STS-121 at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida, on 29 June, 2006. —INTERNET

Argentine tax man hits soccer fan where it hurts

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Indonesian villagers evacuate their belongings after hot mud from an oil and gas exploration operated by local company Lapindo Brantas flooded their village in Sidorejo of East Java on 29 June, 2006. —INTERNET
**The 4th MWJA Conference that will raise national prestige and lineage**

**Khin Pyi Chit**

The Fourth Conference of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association is being held on 1 and 2 July this year, with the participation of representatives of 14 states and divisions. It is a prestige for Myanmar to have the Sarsodaw Day (literati day) as the role of the men of letters is much important in developing the nation. From the stone inscriptions of ancient Myanmar to this date, the literati have compiled or composed various kinds of literature for the public to the extent of their creative and intellectual power.

Associations have been formed throughout the various eras to cement the strength of the men of letters, and the Literary Organization stood as the strength of the nation as a whole. Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association was formed on national scale, and up to June 2006, it had 7297 members, 169 township associations and five organizing committees all over the country.

MWJA has been the vehicle for the development of the art of compiling branches of letters concerning knowledge of creativity that benefit the nation. It has been dutiful in cementing unity among the literati, publishing classical and contemporary literature, and helping private publishers. Like a garden with all plants in blossom, the MWJA is a place where various branches of literature flourish.

Men of letters are working for broadening the horizon of public knowledge, developing literary branches concerning creativity and knowledge and preserving national culture.

They with the might of the pen are also taking part in the task of helping ensure perpetuation of the nation and race and ward off destructive schemes, while holding literary talks, paper reading sessions and courses occasionally. In addition to National Literary Awards and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards, Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Awards and Sayawun Tin Shwe Literary Awards are presented to the literati to further develop literature.

The association is also serving as a bridge between Myanmar literature and international literature, organizing workshops on patent rights and conferences of international literati, arranging literary expeditions, protecting the rights of literati according to the law and providing welfare assistance to them and rendering assistance to publishing houses and book shops.

The Central Committee to hold the fourth conference of MWJA has formed the panel of patrons and the work groups in accord with the national policy and under the leadership of the Ministry of Information. A body has been formed to supervise the work of electing new members for the new term.

The MWJA is also cooperating, coordinating and exchanging views with other congenial organizations — Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon, Myanmar Music Asiayon and Myanmar Artists and Artisans Asiayon.

As men of letters are taking part in the literary sector with their utmost intellectual power for successful realization of the seven-step Road Map and the successful compilation of the National Convention, they are also serving the interest of the nation and the people in accord with the slogan “Uplift of the prestige of the race, lineage and literature.”

(Translation: TMT)

**Delegates, observers arrive**

**YANGON, 30 June** — Delegates and observers to the 4th Conference of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association arrived in here today. They were welcomed by the officials of Reception and Accommodation Work Committee, and accommodated at hostels in Kyaikkasan Ground. — MNA

**Arrival of delegates and observers at hostels of Kyaikkasan Ground to attend 4th Conference of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association. — MNA**

**Albanian police destroy thousands of marijuana plants**

**TRIANA, 30 June** — Albanian police on Wednesday destroyed some 7,300 marijuana plants in northern Albania, local media reported.

The plants were found on Tuesday in the village of Bene, some 110 kilometres north of the capital city of Tirana, the report said.

Police said that they had destroyed more than 14,500 marijuana plants in the past two weeks in the same area. Albanian’s ports on the Adriatic Sea, its porous land borders, together with poorly financed and under-equipped border controls, make Albania an attractive stop on the smuggling route for traffickers to ship drugs into Western Europe. Earlier this month, Albanian Parliament approved an anti-cannabis law which demands local authorities to cooperate with the state police in rooting out the marijuana plants. — MNA/Xinhua
Yangon Division has so far opened 2,056 self-reliant village libraries ... (from page 16) The Head of State has given guidance to create a constant learning Myanmar society. Thanks to the guidance, youths now have easy access to international level education. However, 70 percent of the population living in the rural areas have less opportunities. Thus, a project to open libraries in all villages was launched in 2004-2005 to enhance the rural people’s reading power. Up to 7 June 2006, self-reliant libraries have been opened in 54,707 villages. Yangon Division has opened 2,056 rural self-reliant libraries. Myanmar should be proud of herself on opening self-reliant libraries in all villages as first nation to do so in the world. The people will also be able to take pride in implementing the project. Up to now, the public donations are valued at over K 305.2 million. All the success are due to the united strength which must also be used in the nation-building task. The five objectives of the project are to organize rural people to enhance their reading power, to preserve the books and set up trust funds to buy more books, to erect buildings for housing rural libraries, to provide necessary furniture for the libraries and for the IPRD to produce efficient librarians. The local authorities, the respective committees, the USDA and the ministry staff should form as a consolidated strength to realize the objectives. Later, the well-wishers donated cash and furniture for the libraries opened by the Auditor-General’s Office.

Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise celebrates its 36th anniversary

YANGON, 30 June—The Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise under the Ministry of Information marked its 36th anniversary at its head office here this morning. The Head of State. He called for harmonious efforts in the process. Nine objectives have been set up for 2005-2006 fiscal year—to raise the income, to develop Myanmar film and video, to enable Myanmar motion pictures and video films, to cooperate for ensuring local media cover, to censor foreign pictures in accord with Myanmar culture and customs, to maintain the cinemas the government hired for durability, to carry out staff welfare tasks, to promote the equipment of the department, and to practise thrifty. The guidance will be accomplished if the departments concerned achieve these objectives.

