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Four political objectives
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
* National reconsolidation
* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives
* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives
* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Brunei

NAY PYI TAW, 15 July—On the occasion of the 61st Birthday of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam which falls on 15 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 Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam. — 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.

2nd Plenary Meeting of Sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee concludes

The second-day session of 2nd Plenary Meeting of Sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee in progress.—MNA

YANGON, 14 July — The second-day session of the 2nd Plenary Meeting of Sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee was held at State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) on Kaba Aye Hill, here, this morning and the meeting came to an end successfully in the evening. It was attended by the members of the Sangha led by Chairman of SSMNC Magway Maha Maha Nayaka Committee. (See page 7)

People may leave them behind

NLD to review and realize its mistakes resulting from its extremist ideologies and make amends. It is likely that the way out for NLD will be to cooperate unconditionally with the National Convention that is convened in accordance with the wishes of the people. — CHIN GYAR (MAUBIN)

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

15-7-07NL 8/8/18, 12:27 AM
Keep schools and school compounds green and clean

School and Environs Greening Day falls today (15 July 2007).

The government is taking steps for keeping basic education schools clean and tidy such as construction of new schools buildings, opening new schools, and encouraging the growing of trees, flowery plants and fruit trees.

Trees provide shade for the people. Lush and green vegetation can refresh the beholders in mind. A variety of flowery plants fill the surroundings with sweet and pleasant smell. By growing vegetables and fruit trees in the compound, a school can earn income. Growing trees and landscaping plants in the school compounds and environs can create a healthy atmosphere. And an area greening with trees and flowers can make the beholders relaxed.

In addition to the works for greening the school compounds and environs, it is needed to create a healthy environment with clean water, fresh air, hygienic snacks and clean toilets in the schools for the well-being of the students.

Now, the four “Frees” plan is being implemented — rubbish free, tobacco free, drug free, and mosquito and fly free. Only when the school and surrounding areas are clean and tidy, will the students be able to refresh themselves with pleasant conditions.

So, the teachers and students of the schools across the nation have to take part in the programmes for sprucing up the school compounds and environs to keep the areas clean and pleasant for ever.

Indian Armed Forces delegation concludes visit

YANGON, 14 July — The visiting Indian delegation led by General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Lieutenant General KS Jamwal, AVSM, VSM, of Eastern Command (Kolkata) of Indian Armed Forces, accompanied by officials, arrived at Htaukkyant War Cemetery, in Mingaladon Township this morning, and saluted and laid a wreath for soldiers who had fallen in the Second World War. The delegation members visited the cemetery.

Next, Lieutenant General KS Jamwal, AVSM, VSM, signed in the visitors’ book at the cemetery.

The Indian delegation led by Lieutenant General KS Jamwal, AVSM, VSM, left here by air this morning. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Huy Win and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai, senior military officers, Indian Defence Attaché Col Mukund Narvane and wife and officials. — MNA

Trust fund set up for Magway Nursing and Midwifery Training School

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July — A trust funds was set up for the Nursing and Midwifery Training School in Magway on 7 July.

Union Solidarity and Development Association Secretary-General U Htay Oo delivered a speech, and presented cash donations to the officials concerned.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Magway Division PDC, Magway Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Magway Division Women’s Affairs Organization, Magway Division USDA, and Myanmar Kitchen Crops Producers Association presented cash donations to the trust funds through Principal Daw Nwe Nwe Cho of the school.

After the ceremony, the secretary-general cordially greeted the attendees.

Also present at the ceremony was Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Slowe. — MNA

Abhidhamma course in English on schedule

YANGON, 13 July — International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University under the Ministry of Religious Affairs will open an Abhidhamma course in English during the Buddhist Lent from August to October 2007 on every Saturday and Sunday. Those wishing to attend the course may enlist at Registration Department.

For further information, anybody may dial Tel: 650712, 651609 and 650716 during office hours. — MNA
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Dengue fever claims 57 lives in Malaysia**

KUALA LUMPUR, 13 July — The outbreak of dengue fever has claimed 57 lives so far in Malaysia, local media reported on Thursday.

The Health Ministry has spent more than 10 million ringgit (2.94 million US dollars) since 2004 on dengue fever preventive and control measures, The Star newspaper reported.

Most of the money was spent on chemicals including pesticides and larvicides, fogging machines, personal protection apparatus, educational tools and on conducting training programmes, said Auk Lee Kah Choon, parliamentary secretary of the Health Ministry.

“The ministry is aware of the increase in dengue fever as a result of floods,” he said on Wednesday.

However, Lee said the increase in dengue cases in the capital occurred even before the 10 June flash floods.

“The dengue fever situation is still under control and the ministry will continue to take steps to weed out the problem,” he said. MNA/Xinhua

**Ethiopia site yields hominid fossil fragments**

BEIJING, 12 July — It’s known as the “cradle of humanity” and Ethiopian scientists on Tuesday reported they have uncovered hominid fossil fragments dating from between 3.5 million and 3.8 million years ago in the Afar desert near where the famous fossil skeleton known as Lucy was found in 1974.

Ethiopian archaeologist Johannes Haile Selassie said the find at the Woranso-Mille site included several computet jaws and one partial skeleton.

“This is a major finding that could fill a gap in human evolution,” he told a news conference in Addis Ababa. Internet

**Thousands apply for 520-day journey to nowhere**

LONDON, 13 July — More than four-and-a half thousand people have applied to take part in a joint Russian-European venture in which six people will be locked inside a mock spacecraft for 520 days to simulate an expedition to Mars.

Russia’s space agency is sifting through piles of applications from would-be astronauts, including British, prepared to suffer extreme privation to test endurance levels for a Mars Odyssey.

Successful candidates will be locked inside a cramped barrel-shaped spacecraft in central Moscow for a year and a half: 250 days to Mars, followed by a month on the surface, and 240 days to get back. The craft comprises tiny modules — a claustrophobic 550 cubic metres in total that aims to replicate the psychological pressures of an arduous long-distance space voyage.

Mark Belakovskiy, head of the Mars 500 project, said yesterday: “We want applicants who are healthy and professional.

They have to be intellectually tough.”

Dr Belakovskiy, of the Institute of Biomedical Problems, said male and female applicants had to be aged 25 to 50. Doctors would be preferred, he said. “We’ve had applicants from Britain,” he added. “If British firms would like to supply us with books, films, or food we would be happy to hear from them.”

The institute and the European Space Agency (ESA) are separately considering applications for the mock voyage as well as two experiments in November and early 2008, also with crews of six. — Internet

**Greek island fire rages, tourists flee**

ATHENS, 13 July — A forest fire raged unchecked on the Greek Aegean island of Skiathos on Thursday, threatening villages and forcing the evacuation of small hotels, the fire brigade said.

More than 40 firemen, seven vehicles, seven aircraft and three helicopters were involved in battling the blaze, which was fanned by strong winds.

“There are no reports so far of burnt buildings. The fire is threatening houses and small tourist hotels at the villages of Aghia Paraskevi and Troulos,” a fire department official said.

As the flames neared populated areas, hoteliers protective evacuated tourists, he added.

“Firemen are making every effort to put it out but things are very difficult because of the strong winds which do not allow boats to reach the island and transfer more personnel,” the official said.

