**11th Plenary Meeting of Sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee held**

YANGON, 15 July— The 11th Plenary Meeting of the Sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee was held at Wizaya Mingala Dhamma Thabin on Kaba Aye Hill in Mayangon Township, here, this morning.

Vice-Chairman of the SSMNC Kyaikpi Monastery Sayadaw of Maha Dhammikayama Pariyatti Monastery of Yankin Township Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Sayadaw Bhaddanta Gunesana who presided over the meeting, delivered a Saraniya Ovadakatha.

Joint-Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Dvipitakadhara Bhaddanta Nimula submitted the report of the SSMNC (Second Branch) for the fourth assignment.

Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung supplicated on religious affairs.

Members of the SSMNC (Second Branch) submitted the reports on their respective sectors. The meeting discussed Viññicchaya, religious and education affairs.

The first day session focused on formation of the supervisory committee for electing the chairman of the Sixth State Sangha Central Working Committee of the Sangha, approval for special meeting for the Sixth (See page 7)

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**Myanmar energy: promise of nation’s brighter future**

Tin Htwe (MNA)

At a time when economic and social sectors develop in a nation, the energy demand will be high. Especially, energy is essential for enhancing economy in developing countries. In Myanmar, the energy demand is high as construction and infrastructure development tasks are booming.

Myanmar is blessed with above ground resources such as forests and fertile farmlands in addition to underground resources namely various kinds of gems, minerals, oil and natural gas, under water resources such as the territorial waters and plenty of fish, prawn, oil and natural gas.

The colonialist capitalists who had enslaved Myanmar for over 100 years craved the above ground and underground resources, and they waged aggressive wars against Myanmar by giving various excuses. After occupying the lower regions of Myanmar, the colonialists extended their occupation in the whole nation. After that, they exploited the above ground and underground resources in their interests as they wished.

In the time of the colonialists, Myanmar people had to live in utter misery. The colonialist government did not spend the benefits obtained from the exploitation of natural resources of Myanmar on socio-economic development tasks of the people.

In the post-independence period, the natural resources could not be used effectively in the absence of peace and stability in the nation.

Oil which is one of the underground resources in Myanmar was used in the time of Myanmar monarchial period in early 10th Century. (See page 8)

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The government is building infrastructures across the nation by spending money obtained from the exploitation and production of energy resources. It reflects the goodwill of the government as a large sum of money is being spent on uplifting the social, health, education and transport sectors.
Improved industrial sector contributes a great deal to modernization and development of the State. At present, sound foundations are being laid down for transforming the nation into an industrialized one. Industrial regions and industrial zones have been established across the nation. New factories and workshops have been in operation and most of them are import-substitute factories.

The factories to be operated by applying advanced technology are being established in industrial regions. Multi-purpose diesel engines, hydropower turbines and generators are being manufactured in Thagya Industrial Region of Yedashe Township. The implementation of Magway Industrial Region Project is aimed at assembling automobiles.

Likewise, the Ministry of Industry-1 and the Ministry of Industry-2 are manufacturing personal and household goods, pharmaceuticals and foodstuffs. The two ministries have built the import-substitute factories such as textile factories, pharmaceutical factories, paper and pulp factories, plastic factories, cement plants and agricultural equipment factories.

Myanmar Pharmaceutical Factory (Inyaung) in Kyaukse Township is producing three types of disposable syringes, five kinds of intravenous injection and 16 kinds of injections. Likewise, Myanmar Agricultural Equipment Factory (Ingon) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is also manufacturing farming equipment in Ingon Village of Kyaukse Township.

Many personal and household factories have been established in Factories Region (Kyaukse). Hence, all the factories and workshops are to expedite manufacturing of products in line with the market demand by operating the machines at full capacity and exceeding the production and income targets.

**Housing & Living 2010 on 24-27 July**

Yangon, 15 July—Housing & Living 2010 will be held on a grand scale at Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road here from 24 to 27 July. Among the exhibits on display there are samples of apartments for sale, construction materials, computer, electronics, furniture, polish, paints, wooden floor blocks, air fresher, steel structure, digital sphygmomanometers, water tanks, cables, UPS, generators, water coolers, contactors, overload relays, gas stoves, directory, money counting machines and brick tiles.

Dial 730 45588 for more information.—MNA

**Transport Minister receives Indian Ambassador**

Yangon, 15 July—Minister for Transport U Thein Swe received Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri at the minister’s office here this morning.

At the call, they discussed matters relating to transport sector between Myanmar and India. Also present at the meeting were Director-General U Win Pe of Transport Department, Head of Office U Win Khant and officials.

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**Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence attends rainy season teak growing ceremony**

Yangon, 15 July—Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint, attended the rainy season teak growing ceremony at block 18 of Taunglaing Yoma forest reserve near Phugyi-Phaunggyi Road in Taikkyi Township. Yangon North District for greening Bago mountain range of Taikkyi Township this morning.

The director of Yangon Division Forest Department explained the purpose of growing teak plants.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander and officials presented teak saplings to departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander and officials planted teak saplings and viewed participation of departmental personnel, servicemen and family members of regiments and units in Taikkyi Station and members of social organizations in the teak growing ceremony.

On arrival at ironwood seed production plantation of the forest reserve, Lt-Gen Myint Swe heard reports on progress in greening Bago mountain ranges presented by an official and looked into thriving ironwood plantations.

At the briefing hall of Taikkyi-Phaunggyi-Bago tarred road construction project of Public Works, he also heard reports on progress of construction tasks by the Deputy Chief Engineer and left necessary instructions.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspected placing of gravel for construction of tarred road and construction task.

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**Boost quality and production in industrial regions**

Friday, 16 July, 2010

**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

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Yang Pyi Taw, 15 July—The State Peace and Development Council has appointed Deputy Director-General Dr Myint Than of Bookkeeping Department under Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries as the Director-General of Directorate of Livestock and Fisheries under the same ministry on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.—MNA
At least 15 injured in US steel plant explosion

WASHINGTON, 15 July—At least 15 people were injured in an explosion on Wednesday in a steel plant in Clairton, the US state of Pennsylvania, according to local media reports. The blast occurred at around 10:30 am. Sixteen people were injured; however, the official states that only 15 were hospitalised. Five NATO soldiers were injured in the blast, and nine others were treated at the site.

Afghan war in toughest moment: NATO spokesman

KABUL, 15 July—The spokesman of NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) on Wednesday described the war against Taliban insurgents in Afghanistan as the toughest time this year and blamed the insurgents for killing over 160 Afghan civilians since beginning June. “We are in the toughest part of this fight and the Taliban are becoming dictatorial,” Brigadier-General Josef Blotz told a joint weekly press briefing with Zahir Alem, the Ministry here.

He said that the Taliban did not care of their own code of conduct to safe that they should reduce civilian casualties. “They have caused more than 160 Afghan civilians dead since first June,” he said and added, “They have killed more than six time the number of innocent Afghans than international forces over the same period of time.”

