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Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to President of the Arab Republic of Egypt

NAY PYI TAW, 23 July—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Hosny Mubarak, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on the occasion of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt which falls on 23 July 2010.—MNA

Prime Minister U Thein Sein felicitates Prime Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt

NAY PYI TAW, 23 July—U Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr. Ahmed Nazif, Prime Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on the occasion of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt which falls on 23 July 2010.—MNA

River crossing bridges opened one after another to uplift transport infrastructure of Ayeyawady Division

Local people urged to maintain bridges for durability

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July—Yazudaing Bridge No.1 in Mawlamyinegyun Township, Ayeyawady Division was commissioned today. Prime Minister U Thein Sein graced the opening ceremony with his presence.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Swe, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo, Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs U Thein Nyunt, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyem, Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min and Minister for Forestry U Thein Aung, deputy ministers, departmental personnel at division, district and township levels, members of social organizations, locals and guests.

(See page 8)

Prime Minister U Thein Sein strolling along newly-inaugurated Yazudaing Bridge No.1. — MNA

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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

Three 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 characteristics
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation
Better transport for uplifting livelihoods of people

The inauguration ceremony of Hinthada-Zalun railroad section of Hinthada-Danubyu-Sakkawt (Nyaungdon) railroad construction project took place in the yard of Hinthada Railway Station in Hinthada, Ayeyawady Division, on 21 July 2010.

Hinthada-Zalun railroad section is the 16.25 miles long facility of the 48 miles long Hinthada-Danubyu-Sakkawt (Nyaungdon) railroad construction project. The already-opened railroad section will connect with Pathein (Begarat)-Nyaungdon-Yangon (Hlinethaya) railroad near the Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon), and it will lead to Yangon. Upon completion, paddy, beans and pulses and marine products, the main items of Ayeyawady Division, can be transported to Yangon at a fair cost.

The government has spent a large sum of money on creating strategic transport facilities such as roads and bridges in all regions of the Union including border regions with a view to narrowing development gap in all areas due to the geographical conditions. Although there were 487 railway stations on 1976 miles long railroads before 1988, the government has so far built 884 railway stations on 3471 miles long railroads in the country to date. At present, the government is building many small and large bridges on new railroads and motor roads across mountain ranges from the east to the west.

The transport infrastructures play a significant role in undertaking development of the entire Union. Improvement of transport sector will reflect the progress of the Union and contribute to uplifting the livelihoods of the national people.

MPEC to conduct new Diploma in Software Engineering course

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 July — Myanma Professionals Education Center will conduct a new nine-month course for those with basic computer knowledge to obtain CICT Diploma in Software Engineering of Cambridge ICT in Malaysia by the end of July.

Six subjects related to software engineering and an applied project will be lectured by well-experienced trainers at the course.

Every one may take the course and trainees can pay fee by installments. Students who passed matriculation examination can enjoy special discount.

For further information, contact Myanmar Professionals Education Center (MPEC), Room (804/B), Dagon Center, Myeikgon, Yangon (Ph: 01 73066278 and every one may enlist in advance.—MNA

Offspring of Labour Ministry awarded

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 July — A prize presentation ceremony of the Ministry of Labour was held at the auditorium of the ministry here this morning with an address by Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi.

The minister presented cash awards to a six-distinction winner and two five-distinction winners. Next, Deputy Minister U Tin Tun Aung awarded four four-distinction winners and the directors-general other distinction winners.

On behalf of outstanding students, six-distinction winner Maung Thant Kywe spoke words of thanks.

MNA

Foreign Affairs Minister felicitates Egyptian counterpart

Nay Pyi Taw, 23 July — On the occasion of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt, which falls on 23 July 2010, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Foreign Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

MNA

UEC Member (Yangon Division In-charge) inspects Thongwa Township Subcommission Office

Yangon, 22 July — Member of Union Election Commission (Yangon Division In-charge) Dr Tin Aung Aye, Chairman of Yangon Division Subcommission U Ko Ko, Chairman of Yangon South District Subcommission and members on 14 July viewed the progress of works at Thongwa Town Subcommission office.

At the meeting hall of the office, Chairman of Thongwa Township Subcommission U Zaw Weik presented the processes of the commission.

UEC Member (Yangon Division In-charge) Dr Tin Aung Aye discussed the matters related to the electoral works.—MNA

UEC Member (Yangon Division In-charge) Dr Tin Aung Aye meets chairman and members of Thongwa Township Subcommission.—TOWNSHIP SUBCOMMISSION

Academic seminar at Traders Hotel on 24-25 July

Yangon, 22 July — The STET Institute of Konhaung Tabang Hall on the 3rd Floor at the Traders Hotel from 2 pm to 4 pm on 24 July and from 4 pm to 6 pm on 25 July.

