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

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

Ayeyawady Division in pursuit of the target of 3.7 million acres of monsoon paddy in 2007-2008

Ma Mya Dam, 200th irrigation facility, put into service

NAY PYI TAW, 7 June—The Ma Mya Dam, the 200th irrigation facility of the nation, in Myanaung Township, Ayeyawady Division, was inaugurated this morning.

The facility built by Construction (9) of the Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is on Ma Mya Creek, about one and a half miles from north-west of Hmyinwataung Village on Pathein-Monywa Road in Myanaung Township.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence unveiled the stone plaque of Ma Mya Dam in Myanaung Township.— MNA

A letter to dear Ma Suu

Today’s youths have unyielding spirit and the spirit to love the race and nation and deep reverence for the religion. I hope you may know this. Their thoughts are advancing in this age of globalization. As you know, we are now in the age of Internet and e-mail. So, youths have much general knowledge and wider vision. They are watching the daily incidents in Afghanistan and Iraq. They are discussing Israel-Palestine problem. They can download the world affairs including the affairs of Iran, North Korea and Africa.

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

Friday, 8 June, 2007

Extend growing rubber for long-term benefits

Rubber thrives well in Mon State. So, the region is now pursuing the target of putting 400,000 acres under rubber from 2006-2007 to 2008-2009.

The nation’s rubber coverage stands at more than 700,000 acres, 300,000 of which are in Mon State. Mon State is now reclaiming its vacant and fallow lands to grow rubber extensively so that it can transform itself into the state of rubber.

Rubber is in increasing demand in the international market, and it is combined with chemicals in producing personal goods. Growing rubber on a commercial scale can promote the socio-economic life of local people and help the nation earn more foreign exchange.

Old rubber tree logs and furniture made of old rubber trees can be exported for long-term benefits of the nation.

Only standard rubber saplings of high yield species with resistance to diseases are to be chosen in growing rubber.

Extensive growing of rubber across the country can bring healthy benefits to the State and to the farmers. Therefore, rubber farmers are urged to extensively grow rubber, an industrial tree.

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**167 Pearl Lots Sold in Two Days**

Yangon, 7 June — A total of 120 pearl lots were sold at the second day of "Myanma Pearl Auction-2007" today and a number of two-day sales reached 167 lots.

"Myanma Pearl Auction-2007" organized by Myanmar Pearl Enterprise continued at Dusit Inya Lake Hotel in Mayangon Township today.

Forty pearl merchants at home and abroad visited the auction today and put the tender forms into the tender boxes.

The auction will continue tomorrow as the final day.

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**Fire Breaks Out in Pakokku**

Yangon, 7 June — Two houses were gutted by fire that broke out in ward 15 of Pakokku township in Magway Division at 11:30 pm on 5 June and left two householders homeless. The fire was caused by candle light.

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**Chinese Media Delegation Visits Shwedagon Pagoda**

Yangon, 7 June — The visiting Chinese delegation led by Mr Zhao Huayong, Director-General of the China Central Television of the People’s Republic of China (CCTV) together with officials of the Myanmar Radio and Television visited Shwedagon Pagoda today.

Members of the delegation made cash donations on their visit to the pagoda and signed in visitors’ book.

The visiting delegation next went Myanmar Gems Museum on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road today.

In the evening, Director-General Mr Zhao Huayong of CCTV and party left here and they were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Director-General U Khin Maung Htay of MRTV, Managing Director of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise U Aung Myo Myint and officials of PRC Embassy.

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**Don’t Smoke**

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**Minister Receives General Manager of SSSPL**

Nay Pyi Taw, 7 June — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Mr Simon CK Tso, General Manager of Skycom Satellite Systems Pte Ltd (SSSPL) of Republic of Singapore, at his office here today.

Also present at the call were directors-general and managing directors of the departments and enterprises under the ministry and officials concerned.

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**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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**Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives General Manager Mr Simon CK Tso of Skycom Satellite Systems Pte Ltd. — MNA**
IRAN DISMISSES US CONCERN OVER HELD IRANIAN-AMERICANS

TEHERAN, 6 June — Iran said on Tuesday it did not need US advice about how to deal with Iranian-Americans in Teharan who have been detained and said Washington should focus on its own cases of human rights abuses.

Iran has charged three dual nationals with spying. Washington has said a fourth has also been detained and has demanded that they all be released unconditionally.

"Instead of giving useless advice, it is better for Americans to evaluate their own approach in secret prisons, bad treatment and inhuman behaviour and inhumane confrontation with prisoners in Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib," Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Ali Hosseini was quoted as saying by Iran’s FNA news agency.

Iran often cites the US prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and abuses by US forces in Iraq’s Abu Ghraib Prison when it rebuts accusations on rights issues from the West. "The Americans are making a fuss over the arrest of these people when they have kidnapped and tortured tens of innocent people from different nations without the smallest reason and proof," Hosseini said.

US President George W Bush on Friday strongly condemned Iran’s detention of American citizens and called for them to be freed "immediately and unconditionally.

Iran accuses Washington of using intellectuals and others inside the country to undermine the Islamic Republic through what it calls a "soft revolution". A charge of spying could carry the death sentence under Iranian law.

GORBAChE Famous leader Mikhail Gorbachev told CNN that plans by the United States to build a missile defence shield in Europe are arrogant and threaten to usher in a new Cold War.

Speaking to CNN from Moscow as the G8 Summit got under way, Gorbachev said the US plan — which includes installations in Poland and the Czech Republic — means that Europe is becoming a target again.

"I do hope the Cold War is not going to be repeated," he said. "We must take advantage of opportunities to avoid that." He said polls in the Czech Republic suggested more than 70 per cent of people opposed the missile defence programme. In wide-ranging criticism of US policy, Gorbachev warned: "There is the possibility that self-confidence, arrogance, will lead to a situation similar to that with the war in Iraq." And he added: "The US is driving itself into a corner — they’ve lost credibility in the world."—INTERNET

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US military death toll in Iraq tops 3,500

BAGHDAD, 6 June — The toll of US military personnel killed in Iraq rose to 3,501 Wednesday as the deaths of four more soldiers were announced.

Two died while conducting operations in Iraq’s Diyala province. One, a Multinational Division-North soldier, was caught in enemy gunfire Tuesday, and another, a Task Force Lightning soldier, died as a result of injuries sustained from an explosion Wednesday.

A Multi-National Division-Baghdad soldier was killed Wednesday when a roadside bomb detonated during combat operations in an eastern section of the Iraqi capital. A 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) soldier was killed by an improvised explosive device while executing a combat logistics patrol in the vicinity of Bayji, west of Kirkuk in northern Iraq.—INTERNET

POLL SHOWS US DISCONTENT OVER IRAQ, DEMOCRATS RISING

WASHINGTON, 6 June — Americans are becoming more discontented over the situation in Iraq and more unhappy with Democrats who won control of Congress last November largely because voters want to see an end to the war, according to a Washington Post/ABC News poll.

Just 39 per cent said they approved of the job Congress is doing, down from 44 per cent in April. Approval of congressional Democrats dropped to 44 per cent from 54 per cent, according to the poll results.