A forest fire that destroyed more than half of a national park near Athens last month. — MNA/Reuters
Experts say pilgrims destroying Himalayas

SRINAGAR, 13 July—Hundreds of thousands of Hindu pilgrims flocking to holy sites in the Himalayas are fouling fragile mountain ecosystems with rubbish, human waste, air pollution and the deforestation that comes with development.

Hindus believe the Himalayas are the abode of Lord Shiva, the god of destruction and regeneration, and devotees trek through treacherous mountain passes every year to seek Shiva’s blessings at various holy shrines.

But a rise in pilgrimages to these once pristine areas have made the region a dumping ground for hundreds of tons of garbage and human waste which is contaminating nearby rivers, environmentalists say.

“Increased pilgrims to these areas is definitely taking its toll on these once beautiful and clean areas,” said Shrutl Shukla from WWF India.

“Plastic rubbish is found littered everywhere, nearby rivers are filled with human waste and roads have been built bringing in daily buses packed with pilgrims which is contaminating the air.”

The Himalayan mountain range stretches across India, Bhutan, China, Nepal, Pakistan and Afghanistan and is often referred to as the “Roof of the World”.

There are several popular Himalayan pilgrimage sites — including Amarnath in India’s Jammu and Kashmir Region, Gan-gotri, Kedarnath and Badrinath in the northern state of Uttarakhand, as well as Mount Kailash and Lake Mansarovar in western Tibet.

Study says overweight kids suffer early stigma

BUENOS AIRES, 13 July — Youngsters suffer from teasing, rejection, bullying and other types of abuse because of their overweight, a new research in the United States has found.

Researchers said overweight children are two to three times more likely to report suicidal thoughts as well as to suffer from other health issues such as high blood pressure and eating disorders. “The stigmatization directed at obese children by their peers, parents, educators and others is pervasive and often unremitting,” researchers with Yale University and the University of Hawaii at Mananato said in the July issue of the Journal of the National Medical Association.

The obesity rate in the United States has increased at an alarming rate over the past three decades. If nothing is done, obesity will soon become the leading preventable cause of death in the United States, researchers warned.

But while programs to prevent childhood obesity are growing, more efforts are needed to protect overweight children from abuse, emphasized the lead author Rebecca Puhl of Yale’s Rudd Centre for Food Policy and Obesity.

Powerful typhoon “Man-yi” strikes Japan’s Okinawa

TOKYO, 13 July—A powerful typhoon struck the southern Japanese islands of Okinawa on Friday, pounding them with torrential rains and high winds before it heads north to hit the nation’s main islands.

Up to 500 millimetres (20 inches) of rain was expected to fall on some parts of Japan’s southernmost main island of Kyushu by Saturday morning, further battering areas already hit by heavy rains and flooding earlier this week.

Hundreds of flights were cancelled and some 60,000 people left without electricity as Typhoon Man-yi bore down on the tropical Okinawa Island chain some 1,600 kilometres (1,000 miles) southwest of Tokyo. Seven people were injured, though none seriously.

Man-yi passed close to the Okinawan city of Naha and was around 40 kilometres west of the city of Nago as of noon (0300 GMT) and moving north at 20 kilometres an hour, Japan’s Meteorological Agency said.

It had winds at its centre of 180 kilometres an hour and gusts of up to 252 kilometres an hour.

US soldier dies from non-battle related causes

BAGHDAD, 13 July — An American soldier died from non-battle related cause in the Iraqi capital, the US military said on Thursday.

The incident took place on Wednesday and was under investigation, the military said in a statement, without disclosing where or how the soldier died.

The name of the soldier is being withheld pending notification of next of kin, it added. The latest death brings the number of US soldiers killed in Iraq to about 3,610 since the Iraq war broke out in March 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.

China baby survives eight-storey plunge

SHANGHAI, 13 July — A 10-month-old girl survived an eight-storey plunge after her drunk father apparently threw her out a window during an argument with his mother-in-law, the Shanghai Daily said on Friday.

The child suffered only a broken leg when her fall was slowed by branches of a tree and she landed in a flower bed, the newspaper said. She was in hospital but out of danger. Her father, a 26-year security guard, was in detention, the newspaper said.

In an interview on a Shanghai TV station, the father said the fall was an accident.

Tourists climb the Angkor Wat temple in Siem Reap Province, some 314 kms northwest of Phnom Penh in March 2007 file photo. Cambodia’s Angkor Wat temple received a welcome publicity boost from a contest to choose seven “new” world wonders, despite not winning a spot on the list, tourism minister Thong Khon said on 10 July, 2007.

A Swiss Army helicopter lands in the village of Lauterbrunnen after six Swiss soldiers died in an avalanche at the Jungfrau mountain near the Rotal glacier on 12 July, 2007.
Sino-Russian finance dialogue to enlarge eco cooperation

MOSCOW, 13 July— The Sino-Russian finance ministers' dialogue mechanism will help the enlargement of economic cooperation between the two countries, the ministers said in a statement on Wednesday.

The dialogue mechanism, which was forged during Russian President Vladimir Putin’s visit to China last year, deepens financial cooperation and promotes the dynamic development of Russian-Chinese relations, the statement said.

China will host the third Finance Ministers’ Dialogue Conference in Beijing next year, the statement said.

Chinese Finance Minister Jin Renqing and his Russian counterpart Alexei Kudrin discussed each country’s economic development strategy, micro-economy next year, the statement said.

Dynamic development of Russian-Chinese relations, the statement said, will help the enlargement of economic cooperation between the two countries, the ministers said in a statement on Wednesday.

Vietnam’s “IT” trade up in 2006

HANOI, 13 July— Vietnam earned over 1.2 billion US dollars from exporting information technology (IT) products and spent 1.4 billion dollars on importing them in 2006, up 18.3 per cent and 13.9 per cent against 2005, respectively, a local industry association told Xinhua on Thursday.

Of the 1.4 billion dollars, over 800 million dollars were spent on importing components for producing export goods, and the rest on importing items to serve the domestic market, said the Ho Chi Minh City Computer Association. Last year, Singapore was the biggest IT exporter for Vietnam with revenues of 471 million dollars, followed by Japan with 399 million dollars, Hong Kong with 135 million dollars, Chinese Mainland with 121 million dollars, and Taiwan with 104 million dollars.

Vietnam spent 30 million dollars on importing software in 2006, up from 18 million dollars in 2005, the association said, predicting that the country’s software import turnover will surge in the coming years.

Cuba, S Africa agree to extend economic relations

HAVANA, 13 July— Cuba and South Africa have agreed to extend their economic relations during the two nations’ two-day meeting of foreign ministers which ended on Wednesday in Cuba.

Visiting South African Deputy Foreign Minister Aziz Pahad told a news conference that his country believed that trade potential between the two nations had not been completely exploited and further steps should be taken to boost their ties.

At present, the two nations’ annual trade volume is between 12 million and 15 million US dollars.

Meanwhile, Cuba offered to train young South Africans in health, construction, housing, education, science and technology, while South Africa offered to teach young Cubans about mining and geo-sciences.

The ministers also agreed to extend their existing shared projects in Mali and Rwanda to other African nations.

They further discussed the issues concerning Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Iranian nuclear energy, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East.

Pahad spoke about the achievements of the Non-Aligned Nations Movement under Cuba’s current leadership, rejected the economic blockade imposed by the United States on the Caribbean island nation since 1962 and expressed his thanks for Cuba’s support to resolve conflicts on the African continent.

