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

YANGON, 3 July — Myanmar Women’s Day was observed by Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation at Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road in Kamayut Township today.

Honoured Patron of MWAF Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, attended the celebration of Myanmar Women’s Day.

It was also attended by Honoured Patron of MWAF Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of Panel of Patrons of MWAF Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, President of MWAF Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of Prime Minister General Soe Win, vice-presidents and executives of MWAF, patrons and representatives of state/division Women’s Affairs Organizations, service personnel and intellectuals and intelligentsia, departmental officials, ambassadors and diplomats of embassies in Yangon, resident representatives of UN agencies, journalists, representatives of social organizations and guests.

Daw Khin Moe Oo and Daw Lein Maung Pan of MRTV acted as masters of ceremonies.

President of MWAF Daw Than Than Nwe delivered an address at the ceremony to mark Myanmar Women’s Day. Following is the address of President of MWAF Daw Than Than Nwe.

In Myanmar society, women command love, kindness and respect as they have always carried out the duties of their family as well as national and religious duties together with their spouses throughout the history. With the object of developing the fine tradition of Myanmar women’s capabilities and their preservation of culture in accord with the international norms, the government formed the Myanmar National Committee for Women’s Affairs on 3 July, 1996, and designated 3 July as Myanmar Women’s Day.

Accordingly, today is the day to honour Myanmar women’s fine tradition and noble attributes.

Myanmar historical records show that there was a great number of outstanding Myanmar women who had played an important role in the national, religious, social, administrative, judiciary, legislative, economic, educational, health and literary fields. Some, full of national spirit, even risked their lives in the struggle for national independence and preserved national prestige and integrity and national characters during the period of more than 100 years under the colonial rule.

Today also, it can be seen that Myanmar women have achieved outstanding success in the economic, education, health and technology sectors, some even at the forefront of national development endeavours.

(See page 8)
Perspectives

Wednesday, 4 July, 2007

Promote education sector for development of nation and people

The education sector is at the centre of the drive for building the nation and enhancing the national interests on the right path.

The opening of the Special Refresher Course No 9 for Faculty Members of the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) took place at Yadana Hall of the institute in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division, on the morning of 2 July with an address by Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

The nation must be built through educational force in order to keep abreast of the international community. Efforts are to be made for restoration of discipline-flourishing democratic system and perpetuation of the Union through the education force.

In a bid to enable the motherland to catch up with the changes in the science and technology, the government has created good foundations and societies in the education sector that can guarantee a prosperous future of the nation and the people.

Here, universities and colleges have to produce more intellectuals and intelligentia capable of improving science and technology in such sectors necessary for national economic growth as agriculture, livestock breeding, fisheries, forestry, industry, mining and energy.

The role the education sector plays is of great importance. Therefore, teachers of universities and colleges are exhorted to step up creation of strong basic foundations through education for ensuring stability and greater development of the future nation.

Myanmar Laws 2006 in circulation

Nay Pyi Taw, 3 July—Books on Laws, By-laws, Orders and Notifications 2006, Myanmar Laws 2006, and Volume-7, No 2 of Law Journal published by Attorney-General’s Office have been in circulation since April 2007 at a price of K 1300 per copy, K 900 per copy and K 1200 per copy respectively.

Books on Laws, By-laws, Orders and Notifications 1993, Law Offices Manual and Books on Laws and By-laws on control of illegal money and properties have been reprinted and distributed at a price of K 1600 per copy, K 1400 per copy and K 1300 per copy respectively.

The books are available at the bookshop of Attorney-General’s Office (Nay Pyi Taw), the bookshop of Attorney-General’s Office Branch (Yangon), Sarpay Beikman Bookshop, Inwa Bookshop and the bookshop of News and Periodicals Enterprise.

Boosting production of agricultural produce and promotion of export items discussed

YANGON, 2 July — The meeting on boosting production of agricultural produce and promotion of export items was held at the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Minye Kyawswa Street here yesterday.

Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein spoke on the occasion. He discussed the formation of committees for boosting production of rice and work done for export of agricultural surpluses.

President of the UMFFCCI U Win Myint and those present took part in the discussions. Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo called for cooperation with departments concerned in the respective sectors.

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo delivers an address at the meeting on boosting production of agricultural produce and promotion of export items. — MNA

Preliminary coord Meeting of Steering Committee of AJBM held

YANGON, 3 July — Myanmar hosted preliminary coordination meeting of Steering Committee of the 33rd Asean Japan Business Meeting (AJBM) at the Sedona Hotel here today.

Chairman of the preliminary meeting Dr Khin Shwe extended greetings.

Chairman of AJBM Mr Toshiataka Hagiwara of Japan, Joint-Chairman of AJBM of Mr Hj Shazali Bin Dato Sulaiman of Brunei made speeches.

During the meeting, they explained matters to be discussed at the AJBM.

After the meeting, the Steering Committee members posed for documentary photos.

Steering Committee members of Myanmar, Japan, Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand and observers attended the meeting.

Afterwards, they visited Zaykaba Co Ltd and the Shwedagon Pagoda. Dr Khin Shwe hosted a dinner in honour of the guests at Karaweik Palace Hotel.

AJBM will be held in Japan in November.

Preliminary coord meeting of steering committee of AJBM in progress. — NLM
Mainstream media still the best channel, says Malaysian DM

KUALA LUMPUR, 2 July — The mainstream media is still the best channel for the government to relay information and messages including on the role of the Malaysian Defence Forces and the national defence policy.

The mainstream media’s role, however, had become more challenging with the emergence of alternative media through the internet, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said here tonight.

“The alternative media, via blogsites, report many things that can be disputed because nobody knows the person behind the news. This is where the mainstream media is special,” he said at the Defence Media Awards Night.

Najib who is Defence Minister said the media could disseminate information on the importance of national security and defence to the people especially when the awareness on security was sometimes at its lows. He said that to face the competition with the alternative media, the mainstream media had to publish coverage based on accurate facts and convincing news. The Defence Media Awards were dominated by Utusan Malaysia that won the best newspaper award and best journalist award through Hamden Ramli.—Internet

Uganda bans plastic bags, promotes banana leaves

KAMPALA, 2 July — A ban on plastic bags in Uganda took effect on Sunday to cut down the stinking piles of rubbish that litter its dusty capital and other urban areas, breeding germs and poisoning water supplies.

Officials want Ugandans to instead use banana leaves, the traditional material for carrying goods.

Uganda’s ban followed a similar one on Tanzania’s Zanzibar islands last year. There have also been moves in both Kenya and mainland Tanzania to raise duties on plastic bags, which dot Africa’s urban and rural landscapes with depressing regularity.

Ugandan Finance Minister Ezra Suruma announced the ban on “buveera”—polythene bags in the local Luganda dialect — during his budget speech last month in the east African nation.

“Due to serious environmental concerns and the difficulties in the disposal of polythene bags and plastic containers, action was required in order to encourage producers and consumers to minimize (their use),” he said.—MNA/Reuters

British soldier killed in Afghanistan

LONDON, 2 July — A British soldier was killed as he left a training camp in southern Afghanistan on Sunday, the Ministry of Defence said in a statement.

He was killed by rocket-propelled-grenade and small-arms fire from militants as a British patrol left a base in the town of Gareshk, in the southern Helmand Province, the ministry said.

It was the second British soldier killed in as many days. On Saturday, another soldier was killed in a Taleban ambush in southern Afghanistan when his patrol came under fire.

The deaths raise to at least 63 the number of British troops to have been killed in Afghanistan since the Taleban government was toppled by US forces in 2001. Britain has about 7,000 troops serving as part of a 30,000-strong NATO force in Afghanistan. They are mostly based in the south of the country, in Helmand Province, where the Taleban and its al-Qaeda allies are most concentrated.—MNA/Reuters

Five US troops killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 3 July—Four US soldiers and one Marine were killed in various attacks in Iraq on Sunday, the US military said on Monday.

