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Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

**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

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

**Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than on tour of Maubin, Pyapon districts**

**Officials urged to actively participate in development tasks in cooperation with local people**

NAY PYI TAW, 5 May — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division PDC Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and officials, met with departmental officials at the District PDC office in Maubin on 4 May morning.

Maubin Township PDC Chairman U Htay Win reported on facts about the township, 142,267 acres cultivation of monsoon paddy, 92,880 acres cultivation of summer paddy against the target of 119,676 acres, distribution of 200 baskets of physic nut seeds and scattering of 180 baskets of the seeds against the target of 3,000 acres and arrangements for cultivation.

In response to the reports, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said it is learnt that agriculture and livestock breeding is booming in Maubin Township. With a view to meeting the requirement of rice for the growing population, paddy cultivation is annually extended, quality strains are provided and modern cultivation methods are disseminated. It is necessary to engage in triple cropping in a year. It is also required to extend the cultivation of gram, edible oil crops, Thit Hseint and pepper that are included in the 10 major crops. The district and townships in Ayeyawady Division are to try to meet the target cultivation of 500,000 acres of physic nut for bio-diesel. He added for ensuring the rule of law and peace and stability of the state, economic growth and development of human resources, the government is accelerating the 24 special development regions project and the five rural development tasks. As a result, fruits of development can be seen across the nation. In conclusion, he urged the officials to actively participate in development tasks in cooperation with the local people.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met officers and other ranks and their family members at the local battalion in Maubin Township. He spoke of the need for the improvement of the family income, and their welfare tasks and active participation of the public in the nation-building tasks. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party visited Maubin paper mill, inspected production process and gave necessary instructions to officials. The mill will be able to produce 3000 MT of paper per year. He also visited Kyonsok river-water pumping project in Kyonsok Village near Kyaiklat River in Maubin Township. Officials reported on data of the project, progress in construction of the river-water pumping station. On completion, the project will benefit 9000 acres of farmlands.

Agriculture and livestock breeding is booming in Maubin Township. With a view to meeting the requirement of rice for the growing population, paddy cultivation is annually extended, quality strains are provided and modern cultivation methods are disseminated.
PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 7 May, 2007

Public cooperation in fight against TB

Tuberculosis is one of the diseases to which the government has been giving priority in Myanmar’s National Health Plan. Tuberculosis is known as TB and tuberculosis bacteria cause the disease and it mainly affects the lungs of the human body. There are various kinds of TB such as bone TB, joint TB, GI tract TB and cerebral TB.

The National Anti-Tuberculosis Project was launched in 1966-67 in Myanmar. Beginning 1994, TB patients have been undergoing treatment free of charge through the Directly Observed Treatment Short-course (DOTS) nationwide.

Some TB patients themselves do not know that they get disease. They sometimes do not receive effective treatment fully. The number of patients who are immune to this disease has increased. This is why tuberculosis remains a major concern in almost every country.

TB patients are being treated with the use of potent drugs provided under the National Anti-Tuberculosis Project. Moreover, anti-tuberculosis campaign is being launched widely with the technological assistance and cooperation of primary health staff and other organizations in every township.

If someone is suspicious about the disease, go to the nearest health care centres and undergo treatment until the disease is eradicated.

Today, improved methods of prevention, diagnosis, and treatment have greatly reduced both the number of people who get the disease and the number of people who die from it.

It is necessary for all people including health staff and social organizations to actively participate in anti-tuberculosis activities. Only then will each and everyone be free from TB.

Minister goes on inspection tour of foodstuff, textile industries

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung went on an inspection tour of Virginia Factory of Myanma Foodstuff Industries in Pakokku Township, Magway Division on 3 May.

After inspecting storage of tobacco leaves, the minister was conducted round the factory by Managing Director U Thaik Tun and officials. Next, the minister fulfilled the requirements of the task.

Upon arrival at Dyeing and Printing Factory (Pakokku) of Myanma Textile Industries, the minister looked into printing works and gave instructions on booting production of the factory installed with machine parts.

Next, the minister oversaw production process at Textile Factory (Pakokku) and gave instructions on measures to be taken for manufacturing products to exceed the target and continuous run of the machines.

Afterwards, the minister met with officials concerned and urged them to discharge duties assigned for realization of the target.

The following day, the minister inspected production process of fine cloth at Garment Factory (Pakokku), WinThuzA Shop (Yesagyo) and Textile Factory (Salingyi). The minister urged officials concerned to make efforts for raising productivity to exceed the target.

Next, the minister presented cash rewards to outstanding staff and officials of the factory and presented cash rewards to outstanding staff.

Minister U Aung Thaung inspects Garment Factory (Pakokku) in Pakokku Township. — MNA

Certificates of honour, prizes presented to mark 61st Anniversary Fire Services Day

YANGON, 5 May — Organized by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, a ceremony to present certificates of honour and prizes was held at the hall of Fire Services Department in Mayangon Township on 3 May

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, with an address by Minister for Fire, presented K 4.703 million donated by Daw Khin Sein of Aungban in Shan State (South) and Daw Yi Yi Myint of A-1 Family to outstanding members of Fire Brigade.

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe presents prize to an outstanding person. — MNA

Daw Khin Sein of Aungban in Shan State (South) and Daw Yi Yi Myint of A-1 Family donate K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Treasurer U Aung Than of the Home recently. — MNA

People’s Desire

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

**“Newsweek” poll shows Bush’s approval rate falls to 28%**

WASHINGTON, 6 May — President George W. Bush’s approval rating has fallen to 28 per cent in a *Newsweek* Poll released on Saturday, an all-time low for Bush in that survey.

Nearly two out of three Americans—62 per cent—believe Bush’s recent actions in Iraq show he is “stubborn and unwilling to admit his mistakes”, *Newsweek* reported. Just 30 per cent think Bush’s execution of the Iraq war demonstrates he is “willing to take political risks” to do what’s right.

Bush’s unpopularity may also be casting a dark shadow over Republican chances for keeping the White House in 2008. Democratic front-runners lead potential Republican contenders in head-to-head match-ups across the board, the poll suggests.

Illinois Senator Barack Obama fares best against the lead Republicans so far in the race. Obama bested Republican front-runner and former New York mayor Rudolph Giuliani by 50 per cent to 43 per cent among registered voters who responded to the poll.

Obama topped Arizona Senator John McCain by 52 per cent to 39 per cent and defeated former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney by 58 per cent to 29 per cent, *Newsweek* reported.

New York Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, the front-runner among Democratic voters, topped Giuliani by 49 per cent to 46 per cent, beat out McCain 50 per cent to 44 per cent and outdistanced Romney 57 per cent to 35 per cent, the poll found.