UAE telecom giants net profits surge 33% in first half of 2007

ABU DHABI, 13 July— Etisalat, the telecom giant of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), announced a surge of 33 per cent in its net profits in the first half of 2007, local newspaper Gulf News reported on Thursday.

The company’s net profits reached 3.73 billion dirhams (1.02 billion US dollars) in the first half of 2007, a 33-per-cent surge over the same period in the previous year, according to the report.

Etisalat’s consolidated profit for the period stood at 10 billion dirhams, an increase of 2.3 billion dirhams, growing about 30 per cent over 2006 figures.

“We achieved financial results exceeding expectations and continue to achieve strong results supporting our continued leadership in the region’s telecommunications industry,” the company’s chairman Mohammad Hassan Omran was quoted as saying.

“This is a direct outcome of the company’s strategy and commitment to provide the highest quality and most user-friendly services and telecommunication solutions” Omran added.

An employee at the Korea Exchange looks at a screen showing the stock price index at the Korea Exchange in Seoul on 13 July, 2007. Seoul shares surged 2.8 percent on Friday to a record close after Samsung Electronics jumped on a media report it may be targeted in a hostile takeover bid, while POSCO gained on optimism about second-quarter results. — INTERNET
**Using portable music player in lightning is dangerous**

B EIJING, 13 July — A Canadian doctor on Thursday warned in a report in the New England Journal of Medicine that using a portable music player such as an Apple Inc iPod outdoors when lightning threatens can be dangerous.

“Most people hit by lightning get away with minor burns,” said Dr Eric Heffernan at Vancouver General Hospital in Vancouver, British Columbia, who is also the lead author of the report, which looks at instances of people who are struck by lightning while attached to electronic devices.

“It’s because skin is highly resistant and stops electricity from entering the body. It’s called the flashover effect — although it can stop your heart and kill you.” Being plugged into earbuds — a style of tiny headphone — or other electronic devices can change the physics of flashovers.

Contrary to some urban legends and media reports, electronic devices don’t attract lightning the way a tall tree or a lightning rod does. “It’s going to hit where it’s going to hit, but once it contacts metal, the metal conducts the electricity,”

said Dr Mary Ann Cooper of the American College of Emergency Physicians and an ER doctor at University of Illinois Medical Center at Chicago.

When lightning jumps from a nearby object to a person, it often flashes over the skin. But metal in electronic devices — or metal jewelry or coins in a pocket — can cause contact burns and exacerbate the damage. The report tells ancident where a 35-year-old jogger was caught in a thunderstorm in a Burnaby, BC, park in June 2005. He was hit by lightning, which is bad enough, as he stood under a tree listening to music from his iPod.

The doctors didn’t blame the iPod for attracting the lightning, they did say it contributed to his injuries. “Although the use of a device such as an iPod may not increase the chances of being struck by lightning, in this case, the combination of sweat and metal earphones directed the current to, and through, the patient’s head,” they claimed.

In addition, they emphasized that it’s not just iPods people have to be concerned about — anything similar that requires headphones or even cell-phones being held to the ear during the storm could result in similar injuries.

**Researchers identify changes in gene activity**

L OS ANGELES, 12 July — Researchers at the US John Wayne Cancer Institute have identified changes in gene activity that take place when healthy colorectal tissue changes into abnormal tissue, and eventual progresses into cancer.

The changes — possibly due to environmental influences — were identified using new approaches at the ultra-microscopic level, and are now being validated in collaboration with a larger investigation of colorectal cancer by a Dutch group, according to a spokeswoman for the institute, which is located at Saint John’s Health Center in Santa Monica, Southern California.

The two studies combined could have important implications for helping early identification of the benign tissue changes that develop into colorectal cancer, as well as for prevention and identifying targets for treatment, according to Dave SB Hoon, an investigator for the Santa Monica study. Hoon also is a principal investigator for the Dutch study collaboration, the results of which may be released as soon as this year, according to the John Wayne Cancer Institute.

**Two British teenagers arrested for drugs in Ghana**

ACCRA, 13 July — Two British teenage girls face possible jail sentences in Ghana after they were arrested at Accra airport allegedly carrying 300,000 pounds (609,500 US dollars) worth of cocaine in laptop bags, officials said on Thursday.

The two 16-year-olds, whose names were not immediately released, were detained by Ghanaian Narcotic Control Board officers on 2 July. “They were carrying drugs from Ghana to Britain. It was cocaine. It was in laptop bags. The laptops had been re-moved. They put 3 kilos in each bag,” Mark Ewunpomah, the board’s deputy executive secretary, told Reuters. The girls were expected to be formally charged by a Ghanaian juvenile court. “The charges are possessing narcotic drugs and attempting to export drugs. The minimum sentence is 10 years,”

Ewunpomah said.

**Japan’s No 1 mobile carrier testing faster network**

B EIJING, 13 July — NTT DoCoMo, Japan’s largest mobile phone carrier, said on Friday in a press release that it had started testing equipment it thinks will yield download speeds of up to 300 megabits per second — nearly 100 times faster than its current cellular network. Completion of the new network is scheduled by 2009. Competition in Japan’s saturated mobile communications market has been driving下降 margins for voice services, and DoCoMo and its rival carriers are trying to capture more business by turning to data-based services, which require more bandwidth.

DoCoMo also said it would restart sales of a mobile handset made by Sony Ericsson that it had stopped because of software problems. The company said sales would restart Saturday in Tokyo and many other parts of Japan. Users who already own the phones will be able to receive software updates to correct the problems. DoCoMo temporarily halted sales of the phone July 4 because of the glitch that could erase stored phone numbers and other data. DoCoMo said it had received 147 complaints and sold 27,000 units of the phone.

**A veterinary worker prepares to call poultry on a poultry farm in Kosiorn, 160km (99 miles) east of Prague, east Bohemia area, Czech Republic, on 12 July, 2007. Two new outbreaks of HSNI bird flu virus strain were confirmed on two poultry farms in east Bohemia area, the State Veterinary Authority (SVS) said. Xinhua**

Two poultry farms in the east Bohemia area, who is also the lead investigator for the Santa Monica study, said.

A veterinary worker prepares to call poultry on a poultry farm in Kosiorn, 160km (99 miles) east of Prague, east Bohemia area, Czech Republic, on 12 July, 2007. Two new outbreaks of HSNI bird flu virus strain were confirmed on two poultry farms in east Bohemia area, the State Veterinary Authority (SVS) said. Xinhua
Minister for Information addresses 37th Anniversary of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise

Ministry to make earnest efforts to achieve success in realization of seven-step Road Map through media

YANGON, 14 July — The 37th Anniversary of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise was held in conjunction with the prize presentation ceremony at the Feature Film (Studio) of MMPE (Head Office) in Bahan Township this morning.

On the occasion, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivered an address. He said that the Ministry of Information is carrying out media task for the State and the people. In addition to duties of providing entertainment, education and information to the people, the Ministry is successfully performing the tasks to rebuff the slanderous accusations from abroad through media, broadcast authentic news and information to the people in time and strive for enabling the Myanmar media to keep abreast of international media circle.

The accomplishments of these tasks came out from the utmost efforts and cooperation of officials from Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Myanmar Motion Picture Assayon, Myanmar Music Assayon, Motion Picture Censorship Board, Video Censorship Board and Scrutinizing and Supervisory Committee for Video Industry. Furthermore, the achievement of the Ministry were realized through harmonious participation of film and video producers and technicians, he said.

