Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Chin State to become state of the nation

The government has been building various infrastructures in the transport, economic, education, health and social affairs sectors to enable all parts of the Union to enjoy all-round development.

Now, the four major roads—Haka-Gangaw Road, Haka-Matupi Road, Kalay-Falam-Haka Road and Mindat-Matupi Road—are being upgraded, while the roads in interior parts of Chin State that link with those major roads are being built or upgraded, thereby helping the region’s commodity flow gain an increasing momentum.

In relation to the geographical features, Chin State has scanty plain lands for the agricultural purpose. So, it ought to reclaim more highlands for extended growing of paddy and cash crops such as perennial and seasonal crops to achieve the goal of local food security. In particular, the growing of tea that thrives well on the soil with the climate must cover the entire Chin State.

In its aim for Chin State to become the state of the country, the government since 1999-2000 has taken all possible steps for establishment of tea plantations on a commercial scale in Tiddim, Tonczang, Kyikha, Thantlang, Falam, Reekkodhah and Haka in Falam District and Kanpetlet, Matupi, Rezwa and Mindat townships in Mindat District.

In the process, the township tea farms under the Myanmese Agriculture Service is providing necessary assistance to regional tea farms and helping them get quality tea strains and seedlings.

Now, the government is encouraging the region in various sectors for regional development. In response to the encouragement of the government, respective officials and local farmers in Chin State on their part are to scale up their tea industry, while placing emphasis on cultivation of paddy to ensure regional food security.
Putin, Ahmadinejad discuss Lebanon, Iran crises

MOSCOW, 27 July — Iranian President Mahmud Ahmadinejad discussed the Israeli offensive in Lebanon and Iran’s nuclear programme with Russian President Vladimir Putin, the Kremlin said on Wednesday.

“The crisis situation surrounding Lebanon was at the centre of discussion,” the Kremlin Press Service said of the telephone conversation late on Tuesday.

“Different aspects of resolving the Iranian nuclear programme were also touched upon.”

“On both topics, Vladimir Putin stated the fundamental position of the Russian side,” it said.

Russia has called for a ceasefire in Lebanon and criticized the Israeli attacks, saying they went beyond the anti-Hizbollah military operation the Jewish state said it was conducting.

Russia is one of six powers that want Iran to respond to an offer of incentives in exchange for Teheran stopping uranium enrichment.

Unlike the United States and some other Western powers, it says it is too early to talk about economic or other sanctions against Teheran.

The telephone exchange took place at Ahmadinejad’s request.

Ahmadinejad said on Tuesday during a visit to Tajikistan that the conflict between Lebanon and Israel could sweep through the entire Middle East like a hurricane.

The United States and key European countries fear Iran’s nuclear activity is a cover for bomb making.

Teheran says it has a right to civilian nuclear power and that its nuclear programme is aimed only at producing electricity.

Malaria claims 271 lives in northeast India

NEW DELHI, 27 July — At least 271 people have died of malaria epidemic in northeast Indian state Assam since March this year, Indo-Asian News Service reported.

“So far we have received reports of 271 deaths. The exact death toll could be higher as reports from interior areas are still coming,” said Himanta Biswa Sarma, Health Minister of the state government.

The disease went out of hand this year due to slow progress of anti-malarial drive, Sarma said.

The Assam government has earmarked 1.2 billion rupees (about 28 million US dollars) for doctors to take specialized training to deal with malaria.

Indonesia to install more buoys in Sumatra, Java, Bali islands

JAKARTA, 27 July — Indonesia will install more buoys or tsunami early warning systems to warn people of the disaster, Research and Technology Minister Kusmayanto Kadiman said here Wednesday.

The minister said Indonesia recently set up two buoys in waters off Bali Island and planned to install one in waters off west Sumatra and two in waters off southern Java islands by year end.

Earlier, Indonesia had set up three buoys in Sumatra waters in cooperation with Germany and Malaysia, he said, adding that it would produce the devices by itself in the future.

US soldier killed north of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 27 July — A US soldier was killed when he was on patrol in an area north of Baghdad, the US military said on Wednesday.

The soldier, assigned to the 43rd Brigade US military police, was killed on Tuesday, the military said without giving details.

Some 2,555 US military personnel have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003, according to media tally.
Annan urges Hizbollah, Israel to stop attacks

ROME, 27 July — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan urged both Hizbollah guerillas and Israel on Wednesday to stop their attacks and said the UN Security Council should call for an immediate ceasefire.

Annan, speaking at crisis talks being held in Rome, said initiatives to end the 15-day conflict in Lebanon should be accompanied by a new push for a comprehensive Middle East peace.

“I call on Hizbollah to stop its deliberate targeting of Israeli population centres,” he said, addressing senior diplomats from the United States, Middle East and Europe.

“I call on Israel to end its bombardments, blockades and ground operations.” Calling the situation “horrendous and dangerous”, Annan said any political framework to end the conflict should address issues including prisoners, the delineation of Lebanon’s borders and ways to monitor those borders. An international force would help Lebanon extend its control over its territory, he said. Annan asked world leaders gathered at the conference, co-chaired by US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, to urge the UN Security Council to call for an immediate ceasefire.

Flood causes large-scale damage in N-W Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 28 July — Flash flood caused by heavy monsoon rains in Pakistan’s North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) has caused a large-scale damage in several areas.

Five people have been killed and several others injured while scores of houses were destroyed due to the flood, local private Geo TV reported on Thursday.

Study says ice-cold watermelon less nutritious

WASHINGTON, 27 July — That ice-cold watermelon may be refreshing, but it can be less nutritious than watermelon served at room temperature, US Department of Agriculture scientists reported on Wednesday.

Watermelons stored at room temperature deliver more nutrients than refrigerated or freshly picked melons, they reported in the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry. Penelope Perkins-Veazie and Julie Collins of the USDA’s South Central Agricultural Research Laboratory in Lane, Oklahoma looked specifically at carotenoids — antioxidants that can counter the damage caused by sun, chemicals and day-to-day living.

Watermelon is rich in lycopene, an antioxidant that makes watermelons and tomatoes red and may help prevent heart disease and some cancers. Perkins-Veazie and Collins tested several popular varieties of watermelon stored for 14 days at 70 F (21 C), 55 F (13 C) and 41 F (5 C). Whole watermelons stored at 70 degrees Fahrenheit, which is about room temperature in air-conditioned buildings, had substantially more nutrients, they reported.

