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Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, 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

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

Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Mongolia

NAY PYI TAW, 11 July— On the occasion of the National Day of Mongolia, which falls on 11 July 2007, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Nambaryn Enkhbayar, President of Mongolia.—MNA

General Thura Shwe Mann receives General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Command (Kolkata) of Indian Armed Forces

NAY PYI TAW, 10 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of Ministry of Defence received General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Lieutenant General KS Jamwal AVSM, VSM of Eastern Command (Kolkata) of Indian Armed Forces at Bayintnaung Yeiktha here this evening.

Also present at the call were Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Military Affairs Security Chief Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Chief of Staff (Art) Brig-Gen Khan Aung Myint, senior military officer and Indian military attache Col Manoj Mukund Naravane. — MNA

True patriotism
- It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution
PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 11 July, 2007

Turn out more intellectuals and intelligentsia

The education level indicates the dignity and status of a nation and its people. And it is a dominant role the education sector plays in transforming the nation into democracy and safeguarding the nation for its perpetuation. With this in view, the government is now in pursuit of the national education promotion plan and the goal of building a life-long learning society.

Now, the entire nation has seen 156 universities and colleges, and middle and high schools are reinforced with the teachers holding higher degrees. Students of various regions have an equal access to basic education and higher education, as a result.

The drive to maintain such a prosperous condition calls for competence, good will, and hard work of teachers serving as an engine for the improvement of the education sector.

Teachers have to teach as well as to nurture the students so that the latter would come to imbue themselves with nationalistic spirit, patriotism and Union Spirit. Teachers are also to help their students cultivate good habits of valuing moral conduct and abiding by school and ward disciplines and the Law.

Now, the government is setting up modern educational networks, providing pedagogical aids and building education infrastructures for promotion of the nation’s education standard. Teachers and responsible persons have to catch up with the changes in the education sphere through a constant study and to ensure harmonious link between the basic education sector and the higher education sector so as to expedite the production of qualified intellectuals and intelligentsia and human resources.

People’s Desire

Wednesday, 11 July, 2007

- Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Minister for Home Affairs receives Japanese guest

NAY PYI TAW, 9 July—Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo met Director-General of General Administration Department U Myat Ko, Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yi of Myanmar Police Force and Director-General of Bureau of Special Investigation U Aung Saw Win and Head of Office U Nay Myo.

Also present were Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, Director-General of General Administration Department U Myat Ko, Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yi of Myanmar Police Force and Director-General of Bureau of Special Investigation U Aung Saw Win.

Snow Brand Freezer introduced

YANGON, 9 July — A ceremony to mark opening of Hero Electronic Show Room and to introduce Snow Brand Freezer was held at Traders Hotel here yesterday.

Hero International Enterprise Ltd will distribute the freezers in Myanmar.

Managing Director of Hero International Enterprise Ltd Dr Daw Phyu Phyu Khin extended greetings.

Snow brand freezer is manufactured in Singapore and the freezer has sales figures of 80,000 across the world every year.

If it is charged up to eight hours, the electrical equipment can store fish, meat and ice for three days, and if it is charged up around-the-clock, it can save them for a month. Using advanced compressors, the freezer is designed to be used in tropical regions. The freezer comes with a full two-year warranty.

More information is available at Snow Brand Freezer Show Room at No 186/188, Ground Floor, Shine Tower, Pansodan (Middle Block), Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Ph 391575; 388438; 383970. TV, refrigerators, air conditioners, washing machines and electrical equipment are also available at the show room.

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo receives Director-General of Southeast and Southwest Asia Mr Chihiro Atsumi.

MNA
Wen stresses importance of energy saving, pollution reduction

BEIJING, 10 July—China must improve energy efficiency and upgrade its capacity to deal with climate changes, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said at a meeting held here on Monday. “Cutting energy consumption and pollutant emissions and dealing with climate change are urgent, critically important tasks,” Wen said. The creation of a task force on energy saving, pollution reduction and response to climate change by the Chinese Government was one response to the situation, he said. Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan also attended the meeting. The meeting noted the many difficulties the govern- ment is facing to meet its energy saving and pollu- tion reduction goals by 2010. A series of serious pollution incidents have sounded alarms for the government. A severe algae outbreak

US asteroid probe misses summer launch window

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 9 July—A science probe making NASA’s first foray into the asteroid belt missed its summer launch window, jeopardizing NASA’s first attempt to orbit two bodies with a single spacecraft, officials said on Sunday. The Dawn spacecraft was originally scheduled to fly on 20 June but assembly of the Boeing Delta 2 rocket at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station was delayed after a crane failure. “Then the spacecraft needed minor repairs to one of its solar wing panels. The mission was rescheduled for Saturday, but poor weather at the launch site delayed rocket fueling and then an airplane needed to help track the spacecraft after liftoff developed mechanical problems. Unable to get firm commitments for launch dates later in the month, due to previously sched- uled missions at Cape Canaveral, NASA gave up for the summer and reset Dawn’s liftoff for September. “A September launch for Dawn maintains all the science goals,” said NASA spokesman George Diller. September will be NASA’s last chance for 15 years to explore its two targets, Vesta and Ceres. After that, the two bodies will begin moving apart from each other and the spacecraft will no longer be able to reach both. MNA/Reuters

Stolen watch haul found in France

PARIS, 9 July—A highly valuable collection of Swiss watches has been recovered in France shortly after being stolen from a museum in Switzerland, officials said. The timepieces belonging to luxury watchmaker Girard-Perregaux were found in a sack in scrubland in eastern France, near the Swiss border. Two men were arrested on Friday over the theft and a third is being sought. Reports said police delayed making announcements in the case as they hunted for the third man. The robbers snatched the watches after smashing display cases at the museum in the north-western Swiss town of La Chaux-de-Fonds last Thursday. The items, some of which are from the 18th Century, are said to be worth millions of Swiss francs. Experts said they would have been hard to sell on the open market, as they were catalogued. The missing watches were discovered on Saturday but the announcement was only made on Monday. MNA/Reuters

Bodies of snatched Iraqi couple found

BAGHDAD, 9 July—The bodies of an Iraqi husband and wife who were kidnapped in May and killed at the hands of violent ex- tremists, US Ambassador to Iraq Ryan Crocker said in a statement. A US official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said the couple were Hazim Hanna and his wife Enel Meskoni. Their identities were confirmed through fingerprint records. Hanna went missing first and when Meskoni went to look for him, she was abducted as well, US officials said at the time of their disappearance. Al-Qaeda-led militant group Islamic State in Iraq claimed responsibility for their slaying in a message posted on a website on 31 May. It implied their throats had been slit. “We will work with the government of Iraq to relentlessly pursue those responsible,” Crocker said.— MNA/Reuters

President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan (R) meets with visiting Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in the UAE capital Abu Dhabi, on 8 July, 2007. —XINHUA

Tourists walk across the medieval Charles Bridge, one of the oldest bridges in Europe which will mark its 650th anniversary of its foundation in Prague on 9 July, 2007. —XINHUA

A severe algae outbreak
Anti-“AIDS” law passed in Madagascar

ANTANANARIVO, 9 July —Madagascan Parliament passed a law here on Friday to fight against AIDS and its efforts to protect the rights of the AIDS patients.