MNA/Reuters

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**Bomb blast in Thai capital wounds one**

BANGKOK, 6 May—Thailand: Security forces threw a protective cordon around the Thai king’s residence in Bangkok Sunday following a nearby bomb explosion which wounded one person, a police officer said. A meeting of police, military and city officials was scheduled for later Sunday to discuss the incident and measures to prevent further attacks, said national police spokesman Maj Gen Ronnarong Yanyuen.

The small explosive device went off Saturday night on a road opposite Chirathada Palace, slightly injuring a 22-year-old man.

Asked if there was any significance to the site of the explosion, the spokesman said, “We still can’t draw any conclusions. The bomb site was near several important places.”

These also included a former office of the Thai Rak Thai party of deposed Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra which now belongs to a business enterprise once under his control, according to the television channel IV.

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**Seven US soldiers killed in Iraq**

BAGHDAD, 6 May — Four US soldiers and an Iraqi interpreter were killed and nine others wounded in insurgent attacks on Thursday, the US military said on Saturday.

One soldier was killed and three more were injured when an improvised explosive device detonated near their patrol in western Baghdad, a military statement said.

Earlier military statements said that three US soldiers were killed and eight others wounded in the same day, bringing the death toll Thursday to seven killed and 17 wounded.

More than 2,360 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in 2003. In recent weeks, the US military and Iraq troops have staged a campaign in the capital with an aim of putting the rampant violence there under control.

Dengue kills 54 so far this year in Philippines

MANILA, 5 May — The dengue epidemic has killed 54 people in the Philippines so far this year and is threatening several neighbourhoods of Metro Manila as well as some provinces, said the Philippine Department of Health (DOH) Thursday.

The DOH’s latest Dengue Surveillance Report said the barangays (neighbourhoods) with cluster of dengue cases, where more than one case of dengue in one family have been admitted, are located in Malabon, Navotas and Quezon City of Metro Manila and Bangui in Ilocos Norte, northern Philippines, and Cabanatuan and Sasa in Davao City in the south.

The DOH also said from January to April, a total of 4,858 dengue cases were admitted in different sentinel hospitals nationwide. There were 54 reported deaths.

This year’s figure is 14.7 per cent lower compared to the same period last year of 5,696 cases with 78 deaths, said DOH.

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**Strong quake jolts western Tibet**

BEIJING, 6 May — An earthquake measuring 6.1 on the Richter Scale jolted the border areas of Ali Rutog and gerze of Tibet Autonomous Region on Saturday afternoon, China’s Seismological Monitoring Network reported.

The epicentre, at 34.3 degrees North Latitude and 81.9 degrees East Longitude, occurred at 4:51 pm Beijing Time, it reported.

MNA/Xinhua
VOA accused of distorting facts

BEIJING, 4 May — A spokesman for the Foreign Information Administration Centre of Xinhua today repudiated the Voice of America, noting that a VOA report distorted facts with ill intentions.

The spokesman reiterated that while handling the business of releasing news and information in China, foreign news agencies will be free from obstacles so long as they abide by Chinese laws and regulations.

He said that in an article published on 1 May, VOA claimed that "measures for administering the release of news and information in China by Foreign News Agencies" issued by Xinhua News Agency on 10 September, 2006 "restrict the development of foreign media", "let fertile water flow into Xinhua News Agency" and "the Foreign Information Administration Center of Xinhua is a commercial institution."

He said, "VOA's claim does not conform to facts at all."

He noted that the Foreign Information Administration Centre of Xinhua is a managerial department established by Xinhua News Agency with the authorization of China's State Council and performs government functions.

"The centre is not a commercial institution at all," he said.

The spokesman said that the purpose of establishing a designated agent department is to standardize the business of releasing news and information by foreign news agencies in China and to provide services and guarantees for foreign news agencies in releasing news and information in China, as well as to render services to their subscribers in China.

"In the course of providing services, this agent department neither shares any profit nor seeks any own interests," he said.

He emphasized that not a single case can prove that Xinhua's administration has caused obstacles to news and information released by foreign news agencies in China.— Xinhua

Malaysian Air Force plane crashes, pilot safe

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 May — A Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) Hawk 208 plane crashed Friday soon after take-off at the Kuantan airbase, but the pilot escaped safe.

The aircraft, which is based at the airbase in Pahang State, was on a routine flight training when the mishap happened Friday morning. RMAF public relations officer Zulkiflee Abdul Latif said in a statement. The pilot, who was ejected to safety, did not suffer serious injuries. Zulkiflee was quoted as saying by the national news agency Bernama. There were no other reported injuries.

The RMAF will set up a board of inquiry to investigate the incident, he added. — MNA/Xinhua

Boat collision kills boy in Peru jungle

LIMA, 5 May— A 12-year-old boy was killed and 20 people injured when a passenger boat collided with a cargo boat in central Peru, the Peruvian state news agency reported Friday.

The accident took place at about 20:00 local time Thursday (0100 GMT Friday) at port Grau in the jungle region of Pucallpa City, capital of Ucayali department, 840 kilometres from Lima.

The 12-year-old died en route to hospital due to the seriousness of his injuries.

In January 2006, a boat sunk in the Ucayali River near the border with Brazil, leaving two people dead, 13 missing and 25 others injured.

— MNA/Xinhua

US college student shoots roommate, kills self

WASHINGTON, 4 May — A student at the Keene State College in the northeastern US state of New Hampshire shot and killed his roommate before killing himself on early Friday morning, US media reported.

Local police said the student, Michael Dyke, 21, shot his roommate and then killed himself on the college campus, and is affiliated with the University System of New Hampshire. — Xinhua

A man in a Spider-man costume abseils from the top of a more than 60-metre-high building during a business promotion event for outdoor extreme sports in Weifang, in east China's Shandong Province on 5 May, 2007. — Xinhua

Model Hsu Su-Jung wears a 100-metre-long wedding dress during a photo call to promote wedding culture in the street of Shanghai, China, on 5 May, 2007. — Xinhua

Tourists visit stone masks at Art Zone of No798 Factory in Dashanzi, northeast Beijing during the Golden Week on 2 May, 2007. — Xinhua

Spain’s bullfighter Alexandre Escobar is hit by a bull during his performance at Campo Pequeno Lisbon’s bullring on 4 May, 2007. — Xinhua

A 12-year-old boy was killed and 20 people injured when a passenger boat collided with a cargo boat in central Peru, the Peruvian state news agency reported Friday.
China tops the world in building ceramics, sanitaryware

BEIJING, 5 May — China has become the world’s largest manufacturing base of building ceramics and sanitaryware after twenty years of fast growth, said Miao Bin, secretary general of China Building Ceramics and Sanitaryware Association.