Compared to freshly picked fruit, watermelons stored at 70 F gained up to 40 per cent more lycopene and 50 per cent to 139 per cent extra beta-carotene, which the body converts to vitamin A.

Vietnam strives to export more tea

HANOI, 27 July — Vietnam plans to export 160,000 tons of tea in 2010, up from 89,000 tons in 2005, according to a local agency on Wednesday.

The country will pour 421.6 billion Vietnamese dong (26.5 million US dollars) into further mechanizing tea production and raising tea quality so that it can export 100,000 tons of black tea worth some 130 million dollars and 60,000 tons of green tea valued at around 120 million dollars in 2010, said the Trade Information Centre under the Trade Ministry.

Vietnam will intensify export of its tea products, mainly black and green tea to main markets, including China’s Taipei, Russia, China’s Mainland, Iraq, the European Union and the United States.

Regarding the US market, Vietnamese tea firms should boost export of green tea, price of which is much lower than that of tea produced by other countries, while ensuring that their products meet strict requirements for quality and hygiene set by the United States, the Centre said.

Priceless, ancient Iraqi statue returned to Iraq

WASHINGTON, 27 July — Three years after it was stolen from the national museum, one of Iraq’s most valuable artifacts — a priceless statue — was repatriated to the Iraqi Government on Tuesday and hailed as a symbol of the country’s ancient past and future potential.

“The Iraqi people are determined to rebuild their country in the face of all the elements of destruction,” Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki said at the Iraqi Embassy, where Department of Homeland Security officials handed over a 30-inch statue of Entemena, one of Iraq’s first kings.

The statue was housed in the Iraqi National Museum until it and thousands of other artifacts were looted following the 2003 invasion.

US Customs officials recovered the statue in Syria earlier this year and it was then taken to New York to be authenticated.

Bird flu kills Thai youth amid new outbreaks

BANGKOK, 27 July — A 17-year-old Thai male has died of the H5N1 bird flu virus, the country’s 15th death since the virus swept across parts of Asia in late 2003, a senior health official said on Wednesday.

The youth died on Monday in the northern province of Pichit where authorities have confirmed the country’s first outbreak of the virus among poultry in eight months.

Cuba’s President Fidel Castro waves flags amongst the crowd at the Plaza de la Patria (Homeland Square) in Bayamo on 26 July, 2006. — INTERNET

A man tries to control his horse at Argentina’s Rural Society’s 120th annual expo in Buenos Aires on 22 July, 2006. The exhibit, held from 20 July to 1 August in the capital’s trendy Palermo neighbourhood, gives thriving farmers and ranchers a chance to show off, and possibly sell, their finest cattle, their most graceful horses and everything else from peacocks to pigs. — INTERNET

A member of the auction house staff shows off an Elvis Presley’s St Christopher medallion which was worn during the filming of Jailhouse Rock in 1957, on display in London, on 26 July, 2006. — INTERNET

An international team of scientists in the US, China and Japan have identified a chemical that makes watermelons more nutritious than melons stored at room temperature deliver.

They found that melons stored at 70 degrees Fahrenheit, which is about room temperature in air-conditioned buildings, had substantially more nutrients than refrigerated or freshly picked melons.

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Ten fishermen missing as boat capsizes off Pakistan coast

ISLAMABAD, 27 July—Ten fishermen were missing while seven were rescued when a fishing boat capsized Tuesday in open sea five nautical miles off Pakistan’s southwest port city Karachi coastline, fire brigade officials said. According to officials, a boat Al-Tahir with 17 fishermen on board went to sea for fishing on Monday but capsized in open sea at Chhota Talhar point about five nautical miles off the coast, local private Geo TV reported. Fire brigade personnel found two fishermen Tuesday morning close to Rahman Goth beach in near unconscious condition, who informed them about the boat capsizing. Pakistani Maritime Security Agency and Navy personnel soon after getting the report started search with a helicopter and a small ship for remaining fishermen on the boat. They found five other fishermen swimming in the sea near Nathiagali beach, who were rescued by the Navy divers, Geo TV reported. —MNA/Xinhua

Experts start disposal of WWII C-weapons in N-E China

HARBIN, 27 July—Experts from China and Japan on Wednesday started to recover more than 600 chemical weapons left by Japanese troops during World War II in northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province. The team will catalogue, pack and seal up the ordnance within the next 12 days, before it is placed in storage to await destruction. The new batch of weapons was excavated in Wangkui County of Suihua City from 27 June to 2 July, when workers were laying the foundations of a shopping mall. Some of the weapons had fuses. On 10 July, China and Japan completed a six-day excavation of 210 chemical weapons in Ning’an City, Heilongjiang Province. It is not known how many chemical weapons were left in China by Japanese troops. From February 1995 to April 2006, Chinese and Japanese experts have retrieved 37,499 such weapons. —MNA/Xinhua

Honda to enter aviation business

Tokyo, 27 July—Japan’s major carmaker Honda Motor Co said it will enter the aviation business to produce and sell small aircraft, according to a company Press release here Wednesday. The announcement was made on Tuesday in the world’s largest annual aviation gathering the Experimental Aircraft Association Air Venture 2006 at Wisconsin, the United States. Honda said it would set up a new firm to handle the jet business in the United States and begin receiving orders in fall. The major automaker aims to start mass production of six- to seven-seater Honda Jets in the United States after obtaining permission from US authorities in the next three to four years. The HondaJet publicly flew an experimental version last year. The company hopes to deliver the first jet to a customer in 2010. The company began studying aeronautics to honour the memory of founder Soichiro Honda, who dreamed of building aircraft before he died in 1991, an English-language newspaper Japan Times quoted a company executive as saying. —MNA/Xinhua

“Kaemi” leaves two missing, thousands homeless in Philippines

MANILA, 27 July—Typhoon Kaemi left the Philippines with two people missing while thousands of residents were displaced from their homes due to flooding, the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) said on Wednesday. As of 6 am Wednesday, NDCC identified the missing as two residents in the capital region. NDCC also said in its report that 137,957 people from the capital region, Central Luzon and Mimaropa (Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon and Palawan) area were directly affected by the storm. Of the those affected, 3,274 were taken to evacuation centres, meanwhile about 27,523 people have returned to their homes. The report said crop damage in Pampanga and Zambales amounted to 24.5 million pesos (471,000 US dollars). Cost of infrastructure damage has yet to be determined by NDCC. —MNA/Xinhua