An official presentation of the law was held here on Friday, making Madagascar the first country in Africa that has drawn up a legislation on AIDS virus, the French-language daily, Le Quotidien, reported here on Saturday.

Zenaide Lechat Ranampy, vice-president of the National Assembly said at the ceremony that the fright of this pandemic had prompted the deputies and senators to validate that law.

It was also to confirm that AIDS had indeed existed in the island country for years.

Currenty, the most vulnerable people were pregnant women and children. — MNA/Xinhua

BBC fined over “Blue Peter” phone-in scam

LONDON, 10 July — British media watchdog Ofcom imposed an unprecedented £50,000-pound fine on the BBC on Monday over a phone-in scam on “Blue Peter”, one of the public-service broadcasters most popular children’s shows.

The BBC was guilty of serious breaches of the broadcasting code, Ofcom ruled, by allowing a young studio guest to pose as a fake competition winner on the programme.

It was the first time Ofcom had imposed a financial penalty on the BBC.

In its ruling, Ofcom’s sanctions committee said the BBC was guilty of deception and making a child complicit in that deception.

“The decision to involve a child in the deception for the sake of expediency demonstrated a casual lack of regard for the welfare of that child,” Ofcom said.

The broadcaster was found to have breached two rules: the first stating that competitions should be conducted fairly and the second stating that due care must be taken over the welfare and the dignity of people under 18 in such programmes.

The BBC said it regretted that Ofcom found it necessary to impose a fine.

“As our previous statements have made clear, we fully accept the seriousness of this case and apologize for the breach of trust with our audiences,” the BBC said in a statement.

Almost 40,000 entrant could be select- ed, a member of the production team asked a girl visiting the studio with her parent to pose as a winning caller.

She was given the correct answer and put on air.

Another member of the public visiting the studio on the same day saw what happened and blew the whistle in March this year.

The regulator recently imposed its biggest ever penalty, a £500,000 fine on Channel 4 television for faking winners in live call-in competitions “Brantteaser” and “Memory Bank”. — MNA/Reuters

Nepali Govt buildings to be equipped with rainwater harvest systems

KATHMANDU, 9 July — New government buildings in Nepal will be equipped with rainwater harvesting systems, The Himalayan Times reported on Sunday.

“Considering water security and the suitability of the rainwater harvesting technology in our context, we have concluded that all government buildings should have rainwater harvesting systems installed in them,” director-general at the Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) Surya Bhakta Sangachal told the daily. The rainwater collected from the roofs, mostly during the monsoon, can be collected for future use in the drier seasons. Basanta Rai, an engineer at DUDBC stressed on the need for rainwater harvesting and said it could help solve the problem of shortage of water in the capital Kathmandu Valley.

According to Rai, some 75 plumbers from different part of the capital were trained on technical and theoretical aspects of rainwater harvesting. — MNA/Xinhua

Two suspected car thieves killed in shootout in Metro Manila

MANILA, 9 July — Two suspected car thieves were killed in a shootout with police in Quezon City, Metro Manila early Monday, local media reported.

The two suspects were killed after they traded gunfire with policemen near the Philcoa area along Commonwealth Avenue at around 1:00 am, according to a report by Inquirer news network.

The two were cruising along Commonwealth near the University of the Philippines campus on board a Mitsubishi Adventure mini-van when they were accosted by police who noticed that their vehicle had no licence plates.

Instead of stopping, the suspects shot at the policemen and sped off northward. A chase ensued until they were cornered near the Philcoa area where the two suspects lay dead.

Recovered from the crime scene were a .38-calibre pistol, spent shells from the gun and more than 50 shells of M16 rifles. — MNA/Xinhua

Margaret Hill, 3, leans close to her father after she was released in Port Harcourt, southern Nigeria in this 8 July, 2007 television grab. Hill was released four days after being kidnapped. Unknown gunmen had snatched her from the car in which she was being driven to school while it was stuck in traffic on 5 July. — Xinhua

A scene from “Blood Brothers.” The director of “Blood Brothers” revealed on Friday that the film has been formally invited by the organizer of the Venice Film Festival to be this year’s closing film, shown on 8 September, 2007. — INTERNET

A boy jumps into river Buriganga to cool himself down from the summer heat in Dhaka on 9 July, 2007. — INTERNET
Kyrgyz PM meets Chinese FM on ties, cooperation

BISHKEK, 9 July—Kyrgyz Prime Minister Almazbek Atambayev met here Sunday with visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi on ties and cooperation between the two countries.

Yang, who was in the Kyrgyz capital of Bishkek for an official visit over 7-8 July, will also attend the regular foreign ministers’ meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) scheduled for 9 July in the city.

Atambayev expressed appreciation to China for its years of support and help in many fields.

Upbeat about the prospects for bilateral cooperation, the Prime Minister said he hoped the two countries would strengthen their cooperation in economy and trade, transportation and energy and promote the healthy development of non-governmental commerce.

The top Chinese diplomat said as friendly neighbours, China and Kyrgyzstan enjoy political mutual trust and economic mutual benefits, adding that therefore, enhancing bilateral cooperation serves the fundamental interests of both countries and reflects the common aspirations of both peoples.

Working with Kyrgyzstan, China would tap the huge cooperation potentials and expand cooperation areas in a bid to push forward the friendly cooperative relations between two countries, the Chinese minister said.

Yang also pledged that China would continue its coordination with Kyrgyzstan, which currently holds the SCO presidency, on preparations for the upcoming SCO summit.

The SCO summit, scheduled in mid-August in Bishkek, will attract leaders of the six member states, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, for discussions on security, trade, military, judicial and cultural cooperation.

WB approves $23.6m for Bangladesh public procurement system

DHAKA, 9 July—The World Bank has approved a credit of 23.6 million US dollars from the International Development Association (IDA), its concessionary arm, to help improve public procurement system of Bangladesh, local newspaper The Independent reported Saturday.