It said two soldiers and one Marine were killed in western Anbar Province.

The military also said one soldier was killed by small arms fire in southern Baghdad. Another was killed by gunfire that followed a roadside bomb attack on his patrol in western Baghdad. Two Iraqi policemen were also wounded in that attack.

Missing US envoy is ‘found dead’

LONDON, 2 July—A senior diplomat at the US embassy in Cyprus who disappeared four days ago has been found dead, state radio says.

The body of defence attache Tom Mooney was found in a remote part of the Mediterranean island. There is no confirmation by police or the US.

The 45-year-old, who was married with children, was last seen leaving the US embassy in his Chevrolet Saloon car. He was discovered near Nicosia and police were at the scene, said the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation.

“Someone has been found dead and police have gone to the area to confirm and identify it is the body of a missing person,” a police spokesman said.

Private television station Sigma said the body was found a short distance from the diplomat’s car on a dirt track in forested hills outside Nicosia, the island’s capital. The envoy held the rank of lieutenant-colonel and was on his second tour of duty on the island in the past five years.—Internet
**Strong quake jolts eastern Indonesia**

Jakarta, 2 July — An undersea earthquake with a 6.3 magnitude jolted Indonesia’s eastern Moluccas chain on Sunday, but there were no immediate reports of any deaths or damage, a meteorological agency official said.

The epicentre of the quake lay in the sea at a depth of 103 kilometres (64 miles), and 220 kilometres northwest of the town of Saumlaki in the Moluccas, Setiyono, an analyst with the meteorology and geophysics agency, said.

He said no tsunami warning had been issued.

Indonesia lies in the so-called “Pacific Ring of Fire” where seismic activity is frequent.

**US, Iraqi troops kill 60 insurgents in crackdown on al-Qaeda**

Baghdad, 3 July — US and Iraqi security forces have killed at least 60 militants in an all-out sweeping and hunting down of al-Qaeda militants in the volatile province of Diyala, the US military said on Monday.

“Since the beginning of the operation, 24 booby-trapped structures have been destroyed. Additionally, at least 60 al-Qaeda operatives have been killed, 134 have been detained, 45 weapons caches have been discovered and 96 improvised explosive devices have been destroyed,” the US military said in a statement.

On 19 June, more than 10,000 troops, including 2,000 Iraqi soldiers and policemen, backed by US aircraft, launched the massive assault aimed at hunting for the al-Qaeda militants operating in and around Baquba, some 65 kilometres northeast of Baghdad.

US and Iraq security forces discovered many booby-trapped houses in Baquba that were left behind by al-Qaeda militants as they attempted to flee the town, the statement said.

“The house-borne IED (improvised explosive device) threat is like being anywhere else in Iraq at the present,” the statement quoted Colonel Steve Townsend, commander of a US combat team, as saying. — MNA/Xinhua

**Air China jumbo jet makes emergency landing at LAX Airport**

Los Angeles, 2 July — An Air China jumbo jet made an emergency landing on Friday after blowing out at least one tyre on takeoff from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), airport officials said. The Boeing 747, which was headed for Beijing, made the uneventful emergency landing at 3:28 am, said an operations officer with the Federal Aviation Administration’s Western Operations Centre.

The airliner, Flight CA 984, was scheduled to leave LAX at 1:40 am, arriving in Beijing at 5:20 am Saturday, according to a flight schedule on the website operated by Los Angeles World Airports, the city agency that operates LAX.

It was unclear as to how many tyres were involved in the mishap, but tire debris was found on the runway after the landing, according to airport authorities.

The two-deck aircraft landed without sparks, according to a camera crew at the scene.

**Mortar barrages hit neighbourhoods, 16 corpses found in Baghdad**

Baghdad, 2 July — Insurgents lobbed mortar rounds on Baghdad’s neighbourhoods on Saturday, wounding 12 people, while the Iraqi police said they collected 16 corpses in execution-style in the capital, an Interior Ministry source said.

“Two waves of mortar rounds landed on the Abu Dshier neighbourhood in southern Baghdad, wounding eight people,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Several more mortar rounds struck the Seha residential area in Baghdad’s southern district of Doura, wounding four more people, the source said.

In addition, the source said that the police patrol found 16 unidentified bodies in Baghdad’s neighbourhoods during the past 24 hours.

Most of the bodies were handcuffed, blindfolded and showing signs of torture with bullet holes in the chest and the head, he said.

**Britain’s “most dangerous teen” jailed for life**

London, 2 July — A 19-year-old trainee accountant described by doctors as Britain’s most dangerous teenager was sentenced to life after being found guilty of stabbing a nurse to death in a frenzied attack as she took a cigarette break last year.

Stuart Harling, who had told the Old Bailey he had rape fantasies and had wanted to carry out a gun rampage at a school where he had been bullied, said he murdered Cheryl Moss, 33, because he was bored.

The former scout leader and school prefect had surfed websites featuring murder, pornography, knives, guns and serial killings.

In sentencing, Judge Brian Barker said: “This in itself would be cause for concern but the evil is you put your research into practice and Cheryl Moss had the misfortune to stumble across your path.”

He said Harling’s actions had robbed the community of a vibrant and contributing member of society.

Harling, wearing a fancy dress witch’s wig and dark glasses, stabbed Moss 72 times with a hunting knife in a savage attack outside St George’s Hospital in Hornchurch, Essex, in April last year.

**Residents wade through flood waters in Rambo Saeed near Larkana, 480 km (300 miles) from Karachi, on 2 July, 2007. Water levels are falling in some parts of flood-hit Pakistan, enabling rescuers to reach areas cut off for days, but more bad weather is on the way, officials said on Monday. — Internet**

MNA/Xinhua
China issues special stamps to mark 10th anniversary of HK’s return

SHENZHEN, 3 July — A set of three special stamps on the 10th anniversary of Hong Kong’s return to China was issued on Sunday in Shenzhen, south China’s Guangdong Province.

According to China Post, the first stamp, titled “celebration”, is designed to show the successful practice of “one country, two systems” in Hong Kong. Pictures of China’s national flag, Hong Kong’s regional flag and Bauhinia are printed on it.

The second stamp, named “cooperation”, shows closer economic and trade relations between Chinese Mainland and Hong Kong after the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) was signed. The stamp bears the letters of CEPA and pictures of Huanggang Port.

The third stamp of “prosperity” is made to show that Hong Kong has maintained prosperity and stability after it overcame various difficulties. The picture of Hong Kong International Finance Centre is printed on it.

The price of the stamp set is 3.9 yuan (0.51 US dollar). — MNA/Xinhua

UAE’s second telecom operator reaches 500,000 mark of customers

ABU DHABI, 2 July — Emirates Integrated Telecommunications Company (Du), the second telecom operator of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), announced on Sunday that it reached the 500,000 mark of customers in June, Emirates News Agency reported.

Despite a newcomer of the UAE telecom market, Du has captured more than 10 per cent of the oil-rich Mideast country’s population within four months. The population of the UAE stands at 4.1 million, according to official figures.

Du launched its services on 11 February and thus broke the monopoly of Etisalat, the only telecom operator in the UAE since 1976.

“The launching of a new operator in an established market is never an easy task and even more so when it is the market with the highest mobile penetration in the world,” the company’s CEO Osman Sultan admitted. “This 500,000 milestone has been achieved only as a result of our constant efforts to improve our network and ensure that we are providing the maximum comfort to our customers,” he added.

Established in December 2005, Du was capitalized at four billion dirhams (1.09 billion US dollars). It is 40 per cent owned by the UAE Federal Government, Abu Dhabi-based Mubadala Development Company and Dubai-based Tecom Investments owned 20 per cent each, the other 20 per cent by public shareholders.

