Four political objectives

- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsolidation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

In the past, the Government took responsibility of large- and medium-scale production of electric power, and entrepreneurs of the private sector were permitted to produce electricity on the medium scale and the micro scale.

Taking advantage of government’s effective encouragement, prosperous industries of private sector are to spread their wings for industrial development

Industrial Development Committee holds coordination meeting 1/2006

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July — The Industrial Development Committee held its coordination meeting 1/2006 at the hall of the Ministry of Industry-1 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon, with an address by Chairman of Industrial Development Committee Prime Minister General Soe Win. Also present at the meeting were members of the Industrial Development Committee ministers, the Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor, the deputy ministers who are members of the Myanma Industrial Development Committee and Work Committee, chairmen of Sub-committees, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and the Government Office, departmental heads, chairmen and members of Industrial Zone Supervisory Committees and Management Committees, responsible personnel of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, industrial entrepreneurs and guests.

First, Chairman of Industrial Development Committee Prime Minister General Soe Win delivered an address. He said that today’s industrial sector of the State commences to transform the agro-based industry into the industrialization. Therefore, the Government is making arrangements for development of the electric power sector in conformity with that of the industrial sector. In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, the Ministry of Electric Power No-1 and the Ministry of Electric Power No-2 have been assigned duties to supply power to the industrial sector, and arrangements have been made for two ministries to place emphasis on production of electric power and supply of electric power separately.

(See page 8)
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Sunday, 23 July, 2006**

**Produce quality industrial products**

The government has established 19 industrial zones and sub-zones the length and breadth of the nation for development of the industrial sector.

With the encouragement of the government, the private industrial sector has improved to such a level that has been able to produce various kinds of quality parts for automobiles and farm machinery.

Capital and human resources play an important role in industrial development. Efforts are being made to obtain the capital for the industrial sector from the agricultural sector.

For the development of national economy priority is being given to the improvement of the agricultural sector. In this regard, the industrial zones are to produce a large number of farm machinery that contributes to development of the agricultural sector.

In the meantime, the industrial zones are to strive for manufacturing the import-substitute quality spare parts sufficiently for the State-run and private factories and mills. In doing so, efforts are to be made to enable the industrial zones to make use of computerized manufacturing system to produce quality industrial products and to nurture and turn out intellectuals and technocrats.

Therefore, it is incumbent upon the industrial zones to make concerted efforts for manufacturing quality products in building an industrial nation.

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**Religious Affairs Minister on tour of Kayin State**


The minister and party also offered Waso robes and medicines to State Ovadaçariya Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammarattha Agga Maha Saddhammarattha Indriya of Mehaung Monastery and donated K 100,000 to the funds of the monastery.

In Daingpya Model Village in Hlaingbwe Township, the minister presented stationery and publications for basic education schools and the library in Hlaingbwe Township to Headmistress Daw Nan Min Myint Kyi. While in Hpa-an, the minister attended books donation ceremonies held in conjunction with USDA membership applications presentation ceremonies at Hpa-an University, Government Technological College and Nurses Training School.

On 21 July, the minister and party attended the opening ceremony of multimedia classrooms held in conjunction with cash and kind donation ceremony at Hlaka Village BEHS in Hpa-an Township. — MNA

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**Foreign Minister sends felicitations to Egypt**

NAV Pvi Taw, 23 July — On the occasion of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt which falls on 23 July 2006, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt. — MNA

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**MWEA holds Waso robe offering ceremony**

YANGON, 22 July — A ceremony to offer waso robes, hand over village dispensary and provide cash assistance organized by Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association was held at Aung Mingala Monastery in Kayinseik Model Village, Thandlin Township, this morning.

At the Waso robe offering ceremony, founder of MWEA Adviser Professor (Retd) Daw Yi Yi Myint, advisers Daw Khin Aye Win and Daw Khin Khin Swe, Vice-Chairperson Daw Thet Y and members offered Waso robes to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Mandhala.

MWEA handed over documents related to the village dispensary that cost K 3 3 million contributed by 25 members of MWEA to village authorities. Under the arrangement of Pyinnya Mkhin cash assistance programme, Adviser Professor (Retd) Daw Yi Yi Myint, Chairperson Daw Khin Myint and Secretary Daw Hla Wady presented cash assistance to three primary school girls. A well wisher also presented 50 dozens of exercise books for Village BEPS and BEMS (Branch). — MNA

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**Vice-Mayor inspects tax-free markets**

YANGON, 22 July — Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa accompanied by Head of Markets Department U Soe Myint inspected tax-free markets in Shwepyitha and Hlinethaya Townships.

The Vice-Mayor and party together with the Chairman of Myanmar Trawlers Association and members viewed arrival of trawlers at Central Sanpya Fish Market in Kyimyindaing Township and Nyaungdan Jetty in Pazundaung Township.
**Ozone hole found to affect ocean food supply**

**Melbourne, 21 July**—New research in Antarctica has suggested the long-term effects of ozone depletion could have a dramatic impact on the ocean’s food supply.

A group of Tasmanian scientists have measured the effects of ozone depletion on levels of phytoplankton—the major food source of lower species, like krill. They measured a 60 per cent reduction in phytoplankton levels at low ozone concentrations, compared with the six per cent of previous studies.

Andrew Davidson, of the Australian Antarctic Division at Kingston, south of Hobart, says his team used different methodology, taking measurements over a series of days. He says the findings have significant implications for species higher up the food chain.

“So if you remove the amount, or reduce the amount of food they’ve got, you’re reducing the capacity for a keystone species such as krill to abound in those waters,” he said. “If we verify that this is the extent which plant material is being reduced, it’s a very important finding because it’s far and above what ... previous scientific research has suggested is the situation.”

**China becomes world’s number three food aid donor**

**Rome, 21 July**—China became the world’s third largest donor of food aid in 2005, statistics released on Thursday showed, rising from ninth place on the chart of the most generous food givers.

The Rome-based World Food Programme said China had increased its total food donations by 260 per cent to 577,000 metric tons, most of the aid going to North Korea, with some going to Africa and other Asian countries.

The United States remained the biggest donor of food aid, giving four million tons, or 49 per cent of total world food donations, the United Nations agency said, followed by 1.5 million tons from the European Union.

The WFP, which handles more than half of all the world’s food aid shipments, said 2005 was the most challenging year the humanitarian world faced since World War Two because of the Asian tsunami, the Kashmir earthquake, the Darfur conflict and other crises.

More than half of food aid in 2005 went to sub-Saharan Africa, with Ethiopia receiving the most, followed by North Korea, both of which received more than 1 million tons of aid. Third was Sudan with almost 900,000 tons.

**Two foreigners arrested at Nyamapanda border post in Zimbabwe**

**Harare, 21 July**—A German and an Austrian were arrested last week after throwing little plastic balls with wires embedded into the bush near Nyamapanda border post in Zimbabwe, The Herald reported on Thursday.

Police said the two claimed the objects would make “people live well in Zimbabwe and bring good rains”. It was found that they had also thrown the objects in Beitbridge, Bulawayo and Chitungwiza among other places.

**Bush confronts limits of power in world crises**

**Washington, 21 July**—Bogged down in two foreign wars, confronted by twin nuclear threats and seemingly powerless to halt a new Middle East crisis, President George W Bush is learning hard lessons about the limits of US power.

Nearly halfway into his second term, the growing litany of foreign policy challenges has left his Administration overstretched militarily and diplomatically, forcing it to back away from the go-it-alone approach he has long favoured.

