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

Men of letters to keep Myanmar social norms flourishing by means of literature

Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association commences its fourth conference

Yangon, 1 July—The Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association launched its fourth conference at Kyaikkasan Ground here this morning, with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present were Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, the ministers, the chief justice, the attorney-general, the deputy auditor-general, heads of department, officials of social organizations, guest, the chairman of the MWJA and executives, literati, representatives from states and divisions and observers.

MWJA Secretary U Hla Tun (Hla Tun Twantay) acted as MC.

The Secretary-1 in his speech said that the literature world is an important sphere for each nation and people as well as a source from which various cultural branches of arts spread out. So, it is fair to say that the literature world is like a mirror that reflects the national culture of a country.

Men of letters are to maintain with pride the images of Myanmar way of life, patriotic fervour, nationalistic spirit, cherishing independence, and flourishing Union Spirit. In addition, they are to take necessary steps to keep Myanmar social norms flourishing by means of literature.

Amateur writers, poets, lexicographers, translators and journalists are entering the profession. The important essence of the literary world remained unchanged in successive periods. However, ways of writing are changing, and making progress and now it has reached computer era, after the era of palm-leaf manuscripts and the era of types. So, created works can be stored, copied and published repeatedly most comfortably.

In other words, there have emerged a variety of methods which make it convenient for writing, duplicating and distributing the works. Thanks to the improvement, now is the media era in which literature can be converted into mass media such as moving pictures, music, dramas, photos, and television. With the emergence of branches of media, publishing industry has been on a commercial purpose.

(See page 8)

* Ignoring the path laid down by Myanmar and achievements in nation-building tasks, some big nations with economic, military and technological superiority are undermining them through the media and literature.

* The literati need to understand that the unfair acts of the big nations are dangerous to the Union Spirit, independence and sovereignty.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Nurture students to be morally strong

At present, the entire national people are making concerted efforts through own resources for national development. In the process, it is necessary to nurture and train students to be morally and spiritually strong.

Students are to be imbued with nationalistic spirit and Union Spirit. At the same time, they need to be endowed with a sense of serving the interests of the State and the people.

It is incumbent upon the faculty members to impart knowledge to the students to equip them with correct outlooks and conviction. Only then, will they become intellectuals and intelligentsia capable of safeguarding the interests of the State and the people.

The emergence of a large number of intellectuals and intelligentsia will enable the nation to be able to stand tall among the international community.

Nowadays, the world is experiencing rapid development in the fields of science and technology. And such a rapid development has made a profound impact on economic, social and education sectors of the world.

Keeping pace with changes and developments, the government is nurturing and training student youths in the education sector for the emergence of an education system that can contribute to the national development.

With the development in science and technology, all the faculty members are to nurture and train students to become ones capable of facing the future challenges. With this end in view, the onus is on the education sector to inculcate the students with patriotism, nationalistic spirit and Union Spirit.

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased

Coord meeting on secure and smooth transport held

YANGON, 1 July — Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth Transport held its coordination meeting at the hall of Yangon Command Headquarters yesterday evening with an address by Chairman of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Yangon Command Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win.

In his address, the Commander explained matters related to collecting reasonable fares of school ferries, running of train on right time for convenient travelling of students, upgrading of roads, curbing of traffic accidents and supply of fuel.

Heads of departments, registrars and officials of universities and colleges submitted reports on matters related to school ferries and bus lines.

The commander fulfilled the requirements and gave the concluding remarks.

Religious Affairs Minister accepts cash donation

YANGON, 1 July — Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung attended the cash donation ceremony for missionary tasks held at the hall of the ministry on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this afternoon.

It was also attended by Adviser U Arnt Maung, Director-General U Myo Kyaw of Religious Affairs Department, Pro-Rector (Admin) Dr Myint Kyi of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University, deputy directors-general, directors and wellwishers.

The minister accepted over K 4.7 million donated by wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

Victorious Myanmar Archery Team in XXIII SEA Games honoured

YANGON, 1 July — A ceremony to honour the victorious Myanmar archery team that bagged one gold and three bronze medals in the XXIII SEA Games held in the Philippines took place at Karaweik Palace, here, yesterday evening.

General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik spoke on the occasion.

Patron of Myanmar Women’s Sports Federation Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo presented reward K 5 million to Zaw Win Htun (Home Affairs) who secured one gold medal in the men’s single recurve event.

Director-General U Thaung Htaik gave K 50,000 each to Kay Thi, Yu Nanda Htai and Tin Zin Ei who won one bronze medal in the women’s team compound event, and Ye Min Sae and Lin Naing who won one bronze medal in the men’s team compound event.

President of Myanmar Archery Federation U Tint Hsan (ACE Construction) presented K 50,000 each to Nan Mo Hwam, San Yu Htwe and Aung Hnyein who took one bronze medal in the women’s team recurve event, and a manager and seven coaches.

Myanmar Archery Federation President U Tint Hsan presents cash reward to bronze medal winner in the women’s team, recurve contest of XXIII SEA Games. — NLM
**Chavez taunts US with challenge over UN seat**

**CARACAS (Venezuela), 30 June —** Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez challenged the United States on Thursday to try to block his attempt to secure a UN Security Council seat as he seeks to curb Washington’s “imperialist” influence.

A UN General Assembly vote set for October to award two-year Security Council seats to five nations is the latest arena for sparring between Caracas and Washington, which views Chavez as a strongman using Venezuela’s oil wealth to promote an anti-democratic agenda throughout Latin America.

“We accept this challenge against the empire,” Chavez told military officers at a promotion ceremony in Caracas. “The United States says Venezuela will not go to the Security Council and we say Venezuela will.”

The world’s fifth-largest oil exporter and an OPEC member, Venezuela is already vocally opposing Washington’s attempts to press for UN action against Iran over its nuclear programme.

The United States has promoted ally Guatemala as a rival candidate to Venezuela for a seat on the 15-nation Council while Chavez accuses Washington of trying to sway Latin American nations to vote against him.

Joining with traditional US foes Cuba and Iran, Chavez has presented his ideas of socialist revolution and regional cooperation as a counterweight to Washington’s influence in Latin America, where leftist leaders have gained stature.

Among Latin American nations, Argentina and Brazil are expected to support Venezuela’s bid for a seat.

“We’ve opened up the battle to the world,” said Chavez, a former soldier popular for his social reforms for the poor. “Little by little, governments are joining us despite US imperialist pressure on them — in fact, because of it.”

Of the Security Council’s 15 members, 10 hold two-year terms, with five nations elected each year by the 192-nation General Assembly.

The other five seats are held permanently by Britain, France, Russia and China. While these five have veto power in the Council, they have just one vote each in the General Assembly ballooting.

**Briton accused of murder arrested in Thailand**

**BANGKOK, 30 June —** A British fugitive facing a murder charge at home for pushing his fiance out of a moving car and then running over her has been arrested in Thailand a year later, police said on Thursday.

The man, named as Christopher Alan Caunter, 34, was caught late on Wednesday after driving away from police waiting to arrest him at a bar in the beach resort of Cha Am, 90 miles south of Bangkok, police said.

“We caught him at a petrol station around midnight after he realized that police waiting outside a bar wanted to arrest him,” Lieutenant-Colonel Chakrit Iamchangpun told Reuters.

Caunter is accused of killing his fiancee, Deborah Jane Townsend, 35, by pushing her out of her car in the eastern county of Suffolk, then backing over her, Chakrit said.