In conclusion, the minister called for sustained efforts to carry out the tasks in line with his instructions.

Myanmar recognized as rinderpest infection-free nation

YANGON, 30 June—The OIE sent a certificate to the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries on 25 May 2006 recognizing Myanmar as a nation free from rinderpest infection. Of 87 nations free from rinderpest infection in the world, there are only nine Asian nations. Now, Myanmar became one of rinderpest infection-free nations.

There were no outbreaks of rinderpest disease in Myanmar since 1995. Myanmar sent a report on that condition with firm evidences to the OIE which recognized her as a nation free from rinderpest disease in May 2004.

Rinderpest disease claimed many lives of cattle in Myanmar since 1901. With extensive vaccination launched nationwide, the disease was under control and the cattle mortality rate has decreased significantly with only two deaths in Kyunhla Township, Shwebo District, Sagaing Division in 1956 and 1957.

The OIE recognized Myanmar as rinderpest disease-free nation in 2004 and as rinderpest infection-free nation in 2006.

UNICEF official calls on PBANRDA Minister

Nay Pyi Taw, 30 June—UNICEF Representative Mr Ramesh Shrestha called on Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt here, at his office, at 4 pm on 28 June and they discussed matters related to rural development and water supply in rural areas.

Also present at the call were PBANRDA Deputy Minister Col Tin Ngwe, Director-General of Development Affairs Department U Myo Myint and officials concerned.
Being a sovereign country, Myanmar has the right to practise an adaptable political system based on economic and defence infrastructures for the perpetuation of sovereignty while preserving her national culture

As now is the time when the education sector is leading all other sectors to enable the country to develop rapidly, all the citizens are to try to have such social requirements as well as good knowledge of science and technology. At such a time like this, the government has laid down step-by-step programmes since 1998 so as to address the challenges of science and technology. According to the national education promotion programmes, the State has created a constant learning society not only for the youth students but also for all the citizens. These programmes are aimed at helping the people have wisdom, correct view and innovate ways and means for the sake of the country. In addition, alongside normal education system, various subjects are being taught to students so as to develop an educational environment in which all branches of study can be learned. Efforts have been made for the emergence of highly qualified human resources in all spheres and education infrastructures of international level and creating better learning opportunities.

Thanks to combined efforts of those from the education sector including faculty members and the people under the leadership of the government, unprecedented progress has been made in the Myanmar education sector. In the education sector, there were 32 universities and colleges in 1988 and the number of higher learning institutions has now increased to 156 including Myanmar Maritime University, Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University, University of Computer Science, University of Pharmacy and University of Medical Technology. At present, there have been computer colleges in states and divisions including two universities of computer science for the students to study computer sciences of advanced level. Moreover, every university is facilitated with electronic learning centres, electronic information resource centres and networks that link with colleges while some basic education schools also enjoy the same opportunity.

The emergence of a wide array of subjects in the education sector has helped create a mammoth education infrastructure. In the past, there were only MA and MSc courses conducted at the universities. There are now MA and MSc courses, M Research Course and Doctorate courses and a large number of students are attending them. With the emergence of education infrastructures including modern laboratories, electronic information resource centres and e-Libraries coupled with increased number of qualified teachers in the respective fields, remarkable progress has been made in the higher education sector.

It is incumbent upon all the faculty members to create better education system, making better use of the already-achieved good foundations. And based on their qualifications and experiences, all the teachers are to make relentless efforts for development of the education sector.

Moreover, the teachers are to make continued efforts for the constant emergence of human resources capable of serving the interest of the State and the people while taking full advantage of science and technology for national interests.

However, they are to constantly observe codes of conduct of teachers to the fullest extent and try their utmost for the improvement of Myanmar society predominantly endowed with fine traditions and customs.

At present, internal and external destructive elements in collusion with opportunists in the name of students are making fabricated excuses to cause chaos in the nation. They are perpetrating sabotage and instigation among students to destabilize the nation and jeopardize the peaceful pursuit of education.

The onus is on teachers to convince the students of the real nature of destructive acts and instigation and to nurture them to be well-versed and experienced.

Nowadays, some powers that are attempting to wield influence on Myanmar and their cohorts are intensifying pressure on her, resorting to various means and ways. They are doing so as the role of destructive elements has met its end as there prevailed law and order in the nation owing to concerted efforts of the government and the people.

The government is taking part in the international activities in the interest of peoples of the world while striving together with the people for the emergence of a new and developed nation.

The emergence of a new nation based on non-disintegration of national solidarity and non-disintegration of the Union and high cultural and historical trends existed since yore is the only national goal.

Whatever system is being practised, the country is to be built on the basis of perpetuation of sovereignty, modernization of national defence forces, preservation of national culture and dignity, strong national economy and socio-economic development of the people.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents diligence award to Lecturer U Than Soe of University of Medical Technology. — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially greeted the trainees at concluding ceremony of Special Refresher Course No 9 for Faculty Members. — MNA

Some powers advocating democracy and human rights are making attempts to dominate and influence the whole world, taking full advantages of their defence and economic supremacy.