Wen Jiabao calls for steady eco development in 2nd half year

BEIJING, 27 July—Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao called for steady and continuous economic development in the second half of the year. He made these remarks at a national television meeting of the State Council held here Wednesday. Wen said China’s economy had developed smoothly since the beginning of the year, with summer grain harvested, industries restructured at a fast pace, consumption growing, prices stable and people’s livelihoods continuing to improve. Remarkable progress has been achieved in social and economic development, and significant reforms made, he said. Wen said that in the second half of 2006, more attention should be paid to the structure of the economy and the type of economic growth. China will focus more on saving energy and environmental protection, in order to promote sustainable development. —MNA/Xinhua

Honda CEO Takeshi Fujki is seen holding a model of a Honda jet. Honda Motor Co announced plans on 26 July to start accepting sales orders this fall for the small jet it debuted last year at a Wisconsin air show. —INTERNET

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Vietnam uses own dengue fever test kits

HANOI, 27 July—Vietnam is using domestically-produced test kits to diagnose dengue fever in a shorter period of time with lower cost, local newspaper Vietnam News reported Wednesday. Vietnam has recently succeeded in manufacturing the kits, called MAC-ELISA, which produce testing results within four hours, instead of 12 days as other diagnosis methods currently in use in the country. Meanwhile, the made-in-Vietnam kits are priced at 35 US dollars each, one-tenth of the cost of similar foreign products. The kits, produced by Vietnam’s National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology, have been recognized by the US Centre for Disease Control and Prevention and the Nagasaki Medical School in Japan, said Truong Uyen Linh, head of the institute’s laboratory. The institute will work on new test kits that give results in 15 or 20 minutes, laying foundation for it to research dengue fever vaccines, Linh said. —MNA/Xinhua
 Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivered an address to the conclusion of the Special Refresher Course No 9 for Faculty Members at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) on 30 June 2006.

The fourth conference of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association took place at Pyidaw Kyun Kya, Kayin State on 1 and 2 July 2006 with speeches by Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan. The Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation organized the Myanmar Women’s Day commemorative ceremony at the Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road on 3 July 2006. The Myanmar Women’s Day was also observed in respective states and divisions.

Recently, we pensioners held discussions about the speeches.

“I noticed the Secretary-1’s instructions included some facts we people have to be aware of.”

“Explain to them. I have not read the newspaper these days because I received medical treatment for cataract recently”.

“Certain anti-government saboteurs and political brokers under the name of students are inciting a large-scale protest they have branded as the 1988 unrest”.

“My work programmes certain foreign broadcasting stations that the students are pursuing their education in peace as well as stability of the State and community peace”.

“Of course, I also noticed that the programmes certain foreign broadcasting stations are airing are designed to incite a mass protest like the 1988 unrest”.

“That was why the Secretary-1 stressed the need for teachers to nurture and protect their students in accordance with one of the teachers’ duties to students and youths to harm the conditions that the students are pursuing their education in peace as well as stability of the State and community peace”.

“At the fourth conference of the MWJA, the newly-elected executive committee should exert their arts to educate the people and youths, push others’ children students to border areas. Moreover, their fabrication was as if the Tatmadaw would arrest the students if they did not flee to the areas of insurgents. Consequently, so many students went through hell during their stay there and some students lost their lives. These were the true stories, not fiction. After all, the Tatmadaw Government coordinated with the other nation and invited the students. So, many students returned home. The events those students encountered firsthand and their reunion with their parents and relations are unforgettable”.

“I am sure the big nation that is anxious to install a puppet government with the intention of manipulating our nation and its lackeys internal and external aboveground and underground destructive elements will continue to resort to various means to make national people get into great troubles. And they will never waver in making the international community to misunderstand and put pressure on our country so that national people will be poverty-stricken and to throw roadblocks to national development. So, the people and students and youths are to be vigilant against such grave dangers”.

“Literati and media need to raise the public awareness and to highlight the past evil events so that the people would always bear in mind the bitter historic experiences and would be vigilant against the dangers, rebut the exaggerated stories through and correctly assess the prevailing conditions”.

“You are right. That was why the Secretary-1 and the Information Minister at the fourth conference of the MWJA exhorted literati and media to stand firm by the national cause, to protect national interests, to present everything in various sectors that the people should know well, to preserve fine characters that the people value and cherish, to ensure that each and every citizen is constantly imbued with nationalist spirit, patriotism, and Union Spirit and to correctly assess the destructive acts, exaggerated fabrications and groundless accusations and to take lessons from international and internal historic incidents”.

“It is very encouraging that all the delegates to the conference unanimously approved the instructions of the Secretary-1 and the minister as future plans”.

“Needless to say, if the entire men of letters and media men continue to preserve fine traditions of their predecessors, stand by the national cause with national outlook and shoulder literary duties with duty consciousness, they will be a reliable force of the nation”.

“Certainly, the MWJA that takes the leading role in the literary world should take organizational measures to transform itself into an efficient, strong and united force”.

“You attended the MWJA conference as a member. Tell us the condition of the newly-elected executive committee”.

“The new executives include old hands good enough to ponder over every matter correctly, middle age persons with greater working power and certain degree of experience and new generation young persons who will take over the duties in the future. Another significance is the participation of skilled journalists in the executive committee. In my view, it is an encouraging sign that the MWJA is going to strive more effectively and energetically for development of the whole literary world and social progress of men and women of letters, and serve the national interest with firm resolve.”

“Sure, all men and women of letters will join forces under the leadership of MWJA if it adopts ways to optimize its concerted efforts for achieving greater success. Only then will it be able to materialize well its future work programmes.”

“MWJA will become an institution truly reliable for the nation and the literati, if new executives actively work with new vigour and always review and assess their work implementation through correct and constructive view”.

“In my opinion, the work programmes passed at the fourth MWJA conference should be carried out more pragmatically”.

“They should work with deeds, not with words as they have already pledged to serve the interest of the nation and their counterparts as a national duty through their profession and goodwill.”