“Bush’s cowboy diplomacy can’t work anymore,” said Georgetown University political scientist Stephen Wayne. “The practicalities dictate a multilateral approach. That’s the only option.”

Topping the crisis list is Iraq, where US-led forces are locked in an unpopular war with no end in sight.

Conditions have also started deteriorating in Afghanistan, another Texas-sized country where Washington thought it had the situation under control.

Meanwhile North Korea and Iran are pressing ahead with their nuclear programmes, and

**China’s President Fidel Castro speaks during a mass rally in Cordoba, Argentina, on 21 July, 2006.**—INTERNET

**Two men play a large sanxian, a kind of Chinese traditional three-stringed instrument, to celebrate the Torch Festival at a park in Chuxiong Yi Autonomous Prefecture of southwest China’s Yunnan Province on 19 July, 2006.**—INTERNET

**The Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal, the largest ancient canal in the world built in the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368), is still an important waterway for economic and social development along the Yangtze River Delta.**—INTERNET

**Actress Pamela Anderson and Kid Rock will be husband and wife by month’s end, US Weekly magazine reported. The former Baywatch star and Detroit rap-rocker, whose real name is Robert James Ritchie, will exchange vows on 29 July aboard a yacht near the French Riviera city of St Tropez, according to the celebrity magazine.**—INTERNET
Miss Lebanon Gabrielle Bou Rachid (L) and Miss Japan Kurara Chibana applaud after rehearsals for a taped segment for the Miss Universe 2006 pageant at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, on 20 July, 2006.—INTERNET

Chinese Govt to prevent corruption in management of foreign aid

BEIJING, 21 July — China’s Ministry of Commerce has announced a new plan to remove corruption from the management of relief materials and financial aid for foreign countries.

The ministry will release a Foreign Aid Guidebook in September so the needy countries can select the materials they want.

Local commerce departments can refer to the guidebook to find suppliers of relief materials and they must make sure a fair bidding process is conducted among the suppliers.

No departments or agencies are allowed to seek illegitimate interests through collusion with bidding companies, it said.

It said that companies involved in foreign aid projects must report to the ministry regularly on the progress. A final report should be submitted to the ministry within 20 working days after the project is concluded.

The ministry will evaluate each foreign aid project and penalize those who violate the regulation.

A fine of around 30,000 yuan will be imposed on those who violate the regulation.

Civilian killed, 15 wounded in car bomb blast in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 21 July — A car bomb went off in a busy area in downtown Baghdad on Thursday, killing a civilian and wounding 15 others, an Interior Ministry source said.

A parked explosive-packed car detonated at about 11:20 am (0720 GMT) near the Shorjah commercial area, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

He said that a civilian was killed and 15 others wounded in the blast while several nearby shops and buildings were damaged.

Earlier, two people were killed, including a police officer, and 11 others wounded, including five policemen when a roadside bomb hit a passing police patrol in the Sakhrani intersection on the Palestine Street in eastern Baghdad, according to a ministry source. — MNA/Xinhua

Living with dirty air may boost heart attack risk

NEW YORK, 21 July — Fatal heart attacks may be more likely among people who spend decades living in heavily polluted areas, Swedish researchers report.

While there was no association between people’s exposure to various pollutants over a 30-year period and overall heart attack risk, such exposure did appear to be associated with a greater risk of fatal heart attack, especially heart attacks occurring outside hospitals, Mats Rosenlund of the Stockholm County Council and colleagues report.

The researchers also found that people who had ever lived in pollution “hot spots” with particularly dirty air had a 23 percent increased risk of heart attack, and a 40 percent increased risk of fatal heart attack.

The health effects of short-term exposure to air pollution are fairly well understood, but it is much less clear how long-term pollution exposure affects health, Rosenlund and colleagues note.

County who had suffered heart attacks for the first time between 1992 and 1994 and 1,870 healthy controls.

The researchers estimated carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, particulate matter and nitrogen dioxide exposure by linking an individuals’ address to historical data on emissions and atmospheric dispersion of the pollutants.

Website to support male breast cancer patients

MELBOURNE, 21 July—The National Breast Cancer Centre, which says about 100 Australian men are diagnosed with breast cancer each year, has launched a website to support male sufferers of the disease.

The centre has launched the website because it says there is a need for specific information for men diagnosed with cancer or concerned about a breast change.

One survivor has spoken about the isolation he faced as a rural man with the condition.

Graham Williams, from Forbes in country New South Wales, says the website will provide important information.

He says he found it difficult to find out about the condition and felt particularly isolated having to travel for treatment.

“I didn’t know men got breast cancer so when I was told it sort of floored me really,” he said.

Mr Williams, 43, says he was also shocked because the risk of breast cancer in men is highest for those over 50.

2006 sets heat record for US

WASHINGTON, 21 July — The first six months of 2006 were the warmest, on average, since the United States started keeping records in 1895, and global warming is a contributing factor, a US climate expert said on Wednesday.

July, August and September are forecast to continue the hot trend over most of the United States, including the vast area of the country west of the Mississippi River, as well as New England, Florida and southern Alaska. Only Hawaii is expected to have below-average temperatures, according to the US Climate Prediction Centre.

The heat wave gripping much of the United States may be uncomfortable but it is not unusual, said Jay Lawrimore of the National Climatic Data Centre.

“Every summer we do see periods of above-normal temperatures, and heat waves are not uncommon in the United States, in the Northeast or in other parts of the country,” Lawrimore said by telephone from Asheville, North Carolina.

Heat readings this week topped 100 Fahrenheit (38 Centigrade) from California to Texas and South Dakota to Kansas.—MNA/Reuters
Hu, Swedish King agree to expand cooperation for mutual benefit

BEIJING, 21 July— Chinese President Hu Jintao said here Thursday that China hopes to expand cooperation with Sweden to push bilateral ties to a higher level.

China values friendly cooperative ties with Sweden and hopes to improve friendly exchanges with Sweden and expand cooperation on the basis of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit,” Hu said in a meeting with Swedish King Carl XVI Gustaf.

King Carl XVI and Queen Silvia are in China for a six-day state visit. Hu reviewed the development of China-Sweden ties over the past 56 years, saying that their relations have kept improving despite the changes of international situations.

Sweden was the first Western country to recognize the new China. The two countries forged diplomatic ties in 1950.

Hu thanked the Swedish Government for its consistent adherence to the one-China policy and its positive attitude towards developing relations with China.

He also expressed China’s appreciation to King Carl XVI and the Swedish royal family for their great contribution on promoting China-Sweden friendly cooperative ties. King Carl XVI said the friendship between Sweden and China could be dated back to centuries ago and the Swedish royal family has keen interest in China’s history and culture.

Speaking on bilateral economic and trade cooperation, King Carl XVI said China’s rapid development created new business opportunities for Swedish enterprises and Sweden hopes to expand cooperation with China on trade, science, technology, education and environmental protection.

King Carl XVI’s visit coincides with the arrival of a replica of the 18th Century Swedish merchant ship Göteborg in south China’s Guangdong Province after a nine-month voyage.

Baghdad death rate ticks up in July

BAGHDAD, 21 July — Baghdad morgue has taken in about 1,000 bodies so far this month, a senior official there said on Thursday, indicating another slight increase in the number of violent deaths among civilians in the Iraqi capital.

Of the roughly 1,000 corpses tagkien in at the facility between 1 and 18 July, a steady 80 per cent were victims of violence, assistant manager Abdul Razzak al-Obaidi told Reuters.

That equates to an average of about 55 bodies a day, compared to 53 in June, 44 in May and 39 in April.

