### 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

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**Vice-Senior General Maung Aye attends ceremony to donate cash to medical trust fund of PyinOoLwin Hospital (200-bed)**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 23 July — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, left Nay Pyi Taw and arrived in PyinOoLwin on 20 July morning.**

They were welcomed by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, senior military officers of PyinOoLwin Station and departmental officials.

At 8 am today, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye attended the ceremony to donate cash to the medical trust fund of the 200-bed hospital in PyinOoLwin held at the hospital.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of National Health Committee Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, the Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command, (See page 8)

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**INSIDE**

The supporting dam stores about 93,300 acre feet of water that will flow into the North Yama Dam and then spill out of it. The surplus water helps carry out multiple cropping and mixed cropping all-year round in the 12,000 acres benefited by the North Yama Dam. Now, local people no longer have to rely solely on the rain in growing crops.
Raising industrial development momentum

Nowadays the government has been setting up a lot of basic industries and transforming an agro-based industry into all-round development of the industrial sector. The government is making arrangements for electric power supply, a major requirement for operation of industrial sector in high gear.

The measures for achieving the objectives of the State include increasing per capita income, creating more job opportunities, obtaining and disseminating technologies locally, further effectively tapping the nation’s natural resources and boosting production of value-added goods, production of import-substitute items, and making investments in industries.

The private sector with over 92 per cent ownership in the industrial sector, is a reliable force for the industrial development of the nation. Entrepreneurs, on their part, are to establish industries of good prospects.

Priority should be given to the establishment of crop industries such as rice and its products, beans and pulses and wheat, forest-based industries, fish and meat-related industries and rubber and cotton industries.

Regarding the industrial development, according to the figure of the 2005-2006 fiscal year, the industrial sector contributed over 17 per cent to the GDP of the nation. Sustained efforts are thus to be made to develop the industrial sector’s contribution towards the GDP by 18.9 per cent in 2006-2007, the first year of the fourth five-year plan, by 20.9 per cent in the second year, by 23.3 per cent, 25.9 per cent and 28.9 per cent in the following years.

Now the government has been providing necessary assistance including financial and human resources to the industrial sector. The private sector is to strive for development of industrial sector through the establishment of industries of good prospects in cooperation with the government.
China hails Regional Forum as FM will attend ASEAN meeting

BEIJING, 22 July — China said on Friday that the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Forum played positive roles in enhancing trust and promoting cooperation.

"As the major official channel on security dialogue and cooperation in Asia-Pacific Region, ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) has played positive roles in enhancing trust, reaching consensus and promoting cooperation," Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao said.

Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing will attend the 7th foreign ministers’ meeting between ASEAN and China, Japan and the Republic of Korea (10+3) from 26 to 27 July in Kuala Lumpur of Malaysia, Liu said.

Li will also attend the ASEAN’s Post Ministerial Conferences (PMC) with dialogue countries and the 13th foreign ministers’ meeting of ARF, Liu said.

On the sidelines of the meetings, Li will hold one-on-one meetings with foreign ministers of some countries, exchanging views on issues of common concern, the spokesman said.

China holds that the ARF development should conform to the characteristics and needs of the Asia-Pacific Region, Liu said.

The spokesman said that China will work with other countries to boost the sound development of the ARF and maintain the security of the Asia-Pacific Region. MNA/Internet

Microsoft warns about a PowerPoint virus

SEATTLE, 22 July — Microsoft Corp warned about a new computer virus that exploits a vulnerability in its PowerPoint presentation software to allow hackers to infiltrate computer systems.

Microsoft issued an advisory on the company’s security web log on 17 July about the virus, which is carried out when a user launches a PowerPoint attachment to an e-mail or opens a file provided to them by the attacker. Hackers could also lure users to a web page that offers content or advertisements containing a file that exploits the PowerPoint software, Microsoft said. The vulnerability applies to PowerPoint 2000, 2002 and 2003.

Once the user triggers the corrupt PowerPoint file, the virus installs a keystroke logging system to capture everything typed on the machine. It also leaves the machine open to having a hacker install other malicious programmes.

"It installs a backdoor and allows for all types of software to be downloaded on the computer and the computer can be remotely controlled," said Alfred Huger, a security expert at Symantec Corp. Microsoft said it was completing development of a security update to fix the vulnerability and was on schedule to release the patch on August 8, or sooner, as part of a monthly security update.

The company reported a "limited" number of attacks. MNA/Reuters

US raid kills Iraqi women, toddler

BAQUBA (Iraq), 22 July — US forces killed two suspected militants as well as two women and a child in a raid in the Iraqi city of Baquba on Friday, the military said.

"The raid was targeting terrorists associated with senior al-Qaeda in Iraq network members who have been targeted in previous Coalition operations and have been linked to several attacks against Iraqi citizens," said a military statement.

"Intelligence also indicates that the targeted terrorists have extensive links to foreign fighters in the area," it said. The raid came at a sensitive time when US Marines are under criminal investigation over allegations they shot dead 24 civilians in the Iraqi town of Haditha last year after one of their comrades was killed by a roadside bomb. "The US forces bombed civilian houses in Baquba, killing and wounding civilians," Raad Dahdaki, the head of the Baquba provincial council, told Reuters.

Police and neighbours said members of one family were killed when US helicopters rocketed their house. "The raid was targeting terrorists associated with senior al-Qaeda in Iraq network members who have been targeted in previous Coalition operations and have been linked to several attacks against Iraqi citizens," said a military statement.

"Intelligence also indicates that the targeted terrorists have extensive links to foreign fighters in the area," it said. The raid came at a sensitive time when US Marines are under criminal investigation over allegations they shot dead 24 civilians in the Iraqi town of Haditha last year after one of their comrades was killed by a roadside bomb. "The US forces bombed civilian houses in Baquba, killing and wounding civilians," Raad Dahdaki, the head of the Baquba provincial council, told Reuters.

Police and neighbours said people in one of several houses that were attacked by US forces and helicopters had mistaken the Americans for hostile Shiite militiamen because they were wearing black. As a result they fired on the US troops. MNA/Reuters

Blast hits vehicle in Kabul as NATO chief arrives

KABUL, 22 July — An Afghan man was killed on Thursday when an explosion hit a vehicle in Kabul, a statement by NATO’s Secretary-General arrived to discuss an expansion of the alliance’s peacekeeping mission to the violence-plagued south.

