Matupi Township gains development momentum

NAY PYI TAW, 9 July—Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence delivered an address in meeting with servicemen and their families at the hall of local battalion in Matupi Station on 4 July and presented gifts to them.

Accompanied by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe and Chin State PDC Chairman Brig-Gen Hon Ngai, Lt-Gen Tha Aye visited Matupi Township People’s Hospital and gave necessary instructions. Lt-Gen Tha Aye comforted patients and inspected tea plantation of the hospital.

At Digital Auto-Exchange of Matupi Township Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, Lt-Gen Tha Aye looked into machine and operator rooms and left necessary instructions.

Next, Lt-Gen Tha Aye went to Progress of Border Areas and National Races Training School and fulfilled the requirements.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye, the commander and officials presented clothes, stationery, school uniforms and gifts to the school and the trainees. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Tha Aye visited Matupi Township Women’s Vocational Training School. He oversaw learning of trainees on basic and advanced tailoring courses and teaching and learning aids.

At Matupi Township Basic Education High School No. (1), Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspected progress in construction of two-storey new school building, school buildings of BEHS No. (2) and gave necessary instructions.

Next, Lt-Gen Tha Aye looked into tea plantations of departmental personnel near Haka-Matupi Road and production line of Matupi Tea Processing Factory, and left necessary instructions.
Always work for regional and national development

National policies laid down by the State are national duties to be carried out earnestly and steadfastly not only in the present but also in the future.

The government of Myanmar is working towards a peaceful, modern and developed nation in accord with its national policy — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty — and according to the wishes of the entire national people through systematic implementation of the seven-step roadmap.

At present, the government, the people and the Tatmadaw are working in concert for the development of the Union and to fulfil all the requirements of political, economic, education, health and transport sectors.

As a result, peace and tranquility is prevailing all over the nation. Major strides have been made in agricultural and manufacturing industries. Transport has become smooth and easy and businesses thrived.

Regional development is related to regional peace and stability. Only if there is the rule of law and peace and stability in the nation will the life of the people be secure. Mutual love, trust and understanding among the national brethren are the sound foundations of Union Spirit and national unity.

If all the national people try to maintain unity, peace and development already achieved and continue working together for regional and national development, their Union will last long.

Minister attends annual work coordination meeting of DACs

NAY PYI TAW, 9 July — Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt attended the annual work coordination meeting of Development Affairs Committees held at the assembly hall of the ministry, here this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for PBANRDA Col Tin Ngwe, the secretary and committee members of Nay Pyi Taw DAC, directors-general, managing directors and deputy directors-general of departments and enterprises under the ministry, directors, deputy superintendents and committee members of DACs.

First, the minister made a speech on the occasion. Next, Director-General U Myo Myint of Development Affairs Department read out the annual report of the development affairs committees during 2008-2009. Resource persons submitted their papers to the meeting.

Next, the minister inspected the separate ward for the sick and outpatient ward. He also took part in the discussion. Next, the deputy minister inspected the separate ward for the sick and outpatient ward. He also inspected Yangon East General Hospital.

Development Affairs Committees held at the assembly hall of the ministry, here this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for PBANRDA Col Tin Ngwe, the secretary and committee members of Nay Pyi Taw DAC, directors-general, managing directors and deputy directors-general of departments and enterprises under the ministry, directors, deputy superintendents and committee members of DACs.

Next, the minister made a speech on the occasion. Next, Director-General U Myo Myint of Development Affairs Department read out the annual report of the development affairs committees during 2008-2009. Resource persons submitted their papers to the meeting.

Deputy Minister Col Tin Ngwe and officials concerned, the meeting came to a close for the first day.—MNA

Pandemic A (H1N1) 2009 control measures under way

YANGON, 9 July — Secretary of the Communicable Diseases Control Central Committee Deputy Minister for Health Dr Hla Myint addressed the meeting on Pandemic A (H1N1) 2009 control measures at Insein People’s Hospital yesterday.

Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint, Director Dr Soe Lwin Nyein of the Department of Health, Director Dr Nay Win and Medical Superintendent Dr Kyaw Kyaw of the hospital presented topics about the disease. The deputy minister also took part in the discussion. Next, the deputy minister inspected the separate ward for the sick and outpatient ward. He also inspected Yangon East General Hospital.—MNA

New Sony Cyber-Shot Camera introduced

YANGON, 9 July — Organized by TMW Enterprise Ltd, an ceremony to introduce new Sony Cyber-Shot Camera to media and sale agents, was held at Sedona Hotel, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, this morning with an opening speech by Director Daw Wai Thit Lwin of TMW Enterprise Ltd.

After U Zwe Yan Bo of TMW Enterprise had explained facts about Auto Function by means of projector, the ceremony came to an end.

Next, those present viewed the Sony Cyber-Shot Cameras on display. The main aim of Sony is the satisfaction of the customers. Sony has produced cameras by means of Auto technology to catch high quality pictures. It is incumbent upon users who are using the cameras to adjust the functions and background they want. Now, 1 Auto technology is capable of adjusting functions of cameras automatically.

New T Series includes New Intelligent Auto Mode. When it is used, Intelligent Scene Recognition Function is able to create best pictures without adjusting setting. Sony Cyber-Shot Cameras can produce best pictures if SmileShutter Function and Intelligent Auto Function are jointly used.

W Series of Sony Cyber-Shot comprises 6 series namely DSC-W 270, DSC-W 230, DSC-W 220, DSC-W 210, DSC-W 190 and DSC-W 180. 3” LCD and colorful cameras used with Carl Zeiss Vario-Tessar Lens in W Series will be attractive to the users. 28 mm wide angle set SX optical telescopic can take vivid pictures for the users. Colorful Sony Cameras are now on sale at Sony Showrooms in states and divisions.—MNA
US government agencies’ websites attacked

WASHINGTON, 9 July — The websites of US government agencies including the White House, the State Department and the Pentagon have been under cyber attack, said the government on Wednesday.

State Department spokesman Ian Kelly confirmed to reporters at a press briefing that the stategov website had been under attack since 5 July, although “it’s much reduced right now.”

Kelly said that the US computer emergency readiness team is working with experts of his department and other affected government agencies to try to resolve the problem.

However, the source of attacks can not be confirmed yet, the spokesman added.

The cyber assault on the White House site did not effect its day-to-day operations with preventative measures in place, said spokesman Nick Shapiro, adding that the site is “stable and available to the general public.”

The Department of Homeland Security, which led the investigation into the attacks, confirmed that US government and private sector websites had come under so-called “distributed denial of service” attack without identifying any of the targeted sites.

Iraqi car bombs kill 16

BAGHDAD, 9 July — Car bombs in two Shiite villages on the outskirts of the northern Iraqi city of Mosul killed 16 civilians and injured more than two dozen on Wednesday, authorities said.

The motive for the attacks was not immediately clear. Their strength diminished, some Sunni insurgents still seek to re-ignite sectarian violence with the majority Shiites and reverse Iraq’s security gains in the past two years. Ethnic tensions among Kurds, Turksmen and Arabs are also high in the disputed region; mostly Shiite Turksmen live in the villages that were struck.

One attack happened in the village of Sada Wa Baaweza when a bomb in a car parked near a Shiite mosque killed nine people and injured 15, a police officer and a hospital medic said. Another bomb killed seven people and injured 11 people on a commercial street in Gubba village, police said.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media. The two villages are north of Mosul, and about 20 kilometres (12 miles) from each other.

G8 calls for increased food security

L’AQUILA, 9 July — World leaders at the Group of Eight summit say they want to promote investment in agriculture as a way of combating hunger in the face of the economic crisis.

The G-8 is expected to expand talks on food security when they meet with countries with emerging economies and with African countries over the next two days. Officials have said that they are discussing the creation of an agricultural development fund for Africa.

Leaders said in a statement Wednesday they want to “stimulate sustainable growth of world food production” with a particular focus on small farmers, as well as the traditional food aid.

South Sudan fighting targets women, children

KHARTOUM, 9 July — Fighting between tribes in southern Sudan has increasingly targeted women and children and likely killed more than 1,000 people since January, a senior UN official said Wednesday.

Sudan’s south is still grappling with the legacy of one of Africa’s longest and bloodiest civil wars. The two-decade battle between ethnic African southerners and Sudan’s Arab-dominated government in the northern capital, Khartoum, killed an estimated 2 million people.
Group of Five call for coordination in dealing with economic crisis, reforming Int’l financial system

L’AQUILA, 9 July—The Group of Five (G5) including Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa called for coordination in dealing with economic crisis and reforming the international financial system on Wednesday.