MNA/Xinhua

Air guitars” rock out at Tokyo Toy Show

BEIJING, 2 July — Japanese toy makers at the annual Tokyo International Toy Show last week unveiled “air guitar” toys that make music by using heat and motion sensors.

“This is a toy that allows anybody to sound and feel like a rock star,” said Keishi Abe, who was demonstrating Takara Tomy Corp’s “Air Guitar Pro.”

The toy has 10 songs, including Deep Purple’s “Smoke On the Water,” programmed to play automatically. It is set to launch in July. It can also be connected to an MP3 music player or a speaker system, the manufacturer says. Manufacturers also presented air guitars that could be attached to your wrist and play music as you move.

“You just put it on your wrist and shake your arm once so it will play one phrase. In order to play an entire song, you just keep moving your arm so even children can easily play music,” said Nana Kaneko, who was playing “Air Musician” by Tokyo-based toy maker Mega House. The air guitar, an imaginary instrument used when pretending to play the guitar, has become popular in Japan in recent years. Ochi “Dainoji” Yosuke of Japan won the 2006 World Air Guitar Championships held in Finland. — Internet

Coffee production rises by 40% in Nepal this year

KATHMANDU, 2 July—Nepal recorded a whopping 40-per-cent rise this year in organic coffee production compared to last year, The Kathmandu Post reported on Sunday. The daily quoted Raghupati Chaudhary, acting chief of National Tea and Coffee Development Board, western regional office as saying that coffee production this year has soared to 391 tons from 278 tons of last year.

Moreover, of the total production, Nepal exported 91.5 tons of coffee to countries such as Japan, the United States, Britain and South Korea, among others this year.

“The export fetched the producers and marketers a total of 5.6 million Nepali rupees (86153.8 US dollars),” said Chaudhary, adding that Nepal had exported a mere 2.45 million rupees (37,692 dollar) worth of coffee five years ago. — MNA/Xinhua
MWAF that is promoting the lives of Myanmar women

The Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation is an organization mobilizing the entire women mass to harmoniously and unitedly take part in the endeavours for development of the women’s sector and the nation.

Thanks to traditions and culture and customs, Myanmar women are polite and gentle in their nature. They are models in preserving and safeguarding race and culture. Throughout the past successive eras and till now, Myanmar women have been striving on equal terms with men for political, economic and social development.

The MWAF has six task forces that are serving the public interest with goodwill and they are indivisible with the people.

The Social and Culture Task Force also has three work groups—Education work group, Cultural work group and Health work group.

“We are carrying out the education task in accord with five objectives — to help children of school age to attend classes till completion of primary level, to run technical and vocational science courses for women who cannot pursue education due to various reasons, to render assistance in freeing women from illiteracy, to strive to run literacy courses and non-formal education courses for adults and to endeavour for national education promotion”, explained Dr Daw Khaine Soe Myint, secretary of Education work group.

She continued to say, “The education work group under the leadership of MWAF has been donating exercise books and uniforms to children of school age, providing stipends for children of the poor families to attend classes, assigning duties division-, district-, township- and ward-wise to monitor children receiving stipends and render assistance to them as necessary in cooperation with local authorities.”

Moreover, the group is also joining hands with the Education Research Department in running non-formal education activities in wards. It is also holding talks on children-friendly schools and running vocational education and handicraft courses for girls who cannot attend classes for certain reasons. Kayinseik and Thahtaykwin in Thanlyn Township have been transformed into model villages and their social centres are running tailoring courses with donated sewing machines. There are also income generation programmes for women and girls who have completed the course”.

May all flowers bloom and be aromatic

* Ladies beauty with noble virtues
  Together they meet under clear vision
  Never hesitant to help others
  Whatever duties ready to discharge
  Serve as lighthouses true citizens
  Possessing self-knowledge
  Motherland they serve

* Thou preserve heritage
  Consciousness-raising in mind
  High aims and unity
  Truly blossoming with honour
  Never lose sight of goal
  Ever active and hard working
  Handing down fine inheritance
  Fragrant and blossoming may all flowers be

Honouring Myanmar Women’s Day
Min Naing Lay (Lanmadaw) (Trs)

MWAF Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Htay presenting exercise books, stationery and uniforms to students of schools in 14 townships in Yangon East District.

Patron of Yangon Division Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Mar Mar Wai visiting trainees of a tailoring course in Pabedan Township.
Graduation ceremony of course No 6 of Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Mandalay) held in Amarapura

Steps being taken for creating education opportunity for children in border areas

YANGON, 3 July — The graduation ceremony of course No 6 of Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Mandalay) was held at the college of Education and Training Department of the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs in Amarapura Township on 2 July.

On behalf of Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Progress Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt delivered a speech.

Present were the directors-general of departments under the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, the principal of Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Mandalay), professors, students and their parents.

On behalf of the Secretary-1, Minister Col Thein Nyunt said the Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Mandalay) was established with the aims of turning human resources needed in border areas and producing high-qualified intellectuals and intelligenstia who can bring about regional development under the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe. It was the sixth convocation of the college (Mandalay).

He said the government has laid down national development projects systematically and is implementing them for narrowing the development gap in the regions.

Therefore, in the time of the Tatmadaw Government projects for development of border areas and national races have been laid down and are being implemented, while work is under way for further fostering national solidarity, he said.

He quoted the address of the Chairman of Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council at the Central Committee’s Meeting 1/2007 held in March as saying that priority was being given to construction work to narrow development gap between border areas and plain regions; that as efforts were being made with the noble aim of bringing about equitable development, the length and breadth of the nation, tasks for development of border areas and national races were meeting with success, thereby contributing to strengthening national solidarity.

He said steps are being taken for creating education opportunity for children in border areas as part of projects for development of border areas. This is done with the aim of enabling local people to have easy access to education and of widening their scope of knowledge.

Moreover, 27 national race youths development training schools were opened for children in border areas to have access to free education.

Beginning 2000, two nationalities youths resource development degree colleges were opened in Yangon and Mandalay to produce intellectuals and technocrats capable of maintaining the momentum of the already-achieved development.

At present, altogether 574 graduate national races are serving national interest as service personnel at development and administrative bodies of their own regions.

Now, the entire national people are engaged in nation-building endeavours hand in hand with the government. As a result, there prevails peace and tranquillity across the nation including border areas.

Steps being taken for creating education opportunity for children in border areas

Minister Col Thein Nyunt delivers an address at graduation of Course No 6 of Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Mandalay). — PBANRDA

Maung Nyi Nyi Lwin of Homalin Township

Maung Sai Naing Min Htet of Momeik Township

MNA
While Myanmar National Committee for Women’s Affairs was performing as a National Mechanism, the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation was formed up on 20 December 2003 with the aim to have more coverage in carrying out their tasks regarding the security and development of women by an organization which is led by the women themselves. The following seven objectives were laid down:

1. To uplift the role of women in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation;
2. To protect the rights of women;
3. To develop women’s economy, health and education and to ensure a secure life for them;
4. To nurture women to foster their spirit to cherish and value traditions and culture and customs of national races more;
5. To systematically protect women against violence and carry out rehabilitation work;
6. To curb trafficking in persons of women and children as a national task;
7. To cooperate with international organizations, regional bodies and local and foreign organizations in realizing the rights of women in accord with traditions and culture and customs of national races.

Honoured Patron of MWAF Daw Kyaing Kyaing attends the ceremony to mark Myanmar Women’s Day. — MNA

Honoured Patron of MWAF Daw Kyaing Kyaing attends…

Member of the Panel of Patrons of MWAF Daw Khin Lay Thet presents a prize to U Hla Tun (Myanmar Photographic Society). — MNA

President of MWAF Daw Than Than Nwe presents a prize to Daw Thin Thin Oo (Shein-Mya Thin). — MNA
The Federation has joined hands with the Ministry of Health to give priority to implementing projects covering HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB control and prevention, treatment and counselling programmes. Sanitation tasks were also carried out at hospitals and over K 90 million donated to the funds of hospitals.