The World Bank said in a statement issued here, the approval was given in Washington on Thursday for the country’s Public Procurement Reform Project II, which will support procurement reforms by improving procurement quality through better management and monitoring.

“Public procurement is an integral part of the development process and a priority area for governance improvement,” World Bank country director Xian Zhu was quoted by the newspaper as saying.

“Improving the use of public resources with greater efficiency, transparency, and accountability, and tackling corruption will help give better value for money and contribute to reducing poverty,” he added.

This project builds on the first Public Procurement Reform Project, which was approved by the World Bank in 2002.

China’s monthly trade surplus hits new high in June

BEIJING, 10 July—China’s trade surplus in June hit a new high of 26.91 billion US dollars, up 85.5 percent over the same month of last year, the General Administration of Customs said on Tuesday.

Aggregate surplus for the first half of the year jumped 83 percent year-on-year to 112.5 billion US dollars, it said.

China’s foreign trade volume for the first six months totalled 980.93 billion dollars, up 23.3 percent year-on-year.

The volume of imports in June rose 14.2 percent to 76.36 billion dollars, while that of exports reached 103.27 billion dollars, up 27.1 percent year-on-year, and 1.6 percentage points lower than the growth rate in May.

TCL to produce TD-SCDMA handsets

BEIJING, 9 July—Mobilephone manufacturer TCL Communication Technology Holdings Ltd, a subsidiary of TCL Corporation, will produce trial TD-SCDMA handsets by this October, according to a TCL Communication announcement last week.

The production will be implemented through cooperation between TCL Communication’s wholly owned subsidiary JRD Communication (Shenzhen) Ltd (JRD) and the TCL Technology Centre, which is a 100 percent-owned subsidiary of TCL Corp.

Pursuant to the agreement, the TCL Technology Centre will develop the TD-SCDMA handsets models, while JRDC will pay 3 million yuan (US$394,400) to the technology centre and will also provide the centre with access to a mobile communications platform and structural information about certain handset models, as well as arrange trial production and network entry testing for the models.

JRD will also be responsible for the manufacture and sales of the TD-SCDMA handsets based on the models developed by the technology centre.

Sony Corp slashed the price of its current PlayStation 3 by $100, or 16.7 percent, and introduced a high-capacity model in an effort to spur sales of the struggling video game console. Starting on 9 July, 2007, the current 60 gigabyte model will cost $499, down from $599. —INTERNET
Pumpkin could hold key to diabetes treatment

**BEIJING, 10 July—** Pumpkin could “drastically” reduce the need for daily insulin injections for diabetics, according to recent research.

Scientists found a compound in pumpkin that has been found to promote the regeneration of damaged insulin-producing beta cells in diabetic rats, thereby improving the level of insulin in their blood.

Laboratory data showed that diabetic rats that had been fed pumpkin extract had only 5 percent less plasma insulin and 8 percent fewer insulin-positive cells than normal healthy rats, according to a research paper published this week in the US-based Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture.

The researchers fed 12 diabetic rats and 12 normal rats either a normal diet or a diet supplemented with pumpkin extract for 30 days. On average, the rats receiving the pumpkin supplements experienced a 36 percent increase in plasma insulin compared to the untreated rats, according to Xia Tao, the paper’s lead author and a teacher at Shanghi’s East China Normal University.

However, Xia, a professor at the College of Life Science, emphasized that further research was needed to evaluate the effects in human beings.

“But I tend to believe pumpkin extract could also promote regeneration of pancreatic beta cells in humans,” he told the newspaper. “It is certain pumpkin can benefit diabetics by lowering blood sugar levels.”

The professor added that the results were in line with the traditional Chinese idea that “pumpkin is a good food for diabetics”.

“However, no scientific proof was ever provided,” he said. Last year, Xia and his colleagues published a paper in the England-based Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmacology about D-chiro-inositol, a molecule that mediates insulin activity, in pumpkin. — Internet

Three killed as two small planes collide in Philippines

**MANILA, 9 July—** Two light planes being used for flight training collided in the air north of the Philippine capital Manila on Sunday and crashed in a rice field, killing two students and an instructor, air transport officials said.

Nilo Jatico, head of the local air transport office, said the two planes, both two-seater Cessna 150s, were on their way to land when they collided several kilometres from an airfield in Parailde Town, about 35 kilometres (22 miles) north of Manila.

All three men on the planes, including two Indian student pilots and a Filipino instructor, were killed on the spot. The airfield in Parailde is mainly used for training. — MNA/Reuters

Thunderstorm kills six in E China province

**NANJING, 9 July—** Six were killed and two others injured in thunderstorms that hit east China’s Jiangsu Province in the last week of June, local government said on Saturday.

Lightning strikes killed five farmers in a crop field and a child under a tree, it said. In Gaoyou City, a strong tornado on 3 July killed seven and injured 53 people, 12 of them under serious conditions.

Nationwide, floods in south and central China regions had caused over 200 deaths and destroyed 120,000 houses, while droughts in the north had left more than seven million people short of drinking water by Friday, according to the state flood and drought prevention headquarters. Experts say use of mobile phones and metal tools in thunderstorms may cause injury or death. — MNA/Inibus

EU to cut down mission at Gaza-Egypt border

**JERUSALEM, 9 July—** The European Union’s monitoring mission at the Rafah border between Gaza and Egypt will be reduced because it is unclear when the crossing will be reopened, a mission spokeswoman said on Saturday.

Some 87 EU monitors and supervisors have been overseeing the Rafah Crossing with Egypt under an agreement that took effect in November 2005 to help open up Gaza after Israel withdrew from the territory nearly two years ago.

The spokeswoman said the number of monitors based in Israel would be cut back because Rafah has been closed since 9 June and because of the uncertainty about the future of the crossing following Hamas’ seizure of the Gaza Strip on 14 June. “We are not foreseeing a return to normalcy” in the near future, the spokeswoman said. She added that enough of the monitors would remain on standby to reopen the crossing on short notice if the situation allows. “We are maintaining ... our full operational capabilities in case the border is reopened,” she said. It is unclear how many of the European monitors will be sent home.

Hamas Islamists seized control of Gaza after weeks of fierce fighting with forces loyal to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, leader of the secular Fatah faction. The European Union, the United States and Israel consider Hamas a “terrorist” organization. — MNA/Reuters

Indonesian bus plunge kills 14

**JAKARTA, 9 July—** At least 14 people were killed and 47 injured recently when a bus carrying school students plunged into a ravine near the Indonesian capital, police said.