In a political declaration they said that the global economic crisis in its multiple dimensions, including social, employment and food and energy security risks, non-traditional threats to security such as diseases and epidemics, as well as the challenges posed by climate change, underscore our fundamental interdependence and the imperative of enhancing cooperation to achieve equitable and sustainable development for all.

They said that the world needs a new global governance, the construction of which must be based on inclusive multilateralism.

“In our evolving multi-polar world, the G5, as a positive platform that contributes to the promotion of the interests of developing countries, will continue to actively engage in jointly tackling global challenges,” they said.

Schwarzenegger’s welfare cuts angers Dems

SACRAMENTO, 9 July—Gov Arnold Schwarzenegger’s insistence on cost-cutting measures to weed out what he has described as “waste, fraud and abuse” in California’s social service programmes has struck a nerve with Democrats, welfare advocates and the frail.

They say the Republican governor is using the poor as a scapegoat for the state’s $26.3 billion budget shortfall. They also fear his proposals, if approved by the Legislature, would trigger increased unemployment and homelessness, and force thousands of people from their homes into expensive nursing facilities.

Mike Herald, a lobbyist for the Western Center on Law & Poverty, likened Schwarzenegger to a bully who bosses around his poverty-stricken family.

“The last thing these families need is a powerful figure accusing them of fraud,” he said.

S Korea, Europe to promote aviation cooperation

SEOUL, 9 July—South Korea and European countries reached an agreement to boost cooperation in their aviation policy, technological development and other safety-related information sharing, the South Korean government said on Thursday.

According to the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs, South Korea’s transport policymakers signed an agreement with the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC), one of the world-leading aviation organizations, in Strasbourg, France.

As the ECAC is involved in setting an international standard for aviation policies along with the United States, South Korea is expected to get help in advanced know-hows related to aviation policies, the ministry said.

The agreement will step up cooperation in technology development and expand information sharing in the safety area, the ministry added.

Canada announces funding for combat vehicle maintenance, purchase

OTTAWA, 9 July — Canada will spend 5 billion Canadian dollars (4.2 billion US dollars) to purchase new combat vehicles and maintain the existing fleet for the military, many of which are being used in Afghanistan, Defence Minister Peter MacKay announced on Wednesday.

Among the money, about 1 billion Canadian dollars (850 million US dollars) will be spent on upgrading and repairing 550 LAV IIIs, with an option to upgrade 80 more, he said at a press conference at a troops station in the eastern province of New Brunswick.

The rest of the money will be spent on three new types of vehicles, including 108 close-combat vehicles to work with the army’s Leopard tanks, 500 tactical armored patrol vehicles and 13 force mobility enhancement vehicles to carry equipment such as plows and building materials, he said.

Contracts to manufacture and assemble the new vehicles, as well as long-term contracts to service and maintain them, will be awarded in 2011 according to the government plan.

Euro zone Q1 contraction confirmed at 2.5 percent

LONDON, 9 July—Official figures confirmed that the 16 countries that use the euro saw output shrink by 2.5 percent in the first quarter of 2009 from the previous three month period as the global recession sapped the industrial exports that the euro zone relies on for growth.

Though the final estimate left the quarterly rate unchanged, the annual decline was greater than anticipated. Gross domestic product in the euro zone fell by 4.9 percent in the first quarter compared with the same period in 2008—slightly more than the previous reading of a 4.8 percent contraction.

Eurostat confirmed that Germany, the euro zone’s biggest economy, saw output plunge by a quarterly 3.8 percent as demand for its cars and factory machinery collapsed—its biggest economic contraction since at least 1970, when West Germany started to compile records.

China telecom developer may sell 20% stake to national pension fund

BEIJING, 9 July—Datang Telecom Technology and Industry Holdings Co., a major developer of the domestically-grown TD-SCDMA 3G standard, is in talks with the country’s national pension fund to sell a 20-percent stake through a private placement, according to company sources.

The deal could worth as much as 3 billion yuan (428.6 million US dollars), but the two sides had not decided on the price tag, said Thursday’s China Daily.

The National Social Security Fund (NSSF), will take a 20-percent stake in Datang Telecom Holdings after buying new shares issued by the telecom equipment firm.

The fund raised will be used to bankroll a hike in its equipment production capacity and increase working capital, according to the company sources.
**Regional co-op stressed for development in Africa**

**BEIJING, 9 July—**African officials highlighted the importance of regional cooperation and stressed that African countries cannot rely on aid from other countries for economic development.

In an interview with Xinhuanet.com in Beijing Wednesday at the Experience-sharing Programme on development between China and Africa, they stressed Africans must rely on themselves at a time of global economic downturn. “Africa must work closely together in order to be able to have a certain volume of the world trade market,” said Robert Joseph, Ghana’s deputy minister of Road and Highways.

The capacity of the African countries to come together to meet the huge import demand from other countries is weak, he said, so they need to build that capacity “by working together and supporting each other.”

Joseph stressed that African countries must look at the limitations they have, and strive together to deal with challenges brought by the global financial crisis.

**A visitor looks at the model of a generator on display during the 6th Asian Wind Energy Exhibition in Beijing, capital of China, on 8 July, 2009. The exhibition, attended by 445 enterprises from 22 countries and regions, kicked off here Wednesday.—XINHUA**

**China’s auto sales surpass 1.14 m units in June**

**BEIJING, 9 July—**Sales of China’s domestically made automobiles topped 1.14 million units in June, up 36.48 percent over the figure a year earlier, the fourth month in a row surpassing the 1.1 million units mark, the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers (CAAM) said Thursday.

Sales of China’s domestically manufactured vehicles stood at 6.099 million units in the first half of this year, up 17.69 percent over the figure a year earlier, according to the CAAM, adding that both the auto sale and production figures in the first six months had set a half-year record high.

China produced 5.99 million automobiles in the January-June period, up 15.22 percent year on year. The association attributed the increases to a series of government stimulus measures to boost domestic consumption.—XINHUA

**WHO launches network aimed at dealing with noncommunicable diseases**

**GENEVA, 9 July—**The World Health Organization (WHO) on Wednesday launched a new global network aimed at scaling up world action to combat noncommunicable diseases, which cause some 38 million deaths annually.

The Global Noncommunicable Disease Network (NCDnet) will unite currently fragmented efforts by bringing the cancer, cardiovascular, diabetes and respiratory communities together with tobacco control, healthy diets, and physical activity advocates, the UN agency said in a statement. The network will scale up action to combat noncommunicable diseases, strengthen global partnerships and help governments plan and implement measures to reduce the burden of these diseases, the statement said.

According to the WHO, noncommunicable diseases such as heart attacks, strokes, cancers, diabetes, respiratory diseases and common injuries account for the vast majority of all global deaths, but because they are not yet included as priorities in the global development agenda, donors and international organizations have yet to pledge support to help developing countries address these leading health problems.—XINHUA

**Visitors view and admire the limpid Hukou Waterfall on the Yellow River at Yichuan County, north China’s Shaanxi Province, on 7 July, 2009. Due to less rainfalls in the upper reaches of Yellow River that lessens the velocity of river flows to churn up and drive forward the sand sediments, water of the waterfall became clear.—XINHUA**

**China’s first female astronaut expected to complete space journey by 2012**

**BEIJING, 9 July—**China’s first female astronaut, who is yet to be selected to join the country’s second flight of taikonauts, is expected to complete her journey into space by 2012.

Guangzhou-based Xinhua Weekly quoted Sai Guosheng, an officer in charge of recruitment with the Air Force of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army, as saying.

The potential female astronauts would be recruited from 16 female fighter pilots who graduated in April.

The female pilots, who were chosen from 150,000 high school graduates in 12 provinces, were the first batch of Chinese young women qualified to fly fighter jets. They are expected to undergo between two and three years of training. China’s first astronaut Yang Liwei, who made history six years ago by completing the country’s first space voyage, said during a web chat with xinhuanet.com on Tuesday that the selection of China’s first woman astronaut was underway.