Concerning health undertakings, the federation has also sponsored programmes fostering the spirit to safeguard and develop nation, race and traditions and culture, patriotism and Union Spirit among the people, who have showed brilliant performances for the flourishing of nationalistic spirit, patriotism and Union Spirit among the people, who have done their bit in the tasks for development of the Myanmar society.

Concerning the prevention of violence against women, human trafficking prevention, and rehabilitation and resettlement, the federation has held talks, opened education centres, carried out counselling activities.

We the members of MWAF took part in environmental conservation and environmental greening and sanitation activities and clean water supply projects and the federation educated the locals.

The MWAF has run domestic science training courses, found jobs, helped increase the income of persons and provided loans totalling over K 56 million. Small loan projects were established with the capital of K 102 million. MWAF spent K 648 million on education, health and raising of living standard of the people.

It has held wall posters and photo exhibitions, published newsletters, journals, magazines and pamphlets and showed educative videos and films. Moreover, the federation has made donations to libraries.

The International Committee of the Red Cross issued press release No. 07/82 about Myanmar affairs on 29 June 2007. The humanitarian situations mentioned in the press release are somewhat different from the findings we had witnessed.

Regarding the accusation of abuse against detainees, the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation and other social organizations visited 42 prisons and 11 work camps for 206 times between October 2005 and April 2007. And we met 193,126 prisoners and provided food and medicines worth more than 61.4 million kyats and comforted them. At the meetings, none of them reported on abuses against prisoners, nor did we find any signs of abuses against them.

According to their interviews with people of national races, some ICRC employees said, “The Myanmar armed forces have committed repeated abuses against men, women and children living in communities affected by armed conflict along the Thai-Myanmar border”. Women’s Affairs Organizations have been systematicaly cooperating with local social groups.

Concerning health undertakings, the federation has joined hands with the Ministry of Health to give priority to implementing the reproductive health care project and women’s mental health care project. It is systematically cooperating with local social organizations and UN and other international bodies to give priority to implementing projects covering HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB control and prevention, treatment and counselling programmes. Sanitation tasks were carried out at hospitals and over K 90 million donated to the funds of hospitals.

The federation has also sponsored programmes fostering the spirit to safeguard and develop nation, race and traditions and culture, patriotism and Union Spirit of young women and further strengthening of unity. In connection with the programme, the federation has held talks on traditions and culture.

Concerning the prevention of violence against women, human trafficking prevention, and rehabilitation and resettlement, the federation has held talks, opened education centres, carried out counselling activities.

We the members of MWAF took part in environmental conservation and environmental greening and sanitation activities and clean water supply projects and the federation educated the locals.

The MWAF has run domestic science training courses, found jobs, helped increase the income of persons and provided loans totalling over K 56 million. Small loan projects were established with the capital of K 102 million. MWAF spent K 648 million on education, health and raising of living standard of the people.

It has held wall posters and photo exhibitions, published newsletters, journals, magazines and pamphlets and showed educative videos and films. Moreover, the federation has made donations to libraries.

The International Committee of the Red Cross issued press release No. 07/82 about Myanmar affairs on 29 June 2007. The humanitarian situations mentioned in the press release are somewhat different from the findings we had witnessed.

Regarding the accusation of abuse against detainees, the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation and other social organizations visited 42 prisons and 11 work camps for 206 times between October 2005 and April 2007. And we met 193,126 prisoners and provided food and medicines worth more than 61.4 million kyats and comforted them. At the meetings, none of them reported on abuses against prisoners, nor did we find any signs of abuses against them.

According to their interviews with people of national races, some ICRC employees said, “The Myanmar armed forces have committed repeated abuses against men, women and children living in communities affected by armed conflict along the Thai-Myanmar border”. Women’s Affairs Organizations have been systematically cooperating with local social organizations.
### Honoured Patron of MWAF Daw Kyaing Kyaing attends...

(from page 9)

Such activities harmed State’s sovereignty, stability, peace and prevalence of law and order. So, the authorities had to hold discussions to lay down new procedures.

Nonetheless, the resident representative of the ICRC did not accept the point and unilaterally stopped visiting prisons.

Since its birth in 1863, the ICRC has stood as a noble organization that carries out independent and neutral humanitarian services.

However, we perceived that the points of the announcement are just wrong assessment based on made-up stories and exaggerated accusations of anti-government groups. So, the MWAF would like to express our profound regret at the announcement the ICRC released relying on exaggerated news stories.

Only peaceful and stable environment can ensure life security and improve living conditions for women. The MWAF will never let a situation happen that will harm peace and stability of the State. And it will have to oppose any internal and external instigation. The national goal of building a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline is in the process of being implemented in the interests of the entire national people including women.

At the National Convention, the first step of the State’s seven-step Road Map for adopting basic principles for a new State constitution, representatives of the eight delegate groups are holding discussions to adopt basic principles taking past historic lessons and development plans for the future State. The National Convention will be completed successfully soon, and the MWAF honours it.

The MWAF will continue to stand firmly as a reliable force for ensuring life security, improving the living standard of the mass of Myanmar women, and enhancing their dignity.

In conclusion, I would say that the MWAF represents the entire Myanmar women and recognizes the Myanmar women who have showed brilliant performances for flourishing of nationalistic spirit, patriotism and Union Spirit among the people, who preserve and safeguard traditional heritage and national character, and who have done their bit in the tasks for development of the Myanmar society.

Afterwards, Honoured Patron of MWAF Daw Kyaing Kyaing awarded outstanding women of MWAF. She presented prizes to Writer Daw Yin Yin (Saw Mommyin), winner of Lifetime Achievement National Literary Award for 2006; Writer Daw Kyan, winner of National Literary Award for 2005 (General Knowledge-Arts); Writer Daw Yin Nu (Mandalay)-winner of the National Literary Award for collected short stories genre for 2005; Daw Khin Mar Kyu, on behalf of Writer Daw Nann Mya Kay Khaing who won the National Literary Award for translation genre for 2005; Ma Ei Ei Hlamin of No 2 Basic Education High School, Latha Township, who won the highest marks in the matriculation examination for 2006 and Police Captain Mi Ni Oo, outstanding member of Myanmar Police Force.

Afterwards, Honoured Patron of MWAF Daw Mya Mya San awarded outstanding members of MWAF, and presented prizes to Daw Myint San, Deputy Commander of the Red Cross company of Kungyangon Township, who became an outstanding Red Cross member for 2006; Ma Yar That Than (Weight Lifting) who became an outstanding sportswoman for 2006; Ma Thein Thu Thu Lin who became an outstanding disabled sportswoman for 2006; Sergeant Kay Thi Khaing of Central Fire Services Training School (Pyin Oo Lwin) of Fire Services Department, who became an outstanding firewoman for 2006 and Daw Myint Myint San, who became the most frequent blood donor in 2006.

Afterwards, Member of the Panel of Patrons of MWAF Daw Khin Lay Thet awarded winners of the photo competition organized to mark Myanmar Women’s Day. U Zaw Win Tun (Sports and Physical Education Department) won the first prize; A K Moe (Zoology) the second and U Hla Tun (Myanmar Photographic Society) the third and seven won the handsome prizes in the photo competition.

Afterwards, President of MWAF Daw Than Than Nwe awarded prizes to Ma Saw Eindar Thet Maung, the first prize winner of the article contest organized to mark Myanmar Women’s Day; Dr Cho Cho Tint (Ma Tint-Myanmarsar), the second prize winner of the contest, and Daw Thin Thin U (Shein-Mya Thin), the third prize winner of the contest.