The bus rammed into several cars and motorcycles before plunging into the 20-metre (65-feet) deep ravine in Ciloto, about 60 kilometres (37 miles) south of Jakarta, local police chief Syaiful Zachri said.

“It appears that the bus had tried to overtake another vehicle and its brake failed,” he told Reuters.

Most of the dead were junior high school students who were on a school holiday tour, he said. — MNA/Reuters

Cows stand in a snow covered field at the Gotthard near Airolo in this 28 May, 2007 file photo. Using modern plant-breeding methods to find new diets for cows that make them belch less is a way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, scientists said on 9 July, 2007. — Internet

People walk by building damaged by a car bomb explosion that killed two and left six injured in central Baghdad on 9 July, 2007. — Internet
The theme of this year’s World Population Day is “Men as partners in maternal health”. The Day falls on 11 July every year.

Men and women should have equality in human community. There should not be any gender discrimination. A large number of women are suffering from sexual health problems resulting from abortion, pregnancy child birth and HIV/AIDS as men fail to pay attention to reproductive health for themselves and for women.

Researchers conduct study on child health, reproductive health, social and environmental impacts of population explosion, means to address environmental pollution, economic and social effects of population growth, the role of the aged, the relations between social and economic changes and population growth and drug addiction and HIV/AIDS infection among youths, the root cause of HIV/AIDS and prevention methods.

This belief also generates hardships for both husband and wife and creates an unhappy married life. In reality, husband and wife are depending on each other. Without his or her spouse, man or woman will have to lead a difficult life. Sometimes, men try to take unnecessary risks including addiction to alcohol, indulgence in pleasure and physical or mental harassment against his wife because of his failures in life.

Sometimes men become aggressive as they confine themselves to the duties of a family head. It is one of the many reasons behind man’s violence against his wife.

Violence against wife often occurs in families in which the husband is an unemployed and the wife is unable to earn enough income for the household or in families in which wives earn more money than their husbands. In some cases men do more harm to their wives when their income is not enough for their families. A common belief is that man who earns enough money for his family rarely torments his wife.

Priority should be given to reproductive health care and gender equality in realizing the theme — “Men as partners in maternal health”.

Generally, man has the duty to take care of his wife’s health, he should be a consultant to his wife in solving reproductive health problems, should have health knowledge including sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS and should ensure gender equality in the family.

Concerning the theme, researchers conduct study on child health, reproductive health, social and environmental impacts of population explosion, means to address environmental pollution, economic and social effects of population growth, the role of the aged, the relations between social and economic changes and population growth and drug addiction and HIV/AIDS infection among youths, the root cause of HIV/AIDS and prevention methods.

“We see men and women as partners in a relationship built on mutual respect, trust and commitment. Partnering with men promotes the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunities”, said UNFPA Executive Director Thoraya Ahmed Odaid.

(Translation: TMT)

(Myanma Alin: 10-7-2007)

52 USDA members donate blood in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 10 July — A total of 52 members of Hti-saung Village Union Solidarity and Development Association in Myinnmu Township, Sagaing Division, led by Shwehtihsaung Sayadaw Ashin Ariccalankara, who has won a medal for excellent performance in social field (First Class) collectively donated blood at General Hospital (300-bed) in Nay Pyi Taw this morning.

CEC Member In-Charge of Sagaing Division USDA Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Secretary of the Myanmar National Health Committee Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Deputy Director-General Dr Tin Win of Department of Health and officials viewed the blood donation. Medical Superintendent Dr Kyi Win and doctors and nurses provided necessary assistance to the blood donors.

The Minister provided K 100,000 for the blood donors. A 93-time donor, three 50-time donors and six 40-time donors were included in the collective blood donation. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo view blood donation at the 300-bed hospital in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA
**USDA membership applications presentation ceremony held at University of Agriculture**

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July — A ceremony to present membership applications of the Union Solidarity and Development Association was held at University of Agriculture of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in Yezin, here, yesterday.

USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo delivered an address.

CEC members U Maung Maung Thein and U Thein Aung gave speeches.

Rector of the university Dr Myint Thaung handed over 600 membership applications to the Secretary-General.

Next, the Secretary-General presented badges to the USDA members. CEC member U Thein Aung gave uniforms to Pro-Rector Dr Cho Cho Myint.

Professor U Nyunt Shwe accepted gifts from CEC member U Thein Aung.

Later, the Secretary-General cordially conversed with the members and guests. — MNA

**KOICA donates computers to Agriculture HRD in Myanmar**

YANGON, 10 July — Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) today donated 20 sets of personal computers and a set of scanner to Central Land Records Development Training Centre under Settlement and Land Records Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation. The ceremony held at the training centre in Taikkyi Township was attended by Deputy Director-General U Win Tun Ni of SLRD, Resident Representative Mr Cho San Woo of KOICA, Senior Volunteer Mr Lee Jang Ho, Principal U Than, officials and trainees. The purpose of the donation is to enable the Training Centre to provide training courses on the Internet and data base for over 1000 staff from SLRD and to upgrade data collection system of the agricultural sector in Myanmar. — MNA

**Energy Minister receives French Ambassador**

NAY PYI TAW, 10 July — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi received French Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Jean Pierre Francois Lafosse at his office here, on 6 July.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry.— MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi receives Ambassador of France to Myanmar Mr Jean Pierre Francois Lafosse.

**Free treatment provided to eye patients in Taungtha, Mandalay Division**

YANGON, 10 July — With the cooperation of the Ministry of Health the Union Solidarity and Development Association, and Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, a team of eye specialists led by professors Dr Kan Nyunt and Dr Tin Win together with Head of Administration Department of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation Dr Daw Khin Than Nwe provided free treatment to eye patients in Taungtha Township, Myingyan District in Mandalay Division from 5 to 9 July.

The team examined a total of 7824 eye patients in 243 villages in Taungtha Township; townships and villages in Mandalay Division; Myingyan, Natogyi, Kyaukpaung and Ngazun Townships in Myingyan District and Chauk, Pauk and Yesagyo Townships in Magway Division.

