Natural resource-rich Myanmar is an agro-based country according to its geographical features and climate patterns.

In an endeavour to achieve all-round development of other sectors of the economy, the government pays considerable attention to dam projects, river water pumping projects and tube-well projects for agricultural purposes.

When it comes to dams constructed throughout the Myanmar history, from the times of Myanmar monarchs to 1962, Myanmar saw 69 dams benefiting 853,284 acres of farmlands according to the records. The number of the dams built from 1962 to 1988 is only 69, which irrigate 482,915 acres of farmlands.

Projects to boost supply of irrigation water

Maung Maung Myo (Bago)

Paunglaung Dam near Thitseint Village in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township.

Chairman of Thai-Myanmar Friendship Association General Lertrat Ratanavanich spoke words of thanks, presented gift to the Minister. Then, those present had documentary photo taken.

It was also attended by departmental heads of the Enterprises and Departments under the ministry, rector, deputy directors-general, pro-rectors, directors, Second Secretary Mr Roongruk Chanprasert from Thai Embassy, Thai delegation members and guests.

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

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

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

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Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit

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

Golden deer, star turtles handed over to ZPO, Thailand

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—A ceremony to handover two pairs of golden deer and five pairs of star turtles by the Ministry of Forestry to Zoological Park Organization (ZPO, Thailand) took place at Forest Department (head office), here, today.

At the ceremony, Minister for Forestry U Thein Aung made a speech.

After that, acting Director-General U Aye Myint Maung of Forest Department handed over documents related to the animals to Director-General Mr Sophon Dumnui of ZPO, Thailand.

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MNA

Paunglaung Dam near Thitseint Village in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township.

Kadappana Sluice Gate near Kadappana Village in Kyauktan Township, Yangon Division.
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Friday, 9 July, 2010**

**Strive for greater progress of border regions**

As the national people are harmoniously joining hands in undertaking development of the State and ensuring peace and stability as good practice, greater progress of economic and social sectors has been made in the entire nation including border regions. Giving priority to progress of border areas and national races, the government has spent K 314,530 million on enhancement of economic, social, education, health and transport sectors since 1999.

In the education sector, Basic Education Primary, Middle and High Schools were constructed to develop human resources as part of implementing the border region development project. Emphasis is being placed on health care services by building 100 hospitals, 98 dispensaries, 91 rural health centers and 200 rural health branches in addition to 200-bed specialist hospitals.

Educational opportunities have been created for the children from border regions who missed chances to pursue education in successive eras. In this regard, a total of 28 training schools were opened for the national youths of border regions.

In addition, the national youth technical training schools and the vocational training schools for the women from border regions for uplifting their livelihoods.

As the government is rendering necessary assistance for development of human resources and progress of the border regions, it is incumbent upon all the national races to work hard to achieve greater progress.

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**Everyday Idioms in circulation**

The book carries essential idioms with example sentences and exercises for everyday dialogues that English learners have difficulty in using.

Every language has its own slang and idioms. Some idioms are not reconciled with ordinary grammar points. So, English learners are in need of knowing the idioms accurately so as to apply them in their everyday life.

**EVERYDAY IDIOMS**

YANGON, 8 July—Everyday Idioms book edited by writer Kyi Shoon and compiled by editorial group of Wisdom House is now in circulation.

The book carries essential idioms with example sentences and exercises for everyday dialogues that English learners have difficulty in using.

* Strive for greater progress of border regions
* As the national people are harmoniously joining hands in undertaking development of the State and ensuring peace and stability as good practice, greater progress of economic and social sectors has been made in the entire nation including border regions.
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* As the government is rendering necessary assistance for development of human resources and progress of the border regions, it is incumbent upon all the national races to work hard to achieve greater progress.

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**FM receives Brazilian Ambassador**

NAV Pyi Taw, 8 July—Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win received Mr Edgard Telles Ribeiro, Ambassador of the Federative Republic of Brazil to the Union of Myanmar with residence in Bangkok, at his office here at 5 pm today.

The discussion emphasized further strengthening of bilateral relations between Myanmar and Brazil.

Also present on the occasion were Director-General U Kyaw Tin of Political Department of the MOFA and officials.

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**MYANMAR GAZETTE**

**YANGON Command Commander meets Karate-do athletes**

YANGON, 7 July—Chairman of Yango Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yango Command Maj-Gen Win Myint met Ribeiro, athletes who will represent their command in Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Karate Tournament at the meeting hall of the command here on 5 July morning.

Senior military officers, coaches and sportsmen were present at the meeting which ended after the commander had given necessary instructions.

 Accompanied by officials, the commander inspected the construction of Thiri Mingala New Market in Hlinye Township the following day.

An official reported to the commander on the progress of tasks at the briefing hall of the construction site.

After viewing the construction of complexes and the site chosen for the construction jetty, the commander attended to the needs.—MNA

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**UMFCCI meets Thai entrepreneurs in Bangkok**

YANGON, 7 July—The entrepreneurs of Myanmar Fisheries Department and those of foodstuff industries led by General Secretary Dr Maung Maung Lay of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry met Thai entrepreneurs led by Chairman Mr Santi Vilassadkanont of Thai-Myanmar Business Council at the Thai Industrial Federation at Queen Sirikit National Convention Center of Bangkok after attending the THAIFEX World Food of Asia Fair in Bangkok of Thailand from 30 June to 4 July.

They discussed matters related to holding Thai-Myanmar business meetings, tourism industry and student exchanges. The Myanmar entrepreneurs also held meeting on promotion of cooperation between Thailand and Myanmar at University of Thai Chamber of Commerce.

MNA
Two missing after barge capsizes duck boat in Philly

The 37 people aboard the six-wheeled duck boat were tossed overboard when the tugboat-pushed barge hit it after it had been adrift for a few minutes with its engine stalled, police said. Most were plucked from the water by other vessels in a frantic rescue operation that happened in full view of Penn's Landing, just south of the Ben Franklin Bridge.

The duck boat, which can travel seamlessly on land and water, had driven into the river on Wednesday afternoon and suffered a mechanical problem and a small fire, officials said. It was struck about 10 minutes later by a barge used to transport sludge and sank to the bottom of the river. The Coast Guard said it would search through the night for a 16-year-old girl and a 20-year-old man believed to have been aboard the duck boat.

“Hope is fading, but we’re not giving up hope completely,” Coast Guard Capt Todd Gatlin said on Wednesday night.—INTERNET

Magnitude 5.9 earthquake hits south California

LOS ANGELES, 8 July—A moderate quake measuring 5.9 magnitude on the Richter scale shook south California on Wednesday afternoon, and was felt by many residents from Los Angeles to San Diego.

There were no immediate reports of damage or injuries, according to the Los Angeles city and county fire departments.

The quake, which occurred at 2353 GMT on Wednesday, was centered 13 miles (about 20 kilometres) north of Borrego Springs, not far from San Diego, about 90 miles (144 kilometres) south of Los Angeles, according to US Geological Survey (USGS).

The quake shook buildings across Southern California, and was felt strongly in downtown San Diego. The temblor also rattled buildings in Los Angeles.

People watch news on televisions at an electronic shop in Tokyo. Exports have driven the world’s second largest economy’s recovery from recession but companies have eyed economic woes in Europe with caution.—INTERNET

Russia starts final stage of “Vostok 2010” exercises

VLADIVOSTOK, 8 July—The final stage of the “Vostok 2010” military exercises started Wednesday in the southeastern city of Khabarovsk, involving air and land forces. PrimaMedia news agency reported. The final stage tests mobility and ability to fulfill any kind of tasks with limited number of soldiers. The exercises began in the Siberian and Far Eastern regions on 29 June, involving various Russian forces. The first stage concluded on Saturday. It is the largest event of operational and combat training in 2010, according to Russian Armed Forces General Nikolai Makarov.

Explosion rocks Herat city in W Afghanistan

HERAT, 8 July—An explosion rocked Herat city in west Afghanistan Thursday morning, police said.

“It was a roadside bomb apparently targeted a police vehicle as a result a police officer was injured,” a police officer in Herat city, the capital of Herat Province, told Xinhua but declined to be identified.

He also said that the blast occurred on the road leading to Herat airport. Meantime, police spokesman in western region Abdul Rauf Ahmadi said that the director of police recruitment department was injured in the blast.—Xinhua

36 people killed, 138 wounded in Baghdad blasts

BAGHDAD, 8 July—The death toll from a string of bomb blasts targeting Shiite pilgrims on Wednesday in Baghdad rose to 36, while at least 138 others were injured, a local police source told Xinhua.

Six pilgrims were killed and 30 others injured when a roadside bomb went off in Yarmok District in western Baghdad, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity, adding nine others were wounded in another roadside bomb explosion in Haifa street in central Baghdad.

Earlier, two pilgrims were killed and 31 others injured in a blast in new Baghdad District, southeastern Baghdad, said the source.

Clean water means healthy reefs

MELBOURNE, 8 July—Improving the quality of local water boosts the resistance of coral reefs to global climate change, a Florida Institute of Technology ecologist found. FIT coral reef ecologist Robert van Woesik and his student Dan Wagner showed that when waters in the Florida Keys warmed during the last few summers, corals in cleaner waters with fewer nutrients did well, the Melbourne, Fla. university said Tuesday in a news release.

Conversely, corals in dirtier water became sick and bleached.

The study provides concrete evidence of a link between environmental health and the prospects for reefs in a changing world, researchers said. “Regulation waste water discharge from the land will help coral reefs resist climate change,” van Woesik said.—Internet

Oil coats plants and oil absorbent material are seen as high winds and waves caused the cancellation of clean-up operations on the beach in Port Fourchon, Louisiana. A final solution to the oil spill, arguably the biggest ever and certainly America’s worst environmental disaster, is not expected before mid-August when engineers hope to have completed the drilling of a relief well.—INTERNET

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 9 July, 2010

INTERNET

Xinhua

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Xinhua

Xinhua
YouTube launches new video feature “Leanback”

BEIJING, 8 July — YouTube is beginning to provide users with a new upgrade called “Leanback,” offering large screen viewing feature, according to AFP on Thursday.

The new product aims to let users to watch longer time videos and to let them experience the feeling of watching TV on the Internet. YouTube’s post said that users could watch their videos in their own interest and in quality of higher definition, and the videos could be on the screen as long as the users switch off the computer. “There is no need to click, search, or browse,” YouTube said in a blog post, “Watching YouTube becomes as easy as watching TV.” The new feature provides users with video that can play immediately as the users log onto the homepage of the website, and the video are based upon the users’ preferences.

Leanback gets its name from YouTube’s blog post that “(it) is all about letting you sit back.” It is designed to integrate with the future Google TV.

NASA to launch cyclone research aircraft

LOS ANGELES, 8 July— NASA said on Wednesday it will launch three aircraft on 15 August to study tropical cyclones as part of the agency’s first major US-based hurricane field campaign since 2001. During the mission, dubbed as Genesis and Rapid Intensification Processes, or GRIP, these aircraft will study the creation and rapid intensification of hurricanes, said a statement from NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL).

Two of the aircraft will carry advanced instruments from the JPL, which is headquartered in Pasadena, Los Angeles. "This is really going to be a game-changing hurricane experiment," said Ramesh Kakar, GRIP programme scientist.

"For the first time, scientists will be able to study these storms and the conditions that produce them for up to 20 hours straight. GRIP will provide a sustained, continuous lookout at hurricane behaviour at critical times during their formation and evolution.”

Three NASA satellites will play a key role in supplying data about tropical cyclones during the field mission.

The Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission, or TRMM, managed by both NASA and Japan’s Aerospace Exploration Agency, will provide rainfall estimates and help pinpoint the locations of “hot towers” or powerhouse thunderstorms in tropical cyclones. The CloudSat spacecraft, developed and managed by JPL, will provide cloud profiles of storms, which include altitude, temperatures and rainfall intensity.—Xinhua

Successor of Hayabusa explorer at conceptual stage

TOKYO, 8 July— The successor of the Hayabusa explorer was still at a conceptual stage, a professor of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) has said.

Junichiro Kawaguchi, project manager of the Hayabusa programme, told Xinhua on Wednesday that the next stage of the project would still be carried out by Japan alone, but the research would be opened.

The analysis of the samples returned was the first step to the next generation of exploration, he added.

The professor said the particles collected from the Hayabusa spacecraft’s sample were small, but big enough for analysis. He said the collection of particles should be cataloged and then researchers would try to identify which materials were candidates of earth origin and which came from the asteroid it probed. It would take another several months, he said.

Early humans ventured farther north than thought

LONDON, 8 July—Ancient man ventured into northern Europe far earlier than previously thought, settling on England’s east coast more than 800,000 years ago, scientists said.

It had been assumed that humans — thought to have emerged from Africa around 1.75 million years ago — kept mostly to relatively warm tropical forests, steppes and Mediterranean areas as they spread across Eurasia.

But the discovery of a collection of flint tools some 135 miles (220 kilometres) northeast of London shows that early on man braved colder climes. “What we found really undermines traditional views about how humans spread and reacted to climate change,” said Simon Parfitt, a University College London researcher. “It just shows how little we know about the movement out of Africa.”

AT&T network glitch limits iPhone 4 upload speeds

NEW YORK, 8 July— In the latest snag for the iPhone 4, AT&T Inc. said on Wednesday that a software defect in its network is limiting data uploads from the phone in some areas. That means it takes longer for users to send pictures, video and other content from the phone. Apple Inc.’s new iPhone 4 went on sale in the US and a few other countries two weeks ago. Last week, Apple acknowledged that holding the phone in a certain way might reduce its wireless performance, and that all iPhones show the wrong signal strength in some situations. Dallas-based AT&T said on Wednesday that a software glitch in network equipment made by Alcatel-Lucent is to blame for limiting the upload speeds of the iPhone 4. AT&T said a fix is in the works.

Alcatel-Lucent spokeswoman Denise Panyik-Dale confirmed that there’s a software problem in the company’s cellular base station equipment.
Heart tests add to US radiation dose concerns

WASHINGTON. 8 July—Heart imaging procedures can deliver a significant amount of radiation to patients, US researchers said on Wednesday, urging patients and doctors to weigh the risks against the benefits. They said nearly one in 10 adults under the age of 64 had a heart procedure involving radiation over a three-year period in five major healthcare markets. “For many patients in the United States, there is a substantial cumulative radiation exposure from cardiac procedures,” said Dr Jersey Chen of Yale University School of Medicine, whose study appears in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology. An advanced type of heart stress test called myocardial perfusion imaging, in which doctors inject a radioactive tracer in patients to test blood flow, accounted for 74 percent of radiation exposure from heart scans. Heart catheterization and stenting—procedures in which thin tubes are fished through blood vessels to open blocked arteries—were the second biggest contributor to radiation exposure, Chen said. More than half of the heart procedures using radiation were done in the doctor’s own office, the team found. “Policymakers have been concerned that there is a rise in physician office imaging and a rise in total use of imaging,” Chen said in a telephone interview. —Internet

Understanding back pain may improve management, study suggests

MELBOURNE. 8 July—The attitudes, beliefs and health literacy of people with chronic low back pain influence how they manage their pain, Australian researchers report. Health literacy is the ability to find, understand and use health information. Low levels of health literacy are associated with poor outcomes in many chronic conditions, but this relationship has not been studied previously in people with low back pain (LBP), according to a background information about the study, which appears in the August issue of the journal Pain. The study included 56 adults with LBP and 61 adults with no history of back pain. They provided information about severity of back pain, LBP-related disability, fear avoidance, beliefs about LBP, and pain catastrophizing (the tendency to have a fixation about pain and feel unable to cope with it).—Internet

Health Tip: Protect children from sunburn

WASHINGTON, 8 July—A child’s delicate skin needs protection from the sun to prevent a painful burn and skin damage. The American Academy of Pediatrics offers these suggestions to protect children from sunburn:

- Sunburn can happen even on a shady day. The sun doesn’t have to be shining brightly to cause a burn.
- Use sunscreen with sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15. Apply 30 minutes before you head outdoors, and reapply throughout the day.
- Cover skin with cool, light cotton clothing that covers arms and legs.
- Keep your child shaded with a beach umbrella.
- Put a wide-brimmed hat on your child.
- Never put a young baby (younger than six months) in direct sunlight.
- Try to keep your child out of the sun between 10 am and 4 pm, when the sun is strongest.

Relentless heat threatens your health

WASHINGTON, 8 July—The record-breaking heat wave scorching many parts of the United States is likely to last through the weekend, taxing people’s heat and utility companies’ ability to keep the lights on and air conditioning and fans up and running. And humidity, especially along the East Coast, will rise on Wednesday, only making matters worse, meteorologists say.

On Tuesday, the heat wave, which has been moving steadily eastward across the country, thwarted the Atlantic Coast, as temperatures soared past 100 degrees from Virginia to Massachusetts. Records were set in New York City, where it hit 103, and in Philadelphia, where it climbed to 102, according to news reports. The heat has been taking its toll on Americans from all walks of life. In Massachusetts, Lt Gov Tim Murray ended up in the hospital after participating in several Fourth of July parades over the weekend. And the heat was blamed for the deaths of a 92-year-old Philadelphia woman whose body was found on Monday and a homeless woman in suburban Detroit, the Associated Press reported.

Could hot weather affect results of a colorectal cancer test?

WASHINGTON, 8 July—An immunochemical test used to detect signs of colorectal cancer is less accurate when done in the summer than in cooler times of the year, Italian researchers report.

Although the particular brand of test used in the study—the OC-Hemodigest—is not used in the United States, the findings are of interest to US researchers because immunochemical fecal occult blood tests are gradually replacing the conventional stool test for colorectal cancer, according to the report published in the 6 July online edition of Gut. Cancers of the colon or rectum generally have a good prognosis when caught early, and the most common, non-invasive way to detect it is a procedure known as the fecal occult blood test, or FOBT, which looks for blood hidden in the stool. In Italy—unlike the United States—the conventional procedure is an immunochemical fecal occult blood test.
Eurozone economy grows modestly on strong exports

BRUSSELS, 8 July—The Eurozone economy grew modestly in the first quarter of this year thanks to strong exports, the European Union (EU)’s statistics office Eurostat reported on Wednesday.

The combined economy of the 16 EU nations that use the euro grew by 0.2 percent in the first three months, Eurostat said, confirming previous estimates.

In comparison with the same quarter of the previous year, the eurozone economy rose 0.6 percent, after shrinking 2.1 percent in the fourth quarter of last year.

The economic recovery in the eurozone was rather weak if compared with the United States and Japan, whose growth rates were 0.7 percent and 1.2 percent respectively in the first quarter.

There was rising concern that the European economy may plunge into a double-dip recession amid a worsening sovereign debt crisis.

In the first quarter of 2010, positive growth in the eurozone was attributable to strong exports, which increased 2.1 percent quarter on quarter. But household consumption expenditure decreased 0.1 percent and investments fell 1.2 percent.

The EU economy also grew 0.2 percent on a quarterly basis and 0.5 percent on a yearly basis in the first three months of this year.

IMF forecasts strong growth for Australian economy

BRISBANE, 8 July—Treasurer and Deputy Prime Minister Wayne Swan said on Thursday the International Monetary Fund’s (IMF) predicts Australia will be the strongest growing advanced economy has come on top of “stunning” job figures.

The latest Australian Bureau of Statistics showed the jobless rate was 5.1 percent in June, as the number of people employed grew by a much larger than expected 45,900.

“This was a real surprise, we were confident the rate would fall but not by quite as much as we expected,” Swan told reporters.

“We have created 350,000 additional jobs over the past year. That is a very good outcome for the Australian economy when there has been very difficult circumstances elsewhere.

“Compare this to what is happening to other countries with unemployment rates of 9 percent in the United States and elsewhere in Europe.”

Swan said the IMF’s forecast that Australia would be the best performing advanced economy meant continuing low unemployment and stronger jobs growth.

He added the strong growth would allow the government to fund vital reforms, including health reforms.

Japan’s core machinery orders fall 9.1% in May

TOKYO, 8 July—Japan’s machinery orders fell 9.1 percent in May from a month earlier, the Cabinet Office said in a report on Thursday.

Core machinery orders, excluding shipbuilders and electric power companies, in the recording month totalled 693 billion yen (7.9 billion US dollars) and marked the first decline in three months.

The figure has been closely watched as indicator of future business investment. However, the average forecast among economists for core machinery orders in May was 2.5 percent fall.

Traders work at their desks in front of the the DAX board at the Frankfurt stock exchange on 5 July, 2010.—INTERNET

Tradesmen erect a roof on a new house in the mining town of Karratha in the north of Western Australia. New data on unemployment in Australia, seen as renewed proof of the country’s resilience in the face of global economic turmoil, has pushed the dollar higher.—INTERNET

McDonald mum on additives

BEIJING, 8 July—McDonald’s Corp on Wednesday declined to release the exact amount of two food additives contained in its Chicken McNuggets sold in China - chemicals that, if taken in excess, may cause nausea or vomiting.

The Chinese operation also failed to rule out the possibility that the two ingredients could be found in other items listed on its menu in China. The State Food and Drug Administration said on Tuesday it had launched a nationwide inspection on McDonald’s Chicken McNuggets after a recent CNN investigation found that McDonald’s all-white meat Chicken McNuggets sold in the United States contain the preservative iBHQ, a petroleum-based tertiary butylhydroquinone, as well as dimethylpolysiloxane, an anti-foaming agent.

The fast food chain said the amount of its two additives, also found in McNuggets in China, is within the limits of China’s national standard and poses no risk to consumers’ health.

The food administration said it will release the inspection results later and called on domestic catering providers to use additives strictly according to national limits.

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Information Minister visits staff helping green Mother Earth

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan planted saplings at the 2010 rainy season tree planting ceremonies at Nay Pyi Taw Printing Plant in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon and so did Managing Director U Aung Nyein of PPE and Managing Director U Soe Win of NPE.

At a similar ceremony of Nay Pyi Taw Daily of NPE, the minister planted a star-flower sapling. The managing directors of PPE and NPE also cultivated gum-kino plants.

The minister looked into participation of staff in growing of mango saplings and weeding the plantations. He cordially conversed with employees. After that, the minister viewed thriving teak, Eucalyptus and Mezali plantations in the compound of Nay Pyi Taw Daily, nurseries and greening task of the daily and left necessary instructions.

Likewise, the 2010 rainy season tree sapling ceremonies took place at the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw and Myanma Radio and Television in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon. These ceremonies were attended by service personnel.

Today’s ceremonies saw staff of departments and enterprises planting 238 mango and other perennial trees and 2570 windbreaker trees, totaling 2808.

Plans are being made for greening of the environs this rainy season. So far, a total of 3403 mango and perennial trees and 24,350 windbreaker trees, totaling 27753 have been grown. The departments and enterprises will grow more saplings in the coming.

Minister for Forestry U Thein Aung addresses the handing over ceremony of two pairs of golden deer and five pairs of star turtles to ZPO, Thailand.

(News on page 1)

Chinese eye specialists give free treatment in Yesagyo

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—Six Chinese optometrists and 35 nurses led by Dr Yujomim (Xian San Eye Hospital) of the Bright Mission with the sponsorship of Chinese Monk Venerable Xokaisin and Monk Venerable Gomin of the People’s Republic of China and U Win Pe gave free medical check-up to 2800 local people with eye complaints in Yesagyo Township at Yesagyo Township People’s Hospital from 2 to 5 July.

During its tour, the team performed operations on 200 people suffering from cataract and provided them with a pair of sunglasses, one torch, tablets, eye drop, and 300 kyats each.

Talks on reproductive health given in Sagaing Div

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—Organized by Maternal and Child Welfare Association of Myinnmu Township, Sagaing Division, talks on promoting community-based reproductive health of the same aged groups took place at Township Peace and Development Council Office yesterday. At the ceremony, Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Thein of Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee explained purpose of holding the talk.

Chairperson Daw Thi Thi Kyawing of Township MCWA gave talks on reproductive health of the youths and Township medical officer Dr Myo Than, on works done for reproductive health.

Database Application Development Course for computer worms

YANGON, 8 July—Aiming to turn out well qualified database applications developers and database administrators, Myanmar Professionals Education Centre (MPEC) will conduct Database Applications Development Course. At the course, structure and operating of Database Management Systems will be conducted with the use of Oracle Database Server and Microsoft SQL Server 2008 software.

Anyone who has basic skills of DBMS and SQL language may attend the course. For more information, contact Myanmar Professionals Education Centre (MPEC), Room No. 804/B, Dagon Centre, Myaynigon, Sanyyoung Township, Yangon (Ph: 73066278).—MNA
Projects to boost supply…

(from page 1)

In 1988, Myanmar’s total sown acreage stood at only over 23.8 million, and vacant lands amounted to 26.1 million acres. At that time, the paddy sown acreage was only 11.8 million, meaning land utilization was not satisfactory and the paddy output remained unchanged: just over 630 million baskets.

Up to 1988, the number of irrigation facilities was only 138, the majority of which were small ones. At that time, river water pumping for agricultural purpose was only in the dream world. In consequences, irrigated farmlands totalled only 1.3 million acres.

So, the government is trying to boost production of rice and other crops and seeking all possible ways for supply of adequate irrigation water with the aim of ensuring domestic food safety, raising State’s income by exporting agricultural surpluses, and improving the living conditions for local people.

Long ago, rainwater was only means of water supply for agriculture. In some years, it rained far less than it used to be in late monsoon, so there was a fall in paddy output due to the fact that paddy fields were not successful. That meant farmers could use single paddy-cropping pattern even if it rained normal the whole monsoon.

Nonetheless, some regions yearly encountered floods owing to torrential rains. So, low-lying areas were designated there and paddy could be cultivated only after the rainy season. So, growing paddy was not as successful as it should be. So, in the years when water supply was not sufficient, the paddy output might fall by about 50 per cent.

On the ground of that fact, the government has been a large number of dams, sluice gates, river water pumping stations and tube-wells in order that crops including paddy can be grown all year round.

To achieve its goal, the government uses a variety of means such as building dams, pumping water from underground and sinking tube-wells.

From 1988 onwards, the government has constructed two irrigation facilities in Kayah State; one in Kayin State; one in Chin State; 26 in Sagaing Division; one in Tanninthi Division; 48 in Bago Division; 47 in Magway Division; 55 in Mandalay Division; 11 in Mon State; six in Rakhine State; 19 in Yangon Division; six in Shan State; and nine in Ayeyawady Division, numbering 232, thus adding to the total sown acreage of irrigated farmlands to 2,827,076.

The government launched 21 special projects and river pumping projects in the regions where it is not possible to construct dams. So far, it has set up 131 river water pumping stations that benefit 351,830 acres and 191 diesel-fired river water pumping stations that benefit 115,198 acres of farmlands.

From 1988 to date, the government has built five river water pumping stations in Kachin State; three in Kayah; six in Kayin State; 55 in Sagaing Division; 11 in Tanninthi Division; 56 in Bago Division; 51 in Magway Division; 75 in Mandalay Division; five in Mon State; four in Rakhine State; 23 in Yangon Division; four in Shan State; and 24 in Ayeyawady Division, totaling 322 that bring the total sown acreage of irrigated farmlands across the nation to 467,028.

From 1988 to date, the government has sunk 2979 low tube-wells and 5033 deep tube-wells, totaling 8012 that benefit 98,335 acres of arable lands.

Similarly, building small irrigation facilities by damming creeks and canals and sinking artesian wells benefit 184,570 acres of farmlands that are outside the reach of canals of large dams. Dams, sluice gates, and underground water utilizing stations means more than 3.8 million additional acres of lands can be put under crops.

In comparison with the conditions in 1988, the nation has got a superb return on the efforts it has made to improve the agricultural sector.

During the same period, the nation’s total sown acreage has surged from over 23.8 million to over 53.1 million, accounting for over 29.3 million.

Previously, the acreage of virgin lands was 26.1 million. In the time of the ruling government, 11.5 million acres of the fallow lands have been reclaimed. So, vacant lands stand at only 14.6 million acres.

Regarding paddy cultivation, monsoon paddy sown acreage has increased from only more than 11.8 million to more than 17 million. And summer paddy sown acreage is now more than 900,000. That indicates the paddy sown acreage has risen by six million.

The acreage of irrigated farmlands has grown from 1.3 million to 3.8 million, accounting for over two million.

The acreage of farmlands with multiple-cropping patterns has jumped to nearly 20 million from 3.8 million.

Now, paddy output is more than 1560 million baskets, up from more than 630 million baskets. Food sufficiency has improved from 102 per cent to 173 per cent, thus showing a significant increase by 71 per cent.

Over 26,000 acres of farmlands have emerged as a result of reclaiming vacant lands in the time of the government.

The government is not complacent about the present development momentum in the dam projects. Now, 26 dams are being constructed across the nation: one in Shwewu, Kachin State; one in Hmeinwae, Kayin State; six in Kalay, Ayadaw, Budalin and Kanbalu in Sagaing

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Projects to boost supply...

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Division; one in Taninthayi Division; three in Pyu, Bago and Waw in Bago Division; five in Pwintbyu, Gangaw, Sedoktara and Myaing in Magway Division; five in Madaia, PyinOoLwin and Sandwin in Mandalay Division; one in Kyauk, Mon State; two in Ywangan and Yaksawk in Shan State; and one in Ingapu, Ayeyawady Division. On completion, those projects will be able to benefit 1,236,890 acres of farmlands.

One hundred more irrigation facilities are on target as part of the future plan. In this regard, feasibility study is being conducted, and the findings are being submitted to the special project. Of the 100 projects, three in Kyaukto, Thaton and Bilin in Mon State; four in Taungtha, Yamethin, Buthidaung, Maungtaw and Kyauktaw in Rakhine State; 10 in Moneik, Mongbsai, Kengtung, Lashio, Nawngkhio, Tachileik and Langkho in Shan State; and four in Laymyethna, Kyangin and Yekyi in Ayeyawady Division. On completion, they are expected to be able to benefit 357,380 acres of arable lands.

Of the dams, Thaphanseik Dam in Kyunhla Township, Sagaing Division, put into service on 17 April 2010 is the largest of its kind in Myanmar, and the longest of its kind in the South East Asia. The dam, also known as the small inland sea, is 108 feet high and over four miles long, and it irrigates over 500,000 acres of farmlands.

Other largest dams in Myanmar are Kindah Dam in Kyaukse Township, Mandalay Division, Kindat Dam in Kyunhla Township, Sagaing Division; Zawgyi Dam in Yaksawk Township, Shan State (South); Monechaung Dam in Sedoktara Township, Magway Division; and Yenwe Dam in Kyaukdaga Township, Khabaung Dam in Ottwin Township, Taungnyo Dam in Nattalin Township, Thonze Dam in Thayawady Township, and Weygi Dam in Paungde Township in Bago Division.

To construct a dam calls for huge funds, massive labour, and heavy machinery plus skills of national engineers. Now, the whole nation has witnessed clusters of dams. Dams increase paddy sown acreage, and that can ensure local food sufficiency.

Kandaunt Dam near Kandaunt Village, Pale Township, Sagaing Division.

Ma Mya Dam seen with its control tower in Myanaung Township.

Despite being an arid region, Sagaing Division can now grow summer and monsoon paddy due to river water pumping stations.
CPT Ministry holds tree-planting ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—The Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs organized the monsoon tree-planting ceremonies (2010) along with the releasing of fingerlings at its office compound, Nay Pyi Taw General Post Office and Nay Pyi Taw Exchange this morning.

Minister U Thein Zaw and wife Daw Mu Win and Deputy Minister U Kyaw Myint, Directors-General from departments and officials.—MNA

Projects to boost supply...

(From page 9)

Due to the firm stand, correct concept, effective encouragement and hard work of the government, summer paddy cultivation has been successful.

Under the supervision of the Special Projects Implementation Committee led by the Head of State which was formed in the national interest, bridges are being constructed at the rate of one a month, and dams at the rate of 12 a year. As fruits, many new dams, villages and towns have been put on the map of Myanmar.

Growing monsoon paddy in over 17 million acres, summer paddy in over 900,000 acres, exercising multiple-cropping pattern in nearly 20 million acres, and producing 1560 million baskets of paddy, Myanmar stands as the granary of Asia with her head held high. The sown acreage of beans and pulses is also growing remarkably.

So, the nation has seen a sharp increase in production and export of beans and pulses, edible oil crops and crops for industrial raw materials. Over a couple of decades into the rule of the present government, Myanmar has become one of the largest rice producing countries as well as the leading country in producing beans and pulses in ASEAN region. The fruitful result is largely due to the farsightedness of the government to ensure food safety of the nation’s population of over 100 million in future.

On the top of that, per capita income of farmers is growing rapidly and socio-economic life of local people is improving dramatically thanks to the substantial increase in outputs of crops. The benevolent attitude of the government towards the people has led to supply of sufficient water for monsoon and summer paddy fields. The water flowing in the rivers and creeks throughout the nation is 870 million acre feet, but only six per cent of that can be utilized for agricultural purposes. With a view to stepping up utilization of water sources for agriculture, the government is now in pursuance of diverse means such as constructing new dams, storing water that flows in watershed areas, rebuilding dams to increase their water storage capability, draining water from rivers and creeks into natural lakes while they are in floods, pumping water from rivers and creeks, and tapping underground water.

Translation: MS

ThanUchauk Dam in Kyaukhtu Township, Gangaw District, Magway District.

Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Zaw and wife plant an Sal saplings.—MNA

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**CPT Ministry holds tree-planting ceremony**

**Projects to boost supply...**

**SWRRR Minister receives Special Envoy to ASEAN Secretary-General**

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Maung Maung Swe received Special Envoy to the ASEAN Secretary-General Dr William Sabandar of the Coordination Office For the ASEAN Humanitarian Task Force at the Ministry here this morning.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Kyaw Myint, Directors-General from departments and officials.—MNA

**SEA Basketball Tournament goes on**

YANGON, 8 July—The 7th SEA U-18 Men’s Basketball Tournament continued at the National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thuwunna, here, this morning.

Singapore beat Myanmar 78-70; Thailand hampered Malaysia 75-68 and the Philippines trounced Laos 133-30.

For tomorrow’s event, the matches have been scheduled as Singapore vs Laos; Myanmar vs Malaysia; and the Philippines vs Thailand.—MNA
Cuba installs Chinese-made seismological equipment

HAVANA, 8 July— With the help of Chinese specialists, Cuba has installed various seismological equipment donated by China, said an official on Wednesday. Raul Palau, deputy director for technology at the National Geodynamic Observatory, said the donation is part of a Havana-Beijing agreement.

At least 12 firefighters injured in New York blaze

NEW YORK, 8 July— At least 12 firefighters were injured on Wednesday in a blaze in New York due to severe heat. The fire began around 10:20 am local time and lasted more than two hours on the top floor of an apartment building in Rego Park, Queens, according to a New York City Fire Department official. About 200 firefighters helped put out the blaze, and 12 received minor injuries that were mostly heat-related, according to local media. Two firefighters with heat exhaustion and one with burns to the neck were sent to local hospitals.

Fourometric Observatories, Xinhua said the donation include highly sensitive seismometers, accelerometers, radio facilities for voice communciation and mobile stations for quake engineering studies. Seven broadband stations and two telemetry stations will receive this equipment, Palau said. The equipment will allow the Cuban seismic network to be linked to the Central Station in real time for the first time, displaying all the earthquake traces at the time of occurrence and reducing response time, he added.

Colombia captures 16 drug traffickers

BOGOTA, 8 July—The Colombian police on Wednesday captured at least 16 members of a drug trafficking cartel led by the man commonly known as “El Loco” Barrera in different regions of the country. Local and US authorities consider Barrera one of the most wanted drug traffickers. “Together with the Prosecutor’s Office, we have conducted more than 30 raids in Bogota and other regions of the country, where we captured more than 16 people related to El Loco Barrera,” police sources told Xinhua. The sources added that the number of detainees could increase to 23. Among those arrested was Carlos Alberto Rincon, one of Barrera’s partners.

Ocean voyage documents deep-sea life

An international team of marine scientists also saw an abundance of species once considered rare and found diversity in habitat and marine life in locations a few miles apart as they studied animals living the mid-Atlantic Ocean ridge, the Census of Marine Life said on Tuesday in a release.

The six-week exploration is part of the Census of Marine Life, a global network of researchers engaged in a 10-year scientific initiative to assess and explain the diversity, distribution, and abundance of life in the oceans and will publish its first enumeration this year in London. During more than 300 hours of dives with a remotely operated vehicle, researchers surveyed plains, cliffs and slopes of the mountain range bisecting the Atlantic.

Many simply don’t understand grammar

A number of native English speakers are unable to understand basic sentences such as, “The soldier was hit by the sailor,” British researchers say. The find challenges linguistics professor Noam Chomsky’s theory of universal grammar, that all children learn language equally well and therefore there must be an underlying common language to all languages that is somehow “hard-wired” into the brain.

Dr Ewa Dabrowska of the University of Northumbria and research student James Street tested a range of adults, some post-graduate students, and others who left high-school at age 16. The researchers asked the study subjects to identify the meaning of a number of simple active and passive sentences. Many who left high school early made mistakes and some did not perform any better than if they had guessed, the study says. However, those who left school early were given instruction after the tests, and they were able to learn the constructions very quickly, Dabrowska says.

UFO disrupts air traffic in east China

An unidentified flying object disrupted air traffic over Hangzhou, capital of east China’s Zhejiang Province, late Wednesday, the municipal government said on Thursday.

The equipment donated by China, seismological equipment will be linked to the Central Station in real time for the first time, displaying all the earthquake traces at the time of occurrence and reducing response time, he added.

The airport had resumed operations and more flights were rerouted to airports in Ningbo and Wuxi cities, said an airport spokesman. The airport had resumed operations and more flights were rerouted to airports in Ningbo and Wuxi cities, said an airport spokesman. The airport had resumed operations and more flights were rerouted to airports in Ningbo and Wuxi cities, said an airport spokesman.

Treehotel to open in Sweden

Treehotel - located in a place called Harads - will consist of four rooms when it opens on 17 July - each with their own distinct character. The cabin is nearing completion, and is already up in the forest. And the cube, which is the room that has garnered the most attention. It will be attached to a single tree.

Four metres high and four metres wide, the walls are made with a mirrored glass.
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (333)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (333) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.7.2010 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV DALIA ROJA VOY NO (113)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DALIA ROJA VOY NO (113) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.7.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (1) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: EASTERN CAR LINER SINGAPORE PTE LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

Italy drivers hit coin ‘jackpot’ after lorry accident

London, 8 July—Motorists in southern Italy must have thought they had hit the jackpot after spotting piles of euro coins on a motorway.

A security lorry carrying some two million euros (£1.66m; $2.5m) in one and two-euro coins overturned near Foggia.

The lorry’s rear door popped open, shedding the precious cargo.

Before the police arrived, some drivers stopped their cars and made off with at least 10,000 euros.

Police closed the motorway to try to recover the money. The incident made the front page of many Italian newspapers.

Police closed the motorway to try to collect the coins.—Internet

NASA space shuttle firm to cut 1,000 jobs

London, 8 July—The US’s leading space contractors to cut the jobs of more than 1,000 of the world’s leading scientists and technicians after NASA ended its space shuttle programme.

United Space Alliance, which manages the shuttle fleet and handles NASA’s International Space Station, said most jobs would go in Florida and Texas.

Two shuttle missions remain, which are scheduled to be completed by 2011. The jobs represent about 15% of the workforce, with more cuts expected.

“People being laid off now is just the beginning. Many more thousands will be laid off as the shuttle programme is wound down,” Keith Cowing, the editor of space specialist website NASA Watch, told the BBC World Service.

United Space Alliance is a joint venture between Boeing and Lockheed Martin.—Internet

Fault disrupts Seacom internet cable to East Africa

London, 8 July—An underwater cable that brought high-speed net access to East Africa for the first time has been hit by a fault, knocking many in the region offline.

The owners of the Seacom cable said the exact cause of the fault was “still being investigated”, but was thought to originate off the Kenyan coast.

The cable, finished in 2009, connects South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Mozambique to Europe and Asia.

Seacom said it has “initiated emergency repairs”, which may take eight days.

CRU climate scientists ‘did not withhold data’

London, 8 July—Climate scientists at a top UK research unit have emerged from an inquiry with their reputations for honesty intact but with a lack of openness criticised.

The Independent Climate Change Email Review was set up by the University of East Anglia (UEA) after more than 1,000 e-mails were hacked from its servers.

Climate “sceptics” claimed the e-mails showed that UEA scientists manipulated and suppressed key climate data.

But these accusations are largely dismissed by the report.

The review found nothing in the e-mails to undermine Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports.—Internet

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United Space Alliance is a joint venture between Boeing and Lockheed Martin.—Internet
“Let the Bullets Fly” in soccer field

“Let the Bullets Fly” actor Ge You is featured in a World Cup-themed cartoon image. Xinhua

BEIJING, 8 July—What’s the similarity between the 2010 World Cup semifinalist Spain and the Chinese movie “Let the Bullets Fly”? Both of their squads are making a splash.

Amidst the ongoing World Cup fever, “Let the Bullets Fly” producers have released a series of photos featuring football-playing cartoon images of the movie’s 11 lead actors, each echoing a player in the Spanish team.

Jiang Wen, the movie’s director who is also among the cast, is compared to captain and goalkeeper Iker Casillas. “They are both talented leaders,” says a Press release for the movie.

Chow Yun-Fat, the biggest star in the cast, draws comparison to midfielder Xavi Hernandez. “Chow to the movie is like Xavi to Spain,” the Press release says.

The cartoons also juxtapose actor Ge You to midfielder Sergio Busquets, and Chen Kun to forward Fernando Torres.

The male-dominated “Let the Bullets Fly” is billed as a Chinese equivalent to “Ocean’s Eleven”. The action-comedy revolves around a gang in the early 20th century. Its star-heavy lineup led by Jiang Wen, Chow Yun-Fat, and Ge You has been attracting intense media coverage. The movie is set for release early 2010. In order to avoid box-office loses, “Shrek 4” has made the decision to move. It is reported the movie is like Xavi to Spain,” the Press release says.

3-D Titanic to be released in April 2012

BEIJING, 8 July—The 3-D version of 1997 Oscar-winning film “Titanic” directed by James Cameron is slated for release in 2012 to mark the 100th anniversary of the ship’s sinking, according to media reports on Wednesday.

The RMS “Titanic”, which set off on her maiden voyage from Southampton, England, on 10 April, 1912, sank on 14 April, 1912 after hitting an iceberg.

“Shrek 4” postpones Chinese mainland opening for “Aftershock”

BEIJING, 8 July—DreamWorks’ animation, “Shrek Forever After”, the fourth installment of the “Shrek” film series, has announced a delay to its Chinese mainland opening until 16 August, Sina.com.cn reports.

“Shrek 4” has made big profits since its global release this May. It was originally set to show on the Chinese mainland on 12 July. However, the 3-D animation has to meet local director Feng Xiaogang’s new movie “Aftershock”, which will hit the big screen on 22 July. In order to avoid box-office loses, “Shrek 4” has made the decision to move. It is reported that “Shrek 4” will be shown in 3-D and 3-D IMAX formats at the same time on the Chinese mainland.

Lady Gaga blamed for eye-endangering contact lens trend

BEIJING, 8 July—Lady Gaga is recently blamed for partially inspiring a trend of eye-endangering contact lenses, according to media reports on Wednesday.

The contact lenses can create the “large doe-eyes” as the singer showed in her “Bad Romance” video. They are selling fast on the Internet but illegal in the United States and not FDA approved.

In the film, the lone survivor of the accident, a 100-year-old woman named Rose DeWitt Bukator, narrates the story from departure of the ship until the sinking of the Titanic. Gloria Stuart, who played older Rose in the film, celebrated her 100th birthday on Sunday.

Ringo celebrates birthday with ‘Peace’ salute in NYC

NEW YORK, 8 July—With a little help from his friends, Ringo Starr celebrated his 70th birthday in New York with a global “Peace and Love” moment.

Starr led the salute on Wednesday in Times Square to throngs of spectators looking to catch a glimpse of the legendary Beatle. He told the crowd that being in New York was a “magical moment in 1964, and it’s still a magical moment.”

Earlier, Starr was honored at the Hard Rock Cafe with a cake and a chorus of “Happy Birthday.” He wasted patiently for staff to bring a cake knife so he could cut his own cake, as is tradition in Liverpool. Starr wants people from every part of the globe to say “Peace and Love” at noon everyday by word, e-mail or any form of communication.

A model presents a creation at “Hong Kong Fashion: on Parade” under a carnival theme during the Hong Kong Fashion Week for Spring/Summer 2010 in Hong Kong, south China, on 7 July, 2010. Xinhua

In a World Cup-themed carnival for Spring/Summer 2010 in Hong Kong, south China, on 7 July, 2010. Xinhua

Internet

A model presents a creation during MA Graduation Fashion Show 2010 at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in Hong Kong, south China, on 7 July, 2010. Xinhua

Poster of “Shrek Forever After”.

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In the film, the lone survivor of the accident, a 100-year-old woman named Rose DeWitt Bukator, narrates the story from departure of the ship until the sinking of the Titanic. Gloria Stuart, who played older Rose in the film, celebrated her 100th birthday on Sunday.

Ringo celebrates birthday with ‘Peace’ salute in NYC

NEW YORK, 8 July—With a little help from his friends, Ringo Starr celebrated his 70th birthday in New York with a global “Peace and Love” moment.

Starr led the salute on Wednesday in Times Square to throngs of spectators looking to catch a glimpse of the legendary Beatle. He told the crowd that being in New York was a “magical moment in 1964, and it’s still a magical moment.”

Earlier, Starr was honored at the Hard Rock Cafe with a cake and a chorus of “Happy Birthday.” He wasted patiently for staff to bring a cake knife so he could cut his own cake, as is tradition in Liverpool. Starr wants people from every part of the globe to say “Peace and Love” at noon everyday by word, e-mail or any form of communication.

A model presents a creation at “Hong Kong Fashion: on Parade” under a carnival theme during the Hong Kong Fashion Week for Spring/Summer 2010 in Hong Kong, south China, on 7 July, 2010. Xinhua

Internet

A model presents a creation during MA Graduation Fashion Show 2010 at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in Hong Kong, south China, on 7 July, 2010. Xinhua

Poster of “Shrek Forever After”.

BEIJING, 8 July—DreamWorks’ animation, “Shrek Forever After”, the fourth installment of the “Shrek” film series, has announced a delay to its Chinese mainland opening until 16 August, Sina.com.cn reports.

“Shrek 4” has made big profits since its global release this May. It was originally set to show on the Chinese mainland on 12 July. However, the 3-D animation has to meet local director Feng Xiaogang’s new movie “Aftershock”, which will hit the big screen on 22 July. In order to avoid box-office loses, “Shrek 4” has made the decision to move. It is reported that “Shrek 4” will be shown in 3-D and 3-D IMAX formats at the same time on the Chinese mainland.

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Spain beats Germany 1-0 in World Cup semifinal

DURBAN, 8 July—Spain outplayed Germany yet again. And now the Spanish have the biggest prize of all within their sights. Spain will play for the World Cup title for the very first time thanks to Carles Puyol’s goal on a powerful header in the second half on Wednesday night. The 1-0 victory was the exact same score as the European Championship final two years ago, which Spain won to end a 44-year major title drought. But while the European title is nice, nothing compares to being the world champ.

Spain will play the Netherlands in Sunday’s final at Soccer City in Johannesburg, ensuring a first-time champion. The Dutch, who beat Uruguay on Tuesday night, have lost in their only two current-year finals.

When the final whistle sounded, the Spanish players on the field thrust their arms in the air while the substitutes raced onto the field. Their smiles were so bright they could be seen all the way to the top of the stadium in Durban, their roars of elation almost loud enough to drown out the blare of those vuvuzelas.—Internet

Van Marwijk demands Dutch finish the job

CAPE TOWN, 8 July—Dutch coach Bert van Marwijk has praised his side for reaching their first World Cup final in 32 years but said their achievement counts for nothing yet.

The Netherlands’ 3-2 win over Uruguay on Tuesday in their semi-final has put them in Sunday’s World Cup final where they will face either Germany or European champions Spain at Johannesburg’s Soccer City.

The Dutch are bidding to win their first World Cup title and having lost both the 1974 and 1978 finals, van Marwijk says the current side must win if they want to write themselves into Dutch footballing history.—Internet

S Korea starts search for national team coach

SEOUL, 8 July—South Korea’s football governing body said on Wednesday it has started its official process to find a national team coach to replace Huh Jung-Moo, who announced his resignation last week.

The Korea Football Association said its technical committee agreed to name a Korean coach after screening a dozen candidates.

“All members of the committee agreed to name a Korean coach. We are looking into some 12 or 13 football leaders on the list,” committee chief Lee Hoi-Taek told Yonhap news agency. The next leader will be in charge of the team until the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, he said.

The list includes Kim Hak-Beom, the former coach of seven-time K-League champions Seongnam Ilhwa, and Chang Woe-Ryong, a former Incheon United coach. Yonhap said.—Internet

North Korea’s ace striker Jong Tae-se, seen here in June 2010, who made an impressive but goalless World Cup debut, left Japan for Germany Wednesday to sign a contract with VfL Bochum after a medical checkup. “I was gutted when I could not score any goal at the World Cup,” the 26-year-old told reporters at Tokyo’s Narita Airport. “I want to vent my frustration in Germany. My target is to score 10 goals a year.”

“My dream is the (English) Premier League,” said Jong, who was born in Japan and played for J-League Kawasaki Frontale after graduating from an ethnic Korean university in Tokyo in 2006.

Bochum want Jong, nicknamed Asia’s Wayne Rooney or the “People’s Rooney” for his combative style, to boost their firepower.—Internet

Bothered by a high temperature and was vomiting.

Armstrong loses ground at Tour de France

ARENBERG, 8 July—Lance Armstrong has good reason to be frustrated.

Although the 38-year-old American posted his best time trial result in five years before handling treacherous cobblestone sections with authority on Tuesday, Armstrong is already in trouble following the first three stages of the Tour de France. The seven-time champion dropped from fifth to 18th in the overall standings and now trails the main contenders after a flat tire cost him significant time during the third stage of the race.

Armstrong, who got off to a strong start in the Tour with a fourth-place finish in last week’s prologue, had another strong display during Tuesday’s daunting third stage from Wanze, Belgium, to Arenberg Porte du Hainaut, which featured seven sectors of cobbles. —Internet

Lance Armstrong of the US rides on a cobblestone section during the third stage of the Tour de France.—Internet

Shakira to headline World Cup closing ceremony

JOHANNESBURG, 8 July—World Cup organizers promise a high-tech closing ceremony featuring pop star Shakira, compared to the more traditionally African ceremony which opened the tournament.

Organizing committee spokesman Jerome Cairns says Sunday’s show at Soccer City will be “more youthful and a bit more technologically advanced” than the 11 June opening ceremony.

Cairns says the nightmare event has “nice lighting effects and special effects planned.”

The closing ceremony is scheduled to start at 6.30 pm local time, two hours before the final match kicks off.

Colombian star Shakira will perform the official tournament anthem “Waka Waka (This Time for Africa).” Shakira also performed the song at a 10 June tournament anthem “Waka Waka (This Time for Africa).”

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NBA star LeBron James remains mum on future plans

LOS ANGELES, 8 July—NBA Most Valuable Player LeBron James enlivened the wait with his first Twitter post, but gave no indication of his future plans.

The 25-year-old Cleveland star has heard pitches from at least six NBA teams in recent days, including the Cavaliers who hope they have convinced him to stay with the team where he has spent all seven of his NBA seasons.

James is the biggest name in a marquee crop of free agents, who became free to negotiate last Thursday and can start signing contracts on this Thursday.

What he decides to do could have an impact on where such players as longtime Miami star Dwyane Wade and Toronto’s Chris Bosh end up.

“Hello World, the Real King James is in the Building,” James tweeted on his new “kingjames” Twitter feed.—Internet

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Boxer Khan gets all clear after malaria scare

BOLTON, 8 July—World boxing champion Amir Khan was released from hospital on Tuesday after being given the all clear amid fears he had caught malaria while on holiday in Africa.

The WBA light-welterweight champion had been rushed to hospital after collapsing at his home in Bolton, northern England, on Sunday night.

The 23-year-old had a high temperature and was kept in for observation amid fears he had caught the potentially deadly disease having recently returned from a holiday in Egypt and South Africa, for the World Cup finals.

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Plane crash kills 5 in northern Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 8 July—A plane crashed killing 5 people on Wednesday morning, including the mayor of Piedras Negras and two officers of Coahuila state, in north of Mexico, bordering with the United States, official sources said.

According to the preliminary reports, Piedras Negras Mayor Jose Manuel Maldonado, Police Works Director Horacio del Bosque Davila and Civil Protection Director Ricardo Garza, as well as the pilot Juan Roberto Rendon and photographer David Chavira died in the crash.

The crash occurred when the plane was flying over La Fragua—Xinlou.

Weather

Thursday, 8 July, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, Weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Ayeyawaddy Divisions. Rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan and Kayin States, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin and Rakhine States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavy falls in Yangon Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Lewe) (1.41) inches, Yangon (Central) (5.51) inches, Mleikkyina (2.80) inches, Bago and Chaungzon (1.34) inches each, Kyaikhami (1.26) inches, Taungoo (1.02) inches, and Aunglan (0.43) inch.

Maximum temperature on 7-7-2010 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 8-7-2010 was 77°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours M.S.T. on 7-7-2010 was 79%. Total sun shine hours on 7-7-2010 was (5.6) hours.

Rainfall on 8-7-2010 was (0.39) inch at Mingaladon, Kabaw-Aye and (5.51) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (32.48) inches at Mingaladon, (37.16) inches at Kabaw-Aye and (43.46) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Bay Influence: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 9th July 2010: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin State, fairly widespread in Mon State and upper Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan, Chin, Rakhine and Kayin States, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawaddy and Taninthayi Division and isolated in the remaining areas.

Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook: for subsequent two days: Likelyhood of decrease of rain in the Sothern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 9-7-2010: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 9-7-2010: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 9-7-2010: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).
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

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

Thousands of undiscovered plant species face extinction worldwide

LONDON, 8 July—Faced with threats such as habitat loss and climate change, thousands of rare flowering plant species worldwide may become extinct before scientists can even discover them, according to a paper published yesterday by a trio of American and British researchers in the journal Proceedings of the Royal Society B. “Scientists have estimated that, overall, there could be between 5 million and 50 million species, but fewer than 2 million of these species have been discovered to date,” says lead author Lucas Joppa of Microsoft Research in Cambridge, U.K., who received his doctorate from Duke University earlier this year. “Using novel methods, we were able to refine the estimate of total species for flowering plants, and calculate how many of these remain undiscovered.”

Based on data from the online World Checklist of Selected Plant Families at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, the scientists calculated that there are between 10 and 20 percent more undiscovered flowering plant species than previously estimated. This finding has “enormous conservation implications, as any as-yet-unknown species are likely to be overwhelmingly rare and threatened,” Joppa says.

“The new, more accurate estimate can be used to infer the proportion of all threatened species, says coauthor David Roberts of the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology at the University of Kent. “If we take the number of species that are currently known to be threatened, and add to that those that are yet to be discovered, we can estimate that between 27 percent and 33 percent of all flowering plants will be threatened with extinction,” he says.

“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

Weather forecast issued for second 10 days of July

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology today issued the weather forecast for the second 10 days of July.

During the period, one low pressure may occur at the northward of the Bay of Bengal, and the wind speed of monsoon may be moderate to strong at the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal. There may be more than the normal rains in Kachin, Rakhine and Mon States, Upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, less than the normal rains in Kayah State, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, and the normal rains in the remaining States and Divisions.

The water level of Ayeyawady River may reach at 120 cm (about four feet) above the present water levels in Myitkyina, Bhamo and Katha, 90 cm (about three feet) in Mandalay and Sagaing, 60 cm (about two feet) in NyaungU, Chauk, Minbu, Magway, Aunglan, Pyay and Hinthada.

The water level of Chindwin River may reach at 150 cm (about five feet) in Khamti and Homalin and 120 cm (about four feet) above the present water levels in Mawlaik, Kalewa and Monywa.—MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (8-7-2010)

Nay Pyi Taw (Lewe) 1.41 inches
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Myitkyina 2.80 inches
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