After the ceremony, Honoured Patron of MWAF Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party and guests visited the booth of documentary photos of MWAF, journals, photos of outstanding women, documentary photos of state/division WAOs, works of outstanding women writers, books published by MWAF, periodicals and news bulletins.

---

### Expatriates, terrorist insurgents trying to commit destructive acts with intention of disturbing, jeopardizing soon-to-be-resumed National Convention

**Authorities concerned urge people to watch constantly and expose terrorists**

NAV Pyi Taw, 3 July — The ABSDF (Central) a terrorist insurgent group opposing the nation through armed struggle line has been running terrorism courses at the border with the other country. Of all the trainees, 10 from DAB, and two from ABSDF who have completed small weapons course have been sent into Myanmar to commit terrorist acts inside the nation.

According to the information received, five terrorists whose leader is not yet known have been sent to Yangon, the group led by Ohn Chit to Pyu on 6 June, and group led by Nan Devi Kyaw to Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay via Bago on 9 June.

Nan Devi Kyaw is about 30 years old and about five feet six inches tall and slim and has brown complexion. Kyaw Moe Lwin of DAB, another terrorist, concealed US-made hand grenades in beer card boxes and secretly transported the explosives into the nation through Measot-Myawady road.

Those terrorist are making contacts with some persons of the anti-government bands inside the country that are launching various campaigns and activities and holding talks in assorted forms with the intention of endangering national peace and stability and the rule of law just to create opportunities for committing terrorist acts.

Internal and external terrorists are trying to commit destructive acts inside the nation with the intention of causing public death, injury and alarm, jeopardizing national peace and stability, gaining right for anti-government groups including NLD to participate in the National Convention that will be resumed soon, demanding to free so-called politicians serving prison terms for the offences including U Khun Tun Oo of SNLD and pressing government to accept the so-called tripartite dialogue for national reconciliation if their demands for taking part in the Convention are not met.

The government, the people and the Tatmadaw should join hands to crush all internal and external destructive elements to safeguard the sound foundations of peace, stability, development and modernization and high hopes for democracy transition against destruction. Authorities concerned urge the people to be vigilant and expose terrorists trying to enter their profession, trade and communities disguised in various forms and to send information about them in time. — MNA

---

**12 members of Mawlamyineygun Township**

**NLD resign from NLD**


They sent their resignation letters to the NLD Headquarters and local authorities concerned.

In the letters they sent to Mawlamyineygun Township Multi-party General Election Subcommission, they said that the NLD party had not served the interests of the State and the people. The acts of the NLD party showed that NLD wanted the country to become a colony of big countries. Therefore, they no longer wanted to become members of the party and resigned from the party of their own accord they said. — MNA
Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein...
(from page 16)
highland farm of 1000 acres. The commander reported on annual cultivation of high yield Hsinshweli paddy strains in accord with the guidance of the Head of State, triple cropping by use of water from Humon dam, arrangements for growing edible oil crops and the deputy commander on reclamation of highland farm and distribution of Hsinshweli paddy strains. In response, the Secretary-1 stressed the need for self-supply of Hsinshweli paddy strains in own region, establishment of highland farm to protect the natural environment and extended cultivation of crops to generate more income for farmers.

The Secretary-1 inspected Hsinshweli hybrid strain paddy seeds, and plantations of tapioca, poppy-substitute coffee, rubber, and Hsinshweli paddy.

He also inspected thriving physic nut and vegetables plantations of the North-East Command.

The Secretary-1 and party arrived at Mandalay at 12.50 pm. They were welcomed at Mandalay International Airport by SPDC Member Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Mandalay Division PDC Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, senior military officers and departmental officials.

Yesterday morning, the Secretary-1 together with Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Mandalay City Development Committee Chairman Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han attended the opening of the Special Refresher Course No 9 for Faculty Members of the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) held at Yadana Hall of the institute in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division.

He visited Yadanabon Myothit Housing Project in PyinOoLwin Township, Chairman of the Supervisory Committee for the project Minister for Communications, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects Yadanabon Myothit Housing Project in PyinOoLwin Township. — MNA

Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw reported on the programme for building Yadanabon Myothit as an IT based town on a 10,000-acre land near mile post 270 of Mandalay-PyinOoLwin Road, work progress in implementing the guidance of the Head of State, construction of teleport main building and incubation building using a 2200-acre land for software and a 2200-acre land for hardware as the first stage, and implementation of the tasks by respective committees for supply of clean water and electric power, building roads, measures being taken for completion of phases on schedule, and work progress of greening the project area.

Director-General U Aung Win of the Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development reported on the use of 10,000 acres for the project; Acting Director-General of the Irrigation Department U Khin Zaw, on prospects for supply of water from Sitha supporting dam, Hsinlan, Twinme, Pinya, Pwegaun and Dattawchau dams; and Deputy Chief Engineer U Myint Oo of the Development Affairs Department, on arrangements for laying water pipelines for supply of water from water resources for the new town.

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and Project Engineer U Khin Maung Huy reported on arrangements for establishment of water treatment system; Managing Director of Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise Dr San Oo reported on supply of power to Yadanabon Myothit from Shwesayan and Bellin sub-power stations. Minister for Electric Power No 1 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint gave a supplementary report.

Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung reported on reservoir and dams and conservation of catchment areas and Managing Director of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications U Tha Oo on installation of communication equipment.

U Teza of Htoo Trading Co Group and officials of Russian Federation-based CBiSS Co, Alcatel Shanghai Bell Co Ltd and Myanmar Daewoo Co reported on works undertaken.

The Secretary-1 gave instructions on immediate implementation of the guidance given by the Head of State during his inspection tour of Yadanabon Myothit Construction Project, priority tasks and completion of the project in time.

The Secretary-1 cordially greeted local and foreign IT experts and viewed the project.

He inspected construction of Teleport main building, incubation structure and concrete roads. The Secretary-1 and party went to 300-bed hospital in PyinOoLwin where they were welcomed by Director-General of Health Department Dr Tin Win Maung and staff.

The Secretary-1 met officials at the hospital and fulfilled the requirements. He gave instructions on implementation of the guidance by the Head of State and health care for local people.

He also inspected construction of new wards. They arrived back here in the evening.

Joint Secretary-General of USDA Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min and member of the Secretariat Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw met EC members of State, District and Township USDA in Lashio on 1 July. They discussed USDA participation in community welfare service and regional development tasks and carrying out the tasks for realization of aims and work programmes of the association.—MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects Jade Gem and Pearl Special Sales at Myanmar Convention Centre in Mayangon Township. — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects preparations for Jade Gem and Pearl Special Sales for 2007 at Myanmar Convention Centre in Mayangon Township. — MNA

YANGON, 4 July — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence inspected jade lots of the preview of 2007 Jade Gem and Pearl Special Sales at Myanmar Convention Center on Mindhamma Road, Mayangon Township here this evening.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe was welcomed by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Patron of the Central Committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Vice-Chairman Col Kyaw Kyaw Win, Secretary Managing Director of Myanma Gems Enterprise U Thein Swe, members of Central Committee and officials.

First, Lt-Gen Myint Swe looked into jade and jade lots of high quality and polished jade. Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and officials explained the facts about the sale.

Next, at the meeting hall, Patron of the Central Committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Chairman of YCDC Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Managing Director U Thein Swe reported on the agendas for the sale. Lt-Gen Myint Swe then gave instructions. — MNA
11 killed by lightning strikes in Yunnan

KUNMING, 2 July—Eleven people have been killed by lightning strikes in June in southwest China's Yunnan Province, the Yunnan Lightning Study and Protection Centre said recently.

Twenty-five people have died of lightning strikes since the beginning of this year, among which 24 died in May and June, and 21 others injured, the centre said.

On 24 June, six people were killed and nine others injured in six lightning strikes in different parts of the province.