“I believe Chinese women will soon be seen in space,” said Yang, who is now in charge of the country’s selection of the next generation of astronauts.—XINHUA

**Google drops Gmail beta tag, plans operating system release**

**BEIJING, 9 July—**Google’s Gmail has finally dropped its beta tag after five years of use, the company announced Wednesday. Along with Google Calendar, Google Talk, and Google Docs, the dropping of the beta designation is seen as an effort to attract more business from those dissuaded from adopting services deemed not to be complete. Many businesses are reluctant to have their critical infrastructure depend on software that’s perpetually in beta. By ridding itself of the moniker, Google aims to convince more enterprises to consider its products as suitable for their business.

Writing on the official Google blog, the company says, “We’re taking the beta label off of Gmail, Google Calendar, Google Docs and Google Talk to remove any doubt that Apps is a mature product suite.” While the beta tag had been removed the company said new features would continue to be added. Rajen Sheth, Senior Product Manager of Google Apps, said, “we’re continuing to implement additional procedures to ensure that our business customers enjoy even greater reliability: live replication of data to other locations for near-instant disaster recovery, and special handling of business users’ data in our data center operations.”—XINHUA
45 Afghans die, 41 missing as boat sinks in E Indonesia

JAKARTA, 9 July—At least 45 Afghans died and 41 others went missing after their wooden boat sank in waters off Komodo island in Indonesia’s East Nusa Tenggara Province on Tuesday night, a local Disaster Management Agency official said Wednesday.

The wooden boat carrying the 86 Afghans was capsized after sailing about six hours from a seaport in West Nusa Tenggara Province, said Herman Mal, an official of the agency at Labuhan Bajo town of East Nusa Tenggara Province.

“All the 86 passengers on the boat are Afghans. 41 have been dead and the rest are still missing,” he told Xinhua from the town.

Rescue for the missing persons are underway, said Herman. Indonesia has been a favorable transit spot for illegal migrants from Afghanistan, the Middle East, Asia and other countries, who want to enter Australia for a better life.—Internet

Malaysia drops English used to teach maths, science

KUALA LUMPUR, 9 July—Malaysia announced Wednesday it will abandon the use of English to teach maths and science, bowing to protesters who demanded more use of the national Malay language.

Malay will be reinstated in state-funded schools starting in 2012 because teaching in English caused academic results in those subjects to slip, Education Minister Muhyiddin Yassin said.

The news comes after months of high-profile demonstrations by politicians and linguists, especially from the ethnic Malay majority, who say a six-year-old policy of using English undermines their struggle to modernise their mother tongue.

English was once the medium of instruction in most schools in Malaysia, a former British colony. Nationalist leaders switched to Malay less than two decades after independence in 1957.—Internet

Conn woman’s encounter with ‘Big Foot’ a hoax

A Connecticut woman’s close encounter with the mythical beast, Sasquatch or Big Foot, turned out to be nothing more than a boy in a costume.

Fairfield police said a woman driving last Tuesday night called police to report that she “almost hit Sasquatch,” which was standing in the middle of the road.

Balancing artist Wang Junru entertains during a dress rehearsal in Auckland, on 8 July, 2009, for Dralion, Cirque du Soleil’s latest show to tour New Zealand. The show is on at Auckland’s Alexandra Park until 23 August.—Internet

Man says bear mugged him for his Italian sandwich

A northwestern New Jersey man said he was mugged in his driveway by a sandwich-craving bear. Henry Rouwendal said he was packing his car last Friday when he was hit from behind and knocked to the ground. He said the culprit was a black bear who took his Italian sandwich.

Rouwendal said he kicked the bear in the snout and throat. He said the bear made off with the bread, salami and other meats but left behind the lettuce, onions and tomatoes.

Vernon Township police said it’s the first time a bear has attacked a person in the rural community in more than 25 years.

Thousands attend funeral as Jackson buried without brain

BEIJING, 9 July—Michael Jackson was buried on Tuesday in Los Angeles without his brain, or at least part of it. Coroner’s had decided to keep part of the singer’s brain in order to run further tests to determine the cause of death, which has yet to be established.

Jackson died an apparent coronary on 25 June, and while his body was released to the family the following day his brain was not. And the organ may not be returned for several weeks as examiners wait for it to “harden” before they can conduct tests.

Forensic neuro-pathologists will slice the brain into thin segments to see if the pop icon had suffered from any diseases or engaged in drug or alcohol abuse. A spokesman for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health said, “The redacted death certificate is now available for purchase from the Department of Public Health,” and said applications could be made at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health in North Figueroa Street, Los Angeles.—Internet

File photo of Komodo island (back) and other islands that form part of the Komodo National Park in Indonesia.—Internet

Peer pressure has environmental role

EAST LANSING, 9 July—A US study suggests people are more likely to become involved in conservation programmes if their neighbours are also involved.

Michigan State University Professor Jianguo Liu said his study is the first to look at social norms in the context of China’s conservation efforts. The study focused on a mammoth government initiative called Grain-to-Green that pays Chinese farmers to convert arable land back to forest. Liu said while money is a key factor in whether people sign up for the voluntary programmes, peer pressure plays a surprisingly large role.

“That’s the power of social norms,” he said. “It’s like recycling. If you see your neighbours doing it, you’re more likely to do it.”

Doctoral student Xiaodong Chen, lead author of the study, said government officials should leverage social norms, along with economic and demographic trends, when deciding how to support conversation programmes.—Internet

Polons find live scorpions in parcel

Polish customs officers have intercepted a package posted from Hong Kong containing 39 scorpions — 32 of them alive for purchase from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, and said applications could be made at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health in North Figueroa Street, Los Angeles.—Internet

This recent handout photo provided by the Polish customs office shows scorpions discovered by Polish customs agents in Warsaw in a package posted from Hong Kong.

The scorpions were in a small package purportedly containing toys valued at 12 euros (17 dollars), according to customs officers in Warsaw.

The warnings could be made at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health in North Figueroa Street, Los Angeles.—Internet

A horse of the “picador” is tossed by one of Cebada Gago fighting bulls during the bullfight at San Fermín Fiestas in Pamplona, northern Spain, on 8 July, 2009. The fiestas ‘Los San Fermín’s’ held since 1591, attracts tens of thousands of foreign visitors each year for nine days of revelry, morning bull-runs and afternoon bullfights.

Gardener’s house in flames as he tries to kill weeds

Police said a gardener in Germany set fire his house while he was trying to kill weeds with a flame thrower.

The fire engulfed the house in Tangstedt near Hamburg in northern Germany soon after the 54-year-old gardener successfully set on fire a row of weeds.

The gardener used a garden hose to extinguish the fire that had spread to the roof of the house but failed.

Authorities said seven firemen were needed to put out the fire, which occurred Thursday.
Sugar mill in Shan State (North), the largest of its kind in Myanmar

**Article: Myint Maung Soe; Photos: Myo Min Thein (Mayangon)**

**U Tun Myint, In-charge of the sugar mill.**

(from page 1)

The government, as part of its drive for improving the living standard of the people by means of boosting production of regional goods, has been building factories and mills throughout the country.

One of them is Hsinshweli Sugar Mill near Hsammahse Village in Nawngkkio Township, Kyaukme District, the largest of its kind in Myanmar.

Recently, we had an opportunity to pay a visit to the sugar mill, with the accompaniment of Manager Daw Nan Lwin Lwin Sein of Nawngkkio Township Myanma Agriculture Service.

She told the Myanmar Alin, “Last season, our township grew 10,339 acres of sugarcane, and on average we got 32.18 tons of sugarcane an acre. The sugarcane species we use are Hsinshweli and Yayzin. Local sugarcane farmers are pleased to see such a large sugarcane mill here.”

On our way from Nawngkkio to the sugar mill, we saw sugarcane fields stretching on the horizon. The site of the sugar mill seemed to have larger sugarcane sown than any other part in the region.

U Tun Myint, in-charge of the sugar mill, said, “The sugar mill is for the convenience of the farmers here in selling the sugarcane they grow. And the sugar mill generates a large number of job opportunities for local people.”

He added, “Our mill was launched in August 2006, and it started to run at full capacity in January 2007. It can crush 1500 tons of sugarcane and produces 200 tons a day. Last year, it produced more than 20,000 tons of sugar. Sugarcane season is off from December until March.”

The sugarcane mill has led to a significant increase in the sown acreage of sugarcane in the region, and job opportunities for about 200 permanent staff and about 200 daily wage-workers.

The giant sugar mill helps local farmers grow sugarcane and produce sugar increasingi, and create job opportunities.