Much of that drop was fuelled by lower approval ratings of congressional Democrats among strong opponents of the Iraq war, independents and liberal Democrats, The Washington Post reported on Tuesday. In April, Americans, by a 25-point margin, trusted the Democrats over US President George W Bush to handle the situation in Iraq. In the new poll, Democrats held their advantage but only by 16 points, the Post reported.

—Xinhua

MOScow, 7 June — Former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev told CNN that plans by the United States to build a missile defence shield in Europe are arrogant and threaten to usher in a new Cold War.

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A HOSTESS HOLDS A PORSCHE DESIGN MOBILE PHONE IN Essen, Germany, on 4 June, 2007. Audience measurement firm Nielsen said on Wednesday it will begin tracking media consumption over cell phones under a new service called Nielsen Wireless. —INTERNET

Tourist Robert Sims takes a photograph of the remains of a house that now lies exposed on the site of the old town of Adaminahy as it re-emerges out of Lake Eucumbene, located 150 km (93 miles) south of the Australian capital Canberra on 5 June, 2007. —Xinhua

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 8 June, 2007
Singapore bans sale of tainted Chinese toothpaste

SINGAPORE, 6 June—Singapore has banned the sale of three Chinese-made toothpaste products after they were found to contain a poisonous chemical often present in solvents and anti-freeze, an official said on Wednesday. Singapore’s Health Sciences Authority (HSA) said it tested all toothpaste lines available in Singapore — are not widely distributed in the city-state. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said last week that it was not aware of any poisonings from toothpaste containing DEG but it was concerned about chronic exposure to the chemical in children and those with kidney or liver disease. — MNA/Reuters

15-year-old missing girl for nearly a year found alive in hidden room

WEST HARTFORD, 7 June — A 15-year-old girl who had been missing for nearly a year was found Wednesday, locked in a small hidden room under a staircase in a West Hartford, Conn, home where police went to serve search warrants as part of the investigation into her disappearance, police said.

The discovery was unexpected, but “of great relief to investigators, who feared the worst based on the evidence compiled to date,” Capt Jeffrey L. Blatter of the Bloomfield, Conn, Police Department said in a written statement. At an afternoon news conference, Blatter refused to identify the girl, who he said had been missing since 16 June, 2006. The National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children lists a Danielle Erica Cramer, 15, as missing from Bloomfield, Conn, since 14 June, 2006. Two people were arrested: Adam Gault, 41, and Ann Murphy, 40, described as Gault’s common-law wife. Both lived at the home along with other people, Blatter told reporters. The two face charges including unlawful restraint, reckless endangerment and risk of injury to a minor. Gault faces charges of custodial interference, while Murphy faces a charge of conspiring to commit custodial interference. — Internet

Baghdad bombs, sectarian killings leave 41 dead

BAGHDAD, 6 June—Police recovered the bodies of 34 suspected victims of sectarian killings around the Iraqi capital Wednesday, an Interior Ministry official said, continuing a recent spike in the communal violence wracking the country.

Wednesday’s toll brings the number of bodies found around Baghdad to 167 in the first six days of June, despite an ongoing effort to pacify the capital by US and Iraqi troops.

Civilian deaths in Iraq jumped by nearly 30 percent in May, to 1,949. Of those, 746 victims were found dumped on the streets of Baghdad — a hallmark of the sectarian warfare that has wrecked the country more than a year. — Internet

Venezuelan FM accuses US of interfering with internal affairs

PANAMA CITY, 6 June — Venezuelan Foreign Minister Nicolas Maduro on Tuesday accused the United States of interfering with Venezuela’s domestic affairs.

In Venezuela, “we have a democratic government, which guarantees free expression, free movement and security”, Maduro said at a ceremony during which he laid a wreath below a bust of the late Panamanian president General Omar Torrijos.

US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice earlier publicly denounced the 27 May closure of Radio Caracas Television as an “attack on freedom of expression.”

Addressing the Organization of American States (OAS) 37th General Assembly in Panama City, Rice criticized the Chavez government and called for a “new dialogue” between Washington and Caracas.

Rice said that the US had the right to express concerns about the situation in Venezuela, “but there comes a time when words have to be translated into actions.”

Venezuela has accused the US of interfering in the country’s internal affairs since the revolution of 1999, led by Chavez.

The US, in turn, has expressed concern about reports of human rights violations in Venezuela, it said it would first investigate the violation of human rights at Guantanamo: a US base in Cuba that houses so-called “illegal combatants.”

He said the US was also protecting terrorists in the shape of Luis Posada Carilles, who is sought by Venezuelan and Cuban authorities for the 1976 bombing of a Cuban airline which killed all 76 on board over Venezuelan soil. — MNA/Xinhua

Miss Universe 2007, Riyo Mori, of Japan arrives to attend the 2007 CFDA Fashion Awards in New York on 4 June, 2007. — Xinhua

INTERNET
Austrian firms eye biodiesel businesses in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 6 June — At least three Austrian companies are studying the possibility of becoming involved in the “green energy” business in Indonesia to help boost the development of biodiesel.

“Energea, BioDiesel International and the Christof Group are discussing the biodiesel business with a number of leading Indonesian agribusiness companies,” Austrian Commercial Counsellor Raymund Gradt was quoted as saying by Tuesday’s English daily The Jakarta Post.

The three Austrian companies are leading technology solution providers for biodiesel production and currently produce a total of 440,000 tons of biodiesel per annum, more than half of their country’s annual demand of around 700,000-800,000 tons.

They are on a mission to leverage biodiesel production in connection with the European Union’s programme of increasing the contribution of green energy — biodiesel and biofuel — from 3.4 per cent this year to 20 per cent in 2020.

German FM meets Iranian top nuclear negotiator

BERLIN, 6 June— German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier met here with Iran’s top nuclear negotiator Ali Larijani on Tuesday, a day before the Group of Eight (G-8) summit takes place in Germany’s Baltic resort of Heiligendamm.

A Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said that the talks were a follow-up of discussions on Iran’s nuclear issue between Larijani and the European Union’s foreign policy chief Javier Solana.

No other details were disclosed after the talks.

Last week, Larjani and Solana met in Madrid on Iran’s nuclear issue with Larjani and the European Union’s foreign policy chief Javier Solana.

Vietnam imports more automobiles in five months

HANOI, 6 June — Vietnam spent 313 million US dollars in importing automobiles, components and spare parts in the first five months of this year, a year-on-year increase of 23.7 per cent, according to the country’s General Statistics Office on Monday.

Between January and May, the country imported 5,000 completely-built automobiles worth 109 million dollars, down 18 per cent in volume but up 6.3 per cent in value. Meanwhile, it spent 289 million dollars in importing motorbikes, components and spare parts, up 44.6 per cent.

Vietnam currently houses 13 automobile joint ventures between foreign companies and local ones with a total registered capital of nearly 700 million dollars and combined annual capacity of 173,000 units. Besides, it has dozens of local enterprises specializing in producing automobile parts and assembling simple vehicles. Early last year, Vietnam, with a population of more than 83 million, had some 700,000 private-owned cars compared with 17 million motorbikes, according to statistics from the Transport Ministry.

Cutting carbon emissions does not mean low eco growth

BEIJING, 6 June— Low emissions need not mean low economic growth or the stifling of a country’s development aspirations, former UN secretary-general Kofi Annan said on Tuesday.