More than 83,000 lighting strikes were recorded from January to May, however, the figure surged to 200,000 in June in southwest China's Yunnan Province, the centre said.

A new wave of downpours over the weekend has killed at least nine people in central and southwest China, a region already battered by rainstorms last month, state media said on Monday.

Worst hit was the central province of Hubei where seven people were swept away by flash floods triggered by torrential rains since Friday, the People's Daily said.

More rainstorms were expected to hit parts of Hubei and Sichuan, both along the Yangtze, China's longest river, on Monday and Tuesday, the National Meteorological Centre forecast on its website.

Storms sweep central and southwest China, 9 dead

BEIJING, 3 July—A new wave of downpours over the weekend has killed at least nine people in central and southwest China, a region already battered by rainstorms last month, state media said on Monday.

Worst hit was the central province of Hubei where seven people were swept away by flash floods triggered by torrential rains since Friday, the People's Daily said.

More rainstorms were expected to hit parts of Hubei and Sichuan, both along the Yangtze, China's longest river, on Monday and Tuesday, the National Meteorological Centre forecast on its website.

In November, the number of lightning strikes in China reached 337,000, outnumbering any other province in China.

85,600 in June.

By lightning strikes in June in southwest China's Yunnan Province.

Twenty-five people have died of lightning strikes in June in southwest China's Yunnan Province.

The Chinese government has been warning people to stay indoors during thunderstorms.

Civil Service Selection and Training Board

"The New Light of Myanmar" Wednesday, 4 July, 2007

INVITATION FOR TENDER (TENDER NO. 6(T) MPE/ MOGAS (1) 2007-2008)

1. Scoa Ltd. Tenders are invited for the Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of Mogas 92 RON (3,000 ± 10%) Metric Tons.

2. Tender Closing Date: (10-7-2007) at (12:00) noon.

3. Tender Opening Date: (10-7-2007) at (13:00) hrs.


5. Tender Documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing (4-7-2007) on payment of the One Hundred (100) FEC per set.

6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director
Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise
THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 4 July, 2007

Qinghai-Tibet Railway marks anniversary

LHASA, 1 July — Tibetan people have celebrated the first year of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway, recalling the changes brought by the rail link that connects the landlocked region to the rest of the country.

“When the rails rattle, the money comes in” was how Losang Cering, 40, of Liuwu Village, near the Lhasa railway terminal, described the railway’s benefits.

“Before, we depended on the land for a living, but my people are working in construction, running home-style hotels, and some are driving cabs. They can earn about 2,000 yuan a month now, an unimaginable sum before,” he said. A year after its inauguration, the railway has transported 1.5 million people into Tibet, nearly half of the total tourist arrivals. The regional tourism administration says Tibet will receive more than three million tourists this year.

“The railway is like a colourful hada (ceremonial silk scarf regarded as a token of respect) that brings us good fortune,” Losang said.

“The railway has facilitated access for pilgrims and believers in and outside Tibet, and we are seeing a major increase rather than decline in the number of pilgrims,” said Chilai Qoisang, deputy director of the regional Buddhism association.

Statistics from the regional government show 328,000 pilgrims visited the Potala Palace, Norbuglingka and Jokhang Monastery, the top three religious sites in Lhasa, last year up by 62,000 from the previous year. The 1,956-km railway, runs from Xining, capital of the northwestern Qinghai Province, to Lhasa, capital of Tibet Autonomous Region.

WASHINGTON, 1 July — More than a week after landing, US space shuttle Atlantis began its trip from California back to Florida, NASA reported on Sunday.

“Piggy-backed” on top of a modified 747 jetliner, Atlantis left Edwards Air Force Base, California, at 9:04 am EDT (1304 GMT) Sunday morning, making its crosscountry ferry flight back to Kennedy Space Centre, Florida.

The enroute plan includes refueling stops and a stop overnight in Nebraska.

The anticipated arrival at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida will be no earlier than Monday, with a possibility of arriving Tuesday if weather conditions are not favourable for a Monday landing, according to NASA official website.

Atlantic landed at Edwards on 22 June concluding a successful assembly mission to the International Space Station. Unfavourable weather at its Florida landing site forced it to divert to its alternate landing site in California.

Oscar-winner Kevin Costner is to produce an Internet based animated series about a band of 19th century explorers venturing around the globe, it was reported recently.

Heat-wave warning issued for southern California

LOS ANGELES, 2 July — The National Weather Service (NWS) issued a heat-wave warning for Southern California on Sunday, signifying high wildfire danger as the region heads into its first heat wave of the summer.

Temperatures in some mountain areas will reach some 100 degrees Fahrenheit (about 37.7 degrees Centigrade), while the relative humidity will dip to about 10 per cent at times, according to the NWS.

High pressure building over the region is expected to drive temperatures to near record levels by the Fourth of July. That means valley and inland temperatures in excess of 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

INTERNET

MNA/Xinhua

US shuttle ‘Atlantis’ heads back to Florida

WASHINGTON, 1 July — More than a week after landing, US space shuttle Atlantis began its trip from California back to Florida, NASA reported on Sunday.

“Piggy-backed” on top of a modified 747 jetliner, Atlantis left Edwards Air Force Base, California, at 9:04 am EDT (1304 GMT) Sunday morning, making its crosscountry ferry flight back to Kennedy Space Centre, Florida.

The enroute plan includes refueling stops and a stop overnight in Nebraska.

The anticipated arrival at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida will be no earlier than Monday, with a possibility of arriving Tuesday if weather conditions are not favourable for a Monday landing, according to NASA official website.

Atlantic landed at Edwards on 22 June concluding a successful assembly mission to the International Space Station. Unfavourable weather at its Florida landing site forced it to divert to its alternate landing site in California.

Oscar-winner Kevin Costner is to produce an Internet based animated series about a band of 19th century explorers venturing around the globe, it was reported recently.

Heat-wave warning issued for southern California

LOS ANGELES, 2 July — The National Weather Service (NWS) issued a heat-wave warning for Southern California on Sunday, signifying high wildfire danger as the region heads into its first heat wave of the summer.

Temperatures in some mountain areas will reach some 100 degrees Fahrenheit (about 37.7 degrees Centigrade), while the relative humidity will dip to about 10 per cent at times, according to the NWS.

High pressure building over the region is expected to drive temperatures to near record levels by the Fourth of July. That means valley and inland temperatures in excess of 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

INTERNET

MNA/Xinhua

US shuttle ‘Atlantis’ heads back to Florida

WASHINGTON, 1 July — More than a week after landing, US space shuttle Atlantis began its trip from California back to Florida, NASA reported on Sunday.

“Piggy-backed” on top of a modified 747 jetliner, Atlantis left Edwards Air Force Base, California, at 9:04 am EDT (1304 GMT) Sunday morning, making its crosscountry ferry flight back to Kennedy Space Centre, Florida.

The enroute plan includes refueling stops and a stop overnight in Nebraska.

The anticipated arrival at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida will be no earlier than Monday, with a possibility of arriving Tuesday if weather conditions are not favourable for a Monday landing, according to NASA official website.

Atlantic landed at Edwards on 22 June concluding a successful assembly mission to the International Space Station. Unfavourable weather at its Florida landing site forced it to divert to its alternate landing site in California.

Oscar-winner Kevin Costner is to produce an Internet based animated series about a band of 19th century explorers venturing around the globe, it was reported recently.

Heat-wave warning issued for southern California

LOS ANGELES, 2 July — The National Weather Service (NWS) issued a heat-wave warning for Southern California on Sunday, signifying high wildfire danger as the region heads into its first heat wave of the summer.

Temperatures in some mountain areas will reach some 100 degrees Fahrenheit (about 37.7 degrees Centigrade), while the relative humidity will dip to about 10 per cent at times, according to the NWS.