Miao made the statement at a Press conference on 2007 Northeast of China International Ceramics Exposition (NCICE) in Shenyang in July this year.

He said China has produced more than half of the world’s total building ceramics and sanitaryware with advanced technologies.

The international trade of building materials is also booming, with markets in Middle East and Africa the most promising.

China’s accelerating urbanization and construction in rural areas meant a strong demand, the NDRC source said.

Russia backs language test for foreign workers

MOSCOW, 5 May — Russian immigration chiefs on Friday proposed compulsory language tests for foreigners wanting to work in Russia, the latest in a series of measures to tighten up on immigration.

A huge influx of migrant workers, many of them Muslims from ex-Soviet republics, has caused resentment inside Russia and many policy-makers say it has contributed to a spate of racially motivated attacks.

The Federal Migration Service said it supported a draft law written by two pro-Kremlin members of Parliament that would set a language test for anyone planning to work in Russia for more than one year.

“We have an interest in this and support the lawmakers’ initiative,” the service said in a statement. “It is obvious that without knowledge of the Russian language it is impossible to integrate into Russian society.”

Several Western states have language requirements in their immigration rules. But in most cases it is only people seeking permanent residency, or skilled workers, who need to sit a language test.

Alexander Krutov, a lawmaker with the pro-Kremlin Just Russia party and one of the two authors of the draft law, said the only exception would be for foreigners working in Russia for foreign firms.

Macao’s airport sees rise in flight movements

MACAO, 5 May — The commercial flight movements at the Macao International Airport (MIA) totalled 11,862 in the first quarter, seeing a year-on-year rise of 5 per cent, according to official statistics issued Friday.

Figures from the government-run Statistics and Census Service showed that the Chinese Mainland and Taiwan were the major destinations of the commercial flights handled by the MIA in the quarter.

Total weight of outward cargo handled at the MIA fell by 18 per cent year-on-year to 16,652 tons in the first quarter, the figures showed.

The Chinese Mainland, Taiwan and Luxembourg were the major destinations of the outward cargo handling, according to the statistics.

Vietnam’s tea export up in first four months

HANOI, 5 May — Vietnam shipped abroad 27,000 tons of tea totalling 26 million US dollars in the first four months of this year, seeing respective year-on-year increases of 6.7 per cent and 4.1 per cent, according to the country’s General Statistics Office Thursday.

The country has planned to export 140,000 tons of tea worth 190 million dollars in 2010. Therefore, Vietnam urged its tea enterprises to expand export markets, intensify trade promotion, raise tea’s quality and build their products trademarks.

Vietnam shipped the local product, mainly black, green and jasmine tea, to its big export markets, including Pakistan, China’s Mainland and Taiwan, Russia, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Germany, Poland and the United States, according to the Trade Information Centre under the Vietnamese Trade Ministry.

Last year, Vietnam exported 105,000 tons of tea, including some 65,300 tons of black tea, over 27,000 tons of green tea and nearly 3,800 jasmine tea, totalling 111 million dollars, said the centre.

The price-to-rent ratio for second-hand houses in some of China’s big cities have gone over the international warning line, said the 2007 real estate blue paper released by China Academy of Social Sciences (CASS).

The secretary general of China Building Ceramics and Sanitaryware Association.

ECONOMIC NEWS

China tops the world in building ceramics, sanitaryware

Teen idol Corbin Bleu reacts as he unveils the personalized web page he created on the Disney.com site at the World of Disney store in New York, on 1 May, 2007. — Internet

A folklorico dance group from Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico dance on the Mexican side, between a border marker (L) and the border wall (R) that separates the US and Mexico, during the fourth “Fiesta Bi-Nacional” between Naco, Arizona and Naco, Sonora, Mexico near Naco, Arizona, on 14 April, 2007 handout photo. Residents from both sides of the border celebrated the fiesta with food, entertainment, dancing and volleyball with the net set up on the border barrier.—INTERNET

Fighting Russia for more than one language.

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The price-to-rent ratio for second-hand houses in some of China’s big cities have gone over the international warning line, said the 2007 real estate blue paper released by China Academy of Social Sciences (CASS). — XINHUA
Chinese mobile users top 480m in first quarter

BEIJING, 5 May — The number of Chinese mobile users exceeded 480 million by the end of March, with 6.5 million new subscribers added every month in the first quarter, figures with the Ministry of Information Industry (MII) show. The number of new subscribers averaged five million a month last year.

Mobile phone use was expanding rapidly in rural areas and some people had more than one phone number, according to the MII report.

The MII figures also showed the Chinese sent 155.8 billion text messages in the first quarter, up 37.4 per cent over the same period of last year. Meanwhile, the number of fixed-line users dropped 370 million by the end of March, with 1.06 million new subscribers added per month in the first quarter.

More fixed-line users would choose to use cell phones as the cost of handsets and user charges continued to fall, according to the report. The number of cell phone users reached 460 million by the end of last year, 67.7 million more than the end of 2005. On average, every 100 Chinese people had 35.3 cellphones and 28.1 fixed-line phones.

China imported its first mobile phone telecommunication facilities in 1987 and it took a decade for the number of subscribers to reach 10 million. Four years later the country had the largest number of mobile phone subscribers in the world.

UN chief appeals for release of British journalist

UNITED NATIONS, 5 May — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appealed on Thursday for the release of the kidnapped British journalist.

In a message for World Press Freedom Day, Ban said he has been following with dismay the abduction of BBC journalist Alan Johnston most recently.

"Johnston’s coverage of issues relating to the Middle East and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has rightly earned worldwide respect,” he noted, stressing that "no cause is served, and any cause is undermined, by his continued captivity.

The Secretary-General thus appealed for Alan Johnston’s "immediate and safe release”, Some unidentified kidnappers abducted Johnston on March 12 as he was driving home in Gaza City. Johnston, 44, was the only Western journalist based full time in the Gaza Strip where about 17 foreigners were kidnapped in the 2006.

Tornado flattens town in Kansas

LONDON, 6 May — A massive tornado killed at least nine people and flattened much a small town in Kansas on Friday, officials say.

More than 60 people were injured when the tornado — said to be up to a mile wide — hit the town of Greensburg.

More than 95% of the 1,500-population town was destroyed, including the hospital and schools as well as homes, local officials said.

A new wave of tornadoes hit southwest Kansas on Saturday evening, affecting at least six counties.

The National Weather Service forecast the development of strong tornadoes in central Kansas and Nebraska during Saturday night.

Earlier, a tornado in central Nebraska damaged buildings and power lines, officials said.

Robber taking hostages at Hungary bank killed

BUDAPEST, 5 May — A Hungarian bank robber was killed and several people injured when police stormed a Budapest bank where he had held several employees and customers hostage, police said on Friday.

The man was trying to rob a Budapest branch of OTP Bank but officers arrived on the scene before he managed to get away, police said.

Police spokeswoman Emese Horvathy said declined to say whether police had shot the robber.

Two hostages were injured, one seriously, in the melee, she said.

Series of earthquakes hit Indonesia

JAKARTA, 5 May — A series of earthquakes rocked western and eastern parts of Indonesia on Friday, no report of casualty or damages, the country’s Meteorology and Geophysics Agency said here.

A quake with magnitude of 5.5 struck at Bali Island at 10:37 Jakarta Time (0337 GMT) with epicentre at 831 kilometres southwest of Nusa Dua of the island and 159 kilometres under sea bed, an official of the agency told Xinhua.

About three hours later, a quake with magnitude of 4.7 jolted Aceh Province, with epicentre at 50 kilometres of Meulaboh Town and 66 kilometres under land, he said. Thirty minutes later, a quake with magnitude of 4.9 rocked Central Kalimantan Province, with epicentre at 382 kilometres north of Palangkaraya, the capital of the province and 245 kilometres under sea bed, the official said.

About five hours earlier, another quake measuring 4.8 Richer Scale struck North Sumatra Province with epicentre at 52 kilometres northwest of Gunung Sitoli of Nias Island and 33 kilometres under sea bed, the official said.

Indonesia is located on a vulnerable quake-hit zone that calls “the Pacific Ring of Fire” where continental plates meet causing frequent seismic and volcanic activity.

Almost the entire town of Greensburg was wiped out by the tornado. — INTERNET

An Afghan man leads camels along a road near the town of Bugaram on 5 May, 2007. — INTERNET
From Mee Nin Creek to Point 877 Hill

U Soe (Pyay)

Bago Mountain Range located in the central part of Myanmar stretches from south to north, so it is a natural barrier to the transport between eastern and western part of Myanmar. It divides Bago Division into two parts—eastern Bago Division and western Bago Division.

The Head of State gave guidance on construction of a large number of roads and bridges across the nation. There have emerged many bridges that were just dreams in the past. Five tasks were laid down for rural development.

Now, the ministry is also taking responsibilities for the Arid Zone Water Supply Project that covers Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway divisions, rural housing project that covers Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago (East), Bago (West), Yangon and Ayeyawady divisions.

District-to-District Road No (1) that passes Mandalay, Magway, Bago (West), and Yangon, District-to-District Road No(2) that passes Mandalay and Bago (East) divisions and Mon State.

The 400-mile District-to-District Road No (1) rises in Nyaungnyatin, Yangon, and goes as far as Tadau in Mandalay passing through Bago (West) and Magway.

In the past, local people of the villages at the foot of Bago Mountain range on foot was the only means to reach southern and northern regions. So, the region lagged behind in development especially in the health, education and economic sectors.

Now people can travel by car or by motorcycle from the southern part to the northern part in the division. Along the route, there are many creeks and drains, so bridges were built on the creeks, and culverts, on the drains, as necessary. To complete the project, six wooden bridges and 100 feet and above long and 36 under 100-foot bridges had to be built.

The District-to-District Road No (1) is in parallel with Yangon-Pyay Highway, about 10 miles from it. It has become a reliable transport facility for the villagers at the foot of Bago Yoma mountain range.

Development Affairs Department of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs is implementing two of the five rural development tasks—to ensure smooth transport and to supply clean water—in states and divisions.

The ministry is implementing stage by stage the projects to be completed since 2006. Up to 2006, 151 of 243 culverts and 42 of 99 wooden bridges had been completed. And 26 conduits are due to be completed in 2007-2008 fiscal year.

In the past, local people of the villages at the foot of the mountain range in the towns of Bago Division (West) had only access to the towns in the west to their regions. And on foot was the only means to reach southern and northern regions. So, the region lagged behind in development especially in the health, education and economic sectors.

Now people can travel by car or by motorcycle from the southern part to the northern part in the division. Along the route, there are many creeks and drains, so bridges were built on the creeks, and culverts, on the drains, as necessary. To complete the project, six wooden bridges and 100 feet and above long and 36 under 100-foot bridges had to be built.

The District-to-District Road No (1) is in parallel with Yangon-Pyay Highway, about 10 miles from it. It has now become a reliable transport facility for the villages at the foot of Bago Yoma mountain range.

The Mee Nin Creek at the border between Taikkyi and Thayawady townships is 131 miles and three furlongs from Point 877 Hill (from Paukkhaung Township to border of Aunglan Township) and the section is in Bago Division (West).

Between 2002-2003 and 2006-2007, 126 miles and three furlongs of gravel roads, 42 wooden bridges and 151 culverts were built along the 131 miles and three furlongs section of District-to-District Road No (1) in Bago Division (West).

Director of State for rural development, District-to-District Road No (1) stretching from Mee Nin Creek to Point 877 Hill is contributing towards smooth transport of the region.

Conceived by the goodwill of the Head of State for rural development, District-to-District Road No (1) stretching from Mee Nin Creek to Point 877 Hill is contributing towards smooth transport of the region.

(Translation: MS)

Myanma Alin:
4-5-2007

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Minister visits Donthami river water pumping project site

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo visited the project site for construction of Donthami river water pumping station near Zaymathwe Village in Thaton Township on 30 April. The project is being undertaken by the Water Resources Utilization Department.

At the briefing hall, Acting Managing Director U Hla Myint of the department briefed the minister on construction tasks.

Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa oversees Hanthawady tax-free market in Kamayut Township. — YCDC

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin met with technicians and proprietors at Insein Locomotive Shed in Insein Township on 4 May. He stressed the need for boosting production of machines and their parts to meet the set standards. Next, he praised the local technicians and entrepreneurs for their efforts to produce locomotives and spare parts. Then he called for more efforts for boosting production and production of quality machines.

The general manager of the shed reported on assembling of new locomotives and machine parts and assistance to be provided by the shed. Retired Associate Professor U Nyunt Htay (Metallurgy Department) of Yangon Technological University, technician U Myint Zaw of Trust and Assurance Institute and Paddy Dealers Association and proprietor U Khaing Wai of Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise met with officials at the shed.

CSSTB Chairman inspects examination centres

YANGON, 5 May—Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa together with departmental officials inspected tax-free markets in Shwepyitha, Hline-tha, Kamayut, Tamway and Yankin Townships today.

Next, the vice-mayor met with officials at the office of Myanmar Rice and Paddy Dealers Association and fulfilled the requirements.

Matters coordinated to produce locomotives, machine parts locally

Minister receives Singaporean guests

NAY PYI TAW, 5 May—Mr Jimmy Chang, Managing Director of Integrate Pte Ltd of Singapore, called on Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint at his office here today.

Also present at the call were Director-General Dr Thun Tun of Electric Power Department, Managing Director U Tin Aung of Electric Power Supply Enterprise, Chief Engineer U Aye Thaw of Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise and officials concerned.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than...

(From page 1)

NAY PYI TAW, 5 May—Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung presented physic nut saplings to the township government departments and social organizations. Next, they encouraged those present growing the physic nut plants. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party attended the opening of Lammadaw tarred road and U Sanda tarred road in Kyakal Township. The roads link Kyakal and Pyapon. Then they viewed the development of Kyakal. They also attended the opening of Chaungdwin tarred road in Ward-1 in Pyapon, and cordially greeted local people.

Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party met with service personnel at the Pyapon District PDC office. The council chairman reported on growing of crops and tasks being carried out for economic, education, health and social sectors. Pyapon District PDC Chairman U Myo Chit reported on data of the district, cultivation of 832,184 acres of monsoon paddy and 355,463 acres of summer paddy, 408.77 of rice sufficiency in 2006-2007 growing of 682 acres of physic nut and future work. Then, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than stressed the need for cultivation of sunflower, extended cultivation of physic nut and efforts for the success of the projects. Next, he cordially greeted those present.

Minister receives Singaporean guests
Artificial Turf Hockey Pitch opened

YANGON, 6 May — A ceremony to open the artificial turf hockey pitch was held at the pitch in Mingala Taungnyunt Township this afternoon.

Vice-President of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, President of Myanmar Hockey Federation Brig-Gen Myint Soe, Director-General U Thaung Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department and Bangladeshi Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Mohammed Khaizuzzaman formally opened the pitch.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win unveiled the signboard of the pitch.

After the opening ceremony, two tentatively selected hockey teams demonstrated as friendly match. The commander presented prize to these teams.

The pitch including training ground, 120 metres long and 60 metres wide, was constructed under the friendly relationship programme between the Union of Myanmar and the People’s Republic of Bangladesh.

Certificates presented to participating organizations

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May — Under the ASEAN medals programme 2007, a ceremony to present certificates to factories, buildings and projects that are selected tentatively to take part in the best energy management contest, energy efficient buildings contest and renewable energy project contest was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Energy, here, yesterday.

It was attended by Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, Directors-General and Managing Directors of the ministry, members of contest scrutinizing national committee, personnel of Myanmar Engineering Association, responsible persons of the respective organizations and guests.

The deputy minister for energy delivered a speech on the occasion.

Next, Joint-Secretary of the national committee U Win Khine gave accounts to the ministry, members of contest scrutinizing national committee, personnel of Myanmar Engineering Association, responsible persons of the respective organizations and guests.

After the hearing reports on rural development tasks, the CEC member gave necessary instructions.

Certificates of honour to participating organizations

YANGON, 6 May — A ceremony to present certificates of honour to the organizations, persons and units that are selected tentatively to take part in the best energy management contest, energy efficient buildings contest and renewable energy project contest was held.

Vice-President Mr Ohn Myint together with the secretary of Bago Division USDA met with departmental officials, members of USDA and social organizations at Thapantin Township USDA office yesterday morning and discussed regional development tasks.

The CEC member urged them to increase the efforts in carrying out public welfare.

USDA members urged to increase efforts for regional development tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 5 May — Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Than Htay Win, Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min, Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Maung and Deputy Minister for Electric Power No 1 U Myo Myint attended the opening ceremony of Supervisory Office of Confluence Region Hydropower Project opened.

The commander gave an opening address, and Vice-President Mr Shi Chengliang of China Power Investment Corporation and Project Manager Mr Niu Xingqiang of CISPDR gave speeches.

Next, the commander and Vice-President Mr Shi Chengliang formally opened the signboard of the project office.

Afterwards, Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister Col Zaw Min, Vice-President Mr Shi Chengliang, Managing Director U Tun Myint Naing of Asia World Co and an official of CPI Southern Branch cut the ribbon to open the project office.

The commander, ministers and party proceeded to Tarpein (1) hydropower project, 33 miles from Bhamo, near Kalon Village.

Vice General Manager Mr Xiong Heng Xi of Central China Power Grid (CCPG) explained matters related to the project. Deputy Minister U Myo Myint gave a supplementary report. Minister Col Zaw Min presented the fruit basket to the Chinese technicians.

On completion, the power plant of Tarpein (1) Hydropower Project will generate 240 megawatts and produce 1,081 million kwh yearly. — MNA
Police source said. Friday, a well-informed source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity, adding that at least two police vehicles were damaged in the attack.

Bomb attack kills 5 Iraqi policemen in Baghdad

Baghdad, 6 May — Five policemen were killed and two others wounded in a roadside bomb attack in southern Baghdad on Friday, a well-informed police source said.

“A roadside bomb went off near a police patrol while passing in the Haibah Amil neighbourhood, killing five policemen and wounding two others,” the source told Xinhua.

Director U Aung Min of Directorate of Myanma Industrial Planning reported on progress of the projects and requirements of the tasks.

Mr Sarkozy is estimated to have won 53% of the vote, compared to 47% for socialist Segolene Royal. The turnout was the highest in decades at 85.5%.

Sarkozy takes France presidency

PARIS, 6 May — Conservative Nicolas Sarkozy has won the French presidential election, according to projections from partial results.

Mr Sarkozy has promised to reform France.

Conceding defeat, she thanked 17m French people for their votes, saying she could measure their sadness and their pain. “I gave it all my efforts, and will continue,” she told supporters.

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Suicide bomber kills 9 police recruits in west of Baghdad

Baghdad, 6 May — A suicide bomber on Sunday blew himself up at a police recruitment centre near a town west of Baghdad, killing at least nine police recruits and wounding 13 others, police said.

"A suicide bomber wearing an explosive-belt blew himself up among police recruits queuing at the recruitment centre in Haswa area near Abu Ghraib Town, 20 kilometres west of Baghdad," the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The attack killed at least nine police recruits and wounded 13 others, the source added. Earlier in the day, another suicide bomber drove an explosive-laden car into a police station in Yarmouk District and blew it up, killing at least a police officer and wounding five others, the police said.

Insurgents attack Iraqi security forces accusing them of collaboration with the US occupation. MNA/Xinhua

Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo, left, celebrates after scoring from the penalty spot against Manchester City during their English Premier League soccer match at The City of Manchester Stadium, Manchester, England, on Saturday 5 May, 2007. — INTERNET

“Spiderman 3” breaks box office records

Los Angeles, 6 May — “Spiderman 3” made the biggest opening day debut ever in the history of film on Friday, grossing about 104 million dollars worldwide.

In North America, the movie brought in 59 million dollars. These figures shattered domestic and worldwide box office records, according to box office Media By Numbers.

“Fifty nine million dollars would’ve been a great opening weekend, let alone a single day,” said Sony Studios President Paul Dergarabedian.

“Spiderman 3” attributes the film’s success to the last two Spiderman, which he called “solid” films; a “terrific marketing campaign”; and showings on about 11,000 screens — the most screens for any movie in history.

“This shows that the theatrical movie-going experience is here to stay.” Dergarabedian attributes the film’s success to the last two “Spiderman” films; a “terrific marketing campaign”; and showings on about 11,000 screens — the most screens for any movie in history. MNA/Xinhua

Kenya plane crashes, rescuers comb jungle for wreckage

Yaounde, 6 May — Teams of rescuers and villagers combed thick tropical forest in southern Cameroon on Sunday for the wreckage of a Kenya Airways passenger plane which crashed after takeoff in the central African country, officials said.

The Boeing 737-800 aircraft, which was carrying 114 people from more than 20 countries, went missing on Saturday after leaving Douala Airport bound for Nairobi in torrential rain. It was reported to have come down in thick jungle.

Military helicopters backed up by villagers on motorbikes had searched a swathe of the forest-covered terrain southwest of the capital Yaounde on Saturday.

But they failed to locate the plane, which initially set off from Ivory Coast, before darkness fell.

“The crisis committee … has decided to set up several teams made up of villagers to continue the search throughout the night,” Placeide Ndobo, a local government official in the southern region, told Reuters.

Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki said he had sent a high-level government team led by Transport Minister Chirau Ali Mwaniki to help the Cameroonian authorities find out what had happened to the plane.

“I wish to assure all that we have put in motion a mechanism to help establish the status of the Kenya Airways plane,” Kibaki said in a statement.

Kenya Airways Group Managing Director Titus Naikuni said on Saturday the authorities in Cameroon had picked up an automatically generated distress signal from the area where the plane went missing. MNA/Reuters/Xinhua
India rejects calls to compromise in WTO farm talks

LONDON, 5 May — India dug in its heels on Friday over agricultural issues in troubled World Trade Organization (WTO) talks and rejected a call to be more flexible on imports.

Commerce and Industries Minister Kamal Nath said proposals put forward by the chairman of WTO farm negotiations, New Zealand’s Ambassador Crawford Falconer, were unbalanced and disappointing.

In suggestions for breaking a deadlock in farm talks, a key part of the WTO’s Doha Round aimed at reducing trade barriers across the board, Falconer said developing countries would have to soften demands to shield up to 20 per cent of their agricultural market from competition.

“I must express my disappointment,” Nath told a news conference. “(The Falconer) paper suffers serious imbalances... They are not paying enough attention to the livelihoods of farmers...” he said.

Nath said that Falconer had not been demanding enough on the need for rich WTO members, notably the United States and the European Union, to slash farm subsidies which India and others say distort world markets.

“Subsidies by developed countries cause a serious challenge to the successful completion of these talks,” he said.

Leading WTO states, among them India, say they want a final deal in the five-year-old Doha Round, which aims to reduce poverty and boost growth, by the end of this year. This means a blueprint must be agreed by August.

“I wish the round closed, but you must realize that the content is as important as the completion,” Nath said when asked about the urgency of achieving a breakthrough.

Senior officials from the G-4 — Brazil, the European Union, India and the United States — had three days of talks in London this week before a ministerial meeting in Brussels on 17-18 May.

The Brussels meeting will be followed by three more before mid-June by the G-4, which represents a range of trading interests, hopes to have an understanding that will make it easier for the full WTO membership to agree a deal.

Hotel fire kills one, injures 11 in Philippines

MANILA, 5 May — At least one person was killed and 11 others were injured as fire engulfed a hotel in Quezon City, centre of the Philippine capital region on Thursday night, local TV reported on Friday.

Rodolfo Veloria, a provincial director of the Department of the Interior and Local Government jumped to his death from the 8th floor of the burning hotel, ABS-CBN TV reported on Friday morning.

The report said the fire started from a storage room for toilet paper on the 7th floor of the burning hotel, ABS-CBN TV reported on Friday.

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A D V E R T I S E M E N T S

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Air New Zealand plane makes emergency landing

WELLINGTON, 5 May — An Air New Zealand plane with more than 120 people on board made an emergency landing Thursday after smoke entered the cockpit, the airline reported Friday.

The Boeing 737, which took off from the capital Wellington before heading to Auckland, landed safely, with the same period of year-on-year rises of 48.6 per cent and 5.1 per cent respectively, according to the Vietnamese General Statistics Office on Thursday.

Vietnam imported over three million tons of fertilizers, including 708,000 tons of urea, totalling 673 million dollars in 2006, up 5.9 per cent and 5.1 per cent respectively, compared with the same period of 2005.

Vietnam’s fertilizer import up in first four months

HANOI, 5 May — Vietnam imported over 3.2 million tons of fertilizers worth 268 million US dollars in the first four months of this year, seeing respective year-on-year rises of 48.6 per cent and 45.7 per cent.

Between January and April, Vietnam spent 59 million dollars importing 229,000 tons of urea, mainly from China, Indonesia, Russia and the Middle East, up 24.1 per cent and 32.9 per cent respectively, according to the Vietnamese General Statistics Office on Thursday.

Vietnam’s total demand for fertilizers in 2007 is estimated at nearly 7.9 million tons, including 1.8 million tons of urea, and domestic supplies are likely to stand at 4.7 million tons, according to the country’s Trade Ministry.

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MNA/Xinhua

CHRONICLE OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

COMPARISON BETWEEN PERIOD PRECEDING 1988 AND AFTER

(UP TO 31-12-2006)

This book features firm evidence, cost data and figures and documentary photos.

This book reflects the success in building the infrastructure according to the political, economic and social objectives for the brighter future of the State.

Illustrated with charts and colourful photos.

Published by the Ministry of Information.

Hotel fire kills one, injures 11 in Philippines

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Rodolfo Veloria, a provincial director of the Department of the Interior and Local Government jumped to his death from the 8th floor of the burning hotel, ABS-CBN TV reported on Friday morning.

