Myanmar considers its youth to be one of greatest assets in country

Government paying great attention to all-round development of young people

Lt-Gen Thein Sein addresses ceremony to mark World Population Day for 2006

NAY PYI TAW, 11 July — A ceremony to mark World Population Day 2006 was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Immigration and Population here this morning, with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Present on the occasion were ministers, the chief justice, the attorney-general, deputy ministers, foreign ambassadors to Myanmar, charges d’affaires, resident representatives of UN agencies, responsible personnel, members of NGOs and social organizations, the director-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, guests and prize winners.

First, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein made a speech on the occasion.

He said, Every year nations all over the world celebrate World Population Day on the 11th of July. We in Myanmar attach great significance to the commemoration of World Population Day and today marks the seventeenth time that Myanmar is observing it. This year we celebrate the World Population Day with the theme “Young People”.

Allow me to explain the significance of the theme. The population of the world is currently estimated at 6.5 billion, of which over 1 billion are young people between the ages of 10 to 24 repre-senting the biggest generation in human history. They are opportunities and assets to be nurtured, not problems to deal with. Their issues, especially those of girls, very young adolescents and married adolescents, need special attention.

Programmes relating to the children, youth and families are also being implemented with the coordination and collaboration of Government agencies and voluntary organizations.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
**People's Desire**

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

**Minister inspects construction of Hlinethaya-Yekyi (Athok) Power Line, Athok Sub-power Plant**

**Yangon, 9 July** — Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, accompanied by Col Khin Maung Soe of Yangon City Electric Power Supply Committee and officials inspected the construction of Athok 230/66/11 KV 100 MVA Sub Power Plant in Yekyi Township, Ayeyawaddy Division on 8 July morning.

The minister and party first inspected the construction of Hlinethaya-Yekyi (Athok) 230 KV Power Line. Officials reported on the construction of the Power Line to the minister. On arrival at Athok Sub-power Plant in Yekyi Township, the minister heard a report by officials on construction tasks, gave necessary instructions and attended to the needs. Later, the minister visited 33/11 KV Sub-power Plant in Pantanaw Township, Ayeyawaddy Division and left necessary instructions. — MNA

**Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint visits 33/11 KV Sub-power Plant in Pantanaw Township.**

**Ambassador presents credentials**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 12 July— U Thet Win, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to New Zealand, presented his Credentials to Her Excellency The Honourable Dame Silvia Cartwright, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of New Zealand, on 27 June, 2006 in Wellington. — MNA**

**Myitnge railway carriage factory to increase capacity**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 11 July** — Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin yesterday met with employees of the railway carriage factory in Myitnge and called for more efforts for exceeding the factory’s target. The factory renovates 40 coaches a month and is expected to increase its capacity up to 50 coaches.

During his tour of the factory, Deputy Minister Thura U Thaung Lwin inspected the renovation of coaches provided by the People’s Republic of China.

The deputy minister also met with 145 employees of the Transport Planning Department at the office of the Road Transport Administration Department in Mandalay and urged them to abide by codes of conduct of service personnel. — MNA

**Myanmar engineering delegation leaves for Singapore**

**Yangon, 11 July** — A Myanmar engineering delegation led by Chairman of Myanmar Engineering Association U Than Myint on 9 July left here to attend the third annual meeting of AOGS 2006-Asia Oceanic Geosciences Society and the meeting of Restoration Programme from the Gaint Earthquakes and Tsunamis to be held in Singapore.

At the meetings to be held from 9 to 15 July, the Myanmar delegation will present papers on Some Evidence in Support of Ascssmic Tectonics along the Bengal Tectonic Boundary and Coastal Segmentation and Active Tectonics of Rakhine Coast a Preliminary Review.

Myanmar delegation members comprise Vice-Chairman of Earthquake Committee Dr Win Shwe and Secretaries U Tin Lwin Swe and U Soe Thura Tun. — MNA

**Myanmar, Indian pharmaceutical entrepreneurs meet**

**Yangon, 11 July** — The Myanmar Medical and Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs Association and Pharmaceutical Export Promotion Council of India sponsored a meeting between buyers and sellers at the Ball Room of Traders’ Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road here this afternoon.

The meeting was attended by Chairman of Myanmar Medical and Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs Association Dr Maung Maung Lay, Vice-Chairman U Nyun Tin, Secretary Dr Saw Hla Tun, Joint-Secretary Dr Thin Nwe Win and CEC members, representatives from relevant companies, Counselor (Commercial) Mr Rajinder Khanna of Indian Embassy, 11-member delegation led by Executive Director Raghuviree Kini of Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council.

Chairman Dr Maung Maung Lay made a speech and Executive Director Raghuviree Kini explained matters related to Indian Pharma Industry. The meeting focused on promotion of Myanmar-Indian medical and medical equipment trading. — MNA

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**Take part in peace-building process and national development endeavours**

The common goal of the entire national people living in the Union of Myanmar is the emergence of a peaceful, developed and modern nation. For the realization of this common goal, the government of Myanmar is promoting the national policy of non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

In addition to the practice of the national policy, the government, the people and the Tatmadaw are working in concert to implement the four poltical, four economic and four social objectives. As a result, considerable success has been made in various sectors.

As the government is building the national solidarity with genuine goodwill and in proper way, 17 national race armed groups and other small groups have returned to the legal fold of their own accord and are taking part in the peace-building process together with the government. Moreover, they are enthusiastically participating in regional development endeavours.

Eight hundred and forty-eight members of Shan State Army (South) of Ywet Sit group headed by U Mein Sin with the rank of deputy chief of staff returned to the legal fold at the Eastern Command on 6 July, 2006. They brought with them 24 heavy weapons, 834 assorted small arms, 1,990 magazines, 157,971 rounds of ammunition, 55 hand grenades, 63 mines, 15 communication sets and 120 walkie-talkies. They have done so because they are convinced of the government’s national political undertakings, because they have seen for themselves developments and achievements of Myanmar and because they possess true patriotism.

At a time when the government, the people, the Tatmadaw and peace groups are working together for successful realization of their common national goal, we believe that the Tatmadaw and peace groups are working in concert to implement the four polictical, four economic and four social objectives. Additionally, they are enthusiastically participating in regional development endeavours.

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China’s tax revenues rise by 22.3% in first half

BEIJING, 10 July—China’s tax revenues hit 1.93 trillion yuan (241.25 billion US dollars) in the first six months, a rise of 22.3 per cent over the same period last year, according to the State Administration of Taxation.

The figure was 352.2 billion yuan more than the same period of last year.

An administration official attributed the rapid growth of tax revenues to the “stable and fast” development of the nation’s economy.

He said the strict implementation of tax policies had also played an important role, predicting that tax revenues would continue to rise steadily.

China’s income tax revenues from foreign-invested enterprises, domestic enterprises and individuals amounted to 565.5 billion yuan in the first half, an increase of 27.8 per cent from the same period last year.

Increased revenues from Customs tariffs, stamp duties on stock trading and motor vehicle purchase taxes also contributed to the growth.

These combined three revenue sources totalled 52.3 billion yuan in the first half, accounting for 14.8 per cent of the country’s total, and helped push up the nation’s tax revenue growth by 3.3 percentage points.

MNA/Xinhua

At least 135 killed, about 450 injured in Mumbai train blasts

MUMBAI, INDIA 11 July—At least 135 people have been killed in seven explosions on crowded rush-hour commuter trains in the Indian financial capital of Mumbai, police said.

About 450 people were injured in the blasts, which took place between 6:20 and 7 pm (1250 and 1330 GMT) when the trains were packed with commuters making their way home.

A correspondent for CNN’s sister network, CNN-IBN, reported seeing 15 bodies at the Matunga train station.

Video from one station showed people with blood on them being treated, other commuters carrying victims and some people lying motionless near train tracks.

At least one train was split in half by the explosion.

There was no claim of responsibility but the blasts took place in quick succession—a common tactic used by Kashmiri militants who have often targeted India’s cities.

Mumbai's subway system was put on red alert following the blasts on trains in the city’s western suburbs, and police in the capital New Delhi also heightened security.

Airports across India were also put on high alert, and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh called an emergency meeting of his ministers after the explosions.