This is indefensible, the spokesman of NATO-led forces lamented. “I think the Taliban leadership should have to explain this tragic loss of innocent lives to Afghan people,” Blotz further said.

Five NATO soldiers killed in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 15 July—Five soldiers with the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) were killed in an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) attack and a separate small-arms attack in southern Afghanistan on Wednesday bringing the number of the alliance casualties to 12 since on Tuesday, the military alliance said in a press release.

“Four ISAF service members died as a result of an IED strike in southern Afghanistan today,” the press release added. According to the press release the fifth ill-fated trooper was killed following a small-arms attack in the same region — the Taliban stronghold southern Afghanistan.

However, the alliance did not disclose the nationalities of the victims by saying “It is ISAF policy to defer casualty identification procedures to the relevant national authorities.” Seven more NATO soldiers were killed in Afghanistan on Tuesday.

12 killed in traffic accident in central Algeria

ALGIERS, 15 July—Twelve people were killed and 13 others were injured in a traffic accident between on Tuesday night and Wednesday in central Algeria’s Ghardaia Province, according to photos afp news agency reported.

The accident occurred between localities of Hassi Lefhal and El Menea, 180 km south of Ghardaia (500 km south of Algiers), according to a first assessment of Ghardaia Civil Protection. The accident took place when a jeep carrying two families, including women and children from the south, skidded into a turn to roll over several times, the source said.

Nine members of the families died on the spot while three succumbed to their injuries after evacuated to health facilities, and the 13 injured, some seriously, were evacuated to the Chaabani Mohamed hospital in El Menea and health structure in Hassi Lefhal for minor injuries.

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Ten police killed in gunmen attacks on yemeni intelligence HQs

SANAA, 15 July—Two coordinated gun attacks targeted the intelligence headquarters in Yemen’s southern troubled province of Abyan on Wednesday, killing at least 10 intelligence personnel and wounding 13 others, a provincial security official said.

The official said the assailants carried out coordinated attacks against the two neighbouring buildings of the intelligence office and the general security camp in Zinjubar city of Abyan early Wednesday. The attackers launched serious shootings by heavy machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades from four cars and broke into the two buildings. The dead and injured were rushed to a nearby hospital, said the official.

The attackers managed to flee while backup security forces were sent immediately to the scene. “The pair attacks were spectacular, it’s al-Qaeda again, it’s the second of its kind in less than one month against the Yemeni southern intelligence headquarters’ buildings,” said the official who asked not to be named.

Fishing boat catches fire in Malacca Straits, eight rescued

PORT DICKSON, 15 July—A fishing boat with two Chinese and six Filipinos aboard caught fire on Thursday morning in the Malacca Straits. The Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency confirmed the incident here on Thursday.

According to the agency, the eight people were rescued by a nearby cargo ship and they have been rushed to a hospital here.

The boat is expected to be dragged to the dock on Thursday afternoon. According to the agency, the Singapore-bound fishing boat was registered in Taiwan. The accident took place at 7 am at about 15 nautical miles away from Port Dickson in the state of Negeri Sembilan, western shore of Peninsula Malaysia.

Earlier, it was reported that eight Taiwanese were on board but the Malaysian police later confirmed that there were two Chinese and six Filipinos aboard instead.

Residents search through the debris of a destroyed house after a bomb attack in Ramadi, 100 km (60 miles) west of Baghdad, on 8 July, 2010.

INTERNET

Smoke pours from the United States Steel Corp.’s Clairton Coke Works in Clairton, Pa., on 14 July, 2010. Allegheny County spokesman Kevin Evanto said 15 people were injured, at least one critically when a coke oven exploded at the plant around 9:30 am on Wednesday.

INTERNET

Afghan rescue and security personnel are seen at the site of a bomb explosion in Kandahar recently.

INTERNET

A man consoles a boy at the site of a suicide bomb blast in Pakistan’s northwestern Mohmand region recently.

INTERNET
Triceratops and Torosaurus were same dinosaur at different stages

WASHINGTON, 15 July — Research by a Montana State University doctoral student and one of the nation’s top paleontologists is upending more than 100 years of thought regarding the dinosaurs known as Triceratops and Torosaurus.

Since the late 1800s, scientists have believed that Triceratops and Torosaurus were two different types of dinosaurs. Triceratops had a three-horned skull with a rather short frill, whereas Torosaurus had a much bigger frill with two large holes through it.

MSU paleontologists John Scannella and Jack Horner said in the 14 July issue of the Journal of Vertebrate Palaeontology, however, that Triceratops and Torosaurus are actually the same dinosaur at different stages of growth.

Who’s queen? Insulin signaling key to caste development in bees

ARIZONA, 15 July — What makes a bee grow up to be a queen? Scientists have long pondered this mystery. Now, researchers in the School of Life Sciences at Arizona State University have fit a new piece into the puzzle of bee development. Their work not only adds to understanding about bees, but also adds insights into our own development and aging.

The study, which appeared in the 30 June online edition of Biology Letters, shows that a key protein in the insulin signalling pathway plays a strong role in caste development among bees.

A female bee can become either a worker or a queen. Queen bees are larger and live longer than workers. Queen bees are also more fertile while workers are essentially sterile. A queen has only one role — to lay eggs — while workers tend the hive, care for the queen and larvae, and forage for food.

“The incredible thing is that both of these types of female honeybees emerge from the same genome,” says Florian Wolschin, an assistant research professor in the School of Life Sciences in ASU’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, is the lead author of the study. “So how does that happen?”

Workers determine the fate of the larvae by what they feed them. The amount and composition of food that the larvae receive determine whether they become workers or queens. People have known this for many years, but exactly what happens inside the cells to create this switch isn’t completely clear.

Wolschin, Gro Amdam, an associate professor, and Navdeep S. Mutti, a postdoctoral research associate, found that the insulin signalling pathway plays a role in caste development.

Robotic fish could become reality

BEIJING, 15 July — The idea of a fish taking directions from a human, might sound absurd, but the animal robotics industry is developing just that.

Developers hope, that one day, humans could tell schools of fish where and where not to swim. This will help keep them away from danger areas, like say the situation in the Gulf of Mexico.

It’s an aquatic version of following the leader.

Dr. Maurizio Porfiri of Polytechnic Institute from the New York University has combined his loves for mathematics and animals to invent a robot that he says will one day be able to lead schools of fish away from danger.

Porfiri says the hardest part of his research has been to find out what the qualities of a leader are — through the eyes of a fish, but he thinks, as is the case with most animals, it comes down to sex.

Scientists say Gulf spill altering food web

NEW ORLEANS, 15 July — Scientists are reporting early signs that the Gulf of Mexico oil spill is altering the marine food web by killing or tainting some creatures and spurring the growth of others more suited to a fouled environment.