A model shows a new handset by which users can watch digital TV programmes at Wireless Communication Exhibition in Tokyo, capital of Japan, on 21 July, 2006. Cell phones with digital TV function have enjoyed great popularity in Japan since the promotion of mobile high-definition digital video service began this April. MNA/Internet
Bond flick due out on 28 September

BANGKOK, 23 July — Bangkok’s multi-billion dollar new airport, which has been plagued by corruption scandals and delays, will open to commercial traffic in the early hours of 28 September, Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra said on Friday.

Suvarnabhumi’s full opening, which Thaksin announced at a news conference in a hotel adjoining the futuristic glass structure, will be exactly one year after a “soft opening” for an airport hoped to rival Singapore, Hong Kong and Kuala Lumpur.

Covering 3.200 hectares (7,900 acres) of swamp area 25kilometres (15 miles) east of the sprawling capital and boasting the world’s tallest control tower, Suvarnabhumi and its two runways — a third is planned — will be the largest of its kind in Asia.

Meaning “Golden Land” in Thai, it will be able to handle 45 million passengers a year, a significant increase on the capital’s ageing Don Muang Airport and its congested single runway.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA), an airline industry trade group, believes Suvarnabhumi cost around 5.6 billion US dollars.

With Thailand luring over 10 million tourists a year, experts agreed Don Muang’s time had come, but controversy has surrounded the new airport, including allegations of corruption involving the purchase of 26 expensive bomb-sniffing scanners.

The government has denied any wrongdoing.

MNA/Reuters

Over 25,000 suffer from power outage in New York

NEW YORK, 22 July — A blackout affecting an estimated 100,000 people in Queens, New York, has entered its fifth day Friday, said Con Edison, the city’s major power supplier said.

On day five of the power outage, local residents are finally starting to see some services, including free fruit and drinks, but Con Ed now says as many as 25,000 customers are still without power.

Earlier estimates put the number closer to 2,400, but officials with Con Ed said that number was based on the number of calls taken by the utility.

After a block by block inspection of the area, Con Ed now said the number is closer to 10 times greater than original estimates.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg, speaking on his weekly radio show, said he was “annoyed” by the new estimate because had city officials known the scope of the problem “we might have thrown more resources into the area”.

“The sad thing is, this shouldn’t have happened,” Bloomberg said. “We don’t know why, but the most important thing — make sure nobody dies or gets hurt and then help Con Ed to get it back up.”

MNA/Xinhua

China’s death toll from tropical storm “Bilis” rises to 530

BEIJING, 23 July — China’s death toll from tropical storm Bilis jumped to 530 as more fatalities were reported in southern bustling province of Guangdong on Saturday.

Death toll from disasters brought about by Bilis has risen from 63 to 99 in Guangdong on Friday, said the provincial flood control and drought relief headquarters.

The disasters also left another 82 people missing, destroyed nearly 60,000 houses, and caused a direct economic loss of over 13.2 billion yuan (about 1.65 billion US dollars) in the province, said the headquarters.

Bilis landed on China’s southeastern coast on 14 July and then churned inland, triggering deadly flooding and landslides.

Local authorities in central province of Hunan raised the province’s death toll from Bilis from 92 to 346 on Friday afternoon and added that 89 others remained missing.

Flood, landslides and houses collapses brought about by heavy rain in the wake of Bilis also killed 30 in Guangxi.

And the officials did not shift their work focus from rescue and relief to counting death toll and damage until rainstorms stopped and floods receded, Luo Xiwu, deputy secretary of the Zixing City Committee of the Communist Party of China, told Xinhua.

The Ministry of Civil Affairs issued an announcement on Friday, warning local officials not to cover up death tolls from the disaster.

MNA/Xinhua

Castro chuckles at rumours of his death

CARACAS (Venezuela), 22 July — Latin America’s rumour mill perennially buzzes with stories that Cuban leader Fidel Castro has died, but the 79-year-old Communist firebrand says he gets a kick out of it.

Castro has maintained control of Cuba despite his advancing age and a strict US embargo that he is increasingly skirting with the help of a close alliance with Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez.

“I die just about every day,” said Castro in an interview with Venezuelan state television broadcast late on Thursday night, in reference to the rumours. “But it’s really a lot of fun for me and it makes me feel healthier.”

Castro spoke on Venezuelan television at a meeting of the South American trade bloc Mercosur, held in the Argentine city of Cordoba.

Rumours surfaced last week that the Cuban leader had passed away, but faded when they turned out to be based on idle speculation broadcast by a Venezuelan radio station.

Castro says he has survived numerous assassination attempts and always travels under tight security.

MNA/Reuters

Finns use pig slurry to clean polluted pond

HELSDIN, 22 July — Finnish engineers have poured pig manure into a contaminated pond next to an old mine, saying the bacteria in the slurry will clean up metals in the water.

Mining company Outokumpu dumped 450 cubic metres of pig slurry into the waste water near the closed Kangasjarvi mine, which once produced zinc, copper and sulphur.

“Pig slurry contains bacteria that bind metals that are in the mine water and they will sink to the bottom. We have used this system to clean mine waters at various mines,” Eero Soininen, Outokumpu’s mine reclamation manager, told Reuters.

“Around 15 years ago we noticed mine water got cleaned by itself at our Foldak mine in Norway. We studied the water and found bacteria that eat sulphides.”

It takes around 2 to 4 years for sulphide-eating bacteria to get their job done.

MNA/Reuters

The new James Bond hasn’t even had his first martini yet and he’s already got another job. The producers behind “Casino Royale,” this fall return to action for agent 007, said on 20 July, 2006 that new star Daniel Craig will reprise the role in a second Bond flick due out on 2 May, 2008.

INTERNET
Survey shows shopping becomes hot pastime in China

BEIJING, 22 July— Shopping has become an increasingly popular pastime in China, making the country home the world’s largest population of clothes fanatics, according to a global on-line survey.

One third of the respondents on the Chinese mainland said clothes shopping was their favourite thing to do, the highest percentage in the world, said a recent survey done by AC Nielsen. The percentage was 20 percent higher than the world average, according to the survey, which polled 22,000 Internet users in 42 countries and regions. India ranked second with 20 percent of respondents saying clothes shopping was their favourite thing to do.

The young population of China and India are ambitious, hard-working and have money to spend on their lifestyle, said Glen Murphy, managing director of AC Nielsen China.

“They are brand-conscious and internationally aware of what their counterparts in the West are wearing and buying.”