“CEC members are persons doing a great job with all their intellectual and physical ability as MWJA is playing a leading role in developing the literary profession and writers and journalists, while standing as a national force representing men and women of letters.”

“Like MWJA, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation also is a national force standing firmly as an organization leading and representing the entire women mass of the nation.”

“The government officially designated 3 July as the Myanmar Women’s Day in honour of the womankind.”

“Manym women’s lives were ruined when garment factories had to close down due to sanctions imposed by the powers to pave the way for her to grab power in accord with her demand. Those persons are so stupid to designate the birthday of the person, who has ruined the lives of many Myanmar women, as the Myanmar’s Women’s Day.”
Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects development tasks, irrigation facilities in Saw, Pauk Townships

NAY PYI TAW, 28 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence together with Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Chairman of Chin State PDC Col Tin Hla and Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe went along Kanpetlet-Saw Road on 25 July morning and viewed 50 acres of physic nut plantation in Kanpetlet Township.

They also inspected People’s Hospital in Saw Township and Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave necessary instructions. Along Saw-Kyaukhtu Road, they viewed 285 acres of thriving Manawthukha strain paddy and 25 acres of physic nut plantations at mile post 23/0 in Anyarkadin and 13/4 on Kyauksit villages. Later, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected building of Than-U-Chauk dam in Saw Township and gave instructions on increasing numbers of irrigated area and farmland and cultivation of perennial crops.

They also inspected Kyaukhtu Hospital (16-bed) and Win Thuzar Shop of the Ministry of Industry-1. Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people at General Administration Department in Kyaukhtu and briefed accounts on regional development tasks. Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe gave a supplementary report.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected irrigation facilities of Minledaw Diversion Dam and the feeder canal of Kyaw Diversion Dam.

In Pauk, he met with departmental officials and local people, and gave instructions on supply of water and cultivation of crops and perennial plants.

At No 2 Pauk Bridge (Yaypya) in Pauk-Pakokku Road, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected construction of the bridge and the retaining walls.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint viewed supply of water at Yaypya river water pumping station and thriving paddy plantations. The station irrigates 600 acres of monsoon paddy. He also inspected Sanphe river water pumping station. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint viewed 26,500 acres of Tatma Hill greening area.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to Pakokku.

MNA

Discussions of pensioners (17)

(from page 6)

“According to the MWA President Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of the Prime Minister, the federation has done a lot in materializing the national cause, while firmly existing as a force of the nation. We are happy to see the federation playing a leading role in serving women’s interest in accord with its motto “Let’s collectively help develop women’s lives.”

“Myanmar women deserve honour for serving the interest of the nation and their own, while efficiently managing family affairs in accord with their fine traditions.”

“As the federation has over 2.6 million members, it is the second largest NGO, formed for the national cause, after the Union Solidarity and Development Association. Its power is great and its arm long in the service of the nation and womenfolk. The federation is a prestige for all female citizens of Myanmar.”

“I have heard from a foreign broadcasting station airing a certain political party observing the birthday of a particular woman as the Myanmar Women’s Day. “So distressing! With what view did they observe her birthday as the Myanmar Women’s Day? She does not deserve honour, and I do not see even a single reason to honour her.”

“It seems that those members of the party have not even a sense of shame to honour a woman who married a foreigner and lived as a citizen of her husband’s country for decades.”

“She hasn’t done anything for not serving the national interest, but what is bad is that she is trying to harm the nation.”

“They honour her yet she is a traitor working in the interest of foreign powers, advocating sanctions against Myanmar and inviting public sufferings just to grab power through short cut and win dollar-earning awards.”

“Myanmar women’s lives were ruined when garment factories had to be closed down due to sanctions imposed by the powers to pave the way for her to grab power in accord with her demand. Those persons are so stupid to designate the birthday of the person, who has ruined the lives of many Myanmar women, as the Myanmar’s Women’s Day.”

“She is satisfied with sham honours without any wish to relieve herself from bonds of dollar-earning awards. We are worried about our nation.”

“We have now witnessed the members resigning from her party almost daily after realizing the objective conditions, and nothing but only the evil deeds the party under alien influence is committing one after another.”

“What we know about the resignations is just to the extent of the dailies’ news reports. At the Myanmar Women’s Day observed in Mandalay, the chairperson of Mandalay Division Women’s Affairs Organization said that 19 representatives-elect, 327 township organizers and 55,982 members had left the National league for Democracy. The Day is observed in all the capitals of states and divisions on 3 July every year.”

“NLD spokesmen blamed the government for, what they said, putting pressure for resignations. They dare blame the government when such a large number of the members are leaving the party forever.”

“The NLD leaders should have realized the truth for long. The nation has been suffering much. They should view the nation and the people’s interests more than personal and party interest.”

“We concluded our meeting as it was getting dark. While walking back home, I was thinking about the future of Myanmar. In my view, we will reach our goal — a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation — soonest if all give priority to national interest. At the same time, I wished all those opposing the nation to be able to correctly serve the interest of the nation and the people more than theirs and the party’s.”

(Translation: MS+TMT)

Kyemon: 28-7-2006

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Border areas enjoying significant increase in the living standard

The greater-than-expected success is the result of the locals' participation in the project with optimum strength utilizing the government-built infrastructures and taking government-sponsored projects as models.
Border areas enjoying significant increase in the...

(from page 8)

areas but also in border areas. Up to now the nation has 79 hospitals, 105 dispensaries, 58 rural health care centres and 140 sub rural health care centres, up from eight hospitals and six dispensaries in 1988. The government has built 200-bed specialist hospitals in all special development success. Officials are urged to provide assistance for extending alternative crop cultivation and exports and finding ready markets.

The setting up of 109 TV retransmission stations in the areas has helped cement national unity as local people have come to know more about the government endea-

vours and policy. In an effort to lay down the drug-elimination plan, the government launched the 15-year drug-eradication plan in 1999-2000, 10 years after the launch of the border areas development project so that local people could gain income in an alternative way when they gave up poppy growing. So far, the plan has entered its seventh anniversary.

Due to the participation of national race people in border areas, the growing and production of poppy is on a gradual decrease. Such a remarkable achievement has been recognized internationally.

