NAY PYI TAW, 22 May — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe received the visiting Cambodian delegation led by Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia, at Bayintnaung Yeiktha, here, at 10 am today.

Also present at the call were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann, Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia Dr Aung Naing, Director-General of the SPDC Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin and Director-General of Protocol Department U Kyaw Kyaw.

The Cambodian Prime Minister was accompanied by Cambodian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hul Phany. — MNA
Myanmar-Cambodia bilateral cooperation yielding fruits

At the invitation of Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Thein Sein, a Cambodian delegation led by Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen arrived at Nay Pyi Taw on a goodwill visit on 21 May.

The Cambodian Prime Minister paid two goodwill visits to the Union of Myanmar in February 2000 and in November 2003.

As members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Myanmar and Cambodia cooperate in various sectors. In addition, they are dealing economically with each other as members of Ayeyawady-Chao Praya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy consisting of five nations—Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos.

Tourism and air transport are among the spheres Myanmar and Cambodia are working in collaboration. In the present goodwill visit, the two sides have exchanged views on bilateral cooperation and further strengthening of bilateral friendly relations.

Now, Myanmar and Cambodia have achieved considerable success in expanding the scope of bilateral cooperation in various fields. Therefore, it is believed that the bilateral trade cooperation will scale up the cooperation between the two countries in all sectors.
Iran says no connection between Iraq, nuclear issues

TEHRYAN, 22 May—Iran said on Sunday that Tehran does not agree with connecting Iran’s nuclear programme and the Iraqi issue, the official IRNA news agency reported.

“We do not want any connection between the nuclear talks and the discussions on Iraq,” Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Ali Hosseini was quoted as saying at his weekly Press conference. “If others are intended to create a link between the two cases, we reject it,” he added.

US and Iranian officials are to meet in Baghdad on 28 May for talks on Iraq’s security, just three days ahead of the next round of negotiations between Iran’s top nuclear negotiator Ali Larijani and EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana over Tehran’s nuclear programme.

Asked whether a representative from Syria would also attend the US-Iran talks on Iraq slated for 28 May, Hosseini said, “Syria plays no role in the talks but an Iraqi representative will be present at the meeting.”

Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Wednesday stated that Teheran’s policy of not negotiating with Washington was unchanged though there will be talks with the United States over Iraq. The talks would not mean a breakthrough between the two foes as Iran would merely use the talks with US diplomats to remind Washington of its “occupiers’ duty” in the conflicts with Iraq, state-run television quoted Khamenei as saying.

Apples and fish protect unborn children

LONDON, 21 May—Apples and fish sound an unlikely food combination, even for a pregnant woman, but new evidence suggests they can protect unborn children against allergic diseases.

Researchers found that children whose mothers enjoyed munching apples or ate fish once or more a week during pregnancy appeared to be protected against the skin allergy eczema.

Scientists believe the effects may be due to powerful antioxidants in apples called flavonoids, and omega-3 fatty acids in fish.

A range of other foods studied, including vegetables, fruit juice, citrus and kiwi fruit, whole grains, dairy fat and margarine, did not produce the same protective effects. The investigation was conducted at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland. Researchers studied 1,212 children, born to women who had filled out food questionnaires during their pregnancy.

Malaysian astronaut candidates to receive training at NASA

KUALA LUMPUR, 21 May—Two Malaysian astronaut candidates will undergo training at the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) this June, a senior official said Saturday.

The three weeks’ training in Texas aims to familiarize them with the American section of the International Space Station (ISS), Malaysian Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Jamaludin Jarjis told reporters in the administrative centre of Putrajaya.

Currently, the two candidates, Sheikh Muszaphar Shukor, 35, and Faiz Khalied, 27, are undergoing training at the Yuri Gagarin Space Training Centre in Moscow, Russia.

One of them will board Russia’s space launcher Soyuz 2 to arrive at the ISS this October, thus becoming the first spaceman in the history of Malaysia.

48 killed as Lebanese Army battles militants in north

NAHR AL-BARED (Lebanon), 21 May—Lebanese troops battled Islamist militants based in a Palestinian refugee camp on Sunday and 48 people were killed in Lebanon’s bloodiest internal fighting since the 1975-90 civil war.

Twenty-three soldiers and 15 militants died in the clashes, which erupted before dawn at Nahr al-Bared camp and the nearby Sunni Muslim city of Tripoli, in north Lebanon.

A Cabinet minister said the fighting with Fatah al-Islam, which the government says is backed by Syria, seemed timed to try to derail UN moves to set up an international court to try those suspected of carrying out political killings in Lebanon.

Security sources said at least 15 militants were killed when troops stormed buildings in Tripoli, where some of them were holed up. Four militants who were earlier thought to have been killed in the camp had turned themselves in, they said. Palestinian officials in the camp, home to 40,000 refugees, said at least 10 civilians were killed and 50 wounded. Lebanese officials could not say whether militants inside the camp had been killed.
Chinese railways carry record passengers, freight

Beijing, 21 May — Chinese railways have seen record numbers of passengers and record freight volume since the country hiked up rail speeds on 18 April, said the Ministry of Railways on Saturday.

The country’s railways transported 115 million people in the past 30 days, up 4 per cent on the same period of last year.

Freight totalled 263 million tons, up 7 per cent.

A new daily passenger record was created on 1 May, the first day of the weeklong Labour Day holidays, when 5.48 million people climbed onto trains.

Ministry sources said more than 99 per cent of the trains started and arrived on time and ticket prices remained stable.

“Of the 141 million passengers, the Z59/58 between Beijing and Fuzhou, for example, has been shortened by nearly 14 hours. But the ticket price remained unchanged,” said a ministry official.

All high-speed trains were fully booked, said the official.

He said more high-speed trains will be used to meet growing demand on coming holidays, adding that the ministry is now focusing on improving safety precautions.

The country will put more than 500 China-made high-speed trains into operation this year after boosting the speed limit for rail traffic for the sixth time, said the ministry in April.

The high-speed trains travel at speeds of up to 250 kilometres per hour. Currently, express trains in China travel at an average of 115 kilometres per hour.