Scientists link fires to global warming

WASHINGTON, 22 July— Scientists worldwide are watching temperatures rise, the land turn dry, in the Siberian taiga and Canadian Rockies, in southern California and Australia, researchers find growing evidence indicating an upsurge in wildfires to climate change, an impact long predicted by global-warming forecasters.

A team at California’s Scripps Institution, in a headline-making report this month, found that warmer temperatures, causing earlier snow run-off and consequently drier summer conditions, were the key factor in an explosion of big wildfires in the U.S. West during three decades, including fires now rampaging east of Los Angeles.

Researchers previously reached similar conclusions in Canada, where fire is destroying an average 6.4 million acres a year, compared with 2.5 million in the early 1970s.

And an upcoming US-Russian-Canadian scientific paper points to links between wildfire and wildfires in Siberia, where 2006 already qualifies as an extreme fire season, the sixth in the past eight years.

Far to the south in drought-stricken Australia, meanwhile, 2005 was the hottest year on record, and the dangerous bushfire season is growing longer.

“Temperature increases are intimately linked with increases in area burned in Canada, and I would expect the same worldwide,” said Mike Flannigan, a veteran Canadian Forest Service researcher.

Venezuela to buy Russian “Sukhoi” fighter jets

MOSCOW, 22 July— Russia has struck a deal with Venezuela to sell the South American nation 30 Sukhoi-30 fighter jets and as many helicopters, Defence Minister Sergei Ivanov said on Friday.

The total value of the deal is over 1 billion US dollars, according to Ivanov, Russian news agencies reported.

Venezuela received on 3 June an arms shipment of 30, in AK-47 assault rifles and 25 million rounds of ammunition from Russia as part of a deal signed last year that also included purchasing helicopters.

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, who is scheduled to visit Russia on 25-27 July, has said Caracas plans to replace its US-made F-16s with Sukhoi-30s.

Singapore to continue efforts to build racial harmony

SINGAPORE, 23 July— Singapore will continue its efforts in building racial harmony, Channel NewsAsia report quoted Deputy Prime Minister S. Jayakumar as saying Friday.

He said that the management of racial and religious relations in Singapore is still somewhat from auto-pilot as new challenges, like Internet and blog, have been emerging.

The government will continue to pay close attention to these new technologies which could be used to disseminate harmful remarks, according to Jayakumar.

“Even a thoughtless remark, a reckless one, without some conspiratorial or evil intent, can cause considerable damage,” he cautioned.

Thunder kills four in northern Nigeria

LAGOS, 22 July— Thunder has claimed the lives of two pupils and two teachers at Lubu Primary School in Nigeria’s northern state of Plateau, the official News Agency of Nigeria reported on Friday.

An eyewitness was quoted as saying that the disaster occurred on Thursday morning. The witness, a teacher of the school who requested anonymity, said the thunder during a heavy downpour also left several others injured.

The injured were rushed to a community hospital in the area, he added.

Fortunately, the thunder did not damage any of the school’s structure.
Venezuelan oil companies sign J-V contracts with Petrobras

CARACAS, 22 July — Two Venezuelan oil companies on Thursday signed contracts with Brazil’s state-run firm Petrobras, to jointly exploit crude oil deposits in the La Concepcion oil field.

The Venezuelan state-run company Venezuelan de Petroleo (CVP) and privately-owned Williams International Oil and Gas Limited would respectively hold 60 per cent and 4 per cent of the shares in Petroway, the new joint venture company; Petrobras, Brazil’s state-run oil company, would hold 36 per cent. CVP said in a statement. CPV said that the company planned to sign another three joint-venture contracts with Petrobras, without specifying any details about the partners involved.

On 31 March, Venezuela signed 17 similar joint venture contracts with Petrobras, without specifying any details about the partners involved.

US indicts British man on terrorism charges

WASHINGTON, 22 July — US authorities indicted a British man on Wednesday in the northeastern state of Connecticut on charges of conspiring to provide material support to terrorists and conspiring to kill, maim or injure people abroad.

The suspect, Syed Talha Ahsan, was arrested at his home in London Wednesday and the US Government would seek his immediate extradition, media reports said, quoting Kevin O’Connor, US Attorney for Connecticut. Ahsan and a British computer expert, Babar Ahmad, helped set up websites that sought to recruit for the Taleban and Chechen rebels and to fund their operations, according to a grand jury indictment. Ahmad was charged in a previous indictment unsealed in Connecticut in October 2004. The cases were brought in Connecticut because the defendants used an Internet service provider in the state, news reports said. — MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam’s paddy rice fields mined by pests, diseases

HANOI, 22 July — Vietnam may have to destroy dozens of thousands of hectares of paddy rice in the southern region, the country’s biggest rice hub, to prevent further spread of diseases and pests in fields, local newspaper Youth reported Friday.

Over 38,000 hectares of paddy rice in the Mekong Delta, which represents more than half of Vietnam’s rice output and up to 90 per cent of the country’s rice export volume, have been infected with diseases and pests. The newspaper quoted Nguyen Huu Huan, deputy head of the Plant Protection Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. The agencies are also proposing local authorities to offer financial assistance to farmers. Vietnam, the world’s second biggest rice exporter, has targeted to produce 36 million tons of rice this year, the ministry said recently. To this end, the country, under its strategy for rice production until 2010, will develop several areas designated for growing rice for export, including one million hectares in the Mekong Delta, and 300,000 hectares in the northern Red River Delta, aiming to produce 36 million tons of paddy rice each year.

North China province warned about overusing ground water

SHIJIAZHUANG, 22 July — A Chinese water expert has warned north China’s Hebei Province about their overuse of ground water over the past thirty years, saying that it has triggered a string of ecological and geological disasters.

Since 1976, Hebei had overused a total of 120 billion cubic metres of ground water, an amount equivalent to the water storage of 200 Baiyangdian, the largest freshwater lake in north China, said Wei Zhimin, a water expert in Shijiazhuang, capital of Hebei Province.

Baiyangdian covers about 366 square kilometres and consists of 143 small lakes. Hebei’s rivers provide clean fresh water to millions of people in the cities of Beijing and Tianjin.

On the one hand, Hebei admitted overusing 5 billion cubic metres of ground water each year since 2000, Wei said. On the other hand, the province is suffering a severe water shortage. A Hebei resident currently only has 305 cubic metres of water. According to international standard, regions with less than 500 cubic metres per capita water resources are considered to be in severe water shortage, Wei said. The water expert said the excessive use of ground water has led to ground sinking and collapsing in Hebei.