Translation: MS Kyemon: 9-7-2009

---

**Youth Camp for Asia’s Future 2009 to be held**

**YANGON, 9 July—**

Hosted by Ministry of Health, Welfare and Family Affairs and organized by National Council of Youth Organizations of the Republic of Korea, Youth Camp for Asia’s Future 2009 will be held in Seoul of the Republic of Korea from 30 July to 13 August.

Myanmar youth aged between 18 and 30 years may take part in the event. Those applicants must be proficient in English and priority will be given to those who have genuine interest in international relations or ROK and who are learning Korean language. The embassy of ROK will select nine candidates and those who were selected for the previous year youth camps are not eligible to apply for. The selected candidates’ roundtrip airfare, board and lodging will be provided by the organizer.

Application forms will be available at the Korean Embassy at No. 97, University Avenue, Bahan Township (Ph: 521142-4). Applicants should submit application forms to the Embassy no later than 14 July (Tuesday) and personal interview will take place on 16 July (Thursday).

---

**YUCS to pay respects to faculty on 12 July**

**YANGON, 9 July—**

The third ceremony to pay respects to faculty members by the old students of the University of Computer Studies (Yangon) (1986-2007), will take place at the Conference Hall of Myanmar Info-Tech in Hline Township, here, on 12 July at 9 am.

Cash donations will be held in memory of the late faculty members at Yangon General Hospital. Moreover, cash will be donated to social organizations for absent faculty members.

The invitation was extended to the old students who attended M.I.Sc. Those wishing to donate cash may contact Ma Min Thu (Tel: 0950-06329), Ko Min Oo (Tel: 0950-07166), Ma San Yin (Tel: 652264), Ko Tun Khine (Tel: 0950-47915), Ko Tin Htoo Khine (Tel: 0950-42789), Ko Kyaw Kyaw Naing (Tel: 0950-52101), Ko Kyaw Myat Thaw (Tel: 0950-34426), Ma Padamya Kay Khine (Tel: 0951-46509), Ko Ye Wint Htoo (Tel: 0950-03700) and Ma Ei Mon Win (Tel: 0951-77565).

MNA
Women costume show marks Myanmar Women’s Day

NAY PYI TAW, 9 July—To mark Myanmar Women’s Day, women costume show was conducted at National Theatre in Mandalay on 1 July. Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Hmawwun Ward of Phakant was flooded, and in Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 of the incident. Some houses in Phakant. Small huts on the bank collapsed and 24 people died in the incident. Some houses in Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 of Phakant were flooded, and the victims were evacuated to the safe place. The landslides caused the road blockages in the urban area of Phakant and some areas on Phakant-Lonkin Road and Mogauk-Phakant Road. As officials managed to clear the blockages, the conditions of the roads returned to normalcy. From 10.30 pm on 4 July to 2 am on 5 July, the landslides occurred on the right bank of Phakant-Lonkin Road in Hmaawwun Ward of Phakant during the heavy rain. In consequence, the small huts on the bank collapsed. The landslide killed 11 men and 13 women and left one injured person. In the torrential rain on 5 and 6 July, Uru Creek overflowed and a total of 24 houses in Wards 1, 2 and 3 were swept away in the flood and 90 houses in Wards 3, 4 and 6 were under water. The flood victims were evacuated to the safe place. Local authorities and officials of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement provided necessary assistance to the flood victims. At present, the water has receded. Local authorities, the Tatmadaw, the Myanmar Police Force and members of the social organizations collected donations and removed the blockages at the Bailey bridge in Phakant, on Phakant-Lonkin motor road in Hmaawwun Ward, at the foot of KyetU Hill near Pantin Bridge of Hmaawwun Ward, between Lebyin Village and 7th-Mile post and the road blockage near Kahtianyan Village of Kamaing Township. At present, all the roads have been cleared and restored to normalcy. —MNA

Forestry Minister visits Mt Popa Garden

YANGON, 9 July—Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung on 6 July arrived at Natkanle camp in Mount Popa Garden under the Forest Department in Kyaukpadaung Township. Deputy Director of the Forest Department U Win Naing Thaw, in charge of Mount Popa Garden U Thein Tun and officials reported on mixed-planting of perennial trees and shift planting of banana in villages. And the minister met with local people in the village and viewed greening of Mount Popa. In the afternoon, the minister looked into 15-acre eucalyptus plantation on both sides of the road in Kyaukpadaung Township.—MNA

Torrenal rain causes landslides and kills 24 people in Phakant Township

NAY PYI TAW, 9 July—Due to recent torrential rain, the landslides occurred in Hmaawwun Ward of Phakant. Small huts collapsed and 24 people died in the incident. Some houses in Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 of Phakant were flooded, and the victims were evacuated to the safe place. The landslides caused the road blockages in the urban area of Phakant and some areas on Phakant-Lonkin Road and Mogauk-Phakant Road. As officials managed to clear the blockages, the conditions of the roads returned to normalcy. From 10.30 pm on 4 July to 2 am on 5 July, the landslides occurred on the right bank of Phakant-Lonkin Road in Hmaawwun Ward of Phakant during the heavy rain. In consequence, the small huts on the bank collapsed. The landslide killed 11 men and 13 women and left one injured person. In the torrential rain on 5 and 6 July, Uru Creek overflowed and a total of 24 houses in Wards 1, 2 and 3 were swept away in the flood and 90 houses in Wards 3, 4 and 6 were under water. The flood victims were evacuated to the safe place. Local authorities and officials of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement provided necessary assistance to the flood victims. At present, the water has receded. Local authorities, the Tatmadaw, the Myanmar Police Force and members of the social organizations collectively undertook sanitation tasks and removed the blockages at the Bailey bridge in Phakant, on Phakant-Lonkin motor road in Hmaawwun Ward, at the foot of KyetU Hill near Pantin Bridge of Hmaawwun Ward, between Lebyin Village and 7th-Mile post and the road blockage near Kahtianyan Village of Kamaing Township. At present, all the roads have been cleared and restored to normalcy. —MNA

Foreign Affairs Minister meets Chinese delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 9 July—At the invitation of Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Win, the delegation led by Mr Guo Shengkum, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the People’s Congress of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Secretary of Guangxi Communist Party of China (CPC) Mr Guo Shengkum, arrived at Yangon International Airport by air on 8 July, to pay goodwill visit to the Union of Myanmar. They were welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by Deputy Director-General U Myint Soe of the Protocol Department, Mr Wang Zhongyin, Charge d’Affaires of the Chinese Embassy and responsible officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On 9 July, Mr Guo Shengkum paid a call on minister U Nyan Win at his office and held discussion on promoting the friendly relations and cooperation between Guangxi Zhuang and the Union of Myanmar. Mr Wang Zhongyin, Charge d’Affaires of the Chinese Embassy and responsible officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Donor Daw Aye Shwe, retired deputy Principal of Mandalay Education College, presented antique gramophone records donated by the Chinese Embassy. Deputy Secretary-General of CPC Guangxi Committee Mr Peng Xiaochun, high-ranking officials of the People’s Republic of China also accompanied Mr Guo Shengkum. Together with the Minister U Nyan Win the delegation visited our Mandalay, and Yangon. In the evening, Minister U Nyan Win hosted a dinner in honour of Mr Guo Shengkum and party at Myat Taw Win Hotel here. —MNA

Antique gramophone records donated to MRTV

NAY PYI TAW, 9 July—The donation of antique gramophone records to the Myanmar Radio and Television took place at the MRTV on Pyay Road in Yangon this afternoon.

MNA

Donor Daw Aye Shwe, retired deputy Principal of Mandalay Education College, presented gramophone records to the MRTV through Deputy Director-General U Thein Aung.

The gramophone records are 18 discs of Buddha’s past lives, 23 discs of classical Myanmar songs, and 17 discs of English songs. —MNA

MNA

Deputy Director-General U Thein Aung accepts antique gramophone records donated by Retired Deputy Principal Daw Aye Shwe. —MNA

MNA
Regional Development tasks undertaken in An Township

The commander and the minister inspected providing free medical treatments to people of Darlat village by specialists. On 7 July, they met with local people and townsmen from Darlat, Darlat (South), Darlat (North), Melatmaung, Alegyun and Ohndaw. Afterwards, the commander and the minister inspected agricultural tasks of villages along An creek. Then, the commander met with local people at Melatmaung village BEPS. They donated journals and magazines to library and construction materials for repairing the school and exercise books, cash and clothes through responsible persons.

Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe presents cash for construction of new school building in Darlat Village, An Township.

