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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

Secretary-1 receives Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

Nay Pyi Taw, 27 June
— Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Thein Sein received Ms Radhika Coomaraswamy, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Under Secretary-General, and party at the SPDC Office, here, this morning. Also present at the call were Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Resident Representative of UNDP Mr Charles James Petrie and Resident Representative of UNICEF Mr Ramesh Shrestha. — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein welcomes Ms Radhika Coomaraswamy, Special Representative of the Secretary-General For Children and Armed Conflict, Under Secretary-General, in Nay Pyi Taw, MNA

Weather Forecast for (28-6-2007)
Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas
One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Yangon and neighbouring areas
One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Mandalay and neighbouring areas
One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Public participation in anti-narcotics campaign

The sixth destruction of seized narcotic drugs in Shan State (North) was held at the Union Sports Ground in Lashio the other day. At the destruction ceremony, opium, heroin, morphine, stimulant tablets, stimulant powder, Ephedrine, chemical liquid, chemical powder and poppy seeds worth over US $ 272 million were destroyed.

The twenty sixth of June is the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. On that day commemorative events are held in the nations of the world including Myanmar and anti-narcotic drugs activities are launched.

The drug elimination 15-year project is being implemented in Myanmar in cooperation with the people under three tactics, namely, reduction of supply, reduction of demand and enforcement measures. The project period is from 1999 to 2014.

Moreover, the New Destiny Project for total elimination of poppy cultivation is being launched. Now opium-substitute crops are being grown and livestock breeding and other businesses are extended. Progress has been made in economic, social, education, health and transport sectors in the border areas. As a result of this, poppy cultivation has decreased considerably.

Law enforcement measures are being taken with greater momentum. The destruction of seized narcotic drugs has reached 20 times in Yangon and 42 times in border areas and other towns from 1990 to 2006.

It is necessary for the people to actively participate in the efforts for total elimination of poppy cultivation and increase of law enforcement measures as the national duty so that anti-narcotic drugs activities will be successful.

Laotian delegation calls on USDA Secretary-General

YANGON, 26 June — Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htay Oo received the visiting Laotian delegation at the Headquarters of USDA in Bahan Township today.

The delegation was led by Mr Boun Nhang Xaysanavong, Director-General of Department for International Relations of Mass Organizations of Commission for External Relations of the Party’s Central Committee of Lao Revolutionary Party.

Also present were CEC members of USDA U Aung Thein Lin and U Maung Pa, officials of the headquarters and Laotian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Kouyi A Souphakhet.

At the meeting, USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo explained objectives and tasks of the association and its participation in implementation of development tasks joining hands with the people and future tasks of the association.

Mr Boun Nhang Xaysanavong said that the visit aimed at strengthening the friendship between the two countries. During the visit, the delegation will collect data for promotion of tourism industry and cultural exchange programmes between the two countries. USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo and Mr Boun Nhang Xaysanavong exchanged souvenirs at the meeting.

Minister Col Thein Nyunt delivers an address at annual work coordination meeting of DACs

NAY PYI TAW, 26 June — In his address at the work coordination meeting of the Development Affairs Committees held at the auditorium of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs on 21 June, Minister Col Thein Nyunt urged officials to strive for ensuring lush and green of towns, building new rural roads and bridges to ensure smooth transportation between urban and rural areas, extending water supply in urban areas, supplying potable water in rural areas, building district-to-district roads meeting set standards, implementing rural housing projects, using bio-diesel obtained from physic nut and winning the trust of the people.

Director-General U Myo Myint of Development Affairs Department presented annual reports of DACs for 2006-2007.

Next, officials discussed formation and administration of DACs, finance, engineering works for rural and urban areas, law, revenue and inspection.

Afterwards, officials who attended workshops and training abroad presented their papers.

Director-General U Myo Myint presented 12 future work programmes for 2007-2008 fiscal year to the annual meeting on 25 June. The meeting approved the programmes.

In 2006-2007 fiscal year, DAD built 2,591 miles of urban and rural roads, 269 urban bridges and 697 rural bridges. Asregard the potable water supply tasks, 11,798 items of water supply facilities were carried out in 7,911 villages out of 8,042 villages in Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Divisions in 2006-2007 fiscal year. As for the whole country, water supply tasks were carried out in 17,250 villages out of 23,225.

From the fiscal year 2003-2004 to 2006-2007, altogether 3,420 rural housings were built and district-to-district roads Nos 1 and 2 were also completed. — MNA
Olmert, Abbas hold first talks since Gaza loss

SHARM EL-SHEIKH (Egypt), 26 June — Israeli and Palestinian leaders held talks on Monday for the first time since Hamas defeated Fatah forces in the Gaza Strip, leading to a political split between the two Palestinian territories.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas shook hands and smiled before the talks, in the Egyptian Red Sea Resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, which Cairo says will be followed by a four-way meeting including Egypt and Jordan.

Arab leaders were hoping to hear what Israel planned to do to make life easier for Palestinians living under Fatah control in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

In return, Arabs will press Olmert to relaunch talks with Abbas and his Fatah movement on a long-term peace agreement, leaving aside the Hamas Islamists now in control of Gaza.

“The Palestinian people should feel hope and peace, and this requires putting forth the subject of final status and reaching an agreement on its framework,” Egyptian presidential spokesman Suleiman Awad told journalists.

“They (Israel) can reject it. And we can insist on it.”

Abbas and Olmert held bilateral talks in the late afternoon, and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak held separate talks with both leaders and King Abdullah of Jordan.

In a speech in Jerusalem, Olmert said he hoped his meeting with Abbas would spread a spirit of peace across the region, but he played down expectations of a breakthrough.

The release of an audio tape with the voice of captured Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit overshadowed summit preparations at the last minute. Gunmen from Gaza abducted Shalit exactly a year ago and negotiations to free him have failed.

Most Britons admit to petty crimes

LONDON, 26 June — Almost two-thirds of Britons regularly commit petty crimes, according to a report, challenging the notion that the country is made up of a law-abiding, respectable majority.

A survey by researchers at Keele University found that 61 per cent of people they questioned had committed one of a variety of crimes.

These ranged from paying cash in hand to avoid taxation, keeping money when given too much change, taking something from work or avoiding paying their TV licence.

Of those who confessed to breaking the law, 62 per cent said they had committed up to three crimes while 10 per cent admitted nine or more offences.

The report, based on a survey of just over 1,800 people aged 25-65, said the findings cast doubt on what politicians liked to describe as a “law-abiding majority”.

“Although the middle classes are engaging in this type of behaviour, they are also eager to blame when they find themselves victims of such behaviour,” said the report, published by the Centre for Crime and Justice Studies at King’s College, London.

“Consumers are sheep and wolves — easy prey and preying on others. Offending and victimization are as closely and intricately linked at the core of society as at its margins.” — MNA/Reuters

US tourist killed by bear in Romanian mountain

BUCHAREST, 26 June — One US tourist was killed and two others were injured in a bear attack in the Carpathian Mountains, Romanian authorities said Sunday.

According to reports from Romanian state news agency Rompres, the attack happened at about 2000 GMT Saturday night when six US tourists were on their way to a cabin about 120 kilometres north of the capital Bucharest.