The report said the fire started from a storage room for toilet paper on the 7th floor of the Great Eastern Hotel.

Most of the victims were officials attending a function organized by the department at the hotel’s meeting hall on the 8th floor, it added. A foreigner was also injured in the blaze. —MNA/Xinhua
NASA’s Mars Rover finds evidence of ancient volcanic explosion

WASHINGTON, 5 May — NASA’s Mars Rover Spirit has discovered evidence of an ancient volcanic explosion at “Home Plate” area on Mars, NASA scientists reported Friday in the journal Science.

This is the first explosive volcanic deposit identified with a high degree of confidence by Spirit or its twin, Opportunity, scientists said. “Home Plate” is a plateau of layered bedrock approximately 2 metres high within the “Inner Basin” of Columbia Hills, at Spirit’s landing site in Gusev Crater.

One of the strongest pieces of evidence for an explosive origin for Home Plate is a “bomb sag” preserved in layered rocks on the lower slopes of the plateau.

Bomb sags form in volcanic explosions on Earth when rocks ejected skyward by the explosion fall into soft deposits, deforming them as they land.

Evidence shows the area near Home Plate is dominated by basaltic rocks. “When basalt erupts, it often does so as very fluid lava, rather than erupting explosively,” said Steve Squyres, the principal investigator for the rovers’ science instruments.

One way for basaltic lava to cause an explosion is for it to come into contact with water — it’s the pressure from the steam that causes it to go boom.”

A teacher soothes a crying novice monk at a ceremony at the Chogyel temple in Seoul on May 4, 2007. A group of nine boys entered the temple to experience life as monks for 22 days, ahead of celebrations for Buddha’s birth date on May 24. — Internet

Chinese kungfu cartoon to appear on domestic screens in Oct

HANGZHOU, 5 May — The international TV cartoon hit “Shaolin Kids” could finally appear on Chinese screens in October — four years after its debut abroad.

The head of the Chinese Animation Festival in Zhejiang Province that the company was discussing its broadcast with China Central Television (CCTV).

“Four Minutes” wins best picture at German film awards

BERLIN, 5 May — A powerful drama about an elderly piano teacher and her relationship with a young prison convict won best picture at the German Film Prize awards on Friday. “Vier Minuten” (Four Minutes) took the Lola award worth 500,000 euros (680,500 US dollars), decided by more than 800 members of the German Film Academy in Berlin.

It beat the pre-award favourite, “Perfume: The Story of a Murderer”, which went into the evening with eight nominations, as did “Four Minutes”.

Three nights ago, I dreamt about being here on stage. It’s wonderful when dreams come true,” said Monika Bleibtreu, who produced the drama together with her mother, also picked up the best actress prize, which went to Monica Bleibtreu in Germany and Canada. — MNA/Xinhua

A model presents an outfit during a fashion show for department store Aishti in downtown Beirut on 4 May, 2007. — Internet

Crocodile makes off with boy in Costa Rica

SAN JOSE (Costa Rica), 5 May — A crocodile attacked and made off with a 13-year-old boy in Costa Rica on Friday as he bathed with his brother in a lagoon.

Breydi Escorcia was bathing in San Francisco de Tortuguero, on Costa Rica’s Atlantic coast, when a crocodile attacked him and dragged him into deeper water, police said.

Witnesses said the boy screamed that the crocodile had bitten his leg before the reptile dragged him underwater.

The teenager emerged once more, just long enough to yell goodbye to his older brother, police official Victor Cervantes told Reuters, citing witnesses. “He shouted, ‘Adios, Pablo’, before he was dragged under a second time and he hasn’t been seen since,” Cervantes said.

Officials searched for the adolescent, presumed dead, but had to stop late in the afternoon because of a high tide that brought choppy water.

Attacks by crocodiles, which typically hunt by waiting motionless for their prey to come close, are not uncommon in Central America and Mexico.

On Tuesday, a crocodile in the Mexican state of Jalisco attacked a five-year-old boy as he swam in a river with his family. The child’s body was found on Friday, tangled in weeds underwater close to where he was attacked.

Produced at a cost of 40 million yuan (5.2 million US dollars), the series by Shanghai Fantasia Animation Company Ltd and the Les CARTOON Art Animation coating Animation Company of France tells the stories of three Chinese children with unique kungfu skills, who subdue monsters and exterminate devils.

The 26-part cartoon has already topped the ratings of TV3 in France and was screened at the Cannes TV Festival in 2003 and 2004. It was also well-received in Germany and Canada.

San Jose, Costa Rica, 5 May — Chinese kungfu cartoon to appear on domestic screens in oct

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The head of the Chinese Animation Festival in Zhejiang Province that the company was discussing its broadcast with China Central Television (CCTV).
**SPORTS**

**United close in on title, West Ham move up**

LONDON, 6 May — Manchester United took a giant step towards the Premier League title when they beat Manchester City 1-0 in a one-sided local derby on Saturday to open up an eight-point lead over defending champions Chelsea.

United have 88 points with two matches to play which means Chelsea, on 80 points with three matches to go, must win at Arsenal on Sunday to keep alive their slim hopes of a third successive championship. Cristiano Ronaldo scored for United with a 34th minute penalty while City’s Darius Vassell saw Edwin van der Sar save his 81st minute penalty with his legs.

At the other end of the table, West Ham United moved out of the relegation zone for the first time since early December with a 3-1 win over Bolton Wanderers at Upton Park with Argentine midfielder Carlos Tevez scoring twice. — MNA/Reuters

**Red Star Belgrade secure title with derby win**

BELGRADE, 6 May — Serbian champions Red Star Belgrade secured their 25th league title after a 2-1 win at second-placed Partizan Belgrade on Saturday left them out of reach of their traditional foes with three games left.

Red Star, who have 67 points from 29 matches ahead of Partizan on 54 and Vojvodina Novi Sad on 51, will have a chance to retain their domestic double when they meet Vojvodina in the Cup final on May 15.

Barca win to throw down gauntlet to pursuers

MADRID, 6 May — Leaders Barcelona edged closer to their third consecutive league title with a 2-0 away win over struggling Real Sociedad in the Primera Liga on Saturday.

Third-placed Sporting can move within three points of Porto by beating bottom-of-the-table Vitoria Setubal on Sunday. Porto, chasing their second successive title, finally broke down the Madeira Island team defence after 67 minutes when Brazilian teenager Anderson shot home after a good pass from compatriot Adriano.

Uruguayan defender Jorge Fucile wrapped up the points when he took advantage of a neat pass from Anderson and beat Swiss keeper Diego Benaglio from close range with two minutes left. Italian winger Fabrizio Miccoli with a volley inside the box clinched victory for Benfica a minute before time. — MNA/Reuters

**Justine Henin (R) of Belgium comforts Jelena Jankovic of Serbia after winning the semi final match of the J&S Cup tennis tournament in Warsaw on 5 May, 2007. — INTERNET**

**Barca win to throw down gauntlet to pursuers**

The victory moved Barcelona four points clear at the top on 65 with five left to play and put the pressure back on chasing Sevilla and Real Madrid, who meet in the Bernabeu on Sunday. UEFA Cup finalists Sevilla are second with 61 points, one ahead of Real.

Valencia, who are fourth on 56, can keep the pressure on the top three with a win against Getafe Coruna later on Saturday.

Sociedad, who had won their last three home games, remain second-bottom on 27 points, three from safety having played a game more than their rivals.

Sociedad strung five across midfield at Anoeta and left a static Barca with very little room to manoeuvre.

Arriving late from midfield, Xavi had a goal ruled out for offside early on and then forced home goalkeeper Claudio Bravo into a point blank save as he hatched on to Ronaldinho’s donk over the defence in the 27th minute. But Barca created little in the first half and were lucky to still have eleven points when first-half goalkeeper Van der Sar saved his 81st minute penalty with his legs.

At the other end of the table, West Ham United moved out of the relegation zone for the first time since early December with a 3-1 win over Bolton Wanderers at Upton Park with Argentine midfielder Carlos Tevez scoring twice. — MNA/Reuters

Answers to yesterday’s Crossword Puzzle

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Chelsea draw at Arsenal to hand title to United

LONDON, 6 May — Manchester United won the Premier League for the first time in four years on Sunday as 10-man Chelsea, needing victory to keep the title race alive, could only draw 1-1 at Arsenal.

The result, coming a day after United beat Manchester City 1-0, left Alex Ferguson’s side seven points clear of Chelsea with two games remaining.

Arsenal led with a 43rd-minute Gilberto penalty after Chelsea centre back Khalid Boulahrouz brought down Julio Baptista and was sent off.

Michael Essien’s glancing header with 20 minutes remaining gave Chelsea hope and led to a furious late assault.

However, they were unable to find the second goal and now instead of Wednesday’s Stamford Bridge meeting with United being a title decider it will become merely a handover ceremony.

The draw leaves Arsenal level with third-placed Liverpool on 67 points but behind on goal difference. Both sides are already assured of a place in the qualifying round of the Champions League.

Eight days ago Chelsea were dreaming of an unprecedented quadruple but, after being knocked out of the Champions League semi-finals by Liverpool on Tuesday they now have only the May 19th FA Cup final against United to try for a double. — Internet

Barclays Premiership Table
06 May 2007

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Chelsea hope and led to a 10-minute handover ceremony.

Monday, 7 May

Tune in today
8:30 am Brief news
8:35 am Music: Our love
8:40 am Perspectives
8:45 am Music: ‘Will it ever
8:50 am National news
9:00 am Music: ‘Say you’ll be mine
9:05 am International news
9:10 am Music: Tomorrow
1:30 pm News / Slogan
1:40 pm Lunch time
8:00 pm Spotlight
Enjoy the programme.

*R 489 Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 22/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newlight, PO Box No. 43, Telephones: Editors 392308, Manager 392226, Circulation 392304, Advertisement 392223, Accounts 392224, Administration 392225, Production/Press 297028
NAY PYI TAW, 6 May — Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspected sales of goods at Win Thuza Shop in Monywa on 4 May. The minister instructed service personnel to sell goods to villages.

At Dyeing and Printing Factory (Monywa) of Myanma Textile Industries, the commander and the minister inspected the production process. The minister gave instructions on production of textile with fancy designs and patterns.

In Indaing Village of Monywa Township, they offered robes and alms to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Ankura of Kawwidayma Monastery. Patron of Sagaing Division Union Solidarity and Development Association Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Secretariat Member of USDA Minister U Aung Thaung met with members of USDA, local people, Women’s Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association.

The Secretariat Member explained arrangements for supply of power with the use of biogas to Inndaing Village, renovation of the post-primary school and donation of 60 lamp posts. Next, the commander and the minister presented sports gear to local people.

The commander and Chairman of Industrial Development Committee Minister U Aung Thaung inspected tasks of Foundry and Machine Tools Factory of Thiha Tun Co Ltd in Monywa Industrial Zone. They viewed 82 kinds of machinery, pig iron rotary tiller and drawbars at the warehouse, manufacturing of agricultural equipment and light truck frames.

At the contract signing ceremony to purchase small tractors, Chairman of the company U Aung Khant presented the contract to the farmers.

Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister U Aung Thaung inspect Win Thuza Shop in Sagaing Division. — INDUSTRY-1

Mee Nin Creek at the border between Taikkyi and Thayawady townships is 131 miles and three furlongs from Point 877 Hill (from Paukkhaung Township to border of Aunglan Township) and the section is in Bago Division (West).

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May — Meteorology and Hydrology Department today announced that 227 mm (8.94 inches) of rainfall recorded in Bago at 09:30 today is the new maximum rainfall record within 24 hours for the month of May in 42 years. The previous maximum rainfall was 172 mm (6.77 inches) recorded on 5 May 1962. — MNA

New rainfall record in Bago

INSIDE

Mee Nin Creek at the border between Taikkyi and Thayawady townships is 131 miles and three furlongs from Point 877 Hill (from Paukkhaung Township to border of Aunglan Township) and the section is in Bago Division (West).

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May — Central Executive Committee Member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt attended the opening ceremony of Zibyukyun-Thazinyekyawrural gravel road in Nyaungdon Township, Ayeyawady Division, this morning. The road, over two miles long and ten feet wide, was built by Nyaungdon Township Development Affairs Committee at a cost of nearly K 29 million. At a meeting with local people, the minister fulfilled their requirements. The road ensures a direct link for 8,663 people of 10 villages to travel to Yangon-Pathein highway and benefits their social, education, economic and health sectors.

Accompanied by officials, the minister attended the opening of Bo Minyaung tarred road in the township. The committee spent K 12.8 million on building the road, 3,200 feet long and 12 feet wide. Minister Col Thein Nyunt also attended the opening of Ingyin road in Pantanaw. The road is 1,165 feet long and 12 feet wide. The Pantanaw Development Affairs Committee spent over K 5 million to build it. — MNA

Roads opened in two townships in Ayeyawady Division

Minister Col Thein Nyunt attends opening of Bo Minyaung tarred road in Nyaungdon Township. — MNA