The United Nations this week used the Baghdad morgue data in conjunction with national Health Ministry statistics from hospitals to produce a figure of some 100 civilians being killed every day in May and June, or a total of nearly 6,000 people.

Project designed to protect US airliners in doubt

WASHINGTON, 21 July— Nearly three years after the US Government began 100 million US dollars’ worth of tests on lasers that could thwart missiles aimed at planes, the Homeland Security Department said the systems were too fragile and expensive to put on commercial jets, The USA Today reported Wednesday.

Tests showed the systems, now used on some military planes, break down after 300-to-400 hours of use, a failure rate that would cause chaos in the aviation system if planes had to be constantly taken out of service to be repaired, the report said.

Officials said the systems needed to last 10 times longer to be used in commercial aircraft.

It would be 18 more months before analysts determine whether the defence systems could be made to last and installed without a hefty price tag, Homeland Security spokesman Christopher Kelly was quoted as saying.

The department was also preparing to spend 10 million dollars to test other systems, including some that could be set up around airports to protect against a terrorist missile, according to the report.

Bulgaria finds avian flu in domestic birds

SOFIA, 21 July— Bulgaria said on Thursday it had detected bird flu in three farms in a village in the south of the country near the Turkish border and suspected it was the feared H5N1 strain of the virus.

“It’s proven that it’s bird flu, we don’t know the exact strain yet. We are working on the presumption that it is a highly pathogenic strain of H5N1,” Agriculture Minister Nihat Kabil told reporters.

Bulgaria reported four cases of H5N1 infection in wild swans earlier this year, but has not suffered to the same extent as neighbours Turkey in the south and Romania in the north. This is the Balkan country’s first avian flu case in domestic birds.

In the current Bulgarian outbreak, 243 chickens and turkeys have either died or been culled and another 480 will be destroyed by the end of the day in Slanchevog in southern Bulgaria, near the border with Turkey and Greece.

The US Institute of Medicine estimates more than 1.5 million Americans are harmed every year by medication mistakes.—INTERNET

INTERNET
Indian cargo firm shops for Boeing planes worth $1b

NEW DELHI, 21 July — In one of the biggest bookings by an Indian aviation firm, a Hyderabad-based air cargo company placed firm orders for purchase of four Boeing 777-200 freighter aircraft at a price of about one billion US dollars.

Flyingjet Freighters is the first Indian international cargo firm, which plans to launch global operations from this year-end with leased planes. The $945 million dollar deal was clinched with Boeing officials at the ongoing Farnborough airshow in Britain by Flyingjet MD Captain Deepak Parasuraman, who told PTI on phone that deliveries of the 777-200 freighters would begin in the end of 2009.

“However, we plan to launch our global cargo operations with leased aircraft from this year-end. We are close to finalizing the lease deals also,” Parasuraman said.

He said his company would lease six aircraft, which would be a mix of MD-11s and Airbus A300-600s to launch operations.

“We plan to carry out cargo operations to China, the Middle East, the US and Europe,” he said, adding that full-fledged operations with the leased planes would begin by March next year.

The Boeing 777-200 freighters would be powered by engines manufactured by US major, General Electric.

“Our vision is to be the most efficient cargo airline in this part of the world. We want to become the largest freighter airline in Asia in the next three years,” Parasuraman said.

This is the biggest deal so far by an Indian company at the Farnborough airshow.

The order for ten A-320s by Wadia Group’s low cost carrier GoAir as well as options for the purchase of ten more was actually placed earlier in Singapore and implemented at Farnborough. — MNA/PTI

Cambodia’s FDI pledges up dramatically in first half of 2006

PISOSI PENSI, 21 July — Cambodia’s foreign direct investment (FDI) pledges increased sharply in the first half of 2006, local media reported on Thursday.

More than 1.1 billion US dollars of FDI has been pledged, up from 449 million dollars in the same period of 2005, according to the figures released by the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC) on Wednesday. When domestic investment is included, some $2.3 billion has been committed, more than double the 1.1 billion dollars pledged in all of 2005. This year, however, the increase of the figures are heavily dependent on a single construction project, according to The Cambodia Daily. Ninety per cent of the FDI, or $988 million dollars, comes from one South Korean company that has promised to build a new satellite city in Phnom Penh’s Pong Peay Lake.

The new statistics also reveal that pledges of investment in agriculture projects have overtaken garments. — MNA/Xinhua

Indonesian Govt to build 8 biofuel factories

JAKARTA, 21 July — The Indonesian Government is preparing to build eight biodiesel factories in the country in a move to provide an alternative to expensive fossil-based fuels, the Jakarta Post reported on Thursday.

Industry Minister Fahmi Idris was quoted by the newspaper as saying here on Wednesday that each of the factories would be built with a production capacity of 3,000 tons to 6,000 tons per year. However, he said his ministry has not decided on the locations for the factories.

“We are in the process of selecting the right locations for the eight factories. We have offered the plan to all local administrations in the country,” he said at a seminar in Jakarta.

He said the determining factors in selecting the locations would include close proximity to oil palm plantations, or other commodities such as cassava and sugarcane that can be used for biodiesel production.

“The construction of the planned factories, which are estimated to cost about 60 billion rupiahs (about 649,000 US dollars), will be financed from the 2006 national budget.”

Part of the funds, Fahmi said, would be used for operating the factories, and they would be handed over to local administrations within a year. — MNA/Xinhua

Thai garment makers eye US market via bases in Vietnam

HANOI, 21 July — Thai textile and garment producers have shown interest in establishing production facilities in Vietnam to serve their exports to the United States, local newspaper Vietnam News reported on Thursday.

Thailand has encountered difficulties in reaching a free trade agreement with the United States, so lower labour costs in Vietnam and the country’s imminent entry into the World Trade Organization will help Thai-invested enterprises to boost their exports to the US market, the newspaper quoted sources from the Vietnamese Trade Office in Thailand as saying.

The Thai Garment Group has already established facilities in Vietnam and some Thai clothing makers have planned to set up plants and shops in the country, because labour cost in Vietnam is 20-30 per cent lower than that in Thailand, said Yotsuton Kijkusol, deputy chairman of the Thai Textile and Garment Producers Association.

The Thai garment and textile industry with 1.2 million employees annually generates export turnovers of more than 3.2 billion US dollars. Tariffs on Thai garments exported to the United States will be reduced to zero per cent from the current 27 per cent if the two countries reach a free trade agreement.

Vietnam posted textile and garment turnovers of 2.7 billion dollars in the first six months of this year, a year-on-year rise of 32.6 per cent, according to the country’s General Statistics Office. It is estimated to reap 5.5 billion dollars from exporting garments and textiles, mainly to the European Union and the United States in 2006, up 14.6 per cent against 2005. — MNA/Xinhua

Tiger Airways to set up more regional bases

SINGAPORE, 21 July — Singapore-based low cost carrier Tiger Airways aims to establish at least one new base in the Southeast Asia region by the end of this year, according to Channel NewsAsia report on Thursday.

It quoted the airliner’s chief executive officer Tony Davis as saying that Tiger Airways has been in talks with potential partners to “establish new companies around the region all under the Tiger network” on a joint venture basis or partnership franchise basis.

Though no detail about the new bases has yet been revealed, Tiger Airways plans to increase the number of routes it operates from the current 15 to 20 by the year-end.