In the process, efforts are being exerted to achieve the 15-year drug-eradication plan in 2014, one year earlier than the achievement of the ASEAN Vision. In pursuing the plan, three strategies—supply elimination, demand elimination and law enforcement—are being put into action in harmony.

He urged regional work committees, relevant ministries and work subcommittees to accelerate their collaborative implementation of the tasks. The undertakings enable the people to grow more high-yield crops and set up perennial crops plantations. Because of the sound foundations, most of the nationalities in remote border areas have quit poppy cultivation. It is a great achievement of poppy is on a gradual decrease. Such a remarkable achievement has been recognized internationally.

Concerning the youth development programmes, the government in the basic education sector has built 852 primary schools, 90 middle schools and 92 high schools in addition to 27 border areas national races youth development training schools for the local youths to pursue education free of charge.
Up to the final year of the third-five year project...

Next, Minister Col Thein Nyunt said from the beginning of the border area development project to date K 45,905.54 million has been spent for roads and bridges; K 1,729.38 million for health care; K 4,605.99 million for education; K 2,080.08 million for agriculture; K 67.4 million for forestry; K 959.79 million for livestock breeding; K 225.49 million for trade; K 1,773.22 for energy; K 1,392.63 for public relations; K 390.02 million for mineral exploration; K 3040.21 million for communications; K 1,923.16 million for housing estate; K 283.22 million for management and financial affairs; K 480.4 million for religious affairs; K 734.73 million for home affairs; K 15.04 million for social welfare and cooperative affairs; and K 191107.03 million for general services.

A total of K 84,753.33 million — K 53,418.34 million from the funds of other ministries — had been spent from 1989-90 fiscal to 30-6-2006. He said K 19,865 million for cash assistance. Since 1994-95, the Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Work Committee has provided 233 vehicles for various regions.

With regard to development of remote areas, CDRT project phase No 1 was implemented for education, health, supply of potable water and increase of family income in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States from January 1994 to June 1996 with US$ 2 million contribution of UNDP, the Thai Government also distributed 1,000 tons of rice to Pangsan, Mongmao, Weinkaung, Mongka, Hotaung and 652 BEPSs have been opened in Kachin State and Magway Division. In conclusion, Minister Col Thein Nyunt urged those present to make more efforts for regional development and speed up human resources development of the national race youths of the border regions.

Afterwards, officials concerned reported on tasks that have been carried out. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and participants of the meeting discussed rural area development tasks.

The Head of State concluded.

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi submits report. — MNA

The work committee should give local residents a lot of practical support in implementing the rural area development tasks, the prime minister concluded.

The meeting came to an end in the evening.

MNA
Opening of station hospitals reflect fruits of peace and stability of the region
Lt-Gen Maung Bo attends opening of Duya Station Hospital in Ye Township

NAY PYI TAW, 28 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State PDC Commander of South-East Command Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win and officials, left Ye for Kyanggywa Village on 22 July morning and met with Tatmadawmen and family members of the local station.

At Kyanggywa Station Hospital, they inspected sanitation and beautifying tasks.

At 10 am, Lt-Gen Maung Bo attended the ceremony to open the new building of Duya Station Hospital. Commander Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win and Deputy Director-General Dr Tin Min of the Health Department formally opened the building. Lt-Gen Maung Bo unveiled the signboard of the hospital.

First, the commander delivered an opening speech. He said that Mon State General Hospital was upgraded to the 350-bed hospital for providing more health care services to the local people. After 1988, Mon State has been equipped with one 50-bed hospital and seven 25-bed hospitals. The state has 17 hospitals now. Furthermore, there were 73 rural health care centres in the state in 1988, and now the state has 82 centres. In addition, 287 doctors and nurses and 686 health service personnel are now giving health services at the hospitals and health care centres. Duya Station Hospital built with the contributions of the State and the people remains a symbol of the cooperation between the people and the government.

In conclusion, the commander urged those present to take part in the uplift of health standard for the people.

In his address, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that the government is building political, economic and social foundations. Under the leadership of the State Peace and Development Council, the Ministry of Health is striving for enhancement of health care services in line with the national health policies. At present, 17,564 doctors are giving health care services to the people at 826 hospitals and 1,456 rural health care centres in the entire nation. Furthermore, 300-bed specialist hospitals and teaching hospitals were put into service with the facilities of advanced hospital equipment. Especially, at least one 200-bed hospital has been opened in 24 special development regions of all states and divisions.

He continued to say that health facilities of Mon State have been extended with more station hospital in the rural region today. The opening of the station hospitals reflected fruits of peace and stability of the region. In conclusion, Lt-Gen Maung Bo called on local people in Mon State to participate in the development tasks under the leadership and genuine goodwill of the government.

U Chan Sein of Home Tawk Co Ltd handed over the documents related to the hospital to Mon State Health Department Head Dr Tin Win Kyaw.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo accepted K 800,000 donated by U Than Shin-Daw San San Win (Myat Thura Co Ltd); K 700,000 by Home Tawk Co Ltd; and K 100,000 each by U Maung Myint of Asin Village and Dr Than Tun Aung of Ye Township. The commander and officials also accepted cash donations from well-wishers. The donations amounted to K 2.9 million. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party visited the hospital.

Due to opening of the station hospital, health care services will be given to over 7,000 local people of Duya Village and its surrounding villages. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party viewed development of Duya Village.

They also visited Cold Storage of Myat Thura Co Ltd in Asin Village of Ye Township. Next, they inspected construction of the annex of Ye Township Hospital (50-bed) and left necessary instructions. The annex of the hospital will have the patient ward, the operation theatre and the labour room. It will be a two-storey reinforced concrete building, and the construction tasks will complete at the end of 2006.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party visited local schools in Ye Township and presented gifts to Tatmadawmen and family members.

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Five schools benefited from USDA’s donation

YANGON, 28 July — Yangon Division Union Solidarity and Development Association donated desks and benches to five primary schools in Hlinethaya Township today. At the donation ceremony held at No 6 Post-Primary School in Hlinethaya Township, Central Executive Committee Members of Union Solidarity and Development Association Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa handed over 60 sets of desks to headmasters and headmistresses of the schools. Moreover, the mayor and vice-mayor also donated 70 dozens of exercise books and 150 dozens of pencils to the schools.

At the ceremony, the Secretary of Hlinethaya Township accepted the 1,118 membership applications of USDA.