The blast hit trains or platforms at the Khar, Mahim, Matunga, Jogeshwari, Borivili and Bhayander stations, in that order. Another hit a train between the Khar and Santa Cruz stations, a police official told CNN-IBN.

One CNN-IBN correspondent who was on a train hit by an explosion said the train was just leaving the station when the blast occurred.

Several people jumped from the train and were killed when they were hit by the train.

“Limbs (are) lying everywhere. Bodies (were) cleared from the tracks by local business owners who rushed from their shops,” the correspondent said.

On 7 March, 14 people were killed in attacks on a temple and a rail station in Varansi. On 12 March, 1993, more than 250 people were killed in Mumbai when 13 bombs exploded in several locations in the city.

The city’s commuter rail network is among the most crowded in the world.

Internet

World’s largest container ship makes maiden call to Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 10 July—The world’s largest container ship Xin Los Angeles made its maiden call to Westports in Klang Port near here Sunday.

“Xin LA’s arrival at Westports is a testimony of the growing bilateral trade between Malaysia and China,” Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak said at a ceremony for welcoming the arrival of the giant ship in Klang Port, some 40 kilometres west of Kuala Lumpur.

The 9,600 TEU (twenty-foot equivalent unit) ship owned by China Shipping Container Lines (CSCL), a subsidiary of China Shipping (Group) Co, made the stopover in Klang Port on its way to Europe.—MNA/Xinhua

Four US soldiers charged with rape, murder in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 10 July—Four US soldiers were charged with rape and murder of an Iraqi woman and the killing of her three family members, the US military said on Sunday.

Earlier, the US military said that three were charged with rape and murder, but later corrected the number into four.

A fifth soldier was charged with dereliction of duty for failing to report the case, but is not believed to have participated in it directly, said the US military in a statement.

The statement did not reveal the names of the accused.

The five soldiers will face further investigation and a hearing which will decide whether there is enough evidence to put them on trial.

Last week, an ex-soldier, Steven D Green, was also charged with rape and murder in a US civilian court over the case. He pleaded not guilty.

The charges came after the US military investigated into allegations that soldiers from the US 101st Airborne Division raped a young Iraqi woman and killed her and her three family members and then burned their bodies in a bid to destroy evidence in Mahmudiya Village, south of Baghdad, in March.

MNA/Xinhua

Man held after four bodies found in house

LONDON, 10 July—Police arrested a man and carried out a controlled explosion at a house in Newcastle on Sunday after finding the bodies of four adults in the house, Northumbria Police said. Police said they were not seeking anyone else in connection with the incident. Officers discovered the bodies after the man had gone to a police station at 6:15 am on Sunday. — MNA/Reuters

A model displays a hairstyle during the 12th China International Hair and Beauty Commodity Expo at Beijing Exhibition Hall on 8 July, 2006. — INTERNET
CPC officials call for well implementation of central policies

BEIJING, 10 July — Discipline inspectors of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and supervisors of the government should step up their efforts to oversee how major policies and arrangements made by the Central Authorities are carried out. Currently, activities that have violated the government’s macro-economic control policy, such as blind investment, overlapped infrastructure projects, and illegal use of land by local government, must be placed under administrative supervision.

Wu Guanzheng, member of the Standing Committee of the CPC Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI), remarked at a conference which was held in Qingdao, Shandong Province, east China, on 7-8 July, and attended by directors of provincial level supervisory departments.

The CCDI and the Ministry of Supervision, which began to share the same office at all levels in 1993, have had their integrated powers well increased, said Wu. He urged the two departments to work harder on preventing corruption, eliminating the soil and conditions for creating corruption from the origin, and making new contribution to the country’s reform and development.

GOP husband, Democratic wife vie for seat

OVERLAND PARK, 10 July — The candidates say they offer legitimate political differences. Their conservative critics say it’s a campaign dirty trick.

Jeff Ippel is a Republican, involved in a three-way primary race for a seat in the Kansas House. His wife, Pam, is unopposed in the August Democratic primary — for the same seat. Pam Ippel, whose platform emphasizes health care and funding for education, said she was the first to enter the race for an open seat from this Kansas City suburb. “The more Jeff thought about it, the more he thought he’d have a better chance,” she said.

“Better ideas,” said her husband, who is running on a platform of smaller government and fewer illegal immigrants. Other Republicans accuse the Ippels of working as a team. “Personally, I think it’s a fraud. It’s a deliberate strategy of confusion,” conservative Republican Jeff Coyler said. He says their real goal is to siphon away votes from his campaign to ensure the nomination of a GOP moderate, Sherrelyn Smith.

“It’s an absolute sham. They’re trying to confuse voters and manipulate the process,” agrees Republican state Rep Eric Carter, who is giving up the seat to run for the same office at all levels in 1993, have had their platforms of smaller government and fewer illegal immigrants. Other Republicans accuse the Ippels of working as a team: “Personally, I think it’s a fraud. It’s a deliberate strategy of confusion,” conservative Republican Jeff Coyler said. He says their real goal is to siphon away votes from his campaign to ensure the nomination of a GOP moderate, Sherrelyn Smith.

China floods kill over 30, typhoon weakens

BEIJING, 10 July — Floods and landslides have killed more than 30 people across China in recent days, state media said on Monday, as a typhoon threatening eastern cities stayed away and weakened into a tropical storm. Seven oilfield workers were killed in a landslide in the southwestern province of Gansu on Thursday, the China Daily said.

Sixteen died in the southwestern province of Yunnan on Thursday and Friday and a landslide in the suburbs of Taiyuan, capital of the northern province of Shanxi, killed 11 migrant workers in an iron mine on Saturday.

Typhoon Ewiniar, which prompted evacuations of cities along China’s eastern seaboard on Saturday, missed China’s eastern seaboard Sunday but continued to damage islands in the country’s reform and development.

Migrant dies as US Coast Guard chases speedboat

MIAMI, 10 July — A Cuban migrant died on Saturday from possible head injuries after the US Coast Guard chased a speedboat suspected of smuggling 31 people into the United States and fired into its engines to stop the vessel, US officials said.

The Coast Guard said the death of a woman on the boat was not as a result of the shooting, which occurred after a high-speed chase about dawn that began 39 miles (63 kilometres) south of Key West and ended 4 miles (6.4 kilometres) south of Boca Chica in Florida.

Two Coast Guard vessels tried to corner the 36-foot (11-metre) Carrera, a speedboat with three outboard motors that tried to ram one of the pursuing vessels more than five times. It had three suspected people smugglers on board in addition to 31 passengers.

An investigation will determine whether the smuggling suspects face charges and the status of the passengers will be determined later.

The Coast Guard said two rounds were fired into one of the boat’s engines to stop it and that “no migrants received injuries as a result of the disabling fire”.

It said three migrants were found to be in need of medical attention, including the woman, who had severe bruises to her face and apparent head injuries. She died as she was being taken to hospital. The dead woman might have sustained the head injuries during the high-speed voyage, Captain Phil Heyl, the Coast Guard commander in Key West, said.

Gunmen kill Congo journalist amid Press fears

KINSHASA, 10 July — Gunmen killed a journalist in Democratic Republic of Congo on early Saturday.

A local media watchdog said independent journalist Mwamba Bapuwa was shot at his home by unidentified intruders who took his mobile phone.

“Mwamba Bapuwa, (who was) 64 years old and a journalist who worked for several media, was killed at home in Kinshasa on Saturday, just after 2 am,” Congolese Press watchdog Journaliste en Danger (JED) said in a statement.

JED said he bled to death after being shot by three assailants who broke into his home. There was no immediate comment from police or the government.

Bapuwa, who had recently returned from France where he had been working, survived a similar attack in March. JED said “JED expresses its shock following this vile killing of a journalist and condemns this crime, which does not seem to be a random act,” the group said. — MNA/Reuter

Expedition 13 crewmember Jeff Williams (C) and Discovery Pilot Mark Kelly (R) help Piers Sellers as he gets ready for his space walk with fellow astronaut Mike Fossum (L) in the International Space Station’s Quest airlock in this view from NASA TV on 8 July, 2006.—INTERNET

Protesters hold signs at a rally denouncing free trade agreement talks between the US and South Korea in front of a venue where the talks are being held in Seoul, on 11 July, 2006. The protestor’s sign reads, “Stop the FTA between South Korea and the United States”.—INTERNET

Iraqi Army soldiers guard at a checkpoint in Baghdad on 9 July, 2006. —INTERNET

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**Thailand to open new checkpoint along border with Cambodia**

**BANGKOK, 10 July** — Thai and Cambodian officials on Friday ended at two-day-meeting held in Thailand’s southern island resort town of Phuket with an agreement to open a new checkpoint near the border between two countries.