Apart from flying to more cities in China and Southern India, the airline will also launch flights to new countries like Cambodia and Brunei, the report said, adding that its fleet is to expand from the present 12 planes to 20 in the next three to four years. — MNA/Xinhua

Police officers riding on horses speak to pedestrians during a power blackout in the French quarter of New Orleans on 20 July, 2006. Power outages are part of life in post-Katrina New Orleans when the power network suffered severe damage. — INTERNET

An Iraqi soldier keeps guard atop of a vehicle as he controls a checkpoint in central Baghdad on 21 July, 2006. Iraqi authorities extended a daytime curfew on Baghdad on Friday in an apparent effort to prevent violence after one of the bloodiest weeks this year. — INTERNET
We were very much pleased to meet with sincere national people, provide medical treatment to them, disseminate health awareness and render assistance for regional development. The role of the physicians of the team was also worthy of being put on record.

Indonesian President visits tsunami-torn areas in West Java

CLAIMS (Indonesia), 22 July—Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono arrived here on Friday morning to observe the earthquake and tsunami affected locations in Pangandaran and the handling of the emergency response in the areas.

Accompanying by several ministers, the President was scheduled to observe the disaster locations and a number of refugee camps in Pangandaran beach and then proceed to Cilacap to observe the quace affected areas and the tsunami victims.

The President on Thursday visited the coastal communities in Banten Province and ordered the Banten provincial government to prepare a set of steps and standard procedures that have to be followed by residents in the face of possible tsunami when an earthquake occurs.

The southern coast of Java Island was hit by an earthquake measuring 6.8 on the Richter Scale, which triggered a tsunami on Monday afternoon, killing at least 588 and destroying or damaging 1,651 houses and buildings, boats and motor vehicles along the coast from West Java to Yogakarta. It also forced 51,759 people to evacuate.

MNA/Xinhua

A local resident receives traditional Chinese medical treatment on her shoulder with ginger slices and ignited dry mint leaves at a hospital in Fuzhou, capital of east China’s Fujian Province on 20 July, 2006. Locals believe such treatment during the summer helps cure diseases such as asthma and rhinitis, according to traditional Chinese medical theory.

INTERNET
In the past, the Government took responsibility of large- and medium-scale production of electric power, and entrepreneurs of the private sector were permitted to produce electricity on a medium scale and micro scale. At present, localized and nationalized plans are being implemented to carry out production and supply of power.

Large- and medium-scale hydel power projects being implemented by the Government will have to generate about 5,000 megawatts. Nowadays, hydel power plants of the government produce 1,500 megawatts, a significant increase if compared to the past. Further significant increase if compared to the past. Further

The electric power plants constructed in the third five-year plan have been operating commencing this year and they will produce electricity with increasing momentum year by year. So, the private sector, organizations concerned and the government should strive in harness to raise the industrial development and to ensure take-off.

The measures for achieving the objectives include increasing per capita income, creating more job opportunities, obtaining and disseminating technologies locally, further effectively tapping nation’s natural resources and boosting the production of value-added goods, production of import-substitute items, and making investments in industries. The entrepreneurs earning foreign exchange should further invest in the industrial development and manufacturing enterprises. In this regard, organizational measures are to be taken for making the investments that can fulfill the State’s requirements and also serve the interest of the investors themselves.

making up 92.36 per cent of the industrial sector, the private sector is a reliable force for the industrial development of the nation. Making up 92.36 per cent of the industrial sector, the private sector is a reliable force for the industrial development of the nation.

The entrepreneur’s earning foreign exchange should further invest in the industrial development and manufacturing enterprises. In this regard, organizational measures are to be taken for making the investments that can fulfill the State’s requirements and also serve the interest of the investors themselves.

Taking advantage of the government’s effective encouragement, the prosperous industries of the private sector are to spread their wings for industrial development. He said there are good prospects in the agricultural sector. Based on agricultural products, finished products, value-added products and export items are to be manufactured. Consumption of imported consumer goods, which are produced based on crops of the country, has grown bigger, he said.

There are many kinds of industries which have superiority in financial power and technology can apply new technology. But qualified and experienced technicians in the country can utilize reverse engineering, he said.

Various kinds of industries of good prospects such as rice and its products, beans and pulses, wheat, fish and meat, forest, rubber and cotton are to be set up. It is found that oil palm industry starting from cultivation to refining has emerged due to morale, perseverance, diligence, taking risks and confidence in the government. Priority should be given to the establishment of cultivation-to-production industries, he said.

In implementing the rural development tasks, efforts are to be made for supply of power to the rural areas and invention of physic nut oil-driven machines. Under the guidance of the Head of State, cultivation of physic nut is being undertaken nationwide. Within two years, the use of physic nut oil will be wider, he added.

The electric power plants constructed in the third five-year plan have been operating commencing this year and they will produce electricity with increasing momentum year by year. So, the private sector, organizations concerned and the government should strive in harness to raise the industrial sector, enhance the industrial development and to ensure take-off.
The State will also take steps to develop industrial... (from page 8)

He said ethanol would be produced from sugarcane soon. In the future, bio-gas production process will develop. Therefore, industries that can apply ethanol and physic nut should be founded. Moreover, hydro-electric power industry, gem and mining industry and energy, electrical, transport and communication sectors will improve gradually.

He said more electricity and natural gas can be used in the very near future. In addition, extensive measures are being taken for improvement of technology and education standards and for conducting technological courses and research at factories and plants. The State will also take steps to develop industrial sector more significantly by conducting more research. In doing so, more cooperation is needed and only then will the correct policy and guidance of the Head of State meet success. The development of industrial sector also needs such characteristics as speed, skill and flexibility. He also noted strenuous efforts are to be made to develop industrial sector while overcoming difficulties.

Next, Minister U Aung Thaung reported on establishment of foundries, investments, assembling of buses and trucks, production of cars, motorcycles and three-wheel motorcycles at industrial zones, use of funds for the conversion of patrol engine cars into CNG ones, establishment of specials industrial zones, supply of raw materials and measures being taken for establishment of Myaungdaga foundry industrial zone. Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint submitted report to the coordination meeting of Industrial Development Committee (1/2006).— MNA

Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin submitted report at the coordination meeting of Industrial Development Committee (1/2006).—MNA

Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung reports at the coordination meeting of Industrial Development Committee (1/2006).— MNA

Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint submitted report to the coordination meeting of Industrial Development Committee (1/2006).—MNA

Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein reports to the coordination meeting of Industrial Development Committee (1/2006).— MNA

Foreign Affairs Officer of Department of State of... (from page 16)

She added that MWAf has set up the women/girl working group to take measures for preventing violence against women, prevention against trafficking in persons, and rehabilitation. In doing so, the federation is cooperating with NGOs at home and abroad, she said.

Professor Dr Daw Khin Mar Tun continued to say that tasks of the federation contribute to development of the State. As such, the MWAf plays an important role not only in development of women but also in that of the State. At present, the federation is conducting training courses for women for alleviation of poverty and seeking suitable jobs for them.

Due to imposing economic sanctions against Myanmar, garment factories and cold storages were closed down and Myanmar women lost their jobs. The sanctions can lead to more trafficking in Myanmar young women. MWAf had issued announcements/notes of protest and statements regarding the matter in which the development and life security of Myanmar women were harmed.

At present, it is known that a false report was forwarded to UN Security Council urging it to take action against Myanmar. In this regard, MWAf is reviewing the report and assessing the report. Instead of providing assistance to a developing nation like Myanmar, if they put pressure on Myanmar, it will not amount to helping Myanmar people. A review ought to be made on Myanmar, it will not amount to helping Myanmar people.