Britain has sought the extradition of Caunter, who entered Thailand in November and also faces charges of assaulting police, robbery, money laundering and drug smuggling in England, a police statement said.

It would take at least five months to go through the Thai legal system to extradite Caunter to England, Chakrit said.

**US soldier killed in Northern Iraq**

**BAGHDAD, 1 July —** A US soldier was killed by small arms fire in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, the US military said on Friday.

The soldier, assigned to the 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, was killed by small arms fire on Thursday in Mosul, some 400 kilometres north of Baghdad, the military said in a statement.

A US Marine, assigned to Regimental Combat Team 5, died of wounds sustained due to enemy action while operating in Iraq’s western Anbar Province on Friday, the US military said in an earlier statement.

The latest deaths brought to about 2,525 the number of US military personnel killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003 — MNA/Xinhua

**US soldier killed in bomb attack in Iraq**

**BAGHDAD, 30 June —** One US soldier was killed when his vehicle hit a roadside bomb north of Baghdad, the US military said in a statement on Thursday.

The bomb blast took place at about 10:00 GMT (1800 GMT) on Wednesday, the statement said. The latest death brought to more than 2,520 the number of US military personnel killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion of the oil-rich Arab country in March 2003 — MNA/Xinhua

**UNSC condemns killing of Russian diplomats**

**UNITED NATIONS, 30 June —** The UN Security Council approved a statement on Thursday condemning the killing of four Russian diplomats in Iraq after bowing to US and British objections and deleting a plea to the US-led force in Iraq to improve security for foreign envoys.

The United States and Britain on Wednesday had blocked a planned vote on a Russian draft statement on the killings, arguing the text amounted to a slap at the Multinational Force in Iraq, which includes 127,000 US troops and 7,000 British soldiers. The compromise declaration states the UN body “underlines the importance of continuing the efforts of the government of Iraq and the Multinational Force in combating terrorism and improving security in Iraq”.

The Russian draft would have put the Council on record as urging the Iraqi Government and the Multinational Force “to undertake measures aimed at enhancing the security of foreign diplomatic missions in Iraq and their staff”.

**French PM’s daughter is Givenchy’s new model**

**PARIS, 1 July —** Marie de Villepin, daughter of French Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin, has been chosen by the fashion house Givenchy as the model for its latest perfume “Angel or Demon.”

The eldest of Villepin’s three children, Marie, 20, has already modelled for the magazine Elle and appeared once on the catwalk. She has also had a small role in three films.

“She perfectly matches the concept of ‘Angel or Demon’, an oriental floral perfume of a sensual strangeness,” said Givenchy in a statement.

Villepin’s 19-year-old son Arthur has also worked as a model.

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Indonesia, Russia to intensify mily technical cooperation

JAKARTA, 30 June — Indonesia and Russia have agreed to strengthen technical cooperation in the military field, including the procurement of equipment used in the Indonesian military’s (TNI) weaponry system from Russia.

Indonesia had agreed to a proposal from a Russian delegation for the setting up of four working teams to intensify the cooperation and promote its effectiveness, Antara news agency quoted Sjatirie Syamsudin, secretary-general of the Ministry of Defence, as saying after the opening of the second Indonesia-Russia Joint Commission meeting on military technical cooperation here on Wednesday.

"The working teams will be led by representatives from the two countries to discuss four main agendas," he said.

The four agendas include making a memorandum of cooperation programmes, meeting protocols, credit financing and cooperation in industrial projects.

Meanwhile, Indonesian Defence Minister Juwono Sudarsono said that the meeting was a follow-up to an agreement made by the representatives of the two governments in April 2003.

The first meeting of the Indonesia-Russia Joint Commission on military technical cooperation in Russia agreed to the signing of a statute on the Russia-Indonesia Joint Commission on military technical cooperation.

It also agreed on several fields of cooperation including procurement of equipment for weaponry system, parts’ repair and maintenance, personnel training, involvement of domestic industries and issuance of production licences.

US mily admits killing “non-combatant” in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 30 June — The US military, in the spotlight over murder charges against its troops accused of killing Iraqis, said it had killed a “non-combatant” during a raid in which an al-Qaeda militant was detained on Wednesday.

A statement said US-led forces killed the civilian near the violence-racked city of Baquba, 65 kilometres (40 miles) northeast of Baghdad, as troops were securing the house of the alleged militant.

"While securing the initial target, Coalition forces noticed an individual acting suspiciously at a nearby house. They assessed him as an imminent threat, engaged and killed him. He was later determined to be a non-combatant," it said.

The statement was unusual in drawing attention to the incident.

For three years since the US invasion, Iraqis have often complained of civilians being killed by US troops and said those complaints were rarely investigated thoroughly.

Indonesia’s nuke plant tender set for 2007

JAKARTA, 30 June — The Indonesian Government will hold a tender next year to select contractors to construct the country’s first nuclear power plant, a newspaper reported Thursday.

Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro said investors interested in bidding should have a proven track record in the construction of pressurized water reactors, reported The Jakarta Post.

Most such companies come from the United States, Japan, France and South Korea.

The reactor is expected to be able to produce a total of 4,000 megawatts by 2025.

A pair of sisters (left and center) from Madagascar pose for a photo together with a classmate during their graduation ceremony at No 55 High School in Beijing, capital of China, on 28 June, 2006. — INTERNET

International study confirms that physical activity helps reduce blood pressure

NEW YORK, 1 July — Findings from a new study using 24-hour blood pressure monitoring confirm that physical activity reduces blood pressure in patients with high blood pressure, even when they’re taking medications to address this problem.

As reported in the Clinical Journal of Sports Medicine, Dr. Domenico Di Raimondo, from Universita degli Studi di Palermo in Italy, and colleagues assessed the blood pressure effects of a 6-week fast-walking program in 168 patients with high blood pressure.

To be eligible for the study, subjects needed to have systolic (the upper number on a standard reading) and diastolic (the lower number) blood pressures between 140 and 159, and 90 and 99 mmHg, respectively. In addition, all of the subjects were receiving medications for their high blood pressure, were not obese, and did not have any disease that limited their mobility.

The fast-walking sessions, which took place three times a week, on average, were conducted under the guidance of an experienced physiotherapist, according to the report.

After the exercise program, the average systolic blood pressure fell from 143.1 to 135.5 mmHg, the report indicates. At the same time, diastolic pressure dropped from 91.1 to 84.8 mmHg.

Contrary to some other reports suggesting that exercise reduces blood pressure to a greater extent in women than in men, no gender-based differences were found. — INTERNET
China becomes popular destination for S’porean travellers

SINGAPORE, 29 June — China has become a popular destination for both holidaymakers and business travellers from Singapore, according to the findings of the latest General Household Survey released by the Singapore Department of Statistics (SDS) Wednesday.

In 2005, China, the United States and Malaysia were the top three countries where Singapore residents made their work-related trips while Malaysia, Thailand and China were the three most popular destinations for Singaporean holidaymakers.

The survey also showed that half of the 2.8 million Singapore residents aged 15 years and over made at least one trip abroad during the last 12 months prior to the survey with the majority of them travelling for holiday.

The average monthly household income from work for Singapore resident households was 5,400 Singapore dollars (about 3,382 US dollars) in 2005, according to the survey.

