Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Ven. Aye Aye Thin and Ma Thanda Win. On behalf of who got one bronze in the 57-kilo event.

Victorious Myanmar Judo Team honoured

YANGON, 19 July — A ceremony to honour Myanmar Judo Team that secured one gold and two bronze medals in the International Invitation Judo Contest held in Chatapuri of Thailand on 8 and 9 July was held at Letwaysin Restaurant on Theibyin Street in Mingal Taungnyunt Township on 16 July evening.

President of Myanmar Judo Federation U Tun Tun gave a speech, and leader of the Judo team Lt-Col Saw Shwe recounted the experiences in the competition.

The MJF President presented K 300,000 and a certificate to Ma Moe Sandy Tun who bagged one gold medal in the 42-kilo event, and K 100,000 each and certificates to Ma Aye Aye Thin who won one bronze in the 52-kilo event and Ma Thanda Win who got one bronze in the 57-kilo event.

On behalf of Patron Daw Myint Myint Aye, Vice-President Dr Min Naing presented K 250,000 to Ma Moe Sandy Tun and K 50,000 each to Ma Aye Aye Thin and Ma Thanda Win. On behalf of the winners, Ma Moe Sandy Tun spoke words of thanks. Later, all were served with dinner.

Livestock and Fisheries Ministry holds tree planting ceremony

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 July — The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries held a tree planting ceremony for 2006 on 15 July in Nay Pyi Taw.

Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, senior officials and employees of the ministry participated in the ceremony. They planted mango trees and physic nut plants at the environs of the ministry.

Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein and officials of the Ministry released fingerlings into the ministry’s dam No 29 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. Over 50,000 fingerlings were released into the dam. — MNA

Talks on Zoonotic Diseases from Animals to Man 22 July

YANGON, 19 July — A continuing medical education session on Zoonotic Diseases from Animals to Man, organized by Microbiology Society of Myanmar Medical Association, will be held at MMA from 8.30 am to 12 noon on 22 July (Saturday) morning.

All interested persons are cordially invited to register and attend. Registration can be done at the Department of Microbiology, University of Medicine-1 in Lammadaw Township or MMA Office. Handbooks of the proceedings will be distributed to the registered participants. — MNA

The Commerce Journal in circulation

YANGON, 19 July — No 13, Volume 6 of the Commerce Journal comes out today. It contains news about agricultural produce in Myanmar, Bangladesh’s proposal to purchase onion from Myanmar, a plan for boosting production of tomatoes in Inlay Lake and organizing of three agricultural produce trading associations in Shan State (South).

The issue also contains articles of writers Maung So San, Dr Khin Maung Nyo, Maung Hsi Shin, Kyi Shin, Maung Pso Gyan, Thein Mya Thein and Han Tha Tun.

The publishing house at No 38, 30th Street, Pabedan Township will distribute the issue. — MNA

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appealed
Susilo calls for stepping up alertness against disaster

JAKARTA, 18 July — Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono has asked leaders of regions above the tectonic crust like Sumatra, Java, Sulawesi and Papua, to step up alertness to anticipate quake and subsequent tsunami which may happen unexpectedly.

“Hope that following the quake and tsunami hitting Pangandaran beach in Ciamis and other districts in Java Island, the leaders of quake-prone regions, including district heads, governors and mayors, whose regions are located within the ‘ring of fire’ would immediately take steps designed to enhance their alertness,” Antara news agency on Tuesday quoted the head of state as saying.

“If such disaster happens, at least we are prepared and the number of victims would be minimized,” the President said here on Monday.

The President made the call after an earthquake measuring 6.8 on the Richter Scale struck the southern coast of Java on Monday afternoon. The quake was followed by a tidal wave, killing at least 105 people and leaving hundreds of others missing.

The President also reminded that when a quake and tsunami hit Aceh in 2004, some regions in Indonesia had been declared prone to quake or tsunami.

More than 160,000 people died in the 2004 tsunami in Indonesia.

“The ring of fire is lying across the western part of Sumatra, South Java, Sulawesi toward the Philippines and Papua,” he said.

It is true we never know when and where such a disaster will strike including the magnitude of the quakes. Therefore readiness, alertness and steps from regional leaders should be made in anticipation of possible quakes,” Yudhoyono said. — MNA/Xinhua

ADB project to bring cheap tap water to Philippine slums

MANILA, 18 July — The Asian Development Bank (ADB) said on Monday that it had launched a pilot project to bring tap water to a number of slums in Rizal, a Philippine Province bordering south of the capital.

Small water pipe networks would be built for more than 1,000 households in the province, the Manila-based ADB said in an online statement, adding that the poor communities will no longer need to pay more than four times the cost of tap water in other areas served by Manila’s water utilities.

These communities would get the water supply at 12 pesos (23 US cents) per cubic metre, giving households savings of more than 40 pesos per cubic metre, according to the statement. The pilot project was set up with the recent signing of a memorandum of understanding by the ADB and Manila Water Company, which owns the tap water distribution franchise in eastern Manila, it added. — MNA/Xinhua

Singapore to conduct exercise against flu pandemic

SINGAPORE, 18 July — Singapore will conduct a multi-agency exercise on the coming Friday and Saturday to test its Flu Pandemic Readiness and Response Plan, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Health (MOH) Monday.

Code-named SPARROWHAWK II, the exercise will involve more than 1,000 personnel from 21 ministries and agencies including the MOH, the Ministry of Education, the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore, Immigration and Checkpoint Authority and Maritime Port Authority.

Three US soldiers killed in Iraq on Monday

BAGHDAD, 18 July — Three US soldiers were killed in separate attacks in Iraq on Monday, the US military said.

The first soldier was killed in western Baghdad, the second died of injuries sustained in an explosion south of the capital, and the third soldier died in “enemy action” in western Anbar Province.