The bear attacked a 26-year-old woman and bit a man on the leg and then tore the flesh of a 31-year-old woman who died shortly after rescuers arrived, Rompres said. — MNA/Xinhua
Death toll rises to 20 in suicide tanker bombing in N Iraq

TIKRIT (Iraq), 26 June — The death toll rose to 20 and 50 others injured when suicide bomber blew up a tanker bomb at the police headquarters in the town of Beiji in Salahuddin Province, north of Baghdad on Monday, a provincial police source said.

“Our latest report of the suicide tanker bomb in the town of Beiji said that 20 people were killed, including 11 policemen, and 50 people were wounded, including some in critical condition,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Earlier, the source put the death toll at 15 killed and some 30 others were wounded.

“A suicide bomber rammed his explosive-laden oil tanker into the entrance of the police headquarters in Beiji and blew it up at about 9:30 am (0530 GMT),” the source earlier said.

The suicide bomber attacked the police headquarters immediately after a US military patrol entered the main gate of the headquarters, the source added.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese superstar Zhang Ziyi poses on the red carpet at a film industry gala event that was celebrating the 10th anniversary of Hong Kong’s return to the Chinese Mainland in Beijing, on 25 June, 2007. —INTERNET

Singer Beyonce Knowles (R) receives the Video of the Year award for “Irreplaceable” from Queen Latifah at the 2007 BET Awards in Los Angeles, California on 26 June, 2007. —INTERNET

KABUL, 27 June — The US military in Afghanistan has begun an investigation into a report that says US and Afghan soldiers were involved in abusing a suspect, the military said.

The US soldier in question has been temporarily removed from his post pending an investigation, it said in a statement.

Wolfgang Bauer, a correspondent with the German magazine Focus, reported this month that along with a magazine photographer he witnessed an incident by US and Afghan soldiers he believed amounted to torture.

Focus reported that during a search of a village for Taleban fighters, a platoon leader tied one end of a rope to the suspect’s foot and the other to a vehicle and then threatened to drag the man unless he told the truth.

Focus reported that the platoon leader then had an American soldier start the motor. The magazine printed a picture of what it said was the prisoner tied to the vehicle, with a soldier standing nearby.

After idling for two minutes, the vehicle’s motor was shut off. The magazine reported, and the suspect was set free.

“Mr Zölllick brings to the bank presidency strong leadership and managerial qualities as well as a proven track record in international affairs and the drive required to enhance the credibility and effectiveness of the bank,” the World Bank board said in a statement.

Zölllick has said his first priority will be healing the divisions among shareholders and staff and restoring the credibility of the bank damaged by the battle that eventually forced the resignation of Wolfowitz.

Zölllick has said he will focus on the poorest countries in Africa, but also wants to define a clearer role for the World Bank in emerging nations like China, India and Brazil, which are still dogged by high poverty levels despite their rapid economic development.

MNA/Reuters

Cambodian officials: No survivors

KAMPOT, Cambodia, 27 June — There are no survivors from a plane that crashed in southern Cambodia early this week with 22 people aboard, including South Korean and Czech tourists, officials said.

The Russian-made An-24 aircraft operated by PMT Air crashed Monday during a storm while flying between Siem Reap — site of the famed Angkor Wat temple complex — and Sihanoukville on the southern coast.

Information Minister Khieu Kanharith announced, hours after the searchers located the crash site high on a forested mountain, that all aboard had been killed.

“All have died. It is confirmed,” he said.

Thirteen South Korean and three Czech tourists were on board, as well as five Cambodian airline employees and a Russian co-pilot, officials said.

A helicopter spotted the crash site for the first time early Wednesday morning after some 1,000 soldiers and police mounted an urgent two-day search by land and air through treacherous jungle in rainy monsoon weather.

The plane crashed northeast of Bokor Mountain in Kampot Province, according to provincial Deputy Governor Khoy Khun Huor, who said he saw the crash site from a helicopter. He said the wreckage did not appear to have been on fire. — Internet

INTERNET

The World Bank on Monday unanimously approved Robert Zoellick as its president after a controversial two-year term by Paul Wolfowitz, who agreed to resign over a promotion scandal involving his companion.

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**ECONOMIC NEWS**

**Oman’s crude oil exports drop 10% in first four months of 2007**

ABU DHABI, 26 June — Oman’s crude oil exports dropped about 10 per cent in the first four months of 2007 to 74.6 million barrels from 82.9 million barrels in the same period of 2006, local newspaper Khaleej Times reported on Sunday.

According to the latest statistics released by Oman Ministry of National Economy, production of oil and condensates also declined by 5.8 per cent to 85.7 million barrels in the first four months of the year, compared with 91 million barrels in the same period of 2006, the report said.

The average price for Omani oil was $6.89 US dollars per barrel from January to April in 2007, 5.1 per cent down from $9.93 dollars per barrel in 2006.

Oman, which is not a member of the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC), has a proven oil reserve of some 4.7 billion barrels.

**Putin calls for stronger Black Sea cooperation**

ISTANBUL, 26 June— Russian President Vladimir Putin urged Black Sea nations on Monday to turn their loose grouping into an effective tool of economic cooperation in a region fast becoming an international energy hub.

But his Foreign Minister made clear Russia opposed the idea of using the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (BSEC), marking its 15th anniversary on Monday, to broker solutions to the region’s bitter political disputes.

“We are ready to solve with our regional partners major tasks that affect not only the economic climate in the region but also the European and world economy,” Putin told a BSEC summit in Istanbul, Turkey’s biggest city.

Many of the 12 BSEC members are ex-Soviet republics or former Cold War allies of Russia, which is now seeking a bigger international role on the back of its strong oil and gas-fuelled economic growth.

Last month, Putin told a conference in St Petersburg that flexible regional groups could challenge the domination of established Western-led international bodies, which he said had failed to fully take into account emerging nations’ interests.

In Istanbul, he said the BSEC, whose member states host major pipelines linking the energy-rich Central Asian and Caucasus regions to Europe, could become such a grouping.

**Vietnam’s investment abroad up to over $1b**

HANOI, 26 June — Vietnam has invested abroad over one billion US dollars in nearly 200 projects by now, Labour newspaper reported on Monday.

Each project has invested of five million dollars averagely. So far this year, the country is estimated to pour investment of 89.5 million dollars in 15 projects abroad, the paper quoted director of the Foreign Investment Agency under the country’s Ministry of Planning and Investment Phan Huu Thang as saying.

Vietnam is expected to invest overseas with total capital of about 300 million dollars in 2007, while the country has targeted to entice 12.2 billion dollars of foreign direct investment this year.

Last year, the country had total investment of nearly 350 million dollars in nearly 40 countries and regions, mainly in Laos, Russia, Cambodia and Indonesia, among which Laos has attracted most of the Vietnamese investment abroad.

**Bioindustry outlook bright in China**

BEIJING, 27 June— China’s bioeconomy will witness more dynamic development, with its output reaching new heights in the coming years, the country’s science and technology chief said yesterday. “The total output value of the bioindustry will reach 500 to 800 billion yuan by 2010. The industry value will be about 1,600 billion yuan by 2015. By 2020, the value of the segment will hit 2 to 3 trillion yuan, accounting for more than 4 per cent of the country’s domestic gross product,” Wan Gang, minister of science and technology, said in Tianjin yesterday at the opening ceremony of the 2007 International Conference on Bioeconomy.