The minister continued to say that the Ministry of Information holds anniversary ceremonies of departments and enterprises with two purposes. He said that MMPE was able to undertake nine tasks of the previous year’s aim successfully. After reviewing weak points of the previous year’s tasks, all the service personnel are to harmoniously strive for achieving greater success in implementing the tasks to be assigned in 2007-08.

He added that MMPE is to carry out 10 points of task for 2007-08. These are: to make earnest efforts to achieve success in realization of the seven-step Road Map through media to raise more income of the enterprise; to strive for development of Myanmar film and video circle; to seek market for enabling Myanmar film and video features to penetrate into the foreign film circle; to cooperate with authorities for covering local and foreign film and video features in accord with Myanmar culture and customs; to supervise maintenance of State-owned cinemas that are being rented on long-term contracts; emphasize on welfare of service personnel; to upgrade standards of film equipment of the enterprise; and to practise thrifty method.

The minister urged prize winning division, branches and sections of the enterprise and personnel to gain more prizes in coming years and those who have not won prizes this year to try their best for securing prizes in coming years. Next year, arrangements are to be made for active participation of the personnel in carrying out their tasks through competitive ways and means.

In conclusion, the minister stressed the need for the service personnel to discharge respective duties conscientiously with the concept that the development of the nation will reflect the lives of the personnel. Furthermore, all the service personnel are to harmoniously participate in development of the nation, the enterprise, and Myanmar film and video circles.

The minister presented prize to a staff of MMPE who won the Good Service Medal awarded by the State Peace and Development Council for 2006.

The minister also gave prizes for 56 persons from Myanmar Motion Picture Outstanding Award Scrutinizing Committee for 2006, the Motion Picture Censorship Board and the Video Censorship Board through Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint of MMPE.

Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint presented prizes to outstanding divisions and branches of the enterprise. He also handed uniforms for staff of MMPE (Head Office), Feature Film, Documentary Film, Yangon Branch, Lower Myanmar Branch and Upper Myanmar Branch through Deputy Director (Accounts) U Myint Wai, Deputy Director U A Hla Swe and Deputy Director U Than Win.

Next, staff enjoyed the lucky draw programme.

2nd Plenary Meeting ...

Withotayama Taikkht Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Mahā Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Kumara, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Advisor U Amin Maung, Director-General U Myo Kyaw of Religious Affairs Department, Director-General Dr Myo Myint of Department for Promotion and Propagation of Sasana and officials.

The chairman of the SSSMC presided over the meeting and Joint-Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Manita Siribhivamsa of Maha Wathoklayon Monastery of Mandalay Division acted as MC.

First, the MC Sayadaw announced the start of the meeting.

Next, Members of SSSMC took part in discussions on the report of SSSMC (Second Branch). Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Vighodhaya of Shwebontha Monastery of Meiktila, Mandalay Division reviewed the report of Vinicchaya affairs, Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Thudhammarcaya of Moguang Monastery of Hinthada Township in Ayeawady Division, religious affairs and Sayadaw Dhammacayira Bhaddanta Vayama of Minigal KanU Monastery of Natain, Bago Division (West), education sector.

At the afternoon session, Members of SSSMC made decisions on Vinicchaya affairs, religious affairs and education sector.

The Joint-Sayadaw of SSSMC explained assignment of SSSMC (Second Branch) and received the approval of the meeting.

Later, Members of SSSMC discussed selection of State Vinaya Sayadaw for second four-monthly and approved the matters.

After that, those present decided the matters on general matters and the meeting successfully concluded.

Wellwisher U Soe Myint and wife Daw Khin Mar Yi offered a day meal to the members of the Sangha. — MNA

Also present on the occasion were directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the minister, advisers, CEC members of MWJA, chairmen and responsible persons of Myanmar Motion Picture Assayon and Myanmar Music Assayon and departmental officials.

After the ceremony, the minister inspected the optical recorder and its accessories and gave necessary instructions to technicians. Later, the minister viewed thriving vegetable plantations of the enterprise for staff welfare. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents prizes for outstanding staff through Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint of MMPE. — MNA
People may leave them behind

Chin Gyar (Maubin)

The ultimate goal of the Union of Myanmar is a new discipline-flourishing democratic state. However, the political party that won the 1990 election has been operating only at grabbing power, while ignoring the nation’s ultimate goal. Therefore, the government has to lay down the seven-step Road Map to pave the way for realizing the goal. The first step of the Road Map covers the task of reconvening the temporarily adjourned National Convention. Soon, the National Convention will be successfully concluded.

The NLD had participated in the preliminary meetings held before the start of the National Convention in 1992 and in the National Convention from 1993 to 1995 during which the delegates discussed and adopted the 104 basic principles. Later, the NLD delegates left the National Convention under the instigation of some foreign nations and by order of Daw Suu Kyi. She conspired to jeopardize national peace and stability with intent to forcibly convene the Hluttaw to grab power through shortcut and stir up unrest with party organization campaigns as a pretext.

Although the National Convention was adjourned because of the perpetuation of internal and external destructionists, the government has continued to make all-round efforts to build a modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic state, the ultimate goal of the nation. It has established 24 special development zones covering the entire nation including border areas where national races live and striven harmoniously covering the entire nation including border areas where national races live and striven harmoniously. The Tatmadaw assumed State duties as the (Stable) for all the errors and weaknesses occurred from slum areas during the time of the Caretaker Government. It is doing so dancing to the tune of their influence.

The Tatmadaw government considered that if it handed over power without drawing a State constitution, the Constitution would be a fair one. In reality, they made such an unreasonable comment, turning a blind eye to the fact that the Tatmadaw held free and fair parliamentary elections in 1960.

The Tatmadaw government announced that it would hold multi-party election in 1990 to realize the national goal of building a discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Before the election, the government announced that it would hand over power only after a new State constitution was framed. At the time, some elements at home and abroad criticized that they did not think the election to be held under the leadership of the Tatmadaw government would be a fair one. In reality, they made such an unreasonable comment, turning a blind eye to the fact that the Tatmadaw held free and fair parliamentary elections in 1960.

In the 1990 election, NLD took advantage of the 1998 unrest to win the election. NLD members who canvassed the people for the votes for their party entered the polling stations to organize the electorate, and some members even made threats, thereby violating the rules and regulations promulgated by the Election Commission. A principle said that in the exercise of the multi-party system, service personnel had to be free from party politics. However, some responsible personnel from polling stations persuaded the voters to vote for the NLD.

In reviewing the 1990 election results, the people voted for the NLD representatives only regardless of moral conduct, political experiences, educational qualification and code of ethics of the candidates.

The issue following the 1990 multi-party democracy election was to hand over power to the winning party. The 1947 constitution and 1974 constitution were no longer in conformity with the prevailing conditions and the national goal. Deducing from the following situations, the Tatmadaw government considered that if it handed over power without drawing a State constitution, the future of the nation would be worse than that experienced by the Pa-Hta-Sa government that came to power according to the 1960 election results.

Among the representatives of the winning parties,
- some were religious extremists who could afford to buy the seats of MPs,
- some parties with racist views were hatching schemes to secede from the Union, and had a plan to form armed groups and set up an armed struggle line unless their plans were brought to fruition,
- members of the political parties with the hope of coming to power set up close relations with the embassies of certain western countries, and representatives of West Bloc and they came to rely much on the West Bloc.