Drug resistance on the rise

BERLIN, 21 May — A drug-resistant form of salmonella in Germany has infected more than 250 people and killed two, authorities said on Sunday.

The Klinikum Fulda, a 924-bed hospital in the town of Fulda in central Germany, said 233 patients and staff had been infected by the outbreak, along with a further 23 people in a nursing home attached to the institution.

Achim Hellinger, the hospital’s medical director, said the precise cause of the outbreak had not yet been identified, but that the risk of it reaching the general public was negligible.—MNA/Reuters

German salmonella outbreak kills two

FGX rider Robbie Maddison arrives at the 2007 Taurus World Stunt Awards at Paramount Studios in Los Angeles on 20 May, 2007. —Internet

Mine explosion kills Afghan district police chief

KABUL, 21 May — A mine blast killed police chief of Achin District in Nangarhar Province of eastern Afghanistan on Saturday, a local official said.

A remote-controlled bomb targeted the police chief’s car, killing him on the spot, district chief Achin Abdul Wahab told Xinhua. Another policeman was killed and three others sustained injuries, he added.

A suicide attack killed three German soldiers and six Afghan civilians in this country’s northern Kunduz Province on Saturday morning. More than 1,500 people, mostly Taleban militants, have been killed by violence in Afghanistan this year. —MNA/Xinhua

Shanghai, 22 May — China will launch its first Mars probe in October 2009 as part of a joint mission with Russia, said sources with the Shanghai Space Administration, the main developer of the probe, on Monday.

Researchers are “pressing ahead” with the project for a synchronized launching with a Russian probe, said Chen Changya, a researcher with the Shanghai Institute of Satellite Engineering, at a space technology exhibition.

He said the home-developed Chinese probe is scheduled for completion by June 2009.

The probe, 75 centimetres long, 75 centimetres wide, 60 centimetres high and weighing 110 kilograms, is designed to be able to serve a two-year mission, according to Chen.

Its model is on display at the exhibition.

The Chinese probe, with Russia’s Phobos-Grunt, will be launched by a Russian carrier rocket, Chen said. They are expected to land on Mars in 2010 after 10 months’ flight.—Internet
India’s chief ministers meeting called to discuss power woes

HISAR (Haryana), 21 May —Concerned over the deteriorating power situation in the country, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh Saturday said a meeting of the chief ministers would be convened within a fortnight to evolve a time-bound strategy to reduce power shortage.

As part efforts to augment the generation capacity, the centre would also soon start work on a nuclear power plant has been identified at Fatehabad and work will start shortly. This will... reduce power shortage.

Czech climber dies near summit of Mt Everest

KATHMANDU, 21 May —A 47-year-old Czech climber died near the summit of the Mt Everest, The Himalayan Times reported on Sunday.

According to the daily, the man who was not identified was a member of an international team. The Czech Ambassador to India and Nepal, Hynek Kmonicek told Czech public radio.

“According to our information, the body is at around 8,300 metres and because of difficult access, weather conditions and other things, it has been decided not to bring down,” Kmonicek said.

The climber died due to unspecified reasons two or three days ago, he added.

Iran’s President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (R) and his Belarusian counterpart Alexander Lukashenko stand during an official welcoming ceremony in Minsk on 21 May, 2007. Ahmadinejad and Lukashenko on Monday hailed bilateral ties and pledged to promote cooperation in various fields. —Xinhua

Iran, China agree on North Pars gas field development

TEHRAN, 21 May —Iran and China have finalized the negotiations and came up with an agreement on the development of the North Pars gas field in the Gulf, local daily Teheran Times reported on Saturday.

Iran’s Pars Oil and Gas Company’s (POGC) and China National Offshore Oil Corp (CNOOC) will ink the contract by 31 August, 2007, the daily quoted POGC’s managing director Akbar Torkan as saying on Friday.

CNOOC has already signed a memorandum of understanding with National Iranian Oil Co (NIOC) on upstream and downstream development of the gas field which has been defined in four phases, the daily reported.

According to the negotiations, the phases are to produce 20 million tons of liquefied natural gas (LNG) per year, Torkan said.

The North Pars gas field is located 85 kilometres north of the giant South Pars gas field in the Gulf and has an estimated 80 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, according to the report. —MNA/Xinhua

Two dead, five missing in S-W China colliery gas explosion

CHENGDU, 21 May —Two people have been confirmed dead and five others are missing following a colliery gas explosion in southwest China’s Sichuan Province on Sunday, the local government said.

Forty-one miners were working in the pit when the blast occurred at 9:30 am at Shi’ergou Mine in Daxian County, according to an official with the provincial workplace safety bureau.

He said 34 people were rescued. “Five of them are injured and are being treated at Dazhou Central Hospital."

Rescuers retrieved two dead bodies in the pit and were continuing to search for the five missing miners, he said. —MNA/Xinhua

A man walks in front of a huge picture of the Qianmen Street planning project at a construction site in Beijing on 21 May, 2007. —INTERNET

“Xinhua” says iodine deficiency plagues Xinjiang, Tibet

BEIJING, 21 May —About 100 million people suffer from iodine deficiency in China, primarily in the remote and ethnically distinct regions of Tibet, Qinghai and Xinjiang, despite an iodized salt programme begun in 1995, the Xinhua news agency said on Sunday.

The government of Xinjiang plans to spend about 20 million yuan (2.61 million US dollars) a year to subsidise 4.5 million people with 5 yuan apiece to buy iodine-enriched salt from the market instead of non-iodized product hawked by illegal dealers, Xinhua said, citing Kuresh Mahout, vice chairman of the region.

About a third of Xinjiang’s counties have not yet eliminated iodine deficiency and related diseases, it said. They include gout, a swelling of the neck resulting from enlargement of the thyroid gland, learning disabilities and miscarriages.

About 600,000 to one million newborns, of the 20 million born in China every year, suffer from iodine deficiency, Xinhua said. —MNA/Reuters

A wild pangolin. Thousands of pangolins are being illegally shipped from Southeast Asia to China every month, police warned, as a meeting to crack down on wildlife smuggling started in earnest on Tuesday in Indonesia. INTERNET

MNA/PTI

MNA/Xinhua

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 23 May, 2007 5
Malaysian PM will pay working visit to Japan

KUALA LUMPUR, 21 May— Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi will pay a working visit to Japan on 21-25 May, the Malaysian Foreign Ministry said here Sunday.