At least 2,553 US military personnel have died in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003, according to media count. — MNA/Xinhua

Pedestrians walk past a new apartment building in Beijing on 18 July, 2006. Driven by surging exports and a building boom, China’s economy grew at a stunning 11.3 percent in the second quarter, the government said on Tuesday, raising expectations of an interest rate hike to cool the rapid expansion.—Internet

China plans to protect environment

LONDON, 18 July—China plans to spend 1.4 trillion yuan ($175b) over the next five years on protecting its environment.

The sum—equivalent to 1.5% of China’s annual economic output—will be used to improve water quality, and cut air and land pollution and soil erosion.

China has some of the world’s most polluted cities and waterways.

A chemical spill in a river near the city of Harbin last year drew international attention, as water supplies to almost four million people had to be suspended for nearly a week.

Under the plan, sewage treatment plants will be built in 10 river valleys to reduce the harmful impact of waste water from cities.

Money will also be spent on cutting levels of sulphur dioxide and dust in large cities. The state-owned Xinhua news agency said money would be used to curb soil pollution, which has contaminated agricultural produce.

The agency quoted Zhou Shengxian, director of the State Environmental Protection Administration, as saying that every year 12 million metric tonnes of grain were polluted by heavy metals that had found their way into the soil. — Internet

Local Iraqi people gather around a destroyed car, Kafa, on 18 July, 2006. — Internet

Low-cost carrier AirAsia said it plans to fly to Asia’s booming economies of China and India in early 2007 as Malaysia liberalises its aviation industry. — Internet

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British officers will not face charges over Metro shooting

London, 18 July — British police officers who shot dead an innocent Brazilian in London last year in the mistaken belief he was a suicide bomber will not face criminal charges, state prosecutors said on Monday.

Instead, London’s Metropolitan Police Force will be prosecuted under health and safety laws over the 22 July, 2005 shooting of Jean Charles de Menezes, a 27-year-old Brazilian electrician who was living in the British capital.

“There is insufficient evidence to provide a realistic prospect of conviction against any individual in this case,” Stephen O’Doherty of the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) said in a statement.

Firearms officers shot De Menezes seven times in the head after he boarded a train in south London.

The de Menezes shooting came amid frenzy in London over the threat of suicide attacks. Just 15 days earlier four British Islamists had blown themselves up on Tube trains and a bus, killing 52 innocent people.

EU sees higher eco-efficiency as response to globalization

Helsinki, 18 July — EU environment ministers concluded their two-day informal meeting in Turku in Finland on Sunday, calling for higher eco-efficiency to respond to globalization.

As holder of the EU presidency, Finland wishes to initiate far-reaching discussions about the future course of EU environmental policy. The Finnish Environment Ministry drafted a background paper entitled “Going global on eco-efficiency — Finland’s initiative for a new generation of environmental policy” for the discussions.

EU environment ministers emphasized that new forms of environmental policy are needed to meet challenges related to globalization. They said that globalization highlights the need to use natural resources sparingly, and promote more eco-efficient production and consumption patterns.

Without such developments it will be impossible to curb climate change and halt the ongoing decline in biodiversity. Using natural resources more sustainably can improve EU countries’ competitiveness in global markets and reduce Europe’s dependence on imported raw materials, while also reducing harmful environmental impacts.

They believed that financial instruments and incentives will play a major role in improving the eco-efficiency of production, and in promoting more sustainable consumption patterns. They expect the European Commission to promptly issue a green paper on the use of market-based and financial instruments in environmental policies.

Pahang lass bags Miss Malaysia Model title

KUALA LUMPUR, 18 July — The pretty 20-year-old is 175cm tall and slender—good model material. The judges obviously thought so because she beat 18 other models in the Miss Malaysia Model of the World 2006 pageant at Syuen Hotel on Sunday.

Lai, who is from Pahang, was acrowned Miss Model Personality and Miss Model Classic Beauty. She strutted away with RM$1,000, a trophy, jewellery, modelling assignments and sponsored gifts.

Other subsidiary titles were Miss Body Beautiful (Carmen Cheong), Miss Model Beautiful Legs (Iris Hing), Miss Model Photogenic (Jessie Teoh), Miss Model Best in Swimwear (Jay Wan) and Miss Model Radiant Skin (Paris Ice Philips). The winner will represent Malaysia at the Miss Model of the World 2006 contest to be held in China in October.

High wind strands five vessels on Bohai Sea, 96 saved

QINGDAO, 18 July — Overnight rescue operation has lifted 96 people out of danger in seawaters off east China’s Shandong Province, the local Maritime Bureau said early Tuesday.

High wind stranded a passenger ship and caused four unpowered engineering boats to go adrift close to Dongying Port on the Bohai Sea Monday afternoon, the Shandong Provincial Maritime Bureau reported at 4.00 pm.

A spokesman of the Bureau said the five vessels were carrying a total of 96 people, including sailors and engineering staff, and were in danger of sinking in the high wind at any moment.

The Bureau sent eight salvage boats to the emergency rescue operation and worked 12 hours to anchor all the five vessels.

All the 96 people had been lifted out of danger by 5:00 am Tuesday, Bureau said.
**China sets up rescue base for nautical accidents in South China Sea**

**HAROU, 18 July—China has set up a nautical rescue base on Yongxing Island, the biggest of the Xisha Archipelago in the South China Sea.**

The base, 180 nautical miles from the Sanya Rescue Base in China’s southernmost island province of Hainan, is located at Yongxing Island and possesses a newly-manufactured rescue ship, the Nonhaujtu 111.

The sea area around the Xisha Archipelago is one of the busiest international shipping routes with half of the world’s oil tankers shuttling between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific via the area. However, frequent typhoons, monsoons and wide-spread shoals and reefs have also made the area an accident zone.

Built by the South China Sea Rescue Bureau under the Ministry of Communications, the base is the eighth nautical rescue center in the South China Sea. Chinese rescuers launched a large-scale marine salvage project in May this year just off the Dongsha Islands in the South China Sea, saving 15 Vietnamese fishing boats and 330 people hit by Typhoon Chanha.

“The new base, the time for the rescue ship to reach an accident spot will be reduced by more than 10 hours,” said Xu Zuyuan, Deputy Minister of Communication.