“All countries must assess the impact of climate change on their welfare and development prospects, review their changing priorities and prepare to adapt to change,” Annan told the annual meeting of conservation group World Wildlife Foundation (WWF).

The recent report of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change, unveiled in May, concluded that curtbing greenhouse gas emissions by 30 to 50 per cent would cost approximately 0.1 per cent per year of global GDP.

The countries that are now leaders in the global economy must accept their historic responsibility for the bulk of emissions, and the United States should take the lead, Annan said. — MNA/Xinhua

Zambian leader challenges West over Chinese investment

LONDON, 7 June — Zambian President Levy Mwanawasa challenged the West to match Chinese investment in his country on Tuesday, saying Western countries had let Zambia down.

Mwanawasa said Zambia would carry on welcoming Chinese investment, credit and loans despite domestic political opposition and unease in the West over the pace of China’s drive to boost economic ties with Africa.

“Those who oppose Chinese investment ... all they need to do is to equal the help we are getting from China. We only turned to the East when you people in the West let us down,” Mwanawasa told Reuters on the sidelines of an African business forum.

“Give us the same or more cooperation we are getting from China and you will see that we are friends,” he said. — MNA/Reuters

UAE energy giant announces retrospective oil prices for May

ABU DHABI, 6 June — The Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), the energy giant of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), announced on Monday the retrospective prices of its four main grades of crude oil for May.

According to ADNOC, the price for the onshore Murban crude oil was set at 68.40 US dollars per barrel, while prices of the three offshore crudes were set at 68.45 dollars for Lower Zakum, 67.85 dollars for Umm Shaif and 66.05 dollars for Upper Zakum respectively.

ADNOC, a fully government-owned company established in 1971, is one of the world’s leading oil companies with huge reserves. It currently produces over two million barrels of oil a day. — MNA/Xinhua
WTO probes EU complaint against US anti-dumping

**GENEVA,** 6 June — The World Trade Organization on Monday launched a new probe at the request of the European Union into US anti-dumping measures on EU exports of dozens of goods ranging from steel to pasta and chemicals.

The WTO’s Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) agreed automatically to an inquiry because it was the second time that Brussels had made the request for an investigation.

The investigation involves the use of so-called “zeroing” in the calculation of possible anti-dumping duties, a practice already ruled illegal by the WTO in a number of different cases.

The probe by a panel of WTO trade judges can take up to 9 months to reach a verdict.

In a separate case, Argentina asked the DSB for 44 million US dollars a year in extra import duties on US goods because Washington had not lifted another anti-dumping measure on some oil industry goods, which had also been declared illegal.

But the amount will go to arbitration as Washington opposed the level of punitive tariffs.

**MNA/Reuters**

**TORONTO,** 6 June — The Toronto Star has published a report warning passengers who were on the same flight with an American with a rare form of tuberculosis to undergo a medical check as soon as possible. The Toronto Star quoted National Mineral Development Corporation official as saying.

Terrorists have destroyed eight 220-kilo volts transmission towers since Friday, in turn leading to a complete stop on iron ore transportation to China and Japan, Indo-Asian News Service (IANS) reported here Tuesday.

“Iron ore production and transportation to the domestic market and exports to China and Japan have come to a complete halt since the past five days and would continue to suffer for a week,” IANS quoted National Mineral Development Corporation official as saying.

Terrorists have destroyed eight 220-kilo volts transmission towers since Friday.

As a result, Dantewada, Bijapur, Narayanapur and Bastar districts have been blacked out.

The health sector and water supply services are the worst hit.

The Chhattisgarh home department has beefed up the security of jails in Bastar as a precautionary measure to foil any bid by the terrorists to free their jailed associates.

**MNA/Xinhua**

**INDONESIAN HOUSE REFUSES HEARING OVER IRAN SANCTIONS**

**JAKARTA,** 6 June — A preliminary session of the Indonesian Parliament on Tuesday was stopped as the lawmakers refused to continue a hearing with ministers who represented President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono to explain the government decision to back a United Nations resolution imposing sanctions on Iran over its nuclear ambitions.

The House of Representative (DPR) postponed the session until unlimited time.

They demanded President Susilo not lift another anti-dumping measure on some oil industry goods, which had also been declared illegal.

Indonesia, the biggest Muslim country, gave the support.

President Susilo sent his ministers representing him in the session. Most of the factions rejected the ministers representation, especially one of the biggest party of the Democratic People of Struggle led by former president Megawati Soekarnoputri.

**MNA/Reuters**

**Hamas, Fatah fighters clash near key Gaza crossing**

**GAZA,** 6 June — Hamas and Fatah forces fought a lengthy gun battle on Tuesday in the Gaza Strip near the strategic Karni commercial crossing, the most serious flare-up in factional fighting in two weeks.

An officer with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas’ Presidential Guard said a “large number” of Hamas fighters attacked a key Presidential Guard position near the crossing, wounding at least one guard member.

The officer said the Hamas fighters tried to infiltrate the position but were pushed back by the Presidential Guard, a Fatah-dominated force that is loyal to Abbas and receives US backing.

The Presidential Guard and Western security sources said the gun battle lasted nearly three hours.

Hamas, which leads a Palestinian unity government with Abbas’ Fatah faction, confirmed the factional fighting near Karni but said the Presidential Guard initiated the exchange.

A Hamas source said the group’s gunmen had been in the area to monitor Israeli forces near the Gaza border when they came under fire from the Presidential Guard.

**MNA/Reuters**
A letter to dear Ma Suu

Dear Ma Suu,

Don’t be angry with me for calling you Ma Suu. You are younger than me. I am a retired government senior official. I am still serving at a certain institution in the country to the best of my intellectual and physical ability.

I trust you have also heard about the unruly activities of NLD members holding prayer services at pagodas for your freedom. Some patriotic youths who could not tolerate such disturbing acts came in groups wearing T-shirts portraying the picture of you and your late husband Michael Aris. Some of them responding to the acts of NLDs of their own volition. They also wore T-shirts portraying the picture of you together with your two sons. You were only 27 years then.

Today’s youths have unyielding spirit and the spirit to love the race and nation and deep reverence for the religion. I hope you may know this. Their thoughts are advancing in this age of globalization. As you know, we are now in the age of Internet and E-mail. So, youths have much general knowledge and wider vision. They are watching the daily incidents in Afghanistan and Iraq. They are discussing Israel-Palestine problem. They download the world affairs including the news of Iran, North Korea and Africa.

You should not misjudge them. They are today’s youths. They are also watching Myanmar affairs. They know what is happening in Myanmar. They also listen to VOA, BBC, RFA and DVB. But those radio stations cannot trick them. They are intelligent and rational. They know the actual reason behind all those activities of NLDs — white campaign, letter campaign, Tuesday prayers at the Shwedagon and other pagodas for your freedom and White Sunday campaign to visit families of law breakers serving prison terms. They know that all those activities are being launched without goodwill. Those activities can be carried out peacefully. Youths know that committing the act only on Sundays in groups is not sincere. The perpetrators in reality are trying to cause unrest in the wards that are always peaceful. If the perpetrators have the real goodwill they should visit those families every day instead of going to them once. Do they really need to go in groups? It is sure that those perpetrators have no goodwill. Ma Suu, it is crystal clear that they are trying to make political gains and to cause disturbances.

The government has placed restriction order on you in your own house for four years. You can stay peacefully at your own house. You have nothing to worry. You have been receiving cent per cent health care services. You can practice vipassana. We both are over 60-year-olds. You as a Buddhist may have belief in the law of Karma. Every action has its own reaction. You reap what you sow. You are under the command of your deeds of your previous existences. Your future existence will depend on what you do in this life. You should try to free yourselves from the Samsara (the cycle of rebirths) through practicing Bhavana throughout your remaining life.

Please do not think that I am lecturing you. I assume that ours is the only country in the world that keeps one harmful to national peace and stability in one’s own house. Most countries take severe action against such persons. You are permitted to stay in your own house under restriction order because our country has the teachings of the Buddha and the officials have sympathy and compassion. Even if other countries have such practice, we will excell in offering privileges and showing sympathy and consideration.

I would say you know who shouted in a rowdy way and incited mass protests in the places wherever you were. Among the people, some are in protest against and some are in support of you, and there may be a small or large gap between the numbers of your protesters and your supporters. However, I am sure you notice there is a growing number of people who dislike stirring up troubles and placing too much reliance on external elements in the activities. The Dabayin affairs was largely due to such activities, wasn’t it? If you had not gone there and given anti-government talks to gather a crowd, there would not have been the incident. It would be all right if you held talks with your party only at your office. I wonder why you did so. It was the result of your activities.

You know who are inciting mass protests in our country. They are a handful of people. The government is magnanimous and far-sighted. There will not be such problems any longer if the government arrests and jails all of them. Nonetheless, it is detaining a few people who posed grave dangers. It is to your knowledge that the government shows benevolent attitude and ignores the cases that are not serious. You think over whether the government has done irresponsible activities such as it did not care anything and arrested all people who had violated the law and disrupted stability, peace and development of the nation.

Now, it is implementing a variety of development projects. And the representatives of various national races are holding discussions at the National Convention the government is convening. Who prevented your members from attending it, and drove them out of it? In reality, they walked out of the National Convention of their own accord.

The government is unremittingly striving in all sectors for transforming the nation into a disciple-flourishing democratic one. I wonder why you are desirous of creating public outrage to disrupt the drive, why you and your members stick to negative attitude to and fail to participate in the nation-building tasks.

By the way, I would like to recount the experiences. I think you still remember that. It was in 1972. At that time, I was in an arid region on duty. On 1 January 1972, you and your spouse Michael Aris were on your honeymoon. You left Yangon to Taungdwingyi by train and then to Natmauk. Then you had to proceed to Bagan-NyaungU. At that time, there was no railroad to Bagan-NyaungU from Natmauk. So, you asked the then division level officer for help. In that regard, the division assigned duty to me. The division level officer instructed me to send it with a driver and petrol filled up to you.

I would say you know who shouted in a rowdy way and incited mass protests in the places wherever you were. Among the people, some are in protest against and some are in support of you, and there may be a small or large gap between the numbers of your protesters and your supporters. However, I am sure you notice there is a growing number of people who dislike stirring up troubles and placing too much reliance on external elements in the activities. The Dabayin affairs was largely due to such activities, wasn’t it? If you had not gone there and given anti-government talks to gather a crowd, there would not have been the incident. It would be all right if you held talks with your party only at your office. I wonder why you did so. It was the result of your activities.

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Ayeyawady Division in pursuit of the target...

(from page 1)

The ninth irrigation facility of Ayeyawady Division benefits over 10,000 acres of farmlands, protects the fields along the creek from flooding, and generates 500 kilowatts. It will help local people enjoy better income and raise their living standard.

With the use of the irrigation facilities, Ayeyawady Division, the granary of the nation, is planning to increase monsoon paddy sown acreage to 3.7 million acres in 2007-2008 fiscal year. In addition, it is cultivating more and more acres of beans and pulses and edible oil crops year by year. In the livestock sector, it is raising over 110,000 acres of fish farms and over 56,000 acres of prawn farms. And it breeds ducks, pigs and domestic species chickens more than any other state or division.

The government so far has constructed 1,281 miles of roads, 43 bridges, 180 feet and above, and international level airport (Pathein) in Ayeyawady Division. As a result, it is easily accessible from any part of the nation by boat or by car in a short time, the region’s commodity flow becomes swift, and it is enjoying economic growth with better per capita income of its local people. Moreover, with increase of sown acreage including that of summer paddy and triple cropping.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Hay Oo also gave a speech. He said that the newly opened Ma Mya Dam will contribute to the boosting production of agriculture sector and development of trading crops in the region. The agriculture is the main business of rural farmers and the majority of the people, and it is one of the factors to develop the State economy. In accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is undertaking the tasks for water supply and prevention of floods so as to boost agricultural production in all regions.

Before enjoying fruits of irrigation facilities, eight village-tracts of the region put 10,000 acres of land under monsoon paddy, 2,600 acres under summer paddy, 7,400 acres under pulses and beans and 1,200 acres under summer paddy. At present, the dam can irrigate 10,000 acres of monsoon paddy, 4,800 acres of summer one, 5,200 acres of pulses and beans and 8,000 acres of summer paddy and 2,000 acres of edible oil crops. In conclusion, the minister said that thanks to completion of Ma Mya Dam, local people will have the high living standard through boosting production in the agricultural sector.

A local spoke words of thanks.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than unveiled the stone plaque of the dam and sprinkled scented water on it together with the commander and the ministers.

The commander, Minister Maj-Gen Hay Oo and Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung formally opened the dam.

Afterwards, they viewed the water control generator to supply electricity and irrigation.

At the conclusion, the minister said that thanks to completion of Ma Mya Dam, local people are enjoying economic and transport sectors, and development regions and established universities, colleges and hospitals in these regions.

He called for extensive growing of the ten major crops and suitable perennial crops, making sustained efforts to meet the target of 500,000 acres of physic nut in three years, maintenance of the facility for its durability and efficient use of the water from the dam.

Chairman of Ayeyawady Division PDC Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung delivered an address. He said that the government has spent K 19,138 million on construction of nine irrigation projects including Ma Mya Dam in Ayeyawady Division. Therefore, the irrigation facilities will contribute to prevention against flood of 297,421 acres of farmland in Ayeyawady Division and the tasks for supply of water. Ayeyawady Division grew 3,667 million acres of monsoon paddy and 1,237 million acres of summer paddy and produced 389,052 million bas-
Lt-Gen Maung Bo presents exercise books and stationery to students of Kyauangwa Village in Ye Township. — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe participates in tree…

(from page 16)
tasks to prevent global warming.

The resources that will not run out are human and forest resources. Therefore, we all are to try hard to develop human resource and to plant trees and conserve forests, he said. If forests were depleted, we would suffer drought due to a climate change and crops would be damaged. That would hinder the human resource development, he added.

The cause of the global warming is the Carbon dioxide released in industrial developed countries. Ice in polar regions are thawing due to the global warming and rising sea level is threatening some regions to put underwater.

Myanmar has favourable conditions to implement afforestation. The people are to conserve the forests, he said.

He continued to say that Myanmar is an agro-based country, the government has made efforts for development of agricultural sector. Agricultural machinery have been widely used in the sector, and that makes demands on fuel, he said.

Being natural resources, the fuel used now in the world is limited to the demands. According to experts, the global production of fuel will decrease within 40 years. Instead of the fuel, it is required to use renewable energy, solar energy, hydro power, wind power and bio-diesel, physic nut oil and ethanol extracted from maize and sugar are bio diesel that can be replaced naturally.

Out of 100,000-acre target of physic nut plants, Yangon Division has put physic nut plant on 39,250 acres so far. Lt-Gen Myint Swe called for making efforts for meeting the target of the division.

In his concluding remarks, Lt-Gen Myint Swe urged those present to cultivate physic to achieve the target.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Commander Maj-Gen Hla Hay Win and Phu Gyi Station Commander Brig-Gen Myint Naung distributed physic nut plants, seeds and grafts and trees to officials from townships in Yangon North District.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party planted trees. Departmental officials and members of social organizations also planted shady trees and physic nut plants.

After the tree planting ceremony, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party went to Phu Gyi Station and participated in the physic nut plants growing ceremony.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe grew physic nut plants along with families of officers and other ranks to tending over 1,200.

He also inspected the 20-acre physic nut plants cultivation of Phu Gyi Station and fulfilled the requirements. — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe watering a sapling in tree planting ceremony in Hmauby. — MNA

Villager wounded in mine blast

YANGON, 7 June — An insurgent-planted mine ripped through the right leg of a resident of Thabyaynyunt village in Thandaung Township on 5 June.

The villager, Maung Kyaw Soe Moe, stepped on the mine and was wounded in his leg while on his way to collect vegetables in the forest, north of the village. The victim was rushed to the People’s Hospital of Taungoo Township and treatment has been given to him.

MNA

Staff urged to carry out finance and revenue tasks under prescribed rules and regulations

NAV Pyi Taw, 7 June — Banks Supervisory Committee and Myanmar Banks Association met at the Ministry of Finance and Revenue here this afternoon.

Chairman of the Supervisory Committee Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe and Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein gave speeches. Responsible persons of MBA reported on their respective sectors.

Next, Patron of the Supervisory Committee Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun delivered an address.

The minister also attended the meeting on implementation of the aims of the ministry for 2007-08 financial year at the ministry.

In his speech, the minister pointed out that it is necessary to review weak and strong points in accomplishments of the ministry in 2007-08 and to submit the plans on future tasks. Departmental heads are to supervise staff at different levels in their tasks. For ensuring development of the State, all are to carry out finance and revenue tasks under the prescribed rules and regulations, law and bylaws.

Departmental heads reported on their respective sectors. The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the minister. — MNA
Gunmen kill female Afghan journalist

KABUL, 7 June — Gunmen shot dead a woman journalist in the north of Afghan capital Kabul, the second such killing in less than a week, officials said on Wednesday.

Zakia Zaki, who also served as headmistress of a school in Parwan Province, ran a private radio station, partially funded by a Western media group.

The 35-year-old married woman was killed at her house late on Tuesday night.

Zaki was threatened recently by some local commanders to shut down the station or face death.

She believed in freedom of expression, ‘that’s why she was killed,’ Rahimullah Samander told Reuters.

Authorities said an investigation had been launched to find out who killed Zaki, seen as an outspoken and courageous journalist.

Her killing follows the murder of Sanga Amach, a news presenter for a private television station, at her house in Kabul last Friday.

— MNA/Reuters

Lift framework collapse leaves 7 dead in Nanyang

ZHEZGOU, 7 June — Seven workers were killed on the spot at a real estate development site in Nanyang, a city in central China’s Henan Province, when a lift framework being dismantled collapsed suddenly on Tuesday afternoon.

The accident took place at the Jinjiang International High-Rise Residential Building on Wolong Road, Nanyang City, when the seven workers were dismantling the structure.

A special team comprising staff from different government departments of Henan Province arrived at Nanyang to make investigations into the accident, according to information from Henan Provincial Bureau of Construction.

— MNA/Xinhua

Syria denies connection with Fatah al-Islam

DAMASCUS, 7 June — Syria denied on Tuesday any connection with the radical Fatah al-Islam organization which was clashing with Lebanese forces in a Palestinian refugee camp in the country’s north.

Syrian Foreign Minister Walid al-Muallem made the denial at a joint Press conference with his Italian counterpart Massimo D’Alema at the end of his two-day official visit here.

“Syria has no relation to this organization and the Syrian security forces confronted its militants when they were trying to cross borders from Iraq,” Muallem told the reporters.

“Fatah al-Islam militants are wanted in Syria and a number of this organization’s members are detained in the Syrian prisons,” the minister added.

Muallem stressed that Fatah al-Islam organization has nothing to do with the Palestinian issue and it harms the Palestinian issue on the contrary — MNA/Xinhua

Cheney’s ex-chief of staff gets 30 months in jail

WASHINGTON, 7 June — I Lewis “Scooter” Libby, the former chief of staff of US Vice-President Dick Cheney, was sentenced to 30 months in jail on Tuesday for lying and obstructing investigators in the CIA leak case.

“People who occupy these types of positions, where they have the welfare and security of nation in their hands, have a special obligation to not do anything that might create a problem,” said US District Judge Reggie B Walton.

Libby was also fined 250,000 US dollars and placed on probation for two years following his release from prison.

His 30-month sentence was for the obstruction of justice charge.

Libby also received shorter sentences on the other counts, to run concurrently.

He was convicted on March of four counts in a five-count indictment alleging perjury, obstruction of justice and making false statements to the FBI.

The charges arose from a federal probe into how the identity of Valerie Plame, then a covert CIA agent, was given to reporters in the summer of 2003.

Libby, 56, had served as Cheney’s chief of staff and national security adviser between 2001 and October 2005, when he resigned after being indicted in the leak case.

Under federal sentencing guidelines, Libby — if imprisoned — must serve at least 80 per cent of his sentence, or two years.

Libby also received 250,000 US dollars and 4,000 euros (4,000-5,400 US dollars) each for 3,000 euros (3,000-4,000 US dollars) each for obstruction of justice.

His 30-month sentence was concurrent.

Other counts, to run concurrently.

The man was arrested as part of a joint operation by five Balkan countries to crack down on a trafficking ring that has smuggled some 600 people in recent months, most of them Albanians and Turks, it said in a statement.

The five countries, former Yugoslav republics, work together to cut off smuggling routes. Around 70 people were arrested at the end of May after months of surveillance.

“Collected evidence indicates that the suspect has had a leading position within an organized criminal group” which smuggled foreign nationals across Turkey, Macedonia, Serbia, Bosnia, Croatia and Slovenia to the West, the prosecution said.

The statement said the suspect was involved in the trafficking of more than 100 people, most of them Turks, whom he charged between 3,000 and 4,000 euros (4,000-5,400 US dollars) each for the service.

— MNA/Xinhua

Israel scientists develop mini robot for keyhole neurosurgery

JERUSALEM, 7 June — Israeli scientists recently developed a tiny robot that can guide keyhole surgical procedures with great accuracy, the spokesman of Hebrew University said on Tuesday.

The invention was credited to Professor Leo Joskowitz of the School of Engineering and Computer Science at the Hebrew University.

Recent advances in neurosurgery have made it possible to precisely target areas in the brain with minimum invasiveness — using a small hole to insert a probe, needle or catheter.

But the small size of the openings reduces or eliminates direct site visibility and requires greater dexterity, stability

and precision by the surgeon.

Although keyhole brain surgery, based on pre-operative CT or MRI images, has obvious advantages for the patient, misplacement of the surgical instrument in these procedures may result in haemorrhage and severe neurological complications.

To overcome this problem, Joskowitz and his associates have developed a novel, image-guided system for precise, automatic targeting of structures inside the brain.

The system is based on a miniature robot that can be programmed with detailed information obtained from pre-operative electronic scans of the patient.

— MNA/Xinhua

Bosnia arrests Turk for human trafficking

SARAJEVO, 7 June — Bosnia has arrested a Turk suspected of leading a human trafficking ring smuggling people from the Balkans and Turkey into Western Europe, the state prosecutor’s office said on Tuesday.

The man was arrested as part of a joint operation by five Balkan countries to crack down on a trafficking ring that has smuggled some 600 people in recent months, most of them Albanians and Turks, it said in a statement.

The five countries, former Yugoslav republics, work together to cut off smuggling routes. Around 70 people were arrested at the end of May after months of surveillance.

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— MNA/Xinhua

Actress Beth Leavel of the Broadway production “As We Stumble Along” performs during the “Stars in the Alley” event celebrating the 2006-2007 Broadway season in New York on 6 June, 2007.—INTERNET

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The system is based on a miniature robot that can be programmed with detailed information obtained from pre-operative electronic scans of the patient.
Israeli troops pull out from West Bank town

RAMALLAH, 7 June — At least 70 Israeli armoured vehicles and jeeps had pulled out at Tuesday noon, several hours after they stormed the village of Qabatia near the West Bank town of Jenin, Palestinian eyewitnesses said.

Preliminary reports said that during the ground military operation into the village, Israeli soldiers shot and wounded ten Palestinians and detained 14 others.

“The Israeli Army vehicles and bulldozers caused severe destruction to several houses in the village during the operation that last for five hours,” said one of the residents in the village.

Meanwhile, Israeli

Malaysia finds bird flu in village chickens

KUALA LUMPUR, 7 June — Malaysia has detected the H5N1 bird flu virus in village chickens in its central state of Selangor and has begun culling poultry nearby as a preventive move, a health official said on Wednesday.

Malaysia has reported no human cases of the infection, but Wednesday’s incident was the first time avian influenza had been found in the southeast Asian nation since March 2006.

Malaysia has ordered to stop the ground military massing in the east of Rafah but reinforced its military in the south of Gaza Strip, raising fears of a large-scale ground offensive.

Afghanistan on Wednesday to hunt down militants and keep security.

Indian police stop “Marathon” boy’s 300-mile walk

BLIBEREBNAGAR (India), 7 June — A five-year-old Indian boy, who became a celebrity after a seven-hour run that sparked charges of abuse, was stopped by police on Wednesday from participating in a 500-kilometre (300-mile) walking event.

Police in the eastern state of Orissa said they were ordered to stop Budhia Singh from embarking on the 11-day walk after he tried to defy a ban on him by authorities from long-distance running or walking in the scorching heat. “Nobody can exploit Budhia for their personal gain,” Amitabh Thakur, a police officer, told reporters.

In May last year, Budhia entered the Limca Book of Records, an Indian publication similar to the Guinness Book of World Records, after running 65 kilometres (40 miles) uninterrupted in seven hours and two minutes.

Two NATO soldiers killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 7 June — Two soldiers of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) were killed in southern Afghanistan on Wednesday, an ISAF statement said.

The two soldiers were killed in separate engagements with enemy fighters, said the brief statement, which did not tell which provinces the incidents occurred.

In accordance with NATO policy, ISAF does not release a casualty’s nationality prior to the relevant national authority doing so.

About 5,000 British soldiers are operating in the southern Helmand Province, while some 2,500 Canadian soldiers are being deployed in the southern Kandahar Province.

An ISAF soldier was killed by militants in eastern Afghanistan on Tuesday.

About 37,000 ISAF soldiers are operating in Afghanistan to hunt down militants and keep security.

Three Finns detained in Iranian waters

DUBAI, 7 June — Three Finnish men working for a mobile phone company in Dubai have been detained by Iran while fishing near a disputed island in the Gulf, the Finnish Embassy said on Wednesday.

The three had apparently drifted into Iranian-controlled waters accidentally while on an angling trip from the United Arab Emirates, said Esa Hurtig, Charge d’Affaires at the Finnish Embassy in Abu Dhabi.

Strong undersea quake jolts eastern Indonesia

JAKARTA, 7 June — A strong undersea earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter Scale hit eastern Indonesia, although there were no reports of casualties or damage, an official at the country’s meteorological agency said on Wednesday.

The US Geological Survey said in a bulletin that the quake struck the Moluccas Islands in the Banda Sea at 11:28 GMT and put the magnitude at 5.8.

The Indonesian official said by telephone there was no potential for a tsunami from the quake, with an epicentre 122 kilometres (75.81 miles) northwest of the town of Samalaki and a depth of 77 kilometres.

He said residents felt the quake in Samalaki and the island of Aru. Joni Sabono, a resident in Samalaki, said by telephone people had run outside after the quake, although he said there was no serious panic in his area.
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV XIANG FENG VOY NO (7033)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG FENG VOY NO (7033) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.6.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will be at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD

Trade Mark Caution
Ngo Chee Hong Edible Oil Pte Ltd. a company incorporated under the laws of SINGAPORE and having its principal office at 231 Pandan Loop, Singapore 128418 is the owner and sole proprietor of the following Trade Mark:-

ANTRIGOL
Reg. No. 1915/1996

In respect of “Medicines and pharmaceutical preparations for human use”.

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tint
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.,
for N. Og. Varnon
P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 8th June 2007

Eight killed, 50 injured in truck-train collision in Australia

Canberra, 6 June—Eight people were killed and about 50 injured when a truck collided with a passenger train at a level crossing in the northwest of Australia’s State of Victoria on Tuesday, police said.

The accident happened at the level crossing several kilometres from Kerang, about 40 minutes after the train left Swan Hill early Tuesday afternoon.

The train is believed to be due to arrive at Southern Cross Station in Melbourne, capital of Victoria, late in the afternoon. “There are 12 with serious injuries and we’ve got around 40 people who are wounded,” a police spokeswoman was quoted by Australian Associated Press as saying. — MNA/Inthar

ECB raises key rates to six-year high

Berlin, 6 June—The European Central Bank (ECB) raised expectedly key interest rates to 4.0 percent on Wednesday, the highest in six years.

The bank announced after its 19-member rate-setting council met that its benchmark rates would be raised by 25 basis points to 4.0 percent.

This is the eighth increase since December 2005, when the bank started the cycle of rate hike, and the highest level since August 2001.

ECB President Jean-Claude Trichet hinted at a press conference that the interest rates in the 13-member euro zone had not yet peaked. He noted as oil prices have picked up, there were “prevailing upside risks.”

He said that monetary policy in the euro zone was "still on the accommodative side" and that there was "ample liquidity".

Experts predicted that the Frankfurt-based ECB will further increase its key rate to at least 4.25 percent or higher within this year.

The ECB said that the threat of higher oil prices meant inflation would come in at between 1.7 and 2.2 percent in the euro zone this year, which was higher than the bank’s March forecast. The bank also revised down its projections of economic growth in the zone for this year and next from 2.3 percent and 2.9 percent to 1.8 percent and 2.8 percent respectively. — Internet

Vietnam’s farm, forestry product exports up in first 5 months

Hanoi, 6 June—Vietnam shipped abroad agricultural and forestry products worth nearly 3.7 billion US dollars in the first five months of this year, up 29 percent over the same period last year, according to Vietnam News Agency on Monday.

Between January and May, the country earned nearly 2.7 billion dollars from exporting farm and forestry products and over one billion dollars from forestry items, the agency quoted sources from the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development as saying.

In the period, items recording high export revenue included coffee, reaching over 1.1 billion dollars; woodwork, 947 million dollars; rice, 611 million dollars; and rubber, 415 million dollars.

Vietnam has targeted to ship abroad agricultural and forestry products worth 7.4 billion dollars this year. To this end, it is centering on boosting production of items with big export advantages, establishing large-scale production zones attached to processing establishments and markets, and developing husbandry industry. — MNA/Xinhua
Studies find new way to make embryonic stem cells

BEIJING, 6 June—What if scientists could find a way to produce embryonic stem cells without having to tamper with embryos? On Wednesday, three teams of researchers said they had found a way to do just that — but in mice.

Researchers have taken ordinary skin cells from a mouse and reprogrammed them to look and act like embryonic stem cells in a long-promised experiment that provides an alternative way to get the valued and controversial cells.

All of the researchers worked on mice and say it will be a while before they can demonstrate their techniques using human cells. Embryonic stem cells are the source of every cell, tissue and organ in the body. So experts believe the human versions might be used for transplant therapies in people who are paralyzed or have illnesses ranging from diabetes to Parkinson’s disease. But their use is controversial, with opponents saying it is wrong to use a human embryo in this way.

US President George W. Bush has blocked legislation that would expand federal funding of such research. The US House of Representatives was expected to give final congressional approval on Thursday to another bill promoting the research — but Bush has promised to veto it.

The researchers said they were not trying to get around the politics of the issue.

“The reason that we embarked on these experiments was not to come up with a solution to those people who have objections to embryonic stem cells,” Dr. Kevin Eggan of the Harvard Stem Cell Institute, who led one of the studies, told reporters. “All of us strongly agree with human embryonic stem cell research. These experiments were not motivated by a desire to find an end run around those issues.”

Ducks die en masse in Vietnam’s central province

HANOI, 6 June—Tens of thousands of ducks in Vietnam’s central Thua Thien Hue Province have died with unidentified causes over the past few days, while bird flu has continued to spread in the country.

Specimens from the dead birds that were transported to the flock’s 480 remainders, and disinfected affected area. Bird flu, starting to strike Vietnam in December 2003, has hit 15 Vietnamese cities and provinces, namely Quang Ninh, Son La, Nam Dinh, Hai Phong, Bac Giang, Ninh Binh, Bac Ninh, Ha Nam, Vinh Phuc, Hung Yen and Thai Binh in the northern region, Nghe An and Quang Nam in the central region, and Can Tho and Dong Thap in the southern one, since early May, according to the Department of Animal Health under the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. — MNA/Xinhua

14-year-old girl’s Holocaust diary unveiled

BEIJING, 6 June — A diary of a young Jewish girl dubbed the “Polish Anne Frank” was published on Monday by Israel’s Holocaust museum, media reported on Wednesday.

The diary was written by Rutka Laskier in 1943 shortly before she was deported to Auschwitz.

Laskier, 14, the same age as the Dutch teenager Anne Frank, recorded what is both a daily account of the horrors of the Holocaust in Bedzin, Poland and a memoir of the life of a teenager in extraordinary circumstances.

The last entry is dated 24 April 1943, at which point she hid the notebook in the basement of the house her family was living in, a building that had been confiscated by the Nazis to be part of the Bedzin ghetto.

In August that year, the teenager and her family were transported to the Auschwitz concentration camp and it is thought she was killed immediately.

Rutka’s father, Yaakov, was the only member of the family to survive the camp. He moved to Israel and had a new family. He died in 1986.

A model presents a creation at Rio de Janeiro Fashion Week in Brazil on 5 June, 2007. Rio de Janeiro Fashion Week is Rio de Janeiro’s most important event in Fashion. More than 30 designers present their creations at the fashion week. — Xinhua

Two riders compete in a camel race during the opening ceremony of the Ethnic Cultures and Tourism Festival in Huocheng County, Northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on 6 June, 2007. — Internet

Mission Commander Rick Sturckow boards the Shuttle Training Aircraft as he prepares for launch on the space shuttle Atlantis at the Kennedy Space Centre in Cape Canaveral, Florida on 5 June, 2007. — Internet

Three teams of scientists mimic embryonic stem cells using ordinary skin cells in mice. — Internet
Unbeaten Germany win again to close in on finals

HAMBURG (Germany), 7 June — Germany scraped a 2-1 win over Slovakia on Wednesday to move five points clear in Group D and take another stride towards Euro 2008.

Germany lost an early lead when Jan Durica put the ball into his own net, under pressure from Miroslav Klose, but another own-goal, this time from Christoph Metzelder, levelled the scores in the 20th minute.

Thomas Hitzlsperger headed Germany back in front two minutes before halftime and the tiring home side held on in a poor second half to maintain their unbeaten record with six wins and a draw from their seven matches.

Germany lead the group with 19 points, with the Czech Republic second on 14 and Ireland third a point further back. Slovakia, who needed a win to get back in the hunt, are on four.

Germany were without captain Michael Ballack and the Bayern Munich pair Lukas Podolski and Bastian Schweinsteiger and their only regular threat came from Marcell Jansen and Clemens Fritz on the wings. — MNA/Reuters

Beckham earns Spain 2-0 win in Liechtenstein

VAUD, 7 June — Striker David Villa scored a neatly taken double to earn Spain a 2-0 Euro 2008 qualifier win away to Liechtenstein that lifted them into second place in Group F on Wednesday.

Villa put Spain ahead in the eighth minute when he slotted home from a tight angle after rounding the keeper and took his tally to 12 goals in 23 games with a spectacular overhead kick soon after.

Villa’s early goals were rare bright spots in an otherwise intermittent performance from Spain and the striker spurned the chance to complete a hat-trick when he fired an injury-time penalty against the post.

The win, Spain’s fourth in a row in Group F, left them on 15 points from seven matches, one behind Sweden who crushed Iceland 5-0 in Stockholm.

The Swedes, however, could be awarded all three points from Saturday’s match against Denmark which was abandoned with the score at 3-3 after a Danish fan attacked the referee.

Villa and fellow forward David Silva each had a clear chance after 77 minutes, failing to find the back of the net after dribbling past Georgia goalkeeper Georgi Milanov.

Spanish forward Pedro Rodriguez, scorer of the opener in the 33rd minute to break down the dogged hosts.

The victory takes Spain to 14 points from seven games, one point behind Russia, who drew 0-0 in Croatia. Israel, 2-0 winners in Andorra, have 17 from seven matches, and England last weekend.

England started well but had to wait until the 37th minute to break down the dogged hosts.

Wayne Bridge’s long throw was nodded on by Crouch and Cole was able to chest the ball down before swivelling to beat keeper Mart Poom with a smart half-volley.