Near the spill site, researchers have found a new species of sea cucumber, a die-off of pyrosomes — gelatinous organisms fed on by endangered sea turtles.

Along the coast, droplets of oil are being found inside the shells of young crabs that are a mainstay in the diet of fish, turtles and shorebirds.

And at the base of the food web, tiny organisms that consume oil and gas are proliferating.

Technology

Maurizio Porfiri, Polytechnic Institute, New York University, said, “If you take a propeller and put it in the water it may swim as fast as the fish but the fish may not like it. If you can make something that swims like a fish, the fish may perceive it as a mate.”

Porfiri’s team is developing a robot to mimic the actions of a leader, programming it to swim fast and erratically to gain attention. The goal - infiltrate the school and take it over.

Maurizio Porfiri, Polytechnic Institute, New York University, said, “So through mathematics we should be able to gain an understanding on how many robotic fish are needed to drive a group of fish of a certain size and also, we can coordinate these fish so we can have multiple robotic fish that interact with each other.”

Porfiri says he wants to programme his robot fish to work autonomously without human control. He envisions his robot fish acting like sheep dogs underwater, keeping schools of fish out of danger areas like the oil-polluted waters in the Gulf of Mexico, or protecting them from hydroelectric turbines.
Association found between Alzheimer’s and anemia

HONG KONG, 15 July—Alzheimer’s disease may be linked to an increased risk of anemia, new study findings suggest. Australian researchers analyzed hemoglobin, iron and other blood-based measurements in 211 Alzheimer’s patients, 133 people with mild cognitive impairment (MCI) and 768 healthy people. They compared these measurements to tests of participants’ short- and long-term memory and cognitive abilities.

Compared to the healthy people, Alzheimer’s patients had significantly lower levels of hemoglobin, mean cell hemoglobin concentration, and packed cell volume, the investigators found. The Alzheimer’s patients also had a significantly higher erythrocyte sedimentation rate, a possible sign of anemia.

Participants with anemia were 2.56 times more likely to have Alzheimer’s disease, while those with Alzheimer’s were 2.61 times more likely to be anemic, the researchers noted in a news release from the Alzheimer’s Association.—Internet

Japan’s central bank raises economic growth forecast for fiscal 2010

Tokyo, 15 July—The Bank of Japan (BOJ) on Thursday decided to keep its key interest rates unchanged at a wafer-thin 0.1 percent, in a continued bid to combat the nation’s lingering deflation, although it raised its forecast for real economic growth in fiscal 2010.

Following the conclusion of a two-day policy meeting the central bank raised its growth forecast to 2.6 percent from April’s forecast of a 1.8 percent rise, citing increased demand from emerging nations for Japanese-produced goods, including increased global demand for information technology-related products. The bank issued a statement on the current state of the economy saying there are “further signs of a moderate recovery”.

However, the BOJ cut next fiscal year’s forecast to 1.9 percent from a projected 2.0 percent, stating that whilst “growth prospects will likely be higher for fiscal 2010 mainly due to acceleration of growth in emerging economies. Attention should be paid to how European financial woes and the instability in international financial may impact the global economy”.

The central bank also pointed to a slowdown in the US economy as a possible downside risk. Regarding Japan’s core consumer price index, the central bank forecast a 0.4 percent fall from the previous year in fiscal 2010, compared with the 0.5 percent drop initially estimated in April.
**Moderate quakes hit northern, central Chile**

SANTIAGO, 15 July—Two moderate earthquakes struck Chile’s northern and central regions on Tuesday, respectively, without reports of casualties or material damage.

The Seismological Institute said the first earthquake, of 5.2 degrees on the Richter scale, occurred at 17:12 local time (2112 GMT), with the epicenter located 50 km southwest of the city of Copiapo, northern Chile, and a depth of 66.7 kilometres underground.

The second earthquake that hit the metropolitan region of Santiago in the centre of the South American country was of 4.1 degrees on the Richter scale. It occurred at 18:01 local time (2201 GMT).

Its epicenter was located 27 km south of Melipilla, a residential area of Santiago, with a depth of 50 km.

So far there have been no reports of injuries or material losses in the quake-affected regions.

**Rare earth smugglers arrested in China**

BEIJING, 15 July—Chinese customs authorities said Wednesday that seven suspects implicated in the smuggling of 4,196 tonnes of rare earth metals and their compounds had been arrested.

The case, uncovered by the Nanning branch of the General Administration of Customs (GAC) in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, involved rare earth elements valued at 109 million yuan (16.09 million U.S. dollars), the GAC said.

By listing false product names, the suspects evaded paying taxes of more than 13 million yuan, said the GAC. According to China’s laws, the export of rare earth elements, which are considered strategically important resources, is under strict control.

Rare earth, including minerals such as dysprosium, terbium, thulium and yttrium, is widely used in the most sophisticated fields of science and technologies including aviation, atomic energy and weaponry manufacturing.—Xinhua

**US scientists create cloth that can listen**

NEW YORK, 15 July—This could give a whole new meaning to the phrase power dressing.

Scientists at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have created a cloth that can hear and emit noise.

The team, led by MIT professor Yoel Fink, has reached “a new milestone on the path to functional fabrics: fibers that can detect and produce sound,” MIT said in a statement.

The development, described in the August issue of Nature Materials, transforms the usual passive nature of textiles into a virtually all-singing, all-dancing version.

According to MIT, “applications could include clothes that are themselves sensitive microphones, for capturing speech or monitoring bodily functions, and tiny filaments that could measure blood flow in capillaries or pressure in the brain.”

The decade-old research project aims to “develop fibers with even more sophisticated properties, to enable fabrics that can interact with their environment.” MIT said.

**Venezuela deports 3 Colombian drug suspects to US**

CARACAS, 15 July—The Venezuelan government said Tuesday that it has deported three alleged Colombian drug traffickers to the United States, where they will face criminal charges.

Interior and Justice Minister Tarek El Aissami told reporters the three were Carlos Alverto Ojeda Herrera, one of the 10 fugitives most wanted by the Interpol, Carlos Alvero Reinteria Montilla, a Colombian member of Mexican criminal group “Los Zetas,” and Luis Frank Tello Candela.

He added that the government has detained 12 drug gang leaders so far this year, bringing the total number to 49 in the last four years.—INTERNET

**Malaysia raid for stolen cars nets protected birds**

KUALA LUMPUR, 15 July—A police raid for stolen vehicles found 42 of them at a warehouse in Malaysia and hundreds of birds and other protected wildlife.

Cesecoriano said Wednesday that all the animals found in Tuesday’s raid in Kuala Lumpur were now safe with the wildlife department.

News reports say those rescued include a pair of rare birds of paradise worth 1 million ringgit ($300,000).

Authorities believe the animals were to be bred or sold. The reports say two men have been arrested and police are looking for other suspects.—INTERNET

**The high-rise skyline of Singapore’s central business district. The city state looks set to become the world’s fastest-growing economy after the government upgraded its 2010 forecast to a blistering 13-15 percent expansion, economists have said.—INTERNET**

**Indian youths gather around a computer during an Internet match-making event. Skincare group Vaseline has introduced a skin-lightening application for Facebook in India, enabling users to make their skin whiter in their profile pictures.—INTERNET**
11th Plenary Meeting of Sixth...
(from page 1)

SCWCS, formation of the Ovadaçariya Sayadaws for Myanmar Border and Hilly Regions Theravada Buddhist Central Sasana Nuggha Association, approval for submitting religious affairs to the special meeting and enlisting the members of the substituted SCWCS.

Wellwisher U Pho Thaung-Daw Khin Mya Mya and family of Kyaukkyobon Village of Madaya Township offered meals and alms to the Sayadaws who attended the meeting.

The 11th Plenary Meeting of Sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee in progress at Wizaya Mingala Dhammathabin on Kaba Aye Hill in Mayangon Township.——MNA

Electoral work course conducted in Thongwa of Yangon Div

NAY PYI TAW, 15 July—Yangon South District Election Sub-Commission explained the purpose of opening the course. Members of District Election Sub-Commission and Chairman of Township Election Sub-Commission U Zaw Weik and members discussed election laws, regulations and duties of subcommission, returning officers and members, and conducted demonstrations on voting process.

It was attended by altogether 406 members from ward/village-tract Election Sub-Commission in Thongwa Township. MNA

Arbour Day, Arbour Month, Arbour Year

Take a drink if you want to be happy for one day;
Get married if you want to be happy for one year;
But grow trees if you want to be happy for life.
So goes a saying. Although we cannot definitely say the origin of the saying, it is quite beneficial to our planet.

Today, the global warming and changes in weather are the challenges in the environmental conservation. Global warming is causing more and more deforestation, resulting in climatic changes. Moreover, the world is suffering from such natural disasters as soil depletion, floods, storms and desertification.

Scientists say that the main cause of global warming is an increase in the greenhouse effect which is vital for the existence of living things. As we talk about global warming, we cannot ignore the role of forests and trees in regulating climates.

When the month of July comes, it reminds us of our childhood days during which we grew trees in school precincts. School and Environs Greening Day falls in July every year.

In July, as a result of rainfall varying from region to region in Myanmar, some areas are confronted with the problem of too much rain. Though too much rain does not create any problem of expect outbreak of floods and overflowing of rivers in a few regions, too little rain causes much difficulty such as in insufficient water for human consumption and irrigation, drying up of valuable rich soil which would lead to depletion of trees and forests, and most importantly, food insufficiency meted out to local people as they cannot grow crops.

It is not too difficult to undertake relief measures and repair the damage caused by floods, for they do not take long and do not occur very often. But in the case of scarcity of rain and water, we take ample time and spend much substantial funds to make the dry land lush and verdant.

The government is taking steps for keeping schools clean and tidy such as construction of new school buildings, opening new schools, and encouraging the growing of trees, flowery plants and fruit trees. Growing trees and Landscaping plants in the school compounds and environs can create a healthy atmosphere. Moreover, by growing vegetables and fruit trees in the school compound, a school can earn income.

June 26 is officially recognized as World Arbour Day by FAO and ceremonies to collectively plant trees to mark the day were held. However, in July, the rainy season tree planting ceremonies for greening the land are being held the length and breadth of the nation. Local organizations together with the public will actively be participating in such activities as planting trees for region-wise greening and conservation of forests and biodiversity as well as protecting endangered wildlife and rare trees. The thriving of trees, indeed, regulates the weather.

Today, we grow trees in the interest of next generations. We do so simply because men and trees are inseparable, depending on each other.

Trees help conserve soil and water. In open countries, trees act as wind breaks and keep the wind from blowing away topsoil. Their roots also prevent soil from being washed away by heavy rains. Several species of trees have proved useful in halting the spread of deserts.

Trees also provide an important source of food and shelter for wildlife. Trees help preserve the balance of gases in the atmosphere. A tree’s leaves absorb carbon dioxide from the air. They also produce oxygen and release it into the atmosphere. These two processes are necessary for people to live. People could not survive if the air had too much carbon dioxide or too little oxygen.

These past few days, we have been reading in the dailies and watching on TV a variety of tree-planting activities by students, service personnel and Tatmadawmen, taking advantage of the advent of the rains.

The slogan goes: “The best time you should have planted a tree was twenty years ago. The second best time is now.”

According to this slogan, arbour day should be everyday; arbour month should be every month; and arbour year should be every year.

Let’s grow more trees!

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Myanma energy: promise of... (from page 1)

Oil was initially found in Yenangyoung region of the central Myanmar and it was produced. In 1886, the Burmah Oil Company (BOC) was established to launch the modern oil industry. Up to 1942 in the time of the Second World War, a total of 37 foreign oil companies were engaged in the oil production.

BOC produced 23,400 barrels of crude oil per day which was the highest production capacity in 1938. After BOC was nationalized in 1963, People’s Oil Corporation of the government found new oil fields namely Mann, Pyay, Myanaung and Shwepyitha with the earnest efforts of the national intellectuals and intelligentsia.

New oil and natural gas fields—Letpando, Petpei, Mindegyi, Haukkhinet, Htantabin, Tetma and Kanni—were found during the period from 1971 to 1985. As a result, the production of crude oil reached 30,683 barrels per day in 1984-85.

The People’s Oil Corporation was reorganized as Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise after 1988 to speed up exploitation of oil and natural gas with the use of investment and technology. Due to correct policy of the government and concerted efforts, the new role of energy sector has been launched since 1988.

As all-out efforts were made in exploitation of oil and natural gas after 1988, a large volume of crude oil and natural gas could be produced from the existing oil and natural gas fields at offshore and onshore regions of the nation.

To be able to increase production, offshore oil and natural gas fields namely Kyaukkhinet, Aphyauk, Nyaungdon, Thagyindaung/Sabbi, Indaw, Htaung and Maubin and offshore fields such as Yadana (Mottama offshore region), Yadagun (Taninthayi offshore region), Sein (Mottama offshore region), Shwe (Rakhine offshore region) and Zawtika (Mottama offshore region) were found one after another.

There were 19 onshore oil and natural gas fields before 1988. The number of onshore oil and gas fields reached 31 after 1988. No natural gas could be produced from offshore natural gas field before 1988. After 1988, five offshore natural gas fields were found.

According to the geological conditions, Myanmar has 14 geological valleys in the onshore regions. Among these regions, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise has conducted surveys in the central region of Myanmar, Pyay region and the Delta region. There remain many promising regions for exploitation of oil and natural gas in Myanmar.

In undertaking the joint venture tasks with foreign companies, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise signed 46 contracts on production in the onshore regions from offshore blocks are ongoing.

Myanmar became a natural gas exporting country in 1998. Since the year 2000, Myanmar has been a leading country in exporting natural gas. It was estimated that Yadana natural gas project can produce 5.7 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. If Sein (diamond) and Padamya (ruby) natural gas blocks, found in the area of Yadana, add their production to that of Yadana, total production of natural gas will be 6.5 trillion cubic feet.

A total of 508 million US dollars was invested in the production section and 587 million US dollars in the transport of natural gas including the cost of 255 miles long pipelines. The total of investments amounted to 1095 million US dollars. Beginning July 1998, Myanmar sold 525 million cubic feet of natural gas per day to Thailand. At present, 700 million cubic feet of natural gas per day including that of Sein block are being sold.

According to the contract, natural gas will be sold for 30 years. For domestic consumption, Yadana natural gas field is transporting 110 million cubic feet of natural gas per day to 4000-ton Myainggale Cement Plant, Thaton Cement Plant, old and new Thaton Gas Power Plants and Mawlamine (Ngantay) Power Plant through 20-inch diameter Kanbaw-Myainggale-Sittoung-Yangon pipeline and then to Yangon via Sittoung for supplying natural gas to factories in Sittoung region and Thakayta.

As all-out efforts were made in exploitation of oil and natural gas after 1988, a large volume of crude oil and natural gas could be produced from the existing oil and natural gas fields at offshore and onshore regions of the nation.

To be able to increase production, offshore oil and natural gas fields namely Kyaukkhinet, Aphyauk, Nyaungdon, Thagyindaung/Sabbi, Indaw, Htaung and Maubin and offshore fields such as Yadana (Mottama offshore region), Yadagun (Taninthayi offshore region), Sein (Mottama offshore region), Shwe (Rakhine offshore region) and Zawtika (Mottama offshore region) were found one after another.

There were 19 onshore oil and natural gas fields before 1988. The number of onshore oil and gas fields reached 31 after 1988. No natural gas could be produced from offshore natural gas field before 1988. After 1988, five offshore natural gas fields were found.

According to the geological conditions, Myanmar has 14 geological valleys in the onshore regions. Among these regions, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise has conducted surveys in the central region of Myanmar, Pyay region and the Delta region. There remain many promising regions for exploitation of oil and natural gas.

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In undertaking the joint venture tasks with foreign companies, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise signed 46 contracts on production in the onshore regions from offshore blocks are ongoing.

Myanmar became a natural gas exporting country in 1998. Since the year 2000, Myanmar has been a leading country in exporting natural gas. It was estimated that Yadana natural gas project can produce 5.7 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. If Sein (diamond) and Padamya (ruby) natural gas blocks, found in the area of Yadana, add their production to that of Yadana, total production of natural gas will be 6.5 trillion cubic feet.

A total of 508 million US dollars was invested in the production section and 587 million US dollars in the transport of natural gas including the cost of 255 miles long pipelines. The total of investments amounted to 1095 million US dollars. Beginning July 1998, Myanmar sold 525 million cubic feet of natural gas per day to Thailand. At present, 700 million cubic feet of natural gas per day including that of Sein block are being sold. According to the contract, natural gas will be sold for 30 years.

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(See page 9)
Myanmar energy: promise of...

(from page 8) Hlawga and Ywama gas power plants.

Yedagun natural gas project was launched in November 1992. It was estimated that the block can produce 3.167 trillion cubic feet of natural gas and 84.36 million barrels of condensate. In implementing the Yedagun natural gas project, about 330 million US dollars was invested in the production section and 312 million US dollars in the transport of natural gas including the cost of 168 miles long 24-inch diameter pipelines, totaling 642 million US dollars. Beginning April 2000, a total of 200 million cubic feet of natural gas per day were sold to Thailand. At present, the volume of natural gas sold increased up to 400 million cubic feet. Yedagun natural gas project also produces 12,000 barrels of condensate per day.

Yadana and Yedagun natural gas projects have sold over one billion cubic feet per day to Thailand through pipelines. With a view to satisfying the domestic demand of natural gas, a 24-inch diameter pipeline was laid between Yadana natural gas field at Mottama offshore and the natural gas distribution camp (Ywama) of Yangon, and natural gas is being supplied to Yangon for domestic use beginning 12 June 2010. As a result, gas power plants extended generating of electricity to be able to satisfy the electricity demand of the residents in Yangon.

Oil and natural gas are being exploited at new blocks—MD-4 in the west of Dawei in Taninthayi Division, MD-5 in the west of Palau and MD-6 in the west of Myeik—found in Mottama offshore (deepsea region). Therefore, the country has good prospects in the energy sector in the future. Similarly, good prospects have been found in Zawtika natural gas project.

While exploiting oil, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise is implementing the onshore natural gas pipeline networks as an energy infrastructure with the aims of supplying natural gas for satisfying the demands of increasing number of factories, enhancing the electricity generation of the State and sharing natural gas and energy needs among the natural gas fields. The MOGE earns foreign exchange in a short period by exporting oil and natural gas to foreign countries and satisfies the domestic demands of the State.

With the use of natural gas from Yadana offshore project and advanced technology, a plan is under way to build one more Urea Fertilizer Plant that can produce 400 tons per day, in Thaton Township of Mon State. The urea fertilizer plants named Sale, Kyunchaung and Kyawsoo Fertilizer Plants were operated before 1988. There will be six fertilizers in the nation in the near future.

The government is building infrastructures across the nation by spending money obtained from the exploitation and production of energy resources. It reflects the goodwill of the government as a large sum of money is being spent on uplifting the social, health, education and transport sectors.

Energy sector is playing the most important role in implementing the correct policies for development of all sectors and all corners with the goodwill of the State for emergence of a modern and developed nation in the future. Natural gas exploited at offshore natural gas regions will be used in generating electricity to be supplied to the industrial sector. Hence, all-out efforts are being made in building an industrialized and developed new nation.

Translation: TTA

Kyemon: 15-7-2010

Developing energy sector throughout the nation after 1988

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* A 24-inch diameter pipeline from Mottama offshore to Yangon was launched on 8-6-2010. The pipeline is 179.95 miles long in total—85.43 miles onshore and 94.52 miles offshore. More natural gas is being supplied for the domestic use.
Ecuador destroys 60 illegal camps on border with Colombia

BOGOTA, 15 July—Ecuadorian Security Minister Miguel Carvajal said on Tuesday that the government troops have destroyed at least 60 illegal camps allegedly of Colombian guerrilla and drug traffickers, near its border with Colombia.

Carvajal told Colombian radio station RCN that the Ecuadorian armed forces “have found clandestine facilities of irregular groups among other abandoned houses and ranches, and cocaine labs.” Carvajal said those illegal groups entered into Ecuador 586 km through its border with Colombia.