Officials and wellwishers donated sun glasses, medicine and cash assistance to the eye patients who had undergone treatment. Wellwisher U Aung Myat, Managing Director of Mother Trading Co Ltd, provided medicine and other expenses, and moreover donated a building at a cost of K 14 million for Taungtha Township People’s Hospital, two air-conditioners and six fans. — MNA

Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe of MWA donates eye glasses to a patient. — MNA
Sri Lankan Foreign Minister and party arrive in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 10 July — A goodwill delegation led by Foreign Minister Mr Rohitha Bogollagama MP of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka arrived here by air this morning to attend the First Meeting of the Myanmar-Sri Lanka Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation to be held in Nay Pyi Taw on 10 and 11 July.

The Sri Lankan delegation was welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Minister for Foreign Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thein with Minister for Economic Department and responsible personnel of the Ministry.

The Sri Lankan delegation held separate discussions with Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Myint, Managing Director Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing and Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun.

The Sri Lankan delegation attended the Senior Officials Level Meeting between Myanmar and Sri Lanka.

Minister U Nyan Win hosted a dinner in honour of the visiting delegation at Royal Kumudra Hotel. MNA

Indian goodwill delegation arrives

NAY PYI TAW, 10 July — A goodwill delegation led by General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Lieutenant-General KS Janwal AVSM, VSM of Eastern Command (Kolkata) of Indian Armed Forces of Republic of Indian together with Indian Military Attaché Col Manoj Mukund Naravane arrived here by air this morning to pay a goodwill visit.

The goodwill delegation was welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and wife Daw Swe Swe Oo and senior military officers. MNA

3,021 jade lots sold at Special Sales

YANGON, 10 July — Patron of Central Committee of Myanmar Gems Emporium Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Managing Director of UMMPC and CCMGE visited Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint views auction of jade lots at Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales. — MNA

Seven members of Sagaing Township NLD quit

YANGON, 10 July — Member of Sagaing Township National League for Democracy in Sagaing Division U Thein Swe and members of CCMGE visited Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales for 2007 at Myanmar Convention Centre at Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township this afternoon.

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Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein receives Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka Mr Rohitha Bogollagama in Nay Pyi Taw on 10 July, 2007. (News on page 9) MNA

1st Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament continues

NAY PYI TAW, 10 July — The 1st Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament for 2007, jointly organized by the Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Football Federation, continued in Paunglong and Lewe Sports Grounds today.

Among the spectators were Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Tin Htu, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Kyaw Soe, members of CSSTB, German Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Dietrich Andreas, heads of departments, officials and staff of CSSTB, families and fans.

Ministry of Forestry comfortably won over Ministry of Science and Technology with 8-1 in the group-B match in Paunglong Sports Ground at 7.30 am today. Ministry of Commerce gave CSSTB a drubbing in the group-C match 17-0 by a wide margin in Lewe Sports Ground at 4 pm today. Ministry of Mines gave a 5-1 drubbing to Ministry of Forestry in the group-C match and Ministry of Mines will face Ministry of F&R in the group-D match at the same venue at 4 pm tomorrow, and Ministry of Information will meet Ministry of Hotels and Tourism in the group-C match in Lewe Sports Ground at 4 pm tomorrow. — MNA

Srinjector and Video Lyryngoscope introduced

YANGON, 10 July — A launching ceremony of COOPDECH brand “Srinjector and Video Lyryngoscope” organized by Myanmar Yutani Co Ltd was held at Traders Hotel here today.

Mr Yoshinori Komara delivered introductory speech and Mr Akio Matsui, General Manager of Daiken Medical Co Ltd gave presentation on the products. The professors, doctors and medical technicians from government and private hospitals attended the ceremony. — NLM

UNSG sends message on World Population Day (11 July 2007)

YANGON, 11 July — The following is the full text of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s message for World Population Day, observed today.

The theme of this year’s World Population Day — men as partners for maternal health — focuses attention on the fundamental role of men in supporting women’s rights, including their right to sexual and reproductive health.

Today, more than half a million women die each year during pregnancy and childbirth, 99 per cent of them in developing countries. Many more suffer serious complications that can have a severe impact on the quality of life for women and their families. Almost all of this death and suffering is preventable.

As partners for maternal health, men can save lives. They play a decisive role in many respects. Husband often make decisions about family planning and the use of household resources that influence the well-being and prospects of the whole family.

The support of an informed husband improves pregnancy and childbirth outcomes and can mean the difference between life and death in cases of complications, when women need immediate medical care. And supportive fathers can play an important role in the love, care and nurturance of their children.

Far too many women die during pregnancy and childbirth because their right to sexual and reproductive health is denied. The alarming spread of HIV among women is a tragic reminder that in many places, women do not have the power to protect their own health. When a woman can plan her family, she can plan the rest of her life. When she is healthy, she can be more productive. And when her reproductive rights are promoted and protected, she has freedom to participate fully and equally in society.

Several countries have succeeded in significantly reducing maternal death rates in the space of a decade, when women gained access to family planning, midwives and backup emergency obstetric care. However, much more needs to be done to achieve the Millennium Development Goal of improving maternal health around the world by 2015. Partnering with men is an important strategy for advancing reproductive health and rights. And gender equality, another Millennium Development Goal, is most likely to be achieved when men recognize that the lives of men and women are interdependent and that the empowerment of women benefits everyone.

On this World Population Day, let us all encourage men to become partners and agents for change, supporting human rights and safe motherhood in every way possible, thus contributing to creating a world of greater health and opportunity for all. — UNIC

Mr Yoshinori Komara introduces COOPDECH brand “Srinjector and Video Lyryngoscope”. — NLM
**Sheehan challenges Pelosi to back Bush impeachment**

WASHINGTON, 10 July — Cindy Sheehan, who became a leading anti-war activist after her son died in Iraq, said on Monday she will run against House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi if the Democratic leader fails to seek the ouster of President George W Bush within the next two weeks.

Sheehan said Bush and Cheney should be impeached for lying to the American people about Iraq and anti-terrorism policies that she believes violate US law and international treaties banning torture.

**Lula raps Europe campaign against Brazil biofuel**

BRASILIA, 10 July — European competitors are trying to undermine Brazil’s biofuels production by raising environmental concerns, President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said on Monday.

Brazil is the world’s largest exporter of ethanol and also a pioneer in developing biodiesel. It launched a programme to fuel cars with ethanol derived from sugar cane 30 years ago.

“We have adversaries that will make up any kind of slander against the quality of ethanol and biodiesel,” Lula said on his weekly radio show.

Lula, who spoke at a biofuels conference in Brussels last week, was asked about reports in European newspapers that said biofuels could contribute to deforesting the Amazon.

“I told them the Portuguese, who arrived in 1500, introduced sugar cane 470 years ago and it didn’t reach the Amazon for a simple reason — the temperature isn’t suitable,” Lula said on the show Breakfast with the President.

The United States and Brazil signed an accord in March to jointly promote biofuel production in South America and Africa. Sugarcane plantations are growing fast as a result of strong domestic and international demand for ethanol, raising concerns they could encroach on native forests.

Brazil has also denied ethanol production would drive up food prices, saying it had large amounts of unusable arable land. In Europe and the United States biofuel production costs far more than in Brazil and is highly subsidized.

“Brazil should not be afraid of the debate, we won’t again accept the cartel of the powerful trying to stop Brazil from developing,” Lula added.

**Huge ecstasy smuggling attempt foiled in Israel**

JERUSALEM, 10 July — Israel recently thwarted one of the biggest ecstasy smuggling attempts in the country’s history, local media reported here.

According to a Yedioth Ahronoth report, Israeli police have intercepted a shipment of drugs estimated to be worth some $100 million New Israel Shekel (about 23 million US dollars).

Five million ecstasy pills and large quantities of material used to manufacture an additional hundreds of thousands of pills were found at a port in Haifa.

Two Israelis were arrested on suspicion of being involved in the smuggling attempt. Another one was arrested in France and will most likely be extradited to Israel. The three detainees are all known criminals who had served jail time in the past.

Two months ago, the police received intelligence that a shipping container filled with drugs was en route from Holland to Haifa’s port. A police investigation found out that the drug shipment was disguised as a furniture delivery.

**Report says US spent $610b on wars since 9/11**

WASHINGTON, 10 July — The United States has spent $610 billion dollars on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and on protecting its bases worldwide since the 11 September, 2001, terrorist attacks, a report released by the Congressional Research Service (CRS) on Monday said.

The Bush Administration spends on the average 12 billion dollars a month on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, according to the report by the CRS, an independent research agency that provides research and analysis to lawmakers.

Ten of the 12 billion dollars is spent for Iraq and nearly two billion dollars for Afghanistan, plus other minor costs. So far Iraq has accounted for 450 billion dollars, and in fiscal year 2007 alone, about 165.8 billion dollars has been spent on Iraq, a rise of 40 per cent from last year.

The Administration’s war funding requests for fiscal 2008 were granted in full, the total war spending would rise to 758 billion dollars, with 567 billion dollars spent on Iraq, according to the report.

The report forecasts a total of 1.4 trillion dollars on the war on terrorism by 2017.

**Five blasts hit Mogadishu market**

MOGADISHU, 10 July — Insurgents threw grenades at Somali Government soldiers in Mogadishu’s Bakara market on Sunday, and the troops responded by firing their weapons indiscriminately, witnesses said.

Five grenade explosions have occurred in Bakara market. Some of them directed at government forces but they injured no one. I don’t know if there are any civilian casualties,” senior police officer Ali Nur told Reuters.

A Reuters reporter saw troops firing heavy machineguns from their trucks after the grenades were hurled. He saw one land near some troops patrolling near the Shabelle radio station.

“Government troops are firing indiscriminately after several hand grenades were thrown at them. Some of the troops are looking people. It’s total chaos here,” said one shopkeeper who declined to be named.

“I don’t know who they are firing at. Bakara is becoming a battlefield.”

Many businesspeople have complained that soldiers, who are often unpaid for months, have taken their property at gunpoint. The government has declined to comment.

**Smoke rises to the sky after an explosion outside Dahabshil bank in Mogadishu on 7 July, 2007. Attackers hurled two grenades at Somali troops patrolling Mogadishu’s busy Bakara market on Saturday, wounding five people in the latest strike against government forces.** — INTERNET
China joins global action to solve climate crisis

SHANGHAI, 9 July—Chinese singers from Hong Kong, Taiwan, Macao and the Mainland on Saturday gathered at the Oriental Pearl Tower in Shanghai to take part in a music marathon spanning seven continents, pledging to do their bit to help bring an end to the global climate crisis.

They were joined by British singer Sarah Brightman.

The concert, which began at 6:30 pm, drew an audience of more than 3,000, including volunteers, officials from the Shanghai Municipal Government, along with representatives from United Nations organizations such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Spearheaded by environmentalist and former US vice-president Al Gore, the concerts were said to last more than 22 hours. In addition to Shanghai, concerts were also staged in Sydney, Tokyo, Hamburg, Johannesburg, London, Washington, New Jersey and Rio de Janeiro, and a band of scientists performed at a research station in Antarctica.

Following the model of 1985’s Live Aid and Live 8 in 2005, Live Earth reportedly hopes to reach up to two billion people through radio, television and the Internet.

“We hope the Live Earth concerts will trigger a worldwide campaign to make everyone on our planet aware of how we can solve the climate crisis in time to avoid catastrophe,” said Lee Charteris, Live Earth Ambassador, in Shanghai.

Khalid Malik, UN Resident Coordinator and UN Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative in China, said the environmental protection message of this global music event was of special significance to China because carbon emissions were rising rapidly in China as the economy races along.

BN Medialink

Bizarre “octosquid” trapped in deep-sea filter

BEIJING, 9 July — A bizarre creature that looks part of squid, octopus and spider was trapped in the filter of a deep-sea water-pipe system, biologists in Hawaii reported on Friday.

Biologists expect it could be a new species of squid, but it’s been dubbed “octosquid” until further research is completed.

The pipes are part of the Natural Energy Laboratory in Hawaii.

“We really enjoy these little mysteries that come up,” said Christopher Kelley, programme biologist for the Hawaii Undersea Research Laboratory.

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**Couple finish 13-month Great Wall hike**

**BEIJING,** 9 July — On the same day the Great Wall of China was named one of the world’s seven wonders, an American-Australian couple wrapped up a hike which has taken them 13 months to walk its length.

Emma Nicholas and Brendan Fletcher reached Old Dragon’s Head at Shanhai Pass in northern China’s Hebei Province on Saturday and were greeted with a ceremony arranged by local government officials and the China Great Wall Society.

Both were excited and Fletcher was quoted by the Guangming Daily as expressing his thanks to Chinese people who have provided both mental support and places to rest along the way.

Brendan Fletcher and Emma Nicholas are seen here during their “walking the wall” tour along the Great Wall of China.

**Internet**

**Live Earth concert kicks off in London**

**LONDON,** 9 July — The London chapter of Live Earth kicked off here Saturday afternoon, joining the 24-hour series of concerts on seven continents urging people to act on climate change.

The nine-hour concert in London has a strong line-up of 17 acts including Genesis, the Red Hot Chili Peppers and Madonna. Facts and figures on saving energy will be presented during the intervals.