Europe swelters in heatwave, 20 dead in France

PARIS, 22 July — A heatwave in France has probably killed more than 20 people, including a 15-month-old baby, officials said on Friday, and the rest of Europe also sweltered with no sign of temperatures dropping.

Temperatures were not as high as they had been on previous days but authorities warned people to take precautions.

“Desert London”, a headline in Britain’s Evening Standard newspaper said over a photo of a parched Hyde Park on Friday.

“This is not the Sahara or Serengeti — these remarkable pictures show how London’s parks have been turned dry, brown and dusty by the drought,” the newspaper said.

A severe drought, said to be the worst in a century in the south of England, is making itself felt and temperatures hit a July record of 36.3 Celsius (97.3 Fahrenheit) earlier this week.

In Spain, a sunbather died in Barcelona from the heat and a 37-year-old man died in hospital on Friday after collapsing from heat exhaustion while working in a greenhouse in Almeria on the south coast the day before.

Six people were reported dead from heat-related problems so far this Spanish summer. — MNA/Reuters
The Hlaingchaung Dam and North Yama Supporting Dam Project were launched in 2005-2006 and are nearing completion. Myanmar is an agro-based country. The government is putting the rural development tasks into action for the progress of rural areas where 70 per cent of the nation’s population live.

In this context, the government has been constructing small-scale and medium-scale dams through short-term projects with a view to increasing the sown acreage and greening the nearby regions.

The drive also covers Salingyi, Yinmabin and Pale Townships in Monywa District for the development of the regions on the west bank of the Chindwin River. Hlaingchaung Dam and North Yama supporting dam projects are being implemented in the interests of local farmers in Pale Township.

Upon completion, the former will be able to irrigate about 1,000 acres and the latter, about 12,000 acres of arable lands. Hlaingchaung Dam Project was launched in 2005-2006.

The supporting spillway of the North Yama Dam was constructed on the North Yama Creek, six miles upstream the North Yama Dam, and then spill out of it. The surplus water helps carry out multiple and mixed cropping and mixed cropping all-year round in the 12,000 acres benefited by the North Yama Dam. Now, local people no longer have to rely solely on the rain in growing crops. Thanks to the emergence of the North Yama Dam, Pale Township has enjoyed many fruitful results such as extension of multiple and mixed cropping, boosting per acre yields of crops, gaining higher per capita income and adequate amount of fresh water, and contribution towards the development and the greening of the region. Hence, the prudent...
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye attends ceremony to donate cash to medical trust fund of PyinOoLwin Hospital (200-bed)

(from page 1) the ministers, senior military officers of PyinOoLwin Station, departmental personnel, the medical superintendent of PyinOoLwin Hospital (200-bed), specialists, doctors, nurses, wellwisher families and guests.

Wellwisher Major Maung Latt (Retd) of Soe San Boarding School explained the purpose of cash donation.

Next, wellwisher Major Maung Latt (Retd) and wife Daw Nan Yin Yin donated K 100 million to the hospital through Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

Afterwards, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint expressed gratitude. He said that health and fitness of the entire people plays an important role in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation. The remarkable progress can be witnessed in the health sector year after year thanks to harmonious efforts of the Ministry of Health and ministries concerned, social organizations, wellwishers and people under the leadership of the National Health Committee. On his inspection tour of Mandalay Division in December 2004, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe had given guidance on upgrading PyinOoLwin Hospital (100-bed) to the 200-bed facility, extending cardiac unit, renal unit, and trauma and neurosurgical unit at the hospital, and building the hospital for providing medical treatment to the patients as PyinOoLwin is a hill station.

In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, PyinOoLwin Hospital was upgraded and the opening ceremony of the 200-bed hospital was held on 16 December 2005, in the presence of the Head of State. At present, medical trust fund was set up at the hospital, and interests from the fund are being spent on giving medical treatment to the needy patients, who now have the opportunity of receiving free treatment at the hospital.

In conclusion, the minister thanked the wellwishers for their donations.

After the ceremony, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greeted the wellwishers.

Wellwisher Major Maung Latt (Retd) explains purpose of donation to medical trust fund of 200-bed hospital in PyinOoLwin.

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint speaks words of thanks at 200-bed hospital in PyinOoLwin.

200-bed hospital in PyinOoLwin.

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Families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air)....
(from page 16)
U Tin Win-Daw San San Win and U Thaing Win-Daw Htay Htay Nyunt, K 200,000 each by U Myint Aung-Daw Myo Myo, Myanmar Edible Oil Merchants Association, Myanmar Rice Merchants Association, Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Daw Aye Aye Myat Nwe, Thiri Thudhamma Manijotadhara U Than Naing-Thiri and cash by families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers.

Next, Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vinayacara delivered a sermon and the congregation led by Lt-Gen Myint Swe shared the merits gained.

The donations of today to monasteries and nunneries included 505 bags of rice, 309 viss of edible oil, 399 viss of gram, 1,996 viss of iodized salt, 490 bottles of traditional medicines and K 6,685,000.

Likewise, a ceremony to present provisions and cash to 31 monasteries and eight nunneries in Mayangon Township, Yangon West District took place at the Naga Hlainggu Kalaywa Tawya monastery in the township this evening, attended by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

Next, on behalf of families of Tatmadaw, Col Maung Pa, senior military officers, heads of department, Secretary of Yangon Division PDC Lt-Col Myint Kyi, Chairman of Yangon West District PDC Lt-Col Kyaw Tint and members, chairmen of the township PDCs, religious and social organizations, wellwishers and others.

First, the congregation led by Lt-Gen Myint Swe received the Five Precepts from Chairman of Mayangon Township Sangha Nayaka Committee, Daw Aye Aye Soe and family of Mayangon Township in memory of late U Maung Maung Khin Swe; K 1 million by Ma Khin Hteo Yi, Ma Khan Htwe Kyi and Ma Khin Htwe Thein of Twantay; K 450,000 by the families of Bo Nya Na and Weikza Roads in Ward 5 of Mayangon Township; K 400,000 each by Bayintnaung Brokerage Discipline Committee and U Than Win-Daw Ni of Shwe Thanwun Co, and others, and presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

Students of Mayangon BEHS No 4 dispensed Metta to all. Today’s donations to monasteries and nunneries in Mayangon Township amounted to 1,232 bags of rice and 1,080 pyis, 556.5 viss of edible oil, 1,111 viss of gram, 5,566 viss of iodized salt, 1,113 tubes of tooth paste, 1,080 bottles of traditional medicine, 5,566 bars of soap, 2,190 cakes of soft soap and K 18,253,500 to the funds.