This is the fifth time Badawi is making a working visit to Japan since he became Malaysia's prime minister in October 2003. Badawi is scheduled to meet with his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe to discuss bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest, according to a Press release from the Malaysian Foreign Ministry.

Badawi also will deliver a speech at the 13th Nikkei Conference organized by Japan’s major business newspaper Nikkei Keizai Shinbun.

In addition, the Malaysian Prime Minister will take a tour to the Tsukuba Space Centre.

UK expert: lifestyle change averts “cancer timebomb”

BEIJING, 22 May — A British cancer expert Monday insisted that making a few simple changes to their lifestyle can help avert the “cancer timebomb” facing his fellow countrymen, according to media reports.

Greg Martin said people need to be fully aware of the hidden costs of a poor diet and lack of exercise. “It’s a huge chunk of the population. Each of these people is going to have an increased risk of cancer - but this is an avoidable risk factor,” he stated. “This kind of increase cannot be explained by anything genetic. It’s almost certainly a function of behaviour.” — Internet

Tiger kills zookeeper in southern China

BEIJING, 21 May — A tiger at a south China zoo, apparently agitated during the mating season, attacked and killed its keeper who had looked after the animal for years, the Beijing Youth Daily said on Monday.

The victim, a 42-year-old Thai, died in hospital in Sanya on the tropical island province of Hainan on Sunday after he was bitten in the leg and neck while cleaning the tiger’s cage, the newspaper said.

The tiger leapt at the victim when he bent down to pick up a broom, it said.

A colleague rushed to the victim’s rescue by poking the tiger with a pole.

The victim had looked after the tiger for about eight years, the newspaper said.

In February, a tiger attacked a six-year-old girl waiting to have her picture taken with the animal at a zoo in southwest China, biting her head and killing her. Two months later, crocodiles devoured a nine-year-old child who, along three school friends, had climbed into an enclosure at a holiday park and taunted the animals with sticks and catapults.

MNA/Reuters

Iraqi senior official escapes mortar attack in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 21 May — A senior official of Iraqi Ministry of Industry escaped mortar attack on his house near the US-controlled Green Zone in central Baghdad on Saturday, an Interior Ministry source said.

“A mortar round landed near the house of Sami al-Aaraji, deputy of industry minister, killing one of Aaraji’s guards,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. The source could not say whether Aaraji was at home during the attack but confirmed that only one guard was killed and the official was safe. — MNA/Xinhua

Lightning kills two in eastern Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 21 May — Two people were killed when struck by lightning in Sarawak State, eastern Malaysia, leaving a nine-year-old girl deprived of her mother and maid, local Press reported Monday.

Jasmine Qistina Imran’s mother Norasiah Hashim, 38 and their Indonesian maid, known only as Tina, in her 30s, were killed when they were struck by lightning at the end of their family outing to the popular “Wind Cave” in Bau, 40 kilometres from Kuching, capital of Sarawak State. — MNA/Xinhua

Mudslides kill six in Colombia

BOGOTA, 21 May— Six people died on Sunday in the central Colombian province of Antioquia after heavy rains triggered landslides on highways, regional government sources said.

Landslides hit houses and the roads linking Taraza and Puerto Valdivia, some 500 kilometres northwest of Bogota.

Sunday’s deaths brought the total death toll from rain-caused disasters to 10 across the nation over the weekend. Saturday’s victims were a woman in Antioquia and three members of a family in the southwestern province of Cauca.

A key road linking Medellin to the Caribbean coast is blocked by landslides. Since the start of Colombia’s rainy season, 36 people have been killed and 90,000 made homeless. — MNA/Xinhua
What is important?

I was discharged from hospital on 13 April (Akyo Day of Thingyan Water Festival). Due to my health condition, I took rest at home during Thingyan holidays. I was reading the book “Speeches of Bogyoke Aung San” during the holidays. In his address he delivered at the conference held at the Shwedagon Pagoda, Bogyoke asked whether politics was a wicked thing or not. He then said that actually, politics was not a wicked thing; that only the persons who were tarnishing it were wicked; that there would be a question “What is politics?”; and that whether politics should be regarded as too high and noble a cause ordinary people should not take part in or a cause for rural areas into serving their interest with lucrative promises or a dangerous and harmful cause that people might stay away from or a cause for race and religion that was in accord with the common view.

Bogyoke also said that the true nature of politics was not a cause too noble and high nor too mean; that it was neither magic nor astrology nor alchemy nor a dangerous path nor a self-serving cause to achieve the goal at the expense of others interests; and that politics in reality was an affair to be tackled in view of the prevailing conditions.

So, according to Bogyoke, politics is a matter to be assessed, decided and acted upon in accord with the prevailing situation.

The situation in Myanmar cannot be the same as that of America or England. The People's Republic of China has been carrying out the national development drive by adopting a system that suits to her prevailing situation. India is also doing the same thing. Likewise, Myanmar will have to adopt a system that is in conformity with her prevailing condition to develop herself.

We are now writing an enduring constitution after assessing and taking into account the prevailing situation of our human environment in accord with the political definition of Bogyoke Aung San, the father of our independence. The constitution will come into force soon and the people will surely accept and adopt it unanimously.

I am not a writer, nor a journalist, nor a political analyst, but an ordinary member of the public always busy with the work of fulfilling the social needs of my family. Owing to the nation’s situation, I have written in dailies in 1368 ME and in my view contributing such articles is just a duty of a citizen.

Dear readers, considering the law of impermanence, this may be my last article, and in this article, I would like to present a paragraph from the last address of Bogyoke Aung San which he delivered at the conference held at City Hall on 13 July 1947 for all of you to keep it in your hearts.

In his speech, Bogyoke said that what he wanted was not the unity of sycophants, but the unity of all the national people; that without the unity of the entire national people, the country, even though it was an independent state, would be a hopeless place or a land of prison term. It would be wrong if you copy the words of the persons of America and England.

The father of independence Bogyoke Aung San said that politics in reality was an affair to be tackled in view of the prevailing conditions. So, we all will have to serve our best in the interests of the race after taking into account the past and the present events.