“There are irregular groups on the border, as we have said it many times and as the Colombian authorities know. We have infiltration of some irregular groups through the border,” he said. Ecuador severed ties with Colombia in March 2008, after the Colombian Army carried out a raid against an illegal camp of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in Ecuadorian territory.

Shanghai Symphony brings 2010 Expo message to New York

NEW YORK, 15 July—The Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, the first foreign symphony performed at the New York Philharmonic’s annual concert, brought 2010 Expo message to New York on Tuesday.

The 80-member orchestra shared the stage with the New York Philharmonic for the free concert after a heavy rain as thousands of New Yorkers gathered at Central Park’s Great Lawn. The annual concert was divided into two sections, the first half by Shanghai Symphony Orchestra and the second half by New York Philharmonic Orchestra. With the conduction by Chinese famous conductor Yu Long, Shanghai Symphony Orchestra played the music pieces of Wagner, Rossini, and Mozart.

China to release 7 mln rare fish into largest lake this year

XI’AN, 15 July—Northwest China’s Qinghai Province plans to release seven million of a rare fish species into China’s largest lake before the end of the year, to boost fish stocks, local authorities said on Wednesday.

Qinghai will release six million naked carp, only living in Qinghai Lake and its basin, into Qinghai Lake, a saltwater lake, on the Qinghai-Tibet plateau, the provincial agriculture and husbandry bureau said in a Press release.

Authorities released one million naked carp into the lake in the first half of the year.

The slow-growing fish is critical to the “water-fish-bird” ecosystem in Qinghai Lake. It is under second-class state protection.

7 killed in Cairo building collapse

CAIRO, 15 July—Seven people were killed in a residential building collapse in the central Cairo neighborhood of Darb al-Ahmar on Wednesday morning, Egypt’s official MENA news agency reported. Another was injured, suffering from moderate to severe fractures. The seven bodies were pulled from under the rubble and taken to Ahmed Maher Hospital morgue.

Prosecutors were informed and an investigation was launched.

Earlier this month, at least two people were killed when a five-storey residential building collapsed in Shubra District of Cairo.

Printing house in Cairo catches fire

CAIRO, 15 July—A printing house in downtown Cairo caught fire early Wednesday, Egyptian media reported. Firefighters are still struggling to quench the fire to prevent it from spreading towards adjacent buildings, the official MENA said, without mentioning whether there were casualties.

Unexploded suicide belt found in Kampala: police chief

KAMPALA, 15 July—An unexploded suicide belt was found in Makinde, a city suburb in the south of Kampala, said Uganda police chief here on Tuesday.

Uganda’s Inspector General of Police Kale Kayihura told a press briefing at Uganda Media Centre that the attacker who planned to suicide with the belt was arrested and an investigation has started.

Moderate quake hits off Indonesia’s Papua

JAKARTA, 15 July—A shallow moderate earthquake with magnitude of 5.7 jolted Papua in easternmost of Indonesia on Wednesday, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency reported here.

The quake struck at 6:56 a.m. Jakarta time on Wednesday (2356 GMT Tuesday) with the epicentre 204 km southwest of Jayapura in Papua and 13 km deep, the agency said.

Tropical storm approaches South China

HAIKOU, 15 July—Tropical storm “Conson” has started to affect China’s southernmost island province of Hainan on Thursday morning with strong gales, while 600 km away on the South China Sea.

The storm was moving at 15-20 kilometres per hour, with maximum winds of 90 kph near the centre towards Wenchang City to the northwest of Hainan, the Hainan Provincial Meteorological Station said on Thursday morning.
Cuba to host Chinese Culture Festival

HAVANA, 15 July—The 10th Chinese Culture Festival will be opened here on Saturday with the performance of the Lion Dance by the Cuban School of Wushu, said local media on Tuesday.

The two-day celebrations, sponsored by the Cuban Ministry for Culture and the Chinese embassy in Havana, will be held at the Havana Expo Cuba Fairground. The festival will feature the photo exhibition “Kaleidoscope of China,” organized by the Chinese embassy, and martial arts performances.

Also during the festival, new books “The Horse of Shuan Zu” and “Old Stories Retold” will go public, while winners of the art and literature contest “Admiring China” will be awarded.

The festival is part of the celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between Cuba and China on 28 Sept, 1960.


Three NATO oil tankers got fire after firing by unknown militants in northwest Pakistan’s city of Peshawar on Tuesday evening.

Seven vehicles were also set fire in the outskirts of Peshawar, the capital city of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Province, police sources said.

No casualty was reported so far.

Militants frequently attacked oil tankers and trucks bringing goods from the south port of Karachi for forces battling Taliban in Afghanistan.

The NATO and United States-led forces in landlocked Afghanistan are hugely dependent on Pakistan for their supplies and equipment. It was reported that around 70 percent of their supplies are transported through the neighboring country.

Three bodies found hanging from bridges in Mexico

CUERNAVACA, 15 July—Three dead bodies were found Tuesday hanging from pedestrian bridges in the central Mexican city of Cuernavaca.

Morelos state prosecutors’ spokesman Efrain Vega said the victims were shot to death. The bodies were accompanied by threatening notes signed by a drug gang.

Vega said the three men escaped from a state prison last month.

The message accused them of working for Edgar Valdez Villarreal, a US-born enforcer known as “La Barbie.” It was attributed to the Southern Pacific cartel, believed to have formed from the remnants of the Beltran Leyva cartel.

Authorities say more than 120 people have died this year in a turf war between Valdez Villarreal and Hector Beltran Leyva.

Three killed in gas leak in Mumbai

MUMBAI, 15 July—At least three people were killed and over 60 sickened after chlorine gas leaked from cylinders in the Sewri area, in the southern part of the Indian financial capital Mumbai, early Wednesday, reported local TV channel Times Now.

The gas leakage was reported in the vicinity of Lal Bahadur Shastri College at 4 am, reports quoted officials as saying.

The leak was noticed when people started complaining of burning eyes, breathlessness and vomiting, said the report. Fire fighters rushed to the spot to plug the leakage. Four of the fire fighters were also sickened and have been rushed to nearby hospitals, said the report.

Iranian nuclear scientist returns home from US

TEHERAN, 15 July—A nuclear scientist who says he was abducted by US agents thanked Iranian authorities for returning him home on Thursday, the culmination of a murky saga that has underscored deep US-Iranian mistrust.

Washington denied kidnapping Shahram Amiri and insisted he had lived freely in the United States. A US official said, however, that the United States, eager for details of Tehran’s nuclear programme, had obtained “useful” information from him.

Wearing a beige suit, a smiling Amiri made victory signs as he hugged his tearful son and wife, who greeted him at Teheran’s International Imam Khomeini Airport, along with other family members and a senior Foreign Ministry official, Hassan Qashqavi.

“Americans wanted me to say that I defected to America of my own will to use me for revealing some false information about Iran’s nuclear work,” Amiri told a short news briefing at the airport.
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in respect of Class 5: Pharmaceutical products
Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trademark will be dealt with according to law.

Date: 15 July 2010

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MILLENNIUM VOYNO (037)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MILLENIUM VOYNO (037) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.7.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(2) 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 KM INTER TRANS

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Residents wade through a flooded street at Las Pinas, south of Manila on 14 July, 2010.—INTERNET

26 killed, 38 missing as typhoon hits Philippines

MANILA, 15 July—The first typhoon to lash the Philippines this year flooded parts of the capital, toppled power lines and killed at least 26 people Wednesday, many of them trying to scramble to safety as the storm changed course.

Thirty-eight people were missing, mostly fishermen who were caught by the storm’s fury at sea.

More than half of the main northern island of Luzon, which includes Manila, was without electricity, and authorities said it would take two to three days to restore power. Several dozen flights were canceled, and schools and many government offices closed. High winds felled trees and floods were knee-deep floods in some communities in the capital.—INTERNET

9 injured, 3 by goring, in Spain’s final bull run

PAMPLONA, 15 July—Nine thrill-seeking runners were injured, three by goring, in a dangerous last running of the bulls at Spain’s San Fermin festival, officials said Wednesday. It was the bloodiest run of this year’s festival.

Bulls tossed people on the slippery cobblestone streets of Pamplona, where a red bull at the tail of the pack fell and became separated from the rest, leaving it disoriented and irritated by the large crowds, and causing panic among runners.

The injured included a 30-year-old Irish citizen, a 26-year-old from Auckland, New Zealand and seven Span-
Rare dark jellyfish showing up in San Diego Bay
Scientists say a rare species of dark purple jellyfish is showing up in San Diego Bay and washing ashore on beaches.

Dr. Nigella Hillgarth of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography said on Tuesday the Birch Aquarium has four of the jellies for display.

Hillgarth says the black sea nettle has turned up in coastal waters more frequently in recent years. Oceanographers don’t know why, but think it may be due to warmer oceans or changes in the plankton populations the jellyfish eat.

The black sea nettle can grow up to 3 feet across with 30-foot-long tentacles.

Hillgarth says they sting, so boaters and beachgoers should admire them without touching.

Australian bitten while trying to sit on crocodile
A man ejected from a pub in Australia broke into a zoo and climbed onto the back of a crocodile named ‘Fatso’, which bit him on the leg but then let him go. Police said they’re surprised the croc didn’t inflict worse damage. The 36-year-old man, who police said had just been thrown out of a pub for being drunk, told officials he scaled the barbed wire fence surrounding the Broome Crocodile Park in remote northwest Australia on Monday night because he wanted to give the 16-foot Fatso a pat. “He has attempted to sit on its back and the croc has taken offense to that and has spun around and bit him on the right leg,” Broome Police Sgt Roger Haynes said.

The saltwater crocodile then inexplicably let the man go, and he climbed back over the fence to safety, police said.

Manure helps power new army barracks
Bio-fuel pellets made from horse manure will help power the new barracks of the Royal Horse Artillery, the Ministry of Defence announced. Recycled waste and bedding from the regiment’s 111 horses will provide enough low-carbon energy to cover the heating and lighting requirements of the ceremonial unit’s new base in Woolwich, southeast London. The MoD said the eco-friendly move was in line with the government’s sustainable development agenda and just one of several steps being taken to promote sustainability in the mounted regiment’s future home.

Penelope Cruz, Javier Bardem tie the knot
Spanish actors Javier Bardem and Penelope Cruz have joined the ranks of Oscar-winning married couples after tying the knot in the Bahamas earlier this month, according to several celebrity magazines on 13 July, 2010.

Penelope said I do in a friend’s house, wearing a John Galliano dress, and that only family members attended. The Spanish actors are believed to have been dating since 2007 although they only officially confirmed they were an item in May of this year.

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HK Disney invites 2,000 to charity premiere of Toy Story three
HONG KONG, 15 July—More than 2,000 children and their parents from 11 local charities were invited to “Toy Story 3” 3-D charity premiere in 11 cinemas across the city on Wednesday. Disney hopes the charity premiere, the biggest of its kind in Hong Kong, could bring more memorable family experiences to communities groups. “While other people take movie-going for granted, it is a real treat for our kids, and many of them will treasure this 3-D cinema experience with their families,” said Marcia Aw, executive director of Changning Young Lives Hong Kong, one of the participating charities.

Elle Style Awards honour Chinese fashionistas
BEIJING, 15 July— A glamour-filled ceremony was held Sunday in Shanghai to honour Chinese winners of the Elle Style Awards, also known as the Oscars of the fashion world, Sohu.com reports.

Actress Fan Bingbing was named Elle Female Style Icon of the Year. Accepting her award, the prolific actress told the audience, “I’m on my vacation.”

“Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon” actor Chang Chen won the title of Male Style Icon of the Year. Accepting her award, the prolific actress told the audience, “I’m on my vacation right now. I wish myself a good vacation.”

Director Peter Chan
BEIJING, 15 July— The film project “Waiting”, which director Peter Chan has been trying to get off the ground for 10 years, was sent to the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television (SARFT) for approval on Monday (12th July). Chinese actor Liu Ye will star in the leading role.

The film is adapted from the novel “Waiting” by contemporary Chinese-American author Ha Jin. The novel is based on a real-life story the author heard about when he came back to China with his wife.

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Henry signs for New York Red Bulls

New York, 15 July—French football star Thierry Henry has signed for New York Red Bulls on a long-term deal, the US club announced on Wednesday.

The striker is expected to make his debut for the Red Bulls in a home friendly on 22 July against English Premier League club Tottenham Hotspur.

Henry, who signed the “multi-year” contract after leaving Spanish champions Barcelona, added: “This marks an exciting new chapter in my career and life. It is an honour to play for the New York Red Bulls.”

French football star Thierry Henry — pictured here in June — has signed for New York Red Bulls. — Internet

Armstrong warns against doping ‘witch hunt’

Chambery, 15 July—Lance Armstrong says he will cooperate with a “fair investigation” but not a “witch hunt” into allegations that he and his former cycling team were involved in doping.

Armstrong is responding to reports of a federal investigation of possible fraud and doping charges against him and former associates.

He spoke Wednesday before the 10th stage of the Tour de France, where he is 31st overall. The New York Times reported that authorities have issued grand jury subpoenas to witnesses as part of the probe into allegations made by American cyclist Floyd Landis. — Internet

Lance Armstrong of the US smiles as he waits for the start of the 9th stage of the Tour de France cycling. — Internet

Spurs boss Redknapp keen on Cole and Fabiano

London, 15 July—Tottenham manager Harry Redknapp revealed on Wednesday that he has held talks with out-of-contract England winger Joe Cole, while also keeping a close eye on Brazil striker Luis Fabiano.

Redknapp, who this week signed a contract extension keeping him at Spurs until 2013, is keen to strengthen his squad as he prepares for Champions League action next season.

Cole is available on a free transfer after being released by Chelsea and Redknapp has made it clear he believes he can get the best out of a player he previously worked with for several years at West Ham. — Internet

Essien and Mikel on course for Premier League

London, 15 July—Chelsea midfielders Michael Essien and John Obi Mikel are on course to be fit for the start of the new Premier League season.

Ghana star Essien and Nigeria international Mikel both missed the World Cup due to knee injuries.

Essien hasn’t played for Chelsea since being injured at the Africa Cup of Nations in January, while Mikel underwent knee surgery towards the end of the season.

The pair have now recovered sufficiently to take part in pre-season training with the English champions and Blues assistant manager Ray Wilkins is confident they will be ready for Chelsea’s opening league game against West Bromwich Albion on 14 August.

“John Obi is slightly in

Guardiola extends contract with Barcelona

Madrid, 15 July—Barcelona coach Josep Guardiola, who has led the club to seven trophies in two seasons, signed a one-year extension to his contract on Wednesday, the Spanish champions said.

The new deal will keep the 39-year-old at the club until 30 June, 2011, it said in a statement posted on its website.

Guardiola’s contract expired on 30 June but he agreed in January to extend it by one season while Joan Laporta was still the president of the club.

Barcelona’s new president, Sandro Rosell, said shortly after he was elected on 13 June that he would try to get Guardiola to sign a six-year contract extension. — Internet

Stormy weather wipes out Champions’ Challenge

St Andrews, 15 July—The guys who conquered the British Open were no match for a miserable day at the Old Course.

The Champions’ Challenge, a four-hole exhibition involving 26 past winners of golf’s oldest major, was canceled Wednesday because of driving rain and howling winds.

Tiger Woods, defending Open champion Stewart Cink and five-time winners Peter Thomson and Tom Watson were among those scheduled to play the first, second, 17th and 18th holes.

But miserable conditions, however, prompted officials to call off the event at mid-afternoon. — Internet

Two in a row as Everton beat Melbourne Heart

Melbourne, 15 July—English Premier League club Everton made it two wins in a row on their Australian tour when they beat A-League newcomers Melbourne Heart 2-0 here on Wednesday.

Jack Rodwell and Louis Saha scored for the visitors against the new club, who did at least manage to string together some good passages against clearly superior opponents. — Internet

Spain reach summit of FIFA World Ranking

Paris, 15 July—World Cup winners Spain replaced Brazil at the top of the most recent FIFA World Ranking released on Wednesday.

Spain’s striker David Villa (centre) celebrates at the Spanish team victory ceremony in Madrid. — Internet

Spain’s Sergio Garcia puts on his gloves during a practice round on the Old Course at St Andrews, Scotland. — Internet

Beckham rules out move into management

London, 15 July—England star David Beckham insists he has no intention of becoming a manager when he retires from playing.

After an Achilles injury hindered his dream of playing in a fourth World Cup, Beckham spent the tournament in South Africa as part of England’s backroom staff and sat on the bench throughout the team’s ill-fated campaign.

The former Manchester United and Real Madrid midfielder gave advice to members of the squad and acted as a buffer between coach Fabio Capello and his players.

It has been suggested Beckham could take charge of England in the future but the 35-year-old has never been tempted by the thought of going into management and he has once again ruled that option. — Internet

England star David Beckham. — Internet

Spain’s Miguel Gonzalez (right) celebrates with Spain’s coach Vicente Del Bosque after their 1-0 victory over the Netherlands. — Internet

Vicente Del Bosque’s side climbed one place to the top of the ranking after beating the Netherlands 1-0 after extra time in Sunday’s final in Johannesburg.

The beaten finalists moved up one place to second, with quarter-finalists Brazil falling to third.

Uruguay were the biggest climbers in the top 10, rising 10 places to sixth — their highest ever ranking — after their unexpected run to the semi-finals.

Fellow South Americans Paraguay climbed 15 places to 16th, while Japan’s success in reaching the last 16 took them up 13 places to 32nd. — Internet

Champions’ Challenge at St Andrews, Scotland. — Internet

Beckham extended his contract at Barcelona until 30 June next year, his club confirmed on Thursday, as he continues his quest to win the Champions League.

Guardiola’s side will next face Zenit St Petersburg in the last 16 of the Champions League on 20 April. — Internet

David Beckham: The day Before the Day. — Internet
S Korea, Indonesia agreed to develop fighter jets

SEOUL, 15 July—South Korea and Indonesia on Thursday agreed to join hands in developing fighter jets. Indonesia will shoulder 20 percent of the development costs in the multi-million dollar KF-X programme and purchase about 50 fighter jets when mass production begins, South Korea’s Defence Acquisition Programme Administration (DAPA) said.

The two sides will also cooperate in production and marketing.

South Korean President Lee Myung-bak signed a letter of intent for the joint development project when he visited Indonesia in March last year, laying the foundation for the tie-up.—Xinhua

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine State and Magway Division, rainy or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah and Kayin States, lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Chin State, Mandalay and Bago Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavy falls in Kachin State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were: Nay Pyi Taw (Ela) (0.19) inch, Nay Pyi Taw (Talkom) (0.16) inch, Machanbaw (5.39) inches, Putao (2.64) inches, Kalewa (2.05) inches, Thayawady (1.34) inches, Pyapon (1.30) inches and Bilin (0.91) inch.

Maximum temperature on 14-7-2010 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 15-7-2010 was 78°F.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 16-7-2010: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 16-7-2010: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
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

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

Political parties submit member list to Union Election Commission

NAY PYI TAW, 15 July—The political parties are to submit lists of their party members organized in line with the Article 13 (a) of Political Parties Registration Law to the Union Election Commission.

The Pa-O National Organization (PNO) submitted the list of its party members on 12 July and the “Wa” National Unity Party and the All Mon Region Democracy Party today submitted members of their parties to the Union Election Commission.

Talks on traffic rules organized

NAY PYI TAW, 15 July—A talk on traffic rules organized by Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Police Force was held at the hall of Uttarathiri Ward Peace and Development Council in Nay Pyi Taw Uttarathiri Township on 8 July evening, attended by local people.

IP Tun Tun of Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Police Force explained traffic accidents, numbers of injured and deaths in traffic accidents, road signs and international traffic systems.

The pamphlets distributed by Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee were presented to the attendees.

Special Market Festival ongoing in Yamethin

NAY PYI TAW, 15 July—The Ministry of Industry-1 launched its Special Market Festival at Thilawa Hall in Yamethin, Mandalay Division, on 12 July.

Available at the festival are products manufactured by the ministry such as textiles, medicines, ceramics and enamel ware, paper, chemicals, foodstuff, steel ware, men’s wear and women’s wear garments, pants, fish sausages, and a wide range of seafood.

The festival runs from 8 am to 8 pm daily till 17 July—MNA