Lt-Col Myo Naing of Yangon Command supplicated on the purpose of donations.

Joint-Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Nga Cave Kalaywa Tawya Monastery Presiding Nayaka Dwipitakadharaya Dwipitakakovida Bhaddanta Jagarabhivamsa and K 18,253,500 donated provisions to members of the Sangha.

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The ceremony was also attended by members of the Sangha and nuns of the monasteries and nunneries, Chairman of Yangon Division PDC Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win, Vice-Mayor (Army, Navy and Air), Lt-Col Myo Naing of Yangon Command, CnDr Myint Swe of Ayeyawady Naval Region Command and Lt-Col Win Aung of Mingaladon Air Base supplicated on the purpose of donations to members of the Sangha.

Lt-Col Myo Naing and military officers donate alms to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe offers provisions to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win accepts cash donation for 13 monasteries and 7 nunneries donated by Tatmadaw families and wellwishers. — MNA

Thudhamma Theingi Daw Kyi Kyi Swe, K 1.5 million by Mingaladon Township PDC; K 150,000 by U Myo Aung-Daw Khin Chi Mon, K 110,000 each by U Myint Soe-Daw Mi Shin Hnaung, U Kaw San Oo-Daw San San Myint, U Pe Tun Aung-Daw Khin Mar Kyi and U Tin Hla of Camel International Co and 34 wellwishers amounting to K 6,685,000, and presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

After that, Lt-Col Maung Maung Kyaw of Mingaladon Air Base supplicated on the purpose of the donation of provisions
Home Affairs Minister meets staff, social organization members in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 23 July — Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo met staff under the Ministry of Home Affairs and members of social organizations from Pathein, Myaungmya and Hinthada Districts at the city hall in Pathein yesterday.

He gave instructions on practising thrifty, growing vegetables and performing their tasks dutifully.

At Pathein Jail, Director U Than Oo of Ayeyawady Division reported on farming works and welfare tasks of jails and nurturing physic nut saplings.

The minister met with staff under the ministry and social organization members from Maubin and Pyapon Districts at Toe Shwewa Hall in Maubin and left necessary instructions.

MNA

CNG filling station No 018 opens in Thanlyin

YANGON, 23 July — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi attended the opening ceremony of CNG filling station No 018 of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise near Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge in Thanlyin Township this morning. Also present were Yangon South District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Aung Pyae, Yangon Division All Bus Lines Control Committee Chairman U Myint Swe, heads of department, officials, members of USDA and social organizations and guests.

Managing Director U San Lwin and Yangon South District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Aung Pyae formally opened the station. MOGE general manager U Thein Htay and officials conducted the minister and party around the station.

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi and party inspected the filling of CNG to vehicles and cordially greeted the drivers.—MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo meets staff of the ministry and members of social organizations of Maubin and Pyapon Districts. — HOME AFFAIRS

Nay Pyi Taw, 23 July — Department for Civil Aviation of Ministry of Transport held physic nut plant growing ceremony in the compound of the Nay Pyi Taw airport yesterday morning.

It was attended by Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, departmental officials, staff of the Ministry of Transport and members of social organizations.

The commander and Col Nyan Tun Aung grew physic nut plants on road at the entrance to Nay Pyi Taw Airport. Next, directors-general, managing directors, officials, members of social organization and students also grew physic nut plants.

The commander and deputy minister visited growing of physic nut plants. — MNA

Commander grows physic nut plants in Nay Pyi Taw Airport

Namkhok Model Village commissioned in Hopong
Local people enjoy fruits of development

Shan State MCWSC and WAO donate books to self-reliance library in Namkhok model village through responsible person.

— MNA

Namkhok Model Village commissioned in Hopong
Local people enjoy fruits of development

YANGON, 23 July — A ceremony to commission Namkhok Model Village was held at the venue in Hopong Township on 13 July morning.

Present were Chairperson of Shan State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee wife of the Commander of Eastern Command Daw Thin Myo Myo Aung, departmental officials and local people, totalling 1,850. The ceremony to open the delivery of Namkhok Model Village MCWA (Branch) was held Shan State Health Department Head Dr Sai Kham Hlaing and Chairperson Daw Thin Myo Myo Aung formally opened it.

At Dhammayon of Maha Aungmye Ketumati Pariyatti Monastery, Chairperson Daw Thin Myo Myo Aung delivered a speech at the round-table discussions organized by Shan State MCWSC and Shan State Women’s Affairs Organization.

They presented school stationery to students at Basic Education High School in the village.

Meanwhile, the specialist team provided free health care services to 329 local people at the Rural Health Care Centre. Next, Shan State MCWSC and WAO and wellwishers donated 200 books and K 10,000 to the village library.

Secretary of the District PDC U Tun Aung and wellwishers formally opened Sabeiphyu Road measuring 580 feet by 12 feet.

A total of 3,786 people from 771 households are residing in the village. They cultivate seasonal crops and paddy. At present, the village has been facilitated with one auto-telephone station and one 4-KVA generator.

MNA

MNA

Managing Director U San Lwin and Yangon South District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Aung Pyae formally opened the station. MOGE general manager U Thein Htay and officials conducted the minister and party around the station.

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi and party inspected the filling of CNG to vehicles and cordially greeted the drivers.—MNA
Zhao Xiuguo drives a homemade model of Formula One car in Tangshan, Hebei Province, some 180km (113 miles) east of Beijing on 21 July, 2006. Zhao Xiuguo and his brother Zhao Xiushun built the car from scrap metal and said that they wanted to design and build the first Formula One racecar in China.

Employees of energy supplier ConEdison work on a street in the Astoria neighborhood in the Queens borough of New York, on 22 July, 2006. An estimated 100,000 residents of the borough entered the sixth day of a blackout as city officials said there was only a slight chance of restoring power before the end of the weekend. — Internet

Three suspects arrested in Mumbai blasts case

NEW DELHI, 23 July — A joint team of Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) and the Intelligence Bureau (IB) has arrested three suspects in connection with the Mumbai train bombings occurred last week, a local official said on Friday. “This is the first arrests in the case of Mumbai blasts and this is a major breakthrough in the investigation a week after the blasts,” the official said.

Two of the men were arrested in the northern state of Bihar on Thursday evening while the third man was arrested in Mumbai on Friday morning. Indo-Asian News Service quoted the official as saying, adding that half kilo of explosive was found in the possession of one of them. Hundreds of people have been detained across the country for questioning since the bombings occurred on 11 July, but the three men were the first to be formally arrested, the News Service said.