China will adopt a three-step strategy to strengthen its science and technology muscle, according to Wan.

The first step, from now until 2010, will mostly involve technology accumulation. In the second stage, until 2015, China will emerge as a world power in the area and in the third, until 2020, the country will focus on holding on to the top position. The minister said China has set 10 priorities, such as agriculture-oriented biotechnology, medical biotechnology, biofuel technology, environmental biotech and marine biotech, in driving its bioindustry.

The country is also attaching more importance to making breakthroughs in 35 categories of key biotechnologies, such as stem cell and genetic modification technology, Wan said.

The science and technology chief contended that to further drive the bioindustry forward, one of the keys lies in improving the financing mechanism and creating a better investment environment.
Snipers kill two Lebanese troops fighting Islamists

NAH RAL-BARED (Lebanon), 26 June — Sniper fire killed two Lebanese soldiers on Monday in fighting with Islamist militants at a Palestinian refugee camp in which a civilian was also killed, security sources said.

The Lebanese Army has been battling al-Qaeda-inspired Fatah al-Islam at Nahr al-Bared camp since 20 May in the worst internal fighting since the 1975-1990 civil war.

The latest casualties brought to at least 179 the number of people killed — 82 soldiers, 60 militants and 37 civilians.

The battles, which have destroyed much of the camp and displaced most of its 40,000 inhabitants, have threatened to spill over to other areas of Lebanon.

\[\text{MNA/Reuters}\]

Landslide kills six Afghan children

KABUL, 26 June — A landslide in Afghanistan’s northern Kunduz Province claimed the lives of six persons, all of them children, a statement of Interior Ministry said Monday.

“On Sunday at 9:00 pm local time a landslide in Zardora area in Kunduz City, the provincial capital of Kunduz Province, killed six children between six to 14 years old when the children were busy in their game at a wedding party,” the statement added.

Security official said that this was a natural accident and happened itself. Afghanistan is prone to flood and landslide disasters due to its mountainous terrain.— MNA/Xinhua

Bridge collapses under Indian train, seven killed

GUWAHATI, 26 June — A train derailed in India’s remote northeast on Monday, killing seven people, after a bridge on which it was passing collapsed, a railway spokesman said.

Several cars of the train carrying rice fell off the tracks in the hilly Cachar District of Assam State, instantly killing the victims who were railway workers inspecting the tracks. “We do not know how the bridge collapsed, but it was an old one,” spokesman T Rabha said. “The death toll is now 7.” Earlier the official had said 12 people died in the crash. Heavy monsoon rains in the hilly region frequently trigger landslides, snapping rail and road links.— MNA/Reuters

Suicide car bomb hits Army checkpoint in N Iraq, two killed

BAQOUD, 26 June — A suicide car bombing struck an Iraqi Army checkpoint outside a US airbase in the Salahuddin Province on Monday, killing at least two Iraqi soldiers, a provincial police source said.

“A suicide bomber drove his explosive-borne vehicle into the checkpoint on the eastern entrance of a US airbase outside the Siniyah Town, Seven kilometres west of oil refinery town of Beiji,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The attack resulted in the killing of at least two Iraqi soldiers and three others wounded, the source added.— MNA/Xinhua

Thai Army detains 160 in Muslim south raids

YALA (Thailand), 26 June — The Thai Army has detained 160 Muslims, including six women, without charge in a series of raids in the rebellious far south, a spokesman said on Monday.

The detainees were taken for questioning to an Army camp in Pattani, one of three provinces where more than 2,300 people have been killed in a three-year separatist insurgency in the Malay-speaking region.

Colonel Acra Tiproch said the detainees, who can be kept without charge for 28 days under an emergency law, would be freed if found not to have been involved in the violence but DNA samples would be kept on record.

Acra said he believed a quarter of the detainees were subject to arrest warrants and would be charged and those found to support or sympathize with the insurgency would go through a re-education camp.

The raids occurred last week in Yala and Narathiwat in the hilly jungles along the Malaysian border after rebels intensified attacks on government schools, civil servants and security forces.

\[\text{MNA/Reuters}\]

China, Philippines break “crystal meth” ring

BEIJING, 26 June— Chinese and Filipino police have arrested eight drug traffickers and seized 180 kilos (400 pounds) of crystal methamphetamine at a factory in the Philippines, a senior official said on Monday.

The eight, including six Mainland Chinese citizens, a Hong Kong resident and a Filipino national, were arrested earlier this month, said Liu Yuejin, head of the anti-drug bureau at China’s Ministry of Public Security.

Ringleader Cai Aishan, who was arrested in Beijing on 3 June, had been running drug-making factories in the Philippines producing the crystallized form of methamphetamine, also known as “ice”, since 2004, Liu said.

Philippine police also seized 10 tons of chemicals used to make the euphoria-inducing drug when they stormed one of the ring’s factories and two warehouses, Liu told a news conference.

The ring netted more than 10 million yuan (1.3 million US dollars) in profits by selling 30 kilos of the drug in November, Liu added.

Five of Cai’s accomplices were arrested in 2005 when they were trying to smuggle 192 kilos of the drug to the Philippines through Hong Kong, Liu said.

Under Chinese law, anyone found guilty of producing or dealing in 50 grammes or more of the drug can face the death penalty.

\[\text{MNA/Reuters}\]
US Republicans criticize Iraq war, reignite debate

WASHINGTON, 27 June — President George W. Bush’s Iraq war policy suffered a second blow on as many days on Tuesday when Republican Senator George Voinovich of Ohio joined the top Republican on the Foreign Relations Committee in publicly calling for troop withdrawals.

A day after Indiana Republican Senator Richard Lugar declared that Bush’s “surge” policy of adding troops was not working, Voinovich sent Bush a letter “expressing his belief that our nation must begin to develop a comprehensive plan for our gradual military disengagement from Iraq”, Voinovich’s office announced.

Voinovich, like Lugar, is a member of the Foreign Relations panel. The Ohioan made his move even as Democrats were hailing Lugar for publicly criticizing the Iraq war, saying Lugar had reignited what had seemed a stalled debate.

In a Senate floor speech on Monday night, Lugar said the United States should draw down its troops in Iraq and redeploy some of them in the region before it is too late to do so politically — before the US 2008 presidential campaign gets into full swing and partisan confrontation limits options.

US policy was limiting America’s diplomatic effectiveness around the world and straining the US military, Lugar said. “The costs and risks of continuing down the current path outweigh the potential benefits that might be achieved.”

Although Democrats believed they were catapulted to power in Congress by voters who wanted to end the war, they have been unable to translate that mandate into legislation bringing about an end to the conflict, largely because not enough Republicans have joined them in the narrowly-divided Senate.

Cyclone kills 10, strands hundreds in Pakistan

KARACHI, 27 June — A cyclone hit the coast of Pakistan on Tuesday killing several people, cutting roads and stranding hundreds but spared the country’s biggest city days after about 230 people were killed there in a storm.

Authorities in Pakistan and neighbouring India have evacuated thousands of people from low-lying areas after weekend storms and flooding killed nearly 400 people across the South Asian region.

Tropical cyclone Yemyin, packing winds of up to 80 miles per hour (130 kilometres per hour) roared over the Arabian Sea to the south of Karachi and hit the thinly populated coast of Baluchistan Province at about 11 am (0600 GMT).