Esteemed national brethren of the Union,

National unity during the period from 1948 to 1988 in the country was in jeopardy. Because of the lack of unity, our country became a least developed country (LDC). And during the 1988 unrest, the nation nearly met its dead end due to the loss of unity, as stated by Bogyoke Aung San.

Respected national brethren of the Union,

Thanks to the Tatmadaw government’s endeavours after 1988, national unity is prevailing in almost every part of the nation. We all should never let the national unity be destroyed under any circumstance. I would like to urge the entire nation in all seriousness to draw and ratify a durable constitution and build the Union of Myanmar to become a modern and developed democratic state.

(Translation: TMT)

(Kyemon+Myanma Alin: 22.5.2007)
NAY PYI TAW, 22 May — Acting Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein hosted dinner in honour of the visiting Cambodian delegation led by Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen at Bayinnaung Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence, here, yesterday evening.

Also present were ministers, deputy ministers, Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia Dr Aung Naing, directors-general of the SPDC Office, departmental heads and Cambodian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hul Phany.

Before and during the dinner, artists performed entertainment programmes to the accompaniment of Myanmar Radio and Television modern music band. After the dinner, the Cambodian Prime Minister exchanged souvenirs with the Cambodian Prime Minister. The Cambodian Prime Minister presented a bouquet to the artistes and posed for documentary photos. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May — The visiting Cambodian delegation led by Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia, accompanied by Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Huy, Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia Dr Aung Naing and Director-General of Protocol Department U Kyaw Kyaw, arrived at Nay Pyi Taw City Hall via Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone this morning. They were welcomed there by Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee Chairman Mayor Col Thein Nyunt and the secretary and members of the committee.

The mayor gave an account of Nay Pyi Taw and progress in construction tasks and replied to the queries raised by the delegation members. Next, the mayor and the visiting Prime Minister exchanged gifts. Afterwards, the Cambodian delegation visited the herbal garden of the Ministry of Health. Deputy Minister for Health Dr Pang Soe and officials welcomed the guests. The visiting Prime Minister planted a commemorative Ingyin (Pentacme suavis) tree and scattered fertilizers and watered it. They then posed for a documentary photo. Later, the visiting Cambodian delegation visited staff quarters and Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market by car. — MNA
Lt-Gen Ye Myint urges departmental officials to actively participate in development tasks in Magway Division

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May
— Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence during his tour of Magway Division, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe and departmental officials held a meeting with military officers, other ranks and their families at the local battalion on 19 May.

During his meeting, Lt-Gen Ye Myint urged them to successfully carry out five rural development tasks, extend agriculture and livestock breeding for family welfare, cooperate with the local people in the implementation of public welfare services in full swing and fulfill the requirements in the fields of education, health and social welfare.

Upon arrival at Magway Town Hall, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party met with departmental officials at division, district and township levels, and discussed regional development tasks with them.

First, Chairman of Magway District PDC U Aung Maw and Chairman of Minbu District PDC U Myint Thura briefed Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party on regional development tasks carried out in the townships in the district. Next, Chairman Col Phone Maw Shwe gave a supplementary report on accomplishment of the development tasks. After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Ye Myint made a speech on the occasion, saying that the Government built bridges, airports, roads, railroads in Magway Division. It also fulfilled the requirements in education and health sectors and established factories and workshops. It built dams, lakes and embankments, implemented river water pumping projects. As a result, Magway Division is now enjoying fruits of regional development. The division has set a target to cultivate 5 acres of physic nut plants this year. It is to focus on cultivation of monsoon paddy against the target of 1 million acres and 10 main crops. Departmental officials are to actively participate in carrying out development tasks, he urged.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party attended a ceremony to grow physic nut plants at Magway University and planted physic nut saplings. Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard reports presented by Pro-rector U Hay Aung of Magway University.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party attended a ceremony to grow physic nut plants at the junction of Magway detour road and planted physic nut saplings. Magway Division has already cultivated 330,624 acres of physic nut plants so far.

Upon arrival at Thaphanseik river water pumping project, Deputy Director U Tun Maung Aye Htoo of Water Resources Utilization Department briefed Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party on accomplishment of the tasks of the river water pumping project.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected Thaphanseik River Water Pumping Project.

Home Affairs Minister meets ICRC Resident Representative

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May — Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo received Mr Pierre Andre Conod, Resident Representative of International Committee for Red Cross (ICRC), at the ministry, here, yesterday.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, Director-General of General Administration Department U Myat Ko, Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi, Director-General of the Special Bureau of Investigation U Saw Aung Win and Head of Office U Nay Myo. — MNA

Sarpay Beikman Bookshop inaugurated in Nay Pyi Taw

YANGON, 22 May — Printing and Publishing Enterprise under the Ministry of Information inaugurated Sarpay Beikman Bookshop at Myoma Thapyaygon New Market (No Ta-55) in Nay Pyi Taw. Myanmar encyclopaedia, Sarpay Beikman Manuscript award winning books, monthly knowledge journals, books on development of the State, autobiography of Shwe Ou Daun and other kinds of books in different tastes are available at the shop at reasonable prices.

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo receives Resident Representative of ICRC

Mr Pierre Andre Conod. — MNA

The MSD will conduct courses for diploma in medical science, PhD, master’s degree in nursing, master’s degree in medical technology and master’s degree in paramedical science for 2007-2008 Academic Year.

Those who are eligible may apply for the courses, and they are urged to send the application forms to the department not later than 31 July. More information is available at Medical Science Department. — MNA
Nay Pyi Taw, 22 May—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council (North) Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Lt-Col Maung Maung Myint of Kunlon Station and departmental officials arrived at the confluence of Thanlwin River and Namin Creek near Holi Village in Kunlon Township on 19 May.

Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut reported on the site chosen for construction of Upper Thanlwin Hydropower Project near Tongkyet Village.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspected flow of water in the river and environmental situation. A feasible study is being conducted for construction of 2,400-megawatt Upper Thanlwin Hydropower Project.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party went to Hsenwi and inspected cultivation of summer paddy in Hsenwi plain and ploughing.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, the commander and Brig-Gen Thein Nyunt of Hsenwi Station inspected land preparation for highland farming along Hsenwi-Kutkai Road.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win cordially greeted national race leader U Ma Htu Naw of special region-5 of Shan State (North) and members at Loisanit Yeiktha in Kutkai Township.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party inspected transportation and clearing of land for cultivation of physic nut on Kutkai-Namphuka-Muse Road.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party attended a ceremony to grow physic nut in Mawtaung Village in Muse Township.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented physic nut seeds to members of Township Union Solidarity and Development Association, Women’s Organizations and Village Peace and Development Council. He also presented food to departmental personnel and members of social associations.

Next, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and the commander grew physic nut seedlings.

Over 36,000 acres of physic nut were grown in Muse District and 11,139 acres in Muse Township.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party arrived at Muse 105th Mile border trade camp near Mongyu Village. They met departmental officials, chairman of Muse Chambers of Commerce and Industry and executives.

Present were Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Brig-Gen Thein Nyunt of Hsenwi Station, Brig-Gen San Shwe Tha of Kutkai Station, Director-General of Border Trade Department U San Pyi, camp in-charge Director of BTD Lt-Col Yan Naing Tun and officials.

Lt-Col Yan Naing Tun reported on trade for the respective financial year after opening Muse 105th Mile border trade camp. Export and import, ten largest export items, direct sale of mangoes and sales of fish, eel and crabs through auction and Director-General U San Pyi on opening of commodity depot in Muse and border trade.

The commander gave an account of the programme to set up IT for the traders in Yangon, Mandalay and other townships to be able to catch up with the market in keeping in touch with Muse border trade camp.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win in his speech highlighted the importance to prevent the transport of goods through a detour around the trade camp. Local authorities and OSS bodies are to carry out tasks in combination. The departments concerned have to take measures to set up a wider market through Internet Web site. So far, 80 per cent of the programme has been completed in transforming the border trade into regular trade between Muse 105th Mile border trade camp and the trade of the neighbouring country, he said, calling for sustained efforts for cent per cent achievement.

He stressed the need for the employees serving for the ministry and for the camp to work together to enable national entrepreneurs to realize the trade policies laid down by the government.

He called for maintaining the already-achieved fruits of trade and extensive export of fish, eel, crab and mango that are in demand in the neighbouring country.

He said that Muse 105th Mile border trade camp is the largest one among the border trade camps in Myanmar. So, the staff concerned are to show goodwill in discharging tasks in accordance with the border trade objectives to ensure bilateral friendship and trade, to put the border trade to the trend of regular trade, to enable the State to get taxes correctly, to create convenience for national entrepreneurs, and to ensure swift commodity flow.

In conclusion, he called for extensive cultivation of the ten major crops and elephant foot yam tuber that Muse 105th Mile border trade camp exports most.


PBANRDA Minister receives President Mr Yohei Sasakawa of Nippon Foundation

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 May—Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt received President Mr Yohei Sasakawa of Nippon Foundation, which is Japan-based Non-governmental Organization, at his office, here yesterday afternoon.

At the call, they held discussions on measures taken for building 100 schools jointly organized by the PBANRDA and Nippon Foundation in Shan State from 2003 to 2007 by spending US$ 3 million and extension of project phase-2.

Present at the call were Deputy Minister Col Tin Ngwe, directors-general, officials concerned.

After the call, Deputy Minister Col Tin Ngwe and Executive Director Mr Shuichi Ohno signed Memorandum of Agreement concerning project phase-2 to build 100 schools worth US$ 3 million in Shan State between 2007 and 2012.

MNA

PBANRDA Minister receives President Mr Yohei Sasakawa of Nippon Foundation.

MINISTER COL THEIN NYUNT RECEIVES MR YOHEI SASAKAWA OF NIPON FOUNDATION.
Tankers for US-led forces in Afghanistan attacked in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 22 May — At least 10 tankers, carrying oil for the US-led coalition forces in Afghanistan, were destroyed early Monday morning when two missiles hit them at a Pakistani border area, witnesses said.

The private NNA news agency quoted the witnesses as saying that the tankers caught fire at the Pakistani border town of Torkhum, in North West Frontier Province.

No one was hurt in the attack at 4 am local time.

Witnesses said that the missiles were fired at tankers, standing at a parking lot near the border.

London’s “Cutty Sark” ship gutted by blaze

LONDON, 22 May — The Cutty Sark, a London landmark and the world’s last surviving 19th Century tea clipper, was severely damaged in a blaze on Monday.

Flames and thick black smoke shot high into the sky above the dry dock on the banks of the River Thames, where the boat has stood as a major tourist attraction for more than 50 years.

Fourty firefighters brought the blaze under control. Aerial television pictures showed a mass of charred timbers that was once one of the world’s fastest ships.

“It’s a tragedy. She was the Ferrari of the open seas,” Paddy Pugh, from the conservation body English Heritage, told the BBC. “It’s one of the genuine icons of London.”

The ship, launched in 1869 on Scotland’s River Clyde to make the run to China for the lucrative tea trade, was undergoing a 25-million-pound (49.31-million US-dollar) refurbishment.

The Cutty Sark Trust, the body overseeing the renovation work, said it was still assessing the extent of the damage, but promised to rebuild the ship.

“The old girl needs more help than ever,” the trust’s Chris Livett told a news conference.

He is a national treasure. With people’s help, I am confident that we will get back on track and get her reopened.”

Half of the ship’s timbers had been removed for renovation before the fire. The masts and ship’s wheel were among the items safely in storage.

Flash flood, landslide hits S-W China, leaving 3 dead

GUIYANG, 22 May — Three people were killed, with another three missing after a flash flood and landslide in Nayong County, southwest China’s Guizhou Province, late on Sunday.

Local sources in Nayong said it rained heavily in Dongdi Township of Nayong on Sunday evening. The resultant flash flood broke the walls of the complex housing the township family planning committee and of the adjacent hospital.

Three people were killed, with another three missing after a flash flood and landslide in Nayong County, southwest China’s Guizhou Province, late on Sunday.

Local sources in Nayong said it rained heavily in Dongdi Township of Nayong on Sunday evening. The resultant flash flood broke the walls of the complex housing the township family planning committee and of the adjacent hospital.