Russia to provide humanitarian aid for Lebanon

MOSCOW, 23 July — Russia will provide humanitarian aid for Lebanon at its request via Cyprus amid an escalating Israeli offensive on Hezbollah militants, Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Yakovenko said on Saturday.

Yakovenko said on Russian television that a plane of the Emergency Situations Ministry carrying the aid, which includes water supplies, sanitary equipment, medicines, energy supplies, food and logistic support, will leave for Cyprus on Monday.

The diplomat said special attention will be paid to displaced people, who may number 500,000, including 200,000 children.

Earlier in the day, Foreign Ministry spokesman Mikhail Kamynin said Russia has asked Israel to ensure access for the delivery of Russian aid cargoes to Lebanon without any obstacles and damage.
China cracks down on fake farm goods

BEIJING, 22 July — The Chinese Ministry of Agriculture has confiscated 47,000 tons of fake farm products and more than 100,000 rural fairs in the first half of the year.

The ministry said it has inspected 370,000 companies that sell farming products and 110,000 rural fairs in the first half of the year.

More than 26,000 fake products used in farming, including seeds, pesticides, fertilizers, fodder and animal medicines, have been investigated, according to the ministry.

The ministry has dealt with 77 major illegal cases involving fake goods valued at more than 50,000 yuan (6,250 dollars), said an official with the ministry.

Since last year, the ministry has tightened control over the entrance of farming goods into the rural market by launching trial projects in some rural areas.

The trial projects have been extended to 27 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities.

Sources said the ministry plans to develop chain stores to directly supply farm goods and will increase scientific and technological support to the farmers.

Pakistan’s frontier tribes join peace talks

MIRANSHAH (Pakistan), 22 July — Hundreds of Pakistani tribesmen held talks on Thursday with military and government officials to halt fighting between security forces and al-Qaeda and pro-Taliban militants near the Afghan border.

The meetings of the tribal jirgas are seen as part of government’s latest strategy to use political means to restore peace in the semi-autonomous tribal belt where hundreds of people have been killed in battles over the past three years.

Around 300 tribesmen and clerics met with military and civil officials in the restive North Waziristan tribal region and called for talks to end violence. “We have been saying all along that this problem cannot be solved through bullet, but only through negotiations,” Maulana Nek Zaman, a hardline cleric and lawmaker, told the jirga.

Fakhar-e-Alam Irfan, the top government administrator in North Waziristan, appealed to the tribesmen to support the government’s efforts to restore peace.

He also announced release of 32 tribesmen detained during the fighting. “Both of us have suffered difficulties and we should work together to mitigate these problems,” he told the jirga.

Japan’s encephalitis epidemic kills 15 in N-E India

New Delhi, 22 July — Authorities in Assam in northeastern India Friday sounded a health alert after 15 people died of Japanese encephalitis and hundreds more were down with the mosquito-borne disease in the past two weeks.

An Assam health department spokesperson said on Friday that Japanese encephalitis had assumed epidemic proportions in four districts with close to 1,000 people hit by the disease.

Russian stages “anti-terror” exercises

Moscow, 22 July — The Russian military is staging massive exercises in the Caucasus region to prepare for possible terrorist attacks, Russia’s Defence Minister Sergei Ivanov said on Thursday.

The drills, dubbed “the Caucasus Line”, “have taken into account a possible degradation of the situation” in the Caucasus which has suffered the brunt of the Chechen war, Ivanov told ITAR-TASS news agency in the Arctic port of Severodvinsk.

Ivanov said the main goal of the exercises is to “evaluate the capacity of military forces charged with anti-terrorism activities”. The 6,000 troops taking part in the exercises are using 30 tanks, 20 military transport planes and more than 10 helicopters.

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United Nations Development Programme

JAPANESE ASSISTANCE FOR HIV/AIDS ACTIVITIES IN MYANMAR

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) announced today that the Japanese Government, through the Japanese Human Resources Development Fund (JHRDF), has granted US$33,000 to continue and follow up the implementation of an earlier project that aimed to increase community resilience to the socio-economic impact of HIV and AIDS through human resource development.

With technical assistance from the National AIDS Programme (NAP), Department of Health, and the UNDP/JHRDF (United Nations Office for Project Services) project, World Vision Japan had worked from June 2003 to March 2005 in the areas of community based organizations development and volunteers training, HIV and AIDS awareness raising and education, and care and support for those affected by HIV. The project was implemented in four townships, Kyaukpyu, Hpakant Kachin and Pathein.

The project has significantly contributed to build the capacity of NAP, community organizations and volunteers.

This one and a half year follow up project, which will start in July 2006, will concentrate in two townships, Hpaan and Kyaukpyu. World Vision and the UNDP/JHRDF HIV project will implement activities that will focus on supporting and reinforcing the effort that was initiated in the JHRDF project. The CRBs that were formed and trained in the JHRDF project will be the main actors, and the fund will be used for these CRBs to further build up their capacity and expand their activities to support people who are affected by HIV. The project will facilitate the CRBs’ participatory learning process, where the communities identify and prioritize problems relevant to HIV and development, develop plans and implement accordingly.

By this follow up project UNDP aims to further enhance the sustainability of the local capacity foundation that was built by the JHRDF project.

No. 6, Natmat Road, PO Box 650, Yangon 11211, Myanmar, Tel: (95-1)-542-911, Fax: (95-1) 545-834, E-mail: mna@un.org

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Monday, 24 July, 2006

12
US scientists revising quake analysis procedures

SAN FRANCISCO, 22 July — Red-faced US scientists are revising earthquake analysis procedures after an inexperienced overnight team failed to quickly review a major earthquake that caused a tsunami killing more than 550 in Indonesia, an official said on Wednesday.

The United States Geological Survey typically provides very quick, accurate data on earthquakes worldwide, but on Monday took six hours before they gave the accurate 7.7 magnitude for the quake that hit 345 kilometres (215 miles) south of Jakarta.

“Things didn’t work quite the way they were supposed to,” said Stuart Sipkin, director of the USGS World Data Centre for Seismology in Golden, Colorado. “It is not inaccurate to say we are a little red faced about it. We would have liked to have things work a little bit better.”

Because of the remote location of the earthquake, it took 17 minutes for the centre to receive enough data to send out an initial automated alert of a 7.2 magnitude event. A scientist is supposed to review the automated findings manually within 10 minutes, but in the early morning hours between Sunday and Monday in Colorado that did not take place for an hour.