High pressure building over the region is expected to drive temperatures to near record levels by the Fourth of July. That means valley and inland temperatures in excess of 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

INTERNET

MNA/Xinhua

US shuttle ‘Atlantis’ heads back to Florida

WASHINGTON, 1 July — More than a week after landing, US space shuttle Atlantis began its trip from California back to Florida, NASA reported on Sunday.

“Piggy-backed” on top of a modified 747 jetliner, Atlantis left Edwards Air Force Base, California, at 9:04 am EDT (1304 GMT) Sunday morning, making its crosscountry ferry flight back to Kennedy Space Centre, Florida.

The enroute plan includes refueling stops and a stop overnight in Nebraska.

The anticipated arrival at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida will be no earlier than Monday, with a possibility of arriving Tuesday if weather conditions are not favourable for a Monday landing, according to NASA official website.

Atlantic landed at Edwards on 22 June concluding a successful assembly mission to the International Space Station. Unfavourable weather at its Florida landing site forced it to divert to its alternate landing site in California.

Oscar-winner Kevin Costner is to produce an Internet based animated series about a band of 19th century explorers venturing around the globe, it was reported recently.

Heat-wave warning issued for southern California

LOS ANGELES, 2 July — The National Weather Service (NWS) issued a heat-wave warning for Southern California on Sunday, signifying high wildfire danger as the region heads into its first heat wave of the summer.

Temperatures in some mountain areas will reach some 100 degrees Fahrenheit (about 37.7 degrees Centigrade), while the relative humidity will dip to about 10 per cent at times, according to the NWS.

High pressure building over the region is expected to drive temperatures to near record levels by the Fourth of July. That means valley and inland temperatures in excess of 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

INTERNET

MNA/Xinhua

US shuttle ‘Atlantis’ heads back to Florida

WASHINGTON, 1 July — More than a week after landing, US space shuttle Atlantis began its trip from California back to Florida, NASA reported on Sunday.

“Piggy-backed” on top of a modified 747 jetliner, Atlantis left Edwards Air Force Base, California, at 9:04 am EDT (1304 GMT) Sunday morning, making its crosscountry ferry flight back to Kennedy Space Centre, Florida.

The enroute plan includes refueling stops and a stop overnight in Nebraska.

The anticipated arrival at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida will be no earlier than Monday, with a possibility of arriving Tuesday if weather conditions are not favourable for a Monday landing, according to NASA official website.

Atlantic landed at Edwards on 22 June concluding a successful assembly mission to the International Space Station. Unfavourable weather at its Florida landing site forced it to divert to its alternate landing site in California.

Kevin Costner is to produce an Internet based animated series about a band of 19th century explorers venturing around the globe, it was reported recently.

Heat-wave warning issued for southern California

LOS ANGELES, 2 July — The National Weather Service (NWS) issued a heat-wave warning for Southern California on Sunday, signifying high wildfire danger as the region heads into its first heat wave of the summer.

Temperatures in some mountain areas will reach some 100 degrees Fahrenheit (about 37.7 degrees Centigrade), while the relative humidity will dip to about 10 per cent at times, according to the NWS.

High pressure building over the region is expected to drive temperatures to near record levels by the Fourth of July. That means valley and inland temperatures in excess of 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

INTERNET

MNA/Xinhua

US shuttle ‘Atlantis’ heads back to Florida

WASHINGTON, 1 July — More than a week after landing, US space shuttle Atlantis began its trip from California back to Florida, NASA reported on Sunday.

“Piggy-backed” on top of a modified 747 jetliner, Atlantis left Edwards Air Force Base, California, at 9:04 am EDT (1304 GMT) Sunday morning, making its crosscountry ferry flight back to Kennedy Space Centre, Florida.

The enroute plan includes refueling stops and a stop overnight in Nebraska.

The anticipated arrival at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida will be no earlier than Monday, with a possibility of arriving Tuesday if weather conditions are not favourable for a Monday landing, according to NASA official website.

Atlantic landed at Edwards on 22 June concluding a successful assembly mission to the International Space Station. Unfavourable weather at its Florida landing site forced it to divert to its alternate landing site in California.

Oscar-winner Kevin Costner is to produce an Internet based animated series about a band of 19th century explorers venturing around the globe, it was reported recently.

Heat-wave warning issued for southern California

LOS ANGELES, 2 July — The National Weather Service (NWS) issued a heat-wave warning for Southern California on Sunday, signifying high wildfire danger as the region heads into its first heat wave of the summer.

Temperatures in some mountain areas will reach some 100 degrees Fahrenheit (about 37.7 degrees Centigrade), while the relative humidity will dip to about 10 per cent at times, according to the NWS.

High pressure building over the region is expected to drive temperatures to near record levels by the Fourth of July. That means valley and inland temperatures in excess of 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

INTERNET

MNA/Xinhua
Sports

Riquelme double helps Argentina beat Colombia

MARACAYBO (Venezuela), 3 July—Juan Roman Riquelme scored twice as Argentina came from behind to beat Colombia 4-2 in the Copa America on Monday to qualify for the quarter-finals.

Colombia, beaten 5-0 by Paraguay in their first game, took an early lead before a Hernan Crespo penalty and two goals from Riquelme put Argentina 3-1 up at halftime. Argentina led up in the second half and Colombia pulled one back through Jaime Castrillon before Diego Milito added a fourth in injury-time to kill off their fightback.

Paraguay and Argentina have six points from two games in Group C. Colombia and United States have yet to score a point. — MNA/Reuters

Pele among players lining up for Mandela match

BERNE (Switzerland), 3 July—Pele will be among a host of former and current international players turning out for an all-star charity match to honour Nelson Mandela in Cape Town this month.—MNA/Reuters

Fernando Torres has cut short holiday, poised to move to Liverpool

MADRID, 3 July—Atletico Madrid striker Fernando Torres has arrived back in Madrid after cutting short a holiday in order to approve an expected 27-million-pound (54.29-million US dollars) move to Liverpool, Spanish media reported on Monday.

The future of the 23-year-old Spain international has been the subject of intense speculation since the end of the Spanish season.

The speculation reached fever pitch after Atletico signed Uruguay forward Diego Forlan from Villarreal at the weekend in a move that appears designed to cover the likely departure of their club captain.

Sports daily Marca reported on its website (www.marca.com) on Monday that sources close to the player had said a deal was very close to being finalized. — MNA/Reuters

Arsenal set to sign Croatia striker Da Silva

LONDON, 3 July—Arsenal have agreed terms with Dinamo Zagreb to sign Croatia’s Brazilian-born striker Eduardo Da Silva on a four-year contract, the Premier League club said on Monday.

Dinamo’s fee for the move, which is subject to a medical and comes a week after France striker Thierry Henry completed his transfer from Arsenal to Barcelona, was not disclosed.

Croatian media put the fee at 24 million euros (32.60 million US dollars), exactly the sum Arsenal agreed with Barcelona for their former captain Henry.

Dinamo Zagreb sport director Zoran Mamic told Croatian state radio he could not disclose the figure, but said it was a record offer that the club could not turn down.

“This is the biggest ever transfer in Croatian soccer, including the period of the former Yugoslavia,” he said.

The 24-year-old moved to Croatia from Brazil when he was 15 and took Croatian nationality in 2002.

He has made 12 appearances for his adopted country and scored seven goals, including a header against England in Croatia’s 2-0 Euro 2008 qualifying win last October.

Thailand beat Qatar 2-0 in Asian Cup warm-up

BANGKOK, 3 July—Hosts Thailand wrapped-up their preparations for this month’s Asian Cup with a 2-0 victory over Qatar on Monday.

The Thais got off to a good start when Tawan Sripant put them ahead after eight minutes before Sutee Suksomkit added a second with a 98th minute spot kick.