The storm hit land between Ormara, 250 kilometres (150 miles) west of Karachi, and Penn, 400 kilometres west of the port city of 12 million people — Pakistan’s biggest city — where about 230 were killed at the weekend, many by wind that brought down slum houses.

Cyclone Yemyin dumped torrential rain but weakened rapidly as it moved inland, said chief meteorologist Qamar-uz-Zaman Chaudhry.

Officials in Baluchistan Province said thousands of people had been evacuated from low-lying areas, including from near a dam where the water level had risen dangerously.

Communications with the worst-affected area was difficult, they said.

At least 10 people, including four children, had been killed on Monday and Tuesday, said provincial government spokesman Raziq Bugti. Some houses and crops were also damaged, he said.

The storm had also washed away several bridges and some sections of a highway along the coast, officials said.

Indian doctors arrested for letting son operate

CHENNAI (India), 27 June — An Indian doctor couple was arrested on Tuesday after they allegedly allowed their 15-year-old son to perform a Caesarean section operation, police said.

The two were booked for various offences, including cheating, impersonation, causing grievous hurt and endangering the lives of persons.

The couple, from the southern state of Tamil Nadu, screened a video recording of the operation to other doctors in the hope of getting an entry for their son in the Guinness Book of World Records as the world’s youngest surgeon, newspapers reported last week.

Family members said the boy was only helping out in the operation on a 20-year-old woman, handing his father medical instruments.

But Indian medical authorities investigated the case and found the couple guilty of malpractice, after which the police arrested them, — MNA/Reuters

China seizes US food containing excessive bacteria, chemicals

BEIJING, 27 June — Chinese inspectors said they have seized shipments of orange pulp and dried apricots from the United States that contain excessive bacteria, mildew and sulfur dioxide.

A statement carried on the website of the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine said the orange pulp was supplied by Modern Skill Co, Ltd and the dried apricots were supplied by Mariani Packing Company, Inc.

The orange pulp was seized in east China’s Shandong Province, while the dried apricots in Shenzhen, south China’s Guangdong Province.

The statement said the orange pulp has been processed under the administration’s supervision, while the dried apricots have been destroyed.

The statement gave no details of the quantities of fruit seized or the names of the importers.

The administration has ordered local inspectors to intensify scrutiny over food products imported from the United States. It also asked importers to specify food safety requirements in importing US food products to lower trade risks.

N England’s dam collapse fears as floods kill 3

SHEFFIELD, 27 June — Hundreds of people were evacuated from their homes in northern England on Tuesday as officials warned a dam could collapse following severe flooding that has killed three people.

A 68-year-old man and a teenager died in Sheffield and another man, in his 20s, was killed in Hull as torrential rain brought chaos to much of England and Wales.

For the people in the area concerned, those who need to be moved have been,” Chief Superintendent Matthew Jukes, the police commander for
Special Representative of S-G calls on MMCWA’s Vice-President

**Vice-President of MMCWA Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint receives Ms Radhika Coomaraswamy, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Under Secretary-General. — MNA**

**Goodwill delegation from Yunnan Provincial Command arrives**

**YANGON, 27 June —** A seven-member goodwill delegation led by Deputy Commander of Yunnan Provincial Command of the People’s Republic of China Major-General Lin Tinggui arrived here yesterday on a goodwill visit to Myanmar.

The delegation was welcomed at the airport by Deputy Commander of Yunnan Command Col Kyaw Kyaw Tun, senior military officers, Military Attaché of the PRC Embassy to Myanmar Senior Col Fan Lianfeng and staff. — MNA

**Deputy Commander Col Kyaw Kyaw Tun welcomes Maj-Gen Lin Tinggui, Deputy Commander of Yunnan Provincial Command of the People’s Republic of China at Yangon International Airport. — MNA**

**NLD never serves interests of nation and people**

**The longer they remain members, the deeper their lives will go downhill**

**14 Labutta Township NLD members quit**

**YANGON, 27 June —** Fourteen members of Labutta Township NLD Division including U Myint Win, U Tin Win, U San Myint, U Maung Maung Kyi and U Hla Kyi on 21 June delivered their resignation letters to the NLD (HQ) and local administrative bodies of their own volition.

In the letter sent to Ayeyawady Division Multi-party General Election Subcommission, they said that they no longer put trust and reliance on the NLD because it had never served the interests of the nation and the people; that the longer they remained NLD members, the deeper their lives would subside to the bottom; and that therefore they left the party of their own accord. — MNA

**Ministry of Electric Power No 2 and Ministry of Construction teams playing against at 1st Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament. (News on page 16) — MNA**

**New Destiny**

* Addiction to drugs
  * Like a morass
    * Where death and destruction await
  * Detrimental to nation, race
  * And menace to mankind
* Let’s rally to eliminate it
* Till success achieved
* With belief in nation’s prosperous future
* Covered in glory
* Territory and waters
  * Be free from narcotics
* Characteristics of drug-free nation
* Beaming with pleasure
* Every shining victory of unity
* Union of our brethren
* Blooming with glory
* Marching to reach “New Destiny”

**Cheint Naing (Trs)**

**MWAf holds tree planting ceremony, donates cash to Orthopaedic Hospital**

**YANGON, 27 June —** As a gesture of hailing the Myanmar Women’s Day which falls on 3 July, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation organized a tree planting ceremony in the compound of the Orthopaedic Hospital in Kyaingon Township and donated cash to the hospital today.

**Deputy Commander Col Kyaw Kyaw Tun welcomes Maj-Gen Lin Tinggui, Deputy Commander of Yunnan Provincial Command of the People’s Republic of China at Yangon International Airport. — MNA**

**Vice-President of MWAf Daw Khin Thei Htay, Head of Administration Department Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe, Patron of Yangon Division Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Mar Mar Wai and members of MWAf planted physic nut saplings in the compound. Members of social organizations in 13 townships in Yangon West Division also volunteered to carry out sanitation at the hospital. Afterwards, a cash donation ceremony was held at the hospital. Head of the Administration Department of MWAf Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe explained the on purpose of the donation of cash to the hospital.

MWAf donated K 200,000; Chairperson of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Mar Mar Wai K 200,000; Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and wife Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe K 100,000; Yangon Division Peace and Development Council K 200,000; Brig-Gen Sithu Tin Pe (Retd) and wife Daw Thein Sai (Writer Ma Myat Lay) K 100,000 to the hospital. Wellwishers also donated cash to the hospital at the ceremony.

A total of K 5.5 million was contributed to the funds of the hospital through Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint and Medical Superintendent of the hospital Dr Nyunt Hlaing and officials. — MNA
Minister U Soe Tha receives Ms Radhika Coomaraswamy, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Under Secretary-General, in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June
— Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha met Ms Radhika Coomaraswamy, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Under Secretary-General, and party at the ministry here yesterday morning.

It was also attended by Deputy Minister Col Thurein Zaw and departmental heads.

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June
— Jointly organized by the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and United Nations Development Programme, a Workshop on Integrated Household Living Conditions Assessment Project (IHLCA) was held at the ministry here this morning.

It was attended by Deputy Minister for NPED Col Thurein Zaw, Director-General of Planning Department U Ohn Kyaw, Director-General of Foreign Economic Relations Department Daw Myo Nwe, Director-General of Central Statistical Organization U Shu Kyein, Deputy Resident Representative of UNDP Mr Sanaka Samarasingha and officials.