Beckham then killed the game with two superb crosses after the re-start, sending the first into the area from deep and allowing Crouch to cleverly head past Poom on the bounce for his 12th goal in 19 internationals.

Owen flicked home the second at the far post to seal a deserved win, though Estonia nearly snatched a consolation goal in stoppage time.

Substitute Tarmo Kink beat Paul Robinson with a low shot but England captain John Terry was there to clear off the line to leave them without a goal after their seventh straight defeat in the group.

Estonia coach Jelle Goes announcing he would not be renewing his contract when it expires in November.

— MNA/Reuters

Nasri on target as France beat Georgia 1-0

AUXERRE (France), 7 June — Samir Nasri netted his first international goal in his third appearance to earn France a 1-0 home victory over Georgia on Wednesday as the World Cup finalists remained top of their Euro qualifying Group B.

The Olympique Marseille midfielder, voted the league’s best young player this season and superb in Saturday’s 2-0 win over Ukraine, struck in the 33rd minute of a one-sided contest. France now have 18 points from seven games and lead second-placed Italy by two points after the world champions beat Lithuania 2-0.

Franck Ribery, who is set to leave for Bayern Munich, was at his best, crossing from the right for Nasri to shoot France into a well-deserved advantage 12 minutes from the interval.

With 25 minutes remaining, Domenech strengthened his front line by bringing on striker Djibril Cisse in place of midfielder Florent Malouda but they could not fashion a second goal. Cisse, who twice the league’s top scorer when he was playing for AJ Auxerre, wasted a clear chance after 77 minutes, failing to find the net after dribbling past Georgia goalkeeper Georgi Lomaia.

— MNA/Reuters

Danish fan regrets drunken attack on referee Fandel

COPENHAGEN, 5 June — The drunken Danish fan who attacked referee Herbert Fandel who then abandoned Saturday’s Euro 2008 qualifier between Denmark and Liechtenstein.

The man, identified only as “R” by the paper, cannot have named for legal reasons but said at a court hearing he had drunk 15 to 18 beers before the match and had little memory of the actual incident.

He did remember he was angered by Fandel handling a red card to Denmark’s Christian Poulsen and wanted to tell the referee his decision to dismiss the player was “nonsense”. — MNA/Reuters

Villa puts Spain 2-0 ahead

England's David Beckham produces a cross from which Peter Crouch heads and scores against Estonia during their Euro 2008 group E soccer match in Tallinn, Estonia on 6 June, 2007. — Internet

Beckham earns Spain 2-0 win in Liechtenstein

England's David Beckham puts England back on track in Estonia
Chinese police find 5 babies in stolen car

BEIJING, 7 June — Chinese police have found five babies abandoned in the back of a stolen car and have no idea who they are but suspect they may have been kidnapped, state media reported on Wednesday.

Officers in the northern province of Hebei flagged down a “suspicious” black car in the early hours of Sunday and two men inside, brandishing knives, fled the scene.

Police found the babies, three boys and two girls about 10 days old, in the back, newspapers said.

Police later found the car had been stolen in Shanghai but belonged to somebody from the eastern province of Zhejiang, the Beijing Youth Daily said.

At least one of the male babies could have been taken from a hospital in Zhejiang provincial capital Hangzhou, it added, and DNA samples had been sent to Hebei.

MNA/Reuters

Indian school kicks out 5 HIV-positive kids again

NEW DELHI, 7 June — Five HIV-positive children have been turned away from a school in southern India for the second time, despite a government promise that they would be allowed to return, newspapers reported on Wednesday.

The children — a boy and four girls aged between five and 11 — were first thrown out of their school in Kerala State in December after parents of other students complained.

But local authorities intervened and said the children could return to Mar Dionysius Lower Primary School in Kottayam District in the new academic year which began on Monday.

They made it only as far as the school gate. “Many parents came to us threatening to pull out their wards if the HIV-positive children were readmitted,” the Hindustan Times quoted an unnamed teacher as saying. “We are helpless.”

The state government is now trying to convince the school authorities to change their mind, the paper said.

Meanwhile, the children will receive private lessons at their charity-run care home. The United Nations says India has the world’s largest HIV caseload, with an estimated 5.7 million people living with the deadly virus.

MNA/Reuters

Weather: Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and strong in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 8-6-2007: Rain or thunder showers will be widespread in Kachin, Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, fairly widespread in Chin State, upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon, Aye myawady and Tanninthyi Divisions, scattered in Shan State and Mandalay 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: Increase in rain in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 8-6-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 8-6-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 8-6-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).
NAY PYI TAW, 7 June — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State PDC Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win and officials, met servicemen and family members at the local battalion of Kyaungywa Station in Ye on 5 June morning.

Next, they attended the school enrolment day of the whole township at Basic Education High School (Branch) in Kyaungywa. On the occasion, Lt-Gen Maung Bo instructed those present to strive for realization of the aim — the modern and developed nation will be built through education, observe the education policies adopted by the State and join hands in nurturing outstanding students.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the commander, Brig-Gen Cho Tun Aung of Ye Station and Deputy Director-General U Tun Kyi of No 1 Basic Education Department presented textbooks and exercise books, stationery and school uniforms to students. Lt-Gen Maung Bo and wellwishers donated cash to the fund of the school.

At Chaungywa Station Hospital, they presented cash assistance to patients and inspected medical wards, operation theatre, medical store, delivery room and lab.

They attended the physic nut cultivation ceremony of Ye Township near Tumyaung Village and planted saplings. Local people participated in the physic nut growing ceremony and put five acres of land under physic nut.

Ye Township has so far cultivated over 4,000 acres of physic nut against the target of 30,000 acres in 2007-08 and nurtured 10,000 acres.

At Munipala Hall in Lamaing, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people. After hearing reports on progress of the town and sector-wise development by officials, Lt-Gen Maung Bo praised officials for (See page 9)

Lt-Gen Maung Bo presents physic nut saplings to an official at tree planting ceremony in Hmawby Township. — MNA

NLD members frown on sanctions, acts harmful to the State, people

6 members quit Twantay, Mawlamyine, Taungdwingyi Township NLDs

YANGON, 7 June — Four members— U Gwa To, U Tha Nyan, Daw Win Win Cho and U Po Thee of Kayinchaung Village in Twantay Township National League for Democracy of Yangon Division, U Aung Cho Oo of Mawlamyine Township NLD on 29 May and U Myo Myint of Taungdwingyi Township NLD of Magway Division on 5 June resigned from NLD of their own volition.

They sent resignation letters to NLD headquarters and authorities concerned. In the letters sent to Twantay, Mawlamyine and Taungdwingyi Township Multi-party General Election Subcommissions, they said that they had no interest in the party’s activities and they frowned on the party’s leaders causing imposition of sanctions against the nation and committing acts harmful to the State and the people by receiving outside help from some big nations. Therefore, they resigned from the party of their own accord.

YANGON, 7 June — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence participated in the tree planting ceremony in Hmawby Township and Phugyi Station in Yangon North District today.

It was also attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Brig-Gen Myint Naung of Phugyi Station, senior military officials and departmental officials.

Yangon North District set it target of 430,000 saplings to be planted in this rainy season. Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Myint Swe called for afforestation (See page 9)