Thai caretaker Interim Minister Kongkas Wantha, who led Thai officials in the third meeting of the Thai-Cambodian joint border committee, said the discussion was conducted in a friendly atmosphere.

Both nations agreed to plan a open to a new border checkpoint in Ban Bor Rai of Thailand’s eastern Trat Province.

The joint committee also vowed to extend their cooperation to prevent and suppress cross-border crimes and improve their collaboration among local government officials to increase efficiency to tackle shared problems, the official Thai News Agency said.

At present, local commercial travellers and workers from both sides of the border have been allowed to travel further into the neighbouring countries when crossing at the Klong Leuk-Popeit permanent checkpoint.

The Thai Interior Minister said both countries also agreed to strictly comply with their agreement on cross-border travelling signed nine years ago which promised to facilitate every citizen who wished to cross the border.

The meeting also agreed that a special border pass would be issued to those who regularly cross the border.

**149-foot canoe said to be record-breaker**

**NEWPORT, 10 July** — A canoe touted to be the world’s longest, at 149 feet and one inch, was launched here this weekend at SebastiCook Lake.

The boat, which is constructed from 18 sections that were bolted together, is 32 feet longer than the existing record holder listed in the Guinness Book of World Records. The boat was built as a project that started at Nokomis Regional High School about a year ago. The goal was to raise money for a special pontoon boat that can take disabled people fishing.

The record-breaking canoe that was launched Saturday may be long, but the ride was short. It lasted only about four minutes while the 36 paddlers went about 100 feet from the dock before returning when one of the sections near the middle broke.

**China con man proves money doesn’t grow on trees**

**BEIJING, 10 July** — A Chinese man who conned dozens of farmers out of 2 million yuan ($135,770) by promising them he would buy saplings of a maple tree for 50 farmers into contracts to grow trees he said would be used in the 2008 Olympics has been jailed for 12 years, a Chinese newspaper said on Tuesday.

Liu Lutang was barking up the wrong tree when he duped more than 50 farmers into contracts to buy saplings of a maple tree for 20 yuan ($2.50) each, promising them he would buy them back at a higher price after six months, the Beijing News said.

“Why are we wasting our money on these ?” some of the farmers said.

Liu, who had set up a bogus forestry company with offices in several Chinese cities, convinced the farmers the trees would sprout six to eight branches in a year and that he would pay them 8 yuan ($1) per branch, the paper said.

Liu told the farmers (they) would be used in the Olympics, the paper said.

Liu’s con was perpetrated between December 2001 and March 2002. He was arrested in 2002, but then skipped bail and evaded police for nearly three years, the paper said.

The 1.6-metre (22,500 US RMB yuan worth) long, 1.6-metre long, 2.2-metre (7 feet 2 inches) wide, and 0.6-metre (22,500 US RMB yuan worth) high boat that was built as a project that started at Nokomis Regional High School about a year ago. The goal was to raise money for a special pontoon boat that can take disabled people fishing.

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**Pakistan police arrest rogue surgeon for kidney removal**

**KARACHI, 10 July** — Pakistani police have arrested a surgeon who is accused of stealing a kidney from a patient during an operation to remove a gall bladder, police said on Saturday.

Mohammad Kashif complained to police that he went in for the gall bladder operation on 7 May and ended up minus one kidney.

Police arrested the surgeon on Friday in the southern city of Karachi.

“We are investigating the matter as we are keen to know why the doctor removed the kidney and where it has gone,” senior police officer Zubair Mehmood told Reuters.

“We would like to know if the kidney has been sold and if there is a recipient. We want to recover it and find out if this is something bigger,” he said.

Lacking effective legislation, Pakistan has become the centre of a cash-for-kidneys trade, with hundreds of people selling their organs to private hospitals.

But it is rare for people to have their kidneys removed with out their knowledge.

**A plane with about 41 passengers and four crew members on board crashed on 10 July, 2006, in the eastern Pakistani city of Multan.** — Internet

**Venezuela, Colombia launch gas pipeline construction**

**CARACAS, 10 July** — Venezuela and Colombia on Saturday launched the construction of a natural gas pipeline in Venezuela’s western state of Zulia.

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, Colombian President Alvaro Uribe and Panamanian President Martin Torrijos attended the inauguration ceremony.

The 225-kilometre pipeline will link the natural gas fields in Colombia’s La Guajira department and Venezuela’s city of Maracaibo in Zulia.

**Clinton accuses Republicans of attempting to divide Congress**

**LOS ANGELES, 10 July** — Former US President Bill Clinton accused the Republican Party of using the immigration issue to divide Congress and the nation, local media reported on Sunday.

“It is a way of creating a divided community and distracting people from the real challenges facing the country, whether it is in Iraq and Afghanistan, or homeland security, or how to build a clean energy future, or how to solve the healthcare crisis, or how to create new jobs for America,” Clinton told one of the nation’s largest Latino civil rights groups in Los Angeles Saturday night.

Calling the immigration debate a divisive distraction, Clinton said hard-liners are “basically saying these undocumented broke the law, send them home — never mind that they are 5 per cent of the workforce and a far bigger percentage in certain critical areas”.

“It’s crazy to think about sending 11 million people home” to their native countries, Clinton said in remarks published by the Los Angeles Times.

On Sunday: “America is and always will be a nation of immigrants,” he said. “We have to create one America based on our diversity, not trying to deny it.”

Clinton’s speech was some of his most extensive since the issue of illegal immigration heated up in Washington this year. It came as competing congressional proposals for immigration reform are being debated this summer in committee hearings around the country. Clinton voiced support for the Senate’s approach to changing immigration laws although he disliked some elements of the bill.

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China’s Trade Union creates 120,000 more branches

BEIJING, 10 July—The All-China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU), the world’s largest union in terms of membership, will set up 120,000 more branches in 2006.

The ACFTU has a membership of 150 million and has 1.174 million branches. In 2006, the union plans to install more than 120,000 branches across the country, with more than 13 million new members, according to Sun Chunlan, vice-president of the ACFTU.

The union said that one of its major tasks is to urge all companies, especially those foreign-funded or transnational ones, to have a labour union to safeguard employees’ rights. ACFTU figures show that among the existing 1.174 million grass-roots unions, 773,000 are affiliated to companies, making up for 66 per cent of the total, with a membership of 111 million.

China’s Trade Union Law says that employees may voluntarily apply for setting up labour unions, but fails to specify the duty of companies in assisting such a process.

Many foreign companies, including the world’s leading retailer Wal-Mart, have been taking advantage of this stipulation to obstruct the setting up of a union, a ACFTU official said.

China has more than 100,000 overseas companies, and many from Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao, but less than 30 per cent of them have set up labour unions.

The ACFTU was formally founded on 1 May, 1925.

Welding equipment producer opens new firm in E China

SHANGHAI, 10 July—ESAB, the world’s biggest producer of welding equipment, has invested 30 million US dollars in a second plant in China, the world’s largest welding products market.

The new plant, in the portcity of Zhangjiagang, eastern Jiangsu Province, will provide 170 jobs for local people and produce 30,000 tons of solid welding wire and 10,000 tons of flux-cored wire, said Jon Templeman, ESAB’s chief executive officer in Shanghai.

ESAB Welding Products (Jiangsu) Co. Ltd is the second Chinese branch of the London-based manufacturer, which established a welding and cutting products company in Shanghai last October.

China is the world’s largest welding products market, with an annual consumption accounting for a fifth of the world total, and is growing by 5 per cent every year, according to an ESAB report.

ESAB’s sales in China reached 14.9 million pounds in 2005, a year-on-year rise of 28.4 per cent and it planned to open five more plants in China in next three to four years to meet market demand, said Templeman.

Nepali Govt presents 34-point policy and programme

KATHMANDU, 10 July—Nepali Deputy Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli presented a 34-point policy and programme of the government at the joint session of the House of Representatives and National Assembly on Sunday.

The government’s policy is aimed at restoring lasting peace in the country through an election to a Constituent Assembly after the promulgation of an interim Constitution and formation of an interim government.

It has urged the guerrillas to enter party politics by renouncing weapons. The policy has expressed government’s commitment to fully implement understandings and agreements reached between the Seven-Party Alliance and the guerrillas at different times.

Thousands left homeless by Manila shanty fire

MANILA, 10 July—Around 5,000 people were left homeless after a huge blaze swept through one of the biggest slum colonies in the Philippine capital on Monday, killing one man and injuring six, fire and local officials said.

The three-hour fire, sparked at 4:30 am by still unknown causes, ripped through the shanty town’s narrow streets in Malabon, a coastal area in the capital’s northern suburb.

“It is a disaster,” Mayor Tito Oreta said, adding about 150 to 200 families lost their homes.

“Our problem now is setting up temporary shelters for the families because there were thousands left homeless by a fire in Manila.

Gas leak sends 164 to hospital in N-W China

BEIJING, 10 July—Toxic chlorine gas leaking from a rusting pipe in northwest China has put 164 people in hospital, Xinhua news agency said on Monday.

The accident happened on Sunday at a chemical factory in Yinchuan, capital of the Ningxia Hui autonomous region, bordering Inner Mongolia.

Chime received calls late Sunday night about people poisoned in a factory in Xixia District, where 210,000 residents live,” the agency said.

Spanish troops hurt in Afghan blast, one dies

MADRID, 10 July—A Peruvian serving with the Spanish military was killed in an explosion in Afghanistan on Saturday and four others were wounded, a Defence Ministry spokeswoman said.

“The incident happened when the soldiers were out on patrol... We are trying to find out whether the explosion was a mine or an intentionally detonated device,” she said.

The dead man, originally from Peru who had enlisted in the Spanish military, died while being transferred to the Spanish-Italian base at Herat. The ministry named him as Jorge Armando Hernandez Seminario. Spain has had 870 soldiers in Afghanistan, serving with the UN force.

A boy plays in a fountain during the midday heat in central Tbilisi, on 9 July, 2006—INTERNET

MNA/Xinhua

A model displays the red beans, on 7 July, 2006 in Nanjing, China. Internet

MNA/Xinhua

One dead in accident at British National Diving Centre

LONDON, 10 July—A man has died in a diving accident at a diving centre in Leicestershire, police said on Sunday.

An RAF helicopter took three other divers suffering from the bends to a hospital in Liverpool.

There were no further details of their condition, police said.

The accident happened at the National Diving Centre in Stoney Cove, based at a flooded quarry.

One dead in accident at British National Diving Centre

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Reuters

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MNA/Reuters
At the inauguration of the Government Computer College (Hpa-an) held on 10 June 2006, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein said, “Having a look at the international affairs, we can notice a lot of incidents of worse conditions on account of intrigues, divisive acts, infighting leading to murders, and loss of sovereignty of some nations from which we should take valuable lessons.

“Therefore, the government has kept open the door to peace in order to restore national reconsolidation and the stability of the State and to ensure the development of the nation to be free from terrorist acts”.

In fact, the Sasana and the Teachings of the Buddha have been flourishing in the Union of Myanmar since the beginning of the nation’s history, and harmony has been set up between successive kings and the people better than any other nation. Moreover, auspiciousness flourishes most in Myanmar.

The history shows that Myanmar was deprived of such auspiciousness by the colonialists who colonized the nation for more than one hundred years and their minions and lackeys.

During his tour of the South-East Command region on 9 June 2006, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said, “Our nation fell under alien subjugation for more than one hundred years. Due to the wedge the colonialists drove among the national races, in 1948 when the nation regained independence, the nation faced multi-coloured national races, in 1948 when the nation regained

Due to the wedge the colonialists drove among the national races, in 1948 when the nation regained independence, the nation faced multi-coloured national races, in 1948 when the nation regained

In consequence, Myanmar was reduced to a least-developing nation in South-East Asia in 1988 although it stood as one of the top nations in the region around 1950.

“The Tatmadaw Government that took up the State responsibilities in 1988 laid down the 12 political, economic and social objectives to overcome such hardships and adversities. And it strove for restoration of stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order.

“At the same time, it built national reconsolidation without fail. Altogether 17 national race armed groups and small armed groups without racism and dogmatism returned to the legal fold. So far, some of them have unconditionally exchanged arms for peace. That has enhanced national solidarity, peace and stability. With greater national unity, almost the entire nation has seen peace and stability and has enjoyed significant progress”.

The 17 national race armed groups are five Shan (North) groups, three Shan (South) groups, one Shan (East) group, three Kayah group, two Kachin groups, one Kayin group, one Kayin group, one Mon group and one Rakhine group. Thanks to the encouragement and assistance of the government, they are devoting themselves to the tasks for restoration of peace and stability and has enjoyed significant progress”.

The minister also said, “The remnant insurgent groups that stick to armed struggle line due to their reliance on aliens and racism are KNU remnant group, KNPP that went underground again, and SSA-S Ywet Sit group. These groups are no longer in a position to stand in the nation. Now, they have to stay hidden along the Myanmar-Thai border line. In particular, they take a stronghold in the so-called refugee camps in the neighbouring country and commit destructive acts in the nation.

“In the nation, only some border areas close to the camps of the insurgents still lag behind in stability and development”.

The handful of remnant insurgents time and again enter the nation and perpetrate destructive and terrorist acts in collusion with aboveground hard-core members. So, local people in border areas still suffer the evil consequences of such acts. They abhor such acts.

Peace and stability has not been restored yet in some regions of southern Shan State owing to the acts of SSA-S, in some regions of Kayah State owing to the acts of KNPP, and in some regions of Kayin State owing to the acts of remnant KNU insurgents, thereby making local people impoverished. Who is responsible for such undesirable effects?

Local people in border areas who are suffering from the immense impact of the insurgency know well, through their experiences, who are responsible for their hardships. They have realized that the insurgents are the perpetrators who harm the regions, life and the interests of local people, socio-economic life of local people, Shan State and the State.

Then, who are the masterminds behind the acts of the insurgents?

They are certain western powers who are good at resorting to hegemony and implementing the plan to set up puppet governments under their domination, while interfering in internal affairs of other nations under the pretext of democracy and human rights and transforming internal affairs of world countries into international issues, along with their expatriate lackeys, and some NGOs and media stations under their influence.

Their tactic is to make use of remnant insurgents as robots. Their strategy is to install puppet governments.

What they fear most and pretend not to know is the solid unity firmly built between the Tatmadaw Government and more than 54 million people.

Now, it is not late yet for the remnant insurgents to serve the interests of their regions, their races, their states and motherland with added momentum, having a clear outlook on the prevailing conditions of the nation. And it is time they remedied their mistakes and wrong acts they have committed and they sought ways and means to know what they should do.

For them, it is best to return to the embrace of the public as the door of peace is kept open.

Translation: MS

Myanmar Alin: 11-7-2006
Young people in Myanmar enjoying...

(from page 16)
- One in four young people in developing countries are living in extreme poverty.
- There are 133 million youth who cannot read or write, another 115 million children who do not go to school and another 100 million children who will be forced to leave school before having learned to read and write.
- 82 million girls in the developing countries will be marrying before they are 18. Each year, 15 million girls aged 15 to 19 give birth and 4 million undergo abortions, often in unsafe conditions.
- More than 60 million people have been infected and about 50 per cent of the HIV infections occurred among young people and many of them suffered the disease before they are 20.

Given the gravity of these challenges, we must act in time and we must act together to help alleviate the sufferings of our youth. I would now like to touch briefly on the situation in our country. The current population of Myanmar is 55.4 million and the young people between the ages of 10 to 24 is nearly 15 million.

Myanmar has been able to achieve significant economic progress. Due to the efforts of the Government, the gap between different regions of the nation as well as between urban and rural areas has narrowed significantly. Programmes relating to the education system is guiding our young people to the path of high moral standards as well as preparing them to meet the challenges of life. Today young people are 20.

In addition to the Government efforts, a nation-wide NGO, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (MMCWA) along with UN organizations, local and international NGOs are collaborating and cooperating to achieve this objective. Under the National Education Policy, Myanmar is endeavouring to provide all children with primary education. The Ministry of Education is also endeavouring for access to education in the rural areas to be in harmony with urban areas. As for higher education, there are now 156 universities and colleges compared with 32 in 1988.

For the out-of-school youth in the community, RH information as well as life-skills is provided through youth training programmes carried out by the departments and NGOs. In order to achieve this objective, the Government launched Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH) Programme as one of the component of RH programmes which links to the programme of United Nations agencies as well as Non-Governmental Organizations.

For the school children, the reproductive health information including life-skills is included in the curriculum of the school children. For the out-of-school youth in the community, RH information as well as life-skills is provided through youth training programmes carried out by the departments and NGOs. In addition to the Government efforts, a nation-wide NGO, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (MMCWA) is actively engaged in providing quality reproductive health counselling and services, giving advocacy talks and meetings and seminars on reproductive health, adolescent reproductive health, sexually transmitted diseases such as STDs and AIDS, etc.

In Myanmar, the age at marriage is generally high and increasing and the age at first birth has also risen. It has contributed in reducing the number of childbearing and child mortality.

With regard to the education sector, Myanmar has a very high adult literacy rate. The Government of Myanmar is implementing programmes to enable every individual to acquire Basic Education, and the Myanmar National Committee for Women’s Affairs (MNCWA) along with UN organizations, local and international NGOs are collaborating and cooperating to achieve this objective.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially greets foreign diplomats and guests at the ceremony of World Population Day for 2006. — MNA

Vice-President of MMCWA Daw Aye Aye hands a prize to a winner in a quiz to mark World Population Day for 2006. — MNA
Young people in Myanmar, enjoying...
(from page 8)

Myanmar has set up “Myanmar National Committee for Women’s Affairs (MNCWA)” and later “Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation (MWAFF)” with a view to promoting all-round development of Myanmar women and enabling them to operate systematically as a united force on a nation-wide scale. Today, MWAFF is functioning nation-wide to maintain the momentum of the progress Myanmar women are making, to enable them to take part in the nation building and to thoroughly fulfill the requirements of the young people and equip them to operate systematically as a united force.

Myanmar has formulated a National AIDS Control programme, allocated resources, built up the capacity to ensure multi-sectoral collaboration and cooperation, and encouraged participation in regional and inter-country programmes. Youths in schools are given AIDS education by the township health department.

Trafficking in women and children is considered one of the issues under Violence Against Women. The National Task Force on Trafficking in Women and Children is represented by various Ministries and representatives from MNCWA and NGOs. A new national working committee to combat trafficking in persons is established in 2002. The Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs has established training centres in the towns near the border areas providing vocational training to girls and women to address one of the root factors of trafficking in women. MNCWA is also combating trafficking by promoting education and income generation activities.

Concerning prevention of HIV/AIDS, Myanmar is fully committed to the ICAMP Pro- gramme of Action and is guided by the principles adopted by the ICAMP. Myanmar is determined to continue playing an active role in population-related programmes while strengthening its collaboration and cooperation with all nations. In this regard, I wish also to acknowledge the important role played by the United Nations agencies such as the WHO, UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA as well as the international NGOs like MNCWA and MWAFF in developing our young people.

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to Excellencies and distinguished guests and to all concerned, for making this commemoration of the World Population Day a success. Let us all aspire with the noble aim to promote the quality of life of the young people and equip them with the necessary tools so that they will become leading citizens of the country.

Secretary of UNFPA Mr Daniel B Baker read out a message sent by Executive of UNFPA Ms Thoraya. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented first prize to Ma Phu Thinzar (Ninth Standard) of No 2 BEHS, Mingaladon Township in BEHS level essay contest and first prize to Ma May Myat Hmu Aung (Seventh Standard) of No 1 BEHS, Bago, second to Ma Thazin Nyein Thu (Seventh Standard) of No 1 BEHS, Bahan Township and third to Ma Yon Shwe Yi Hlaing (Seventh Standard) of No 1 BEHS, Myeik Township in poster essay contest.

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe presents prize to a winner in student poster contest. — MNA

Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Aung Kyi presents prize to a winner in student poster contest. — MNA

Mr Daniel B Baker reads the UNFPA director-general’s message at the ceremony. — MNA

Representative of UNFPA Mr Daniel B Baker presents prize to a winner in essay contest. — MNA
Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win speaks at the meeting of Supervisory Committee for Greening 30-mile radius of Yangon City. — MNA

CPT Minister inspects communication stations in Bago

NAV Pyi Taw, 11 July— Minister for Communications, Posts and Telecommunications Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, accompanied by officials of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications, on 9 July inspected communication stations in Bago Division.

The minister and party also inspected auto exchange stations in Swa and Yedashe. In meeting with officials of MPT at Toungoo Exchange Station, the minister called for the upgrading the trunk call lines.

During his tour of inspection, the minister also inspected auto exchange stations in Ottwin, Kanyutkwin and Pyu. He went to Penwegon and inspected the site chosen to build auto exchange.

MNA

Minister visits construction site of National Landmarks Garden

YANGON, 11 July — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung on 9 July morning visited the National Landmarks Garden construction site in PyinOoLwin and gave necessary instructions to officials.

He also visited National Kandawgyi Garden where he was conducted round the garden by Wood Land Co Managing Director U Win Aung. Next, in Myanma Orchid Garden the minister viewed 187 species of Myanmar orchid and called on officials to gather more Myanmar orchid species and to build another orchid garden before December. Then he also inspected the bird sanctuary.

Later, the minister visited Myanmar Forest School in PyinOoLwin and left necessary instructions. — MNA

“စိန်ထောင် အမှုဆောင်ခြင်း”

(1) ချင်းချင်း၍ အုပ်ချုပ်ရေးစနစ်နှင့် အစိုးရအဖွဲ့အစည်းများ စောင့်ကြည့်မည်
(2) နေရာအပေါ်ကို ရောင်းချပါစောင်း စောင်းချပ်မည်
(3) ကြိုးစားအပွား ဌာနများကို ဖျင်စွာ စောင်းချပါစောင်း
(4) နေရာအပေါ်ကို ရောင်းချပါစောင်း စောင်းချပ်မည်
(5) ဖျင်စွာ ကြိုးစားအပွား ဖျင်စွာ စောင်းချပါစောင်း
(6) နေရာအပေါ်ကို ရောင်းချပါစောင်း စောင်းချပ်မည်
(7) ဖျင်စွာ ကြိုးစားအပွား ဖျင်စွာ စောင်းချပါစောင်း
(8) ကြိုးစားအပွား ဖျင်စွာ စောင်းချပါစောင်း
(9) ဖျင်စွာ ကြိုးစားအပွား ဖျင်စွာ စောင်းချပါစောင်း
(10) ကြိုးစားအပွား ဖျင်စွာ စောင်းချပါစောင်း

(10) စိန်ထောင် အမှုဆောင်ခြင်း
Waso robes offered

NAY PYI TAW, 11 July—Secretariat Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung on 8 July offered Waso robes and alms to Chairman of Mandalay Division Sangha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Suddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Sasana Bhavamsa at Shwe Wah Winnalaya monastery in Maha Aungmye Township in Mandalay Division.

He donated Waso robes and offerings to Agga Maha Pandita Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Panña Sumiwalla at Masoyeun monastery in the township.

On 9 July, he also offered Waso robes and alms to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kaguñna of Lepaw monastery of Dikkhamayama Phayagyi Taik in Chanmyathazi Township, and Wakhingon Member of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha Sayadaw Kammathana Cariya Maha Dhamma.

Kathika Bahuñña Hitadhara Bhaddanta Tikkhà at Taungsalin Takhù in Phayagyi Metythin Ward, Chanayethazan Township. He attended the presenting of desks to No 17 BEPS in Kyignon Village, Pathenigyi Township, Mandalay. He also attended the similar ceremonies at No 2 BEPS in Maha Aungmye Township and at Pyegyi Dagun Township BEPS.

On arrival at Mandalay Division USDA office, he inspected the making of desks for primary and middle schools in Mandalay. The secretariat member offered Waso robes and alms to Sayadaw of Jotikarun monastery in Kyunlon Okshaung Ward in Chanmyathazi Township.

Next, he held a meeting with officials from Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions at the Myanmar Foodstuff Industries in Mandalay.

Hayon, 11 July — The torrential rain has caused flooding in many parts of the country.

Low-lying areas in Bago Township 50 miles from Yangon are flooded and residents in the areas were evacuated yesterday. So far, 21 temporary relief centres have been set up in Bago. Officials are keeping a close watch on the flood, and if Bago River’s water level exceeds the danger level, all residents in flood areas will be evacuated to relief centres. Although Yangon’s Deng River Road is not flooded yet, some primary schools are closed temporarily. Bago River’s water level reached at 891 centimeters yesterday evening and its danger level is 910 centimeters. Similarly, due to the heavy rain on 7 and 9 July, some roads in Yekyi Township, Ayeayawady Division, were flooded.

In Ayeayawady Division, Hintha, Lemyanha and Ingapu townships experienced the floods and some residents in Hintha were evacuated. In Ingapu, the water overflowed from Nankathu Dam, and officials have carried out relief work.

In Mon State, a concrete bridge between Mile Posts 91/5 and 91/6 in Kyauktada was damaged by the flood yesterday morning. After repair work was carried out, the bridge was in good condition in the evening.

In Kayin, Attayian River water rose near the flood level yesterday and residents in flooded areas were evacuated. In Bilm Township, three villages and four wards were flooded due to the torrential rain and flood victims were evacuated to 14 relief camps. Mawlamyne-Yangon Road was temporarily closed as it was flooded. The torrential rain has caused a landslide on mile post no 83/3 of Padaung-Taungggap Road in Taungggap, Rakhine State, and traffic were halted at a wooden bridge on the road collapsed. On 9 July, Thandwe River reaches the danger level and flooded the roads in Thandwe, and receded on 10 July. Some bridges were destroyed during the flood. In Taunhaya, water level reached above the danger level on 6 July. Residents in the flooded areas were evacuated and some schools were closed. Officials are carrying out the relief work for the victims. — MNA

Torrential rain causes floods in some areas

YANGON, 11 July — Avian Influenza (bird flu) occurred in Shwebo, Kinl., Kanbaw, Ye U and Monywa Townships in Sagaing Division and Chanmyathazi, Pyegyi-dagun, Chanayethazan, Mahaungmye, Aungmyethazan, Amarapura and Singaing and Kyunthe Township in Mandalay Division in central Myanmar.

Altogether 650,000 fowls and quails from 545 farms were culled and buried for prevention.

During the outbreak of the disease, Dr Watanae and Dr Mac Arthur, regional coordinator of FAO and USAID, Dr Sudarat, AI Diagnostic Expert of JICA and Dr Prasit, AE Epidemiologist of FAO and officials of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department carried out a number of prevention tasks in the disease-hit townships.

The LBVD issued a number of biosecurity regarding the sale of chicken and chicken products.

A coordination meeting of ten ASEAN nations led by ASEAN Secretariat was held on 28 October 2005 and the meeting laid down the ASEAN Eight Strategies. They are as follows:

(a) Disease Surveillance and Alert System
(b) Effective Communication and Control Measures
(c) Disease Diagnostic Capabilities
(d) Information Sharing System
(e) Vaccination Policy
(f) Emergency Preparedness Plan
(g) Establishment of Disease Free Zone
(h) Public Awareness and Communication

Network System

Arrangements are being made for establishment of four capabilities under the bird flu preventive capability establishment plan for Asia. The four capabilities are forecasting capability, early warning capability and emergency response capability.

After laying down the strategies, capabilities and biosecurity regulations, the LBVD is implementing the bird flu preventive tasks in cooperation with local authorities, related departments and Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation under the guideline of the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries. — MNA

Steps for regional development discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 11 July—CEC Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha met with industrialists in the Pakokku Industrial Zone in Magway Division on 8 July.

He dealt with programmes for the industrial sector, speedily operation of the factories, future plans for sustainable progress of the industrial zone.

In the evening, the CEC member discussed future tasks at the meeting with secretaries and executives of Magway Division, Pakokkut, and township USDAs in Pakokku District USDA office.

At the ceremony to present desks and printer at No 4 BEHS in Pakokku on 9 July, he elaborated on fruitful results of national progress, national education promotion plans, and rural development tasks of the association.

He handed over desks and a printer to the school.

He also attended the presenting of desks at Kan Hla Village post-primary school in Pakokku Township and handed over the donations.

In the afternoon, he met local farmers, townswellers, teachers and USDA members.

Yesterday morning, he met service personnel at Meiktila District Planning Department in Mandalay Division. — MNA

LBVD continues to carry out bird flu

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All this needs to be known

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

Minister U Aung Thaung greets students at school desks donation ceremony for No (2) BEPS in Maha Aungmye Township. — INDUSTRY-1

Minister U Soe Tha hands over documents related to school desks to the Kanha Village BEPS headmistress. — MNA
Chinese officials sacked over college entrance exam fraud

X’IAN, 10 July— A county education bureau head and a middle school principal were sacked on Friday over a college entrance exam fraud, local sources said. Wang Yuku was sacked from his post as director of the Education Bureau of Yangxian County and Lai Pengyuan, principal of the Yangxian Middle School, was also removed from office.

Fifteen others, including a deputy director of the county education bureau and a dean in charge of education affairs, of the middle school, also got punished because of the fraud, MNA/Xinhua

Eleven feared dead in Kenya factory fire

NANJIN, 10 July— Fire ripped through a paint factory in the Kenyan capital on Saturday, killing four people and leaving seven missing feared dead, police said.

After a machine apparently exploded, a huge fire sent smoke billowing into the sky over the factory next to a busy highway in north Nairobi, witnesses said.

Workers said some were unable to escape because managers had locked the company’s heavy metal doors, police disputed that.

MNA/Reuters

Extension of Invitation for Quotation

The Project Management Unit, Public Works, Ministry of Construction has invited Quotation for LEINLI SUSPENSION BRIDGE

On behalf of the Ministry of Construction of the Union of Myanmar, Project Management Unit gives notice that the date for completion and return of the Quotation has been extended to 31st October 2006 instead of 31st July 2006.

Tin Ohnmar Tun, Managing Director

Claims Day Notice

MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (56)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (56) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.7.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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37 new sites to be examined for World Heritage list

VILNIUS, 10 July — Thirty-seven new sites from 30 countries will be examined for inclusion on the World Heritage list during the 30th session of UNESCO’s World Heritage Committee slated for 8-16 July in the Lithuanian capital.

UNESCO officials are due to review 27 cultural sites, eight natural sites and two mixed sites, a Press release from the committee said on Saturday.

The list of countries that have proposed sites is Austria, Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Britain, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Italy, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Oman, Poland, Senegal, Spain, Syria and Tanzania.

Finland, Nepal, Serbia and Sweden are applying for the extension of sites already included.

New sites are added each year to the list by the World Heritage Committee, which consists of representatives of 21 countries and regions.

Review of the 34 sites currently on the List of World Heritage in Danger will also be on agenda.

During the session, the committee will also discuss measures to preserve heritage in view of climate change. These sites, which face serious threat from a variety of causes, such as pollution, pillaging, war, poorly managed tourism and poaching, include the Minaret and Archaeological Vestiges of Jam in Afghanistan, Cologne Cathedral in Germany and Garamba National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

UNESCO’s World Heritage list, created in 1972, has enlisted 812 sites of outstanding universal value around the world — 628 cultural, 160 natural and 24 mixed properties in 137 nations or regions.

China remeasures sacred mountain Taishan

JINAN, 10 July — China has launched a survey to find out the precise height of Mount Tai (Taishan Mountain) that is dubbed as the most preeminent of China’s five sacred mountains, following the remeasurement of the world’s highest peak of Mount Everest last year.

It is the first time for Taishan to be measured with modern tools including global positioning systems, said Lin Hui, an official with the Shandong provincial department of land and resources.

The current altitude of Taishan is known as from 1,533 metres to 1,545 metres, while the 1,545 metre height is the most often seen in various documents although nobody knows how or when the figure came into being.

Chinese surveyors measured the mountain as 1,533 metres and 1,536 metres high in the 1990s and the 1980s respectively with simple and crude methods, which made the figures unreliable.

Thirty experts arrived on Tuesday in Tai’an, east China’s Shandong Province, to start the measurement.