YANGON, 9 July—Minister for Local Administration and Development Mr Thein Swe presented cash for construction of new school building in Darlat Village, An Township. After that, The minister inspects providing free medical treatments to people of Darlat village by specialists.

Commodity Inspection Services (CIS) opened

YANGON, 9 July—A ceremony to open the office of Commodity Inspection Services Co., Ltd (CIS) was held at No. 159, 32nd Street in Pabedan Township, here yesterday. CIS will inspect the quality of machines and machine parts, industrial raw materials, auto and auto parts, construction materials, chemicals and dyes, foodstuffs, milk and milk products, edible oil, fuel products, cement and fertilizer in the sector of import and forest products, edible oil charcoal, cement, fertilizer, animal products, aquatic products, fruits and vegetables in the sector of export. Moreover, CIS will also examine the quality, hygiene, list of accurate package, trading agreement and truth to the rules and regulation of export and import. CIS has already obtained the official permission of Registered No 89/2009-2010 in terms of Myanmar Companies Act. Experienced technicians will carry out the inspection on commodities with the help of devices.

Myanmar delegation arrives back from Sudan

NAY PYI TAW, 9 July—Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Maung Myint arrived back by air yesterday after paying a goodwill visit to the Republic of Sudan at the invitation of the Sudanese Foreign Affairs Minister.

Deputy Minister U Maung Myint calls on Sudanese Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. Deng Alor Kuol (SPLM).

State Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Ali Ahmed Kertil.

Myanmar delegation headed by Deputy Minister U Maung Myint met with Sudanese State Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Ali Ahmed Kertil on 6 July morning and they held discussions on further promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries. In the afternoon, Myanmar delegation called on Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sudan Mr Deng Alor Kuol (SPLM) at his office. Next, Deputy Minister met with Secretary General Dr Omer Mohamed Kheir of Sudanese Petroleum Corporation of the Ministry of Petroleum and Mining and discussed prospects of bilateral cooperation in energy sector.

Earthquake Report

YANGON, 9 July—A moderate earthquake of intensity (5.6) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar in China about (680) miles Northeast of Kaba-Aye Seismological observatory was recorded at (17) hrs (53) min (10) sec MST today, announced Meteorology and Hydrology Department.
Pathin with fragrance of Pawhsahnhmwe paddy in future

(Article: Maung Maung Myint Swe: Photos: Kyaw Myint Than (Lanmadaw)

(from page 16)

(From page 16) southwest of Pathin. The boat turned from Ngawun River to Takaing Creek and continued its trip. After turning to Thandwe River, the boat arrived at Uto Village.

The boat turned from Ngawun River to Takaing Creek and continued its trip. After turning to Thandwe River, the boat arrived at Uto Village.

On arrival at Uto Village, we had an interview with Pathin Township Manager U Sein Maung Myint of Myanma Agriculture Service who was sharing agriculture knowledge on growing quality Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain to the local farmers.

U Sein Maung Myint explained, “In accord with the guidance of the Head of State and under the supervision of the Division Peace and Development Council, we started the tasks to cultivate the well-known quality Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain. I am supervising the cultivation task daily. The paddy strain produced from the fertile region will be distributed to the local farmers of Pathin Township. As a result, a large volume of quality Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain will yield in the town in the future. At present, I am giving the techniques to protect against pests,” said U Sein Maung Myint.

In the recent years, the quality of Uto-Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain declined. Indeed, the new paddy strain must be used after one paddy strain had been grown every two successive years.

However, the local farmers are keenly carrying out cultivation of quality Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain. I am supervising the cultivation task daily. The paddy strain produced has 98 per cent purity and 85 per cent success in paddy seedlings in the breeze and paddy transplanting of local women with the blue sky in the background.

While visiting the paddy fields, we met a local farmer weeding on the paddy dykes. In an interview, he said, “My name is U Kyin Ngwe and I am a villager of Uto Village. I am engaged in cultivation of paddy on 9.5 acres of farmlands included in 122.65 acres of arable lands in Kanchaung field.

In recent years, I grew Ayeyawady Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain. This year, I repeat the Pawhsahnhmwe paddy which is popular paddy strain in Kanchaung field. At present, I am satisfied with the conditions of seedlings and cultivation task. Therefore, I forecast to yield 70 baskets of paddy per acre.”

By the end of this cultivation season, quality Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain will be produced in Kanchaung field. We witnessed the farmers who were making efforts for yielding a large volume of well-known Uto-Pawhsahnhmwe paddy. We had an interview with a farmer who was making soil preparation for cultivation of paddy.

The farmer explained, “I am U Than Shwe and I am a resident of Uto Village. I am working 7.28 acres of farmlands in the area of Kanchaung field. I have planned to grow fine quality Pawhsahnhmwe paddy and sell the quality paddy strain this year. Now, I am cultivating well-known Pawhsahnhmwe paddy.

I believe the farmers will make handsome profit from growing paddy. Moreover, we are pleased that we can distribute the well-known Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain to other farmers.”

The local farmers are carrying out their agriculture tasks without difficulties because Ayeyawady Pathin Company is providing necessary assistance for cultivation of paddy to the local farmers.

By distributing quality paddy strain to local farmers, the quality Pawhsahnhmwe paddy with fine scent and taste can be consumed in the future not only in Pathin Township but also in the entire nation.

Translation: TTA

Myanma Alin: 7-7-2009

Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council, we started the tasks to cultivate the well-known-quality Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain and distribute the quality paddy seeds to the local farmers. We will reproduce Pawhsahnhmwe paddy of Uto with fine quality.”

The cultivable land of growing Uto-Pawhsahnhmwe paddy is located on 122.65 acres of natural silted area between Phetye River and Uto Creek, southwest of Pathin. As it is alluvial soil, cultivation of paddy can be undertaken without use of any fertilizer.

“The local farmers are keenly carrying out cultivation of quality Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain. I am supervising the cultivation task daily. The paddy strain produced from the fertile region will be distributed to the local farmers of Pathin Township. As a result, a large volume of quality Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain will yield in the town in the future. At present, I am giving the techniques to protect against pests,” said U Sein Maung Myint.

In the recent years, the quality of Uto-Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain declined. Indeed, the new paddy strain must be used after one paddy strain had been grown every two successive years.

However, the local farmers are keenly carrying out cultivation of quality Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain. I am supervising the cultivation task daily. The paddy strain produced has 98 per cent purity and 85 per cent success in paddy seedlings in the breeze and paddy transplanting of local women with the blue sky in the background.

While visiting the paddy fields, we met a local farmer weeding on the paddy dykes. In an interview, he said, “My name is U Kyin Ngwe and I am a villager of Uto Village. I am engaged in cultivation of paddy on 9.5 acres of farmlands included in 122.65 acres of arable lands in Kanchaung field.

In recent years, I grew Ayeyawady Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain. This year, I repeat the Pawhsahnhmwe paddy which is popular paddy strain in Kanchaung field. At present, I am satisfied with the conditions of seedlings and cultivation task. Therefore, I forecast to yield 70 baskets of paddy per acre.”

By the end of this cultivation season, quality Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain will be produced in Kanchaung field. We witnessed the farmers who were making efforts for yielding a large volume of well-known Uto-Pawhsahnhmwe paddy. We had an interview with a farmer who was making soil preparation for cultivation of paddy.

The farmer explained, “I am U Than Shwe and I am a resident of Uto Village. I am working 7.28 acres of farmlands in the area of Kanchaung field. I have planned to grow fine quality Pawhsahnhmwe paddy and sell the quality paddy strain this year. Now, I am cultivating well-known Pawhsahnhmwe paddy.

I believe the farmers will make handsome profit from growing paddy. Moreover, we are pleased that we can distribute the well-known Pawhsahnhmwe paddy strain to other farmers.”

The local farmers are carrying out their agriculture tasks without difficulties because Ayeyawady Pathin Company is providing necessary assistance for cultivation of paddy to the local farmers.

By distributing quality paddy strain to local farmers, the quality Pawhsahnhmwe paddy with fine scent and taste can be consumed in the future not only in Pathin Township but also in the entire nation.

Translation: TTA

Myanma Alin: 7-7-2009

A farmer making seedlings in the paddy field.

Female paddy transplanters growing Pawhsahnhmwe seedlings in the paddy field.
Global travel may be ailing, but China’s biggest city of Shanghai is pursuing luxury travelers with a vengeance, bent on restoring a reputation for opulence and elegance that once made it the Paris of the Orient.—INTERNET

Nigerian rebels attack oil pipelines, cut output

ABUJA, 9 July—Nigeria’s most prominent militant group sabotaged oil pipelines operated by Shell and Agip on Wednesday, further cutting production in Africa’s biggest energy producer. The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) said gunmen attacked the pipelines in two separate raids near Nembe creek in Bayelsa state in the Niger Delta.