Minister U Aung Thaung reported on formation of mobile teams to give educative talks and courses and providing small loans. In addition, the federation is also working to take measures for preventing violence against human trafficking, opening vocational training courses and providing small loans. Afterwards, the federation set up the mobile teams to give educative talks and open counselling centers. To sign an MoU to handle human trafficking problems together with PRC, the Myanmar-China Senior Officers Meeting was held in Bagan of Myanmar in November 2005. At present, officials from the two countries are working in cooperation.

Research on violence in a family was conducted and it is found that lower income in a family, indulgence in alcohol by husband, adiposity and quarrels among relatives are the driving factors leading to the violence. This being so, vocational training programmes were given to women and small loan business set up for their income generation programmes, counselling centres were opened and mobile counselling training group was formed.

Mr Dean Tidwell, second secretary of the embassy of the United States of America disclosed that Anti-human Trafficking in Persons Law of Myanmar is complete if compared with neighbouring countries.

Next, Deputy Lega Study and Consultant Group Prof Dr Daw Than Nwe said that the Anti-human Trafficking in Persons Law was promulgated in Myanmar with the help of legal experts. It is Victim Centre Law. Legal Study and Consultant Group is studying CEDAW, CRC and Myanmar Child Law to thoroughly know the condition and rights of Myanmar women. Furthermore, the group is also studying Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), Charter of the Union and other convention on human rights. According to the studies, Myanmar women enjoy equal rights with men. They enjoy fundamental rights in their marriage, asset possession and heritage. Especially, the number of women holding doctorate degrees is greater than that of men in higher education sector.

Afterwards, Ms Sarah Burkley thanked responsible persons of MWAf for their clarifications on development of Myanmar women. Later, the guests signed the visitors’ book of MWAf.
Commander inspects development of townships in Yangon South District

YANGON, 22 July — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win made an inspection tour of Kayan, Thongwa and Kyauktan Townships this afternoon.

At Kayan Township People’s Hospital, Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai attended the ceremony to donate medicines and pairs of glasses to older persons. They viewed medical treatment provided by specialist team to local people, and presented cash assistance to the patients from the hospital.

At Thongwa Township People’s Hospital, the commander and wife inspected sanitation tasks being carried out by social organization members. Next, they attended the ceremony to talk on health and sanitation held in conjunction with the ceremony to provide cash assistance to disabled students by Thongwa Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association.

After speaking on the occasion, Chairperson of Yangon Division MCWSC Daw Mar Mar Wai accepted 1,000 membership applications. Secretary Dr Hla Myint handed over sanitation implements to responsible persons.

The commander and wife participated in the rainy season tree planting ceremony organized by Thanlyin Township Forest Department. Next, they viewed thriving physic nut saplings at the nursery.

In Kyauktan, they released fingerlings into the Bantbwegon Dam.

Minister for Mines meets Gold Mining Joint Venture Entrepreneurs

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July — The Ministry of Mines and Myanmar Gold Mining Joint Venture Entrepreneurs Association held a meeting on boosting production at the hall of the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint delivered an address. Director-General U Than Myint of Mining Department reported on law and regulations on mining, stability of gold price, and Managing Director U Hla Thein of No 2 Mining Enterprise on target of gold production for respective states and divisions.

Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein and Chairman of Myanmar Gold Joint Venture Entrepreneurs Association U Thu Daw gave suggestions. Officials of State/Division Peace and Development Councils and other meeting participants reported on administrative matters and future tasks.

Later, Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint gave concluding remarks. Also present at the meeting were Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, heads of department and enterprise of the General Administration Department and Ministry of Mines officials from States/Division PDCs and gold mining entrepreneurs.

Pedagogical aids donated to schools in Pyinmana

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July — Pyinmana Township Union Solidarity and Development Association organized a ceremony to donate pedagogical aids to basic education primary schools yesterday morning at No (158) BEPS in Chaylyin Village in Pyinmana District.

USDA CEC Member Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe delivered an introductory speech. The district USDA donated K 27,600; the township USDA and wellwishers, K 420,000; and U Thein Htwe-Daw Mya San Hla (Nan Sein Bakery), K 140,000 through the minister.

Wellwishers donated teaching and learning aids for the BEPSs in Pyinmana District through respective principals.

The minister presented K 100,000 for donating desks and bunches to the township USDA to a responsible person.
Three Peruvian surfers escape Indonesian tsunami on surfboards

LIMA, 22 July — Three Peruvian surfers told homeland media that they had escaped Monday’s Indonesia tsunami on their surfboards, local media said on Thursday.

Magoo la Rosa, 42, Julio Vignati, 17, and Carlos had been on board a boat travelling from Lombok to Sumbawa, two important Indonesian islands, when the boat caught fire, forcing them to leap into the Indian Ocean with only their surfboards.

It was then that they were hit by the tsunami, a gigantic wave caused by an underwater earthquake. They fought their way to Planpang Beach, where they called Lima. They told family members and media that they had been left without equipment, clothes and documents, apart from what they were wearing at the time.

The three surfers will now head for Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia, try to find Peruvian diplomatic officials and try to make their way home.

Chinese billionaires say wealth brings sense of insecurity

BEIJING, 22 July — As the saying goes, money cannot buy happiness. This rings true for many Chinese billionaires, who acknowledge that while wealth brings them “respect” and a “sense of achievement”, it also ushers in “trouble” and a “sense of insecurity”.

A recent questionnaire targeting 60 Chinese billionaires, whose average wealth stands at more than 2.2 billion yuan (275.25 million US dollars), found that most of them feel happiest at some point in their lives because of a sense of uncertainty despite their vast wealth.

The survey, conducted by Guangzhou-based newspaper Southern Weekend, covered such issues as wealth, career, marriage and sex, life and religion.

Sixty copies of the questionnaire were sent out but the paper only received 33 valid responses.

According to the survey, career is more important to Chinese billionaires than marriage. When asked to choose between career and marriage, 21 of the 33 billionaires preferred career to family, while only 12 went for marriage.

As to what makes them feel happiest, 11 of the interviewees said wealth brings them happiness, and nine chose success in their career. Six of them said a happy marriage makes them happy.

Sixteen of the respondents described extramarital affairs as “irrational” and 10 of them said they did not have any interest in such affairs.

Only six believed extramarital affairs were “reasonable”.

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 July — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Vice President Mr Makin Peplai of Shin Satellite Public Company Ltd from Thailanld and party at the minister’s office at Nay Pyi Taw this morning. Also present were directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry.

Indonesia to rebuild tsunami-hit resort better than before

PANGANDARAN (Indonesia), 22 July — The Indonesian Government pledged on Friday to rebuild the Pangandaran resort beach devastated by Monday’s tsunami into a more attractive tourist destination than before.

Calling the rebuilding programme a “recovery plus”, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono told local officials to speed up post-disaster reconstruction in the famous resort, where at least 340 people were killed in the disaster.

“Pangandaran must be rebuilt as a tourist destination with bigger potentials. Not only do we want to boost its competitiveness,” Susilo said when visiting the scene in Ciamis Regency, some 250 kilometres southeast of Jakarta.

He made the remarks during a meeting with the West Java governor, the Ciamis regent and several ministers.

“The emergency response must be sped up. In Yogyakarta and Central Java, we previously planned an emergency period of three months, but we managed to conclude in one month. I want it that way,” said Susilo, referring to two provinces hit by the devastating earthquake on 27 May.

Located on the southern Java coast, Pangandaran was one of the country’s most popular tourist resorts.

Most of its people make a living from tourist businesses and fishing.