It was only six hours later when others started arriving during regular business hours that geologists calculated the Indonesia quake was actually a 7.7 — or three times larger in ground motion than a 7.2 and more than five times larger in terms of the amount of energy released.

Japan mulls launching 3rd spy satellite in September

 TOKYO, 22 July — Japan plans to launch the third one of a set of four spy satellites in mid-September, making one step further to build a global information gathering system, Kyodo News reported on Thursday.

The satellite, a half of the second pair, is an optical one, and will be launched on 10 September by an H-2A rocket from the Tanegashima Space Center in southern Japan’s Kagoshima Prefecture, government officials were quoted as saying.

If the launch turns to be a success, Japan will send a radar satellite, which is the remaining half of the second pair, in early 2007 as scheduled.

Japan launched the first pair of satellites successfully in March 2003, but failed the launch of a second pair due to rocket problems later that year. The new pair of satellites is designed to work with the first set to take pictures on any point of the earth surface at least once a day.

Swiss firm to operate bioethanol plant in Hungary

BUDAPEST, 22 July — The Swiss firm United BioFuels will operate a bioethanol plant in the southern Hungarian city of Mohacs, said local media on Thursday.

The construction of the plant, which is designed to have a production capacity of 100,000 cubic metres and employ 80 personnel, is expected to be completed by the end of 2007, said Mohacs’ mayor Josef Szako.

The plant’s construction is being carried out by Duna Fejesztesi, a Hungarian-Austria joint venture.

DunaFejesztesi is also participating in building seven other bioethanol plants in Hungary.

The Hungarian Government is seeking to use up the country’s huge grain surplus as biofuel within three years. Bioenergy, generated by agricultural products, was expected to provide for as much as 40 per cent of Hungary’s energy consumption in the near future, said an expert from the ruling Socialist Party.

Technological transfer in rural China draws overseas attention

BEIJING, 22 July — International organizations and foreign agencies such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are paying close attention to technological transfer in rural China.

Liu Yanhua, Vice-Minister of Science and Technology, said here Friday that China will cooperate more closely with international organizations and foreign agencies to spread commercial technologies in economically underdeveloped areas.

“We and the UNDP plan to jointly initiate a poverty-relief endeavour by disseminating agricultural technologies among Chinese farmers,” Liu said.

The ministry will also try to cooperate with the International Fund for Agricultural Development and funding agencies from Japan and Germany.

World media come to commemorate Tangshan earthquake

TANGSHAN (Hebei), 22 July — Nearly 300 journalists from about 60 media organizations at home and abroad are visiting the northern Chinese city of Tangshan to cover the 30th anniversary of an earthquake that killed more than 240,000 people on 28 July, 1976, a local official said Thursday.

News agencies, television and radio stations, newspapers, magazines and Internet media, including the Xinhua news agency, CCTV (China Central Television), Hebei Daily, Hong Kong-based Ta Kung Po and Wen Wei Po newspapers, Agence France Presse, and Germany’s ARD radio service, were represented, said Na Dingwu, of the information office of Tangshan city in Hebei Province.

A string of activities are planned for 28 July to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the earthquake that measured 7.8 on the Richter Scale.

Na said the city had never seen so many reporters, saying it was “beyond expectation”.

“Many people from around China, who joined the rescue operation 30 years ago, have probably come along with their local media,” he said.

“The development of Tangshan in the years since is another factor attracting the attention of both Chinese and foreign media,” he added.

Tangshan was said to have been erased from the face of the Earth after the earthquake flattened the century-old industrial base. However, after three decades of rebuilding, it stands again as a vigorous city.
Manchester United lose on penalties

PRETORIA, 23 July — Manchester United were beaten on penalties in their final game on tour in South Africa, losing 4-3 after a 0-0 draw with Kaizer Chiefs in Pretoria on Saturday.

The two sides were playing the final of a challenge event up for the torch of the English club, who had won previously against Chiefs on Tuesday and beaten Orlando Pirates 4-0 in Durban last Saturday.

Manchester United, without any of their World Cup players, missed several good chances to wrap up the result inside 90 minutes before Chiefs’ goalkeeper Rowen Fernandez turned hero for his club with a penalty stop and then the decisive kick against United’s Ben Foster in the shootout. — MNA/Reuters

Roddick reaches first final of season at Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS, 23 July — Former world number one Andy Roddick reached his first final in 2006 with a 7-5, 6-3 win over fellow American Robin Ginepri at the RCA Championships on Saturday.

Roddick, now ranked 11th, will be hoping to win his first trophy since Lyon last October when he faces either top-seeded compatriot James Blake or Belgian Xavier Malisse on Sunday.

Roddick needed just 66 minutes to claim his sixth win in seven ATP meetings against Ginepri, whom he first played at age 12 in the juniors.

Twice former champion Roddick dominated on serve, with Ginepriing the effort as the best he has ever faced from his friend.

Roddick never faced a break point, fired eight aces and notched 21 winners against defending champion Ginepri.

"I played tight tennis with not too lot of sloppy errors," Roddick told reporters. "I tried to mix up my serve and give him things he wasn’t expecting.

"This was the best tennis I’ve played all year. I played this match on my terms, I’m happy with the way things are going." Roddick is aiming to become the first three-time Indianapolis champion since Pete Sampras. — MNA/Reuters

Garcia storms out in 29 to share lead

HOYLAKE (England), 23 July — Sergio Garcia launched a spectacular front-nine charge to join Tiger Woods and Ernie Els at the top of the leaderboard after holing his ap- proach shot for an eagle two at the second hole, was 11-under overall after ter speeding to the turn in 29 strokes, six under.

Late goal gives Steaua victory in Romanian Super Cup

BUCHAREST, 23 July — A late goal from striker Daniel Oprita gave champi ons Steaua Bucharest a 1-0 win over arch-rivals Rapid Bucharest in the Ro manian Super Cup on Sat- urday. Oprita’s last-minute strike from a cross by de fender Daniel Balan set tled a match that featured 10 yellow cards. The Ro manian championship gets underway on July 28. — MNA/Reuters

Arsenal say hello to new stadium

LONDON, 23 July — Arsenal celebrated one of the most significant days in their 120-year history on Saturday with the opening of their dazzling new 60,000 all-seater Emirates Stadium for a friendly against Ajax Amsterdam.

As well as ushering in a new era for the north Lon don club, the match was something of a bitter sweet occasion for Gun ners fans.