Deputy Minister Thurein Zaw and Mr Sanaka Samarasingha delivered addresses at the workshop which continues tomorrow. — MNA

Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict calls on NPED, SWRR Ministers

Similarly, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Swe received Ms Radhika Coomaraswamy, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Under Secretary-General, and party at the ministry yesterday morning. It was also attended by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and departmental heads.

In the evening, Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe hosted a dinner to the Special Representative and party at Shwe Nanndaw Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone.

Present also at the dinner were Minister for Science and Technology and for Labour U Thaung and officials of the committee for recruitment of minors. — MNA

Workshop on IHLCA held

Accusation against Myanmar delegate ...

(from page 16)

He showed me those invitation cards and letters.

Not only the Myanmar’s worker delegate but also the employer’s delegate and the government delegate were able to attend the conference without any difficulty from 30 May to 15 June. Hence, what Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai said was totally untrue and groundless.

Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai and group accused U Khin Maung Oo of not truly representing Myanmar. But the delegate scrutiny committee approved him as a delegate. He showed me the documents that recognized him as an ILO delegate.

“Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai had no right to vote as he was just an observer. Reporters from any news agency were not allowed to enter the conference room when the meeting was in session. Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai went out of the meeting room, met with reporters of some news agencies and gave false information to them”, U Khin Maung Oo explained.

ILO fact finding commission rejected the submission made by Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai and party who accused that U Khin Maung Oo was not a workers’ delegate of Myanmar. Actually, Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai and party were put to shame for their lies at the conference.

“Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai and party just made sheer lies and groundless propaganda to say that I was expelled from the meeting. I heard the news only after arriving back in Myanmar. Some foreign news agencies are mean enough to concentrate only on distributing scoop news as fast as possible without scrutinizing them”, U Khin Maung Oo expressed his view.

Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai and party succeeded in poisoning a certain workers organization to file a complaint against U Khin Maung Oo on 31-5-2007 saying that he was not a true worker. But the complaint could not overwhelm the truth. U Khin Maung Oo’s name was included in the final list of delegates issued on 13-6-2007.

“I did not conceal or lie about any of my experience at the conference. I was able to attend it from the start to the end without any difficulty” U Khin Maung Oo told me.

In reality, it is a plot of an anti-Myanmar group. As Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai and party were displeased with ILO’s decision to permit the Myanmar delegation to attend the conference, they in collusion with some news agencies issued the false news. Their slanders and lies have been exposed with documentary evidences in this article.

(Translation: TMT)

Kyemon+Myanmar Alin: 27-6-2007

U Khin Maung Oo casts a vote at 96th Conference of ILO.

Invitations to U Khin Maung Oo at 96th Conference of ILO.
**Advanced management course (Special) No 6 for executives of USDA opened**

Efforts to be made for building of a new nation by the government, the Tatmadaw and the people joining hands

**Yangon, 25 June** — Advanced management course (Special) No 6 for executives of Union Solidarity and Development Association was opened at the training school of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, here, today.

Secretary-General of USDA U Htay Oo delivered an opening address at the ceremony.

In his opening address, U Htay Oo said members of the USDA are participating in implementing the nation building tasks and prevalence of peace and stability in the country while organizing the people to participate in the tasks. As the USDA has carried out welfare tasks in respective regions, the number of its members has reached about 24 million.

Since its establishment, the association has trained its members. There are 17 state/division level USDA, 66 district USDA, 320 township USDA and 15,334 ward and village USDA including the Headquarters of the USDA.

The course is designed to equip the trainees with good quality, to train them to possess leadership qualities and to become obedient members. The Secretary-General also urged the trainees to make better use of personal experiences and knowledge gained in the training.

He said now is the time the government is shaping the nation to become a new peaceful, modern, developed one that the people desire. It is a good opportunity for the people to participate in the transitional process in making a new nation, he said.

Based on good and evil legacy of the past, the nation-building tasks are to be implemented for realization of the objectives laid down and for perpetuation of the future nation.

He said despite the successive governments' endeavours for ensuring peace and tranquillity, there was no stability in the country. Now there has been stability and peace and progress in various sectors have also been made under the present prevailing conditions.

He said USDA members and the people in various parts of the country can enjoy peace and tranquillity and witness development.

He said better achievements have been made due to the continued implementation of 24 special region project, border region development project and rural development project.

Seven-step Road Map have been laid down to shape a new future state. The National Convention will resume soon for drafting the State Constitution essential for building a new nation, he said. He urged the USDA members to cooperate with the entire people for success of the National Convention and Seven-Step Road Map.

He warned that some internal and external organizations harm the noble traditions and customs of the national people for their own interest. Myanmar customs of collective community welfare service and humanitarian assistance are branded as forced labour. Internal and external organizations are making instigation to cause unrest in the country, he pointed out.

He said the people in the country want her to be prosperous and they know the situations most. Therefore efforts are to be made for building of a new nation by the government, the Tatmadaw and the people, true strengths of the nation.

He urged USDA members to participate in the future tasks of the association for peace and development after accepting the community welfare as the basic foundation of social affairs.

After the ceremony, the Secretary-General of USDA cordially met the trainees.

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**International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking observed in Insein Township**

**Yangon, 26 June** — Prize presentation of essay poem, painting and poster competitions to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was held at Insein Township Peace and Development Council Office this morning.

Chairman U Aung Swe of Insein Township Peace and Development Council read out the message sent by Chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo.

CEC member U Khin Maung Tun (Khin Maung Tun-Lanmadaw) of Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association gave a speech and Chairman U Yin Kyaw (film director Maung Yin Kyaw) of Township Anti-Narcotics Association explained choice of the entries. The officials accepted K 382,000 from nine wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them.

Next, CEC members, departmental officials and film stars Myitta and Moe Pyae Pyae Maung presented cash and certificates of honour to the winning students.

Vice-Chairman U Soe Win (Singu Soe Win) of Township Anti-Narcotics Association spoke words of thanks.

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**Clothes donated to monastic education schools**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 27 June** — A wellwisher donated clothes to students of monastic education schools in Pakokku, Kalay, Kayin State and Chin State today.

Wellwisher U Myint Thein of Chanayethazan Township handed over clothes worth K 9,710,266 to Ministry of Religious Affairs here today and Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung accepted the donation.

In memory of his late parents, the wellwisher donated clothes to students at monastic education schools.
**Thailand burns 2.9 tons of drugs worth $106m**

**AYUTTHYA (Thailand), 27 June** — Thai authorities burnt down illicit drugs worth some 3.6 billion baht (106 million US dollars) here on Tuesday to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

It is the 35th time that Thai authorities burn down illicit drugs seized from drug traffickers. On Tuesday, about 2.9 tons of illicit drugs from 12,672 drug cases during the past year were destroyed through pyrolytic incineration.

Morakot Kornkasem, the Deputy Public Health Minister, said that during the 2,924 kilos of confiscated narcotic drugs, amounting up to 3.6 billion baht, Amphetamine continued to be the first in the rank. The amount included marijuana and hashish 1,802 kilos, methamphetamine 833.22 kilos, opium 20.41 kilos, ecstasy 6.6 kilos, cocaine 6.65 kilos, codeine tablet 185 kilogrammes, codeine solution 5.99 litres and other psychotropic substances.