Attacks against the OPEC member’s oil sector have become a near daily occurrence since President Umaru Yar’Adua announced an amnesty offer two weeks ago.

“The plague of sabotage descended heavily on major Shell and Agip crude trunk lines in Bayelsa state,” MEND said in a statement. The pipelines connect to Agip’s Brass and Royal Dutch Shell’s Bonny crude oil export terminals.

Agip’s parent company Eni said the attack caused a production loss of about 24,000 barrels per day, while Shell said it was still looking into the report.

A military spokesman said soldiers foiled an attempted attack on an Agip-operated oil well in Tchibikada in Bayelsa state early Wednesday. It was not clear if the incident was related to the pipeline attacks.—MNA/Reuters

UN suspends operation in S Philippines due to terror attacks

COTABATO (Philippines), 9 July—The spate of bombings in the southern Philippines that killed eight people and injured 100 others forced the United Nation’s World Food Programme to suspend their operation in the restive area, a UN-WFP official said on Wednesday. UN World Food Programme acting director Alghassim Wurie told Xinhua by phone a notice from their head office in Geneva directed them to suspend their operation for a week in Mindanao due to terror attacks that hit the region since Sunday.

“Our one-week suspension is effective today. It will affect the relief distribution and monitoring of internally displaced people,” Wurie said. “We are coordinating with Philippine authorities to find out what’s happening and we will later let you know our next move,” he added.

MNA/Xinhua

ADB providing $3.45m to Cambodia

MANILA, 9 July—The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is providing a 3.45-million US-dollar technical assistance grant to Cambodia to help diversify and boost the incomes of thousands of marginal farmers, small land holders, and poor households living in and around the resource-rich Tonle Sap Basin, ADB said in a statement on Wednesday.

The technical assistance will be funded by a 2.7-million US-dollar grant from the Government of Finland, a 500,000 US-dollar grant from the Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund, and a 250,000-US-dollar grant from ADB, which will manage the funds. The Government of Cambodia will provide 200,000 US-dollars equivalent, the statement said.

The project will support training programs, demonstrations of modern agricultural practices, and the introduction of communication facilities in remote rural communities to provide access to Internet-based agricultural knowledge banks.—MNA/Xinhua

Israel to allow 24-hour West Bank crossing

JERUSALEM, 9 July—Israel said on Wednesday it would allow a crossing between the occupied West Bank and Jordan to remain open 24 hours a day to help the Palestinian economy.

“The Prime Minister has ordered an immediate and significant extension of opening hours of the Allenby Bridge crossing for imports and exports in order to increase business activity and improve the lives of Palestinians,” an official statement said.

Deputy Foreign Minister Danny Ayalon told reporters the crossing, named after General Edmund Allenby, the British commander in colonial Palestine after World War I, would be open 24 hours a day.

The Palestinian Authority has demanded the Allenby terminal operate around the clock. Until now it has been open for passenger and commercial traffic for 12 hours a day during the working week and seven hours a day at weekends.—MNA/Reuters

Australian women outnumber men despite baby boy boom

CANBERRA, 9 July—Business information analysts IBISWorld predicted that Australia’s population would reach 25.7 million by 2020 with women still outnumbering men. Analysts said on Wednesday more boys were born each year than girls, but men’s life expectancy was shorter than women resulting in 101 females for every 100 males in 2008.

A record 287,500 babies were born in Australia in the year ended June 2008.

IBISWorld general manager for Australia Robert Bryant said the fertility rate also increased to 1.91 babies per woman rising for the fifth consecutive year and the highest result since 1994. However, he said migrants would eventually be the only form of population growth for the country.

“Looking ahead, net migration to Australia will total around 2.5 million between now and mid-2020, eventually becoming the only form of population growth in this country as our aging population and comparatively low fertility rate will cause the number of annual deaths to overtake the number of babies born, probably some time in the 2030s,” Bryant said.

He added four million (20 percent) of Australians were born overseas with the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand and Italy being among the top birth places.—MNA/Xinhua
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV HUA SHAN VOY NO (100)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HUA SHAN VOY NO (100) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.7.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W-3 where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (457)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (457) are hereby notified that the vessel due to arrive on 10.7.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

South Carolina girl, eight, dies after two shots to head

CHESNEE, 9 July—A man put an 8-year-old girl in a headlock Wednesday and shot her to death, then shot himself in the stomach, authorities said.

The girl’s father is dating Ricky Lee Blackwell’s estranged wife. Spartanburg County deputies said Blackwell shot the girl twice in the driveway of a home where he had taken her and his estranged wife to swim and play. The home is in Chesnee, about 60 miles southwest of Charlotte, NC.

Several adults and children saw the shooting and pointed officers toward Blackwell, investigators said.

Investigators said they weren’t sure of Blackwell’s motive. “I don’t know where you can go in the mind to justify shooting a child,” said Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright. “I don’t understand how you can get so angry.”

500 to perform ‘Thriller’ in Indiana

GARY, 9 July—Organizers of a planned Michael Jackson tribute in his hometown of Gary, Ind, said nearly 500 people are expected to perform his famous “Thriller” dance. The memorial, planned for Friday at The Steel Yard stadium, is expected to have nearly 500 dancers of all ages to re-enact the entirety of Jackson’s 14-minute “Thriller” video from 1983, the Northwest Indiana Times reported Wednesday.

Pastor John Ponder of the Family Christian Center megachurch, who is supplying 400 choir members to sing “We Are the World” to close the memorial, said nearly 75 percent of the dancers set to perform “Thriller” at the event are church members.—Northwest Indiana Times

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (457)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (457) are hereby notified that the vessel due to arrive on 10.7.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

South Carolina girl, eight, dies after two shots to head

CHESNEE, 9 July—A man put an 8-year-old girl in a headlock Wednesday and shot her to death, then shot himself in the stomach, authorities said.

The girl’s father is dating Ricky Lee Blackwell’s estranged wife. Spartanburg County deputies said Blackwell shot the girl twice in the driveway of a home where he had taken her and his estranged wife to swim and play. The home is in Chesnee, about 60 miles southwest of Charlotte, NC.

Several adults and children saw the shooting and pointed officers toward Blackwell, investigators said.

Investigators said they weren’t sure of Blackwell’s motive. “I don’t know where you can go in the mind to justify shooting a child,” said Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright. “I don’t understand how you can get so angry.”

500 to perform ‘Thriller’ in Indiana

GARY, 9 July—Organizers of a planned Michael Jackson tribute in his hometown of Gary, Ind, said nearly 500 people are expected to perform his famous “Thriller” dance. The memorial, planned for Friday at The Steel Yard stadium, is expected to have nearly 500 dancers of all ages to re-enact the entirety of Jackson’s 14-minute “Thriller” video from 1983, the Northwest Indiana Times reported Wednesday.

Pastor John Ponder of the Family Christian Center megachurch, who is supplying 400 choir members to sing “We Are the World” to close the memorial, said about 75 percent of the dancers set to perform “Thriller” at the event are church members.—Northwest Indiana Times
Glutamic acid may lower blood pressure

CHICAGO, 9 July—US researchers suggest a protein found in vegetables—glutamic acid—may lower blood pressure.

The study, published in Circulation Journal of the American Heart Association, found a 5 percent higher dietary intake of glutamic acid as a percentage of total dietary protein was correlated with small reductions in blood pressure. Lead author Dr Jeremiah Stamler of the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University in Chicago said it is estimated that reducing a population’s average systolic blood pressure by 2 millimeters of mercury could cut mortality from coronary heart disease by 4 percent.

The study involved 4,680 adults in China, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States, who were enrolled in the International Study on Macro/Micronutrients and Blood Pressure.

Each had eight blood pressure tests, four diet recall surveys and two 24-hour urine collections.

Stamler added there no data exists on taking glutamic acid as a supplement, but suggested improved habitual food intake instead of “popping pills.”

Common sources of vegetable protein include beans, whole grains—including whole grain rice, pasta, breads and cereals—and soy products such as tofu, Stamler said.

Durum wheat, which is used to make pasta, is also a good source of vegetable protein.

Many aids to help those with low vision

ROCHESTER, 9 July—People with poor eyesight caused by diseases often can be helped with various vision aids, a US newsletter says.