Some 80,000 people turned up in the Wembley Stadium, the largest in Britain, to “answer the call” and act on climate change.

The concerts in London, New York, Sydney, Tokyo, Shanghai, Rio de Janeiro, Johannesburg and Hamburg feature more than 150 of the world’s best music acts and will be seen by some two billion people across the world. — **MNA/Xinhua**

**Mars rover ready for dangerous descent**

**BEIJING,** 9 July — The Mars rover Opportunity will go into the Victoria crater, some 71-metre-deep and five times wider than a stadium-sized, later this week after passage of a giant Martian dust storm, in hopes of learning more about the Red Planet’s history, media reports said on Monday.

It will be a dangerous descent “but the science is compelling and the exploration is compelling, so we’re excited about this,” said John Callas, Mars Exploration Rover project manager at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, Calif.

Opportunity is to have started the descent on 9 July.

But NASA announced last Tuesday that the exploration has to be delayed by several days because the surface operations of Opportunity is severely affected by thermospheric dust storm.

Opportunity landed on Mars in January 2004 and was only expected to operate for 90 days, but it continues to successfully explore the planet’s surface and transmit scientific data.

The rover arrived at the edge of Victoria Crater in last September and has been exploring layered rocks in cliffs around its rim. — **Xinhua**

**First common gene for bowel cancer found**

**BEIJING,** 9 July — Scientists have identified the first common genetic trigger for bowel cancer, a finding that could lead to a better diagnosis and treatment of the disease, according to media reports on Monday.

Research teams from Canada, Britain and the United States, having analyzed DNA from over 10,000 people, found that part of chromosome 8, a region of the genome recently linked to breast and prostate cancer, also seems linked to colorectal cancer in a surprising large number of people.

“At least to our knowledge this is the first common genetic risk factor that has been reproducibly associated with risk of multiple cancers,” said Christopher Haiman, from the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California and lead author of the American paper.

Each year in the UK some 35,000 people are diagnosed with bowel cancer, which is the third most common cancer after breast and lung, with an annual death rate of 16,100. Around one in 10 cases of bowel cancer in the UK is linked to the genetic defect.

Scientists calculate that carrying the variant increases the risk of developing the disease by about 20 percent.

The lifetime risk of developing bowel cancer is one in 20 for the general population, but this increases to one in 16 for people who have inherited the genetic variant, according to Cancer Research UK. — **Xinhua**

**Miss New Jersey blackmailed again**

**BEIJING,** 9 July — Miss New Jersey Amy Polumbo received a second blackmail package Saturday, containing a threatening letter and possibly new photographs of the 22-year-old Howell resident, media reports said on Monday. The beauty queen announced last Thursday that she had received an anonymous letter trying to blackmail her with old photographs and demanding her to give up her crown by Friday. Polumbo’s attorney said the package threatened her to relinquish her crown or else private photos of her would be made public.

He said on Friday that it was the captions on the photographs that troubled Polumbo, not the images, but he did not reveal what the captions said.

Miss New Jersey set to compete in the next Miss America competition, representing New Jersey. — **Xinhua**
**SPOR**

**Getafe appoint Laudrup as Schuster's replacement**

**MADRID, 10 July —** Primera Liga side Getafe have appointed former Denmark international Michael Laudrup as their coach in place of Bernd Schuster who was named as the new boss of Real Madrid on Monday.

Getafe said the 43-year-old Laudrup had agreed a two-year contract with the club who will be playing in the UEFA Cup next season.

Laudrup, a talented midfielder who played for Juventus, Barcelona and Real Madrid, worked as assistant to Denmark coach Morten Olsen between 2000 and 2002 before taking up his first managerial post at former club Brondby.

He won two Cups and one league title with Brondby, including the double in 2005, before resigning in 2006.

**Players of Argentina pose for a photo before the Copa America 2007 quarterfinal match against Peru in Barquisimeto, Venezuela, on 8 July, 2007. Argentina won 4-0. — Xinhua**

**Ferguson ready to step up United's European challenge**

**MANCHESTER (England), 10 July —** Manchester United's influx of summer signings will help them mount a stronger challenge in Europe next season, Alex Ferguson said on Monday. "I've said many times that we should have done better in Europe. Last season was the third (Champions League) semi-final we failed in and we don't like that," manager Ferguson told a news conference.

United won their first English league title for four years in May but their Champions League hopes were dashed in a semi-final defeat by AC Milan.

Ferguson has since strengthened his squad with England midfielder Owen Hargreaves from Bayern Munich, winger Nani from Sporting Lisbon and Brazilian international Anderson from Porto. Argentine striker Carlos Tevez is also set to sign and Ferguson believes United will be better equipped to try and win the European Cup for the third time, second in his reign after their victory in 1999. "We think we should be doing better and I think signing these players does give us a bigger chance," he said.

United were on course for a possible treble last season but were undermined by injuries in the run-in, also losing to Chelsea in the FA Cup final.

"It brings us quality, experience of Europe and a good intensity of play so I'm very hopeful that we can do better," Ferguson added.

"When it came to the final part of the season we just didn't have enough of a squad to handle all the competitions we were in."

**Construction of the equestrian venues for the 2008 Olympic Games have finished on time in Hong Kong, on 7 July, 2007. — Xinhua**

**Thais chase top spot ahead of struggling Australia**

**BANGKOK, 10 July —** Asian Cup co-hosts Thailand have locked their sights on finishing top of Group A after tournament favourites Australia were humbled by Oman in their opening match.

Coach Charnwit Polcheewin said the Socceroos' 1-1 draw on Sunday had left the four-team Group A wide open.

"We have a good chance now the scores are even," Charnwit told Reuters. "Anything can happen in football, look at Australia, no one would have expected their match to be so tough." All four Group A teams are equal on one point each after the Thais drew 1-1 in their first match with Iraq on Saturday.

By finishing top, the Thais would have home advantage in the quarter-finals and would likely dodge an unfavourable clash with Group B favourites Japan, who are chasing a third-straight title.

"We have to aim for number one," Charnwit said. "It will make a big impact on how far we can go in this tournament. "The players know finishing second will make it very difficult for us."

Charnwit said Australia's European-based players had clearly struggled in their opening match, but he expected them to improve in the next few games.

**Asian Cup holders Japan held by Qatar**

**HANOI, 10 July —** Uruguay-born Sebastian Quintana fired a dramatic late equalizer to earn Qatar a 1-1 draw against holders Japan in their Asian Cup opener on Monday.