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NLD on collision course harmful to the country and the people

YANGON, 28 July — Members of Bogale Township National League for Democracy of Ayeyawady Division U Thein Shwe of Danonchaungthitpyu Village on 11 July, U Tun Shein of Myothit, U Aung Shwe of Danonchaungthitpyu Village on 11 July, U Tun Shein of Myothit, U Aung Shwe of Danonchaungthitpyu Village, U Thaung Myint of Migyaung-thai Village, U Htay Win, U Zaw Naing Oo (a) Zaw Oo, U Ye Naing, U Po Kyi Lwin, U Kyaw Nyen, U Nay Lin Oo and Daw Nyo of Babesu Village, U Tin Hlaing, U Khin Maung Tun, U Chi Tun, U Soe Win Naing, U Sein Tun and U Kyaw Yu of Kangyi Village on 14 July, U Kyaw Win, U Saw Win, U Myint Soe, U Myint Than and U Aung Moe of Pyinnagon Village, U Su (a) Tin Ohn of Kunyakanlay Village, U Than Zaw (a) Tun Zaw of Sakin Village, U Tha Aye (a) Tin Aye and U Than Naing of Layeindan Village on 15 July — resigned from the NLD of their own accord.

They sent the letters of resignation to the NLD Headquarters and local authorities. In their letter sent to Bogale Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-Commission, 26 party members said that NLD is on a collision course that is harmful to the country and the people without carrying out party politics. Therefore, they had lost trust in the NLD and party leaders, and that was why they resigned from the NLD of their own accord.

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26 members of Bogale Township NLD quit

In their letter sent to Bogale Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-Commission, 26 party members said that NLD is on a collision course that is harmful to the country and the people without carrying out party politics. Therefore, they had lost trust in the NLD and party leaders, and that was why they resigned from the NLD of their own accord.

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Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa donate desks to Basic Education Primary Schools in Hlinethaya Township. — VDC
Vietnam tightens management over foreigners-related marriage

HANOI, 27 July— Registration for marriages between Vietnamese people and foreigners will be rejected if the applicants’ intended marriage have forced factors, said a recent government decree.

Under the decree issued on 21 July, marriage certificates will not be granted to people who want to get married either via illegal brokerage, or for ill-gotten purposes, including woman trafficking and sexual abuse, local newspaper Youth reported Wednesday.

Within 20 days of the date of the receipt of marriage registration documents and fees, the Judicial Department of a city or province is supposed to interview both applicants in person to check whether they want to get married of their own accord, and how much they can communicate and understand each other’s background.

According to a report of the Vietnamese Ministry of Justice, marriage between Vietnamese women and foreigners tends to be increasing, with some 180,000 local people already marrying foreigners or overseas Vietnamese.

MNV/Xinhua

Roads impassable due to floods in N Philippines

MANILA, 27 July— Heavy rains brought by tropical storm Kaemi flooded low-lying areas in Metro Manila and Central Luzon, leaving several highways impassable, officials said Tuesday.

In Marikina City, Metro Manila, 20 families living beside a creek emptying into the Pampanga river were evacuated Tuesday morning as intermittent rains continued to swell waterways, said Leopoldo Bataoil, chief of the Pampanga Police District.

“We (police) are helping in the evacuation efforts,” Bataoil said.

MNV/Xinhua

Hu Jintao calls for studying history of Chinese revolution

Beijing, 27 July— Chinese President Hu Jintao on Tuesday called for a lecture to the study the history of the Chinese Revolution.

The Long March was a spectacular epic of the Chinese Revolution.

Gave a lecture about the history of the Long March.

Academies of Sciences gave a lecture about the history of the Long March.

The Long March was a famous military manoeuvre carried out by the Workers’ and Peasants’ Red Army led by the CPC in the 1930’s to combat the Kuomintang Regime.

Though many soldiers died on the way, the Red Army finally arrived at Yan’an in western Shaanxi Province after the 25,000-li (1,250-kilometre) trek, and later established the Party’s new headquarters there.

It (The Long March) was a spectacular epic of the Chinese Revolution led by the Communist Party of China, Hu said, encouraging people to treasure and learn from the experiences of the Long March and the entire revolution.

He said the spirit of Party members during the revolution should be spread to the present day, and the traditions moulded by the Party during the revolution should be passed down.

“We should first learn how the Party’s founding fathers, especially Mao Zedong, applied Marxism to analyse problems in the Chinese context,” Hu said, adding that the expansion of socialist theories to include practical experience should also be studied.

And we must learn how to explain theories and policies to the masses in plain terms, he said.

While studying history, Hu said, we should also absorb the absolute honesty and pure political belief of Party members during the revolutionary period.

“We should not waver in pursuing our dreams and beliefs, should not slacken in the face of difficulties, and should confidently pursue the building of socialism with Chinese characteristics,” Hu said.—MNV/Xinhua

Palestinian shops close up to protest rice prices

RAMALLAH (West Bank), 27 July— Shopkeepers shut their doors in the West Bank city of Ramallah on Tuesday to protest against the visit of US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, accusing her of pro-Israel bias.

The commercial strike was called by several Palestinian factions, including the Fatah Movement of President Mahmoud Abbas and the ruling Islamist militant group Hamas, angry at US policy over Lebanon as well as Palestinian affairs.

The strike was widely followed.

Telling her ‘go back to where you came from’, said general merchant Masharah, 45. “She will not do anything for the good of the Palestinians or the Lebanese.”

As Israel’s main ally, the United States has long been viewed with suspicion by Palestinians.

MNV/Reuters

The Tumana Bridge, which connects Markin and Quozon City, has been submerged and impassable since Monday, according to police. Meanwhile, two highways in Pampanga Province are impassable to all types of vehicles, the National Disaster Coordinating Council said in a report. The water level on the Armeo Dike in Pampanga Province has risen 1.17 metres above the normal level, it said. Kaemi, which crossed southern Taiwan before dawn Tuesday, has weakened from a typhoon to a tropical storm, packing maximum sustained winds of 110 kilometres per hour near the centre and gustiness of up to 140 kilometres per hour, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, Astronomical Services Administration said.—MNV/Xinhua
Study says light to moderate drinkers may live longer

HOU STON, 27 July — People in their 70s who consume one to seven alcoholic beverages a week may live longer with reduced risk of cardiac events than those who do not drink, according to a latest study.