“With low inflation, household income increased in real terms between 2000 and 2005 by 1.1 per cent per annum,” an SDS Press release said, adding that the disparity in distribution of per capita household income also increased during the same period with the Gini coefficient rising from 0.49 in 2000 to 0.522 in 2005.

The survey also found that about 15 per cent of Singapore resident households lived in private housing while nearly 27 per cent lived in five-room or bigger government-subsidized houses in 2005, up from 11 percent and 23.7 per cent in 2000 respectively.

Kuwait’s crude oil trade with price hike

KUWAIT CITY, 29 June—Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) said Wednesday that its crude oil price has maintained high levels this year, breaking the 60 dollars.According to KPC, Kuwait’s crude oil price has maintained high levels this year, breaking the 60 dollars. A 1.23-dollar increase compared to Monday’s 62.08 dollars.

KPC said Wednesday that its crude oil trade with price hike.

California’s prisons crowded with inmates

LOS ANGELES, 29 June—California lawmakers began a special session on Tuesday to address pressing issues, among them the urgent need to build more prisons to house an increasing number of felons.

This followed a call by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger for S’porean travellers. Schwarzenegger urged lawmakers into action less than a week after a federal court concluded.

Already crammed with inmates sleeping in gyms and hallways, the system must accommodate 23,000 more felons over the next five years and by 2011 California will have 193,000 inmates, according to Press reports.

S’pore to lift suspension on poultry imports from Malaysia

SINGAPORE, 29 June—Singapore will lift the suspension on imports of poultry and poultry products from the disease-free zones in Malaysia’s Selangor and Perak states with effect from 30 June, 2006.

According to a statement issued by the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) of Singapore on Wednesday, its officers had visited these two states in recent weeks to evaluate the anti-bird flu surveillance and bio-security measures taken by Malaysia’s Department of Veterinary Services (DVS).

AVA is satisfied that bird flu has been effectively eliminated from poultry in Malaysia and the disease prevention and control measures implemented by DVS are adequate and in line with international standards,” the statement said.

The lifting of the suspension will enable five chicken broiler farms and one layer farm in Selangor, as well as 37 duck farms in Perak to resume exports of eggs and ducks to Singapore. Besides, Singapore will continue importing poultry from the disease-free zones in Malaysia’s states of Johor, Malacca and Negri Sembilan, the AVA said.

S’porean travellers

Barreto Verde Alcochete’s forcados bullfighter Antonio Coqueira pulls the tail of a bull in Lisbon’s Campo Pequeno arena, on 29 June, 2006.

British teenage girl guilty of murdering pensioner

LONDON, 29 June — A millionaire’s teenage daughter who hacked a blueprint for murder in prison was found guilty at London’s Old Bailey on Tuesday of killing a pensioner.

Kenzi Adeyoola was 17 when she stabbed her former neighbour, 85-year-old Anne Mendel, 14 times at her London home.

Adeyoola said she intended to write.

The court heard how Adeyoolahad written down plans for the murder while serving a sentence for shoplifting. Unemployed Adeyoola, 18, later told police the document was the plot for a thriller she intended to write.

Adeyoola’s father is a millionaire property consultant, and a 16-year-old girl who cannot be named for legal reasons, were also found guilty of one charge of conspiracy to pervert justice with a false alibi.

“This was a premeditated murder which shows an unusual level of violence in a girl so young,” said Detective Inspector Steve Morris of the Metropolitan Police.
“Myanmar Women’s Day” which falls on the 3rd of July every year is an auspicious day, a day to be proud of by all Myanmar women. It was designated to the day, July 3rd of 1996 to be exact, on which the first ever Myanmar National Committee for Women’s Affairs (MNCWA) was formed with the main objective for taking the initiative in organizing the mass of Myanmar women to become one in line with the commitment that has been made a Beijing’s Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995 in the area of women empowerment and advancement.

The Committee had its limitations in undertaking various issues for the entire Myanmar women mass, which eventually led to the formations of a greater organization in order to promote the Myanmar women sector in the country. Accordingly, the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation (MWAf) was established on the 20th of December, 2003 for the benefit of the Myanmar women from all walks of life, to stand as the body representing and responsible for the women sector. It was actually an upgrading of the previous Committee since the new set up made it easier, more practical and more efficient to carry out all the related issues regarding the entire Myanmar women mass on a wider scale and with extended perspectives.

MWAf, at present, with its sixteen working groups namely groups on Education, Health, Culture, Economy, Environment, Media, Child-Child, Violence against Women, Trafficking on Women and Children, Rehabilitation and Reintegration, Mobilization, Disciplinary Concerns, Administration and Finance, Nationalities Affairs, International Relations and Legal Affairs, has been trying its utmost to successfully implement its grand and noble objectives which are laid down as:
- to enhance the role of women in the reconstruction of a peaceful, modern and developed nation
- to protect the rights of women
- to ensure the economic, health, education and general welfare of women and to provide measures for their security
- to instill and foster in Myanmar women a greater appreciation of their national, cultural heritage and customs
- to systematically protect women from violence and provide means for rehabilitation where necessary
- to diminish and finally eliminate trafficking in women and children as a national task
- to collaborate with international as well as local organizations, in ensuring the rights of women in accordance with the traditions and customs of the ethnic groups.

All Myanmar women, while paying due respect and recognition to the International Women’s Day—July 8th every year... should attach great significance to Myanmar Women’s Day of July 3rd since it is the date of the birth of MNCWA (present day MWAf) whose origin can be traced back directly to the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995.

The conclusion at the Conference stressed on the point that “a revolution has already begun and there is no going back”, with a Declaration stating that “Women empowerment and their full participation on the basis of equality in all spheres of society including participation in the decision-making process and access to power, are fundamental for the achievement of Equality, Development, and Peace”.

In essence the Beijing Declaration highlighted on the paramount importance of women empowerment and the proper dispersion of women on the basis of equality in all spheres of society.

Agreement was made in Beijing that every body should go home with an assignment to meet the commitment that has been made in the area of empowerment of women. For us, Myanmar women, the 3rd of July, on which the great MNCWA was formed, poses as an important day following the Beijing Conference that laid down the foundation for the main concern for the betterment of women and their empowerment. Different nations have different social, economic, political and cultural backgrounds, which explains the differences in the ways and means taken in trying to fulfill their commitment and objectives in this area. MWAf in collaborating with other international women organizations and other social organizations, tailor the programmes to the needs of Myanmar women so as to keep up with the international trends and at the same time to safeguard the national interest at all times.

In a way Myanmar women are lucky to say that they have enjoyed equal rights as men and have been keeping abreast with men in the efforts for the progress of their own families, community and for the state, too. MWAf encourages them to keep up this tradition. To those women folk who missed this chance, particularly those at grass root levels in the country, MWAf is giving out all the necessary help and assistance in various areas for their protection, for their rights, and for their empowerment.

United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan has stated in his message on this year’s International Women’s Day that ‘the role of women in decision-making is central to the advancement of women around the world and to the progress of humankind as a whole.’ We all have to agree with that statement because it is totally true. What MWAf has been doing for the women mass is completely in line with that theme.