Experts at the Mayo Clinic Women’s Health Source say such low vision isn’t just the normal print that people have reading small print as they get older. It’s limited vision caused by macular degeneration, glaucoma, cataracts, diabetic retinopathy, retinitis pigmentosa or other eye diseases.

A low vision specialist can help patients find the vision aids that will best serve them, the Mayo newsletter says.

Some of the vision aids mentioned in the newsletter include: Magnifying eyeglasses that are stronger than prescription eyeglasses.

The lens may be included with the eyeglasses or attached to a headband for close-up tasks such as threading a needle.

—Miniature telescopes, hand-held or mounted on eyeglasses, that help see at a distance to see a television across the room.

—Video magnifiers use a camera and a video screen to enlarge printed material, pictures or small objects. Some are portable, and some can be used with a computer or monitor.

— “Talking” alarm clocks, watches, thermometers, scales, even prescription bottles and blood sugar meters that “speak” out readings.

—Computer software programs can magnify text on a computer screen.

Speech devices enable readers to read aloud what’s on the screen.

—Closed-circuit TV systems project enlarged images onto a video screen to help with reading books, magazines and other materials.

Climbers may be barred from Australia’s famed rock

SYDNEY, 9 July—Climbing Uluru, Australia’s famous red sandstone monolith, may be banned in the future under a plan released Wednesday by the national parks service, citing cultural, safety and environmental reasons.

Climbing the 1,135-foot high (346-metre) red sandstone monolith, may be banned in the future under a plan released Wednesday by the national parks service, citing cultural, safety and environmental reasons.

The draft 10-year management plan for Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park in 1985 and consider it sacred territory.

The tribe and federal parks service jointly manage the park also states the American Park in 1985 and consider it sacred territory.

The tribe and federal parks service jointly manage the park also states the American Park in 1985 and consider it sacred territory. Uluru, or Ayers Rock. Climbing Australia’s famous 1,135-foot high (346-metre) red sandstone monolith, may be banned in the future under a plan released 8 July, 2009, by the national parks service, citing cultural, safety and environmental reasons.

The draft 10-year management plan for Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park suggests an eventual closing of the climb after the tourism industry has had time to come up with alternative activities.

Many aids to help those with low vision

India’s swine flu tally reaches 158

NEW DELHI, 9 July—The total number of confirmed swine flu cases in India is at 158 after five more individuals tested positive on Wednesday, a health official says. An unidentified Health Ministry official said 113 of the 158 confirmed swine flu patients are no longer hospitalized, leaving only 45 people still seeking medical care for the H1N1 influenza virus, the Press Trust of India said.

The Health Ministry official said among the new swine flu cases is a 33-year-old woman and her 6-year-old son.

Peru confirms third flu A/H1N1 death

LIMA, 9 July—The Peruvian Health Ministry on Wednesday confirmed the country’s third death from the flu A/H1N1. The deceased was a 39-year-old patient from the southern department of Arequipa who also suffered from hypertension, overweight and diabetes. He was hospitalized on Tuesday and died hours later, the health ministry said.

Regional health director Miguel Aalya said the patient “arrived at the medical care in bad conditions and with respiratory problems before being transferred to intensive care.”

A/H1N1 flu cases in Vietnam increase to 259

HANOI, 9 July—Vietnam’s Ministry of Health confirmed 11 more influenza A/H1N1 cases, raising the country’s tally to 259, local newspaper the New Hanoi reported on Thursday.

Among the newly confirmed cases, seven patients are in the south, three in the north and one in the central region, said the ministry.

The health ministry is closely monitoring A/H1N1 patients to see if there is any resistance case in the country, said Nguyen Huy Nga, Head of the Preventive Health and Environment Department.

Nga made such a remark after two A/H1N1 flu patients who had been treated for four days at the National Institute of Infectious and Tropical Diseases kept showing positive to the A/H1N1 virus, said the newspaper.

Melanoma No 2 cancer in young women

HOUSTON, 9 July—Melanoma is now the second-most common cancer in US women ages 20-29, a dermatologist says. Dr Adelaide Hebert of the University of Texas Medical School at Houston also states the American Academy of Dermatology Association considered ultraviolet radiation, the single largest environmental contributor to skin cancer and the rates of skin cancer are increasing significantly.

More than 1 million new cases are diagnosed each year.

Hebert points out limiting sun exposure reduces not only skin cancer risks but painful sunburns and heat rash.

“Minimize your exposure in the sun during the hottest hours of the day, which are usually between 10 am and 2 pm,” the dermatologist said in a statement.

Spanish bullfighter Francisco Marco gets tossed by a bull during the second bullfight of the San Fermin festival in Pamplona on 8 July, 2009.—Internet

Melanoma No 2 cancer in young women

HOUSton, 9 July—Melanoma is now the second-most common cancer in US women ages 20-29, a dermatologist says. Dr Adelaide Hebert of the University of Texas Medical School at Houston also states the American Academy of Dermatology Association considers ultraviolet radiation, the single largest environmental contributor to skin cancer and the rates of skin cancer are increasing significantly.

More than 1 million new cases are diagnosed each year.

Hebert points out limiting sun exposure reduces not only skin cancer risks but painful sunburns and heat rash.

“Minimize your exposure in the sun during the hottest hours of the day, which are usually between 10 am and 2 pm,” the dermatologist said in a statement.

Internet

A/H1N1 flu cases in Vietnam increase to 259

HANOI, 9 July—Vietnam’s Ministry of Health confirmed 11 more influenza A/H1N1 cases, raising the country’s tally to 259, local newspaper the New Hanoi reported on Thursday.

Among the newly confirmed cases, seven patients are in the south, three in the north and one in the central region, said the ministry.

The health ministry is closely monitoring A/H1N1 patients to see if there is any resistance case in the country, said Nguyen Huy Nga, Head of the Preventive Health and Environment Department.

Nga made such a remark after two A/H1N1 flu patients who had been treated for four days at the National Institute of Infectious and Tropical Diseases kept showing positive to the A/H1N1 virus, said the newspaper.

Internet

Many aids to help those with low vision

Indonesia’s swine flu tally reaches 158

NEW DELHI, 9 July—The total number of confirmed swine flu cases in India is at 158 after five more individuals tested positive on Wednesday, a health official says. An unidentified Health Ministry official said 113 of the 158 confirmed swine flu patients are no longer hospitalized, leaving only 45 people still seeking medical care for the H1N1 influenza virus, the Press Trust of India said.

The Health Ministry official said among the new swine flu cases is a 33-year-old woman and her 6-year-old son.

Peru confirms third flu A/H1N1 death

LIMA, 9 July—The Peruvian Health Ministry on Wednesday confirmed the country’s third death from the flu A/H1N1. The deceased was a 39-year-old patient from the southern department of Arequipa who also suffered from hypertension, overweight and diabetes. He was hospitalized on Tuesday and died hours later, the health ministry said.

Regional health director Miguel Aalya said the patient “arrived at the medical care in bad conditions and with respiratory problems before being transferred to intensive care.”

A/H1N1 flu cases in Vietnam increase to 259

HANOI, 9 July—Vietnam’s Ministry of Health confirmed 11 more influenza A/H1N1 cases, raising the country’s tally to 259, local newspaper the New Hanoi reported on Thursday.

Among the newly confirmed cases, seven patients are in the south, three in the north and one in the central region, said the ministry.

The health ministry is closely monitoring A/H1N1 patients to see if there is any resistance case in the country, said Nguyen Huy Nga, Head of the Preventive Health and Environment Department.

Nga made such a remark after two A/H1N1 flu patients who had been treated for four days at the National Institute of Infectious and Tropical Diseases kept showing positive to the A/H1N1 virus, said the newspaper.

Internet

Melanoma No 2 cancer in young women

HOUSton, 9 July—Melanoma is now the second-most common cancer in US women ages 20-29, a dermatologist says. Dr Adelaide Hebert of the University of Texas Medical School at Houston also states the American Academy of Dermatology Association considers ultraviolet radiation, the single largest environmental contributor to skin cancer and the rates of skin cancer are increasing significantly.

More than 1 million new cases are diagnosed each year.

Hebert points out limiting sun exposure reduces not only skin cancer risks but painful sunburns and heat rash.

“Minimize your exposure in the sun during the hottest hours of the day, which are usually between 10 am and 2 pm,” the dermatologist said in a statement.

Internet

A/H1N1 flu cases in Vietnam increase to 259

HANOI, 9 July—Vietnam’s Ministry of Health confirmed 11 more influenza A/H1N1 cases, raising the country’s tally to 259, local newspaper the New Hanoi reported on Thursday.

Among the newly confirmed cases, seven patients are in the south, three in the north and one in the central region, said the ministry.

The health ministry is closely monitoring A/H1N1 patients to see if there is any resistance case in the country, said Nguyen Huy Nga, Head of the Preventive Health and Environment Department.

Nga made such a remark after two A/H1N1 flu patients who had been treated for four days at the National Institute of Infectious and Tropical Diseases kept showing positive to the A/H1N1 virus, said the newspaper.

Internet
New man may motivate Milan says Abbiati

ROME, 9 July—AC Milan goalkeeper Christian Abbiati believes the change of coach at the Italian giants could help motivate the players this season.

The 32-year-old goal-stopper believes that the change of a coach can give a team new motivation,” Abbiati told the official Milan channel on Wednesday.

“Of course they’re still a little intimidated but that’s normal given they’re at Milan, but I’m sure that over the next few days they’ll start to find themselves.”

Abbiati will miss the start of the new season as he is still recovering from surgery to repair a ruptured cruciate knee ligament.—Internet

Mido missing to training

LONDON, 9 July—Egypt international Mido has yet to return to training with relegated Middlesbrough, two days after the squad met up to begin preparations for what they hope will be a promotion campaign.

Fellow striker Afonso Alves is back in training meanwhile, two days after his teammates were supposed to report.

According to the Press Association, Middlesbrough are investigating the late shows.

Some players, including Turkey’s Tuncay Sanli, were given an extra few days break owing to international commitments at the end of last season.

A club spokesman said merely that: “The players returned to training yesterday.”

Man Utd snap up Bordeaux talent Obertan

MANCHESTER, 9 July—Manchester United coach Sir Alex Ferguson has snapped up Bordeaux talent Gabriel Obertan on a four-year contract, the club said on Wednesday.

Obertan, 20, who can play in several attacking positions, is United’s third signing of the summer and had been tracked by Ferguson for some time.

“Gabriel is a player we have tracked for a few years now, but because of his educational programme our efforts to get him here have always been delayed,” Ferguson told the club’s website.

Real Madrid will officially unveil French international striker Karim Benzema on Thursday

Real Madrid will officially unveil French international striker Karim Benzema on Thursday at its Santiago Bernabue stadium, the Spanish giants said.

MADRID, 9 July—Real Madrid will officially unveil French international striker Karim Benzema on Thursday at its Santiago Bernabue stadium, the Spanish giants said on Wednesday.

The 21-year-old, who Real signed from French side Lyon for between 35 and 41 million euros in January, will be presented at 9 pm (1900 GMT), the club said in a statement.—Internet

Senegalese veteran Dia rewarded with new contract

LONDON, 9 July—Senegalese veteran midfielder Salif Diouf won himself a new one-year contract with English Premier League make-eights Stoke City on Wednesday.

The 32-year-old former Liverpool player who never flowered there after being signed by Gerard Houllier following an impressive showing at the 2002 World Cup where Senegal reached the quarter-finals—played 21 times for Stoke last term in which they did well to avoid relegation.

Real gives up hope on Ribery

MANCHESTER, 9 July—Real Madrid have resigned themselves to the fact that they will not be able to recruit French international Franck Ribery from Bayern Munich this season due to the German club’s intransigence, Real director general Jorge Valdano said.

“We have the feeling that Ribery will not quit Bayern this season,” he told radio Marca late Tuesday.”Bayern finds many ways to say no, sometimes saying it categorically, sometimes by talking of a transfer fee of 80 million euros, which is another way of saying no,” he added. “So it is with resignation that we will wait for another opportunity which will certainly come. He has two years left on his contract with Bayern, and well, life is long,” Valdano said.

German daily tabloid Bild reported on Tuesday that Bayern had set a price tag of 80 million euros on the 26-year-old midfielder and had given Real until 16 July to decide if they are ready to stump up the cash or not.—Internet
The Gulf of Aden on Wednesday in an unusual attack said two Turkish frigates were following the merchant ships. Mwangura said he believed the small, open skiffs they generally use to come alongside seas rough. No one expected attacks at this time. "It was taken in the Gulf of Aden this morning with 23 Turkish crew," he said. "In this season, it is hard to take ships because monsoon winds make the seas rough. No one expected attacks at this time."

Turkey's Transportation Minister Binali Yildirim said one of the frigates had gone to the offshore area to search for more pirates. Yildirim said an additional frigate had also been sent to help search the area.

Mwangura said the pirates had been following the two Turkish ships for several hours before attacking. He said the pirates had fired gunshots while approaching the ship.

The attack comes amid growing concerns about piracy in the Gulf of Aden, where Somali pirates have targeted ships in the past.

The US Navy and other international forces have been加大努力 in combating piracy in the region. However, attacks continue to occur, and nations are increasingly seeking ways to protect their merchant vessels.

The attack also highlights the challenges faced by nations in addressing piracy, which can have significant economic and security implications.

In addition to the efforts of international forces, nations are also working to address the root causes of piracy, such as poverty and unemployment in certain regions. 

Overall, the attack serves as a reminder of the ongoing threat posed by piracy in the region and the need for continued efforts to address this issue.
Lt-Gen Khin Zaw attends prize presentation ceremony in Taninthayi Division

NAY PYI TAW, 9 July — Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence attended the ceremony to present prizes to outstanding students, teachers and school and township at the hall of Basic Education High School No. (1) in Myeik, Taninthayi Division on 8 July.

It was also attended by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, senior military officers, division/district/township level departmental officials, members of social organizations, the rectors, the township education officers, headmasters and headmistresses and teachers, students and their parents and guests.

The Taninthayi Division Education Officer explained plans made for raising pass rate and the commander made a supplementary report.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw spoke words of praise. Lt-Gen Khin Zaw, the commander and officials presented prizes to outstanding students who had passed the matriculation examination for 2009 with flying colours, outstanding teachers and school and township with highest pass rate.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw cordially greeted those present and viewed documentary photos on concerted efforts of distinction winners displayed at the hall.

MNA

Pathein with fragrance of Pawhsanhmwe paddy in future

Article: Maung Maung Myint Swe:
Photos: Kyaw Myint Than (Lammadaw)

In the rice and paddy market, Pathein Pawhsanhmwe is one of the popular paddy strains. Indeed, another Pawhsanhmwe paddy strain produced from Kanchaung field of Uto Village-tract in Pathein Township is the most popular across the nation.

The size, fragrance, flavour and quality of rice of Pawhsanhmwe paddy strain is better than others. The quality of Pawhsanhmwe paddy strain produced from the region had been declining since recent years. Now, efforts are being made to cultivate the quality paddy strain.

Recently, we, the news crew of Myanma Alin Daily left Pathein by boat to observe the cultivation of quality Pawhsanhmwe paddy strain near Uto Village, (See page 10)

Local farmers making soil preparations for cultivation of paddy with the use of farm machinery.

Myanmar sees another New Influenza A (H1N1) case

Control measures taken with added momentum

NAY PYI TAW, 9 July — A 20-year-old man of Yangon was found suffering from New Influenza A (H1N1) in Yangon.

It was learnt that the man arrived back at Yangon International Airport by flight No FD 3770 of Thai Air Asia, from Thailand on 6 July; that when he was screened at the airport, the result said no fever; that being slightly ill with a sore throat, he took treatment as an outpatient in the afternoon on 7 July; that on 8 July he was transferred to Waibagyi Hospital, following the medical check-up given to him in his home by the head of the township Health Department and party; that he is being admitted in a separate room at the hospital; that the National Health Laboratory diagnosed him and confirmed him to be a New Influenza A (H1N1) suffer.

He is under intensive health care by a team of specialists in the hospital. Since this morning, he has been getting better with no fever.

In order to prevent and control possible spread of the virus, the Ministry of Health is keeping all his family members in quarantine and monitoring them along with all the 104 passengers on board the aeroplane, airport staff and all those who came into contact with the victim.

Now, officials concerned from the Ministry of Health, community health staff, authorities at state/division, district and township levels, and responsible persons from the ministries and organizations concerned are taking precautionary measures against the virus in order to avert spread of New Influenza A (H1N1) in the nation. The people are urged to participate in the preventive measures against the disease.—MNA