The study, by a team led by Cinzia Maraldi of the University of Florida, showed that when compared with never or occasional drinkers, those who drank lightly to moderately had a 26 per cent lower risk of death over all and an almost 30 per cent lower risk of cardiac events.

The findings of the study have been published in the latest issue of Archives of Internal Medicine. Light to moderate alcohol intake reduces levels of C-reactive protein and interleukin-6, compounds that circulate in the blood due to inflammation, the study showed.

The study investigated the relationship between alcohol, death and cardiac events in 2,487 adults without heart disease of the 70-79 age group. Participants (average age 73.5 years, 55 per cent women) were recruited between April 1997 and June 1998. They answered queries about disease diagnoses, medication use and drinking habits during an initial interview.

The participants were classified based on how many drinks they consumed in a typical week over the past year; the categories were: former; never or occasional (less than one drink per week); light to moderate (one to seven); and heavier (more than seven). During the study, each individual was contacted by telephone every six months and had a clinical assessment every year. Levels of C-reactive protein and interleukin-6 in blood were also tested.

Some one measures the longest of Zhan Xuyan’s finger nails, which stands at 6.3 centimeters, far longer than the length of her fingers on 25 July, 2006. —INTERNET

Google launches live traffic map for cell phone

LO S ANGELES, 27 July — Web search giant Google, Inc on Tuesday released an update of its Maps for Mobile service, a software system that will turn a cell phone into a vehicle navigation system.

The product will have comprehensive functionality in 30 urban centres in the United States, but will come with less than full functionality elsewhere. However, it will include a crucial feature: the ability to store frequently used searches and driving directions.

The software, installed on phones capable of supporting such applications, allows the user to access up-to-date traffic information, said the Mountain View, a California-based company.

Cell phone users must download Google Maps for Mobile software from the web through their phone’s browser, and then they can see driving directions, along with the current traffic conditions and the expected driving time.

The information is colour-coded so the user has a quick way of recognizing which routes are congested and which are free. Red represents traffic jams, yellow represents slow conditions, and green is the driver’s cue to hit cruise control. In a related announcement, Google said mobile users would now be able to personalize their home page, making the all-important web navigation to oft-used sites and services easier.

Users of Google’s personalized mobile home page can now determine what shows up on the page and also the order in which the content is served.

It will be a product that appeals to the gadget lover, the urbanite, and those who have a phobia about asking for directions, analysts said. “Being able to invoke stored routes makes things a lot easier,” Roger Kay, principal analyst of Skytop Research, said.

Fish in diet may help maintain heart rhythm

NEW YORK, 27 July — Eating tuna or other broiled or baked fish appears to have a beneficial effect on the electrical system of the heart, which may help prevent life-threatening heart rhythm disorders, according to a new report.

Fish oil intake of fish n-3 fatty acid appears to have a direct effect from animal studies has suggested a direct effect from fish oil intake on the hearts electrical circuitry. As reported in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology, Dr Dariusz Mozaffarian, of Harvard Medical School, Boston, and colleagues analyzed data from 5,096 adults enrolled in the Cardiovascular Health Study to investigate the link between dietary intake of fish and heart rhythm disorders. However, evidence from animal studies has suggested a direct effect from fish oil intake on the hearts electrical circuitry. As reported in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology, Dr Dariusz Mozaffarian, of

Surviving Chinese twin doing well after separation surgery

SH ANGH AI, 27 July — An 11-month-old Chinese girl has been recovering well since doctors separated her from her conjoined sister who died four days after the operation, doctors said on Wednesday.

Chen Jingni was off medication and life-support equipment, said doctors with the Children’s Hospital affiliated to Fudan University, where the operation was carried out on 6 July. Her weight had increased from 3.8 kilograms after the surgery to 4.27 kilograms and she was drinking three quarters of a litre of milk a day.

The conjoined twins, from Taizhou, east China’s Zhejiang Province, shared a liver and a digestive tract and had congenital heart disease, according to doctors.

A Cambodian girl offers deep-fried spiders to travellers at the town of Skun, about 80 kilometres (50 miles) northeast of the capital Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 25 July, 2006. The town is the most well-known place for selling deep-fried spiders to travellers, who stop by on their way to and from the country’s northern and northeastern provinces. —INTERNET

Boeing to establish regional R&D centre in Poland

WA R SAW, 27 July — A regional Boeing research and development centre for Central and Eastern Europe would possibly be established in Poland, Henryka Bochmiarz, the President of Boeing International for Central and Eastern Europe, told reporters on Tuesday.

Talks are under way, she was reported by PAP news agency as saying in Warsaw.

She stressed that Polish firms might be covered by cooperation links built by biggest aviation companies. According to Bochmiarz, Pratt & Whitney investments in Rzeszow in southern Poland and planned investments in Mielec, also in the south of Poland, show that the Polish aviation industry was considered by international firms as a potentially significant partner in Central and Eastern Europe.

Boeing is interested in cooperation with firms and research institutes in Central Europe, mainly in Poland, the Czech Republic and Bulgaria, she said. —INTERNET

A city zoo employee cuddles a six-month old baby bear named Tony in Sofia, on 26 July, 2006. —INTERNET
Davydenko, Robredo suffer early exits in Kitzbuehel

VIENNA, 28 July — Top seeds Nikolay Davydenko has been handed a second-round exit at the Kitzbuehel Open on Wednesday, while Tommy Robredo also suffered.

The Russian Davydenko, ranked world number six, was beaten 6-3, 6-3 by Ecuador's Nicolas Lapentti, and Robredo was stunned 6-2, 7-5 by local favourite Juergen Melzer.

Defending champion Gaston Gaudio and Finnish third seed Jarkko Nieminen safely went through to the third round.

"Lapentti didn't win the match today. I lost it," Davydenko said after his third career loss to the Ecuadorean.

"I was just trying to play my normal game and hit as many winners as I could, but every time the ball was going out by up to two or three metres."

This has been the fifth time that Davydenko failed to get beyond the third round at the Austrian event.

Lapentti will take Austrian Stefan Koubek next, and winner against Spaniard Robredo, Melzer will next meet Romanian 16th seed Andrei Pavel in the third round.