Vietnam investigates drug trafficking ring that transports tons of heroin

HANOI, 22 May — Vietnam is investigating a drug trafficking ring with involvement of nearly 100 people, which has transported tons of heroin across Vietnam in five years, according to local newspapers on Monday.

Between 2002 and late 2006, the ring led by a 28-year-old local woman named Nguyen Thi Thuy from Vietnam’s Binh Duong and a 51-year-old man named Nguyen Luong Dan from northern Bao Bang Province “traded and transported tons of heroin and other lab-made drugs” in Hanoi capital, some northern and southern localities, including Ho Chi Minh City, the Young People newspaper quoted Tran Quang Trong, head of the Drug Crime Investigation Bureau under the Hanoi Police Department, as saying.

In this photo released by China’s Xinhua News Agency, a dog feeds tiger triplets and her own puppy, right, at the Paomalig Zoo in Jinan, capital of east China’s Shandong Province, on Wednesday, 16 May, 2007. The tiger triplets were rejected by their mother shortly after their birth. — INTERNET

Iran says anti-US policy “bigger than Hiroshima”

TEHERAN, 22 May — Iran’s policies of standing up to the United States have set off a powerful bomb in the world of politics bigger than the atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Monday.

The comments, carried by state television and radio, come amid prolonged tension between Washington and Teheran over Iran’s nuclear programme. US officials say Iran is trying to build an atom bomb but Teheran insists its plans are peaceful. Iran has refused to halt sensitive nuclear work, despite US threats to ratchet up pressure with new UN sanctions. Two rounds of sanctions have already been imposed since December.

The political field of today’s world is a complicated field with a great war of wills and policies. It can be said that Iran has exploded a powerful bomb in the world of politics that is hundred times more powerful than the bomb the Americans exploded in Hiroshima,” Khamenei was quoted as saying.

“Even Europeans are speechless before this oppressive America, but the Iranian nation by its actions and stances has placed a question mark over all the rules and principles of this oppressive power.”

US and Iranian officials are due to hold a rare face-to-face meeting on 28 May in Baghdad. But both sides say the talks will focus on Iraqi security, not other issues.

Iran has refused to halt sensitive nuclear work, despite US threats to ratchet up pressure with new UN sanctions. Two rounds of sanctions have already been imposed since December.

The political field of today’s world is a complicated field with a great war of wills and policies. It can be said that Iran has exploded a powerful bomb in the world of politics that is hundred times more powerful than the bomb the Americans exploded in Hiroshima,” Khamenei was quoted as saying.

“Even Europeans are speechless before this oppressive America, but the Iranian nation by its actions and stances has placed a question mark over all the rules and principles of this oppressive power.”

US and Iranian officials are due to hold a rare face-to-face meeting on 28 May in Baghdad. But both sides say the talks will focus on Iraqi security, not other issues.
INVITATION TO TENDER

TENDER NO. 1(T) AMD-FR (2007-2008)

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by Agricultural Mechanization Department, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation for the supply of the following stores which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>S1110G Engine Component Parts</td>
<td>1 Lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>LY-22 Power Tiller Component Parts</td>
<td>4 Lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Raw Material for Power Tiller</td>
<td>2 Lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Machine Tools &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>1 Lot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Tender closing date: (22.6.2007) (Friday) (16:00 HR)

3. Tender documents are available at the Factory & Research Section of Agricultural Mechanization Department, Bayintnaung Road, Insein Township, Yangon during the office hours.

4. For further details please call 680959, 682046 Ext. 323.

Director General
Agricultural Mechanization Department

Israel launches humanitarian mission in Vietnam

JERUSALEM, 21 May—In its latest humanitarian initiative, Israel recently launched an operation to provide medical care and financial aid to the poorer populations in the remote Vietnamese jungles, local media reported on Sunday.

The mission, which will cost a total of 50,000 US dollars, was carried out in cooperation with Vietnamese clinics run by an Israeli doctor, a Yedioth Ahronoth report said.

Efi Ben Matityahu, Israeli ambassador to Vietnam, proposed the initiative and decided to better use the money slated previously for the traditional Israel Independence Day celebration at the embassy.

Last week, a group of 54 doctors and nurses left for the mountainous Vietnamese jungles near the Laotian border to treat the sick and poor. Five of the doctors and a few of the nurses were Israelis, while the remainder of the medical staff came from other parts of the world.

The medical team traveled through the jungle in vehicles carrying the sign “Israel-Vietnam humanitarian mission”. They set up medical camps, where some 2,500 Vietnamese children that have never seen a doctor before were treated. Patients in need of operation were transferred to a city clinic, which performed all the operations free of charge. Food, clothing and toys were also distributed among poor children.

The week-long mission, which was praised by the Vietnamese government, will end on Tuesday.

Irrigation uses 75% of world’s water

KUWAIT CITY, 21 May—A report by the Kuwait-based Global Investment House said Sunday that agricultural irrigation uses up to 75 per cent of the world’s water supplies, the official KUNA news agency reported.

Entitled the “Potential World Water Crisis”, the report quoted the UN Agricultural and Food Organization (FAO) as saying that producing a kilogramme of rice would require 2,700 liters of drinking water, and 15,000 liters for one kg of meat. From the financial point of view, said KUNA, it is then much cheaper for a Gulf state to import grains and cattle instead of producing them at home, the report said.

It expected the world demand on agriculture to remain strong over the coming years in light of the high Gross Domestic Product (GDP) rates realized by countries with high population density like India and China.—MNA/Xinhua

Govt official says gunmen kill 13 Kurds in Iraqi village

BAGHDAD, 21 May—Gunmen dressed as Iraqi security forces killed 13 Shiite Kurds in a small village in the volatile Diyala Province on Saturday, a local government official said.

The men entered the village of Qara Lous near the town of Mandali, about 100 kilometres (60 miles) northeast of Baghdad, dressed in police uniforms, the official said.

A hot air balloon in the shape of Darth Vader’s helmet takes off on its maiden flight during a hot air balloon festival in Ceroux, Belgium, on Thursday, 17 May, 2007 to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the ‘Star Wars’ sci-fi saga. —INTERNET

DRIVE WITH CARE

CHRONICLE OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

COMPARISON BETWEEN PERIOD
PRECEDING 1988 AND AFTER
(UP TO 31 - 12 - 2006)

* This book features a wealth of correct data and figures and photographs.
* 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.

Available at

- Sarpy Bankon Book Shop, 529-531, Hlaingthaya Street, Yangon
  01: 38148, 249031
- Sarpy Bankon Book Shop, No-05, Thaybyuzagon Market, Hau Poy Taw
- Faw and Periodicals Enterprise Book Shop, 212, Thetkai Street, Yangon 294356
- Hotels, Supermarkets and Shopping Malls in Yangon.
China creates museum at former POW camp

BEIJING, 21 May — China is turning the site of a prison camp run by Japanese forces during World War Two into a war museum, the Xinhua news agency said on Sunday. More than 2,000 prisoners from the United States, Britain, the Netherlands and Australia were imprisoned at the camp in Shenyang, a Manchurian city formerly known as Mukden, between November 1942 and August 1945. More than one in 10 of them died, Xinhua said. Many Chinese believe Japan has yet to apologize properly for its invasion and occupation of China in the years leading up to and during the war. The 54 million yuan ($7 million US dollars) museum in Shenyang will include a two-storey brick building, three bungalows and a water tower, all original camp buildings in the Dadong district, Xinhua said. Two walls in a square will be inscribed with the names of the prisoners of war.

Diabetes drug Avandia increases heart risk

BEIJING, 22 May — A scientific analysis shows that the widely prescribed diabetes pill Avandia increases risk of heart attacks by 43 percent, media reported on Tuesday.

Avandia, or sold as Avadamei, is taken by more than 6 million people worldwide since it came on the market eight years ago to help control blood sugar in people with the most common form of diabetes.

Pooled results of dozens of studies on nearly 28,000 people revealed a 43 percent higher risk of heart attack for those taking Avandia compared to people taking other diabetes drugs or no diabetes medication, according to the analysis published online Monday.

A monkey plays in the Nanwan Natural Reserve, Lingshui County, south China’s Hainan Province, on 21 May, 2007. Nanwan, China’s first natural reserve aimed at protecting macaques, in which about 2000 such animals are living, has become one of the favourite resorts for tourists in Hainan. No tourists are permitted to go into the core area, which covers 96 percent of the island. — INTERNET

US study links asthma in children to adult smoking

LOS ANGELES, 21 May — The asthma epidemic in children is linked to a rise in cigarette use by adults, according to a new study by US researchers. In the study, researchers at the US Mailman School of Public Health (MSPH) have identified parallel increases in childhood asthma and cigarette use among adults during the past century in the United States.

These parallel trends suggest that the increase in cigarette use may be a contributing factor to the rise in asthma among children during the same period through increased exposure to environmental tobacco smoke, said study author Renee D Goodwin, assistant professor at the Department of Epidemiology at the MSPH.

The prevalence of asthma has increased at least threefold during the past several decades, but the cause for this remains unknown, said the study published in the May issue of the Annals of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology, the scientific journal of the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (ACAAI).

The increase is occurring most prominently in industrialized countries, but now de-veloping countries are beginning to experience similar increases, said the study. Approximately 4.8 million children under the age of 18 have asthma in the United States. Although treatment and asthma management strategies can help control symptoms, asthma is a chronic condition with no known cure.

Both genetic and environmental risk factors for asthma have been identified, noted Dr Goodwin. Globally, six studies have shown environmental tobacco smoke to be a risk factor of incident asthma.

A couple hold their wedding ceremony in unique blue colour, which is bride’s favourite colour in Jinan, Shandong Province on 20 May, 2007. — INTERNET

Study: new cancer imaging tool discovered

BEIJING, 22 May — It is not far away that patient examines what type of cancer he has by a computer rather than a biopsy, a procedure in which a needle is injected into a tumor to determine what kind of cancer it is, according to Monday’s issue of the journal Nature Biotechnology.

In a new study, researchers have figured out how to spot genetic changes in the body that may help determine whether a tumor is shrinking or a drug is working, using standard imaging techniques.

What they found was a way to translate the data from the images into a computer model that could predict what was going on with the genetic material within the tumors.

The main finding is a correspondence between radiographic images and genetic activity.

“You don’t have to invade the body in any way. We can actually obtain this information in a non-invasive manner,” said Dr Howard Chang of Stanford University School of Medicine.

“The technic needs to be tested on various types of cancers and diseases to see whether the translation tool is universal,” he added.

GlaxoSmithKline Plc’s widely used drug for treating type 2 diabetes, increased the risk of heart death by 64 percent over a period of time, researchers said on Monday. — INTERNET

The study, published by the New England Journal of Medicine, also found a trend toward more heart-related deaths.

Avandia’s maker, Britain-based GlaxoSmithKline PLC, disputed the results of the analysis but acknowledged that its own similar review found a 30 percent increased risk — information it gave last August and possibly even earlier to the US Food and Drug Administration. But the company said that more rigorous studies did not confirm excess risk.

Internet
The New Light of Myanmar

**SPORTS**

Romario scores 1,000th career goal

**RIO DE JANEIRO,** 22 May — Brazilian striker Romario, 41, has scored his 1,000th goal as a professional soccer player, in the second round of Brazil’s football championship for Rio team Vasco da Gama, EFE said on Sunday. Vasco beat Recife team Sport Club 2-0. The referee halted the game briefly for celebrations after Romario scored his 1,000th goal, shortly after halftime.

Romario is only the second player to have achieved the feat, after Edson Arantes do Nascimento, better known as Pelé, who is considered the king of Brazilian football.

Romario scored his 999th goal on March 25, in Vasco’s 3-0 victory over cross-town rival Flamengo, but had not scored until Sunday, as Vasco experiences a rash of poor results that has led to the sacking of previous manager, Renato Gaucho.— MNA/Xinhua

**Businessman Morgan buys Wolverhampton**

**LONDON,** 22 May — Liverpool businessman Steve Morgan bought all the shares in Second Division Wolverhampton Wanderers for 10 pounds (19.74 US dollars) on Monday in return for 30 million pounds of investment into the club.

A statement on the club’s website (www. wolvespremiumtv.co.uk) said owner since 1990, millionaire Jack Hayward had agreed to the sale after an “exhaustive search to find the right new owner.”

**Platini fears EU labour rules would harm football**

**LONDON,** 22 May — UEFA president Michel Platini says he fears for the future competitiveness of European football if national associations are forced to adopt EU rules on the free movement of labour.

At present sports bodies such as national football associations benefit from exemptions from European Commission competition rules, giving them leeway in setting their rules.

However, the EU are drawing up a white paper on sport which, if it went through, would undermine the 2000 Nice declaration which acknowledges the special status of sport in society.

Platini is concerned that such an eventuality would merely increase the gap between the game’s major powers and the less well-off clubs.

“I am not confident. I hope they will listen to the world of sport,” Platini said in an interview with the Financial Times.

“I am very concerned about the bad decisions they will take for the future of sport. It’s an important moment, and I hope they will understand what people want for the future of sport.

“It’s sport, it is not a product. It is part of our life. If they say it is a product, it is the end of our sport.”

**Last laugh for Mourinho after season of trials**

**LONDON,** 22 May — Chelsea’s FA Cup final victory has cut Manchester United’s season down to size by denying the Premier League champions a Double.

Second best to United in the league, Chelsea showed no desire to try and outscore their opponents in Saturday’s often tedious 1-0 win after extra time at the new stadium.

Instead, Jose Mourinho’s men made it clear from the start they would deny United the space which Cristiano Ronaldo and Wayne Rooney need to really thrive; even the Nigerian moving to Stamford Bridge in 2006. On Saturday, he showed what United had missed out on by being an incisive ball winner with great distribution, and who had also ghost past Paul Scholes at will.

**Real stay top, Barca destroy Atletico**

**MADRID,** 22 May — Real Madrid held on to the leadership of the Primera Liga by the skin of their teeth after a last-gasp 3-2 win over Recreativo Huelva on Sunday.

Real looked as though they might lose top spot after Recre fought back from 2-0 down to level at 2-2 with five minutes to go, but Brazilian fullback Roberto Carlos snatched a vital win when he dispossessed home in injury time.

Barcelona, who relinquished top spot after last weekend’s 1-1 draw at home to Real Betis, bounced back with a 6-0 destruction of Atletico Madrid, to inflict a heaviest ever home league defeat on the rojiblancos.

**Australia’s pioneer golfer**

**Norman Von Nida passes away**

**SYDNEY,** 22 May — Norman Von Nida, one of Australia’s pioneer professional golfers, died on Sunday aged 93, Australian media reported.

Von Nida had been ill for some time and passed away peacefully at a nursing home, his family told Australian Associated Press. Von Nida won more than 80 tournaments around the world during a career spanning the 1930s, 40s and 50s. He won the Australian Open three times and was the first Australian to win regularly on the European tour, although he never landed a major championship. His best result was finishing third in the British Open, in 1946 and 1958. In 1946, he came second on the European Order of Merit and in 1948 he won 12 titles, seven in Europe and five in Australia.

**Cleveland Cavaliers’ LeBron James (L) is pressured by Detroit Pistons’ Richard Hamilton (C) and Chauncey Billups during Game 1 of the NBA’s Eastern Conference Finals basketball series in Auburn Hills, Michigan, on 21 May, 2007.**— INTERNET

**Italian rider Danilo Napolitano celebrates as he crosses the finish line after the ninth stage of the Giro d’Italia cycling race from Reggio Emilia to Lido di Camaiore on 21 May, 2007.** Napolitano won the stage while Italian rider Marco Pinotti took the leader’s pink jersey.— INTERNET

**Norman Von Nida passes away**

**SYDNEY,** 22 May — Norman Von Nida, one of Australia’s pioneer professional golfers, died on Sunday aged 93, Australian media reported.

Von Nida had been ill for some time and passed away peacefully at a nursing home, his family told Australian Associated Press. Von Nida won more than 80 tournaments around the world during a career spanning the 1930s, 40s and 50s. He won the Australian Open three times and was the first Australian to win regularly on the European tour, although he never landed a major championship. His best result was finishing third in the British Open, in 1946 and 1958. In 1946, he came second on the European Order of Merit and in 1948 he won 12 titles, seven in Europe and five in Australia.
Heavy rain, storm damage homes in some regions

Yangon, 22 May — The heavy rains in Ye Township, Sagaing Division, caused floods in the township recently but paddy fields in the township were not damaged during the flood.

Some homes in Ta Own (West) Village in Kani Township were washed away during the flood in the township and one died and one injured in Kin Village, Kani Township, in a landslide due to the recent torrential rain. Emergency evacuation is being carried out in the affected area.

Some bridges in Laikha Township, Lodel District, were damaged due to the torrential rain on 19 May and only small vehicles can cross the bridges. The damaged bridges are now under repair.

The heavy rain caused floods in Lewe Township on 20 May, and some houses and paddy fields in Kyankhinsu Village in the township were flooded. The flood victims were evacuated.

Some buildings in Sittway and Kyaukpyu districts in Rakhine State were damaged by a storm on 14 May. Some cattle and people were still missing up to 14 May.

A whirlwind destroyed some buildings in Doya Village, Hinthada Township, on 20 May.

Some buildings in Sittway and Kyaukpyu districts in Rakhine State were damaged by a storm on 14 May. Some cattle and people were still missing up to 14 May.

YANGON, 22 May — The heavy rains in YeU homes in some regions...
Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Navy Pyi Taw, 22 May—Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye received Military Attaché of the Republic of India Col Jasvinder Singh Chopra who had completed his tour of duties and his successor Military Attaché Col Manoj Mukund Narvane at Bayintnaung Yeiktha, here, this afternoon.

Also present were Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein and Military Affairs Security Chief Lt-Gen Ye Myint.—MNA

What is important?

We all should never let the national unity be destroyed under any circumstance. I would like to urge the entire nation in all seriousness to draw and ratify a durable constitution and build the Union of Myanmar to become a modern and developed democratic state.

Page 7

Ngap Min Swe