Those who have completed matriculation education may also attend the seminar, which covers Diploma in Hospitality Management (hottest course), Advance Diploma in Hospitality Management (hottest course), Diploma in Business Administration and Private Secretary, and International English Language (IESOL).

Interested persons may sign up, dialing 546115.—MNA
Engine failure blamed for plane crash in Venezuela

CARACAS, 22 July—The military plane crash in Venezuela’s western Lara state has been caused by engine failure, air force commander Maj Gen Jorge Arevalo Oropeza said on Wednesday.

According to Arevalo, the K-8 plane crashed during a training flight early Wednesday due to the failure in one of its engines. However, the pilot and co-pilot of the plane ejected safely before the crash.

The accident occurred at 9:45 a.m. (1415 GMT) on Wednesday on the outskirts of Barquisimeto, capital of the Lara state. “Those are machines, and the machines have failures,” Arevalo told state-run TV channel Venezolana de Televisión.

One pilot fractured his hip and the other survived unhurt, the air force commander said, adding that a panel would be set up to investigate the crash.

An Afghan boy stands at the site of a suicide bombing in Kandahar city, south of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 20 July, 2010. A suicide bomber struck hiding explosives in a cart topped with bottles of juice for sale, Afghan officials said. Two civilians were injured in the blast.

Car bomb kills 12, wounds 24 in Iraq’s Diyala Province

BAGHDAD, 22 July—Twelve were killed and 24 wounded when a booby-trapped car was detonated Wednesday in Iraq’s eastern Province of Diyala, local police source said.

The explosion occurred near a health centre in the town of Abu Sayeea north of Baquba, capital city of Diyala. Besides the casualties, a building collapsed shortly after the attack, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Some reports said the death toll was around 30, but Mohammed Hussan, mayor of the town, denied the reports when he received the interview of Xinhua.

Sporadic violence and waves of high-profile attacks are still common in the Iraqi cities nearly five months after the country held its landmark parliamentary election which is widely expected to shape the political landscape of the war-torn country.

Diyala Province, which stretches from the eastern edges of Baghdad to the Iranian border east of the country, has long been a stronghold for al-Qaeda militants and other militant groups since the US-led invasion of Iraq in 2003 despite repeated US and Iraqi military operations against them.

Air strikes kill 13 Taliban militants in W Afghanistan

HERAT, 22 July—Some 13 Taliban militants were killed as aircraft raided their hideout in Pushtrroad district of Farah Province in western Afghanistan, police said on Wednesday. “Acting upon intelligence report NATO aircraft raided a hideout of Taliban militants in Pushtrroad District on Tues-day morning killing 13 rebels and wounding 15 others,” Ikrumdin Yawar told Xinhua. The militants gathered in a house to discuss their plan to carry out subversive activities and draw media attention on the same day as a major international conference on Afghanistan’s future was held in the Afghan capital Kabul on Tues-day with the participation of delegates including 40 foreign ministers from over 70 countries and international organi-

Roadside bomb kills NATO soldier in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 22 July—A roadside bombing by Taleban militants claimed the life of a soldier with NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan’s south-ern region on Wednesday, the Press release of the alliance said. “An International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) service member died following an improvised explosive device (IED) attack in southern Afghanistan today,” the Press release said.

However, it did not reveal the nationality of the victim, saying it is ISAF policy to defer casualty identification procedu-res to the relevant national authorities. This is the second NATO soldiers killed in the same region with similar lethal device in Afghanistan over the past two days.

Taleban militants have largely relied on the lethal homemade weapon the IED and suicide attacks which have proved deadly for both military and civilians.
**The biggest star ever discovered?**

BEIJING, 22 July— A huge star in a neighbouring galaxy could be the biggest star ever discovered. Scientists say it is hundreds of times more massive than the sun and is twice as big as any other star previously discovered. Astronomers discovered the star by using the European Space Observatory’s Telescope, which is located in Chile’s Atacama Desert. The star has a mass of about 265 times that of the sun and is just over a million years old. Scientists have predicted it could be up to 3,000 times brighter and several million times brighter than the sun.

**US team finds evidence of water in moon minerals**

WASHINGTON, 22 July— A team of geologists at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), working with colleagues at the University of Tennessee, has found structural bound hydroxyl groups in a mineral in a lunar rock returned to Earth by the Apollo programme. Their findings are detailed in this week’s issue of the journal Nature. The team found the water in a calcium phosphate mineral, apatite, within a basalt collected from the moon’s surface by the Apollo 14 astronauts. To be precise, they didn’t find “water” — the molecule H2O. Rather, they found hydrogen in the form of a hydroxyl anion, OH-, bound in the apatite mineral lattice. The Caltech team analyzed the lunar apatite for hydrogen, sulfur, and chlorine using an ion microprobe, which is capable of analyzing mineral grains with sizes much smaller than the width of a human hair. This instrument fires a focused beam of high-energy ions at the sample surface, sputtering away target atoms that are collected and then analyzed in a mass spectrometer. “The moon, which has generally been thought to be devoid of hydrous materials, has water,” says John Eiler, professor of geochemistry at Caltech and a coauthor on the paper. “Hydroxide is a close chemical relative of water,” explains coauthor George Rossman, Caltech’s professor of mineralogy. “If you heat up the apatite, the hydroxyl ions will ‘decompose’ and come out as water.”

**Mountain marmots made bigger by climate change**

WASHINGTON, 22 July— Longer summers are causing large mountain rodents called marmots to grow larger and get better at surviving, according to a 33-year study published on Wednesday in Nature.

The research, carried out by scientists at University of Kansas and Imperial College London in the United Kingdom, looked at a population of yellow-bellied marmots (Marmota flaviventris), which are large ground-dwelling “squirrels” that live at around 3,000 meters in the Rocky Mountains in Colorado.

**New iPad app mines Web links for ‘social magazine’**

SAN FRANCISCO, 22 July— Apple Inc.’s iPad has hatched a new breed of magazines, one filed with a constantly changing mix of articles, photos and videos picked out by your friends, family and other people within your online social circle. This new twist on digital publishing comes courtesy of Flipboard, a free iPad application that made its debut on Wednesday.

Flipboard is mining the hundreds of millions of Web links posted each day on two of the world’s most popular outlets for sharing information and imagery, Facebook and Twitter. All those links are automatically converted into a “social magazine” format that’s customized for anyone who allows Flipboard to sift through their Facebook and Twitter accounts. Instead of having to click through a hodgepodge of links, Flipboard users will be able to flip through digital pages with all the text and images already displayed on Apple’s hot-selling computer tablet.

**China starts up first fourth generation nuclear reactor**

BEIJING, 22 July — Chinese scientists have succeeded in testing the country’s first experimental fourth generation nuclear reactor, an expert said here on Wednesday.

The successful start up of the China Experimental Fast Reactor (CEFR) marked a breakthrough in China’s fourth generation nuclear technology, and made China the eighth country in the world to own the technology, Zhang Donghui, general manager of the CEFR project, told Xinhua over phone.

China’s existing 11 nuclear power generating units all use second generation of nuclear power generation technology. The country started the construction of its first third-generation pressurized water reactors using AP1000 technologies developed by US-based Westinghouse in 2009. Compared with the third generation reactors which have an utility rate of uranium of just one percent, CEFR boasts an utility rate of more than 60 percent.

**Smartphones could be latest battle accessory**

FAIRBROUGHT, 22 July— Smartphones could become the next weapon in the United States’ battlefield arsenal, as defence companies seek to cash in on the rapidly growing use of sophisticated mobile applications. Raytheon, which makes the Patriot missile defence system, is developing software which could enable a soldier to find enemies in his or her surrounding terrain using a mobile phone running Google’s Android operating system.

The software could potentially be powerful enough to pick up aerial images from an unmanned aircraft or satellite and then focus in on details such as license plates on cars or a person’s facial features. “We’re trying to take advantage of smartphone technology to tailor for what soldiers may need in the field,” Mark Bigham, vice president for defence and civil mission solutions at Raytheon, told Reuters.

**Science**

A whale leaps from the sea near Cape Town, South Africa, on 18 July, 2010. It whacked the yacht, but yacht owner Paloma Werner says neither she nor her companion was hurt.

**Technology**

**Internet**

The camera of a street-view car, used to photograph whole streets for Google maps, US state attorneys pressed Google to name workers who wrote the “snooping” code that captured personal data from wireless networks while Street View cars mapped streets.
### Health Tip: Signs That You May Have Hand Arthritis

**Health Tip:** Signs that you may have hand arthritis may include:
- Pain in the hands and fingers, especially after firmly holding an object for a long period.
- Swelling or disfigured joints.
- A feeling of warmth in the joints.
- A feeling that the bones in the joints are rubbing together, or that a joint is “loose.”
- Cysts near the joints at the ends of the fingers.

*Source: Internet*

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### China’s organ donations on the rise

**Beijing, 22 July** — A pilot programme with which public health officials are seeking to develop a nationwide organ donation system has begun with success. Since the programme began in March, five people - four from Shenzhen and one from Tianjin - have donated organs.

Other cities and regions where the programme is taking place include the cities of Shanghai and Wuhan as well as Guangdong and Hunan Provinces, according to Hao Linna, deputy director of the Red Cross Society of China.

Hao’s remarks came during the 4th Organ Transplantation Games in Tianjin on Saturday before an audience of some 800 people, consisting mostly of organ donors and recipients.

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### China likely to become principal donor to Africa

**Nairobi, 22 July** — China is likely to become the principal donor to Africa partly because the Chinese have gone further with aid and loan programmes to Africa than most other donors.

One of the two baby clouded leopard cubs, Neofelis nebulosa, was born in this undated picture released by the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle 21 July, 2010. A pair of clouded leopard cubs, Neofelis nebulosa, were born two months ago in Paris, the Museum said on Wednesday.

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### HIV infection situation grim in Eastern Europe

**Vienna, 22 July** — The World Health Organization (WHO) warned on Wednesday that the situation of HIV infection in Western Europe remains stabilizing, while in Eastern Europe it shows an upward trend, among which Ukraine is hardest hit by HIV infection.

Martin Donoghoe, an expert of the WHO attending the 18th International AIDS Conference presently being held in Vienna, said Wednesday at a press conference that Ukraine has the highest HIV infection rate among the European countries now.

Statistics show that the new HIV infections in Europe are about 10 million each year, of which about 2 million people in Western Europe, and 8 million people in Eastern Europe. While only in Ukraine, the annual new HIV infections are 1.5 million.
Baby in hollowed-out watermelon becomes Internet hit

SELANGOR, 22 July—The unidentified child was apparently abducted by the monsoon in Pakistan.

The unidentifed child was captured on video sitting inside the huge hollowed-out fruit in the latest YouTube sensation. The fun 35-second clip shows the docile youngster occasionally looking up at the camera before bobbing back into his original position. More than 210,000 people have watched the black-haired baby licking and attempting to chew on the inside of the watermelon which is perched on a chair.

The figures make it one of the most popular watermelon and baby-related videos on the clip-sharing website.

Commensurate with chuckling fans include “So that’s where they come from...” and “cute baby ugly chair.”

Xinhua

ASEAN becomes engine of regional economic development

SINGAPORE, 22 July—The ASEAN is becoming an engine of the regional economic development, as well as of world economic development, an expert from the East Asian Institute of National University of Singapore said here on Thursday.

ASEAN becomes engine of regional economic development

In an exclusive interview with Xinhua, Dr Zhao Hong said ASEAN member countries not only export goods to other countries, but also become a big market that will also import more goods from other countries.

“In this sense, the ASEAN is very important, and is also a driving force in regional economic integration. So we can say the ASEAN plays a very important role today,” Zhao said.

Ministers from ASEAN member countries convened in Vietnam this week. “They have reached a consensus on regional economic cooperation and stressed that all the ASEAN countries will make greater efforts on economic integration in the ASEAN and also in East Asia,” he said. “Apart from this, they also made consensus to improve regional economic integration, and are becoming cooperative with other countries, such as China, Japan and South Korea, so as to make economic recovery more quickly and better in this region,” said Zhao.

Xinhua

Children have fun in the waterlogged street in northwest Pakistan’s Peshawar on 22 July, 2010. At least 25 people were killed due to heavy rainfall brought by the monsoon in Pakistan.

XINHUA

Food poisoning kills 56 in China in Jan to May period

BEIJING, 22 July—Food poisoning in China killed 56 and sickened 2,452 others between January and May this year, the Ministry of Health said here on Wednesday.

In a report posted on its website, the ministry said 27 people, about half of the deaths, were killed by food poisoning at home. The deaths were mainly caused by the consumption of poisonous vegetables and pesticide- or poison-contaminated food.

There were 68 cases of food poisoning at employee and student cafeterias nationwide in the five months resulting in the poisoning of almost 1,650 people and the deaths of 18. Bacteria-induced food poisoning and improperly cooked kidney beans were the main causes.

Seven people were killed by excessive intakes of nitrate, a substance with an appearance similar to salt which can be used as a meat preservatives.

The report urged food manufacturers to ensure food safety in accordance with law and called on the public to raise food safety self-awareness levels.