The NLD has been persistently exercising the lines calling for defiance of all orders, confrontation, utter devastation, four blockages and reliance on the external powers. It is doing so dancing to the tune of their mentors outside the nation and following the instructions of Daw Suu Kyi. NLD and internal and external destructive elements have been sending out make-up reports in an attempt to get external organizations and the United Nations take action by imposing sanctions on Myanmar and wreck the goal of the state.

The Tatmadaw convention will be successfully concluded.

(See page 9)
People may leave them behind

Chin Gyar (Maubin)

In convening the National Convention, the Tatmadaw let national race armed groups attend it to achieve national reconsolidation. It showed its benevolent attitude to the armed groups to lay foundations for peace to regain national solidarity by suspending all its offensives commencing from 28 April 1992. Moreover, the preliminary meetings for convening the National Convention held in 1992 reflected peace negotiation talks for national unity. Upon completion of the NC, the new constitution is to be formulated based on the basic principles and detailed basic principles adopted. Afterwards, a referendum is to be held to seek the approval of the condition by the mass of the people. This will be followed by the election. Finally, the Tatmadaw government will hand over the State power to the civilian government.

The Tatmadaw firmly believed that a new State constitution was a must and so did 31 political parties. Forty-four parties were believed to have the concept that a new State constitution was necessary for the nation, while 11 parties did not express any specific stance regarding the plan to draw a new State constitution.

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Secretary-1 meets export ...

(from page 16)

agricultural, industrial and service sectors improved, he said.

Production of paddy increased two times, that of beans and pulses 11 times, that of oil crops three and half times and that of fish and meat four times, compared with 1988. Such progress has been made due to building of economic infrastructures annually and participation of the private sector, he pointed out.

The volume of export and import services has increased year after year owing to boosting production of agricultural produce and industrial products. Beginning 2002-2003, the volume of export trade was over US $5.3 billion and there was a surplus of income.

From that year, the balance of statement on foreign trade was in surplus yearly. In 2006-2007, the volume of foreign trade reached over US $8 billion and there was a surplus of over US $2 billion.

The exports of agricultural, marine, mining, forest and manufactured goods and other products are increasing year after year. Likewise, permits for the imports of machinery, raw materials and consumer goods are being granted to entrepreneurs. The government on its part is encouraging the development of Myanmar’s trade sector with a view to promoting the skills of national entrepreneurs in trading in order that Myanmar’s goods can penetrate the foreign markets.

As documents necessary for applying for import/export licenses have been reduced by half of those in the past, there are no longer delays in issuing the licenses. In the past, permits were granted for the imports of 80 percent of priority goods and 20 percent of optional goods, only 10 percent of optional goods can be imported. In addition, for the sake of both exporters and importers, account transfers are allowed for the earnings of national entrepreneurs. One stop service is provided and computers are used for speeding up office work. In border regions, the system of both border trade and normal trade have been adopted. More markets are being created by establishing trade zones and brokerages. Moreover, encouragement is being given for the opening of branches of national entrepreneurs’ companies in foreign countries. With the booming export sector in the national, national entrepreneurs are permitted to engage in constructing motorways and establishing their own seaports and airports so as to develop transport.

Therefore, the State is ready to render assistance to increase the number of companies that can do business globally.

It is necessary for entrepreneurs to establish individually-owned companies, and if they cannot afford, they are to try to establish public companies, like in other developing nations. The State is taking measures for adoption of a system of one business one product. The system is being launched down to districts and townships. All business and enterprises are to make innovations in their respective businesses under the leadership of UMFFCI. As they serve as bridge organizations between the State and the private sector, they are required to try to keep abreast of the international community.

It is found that some entrepreneurs are doing their business illegally. Similarly, some are making sales contracts inappropriately and import their goods together with illegal goods in collusion with corrupt service personnel. This, therefore, must be stopped by the cooperative efforts of the organizations. Open complaints can be made if there are any irregularities of service personnel as the government is training departmental personnel to improve their morale and work efficiency.

The import of fuel and edible palm oil has cost the nation tens of millions of dollars. Thrifty needs to be practised as the price of fuel and edible palm oil in the world has increased. Hence, relentless efforts are being made for extended cultivation of physic nut plants from which bio-diesel can be extracted and edible crops.

As fuel and edible palm oil is indispensable for the public all the merchants need to give a helping hand in solving the problems instead of manipulating market prices at every opportunity. Moreover, the exporters are to export quality items to get a higher price and maintain export markets. And the importers also need to avoid importing sub-standard medicines, foodstuff, low-quality household and consumer goods.

In the past, there were incidents that the cultivation and production has been on the decrease in gram market, for manipulation of the prices of gram and fruits, domestic price is much higher than that of foreign price and a wider gap between wholesale price and retail price due to smuggling, he disclosed.

As the country includes in such international organizations as ASEAN, GMS, BIMSTEC and ACMES and has reached agreements with them on year-wise implementation efforts are to be made to keep pace with them.

That is why all the entrepreneurs are to keep in the fore the national interest rather than that of individuals, he noted.

He stressed the need for merchants and entrepreneurs to export and import only quality goods and for the quality inspection team to inspect goods strictly and properly. Only then, the image of companies and the country not be tarnished.

In some cases, sub-standard items being exported have been sent back and destroyed. And this tarnished the image of the companies and the country.

Keeping a good balance between the national interest and their own companies and entrepreneurs are to pay tax regularly as there are some that are evading tax in various means and ways.

In conclusion, he disclosed that the National Convention will soon be completed. And all the people including merchants and entrepreneurs are to participate in the drive by doing their bit for the emergence of a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. At the same time, all the merchants and entrepreneurs are to strive together with the government for successful realization of the task, while accelerating the momentum of the national economy.—MNA

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Aung Win was welcomed at the reception to mark the National Day of French Republic by Ambassador Mr Jean-Pierre Lafosse Saturday.—MNA

National Convention delegates from Shan State (South), Kachin State arrive

YANGON, 14 July — The National Convention delegates from Shan State (South) and Kachin State arrived here by air today.

They were welcomed at the airport by Vice-Chairman of the National Convention Management Committee Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Chairman of Invitation and Accommodation Sub-Committee Col Htein Lin and officials. They were taken to Nyaungshapin Camp in Hmawby Township.

NC delegates from Shan State (South) being welcomed by officials at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

NLD in collusion with internal and external destructive elements commits itself to undermining the State in various means

YANGON, 14 July — A total of 40 members including U Than Nywe of Thandayton village, U Nay Win of Rakhine Pu village, U Sein Win of Kyunnetgon village of Gyobingauk Township National League for Democracy of Bago Division (West) resigned from NLD of their own accord on 28 June.

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

They said in the letters sent to Gyobingauk Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommission, that NLD in collusion with internal and external destructive elements was committing itself to undermining the State in various means. Without paying attention to development drives of the nation, the NLD was starting to push the nation into foreign subjugation. Therefore, they quit the NLD of their own volition, they said.—MNA
Indonesia, Philippines to expand security ties

JAKARTA, 14 July — Indonesia and the Philippines have agreed to expand intelligence sharing and patrols on their porous borders to keep up pressure on Islamic militants, Jakarta’s Foreign Minister said on Friday.

“As neighbours with long sea borders stretching between the two countries, Indonesia and the Philippines have agreed to maintain and increase anti-terrorism cooperation,” Foreign Minister Hassan Wirajuda told a news conference.