**HAILING MYANMAR WOMEN’S DAY-2006:**

**Myanmar Women’s Day for all Myanmar Women**

**Aye Phyu**

**Proud to be a Myanmar Woman**

* Myanmar Culture…
  - One that’s unique and grand
  - From birth till life ends
  - No discrimination of sex nor brand
  - To oppress or look down on women
  - We don’t have …
  - Birth of a boy, from gods, a gift
  - That of a girl, a curse, some may think
  - Leading to selective abortion
  - Infanticide or female babies elimination
  - We do have…
  - Throughout the nation, education for all
  - Young boys and girls equally called
  - Mostly from grass-root level, to attend school
  - For long term poverty break-through
  - We don’t have…
  - Forced marriages for young brides
  - Missing the chance to wait for one that’ll coincide
  - With their tastes and likes
  - And a big ‘dowry’ definitely not to their delight
  - * Myanmar Women…
  - Skill and power embedded in most of us
  - Traditionally being the focus
  - And key persons, in the family
  - Pulling strings to make everyone grow and happy
  - Along with our men, together we march
  - With mutual respect and trust
  - Yet common to find reverse of ‘ladies first’
  - Not because of status but because of affection and love

**WHO issues fresh guidelines to long distance air travellers**

New York, 1 July — Warning that prolonged air journeys could expose the passengers to risk of contracting diseases like tuberculosis from infected co-travellers, the United Nations health agency has issued fresh guidelines to minimize such risk.

Those infected with multi-drug resistant tuberculosis must postpone any long distance air travel, the World Health Organization (WHO) suggested.

Till now, no case of active TB has been identified due to exposure on a commercial aircraft, where the quality of air is high and under normal conditions cleaner than in most buildings. WHO recommended prolonged journeys of more than eight hours in a confined cabin may involve an increased risk of transmission, similar to other circumstances where people are together in confined places.— *MNA/PTI*
Teachers urged to make efforts for constant emergence of human resources capable of serving interests of State and people

Special Refresher Course No 6 for Faculty Members concludes at CICS (Upper Myanmar)

Minister Dr Chan Nyein addresses the Special Refresher Course No 6 for Faculty Members at the CICS (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin Township.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 1 July—Special Refresher Course No 6 for Faculty Members concluded at the Yadana Hall of Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division, yesterday morning. On behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister Dr Chan Nyein made a speech on the occasion.

The course conclusion ceremony was attended by Deputy Minister for Hotel and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Kyaw Soe, Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, Members of Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Nyi Tun and U Kyaw Aung, senior military officers, departmental heads, the rector and heads of department of CICS (Upper Myanmar) and course instructors and trainee faculty members.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Dr Chan Nyein, on behalf of Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, said that in striving for transforming the motherland into a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation 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, he 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.

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 innovative 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.

In conclusion the minister urged teachers to make continued efforts for the constant emergence of human resources capable of serving the interest of the State and the people.

Afterwards, on behalf of Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister Dr Chan Nyein presented prizes to outstanding trainees.

Next, the minister accepted K 50,000 donated by trainees for Lawka Chantha Abhbaya Laba Muni Buddha Image, Tooth Relic Pagoda (Mandalay), renovation of ancient pagodas in Bagan, the Union Solidarity and Development Association and the National Convention and presented certificate of honour.

After the ceremony, Minister Dr Chan Nyein cordially greeted the trainees. — MNA

Minister Dr Chan Nyein presents the Best Cadet Award to Demonstrator U Zaw Zaw

Win of Myitkyina University.— MNA

Minister meets local and foreign industrialists

NAY PYI TAW, 1 July—Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung met with industrialists at home and abroad, who are working in partnership in the Wood Based Industries of Myanmar Timber Enterprise at his office here on 30 June.

Also present on the occasion were directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Forestry, industrialists of 14 companies, officials and others.

At the meeting, the minister said that encouragement is being made for the improvement of private economic sector in line with market-oriented economic system; that in the process, the ministry is making all-out efforts for the development of wood based industries; and the industrialists are to try their utmost for national interest and for their own, and to produce value-added wood products that are in high demand.

Afterwards, the industrialists put forward their requirements which were fulfilled by Managing Director U Win Tun of MTE. — MNA
Writers, publishers and readers are to be harmonious in the development of literature that benefits all the people

With the united strength of those from literary world who are capable of improving Myanmar literature, there will be developed media that can react to any destructive act through constructive act.

In addition, through the might of Myanmar literary world, Our Three Main National Causes — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty — can be maintained. And as a result, flourishing and prosperous Myanmar society will emerge.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 said MWJA as well as those from literary world are urged to actively participate in the task for building a modern developed democratic nation with discipline flourish. Later, he wished the success of the conference.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 cordially greeted the literati and delegates of states and divisions. The Secretary-1 next viewed the portraits of successive chairmen of MWJA and documentary photos on the improvement of Myanmar literature.

MNA
**Home Affairs Minister receives Italian, Singaporean Ambassadors**

**Yangon, 1 July —**

Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo received Italian Ambassador Dr Raffaele Miniero and Singaporean Ambassador Mr Chua Hian Kong at the ministry yesterday evening separately. Present also were Director-General U Zaw Win of Prisons Department, Deputy Director-General U Ye Myint of Police Battalions Control Commander Police Brig-Gen Than Han and Head of Transitional Crime Department Police Colonel Sitt Aye. — MNA

**Energy Minister inspects construction of new CNG filling station in Insein**

**Yangon, 1 July —**

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspected the construction of new CNG filling station under the Myanmar Petroleum Products Enterprise in Insein Township.

General Manager (CNG) U Thein Htay submitted reports on completion of task and installation of machine parts. The minister urged the officials to complete the construction task ahead of schedule. The minister also looked into installing of CNG cylinders and compressor.

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi and party proceeded to Filling Station No 0206 in Insein Town-ship and inspected the filling of CNG for the vehicles and cordially conversed with vehicles owners and drivers. The minister also inspected the sale of LNG, its storage and fire prevention measures at LNG Filling Station (Insein). — MNA

**MWJA urged to preserve and promote adorable tradition…**

*(from page 16)*

Secretary U Hla Tun (Hla Tun-Twantay) read out the brief CEC report, U Khin Maung Tun (Khin Maung Tun-Lanmadaw) the financial report, U Soe Shein (Maung Soe Htaik-Thonze) read out a message of condolence for the late members of MWJA. The delegates to the conference took part in the discussions.

Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), Vice-Chairmen U Than Maung (Than Maung) presented prizes for performance of literature to respective townships. Later, the wellwishers donated cash to MWJA. And the first day session of the conference was adjourned at 4.30 pm. The wellwishers made cash donation to rural self-reliant libraries and today’s donation amounted to K 4,747,000. — MNA

The New Light of Myanmar Sunday, 2 July, 2006

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Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan accepts cash to the funds from a wellwisher. — MNA

Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo receives Italian Ambassador Dr Raffaele Miniero. — HOME AFFAIRS

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan accepts cash to the funds from a wellwisher. — MNA

MWJA urged to preserve and promote adorable tradition…

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U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha), MNA

U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), MNA

U Chit Htwe (Maung Chit Htwe-MA), MNA

U Soe Shein (Maung Soe Htaik-Thonze), MNA

U Win Myint (Magway Win Myint), MNA

U Khin Tun (Kyaw Hein Aung), MNA

U Myint Thein (Chingyar-Maubin), MNA

U Tin Hlaing (Ledwintha Saw Chit), MNA

Vice-Chairman U Than Maung (Than Maung) presents prize to an outstanding township. — MNA

CEC member Khin Maung Tun (Lanmadaw) accepts cash donated by Township WJAs. — MNA
Minister for Mines views sales of jade lots

YANGON, 1 July — Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint viewed private jewellery shops and sales of jade lots through competitive bidding to local and foreign gem merchants at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township this afternoon.

The sales of jade lots at the Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales 2006 continued yesterday evening.

The gem merchants purchased 58 jade lots yesterday. Likewise, 33 jade lots were sold through competitive bidding from this morning to evening. A total of 198 jade lots were sold in four days.

A total of 2,384 gem merchants — 1,467 from 10 countries and 917 local merchants — are attending the special sales. The sales of remaining jade lots continues tomorrow.

MNA

MWAF has been establishing contacts with international women’s organizations to increase the number of its members and enhance their qualifications at all levels through training programmes for active participation in building a new nation, to honour those who honour is due, to disseminate disciplinary education, to set up capital for running micro credit scheme, and to hold literary talks, and seminars on development of the women’s sector.

Traditionally, Myanmar women are civilized and gentle, serving as models in preserving and promoting the race and national culture. They have been on a par with men in developing the political, economic and social sectors of the nation throughout the successive eras.

Over half the population of Union of Myanmar are women. The Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation was formed on 20 December 2003 with seven objectives and four basic principles to enable women to play a leading role in developing and protecting their own sector on a wider scale and more effectively, for the federation to keep in touch with sister international NGOs, to take part with unity in the national development endeavours and to enhance its participation in the activities of the women’s sector as a consolidated voluntary and social organization.

In addition to its task of developing the women’s sector and securing the lives of women, MWAF is playing its own role in the national development project.

The federation has six departments — organization department, administration department, discipline enforcement department, finance department, information department, and international relations department. It also has six working groups — working group for protection and rehabilitation of women, social and culture working group, working group to raise the living standard of elderly women, nationalities affairs working group, legal affairs and consultancy group, and environmental conservation group.

The federation has been trying to fulfill the economic, health, education and social needs of women in states and divisions, districts, townships and wards and villages in accord with the social objectives of the government. Women’s role in the task is equal to that of men, and the federation’s partners are the government, the respective ministries and social organizations.

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Personnel of the Information Department have been visiting model villages and donating books and periodicals on behalf of the MWAF or the department.

Let’s make collective efforts to improve women’s lives

Yi Yi Myint (MNA)

In addition, the department in cooperation with other ministries is providing financial and academic assistance to schools.

Working group for protection and rehabilitation of women is also organizing short-term counseling courses for young women.

Because of the rapidly growing transborder problem of human trafficking, the federation is imparting necessary knowledge to women young and old through educative talks and round-table discussions.

Work programmes to realize the seven future tasks include sports activities, running of manageable shops, providing small loans, educative talks, essay competitions, participation in traditional festivals, competition, group discussions, activities on days of national significance, cooperation with departments exposing and curbing human trafficking and related crimes, launching of anti-human trafficking programmes with full force as a national task, consolation and rehabilitation of women facing social hardships, cooperation with the bodies concerned to rehabilitate victims to human trafficking and send them back to their families, nurturing of new generation girls to love and adore their own nation, race and culture, and participation of women in national level environmental conservation programmes. With those work programmes, the federation in cooperation with international organizations is implementing the task of ensuring safety for women in accord with traditions and culture and customs.

I hail the Myanmar Women’s Day by saying that the efforts of the federation to develop the nation and the lives of womenfolk with patriotism, Union Spirit and nationalism reflect the goodwill of the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation.

(Translation: TMT)
**Woman in Germany auctions herself with her Ferrari**

**BERLIN, 30 June** — A woman living in Germany is auctioning off her red Ferrari Enzo sports car and including a little extra in the package — herself.

The 26-year-old has invited bids on Internet auction site eBay starting at 1.25 million euros (1.6 million US dollars). She said she was rich herself, liked her car and was looking for a man who could foot the bill for such a luxury.

“Only a millionaire could afford such a car,” said the woman, who gave her name as Leila and said she once worked as a singer in Syria. “I want a man who doesn’t like me just for my money.”

Leila said she would meet with interested bidders but would need to see the bidder’s passport and proof of capital. No bids have been made yet in the auction which ends in a week.—MNA/Reuters

**France topples US as top FDI investor abroad**

**PARIS, 30 June**— France, often regarded as hostile to foreign takeover bids, displaced the United States as the world’s biggest investor abroad in 2005, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development said on Wednesday.

Britain, widely regarded as a place to buy companies without government objections, drew in the most foreign direct investment (FDI), the Paris-based OECD said in a report.

FDI into the 30 mostly industrialized OECD countries rose 27 per cent to 622 billion US dollars in 2005, and the rise was strong in non-OECD countries such as China and India.

“This is the highest level of inflows since the previous investment boom petered out in 2001,” the OECD said.

Last year was also the fourth-best on record, with direct inward investment buoyed by high company profits, low interest rates, high liquidity and corporate share prices as well as a penchant for cross-border investments, it said.

OECD countries account for roughly 60 per cent of worldwide economic output.—MNA/Reuters

**Colliery accident claims 22, injures 37 in N-E China**

**FUXIN (Liaoning Province), 30 June**— One more victim was confirmed dead in a gas blast at a coal mine in Fuxin City of northeast China’s Liaoning Province on Wednesday, bringing the death toll to 22.

Four others are still missing and 37 injured in the accident, said Wang Daguang, head of the Waolong Coal Mine of the Fuxin Mining Industrial Group, approximately 150 kilometres northwest of Shenyang, capital of Liaoning Province.

The explosion site is about 1,000 metres from the surface, according to Wang.

The blast occurred at 8:15 am Wednesday in the Waolong Coal Mine of the Fuxin Mining Industrial Group, approximately 150 kilometres northwest of Shenyang, capital of Liaoning Province. Having been in operation since 1957, the Waolong Coal Mine produces more than two million tons of coal annually.

The Liaoning provincial government and Fuxin City government officials have rushed to the accident site to direct rescue work.

Cause of the accident is being investigated.—MNA/Xinhua

**Suicide bombing kills 15 in northern Iraq**

**BAGHDAD, 30 June**— A suicide car bomber on Thursday blew up his car in a funeral in Kirkuk.

The bomber was about 250 kilometres north of Baghdad, killing 15 people and wounding over 50 others, Iraq’s state-run television reported.

Earlier, the police said that 17 were killed in the blast.

The TV report said that the attack occurred at about 9:00 pm (1700 GMT) when a funeral was held for a Shi'ite soldier who was killed two days ago.

The oil-rich northern city of Kirkuk has witnessed an escalating violence in recent days.—MNA/Reuters

**Powerful quake jolts Gulf island of Qeshm**

**TEHERAN, 30 June**— An earthquake of magnitude 5.4 struck the southern Iranian province of Hormuzgan, but there were no immediate reports of casualties, the semi-official Fars news agency said on Thursday.

The quake hit the Gulf island of Qeshm off Hormuzgan’s south coast at 11:32 pm (2002 GMT) on Wednesday. The full extent of the damage was not immediately known.—MNA/Reuters

**Report says nine mln people living with HIV in Asia Pacific**

**UNITED NATIONS, 30 June**—An estimated nine million people are living with HIV in the Asia Pacific Region, including one million who were infected in 2005 alone, a year in which half a million AIDS victims died.

A comprehensive response to the AIDS pandemic will require an estimated investment of 5.1 billion dollars annually by 2007, a new United Nations report says and estimates that only 1.6 billion dollars would be available.