Xinhua

China’s auto production base steers towards “green” future

CHANGCHUN, 22 July—Visitors to an international automobile fair in northeast China this year noticed a change taking place at the event: a greater number of hybrid and all-electric vehicles on display.

More than 30 models of all-electric buses, BEVs (battery electric vehicle) and new HEVs (hybrid electric vehicle) were on show at the 7th China Changchun International Automobile Fair, an eight-day event that ended on Thursday. “Only a handful of such vehicles were seen last year,” said a visitor who identified himself as Liu. To the big crowds of car enthusiasts in the exhibition hall, the new energy models were a major attraction.

An official with the automobile industrial development zone of Changchun, the host city of the fair, said local government is looking to cut energy emissions and create a “greener” city by producing and bringing more environment-friendly vehicles onto the road.

“Promoting new energy models and new car technologies at the fair is part of the government’s drive to build a ‘greener’ city,” said Li Xiangguo, director of the management committee of the development zone.
India to donate Seychelles plane, 2 helicopters

VICTORIA, 22 July—Visiting Indian Defense Minister AK Antony says his country will give the Seychelles a plane and two helicopters.

Antony, who has been in the Indian Ocean island country since Monday on an official visit, made the announcement on Tuesday when handing over military communication gadgets to President James Michel.

The Indian defence chief said his visit to the Seychelles is a follow-up to a trip made in June by President Michel to India, which offered 3 million US dollars to the Seychelles in military support.

A Dornier surveillance plane and two Chetak helicopters will be made by Hindustan Aeronautics in Bangalore and will be delivered in 15 months, Antony said.

India and the Seychelles have maintained long standing military cooperation. Currently, Indian instructors are training Seychelles military officers at the Defense Academy in the southern part of the island near the Seychelles International Airport.

Seychelles military officers have also undergone training in India. Its Coast Guards recently received Topaz, a huge Indian patrol ship, to boost the fight against Somali pirates.

Photo taken on 19 July shows that Dino (L) practices Manits Bozing with this coach in Xi’an City, northwest China’s Shaanxi Province, on 19 July, 2010. Dino, a 15-year-old high school student, is fond of Chinese culture. One of his dream is to go to the college of traditional Chinese medicine in Switzerland to learn acupuncture.

Xinhua

Moderate quake rocks Papua, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 22 July—A moderate earthquake measuring 5.0 on the Richter scale jolted Papua in easternmost Indonesia on Thursday, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency said. The quake happened at 10:24 am (0324 GMT) with epicenter at 222 km northeast of Timika of Papua and the depth of 60 km, the agency said.—Xinhua

Large dead jellyfish stings beachgoers in NH

RYE, 22 July—New Hampshire authorities say about 100 people have been stung by a large dead jellyfish that broke into pieces at a state park beach, and nine children were treated at a hospital.

Wallace Sands State Park Manager Ken Loughlin says it’s a Lion’s Mane jellyfish, which he described as the size of a “turkey platter” and weighing nearly 50 pounds. Rye Fire Department Lieutenant says the jellyfish fell apart when the state park staff tried to remove it on Wednesday, and its stingers were still active even though it was dead. Doug Groutz, chief of marine fisheries for the state, says it’s a Lion’s Mane jellyfish, a species rarely seen so far south and in shallow waters. In northern New England, they average 8 feet in diameter and can have tentacles as long as 150 feet.

Participants make preparations for Hong Kong Book Fair 2010 in south China’s Hong Kong, on 20 July, 2010. The 7-day Hong Kong Book Fair 2010 will open on 21 July. Reading in English and Electronic publications are the main courses for Fair 2010. As Asia’s leading publishing and sales event, the fair attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors each year. —Xinhua

Working staff arrange dishes for a special feast at a food cultural festival held in Nanjing, capital of east China’s Jiangsu Province, on 21 July, 2010. The festival which opened here on Thursday includes a series of activities, such as exhibition of food culture, cultural exchange of old-branded restaurants and painting and calligraphy creation on food, etc. —Xinhua

Chemical plant blast kills five, injures four in SW China

GUIYANG, 22 July—An explosion ripped through a chemical plant in southwest China’s Guizhou Province on Thursday, killing at least five people and injuring four others, local authorities said.

The accident took place at about 9 am at the plant in Xingyi, in the Bouyei-Miao Autonomous Prefecture of Quixian, said Chen Gang, director of the prefecture government’s emergency response office.

“The explosion occurred when workers were repairing chemical material pipelines,” he said.

The injured people had been rushed to hospital.