Being a sovereign country, Myanmar has the right to practise an adaptable political system based on economic and defence infrastructures for the perpetuation of sovereignty while preserving her national culture.

Hence, the government is building political, economic and social infrastructures, pillars for the stability of the State, to ensure a smooth transition to a peaceful and disciplined flourishing democratic nation. That’s why, taking the educational role, faculty members are to contribute to the government’s efforts for building those infrastructures.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 urged the faculty members to contrib-
USDA members to inform public of correct news and rebut fabrications

USDA Basic Journalism Course No 5 concludes

YANGON, 30 June — The Basic Journalism Course No 5 of the Union Solidarity and Development Association concluded at the hall of USDA Headquarters on New University Avenue in Bahan Township this morning, with an address by Secretary-General of USAU U Hay Oo.

Also present on the occasion were USDA Central Executive Committee members Minister U Aung Min, Minister Thura U Myint Maung, Yangon Mayor U Aung Thein Lin and Vice-Mayor U Maung Pa, responsible persons of the USDA Headquarters, course instructors and trainees.

In his address, USDA Secretary-General U Hay Oo delivered an address. He said that the goal of all the people is the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Due to concerted efforts of the Government, the Tatmadaw and the people, progress has been made in all aspects. USDA has been constituted with youths its is now over 12 years. They are not only to take part in the nation-building undertakings in full swing but also to organize the entire people to do the same.

It is known to all, he said, that USDA members are constantly carrying out welfare tasks in line with the future tasks of the association for ensuring stability and development of the regions. So far, the membership of the USDA has risen to over 23.1 million, he said.

At the Basic Journalism Course, experienced instructors had given lectures on topics concerning correct belief and concepts, national politics, news coverage, news construction, news editing, new reporting, news distribution, ethics, analysis and other points. They are not only to take part in the nation-building undertakings in full swing but also to organize the entire people to do the same.

Today is the time to build the new nation that the people long for. Today is the period to transform the old system to the new one smoothly. It is known to all that the sound foundations are being laid down for perpetual existence of the new nation. Due to implementation of the correct policy with goodwill, all the people can see sector-wise developments at present.

It is important that all the people wherever they live are to realize the Union Spirit. Therefore, all are to strive for flourishing of the Union spirit for ever, and for guarding against the destructive acts.

Nowadays, the seven-step Road Map has been laid down and is being implemented for building the peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing nation. For the first phase, the National Convention is being reconvened for drafting the constitution. The USDA is to join hands with the people for the success of the National Convention and the realization of the seven-step Road Map. However, it is necessary to crush those who are attempting to undermine the seven-step Road Map for delaying the emergence of the new democratic nation.

In conclusion, the Secretary-General urged the trainees to serve the interests of the people and the nation; to strive for flourishing of the Union spirit upholding Our Three Main National Causes; and to make efforts for achieving success in realizing the seven-step Road Map, five rural development tasks and nine future tasks of the association in line with the 12 objectives upholding the Our Three Main National Causes.

Secretary-General U Hay Oo awarded the first, second and third prizes to U Sai Kham Kaw of Shan State (North), U Aung Kyaw Min of Yangon Division and U Tin Maung Soe of Kachin State.

Next, the secretary-general presented completion certificates to all the trainees through trainee U Aung Kyaw Min and gifts to instructors through U Tin Kha (Tektattho Tin Kha).

After the ceremony, the secretary-general cordially greeted the trainees.

A total of 52 USDA members from States and Divisions attended the nine-week course. MNA

Minister visits Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales

YANGON, 30 June — Patron of Central Committee for Organizing Myanma Gem Emporium Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint this evening observed the sales of lots of jade at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township this evening and cordially greeted gem merchants at home and abroad.

The rest of lots of jade were sold through competitive bidding yesterday and a total of 25 lots of jade were purchased by the gem merchants. On the same day, totalling 58 lots of jade were sold through the competitive bidding.

Today, a total of 37 lots of jade were sold through the competitive bidding. Totalling 144 lots of jade were purchased by the gem merchants in three days.

The rest were sold at night as well. So, the centre was packed with gem merchants.

A total of 2,384 gem merchants are attending the special sales, which continues tomorrow.
**Talk on Inclusive Education given**

**YANGON, 30 June —** A talk on Inclusive Education was given at Thangangyun Education College in Thangangyun Township this morning. It was organized by Education Sub-Working Group of Social and Cultural Working Group under Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation.

Dr Daw Sanda Aung, leader of the working group, made a speech.

Director Daw Khin Myo Myint Kyu of Department and Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Hla Kyin accepted the donations. — MNA

**China launches programme to train online game developers**

**BEIJING, 30 June —** China has launched a training programme for talented online game developers and designers — a group of professionals that have been pinpointed by the government as being in short supply.

The gaming college of Beijing Huizhongyizhi Tech Co. Ltd. was named by the Ministry of Information Industry as the first gaming talent training base on Wednesday.

According to a forecast report of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, the market volume of online games in China will reach 8.03 billion yuan (about 1 billion US dollars) in 2006.

China is striving to enhance its domestic game development capability to compete with gaming products imported from the United States, Japan and South Korea, which currently dominate the Chinese market.

The effort is backed by Chinese educators, who say computer games have a marked influence on the characters of young people. Competing for the game market is not only about competing for economic interests, but also about competing for cultural interests.

“We should produce healthy games to disseminate fine traditional culture and modern civilization among the young people,” said Shen Jiayyang, editor of the weekly newspaper China Netizen News. — MNA/Xinhua

**Seven dead in building collapse in Brazil**

**RIO DE JANEIRO (Brazil), 30 June —** At least seven people were killed when an old three-storey building collapsed in the centre of Recife in northeastern Brazil and the rubble fell on neighboring houses, rescue workers said on Wednesday.

“All the victims, including three children, were in the adjacent buildings. Seven more people were injured.”

Rescue workers were still sifting through the rubble on Wednesday after Tuesday night’s collapse but a fire brigade spokesman said they did not expect to find any more bodies.

The building in the centre of the capital of Pernambuco State had been abandoned since last September. A fire had gutted most of it following clashes between homeless squatters, who had been occupying the building, and police. — MNA/Reuters

**MWAF hails Myanmar Women’s Day, carries out sanitation tasks in New Yangon General Hospital**

**YANGON, 30 June —** As a gesture of hailing Myanmar Women’s Day which falls on 3 July, Administration Department of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation (MWAF) carried out sanitization tasks in Yangon’s new general hospital and members of MWAF donated blood today.

Over 500 volunteers including members of MWAF, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Union Solidarity and Development Association and social organizations participated in the sanitization tasks.

Central Executive Committee Member of MWAF Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Htay converses with blood donors at New Yangon General Hospital. — YCDC

**Organizations**

USDA (Yangon Division, Incharge) Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig.-Gen Aung Then Lu, Vice President of MWAF Daw Khin Thet Htay and Patron of Yangon Division Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Mar Mar Wai greeted the volunteers. After the sanitization tasks, the volunteers also cultivated 300 physic nut plants in the hospital’s compound.

Fifty members of MWAF and Auxiliary Fire Brigade also donated blood at the hospital.

Afterwards, well-wishers made cash donations at the hospital to hail the Myanmar Women’s Day and donated cash amounting to over K 6 million to the hospital.

Dr Hla Myint of Yangon Division Health Department and Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Hla Kyin accepted the donations. — MNA

**A responsible person presents K 200,000 donated by MWAF to the fund of New Yangon General Hospital. — YCDC**

**POEM:**

**Myanmar Women’s Day Forever**

*The combined strength of Myanmar Women
As exemplified by the earth and the sky
Skylit of flowers vary in peace
That’s July 3.

* Because not of desire to honour an individual
That it was thus decided
And brought into being.

* Not because an individual was so outstanding
That this person was made an example
And was brought to fame.

* Not because bystanders flattered
And blood shot up and feel elated
Not invented with such intent.

* In this world so wide
The cause of Myanmars, sound of Myanmar thoughts
Believe not what bystanders say, but only what blood says.

* Raise our own pride, for sake of race
With firm thoughts and hands held
To enhance the beauty of nation and race
Just so women’s life will develop
Beautify all sectors
For entire Myanmar to prosper.

* O ... Combined strength of Myanmar women
As exemplified by the earth and the sky
Skylit of flowers vary in peace
That’s July 3.

Myinmu Maung Naing Moe (Trs)
(Hailing Myanmar Women’s Day, 3rd July, 2006)

**MWAF donates blood in Yangon’s new general hospital**

**YANGON, 30 June —** Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation (MWAF), in coordination with the Yangon Division of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and the Yangon City Development Committee donated blood at New Yangon General Hospital.

MWAF, Auxiliary Fire Brigade and other organizations and associations also donated blood.

MWAF Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Htay converses with blood donors at New Yangon General Hospital. — YCDC

**A responsible person presents K 200,000 donated by MWAF to the fund of New Yangon General Hospital. — YCDC**

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The building in the centre of the capital of Pernambuco State had been abandoned since last September. A fire had gutted most of it following clashes between homeless squatters, who had been occupying the building, and police. — MNA/Reuters
Yangon Division WAO organizes Fashion Show of Myanmar Women’s Costumes

YANGON, 30 June — Hailing Myanmar Women’s Day, which falls on 3rd July 2006, the Fashion Show of Myanmar Women’s Costumes organized by Yangon Division Women’s Affairs Organization under the supervision of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, took place at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street in Dagon Township this afternoon.

It was attended by patrons of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, the president, the vice-presidents, CEC members, the chairperson of Yangon Division Women’s Affairs Organization and members, members of District and Township WAOs, students and guests.

First, vocalists presented entertainment. Next, members of Yangon Division WAO, university students and girls from Stars and Models International Agency showed off 80 traditional costumes of national races.

Patron of Yangon Division WAO Daw Mar Mar Wai presented the flower basket to MWAF President Daw Than Than Nwe. Later, the president presented K 500,000 to Daw Mar Mar Wai.

MWAF President Daw Than Than Nwe presents K 500,000 to Yangon Division WAO Patron Daw Mar Mar Wai. — MNA

The 3rd of July is celebrated as a gesture of honouring the entire mass of Myanmar womenfolk. Myanmar Buddhist girls uphold religious teachings and are brought up under strict discipline by their parents and grandparents. As a result, Myanmar women are recognized worldwide as the people of high standards for their exemplary characteristics of modest behaviours and dress, and gentleness and politeness.

Preserving and safeguarding own lineage is of the greatest prestige. Patriotic Myanmar women who love and cherish their lineage have a good reputation throughout the history of Myanmar.

In the Bagan Period, Princess Thanbyin was so well-versed in mundane and supermundane treatises that she taught monks repositories of Buddhist literature. In the nation’s history, a number of queen poets such as Queen Phwar Saw and Queen Shin Saw Pu were acknowledged for being knowledgeable about Myanmar literature.

In the book “Eminent Female Poets”, Daw Wan May said there were 13 queen poets, nine princess poets, three female poets of royal court, six maid poets of royal court, seven poets who were wives of ministers, and six female minister poets.

In a couple of days, Myanmar women are going to be honoured by the entire nation. So, it is fair to say that Myanmar women are very fortunate to have been born in Myanmar. The Myanmar Women’s Day has been marked for eight years.

The World Women’s Day falls on 8 March, and the Myanmar Women’s Day, on 3 July. The Myanmar Women Affairs Federation was established on 20 December 2003. Due to its seven noble objectives and four principles, the federation has won the trust and reliance of the entire nation and its membership is on the increase. The members have taken a solemn vow to contribute towards the nation-building tasks as far as they can. Alien accusations will not work at all if economic, health, education and cultural sectors are promoted and traditions and customs are preserved and valued to protect the rights of women. The members have also made a commitment to take measures for elimination of trafficking in persons and console the young women who fall victim to inhuman traffickers so as to prevent violence against women and rehabilitate the victims.

Now, the federation is holding heart-to-heart discussions with young women of national races. And organizations at all levels are inculcating them with nationalistic spirit. Various vocational training courses are conducted for women and outstanding women in different fields are honoured yearly. Women have presented demonstrations on literature, music, first aid, nursing, sport, engineering, police work and fire fighting. Traditional costumes shows are conducted occasionally to enhance the nationalistic fervour.

In this regard, a salient point is that expert female members are making field trips down to the grassroots level and tackling the problems and difficulties of local women. The federation is making authentic activities of the mass of Myanmar women known to world people by dealing with various international women’s organizations. Women never lag behind others in all aspects in the nation. They took an active part in anti-colonialist and anti-fascist struggles at risk to their lives. They play a leading role in religious and social affairs and help respective families lead a peaceful life. In 1989, my work “Myanmar women” came out featuring 117 eminent Myanmar women including female members of Dobama Asiayon, those in education, medical, journalism, religious, economic, music and literary spheres and female Tatmadaw members. The Myanmar eminent women who kept abreast of men in representing the motherland at the League of Nations for independence were well-known in the world.

Myanmar women should join hands with the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation in demonstrating their skills, intellectual power and goodwill. I would like to exhort the entire women, with a solemn commitment, to present brilliant performances on the 3rd of July, the Myanmar Women’s Day.

Translation: MS
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Win Ma Tin M.A., H.G.P. D.B.L.
for OMS Investments, Inc.
P.O. Box 66, Yangon
Dated: 1 July 2006

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV XIANG FA VOY NO (6035)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG FA VOY NO (6035) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.7.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the
consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD
Phone No: 256908/37836/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PACIFIC EXPRESS VOY NO (267)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV PACIFIC EXPRESS VOY NO (267) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.7.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
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No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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TRAFFICKED WOMEN’S SYMPTOMS AFFECT TO TERRORISM VICTIMS

London, 29 June—Women and girls trafficked for forced sexual or domestic work suffer post-traumatic stress on a par with torture victims, researchers said on Wednesday.
In one of the first studies of health problems among women who have been trafficked, they found 95 per cent had been physically or sexually abused and nearly 40 per cent had suicidal thoughts.
“This research shows that women who have been trafficked into sex work emerge with very severe pain and injuries and they show psychological health problems that appear to be similar to those documented among victims of torture,” said Dr Cathy Zimmerman, the author of the report published by the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.
The International Labour Organization estimates that at least 2.5 million people around the world are in forced labour at any given time.
Zimmerman, a researcher in public health policy, said because of its underground nature it was difficult to get precise numbers.
“This is an international trade that is happening in virtually every corner of the world,” she said in an interview.
“The majority believe they are getting a job doing something like waitressing, being a nanny or working in a bar. Most of them are tricked into the situation.”
Zimmerman and her team studied 207 women from 14 countries who had been released after being trafficked.
The women, aged 15-45 years old, were being treated in seven countries by aid agencies.
Most were between 21-25 years old and 12 per cent were under 18.

WASHINGTON, 29 June—The US Government is concerned about falling crude oil supplies from OPEC member Venezuela, a senior US Government official said on Wednesday.
Declining oil output from Venezuela since 2001 “is a concern to world oil markets and has not been helpful to world oil consumers, especially developing countries in our own hemisphere,” the official told Reuters on condition of anonymity.
Venezuelan oil production has fallen to about 2.6 million barrels per day (BPD) versus 3.1 million BPD in 2001, according to the US Energy Information Administration.
The OPEC nation’s oil industry was severely disrupted by a two-month strike at Venezuela’s state oil firm PDVSA that ended in early 2003, cutting off exports to its main customers the United States and pushing up world prices.
The official’s comments come after the US Government Accounta-
bility Office said oil prices could jump by as much as 11 US dollars a barrel if world markets faced another loss of Vene-
zuelan crude.
The United States is the top buyer of Venezuelan oil, but ties have been strained since President Hugo Chavez first won office in 1998.
Left-winger Chavez accuses the administration of US President George W Bush of backing a failed 2002 coup attempt against him.
Washington denies the charges. Chavez says any attempt by the United States to invade the South American nation or assassinate him will result in a suspension of US oil sales.
Venezuelan Energy Minister Rafael Ramirez has rebuffed frequent requests from the State Department to meet with the US ambassador in Caracas, the official said.
“We regret that (Ramirez) has yet to have a substantive meeting with the US ambassador to Caracas given that the United States remains Venezuela’s primary oil market and its number one source of foreign exchange,” the source said.
The United States and other members of the International Energy Agency could counter such a disruption with their emergency oil stocks, the official said.

PHILADELPHIA, 29 June—The worst flooding in the eastern United States for decades, triggered by days of torrential downpours, has killed at least nine people and forced thousands to flee their homes. With roads washed out and water rising, authorities on Wednesday declared emergencies across large swathes of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.
Travel along the heavily trafficked Eastern Seaboard from Virginia to New York was hard-hit.
Up to 200,000 people in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania and the surrounding area were ordered to evacuate their homes by Wednesday morning as the Susquehanna River rose to dangerous levels, a local official said.

US worried about falling Venezuela oil flows

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Nine dead as rain causes floods in eastern US

County authorities took the measure as a precaution as the river neared a 41-foot (12.4-
diameter) flood stage level that threatened to put unprecedented strain on the area’s flood control system.
The US Coast Guard used helicopters to rescue up to 70 people stranded on rooftops in the city, which had not seen a similar emergency since 1972 when a tropical storm swept through the area killing six people and damaging or destroying thousands of homes.
The National Weather Service said at least 13 fatalities across the eastern United States. New York Governor George Pataki said it was far the worst flooding he had seen in 12 years as governor.

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MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters
Chinese high school students start summer programme in Cornell

NEW YORK, 29 June—For the first time in Cornell University history, Chinese high school students will spend six weeks earning credit at the university’s Summer College programme, according to a press release from the university.

The programme is intended to give Chinese students an opportunity to take courses, earn credits, explore majors and experience life at an American university.

In their letter dated last February to Xie Shengwu, President of Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Cornell President Hunter Rawlings and Glenn Altschuler, Dean of Continuing Education and Summer Sessions, proposed to deepen the relationship between the two universities by launching a college preparatory programme. Twenty Chinese high school students applied in a competitive selection process.

“This is all part of our ongoing effort to work with educational institutions in China and to do what we do best: provide opportunity for students,” said Altschuler.

The Cornell Summer College programme, now in its 44th year, invites talented high school sophomores, juniors and seniors to live and study on Cornell campus for up to six weeks each summer.

Students experience college life, explore a wide variety of academic majors, make life-long friends and prepare for the future.

This year the programme enrolls 815 high school students from 38 states and 29 countries.

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**S P O R T S**

**Vice-President questions when will Indonesia play in World Cup**

**JAKARTA, 30 June** — Indonesian Vice-President Jessuf Kalla Thursday boycotted the World Cup finals in Germany as a euphemism to attack poor performance of the national soccer team, which has been without any regional trophy over the last decade.

"We spend time watching Brazil and Argentina but when will Indonesia play in World Cup?", he asked rhetorically when opening the congress of the Indonesian Youth National Committee (KNPI).

Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Adyaksa Dault, who was present at the occasion, responded with a smile.

Kalla pointed to the Ivory Coast and Ghana, whose population is less than five million each, were able to qualify to the world's most-watching sporting event.

"But when I was asked about that, I have to defend myself by saying that China with a population of 1.4 billion also didn't make it this time," he joked.

Indonesia is the world's fifth most population nation with 230 million. Although soccer is one of the most favourite sports in the country, the last time Indonesia won an international tournament was in 1992, when it was crowned gold medal in the Southeast Asian Games.

Kalla recalled an informal conversation with Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi in a recent meeting.

Koizumi asked the two leaders their most favourite sports and both Kalla and Badawi suggested soccer.

**MNA/Reuters**

**Italy soccer trial opens, then abruptly adjourns**

**ROME, 30 June** — Italy's biggest sports trial opened on Thursday with four top soccer clubs and 26 officials facing match-fixing charges before a string of procedural motions forced an adjournment until next Monday.

Champions Juventus, AC Milan, Fiorentina and Lazio, four of soccer mad Italy's biggest clubs, were forced out of the top Serie A league and European competition if found guilty of conspiring with referees to rig matches.

Tribunal president Cesare Ruperto opened the trial with a roll call of four teams and 26 officials who have been accused. They stood behind rows of desks as their names were read inside a spartan, low-ceilinged room in Rome’s Olympic Stadium.

Defence lawyers then raised a list of objections that forced Ruperto to halt the trial after less than three hours.

"We will adjourn until Monday, July 3," Ruperto said after allowing five Serie B teams hoping to be promoted — Bologna, Brescia, Lecce, Messina and Treviso — to take part in the proceedings and giving them until Monday to prepare their cases.

The Italian Football Federation (FIGC) has promised to finish the trial by July 9, the day of the World Cup final.

FIGC emergency administrator Guido Rossi dismissed concerns that the delay would prevent the tribunal from meeting the timetable. "The trial will start on a fast-track on Monday and meet the deadline," he told ANSA news agency. — MNA/Reuters

**Poll, Ivanov dropped from ref’s list**

**BERLIN, 30 June** — English referee Graham Poll and Russia’s Valentin Ivanov paid the price for their performances during the first round of the World Cup by being dropped from the remainder of the competition on Thursday.

FIFA’s Referees Committee announced in Frankfurt the names of 12 teams of referees and their linesmen in contention to take charge of the remaining eight matches of the competition.

The list includes Germany’s Markus Merk, who was involved in a public spat with Australia’s Harry Kewell after their first round match and Brazil finished in a 2-0 win to the world champions.

Despite being criticized by FIFA for “inconsistencies in his match report” after the game and his failure to sanction Kewell, he remains among the six referees from Europe who are staying on. Two South American referees and one each from Asia, Africa, CONCACAF and Oceania are also retained.

Angel Maria Villar Llona of Spain, the chairman of the Referees Committee, said in a statement: “For some referees the World Cup is now over, but for others the adventure continues. “On the whole, I have been very familiar with the performances of the match officials, even though they were not always error-free, something that is impossible to achieve. So far, the main objective, to protect the players, has been accomplished.”

Poll, who refereed three first round matches, was criticized by FIFA president Sepp Blatter after showing three yellow cards to Josip Simunic of Croatia before sending him off in their match against Australia in Stuttgart on 22 June.

Ivanov, who also officiated at three first round games, sent off four players – an all-time record for the finals – and showed a total of 16 cards when he took charge of the second round match between Portugal and Netherlands last Sunday. Those departing include Egyptian Essam Abdel Fatah, who admitted to mistakes in the one match he refereed between Australia and Japan on 12 June.

Carlos Simón of Brazil, who controversially sent off Teddy Lucic of Sweden in their second round match against Germany last Saturday, is also leaving. Earlier on Wednesday, Blatter criticized some of the refereeing in the tournament for being inconsistent. **MNA/Reuters**

**Beckenbauer hints at top UEFA post, rules out FIFA**

**BERLIN, 30 June** — Franz Beckenbauer said on Thursday he would be interested in running for the job of UEFA president, but ruled out a bid to become president of FIFA in the foreseeable future.

Beckenbauer, 60, who is the only man to win the World Cup as captain (1974) and then coach (1990), and is currently the president of the German organizing committee for these finals, said he would be interested in standing for the UEFA presidency if Lennart Johansson, 76, was to retire.

Beckenbauer was responding to comments made by current FIFA president Sepp Blatter in the German media on Thursday in which the Swiss was quoted as saying that Beckenbauer did not want to be FIFA president, nor could he be because of his other commitments.

Beckenbauer replied: “He’s right. And I don’t speak six or seven languages fluently like Mr Blatter either which you need to be the president of FIFA.”

“But it would be different with UEFA. In Europe everyone speaks English and my English could be better but it is good enough.

"Lennart Johansson said he will make a decision over the next few months about his future and let’s wait and see until he does make that decision. I would be interested if Lennart Johansson was to stand down.”

Beckenbauer, who is not an elected member of any FIFA body, has long been regarded as a candidate for high office in both UEFA and FIFA.

If he did stand for election as UEFA president, he would have to run against his old playing adversary Michel Platini of France, a member of both the FIFA and UEFA executive committees.

Platini has already declared his intention to stand for the UEFA presidency when the reign of Johansson, which began in 1990, eventually ends.

**MNA/Reuters**

**Arsenal’s Senderos has shoulder operation**

**ZURICH, 30 June** — Switzerland and Arsenal centre back Philippe Senderos said on Thursday he had undergone surgery on an injured shoulder.

Senderos dislocated his shoulder during Switzerland’s 2-0 group stage win over Japan’s Shinobu Asagoe at the World Cup in South Korea a week ago. He missed the last 16 defeat by Ukraine.

"I don’t speak six or seven languages fluently like Mr Blatter either which you need to be the president of FIFA."

"But it would be different with UEFA. In Europe everyone speaks English and my English could be better but it is good enough."

**MNA/Reuters**

**World Cup Q/F Fixtures**

**Saturday, 01 July 2006**

England v Portugal, 21:30 MST

**Sunday, 02 July 2006**

Brazil v France, 01:30 MST

**INTERNET**
Disney elects former P&G chief as new chairman

LOS ANGELES, 30 June — The Walt Disney Company elected former Procter & Gamble (P&G) chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) John E Pepper Jr as its new non-executive chairman, said the company in a statement on Wednesday.

Pepper will officially take the post on 1 January, 2007, succeeding George J Mitchell, who has held the post since March, 2004. Last December, the Disney board asked Mitchell to postpone his retirement which was originally scheduled to be announced at the 2006 annual shareholders meeting and to stand for reelection to facilitate an orderly chairman succession process. The 67-year-old Pepper was named P&G’s chairman and CEO in 1995, and retired in 2002 after 38 years with the consumer products giant. He had served as vice-president for Finance and Administration at Yale University from 2004, and is currently CEO of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. He joined the Disney board earlier this year.

“Since joining the Disney board, John has quickly immersed himself in our business and shared his broad and deep expertise in corporate management, global brand building and leadership development,” said Robert Iger, Disney’s president and CEO.

Disney would benefit from Pepper’s outstanding leadership skills and unique experience in cultivating global brands, said Iger.

Pepper said he was “incredibly honoured to be elected the next chairman of the world’s preeminent entertainment company.”

Disney would benefit from Pepper’s outstanding leadership skills and unique experience in cultivating global brands, said Iger.

Filipino boxer Manny Pacquiao (L) and his Mexican challenger Oscar Larios pose after a news conference in Manila on 29 June, 2006.
Prime Minister sends message of congratulations to Vietnamese counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, who has been appointed as Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on 27 June 2006.—MNA

Prime Minister sends message of congratulations to Vietnamese counterpart

YANGON, 30 June — Members of Dabayin Township National League for Democracy in Sagaing Division U Min Naing, U Aye Maung, U Kyaw Tun, U Bo Shwe, Daw Khin Thet Mar, U Mynn Int, U Tun Maung, U Sein Ma, Daw Than Nyunt, U Aung Htay, U Win Thaung, U Than Aung, U Mya Lin, U Kyaw Thin, U Ohn Mynn, U Kyaw Nyein, U Thein Zaw, Daw Hla Sein, U Kyaw Htwe and U Sein Lin resigned from the NLD of their own accord on June 17. They sent the letters of resignation to NLD Headquarters and local authorities. In their letters to Sagaing Division Multi-party Democracy General Election Sub-Commission they said they had lost trust in the NLD and that was why they resigned from the NLD of their own volition.

YANGON, 30 June — Members of Dabayin Township National League for Democracy in Sagaing Division U Min Naing, U Aye Maung, U Kyaw Tun, U Bo Shwe, Daw Khin Thet Mar, U Mynn Int, U Tun Maung, U Sein Ma, Daw Than Nyunt, U Aung Htay, U Win Thaung, U Than Aung, U Mya Lin, U Kyaw Thin, U Ohn Mynn, U Kyaw Nyein, U Thein Zaw, Daw Hla Sein, U Kyaw Htwe and U Sein Lin resigned due to loss of trust in functions of party

The Head of State has given guidance to create a constant learning Myanmar society. Thanks to the guidance, youths now have easy access to international level education.

YANGON Division has so far opened 2,056 self-reliant village libraries

155 wellwishers donate K 12.7m, TV and radio sets and books

Yangon Division has so far opened 2,056 self-reliant village libraries

YANGON, 30 June — A ceremony was held at No 2 Basic Education High School in Sangyoung Township, here today to mark the completion of the task of opening self-reliant village libraries in Yangon division.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win said that there are three requirements in building a peaceful modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation, which are, stability of the State, community peace and stability and prevalence of law and order. The second requirement is the strengthening of national economy. And, the third is development of human resources of the State and uplift of the education standard of the people.

He added that people from all walks of life should have knowledge and correct thoughts. Hence, the Head of State has given guidance with farsightedness to open self-reliant libraries in all villages without fail. Now, it is necessary to establish the libraries called the silent schools for contributing to development of human resources. Therefore, all the officials are to improve library works. To assess the development of a nation, one is to study the use of libraries in that nation. The country that has full facilities of knowledge will achieve progress.

He continued to say that 70 per cent of population of the country live in rural areas. At present, self-reliant village libraries are being established for disseminating knowledge to the rural people in line with the guidance of the Head of State. Yangon Division has so far opened 2,056 self-reliant village libraries. For durability of the libraries with five methods, it is necessary to organize villagers to constantly read the periodicals, to increase the number of books spending the fund through accepting books and cash donations and fixing the fee to borrow books, to construct the library building; to collect furniture and to nurture a good librarian.

Village authorities together with Information and Public Relations Department are to always assist the libraries. District and Township PDCs are also to supervise the above-mentioned task as a duty to ensure development of human resources.

As 21st Century is the Education Age, developing technologies can be seen. Lower status of education and technology would delay development of the nation and the people in the future. In conclusion, the commander acknowledged goodwill of the wellwishers and urged local authorities to strive for durability of the libraries.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that today is the knowledge age in which human society uses technology in all sectors including production, health, education and the nation will face setbacks if it cannot stand shoulder to shoulder with other countries at a time when knowledge is the tool to drive everything. Priority has been given to implementing the 30-year national education promotion plan.

20 members of Dabayin Township NLD quit due to loss of trust in functions of party

YANGON, 30 June — Members of Dabayin Township National League for Democracy in Sagaing Division U Min Naing, U Aye Maung, U Kyaw Tun, U Bo Shwe, Daw Khin Thet Mar, U Mynn Int, U Tun Maung, U Sein Ma, Daw Than Nyunt, U Aung Htay, U Win Thaung, U Than Aung, U Mya Lin, U Kyaw Thin, U Ohn Mynn, U Kyaw Nyein, U Thein Zaw, Daw Hla Sein, U Kyaw Htwe and U Sein Lin resigned due to loss of trust in functions of party

Weather Forecast for (1-7-2006)

Nay Pyi Taw & neighbouring areas

Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Yangon & neighbouring areas

Some rain which may be heavy at times. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Mandalay & neighbouring areas

Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

WORLD CUP 2006

Germany

Argentina

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