NAY PYI TAW, 25 May — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Mr Nestor Carlos Kirchner, President of the Republic of Argentina on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Argentina which falls on 25 May 2007.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence attended the physic nut growing ceremony of the local station in Salin Township on 21 May.

Together with Chairman of Mandalay Division PDC Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe, Lt-Gen Ye Myint sowed physic nut seeds and planted the saplings. The local station has so far put 95 acres of land under 11,400 physic nut plants. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint cordially met with servicemen and families of the local station. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party viewed thriving summer paddy plantations along both sides of Salin-Hsinbyukyun Road near Magyipinpu Village-tract in Salin Township. The township cultivated 80,537 acres of monsoon paddy and 26,537 acres of summer paddy last year.

They also attended the physic nut growing ceremony in Kyitkan Village in the township. Kyitkan Village has put 20 acres of land under physic nut plants.
At Salin Township Hospital (16-bed), they inspected wards and units of the hospital and presented cash assistance to patients.
On arrival at 650 acres of paddy plantations in the irrigated area of Tanyaung river water pumping station, they were welcomed by Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye. They inspected pumping of water from Ayeyawady River at the station.
Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party viewed the main water tank of the station and instructed officials to make arrangements for extended cultivation of summer and monsoon paddy with the use of irrigation facilities from the river water pumping project.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
For regular trade development through export of ten major goods

As trade plays an important role in the drive for national development, the government is now expediting border trade activities to export domestic goods extensively. In particular, it is doing so through trade agreements and border trade agreements signed between Myanmar and the People’s Republic of China.

Muse 105th Mile Trade Zone was launched in April 2006, and goods are now exported and imported on a wider scale through the zone. The zone is the largest one among the border trade camps, and it exports and imports goods most in Myanmar. It also serves as an economically strategic zone not only for Myanmar-China border trade but also for ASEAN countries and East Asian countries.

Muse 105th Mile Trade Zone mostly exports major goods such as green gram, rubber, fish, prawn, rice bean, cow pea, white sesame, dried small fish, jelly fish, and green gram. Fish, eel and mango have a ready market abroad, so it is required to make efforts to export these items all the more.

Now, the government is rendering assistance to national entrepreneurs so that they can spread their wings in their businesses. Respective chambers of commerce and entrepreneurs have to join hands for development of bilateral trade, putting border trade on the trend of regular trade, and helping the nation collect taxes correctly.

With a large market, Muse 105th Mile Trade Zone has a rise in export and import of goods. It has achieved a prospect for progress. So, departmental officials and entrepreneurs have to work hand in hand to accelerate the export of the goods with ready market in accordance with the nation’s trade policy for development of regular trade development.

**MICE produces bio-diesel from physic nut seeds**

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May  — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspected production process of bio-diesel from physic nut seeds at Myanmar Industrial Crop Enterprise under the ministry on 20 May.

Physic nut oil extracted from physic nut seeds can be used as fuel in agricultural machinery and water pumps. MICE is trying to produce bio-diesel from physic nuts at low cost to be used as fuel in diesel engines and other machinery.

The minister inspected production process of bio-fuel and fulfilled the requirements. He called for producing bio-diesel on a commercial scale. Next, MICE is trying to produce bio-diesel from physic nut seeds.

**Citizenship scrutiny cards issued in townships of Shan State (North)**

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May — Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Maung Maung Sae, together with Deputy Commander of North-East Command Brig-Gen Hla Myint, attended the meeting on issuing of citizenship scrutiny cards of Immigration and National Registration Department at Shan State (North) Union Solidarity and Development Association office in Lashio on 20 May morning.

Director-General U Maung Maung Than of INRD reported on rules and regulations of issuing citizenship scrutiny cards. After the meeting the minister and party viewed the demonstration on process of issuing citizenship scrutiny cards.

At Lashio District INRD, they inspected issuing of the cards to the people.

In Kutkai, the minister and party met with departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people. The minister heard reports on tasks to issue the CSC in the district.

In Muse, they inspected functions of entrance system at No 1 camp (Shwenandaw), Mantwein Camp and No 2 camp (Hsinphyu) at the border of Myanmar and China.

On 21 May, the minister met service personnel of INRD at Shwenandaw Travel Centre in Muse and explained matters related to the functions of the border camps. The minister and party inspected issuing of the cards in Hsenwi and Nawnghkio Townships.

Efforts are being made for issuing CSC in Shan State (North). The cards were presented to 180 people in Lashio and 132 in Kutkai Township on 19 May, 218 in Hsenwi Township and 320 in Nawnghkio Township on 20 May.

**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

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**U Sai and family of Pazundaung Township donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Joint-Treasurer U Maung Maung Gyi of the home recently.**

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**Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects production process of bio-diesel from physic nut seeds.**

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**Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Sae looks on issuing of citizenship scrutiny card in Kutkai Township.**

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**Citizenship scrutiny cards issued in townships of Shan State (North).**

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**Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Sae views test run of a vehicle using bio-fuel extracted from physic nut seeds.**

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**Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo views test run of a vehicle using bio-fuel extracted from physic nut seeds.**
Putin denounces US plan for missile shield

LONDON, 24 May—Russian President Vladimir Putin travelled to the heart of Europe yesterday to denounce the Bush administration’s plans to deploy a missile defence shield in the region.

In his fourth anti-US salvo in as many months, the Russian leader took the floor in Vienna’s Hofburg Palace, former seat of Austro-Hungarian emperors, to ask why the Americans were threatening the peace of central Europe by putting new radars and a silo of missile defence rockets in the Czech Republic and Poland. “What is happening in Europe is so negative that we need to fill eastern Europe with new forms of weapons?” he asked. “What has happened that has worsened the situation in Europe and demands such actions? Nothing.”

The Russian leader’s uncompromising opposition to the Pentagon’s plans to install elements of its missile shield project in central Europe followed a frosty summit last week with EU leaders, unproductive talks with Condoleezza Rice, the US secretary of state, and Britain’s indictment on Tuesday of an ex-KGB officer, Andrei Lugovoy, for the London murder of Alexander Litvinenko, a former KGB agent and fierce critic of Mr Putin.

Relations between Russia and the west are at their lowest ebb for 20 years, and senior European and Nato officials expect no let-up in the confrontational rhetoric from Moscow until Mr Putin’s eight-year presidency comes to an end next year and the power struggle for the succession is resolved.

While Mr Putin denounced the Americans in Vienna, a principal contender to succeed him, Sergei Ivanov, argued that the US radar station planned for the Czech Republic would be able to spy deep into Russia.

Bomb blasts wound five in Indian town

LUCKNOW (India), 23 May—Three bombs exploded in a communally sensitive northern Indian city on Tuesday, wounding five people, police said, days after a bomb killed 11 people at a mosque in southern India.

Tuesday’s attacks in Gorakhpur in the state of Uttar Pradesh occurred in a busy market area.

“Apparently, these were low-intensity bombs because the damage caused is marginal and injuries to the people minor,” Uttar Pradesh Principal Home Secretary K. Chandramauli told Reuters.

“Investigations are on and I don’t rule out the possibility that this is the work of mischief-mongers who intended to incite communal violence.”

Initial investigations showed that the three bombs, placed in lunch boxes on bicycles, Chandramauli said. — MNA/Reuters

Europe to build $1.36bn satellite communications system for UAE

ABU DHABI, 23 May—Al Yah Satellite Communications Company (Yahsat) of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has chosen a European consortium to build its satellite communications system worth five billion dirhams ($1.36 billion US dollars), local newspaper Khaleej Times reported on Tuesday.

The consortium selected as the preferred bidder to build the satellite system consists of EADS Astrium, Thales and Alenia Space, the report said.

As a strategic investment and development vehicle owned by the government of Abu Dhabi, Yahsat is mandated to fulfil the satellite communications requirements of government and commercial customers in the Middle East, Africa, Southern Europe and South Asia.

The company will focus on providing solutions for Internet trunking via satellite, corporate data networks and backhauling services to telecom operators, in addition to broadcasting services. — MNA/Xinhua

AK47-armed gunman kills four in suburban Bangkok

PATHUM THANI, 23 May—Four persons died in suburban Bangkok Wednesday morning—a gunman, a police officer, and two bystanders — when a man armed with an AK-47 assault weapon and police here exchanged gunfire in a key green- and agro-industrial market.

The unidentified gunman, believed by police to part of a transnational car theft ring, was killed in the clash with Pathum Thani police. The dead assailant had extra ammunition and a set of automobile master keys in the pockets.

Police Corporal Wichet Samranlertwichai was killed in the incident, along with two innocent passers-by identified as Therrayut Sinarayakul and Sarit Kamorn. According to the police, the gunman whose identity is being investigated was thought to be preparing to rob a trader in Pathum Thani’s Talad Thai.

Police are investigating the incident and the car theft ring. Talad Thai is a central market for agricultural goods and integrated agro industries. Located on a 200 acre site, the market supports a flow of over 15,000 tons of agricultural produce and products daily, making it a busy meeting place for traders and entrepreneurs. — Xinhua

Hollywood actors Johnny Depp (2nd R), Orlando Bloom (1st R) and Chow Yun-Fat (C) pose during a photocall to promote their movie “Pirates of the Caribbean: At World’s End” in Tokyo, Japan on 23 May, 2007. The movie will be shown in Japan from 25 May. — Xinhua

Xinhua

Internet
There are around 400 elephants in the country — Bangladesh has forest cover of only 17.5 per cent. The herd of some 10 elephants also uprooted trees and damaged crops in Mithachhari, near Cox’s Bazar.

Visitors view a Chinese garden during the annual Chelsea Flower Show which runs until 26 May in London on 22 May, 2007. — Xinhua

**New bird flu cases at Vietnamese duck farms**

**Hanoi, 22 May** — Bird flu has killed nearly 1,900 ducks in farms across Vietnam in the past week, the government said on Tuesday, bringing to five the number of provinces struck by H5N1.

Tests have confirmed the H5N1 virus infected waterfowl in three northern provinces of Son La, Quang Ninh, Nam Dinh and the southern Mekong delta city of CanTho from 16 May to 19 May, the Agriculture Ministry’s Animal Health Department said.

The dead ducks were found on seven farms which were raising a combined 5,850 ducks. None of them had been vaccinated against bird flu, the department said in a daily report on the disease.

“All the infected poultry stocks in the provinces have been slaughtered, the areas disinfected and protective vaccination was taken,” it said. More ducks died in a district in the central province of Nghe An.

The virus has killed 42 people in the Southeast Asian country since it re-surfaced in Asia in late 2003 but Vietnam has had no human cases since November 2005.

The virus returned to poultry in the south late last year and earlier this year. — MNA/Reuters

Wild elephants kill two villagers in Bangladesh

**Cox’s Bazar (Bangladesh), 23 May** — Wild elephants trampled two people to death and destroyed 20 bamboo homes when they strayed into a Bangladesh village on Tuesday.

The herd of some 10 elephants also uprooted trees and damaged crops in Mithachhari, near Cox’s Bazar Town, 400 kilometres (250 miles) southeast of the capital Dhaka.

Police said some seven people have been trampled to death by wild elephants in the last two months at Cox’s Bazar District alone.

Records show that at least 15 people are killed by elephants in Bangladesh each year.

Elephants stray into villages as their forest habitats shrink due to encroachment by the rising human population, forest officials say.

One of the world’s most densely populated nations, Bangladesh has forest cover of only 17.5 per cent. There are around 400 elephants in the country — including 300 in the wild. — MNA/Reuters

**German girl calls for police help over messy room**

**Berlin, 23 May** — A nine-year-old German girl was so upset about having to tidy her room she put up a sign in her window urging passers-by to call police for help.

Pedestrians in the central city of Braunschweig said the girl crying in the window, holding up a sign saying “Help! Please call the police!”

Next to her sat a small boy. Quickly alerted, officers rushed to the scene to discover the girl had rowed with her mother about tidying her room and enlisted her two-year-old brother’s aid to attract attention.

The room looked like a battlefield,” said a spokesman for local police on Monday. “Officers told the girl to tidy her room. When they came back two hours later to check, it was all cleaned up. And the mother and daughter had made up too.” — MNA/Reuters

**Gunmen kill eight students in Baghdad minibus attack**

**Baghdad, 23 May** — Gunmen opened fire on a minibus carrying students in northern Baghdad neighbourhood on Tuesday, killing eight and wounding three more, an Interior Ministry source said.


Bolivia’s President Evo Morales wears a traditional poncho and hat as he presides over a ceremony in which his government gave computers to 21 different schools in the province of Chuquisaca, southern Bolivia, on 23 May, 2007. — internet

**China’s V-PM urges trade cooperation, not confrontation**

**Washington, 23 May** — The United States and China should cooperate to bring their trade relationship into balance and not compli-cate the situation by taking a confrontational approach, a senior Chinese official said on Tuesday.

“Problems and con-tradictions emerging in the development of China-US trade and economic relations should be taken calmly and handled properly” Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Yi said. “Politicalizing trade and economic issues is absolutely unacceptable since it is of no help at all but will make the situation more complicated.”

Wu spoke at the start of the US-China strategic economic dialogue, a high-level government-to-government forum aimed at finding long-term solutions to trade and economic irritants between the two countries.

The meeting, held twice a year, is taking place against the backdrop of increasing frustration in the US Congress over the country’s huge trade deficit with China and the slow pace of Chinese currency reform.

Wu argued that much of the trade friction stemmed from macroeconomic problems in the United States and China that have fuelled the huge imbalance in trade.

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“Gunmen showered a minibus with bullets in the afternoon in Tonis neighbourhood, killing eight students of Baghdad’s colleges and wounding three others aboard,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Earlier, the police said four more students were killed and 25 others wounded when a mortar barrage landed on the Ibn al-Haitham college in the Sunni neighbourhood of Adhamiyah in northern Baghdad.

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Indonesia to produce synthetic fuel from coal

JAKARTA, 23 May — The Indonesian Government plans to run a project to produce synthetic fuel using its abundant coal stocks as part of the energy diversification programme, an official said Tuesday. The government will appeal for technological support from Japan to convert coal to liquid fuel, said Nenny Sri Utami, head of the research and development centre with the Ministry of Energy and Mineral resources. Coal-based fuel is targeted to contribute at least 2 per cent to national energy supplies by 2025. “We will produce synthetic coal-based fuel with similar quality with that of oil fuel,” she said at a seminar in her office here. Indonesian and Japanese firms will establish a consortium and set up factories in coal-rich provinces, such as South Sumatra, East and South Kalimantan, with initial investment of 1.3 billion US dollars in 2009, she said. The factories are expected to begin production in 2013 with a combined output target of 13,500 barrels per day.—MNA/Xinhua

India slashes petroleum supply to Nepal

KATHMANDU, 24 May — Nepal Oil Corporation (NOC) has said the Indian supplier cut oil supply again, and with mere two days’ stock on hand, the country could face a grave crisis if transportation services to the capital Kathmandu shut down for 48 hours, local media reported on Wednesday.

“Indian Oil Corporation did step up supply to Nepal after the Prime Minister requested the Indian Government, but that lasted for just two days,” NOC Chief Bishwa Nath Goyal was quoted by a leading website, eKantipur.com as saying, while noting that the corporation Tuesday received 1,400 kilolitres of petroleum products, contrary to normal daily requirement of 2,500 kilolitres, he requested the Nepali Government to enable NOC generate funds to clear past dues.

Speaking at the State Affairs Committee of the Parliament on Tuesday, which had summoned the Commerce Minister and officials to take stock of the existing petroleum supply situation, Goyal said the only way to address present oil crisis, which has gripped the country for three weeks, was to pay past dues.

The decision by the government came after the country’s economy enjoyed an expansion of 6.1 per cent in the first quarter of this year. According to a report by the Ministry of Trade and Industry on Monday, the strong economic growth in the first quarter was attributed to the good performance by the financial services and construction sectors which jumped 13 per cent and 9.7 per cent respectively in the first three months of this year.

On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally adjusted annualized basis, the growth of the gross domestic product (GDP) in the first quarter eased slightly to 7.6 per cent compared with 7.9 percent in the fourth quarter of last year.—MNA/Xinhua

Singapore raises economic growth forecast for 2007

SINGAPORE, 23 May — Singapore on Monday raised its economic growth forecast for 2007 from 4.5-6.5 per cent to 5.0-7.0 per cent. The decision by the government came after the country’s economy enjoyed an expansion of 6.1 per cent in the first quarter of this year.

According to a report, the strong economic growth in the first quarter was attributed to the good performance by the financial services and construction sectors which jumped 13 per cent and 9.7 per cent respectively in the first three months of this year.

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Costa Rica police seize ton of cocaine, arrest six

SAN JOSÉ, 23 May — Costa Rica police have seized a fishing boat that was carrying a ton of cocaine and arrested all six crew, the nation’s Public Security Ministry said on Tuesday.

The arrest took place on Monday during a joint operation by Costa Rica and the United States under the Joint Patrol Treaty, a ministry statement said.

The US Coast Guard working with the following Costa Rican agencies — the National Coast Guard Service, the Drug Control Police and the Intelligence and National Security Directorate—seized the Argyre, 10 nautical miles from Pacific Coast landmark Punta Llorona.

The boat had 10 packets each containing 100 kilos of cocaine in its hold. Fernando Berrocal, National Public Security Minister, said he was pleased by this latest blow to the drug traffickers, which bring to 37 tons, the volume of cocaine removed from the market by Costa Rican authorities, during the current government.—MNA/Xinhua

US warships carrying 17,000 personnel enter the Gulf in a show of force off Iran’s coast that navy officials said was the largest daytime assembly of ships since the 2003 Iraq war in this 22 May, 2007 handout photograph. —XINHUA

Malaysia’s manufacturing sales value down 1.4% in March

KUALA LUMPUR, 23 May— The sales value of Malaysia’s manufacturing sector in March declined by 1.4 per cent to 42.08 billion ringgit (12.38 billion US dollars) year on year, the Department of Statistics said Tuesday. The year-on-year decrease was generated by the deceleration in the sales value of 37 industries out of 106 industries covered by the survey, the department said in statement released here.

Compared with the previous month, the sales value for March posted a double digit growth of 15.6 per cent. For the first quarter this year, the manufacturing sector registered an increase of 1.8 per cent in sales value compared with the same period last year, totaling 119 billion ringgit (35 billion US dollars). —MNA/Xinhua

Singapore’s manufacturing sales value down 1.4% in March

SINGAPORE, 23 May — The year-on-year growth of the manufacturing sector in Singapore in March slowed to 1.4 per cent from the previous month’s double digit growth of 15.6 per cent, the Singapore Economic Development Board said Tuesday.

In the first quarter of this year, the manufacturing sector contributed to around 10 per cent of Singapore’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employs a third of the workforce, the board said.

Singapore’s manufacturing sector enjoyed an increase of 9.7 per cent year-on-year in March, compared with 4.2 per cent in the previous month.

The manufacturing sector grew at a faster pace of 3.8 per cent in the first quarter of this year, from a 2.5 per cent year-on-year expansion in March last year, the board said. Construction, which grew by 8.6 per cent in March, contributed significantly to the year-on-year growth in the first quarter.

In the first quarter of this year, the manufacturing sector’s contribution to GDP was 10.4 per cent, compared with 9 per cent in the corresponding quarter last year.

The manufacturing sector employs 78 per cent of the workforce, the board said.—MNA/Xinhua

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A Power PC microprocessor pictured next to a nickel at the IBM 300 mm Manufacturing Plant in East Fishkill, New York, 24 March, 2004. IBM, Singapore’s Chartered Semiconductor, and Samsung Electronics will join forces to develop and manufacture chips using an advanced processing technology, the companies said on 23 May, 2007.—INTERNET
Malaysia calls for Asia to strengthen biosafety

KUALA LUMPUR, 23 May—Malaysia said on Monday that Asia needs to develop mechanisms to rapidly detect any possible biosafety and biosecurity threats to protect nations in the region from suffering any possible biodisasters.

Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi made the call in his speech sent to the Biosafety and Biosecurity Asia 2007 conference which opened here on Monday.

Rapid and effective response mechanisms also should be put in place to address the issues, including any possible bioterrorism, he said.

Badawi said in the last decade, some part of Asia, including South-East Asia, experienced numerous outbreaks of infectious diseases that affected human and animals, including bird flu.

Infectious diseases now have ignored geographic and political boundaries, he noted.

The Malaysian leader also said that the globalization of life sciences, especially biotechnology, is increasingly intensifying and the international trade of biotech products is also rising.

This trend is creating an easier situation in which a terrorist group could possibly acquire biological agents, equipment or weapons through various approaches, he said. — MNA/Xinhua

Universal Studios to open Korean theme park

SEOUL, 23 May—Universal Studios plans to open a theme park in South Korea, betting that rides and spectacles based on movies such as “Spider-Man” and “King Kong” will draw in more and more affluent people in Asia’s fourth largest economy.

Becoming the latest Hollywood film studio to expand in Asia’s burgeoning entertainment resort market, Universal Studios said on Tuesday it would build the South Korean park by 2012, which could be larger than its parks in Hollywood and Japan.

The project, announced a day after another US film giant Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM) unveiled a plan for a Shanghai park, highlights Hollywood’s accelerating push to take entertainment to the world’s most populous region. Asia’s theme park industry accounts for nearly half of the global 23.5 billion-US-dollar market and is expected to see a 25-per-cent jump in visitor numbers by 2010, according to research firm Euromonitor.

Universal Studios, operated by NBC Universal Inc, a unit of General Electric Co, opened its first Asian theme park in Japan’s Osaka in 2001 and is developing two other parks in Singapore’s Sentosa Island and in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates. — MNA/Reuters

Over 30 drown in Kivu Lake in DRC

KINSHASA, 23 May—A total of 32 people drowned in a boat wreck in the lake of Kivu in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC’s) eastern province of South Kivu, an official of local migration authority said on Monday.

The boat which overturned in violent wind had been tugged by ship Malele which came from Rwanda. Only five bodies have been identified by the officials of the migration authority who said that it was difficult to get contact with the Rwandan authorities to confirm whether the bodies of all the wrecked persons had been found.

Several boat wrecks which led to a number of deaths have been reported this year in the lake of Kivu. — MNA/Xinhua

A Malayan pedestrian rushed to the rescue of a family trapped inside a crashed and burning car — only to find that they were his wife and children.

Ishak Sejet had left his office at a palm-oil mill south of Kuala Lumpur to get some lunch when he saw the burning and barely recognisable car on the road outside the mall, the New Straits Times said on Tuesday.

A bus and a car had crashed into it.

“1 was shocked when I realized my family was inside,” he told the paper. With the help of other passers-by, he saved his wife and baby son but his nine-year-old daughter died in the blaze. — MNA/Reuters

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Kelly Clarkson (L) and Aerosmith’s guitarist Joe Perry perform during the final of “American Idol” in Hollywood, California on 23 May, 2007. — INTERNET

Nigerian satellite launched by China fixed in orbit

BEIJING, 23 May—A communications satellite launched by China for Nigeria on 14 May was fixed at its planned point in orbit on Tuesday morning.

The Nigerian Communication Satellite, or NIGCOMSAT-1, took up its final position at a longitude of 42 degrees at 8:22 am after changing its position in orbit five times over the last week.

The Xi’an Satellite Control Centre reported that the satellite, had unfolded the satellite’s solar sail and antennae, and ignited its engine in preparation for use later this year.

The geo-stationary satellite will offer telecommunications, broadcasting and broadband multimedia services for Africa for the next 15 years.

The satellite was built on China’s new generation geo-stationary satellite platform — the chassis or framework that carries a satellite’s equipment payload.— MNA/Xinhua

20 logos for the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games were unveiled at a Press conference Wednesday held by the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad (BOCOG), XINHUA

School children walk through a transparent tunnel at Underwater World, an aquarium in Singapore in a file photo. Singapore’s aquarium has tagged some of its fishes using microchips to help visitors identify the different species on display.— INTERNET

Universal Studios, operated by NBC Universal Inc, a unit of General Electric Co, opened its first Asian theme park in Japan’s Osaka in 2001 and is developing two other parks in Singapore’s Sentosa Island and in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates. — MNA/Reuters

Malaysian rescuer discovers victims are his family

KUALA LUMPUR, 23 May—A Malaysian pedestrian rushed to the rescue of a family trapped inside a crashed and burning car — only to find that they were his wife and children.

Ishak Sejet had left his office at a palm-oil mill south of Kuala Lumpur to get some lunch when he saw the burning and barely recognisable car on the road outside the mall, the New Straits Times said on Tuesday.

A bus and a car had crashed into it.

“I was shocked when I realized my family was inside,” he told the paper. With the help of other passers-by, he saved his wife and baby son but his nine-year-old daughter died in the blaze. — MNA/Reuters

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During the previous March, I stayed at home, reading books and periodicals, listening to the radio and watching TV and movies. When I watched a movie, hailing the Armed Forces Day, I was captivated by the main character “Srty Ye Tin”. Then I came to remember another onscreen character “Po Si”: of the nation-wide popular film “Wai-le-hmwe Kywe-le-hmwe”. Both films portray the lives of soldiers.

I admire the artists and technicians for their efforts to serve the national interest with the power of art.

The nation is facing various kinds of perpetration to attack her from all angles and to break her up. The movie honours the Tatmadawmen safeguarding the nation with might and main. Persons like Ye Tint and Po Si are really required in the Armed Forces.

Each and every person should be dutiful at a time when national development and modernization drive is ongoing. All will have to discard the old way of thinking.

It is not the time to find fault with the government, but the time to realize the truth as it really is.

Concerning this, columnist Ngar Min Swe presented in his article a process in which an entrepreneur could automatically serve the national interest while running his own business.

He also extended a cordial and polite invitation to strange characters and to break her up. The movie disheartening to know that the NLD objected to the Japan’s plan to donate over 400 primary schools to Myanmar. In consequence, rural areas missed the opportunity to get fine school buildings.

Is it politics?

Myanmar is rich in natural resources. So, had there been normal flow of foreign funds, technology and investments to Myanmar, the nation would have developed rapidly.

With the intention of helping the NLD and so-called “88” generation students come to power through short cut and applying pressure on the nation, in September 2006 the US called for putting the Myanmar on the agenda of the UN Security Council under the title of “Situation in Myanmar”.

On 11 September 2007, the US and Britain submitted a draft of their proposal through which the UNSC would have to take action against Myanmar. Nonetheless, the nations that love justice with correct policies firmly stood by Myanmar, and turned down the draft. In addition, they said Myanmar’s internal affairs did not pose any threat to regional and international security.

Much to my disgust, certain countries are rather aggressive to Myanmar.

Daw Suu Kyi said that the government would have to make its choice of either of the two ways—dialogue or utter devastation. She also said that Yugoslavia came under air attacks stemming from its generals’ refusal to hold a dialogue, so a large number of Yugoslavs would have to die. Her words were very abhorrent to me.

What she said meant she would have to expend everything for her coming to power.

I do not want to see any person prepared to expend lives and property of the people for his or her coming to power.

She had a bad historical background. Without holding Bogyoke Aung San in high regard, without showing any regard to national people, and failing to preserve her own lineage, she had done as she pleased. Supposing she came to power, I darenot imagine what the nation’s future would be like.

Writer Wathan demanded that “Return to where you are from, Aunty Suu”.

How disappointing it is that the UN should have made a self-criticism.

I would like to urge all to find whether they have fulfilled their duties, what they have done are right, and what they have done are beneficial to the people, and to make contributions to the future.

Even if someone does not want to do so, he should not make criticism with negative attitude, and he should take part in the nation-building tasks.

One day, Myanmar will be transformed into a peaceful, modern and developed nation, as desired by the people.

So, I would say Myanmar political affairs should be coped with Myanmar way and Myanmar spirit.

The expatriates, who are now leading an easy life abroad, expressed an inciting word that starving people do not care about their possible deaths. The suggestion might be right in the time of the colonialists or the Myanmar Socialist Programme Party.
Lt-Gen Ye Myint looks into Kyangin-Pakokku railroad construction project, greening…

(from page 1)

On completion, Tanyaung river water pumping project will supply water to 15,000 acres of land all year round.

At Seikphyu Aukseik river water pumping project site at the mile post of Hsinbyukyun-Seikphyu Road, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard reports on arrangements for construction of the railroad presented by Assistant General Manager (Civil) U Maung Maung Thwin and General Manager (Civil) U Thi Han of Myanma Railways.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye went to Yaw Creek Bridge (Kantwin) construction site on Minbu-Seikphyu-Pakokku road. Lt-Gen Ye Myint instructed officials to maintain the bridge for its durability.

Afterwards, they viewed preservation of the forests along both side of Seikphyu-Pakokku Road. Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on arrangements for greening Tantkyi Hill and extended growing of trees for the region.

Arid Zone Greening Department established 4,791 acres of forest in Pakokku and Seikphyu townships from 1995-96 to 2006-07 and preserved 28,870 acres of natural forest.

At Sabay Dam project site near Sabay Village of Pakokku Township, Director U Aye Thein of Construction-2 of Irrigation Department reported on construction of the dam. Lt-Gen Ye Myint viewed the construction site of the dam.

The earth embankment of the dam is 32 feet high and 6,900 feet long. The dam can store 1,600 acre feet of water at the highest level. The conduit will be reinforced concrete pipe and the spillway will be the gravel-filled one. The dam will irrigate 300 acres of land through 50,000 feet long main canal.

In Kanma Model Village, Lt-Gen Ye Myint instructed the local people to join hands with departmental personnel in rural development tasks.

Later, they proceeded to Pakokku by car.

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Foreign Affairs Minister sends message of felicitations to Argentina

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May — U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Mr Jorge Taiana, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Argentina on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Argentina which falls on 25 May 2007.— MNA

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Mayor inspects prevention of DHF in Hline Township

YANGON, 23 May — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa heard reports on infection of dengue haemorrhagic fever and preventive measures against DHF in Hline Township presented by Head of Health Department of YCDC Dr Aung Than and officials at Hline Township Development Affairs Committee this morning.

On completion, Tanyaung river water pumping project will supply water to 15,000 acres of land all year round.

At Seikphyu Aukseik river water pumping project site at the mile post of Hsinbyukyun-Seikphyu Road, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard reports on arrangements for construction of the railroad presented by Deputy Director U Tin Maung Aye Htoo of Water Resources Utilization Department. The benefited area of the project will be 1,500 acres of land.

Next, they attended the physic nut growing ceremony in Koedaunt Village of Seikphyu Township.

At the site of Pakokku-Pwintbyu section of Kyangin-Pakokku railroad construction project, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard reports on arrangements for construction of the railroad presented by Assistant General Manager (Civil) U Maung Maung Thwin and General Manager (Civil) U Thi Han of Myanma Railways.

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Soon (day meal) offered to members of Sangha

YANGON, 24 May — Under the arrangement of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and the Ministry of Religious Affairs, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Hay Win and Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung donated soon (day meal) to 450 members of Sangha led by Rector Sayadaw of State Pariyati Sasana University (Yangon) Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Vunnita at Kaba Aye hill lock, here, yesterday morning.

Departmental officials, chairmen of district and township PDCs, wellwishers and invited guests took part in the donation ceremony.

The Sayadaw and members of Sangha of the University will occasionally go around wards and receive morning alms.

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Organizing Committee for World Population Day meets

YANGON, 24 May — The Organizing Committee for World Population Day held its second meeting at the Population Department, here, today.

Chairman of the committee Director-General of the Population Department U Tin Yi addressed the meeting, and members of the subcommittees discussed their respective sectors.

To mark World Population Day which falls on 11 July 2007, the poster competition will be held on 9 June and the essay competition on 10 June at major cities of states and divisions including Nay Pyi Taw.

The invitational color photo contest and quiz will commence in Nay Pyi Taw and major cities of Yangon and Mandalay divisions on 16 June.

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Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin greets dwellers on his tour of inspection of preventive measures against dengue fever. — MNA
NAY PYI TAW, 24 May — As part of efforts to disseminate advantages of use of harvesters, a harvesting contest was held in Nay Pyi Taw on 22 May.

A total of 13 teams took part in the contest which was organized by Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Hay Oo delivered speeches at opening of the contest which was held in the fields of Agricultural Research Department in Yezin.

Speaking on the occasion, Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin said the harvesting contests organized by Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry will give a boost to the use of agricultural machinery, and the region will enjoy an increase in agricultural produce.

There are 12 dams — Yezin, Nga-laik, Paunglaung, Hsimthay, Chaungmagyi, Yan-ang-myi, Thephyu, Chaungmange, Kintha, Mone, Myohla and Hsinlungam— and over 90,000 acres of irrigated land in Nay Pyi Taw. The region has over 100,000 acres of rain-fed paddy and over 30,000 acres of summer paddy and can yield 100 baskets per acre, the commander said.

Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Maj-Gen Hay Oo said the ministry is making efforts to boost agricultural production and to increase acres of arable fields.

In a bid to increase per acre yield, it is important to use quality strains and to use correct agricultural methods as well as to boost the capacity for growing, the minister added.

He continued to say that in a bid to speed up the crop rotation, the ministry is encouraging farmers to use agricultural machinery.

Seven factories under the Agriculture Mechanization Department have produced agricultural machinery including harvesters, winnowing machines and power tillers, and farmers are trained to use the machinery well by the ministry.

Harvesting teams representing Yangon, Bago, Mandalay, Sagaing, Magway and divisions and Shan and Mon states and departments under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation took part in the contest and 105 harvesters were used in the contest.

Hsatsyonsu (Yangon) Team won the first prize; Hsatsyonsu (Kyaukse) Team the second and Mon State (Team) and Agricultural Mechanization Department (Head Office) Team shared the third prize.

Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister Maj-Gen Hay Oo and officials awarded the winners.

The teams participated in the contest will harvest paddy fields in Nay Pyi Taw, Pyinmana, Lewe and Tatkon townships from May to June with the use of 135 harvesters.

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May — Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint accompanied by officials inspected zinc smelting plant of Cornerstone Resources (Myanmar) Co in Mampyin of Lashio Township on 21 May. After hearing reports, the minister urged officials to meet the targeted output of standard products by using environmentally friendly production process and stressed the need for safety first at the work site.

Next, the minister and party looked into coal mining of AAA Co at San Laung and Maw Keinmayi blocks. The minister heard reports and gave necessary instructions.

At gypsum mine in Hsipaw, the minister heard reports on mining and distribution, potential of metal and work to be done presented by officials and inspected the extended production of the mine.

On 22 May morning, the minister met with service personnel of No 1 Steel Plant in PyinOoLwin and gave necessary instructions.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 25 May, 2007

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects ...  

from page 16

region. Hence, the government will provide necessary assistance for the region.

He said that the people of Namlan region enjoy fruits of prevailing peace and stability as the government is joining hands with the local national race leaders for peace and stability and development of the region.

As a result, the local people can do their businesses as peace and stability prevail in the region. Therefore, the local people are to constantly strive for maintaining economic growth through their united strength with Union Spirit. To narrow the development gap between rural and urban areas, five rural development tasks are being undertaken.

He continued to say that rubber is to be grown on a commercial scale in Namlan region. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win stressed the need to extend physic nut in Namlan region to extract bio-diesel.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented 30 bags of rice and hospital equipment to Namlan Station Hospital through officials. At Namlan Station Hospital, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win comforted the patients and presented cash assistance to them. A total of 72 patients are receiving medical treatment at the station hospital.

The Hospital Supervisory Committee is taking care of the patients by serving lunch daily.

At the local battalion, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win cordially met with service men and family members and presented clothes to them.

They proceeded to Nawngkhio. Yesterday morning, they left Nawngkhio and arrived back at Nay Pyi Taw in the evening.

MNA

Mines Minister inspects mines, plants in Shan State, Mandalay Division

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F&R Minister inspects undertakings of IRD, MEB

YANGON, 24 May — Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun inspected Internal Revenue Department, Accounts Division and Yangon Division Internal Revenue Department today. The minister heard reports on progress of work, management matters and future programme presented by Director-General U Myat Maw of Myanmar Economic Bank, Deputy Director-General Thida Thura U Thein Tun Tin of Customs Department and officials and urged them to make strenuous efforts for collection of tax in line with the prescribed law, rules and regulations.

Officials reported on work under way to perform e-banking services of income tax division of IRD and MEB to the minister.

Next, the minister inspected office works of the IRD and e-Transfer Service of MEB on Pansoden Street and attended to the needs. — MNA
Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspected production of Plastic Factory No 1 of Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries in North Okkalapa Township this afternoon.

Factory Manager Daw Khin Maw Maw reported to the minister on production of the factory and repair of production of factories under supervision.

General Manager U Tin Maung Win and Managing Director U Than Shwe gave supplementary reports.

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspected Garment Factory No 17 of Myanma Textiles Industries.

The minister instructed officials to strive for production of the factory to exceed the target.

Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo flew to the People’s Republic of China yesterday to attend Ministerial Meeting of MoU on Drug Control to be held in Beijing.

The delegation was seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe and officials.

Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, accompanied by departmental officials, inspected saw mill and Kan-3 raft jetty of Myanma Timber Enterprise in Ahlon Township and Satsan raft jetty in Pazuntaung Township yesterday. Officials reported on work being done to the minister.

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung this afternoon went to value-added wood products factory of National Wood Industry Ltd in Dagon East Industrial Zone. Managing Director U Kyaw Win of the factory explained undertakings of the factory to the minister. The managing director and the general managers of MTE gave supplementary reports. Next, the minister inspected production process of the factory. The factory exports value-added wood products to Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Japan, Denmark, England and Italy.

Minister for Power No 2 Brig-Gen Lun Thi went to No 1 Fertilizer Plant in Sale on 20 May and made arrangements to boost production of fertilizer.

The minister also inspected Win Thuza Shop (North Okkalapa) and gave instructions on sanitation inside and outside the shop and sales of goods by car.

After inspecting Garment Factory No 23 in Mayangon Township, the minister left necessary instructions.

Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung views a log at value-added wood products factory of National Wood Industry Ltd.

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspects Kyunchaung Liquefied Petroleum Gas Plant.

Minister U Aung Thaung views products of Garment Factory No 17 of Myanma Textiles Industries.

Minister visits fertilizer plant, LPG plant in Magway Div

The minister also visited Kyunchaung Liquefied Petroleum Gas Plant in Kyunchaung and fulfilled the requirements of the plant.
Russia says will not work with US on missile shield

MOSCOW, 24 May — Russia has no intention of cooperating with the United States in its plans for a missile defence shield in Europe, First Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Ivanov said on Wednesday.

“We are not going to cooperate against ourselves,” he told a news conference. “We do not like the explanation (given by the United States for having the system).”

“We believe a bilateral decision has already been made between the United States and the Czech Republic, and the United States and Poland,” said Ivanov, who has overall charge of Russia’s defence sector.

The United States says the shield is needed to protect against missile attacks from what it calls rogue states such as Iran and North Korea.

It wants to place elements of the shield in Poland and the Czech Republic but Russia has denounced the project as a threat to its national security.

China to set up coal exchange in Shanxi province

BEIJING, 24 May — China Taiyuan Coal Exchange has got the nod from the State Council, or the Cabinet, for establishment in the capital of north China’s Shanxi Province.

The exchange, the first of this kind in China, will be expanded from the existing Taiyuan Coal Trading Market, expected to facilitate the trading of around 500 million tons of coal annually in the initial stage, a local coal official said Wednesday.

China exports 80 million tons of coal annually, ranking the third in the world, while coke exports account for 57 per cent of the global trade volume.

Pointing to this, the official said China needs its own authority price for coal.

Early in 2005, the State Council set a goal to build a modern coal market system that contributes not only to market-based transactions but to macro-economic control in the next three to five years.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia denies arm sales to Iran via Syria

MOSCOW, 24 May — Russia on Wednesday said it had not given its agreement for Syria to resell Russian air defence systems to Iran.

Jane’s Defence Weekly reported this week that Syria has agreed to supply Iran with at least 10 out of the 50 Pantsyr-S1E systems that Damascus is in the process of buying from Russia.

Russia’s First Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Ivanov said the terms of the contract with Syria for the Pantsyr-S1E systems that Damascus is in the process of buying from Russia.

MNA/Reuters

An Indian Royal Bengal Tiger plays with her cubs in the Assam State Zoo in Guwahati in 2005. According to a new preliminary count, the number of rare Royal Bengal Tigers in India appears to be sharply lower than three years ago as poachers and development decimate sanctuaries. — INTERNET

MNA/Reuters
Italy has oldest population in Europe

ROME, 23 May—Italy has the oldest population in Europe and the second oldest in the world, after Japan, the national statistics bureau Istat said on Wednesday in its annual report.

Demographers came to the conclusion after comparing the numbers of people in the top age group, those over 65 years old, with those in the bottom one, or under 15 years old.

In Italy, there are now 141 people aged 65 or over for every 100 people aged 15 or less, Istat said, citing the 2006 data. In Japan the ratio is 154 to 100.

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.

The second best time is now.
Salt increases ulcer-bug virulence

WASHINGTON, 23 May — Scientists have warned high concentrations of salt in the stomach appear to induce gene activity in the ulcer-causing bacterium Helicobacter pylori, making it more virulent and increasing the likelihood of an infected person developing a severe gastric disease.

“Apparently the stomach pathogen H pylori closely monitors the diets of those people whom it infects. Epidemiological evidence has long implied that there is a connection.”

**DONATE BLOOD**

Study Saturn’s rings are clumpy

**INTERNET**

BEIJING, 23 May — Saturn rings are made up of clumps of particles with empty spaces in between and may be much denser than realized, scientists said on Tuesday. Measurements taken from the joint NASA, Italian and European Space Agency Cassini spacecraft show that the particles in Saturn’s B ring are constantly colliding, which surprised scientists.

“The rings are different from the picture we had in our minds,” said Larry Esposito of the University of Colorado at Boulder, who led the study done using ultraviolet imaging.

“If the clumps were farther from Saturn, they might aggregate even more to make a moon but because they are so close to the massive planet, they get stretched apart,” he added.—**Internet**

World CO2 emissions increasing faster than expected

**INTERNET**

LOS ANGELES, 23 May — The world has seen a rapid rise in carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions from fossil fuels over recent years, US scientists said. CO2 emissions have accelerated globally at a far greater rate than expected, according to a paper published this week in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

The paper explains that the average growth rate of carbon dioxide emissions increased from 1.1 percent a year in the 1990s to a 3 percent increase per year in 2000s. Nearly 8 billion tons of carbon were emitted globally into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide in 2005, compared with just 6 billion tons in 1995, says Lead author of the paper, Dr Mike Raupach from CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research and the Global Carbon Project.

This indicates that recent efforts globally to reduce emissions have had little impact on emissions growth, according to Raupach. “In the last few years, the global usage of fossil fuels has actually become less efficient. This adds to pressures from increasing population.”

“As countries undergo industrial development, they move through a period of intensive, and often inefficient, use of fossil fuel,” he says. Efficiencies improve along this development trajectory, but eventually tend to level off. Industrialized countries such as Australia and the US are at the leveling-off stage, while developing countries are at the intensive-development stage, according to Raupach. “Both factors are decreasing the global efficiency of fossil fuel use,” he says.

He says that China’s emissions per person are still below the global average. “On average, each person in Australia and the US now emits more than five tons of carbon per year, while in China the figure is only one ton per year.”

Air India to consider IPO; launches new routes

NEW DELHI, 23 May — The newly-merged state-owned carrier Air India, which would start operations from July, may consider a public offer next year to raise funds and plans to launch new routes, including direct flights to the US, in the next two-three months.

“Public offering is very much on the cards. Earlier, our advisors had disfavoured the Initial Public Offer due to adverse market conditions as well as the low net worth of the two entities. Now, we hope we can consider IPO in 2008,” Civil Aviation Minister Praful Patel told reporters here.

Patel was addressing a press conference where he launched the new brand name, logo and livery of the new entity created after the merger of state-run carriers Indian and Air India.

Asks about the name of the chief of the new Air India, he said the ministry has “sent proposals to the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, which will take a final decision”.

The newly registered company, National Airline Company Ltd, would carry the brand name of Air India due to the familiarity of its name abroad and would have the “old and lovable” mascot of ‘Maharaja’.

Its logo is a combination of a Flying Swan, morphed from Air India’s original logo of Centaur, with Indian’s emblem of the famous temple Konark’s wheel of time.

The merged entity’s registered office would be in New Delhi and corporate office in Mumbai, he said, adding domestic operations and most of the special business units would be based in the national capital.
**Bad boy Kameda wins second flyweight bout**

**Osaka, 24 May** — Japan’s Koki Kameda stopped Indonesian Irfan Ogah to win his second fight at flyweight on Wednesday but did little to dispel his bad boy image.

The 20-year-old won by technical knockout two minutes and 23 seconds into round eight for his first KO victory in over a year although his show-boatting antics left a sour taste.

Kameda, who relinquished his WBA light-flyweight title, emerged from the mouth of a fire-breathing dragon’s mouth for the 10-round fight in front of his hometown fans in Osaka. He dominated from the start but repeatedly wiggled his hips and prodded his tongue out at Ogah, who fought back bravely after being smashed through the ropes in round six.

But Kameda, who made a successful step-up to flyweight by beating Mexico’s Everardo Morales on a unanimous points decision in March, had too much firepower for his 19-year-old opponent.

“He was 19 and I give him credit,” Kameda told Japan’s TBS television after the bout. “He took a lot of work to do and I will get stronger.”

Osaka police had beefed up security to keep out “yakuza” gangsters at the fight in line with a drive by the Japen Boxing Commission to keep the sport free of mobsters and trouble-makers.

— MNA/Reuters

**AC Milan 2-1 Liverpool**

**Athens, 24 May** — Pippo Inzaghi struck twice as AC Milan gained revenge for their 2005 Champions League final defeat against Liverpool in Athens today.

Inzaghi scored a freak opener in first-half injury time, unwittingly deflecting Andrea Pirlo’s free-kick past a wrong-footed Pepe Reina. Steven Gerrard missed a glorious chance to equalise before Inzaghi slid home a second eight minutes from time.

Dirk Kuyt pulled one back with a header with a minute left, but time ran out.

**Interview: Liverpool’s Jermaine Pennant**

Liverpool, as expected, could do little to dispel his bad boy image.

“Two years ago I was out for a season, and Milan waited for me to come back to action – I don’t forget these things.” Inzaghi insisted that he will now end his career with Milan.

“As long as I feel good, I will wear this shirt – this is my career with Milan.”