“We are investigating the cause of the accident,” he added.

Mauritanian court sentences Malian for kidnapping foreigners

NOUAKCHOTT, 22 July—A Mauritanian court sentenced a Malian kidnapper 12 years in prison on Wednesday for his involvement of kidnapping foreign aid workers.

The verdict was made one day after Mauritanian prosecutors requested life sentences for four out of a total 11 defendants accused of abducting three Spanish aid workers in November 2009.

The two Spanish men and a woman were kidnapped at gunpoint from a convoy on their ways back to Nouakchott from the port city of Nouadhibou on 29 Nov.

2009. Xinhua

University students from Shanghai, China, perform traditional Chinese dance in Santiago, capital of Chile, on 19 July, 2010. As part of the agenda of the Second Congress of Confiucius Institutes in Ibero-America, a group of university students from Shanghai on 17 and 19 July staged a variety of Chinese dances, songs, fashion shows and martial arts in the Chilean coastal city of Vina del Mar and Chilean capital city of Santiago respectively.

Xinhua

Russia to compete with US for Afghan helicopter sales

Moscow, 22 July—The Russian-owned arms trader Rosoboronexport will compete with its US peers to supply Mi-17 helicopters to Afghanistan, the company said on Wednesday.

Alexander Mikheev, Rosoboron-export’s deputy CEO, said the American companies equipping Afghanistan's military had shown considerable interest in Russian military hardware, especially helicopters.

Sanctions imposed by the US against Rosoboronexport in 2006 concerning tendering for American arms deals were lifted in May, enabling the state-owned company’s bid.

“I think that since the sanctions have been lifted, something must change in relations with the US companies,” Mikheev said.

Xinhua
River crossing bridges opened one after another...

(from page 1)

Today is an auspicious day for Mawla-Myinegyun in Ayeyawady Division. To ensure better transport in Mawla-Myinegyun, which encountered poor transport due to natural barriers in the past, two bridges have been built over the river Yazudaing in upgrading the old Maubin-Yaylekalay-Shwetaunghmaw-Kyaikpi motorway.

Yazudaing Bridge No.2 was put into service at the beginning of this year. Due to Yazudaing Bridge No.1 that is inaugurated today, Mawlamyinegyun is easily accessible from all surrounding regions.

In addition, Bogale-Mawlamyinegyun-Kyommang-Myaunngya motor road under construction with Mawlamyinegyun in the central part will be commissioned into services soon. So, people can travel to the four corners of the division by land at any time. Thanks to several roads passing through rescue, resettlement, rehabilitation and development tasks and long-term preparedness against natural disasters. As a result, the storm-hit areas have enjoyed better conditions than that before the catastrophe in a short time.

Now, a delta road network stretching more than 420 miles in total has been built by building seven roads and upgrading three old roads with the aim of carrying out rescue and resettlement tasks in times of natural disasters as well as using it as a productivity road. So far, tasks for improving the socio-economic status of local people and natural disaster preparedness have proved successful to a certain degree.

Apart from building roads extensively in Ayeyawady Division, the land of waterways and water sources, the government is building Kyangin-Pakokku Railroad linked with Pathein-Kyangin Railroad, along with Pathein-Begaret-Nyaungdon-Yangon (Hlinethaya) Railroad and Hinthada-Danubyu-Sakkawt (Nyaungdon) Railroad. Hinthada-Zalun Railroad has been inaugurated the day before. The remaining railroad sections are being upgraded with added momentum.

Ayeyawady Division will become the most developed one because it will achieve progress of railroad, motor road and other transport facilities. River crossing bridges have been opened one after another to

(See page 9)
River crossing bridges opened one after another…

(from page 8)

uplifting the transport infrastructure of Ayeyawady Division. Already-inaugurated Yazudaing Bridge No. 1 was the 50th facility of its kind in Ayeyawady Division. At the same time, four over-180-ft-long bridges across Ayeyawady River are under construction.

Upholding the national goal for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed new nation, the government has been striving for all-round development of political, economic and social sectors.

With the aim of ensuring equitable development of all regions of the Union including border regions and enhancing socioeconomic of the nation, the government is implementing the border areas and national races development plan, the 24-special regions development plan and the rural development tasks for narrowing the development gap among the national brethren.

Likewise, the short-term and long-term plans of national education promotion plan and the national health care promotion plans are being implemented with added momentum for turning out fit and healthy and educated human resources. As such, the entire national people are enjoying fruits of sector-wise development.