Dennis Bergkamp re appeared for the second half which featured former players of both clubs in including Patrick Vieira, Ian Wright and goalkeeper David Seaman for Ars enal, who also included their current skipper Thierry Henry. Henry’s last match, like Vieira’s, was for France in the World Cup final on 9 July.

Henry, the last Arsenal player to score at Highbury in May, became the first Arsenal player to score at the new ground with a tap-in after 10 minutes of the legends half.

Ex-Arsenal player Nwankwo Kanu struck a deflected second goal in stoppage time. Ajax’s legends included Johan Cruyff, Marco van Basten, Danny Blind, Edwin van der Sar, Edgar Davids and twins Frank and Ronald de Boer.

Ajax’s Klaas-Jan Huntelaar scored the first goal at the ground with a close range shot past Manuel Almunia after 40 minutes of the opening half.

Bergkamp made a total of 239 appearances and scored 122 goals for Ajax between 1986 and 1993. After two seasons with Inter Milan he joined Ar senal in 1995, making 423 appearances for the Gun ners, scoring 120 goals and winning 10 major honours. — MNA/Reuters

Australia to officially announce bid for 2018 World Cup

CANBERRA, 23 July — Australia is going to offi cially announce its plan to bid for the 2018 World Cup soccer tournament, Australian soccer chief executive John O’Neill said on Friday.

O’Neill said that Foot ball Federation Australia will come out with a state ment in the next couple of weeks for the bid for 2018 World Cup.

“We deserve it, the one part of the world that’s never hosted the World Cup, after South Africa has hosted in 2010, is the Pacific Basin,” he said.

Australian national side, dubbed the Soc ceros, achieved best World Cup result by fight ing into the last 16 in Ger man World Cup this year. — MNA/Xinhua

Answers to yesterday’s Crossword Puzzle


Quickstep’s team rider Matteo Tosatto of Italy celebrates his victory as he

Ferrer beats Berdych for place in Stuttgart final

BERLIN, 23 July — Spain’s David Ferrer beat Tomas Berdych 6-3, 7-5 in their semifinal at the Mercedes Cup claycourt event in Stuttgart on Saturday.

Third seed Ferrer sealed victory when his 20-year old Czech opponent served a double fault on match point.

“Naturally I am very happy and we will see how it goes from here. It was a hard game,” said Ferrer. "Argentines Juan Monaco and Jose Acasuso will play in the second semifinal later on Satur- day."

Williams reaches Cincinnati semis

WASHINGTON, 23 July — Seven-time Grand Slam winner Serena Williams eased into the semifinals of Cincinnati Open on Friday night after beating compatriot Amy Frazier 6-2, 6-2.

Williams reached the semifinals for the first time in more than a year as she spent six months nursing a chronic left knee injury. Williams last reached a semifinal at Dubai in March 2005.

The American, now ranking 140th in the world, faces 52nd-ranked Vera Zvonareva, who swept past fifth seed Jelena Jankovic of Serbia 6-1, 6-1.

Defending champion Patty Schnyder overcame ninth-seeded Sania Mirza of India and two rain de lays to also advance with a 7-6 (9-7), 7-5 win.

The Swiss weathered rain delays totalling 88 minutes and other distrac-
3. Morning news
7:00 am
22-7-2006. Funeral service will be held at Yangon Siyin Baptist Church (St. Philip’s Church) on No 152, Bo Myat Tun Street at 11.00 am on Monday, 24.7.2006 and thence to Ye Woy Christian cemetery for entombment.
Bereaved Family

Asleep in Jesus
Lt-Col Mg Mg Myint (Rtd) (81 years)
E.N.T Specialist
Defence Services General Hospital, Mingaladon
Lt-Col Mg Mg Myint (Rtd), No 9, 49th Street, Botataung Township, husband of (New Dollar), son of (U Thim) (Daw Hla Khin), son-in-law of (Thura Aye Si) (Daw Sein Toke), father of Dr Aye Aye Myint-U Gordon Paw, Daw Samn Samn Myint-U Aung Tun, Daw Khin Thida Myint-Mr Bill Gibbons, (Dr Aung Myint), Dr Tun Myint- Daw Khin Khin Nyo & U Aung Thura Myint, grandfather of Andrew Paw, David Paw, Hanza Myint, Yar Zar Myint, Nay Zar Myint, Daniel Maing Gibbons, Banyar Tun Myint and Grace Tun Myint passed away at 00:30 hrs on Sunday, July 23, 2006. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

A boy soaks himself in a hot bath incorporating curry spices at Hakone Kowakien, at the hot spring resort of Hakone, west of Tokyo on 21 July, 2006. The bath containing curry spices, such as red pepper and turmeric, improves blood flow and produces beautiful skin, the resort said.—INTERNET

WEATHER
Sunday, 23 July, 2006
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Bago Divisions, rain has been isolated in Shan, Chin and Kayah States, scattered in upper Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in remaining states and divisions with isolated heavyfall in upper Sagaing Division

The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Hkamti (3.19) inches, Hpa-an (2.20) inches, Mawlamyine (1.97) inches, Myitkyina (1.62) inches, Kalay (1.58) inches, and Thandwe (1.46) inches.

Maximum temperature on 22-7-2006 was 86°F. The minimum temperature on 23-7-2006 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 23-7-2006 was (85%). Total sunshine hours on 22-7-2006 was (2.5) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 23-7-2006 were (0.08) inch at Mingaladon, (0.39) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.23) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (48.74) inches at Mingaladon, (59.13) inches at Kaba-Aye and (64.21) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (13:30) hours MST on 22-7-2006

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

Forecast valid until evening of 24-7-2006: Rain will be widespread in Kachin, Kikein, Kayin and Mon States, Yangon and Tanintharyi Divisions, scattered in Upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Bago Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Decrease of rain in the whole country.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 24-7-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 24-7-2006: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 24-7-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).
Families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air), wellwishers present provisions and cash to monasteries and nunneries

The donations of today to monasteries and nunneries included 505 bags of rice, 309 viss of edible oil, 490 viss of grain, 1,996 viss of iodized salt, 490 viss of traditional medicines and K 6,685,000.

Nine members of Wakema Township NLD quit

They lose trust and interest in NLD due to anti-government acts

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded

(23-7-2006)

Hkamti (3.19) inches,
Hpa-an (2.20) inches,
Mawlamyine (1.97) inches,
Myitkyina (1.62) inches,
Kalay (1.58) inches,
Thandwe (1.46) inches.