Inzaghi had waited for me to come back and I will get stronger.”

— MNA/Reuters

**Hero Inzaghi hails team-mates**

**Filippo Inzaghi.**

**Athens, 23 May** — Milan’s man-of-the-match Filippo Inzaghi paid tribute to his teammates after lifting the UEFA Champions League.

The Italian international fired home a goal in each half to give Milan a 2-1 success over Liverpool in Athens. Inzaghi, though, was quick to heap praise on the rest of the team despite his brace.

“This side deserves the congratulations, they made me,” he told Sky Italia.

“I have already won the Champions League, but to score two in the final – I can’t believe this.

“I dedicate this to my family and the people who are close to me.”

— Internet

**Mauresimo into Strasbourg open third round**

**Strasbourg (France), 24 May** — Frenchwoman Amelie Mauresmo recovered from a sluggish start to beat Uzbekistan’s Varvara Lepchenko 6-4, 6-1 and reach the third round of the Strasbourg Open on Wednesday. Mauresmo, who slumped to a surprise second round defeat in Rome last week, entered the tournament in order to get more competition ahead of the French Open starting on Sunday.

The Wimbeldon champion, who has never made it past the quarter-finals at Roland Garros, lost her serve early in the match against the world number 105 but broke twice to secure the first set.

The second set was a mere formality for the former world number one, who wrapped up the win in 86 minutes. — MNA/Reuters

**Davdenko, Roddick power into quarterfinals**

**Vена, 24 May** — Top seeds Nikolay Davdenko and Andy Roddick continued their impressive starts to the ATP tournament in Poertschach on Wednesday with both enjoying comfortable second round wins.

Roddick, the American world number 105, beat Ecuador’s Nicolas Lapentti 6-4, 6-2. Just as in his opening round win over Australian wildcard Alexander Peyes, Roddick relied heavily on his strong serve—winning all but 16 of his 49 service points.

Peyes’ chances were apparently not helped by a neck injury midway through the match.

Roddick’s win earned him his first quarterfinal spot at a claycourt tournament in over a year and suggested a strong improvement in form since his early exit from this month’s Masters Series event in Rome. Rarely at his best on clay, the former world number one is hoping to fine-tune his game before next week’s French Open, where he has never been past the third round.

His next test in Poertschach comes in the form of 20-year-old Frenchman Gael Monfils, who downed Roddick 6-2, 6-3 last year’s Rome quarterfinals.

Davdenko, who is looking to win his third successive title at this event, had his face one of his bogey opponents on Wednesday, with Lapentti boasting a 3-0 record in previous head-to-head meetings with the current world number four.

— MNA/Reuters

**Eggett keen to keep Tevez**

**London, 23 May** — West Ham United chairman Eggert Magnusson insists the club will do all they can over the summer to retain Carlos Tevez.

The Hammers terminated third-party agreement with Tevez’s agent Kia Joorabchian in order to secure his registration, which gave his company Media Sports Investment (MSI) the right to sell the player.

However, Magnusson insists Tevez is under contract with them, regardless of whether Real Madrid are lining up a big-money move for the Argentine international this summer.

“There is bound to be a lot of speculation over the summer about our playing squad. It is normal in a transfer window,” he told the club’s official website.

“We are ambitious for this club and what we can achieve next season. We want to strengthen the squad and build on the positives of the 2006/07 season.

“We will work hard over the summer to prepare for next season and that includes keeping our best players who want to play for us.

“There will be a particular focus on Carlos Tevez and I want him to stay. He is a West Ham player, registered with and contracted to the club with three years remaining on a four-year contract.” — Internet

**Santos FC’s Claudio Maldonado (R) kicks the ball away from CF America’s Nelson Cuevas in the second leg match of the Copa Libertadores quarterfinals in Santos, on 23 May, 2007. — Internet**
Ocean’s biggest mammals threatened by climate change

GENEVA, 24 May — Whales, dolphins and porpoises are facing increasing threats from climate change, said a new report published by environmental group World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDCS) on Tuesday.

The report “Whales in hot water?” highlighted the growing impacts of climate change on cetaceans, which range from changes in sea temperature and the freshening of the seawater to level rise, loss of icy polar habitats and the decline of krill populations in key areas.

Krill, a tiny shrimp-like marine animal that is dependent on sea ice, is the main source of food for many of the great whales. Accelerating climate change adds significantly to disturbances from other human activities, such as chemical and noise pollution, collisions with ships and entanglement in fishing nets, which kills some 1,000 cetaceans every day. “Whales, dolphins and porpoises have some capacity to adapt to their changing environment,” said Mark Simmonds, international director of science at WDCS.

“But the climate is now changing at such a fast pace that it is unclear to what extent whales and dolphins will be able to adjust, and we believe many populations to be very vulnerable to predicted changes,” he said.

Climate change impacts are currently adapting to their changing environment,” said Mark Simmonds, international director of science at WDCS.

“Other projected impacts of climate change listed in the report include a reduction of available habitat for several cetacean species unable to move into colder waters (eg river dolphins); the acidification of the oceans as they absorb growing quantities of CO2; an increased susceptibility of cetaceans to diseases; and reduced reproductive success, body condition and survival rates.

WWF and WDCS are urging governments to cut CO2 global emissions by at least 50 per cent by the middle of this century. MNA/Chinbaw

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

WEATHER

Thursday, 24 May, 2007
Summary of observations recorded on: 09:30 hours
MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers were isolated in Shan and Kayah States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Chin State, fairly widespread in Kayin and Rakhine States, Yangon and Ayeayawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below May average temperature in Kayin State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above May average temperature in Ayeayawady and Taninthayi Divisions and about May average temperature in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Sittway (2.75) inches, Shwegyin (2.44) inches, Myitkyina (1.49) inches, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (1.26) inches and Sagaing (1.10) inches.

Maximum temperature on 23-5-2007 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 24-5-2007 was 73°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 24-5-2007 was 93%.

Total sunshine hours on 23-5-2007 was (8.1) hours approx.

Rainfall on 24-5-2007 was (0.16) inch at Mingaladon, (1.26) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.99) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (24.92) inches at Mingaladon, (29.29) inches at Kaba-Aye and (27.76) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (21:30) hours MST on 23-5-2007.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the North Bay and monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 25-5-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Mon and Kayin States, Taninthayi Division, fairly widespread in Kayin and Rakhine States, Yangon, Ayeayawady and Bago Divisions, scattered in Chin State and Sagaing Division and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon in Andaman Sea and South Bay.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 25-5-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 25-5-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (90%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 25-5-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (50%).
They are dutiful

She had a bad historical background. Without holding Bogyoke Aung San in high regard, without showing any regard to national people, and failing to preserve her own lineage, she had done as she pleased. Supposing she came to power, I dare not imagine what the nation’s future would be like.