Philippine Foreign Minister Alberto Romulo said intelligence cooperation was already helping in the search for two fugitive militant suspects, Dulmatin and Umar Patek, on the run in the southern Philippines where a number of rebel Muslim groups operate.

The two Indonesians are key suspects in the deadly 2002 bombings on the Indonesian resort island of Bali that killed 202 people, mostly foreign tourists.

“We are actively pursuing Dulmatin and Umar Patek. We continue to track them. Because of the improved intelligence information sharing with Indonesia and other countries, I think we will get them,” Romulo told reporters.

280 killed in flood in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 14 July — At least 280 people were killed in the flood in the provinces of Sindh and Baluchistan and 186 people are still missing, said a Pakistani official Friday.

Chairman of National Disaster Management Authority Lieutenant General (RED) Farooq Ahmed Khan told a news conference here that 160 deaths in the southwestern province of Baluchistan and 120 in the southern province of Sindh had been confirmed.

Besides, he said, 5,000 villages in Baluchistan and 1,400 in Sindh have been affected by flood whereas two million people in Baluchistan and 200,000 in Sindh have been affected. — MNA/Xinhua

RMAF chopper with 6 aboard missing

KUALA LUMPUR, 14 July — A Royal Malaysia Air Force (RMAF) helicopter with six people aboard went missing on Friday on its way to the east coast of the Malaysia Peninsular, local media reported.

The helicopter left the RMAF base here lost radio contact with the base about ten minutes after it took off around 9.30 am, Malaysia’s national news agency Bernama said.

The helicopter went missing when it headed for the city of Kuantan in the Pahang State. The RMAF had set up a search and rescue team to locate the helicopter and the passengers.

Local English language newspaper The Star said the possibility that the chopper made an emergency landing somewhere could not be ruled out.

An elderly man walks out of a temporary shelter as other flood victims look on in Xinyang, Chinas central Huabei Province, on 13 July, 2007. Nearly half a million people have been evacuated from a potentially deadly flood zone surrounding central China’s swollen Huai River, state media reported Thursday. — Internet

Woman held in UK bomb plot released without charge

LONDON, 14 July — British police said on Thursday they had released without charge the only woman among the eight suspects held in the case of failed bomb attacks in London and Glasgow last month.

The woman was the wife of suspect Mohammed Asha, 26, arrested with him on 30 June while driving on a motorway in northern England, hours after attackers drove a jeep into an airport terminal in Scotland and set it ablaze.

That attack followed the discovery of two car bombs near a crowded nightclub in London. Police think the two incidents were linked.

One suspect, Iraqi-trained doctor Bilal Abdullah, has been charged in the attacks. Four other suspects who have yet to be charged are being held by British police and a fifth is badly burned in hospital.

Another suspect is being held by police in Australia.

MNA/Reuters

Tom Cruise to receive career honor

BEIJING, 13 July — Tom Cruise is set to be honored at New York City’s Museum of the Moving Image (MOMI) in November.

The Minority Report star, 45, follows in the footsteps of former honorees Sidney Lumet, Robert De Niro, Richard Gere, Al Pacino, Sidney Poitier, Julia Roberts and James Stewart. — Internet
Fire breaks out at unused Miami airport tower

Miami, 13 July — A fire broke out on Wednesday in a tower under construction at Miami International Airport, but was quickly brought under control, officials said.

The tower is at the massive new North Terminal, part of a $2.66 billion US-dollar expansion project under way for over a decade and bedevilled by cost overruns, scandals and delays.

“There was a tar kettle on fire,” a spokeswoman for Miami-Dade County fire and rescue said.

“But apparently everything seems to be under control now,” Television images showed flames and heavy, black smoke billowing from the tower as fire engines gathered below. “It’s not the real fire, no,” said a spokeswoman for the Federal Aviation Administration, the US agency that oversees air safety and runs air traffic control.

Construction of a North Terminal at Miami’s airport was initially authorized 14 years ago at a cost of $500 million US dollars.

But it is still only half-complete and now projected to ultimately cost 2.66 billion US dollars.

The international study project under way at Miami’s airport was broken in a tower under construction at Miami International Airport, injuring one worker.

— INTERNET

MMARuters

Study shows older women should avoid hormone therapy

Chicago, 13 July — Women long past menopause should not use hormones to prevent heart disease, researchers said on Wednesday.

But mounting evidence suggests hormone therapy may be useful for women early in menopause looking for short-term relief from hot flashes and other menopausal symptoms, another researcher said.

The international study on older women, published in the British Medical Journal, confirms recent findings that suggest hormone replacement therapy or HRT poses risks for women in their 60s just starting to take it.

“For long-term prevention of chronic diseases, hormone therapy would really not be advisable,” said Dr JoAnn Manson, chief of the division of preventive medicine at Harvard Medical School’s Brigham & Women’s Hospital in Boston.

Manson, who was not involved in the British Medical Journal study, spoke separately at a news briefing on the latest thinking about hormone replacement therapy. For many years, doctors had thought hormone therapy could protect women from chronic diseases and especially from heart disease.

But a 2002 study called the Women’s Health Initiative or WHI raised alarms about heart attack and stroke risks associated with the therapy, leading millions of women to abandon HRT.

Now growing evidence suggests these risks are most pronounced for women who start taking hormones later.

— MNA/Ruters
CNG-run shallow pump with low cost invented in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 13 July — Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR) has invented a shallow pump run by compressed natural gas (CNG), the first of its kind in the country, with a view to reducing the irrigation cost of the farmers. Four engineers of BCSIR invented the new technology after nine-month efforts, local daily The Daily Star reported Thursday.

Rahian, the team leader, said they converted the existing diesel-run shallow pump into CNG-run one which can also be run by both gas and diesel. In that case, 70 per cent of the cost will be needed to run the pump, he added. Rahian said the CNG-run shallow pump can save about 70 per cent of the cost. Around 12,000 to 15,000 taka (about US dollars to 214 US dollars) is needed to make a CNG-run pump, which can run at least 30 hours with gas worth only 100 taka (about 1.43 US dollars), he added.

Rupesh Chandra Roy, a member of the research team, said a farmer wants to convert his diesel-run pump into CNG one, it would cost 7,000 taka (100 US dollars).

The CNG-run shallow pump is easy to carry as it contains a cylinder of 40 litres, he said, adding that there is no hassle while filling the cylinder with gas as the cylinder can easily be separated from the machine. Inaugurating the pump, BCSIR Chairman Dr Chowdhury Mahmud Hasan said the invention could reduce the irrigation cost significantly.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia ranks 4th in terms of diabetes sufferers

JAKARTA, 13 July — The World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated that Indonesia ranks fourth in terms of diabetes sufferers in the world, an Indonesian diabetes expert said here Thursday.

“In 2000, 8.4 million Indonesians suffered from diabetes, the figure is expected to increase to 21.3 million in 2030,” said Professor Sidartawan Soegondo, metabolic endocrine and diabetes consultant at University of Indonesia’s medical faculty.

Indonesia, with a population of more than 230 million, had the fourth biggest number of diabetes sufferers after China, India and the United States.

The number of pre-diabetes cases in Indonesia was also high, reaching 12.9 million in 2003, the fifth biggest in the world. The figure was expected to increase to 20.9 million in 2025, he said.