Most of it would come from bilateral donors, foundations and international institutions, including the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

To close the resource gap, the report calls for significant increase in international assistance, particularly for the lower income and the least developed countries. At the same time, domestic resources would have to be bolstered, it adds and suggests “creative financing mechanisms, such as taxes on alcohol and tobacco”.

The report finds high prevalence of HIV among brothel-based sex workers with more than 50 per cent of female sex workers in Mumbai infected with the deadly disease.

In Cambodia, HIV among brothel-based sex workers accounted for 21 per cent of the total in 2003.

In Vietnam, the average prevalence of HIV among sex workers is about 16 per cent. HIV prevalence, the report says, could rise further among injecting drug users (IDUs) as the sharing of injection instruments is a very effective way of transmitting HIV.

According to the report, injecting drug use accounts for at least 40 per cent of all HIV transmission in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Vietnam. It finds that young people are the hardest hit with half of all new infections occurring among youth. In Vietnam, 63 per cent of the people infected by HIV are under the age of 30. In Thailand, 50 to 60 per cent of new infections each year are among people under 24 years of age.

In Indonesia, the figure is 60 to 70 per cent. In Malaysia, 60 per cent of new infections each year are among people under 30.

In the Philippines, 70 per cent of people living with HIV are under the age of 30. In the rest of Asia, the average age is 30. In Thailand, the average age is 25. In Cambodia, the average age is 20. In Viet Nam, the average age is 25. In Malaysia, the average age is 25.

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India approves Kuwaiti airlines to add 1,300 seats weekly

NEW DELHI, 30 June—The Indian Government agreed to let Kuwaiti airline companies increase their weekly carrying capacity by 1,300 seats after a bilateral meeting on aviation was held here Wednesday.

Indian Minister for Civil Aviation Praful Patel met Kuwaiti Minister of Communication Ismael Al-Shatty here Wednesday discussing issues of promoting bilateral relations on civil aviation, according to a Press release of the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

According to the agreement, Kuwaiti airline company Jazeera Airways will operate 1,300 more seats per week from Wednesday.

India was in the process of opening up its skies, however, it still needed to address important issues such as proper airport infrastructure and the development of domestic carriers, Patel said at the meeting.

Another bilateral talk on opening civil aviation market will be held on July 18 and 19 here. The two sides agreed that they will discuss issues like linking Kuwait to more Indian cities and further increase in number of seats, the Press release said.

Ismael Al-Shatty expressed satisfaction with the talks and hoped to build a strategic partnership with India in the near future.

Superbug outbreaks linked to unlicensed tattooing

NEW YORK, 30 June—People who get tattoos from unlicensed sources are at risk of developing a drug-resistant bacterial skin infection, federal health officials warn.

Six recent outbreaks of infections with this “superbug”, methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), has been traced to unlicensed tattoo artists, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

MRSA infection typically manifests as abscesses or areas of inflammation on the skin, though it can also lead to more serious problems such as pneumonia, blood infections or, in some cases, necrotizing fasciitis, also referred to as the flesh-eating disease”.

While the bug was once largely confined to hospitals, it is becoming increasingly common in the general public —- showing up among prison inmates, athletic teams and others who are in close contact and may share contaminated items.

The six tattoo-related outbreaks affected 44 people in Kentucky, Ohio and Vermont, the CDC reports in its Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. Thirty-four had recently gotten a tattoo from an unlicensed source, while 10 others contracted the infection from close contact with the tattoo recipients.

“Persons considering a tattoo should be aware of the potential for community-acquired MRSA infection and should only use the services of a licensed tattooist who follows proper infection-control procedures,” the CDC advises.

Health officials’ investigations found that the tattooists in many cases did not follow standard hygiene practices like changing gloves between clients, using skin antiseptic and disinfecting equipment.

Volcano in central Philippines acting up anew

MANILA, 30 June—The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) detected five volcanic quakes and a small, short-duration tremor at Mt Bulusan in Sorsogon, central Philippines, during the past 24 hours, local media reported on Thursday.

“These indicate magma movement, which may lead to more explosions,” Phivolcs said in a bulletin released 7:30 am on Thursday, according to a report by GMA TV.

Phivolcs monitored before dawn Wednesday an explosion-type quake lasting four minutes at the "cloud-covered summit" of Mt Bulusan, the report said. — MNA/Xinhua

Nepali guerilla leader apologizes for past mistakes

KATHMANDU, 30 June — Nepali guerilla leader and member of the guerilla talks team Dina Nath Sharma has apologized for forcing people to feed the guerillas in the past and said they are ready to face punishment for their mistake. The Kathmandu Post newspaper reported Thursday.

"Driven by hunger, we might have entered your houses and forced you to feed us. We apologize for that. We are ready to face punishment," Sharma said, addressing a gathering in Kathmandu on Wednesday.

Tal Sharmada also said that the guerillas have come to the people to share their suffering. Stating that the guerillas will not return to the jungle, Sharma said the weapons that the guerillas possess are the people's weapons, and his party was ready to hand them back to the people if the latter so desired.

Sharma also said that the Nepalese people are capable of managing arms on their own.

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for SANOFI-AVENTIS

P.O. Box 60, Yangon

Dated: 2 July 2006

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR  Sunday, 2 July, 2006
**Nepali parliamentary panel seeks King’s property details**

**KATHMANDU, 30 June** — The Public Account Committee of the Nepali House of Representatives Thursday directed the government to submit property details of King Gyanendra and the members of the royal family to the committee, the Himalayan Times website reported.

According to its chairman Chitra Bahadur KC, the committee directed the office of Prime Minister Girija Rasa Koirala and Cabinet and the Ministry of Finance to produce the details of the property of the King and the royal family within 15 days. The committee also asked all the ministries to produce the details of the amount spent by the government beyond the annual budget allocations during the royal regime within seven days.

The members of the committee urged chairman KC to begin probe into the King’s property issue if the government was not ready to send the details.

**Seven killed, one missing in S-W China rainstorm**

**CHENGDU, 30 June** — Seven people were killed and one was missing by 3 pm Thursday after heavy rainstorm hit Luzhou City in southwest China’s Sichuan Province on Wednesday, confirmed local officials.

The rainstorm, started at 8 pm Wednesday, has plagued 28 villages of four counties with average precipitation from 50mm to 98.5mm. Seven villagers died in the most seriously-hit Gulin County, where rainfall has reached 183mm. The rainstorm has spoiled 20,000 hectares of farmland and destroyed 190 houses.

**Chinese scientists make breakthrough in turning stalk into bio-oil**

**H EF E I, 30 June** — Scientists from the University of Science and Technology of China said Thursday they had made a breakthrough in reducing the cost of converting crop stalks, chaff and sawdust into bio-oil, an alternative source of energy.

Bio-oil produced with the scientists’ technology is 5.68 per cent cheaper than diesel oil and 39.1 per cent cheaper than heavy oil, said Professor Guo Qingshang with the Biomass Clean Energy Laboratory of the university, in east China’s Anhui Province.

Guo pointed out, however, that bio-oil only produces two fifths of the heat from the same amount of diesel oil and only half that of heavy oil, Guo said.

The technology, which can produce more than 6 kilos of bio-oil from 10 kilos of sawdust and 5 kilos from stalks, has passed appraisals by the provincial department of science and technology, Guo said.

Producing one ton of bio-oil in the Chinese lab only costs about 100 US dollars.

The lab also invented a machine that can process 120 kilos of biomass per hour.

Scientists in a number of countries began researching how to convert biomass into an energy source in the 1980’s. The process is known as pyrolysis, liquefaction technologies, which decompose biomass using heat which then turns it into liquid.

The high cost of conversion has so far prevented scientists from making an economically feasible energy product.

Some scientists in the Netherlands and Germany are also doing research in the field, Guo said. “The Chinese Government will subsidize the application of the lab’s technologies,” said Cui Weiping, an official with the office of countryside energy of Anhui Province.

More than 700 million tons of stalk and chaff are left over from harvest every year. Traditionally they were burned, causing not only pollution but also a huge waste of energy, according to Guo.

Bio-oil can be used directly in heating boilers and as fuel for motor vehicles after further refining. Ethanol can also be extracted from bio-oil.

**Students fall ill of unknown disease in Bangladesh**

**DHAKA, 30 June** — About 150 students of two secondary schools in Munshiganj District, about 30 kilometres south of Dhaka, have fallen ill of unknown disease, raising panic among the students and guardians, private news agency UNB reported Wednesday.

Local officials said more than 100 students and a teacher of Barowita High School fell ill in classes at about 9:45 am (03:45 GMT) Wednesday. They complained of severe pain in chest, abdomen, body and respiration problem.

Medical Officer Golam Kibria said they could not ascertain the cause of the disease. Two medical teams were formed to find out the causes.

Authority has declared the school closed for an indefinite period.

Meanwhile at least 30 students of Pilot Girls High School also fell ill of unknown disease Wednesday. Seven of them admitted to hospital complained of heart palpitation, respiration problem and clouded vision.

**Death toll of central China mountain torrents rises to 21**

**CHANGSHA, 30 June** — Twenty-one people have been killed by Thursday, including the head of a local village, since a landslide occurred on Sunday in a village of central China’s Hunan Province, local sources said.

Six others are still missing. And 11 villagers who were injured and hospitalized after the disaster are now out of danger.

Local government said that the landslide was caused by an 11-hour rainstorm with precipitation of 273.3 millimetres. Electricity and transportation links have been restored.
Germany now play Italy or Ukraine in the semifinals. Ayala had put Argentina ahead with a flying header four minutes into the second half and the South Americans looked comfortable until goalkeeper Roberto Abbondanzieri was forced off with an injury in the 71st minute.

Germany threw on Tim Borowski four minutes later and his intervention led to the Germany equalizer.

Michael Ballack crossed from wide on the left, Borowski nodded the ball on and Miroslav Klose beat replacement keeper Leo Franco with a well-directed header. Christoph Metzelder headed over from a corner and Luis Gonzalez smacked a shot wide with the only clear chance in extra time.

Argentina, World Cup winners in 1978 and 1986, had controlled a cautious first half played under grey skies at the Olypistantadion. The German supporters making up the vast majority of a 72,000 crowd were left whistling in frustration as Argentina kept possession. Germany committed players forward just once and it almost paid off in the 16th minute.

Bastian Schweinsteiger passed to Bernd Schneider on the right and his well judged cross picked out Ballack. — MNA/Reuters

ITALY DOUBLE THEIR LEAD ON 59 MINUTES WHEN GIANT STRIKER LUCA TONI HEADS IN FRANCESCO TOTTI’S LEFT-WING CROSS. — INTERNET

FIFA TSG hails Ballack’s role in Germany-Argentina due

BERLIN, 1 July— Michael Ballack was named Man of the Match for his leadership and spirited play in Germany’s penalty shoot-out victory over Argentina in the quarterfinals of the 2006 FIFA World Cup.

"Ballack was the Man of the Match for his commitment and leadership," said FIFA Technical Study Group (TSG) member Kim Chon Lim.

"He led the team in the fight to find the equalizer, and he had an important part in the play that tied the score. There were other very good players, like Philipp Lahm and Torsten Frings, but Ballack was the spirit of the team, and he converted his penalty despite not being 100 per cent fit." Kim added.

With Germany trailing by a goal for most of the second half, Ballack played the cross that led to their 80th-minute equalizer. He played the ball into the area from the left for Tim Borowski, who nodded it back for Miroslav Klose to head into the net.

That was only one small part of a complete performance by the German skipper, who defended well for the entire match.

With time winding down in the second half of extra-time, he had to receive treatment and looked like he might not be able to continue, but he came back on to defend Argentina’s final set piece just seconds before time expired.

— MNA/Xinhua

Toni double helps fire Italy into semis

HAMBURG, 1 July— Luca Toni struck twice in the second half as Italy beat Ukraine 3-0 on Friday to set up a World Cup semifinal against hosts Germany.

The Italians were clearly superior to a Ukraine side making their first appearance at a finals, although Oleg Blokhin’s team twice hit the woodwork early in the second half.

Italy had a grip on the game from the sixth minute when Gianluca Zambrotta cut inside from the right flanked and fired home a low left-foot shot.

Promoted by the goal, Blokhin made an early change in the 19th minute taking off defender Vyacheslav Svidersky for attacking midfielder Andriy Vorobie.

That did little to alter the pattern of the game, however, and with Francesco Totti showing some nice touches and Andrea Pirlo happy to control Italy’s possession, Ukraine posed little threat.

Blokhin was forced into a second change just before the break when defender Andriy Rusol limped off to be replaced by Vladislav Vashchuk.

The Ukrainians made a much more determined start to the second half though as Maxim Kalinichenko whipped in a wicked cross that Italy defender Andrea Barzaghi miscued completely and screwed dangerously close to his own goal.

Kalinichenko provided the Italian defence with another scare when he found Andriy Husin whose back post header was pushed past the post by Italy keeper Gianluigi Buffon.

Suddenly Italy were in trouble, Buffon parried a shot from Oleg Gusev only as far as Kalinichenko whose low drive was cleared off the line in desperation by Zambrotta.

But just as the underdogs looked as though they were going to make Italy fight all the way, Toni got the second in the 59th minute with a stooping header at the back post from an inswinging Totti cross.

That should have calmed Italy’s nerves but, straight away, Husin headed away from another harmless Kalinichenko cross.

Lehmann saves put Germany into semis

BERLIN, 1 July— Germany goalkeeper Jens Lehmann saved twice in a shootout to give the hosts a 4-2 win over Argentina on Friday after their World Cup quarterfinal had ended 1-1 after extra time.

Four of their spot kicks. There were ugly scenes on the pitch.

Germany kept possession.

The South Americans looked to be at the centre of the fracas and incurred the wrath of FIFA officials and referee Lubos Michel were all

Germany committed players forward just once and it almost paid off in the 16th minute.

Bastian Schweinsteiger passed to Bernd Schneider on the right and his well judged cross picked out Ballack. — MNA/Reuters

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Blokhin was forced into a second change just before the break when defender Andriy Rusol limped off to be replaced by Vladislav Vashchuk.

The Ukrainians made a much more determined start to the second half though as Maxim Kalinichenko whipped in a wicked cross that Italy defender Andrea Barzaghi miscued completely and screwed dangerously close to his own goal.

Kalinichenko provided the Italian defence with another scare when he found Andriy Husin whose back post header was pushed past the post by Italy keeper Gianluigi Buffon.

Suddenly Italy were in trouble, Buffon parried a shot from Oleg Gusev only as far as Kalinichenko whose low drive was cleared off the line in desperation by Zambrotta.

But just as the underdogs looked as though they were going to make Italy fight all the way, Toni got the second in the 59th minute with a stooping header at the back post from an inswinging Totti cross.

