True patriotism

* It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives in to have strong Union Spirit.
* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Venezuela

**NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—**Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Hugo Chavez Frias, President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which falls on 5 July 2006.—**MNA**

Commander oversees regional development tasks in Kalay, Gangaw Districts

**NAY PYI TAW, 4 July —**Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye together with departmental heads attended the opening ceremony of Sakhangyi model village in Kalay on 24 June.

First, Chairman of Kalay District PDC Lt-Col Aung Myo Myint and departmental officials formally opened the ceremony and the commander unveiled the signboard of the village.

Next, the commander inspected Sakhangyi model village and gave instructions on striving for rural development tasks and presented a set of TW, a VCD and a cassette, exercise books, school uniforms, publications and sports gear for the village.

Next, the commander attended the opening ceremony of the Thukhitayon monastery presiding Sayadaw and donated offerings to the Sayadaw. And the commander observed collective growing of physic nut plants in Kyaukka village and looked into construction tasks of Government Technological College in Kalay.

Afterwards, the commander attended the ceremony to collectively grow physic nut plants in Kalay/Kyeikon Station near Seta village of Kalay District Physic Nut Plant Special Zone-2 and grew a physic nut plant and cordially conversed those who were growing physic nut plants.

Later, the commander went on an inspection tour of Toungkhinyan village paddy husk-fired power station, rice mill, oil mill and Toungkhinyan plantation and attended the ceremony of inter-department growing of physic nut plants in Gangaw Township.

Next, the commander attended the ceremony to collectively grow physic nut plants at Htinzin village and Taloak village in Khanpet, grew a physic nut plant and gave encouragement to those who were growing physic nut plants.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
**Work in partnership to boost production**

In the market economic system, not only the government but also private entrepreneurs play an important part in the development of the production sector. Therefore, steps are being taken for the government and private entrepreneurs to run 11 factories under the Ministry of Industry-1 in partnership.

Factories under the Ministry of Industry-1 produce good quality consumer goods, textiles, medicines, building materials and stationery. In the business, the government will own 51 percent of the shares of a factory and 49 percent will be sold out as shares to the public. The management of a joint-venture factory will be equally formed with personnel of respective government departments and shareholders.

Every share-holder is entitled to be elected as member of the board of directors and the election for the board of directors will be held every year. The initial value of a share is one million kyats and it will be revaluated every year. And shares are transferable and can be sold.

The term of the joint-venture will be at least 10 years and it can be extended if necessary. The establishment of the joint venture will be in accordance with the articles of association drafted by all those concerned including shareholders.

We believe that, if the government and private entrepreneurs work together in partnership the production sector of the nation will surely develop.

---

**Minister looks into production of parts at factories**

**NAY PYI TAW, 4 July —** Minister for Industry-1 2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin together with responsible personnel arrived at No 1 Automobile Manufacturing Industry (Yangon) of Myanmar Automobile and Diesel Engine Industries in Mayangon Township on 2 July.

At the briefing hall, Factory Manager U Hlaing Then reported to the minister on manufacturing of automobile, purchase of raw materials, expenditure of the industry and income ratio.

In connection with the reports, the minister gave instructions on striving for manufacturing of automobile to meet the target, management for increased production of machine parts, purchase of raw materials, machine security and training of skilled staff.

Next, the minister and party inspected manufacturing of TE trucks. Managing Director of MADEI U Soe Thein and the factory manager conducted the minister round the factory. Afterwards, the minister gave instructions on measures to be taken for running of the factory at full capacity.

Similarly, the minister and party arrived at No 2 Machine Tool Manufacturing Factory (Yangon) of Myanmar Machine Tool and Electrical Industries on 3 July. Factory Manager U Ko Ko Gyi reported to the minister on items manufactured by the factory, test-production of new items, production of items ordered by the ministries and parts of stove run by physic nut oil.

Regarding the reports, the minister gave instructions on systematic storage of finished products, speedy distribution of products to the markets and extended production of new items and running of factory at full capacity. — MNA

---

**Politics**

* 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

---

**Fire engine, ambulance donated to FSD**

**YANGON, 4 July —** Mr Isao Ishii of Minzoku Forum of Japan donated a fire engine and an ambulance to Fire Services Department of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement at the meeting hall of FSD this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for SWRR Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Director-General of FSD U Myint Tun and responsible personnel, Mr Tesuro Amano, Minister Counsellor of Japanese Embassy and staff.

First, on behalf of the well-wisher U Myint Maung presented documents of the fire engine and the ambulance to Director-General of FSD U Myint Tun and explained the purpose of the donations. Next, the director-general presented certificates of honour to the well-wisher.

After the donation, the deputy minister inspected the fire engine and the ambulance. — MNA

---

**Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications conducts courses**

**NAY PYI TAW, 4 July — A ceremony to open Basic e-Government Administrator Course and Government Personnel Management System (GPMS) Administrator Course conducted by Myanma Posts and Telecommunications of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs was held at Communications and Postal Training Centre yesterday.**

Present on the occasion were Minister for CPT Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, the ministers, responsible personnel, course instructors and 82 trainees. First, the minister made an opening speech on the occasion.

Basic E-Government Administrator Course will give lessons to administrative officers to systematically manage departmental functions by the use of computer while Government Personnel Management System Administrator Course will give lessons to management of service personnel affairs.

After opening of the courses, the minister and guests viewed e-Library in support of the courses conducted by the ministry. — MNA

---

**People’s Desire**

---

**Fire engine, ambulance donated to FSD**

**YANGON, 4 July —** Mr Isao Ishii of Minzoku Forum of Japan donated a fire engine and an ambulance to Fire Services Department of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement at the meeting hall of FSD this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for SWRR Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Director-General of FSD U Myint Tun and responsible personnel, Mr Tesuro Amano, Minister Counsellor of Japanese Embassy and staff.

First, on behalf of the well-wisher U Myint Maung presented documents of the fire engine and the ambulance to Director-General of FSD U Myint Tun and explained the purpose of the donations. Next, the director-general presented certificates of honour to the well-wisher.

After the donation, the deputy minister inspected the fire engine and the ambulance. — MNA

---

**Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications conducts courses**

**NAY PYI TAW, 4 July — A ceremony to open Basic e-Government Administrator Course and Government Personnel Management System (GPMS) Administrator Course conducted by Myanma Posts and Telecommunications of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs was held at Communications and Postal Training Centre yesterday.**

Present on the occasion were Minister for CPT Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, the ministers, responsible personnel, course instructors and 82 trainees. First, the minister made an opening speech on the occasion.

Basic E-Government Administrator Course will give lessons to administrative officers to systematically manage departmental functions by the use of computer while Government Personnel Management System Administrator Course will give lessons to management of service personnel affairs.

After opening of the courses, the minister and guests viewed e-Library in support of the courses conducted by the ministry. — MNA

---

**Minister looks into production of parts at factories**

**NAY PYI TAW, 4 July —** Minister for Industry-1 2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin together with responsible personnel arrived at No 1 Automobile Manufacturing Industry (Yangon) of Myanmar Automobile and Diesel Engine Industries in Mayangon Township on 2 July.

At the briefing hall, Factory Manager U Hlaing Then reported to the minister on manufacturing of automobile, purchase of raw materials, expenditure of the industry and income ratio.

In connection with the reports, the minister gave instructions on striving for manufacturing of automobile to meet the target, management for increased production of machine parts, purchase of raw materials, machine security and training of skilled staff.

Next, the minister and party inspected manufacturing of TE trucks. Managing Director of MADEI U Soe Thein and the factory manager conducted the minister round the factory. Afterwards, the minister gave instructions on measures to be taken for running of the factory at full capacity.

Similarly, the minister and party arrived at No 2 Machine Tool Manufacturing Factory (Yangon) of Myanmar Machine Tool and Electrical Industries on 3 July. Factory Manager U Ko Ko Gyi reported to the minister on items manufactured by the factory, test-production of new items, production of items ordered by the ministries and parts of stove run by physic nut oil.

Regarding the reports, the minister gave instructions on systematic storage of finished products, speedy distribution of products to the markets and extended production of new items and running of factory at full capacity. — MNA
Chavez urges Africa to unite against US

Banjul, 3 July — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez called on Africa on Saturday to forge closer ties with Latin America to combat what he called a threat of US hegemony.

Chavez, whose repeated criticism of America has raised hackles in Washington, called on an African Union summit to cooperate with Latin America in everything from oil production to university education to counter “colonial” meddling in developing nations.

Citing the example of Venezuela and Bolivia, he urged Africa to seize greater control of its energy resources.

He described the low royalty payments made by some foreign oil companies as “robbery”.

“We should march together, Africa and Latin America, brother continents with the same roots... Only together can we change the direction of the world,” he told the opening day of the AU summit, to applause.

“The world is threatened by the hegemony of the North American empire,” said the former paratrooper, following speeches from African leaders which criticized neocolonialism.

Africa’s abundant natural resources—ranging from precious metals to iron ore and oil—should make it a wealthy continent if it were freed from outside exploitation, Chavez said.