Bulgarian archaeologists uncover ancient Thracian City

SOFIA, 10 July — Archaeologists have uncovered an ancient Thracian town in Karlovo Municipality in Central Bulgaria, local media reported on Sunday.

Initial estimates dated it to the 5th Century BC, and remnants of the town’s fortress wall have been unearthed.

The archaeologists will be looking for the residence of the ruler, supposed to have been a powerful Thracian king, reports said.

Greek vessels, most probably used to keep wine, have also been found. — MNA/Xinhua

China’s Yan ZI, right, and partner Zheng Jie congratulate each other after winning their Women’s Doubles semi-final against Cara Black and Rennae Stubbs at Wimbledon, on 7 July, 2006. — Internet

SPONS

Kahn quits international football for Germany

STUTTGART, 10 July — Germany goalkeeper Oliver Kahn announced on Saturday that he was retiring from international football after his team beat Portugal 3-1 in the World Cup match for third place on Saturday.

He told ZDF German TV: “That was my last international match. It was a beautiful time but you have to know when it’s all over.”

Kahn, who had 86 caps for Germany, was captain of the team that reached the World Cup final in 2002, where they lost to Brazil 2-0. He nevertheless won the Golden Ball, an award given to the most valuable player of the 32-team tournament. — MNA/Reuters

England defender Campbell to leave Arsenal

LONDON, 10 July — England central defender Sol Campbell is leaving Arsenal after five years at the Premier League club.

Campbell arrived in 2001 from north London rivals Tottenham Hotspur and played 197 games for the Gunners, winning two league titles and three FA Cups.

In a statement on Saturday, the 31-year-old said he wanted a “fresh challenge” and hinted he would go abroad.

Campbell suffered a torrid 2005/06 season due to injury and personal problems. He stormed out of team training in Highbury at halftime during a match against West Ham United in February after being responsible for two first-half goals by the visitors.

He was then out for 10 weeks with a series of minor injuries before returning to the side in time for the Champions League final against Barcelona when he scored in a 2-1 defeat.

“It is with a sense of pride, achievement and the desire for a fresh challenge that I depart,” Campbell said. “Playing abroad is something that would really interest me but at the moment I am keeping all of my options open.”

Campbell was in England’s World Cup squad but was second choice behind John Terry and Rio Ferdinand at the heart of the defence.

“Sol has been a giant for us since his arrival in 2001,” said Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger. — MNA/Reuters

FIFA hands Rooney two-match ban

BERLIN, 10 July — England striker Wayne Rooney was banned for two competitive matches and fined 5,000 Swiss francs (4,072 US dollars) by FIFA’s disciplinary committee for his dismissal in last week’s World Cup quarterfinal with Portugal.

FIFA also banned Argentine defender Leandro Cufre for four matches and fined him 10,000 Swiss francs for his part in the melee after their quarterfinal exit on penalties to Germany.

His teammate Maxi Rodriguez was banned for two matches and fined 5,000 Swiss francs for his role in the same incident.

Cufre will miss the first four games of the Copa America in Venezuela next June, while Rodriguez will have to sit out the first two matches of the tournament.

Rooney was sent off in the 62nd minute in Gelsenkirchen last Saturday after Argentine referee Horacio Elizondo ruled he had intentionally stamped on Portugal defender Ricardo Carvalho. — MNA/Reuters

A ‘recortador’ jumps over a wild cow during a show in Pamplona, Spain, on 8 July, 2006. — Internet

Malaysia to develop vehicle safety database

KUALA LUMPUR, 10 July — Malaysia will develop a vehicle safety database in order to rank the maker and type of vehicles in terms of safety, a senior official said on Thursday.

The creation of the database is initiated under the vehicle safety performance evaluation programme, which is part of the country’s 2006-2010 Road Safety Plan, Malaysian Transport Minister Chan Kong Choy said.

Engineering is an important factor in road safety, including road engineering, vehicle engineering and safety device engineering, as they can contribute remarkably to bringing down road risks, the minister said in a speech delivered to a seminar near here.

“Any compromises in safety standards and practices by manufacturers and industry players may lead to deaths, permanent disability on the road,” he added. — MNA/Xinhua

China to investigate possible cases of foot-and-mouth disease

BEIJING, 10 July — A possible case of foot-and-mouth disease has been reported in a livestock farm in Yunnan province, authorities announced on Saturday.

A team of experts was sent to the farm to determine whether the disease had spread. — MNA/Reuters

Mauritius, Morocco, Oman, Poland, Senegal, Spain, Syria and Tanzania.

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Italian media reported on Saturday that Francesco Totti had been offered the same deal in a move to the English Premier League but had decided to stay in Italy instead.

The forward, who has 90 caps for Italy, was linked with Manchester United and Liverpool.

S P O R T S
**Italy welcomes diversion of Azzurri glory**

**Rome, 11 July** — Hundreds of thousands of Italians gathered on Monday in Circus Maximus, one of ancient Rome’s most famous stadiums, to fête their own conquering heroes after the national soccer team’s World Cup victory in Germany.

A deafening roar, fireworks and a sea of flags greeted the team’s open-topped bus when, at almost 11:00 pm (2100 GMT), it finally entered the vast rectangular arena that used to house chariot races.

The crowd had been building since late afternoon after the team returned home from a triumph that took minds off the imminent outcome of a match-fixing trial.

The mayor’s office estimated the crowd at 600,000, with hundreds of thousands more who accompanied the bus in its snail’s-paced progress from a reception at Prime Minister Romano Prodi’s residence a few kilometres way. The revelers had prepared for the party by piling around an ornate funeral carriage carrying a coffin covered by a French flag to symbolise Italy’s victory in Sunday’s final.

Team coach Marcello Lippi and his players clambered onto a stage and raised the golden Cup one by one as loudspeakers blared out Italy’s national anthem and rock group Queen’s modern-day sporting anthem, “We are the Champions.”

As he exited the plane, Captain Fabio Cannavaro held the trophy aloft for all to see. — **INTERNET**

**Traffic came to a standstill as the coach crept through the city streets.** — **INTERNET**

**France cheers beaten team, Zidane forgiven**

**Paris, 11 July** — France greeted its beaten World Cup team with tears and cheers on Monday as the nation struggled to understand what prompted their midfield maestro Zinedine Zidane to head butt a player in the World Cup final.

Thierry Henry, who finished on the losing side in a major international final for the second time in eight weeks, shrugged aside his personal disappointment and praised the French team.

Italy won the World Cup for a fourth time with a 5-3 triumph on penalties following a 1-1 draw that will be remembered chiefly for Zidane’s red card.

“It’s football, isn’t it?” he said. “When game goes to penalties you have to accept it. It’s the way things are sometimes. But it is not good when things are decided that way.

“I don’t know what happened, not exactly, but I don’t think it is right to use video evidence that way (in Zidane’s red card). If they want to use it for one thing, they should use it for everything and that includes Materazzi.”

**Forlan extends contract with Villarreal until 2010**

**Madrid, 11 July** — Uruguayan striker Diego Forlan has extended his contract with Villarreal until 2010, the Primera Liga club said on Sunday.

Forlan hinted at the renewal in a news conference earlier in the week. “I’m very happy at Villarreal,” he said. “It shows when I train and when I mix with my team mates. I feel very comfortable here and have never seen myself leaving the club.”

The 27-year-old, whose original deal was due to expire in 2009, joined the club from Manchester United two years ago for a reported fee of 3.8 million US dollars after a frustrating period at Old Trafford. — **INTERNET**

**Materazzi denies calling Zidane “terrorist”**

**Rome, 11 July** — Italy defender Marco Materazzi on Monday denied a report that he had called Zinedine Zidane a “terrorist” seconds before the French captain head-butted him in Sunday’s World Cup final.

“It is absolutely not true, I did not call him a terrorist, I’m ignorant. I don’t even know what the word means,” the Italian news agency ANSA quoted Materazzi as saying after the Italian team returned to Rome.

“The whole world saw what happened on live TV,” he added.

The Paris-based anti-racism group SOS Racism had earlier quoted well-informed sources as saying Materazzi had apparently used the phrase.

“According to several well-informed sources from the world of football, it would seem that the Italian player Marco Materazzi called Zinedine Zidane a ‘terrorist,’” SOS Racism said in a statement. — **INTERNET**

**Italy’s Doubles Championship trophies on the Centre Court at Wimbledon, on 9 July, 2006.** — **INTERNET**

**France cheers beaten team, Zidane forgiven**

President Jacques Chirac paid a handsome tribute to the disgraced French football captain, despite the shock red card, and several thousand French fans gathered in central Paris to welcome home the weary World Cup finalists.

A sheepish-looking Zidane bowed before the flag-waving crowds as one-by-one the French players stepped forward on the balcony of a luxury hotel to greet their die-hard supporters.

“Zizou for president,” fans chanted, referring to Zidane’s nickname, calling him back for a second curtain call that suggested they had forgiven his red mist.

Striker David Trezeguet, whose penalty shootout miss cost France the chance to win their second World Cup, wept uncontrollably and had to be comforted by his team mates. Zidane was sent off in Sunday night’s game following an astonishing blow to the chest of Italy defender Marco Materazzi that ensured he missed the decisive shoot-out.

Neither man has spoken in public about the verbal exchange that preceded the ignominious end to the career of a soccer icon whose bewitching ball skills made him best of his generation. Despite the controversy, Chirac had only praise for an “exceptional captain”, the team and much-criticized coach Raymond Domenech as he greeted the team at his Elysee Palace.

**Henry says TV evidence should be used for everyone**

**Rome, 11 July** — Thierry Henry said match officials should use video evidence for everyone, not just selected incidents, after his captain Zinedine Zidane was dismissed in France’s World Cup final defeat by Italy on Sunday.

Henry, who finished on the losing side in a major international final for the second time in eight weeks, shrugged aside his personal disappointment and praised the French team.

“Dear Zinedine Zidane, what I want to express to you at this perhaps most intense and difficult time in your career, is the admiration and the affection of the whole nation — it’s respect too,” Chirac said.

You are a virtuoso, a genius of world football. You are also a man of the heart, of commitment, of conviction, and that’s why France admires and loves you” Zidane’s team mates refused to publicly criticize the player or divulge his locker room explanation of the head butt.

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White House kept “major programme” secret from Congress

WASHINGTON, 11 July — The Bush Administration was running several intelligence programmes, including one major activity, that it kept secret from Congress until whistle-blowers told the House of Representatives Intelligence Committee, the committee’s chairman said on Sunday.

Representative Pete Hoekstra, a Michigan Republican who chairs the House Intelligence Committee, said on Fox News Sunday he had written a four-page to President George W Bush in May warning him that the failure to disclose the intelligence activities to Congress may be a violation of the law. In doing so, he confirmed a story that first ran in Sunday editions of the New York Times.

“I take it very, very seriously. Otherwise I wouldn’t have written the letter to the President,” Hoekstra said. “This is actually a case where the whistle-blower process was working appropriately and people within the intelligence community brought to my attention some programmes that they believed we had not been briefed on. They were right,” he said. Hoekstra, a close ally of Bush. Critics have charged that the Bush Administration has a penchant for secrecy and has pushed its legal powers to the limit and possibly beyond in pursing its “war on terror.”

But Hoekstra’s complaint was particularly significant since it came from a strong supporter of the Administration’s tactics.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 12 July, 2006

U Kyin Win (EDDY KHOO)

Age (67)

Son of U C C Khoor, Barrister-at-Law-Daw Shu Yan, brother of U Than Win Than Daw Thynn Aye, Dr Nyo Nyo Aye-Dr Khin Maung Aye (Brunei), U Aung Win-Daw Cho Aye Myint (Singapore), Daw Myint Myint Win-Daw Tin Tun (Singapore) and Dr Thein Tun-Dr Daw Phyu Phyu Aye and uncle of nine nephews/nieces passed away at NUH, Singapore on (26-6-2006) and cremated in Singapore on (28-6-2006).

DAW THEIN SAING (MA MYAT LAI)

Advocate, (92 years)

B.A. D.T. B.L. D.A. P.Y

Medal for Excellent Performance in the Field of Arts (First Class)

Paokkun Lifelong Literary Award Winner

Doenay writer


Bereaved Family.


daw s. nen

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Mongolians watch the opening ceremony of the annual Naadam festival in the town of Arvakhil (about 400 km (250 miles) west of Ulan Bator, on 9 July, 2006. This year’s festival is bigger than ever, as Mongolia celebrates 800 years since Genghis Khan united the nation. — INTERNET

WEATHER

Tuesday, 11 July, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagar Division, rain has been received in Kayah State and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Shan State and Magway Division and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Rakhine, Mon States, Yangon Division, isolated heavyfalls in Kachin State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Gwa (6.62) inches, Kyaukpyu (5.08) inches, Bago (5.05) inches, Sittway and An (4.92) inches each, Theinzyat (4.37) inches, Yangon (Mingaladon) (3.46) inches, Thandwe (3.26) inches, Maitzwee (3.32) inches, Thaton (3.07) inches, Yamein (0.67) inch and Nay Pyi Taw (0.55) inch.

Maximum temperature on 10-7-2006 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 11-7-2006 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 11-7-2006 was (100%).

Rainfalls on 11-7-2006 were (3.46) inches at Mingaladon, (2.32) inches at Kaba-Aye and (2.48) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2006 were (43.54) inches at Mingaladon, (52.40) inches at Kaba-Aye and (56.14) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (15) mph from Southwest at (12:25) hours MST on 10-7-2006.

Bay inference: Monsun is strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 12-7-2006: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagar, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan and Chin States and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine, Mon States, Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas will be experienced at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 12-7-2006: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 12-7-2006: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 12-7-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

New Rainfall Record

(Issued at 10:30 hours MST on 11th July 2006) The amount of (129) mm (5.88 inches) observed at (09:30) hours MST on 11th July 2006 in Kayan is the (24) hours new maximum rainfall record at the station for the month of July being last (24) years. The former record was 126 mm (4.96 inches) on 30th July 1984.
**New Light of Myanmar**

**Wednesday, 12 July, 2006**

Young people in Myanmar enjoying opportunities to uplift their standard of living and quality of life

(from page 1)

Today’s young people have diverse experiences given the different political, economic, social and cultural realities they face in their communities. Yet there is a common thread running through all of their lives and that is the hope for a better future. This hope is strengthened by Millennium Development Goals agreed to by world leaders in 2000. As such, the time has come for all nations to take measures individually and collectively to ensure that the youth have a chance for better life. Investing in young people will yield large returns for generations to come. Commitments to young people are found in the 1994 Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). Other international agreements such as the United Nations 1995 World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and beyond, the 2000 United Nations Millennium Declaration, the outcomes of United Nations Special Sessions on HIV/AIDS (2001) and on Children (2002) provide further inspiration, targets and goals.

Now, allow me to highlight some of the issues related to young people the world is facing today.

(See page 8)

**Diversion tunnel of Pyuchaung Dam completed**

**Yangon, 11 July** — Eight members of Einme Township National League for Democracy in Ayeyawady Division U San Aung of Mayanbin village, U Min Zaw, U Huay Win, U Huay Lin, Daw Thuza Hlaing, U Soe Tun, U Tun Oo and U Tun Tun Lin resigned from the party on 1 July of own volition after sending the signed letters of resignation to the NLD headquarters and local authorities.

In the signed letter of resignation they submitted to Einme Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-Commission, it was said that they totally lost trust in the NLD and its leaders as their acts were heading towards giving trouble to the people and the nation; and that they quit the party. — MNA

**Eight quit Einme Township NLD due to loss of trust in NLD HQ and its leaders**

**Flooding Warning**

(Issued at 11:00 hr MST on 11-7-2006)

According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Bago river at Bago is 889 cm. It may reach its danger level (910) cm during the next 24 hrs commencing noon today.

**Secretary-I Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party observe documentary photos on efforts made by the Ministry of Immigration and Population, preparations for World Population Day, wall posters, essays and colour photos on display. — MNA**

**Now, it is not still late for the remnant insurgents to serve the interests of their regions, their races, their states and motherland with added momentum, having a clear outlook on the prevailing conditions of the nation. And it is time they remedied their mistakes and wrong acts they have committed and they sought ways and means to know what they should do.**

**Page 7**

**Yadanar Sayadaw (Loilem)**