**Trade Ministers plea to G-8 leaders on WTO talks**

**WELLINGTON, 18 July—New Zealand Trade Minister Phil Goff has led a call from ministers by four countries for the worlds major economic powers not to let the Doha Round of WTO talks fail.**

According to Tuesday’s government Press release, Goff said the Trade Ministers hope the letter conveys the message to the G-8 attendees and other large developing countries attending the G-8 outreach, including Brazil and India, that they must work together to help the Round move forward.

Goff has engaged with likeminded colleagues from countries represented in the “Green Room” negotiating group in Geneva to create a public statement coinciding with the G-8 Summit in St Petersburg. The countries include Australia, Chile, Kenya and Singapore, and Hong Kong.

The letter said the issues (Doha Round talks) are tough because they involve change. Agreement will not be reached without commitment to real market opening and real subsidy reform. Nor will agreement be possible without assurance that the interests of the most vulnerable members of our global society will be secured.

“As G-8 leaders acknowledged last year in Gleneagles, what is at stake here is also a key element in the global development agenda,” said the letter.

**Wind farm on track after renewable energy announcement**

**BALLARAT, 18 July—A proposed wind farm near Ballarat will now go ahead, after it was in limbo for 12 months.**

Energy company Acciona will start building a 128-turbine farm at Waubra in September.

The company committed to the project after the State Government announced electricity companies will be required to buy 10 per cent of their power from renewable sources by 2016. Acciona managing director, Brett Thomas, says Waubra will be one of the largest wind farms in the southern hemisphere.

“As a greenhouse project this is an outstanding contribution and the Waubra wind farm will deliver something like 750,000 tonnes of savings of greenhouse gas emissions alone, which is equivalent to putting about 170,000 cars off the road each year, so it’s a substantial project.”

Waubra farmer Lawrence Gallagher expects to host about six turbines on his property, when the wind farm is built. He says the project’s construction phase should not reignite old tensions.

“I think it’s quietened right down,” he said.

“The main problem was, when it first came out, everybody said property prices were going to go down and they wouldn’t be able to sell, but the evidence seems to be that property prices will get the other way.”

**51 confirmed dead, four missing in N China colliery blast**

**LINGSHI (Shanxi), 18 July—Rescuers said Tuesday they have found the bodies of 51 miners — as well as a mistake in the former headcount of casualties — following last Saturday’s fatal colliery blast in north China’s Shanxi Province.**

By 9:00 am Tuesday, four miners are still missing in the ill-fated coal pit of Linjiazhuang Colliery of Lingshii County, Jinhong City, the emergency rescue headquarters confirmed.

The rescue headquarters said 55 miners, instead of 57 as was previously reported, got trapped when the coal dust explosion went off at 4:40 pm last Saturday.

By Tuesday morning, rescuers are able to cross out two lucky miners, Qi Baoyin and Li Xinling, from the casualties. Qi had left the coal pit to make a phone call shortly before the accident occurred, rescuers said.

“When I hang up and reentered the pit, I saw dense smoke and sensed trouble. So I ran away as fast as I could,” he said. He was not immediately seen in the chaos following the tragedy. — MNA/Xinhua

**India issues tsunami warning for Andaman Islands**

**PORT BLAIR (India), 18 July—India issued a tsunami warning on Monday for its Andaman and Nicobar islands, which are located near Indonesia, officials said, but a senior seismologist said there was no threat.**

The Indonesian island of Java was hit by a tsunami earlier in the day, killing at least 105 people, after an undersea earthquake.

“We have alerted all the people in the coastal areas but there is no evacuation yet,” deputy commissioner of the Nicobar group of islands, Ankita Mishra, told Reuters from Car Nicobar Island.

Another official, Vikas Anand, said that a warning had also been issued for the Andaman part of the archipelago in the Bay of Bengal.

“A tsunami warning has been issued for a couple of hours from local control room,” Anand told Reuters in Port Blair, the capital of the Andaman and Nicobar islands, where thousands of people died when the archipelago was hit by the December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.

“We are not taking any chances.”

India’s Science and Technology Minister Kapil Sibal told Reuters there was no indication of a rise in water levels around the islands or any threat but said the government was keeping a "close watch".

A seismologist with the National Geophysical Research Institute in the southern city of Hyderabad said there was no chance of a tsunami hitting the islands or the mainland coast.

“There is no chance of a tsunami hitting our coastline because of this earthquake,” he told Times Now television. “The possibility is ruled out.”

There are around 400,000 people in the Andaman and Nicobar islands, 1,200 kilometres (750 miles) from India’s eastern coast.

**Policemen on horses patrol the Marina beach after a tsunami warning in the southern Indian city of Chennai on 17 July, 2006. India issued a tsunami warning for the Andaman and Nicobar islands, badly hit by the 2004 tsunami, but officials said there was no real threat. —INTERNET**

**Hotel workers approach a decomposing whale along an Indian Ocean beach in the Kenyan coastal city of Mombasa on 17 July, 2006. The 15 tonne (15,000kg), 32 feet (10m) long and 16 feet (5m) wide whale was discovered by local hotel employees. —INTERNET**
Myanmar to further augment efforts to wipe out menace of drugs in friendly and close cooperation with international organizations, neighbouring countries and with countries within the region

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 July — The following is the full text of the clarification on drug eradication endeavours of Myanmar made by Secretary of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi at the fifth destruction of narcotic drugs seized in southern Shan State, Laikha, Shan State (South).

We have invited you to attend today’s press conference, held at this particular area where narcotic drugs are being seized, to illustrate the practical achievements of Myanmar’s efforts in eradicating narcotic drugs. It is also to propagate our achievements to the international community at large on Myanmar’s narcotic drugs eradication undertakings through the journalists, heads of diplomatic missions, non-governmental organizations and through representatives of local and international press agencies.

During the previous press conference (4/2006) of the Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council held on 26 April, 2006 in Kengtung, Eastern Shan State and during the 20th destruction of seized narcotic drugs held in conjunction with the commemoration of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit and limbs sacrificed by members of the Tatmadaw in pursuit of this goal.
I will therefore, not reiterate the past events but instead, stress the practical efforts we have exerted to eradicate narcotic drugs which are the legacy of the past in all corners of the country.

The drugs and precursor chemicals we are burning and destroying today are those seized from a clandestine refinery in the area adjacent to where a breakaway group

Since early 2006, we received information from our sources that chief of staff Maung Hla, vice-chairman of the breakaway group of Shan State National Army (SSNA) of Wan Yein area in Laikha Township, southern Shan State, had been collecting raw opium from neighbouring villages since the beginning of 2006. We also learnt that a large sum of money was sent from Taunggyi to Wan Yein area to purchase raw

MPF Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yi speaking at 5th destruction ceremony of seized narcotic drugs in Laikha. — MNA

Diplomats and local and foreign journalists attend the ceremony to destroy narcotic drugs seized in Shan State (South). — MNA

Packets of opium seen at destruction ceremony of narcotic drugs seized in Shan State (South). — MNA

We also confirmed that vice-chairman of the breakaway group of Shan State National Army (SSNA), Maung Hla had sent for village headmen from 28 villages in Wan Yein area and told them they must collect and deliver 50 to 200 viss (over 300 kg) of opium. He offered 350,000 kyats per viss (1.53 kg) and learnt that a total of 1.600 billion kyats had already been transferred from financial sources for this purpose.

This information, after reconfirmation, was relayed to the respective regional authorities for follow-up action.

On 3 May 2006, a task force comprising members of Eastern Command Headquarters, CCDAC, Loilem District

Packets of opium seen at destruction ceremony of narcotic drugs seized in Shan State (South). — MNA

While searching the house of Maung Hla on 6 May 2006 in Wan Yein area, a small

Packets of opium seen at destruction ceremony of narcotic drugs seized in Shan State (South). — MNA

The Squad then searched the house of another suspect named An Pee of Wan Kat village of Wan Yein village-tract and found 3.26 kilos of raw opium. A total of 50 kg of ammonium chloride crystal were seized later on 6 May 2006 form the same house.

The Squad made further searches around Wan Yein village on 5 May 2006 and came across an old refinery near a small
Myanmar to further augment efforts to wipe out menace of drugs in friendly and close cooperation...

(from page 6)

- raw opium 65.314 kilos
- hydrochloric acid 30.00 litres
- vehicles without licence 18 Nos
- Myanmar currency notes 2.35 million
- GSM mobile phone 1 No
- sawn timber 37.00 tons
- and 9,500 Chinese made magazines.

Simultaneously, investigations revealed the existence of another refinery near Wan Kar village in Panglong Township which was raided on 13 May 2006. The following items were seized at the refinery:
- liquid opium 140 gallons
- raw opium 97.9 kilos
- liquid opium 45.0 litres
- ammonium chloride 125.0 kilos
- lyso 112.5 litres
- hydrochloric acid 22.5 litres
- Generator 1 No

bound for Australia passing through Cambodia and Thailand. They will be trafficked using jungle tracks from Wan Yein to Panglong, Namhsam and through Tachileik into Thailand. It was also revealed that the financier of the refinery is residing in a foreign country and also organizes the sale of it on the international market. Investigations are still ongoing with cooperation from international law enforcement agencies to apprehend them.

At this juncture, I would also like to stress that only Maung Hla and a few of his men were involved in providing the site and security for the refinery, collecting and purchase of opium but that the entire SSNA breakaway group was not involved whatsoever in the case.

After the search and raid of this clandestine refinery at Wan Yein area, further investigations revealed that drugs were seized from Taunggyi Anti-Drug Unit raided Maung Hla’s residence in Taunggyi and the Headquarters of SSNA breakaway group and apprehended the suspects who arranged the transfer of money from Taunggyi to Wan Yein for the purchase of opium in January 2006.

Ah Ti (a) Ah Site (a) Ah Sai and Nan Kham Ein and Kyar Phar (a) Brang Khwan (a) Su Kyan Hwar were arrested.

Also, the chief chemist responsible at the refinery, Lauk Yaw (a) Yaw Kyar San and Ah San (a) Hauk San, his assistant, were arrested.

Upon interrogation, the offenders revealed the existence of another refinery near Htee Khaung village, Nat Than village tract in Htisaseng Township. On 23 May 2006, the team raided the target area and seized the following items:
- raw opium 22.5 litres
- liquid opium 125.0 kilos
- ammonium chloride 40.0 litres
- hydrochloric acid 45.0 litres
- Generator 1 No
- motov vehicle jack 4 Nos
- four-wheel drive vehicle 1 No (without licence)

In another case before this operation, we were able to seize chemicals and paraphernalia during a raid on a clandestine refinery near Pan Aung village in Htisasang Township on 1 February 2006. All of these items are included in the destruction today.

The Government of Myanmar fully realizes that enforcement measures alone cannot succeed in eliminating narcotic drugs. Those ethnic groups residing in illicit crop cultivated areas are very much dependent on these crops for their livelihood and we have been introducing alternative development programmes together with life skills training to support and enhance their living standards.

We are trying to introduce alternative crops that will generate a regular income in the long term. At the same time we are also coordinating with neighbouring countries to eradicate the menace of narcotic drugs not the problem of any single country but a crisis that requires a combined efforts of all countries around the world for total eradication. We will persistently strive for total eradication of narcotic drugs as a national cause in conformity with the directives laid down by the State authorities, guided by the strategies and tactics laid down and relying on our own resources. Myanmar in future will further augment efforts to wipe out the menace of drugs in friendly and close cooperation with international organisations, neighbouring countries and with countries within the region and with a pledge to demonstrate Myanmar’s increased achievements to the international community.
Secretary-1 attends destruction of...

led by Brigade-758 commander U Mein Sin who returned to the legal fold, national race peace groups that had returned to the legal fold, members of social organizations, local people and guests. First, CCDAC Secretary MPF Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yi clarified matters related to the destruction of the seized narcotic drugs.

Next, the ministers, senior military officers, the Secretary of Ministry for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and diplomats inspect narcotic drugs before destruction. — MNA

Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Philippine Ambassador Madame Phoebe A Gomez and national race leader U Mein Sin press the button to torch narcotic drugs. — MNA

Diplomats and local and foreign journalists attend the ceremony to destroy narcotic drugs seized in Shan State (South). — MNA

CCDAC Chairman Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and Philippine Ambassador Madame Phoebe A Gomez destroy narcotic drugs and chemical precursors. — MNA

Mongshu to the border. As far as I know, U Saw Peta carried 80 rucksacks loaded with stimulant tablets and heroin from Mongshu to the border.

I think he asked about the shift in drug trade route from Shan State (North) to Shan State (South). With respect to anti-drug campaign, our nation has adopted the 15-year plan (1999 to 2014). Since then, the government has designated Shan (East), Shan (North) and Shan (South) as the three regions with high risk of drugs.

In the process, Shan State (North) was implementing the drug-elimination drive itself after issuing an announcement that it would be a drug-free region by 2003. So, at that time we managed to raid many opium refineries in the region.

Similarly, ”Wa” ethnic group declared that it would be a drug-free region by 2005 and carrying out the drug-elimination drive effectively in collaboration with administrative bodies. So, that was a contribution towards our anti-drug campaign.

In addition, armed insurGENCY was no more there, and so the Tatmadaw and security forces could shoulder defence and security duties anywhere in the region.

So, we could expose the opium refineries. Taking advantage of these two strong points, we constantly carried out opium survey under the Illicit Crop Monitoring Programme in cooperation with the UNODC. Due to these three points, we managed to expose many opium refineries in that region.

As you know, insurgents are active in parts of Shan State (South). So, that threw a roadblock to access to every part of...
Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan briefs on destruction of the drugs seized in Shan State (South) and anti-narcotic activities. — MNA

List of drugs to be destroyed
1. Opium 229,289.64 kgs
2. Heroin 0.0458 kg
3. Morphone base 345.398 kgs
4. Opium oil (paste) 2.02764 kgs
5. Inferior Opium 1.1712 kgs
6. Marijuana 0.18764 kg
7. Cough syrup with opium 0.007 litre
8. Liquid opium 670.45 litres
9. Ethyl ether 380 litres
10. Hydrochloric acid 232.5 litres
11. Ammonium Chloride 670.5 kgs
12. Sodium Carbonate 200 kgs
13. Lyzol 758 litres
14. Methamphetamine 47,226 tablets
15. Opium seeds 28,526.877 kgs
16. Opium seed (dried) 992,864 kgs

The street value of the drugs burnt today is 28,377.55 million kyats which is approximately equivalent to 46.99 million US$.

Secretary-1 attends destruction of…

(from page 8)

The region in consequence, we could not expose the opium refineries there in the past.

To make matters worse, the insurgents took complete control over local people by making them to live in fear. And they forced the people not to give information to the Tatmadaw. So, we could not expose the opium refineries in that region. Later especially in late 2004 and in 2005-2006, we managed to expose a number of drug-related cases. Then, 496 drug-related cases could be exposed in Shan State (East). After that, local people came to cooperate with us in the drive.

The case in Wan Yein, for example, was exposed according to the information that the public gave us. The region had been designated as a region of high risk of drugs. With the public information, the number of the drug seizure cases increased in the region. So, it cannot be said that there was a change in the trend of the drug trade. For long, we have designated the three regions as high risk zones. So, the estimated output of opium and is there an organization like UNODC, any other big nation? If it is, which country is cooperating with our nation in the drug-elimination campaign? Now, I would like to put a question to U Mein Sin. You have settled down in Shan State (South) for long. May I know if you have any plan to co-operate with the government in the drug-elimination drive in future?

Brig-Gen Khin Yi

Like UNODC, other organizations are cooperating with Myanmar in the anti-drug campaign. For example, CNC (Counter-Narcotic Crimes) in the US. That organization surveys through satellite the poppy fields and poppy cultivation and production in Myanmar. And it yearly states the data and figures of Myanmar in the International Narcotic Control Book.

It is known to the world according to the issues of the organization that the poppy cultivation and production is on the constant decrease in Myanmar. He said Myanmar and anti-narcotic organizations of five neighbouring countries have signed bilateral agreements. Issues on exchange of culprits and narcotic control are being carried out effectively under the bilateral agreement signed by Myanmar and National Narcotic Control Commission of China. Similarly, anti-narcotic measures and exchange of culprits are also undertaken effectively in cooperation with the Office of Narcotic Control Board and Police Narcotic Suppression Bureau of Thailand.

Moreover, he said, Myanmar and the Russian Federation have signed bilateral accord. The government cooperated with anti-drug organizations of South Pacific nations.

Regarding cooperation in anti-narcotic campaign, U Mein Sin said they would participate in the tasks for eradication of narcotic drugs and regional development and warding off destructive and danger external elements under the agreement with the government. U Ko Ko of Yomiuri Shim bun said destruction of seized narcotic drugs held in Yangon and Laikha showed that Myanmar’s anti-narcotic efforts are successful to some extent. Foreign broadcasting stations and some countries said that some peace groups were involved in drug issues. He asked the position of the government and how the government handled the drug case.

Brig-Gen Khin Yi replied that some countries made false accusations that there was involvement of peace groups in drug trade. It is not the involvement of the whole peace group but it is only the involvement of some persons in such cases. In Wan Yein case, fugitive vice-chairman Maung Hla of SSNA breakaway group and others involved in purchase of opium and land lease. There is other persons’ involvement in money, smuggling of precursors and distribution and sale of drugs in international market. The SSNA breakaway group expelled them from the organization as soon as they learnt about it.

He said in September 2005 in Nambhan region a person of an organization was involved in drug case. Later, the organization expelled him from the organization and action was taken against him according to law.

In connection with drug control, the government laid down 15-year project, two strategies and three tactics. Based on these facts, the government is making efforts for eradication of narcotic drugs by 2014. There is no particular law meant for peace groups or other organizations. — MNA

The Drug Related Money Laundering Law has been promulgated. And an organization on investigation in drug-related money has been set up under the MPF. So, the organization is dealing with such cases.

How many townships in Shan State are there that produce poppy? I would like to know the names of these townships and their operation with the Office of Narcotic Control Board and Police Narcotic Suppression Bureau of Thailand.

According to the information, the public gave us, there are 354,000 hectares of poppy field in Myanmar. In Shan State, there are 50,000 hectares of poppy field. There are 10,000 hectares of poppy field in Kayah State and 10,000 hectares of poppy field in Kayin State. The rest of the poppy field is in Karen State and Karen National Union.

Regrettably, we have not been able to expose the past.

In consequence, in Shan State (South) and anti-narcotic activities.

— MNA

U Sao Kai Hpu of Mainichi News Agency. — MNA

U Thet Khaing of the Myanmar Times.

MNA

I would say, anyhow, we have to continue to pursue our goal with the cooperation of local people and the public until we achieve it in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State that our nation will be a drug free one by 2014.

U Thet Khaing (The Myanmar Times)

The MPF director-general just said that in the seizure that took place in 13 May, who capitalized was the one from a foreign nation. Then, can you tell me from which country he is? And could you tell me that it is an organization or a person? And I would also like to know how you will make further investigation in that case.

Brig-Gen Khin Yi

This is an ongoing case, and it is under investigation. So, I cannot explain that case in detail and I would like you to understand me in this report.

For long, we have designated the three regions as high risk zones. So, the...
Tribute paid to fallen Arzanis

Chairman of 59th Anniversary Arzani Day Observance Committee Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin lay wreaths at Arzani Mausoleum. — MNA

U Aung San Oo, son of Bogyoke Aung San, and wife Daw Le Le Nwe Thein pay tribute at the tomb of Bogyoke Aung San. — MNA

Dean of Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of the Philippines Madame Phoebe A Gomez and party paying tribute to the fallen leaders. — MNA

Family of U Ba Win lays a wreath at the tomb of U Ba Win. — MNA

Family of U Ba Cho pays tribute at the tomb of U Ba Cho. — MNA

Family of Mongpawn Sawbwa lays a wreath at the tomb of Mongpawn Sawbwa. — MNA

Family of Mahn Ba Khaing pays tribute at the tomb of Mahn Ba Khaing. — MNA

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YANGON, 19 July — Two insurgents killed a health assistant in Wonyai Village in Laikha Township in Shan State (South) on 6 July.

U Htoo Ja, 35, was gunned down by one of two insurgents when he opened the door. While watching video in a tea shop on the early morning of 6 July, U Htoo Ja was asked in Shan language from outside if there was a health officer and he opened the door.

An insurgent group of the two gun men are still under investigation and the Tatmadaw column is in hot pursuit of them. — MNA

YANGON, 18 July— Under the auspices of Attorney-General U Aye Maung and wife Daw Khin Mya Mya, the staff families of the law offices today held Waso robes offering ceremony here.

First, they offered Waso robes and alms to Sayadaw of Maharazikayon Monastery Bhaddanta Dhammapiya and members of the Sangha.

It was attended by Director-General U Mya Nyein and wife Daw Myint Myint Thein, directors, deputy directors and staff families of law offices. — MNA

YANGON, 19 July — Member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Zeyawady Monastery in Wakema Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Pandavamsa will deliver a sermon at Mahathempaygi in Pabedan Township on 24 July evening. — MNA

YANGON, 19 July—With the object of enabling everybody to use mobile technology, Myanmar Information Technology Pte Ltd (MIT) will organize a final match of SMS Shootout 2006 Contest in conjunction with a ceremony to introduce Web2SMS at 1 pm on 22 July at Room No 205 of Myanmar Info-Tech in Hline Township. Winners of the contest will be presented awards by MIT, Mobile Mate and Queen Star Co.

In conjunction with the prize presentation ceremony, introduction of new mobile phones service will be held. The new service will allow mobile phone users to have access to information about business, market and sports from the Internet by sending short messages by their telephones. The new technology will use software called Intelligent Agent to search information for users and send the appropriate response to the user’s phone as a short message service (SMS). All those interested may attend the ceremony free of charge.

For further information contact Ph: 668779, 650124, 668295, 652302 and 652303. — MNA

Sermon to be delivered on 24 July

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Donate Blood

Health Assistant shot dead in Laikha, Shan State (South)

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Bangladesh, India begin two-day border talks in Dhaka

DHAKA, 18 July—Bangladesh and India, which have many old lingering issues since Bangladesh became independent in 1971, began a two-day official level border talks here on Sunday.

Bangladesh is surrounded by India from three sides with 4,000 kilometres frontier, and the two countries have 6.5 kilometres of undemarcated border and over 100 enclaves, which act as irritants in the bilateral relations.

The talks are expected to touch the demarcation of undemarcated borders and exchange of enclaves. Under an agreement signed between the two countries in 1974, Bangladesh handed the Berubari enclave to India, and India was supposed to hand over Tinbigha Corridor to Bangladesh, but India still does not do it. Firing by border troops of the two countries becomes a common phenomenon. Cross-border crime like smuggling, trafficking of human and drugs are also very common, which affect the relations of the two countries.

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Bomb attack on Iraq market kills 42

MAHMUDIYA (Iraq), 18 July — Over 40 people were killed in a car bomb attack and shooting at a crowded market in a violent town just outside Baghdad on Monday, police said.

Witnesses in the small town of Mahmudiya, south of the capital, said they heard several explosions and heavy gunfire. Some police sources said their forces engaged attackers in a fierce firefight after the explosion. Others said the gunfire was largely intended to disperse crowds. Police sources said at least 42 people were killed and 33 wounded in the market violence.

Both Sunni guerrillas like al-Qaeda and Shiite militias have been active in the area, where the population is mixed between the two Muslim sects whose violent differences have taken Iraq to the brink of civil war.

The attack came on the anniversary of the 1968 coup d’etat that brought Saddam Hussein’s Sunni-dominated Baath Party to power. Mahmudiya is part of a small area dubbed the “triangle of death” over the past three years because of the number of attacks on US forces and among the population. Six Americans have been charged over the alleged rape and murder of a 14-year-old girl in Mahmudiya in March and the killing of her parents and six-year-old sister in their home.

Pakistan to get “F-16” planes from US

ISLAMABAD, 18 July — Pakistan will get from the United States 18 new F-16 fighter aircraft as well as 26 old F-16s under an agreement, Pakistani Air Chief Marshal Tanvir Mahmood Ahmed said on Monday.

Pakistan will also get hardware for upgrading the existing F-16 fleet, the Air Chief told a news conference.

He said these 26 old F-16s belong to the lot which had been manufactured by the United States for Pakistan but not delivered. Keeping in view economic constraints, the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) has decided to reduce its requirement from 50 to 18 new aircraft, the official said.

“Pakistan will upgrade its whole fleet of F-16s which will be capable to fulfill its requirements for the next 30 years and the whole deal will cost three billion dollars,” he said.

The Air Chief said these new aircraft will be delivered within a period of three years while the old fighter jets are expected to be delivered within 15 to 18 months.

He said the overall upgradation of F-16 programme will take seven to eight years.

The Air Chief said that the PAF aims to remain all time alert and to retain its capability to counter any aggression with an objective to ensure peace and stability in the region.

Hu says peaceful utilization of outer space are rights of all nations

BEIJING, 18 July — Outer space is the shared resource of human beings. Exploration, peaceful utilization and development of outer space are rights of all nations throughout the world, Chinese President Hu Jintao said here Monday.

Similarly, the PAF aims to remain all time alert to ensure peace and stability in the region.

As an important international scientific organization, Hu said, the COSPAR has contributed to international cooperation in space science.

The Chinese Government supports activities sponsored by the COSPAR and is willing to enhance friendly cooperation with the COSPAR.

Alcohol goes up in smoke in Afghan crack down

KABUL, 18 July — Afghan police burned hundreds of bottles of alcohol in Kabul on Monday in a public show of force against what an official said was the “poison” corrupting the country.

About 600 bottles of wine and spirits, such as whisky and vodka, and about 3,000 cans and bottles of beer went up in flames in a field south of the city — the first time in 18 months the government has publicly destroyed alcohol in Kabul.

Under Islamic sharia law, which is an integral part of the constitution in Afghanistan, alcohol is banned. The alcohol was uncovered during raids at guest houses that cater to local residents in the capital, a government official said.

A labourer carries steel bars at a market in Wuhan, central China’s Hubei Province on 18 July, 2006. Chinese annual growth bounded ahead to 11.3 percent in the second quarter, beating forecasts and heightening expectations of further tightening steps to restrain an economy gorgeing on plentiful cheap money. —INTERNET

The Rolls Royce 101EX makes its UK Debut at the British International Motor Show in London on 18 July, 2006. —INTERNET

The space shuttle Discovery is towed back to an Orbiter Processing Facility after completing Mission STS-121 at the Kennedy Space Centre in Cape Canaveral, Florida, on 17 July, 2006. —INTERNET
**Real Madrid bid for van Nistelrooy rejected by Man Utd**

Cape Town, 19 July— Manchester United have rejected a bid from Real Madrid for striker Ruud van Nistelrooy, the Premier League club's manager Alex Ferguson said on Tuesday.

"There is no agreement with Manchester United about the sale," Ferguson told reporters. "We have refused their (Real's) offer and he remains a Manchester United player."

He was speaking after United's 1-0 win over Kaizer Chiefs on their week-long tour of South Africa.

The 30-year-old Van Nistelrooy has been strongly linked with the Spanish giants since saying he wanted to leave Old Trafford after five years in England.

**Bulgarian striker Bojinov happy to be at Juventus**

Rome, 19 July— Bulgarian striker Valeri Bojinov said he jumped at the chance to join Juventus on loan even though he will be playing in Serie B after a sports tribunal found the Turin club guilty of match-fixing.

"When I found out Juventus wanted me I said yes straight away without even thinking for a minute," the 20-year-old striker was quoted as saying on Juve's website on Tuesday.

"This team is as big as it gets for any player. It's the biggest chance of my life."

"I want to show I deserve it by taking Juventus back to the top -- back to winning Serie A titles and playing in the Champions League."

Bojinov, considered one of the most exciting young strikers in Italy, was signed on July 8 by Juve on loan from Fiorentina.

**Tevez returns to Corinthians after controversial weekend**

Rio de Janeiro, 19 July— Argentina forward Carlos Tevez trained with his club Corinthians on Tuesday after spending the weekend in Buenos Aires and missing a crunch derby.

Corinthians lost 1-0, their sixth consecutive defeat, and dropped to 19th in the table. Tevez returned to Brazil on Monday night. He rushed through Sao Paulo airport wearing a hoodie and carrying his baby daughter in his arms, refusing to speak to reporters.

**Chinese striker Dong gives Man Utd win over Kaizer Chiefs**

Cape Town, 19 July— Chinese international Dong Fangzhuo scored six minutes from time to give Manchester United a 1-0 win over Kaizer Chiefs at Newlands on Tuesday. It was United's second win on their week-long South African tour after Saturday's opening 4-0 victory over Orlando Pirates.

Striker Dong, who scored after coming off the bench, is on loan at Belgian club Royal Antwerp but was brought on United's pre-season trip as a guest player.

**United's transfer cash waits for Juventus appeal verdict**

London, 19 July— Manchester United's interest in the transfer market is on hold pending the outcome of Juventus' appeal against demotion in Italy's match-fixing scandal, manager Alex Ferguson said.

"We are working on several things and talking to several clubs. We have made several enquiries for several players but we have held certain things back because of the Juventus situation," he was quoted as saying on Tuesday.

"I think everybody will be looking at all the Juventus players. (Patrick) Vieira, Gianluigi Buffon, Fabio Cannavaro, Lilian Thuram and Emerson are the ones that people will be focusing on," he told United's official website during the team's tour of South Africa.

"Now we know where we're going in terms of making inquiries and maybe definite offers for one or two players," added Ferguson, who is looking to win the Premier League for the first time since 2003.
UN rights panel reviews US records

GENEVA, 19 July — A UN human rights panel on Tuesday finished a latest review of US records, which covered a wide range of alleged violations.

One focus of the two-day hearing was violations of international law in the “war on terror,” especially in relation to the treatment of detainees. The 18-member Human Rights Committee, which oversees compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, made it clear that it did not accept US arguments that the covenant did not apply to American actions abroad. Sir Nigel Rodley, a British expert on the committee and a former UN torture envoy, said prolonged secret detention was an astonishing violation of the covenant and that he was “dismayed and astonished” that the US was apparently carrying out “a practice of such extrava- ganza.”

Abdel fattah Amor, a senior Tunisian law professor, also expressed concern about inmate abuse at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq and the US detention center for terrorist suspects at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. However, the US delegation to the hearing appeared to steer clear of such questions, claiming that issues related to terrorism for the most part “lie beyond the scope of the covenant.”

Around 40 human rights organizations, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, etc., sent representatives to the hearing and monitored the proceedings.

The organizations said the US was failing to respect key provisions of the covenant in its “war on terror,” especially in relation to the detention without charge of thousands of non-US nationals in prisons in Afghanistan, Iraq, Guantanamo Bay and other secret locations.

US abuses documented by the organizations and submitted to the committee include torture and ill-treatment, arbitrary detention, “disappearances” and “extraordinary renditions” of terror suspects to countries known to practice torture.

Miss Esther Galstian
Aged 92

Born on 18-7-1914, Miss Esther Galstian had lived in her apartment at 1002, Avenue Harbor, New York City, U.S.A. She had a daughter, Mrs. Lila Galstian, a grandson, Mr. Michael Galstian, and a granddaughter, Mrs. Diana Galstian. Miss Galstian was a retired teacher, with a long and distinguished career in education. Throughout her life, she had been an active member of the Jewish community, serving in various roles and contributing significantly to its welfare.

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Bereaved Family

The replica of the Swedish merchant ship “Gotheborg” arrives at Guangzhou, capital of south China’s Guangdong Province, on 18 July, 2006. It took 4000 workers ten years to build the boat at a cost of 30 million US dollars. The boat “Gotheborg” reached Guangzhou on Tuesday and will stay in the province for one month.

Internet

Myanmar

Thursday, 20 July
View on today

7:00 am

1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Saya- daw U Ottamathara

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

5. Dance of national races

8:05 am

6. "la la la la"

8:10 am

7. Dance variety

8:20 am

8. "la la la la"

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Let’s Go

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. English for Everyday Use

4:45 pm

4. Musical programme

5:00 pm

5. "la la la la"

5:15 pm

6. Cute little dancers

5:25 pm

7. "la la la la"

5:35 pm

8. "la la la la"

9:05 am

9:09 am

9. Musical programme

6:00 pm

10. Evening news

6:30 pm

11. Weather report

6:35 pm

12. "la la la la"

7:05 pm

13. "la la la la"

8:00 pm

14. News

8:15 pm

15. International news

8:30 pm

16. Weather report

8:45 pm

17. "la la la la"

9:00 pm

18. The next day’s programme

* Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 2230 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newslight, PO Box No. 43, Telephones: Editors 296115, Manager 392226, Circulation 297993, Advertisement 392223, Accounts 392224, Administration 392225, Production/Press 397028.
Prime Minister sends message of sympathy to Indonesia

NA Y PI TAW, 19 July—General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of sympathy to His Excellency Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia for the loss of lives and property caused by Tsunami in the Southwestern coast of Indonesia’s main island of Java after a powerful earthquake that struck Indonesia on 17 July 2006. — MNA

On arrival at the Arzani Mausoleum at 7.55 am, Chairman of the 59th Anniversary Arzani Day Observance Committee Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint was welcomed by the Vice-Chairman of the 59th Anniversary Arzani Day Observance Work Committee Secretary of YCDC U Tin Soe.

Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and Chairman of YCDC Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin took respective places before the tombs of Arzanis.

Next, those present saluted the flag of the Union of Myanmar.

After that, on behalf of the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, Chairman of the 59th Anniversary Arzani Day Observance Committee Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and Chairman of YCDC Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin left the Arzani Mausoleum.

Later, families of the Arzanis laid wreaths at the respective tombs. First, U Aung San Oo, eldest son of Bogyoke Aung San, and wife Daw Le Le Nwe Thein laid a wreath at Bogyoke Aung San’s tomb and paid tribute to him while Metta was being dispensed.

Next, families of other Arzanis laid wreaths at the respective tombs and dispensed Metta.

Diplomats of foreign missions and resident representatives of UN agencies in Yangon led by Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of the Philippines to Myanmar Madame Phoebe A Gomez also laid wreaths at the tombs of Arzanis and paid tribute to them.

The representatives of Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Myanmar Fire Brigade, MRCS, MWJA, Myanmar Motion Picture Organization, Myanmar Music Asia-yon, Myanmar Thabin Gomez also laid wreaths and paid tribute to the Arzanis. — MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Amount (inches)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thandwe</td>
<td>(8.94)</td>
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<td>Tha-ton</td>
<td>(5.59)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ye</td>
<td>(3.98)</td>
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<td>Pin-laung</td>
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<td>Kyaukpyu</td>
<td>(2.99)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mogok</td>
<td>(2.25)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The government has been making every endeavour for national and regional development and its efforts are bearing fruit now. Almost all the groups of national races who took up arms against the government have returned to the legal fold and are now working together with the government for peace and development. The number of groups of national races who have abandoned the arms struggle line for eternal peace has increased. In the near future, it is very likely that the entire Shan State will be able to enjoy peace and stability. — MNA