That should have calmed Italy’s nerves but, straight away, Husin headed away from another harmless Kalinichenko cross.

Lehmann saves put Germany into semis

BERLIN, 1 July— Germany goalkeeper Jens Lehmann saved twice in a shootout to give the hosts a 4-2 win over Argentina on Friday after their World Cup quarterfinal had ended 1-1 after extra time.

Four of their spot kicks. There were ugly scenes on the pitch.

Germany kept possession.

The South Americans looked to be at the centre of the fracas and incurred the wrath of FIFA officials and referee Lubos Michel were all

Germany committed players forward just once and it almost paid off in the 16th minute.

Bastian Schweinsteiger passed to Bernd Schneider on the right and his well judged cross picked out Ballack. — MNA/Reuters

Michael Ballack was named Man of the Match for his leadership and spirited play in Germany’s penalty shoot-out victory over Argentina in the quarterfinals of the 2006 FIFA World Cup.

"He led the team in the fight to find the equalizer, and he had an important part in the play that tied the score. There were other very good players, like Philipp Lahm and Torsten Frings, but Ballack was the spirit of the team, and he converted his penalty despite not being 100 per cent fit." Kim added.

With Germany trailing by a goal for most of the second half, Ballack played the cross that led to their 80th-minute equalizer. He played the ball into the area from the left for Tim Borowski, who nodded it back for Miroslav Klose to head into the net.

That was only one small part of a complete performance by the German skipper, who defended well for the entire match.

With time winding down in the second half of extra-time, he had to receive treatment and looked like he might not be able to continue, but he came back on to defend Argentina’s final set piece just seconds before time expired.

— MNA/Xinhua

Toni double helps fire Italy into semis

HAMBURG, 1 July— Luca Toni struck twice in the second half as Italy beat Ukraine 3-0 on Friday to set up a World Cup semifinal against hosts Germany.

The Italians were clearly superior to a Ukraine side making their first appearance at a finals, although Oleg Blokhin’s team twice hit the woodwork early in the second half.

Italy had a grip on the game from the sixth minute when Gianluca Zambrotta cut inside from the right flanked and fired home a low left-foot shot.

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Study shows jilted chimps, humans similar

KAMPALA, 1 July — Male chimpanzees become as aggressive as humans when they suspect their female partner of being unfaithful, a nine-year-long study has shown.

The study, which was done between 1993 and 2004 at Kibale National Park in western Uganda, showed a marked similarity between the behavior of chimps and human males, many of whom either deface their partners or throw them out of their lives over suspected infidelity. According to the study, there are times when the male chimps become very aggressive towards female in their groups, especially when they suspect them of welcoming advances of other males, although chimps are peaceful animals.

Female chimps only mate at specific times, around the ovulation period, which makes competition for them stiff. At the same time, female chimps deliberately practice promiscuity in order to confuse the males regarding the identity of the real father of their babies.

The study, which was published in a recent issue of Nature, found that the male chimps become aggressive for three main reasons:

1. When they suspect their females of being unfaithful.
2. To defend their territory.
3. To court new females.

The study also found that male chimps are more likely to attack females who have been seen with other males. The study's lead author, Dr. Jane Goodall, said that the findings have implications for understanding human behavior as well.

Air Zimbabwe plane makes emergency landing

HARARE, 1 July — An Air Zimbabwe plane experienced engine failure and made an emergency landing at the resort town of Victoria Falls, the state-controlled Herald newspaper reported on Thursday.

“The MA60 plane ... had to make an emergency landing in Victoria Falls. There were no injuries,” the Herald said, adding that the 60-seat Chinese-made propeller plane burst two tyres during the landing on Wednesday.

Zimbabwe has acquired three MA60 aircraft and military jets from China as President Robert Mugabe’s Government pursues stronger ties with Asia to offset its standoff with Western countries over policy differences.

Air Zimbabwe’s spokesman was not reachable for comment. — MNA/Reuters

Argentine’s Carlos Tevez (front) battles for the ball with Germany’s Arne Friedrich during their World Cup 2006 quarter-final soccer match in Berlin on 30 June, 2006. — Internet

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

WEATHER

Saturday, 1 July, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain have been isolated in lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions; scattered in Shan and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Magway Division and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Rakhine and Mon States and isolated heavyfalls in Tannthayi Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thandwe (5.12) inches, Kyaukpyu (4.37) inches, Thaton (3.58) inches, Myleik (3.47) inches, Mawlamyne (3.19) inches, Bago (2.68) inches, Hpa-an (2.32) inches, Pathein (2.09) inches and Aunglan (0.91) inch.

Maximum temperature on 30-6-2006 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 1-7-2006 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 1-7-2006 was (96%). Total sunshine hours on 30-6-2006 was (Nil).

Rainfalls on 1-7-2006 were (1.19) inches at Mngaladon, (1.89) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.99) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (27.84) inches at Mngaladon, (37.64) inches at Kaba-Aye and (39.61) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (20) mph from West at (19:30) hours MST on 30-6-2006.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, a low pressure area has formed over the Northwest Bay of Bengal. Monsoon is strong to vigorous in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 2-7-2006: Rain or showers will be isolated in lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Coastal areas. Degree of certainty is (100%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough sea will be experienced at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 2-7-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 2-7-2006: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 2-7-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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Sunday, 2 July, 2006

MWJA urged to preserve and promote adorable tradition of Myanmar literature

Fourth Conference of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association commences

YANGON, 1 July — The first-day session of the Fourth Conference of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association was held at Pyidaungsu Hall of Kyaukasan Grounds, here, this morning, with an address by Patron of Central Committee for Organizing the Conference Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

It was attended by the chairman of MWJA and CEC members, literati, guests and delegates of States and Divisions and observers.

Vice-Chairman of MWJA U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha) made a speech. Next, Patron of the Central Committee Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivered an address. He said that delegates to the 4th Conference of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association are to objectively review the undertakings of the association during the past four years and to adopt future tasks for development of the literary world. He stressed the need for MWJA to serve the national interest, to carry out development of matters for upholding Our Three Main National Causes based on the Union Spirit. In carrying out the second task, he stressed the need to preserve and develop the adorable tradition of Myanmar literature. In this regard, publishers and printing entrepreneurs are also to produce quality books and periodicals to attract the readers. To enable Myanmar literature to penetrate the world, all are to strive for turning out scholars to smoothly translate works of the literary world.

With regard to the third task, he said, only when the literary world develops, will living standard of those who are engaged in it improve. WJAs are to assist its members. The tasks of MWJA are wide ranging and subtle. Therefore, the association should have qualified members for performing its tasks successfully. To become the strong and efficient association, executive committees of the association is to be constituted with members of different ages.

He added that it is necessary to organize more WJA members and members of the association members; to serve the national interest through the literary strength; to enhance the living standard of the people; and to join hands with the Government in uplift of knowledge of the people.

U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), Chairman of MWJA, made a speech.

In the afternoon session, Vice-Chairman of MWJA U Than Maung (Than Maung) presided over the meeting together with five members of panel of chairmen, and Daw Khin Than Win, CEC member of MWJA, acted as MC.

Members of Panel of Chairmen seen at 4th MWJA Conference. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan speaking at 4th Conference of MWJA. — MNA

Delegates attending 4th Conference of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association. — MNA

WORLD CUP 2006

Portugal  3
England  1