The two sides met on Saturday and were drawing 1-1 at halftime before torrential rain led to the game being abandoned.

Thailand will play Iraq in Pool A on Saturday in the opening match of the tournament, which they will co-host with Indonesia, Malaysia and Vietnam.

Qatar face defending champions Japan in their Pool B opener in Hanoi on 9 July. — MNA/Reuters

Beijing table tennis venue catches fire

BEIJING, 3 July—A fire broke out on Monday at the nearly completed table tennis venue for the 2008 Beijing Olympics, but damage to the glass-domed gymnasium was limited and there were no casualties, officials and witnesses said.

Flames could be seen coming from the roof of the building on the campus of the elite Peking University. Thick black smoke billowed into the air as firefighters battled the blaze in the northwestern university district of the Chinese capital.

The west side of the building was blackened by smoke but police at the scene said there had been no casualties.

“The fire broke out in the southwestern corner of the gym,” a university spokesman told the Xinhua news agency.

“It destroyed some heat preservation material on the outside of the gym, but did not impact the girders and the main structure.” The fire brigade said they were investigating the cause of the blaze, which started early in the morning. Preliminary inquiries indicated it had been caused by construction activity.

A construction worker, who did not want to be named, told Reuters the fire was caused by someone using an electric welder.

Construction of the 26,900-square-metre (289,600-square-foot) gymnasium started in September 2005 and was due to be completed next month, in time to host an Olympic test event in December. — MNA/Reuters

Warrior Serena Williams fought off the pain of a calf strain to scrup her way into the Wimbledon quarter-finals when Australian teenager Tamira Paszek proved a seed killer after knocking out Elena Dementieva on Monday.—Xinhua

Spain’s goalie GK Adan (R) blocks a kick by Uruguay’s Luis Suarez during their FIFA Under-20 World Cup soccer match in Burnaby, British Columbia on 1 July, 2007.—INTERNET

Spain’s goalie GK Adan (R) blocks a kick by Uruguay’s Luis Suarez during their FIFA Under-20 World Cup soccer match in Burnaby, British Columbia on 1 July, 2007.—INTERNET

China’s Ana Ivanovic reacted after winning her singles match against France’s Aravane Rezai at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, on 2 July, 2007. —INTERNET

Serbia’s Ana Ivanovic reacts after winning her singles match against France’s Aravane Rezai at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, on 2 July, 2007. —INTERNET

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 4 July, 2007
Iran, Venezuela in “axis of unity” against US

ASSALOYEH (Iran), 3 July — The presidents of Iran and Venezuela launched construction of a joint petrochemical plant on Monday, strengthening an “axis of unity” between two oil-rich nations staunchly opposed to the United States.

Venezuela’s Hugo Chavez and Iran’s Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who both often rail against Washington, also signed a series of other deals to expand economic cooperation, ranging from setting up a dairy factory in Venezuela to forming an oil company.

The two presidents— whose countries are members of the OPEC oil producing cartel— earlier attended the ceremony to start building a methanol facility with an annual capacity of 1.65 million tons on the Islamic Republic’s Gulf coast.

“Iran and Venezuela — the axis of unity,” read one of many official posters at the site near the port town of Assaloyeh, showing the two leaders hugging each other and shaking hands. Ahmadinejad — who came to power two years ago pledging to revive the values of the 1979 Islamic Revolution — hailed the event as a step towards boosting “brotherly” ties of the two “revolutionary” nations. Iran is embroiled in a worsening nuclear standoff with Western powers.

Chavez, who last week pushed two US oil giants out of his country as part of his self-styled socialist revolution, said: “This is the unity of the Persian Gulf and the Caribbean Sea.”

Iranian officials said a second methanol plant would be set up in Venezuela. Each would cost about 650 million US dollars to 700 million US dollars and take four years to complete. Methanol is an alcohol which can be used as a solvent or an element in fuel.

That would help Iran to access the Latin American market, while Venezuela would get closer to buyers in India and Pakistan.

Chavez, who wants to forge an alliance of leftist states to counter US policies, arrived in Tehran on Saturday after visiting Russia and Belarus.

The Havhingsten of Glendalough (the Sea Stallion of Glendalough), a replica of a Viking warship, sets out from Roskilde on 1 July, 2007. The ship set off for Dublin from this Danish port on Sunday to retrace the voyages taken by the feared Nordic tribes who unleashed bloody raids on Ireland’s shores 1,000 years ago. — Internet

WEATHER

Tuesday, 3 July, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain have been isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions. Rainfall is fairly widespread in Shan State and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfall in Rakhine State, isolated heavyfalls in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Gwa (13.90) inches, Sittway (7.04) inches, Thandwe (6.61) inches, Hinthada (6.02) inches, Maungtaw (5.39) inches, An (5.24) inches, Kyaukpyu (5.19) inches, CoCo Island (4.72) inches, Thayawady (3.70) inches and Dawei (2.80) inches.

Maximum temperature on 2-7-2007 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 3-7-2007 was 75°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 3-7-2007 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 2-7-2007 was (1.2) hours approx.

Rainfall on 3-7-2007 was (0.90) inch at Mingaladon, (0.19) inch at Kaba-Aye, (0.55) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (53.70) inches at Mingaladon, (57.20) inches at Kaba-Aye and (54.76) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southeast at (18:30) hours MST on 2-7-2007.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong to vigorous in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 4-7-2007: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Occasional squalls with rough sea will be experienced off and along Myanmar coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 4-7-2007: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 4-7-2007: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 4-7-2007: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).
Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects Pyaunghlyo Hydropower Project in Nawngkhio Township

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut and officials, met with officials concerned of Pyaunghlyo Hydropower Project being implemented by Hydropower Project Implementation Department and Colenco Power Engineering Co near Nawngkhio Township on 2 July morning.

At the briefing hall, Director U Myint Zaw of HPID reported on salient points of the project including the site chosen and Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut gave a supplementary report.

In response to the report, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win stressed the need for officials to speedily implement the hydropower project in order to satisfy the power demand and try their utmost for timely completion of the project.

Next, Lt-Gen Kaw Win looked into Dokhtawady Township and heard a report on the project and growing of sugarcane.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win stressed the need for officials to speedily implement the project and trying their utmost for timely completion of the task.—MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects development work in Lashio

YANGON, 3 July — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, accompanied by SPDC member Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, ministers, officials of the SPDC Office and departmental heads, arrived at Lashio in Shan State (North) by Tatmadaw aircraft on 30 June.

The Secretary-1 and party were welcomed at Lashio Airport by Chairman of Shan State (North) PDC Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint and senior military officers of Lashio Station, state level departmental heads and members of social organizations.

First, the Secretary-1 and party attended the opening of the three-storey main building of the Technological University (Lashio). On arrival at the 500-acre physic nut plantation of Lashio Station on Lashio-Hsenwi road, Lt-Col Kyi Shwin of the station reported on cultivation of 600,000 physic nut plants on 500 acres of land beginning 3 September 2006, 75 percent thriving the plantation and 20 percent bearing of fruit. Commander May-Gen Aung Than Htut on production and use of cow dung fertilizer.

The Secretary-1 and party visited the bio-diesel plant of Hnin Hnin Khaing Co Ltd. The commander reported on production of bio-diesel from physic nut. The Secretary-1 inspected production process.

The Secretary-1 and party proceeded to No 1 Bio-Diesel Factory of Hnin Hnin Khaing Co Ltd. (See page 11)

New Rainfall Record

(issued at 11:00 hour MST on 3rd July 2007)

The amount of rainfall (353) mm (13.90 inches) observed at (09:30) hour MST on 3rd July 2007 in Gwa is the (24) hours new maximum rainfall record at the station for the month of July during last (24) years. The former record was (244 mm) (9.61 inches) on 1 July 1995.

Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

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 national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character

Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit

Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character

Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit

Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character

Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation