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Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Belarussian President

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Alexander R. Lukashenko, President of the Republic of Belarus, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Belarus, which falls on 3 July 2010.

Prime Minister U Thein Sein felicitates Belarussian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July — U Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Sergei Sidorsky, Prime Minister of the Republic of Belarus, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Belarus, which falls on 3 July 2010.—MNA

Agriculturalists and employees of relevant departments to assist local farmers by growing high-yield strains and applying modern cultivation methods

Employees of departments to observe rules and regulations and to work with goodwill as they are working on behalf of the government

Prime Minister U Thein Sein looks into construction of Einme River Bridge.—MNA

Pathein (Begarat)-Einme-Nyaungdon-Yangon Railroad which will link Pathein in Ayeyawady Division and Yangon is being implemented with the aim of transporting local products from Ayeyawady Division, which produces large amount of rice and fish, to Yangon and other regions.
Emphasize on greater economic growth in Ayeyawady Division

New motor roads and railroads are under construction to ensure better transport throughout the nation. Many bridges across rivers and creeks have been constructed so far. Thanks to Ayeyawady River crossing bridges, development in all aspects is equal in both east and west regions of Ayeyawady River. In the near future, Ayeyawady Division will become the largest economic zone.

Relying only on waterway in the past, Ayeyawady Division was a region with poor transport. Motor roads, river crossing bridges and railroads are now under construction as networks and there will be smooth and better transport in the region.

Kyangin-Pakokku railroad is a vital communication route for the residents on the west bank of Ayeyawady River. As the railroad sections of Kyangin, Oktshiptin, Kamna, Thayet, Minhla, Pakokku and Kyunhuaung have been put into service, the local people can make their travels by train and commodities can be transported by train.

Now, Yangon-Pathin rail and Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon) are under construction. In constructing Hinthada-Dambyu-Sakawt (Nyaungdon) railroad, efforts are being made to inaugurate Hinthada-Zalun railroad section soon. On completion, the whole railroad will be the reliable transport facility linking Pathin, Kyangin, Pakokku, Kalay, Minbu, An and Sittway.

At present, the road network development projects in Ayeyawady Delta are implemented for the development of coastal areas. Utilizing water and land resources of the division, the departments concerned and the people are to strive for producing larger volume of agricultural produce to improve the economy of Ayeyawady Division.

Work coordination meeting to boost production of oil and gas

Minister U Lun Thi speaking at coordination meeting of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise.

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—The State Peace and Development Council has transferred Managing Director U Win Hein from No. 3 Mining Enterprise under the Ministry of Mines as Director-General of the Mining Department under the same ministry from the date he assumes charge of his duties. The State Peace and Development Council has appointed the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name
(a) U Kyaw Win  Director-General National Archives
(b) U Sein Win  Director National Archives and Records
(c) U Khin Aung  Director-General Planning and Economic Development

Department
Director-General National Archives
Ministry of National Archives
Ministry of Planning and Economic Development

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw visits Technological University (Myeik), University of Computer Studies (Myeik)

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence heard reports on construction of drains and pavement of the entrance road to Technological University (Myeik) and building of the concrete bridge presented by the director of Division Development Affairs Committee on 30 June.

Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo gave a supplementary report.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw gave instructions on timely completion of tasks, meeting set standards and greening of the compound of the university.

The Principal of the university reported on academic matters and strength of staff. Lt-Gen Khin Zaw inspected progress of the entrance road to the university.

At the briefing hall of University of Computer Studies (Myeik), the in-charge of the project and officials submitted reports on progress in construction of three-storey building.

After giving necessary instructions, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw looked into construction of the three-storey lecture building.—MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence views placing of gravel on entrance road to Technological University (Myeik).—MNA

Basic Tailoring Course for women

YANGON, 2 July—Working Group for uplifting of livelihoods of women under Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation will conduct basic women’s wear tailoring course No. 3/2010 on 15 July.

The two-month course whose classes are on weekdays from 10 am to 2 pm will admit 20 female trainees. The address is No. 5, Fifth Floor, Building No. B, Satyon Street (between Sabei Street and Aungthabyay Street), Mingala Taungnyunt Township. Applicants may enroll at KSS Barani Eatery, at No.101, Satyon Street, Thayagon Ward, Mingala Taungnyunt Township by 14 June.—MNA

People’s Desire

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

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence views placing of gravel on entrance road to Technological University (Myeik).—MNA

MNA
California begins fiscal year with no budget

In this on 9 June, 2010 file photo, California Gov Arnold Schwarzenegger speaks at news conference to applaud the passage of Proposition 14 in Los Angeles. Internet

San Francisco, 2 July—California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger ordered state workers to be paid minimum wage as the fiscal year started on Thursday without a budget, but in a sign of the paralysis gripping the state — and facing a new governor in November — the state controller refused.

The next governor — whether it be Democrat Jerry Brown or Republican Meg Whitman — will almost certainly inherit a budget mess this November, given the ominous beginning to the fiscal year with no spending plan or hope of one soon. State leaders have failed to approve a budget on time in 19 of the past 25 years and Republican Schwarzenegger said that without a fiscal plan, the state, with few exceptions, has to pay the minimum required by federal law, or $7.25 an hour.

Iraqi security forces inspect a destroyed vehicle after a bomb hidden under a car exploded in western Adil neighbourhood of Baghdad, Iraq, on 1 July, 2010. Internet

Baghdad, 2 July—Two soldiers and two members of a government-backed Sunni militia fighting al-Qaeda were killed in a day of attacks in Iraq, police officials said on Thursday.

While violence has dropped overall across the country, militants trying to destabilize the country continue to attack on Iraqi security forces and government. Iraq remains without a new government more than three months after the inconclusive election in March.

The anti-al-Qaeda Awakening Councils, which have been key to a sharp drop in violence in recent years, have been frequently targeted by militants. On Thursday morning, a member of the council died when a roadside bomb exploded next to his four-man patrol in southwestern Baghdad.

Five people, including three civilians, were injured in the attack.

In Samarra, another member of the government-backed council was killed when a bomb exploded near his house in the majority Sunni town and former stronghold of al-Qaeda 60 miles (95 kilometres) north of Baghdad.

Two of the victim’s brothers were injured in the blast, police said.

Four members of Iraq security forces killed

Mexical City, 2 July—Twenty-nine people died Thursday in clashes between rival drug gangs that spread across the towns of Tubutama and Caborca in northern Mexico.

All the dead were members of armed drug gangs and none of them have been identified. Jose Larrinaga Talamanes, an official from the state attorney’s office, told reporters.

Nine others were arrested by police and six of whom had serious, but non-life-threatening injuries. Seven pieces of weapons and eight trucks were seized on the battle scenes, Larrinaga added.

Mexican army closed Tubutama following reports of shootings.

On Wednesday, police in Nuevo Leon, also on Mexico’s northern border, found 12 bodies of men with improvised graves used by drug traffickers.

Mexican media estimate that at least 2,500 people have been killed so far this year during clashes between drug gangs vying for lucrative routes into Mexico’s northern neighbour, the United States.—Xinhua

A man looks at a vehicle damaged in an IED (Improvised explosive device) blast in southwest Pakistan’s Quetta, on 1 July, 2010. Xinhua

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A man looks at a vehicle damaged in an IED (Improvised explosive device) blast in southwest Pakistan’s Quetta, on 1 July, 2010. Xinhua

Taleban attack US aid company, five killed

Kabul, 2 July — Taleban suicide bombers and gunmen stormed a US contracting company office in northern Afghanistan on Friday, killing five people including three foreigners and wounding 24 others, a senior official said.

The pre-dawn attack happened in relatively peaceful Kunduz Province when insurgents attacked the newly-opened offices of Development Alternatives Inc (DAI), provincial governor Mohammad Omar said.

One British citizen was killed during the fierce five-hour gunbattle that ensued, along with a German national and a Filipino, while two Afghans also died, Omar said. A Taleban spokesman, Zahihullah Mujahid, said at least six suicide bombers and fighters were involved in the attack in a province mainly patrolled by German forces under NATO command.

The latest attack comes as newly-appointed US and NATO forces commander General David Petraeus arrived in the country to oversee the fight against the Taleban and try to reverse the militant’s momentum.—Internet

Afghan refugee families in their camp, in Kabul, Afghanistan, on 1 July, 2010. Internet

Internet

Firefighters try to put out a fire in a building which was attacked by Taleban militants in Kunduz on 2 July, 2010.—Internet

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Floating ocean wind turbines proposed

College Park, 2 July—Wind turbines as a renewable energy source have problems of noise, visual clutter and land use, and one US researcher says moving them offshore is a solution.

Offshore wind farms have been built, but only in shallow water near coasts, and one naval architect wants to go much farther out by placing turbines on floating platforms, a release from the American Institute of Physics said Wednesday. Dominique Roddier of Marine Innovation & Technology of Berkeley, Calif, has proposed a platform design dubbed “WindFloat” based on existing gas and oil platform designs. Roddier and his and colleagues published a feasibility study of the design in the Journal of Renewable and Sustainable Energy, published by the AIP. Testing of a small scale model in a wave tank showed the platform is stable enough to support a 5-megawatt wind turbine producing enough energy “to support a small town,” Roddier said.

“A lot of size prototype being built in collaboration with electricity company Energia de Portugal should be in the water by the end of 2012,” Roddier says.

UNSG’s Message for International Day of Cooperatives

3 July 2010

With an egalitarian ethos, participatory decision-making, common ownership and commitment to goals beyond the profit motive, cooperatives are expanding opportunities for women in local economies and societies throughout the world. As the theme of this year’s observance puts it so well: “Cooperative enterprise empowers women.” As the world economy continues to face many difficult challenges, cooperatives are providing a valuable service to many women, especially those in vulnerable communities that lack state services or traditional private sector initiatives.

Through membership in cooperatives, women are developing self-help strategies, generating their own income and assets, and learning how to overcome entrenched biases and prejudices. In the process, cooperatives are playing an important role in advancing the Millennium Development Goals.

Cooperatives are a reminder to the international community that it is possible to pursue both economic viability and social responsibility. I urge the adoption of policies conducive to the creation and expansion of cooperatives — especially those that facilitate the participation of women.

On this Day, and as we prepare for the observance of the International Year of Cooperatives in 2012, I encourage Governments to continue working with cooperatives and civil society organizations in our common effort to realize internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. By cooperating, we can truly build a better world.—UN/IC

Man in the moon has ‘graphite whiskers’

Washington, 2 July—In a new analysis of a lunar sample collected by Apollo 17, researchers have detected and dated carbon on the moon in the form of graphite — the sooty stuff of pencil lead — which survived from around 3.8 billion years ago, when the moon was heavily bombarded by meteorites. Up to now, scientists thought the trace amounts of carbon previously detected on the surface of the moon came from the solar wind.

Some of the graphite revealed by the new study appeared in a rare rolled form known as “graphite whiskers,” which scientists believe formed in the very high-temperature reactions initiated by a meteorite impact. The discovery also means that the moon potentially holds a record of the carbon input by meteors into the Earth-moon system when life was just beginning to emerge on Earth. The research is published in the 2 July issue of the journal Science.

“The solar system was chaotic, with countless colliding objects 3.9 billion years ago,” explained lead author Andrew Steele, based at the Carnegie Institution for Science in Washington, D.C.

“Volatiles — compounds like water and elements like carbon — were vaporised under that heat and shock. These materials were critical to the creation of life on Earth.”

Virtual reconstruction (by microtomography) of the external morphology (on the left) and internal morphology (on the right) of a fossil specimen from the Gabonese site.—Internet

Human-made global warming started with ancient hunters

Washington, 2 July—Even before the dawn of agriculture, people may have caused the planet to warm up, a new study suggests.

Mammoths used to roam modern-day Russia and North America, but are now extinct — and there’s evidence that around 15,000 years ago, early hunters had a hand in wiping them out. A new study, accepted for publication in Geophysical Research Letters, a journal of the American Geophysical Union (AGU), argues that this die-off had the side effect of heating up the planet.

“A lot of people still think that people are unable to affect the climate even now, even when there are more than 6 billion people,” says the lead author of the study, Chris Doughty of the Carnegie Institution for Science in Stanford, California. The new results, however, “show that even when we had populations orders of magnitude smaller than we do now, we still had a big impact.”

In the new study, Doughty, Adam Wolf, and Chris Field — all at Carnegie Institution for Science — propose a scenario to explain how hunters could have triggered global warming.—Internet

Prehistoric Neolithic African rock art from the Northern Cape showing a hunting scene.—Internet

Complex, multicellular life from over two billion years ago discovered

Paris, 2 July—The discovery in Gabon of more than 250 fossils in an excellent state of conservation has provided proof, for the first time, of the existence of multicellular organisms 2.1 billion years ago. This finding represents a major breakthrough: until now, the first complex life forms (made up of several cells) dated from around 600 million years ago. These new fossils, of various shapes and sizes, imply that the origin of organized life is a lot older than is generally admitted, this challenging current knowledge on the beginning of life. These specimens were discovered and studied by an international (1) multidisciplinary team of researchers led by Abderrazak El Albani of the Laboratoire “Hydrogéologie, Argiles, Sols et Alterations” (CNRS/Université de Poitiers) (2). Their work, due to be published in Nature on 1st July, will feature on the cover of the journal.—Internet

Science
Prenatal secondhand smoke lasts lifetime

PITTSBURGH, 2 July—US researchers say children of non-smoking women exposed to secondhand smoke during pregnancy have genetic mutations that can affect their health permanently.

The study, published online in the *Open Pediatric Medicine Journal*, found the smoking-related abnormalities were indistinguishable from those found in newborns of mothers who were active smokers.

Study author Stephen G Grant of the Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health says the effects of the secondhand smoke may affect survival, birth weight and lifelong susceptibility to diseases like cancer.

Grant found the mutation was the same level and type in newborns of mothers who were active smokers and those of non-smoking mothers exposed to tobacco smoke.

“Our findings back up our previous conclusion that passive, or secondary, smoke causes permanent genetic damage in newborns that is very similar to the damage caused by active smoking,” Grant says in a statement. “We were able to pick up a completely distinct yet equally important type of genetic mutation that is likely to persist throughout a child’s lifetime. Pregnant women should not only stop smoking, but be aware of their exposure to tobacco smoke from other family members, work and social situations.”—Internet

Hand washing improves drinking water

STANFORD, 2 July—US scientists say hand washing can improve the bacterial count of water collected at sources and brought home in containers.

Alexandria Boehm, Jenna Davis of Stanford University say about half of the world’s population, more than 3 billion people, have no access to municipal drinking water and obtain drinking water from wells, springs and other sources and store it in jugs and other containers. Past research showed stored water can have higher levels of bacterial contamination than the water at its source.

Boehm, Davis and students find a strong link between fecal contamination on the hands of household residents and bacterial contamination in stored water in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.—Internet

Public transit causes weight loss

UNIVERSITY PARK, 2 July—Public transit systems can provide a daily built-in exercise programme for those who commute, reducing the risk of obesity, US researchers found.

Lead investigator John M. MacDonald of the University of Pennsylvania said the researchers conducted two surveys; one collected data prior to the completion of a light-rail system in Charlotte, NC, and the second survey was conducted after completion. The study, published in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, found after the light-rail system was built, people using the system reduced their weight by about 6 pounds for a person 5’ 5” and over. In addition, the public transit users were 81 percent less likely to become obese over time.—Internet

Teen exercise improves cognition later

TORONTO, 2 July—Women physically active at any age have lower risk of elderly cognitive impairment, but teen exercise appears most important, Canadian researchers found.

Laura Middleton of Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto compared the physical activity of teens, age 30, age 50, and late in life against cognition of 9,344 women from Maryland, Minnesota, Oregon and Pennsylvania.

Of the participants, 15.5 percent reported being physically active as a teen, 29.7 percent at age 30, 28.1 percent at age 50 and 21.1 percent late in life, the study found.

“Our study shows that women who are regularly physically active at any age have lower risk of cognitive impairment than those who are inactive but that being physically active at teenage is most important in preventing cognitive impairment,” Middleton said in a statement. —Internet

Qigong, Tai Chi may help health

SCOTTSDALE, 2 July—A US review indicates Tai Chi and Qigong bring significant health benefits among older adults, researchers say.

Qigong is a general term — combining “qi” for energy and “gong” for work or exercise — while the more specific Tai Chi, which has a long written history over 19 generations, focuses on a series of 24 to 108 movements.

Linda Larkey of Arizona State University reports there is strong evidence the two interventions offer help for physical function, bone health, heart improvement, lung function improvement and fall prevention, in addition to psychological and quality-of-life benefits. Larkey and colleagues reviewed 77 Tai Chi and Qigong randomized-controlled trials published from 1993 to 2007. —Internet

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US stocks extend losses after disappointing economic data

NEW YORK, 2 July—US stocks extended its early losses on Thursday as data from job, housing and even manufacturing market failed to meet expectations.

The Labour Department said on Thursday that the number of people filing initial claims for jobless benefits increased by 13,000 to 472,000 in the week ended 26 June, while economists were expecting a small decline.

The report came one day before the government monthly non-farm payrolls data, adding fears that Friday’s jobless data may also fall short of estimates.

Further battering market sentiment, the number of home buyer who signed contracts to purchase homes tumbled 30 percent in May, after government tax credit expired at the end of April.

According to the National Association of Realtors, its index of pending home sales dropped to 77.6, the lowest level since 2001, from 110.9. The reading was also 15.9 percent lower compared with the same month last year.

What’s more, the growth in manufacturing sector, one of the major drivers in US economic rebound, showed a sign of slowdown.

Data from the Institute for Supply Management, an industry trade group, showed its manufacturing index slipped to 56.2 this month from 59.7 in May. Although the number still signals growing, it was lower than market anticipation.

Turkey intends to limit sea traffic at Bosphorus Strait

ISTANBUL, 2 July—Turkish Energy and Natural Resources Minister Taner Yildiz Thursday said his country intends to limit sea traffic, especially the number of oil tankers in the Bosphorus and Canakkale Straits to reduce oil spill threats.

Heavy traffic at the Turkish Straits must be resolved, and new regulations on sea traffic are needed, the minister said at a meeting of oil executives convened to prevent risks of oil spill in the Sea of Marmara and at the Turkish Straits.

Yildiz said there are more than 100 million tons of oil and related products passing through the Turkish straits every year and the number continues to grow annually.

This picture released by the police shows a policeman holding a two-year-old alligator at the police station of Lampertheim-Viernheim, after the reptile was seized in the night as it was peacefully going about its business on the streets of Gross-Rohrheim, western Germany.

An oil cleanup worker uses a shovel to remove thick oil that washed ashore from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico in Gulfport, Mississippi. High seas churned up by Hurricane Alex will delay deployment of a third containment vessel over the ruptured Gulf of Mexico oil well until next week, an official warned Thursday.

China’s yuan hits new record high against USD

BEIJING, 2 July—The central parity of the Renminbi (RMB), or China’s currency yuan, strengthened to 6.7720 per US dollar on Friday, a new record high, according to the data released by the China Foreign Exchange Trading System.

China’s central bank announced on 19 June that it would further the reform of the formation mechanism of the yuan exchange rate to improve its flexibility.
Information Minister attends monsoon tree planting ceremony-2010

 Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan plants a mango sapling. MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan attended monsoon tree planting ceremony-2010 at the ministry here today. The minister grew a commemorative mango sapling there and viewed staff members of departments and enterprises of the ministry participating in the ceremony.

 Likewise, personnel of Myanmar Radio and Television, Publishing Enterprise and News and Periodicals Enterprise were collectively part-taking in the monsoon tree planting ceremony-2010.

 In today’s tree planting ceremonies, staff members of the departments and enterprises of the ministry planted mango, perennial and shade saplings totalling 1826 saplings—1065 mango saplings and 761 shade saplings—in the activity.

 With a view to ensuring environmental greening, the ministry has grown 3165 mango saplings and 21,780 shade saplings totalling 24945. Plans are underway to grow trees in the coming weeks.

MNA

Damsels of various national races with colourful traditional costumes

“That’s come once again, hey hey! Wah…”

All have heard of the song titled Natha Zan (a Myanmar traditional hair style). Like in the song sung in energetic chorus, it has come once again.

Myanmar Women’s Day the members of our Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation as well as the women folk respect and cherish has come. Since 1996, July 3 has been celebrated as Myanmar Women’s Day every year.

I have a penchant for a feature story from the Second Grade Myanmar Reader entitled “Our Family Nation”. In our childhood, we used to say that the map of Myanmar was like a leg. The four great rivers – the Ayeyawady, the Chindwin and the Sittoung – seen in the map of Myanmar standing with a head, two hands and a leg. The four great rivers – the Ayeyawady, the Thanlwin, the Chindwin and the Sittoung – seen in the map are like blood vessels of a person. The four great rivers – the Ayeyawady, the Chindwin and the Sittoung – seen in the map of Myanmar standing with a head, two hands and a leg. The four great rivers – the Ayeyawady, the Chindwin and the Sittoung – seen in the map are like blood vessels of a person.

It is interesting to mention the locations of our family nation members. In the northernmost part of the nation from where the Maykuha and Malikha rivers originate reside Kayin nationals. In the north-west part reside Chin nationals. Shan nationals live together on the western and eastern banks of the Thanlwin River in the right east of the nation. There are Kayah nationals in the south-east part next to the Shan hills. Those who live near the sea in the west are Rakhine nationals. From the way down to the south of the map, you can see Bamar nationals living ubiquitously. In the south-east part of our nation reside Kayin and Mon nationals. All the national races live happily and peacefully in our family nation.

Out of more than 200 nations, the Union of Myanmar is a nation situated in south-east Asia. It is the Union where various national races such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Bamar, Mon, Rakhine and Shan live. They have their own literature, culture and language as well as habit, custom, dialect, art, traditional costume, ways of living and traditional festivals. Despite their different geographical conditions and different places they live in such as the hilly regions, plains, coasts and islands, they are all Myanmar nationals.

However they are different from each other; every race has its own traditional custom and costume. It is the national duty of every youth of new generation to cherish, maintain and hand down such national heritages. As the saying goes by “Lineage is important in humans and so is the bone in chickens”, our history will be tainted if we let our own culture preserved by our ancestors disappear only in our time.

Particularly, the world has accepted that Myanmar women wear a Huamun and Eingyi as their basic clothing. Although I don’t want to put blame on those who wear their dress beautifully in line with current trend, it is necessary for them to wear clothing in accord with the Myanmar style and custom, not allowing themselves to copy the alien culture.

We have to accept that if we copy another culture, it will be like we are wearing another person’s dress of different size and we will feel awkward. The organization that always encourages Myanmar women to cherish Myanmar traditional costume is Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation. When Myanmar Women’s Day falls on 3 July, the Myanmar Traditional Costume Show is held. This year 2010, the show has been held for seven times. At every show, traditional costumes of various national races, costumes of successive eras, seasonal costumes, and costumes of people of all ages are put on display in order that women of the younger generation will emulate and value such traditional culture. At this year’s show, young ladies wore local product cotton and silk clothing of various national races such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Bamar, Mon, Rakhine and Shan. The designers were Pyi Soe Aung, Ma Pon, DoZo, Hsan Baukya and Joker and the models were famous film stars and those from Stars and Models Agency led by John Lwin. At the show, famous vocalists performed music entertainment to the accompaniment of Cobra-H band with sponsorship of Naung Naung (Sun Flower). Make-up artists were Khin San Win and party. Moreover, for the recreation of the audience, comedians of Five Stars and Watma presented entertainment. Vocalist Yin Wai Yan Tun sang the commemorative song titled “Myanmar land with noble people” written by Saya Ketu Win Htut.

Based on one of Our Three Main National Causes: non-disintegration of national solidarity, I believe all the audiences enjoyed the country’s natural scenic beauties, traditional festivals, arts and crafts and dances of various national races and the costume show of Yangon Division Women’s Affairs Association members at the National Theatre in Yangon on 24 June.

Translation: ST
Agriculturalists and employees of relevant...

(from page 1)

89-mile long railroad including earth work and construction of bridges on the railroad.

The Prime Minister said the railroad project which will link Pathein in Ayeyawady Division and Yangon is being implemented with the aim of transporting local products from Ayeyawady Division, which produces large amounts of rice and fish, to Yangon and other regions at low cost.

He urged officials concerned to make arrangements for inaugurating the railroad’s sections which are completed, and stressed the need for building a strong foundation as the division gets heavy rainfalls.

Work on construction of the railroad launched on 1 December, 2009, by the Myanmar Railways, and the bridge is under construction. Upon completion, the railroad will pass through Pathein, Kangyidaunt, Kyaunggon, Einme, Pantanaw, Nyaungdon and Hlinethaya townships.

During the tour of Ayeyawady Division, the Prime Minister met with departmental officials from Maubin and Myaungmya districts and Pantanaw and Einme townships and urged them to make efforts for collecting correct data of crop cultivation in the respective areas. He also stressed the need for making field trips by agriculturalists and employees of the relevant departments to assist local farmers with high-yield strains and modern cultivation methods so that they can achieve target production as the State and private sector have disbursed loans to farmers.

Meanwhile, preventive measures against flood are to be taken in low-lying areas, he said.

The Prime Minister also urged employees of departments to observe rules and regulations and to work with a sense of goodwill as they are working on behalf of the government. At the same time, they are to maintain the infrastructures in which the government heavily invested time, labour and money, he said.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister went to Einme and inspected the construction project of a bridge across Einme River by the Myanmar Railways.

The Prime Minister and party inspected embankment for railroad, completion of railway stations and cultivation of crops on his way to Yangon along Pantanaw-Wakema Road in a motorcade.

He also inspected the earthwork on construction of railroad and cordially met local people.

The Prime Minister and party arrived back Yangon in the afternoon.

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—The concluding ceremony of e-Government Applied Computer Course No. 2/2010 for staff of the Ministry of Labour was held at the ministry here this morning, attended by Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi, heads of departments, staff and trainees.

The minister spoke on the occasion and awarded outstanding trainees and presented certificates to trainees.

Ministry of Labour conducted the four-week course from 6 June to 2 July for its staff, with a view to enhancing efficiency of its staff, accelerating momentum of e-Government process, and safely storing of information in ICT-based work environment. The curriculum included Microsoft Office Application, e-Government & Security measures, and EDMS, & GPMS.—MNA
FM sends message of felicitations to Belarussian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July — U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Sergei Nikolaevich Martynov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Belarus, which falls on 3 July 2010.—MNA

Rainy season tree planting ceremony of Education Ministry held

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—The first rainy season tree planting ceremony for 2010 of Ministry of Education was held in front of the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw this morning.

Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein and Deputy Minister U Aung Myo Min attended the ceremony and planted Gangaw (Mesua ferrea) saplings.

The minister viewed participation of personnel in growing saplings.

The Ministry of Education planted 2124 saplings in total at the first tree planting ceremony.

MMCWA holds monsoon tree planting ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—Monsoon Tree Planting Ceremony of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association was held at its office here today.

MMCWA CEC members, officials and staff at the office attended the ceremony.

The CEC members planted trees at designated places and viewed the participation of the staff.

Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Maung Maung Swe enjoys participation of staff under the ministry in tree planting ceremony.—MNA

Monsoon tree planting ceremony of SWRR Ministry

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Maung Maung Swe and wife Daw Tin Tin Nwe, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Myint, Director-General U Soe Kyi of Social Welfare Department and wife, Director-General U Soe Aung of Relief and Resettlement Department and wife, officials at the ministry office and staff attended Monsoon Tree Planting Ceremony of the ministry held at the plantation of the ministry here today.

The minister and wife planted a star flower plant at the designated place.

The deputy minister, directors-general and staff grew the trees at designated places.

The minister, the deputy minister, directors-general and officials encouraged the participation of staff.

The ministry planted a total of 1,200 plants in the tree planting ceremony.—MNA

Star Resources to conduct SOP Course for Hotel and Cruise Staff

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—Star Resources Hospitality Management Academy will conduct SOP Course for Hotel and Cruise Staff during second week of this month.

Lecturers who had experienced their hotelier life in international five-star hotels will share their knowledge to the trainees who are fond of hospitality career.

The academy has also scheduled to open IELTS Foundation Course and Intensive Course also in the same week.

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.

The second best time is now.

Those interested may contact the academy at Building No. (267), Room No. (302), Pyay Road, Myaynigon, Sangyoung Township, Yangon, (Ph: 01: 523623, 523200, 4112256 and 095020302).
**HK Airline launches direct flight to Moscow**

A Hong Kong Airlines’ Airbus A330-200 is welcomed upon its arrival at the International Airport Sheremetyevo in Moscow, Russia, on 30 June, 2010. Hong Kong Airlines on Wednesday opened its non-stop flight to Moscow. — Xinhua

Moscow, 2 July—An Airbus A330-200 from Hong Kong Airlines landed at Moscow’s Sheremetyevo International Airport at 07:00 pm local time (1500 GMT) on Wednesday, marking the official launching of a direct flight route between Chinese Hong Kong and Moscow.

The Sheremetyevo Airport then hosted a grand ceremony welcoming guests from afar, as two fire ambulances thrust water columns when the aircraft slid toward parking apron.

The non-stop flight was open thank to the surging demand for tourism between Hong Kong and Moscow, as well as the visa-free regime introduced last year.

The flight is scheduled thrice a week on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, between Hong Kong International Airport and Sheremetyevo Airport, which was Russia’s largest international airport with the total number of passengers hitting 14.86 million last year.

**Vietnam to spend $72.84 mln on improving hydro-meteorological forecasting quality**

Hanoi, 2 July—Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung approved here on Thursday a plan to spend 1.39 trillion Vietnamese dong (72.84 million US dollars) on improving the country’s hydro-meteorological forecasting quality from now to 2012, the government website reported.

The plan targets to increase the density and quality of the hydro-meteorological observation networks to provide timely and correct data for exact forecasts, said the report. Of the money, about 634 billion Vietnamese dong (33.2 million US dollars) will be used to modernize the hydro-meteorological monitoring system in the country.

Another 294 billion Vietnamese dong (15.4 million US dollars) will be spent on building database and modernizing the information system related to the hydro-meteorological field. — Xinhua

**EU approves programmes to promote agricultural products**

Brussels, 2 July—The European Commission on Thursday approved 19 programmes in 14 member states to promote their agricultural products within the European Union and on the global market.

The total budget of the programmes is about 60.6 million euros (76 million US dollars), half of which will come from the EU. The remainder will come from professional organizations that proposed the programmes, and the concerned member states.

The programmes mainly consist of publicity actions and information campaigns to cover such farm products as fruit and vegetables, meat and dairy products.

“In an open global market, producing excellent food and drink is not enough. We need to increase our efforts to explain to consumers the standards and the quality of what EU agriculture puts on the table,” said Dacian Cioloș, the European commissioner for agriculture and rural development.

“EU programmes of this sort can really help our producers in an increasingly competitive world,” Cioloș said. — Xinhua

**Five East African countries create common market**

Nairobi, 2 July—Five nations in East Africa implemented new economic rules on Thursday to boost cross-border employment and trade.

The new steps push forward a larger plan to integrate the economies of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda, which together form the East African Community.

When most African countries gained independence from European colonial powers in the 1950s and 1960s, Africa’s founding fathers wanted the entire continent to become one economy as a way of achieving self-reliance and better negotiating power in international markets.

The East African Community’s one set of regulations, called the Common Market Protocol, officially came into effect on Thursday but each country still has to change a wide range of national laws including labour, taxation and immigration to conform to the protocol.

Rwanda, however, did not wait to implement some provisions of the protocol and more than a year ago eliminated work permit requirements for all citizens of the East African Community.

Internet

**Mexico, S Korea agree to restart FTA talks**

Mexico City, 2 July—Mexico and South Korea agreed on Thursday to restart the negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) in order to strengthen bilateral trade and ease investment.

Mexican President Felipe Calderon and his South Korean counterpart Lee Myung-bak both committed to boosting efforts to reach a FTA. The FTA “is fundamental” to boost bilateral trade links, Lee told a joint news conference with Calderon. Both leaders also reaffirmed the commitment to guarantee the international regime of non-nuclear proliferation. Lee Myung-bak also committed to boosting efforts to reach a FTA.

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Internet
Israel willing to release 1,000 Palestinians in exchange for captive soldier

JERUSALEM, 2 July— Israeli government agrees to free some 1,000 Palestinians currently held in Israeli prisons for the release of Israeli captive soldier Gilad Shalit, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Thursday evening. “That’s the price I am willing to face to bring Shalit home,” local news service Ynet quoted Netanyahu as saying in a speech, by which the premier presented domestic public the government’s stance on the prisoners exchange negotiation with the Palestinian Hamas movement. However, Netanyahu noted that all the released Palestinians, should not return to the West Bank and Israel will not free anyone Hamas demands. The premier has been facing increasing public pressure to step up negotiations for the release of Shalit, an Israeli Defence Forces soldier held captive by the Hamas for four years.

NATO soldier killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 2 July— A soldier with the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) was killed in Afghanistan’s restive southern region Thursday the first day of the month while the ISAF had experienced a deadliest month on June with losing 102 service members in almost nine-years of war. A Press release issued by ISAF Thursday said, “An ISAF service member died following militants attack in southern Afghanistan today.” However, the Press release did not disclose the nationality of the victim and the exact place of the incident by saying “It is ISAF policy to defer casualty identification procedure to the relevant national authorities.”

Bus crash on German highway injures 24

BERLIN, 2 July— A tour bus crashed with a trailer truck on a highway in southern Germany early morning on Thursday, leaving 24 people injured. A Polish tour bus hit a Romanian trailer truck on Highway A6 in the southern state of Bavaria around 2 am, the German news agency DPA reported.

Twenty-five of 46 passengers in the tour bus were slightly injured.—Xinhua

Five bodies retrieved from collapsed mine pit in Ghana

ACCRA, 2 July— Bodies of five dead small-scale miners were on Thursday afternoon retrieved from the collapsed mine at Dunkwa-on-Offin in the Central Region of Ghana, 114 km west of the capital Accra.

Many more bodies, mangled together, were also sighted by rescue workers who had been working since Monday to save the lives of trapped gold miners in the pit.

Central Regional Fire Officer Michael Opoku Nkanah who spoke to Xinhua via telephone said the dead bodies were at various levels of decomposition and was difficult to identify and number.—Xinhua

Arab countries call for joint action to deal with water issues

CAIRO, July— Water officials from Arab countries met in Cairo on Thursday to discuss the ways to deal with water issues facing these countries. It is of great importance to achieve a united, coordinated view among Arab countries over water issues and the use of new desalination technologies to meet the increasing Arab water demand, said Arab League (LA) Secretary General Amr Moussa at a meeting of Arab water Ministers here at the LA headquarters.

The meeting, co-chaired by Jordanian Minister of Water ResourcesMohammad Najjar, called for a comprehensive Arab water security strategy to face the problem of water dearth in the Arab world.

Airline plans standing room on flights

An Irish airline announced plans to introduce “vertical seats” for standing passengers with $7 tickets, but safety officials said the plans may be quashed.

Ryanair Chief Executive Michael O’Leary announced the plans to replace the back 10 rows in all of the airline’s 250 planes with standing areas along with plans to replace the bathrooms with $1.50 pay toilets, The Daily Telegraph reported on Thursday.

A Ryanair spokesman said officials hope to begin safety testing in about 12 months.

However, officials with the European Aviation Safety Agency told The Guardian that the airline would struggle to make the plans conform to safety regulations.

Farm’s cows increase milk with Shakespeare

Workers at a British farm said cows exposed to a theater group performing renditions of Shakespeare play were increased milk production by 4 percent.

Farmers at Pleasant Farm, near Maidstone, England, said the Changeling Theater Co’s renditions of “The Merry Wives of Windsor,” a comedy about recurring William Shakespeare character Falstaff attempting to seduce two women, caused the cows to increase their milk yield by 4 percent. The Daily Telegraph reported Thursday. “Anything that calms the animals and reduces their stress is good and Shakespeare ticks all the right boxes,” farm worker Liam Batt said. “Perhaps there is something in the language of Shakespeare — we don’t know, but it seems to work, and milk production has gone up 4 percent.”

Japan hot-dog king hungry for 4 July win

Former world hot-dog eating sensation Takeru Kobayashi of Japan wants to compete in this weekend’s annual Fourth of July contest on Coney Island, but still working since Monday to save the lives of trapped gold miners in the pit.

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Japanese Eating Competition organizer Takeru Kobayashi of Japan wants to compete in this weekend’s annual Fourth of July contest on Coney Island, but still working since Monday to save the lives of trapped gold miners in the pit.

British mayor drops pants, apologizes

The lord mayor of Leicester, England, has lost so much weight his pants fell down during an educational event for schoolchildren, attendees said.

Colin Hall was at a library in Leicester to participate in a Summer Showcase organized by a network of teachers to promote a better understanding of global perspectives when, upon standing to say thanks, his bell-bottomed trousers fell down, the BBC reported Wednesday.

Students from three local schools were present to see the unveiling.

A spokesman for Hall said the mayor “offered his deepest apologies” for the leidown.

In this 4 July, 2006 file photo, Takeru Kobayashi shows hot dogs in his mouth during Nathan’s Famous Hot Dog Eating Competition on Coney Island in the Brooklyn borough of New York. Serious eaters are getting ready to scarf their way to glory in New York’s 95th annual 4 July hot dog eating contest. But a famous contestant will be missing. Japan’s Takeru Kobayashi has won the contest six times. Major League Eating president Richard Shea claims the champ’s contract negotiations broke down this year.

In this 4 July, 2006 file photo, Takeru Kobayashi shows hot dogs in his mouth during Nathan’s Famous Hot Dog Eating Competition on Coney Island in the Brooklyn borough of New York. Serious eaters are getting ready to scarf their way to glory in New York’s 95th annual 4 July hot dog eating contest. But a famous contestant will be missing. Japan’s Takeru Kobayashi has won the contest six times. Major League Eating president Richard Shea claims the champ’s contract negotiations broke down this year.

Notes on the image:}

Visitors look at an adult male mummy from the Pre-Columbian Atacama Desert in present-day Chile is displayed at the new Mummies of the World exhibit at the California Science Centre in Los Angeles on 28 June, 2010. The 45 mummies and 95 artifacts in the show come from 15 museums in seven countries, said Marc Corwin, CEO of American Exhibitions Inc. The show opens on Thursday at the California Science Centre, then will go on a three-year tour across the country.
Turkey and Israeli hold first talks since flotilla raid

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (521)**

Consignments of cargo carried on MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (521) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.7.2010 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 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.

**SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**TRADE MARK CAUTION**

Nissan Jidosha Kusbishiki Kaisha (also trading as NISSAN MOTOR CO., LTD,) a company incorpo-

rated in Japan, of No.2, Takaracho, Kanagawa-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa-ken, Japan, is the owner of the Following Trademark


- NISSAN JIDOSHA
- KUSBISHIKI KAISHA

**NAVARA**


**US ‘Dr Death’ jailed for seven years in Australia**

LONDON, 2 July—A US surgeon convicted of manslaughter after botching a series of operations has been jailed for seven years by an Australian court.

Jayant Patel, an Indian-born US citizen dubbed “Dr Death” by Australian media, worked at a Queensland hospital between 2003 and 2005. He was found guilty at the Brisbane Supreme Court earlier this week of the manslaughter of three patients.

Patel had pleaded not guilty to the manslaughter of Gerry Kemps, James Phillips and Mervyn Morris, and causing grievous bodily harm to Ian Vowles.

Prosecutors argued that Patel’s operations were well below the standard of a competent surgeon.

**EU banks’ muted demand for short-term loans boosts euro**

LONDON, 2 July—Relief that a second day of lending by the European Central Bank (ECB) to commercial banks passed off without any nasty surprises helped boost the euro on Thursday. The results of a tender for six-day ECB funds suggested eurozone banks were managing to repay emergency loans.

The news helped to restore some confidence in the single European currency.

The euro gained more than 1 cent against the dollar, to $1.2371.
**Jackie Chan tops list of “Forbes Chinese Celebrities”**

**LOS ANGELES, 2 July**—After his first non-action role in the tear-jerker “Ocean Heaven”, actor Jet Li returns to the martial-arts world with a 12-million-US dollar contract to star in Tsui Hark’s “New Dragon Gate Inn”. *Information Times* reports.

Polybona, the film’s production company, is willing to pay the sky-high salary to encourage Li and Tsui’s first collaborative project in 18 years, the report said.

Tsui’s 1990s film series “Once Upon a Time in China” helped produce one of Li’s best-known roles - Wong Fei-Hung. But rumours surfaced in 1992 that the two did not get along with each other because it mirrors her own life.

“It was right up my alley,” said Palin, daughter of former Alaska Gov Sarah Palin. “I was pregnant the same time as the character, Amy, on the show, so I kind of felt like we went through the experience together.” One situation is fact and the other, fiction, of course, with the former spawning a national debate that shook up Sarah Palin’s vice presidential campaign and the latter generating no small amount of controversy for Disney-owned ABC Family. The melding of the two wasn’t meant to be a political statement, said the show’s creator, Brenda Hampton, but was simply an opportunist bit of stunt casting. — Internet

**Jet Li nets 12 mln US dollars for new role**

**BEIJING, 2 July**—There’s a meta moment coming in Monday night’s episode of “The Secret Life of the American Teenager” where 19-year-old Bristol Palin talks about being the mother of a toddler. The brief guest appearance came naturally — the acting part, well, that’s another matter — because it mirrors her story.

**Mel Gibson, ex mum after closed session**

**LOS ANGELES, 2 July**—Attorneys for Mel Gibson and his ex-girlfriend have concluded a closed-door hearing with a judge handling their child custody case. Attorneys for the actor-director and Russian singer Oksana Grigorieva declined to comment on the case, which remains sealed.

The couple split in April. Gibson’s attorney, Stephen Kolodny, says the former couple entered into a confidential agreement a month later. A child custody case was filed in Los Angeles last month, but those records are sealed.

Neither Gibson or Grigorieva, who have a 7-month-old daughter, attended Thursday’s hearing.

Kolodny has said Gibson has provided his ex-girlfriend with substantial support. Grigorieva said in a statement that she could not discuss the case.

**Andrew Garfield leads land role in ‘Spider-Man’**

**LOS ANGELES, 2 July**—The studio announced Thursday afternoon that it had cast the 26-year-old star of the upcoming “Never Let Me Go” and LOS ANGELES – There’s a new Spider-Man in town. Andrew Garfield, whose credits include last year’s “The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus,” has been cast as Peter Parker, the average youth who transforms into a superhero, in the next “Spider-Man” movie, distributor Sony Pictures announced on Thursday. The “Spider-Man” film begins shooting in December and is due in theaters on 3 July, 2012. Marc Webb, who made the romance “(500) Days of Summer” is directing. Garfield and Webb got the jobs after star Tobey Maguire and director Sam Raimi, who made three blockbust “Spider-Man” films together, departed amid story and scheduling issues over a fourth movie. — Internet

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**Michael Jackson’s dad ends bid for estate stipend**

**LOS ANGELES, 2 July**—Michael Jackson’s father is withdrawing his request to receive more than $15,000 a month from his late son’s estate.

A court filing says Joe Jackson is dropping his bid to receive a monthly allowance in favour of pursuing a wrongful death lawsuit over his son’s death.

Joe Jackson filed a lawsuit in federal court on Friday against Dr Conrad Murray, who has been charged with involuntary manslaughter in the singer’s death.

The Jackson family patriarch was omitted from his son’s will, but in November sought a stipend to pay his monthly expenses.

The filing was first reported Monday by the celebrity website TMZ.

Joe Jackson’s filing indicates he may renew his request for a stipend later if necessary. — Internet

**Judd Apatow developing new Pee-Wee Herman flick**

**IN THIS 7 Dec, 2009 file photo, actor Paul Reubens portraying Pee- wee Herman poses for a portrait while promoting ‘The Pee- wee Herman Show’ live stage play in Los Angeles. INTERNET**
LeBron-less NHL set to begin free-agent frenzy

NEW YORK, 2 July—The names Ilya Kovalchuk, Dan Hamhuis and Evgeni Nabokov don’t roll off the tongues of American sports fans quite like those of LeBron, D-Wade, and Dirk.

Such is life in the world of the NHL, which is also about to embark on a free-agent frenzy of its own, starting Thursday.

The NBA has cornered the attention market for weeks — even years — leading up to its high-profile free-agent shopping season because some of the biggest players in the sport are available.

Byron Scott accepts Cavs’ job

CLEVELAND, 2 July—With LeBron or without him, Byron Scott has decided to get back on an NBA sideline. Scott accepted Cleveland’s coaching job just as LeBron James officially became a free agent and no longer property of the Cavaliers, who are hoping that landing the best coach available will convince the two-time MVP to stay home and try to win a title.

Scott’s agent, Brian McManney, said in an e-mail to The Associated Press that he and the Cavs are working through some final details, but doesn’t expect any problems and that Scott has agreed to become Cleveland’s next coach. The team is expected to announce Scott’s hiring later Thursday, just as James listens to offers from the New Jersey Nets and New York Knicks.

Bopanna, Qureshi plan landmark cross-border match

LONDON, 2 July—Pakistan’s Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi and India’s Rohan Bopanna are aiming to play an extraordinary tennis match to promote peace between the two countries — using the famous Wagah border as the net.

The duo were knocked out of the Wimbledon’s men’s doubles quarter-finals here on Wednesday — their best-ever Grand Slam performance — but caused a stir by wearing jackets emblazoned with the slogan “Stop War, Start Tennis.”

The pair will be wearing the tracksuits tops when they play at the US Open and are mulling over a new logo to decorate them with in New York.

And now they are seeking permission to face each other with the net on the Rakhi Line that has divided the village of Wagah since 1947, with Qureshi playing on the Indian side and Bopanna on the Pakistani side.

Honda emerges for Japan as Nakamura fades

JOHANNESBURG, 2 July—Former Celtic star Shunsuke Nakamura has made his last international appearance for Japan, while up-and-coming CSKA Moscow player Keisuke Honda led Japan’s attack at the World Cup.

By scoring two goals and setting up another in leading the Blue Samurai to the verge of reaching the World Cup quarter-finals for the first time, Honda has shown them the way to go ahead of Brazil 2014.

“I’m through,” 32-year-old Nakamura told reporters, when asked if he would play for his country again, after Japan lost to Paraguay 5-3 on penalties in a last-16 round game.

He confirmed his intention as Japan’s squad returned home Thursday to a welcome by some 4,000 fans at Osaka’s Kansai airport.

Japanese footballing legend Rohan Bopanna (L) and Aisam-Ul-Haq Qureshi (R) are seeking permission to face each other.

Portugal coach Queiroz rules out quitting

LISBON, 2 July—Portugal’s coach Carlos Queiroz said he would not quit the post despite returning empty-handed from the World Cup and amid signs that all was not well between him and star players such as captain Cristiano Ronaldo.

The 57-year-old Mozambique-born coach, who was, along with Ronaldo, the focus of criticism for Portugal’s last 16 1-0 defeat by European champions Spain, said that there was no dishonour in their failing to win the trophy for the first time.

“It is totally out of the question (resigning),” said Queiroz, formerly assistant coach to Sir Alex Ferguson at Manchester United.

“If the national coach must resign for having lost 1-0 against Spain in the last 16 of the World Cup then there is something that is not right.”

Netherlands shocks Brazil 2-1

PORT ELIZABETH, 2 July—Soccer’s perennial World Cup underachievers from the Netherlands knocked off mighty Brazil on Friday, stamping the Dutch as a strong contender to finally win an elusive title.

Wesley Sneijder, one of the shortest players on the field, scored in the 68th minute on a header for a stunning 2-1 quarterfinals win over the five-time champions.

Brazil, which also went out in round four years ago against France, lost its composure after falling behind, and defender Felipe Melo was ejected in the 73rd minute.

The Dutch made the championship match in 1974 and ’78, lost both, and rarely have lived up to their talent in other World Cups. They did this time, helped by an own goal off the head of unfortunate Felipe Melo that brought them into a 1-1 tie in the 53rd minute.

Portugal’s coach Carlos Queiroz gestures during a press conference in Magaliesburg.

Pele takes another swipe at Maradona

BERLIN, 2 July — Brazilian footballing legend Pele’s war of words with Argentina coach Diego Maradona continued on Thursday as he said the latter was not a good coach because of the troubled private life he had led.

Pele, who earlier during the World Cup finals said that Maradona had only taken the Argentine coaching job because he needed the money, said Maradona’s previous troubles — which included treatment for a cocaine addiction — could only have a bad effect on the team.

Argentina — who have won all four of their matches at the World Cup finals so far — also face European champions Spain this weekend.

Brazili’s Pele (pictured) has delivered another swipe at Argentina coach Diego Maradona.

Brazil Cup finals thus far — face an impressive German side in Saturday’s quarter-final in Cape Town.

“He (Maradona) is not a good coach, because he had a bizarre lifestyle which cannot go down well with his team,” three-time World Cup winner Pele told German magazine 11Freunde.

By contrast the 69-year-old Pele said there was much to like about the young and vibrant German side that destroyed England 4-1 in their Last 16 match last Sunday.
Libya, STX France sign contract for biggest Arab cruise ship

TRIPOLI, 2 July—Libya’s state-owned General National Maritime Transportation Company (GNMTC) has signed a contract with STX France to build a new cruise ship, which Libyan state media said it will be the biggest in the Arab world.

According to Libya’s official Jana news agency, the contract was signed on Wednesday between GNMTC General Manager Ali Muftah Balhadj and STX France General Manager Jacques Hardel in the presence of France’s Secretary of State for Transport Dominique Bussereau.

Xinhua

**WEATHER**

Friday, 2nd July, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. MST. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah State and Mawgaw Division, scattered in Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Shan, Chin and Rakhine States and Lower Sagain Division and widespread in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawkareik (2.72) inches, Horalin (2.55) inches, Hkamti (2.29) inches, Theinzayat and Myeik (2.17) inches each, Pylaung (2.13) inches, and Myanyady (2.04) inches.

Maximum temperature on 1-7-2010 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 2-7-2010 was 78°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 2-7-2010 was 84%. Total sun shine hours on 1-7-2010 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 2-7-2010 was (0.08) inch at Mangladon, (0.20) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.23) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (29.53) inches at Mangladon, (34.33) inches at Kaba-Aye and (36.02) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (18:30) hours MST on 1-7-2010.

Bay Influence: Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 3rd July 2010: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State and Mawgaw Division, scattered in Shan State, Lower Sagain and Mawgaw Divisions and fairly widespread in Chin and Rakhine States and Upper Sagain Division and widespread in the remaining States and Division with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Mon State and Tanningyi Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Tanintthiay Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in the Southern Myanmar.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 3-7-2010: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (90%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 3-7-2010: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Weather Outlook For Weekend Of July 2010: During the coming weekend, rain (or) thundershowers will be isolated in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division and one or two rain or thundershowers in Yangon Division.
Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
Riots beget riots, not democracy
Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

VOA, BBC—sowing hatred among the people
RFA, DVB—generating public outrage
Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

People’s Desire
- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

Announcement to submit university entrance application
NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—Those who have passed matriculation examination for 2010 academic year may take out application forms to be submitted to respective universities with mark lists, grade of mark records and university entrance manual from supervisors of the examination centres (heads of Basic Education High Schools) beginning 23 July.

Up to date, there are 43 parties that submitted their applications for formation and continued existence as political parties. A total of 33 of 38 parties that submitted the applications for registration as political parties have been permitted to register and the remaining parties are under scrutiny.—MNA

Applications for registration as political party submitted
NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—Groups that have been allowed to form political parties are submitting their applications to register as political parties to the Union Election Commission.

Unity and Democracy Party of Kachin State (UDPKS) submitted the application today.

Up to date, there are 43 parties that submitted their applications for formation and continued existence as political parties. A total of 33 of 38 parties that submitted the applications for registration as political parties have been permitted to register and the remaining parties are under scrutiny.—MNA

Myanmar Women’s Day the members of our Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation as well as the women folk respect and cherish has come. Since 1996, July 3 has been celebrated as Myanmar Women’s Day every year.

SCIENCE DAILY, 2 July—A worldwide survey of more than 136,000 people in 132 countries included questions about happiness and income, and the results reveal that while life satisfaction usually rises with income, positive feelings don’t necessarily follow, researchers report. The findings, from an analysis of data gathered in the first Gallup World Poll, appear this month in the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology.

“The public always wonders: Does money make you happy?” said University of Illinois professor emeritus of psychology Ed Diener, a senior scientist with the Gallup Organization.

“This study shows that it all depends on how you define happiness, because if you look at life satisfaction, how you evaluate your life as a whole, you see a pretty strong correlation around the world between income and happiness,” he said. “On the other hand it’s pretty shocking how small the correlation is with positive feelings and enjoying yourself.”—Internet