Remarkable progress can be witnessed due to assistance provided by the Head of State with goodwill. Therefore, the local people are to make concerted efforts for national resources are to speed up their all-out efforts with modern technology and innovative measures for all-round development of Ayeyawady Division.

While building infrastructures in all regions of the Union for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed new nation, the government is realizing the State’s seven-step Road Map for improvement of superstructure that the people themselves can inspire in the future. As the general elections, the fifth step of the Road Map will be held in the near future, the national people are to take part in their respective sectors to be able to successfully hold the elections.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister urged the local people to safeguard and maintain the bridge for its durability, to efficiently utilize the sound foundations for development of the region and to overcome all hindrances with the concerted efforts of the Government, the people and the Tatmadaw.

Speaking on the occasion, Ayeyawady Division PDC Chairman South-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Kyaw Swe said that as the prime minister announced the original condition of the region and gave guidance on development of road network in Delta Region for long-term benefit of the region.

Today’s inaugurated Yazadaing Bridge No.1, the minister continued to say, was located on such road networks as Maubin-Myaung-mya, Kyaukpi-Mawlamyinegyun, Mawlamyinegyun-Hlinebone, Bogalee-Mawla-myinegyun-Kyonemangay-Wakema-Myaung-mya and locals could travel to any other region across Myanmar through the bridge.

The minister went on to say that from 1988 till now, 50 units of over-180-foot bridges and 312 units of under-180-foot bridges had been constructed in Ayeyawady Division. In conclusion, he urged the locals to maintain the bridge for its durability.

(See page 10)
YANGON, 22 July—The Management Committee of Industrial Zones of Yangon Division held a work coordination meeting at Yangon Command Headquarters this morning. Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence delivered a speech. Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint and the local farmers against the floods. In addition, the local farmers will grow crops more than the schedules with the use of adequate water from the dam. Therefore, the dam will contribute much to gaining progress in cultivation of crops and paddy in the region. Lt-Gen Mynt Swe of Ministry of Defence addresses coordination meeting of industrial zones management committee.

Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Yangon Mayor U Aung Thein reported on requirements of work. Officials, chairmen of the industrial zones, and entrepreneurs presented work progress sector-wise and requirements to be fulfilled. Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander and the mayor assessed the reports and attended to the needs. Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave concluding remarks.

Yaybok Dam: drive for development…

On completion, the dam will protect against the floods. In addition, the local farmers will grow crops more than the schedules with the use of adequate water from the dam. Therefore, the dam will contribute much to gaining progress in cultivation of crops and paddy in the region.

River crossing bridges…

On behalf of local people, U Aung Zaw Hlaing from Mawlamyinegyun Town-ship spoke words of thanks. He said that in the past, it took 12 hours from Mawlamyinegyun to Yangon by water craft, and now they can go to Yangon just in three-hour drive. He expressed his opinion about road network projects in Delta Region that he believed his native town, Mawlamyinegyun Township, would emerge as a centre point township on motorway due to these projects.

The Prime Minister and party cordially greeted departmental personnel, members of social organizations and locals present at the opening ceremony.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Kyaw Swe, Minister U Khin Maung Myint and Minister U Thein Nyunt cut a ribbon to open the ceremony. The Prime Minister and party together with local people and responsible persons posed for documentary photo in the front of pavilion.

The Prime Minister then unveiled the stone plaque of Yazudaing Bridge No.1. The Prime Minister and party then strolled along the bridge and greeted locals. Construction of Yazadaing Bridge No.1 started on 1 April and it is of steel truss type facility.

The 1955 feet long bridge with 20 feet wide motorway and three feet wide pedestrian on either side has 20 feet high clearance and can withstand 60 tons of loads. The Prime Minister and party arrived in Yangon in the afternoon.
Last month the hottest June recorded worldwide

BEIJING, 22 July—Last month was the hottest June ever recorded worldwide and the fourth consecutive month that the combined global land and sea temperature records have been broken, according to the reports of the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Worldwide, the average temperature in June was 61.1 degrees Fahrenheit (16.2 Celsius). That was 1.22 degrees F (0.68 C) warmer than average for June.

Ferry capsized in Lake Victoria

KAMPALA, 22 July—A ferry capsized on Lake Victoria and a number of people may have died, Ugandan police reported on Wednesday.

Citing witnesses, police said at least 60 people were on board the ferry sailing at dawn towards Entebbe, when the accident occurred.

Police said they sent a team to the scene, where several passengers have been rescued.

Three airlines to cut aviation passenger fuel surcharges

HONG KONG, 22 July—Hong Kong’s Civil Aviation Department (CAD) on Wednesday gave approval for passenger fuel surcharges levied by three airlines to be reduced for the period from 1 to 31 August.