Fourth seed Gaudio booked his place in the last 16 without finishing a match after the world No. 16 retired a bye to the second round and leading 7-6, 4-1 Wednesday when his compatriot Juan Monaco pulled out, complaining of nausea.

Nieminen beat Argentine Sergio Roitman 6-3, 1-6, 6-4. — MNA/Xinhua

Ronaldinho free to hit “net” after cyber battle

GENEVA, 28 July — Brazilian soccer star Ronaldinho can hit the “net” again after winning exclusive rights to the domain name Ronaldinho.com on the worldwide web.

The UN intellectual property agency WIPO said on Thursday that an Internet dispute body it runs had ruled in Ronaldinho's favour in a cyber-squatting case.

The judge in the case said that the pirate outfit, which had been using the site to publicize music videos, had been acting in bad faith and had no rights to the name.

The Brazilian national is the latest in a long line of soccer stars to win cyber cases.

A decision is pending in a case brought to WIPO by British international Wayne Rooney arguing exclusive rights to WayneRooney.com and WayneRooney.co.uk. — MNA/Reuters

Real Madrid sign Dutch striker Van Nistelrooy

MADRID, 28 July — Dutch striker Ruud van Nistelrooy will join Real Madrid from Manchester United on a three-year contract, the Primera Liga club said on Thursday.

The deal is reported by Spanish media to be worth around 15 million euros (19.12 million US dollars).

"Real Madrid have reached an agreement with Manchester United for the signing of Ruud van Nistelroy," the Spanish club said in a statement.

"The player... will take a medical on Friday morning and will be presented in the afternoon at 1700 GMT in the Bernabeu."

The 30-year-old scored 150 goals for United since joining in 2001 for a then British record fee of 19 million pounds (35.39 million US dollars).

He is Real's third signing of the off-season and will be presented in the Bernabeu. — MNA/Xinhua
Kenyan official urges farmers to grow oil plant

NAROKI, 28 July — Kenyan on Wednesday urged farmers to begin large-scale production of Jatropha curcas, a plant whose seeds contain 37 per cent combustible fuel content, to be used in future as an alternative source of energy.

Kenya’s Energy Minister Henry Obwocha said Jatropha curcas, a drought-resistant plant that is easy to grow, is suitable for large-scale plantation in arid regions of the country and could lift high yields from poor soils.

Speaking during the opening of the first international conference on Jatropha curcas, convened at the World Agro-Forestry Centre (WAFC) in Nairobi, Obwocha said the plant has proved to be an effective source of fuel, which could be used to power diesel engines.

About 600 Lebanese civilians killed in Israeli assault

BEIRUT, 28 July — Lebanese Minister of Public Health Mohammed Jawad Khallife said on Thursday that about 600 Lebanese civilians had been killed in the ongoing Israeli massive assault on Lebanon, which was launched 16 days ago.

Khallife said that the Lebanese state-run radio as saying that hospita1s across Lebanon had received some 400 bodies so far and that about 150 to 200 people were believed to be still buried under the rubble of buildings destroyed in Israeli air raids.

The Health Minister said that rescue teams were unable to reach the destroyed buildings and retrieve the bodies of the victims due to intense Israeli bombardments.

**WEATHER**

Friday, 28 July, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain have been recorded in Kavay State and lower Sajang Division, fairly widespread in Kachin State, Yangon and Ayeawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfall in Rakhine State and isolated heavyfalls in upper Sajang Division. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Kaukpya (7.80) inches, Bilkuk (5.39) inches, Sittwe (4.89) inches, An (4.05) inches, Mauhtaw (3.98) inches, Kalay (3.22) inches and Magway (0.99) inch.

Maximum temperature on 27-7-2006 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 28-7-2006 was 64°F. Relative humidity 09:30 hours MST on 28-7-2006 was (100%).

Total sunshine hours on 27-7-2006 was (0.60) hours.

Rainfalls on 28-7-2006 were (0.82) inch at Mingaladon, (1.38) inches at Kabo Aye and (1.89) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (50.94) inches at Mingaladon, (61.54) inches at Kabo Aye and (68.54) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Aykaba) was (12) mph from Southeast at (13:30) hours MST on 27-7-2006.

**Sat., 29 July, 2006 — Tune in today**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Programmes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Brief news</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:35 am</td>
<td>“A song for a country” (M.L.T.R)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Music: “It’s gotta be you” (Steve Wonder)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:10 am</td>
<td>National news / Slogan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15 am</td>
<td>News: “When you wish upon a star” (Elton John)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:40 am</td>
<td>Music: “Sleeping child (M.L.T.R)”</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>National news / Slogan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:40 pm</td>
<td>Music: “On the beach” (David Gates &amp; Bread)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>ASEM news review</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>News from ASEM member countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Article</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Myanmar Culture By Dr Khin Maung Nyunt (Part I)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Myanmar Kings (Part II)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Sosoumi (Part II)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Forecast valid until evening of 29-7-2006:

Rain will be scattered in Rakhine State, Sajang Division fairly widespread in Kachin, Chin, Shan States, Mandalay and Magway Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Rakhine State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Decrease in rain in Kachin and Shan States. (80%).

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 29-7-2006: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 29-7-2006: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 29-7-2006: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Weather outlook for first weekend of August 2006: During the coming weekend, rain will be widespread in Yangon Division and isolated in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division.

**Floral Bulletin**

(Issued at 12:00 hours MST on 28-7-2006)

According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madasii (38) cm. It may remain above its danger level (1070) cm during the next (72) hrs commencing noon today.
Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of State Peace and Development Council, accepts credentials of Ambassador of New Zealand

NAY PYI TAW, 28 July — Dr Brook Barrington, newly-accredited Ambassador of the New Zealand to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Bayintaung Yeiktha, here at 10.30 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and U Maung Myint and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department.

Government rendering assistance for extending cultivation of promising crops in border regions for food sufficiency

Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races holds coordination meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 28 July — The Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races held the coordination meeting No 2/2006 at the Prime Minister’s office here this afternoon with an address by Chairman of the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races Prime Minister General Soe Win.

Present on the occasion were Member of State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Lt-Gen Maung Bo.

Prime Minister sends congratulatory message to Poland

NAY PYI TAW, 28 July — General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr Jaroslaw Kaczynski, who has been appointed as Prime Minister and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Poland. — MNA