Vietnam’s tea export to rise this year

HANOI, 22 July — Vietnam is expected to reap 110 million US dollars from tea export this year, up 10 per cent from last year, according to sources from the country’s Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on Friday.

Vietnam is intensifying tea export to some key markets, including China, Thailand, the United States, Russia and the European Union. Local enterprises are selling more processed products to China instead of raw materials as currently, and seeking more long-term contracts with Chinese partners.

Vietnam is also focusing on improving the products’ quality, intensifying trade promotion, promoting trademarks and getting to know tastes of foreign customers better.

Vietnam, which exported 89,000 tons of tea worth 100 million dollars in 2005, shipped abroad 41,000 tons of the products valued at 40 million dollars in the first six months of this year, posting respective year-on-year rises of 27.4 per cent and 18 per cent, according to the country’s General Statistics Office.

By late 2005, Vietnam, home to some 600 tea firms, including 234 tea exporters, had 125,000 hectares of tea with annual output of 577,000 tons.

Spanish police officers escort would-be illegal immigrants onto a Spanish Air Force plane as a Spanish Embassy car passes by at Malta International Airport outside Valletta on 21 July, 2006. Internet

Information Minister receives Thai guests

MNA/Xinhua

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives Vice President Mr Makin Peplai of Shin Satellite Public Company Ltd from Thailanld.

MNA

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MNA

Spanish police officers escort would-be illegal immigrants onto a Spanish Air Force plane as a Spanish Embassy car passes by at Malta International Airport outside Valletta on 21 July, 2006. Internet

MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives Vice President Mr Makin Peplai of Shin Satellite Public Company Ltd from Thailanld.
Indonesia’s bird flu death toll reaches 42

JAKARTA, 21 July — The World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed that the 42nd bird flu death in Indonesia, bringing the country to the world’s worst-hit by the virus along with Vietnam, a senior official of Indonesian Health Ministry said here on Thursday. “The result was positive, we received from the WHO affiliated— laboratory in Hong Kong today,” Hariadi Wibisono, the director at the ministry told Xinhua.

According to the director, the 44-year-old man, who died last week at a hospital in East Jakarta, had the H5N1 virus.

Two months ago, the biggest cluster bird flu in the world was found in Indonesia’s North Sumatra Province, followed by one in the province of Surabaya.

Bird flu has killed at least 132 people worldwide since it started ravaging Asian poultry stocks in late 2003, according to WHO.

Export earnings of Bangladesh’s EPZs up in 11 months

DILSHA, 21 July — Export earnings of enterprises in Bangladesh’s export processing zones (EPZs) during the first 11 months of the last fiscal year exceeded that of the previous fiscal year by about 97 million US dollars. The enterprises of the EPZs fetched exporting earnings to the tune of over 1.643 billion dollars during the first 11 months of fiscal 2005-06 (July 2005-June 2006) against over 1.548 billion dollars of fiscal 2004-05, local daily The Financial Express reported Thursday. The enterprises of the EPZs since inception have exported goods worth over 11.65 billion dollars up to May 2006 while more than 958.28 million dollars were invested in their 237 operating industrial units, the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) Public Relations Manager Nazma Binte Alamgir was quoted as saying.

A total of 91.27 million dollars was invested in the EPZs from July 2005 to May 2006. The BEPZA sanctioned 38 new industrial units during the 11-month period. Of them, 28 are foreign, four under joint ownership and the remaining six are Bangladeshi-owned, said Nazma.

The operating industrial units of the EPZs generated employment opportunities for 21,160 Bangladeshis during the 11 months.

MNA/Xinhua

French President calls for vigilance against heat wave

PARIS, 21 July — French President Jacques Chirac on Wednesday urged the public to be vigilant in face of the heat wave.

“In front of the heat wave, the public and local authority should show an absolute vigilance and our control and alarm system should be fully mobilized,” French Government spokesman Jean-Francois Cope quoted the President as saying.

Chirac also called every French citizen to show solidarity to help fragile people in their neighbourhood.

Two elderly people died Tuesday in southwestern France as a result of the heat. In summer of 2003, some 35,000 people died across Europe as a result of heat wave. France suffered the worst losses with a death toll of 14,800. — MNA/Xinhua

Indonesian official explains on tsunami warning

JAKARTA, 21 July — An official of the Indonesian Government has said that there was a warning of the tsunami that hit the southern coast on Monday, but it was issued too short notice to alert local communities, the Jakarta Post reported on Thursday.

State Minister for Research and Technology Kusmayanto Kadiman’s comments on the tsunami occurred on 17 July were made here Wednesday after media’s criticism of the lack of a warning.

“The warning was issued about seven minutes before the tragedy,” Kusmayanto said, adding “however, there wasn’t enough time to alert all the residents in the area”.

The Meteorology and Geophysics Agency (BMG) also received the tsunami warning, and sent it by short message service to 400 government officials and it was noted. “Most importantly, it was sent to electronic media,” he said, adding that the alert originated from countries equipped with high-technology warning systems, such as Japan, Australia and Germany.

However, the giant waves took only 20 minutes before inundating coastal areas, while the BMG had spent seven minutes to alert the officials and the media, and was thus unable to reach the local communities, he said.

A BMG official said on Tuesday that it announced there was no danger of a tsunami about 30 minutes before it struck. Kusmayanto said that the distribution of information was inevitably time consuming, and that even the fastest early warning system developed in Japan still could only alert the public 13 minutes before an incident.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia backs deadline on Iran, ceasefire between Israel, Hizbollah

MOSCOW, 21 July — Russia would back a ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon’s Hizbollah group, and a deadline on Iran to reply to an international incentive package on its nuclear programme, local Press reported on Thursday.

Russia is calling for an immediate declaration of a ceasefire as a first step to solve the escalating conflict in the Middle East, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said in an interview with Kommersant newspaper.

Lavrov’s remarks came as Israel continued its air strikes on Lebanon in retaliation for the kidnapping of two Israeli soldiers by the Lebanon-based militia group Hizbollah on 12 July.

The bombardment has forced thousands of foreigners to be evacuated from Lebanon.

Russia’s support for a ceasefire echoed a similar stance by France, another permanent member of the UN Security Council. Paris is calling for a UN ceasefire resolution.

However, Lavrov did not say whether Russia would back the resolution.

The United States indicated opposition to proposals on a ceasefire, arguing that a ceasefire was useless since Hizbollah would not heed it.

In the interview, Lavrov said Russia would also back a UN resolution setting a deadline for Iran to reply to it, to reply to the incentive package on its nuclear programme.

Six countries — Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States — offered Iran last month the package of commercial and technical incentives in return for Iran’s suspension of its uranium enrichment.

However, Iran has not responded to the offer so far, Lavrov said a lot of time has elapsed in terms of when Iran would reply to the package as it had promised to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Lavrov said, without indicating whether Russia would back sanctions on Iran if it fails to comply. — MNA/Xinhua
China plans new space project probing Sun-Earth environment

BEIJING, 21 July—As China steps up its lunar exploration, some scientists in the country are planning another space project, the “KuaFu Mission,” aiming to study the activities of the Sun.

At the ongoing 36th Committee on Space Research Scientific Assembly, Tu Changyi, a member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, said the project, expected to be launched in 2012, will study the complex Sun-Earth system and improve the space weather forecast.

The mission will raise the standards of end-to-end observation of the Sun-Earth system, and advance scientists’ understanding of the basic physical processes underlying space weather, said Tu, who is also a professor with the Beijing University.