Ironically, only about 50 per cent of diabetes sufferers in Indonesia realized they had the disease and 30 per cent of sufferers have regular checkups, Soegondo said.

MNA/Xinhua

Spain seizes US treasure boat near Gibraltar

GIBRALTAR, 13 July — Spanish police forcefully boarded a boat operated by a US treasure hunting company on Thursday after it left the British possession of Gibraltar, a witness aboard the boat said.

Spain says the company, Odyssey Marine Exploration, has treasure that Madrid believes could have been retrieved from Spanish waters or from a Spanish galleon which sank in the colonial period.

The Ocean Alert sailed from Gibraltar, on Spain’s southern tip, on Thursday morning and was shadowed by a Spanish Guardia civil patrol boat for five kilometres (three miles) before it left Gibraltar waters and was forcefully boarded by four officers. Spain said it legally recovered the galleon which sank in the Atlantic during the colonial period.

The Ocean Alert is one of three vessels belonging to Odyssey which are subject to a search warrant issued by a Spanish court last month. Odyssey Marine Exploration, a Florida-based treasure-hunting company, has said it legally recovered gold and silver coins worth an estimated 500 million US dollars from a colonial-era wreck code-named Black Swan at a location in the Atlantic Ocean that it refuses to disclose.

MNA/Reuters

Chinese scientist says Tianshan glaciers shrinking fast

BEIJING, 13 July — Glaciers in the Tianshan Mountains of Xinjiang, near China’s western border, are shrinking at “alarming speeds”, the Xinhua news agency said on Thursday, citing a local scientist. The No1 glacier in the Tianshan Mountains has lost 20 million cubic metres of ice in the past four decades, and split in half in 1993.

The eastern and western sections are receding by 3.5 metres and 5.9 metres every year, said Wang Feiteng, an assistant researcher with the Tianshan Mountain glacier monitoring station under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS).

“Like the hard drive of a computer, glaciers record how the environment has changed. Warm weather has been the major cause of the glacier’s retreat,” Xinhua cited Wang as saying. China has about 46,000 glaciers, totalling 60,000 square kilometres, primarily in Tibet and Xinjiang. The total glacier area in Xinjiang, home to two-fifths of China’s glaciers, has shrunk by 20 per cent and snow lines have receded by about 60 metres since 1964. CAS statistics show the internal temperature of the glaciers has risen by 10 per cent in the last two decades, Xinhua said.

MNA/Reuters

Vehicles move along a damaged Mumbai-Khandala highway near Vataman village, about 75 km (47 miles) west from the western Indian city of Ahmedabad on 13 July, 2007. At least 187 people have died and 7 million have been affected by flooding caused by the annual June-September monsoon rains across eastern, western and southern parts of the country. — INTERNET

Members of Spain civil guard stand next to the Ocean Alert, a ship belonging to the company Odyssey Marine Exploration, in Algecira’s Port, southern Spain, on 12 July, 2007. Spanish police boarded the boat operated by a US treasure hunting company on Thursday after it left the British colony Gibraltar, a witness aboard the boat said. — INTERNET

Thick plumes of ash are spewed from Mount Gamkonora on Halmahera Island, in North Maluku, on 9 July, 2007. Magma is rising inside a volcano smouldering in Indonesia’s northeast, a geologist warned on Friday, as thousands of people evacuated from its slopes remained sheltered in safe zones. — INTERNET
China’s Zhou Yangyu completes during the 10th round of RS-X Men’s in ISAF Sailing World Championships in Cascais, city of Portugal, on 12 July, 2007. Zhou took the 9th place with 79 points. **Xinhua**

**Sports**

**ACROSS**

5 German enemy (sl.)

8 Three balls, three wickets (3-5)

9 Keen

10 Watchful

11 Diminutive of Harold

14 Tarturfm

16 Furnace feeder

17 Wild revels

18 Evergreen tree

20 Eastern couch

24 Transgressor

25 Poison

26 To pain

27 Ermine

**DOWN**

1 Onions herb

2 Storey

3 Fish

4 Candlestick

6 Swap

7 Backward

12 Of harsh tone

13 U.S. state

14 Be nosey

15 A bell-rop

19 Likeness

21 Uncanny

22 Farewell

23 Fish basket

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

**Solve the puzzle with the clues provided.**

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**JAPAN back on track with easy win over UAE**

**Hanoi, 14 July** — Japan got their bid for a third successive Asian Cup title firmly back on course with a convincing 3-1 victory over United Arab Emirates on Friday.

Striker Naohiro Takahara scored twice as Japan rebounded from a disappointing 1-1 draw with Qatar in their opener to go top of Group B on goal difference above co-hosts Vietnam.

Takahara, who played despite suffering from a fever he picked up on the eve of the game, put Japan in front after 22 minutes with a powerful header.

The former Boca Juniors forward who now plays for Eintracht Frankfurt doubled Japan’s lead five minutes later, volleying home from 20 metres for his third goal of the tournament.

Celtic midfielder Shunsuke Nakamura added a third goal from the penalty spot four minutes before halftime to kill off a game played in sweltering conditions in Hanoi.

UAE’s plight went from bad to worse when Basheer Saed was sent off for a nasty foul on Keita Suzuki eight minutes into the second half.

The Gulf Cup holders managed a consolation goal in the 66th minute through Saeid Al Kaas but it came too late to prevent them becoming the first team eliminated from the Asian Cup. — MNA/Reuters

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**Dunga says Argentina favourites**

**Maracabo (Venezuela), 14 July** — Brazil coach Dunga on Friday declared Argentina as favourites to win the Copa America final against his team on Sunday.

“From what Argentina have done so far, they are the favourites,” he told reporters. “We’ve done our part by reaching the final, now we have to surpass that.”

Argentina have scored 16 goals and won all five games in reaching the final. Brazil, on the other hand, lost to Mexico in the early rounds and needed penalties to beat Uruguay in their semifinal.

Brazil are also without Ronaldinho and Kaka, who asked to be rested from the tournament, while Argentina are at full strength. — MNA/Reuters

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**IRAQ stun lethargic Australia**

**Bangkok, 14 July** — Iraq pulled off a stunning 3-1 upset win over Australia at the Asian Cup on Friday to leave the tournament favourites in danger of an embarrassing early exit.

Nashat Akram scored from a free kick in the first half after a terrible mistake by goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer and Hauw Mulla Mohammad and Karrar Jassim Mohammad capitalized on further defensive errors to find the net after the interval.

The Socceroos briefly drew level when their captain Mark Viduka scored just after halftime, but were otherwise outplayed by a team who had to train and play qualifiers in neutral Jordan because of the war in their homeland.

The Australians can still reach the quarterfinals if they win their last pool match against co-hosts Thailand on Monday. Iraq and Thailand lead the Group A standings, while Australia and Oman each have a solitary point from the first two rounds.

Australia will be without West Ham defender Lucas Neill against Thailand after he was sent off in stoppage time for a second yellow card, but Arnold said he was already planning to wield the axe on some of the team’s higher-profile players. — MNA/Reuters

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**Blatter takes swipe at extra time**

**Maracabo (Venezuela), 14 July** — FIFA president Sepp Blatter said on Friday he liked the idea of drawing matches going straight to penalties without extra time being played.

Blatter’s comment came during the Copa America, a tournament where there is no extra period.

“One thing I like about the Copa America is that you don’t go to extra time. This is a very, very good decision you have taken,” Blatter told directors of the South American Football Confederation (CSF) sitting alongside him. “It’s better to go straight to penalties. There has been no point in playing extra time since the golden goal rule was abandoned.” — MNA/Reuters

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**Beckham finally on board as Galaxy player**

**Carson (California), 14 July** — David Beckham, ready to start his much trumpeted American adventure, was formally introduced as a Los Angeles Galaxy player at the Major League Soccer (MLS) team’s home stadium on Friday.

The England midfielder was paraded in front of an audience of Galaxy season-ticket holders and sponsors’ guests at the Home Depot Centre before being presented with his number 23 shirt.

Beckham, who arrived in Los Angeles on Thursday with his pop star wife Victoria and their three sons, told the crowd he was ready to embrace one of the biggest challenges of his career. “To move to a different country on the other side of the world is something I’m looking forward to,” the 32-year-old said after being introduced amidst a burst of gold, blue and white confetti.

“I think potentially in the States soccer could be as big as it is everywhere in the world and I’m very proud to be part of that for the next five years, and maybe after that.” — MNA/Reuters

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**Iraqi forward Harry Kewell (R) and Iraq’s midfielder Mahdi Ajeel fight for ball during their Group A match in the Asian Cup 2007 football tournament at the Ratcatchangula Stadium in Bangkok, Australia were booted off the field with their Asian Cup hopes in tatters after a disastrous 3-1 defeat to Iraq.** — Internet

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**Real Betis to unveil Cuper as new coach**

**Madrid, 14 July** — Former Inter Milan and Valencia manager Hector Cuper will be the new real coach of Real Betis, the Primera Liga club confirmed on Friday. The 51-year-old Argentine, who was formerly coach at Mallorca, will be presented at 1900 GMT on Monday, the club said in a statement on their website (www.realbetisbalompie.es).

Betis had a forgettable campaign last season.

They started out under Javier Irureta, who threw in the towel in December to be replaced by Luis Fernandez. — MNA/Reuters
**Manila, 14 July** — Philippine military officials said on Friday the death toll from Thursday’s sunken ferry rose to 15, as rescue teams recovered the bodies of two more people from the wreckage. “Divers attempted to go inside the ship, they saw many dead bodies inside,” Lieutenant-Commander Rodrick Parayno, a military spokesman for Southern Luzon Command told reporters.

The military also expected the death toll to rise with their discovery inside the vessel, he said.

The ill-fated M/V Blue Water Princess lays on its side some 500 metres away from the shore, according to Parayno.

“New recoveries for today are three dead. Total since yesterday is 15 dead,” Parayno said, quoting field reports from the military’s task force for search and rescue operations.

Parayno said rescuers could not start recovery due to strong waves. The road to the site has become muddy because of the rains, he added.

The spokesman said that at least 126 survivors have been saved from the sea so far.

The inter-island ferry left the Dalahican Port in Lucena City of Quezon Province on Wednesday and was supposed to arrive at Masbate Island on Thursday.

The 483-ton vessel reportedly ran aground near the Bondoc Peninsula, some 400 kilometres southeast of Manila, causing it to tilt to its side.

*NNA/Xinhua*

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**Death toll from Philippine sunken ferry rises to 15**

**Ahmed Esaoq Dawoodjee**

Son of late Mr Esaoq Ismail Dawoodjee and Rasult Bi Bi, Residence of No (82), Bo Aung Kyaw Street,

Mr Ahmed Esaoq Dawoodjee passed away at 7:30 pm on 13 July 2007. Janaza prayer at Surti Sunni Masajad, on Shwe Bontha Street at 1:00 pm.

Bereaved family

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**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**

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**Weather**

**Saturday, 14 July, 2007**

Summary of observations recorded at 09:00 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing Division, rain has been isolated in Kayah State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin State and Bago Division and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Mon and Kayin States and isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.08) inches, Thaung (5.79) inches, Hpa-an (4.14) inches, Gwa (4.09) inches, Ye (3.90) inches, Kawkayeik (3.86) inches, Yangon (Central) (2.71) inches, Kayan (2.64) inches, Thandwe (2.49) inches, Pathein and Hinthada (2.17) inches each, Dawei (2.05) inches, Thayawady (2.01) inches and Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (1.07) inches.

Maximum temperature on 13-7-2007 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 14-7-2007 was 73°F. Relative humidity at 09:00 hours MST on 14-7-2007 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 13-7-2007 was (0.8) hour approx.

Rainfall on 14-7-2007 was (1.03) inches at Mandalogon, (1.07) inches at Kaba-Aye, (2.71) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (71.54) inches at Mandalogon, (75.83) inches at Kaba-Aye and (75.43) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from West at (15:30) hours MST on 13-7-2007.

**Bay influence**

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 15-7-2007:** Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin and Shan States, Bago Division and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls are likely in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**State of the sea:** Squalls with rough seas will be experienced at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40-45) mph.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Strong Monsoon.

**Forecast valid until evening of 16-7-2007:** Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 15-7-2007:** Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 15-7-2007:** Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR** Sunday, 15 July, 2007
Secretary-1 meets export and import supervisory committee, merchants

All companies are to make innovations in their respective fields

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July — A meeting of the export and import supervisory committee and merchants and entrepreneurs was held at the Ministry of Commerce here this afternoon, with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present were members of the export and import supervisory committee Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, ministers, deputy ministers, the director-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, the President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, chairmen and officials of merchant associations, exporters and importers and merchants from border areas.

In his address, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said the meeting was held with the aim of developing all sectors of the State, realizing the government’s efforts, ensuring cooperation of the merchants and entrepreneurs for realization of economic objectives through proper ways and finding out solutions to the difficulties encountered through the meeting of associations, merchants, entrepreneurs and ministers on economy.

He said the government has laid down short-term five-year plans and is implementing them for economic progress and this year is the second year of the fourth five-year plan.

Production of paddy increased two times, that of beans and pulses 11th times, that of oil crops three and half times and that of fish and meat four times, compared with 1988. Such progress has been made due to building of economic infrastructures annually and participation of the private sectors.

President of MMCWA Daw Khin Khin Win and members comfort handicapped patients at Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (300-bed).—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July — Under the arrangement of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Nay Pyi Taw Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and 300-bed General Hospital in Nay Pyi Taw, held the first cash donations ceremony for the cleft lip and palate patients in Pyinmana District at the hospital this morning.

It was attended by Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and wife, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and Deputy Ministers Dr Mya Oo and Dr Paing Soe, President of MMCWA Daw Khin Khin Win, Vice-Presidents Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint and Daw Aye Aye Aye, the CEC members of the association, departmental heads of the Ministry of Health and the chairman and members of Pyinmana District PDC, members of Pyinmana District/Township Women’s Affairs Organizations, MCWAs and MCWSCs.

First, the specialist teams of the Mandalay General Hospital and Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital carried out surgeries on the handicapped.

Next, the commander presented K 350,000 and medicines worth K 650,000 donated by the Nay Pyi Taw Command, Vice-President Daw Aye Aye K 770,000, Vice-President Daw Tin Lin Myint K 896,000 donated by MMCWA to the officials.

Later, CEC member Daw Htwe Htwe Nyunt and Daw Swe Swe Oo, wife of the commander, presented gifts to the specialist teams.

Today’s donation amounted to K 4,166,000. Altogether 53 patients were given surgeries and the surgical operations continue tomorrow. —MNA