Morakot stated that Thailand has continuously devoted much energy and efforts to solving the widespread of drugs and to alleviating the effects of drug taking. Moreover, great emphasis was placed on the tight control of precursors, rehabilitation and addictive treatment to cure patients with an effort to help patients return to the society. — MNA/Xinhua

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**More US children suffer chronic health problems**

**WASHINGTON, 27 June** — The number of US children with chronic health problems such as obesity has soared in the past four decades, foreshadowing increases in adult disability and public health-care spending, researchers said on Tuesday.

More time in front of the television and use of other electronic media, decreased physical activity, increased time spent indoors, increased consumption of fast foods and sugar-sweetened beverages, and changes in parenting are all likely to blame, the researchers said.

Writing in an issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association devoted to childhood chronic disease, researchers tracked rising rates of obesity, asthma and attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, or ADHD, among US children.

In the early 1970s, about 5 percent of children ages 5 to 18 were obese, compared to about 18 percent now, the researchers said. Asthma rates are estimated at 9 percent among these children, doubling since the 1980s, they said. — MNA/Reuters

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**Russian coal mine blast death toll rises to 8**

**MOSCOW, 27 June** — At least eight miners died on Monday in a methane gas explosion in a coal mine owned by Russian steel maker Severstal in the Arctic town of Yorkuta, the Emergencies Ministry said on Tuesday.

Two miners are still missing and a rescue operation is under way, Emergencies Ministry spokesman Viktor Beltsov and company officials said. "The blast struck at 1855 Moscow Time (1455 GMT). According to our information, there were a total of 277 miners underground at the Komoromolkaya mine when it happened," Beltsov said.

He said 263 miners had been safely evacuated to the surface. Four had been taken to hospital, including one who was in a serious condition.

"The fate of the three missing ones is unclear."

Methane gas blasts at two coal mines in the Siberian region of Kemerovo killed 149 people earlier this year. The accidents were blamed on safety breaches. — MNA/Reuters
Centre for Human Resource Development
Yangon University of Foreign Languages
Notice

1. The Centre for Human Resource Development (Yangon University of Foreign Languages) in collaboration with TOPA 21st Century Language School, Tokyo, Japan, will open the Japanese Language Course No-35.

2. Those who wish to receive further information please enquire at Yangon University of Foreign Languages during office hours.

Ph: 514371-extension-202

Pakistán aims to be poppy free in 2007

ISLAMABAD, 26 June — Pakistan would get the poppy-free status this year, said Federal Minister for Narcotics Control Ghous Bux Khan Mehr Monday.

He made the remarks here at a ceremony held on the eve of International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. The day is marked every year on 26 June.

Bux said that the Pakistani Government was making all out efforts to curb the menace of drug and to interdict narcotics which are smuggled out of Afghanistan.

"The Ministry of Narcotics Control is very much successful to control narcotics smuggling despite resource constraints and poppy cultivation would come to zero level in Pakistan during this year," the minister said. "We can change friends but not neighbours, every year drug production is increasing in Afghanistan and Pakistan has become a victim of it," he said and expressed commitment to root out the menace through the support of the international community.

According to official figures, poppy production in Pakistan has been reduced to an almost negligible quantity, thanks to the efforts of the country’s Anti Narcotics Force (ANF).

During the year 2006, the ANF seized 347,307 kilograms of poppy and 18,705 kilos of hashish—MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia seized 70 leopard tortoises smuggled from Tanzania

KUALA LUMPUR, 26 June — Officers found 76 live leopard tortoises in two boxes of a parcel from Tanzania, local media reported on Tuesday.

The recent case was among several attempts to smuggle protected species into Malaysia, said Haidar Khan, the acting principal assistant director of Department of Wildlife and National Parks legislation and enforcement division.

The department had contacted the Tanzanian Government on how to repatriate the tortoises, he said, reported the New Strait Times.

"Each of them costs between 100 ringgit (29.41 US dollars) and 700 ringgit (205.88 US dollars) in local pet shops, depending on size. Some can even go as high as 1000 ringgit (294.12 US dollars),"

If the tortoises could not be sent back to Tanzania, the department would adhere to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) rules, which includes the government keeping them for educational or observation purposes, according to the report.

Haidar said the tortoises could not be released into the wild because they were not native to Malaysia. — MNA/Xinhua
What next for Paris Hilton?

BEIJING, 27 June — Dealing with jail for driving offenses was difficult, but now Paris Hilton faces the aftermath.

The 26-year-old heiress was released from a Los Angeles County women’s jail on Tuesday, and will give her first post-jail TV interview to “Larry King Live” on Wednesday. Hilton has said in letters and phone interviews to want to change her life beyond being queen of the party scene,” Traube said.

So long as she doesn’t break any laws, Hilton will complete her probation in March 2009. She can reduce that time by 12 months if she does community service, the city attorney’s office said.

Hilton told E! News last week that she plans to build a “transitional home” to help recently released inmates readjust to freedom. “These women just keep going back to jail because they have no place to go,” Hilton said. “It’s a really bad cycle and if we stop it now, we can make our community a better place.”

She said she has become “much more grateful” after spending time in jail. “I appreciate everything now and I think there were a lot of bad people that I was around,” she said. “I don’t want to surround myself with those types of people anymore.”

French extreme climber Alain Robert climbs a 63-metre tall building in Kiev on 25 June, 2007. Robert, also known as the French Spiderman, climbed the 16-storey building as part of a promotional campaign for a local telecommunications company. — Internet

World’s longest sea bridge bestrides Hangzhou Bay

NINGBO, 26 June — A grand ceremony will be held on Tuesday afternoon to mark the linking of the two ends of a trans-oceanic bridge that spans Hangzhou Bay near Shanghai on the east China coast, according to its builders.

The spectacular 36-km-long Hangzhou Bay Bridge starts at Jiaying, near Shanghai, and ends at Cixi, about 70 km from Ningbo city in Zhejiang Province. It will go into service before the Beijing Summer Olympic Games begin in August 2008, according to bridge deputy commander-in-chief Jin Jianming.

The world’s longest sea bridge, it will cut the length of a road trip from Shanghai to bustling Ningbo from 400 km to just 80km.

Hangzhou Bay Bridge

The bridge, 46 metres above the water, is set to be the hottest June on record. World’s longest sea bridge bestrides Hangzhou Bay

Tropical giant penguin discovered

PERU, 26 June—A giant penguin who preferred the tropics to the southern oceans has been discovered by a team of scientists.

The fossils of the penguin, who lived some 36 million years ago, were discovered in what is today Peru.

About 1.5 metres (5 ft) tall, the penguin would have looked quite different from its modern-day cousins. It had a long protracted skull and what its discoverers are describing as a grossly elongated beak that was spear-like in appearance.

The Icadyptes salasi penguin appears to have lived happily at such warmer latitudes at a time when world temperatures were much hotter than they are today — and long before anyone thought penguins had reached such low latitudes.

Of course, not all modern-day penguins are adapted for life in cold temperatures.

There’s the African or Galapagos penguin, for example, whose name suggests, also prefer warmer waters to the better-known penguins of the southern seas.