Naohiro Takahara's close-range strike after 61 minutes had looked good enough for Japan until Quintana's deflected free kick flew into the top corner in the 88th minute.

"We were careless!" Japan coach Ivica Osim fumed after his side's failure to kill off the game. "This result could make it difficult for us. The players have got to learn to turn style into substance."

Eintracht Frankfurt striker Takahara clinically tucked in Yasuyuki Konno's flicked cross with a left-foot volley for his 20th goal in 48 internationals.

But Japan were undone after Yuki Abe's clumsy foul on Quintana, who blasted the subsequent free kick past Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi from 25 metres with the help of a deflection.

Japan, bidding for a third straight Asian Cup title, trail Vietnam in Group B after the co-hosts' 2-0 win over United Arab Emirates at the weekend.

Even a red card shown in stoppage time to Hussain Yaser failed to dampen the joy of Qatar coach Dzemaludin Musovic, who was also ordered down the tunnel for protesting the decision.

"Of course Japan won't be happy with the result," said Musovic, who was assistant to Osim when he led Yugoslavia to the quarter-finals of the 1990 World Cup. "But we deserved to take a point and I think we can be a danger to any team in the tournament now."

**Real Madrid name Schuster as new coach**

**MADRID, 10 July —** Spanish champions Real Madrid appointed former German international Bernd Schuster as their new coach on Monday.

The 47-year-old, who has coached Getafe for the last two seasons, replaces Fabio Capello, who was sacked at the end of June after leading the club to their first league title in four years.

"This is a very happy day for me and I would like to thank the club for giving this opportunity to a young coach," Schuster said when he was presented to the media at the Bernabeu. "This is not a new home for me as I played here for two seasons. I'm sure that on my first day as coach it will be like when I was a player and I have the same desire to triumph at the club."

Schuster, who has coached Primera Liga side Getafe for the last two seasons, is the eighth occupant of the Real Madrid bench in a little over four years. The German has been set the task of emulating Capello's success but at the same time ensuring that the team plays the sort of crowd-pleasing, attacking football demanded by the club and its fans. — MNA/Reuters

**Paraguay's O. Cardozo (C) heads for the ball during the Copa America 2007 quarterfinal match against Mexico in Maturin, Venezuela, on 8 July, 2007. Mexico won the match 6-0. — Xinhua**

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Report says attacks on US supply convoys in Iraq rise
WASHINGTON, 10 July — Attacks on US supply convoys protected by private security companies in Iraq have more than tripled as the US Government depends more on armed civilian guards to secure reconstruction and other missions.

There were 869 such attacks from the beginning of June 2006 to the end of May this year. For the preceding 12 months, there were 281 attacks, the USA Today newspaper reported Monday.

Deaths and injuries during such attacks increased to 206 from 157 during the same time, according to the Army Corps of Engineers’ Logistics Movement Control Centre. Most of those convoys carry US-funded reconstruction supplies for the Iraqi Government.

Guarding convoys is one aspect of the work done in Iraq by private companies, which was once done by the military. Private firms also protect diplomats and staff at checkpoints at US military facilities.

MNA/Xinhua

WEATHER

Tuesday, 10 July, 2007
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST; During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing Division, rain have been isolated in Chin, Shan, Kayah and Kayin States, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in upper Sagaing Division, fairly widespread in Kachin State and Bago Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavyfall in Mon State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thaton (4.21) inches, Hkamti (2.76) inches, Mawlamyine (1.97) inches, Maungtaw (1.53) inches, Dawei (1.42) inches, Pakokku (0.35) inch and Meiktila (0.31) inch.

Maximum temperature on 9-7-2007 was 78°F. Minimum temperature on 10-7-2007 was 74°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 10-7-2007 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 9-7-2007 was nil.

Rainfall on 10-7-2007 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye, Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (69.80) inches at Mingaladon, (74.57) inches at Kaba-Aye and (71.65) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 9-7-2007.

Bay influence: Monsoon is moderate in the North Bay and strong in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 11-7-2007: Rain will be isolated in Chin and Kayah States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan and Kayin States, fairly widespread in upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Mon States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough sea are likely at times Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong Monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 11-7-2007: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 11-7-2007: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 11-7-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecasts are from the Meteorological and Hydrological Service of Myanmar.

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Member of SPDC Lt-Gen Ye Myint receives Indian goodwill delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 10 July—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence received the goodwill delegation led by General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Lt-Gen KS Jamwal AVSM, VSM of Eastern Command (Kolkata) of Indian Armed Forces at the ministry, here, this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and Defence Attaché Colonel Manoj Mukund Naravane of the Embassy of Republic of India.—MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects Thadukan Industrial Zone in Shwepyitha Township

YANGON, 10 July—Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence this afternoon inspected the Thadukan Industrial Zone in Shwepyitha Township, Yangon North District and gave instructions on industrial development.

At the briefing hall of the automobile factory of Sang Da Motorcar Manufacturing Co Ltd in the Thadukan Industrial Zone, Deputy Director-General of Human Settlement and Housing Development U Kyin Maung reported on the year of establishment of the industrial zone, location and area, number of plots and factories, running of factories and those under construction; Chairman of Yangon City Electric Power Supply Board U Khin Maung Soe on arrangements being made for power supply to the industrial zone.

In response to the reports, Lt-Gen Myint Swe fulfilled the requirements, and stressed the need to strive for development of the industrial zone as it plays a crucial role in national development and improvement of socioeconomic life of the people, and to make concerted efforts for running of factories at full capacity.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party looked into the automobile factory of Sang Da Motorcar Manufacturing Co Ltd, and heard a report on functions of the factory, acquisition of raw materials, producing of automobiles and efforts made for producing more automobiles.

After hearing the report, Lt-Gen Myint Swe attended to the needs and left the industrial zone in the evening.—MNA

Flood waters in Rakhine, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi divisions subside

YANGON, 10 July—Due to recent heavy rains in some states and divisions of the country, some wards in Buthidaung, Minpya, Swittway, An, Kyaukphyu, Yanbye and Gwa townships were flooded. However, the flood waters began to subside on 8 July and the condition has come to normalcy.

Warnings about the floods in Kyaunggon Township in Ayeyawady Division have been issued for traffic safety, and authorities concerned are taking measures to repair the damage.

Moreover, some damaged road and railroad sections in Dawei and Yebyu townships in Taninthayi Division are now under repair, and up and down Ye-Dawei trains will restart running in one or two days, it is learnt.—MNA