“Africa has everything to become a pole of world power in the 21st Century.

Latin America and the Caribbean are equipped to become another pole,” he said.

In a nod to another outspoken opponent of US foreign policy, Chavez hailed Iran’s right to develop nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is also attending the
summit in the Gambian capital Banjul.

The Venezuelan leader called for a commission to evaluate joint energy projects between Africa and Latin America, as well as a media venture dubbed TeleSur (TeleSouth) and a joint bank Banco del Sur (Bank of the South).

“In Venezuela, we were tired of all our oil going to Count Dracula,” said Chavez, referring to his government’s decision to raise taxes on US oil companies.

“Now Venezuela is free and we have recovered control over our oil.”

Venezuela is the world’s fifth largest oil exporter.

Tourists visit the Hukou Waterfall on the Yellow River at the border between north China’s Shanxi Province and Shanxi Province on 1 July, 2006. The Hukou Waterfall, known for the rapid speed of the water and its thunderous sound, enters into its tourism season. —INTERNET

US Army says policy violated in soldiers’ deaths

Baghdad, 3 July— Three US soldiers killed by guerillas south of Baghdad last month had been left alone at a checkpoint in violation of military procedure, a US military spokeswoman said on Saturday. An investigation is already under way into how the soldiers came to be on their own in an armoured Humvee vehicle in an al-Qaeda hotspot known as the “Triangle of Death” as night fell.

Militants abducted and killed two of them in an attack in which the third soldier also died.

“A lone vehicle does not fit standard operating procedures and does not match published guidance,” Lieutenant-Colonel Michelle Martin-Hing told Reuters.

“The investigation will look at the circumstances surrounding this event and how it was that this vehicle was there by itself.”

Major-General James Thurman, commander of US-led forces in the Baghdad area, ordered the probe into the deaths of Privates First Class Kristian Menchaca, 23, Thomas Tucker, 25 and David Bahinieux, 25.

He has been reluctant to comment on whether a breach in military procedure made them vulnerable to attack, saying this would form part of the investigation.

Two British soldiers killed in Afghanistan

Kabul, 3 July— Two British soldiers were killed as they came under militants’ rocket attack in the volatile Helmand Province in south Afghanistan on Saturday night, bringing the British troops’ casualty this year in the post-Taleban nation to five, a spokesman of the British forces said Sunday.

“Yes, I confirm that two British soldiers were killed in Sangin District of Helmand Province last night,” Captain Drew told Xinhua.

Two British soldiers were killed in the same province last week while another lost his life early in June in the area.

Out of some 7,000 British soldiers deployed in Afghanistan, about 4,000 are stationed in the volatile Helmand Province, which is famous for illicit drug production in the region.

Taleban commanders have repeatedly vowed to target the soldiers of the United Kingdom and the United States, the main backers of Karzai-led Afghan government in the post-Taleban Central Asian state.  

Two British soldiers killed in Afghanistan

Karul, 3 July— Two British soldiers were killed as they came under militants’ rocket attack in the volatile Helmand Province in south Afghanistan on Saturday night, bringing the British troops’ casualty this year in the post-Taleban nation to five, a spokesman of the British forces said Sunday.

“Yes, I confirm that two British soldiers were killed in Sangin District of Helmand Province last night,” Captain Drew told Xinhua.

Two British soldiers were killed in the same province last week while another lost his life early in June in the area.

Out of some 7,000 British soldiers deployed in Afghanistan, about 4,000 are stationed in the volatile Helmand Province, which is famous for illicit drug production in the region.

Taleban commanders have repeatedly vowed to target the soldiers of the United Kingdom and the United States, the main backers of Karzai-led Afghan government in the post-Taleban Central Asian state.

The wounded were taken to the regional hospital at Cusco.

MNA/Xinhua

Drinking an eight ounce glass of pomegranate juice every day may slow the growth of prostate cancer and even prevent men from dying of the disease, US scientists said recently. —INTERNET

2,537 US soldiers killed in Iraq

Washington, 2 July— As of Sunday, 2 July, 2006, at least 2,537 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 2,000 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

The AP count is seven higher than the Defence Department’s tally, last updated Friday 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, Netherlands, Thailand, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Romania, one death each. —INTERNET

18 die, nine injured after Peruvian coach falls into ravine

Lima, 3 July — At least 18 people died and nine more were seriously hurt on Saturday night when a coach fell into a ravine in Peru’s Andean region, Peru’s National Police (PNP) said on Sunday.

The deaths occurred in Chegchesamana, a settlement on the Pisac-Quelloquello Road, in Calca Province, in the south Andean department of Cusco. The road is famous for being badly maintained, and snakes through the Andean mountains which puts sheer cliffs close to the edge of the road.

First reports said that the bus fell 150 metres into a ravine where the Quisacoocha River runs, as the company carrying out road works there had not put up signposts.

A performer wearing colour costumes reacts during a summer event at Hong Kong's Ocean Park in Hong Kong on 3 July, 2006. —INTERNET
**MICE Asia Executive Congress opens in Singapore**

**SINGAPORE, 4 July** — The MICE Asia Executive Congress opened in Singapore on Monday to provide a networking platform for corporate buyers and solution providers in the field of meeting, incentive, conference and exhibition (MICE).

Some 200 general managers, senior marketing directors and event executives from around the world, especially the Asia-Pacific Region, are taking part in the two-day meeting, which comprises corporate case studies, one-to-one business meetings and interactive workshops.

Participating companies include China Telecom, Singapore Telecommunications, Amway Corp, Nokia, Toshiba, Honda Motors and Daewoo among others.

Inaugurated in 2005, the meeting is organized by Nasaeb, a Monaco-headquartered company which produces and hosts interactive events worldwide for senior level business executives.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Singapore's Minister of State for Trade and Industry S Iswaran said that MICE Asia is an important platform for key decision makers in the MICE industry to exchange ideas and explore new possibilities.

"To augment Singapore’s position as a vibrant destination for BTMICE (business travel and MICE) visitors, the government will continue to develop and bring in new attractions and lifestyle offerings," he added.

In 2005, about a quarter of the 8.9 million visitor arrivals to Singapore are BTMICE visitors and they contributed 30 per cent of the 10.8 billion Singapore dollars (about 6.8 billion US dollars) in the country’s tourism receipts, according to the minister.

---

**Japanese man returns to homeland after 67 years**

**Tokyo, 3 July** — A Japanese man left behind on the Russian island of Sakhalin at the end of World War II smiled and held hands with family members as he returned to Japan for the first time in nearly seven decades.

Yoshiteru Nakagawa, 79, who moved to Sakhalin with his family before the war began, was separated from them in 1945 when his mother and younger sister evacuated to Japan’s northernmost island of Hokkaido and was subsequently not heard from for years.

Riding in a wheelchair, Nakagawa greeted relatives with waves as he arrived at a Hokkaido airport from Sakhalin, then held hands with his younger sisters as they wept. “I never even dreamed that I’d be able to return to Japan,” an emotional Nakagawa later told a news conference.

---

**Vietnam firm to make biofuel from catfish fat**

**HANOI, 3 July** — Vietnamese catfish processor and exporter Agifish plans to turn catfish fat into fuel to run diesel engines, a company official said on Monday.

“We are planning to commercialize the fuel based on the result of pilot tests,” Agifish Deputy Director Nguyen Dinh Huan told Reuters.

Huan said Agifish has been using the fuel, made from fat left over from processing, to run pumps at its fish ponds in the Mekong Delta province of An Giang in southern Vietnam.

“The fuel is as good as diesel oil,” he said.

He said samples of the catfish fuel had been sent for tests at laboratories in Ho Chi Minh City for quality checks and government approval.

The state-run Tien Phong (Vanguard) newspaper on Monday quoted Ho Xuan Thien, the chief engineer of the project, as saying the firm planned to build a 10,000-ton-per-year factory in 2007 to mass produce the fuel for domestic markets.

Thien said a kilo of catfish fat could produce 1.13 litres of biofuel.

Vietnam produces around 30,000 tons of catfish annually, mainly for exports to the United States and Europe.

Agifish’s products range from canned catfish through pre-cooked breaded fillets to sweet-and-sour fish prepared in clay containers.

---

**Drinking and smoking a deadly mix, study finds**

**SYDNEY, 3 July** — Scientists from the University of Western Australia are encouraging people who drink alcohol not to smoke cigarettes.

A report prepared for the Australian Council on Smoking and Health shows that people who drink and smoke are up to five times more likely to develop head and neck cancers than those who only drink or only smoke.

The research also shows passive smoking while drinking can lead to an increased risk of cancers of the mouth and respiratory tract.

Author David Preen says the report also finds most cancer deaths caused by alcohol could be avoided if the person did not smoke.

“So I guess the take home message from the review that we performed was that considering that many people are going to continue to drink obviously, those that choose to do so, one thing they can potentially do to decrease risk of developing head and neck cancer is to make sure they don’t smoke,” he said.

---

**High-tech features first Tibetan railway**

**BEIJING, 3 July** — The first railroad linking Tibet with the rest of China, the Qinghai-Tibet Railway, opened on Saturday with state-of-the-art technologies on both the railroad and trains, a railway official said Saturday.

“With a number of innovations and breakthroughs in the construction of the railway and trains are also equipped with advanced technologies,” said Zhu Zhengheng, vice-director of the Ministry of Railways office in charge of the new line.

China has solved three major difficulties, namely frozen tundra, high altitude and plateau environmental protection, to rewrite the world’s history of railway, he said.

---

**Competitive eater Takeru Kobayashi (R) of Japan is weighed in at a Press conference for the annual Nathan’s hot dog eating contest in New York, on 3 July, 2006. Kobayashi has won the annual Fourth of July hot dog eating contest on Coney Island for the past five years.**

---

**A Filipino farmer ploughs a rice field in Batangas Province, south of Manila on 3 July, 2006 in preparation for planting.**

---

**Elephants stay at a quarantine site in Kanchanaburi Province, 150 km (95 miles) west of Bangkok on 3 July, 2006. The eight Asian elephants were originally scheduled to reach two Australian zoos as part of a breeding programme.**

---

---

---

---
Lawmakers warn of al-Qaeda threat to Britain

LONDON, 3 July—Prime Minister Tony Blair must do more to resolve global conflicts that feed Islamist radicalism as Britain faces unusually serious threats from al-Qaeda, lawmakers said on Sunday.

Parliament’s influential Foreign Affairs Committee said in a report the situation in Iraq had provided a source of propaganda and a training ground for terrorists, a view Blair has dismissed in the past. The lawmakers said international conflicts, such as the standoff in the Middle East, breed feelings of injustice in the Muslim world which can boost support for terrorism.

“Although the United Kingdom and its allies recognize this, and are working to resolve these conflicts, they are putting insufficient effort and funding into countering terrorist propaganda," said the cross-party committee.

“Much greater effort needs to be made to communicate effectively with the Arab world to bridge the gulf of mistrust that feeds into international terrorism,” added the committee which heard evidence from politicians, academics and diplomats.

Blair argues militants use situations like Iraq as an excuse to commit atrocities. The committee also highlighted what it described as a worrying deterioration in the security situation in Afghanistan and said there were signs that tactics which brought devastation to Iraq were being replicated there.

Afghanistan is experiencing an escalation of violence by Islamists before NATO troops take over the volatile and lawless south from US forces.

Nepal plans to restructure state-owned airline

KATHMANDU, 3 July — The Nepali Government is planning to restructure the ailing state-owned airline, Nepal Airlines Corporation (NAC) under the concept of public-private partnership, Minister for Culture, Civil Aviation and Tourism, Pradeep Gyawali said.

“Rather than completely privatizing it, restructuring the NAC will be a better option to re-establish its lost status,” Gyawali told reporters here on Sunday.

He said the government is doing homework on acquiring new aircraft.

Noting that the NAC has become heavily dependent on the government, he said the corporation needs to be financially self-reliant, and become a profitable and competitive enterprise.

Nepal plans to restructure state-owned airline

Beijing, 3 July—The Chinese State Post Bureau issued a set of stamps on Saturday to mark the opening of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway, the world’s longest plateau railroad.

The set, including three stamps, with each 80 fen (10US cents) of face value, respectively depicts a train running through the Hol Nol no man’s land, a train climbing over the Tanggula Mountain and the Lhasa Station, the railway’s terminal.

The Qinghai-Tibet Railway, opened on Saturday, stretches 1,956 kilometres from Qinghai’s provincial capital of Xining to Lhasa. The section of 814 kilometres from Xining to Golmud began operation in 1984 and the Golmud-Lhasa section started construction on June 29, 2001.

British actress Keira Knightley (L) poses for photographs with co-star British actor Orlando Bloom as they arrive for the European premiere of “Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest” at Leicester Square, central London, on 3 July, 2006. The film is on general release in the UK and Ireland from 6 July. —INTERNET

Pentagon sees Iran bombing as unsuccessful

WASHINGTON, 3 July — Top Pentagon officers have told the Bush Administration that bombing Iranian nuclear facilities probably would fail to destroy that country’s nuclear programme, the New Yorker magazine reported on Sunday.

The senior commanders also warned that any attack launched if diplomacy fails to end the standoff over Iran’s nuclear ambitions could have “serious economic, political, and military consequences for the United States”, the article said, citing unidentified US military officials.

“A crucial issue in the military’s dissent, the officers said, is the fact that American and European intelligence agencies have not found specific evidence of clandestine activities or hidden facilities; the war planners are not sure what to hit,” according to the report.

The US military’s experience in Iraq, where no weapons of mass destruction were found and the war continues, has affected its approach to Iran, the magazine quoted a high-ranking general as saying.

“The target array in Iran is huge, but it’s amorphous,” the unidentified general was quoted as saying. “We built this big monster with Iraq, and there was nothing there. — MNA/Reuters

Bulgarian seaside submerged in state of emergency

Sofia, 3 July—Several Black Sea resorts at the southeastern Bulgarian seaside have declared a state of emergency because of the ongoing storms that flooded hotels and ruined campsites, reported Sofia News Agency on Sunday.

The municipalities of Nesebar and Sozopol, near Bulgaria’s second biggest Black Sea port Burgas are the worst hit, along with popular ‘Sunny Beach’ resort, situated close to Nessebar.

Waters along the streets of Nesebar and Sunny Beach reach up to 50 centimetres and over 20 hotels in Sunny Beach resort have been flooded and there are tourists trapped in some of them. Because of its old drainage system that has no capacity to accommodate all the recently constructed hotels, Sunny Beach is now almost unreachable. There are currently about 30,000 tourists at the resort. Some nearby villages are devoid of electricity, reported the agency.

Besides, campers at Irakli and Gradina campsites are even much more hit by the storms. The waters dragged tents and trailers into the sea and to a total of 40 people including children have been evacuated from Irakli where a whole camp of several tents was dragged into the Black Sea.

Hall of the ‘Harmanite’ beach at Sozopol has been swollen by the raving waters and many of the bars along the shore are now in ruins. —MNA/Xinhua
Indonesia plans to implement bio-energy programme in 2007

JAKARTA, 3 July — Indonesia will implement the bio-energy programme in 2007 to create jobs, increase domestic energy supply and boost the economies, the Antara news agency reported on Monday.

The Antara quoted Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono as saying “We will continue with the preparations and planning in 2006, and implement the programme in 2007.”

The President made the remarks after a limited Cabinet meeting to discuss the national energy policy and bio-energy programme in 2007.

“Indonesia will implement the bio-energy programme in 2007,” President said that a draft of the bio-energy programme is expected to be made later this month, and the development of bio-energy is aimed at creating jobs, reducing poverty, increasing domestic energy supply and boosting local economies.

Areas to be developed for alternative energy are villages with vast farmland, he said. MNA/Xinhua

Four dead, two injured in German seaplane crash

HAMBURG, 3 July — Four people were killed and two seriously injured when a single-engine seaplane crashed near the harbour in Germany’s northern city of Hamburg on Sunday, police said.

The aircraft came down on railway lines and burst into flames, police said. The reason for the crash was unclear.

Among the dead were a teenager boy who was celebrating his birthday and his father, according to the fire brigade.

Two men were badly burned and have been taken to a specialist clinic for treatment. Fire brigade officers were looking after 15 people who had been waiting for the plane to return to its takeoff point.

German media reports said the aircraft was a de Havilland Beaver DHC-2 that was used for sightseeing flights over the city.

Germany’s federal civil aviation office (LBA) is investigating. MNA/Reuters

64 malaria cases found in central Nepal

KATHMANDU, 3 July — As many as 64 patients of malaria have been detected in Sindhuli District in central Nepal this year. District Health Office said in a statement Sunday.

According to the health office, the health workers randomly collected 3,075 slides of blood samples and 64 of them were found with symptoms of malaria. The patients were given free treatment in the local level and the district health office has been sprinkling insecticide in the malaria-affected areas. MNA/Xinhua

Study shows antihistamine could fight malaria

WASHINGTON, 3 July — An allergy drug pulled off the market in 1999 could work to treat malaria, US researchers reported on Sunday. The drug is called astemizol and marketed under the brand name Hismanal by Janssen Pharmaceutica, a unit of Johnson & Johnson, and can kill the Plasmodium falciparum parasite that causes malaria.

Researchers from the Johns Hopkins University Schools of Medicine and Public Health tested astemizol in test tubes and in mice. Moderate doses reduced the numbers of Plasmodium parasites by 80 per cent in mice whose infection also could be affected by the malaria drug chloroquine. In mice resistant to chloroquine, the antihistamine reduced parasite numbers by 40 per cent, the researchers report in this week’s issue of Nature Chemical Biology.

“Time and money are major roadblocks when it comes to developing new drugs for the treatment of neglected diseases like malaria,” said Dr David Sullivan, who oversaw the study. “Asterinizole is promising as an antimalarial, but still needs to be evaluated for effectiveness as an antimalarial in humans.” MNA/Reuters

64 malaria cases

NASA postpones launch of “Discovery”

CAPE CANAVERAL, 3 July — NASA postponed the launch of space shuttle Discovery on Sunday for the second day in a row because of thunderstorms near the Florida launch site.

NASA managers said they would try again on Tuesday to launch a mission whose failure could ground the US shuttle fleet permanently and leave the International Space Station unfinished.

Bad weather forced NASA to call off the first attempt on Saturday to launch the second shuttle mission since the destruction of the shuttle Columbia and the deaths of seven crew members in 2003, an accident triggered by insulating foam that fell off the spacecraf’ts fuel tank. NASA has since spent 1.3 billion US dollars on repairs and upgrades to the shuttle. Discovery’s mission was meant to test repairs to the fuel tank, carry much-needed equipment and supplies to the space station and make repairs to the 100-billion-US-dollar orbiting outpost. — MNA/Reuters

Malaria, caused by a single-cell parasite called Plasmodium that is carried by mosquitoes, kills at least a million people every year and makes 300 million people seriously ill. — MNA/Reuters

Four dead, two injured in German seaplane crash

Four people were killed and two seriously injured when a single-engine seaplane crashed near the harbour in Germany’s northern city of Hamburg on Sunday, police said.

The aircraft came down on railway lines and burst into flames, police said. The reason for the crash was unclear.

Among the dead were a teenager boy who was celebrating his birthday and his father, according to the fire brigade.

Two men were badly burned and have been taken to a specialist clinic for treatment. Fire brigade officers were looking after 15 people who had been waiting for the plane to return to its takeoff point.

German media reports said the aircraft was a de Havilland Beaver DHC-2 that was used for sightseeing flights over the city. Germany’s federal civil aviation office (LBA) is investigating. MNA/Reuters

Study shows antihistamine could fight malaria

An allergy drug pulled off the market in 1999 could work to treat malaria, US researchers reported on Sunday. The drug is called astemizol and marketed under the brand name Hismanal by Janssen Pharmaceutica, a unit of Johnson & Johnson, and can kill the Plasmodium falciparum parasite that causes malaria.

Researchers from the Johns Hopkins University Schools of Medicine and Public Health tested astemizol in test tubes and in mice. Moderate doses reduced the numbers of Plasmodium parasites by 80 per cent in mice whose infection also could be affected by the malaria drug chloroquine. In mice resistant to chloroquine, the antihistamine reduced parasite numbers by 40 per cent, the researchers report in this week’s issue of Nature Chemical Biology.

“Time and money are major roadblocks when it comes to developing new drugs for the treatment of neglected diseases like malaria,” said Dr David Sullivan, who oversaw the study. “Asterinizole is promising as an antimalarial, but still needs to be evaluated for effectiveness as an antimalarial in humans.” MNA/Reuters

Malaria, caused by a single-cell parasite called Plasmodium that is carried by mosquitoes, kills at least a million people every year and makes 300 million people seriously ill. — MNA/Reuters

NASA postpones launch of “Discovery”

CAPE CANAVERAL, 3 July — NASA postponed the launch of space shuttle Discovery on Sunday for the second day in a row because of thunderstorms near the Florida launch site.

NASA managers said they would try again on Tuesday to launch a mission whose failure could ground the US shuttle fleet permanently and leave the International Space Station unfinished.

Bad weather forced NASA to call off the first attempt on Saturday to launch the second shuttle mission since the destruction of the shuttle Columbia and the deaths of seven crew members in 2003, an accident triggered by insulating foam that fell off the spacecraft’s fuel tank. NASA has since spent 1.3 billion US dollars on repairs and upgrades to the shuttle. Discovery’s mission was meant to test repairs to the fuel tank, carry much-needed equipment and supplies to the space station and make repairs to the 100-billion-US-dollar orbiting outpost. — MNA/Reuters

Malaria, caused by a single-cell parasite called Plasmodium that is carried by mosquitoes, kills at least a million people every year and makes 300 million people seriously ill. — MNA/Reuters

Study shows antihistamine could fight malaria

AN allergy drug pulled off the market in 1999 could work to treat malaria, US researchers reported on Sunday. The drug is called astemizol and marketed under the brand name Hismanal by Janssen Pharmaceutica, a unit of Johnson & Johnson, and can kill the Plasmodium falciparum parasite that causes malaria.

Researchers from the Johns Hopkins University Schools of Medicine and Public Health tested astemizol in test tubes and in mice. Moderate doses reduced the numbers of Plasmodium parasites by 80 per cent in mice whose infection also could be affected by the malaria drug chloroquine. In mice resistant to chloroquine, the antihistamine reduced parasite numbers by 40 per cent, the researchers report in this week’s issue of Nature Chemical Biology.

“Time and money are major roadblocks when it comes to developing new drugs for the treatment of neglected diseases like malaria,” said Dr David Sullivan, who oversaw the study. “Asterinizole is promising as an antimalarial, but still needs to be evaluated for effectiveness as an antimalarial in humans.” MNA/Reuters

Malaria, caused by a single-cell parasite called Plasmodium that is carried by mosquitoes, kills at least a million people every year and makes 300 million people seriously ill. — MNA/Reuters
Tibet train crosses highest pass, speeds towards Lhasa

TEGELLA PASS (China), 4 July — China’s inaugural train from Beijing to Tibet passed its highest point on Monday as passengers sped towards Lhasa.

As the train climbed, staff showed passengers how to attach oxygen masks and announcements warned passengers to avoid sudden movements that could trigger altitude sickness, even in the pressurised cabins.

The train left Beijing on Saturday evening and was due to arrive in Lhasa on Monday night after a 2,500-mile journey, capping three days of official propaganda about the rail link binding Tibet to the rest of China.

Just after midday, the train rumbled towards the Tangula Pass which, at 5,072 metres (16,640 feet) above sea level, is the peak of the world’s highest railway running across the barren Tibetan plateau.

The Tibetan capital, Lhasa, which leaves many visitors gasping for breath, lies at 3,650 metres (11,976 feet).

President Hu Jintao called the railway a “miracle” of railway engineering when he officially opened the new line, the China Daily reported on Monday.

Troops from China’s armed militia stood on guard every 500 metres on both sides of the track, as the train sped past snow-capped mountains, barren plains and clusters of yaks and Tibetan antelopes.

Convoys of military trucks and other security vehicles also watched the train pass.

Ali Hosseinistash, head of strategic affairs at Iran’s Supreme National Security Council, was quoted as saying: “Iran does not see the issue of suspension as the core idea in solving the case.”

“Iran has obtained (government) license to produce bio-diesel and five more are still under consideration by the government,” he said.

The hike of the oil-gas export was caused by the rise of oil-gas production by 7.22 per cent and gas by 13.95 per cent to 0.227 billion US dollars and 0.623 billion US dollars.

The rise of the figure grew 9.79 per cent from the previous month, he said.

He said that cumulative export by May was 38.39 billion US dollars, or 14.40 per cent higher from the same period last year.

The rise of the figure in May was driven by the increase of exports of the non-oil-and-gas products by 10.52 per cent and the oil-and-gas product by 7.22 per cent respectively to 6,553 billion US dollars and 1,789 billion US dollars.

China, India launch regular parliamentary exchange mechanism

BEIJING, 4 July — Chinese and Indian top lawmakers signed a document here on Monday, officially launching regular exchanges between the two parliaments.

Wu Bangguo, chairman of the Standing Committee of China’s National People’s Congress (NPC), and Somnath Chatterjee, speaker of India’s House of the People, signed a memorandum of understanding after an hour-long talk.

The two parliaments have agreed to hold official consultations once a year to discuss issues concerning parliamentary exchanges, according to the memorandum.

Sources with NPC Standing Committee said that China has similar arrangements with the United States, Russia, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Canada and the European parliament.

In Washington, White House spokesman Tony Snow said US officials were awaiting the results of Solana’s meeting with Larijani.

“What we’ve said all along is the proper channel for conveying the position of the Iranian Government is through Ali Larijani to India’s Hu Jintao. The two of them obviously are supposed to meet on the 5th, we’ll see what happens then,” Snow said.

“Suspension is definitely not on Iran’s agenda.” Hosseinistash’s comments suggest a breakthrough is unlikely.

“The United States followed by Japan and Singapore were still the main destination countries for Indonesia’s non-oil-and-gas export in May, said Merisriawan.

While, Indonesia’s import in May reached 5.06 billion US dollars or 6.49 per cent grew from April, he said.

Merisriawan said the cumulative import for the first five months was 23.14 billion US dollars or declined slightly by 2.12 per cent from the same period in 2005.

Japan, followed by the United States and China, were still the most contributive countries on Indonesia’s import, he said. — MNA/Xinhua

US hip-hop producer in cocaine trial in Dubai

DUBAI, 4 July — US hip-hop producer Dallas Austin, who has worked with stars including Madonna and Michael Jackson, has pleaded guilty to possessing cocaine during a trial in the United Arab Emirates, local newspapers said on Monday.

The Gulf News daily said Austin was arrested at the airport of the Gulf Arab emirate of Dubai on 19 May when police found at least 1.26 grammes of the drug and other illegal substances in his possession.

Austin was reportedly flying into Dubai to attend a birthday party for superstar Naomi Campbell. “I’m guilty, but it was a mistake,” he was quoted as telling the court. “I didn’t realize I had the drugs with me and I didn’t intend to use them here in the UAE.” — MNA/Reuters
The majority of NLD members are ex-BCPs, ex-military personnel, anarchists and anti-military elements. Their common goal is to remove the Tatmadaw and establish an anti-nationalism liberal democracy. We can say that an anarchist political party is called the Daw Suu Kyi-led NLD.

Dictator with mandate

NLD is formed with a group of remnants of Aung-Suu-Tun group. The party is led by Central Executive Committee (CEC) with Daw Suu Kyi at the helm. In this way the party fall into the hands of Daw Suu Kyi, who wields the mandate. So, Daw Suu Kyi who is said to hate the authoritarian rule so much has become a dictator herself. The NLD cannot make any decision without Daw Suu Kyi’s consent. Daw Suu Kyi is the main decision maker. Hence, the practice of making decisions through the consent of the majority or democratic means vanished in the party.

It has become a practice within the NLD that the CEC has to concede to all the wishes of Daw Suu Kyi. As Daw Suu Kyi is ruling the NLD with ultimate power, the members who wish democracy have found her doing more harm than good for them. If democracy is in a party which calls itself a democracy, the party is led by an Asiatic and an anti-national leader. Bogyoke Aung San was not a colonialist but a national leader upholding nationalistic values. As he was indivisible with the Tatmadaw, he won over all his rivals. On the other hand, Daw Suu Kyi was not in harmony with the Tatmadaw. She cannot exactly copy the situation of her father’s era. She is not a nationalist, but a liberal opposing the national cause, becoming a traitor against the nation.

The difference between the father and the daughter

We cannot leave out Thakin Than Tun in criticizing the BCP, and the criticism that the NLD cannot be complete without Daw Suu Kyi. The criticism gives priority more to Daw Suu Kyi’s opinion and ideology than her personality. According to generic theory, Daw Suu Kyi can have only half the degree of the characteristics and qualities of her father Bogyoke Aung San, the national leader. Bogyoke Aung San was not a colonialist, but a nationalist upholding nationalistic values. As he was indivisible with the Tatmadaw, he won over all his rivals. On the other hand, Daw Suu Kyi was not in harmony with the Tatmadaw. She cannot exactly copy the situation of her father’s era. She is not a nationalist, but a liberal opposing the national cause, becoming a traitor against the nation.

With wrong ideology and concept, all the virtues, knowledge, tradition, experiences, courage and selfless sacrifices will be in vain.
Economic and political affairs

If a tailor wants to make clothes, he first has to take the measurements. If he makes clothes without taking the measurements, the dress will not fit. Similarly, a politician has to know well the prevailing political situation of the nation concerned. If one enters the politics without knowing the political economy, surely one will face three forms of deception—self-deception, deceiving others, and being deceived by others. The prevailing situations of Myanmar are as follows:

Economy
1. agro-based economy
2. the capitalists class still in its infancy, and the nation still in the process of trying to transform itself into an industrial one
3. market-oriented economic system
4. having exercised the socialist economic system for 26 years
5. the majority of the State-owned economy is under the control of the government
6. unlike western countries, the land is State-owned
7. if compared with the whole world, the nation is a small one

Political situation
1. (Our Three Main National Causes is upheld and the Tatmadaw is ruling the country)
2. the Myanmar society lacks specific social classes and social consciousness
3. national solidarity is being restored
4. racial, class and social problems persist
5. armed groups still exist
6. the nation is under various internal and external attacks
7. law and order, peace and stability has not been fully restored yet in some border areas
8. the nation is carrying on work in the national political sector.

What is the most appropriate to the above-mentioned economic and political situations of Myanmar is the national democracy (discipline-flourishing democracy), not western liberal democracy. Indeed, Daw Suu Kyi does not understand thoroughly the prevailing situations of Myanmar are as follows:

...
Slanderous accusations on destruction...

(from page 16)

a monthly basis. Accordingly, Shan State (North) WAO has 77,798 members out of 682,746 women residing in Shan State (North) and the number of its new members has been on the increase monthly.

The Shan State (North) WAO is cooperating with the government and social organizations in its efforts to ensure im-provement of education, health and economic and cultural sectors and prevention of violence against women, and nurture and rehabilitation of women.

At present, the government is making all-out efforts for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. At such a time, the five rural development tasks has been laid down and the government is making an effort to bring about equitable development in different parts of the nation.

In Shan State (North), there are 167 dams and reservoirs from 1988 up to date and those irrigation facilities are now creating a lot to the agricultural sector of the region. In the health sector, there are 49 station and 14 community health care centres and one 200-bed hospital in Shan State (North).

In the basic education sector, there are 1,603 basic education schools in Shan State (North). In the higher education sector, there are 10 one degree college, one government technological college and one government computer college in Shan State (North).

In cooperation with NGOs, members of Shan State (North) WAO has been actively participating in the drive for the school enrollment. In the health sector, they are sponsoring health educative talks and providing those undergoing medical treatment with necessary assistance and taking care of those infected with HIV.

In the agricultural sector, they are taking part in poppy-substitute cultivation and are striving for development of agriculture sector. And as a result, Shan State (North) has seen 12.02 per cent food sufficiency.

However, internal and external destructive elements, turning a blind eye to such development, are making an attempt to jeopardize Shan State. They are manufacturing fabricated news to the effect that the government is launching an ethnic cleansing and forcefully removing of villages and lacking in control of narcotic drugs. They are also making fabricated news that there are a series of violence against women and sexual harassment in Shan State to make the world community misunderstand the government.

The SWAN group is making an accusation through its book titled License to Rape that Shan women are being raped. With her false documents, Nan Chan Tong met with the president and the secretary of State of a particular nation that manipulates her and attempted to lead the international community to misunderstanding.

Her accusations included rapes committed to Shan women and forced labour cases in Shan State. Actually, there were no such incidents in Shan State. With the help of members of Shan State (North) WAO, the authorities concerned made an investigation into the cases up to grassroots level in response to the accusations. Upon interrogation, of 137 cases accused, 135 were fabricated and only two were true. Those involved in the two cases had already been sentenced to ten-years imprisonment.

Nan Chan Tong doesn’t represent the mass of women in Shan State (North). The SWAN doesn’t represent the mass of women in Shan State (North) either and it is dancing to the tune of some western nations. We would like to call upon the government to announce the SWAN an unlawful association and take action against it.

There has also been an accusation on narcotic drugs made by PWO (Palaung Women Association). The government is making all-out efforts in the fight against drugs after laying down tactics and strategies. There was a Palaung Liberation Army in 17 armed groups that exchanged arms for peace with the government. The government has been taking severe action against those involved in drug trafficking and those armed groups were no exception. As a result, the government was able to announce Mongla, Kokang and Wa regions as drug free zones in 1997, 2003 and 2005 respectively.

Moreover, UNODC and the Global Illicit Crop Monitoring Programme made a ground survey on poppy cultivation and production. According to a report of UNODC, there has been a sharp drop in poppy cultivation and production in Shan State.

The released data is almost free of errs as it was based on satellite photos that were confirmed by UNODC experts and officials. The accusations against Palaung State Liberation Army concerning poppy cultivation and opium production are groundless.

The government’s 15-year narcotic elimination plan covers New Destiny Project, alternative crop cultivation, poppy seed destruction, establishment of major 26 treatment and rehabilitation centres and other 40 treatment centres. The government and the CCDAC are implementing educational and other anti-drug programmes in the whole Palaung Region that faced the evil consequences of narcotics.

The UNODC and Wa region alternative crops project are conducting demand reduction and treatments programmes in northern Shan State. Hence the slanders of the so-called Palaung women’s association are baseless.

Realizing the sincere goodwill of the government, six armed groups unconditionally exchanged arms for peace in the state. About 60 insurgents led by Khun Sa Kyaw (a) Than Gyong of SURA entered northern Shan State from the south. Because of the attack of the Tatmadaw columns, all the 60 men including Than Gyong were captured by the Tatmadaw, or surrendered or returned to the legal fold. Although the Tatmadaw cut off all supply lines to the insurgents during the attack, it welcomed them with magnanimity and provided them with accommodation and food as they also were national brethren. A press conference with the participation of military attaches of foreign missions and journalists to explain the event internationally was also held.

The press conference proved that the accusation against the Tatmadaw concerning the ethnic cleansing is totally wrong. There are no destruction of villages, forced resettlement of villages for construction of dams including Kaukkwe Dam. The MWAF has been welcoming back young women who arrived in other countries for certain reasons and are facing sufferings, and sending them back to their families.

Ignoring the national developments, some Western powers are exaggerating Myanmar’s internal affairs into international and regional problems, using national traitors and expatriate organizations for their cause. One of the government’s objectives is the national reconciliation. The Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races and the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs have been set up to realize the goal on a wider scale and speedier pace. Of the over 1,000 delegates to the National Convention, 663 are national races.

In addition to its endeavours to ensure peace and stability in the whole nation, the government has been laying down and implementing development plans all over the nation. The slanderous accusations concerning the destruction of villages, forced resettlement of villages is nothing but groundless.

Since 1985, 43 groups have been conducting anti-HIV AIDS activities in all states and divisions. The anti-HIV AIDS project covers 181 townships. HIV infection rates are 1.9 per cent in Thailand, 2.6 per cent in Cambodia and only 1.3 per cent in Myanmar. The report which said that Myanmar has the worst AIDS infection rate in the world is totally wrong.

In northern Shan State the government has been implementing special anti-AIDS projects in addition to 10 national tasks.

America’s rating of Myanmar as the weakest nation in curbing human trafficking is only a slander. The Work Committee of the MWAF formed anti-human trafficking work group in 2002, and curbing the crimes in cooperation with Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, and social organizations including UNAIP, SC:UK and World Vision. During the period from 2002 to 2005, Myanmar took action against 677 human trafficking cases, saved 1,824 male and 1,649 female victims and arrested 742 male and 623 female traffickers.

Myanmar also signed the Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and protocols. Shan State also held official meetings with China and Thailand concerning the matter, and formed respective bodies to save people from being victimized by human trafficking.

Under the banner of the MWAF, Shan State Organization for Women’s Affairs has been cooperating with the government, the respective departments, local and foreign NGOs and the people to launch anti-human trafficking, anti-narcotics and anti-HIV AIDS programmes as a national force. It will strive for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic state which is the national goal.

Prizes were presented to the winners in the respective competitions. MNA

Dokhtawady Bridge (Nawngkhio) linking Yaksauk Township in Shan State (South) and Nawngkhio Township in Shan State (North).
Despite sanctions and ... (from page 16)

Western countries have made false accusations against Myanmar to tarnish the image of the country so that it can install the puppet government in Myanmar. Especially, the big country has used media as a weapon to provoke labours, students, monks and people into acts of violence and has managed to manipulate the exile groups into terrorist acts.

In accordance with the quotation of Myanmar wisdom which goes “the strength of the nation lies within”, social organizations, governmental employees and people are to work together for the perpetuation of the sovereignty and security of the State, for the preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national prestige and for development of the national economy joining hands with the Tatmadaw Government, she said.

At the ceremony, officials presented prizes to winners of article and essay contests to mark Myanmar Women’s Day which falls on 3 July and outstanding members of the organization.

After the ceremony, wellwishers donated cash to Yangon Division WAO amounting to K 2.2 million.

MNA

MWAF conducting educative ... (from page 16)

Due to the economic sanctions placed by one of the western countries, 160 garments factories had to be closed and 40 factories had to reduce the labours. The closure left about 80,000 people including over 70,000 women jobless. While struggling for living, some women fell victim to human trafficking.

In response to the accusation that there is no freedom of religion in Myanmar, she said a church, a mosque and a Hindu temple are adjacent to a pagoda downtown Yangon. Second Secretary of UN Secretary General Ibrahim A Gumberti, an Islamist, visited Myanmar on 18 May and worshipped at a mosque near Sule Pagoda during his visit. He witnessed a church, a mosque, a Hindu temple and a pagoda located closely at the centre of Yangon. Therefore, it is a false accusation that there is no freedom of religion in Myanmar. The accusations of opposition groups at home and abroad calling for UN to take actions against Myanmar proved false, she said.

At the ceremony, officials presented prizes to winners of essay and prize to a winner.

— MNA

200-bed district hospital in PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Division.

287 acres of sugarcane, 127 acres of cattle in 23 villages and K 323.5 million on construction of gravel and earth roads and K 21.28 million on 12 bridges for rural development.

Altogether 138 acres of physie nut and 200 acres of integrated agricultural and livestock farming on manageable scale were undertaken for increase of family income.

Over K 119.32 million have been spent on renovation and construction of 778 primary, middle and high schools from 2001 to date under the arrangements of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council.

Newly-inaugurated Yagyi Dam in Kyaukpadaung Township, Mandalay Division.
**China Life eyeing stake of agricultural bank**

**BEIJING, 3 July—** China Life Insurance Company Limited, the nation’s biggest life insurer, is seeking a stake of Agricultural Bank of China, chairman of the company said.

Chairman Yang Chao told the Press Sunday China Life is “willing to conduct capital cooperation with ABC and establish deep ties in terms of shareholding reforms and market listing”.

In response, ABC president Yang Mingsheng said he has a “positive and optimistic attitude toward Yang Chao’s expectations”, adding that the bank will make early research into the issue of inviting strategic investors.

“Agricultural Bank offers China Life a chance,” though the insurer has failed to become a stakeholder of other big state lenders, the president said.

Like some other domestic banks, the debt-laden ABC is planning the transformation into a joint-stock company and public listing to help streamline operations. The bank’s long-running problems with irregularities and reckless lending are allegedly severe.

Under a WTO commitment, China is to fully open its financial market to foreign competition by the end of this year.

Agricultural Bank has been an agent for China Life insurance products for 15 years. — MNA/Xinhua

---

**Pakistan concludes anti-drug awareness campaign**

**ISLAMABAD, 3 July —** A month-long anti-drug awareness campaign, launched by Pakistan’s Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) in collaboration with the country’s Community Support Programme (CSP), concluded on Sunday.

The campaign was simultaneously launched in eight Pakistani districts including Rawalpindi, Islamabad, Vehari, Sukkur, Sanghar, Abbottabad, Quetta and Muzaffarabad, according to a report by the official APP news agency.

The campaign is aimed at creating awareness among the street children, youth, women and other segments of the society about the social, economic and health related costs of drugs and providing drug avoidance skills and healthy alternative activities.

ANF and CSP also arranged a painting competition in 300 public and private sector educational institutions in the eight selected districts, in which over 1,000 students under the age group of 13-20 participated.

The theme of the painting competition was “Value Yourself Make Healthy Choices”. Special awards and certificates were distributed among the position holding students of the painting competition.

Their paintings would be published in shape of a calendar.

ANF and CSP also arranged seminars on the role of district government functionaries and civil society against drug abuse in the selected districts. — MNA/Xinhua

---

**Beijing adopts rigid measures of dog-raising**

**BEIJING, 3 July—** Dog keepers in Beijing will face harsh punishment in the future if they raise their pets in violation of concerned stipulations, according to local public security authorities on Sunday.

They will see their pet dogs confiscated or be fined for 5,000 yuan (625 US dollars) at most if they keep a dog without a permit, fail annual health check-up on their pets, keep big dogs in a downtown area, have more than one dog at one family and bring their pets to wrong places or at wrong times, said Tang Yunli, deputy head of the public security brigade of the Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau.

Tang said they have begun a two-week-long inspection on dog-raising in the city starting Saturday.

The annual registration of pet dogs in the city between 1 May and 30 June show that Beijing has a record 334,520 pet dogs, 75,747 dogs more than that for the corresponding period of last year, Tang said.

They dealt with 4,891 cases involving illegally keeping dogs during the period, Tang said. — MNA/Xinhua

---

**S Korea starts sea survey near disputed isles**

**SEOUL, 3 July—** A South Korean ship has left port to conduct a maritime survey near islands at the centre of a long-simmering territorial dispute with Japan, a South Korean official said on Monday.

South Korea and Japan came close to a high-seas showdown in April when Tokyo said it planned a survey in waters near the desolate outcrop of islands, called Dokto in Korean, or Takeshima in Japanese, before the two cooled tension through diplomacy.

The islands sit in rich fishing grounds, and Seoul’s stance is that they lie above unexploited gas hydrate deposits potentially worth billions of dollars.

The South Korean ship with about 20 aboard left port on Sunday night and is scheduled to conduct its survey through mid-July, taking it near the islands located about the same distance from the mainland of South Korea and Japan.

MNA/Reuters

---

**A model displays a creation during Chanel’s fashion show in Shanghai on 2 July, 2006. — INTERNET**

---

**A model displays a creation during Chanel’s fashion show in Shanghai on 2 July, 2006. — INTERNET**
Floods leave 11 dead, six missing in Yunnan Province

KUNMING, 3 July — As of Sunday, 11 people were confirmed dead and six others were missing in floods, hailstorm, landslides and other disasters that hit southwest China’s Yunnan Province since June 20, according to local flood control headquarters.

The disasters also left 22 people injured, including nine seriously injured, according to flood control headquarters of Zhaotong City.

Rainstorms pelted 11 counties and districts of Zhaotong City since June 20, affecting 523,100 people.

Rainstorms and ensuing floods and other disasters damaged more than 26,000 hectares of cropland and over 6,100 houses, and flattened 701 houses in these areas. The city government of Zhaotong has allocated an emergency aid of 1.1 million yuan (about 137,000 US dollars) for disaster relief in affected areas.

Currently, all the injured people have been hospitalized and affected people were well-fed and sheltered.

Local governments have sent police officers and work staff of government departments to help local people rebuild their homes and resume production.

Search continues for the missing people.

The hands of an Indian embroiderer are seen working at the workshop of fashion designer Awaith Al-Hai (not pictured) in Kuwait City on 2 July, 2006. — INTERNET

China-S Korea scholars discuss development of bilateral relations

WUXI, 3 July — China and South Korea should further strengthen cooperation in various fields, so as to promote the development of bilateral relations, scholars and officials from the two countries said.

In the 11th meeting of the Sino-S Korean Forum for Future held in Wuxi of East China’s Jiangsu Province, more than 40 scholars, diplomats and governmental officials from China and South Korea call for the two countries to strengthen cooperation in such areas as politics, economy and culture, noting the smooth development of bilateral relations will also help the development in northeastern Asia.

Yang Wenchang, president of the Chinese People’s Institute of Foreign Affairs (CIPFA) addressed the forum that China and South Korea have established an all-round partnership of cooperation with joint efforts. The development of bilateral relations has been proved to be reciprocal to both sides since the establishment of diplomatic ties 14 years ago.

Yang called on enhancing mutual trust and cooperation and maintaining regional peace and development.

Representatives from the two sides also exchanged views on such topics as the situation in northeastern Asia, China-South Korea economic cooperation, and the role culture plays in building a harmonious society and international exchanges.

The forum, jointly hosted by the CIPFA and the Korean Foundation of the South Korea annually, is a major activity to boost people-to-people exchanges between the two countries. The 11th meeting lasted for two days and was concluded on Sunday.

Indian Govt releases relief package for desperate farmers

NEW DELHI, 3 July — Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh Saturday announced a big relief package to save poor farmers in southwest India’s Maharashtra from suicide, Indo-Asian News Service reported.

Manmohan Singh, in improving irrigation facilities in the next three years, concluded his two-day trip to the drought-hit Vidarbha region of the state Saturday and announced the package made up of immediate and long-term relief measures for farmers in six drought-affected districts in the eastern part of the state.

At least 745 farmers have committed suicide in Maharashtra this year due to crop failure and growing debts. Vidarbha itself has seen more than 1,600 farmers end their lives since January 2001.

In a bid to help these desperate farmers, the government plans to cancel 7.12 billion rupees (165 million US dollars) of overdue interest on loans taken by farmers, spend 21.77 billion rupees (506 million US dollars) in improving irrigation facilities in drought-hit Vidarbha and cancel a loan of 7.12 billion rupees.

This package would be extended to drought-hit states of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Karnataka in south India, the Prime Minister said.

A truck still sits under a house in the Lower 9th Ward almost a year after Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, Louisiana on 1 July, 2006. Visitors who come to the area are quickly reminded of the impact Hurricane Katrina took on the city. — INTERNET

Satellite craze in Zimbabwe leads to piracy

HARARE, 3 July — On top of the local TV channel that is provided in the country, the majority of TV viewers in Zimbabwe like to have access to foreign television channels.

The official way would be to buy a satellite decoder and subscribe monthly to Multichoice’s Digital Satellite Television (DStv).

However, the scarcity of foreign currency and fairly low salaries of most workers has resulted in people opting to buy satellite decoders that allow them to illegally watch South Africa’s television channels.

Two couples wearing oxygen masks wave underwater with the help of divers in Dalian, northeast China’s Liaoning Province, on 30 June, 2006. Eight couples attended an underwater group wedding here on Friday. — INTERNET

Indian Govt releases relief package for desperate farmers

NEW DELHI, 3 July — Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh Saturday announced a big relief package to save poor farmers in southwest India’s Maharashtra from suicide, Indo-Asian News Service reported.

Manmohan Singh, in improving irrigation facilities in the next three years, concluded his two-day trip to the drought-hit Vidarbha region of the state Saturday and announced the package made up of immediate and long-term relief measures for farmers in six drought-affected districts in the eastern part of the state.

At least 745 farmers have committed suicide in Maharashtra this year due to crop failure and growing debts. Vidarbha itself has seen more than 1,600 farmers end their lives since January 2001.

In a bid to help these desperate farmers, the government plans to cancel 7.12 billion rupees (165 million US dollars) of overdue interest on loans taken by farmers, spend 21.77 billion rupees (506 million US dollars) in improving irrigation facilities in drought-hit Vidarbha and cancel a loan of 7.12 billion rupees.

This package would be extended to drought-hit states of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Karnataka in south India, the Prime Minister said.

A truck still sits under a house in the Lower 9th Ward almost a year after Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, Louisiana on 1 July, 2006. Visitors who come to the area are quickly reminded of the impact Hurricane Katrina took on the city. — INTERNET

Satellite craze in Zimbabwe leads to piracy

HARARE, 3 July — On top of the local TV channel that is provided in the country, the majority of TV viewers in Zimbabwe like to have access to foreign television channels.

The official way would be to buy a satellite decoder and subscribe monthly to Multichoice’s Digital Satellite Television (DStv).

However, the scarcity of foreign currency and fairly low salaries of most workers has resulted in people opting to buy satellite decoders that allow them to illegally watch South Africa’s television channels.

Two couples wearing oxygen masks wave underwater with the help of divers in Dalian, northeast China’s Liaoning Province, on 30 June, 2006. Eight couples attended an underwater group wedding here on Friday. — INTERNET

Indian Govt releases relief package for desperate farmers

NEW DELHI, 3 July — Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh Saturday announced a big relief package to save poor farmers in southwest India’s Maharashtra from suicide, Indo-Asian News Service reported.

Manmohan Singh, in improving irrigation facilities in the next three years, concluded his two-day trip to the drought-hit Vidarbha region of the state Saturday and announced the package made up of immediate and long-term relief measures for farmers in six drought-affected districts in the eastern part of the state.

At least 745 farmers have committed suicide in Maharashtra this year due to crop failure and growing debts. Vidarbha itself has seen more than 1,600 farmers end their lives since January 2001.

In a bid to help these desperate farmers, the government plans to cancel 7.12 billion rupees (165 million US dollars) of overdue interest on loans taken by farmers, spend 21.77 billion rupees (506 million US dollars) in improving irrigation facilities in drought-hit Vidarbha and cancel a loan of 7.12 billion rupees.

This package would be extended to drought-hit states of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Karnataka in south India, the Prime Minister said.

A truck still sits under a house in the Lower 9th Ward almost a year after Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, Louisiana on 1 July, 2006. Visitors who come to the area are quickly reminded of the impact Hurricane Katrina took on the city. — INTERNET
**S P O R T S**

Germany’s Frings banned from semifinal

BERLIN, 4 July — Germany midfielder Torsten Frings has been banned from Tuesday’s World Cup semifinal against Italy for punching an Argentine player in the brawl that followed his team’s quarterfinal victory, FIFA said.

World soccer’s governing body began an investigation after an Italian television station broadcast pictures they said proved Frings threw a punch at Argentinian forward Julio Ricardo Cruz following Germany’s win in a penalty shootout on Friday.

“The judgment pronounced on Frings was the result of the unequivocal television images showing his assault on Cruz,” FIFA said in a statement.

FIFA said the 29-year-old Frings would be suspended initially for only one game, making him eligible for the World Cup final on Sunday if Germany defeat Italy in his absence.

FIFA’s disciplinary committee also ruled that Frings would be on probation for the next six months and would face at least another one-match ban if he re-offends during that period.

“Given the fact that he had previously been provoked by his opponents, the second match suspension is subject to a six-month probationary period,” FIFA said in a statement. TheWerder Bremen player was also fined 5,000 Swiss francs (4,085 US dollars).

---

**Ecuador awarded medals for World Cup performance**

QUITO (Ecuador), 4 July — Ecuador’s World Cup squad were awarded medals by the country’s government on Monday for their performance in Germany where the team reached the second round of the tournament for the first time.

“You have given us a great lesson,” President Alfredo Palacio told the players during a ritzy ceremony inside the government palace. “Ecuador needs that sense of team spirit.”

Ecuador defeated Costa Rica and Poland to advance to the World Cup second round, sparking massive celebrations in a country deeply divided by political instability and poverty.

---

**Roberto Carlos quits Brazilian national team**

SÃO PAULO (BRAZIL), 4 July — Brazilian Roberto Carlos has quit international soccer.

After 10 years and 128 caps the Real Madrid defender is stepping down to allow young talent to come through, he said on his official website on Monday.

“On the Selecao (Brazilian national squad) my story has ended,” Carlos said.

“I want to open space for new blood. I hope I can give this number six jersey to someone who might carry on this victorious history.” The 33-year-old Carlos was central to the team that won the 2002 World Cup in South Korea and Japan.

Favourites to retain the World Cup in Germany, Brazil suffered a quarterfinal defeat to France on Saturday.

---

**Men play table soccer by the roadside in Kabul, on 2 July, 2006.**

---

**Parreira tight-lipped over Brazil future**

RIO DE JANEIRO, 4 July — Brazil coach Carlos Alberto Parreira ignored calls for his resignation on Monday and said he would hold talks with the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) before announcing his next move.

Parreira dodged reporter questions and jeering fans at Rio de Janeiro’s International Airport after returning from the World Cup finals in Germany where the holders were knocked out by France in the quarterfinals on Saturday.

The coach, who led Brazil to victory in the 1994 World Cup, later held a news conference when he defended his team selections and substitutions at the tournament.

Parreira said he had already made up his mind over his future as national coach but would not comment until meeting with CBF president Ricardo Teixeira after the finals.

“I’ve already taken the decision but before making any announcement I want to speak with Ricardo Teixeira who is my friend and a person for whom I have great respect,” Parreira said.

Parreira’s preference for experienced players like Cafu and Roberto Carlos, and his reluctance to break up the attacking duo of Ronaldo and Adriano incensed Brazil fans who were impatient to see youngsters Robinho and Ciellinho in action.

The ponderous play of the entire Brazil team in the 1-0 defeat by France drew sharp media criticism of Parreira’s management style. Parreira dismissed suggestions that the World Cup exit had left a stain on a distinguished generation of Brazilian players.

“This was a winning generation, with a pedigree going back to 1994. The defeat against France will obviously stick in the memory, but only as long as it takes Brazil to win the World Cup again, as I am certain we will do in 2010,” he said. — MNA/Reuters

---

**Referee says Rooney decision not influenced by players**

LONDON, 4 July — The referee who sent off England’s Wayne Rooney during Saturday’s World Cup quarterfinal loss has said he was not influenced by protests from the Portuguese players.

Rooney was shown a red card in the 62nd minute for a clash with Ricardo Carvalho.

“I was violent play and therefore he got a red card,” Argentine referee Horacio Elizondo told Tuesday’s edition of Britain’s Times newspaper.

Portugal’s Ronaldo rushed 40 metres to the referee, apparently to demand a card for Rooney who had battled his way through two players and trod on Carvalho’s groin as he tried to disentangle himself.

Rooney pushed Ronaldo, his Manchester United teammate, who was captured on TV cameras winking at his bench as the England forward walked off the pitch having been dismissed.

“People can say what they want but this had absolutely no influence,” Elizondo said.

“In general I don’t pay much attention to that sort of thing because I don’t care about the pressure on my shoulders during a match.

“For me it was a clear red card, so I didn’t react to the Portuguese players. There was pushing and shoving on both sides but for me it wasn’t a reason to caution anybody.”

Elizondo went on to say that England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson had said he had been right to send Rooney off.

“Sven-Goran Eriksson went into the locker room after the match and congratulated me for an excellent performance and said that I was right to send Rooney off because it was rough play.”

England lost the match on penalties.

---

**Costa Rica coach quits after dismal World Cup**

SAN JOSE (Costa Rica), 4 July — Costa Rica coach Alexandre Guimaraes resigned on Monday after his team’s dismal performances at the World Cup in Germany where the Central American nation suffered three straight defeats.

“Each person has his own destiny. I am very clear about mine,” Guimaraes said at a news conference called to announce his resignation.

The Brazilian-born Guimaraes said local media unfairly blamed him for their defeats against Germany (4-2), Ecuador (3-0) and Poland (2-1) in Group A.

Guimaraes said he feared for his safety after he was given a rude homecoming from Germany by a group of angry fans. It was Costa Rica’s third appearance at a World Cup finals. They reached the second round in 1990 but also failed to get past the first round at the last tournament in 2002.

---

**Ferrari Formula One driver Michael Schumacher of Germany drives on the track to win the US Formula One Grand Prix in Indianapolis on 2 July, 2006.**

---

**Annika Sorenstam of Sweden poses with the champions trophy after winning the US Women’s Open golf championship at the Newport Country Club in Newport, Rhode Island, on 3 July, 2006.**

---

**客房床铺？**

---

**Riders crash during the 2nd stage of the 93rd Tour de France cycling race between obernai in eastern France and Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg, on 3 July, 2006.**

---

**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 5 July, 2006**
WHO study says betelnut can kill

WELLINGTON, 4 July — Pacific islanders that chew betelnut with tobacco is a deadly habit, according to a latest World Health Organization (WHO) report.

Post Courier, A, New Guinea(PNG) newspaper said on Monday while scientific evidence has classified betelnut to be a human carcinogen — an agent that promotes cancer and is linked to mouth cancer — WHO’s study shows mixing betelnut and tobacco heightened carcinogenic and increased the chewer’s mortality rate.

The WHO report said there were high levels of oral cancer in countries and communities where betelnut was consumed extensively.

“Adding tobacco to the betel quid causes nicotine addiction and increases the risk of cancer, including cancers of the head, neck and throat,” said the report.

WHO Port Moresby-based resident representative Dr Eigil Sorensen was blunt about the dangers of the mix.

“We know from studies that chewing of betelnut alone is carcinogenic, but with tobacco in the mix, it becomes absolutely deadly,” said Sorensen.

Mixing betelnut and tobacco is popular in South Pacific Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and on a small scale in PNG, though mixing betelnut and locally grown tobacco “brus” is common in some regions.

While the habit is hard to quit as tradition and fashion in the region, said Post Courier, MNA/Xinhua.

Weather

Tuesday, 4 July, 2006

Summary of observations recorded on 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, rain have been isolated in lower Sagain and Kanyin Divisions, scattered in Kayin State and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Shan State and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavy falls in Rakhine State and isolated heavy falls in Mon State, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Dawei (17.66) inches, Thandwe (7.21) inches, Kyaukpyu (4.45) inches, Payy (3.74) inches, Ye (3.31) inches, Kayan (3.19) inches, Sittway (3.15) inches, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (2.32) inches, Maungtaw and Yangon (Mingaladon) (2.17) inches each and Mawlamyine (2.05) inches.

Maximum temperature on 3-7-2006 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 4-7-2006 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 4-7-2006 was (96%). Total sunshine hours on 3-7-2006 was nil. Rainfalls on 3-7-2006 were (2.17) inches at Mingaladon, (2.32) inches at Kaba-Aye and (1.34) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (33.15) inches at Mingaladon, (43.54) inches at Kaba-Aye and (46.22) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (110) mph from Southwest at (15:15) hours MST on 3-7-2006.

Bay inference: Monsoon is generally strong in Anamcan Sea and in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 5-7-2006: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagain, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan, Kachin, Chin and Kayin States, upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Rakhine, Mon States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough sea are experienced at times off and along Myanmar coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35 to 40) m/h.

Lookout for subsequent two days: Generally decrease of rain in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast valid for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 5-7-2006: Likelyhood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 5-7-2006: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 5-7-2006: Likelyhood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

New Rainfall Record

(Issued at 10:30 hours MST on 4th July 2006)

The amount of rainfall 447 mm (17.60 inches) observed at (09:30) hours MST on 4th July 2006 in Dawei is the 24 hours maximum rainfall record at the station for the month of July during last (55) years. The former record was 305 mm (12.01 inches) on 3rd July 1955.
Despite sanctions and political pressure, Government striving for stability, unity and development of State

Yangon Division WAO celebrates Myanmar Women’s Day

Yangon, 4 July — Yangon Division Women’s Affairs Organization held Myanmar Women’s Day yesterday at No 2 Basic Education High School in Sangyoung Township. In her opening address, Chairperson of Yangon Division WAO Daw Khin Myo Thu pledged to continue the division’s women’s affairs organization efforts for the protection of the rights of women in the division within the law and for the security and development of their lives. Using the UN Security Council and International Labour Organization as stepping-stones, one of the

MWAF conducting educative talks, teaching classes, reading sessions, donating books to libraries

Myanmar Women’s Day observed in Mandalay

Yangon, 4 July — A ceremony to mark Myanmar Women’s Day sponsored by Shan State (North) Women’s Affairs Organization was held at the City Hall in Lashio, Shan State (North) yesterday morning.

In her address, member of Shan State Women’s Affairs Federation representing the entire mass of Myanmar women was systematically formed and there are altogether 2.56 million members and new members are joining it on

Slanderous accusations on destruction of villages, forced resettlement of villages in Shan State (North) groundless

Myanmar Women’s Day marked in Lashio

Yangon, 4 July — A ceremony to mark Myanmar Women’s Day sponsored by Shan State (North) Women’s Affairs Organization was held at the City Hall in Lashio, Shan State (North) yesterday morning. In her address, member of Shan State Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Mya May Win, on behalf of the Chairperson of Shan State (North) Women’s Affairs Organization, said that Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation was systematically formed and there are altogether 2.56 million members and new members are joining it on

Twantay Bridge across the Twantay Canal near Phaya Ngoko Village in Twantay Township, Yangon South District is 3,570 feet long.