Indeed, the Icadyptes appears to have had speckled feet and shoulders over the Emperor and the King penguins of the southern seas.

It’s well-preserved skeleton was discovered on the southern coast of Peru along with the remains of as many as four other previously undiscovered penguin species, all of whom appear to have preferred the tropic for colder climes.

The remains of the penguin, who lived some 36 million years ago, were discovered in what is today Peru.

Remains of the penguin, who lived some 36 million years ago, were discovered in what is today Peru.

Two died of heatstroke in Greece

ATHENS, 26 July — Two people died in Greece on Monday as a heatwave sent temperatures soaring to 46 degrees Celsius (114.8 Fahrenheit) in what is set to be the hottest June ever recorded.

The government ordered all public offices to work only half days on Tuesday and Wednesday, closing at midday to reduce energy consumption and allow people to stay out of the sun at the hottest time of the day.

“Hospitals and other emergency services will operate normally,” the Interior Ministry said in a statement, adding that public transport should not be affected.

Athensians heading for work dragged themselves out of the city’s metro clumping into seaside uncles.

Two died of heatstroke in Greece

Serbian PM warns US of deteriorating ties over Kosovo

BELGRADE, 26 June — Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica on Monday warned the United States that its support for the independence of the Serbian province of Kosovo would lead to the deterioration of bilateral relations.

“Frequent statements of US officials in favour of Kosovo’s independence lead to the deterioration of the Serbian-US relations,” Kostunica said in a statement.

“If the United States wants to develop good relations with Serbia, then it must observe Serbia’s territorial integrity,” Kostunica said.

French extreme climber Alain Robert climbs a 63-metre tall building in Kiev on 25 June, 2007. Robert, also known as the French Spiderman, climbed the 16-storey building as part of a promotional campaign for a local telecommunications company. — Internet

Internet

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 28 June, 2007
Jankovic hands Keothavong more Wimbledon heartache

LONDON, 27 June — Jelena Jankovic showed little mercy to British wildcard Anne Keothavong during a 55-minute 6-2, 6-0 hammering in the first round of Wimbledon on Tuesday.

The Serbian third seed did not get out of the locker room on Monday due to the wet weather and did not hang around long on court two on the second day of the grasscourt grand slam.

For former British number one Keothavong, Tuesday's defeat was a familiar story. She has now failed to get past the opening round in seven of her eight visits to the All England Club.— MNA/Reuters

Tevez targeting move from West Ham to Inter Milan

ROME, 27 June — West Ham United striker Carlos Tevez has put Serie A champions Inter Milan at the top of his list of possible transfer destinations.

"Real Madrid want me but I've decided: I'd rather go to Inter than to Real," Tevez told Italian sports daily La Gazzetta dello Sport in an interview published on Tuesday.

Henman holds nerve to beat Moya in epic

LONDON, 27 June — Tim Henman survived a battle of wills at Wimbledon on Tuesday, completing an epic 6-3, 1-6, 5-7, 6-2, 13-11 victory over Spain's Carlos Moya.

The dramatic first round duel was interrupted by bad light at 5-5 in the deciding set on Monday after 25th seed Moya had stayed off four match points.

There was nothing to choose between the players again on the resumption on Tuesday as both players stayed rock solid on serve as the deciding set went past the 100-minute mark.

Four-times semifinalist Henman conjured two aces on one second to serve, to escape from break points at 11-11 and Moya saved two more match points in the following game as tension reached breaking point.— MNA/Reuters

Mauresmo starts Wimbledon defence with easy win

LONDON, 27 June — Amelie Mauresmo got her Wimbledon title defence off to a speedy start with a 6-1, 6-3 victory over James Jackson in 63 minutes on Tuesday.

Mauresmo had an early scare when Jackson, the world number 158, had a break point in the opening game. However, she saved that with an ace and the American put her next service return into the net.

After that it was business as usual for the French fourth seed and she broke Jackson in the next game with a backhand drop volley. Jackson grew in confidence in the second set, approaching the net more often and saving three break points at 4-2 down but in the end the 20-year-old was no match for the champion.

Mauresmo has had a mixed season, after two months out with appendicitis earlier in the year but she displayed her grasscourt skills, combining delicate volleys with thumping groundstrokes, in front of a chilly Centre Court only two thirds full.— MNA/Reuters

Blake keeps promise to make amends at Wimbledon

LONDON, 27 June — James Blake kept his promise to restore American pride at Wimbledon with a quickfire 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 win over Russian Igor Andreev in the first-round of Wimbledon on Tuesday.

At the French Open last month, no American man made it past the opening round and Blake had promised to make amends at the grasscourt grand slam.

By joining third seed Andy Roddick in the second round, Blake is now one match away from equalling his best showing at the All England Club.

Andreev had dumped Roddick out of Roland Garros last month en route to reaching the quarterfinals of a major for the first time but he never looked like repeating the feat on Monday.— MNA/Reuters

Venezuela's Giancarlos Maldonado (bottom) celebrates with his team mate Juan Arango after scoring against Bolivia during Match 2 of the Copa America Venezuela 2007 soccer tournament in San Cristobal on 26 June, 2007.—INTERNET

Toure completes move from Monaco to Barcelona

MADRID, 27 June — Barcelona completed the signing of Ivory Coast midfielder Yaya Toure from Monaco on a four-year contract on Tuesday.

The 24-year-old passed a medical in the morning to seal a move Spanish media reported to be worth over 10 million euros (13.46 million US dollars).

He is the Primera Liga club's second signing after the arrival of French striker Thierry Henry for 24 million euros (32.30 million US dollars) on Monday and will help add some strength to midfield which looked lightweight at times last season.

Barca finished second in the league, losing out to arch-rivals Real Madrid on the final day. Toure, younger brother of Arsenal defender Kolo Toure, was a member of the Ivory Coast squad at the World Cup finals in Germany last year.

He has also played for Belgium's Beveren and Ukraine's Metalurg Donets and joined Monaco from Olympiakos last year.

Barca are also in talks with AS Roma over their Romanian international centre-back Cristian Chivu.— MNA/Reuters

Safin stays on track for Federer showdown

LONDON, 27 June — Marat Safin made sure Rik De Voest's enjoyed an unremarkable grand slam debut when he beat the South African qualifier 7-6, 6-4, 7-5 in the first round of Wimbledon on Tuesday.

The former world number one stayed on course for a possible third-round collision with four-time champion Roger Federer when he fired his seventh ace to end De Voest's challenge.

Safin won the last of his 15 titles more than two years ago at the Australian Open in 2005 and his chances of ending that drought here appear slim, especially since he has never hidden his dislike for grass— MNA/Reuters

Italy striker Di Michele charged in illegal betting probe

ROME, 27 June — Italy striker David Di Michele was one of four players charged with illegal betting by the chief prosecutor of the Italian Football Federation (FIGC) on Tuesday.

The 31-year-old Palermo striker, who has made six appearances for the Azzurri, was accused of betting "directly or through third parties, on the results of official matches organized by the FIGC", according to a statement on the federation's website (www.figc.it).

Defender Thomas Manfredini, who plays for Serie A club Atalanta, and striker Massimo Margiotta, who plays for Vicenza in Italy's second division Serie B, were also charged with betting on matches organized by FIFA, UEFA or the FIGC.