Tu said the mission is designed to observe the complete chain of disturbances from the solar atmosphere to geospace, including solar flares, coronal mass ejections (CMEs), interplanetary clouds, shock waves, and their geo-effects, such as magnetic storms and auroral activities.

The name of the mission comes from an ancient Chinese legend of KuaFu, who tried to catch the Sun and enter it.

“The KuaFu mission may start at the next solar maximum, the year of 2012, hopefully, and with an initial mission lifetime of two to three years,” Tu said.

He said the mission is composed of three satellites: KuaFu-A and KuaFu-B1 and B2. KuaFu-A will be the Lagrangian point L1, the point stable with respect to gravitational forces between the Sun and the Earth, and have solar instruments to continuously observe the solar activities.

KuaFu B1 and B2 will be in polar Earth orbits that enable continuous observations of the aurora in northern hemisphere, which shows the influence of the Sun activities to the Earth, said the scientist.

The KuaFu mission is now at the comprehensive review stage, said Tu, adding that this study will be concentrated on a further review of the mission objectives and a further decision of the scientific payload.

China bans hunting of lions, ostriches, wild dogs

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 21 July—The Tanzanian Government has announced a ban on tourist hunting of lions, ostriches and wild dogs in the country, according to reports on Thursday. The ban, with immediate effect, was announced through a letter released by the Tanzanian Ministry for Natural Resources and Tourism to hunting operators on 17 July.

Abdulkadir Mohamed, secretary-general of the Tanzania Hunting Operators Association, said that the hunting ban in the middle of Tanzania’s hunting season that lasts from July 1 to December 31 may force hunting operators to sue the government for this abrupt move.

Lion hunting kills on average 250 head of big cats a year and generates a gross income of some $3 to 5 million US dollars a year in Tanzania which ranks third in terms of revenue generation from tourist hunting industry. Only lions aged six or older are recommended for tourist hunting and allowed for trophy exports from Tanzania. Buffalo hunting fees contribute 21.5 per cent of Tanzania’s revenues generated from the tourist hunting sector while leopard hunting contributes 10.4 per cent, followed by lion hunting that contributes 9.4 per cent of the total revenue of tourist hunting fees.

Genghis Khan helped promote European cultural progress

HOHHOT, 21 July—Genghis Khan, known for rampaging across much of Asia, Europe and the Middle East to create one of the world’s greatest empires, also brought along the essence of Asian culture and promoted cultural progress in Europe, Chinese historians say.

“Genghis Khan introduced papermaking and printing technologies to Europe and pioneered cultural exchanges between Asia and Europe,” said Professor Zhu Yaoting, a specialist on Mongolian history at Beijing Union University.

“Genghis Khan helped liberate the Europeans from the bondage of theology — in this sense, his expeditions served as a catalyst for the Renaissance,” he said Thursday at a seminar on Genghis Khan studies held in northern China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

Genghis Khan expanded from central China to northwest Xinjiang and Central Asia, a comprehensive communication network with messengers commuting between many relay stations to send messages, said Professor Zhu. “This network served as an important link between the East and the West. It brought to Europe gunpowder, firearms and compass that later helped Christopher Columbus in his voyage to the new continent,” he said.
Title-hungry Els sets up Hoylake duel with Woods

Hoylake (England), 22 July — Hungry for his first victory of the year after battling to overcome a knee injury, Ernie Els was delighted to match British Open leader Tiger Woods with a seven-under-par 65 in Friday’s second round.

The big South African finished a sun-drenched day at Hoylake one stroke behind Woods at 11-under 133 and the pair will play together in the final group out on Saturday.

“I’m just happy to be in this position,” 2002 champion Els told reporters after reeling off seven birdies on a blemish-free display. “When statistics tell on a roll, I wanted to get in that final group. I wasn’t going to back down today.

“I played some solid golf, hit some good shots and felt good on the greens. I really enjoyed the round.” Fully recovered from the knee injury that left him sidelined for four months at the end of last season, Els highlighted the importance of ending the second round just one shot behind the game’s best player.

“He’s quite a good front-runner so you need to reach out and haul him back,” the 36-year-old said. “He’s not going to back down from a lead. “I’ve got to do my own thing. I’ve been a good player myself for quite a long time and I’ve worked hard to get back.” MNA/Reuters

Rivals Roddick, Ginepri set up Indianapolis showdown

Indianapolis, 22 July —Defending champion Robby Ginepri and longtime rival Andy Roddick blasted into a semifinal meeting at the Indianapolis International for a third straight year on Friday.

Ginepri, beaten in the first round of the US Open last August, “It feels great, he broke my heart at the Open,” Roddick told reporters. “I wanted to play better today. I’m looking forward to Robby, we first played when we were 11-years-old.” Roddick broke Muller twice in the second set and advanced on a fourth match point.

Fourth seed Ginepri was untouchable in his second set against Parador, losing just one point on serve among the seven he dropped over the entire contest. Parador, seeded eighth, had a poor day, losing in 49 minutes, with Ginepri running off 11 consecutive points midway through the second set. Ginepri, beaten in the opening match in 10 of 15 tournaments this season, never faced a break point. “Parador was clearly not playing like he can,” Ginepri told reporters. “Most players, including myself, have huge respect for him. He can hit you off the court.”

MNA/Reuters

Chelsea agree to sell del Horno to Valencia

London, 22 July — Chelsea have agreed to sell defender Asier del Horno to Valencia, the English champions said on their website on Friday.

The Spanish international left back has travelled to Valencia to negotiate personal terms.

Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho has decided to trim his squad for the forthcoming season with Icelandic forward Eidur Gudjohnsen already departed for Barcelona. Del Horno joined Chelsea on a three-year contract from Athletic Bilbao in June 2005 for 12 million euros (£15.17 million US dollars). He made 32 appearances for the club, but failed to live up to expectations.

The 25-year-old defender hit the headlines when he was sent off for a wild challenge on Barcelona forward Lionel Messi during Chelsea’s 2-1 defeat at Stamford Bridge in the Champions League first knockout round in February.—MNA/Reuters

Colombia determined in 2014 World Cup bid

Bogota, 22 July — The Colombian Government said on Friday it was determined in its bid to host the 2014 World Cup after vice-president Fernando Santos met with South American Football Confederation (CSF) president Nicolas Leoz.

Leoz, however, remained cautious, adding that the federations of the 10 South American nations had already agreed to back Brazil.

South America is due to host the tournament under FIFA’s rotation system which continues in South Africa in 2010. The South American federations backed Brazil as their only candidate in 2003.

Colombia President Alvaro Uribe, in a surprise announcement last Saturday, said Colombia wanted to enter the race. “It’s not going to be easy but there are possibilities and we’re going to do everything we can,” Santos told reporters.

“I believe we need to work on every front so that we can compete and create some competition,” he said. “Competition is healthy.”

Leoz said: “It’s not up to me to say that they can or can’t do it, the important thing is to have the dream. Sometimes it stays a dream, sometimes it becomes reality.” MNA/Reuters

Hjertstedt, Gump, Maruyama tied for lead at BC Open

New York, 22 July — Sweden’s Gabriel Hjertstedt, American Scott Gump and Japan’s Daizuke Maruyama shot their second successive 67s to share the second-round lead at the BC Open in Verona, New York on Friday.

Hjertstedt, the first Swede to win on the PGA Tour when he captured the BC Open title in 1997, had missed the cut in all three events he played last year and five of eight tournaments this season, shot six birdies for a midway total of 10-under 134.