Venezuela's Giancarlos Maldonado (bottom) celebrates with his team mate Juan Arango after scoring against Bolivia during Match 2 of the Copa America Venezuela 2007 soccer tournament in San Cristobal on 26 June, 2007.—INTERNET

China's Sun Tiantian plays a return to France's Emilie Loit during their singles match at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London on 26 June, 2007. Sun was beaten 3-6, 1-6.—INTERNET

Italian put her next serve into the net, breaking delicate volleys with thumping groundstrokes, in front of a chilly Centre Court only two thirds full.— MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters
Blast kills five women in Mogadishu

Mogadishu, 27 June — A suspected bomb blast near a busy Mogadishu market on Tuesday killed five women, the latest victims of Somalia’s unceasing violence that has killed more bystanders than combatants.

Residents said an explosive device was apparently detonated by the burning of garbage in the city’s central Howlwadag area.

“Five died. I could not count the wounded. They were all women who were cleaning the streets,” said Hawa Ibrahim, a cleaner who witnessed the blast. “We will stop the clean-up exercise. No one is willing to die for cleaning the street.”

Businesswoman Hawa Jama described an “ugly scene.”

“I could not count the dead. I just glanced immediately and ran away for my life,” she told Reuters.

The seaside capital has been hit by near-daily insurgent attacks targeting government troops and their Ethiopian military allies that are blamed on an ousted militant Islamist movement.

The government is the 14th attempt at bringing order to anarchy since the ouster of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in 1991.

MNA/Reuters

US charges 29 people in counterfeit imports ring

New York, 27 June — US authorities said on Tuesday they had charged 29 people in a scheme to smuggle counterfeit goods including designer handbags and jeans into the United States, mostly from China, worth 700 million US dollars.

Most of the defendants were arrested early on Tuesday in New York and New Jersey for attempting to smuggle the fake goods, including knock-off Coach, Chanel, Louis Vuitton, Marc Jacobs and Burberry handbags, as well as Rolex watches and Nike sneakers, the US Attorney’s Office in Brooklyn said.

The defendants were charged with smuggling a total of 950 shipments through ports at Newark in New Jersey, Houston in Texas and Long Beach in California, JFK Airport and the New York Container Terminal in Staten Island.

MNA/Reuters

A baby dressed as a panda rests on stage during a promotional event at a shopping mall in Hong Kong on 21 June, 2007.

MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

Wednesday, 27 June, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagain Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin and Kayah States, Magway Division, scattered in Shan State, upper Sagain and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfall in Tanintharyi Division and isolated heavyfall in Mandalay Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw and Kawthoung (3.54) inches each, Dawei (4.53) inches, Myeik (2.95) inches, Pyay (2.80) inches, Pyapun (2.68) inches, Hpa-an (1.93) inches and Taunggyi (1.69) inches.

Maximum temperature on 26-6-2007 was 91.9°F. Minimum temperature on 27-6-2007 was 75.9°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 27-6-2007 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 26-6-2007 was (2.6) hours approx. Rainfall on 27-6-2007 was (1.02) inches at Mingaladon, (1.54) inches at Kaba-Aye, (1.50) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-6-2007 was (48.58) inches at Mingaladon, (53.43) inches at Kaba-Aye and (49.06) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southwest at (14:05) hours MST on 26-6-2007.

Bay inference: According to the observations at 06:30 hrs MST today, yesterday’s low pressure area over West Central Bay and adjoining North West Bay still persists. Monssoon is strong to vigorous in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 28-6-2007: Rain will be scattered in Chin and Kayah States, lower Sagain Division, fairly widespread in Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagain, Mandalay and Magway Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Mon State and Tanintharyi Division. Degree of certainty is (100%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough sea will be experienced at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of rain in Coastal areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 28-6-2007: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 28-6-2007: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 28-6-2007: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).
Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects tax-free markets in Yangon

Yangon, 27 June — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence inspected tax-free markets of private producers in Yangon this morning.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspected tax-free market at the corner of Yazadarit and Anawrahta Roads in Ward 10 of Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials welcomed Lt-Gen Myint Swe and explained matters related to the market.

Likewise, Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspected Dagon Myothit (South) Tax-free Market on Pyidaungsu Road in Ward 26 of Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Shukhintha Tax-free Market at the corner of Yangon and Myindawtha Roads in Mawnbyai Ward of Thakayta Township, Tamway Tax-free Market on Kyakkasai Road in Tamway Township and Yankin Tax-free Market on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Yankin Township.

He viewed selling of chicken, egg, fish, meat, fruit and vegetables, rice, edible oil and groceries at the shops of private producers, associations, regiments and units and ministries. While in Thakayta Township, Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspected thriving physic nut plants in front of Shukhintha Tax-free Market. After visiting the markets, Lt-Gen Myint Swe instructed officials to supervise selling of fresh meat, fish and vegetables at reasonable prices and maintain the aim of opening the tax-free markets.

Accusation against Myanmar delegate to ILO conference just lies and slanders

BBC, VOA and RFA aired slanders concerning U Khin Maung Oo, a representative of Workers’ Myanmar delegation to the 96th Conference of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

During his interview with BBC, terrorist fugitive Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai said U Khin Maung Oo was expelled from the workers group meeting. The interview was aired at 6.30 am on 12-6-2007.

So I went to meet U Khin Maung Oo at Good Morning bakery of Myanmar Mason Industrial Co Ltd at No 4 Industrial Zone of Hiemetha Township, where he was working.

When I asked him about his experience at the ILO Conference, U Khin Maung Oo, a supervisor at the bakery, told me that the delegation left Myanmar on 27 May. The conference began on 29 May, adding, “My name was already included in the preliminary list of delegates since 5 June. I was officially registered as a member of Myanmar delegation in the final list of representatives issued on 13 June. I had no difficulty whatsoever in attending the conference from the start to the end.”

U Khin Maung Oo showed me the official ID and documents to attend the conference. As he was an ILO delegate officially recognized, he had the right to cast votes for any matter discussed at the conference.

He also proved his participation in the conference with photos of him casting votes.

U Khin Maung Oo also received invitation cards and letters from the delegates of other nations to attend the occasions or meetings sponsored by those nations.

This stands witness to the fact that he enjoyed equal rights with delegates of other nations at the conference.

First Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament continues for third day

Nay Pyi Taw, 27 June — Jointly organized by the Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Football Federation, the first round matches of the First Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament 2007 continued for the third day at Paunglaung Sports Ground in Pyinmana and Lewe Township Sports Ground today.

Among the spectators were Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, Deputy Minister for Labour Maj-Gen Aung Kyi, departmental heads, responsible persons of Myanmar Olympic Committee, service personnel and family members.

At Paunglaung Sports Ground held at 7.30 pm, Ministry of Electric Power No 2 trounced Ministry of Industry-1 4-0.

At Lewe Township Sports Ground at 4 pm, Ministry of Education edged out Ministry of Culture 1-0.

Ministry for National Planning and Economic Development will play against Supreme Court at Paunglaung Sports Ground on 28 June morning and Ministry of Transport will meet with Ministry of Cooperatives in the evening. Likewise, Ministry of Industry-1 will compete with Ministry of Industry-2 at Lewe Township Sports Ground.

The first round of the tournament will be held up to 15 July. The second round matches are scheduled to be held from 17 to 29 July.