Maruyama and Gump, who has played just five PGA events the last three seasons and missed four cuts, both signed scorecards with seven birdies and a pair of bogeys at the Turning Stone Resort’s Atunyote Course. —MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across
1 Inquired
4 Dizziness
8 R.A.F. goblin
9 Propounded
11 Military man
12 Percolate gently
13 Cosmopolitan London district
15 Boat
16 Feed
20 Equal
22 Crush
24 Belief
26 Spaces above stage
27 Shocking affair
28 Plots
29 Tendency

Down
1 Made cross
2 Work dough
3 Stupid
4 Disappear
5 Repulse
6 Suffolk town
7 System
10 Half-diameters
11 Military man
14 Town crier’s call
15 Boat
16 Feed
18 Race competitor
19 Irritated
21 Against
22 Sieves
23 Race course
25 Gentle poke
28 Plots
29 Tendency

Sergio Garcia of Spain reacts to his tee shot on the 15th hole during the second round of the British Open Championship at the Royal Liverpool Golf Club in Hoylake on 21 July, 2006.—INTERNET
Exercise against flu pandemic helps identify lapses

SINGAPORE, 22 July — The multi-agency exercise against flu pandemic, which started here on Friday, can help identify areas for improvement in Singapore’s preparedness and response measures, Deputy Prime Minister Wong Kan Seng said after witnessing a drill at Tan Tock Seng Hospital.

According to Channel NewsAsia report, Wong said that Singapore has to take every precaution against a possible flu pandemic outbreak, which include conducting effective surveillance and detection, preparing the healthcare facilities and workers, as well as educating the public to keep vigilant.

Code-named Sparrowhawk II, it is the city state’s first nationwide emergency exercise against flu pandemic, which has rolled out at 19 locations including airport, port, checkpoint, schools and hospitals.

More than 1,000 personnel from 21 ministries and government agencies, over 10,000 medical workers, as well as volunteers and members of the public, participate in the two-day exercise.

Wong said that Singapore’s preparedness and response measures, and was last tracked 1,260 kilometres east of Central Luzon and moving west-northwest at 19 kilometres per hour.

The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said Kaemi was packing maximum sustained winds of 110 kilometres per hour and gusts of up to 140 kilometres per hour.

Kaemi was forecast to be 830 kilometres east of Northern Luzon by Saturday morning, 490 kilometres east and southeast of Basco, Batanes, northwest of the Philippines on Sunday, and 200 kilometres east of Batanes early Monday, according to PAGASA.

Tropical storm “Kaemi” enters Philippine area of responsibility

MANILA, 22 July — Tropical Storm “Kaemi” entered the Philippine area of responsibility on Friday and was last tracked 1,260 kilometres east of Central Luzon and moving west-northwest at 19 kilometres per hour.

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Kaemi was packing maximum sustained winds of 110 kilometres per hour and gusts of up to 140 kilometres per hour.

Wealth

Saturday, 22 July, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagona and Magway Divisions, rain have been isolated in Chin and Kayah States and upper Sagona Division, scattered in Shan and Kayin States and Mandalay division, fairly widespread in Kachin State and Ayeyawady Division and widespread in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Maungdaw (2.88) inches, Kyakhtaw (1.50) inches, Yangon (Central) (1.34) inches, An (1.30) inches, Dawei (1.15) inches, and Nay Pyi Taw (0.15) inch.

Maximum temperature on 21-7-2006 was 87°F. Minimum temperature on 22-7-2006 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 22-7-2006 was (100%). Total sunshine hours on 21-7-2006 was (2.5) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 22-7-2006 were (0.20) inch at Mingaladon, (0.71) inch at Kaba-Aye and (1.34) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2006 were (48.66) inches at Mingaladon, (58.74) inches at Kaba-Aye and (63.98) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (16-30) hours MST on 21-7-2006.

Bay influence: Monsoon is generally moderate in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 23-7-2006: Rain will be widespread in Chin State, Sagona, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan, Kayin and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Kachin State and Ayeyawady Division and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 23-7-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 23-7-2006: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 23-7-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 12:00 hours MST 22-7-2006)

According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an is (752) cm. It may remain above its danger level of (750) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.

According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Sittung River at Madaw (1124) cm. It may remain above its danger level of (1070) cm during the next (72) hrs commencing noon today.
Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Mindat-Matupi road

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence inspected the Mindat-Matupi Road Project on 19 July.

During his inspection tour, he was accompanied by Sagaing Division PDC Chairman North-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Chin State PDC Vice-Chairman Col Hsan Aung and heads of department.

He inspected the construction of the stone-filled earthen retaining wall between mile posts No 8/2 and 8/3 on the road. Engineers reported on the work progress. In response, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on durability of the retaining wall and construction of retaining walls at the sites by the road where possible landslide can occur.

Upon arrival at the project for extension of Mindat-Matupi Road at mile post 33/0 by Public Works, he heard reports by officials on work progress between mile posts Nos 200 and 700. And he called for preventive measures for the facility against being flooded and eroded, proper drainage, and repair to the damaged sites on the road.

He also inspected the 51 miles and five furlongs long road linking Mindat-Matupi Road and Shwe Aung Tha Village. The gravel road leads to Htilin. He visited the physic nut nursery of Public Works at mile post No 38 in Mindat Township. Officials reported on nurturing of 10,000 physic nut saplings and 10,000 seedlings.

Upon arrival at mile post No 5000, he looked into the resurfacing of the road section and gave instructions on the project.

He visited the monastery in Twedein Village and supplicated on religious affairs to the Sayadaw. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the extension of Mindat-Matupi road, the construction of a retaining wall and the maintenance of a 50-foot bailey bridge across Monse Creek. They then attended the opening of Layhu-Kyok village-to-village road for regional development. The road will enable local people of Kyok and Layshi villages to transport their goods to other places using the Mindat-Matupi road. After inspecting the eight-mile-six-furlong road, they greeted local people. At Chanpyan village, they paid respects to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Dhammananda of Dhamma Nimitayon monastery and presented offerings to him.

They also inspected Leimyo Creek bridge and high-yield paddy fields.

Prime Minister sends felicitations to Egypt

NAY PYI TAW, 23 July—General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr Ahmed Nazif, Prime Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on the occasion of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt which falls on 23 July 2006.—MNA

Foreign Affairs Officer of Department of State of Washington DC calls on MWAF General Secretary

YANGON, 22 July—General Secretary of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation Professor Dr Khin Mar Tun and party met with Foreign Affairs Officer Ms Sarah Burkley of Department of State of Washington DC together with Second Secretary of the US Embassy in Yangon Mr Dean Tidwell at the meeting hall of the MWAF on Thanlwin Road in Kamayut Township yesterday morning.

Also present on the occasion were Joint General Secretary Daw Khin Htar May, member of Secretariat Daw Htu Raw, Deputy Leader of International Relations Department Dr Daw Myint Kyi and Deputy Leader of Legal Study and Consultant Working Group Professor Daw Than Nwe.

On the occasion, Professor Dr Daw Khin Mar Tun said that she warmly welcomes the guests. MWAF was formed in December 2003, and Women’s Affairs Organizations at different levels were also set up with seven lofty aims. Therefore, the federation is a leading organization for Myanmar women.

She explained that MWAF was formed with six departments and six working groups to carry out uplift of living standard of women and safeguard them. Among its tasks, MWAF is performing enhancement of education, health and living standard of women and environmental conservation.

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Every time, the Shan State MCWSC chairperson met with members of the district, township and village associations, she said “We can save lives although we are not doctors.” Her words are so encouraging for us.