The airlines involved include Air Nippon Airways, Cathay Pacific Airways and Singapore Airlines.

The new maximum levels of fuel surcharges will be 98 HK dollars (12.61 US dollars) for short-haul flights and 505 HK dollars for long-haul flights, representing a reduction of 7 percent and 2 percent from the current maximum levels for short and long-haul flights respectively.

The applicable surcharge levels are based on the ticket issue date.

Passenger fuel surcharges are reviewed regularly by the CAD. The last review was done at the end of June when the maximum surcharge levels approved by the CAD were 105 HK dollars for short-haul flights and 513 HK dollars for long-haul flights.

Five airlines involved passenger fuel surcharges, with the maximum surcharge level of Singapore Airlines being 505 HK dollars, followed by Air Nippon Airways at 500 HK dollars.

Annual overseas visitors tops 2.5 million for first time in New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 22 July—The number of overseas visitors arriving in New Zealand for short term stays topped 2.5 million for the first time in the past 12 months, Statistics New Zealand (SNZ) said on Wednesday.

“This milestone was almost reached in 2008, but the global economic downturn contributed to a decline in visitor numbers after a peak of 2.497 million in the March 2008 year,” Population Statistics manager Bridget Hamilton-Seymour said.

Visitor arrivals from Australia in June were up 7 percent from a year earlier to 76,200, while combined arrivals from China, Japan and South Korea were up 6,900, or 86 percent, after the influenza H1N1 pandemic affected numbers traveling from those countries in June 2009.

But while the 5,500 visitors from China last month were similar in number to the average for June months between 2006 and 2008, arrivals from Japan and South Korea were still well below June 2008 levels, SNZ said. The number of New Zealand residents leaving on short term overseas trips was up 13 percent last month from a year earlier to 198,800.

For the year numbers were up 3 percent to 1.97 million.—Xinhua

Six Palestinians missing in Gaza tunnel

GAZA, 22 July—Six Palestinian smugglers have gone missing on Wednesday when a tunnel beneath Gaza’s southern border with Egypt caved in, witnesses and rescue workers said.

The witnesses said it is still difficult to predict the fate of the trapped as rescue crews are digging the sand to look for them. The workers were bringing in goods from Egypt, the witnesses said, but the sorts of goods were also unknown. Starting this month, Israel loosened its blockade to the Gaza Strip, allowing many civilian goods and consumer products into the territory that has been under tight blockade for three years.

The tunnel business, which had reached its peak in 2008 and were the main lifeline to the 1.5 million population, started to go down as a result of the Israeli relaxations. However, cement and some construction materials that Israel is still barring are still being smuggled to Gaza through the tunnels.

An art student makes sculptures in a pottery saloon located in Hohhot, capital of north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, on 22 July, 2010. The pottery saloon, founded by Li Dalong, a 56-year-old sculptor, sets the stage for art students in the city to improve their sculpting skills.

The original Aston Martin DBS driven by actor Sean Connery in the James Bond films “Goldfinger” and “Thunderball” is displayed in London on 21 July, 2010. The car will be auctioned on 27 October in London where it is expected to fetch $4,600,000.

A woman cools herself while walking under the sunshine in Moscow, capital of Russia, on 25 June, 2010. On Friday, a temperature of 32.8 degrees centigrade set the highest record of the same day in the recent 11 years. —Xinhua

A woman cools herself while walking under the sunshine in Moscow, capital of Russia, on 25 June, 2010. On Friday, a temperature of 32.8 degrees centigrade set the highest record of the same day in the recent 11 years. —Xinhua

An art student makes sculptures in a pottery saloon located in Hohhot, capital of north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, on 22 July, 2010. The pottery saloon, founded by Li Dalong, a 56-year-old sculptor, sets the stage for art students in the city to improve their sculpting skills.

Little siberian tigers suck milk from their dog mother at the zoo in Sannenscia City, central China’s Henan Province, on 21 July, 2010.
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV RATHA BHUM VOY NO (525)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV RATHA BHUM VOY NO (525) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.7.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

An apple a day helps keep creative minds at play

BEIJING, 22 July—The Western media had it wrong when they called the opening of China’s second Apple Inc store this month just another new attraction for the country’s wealthy classes. I predict the new Apple store in Shanghai will go the way of the company’s first store in China that opened in Beijing in 2008, becoming a daily playground for the poorer masses.

Like the store that opened at The Village at Sanlitun in Beijing, the Shanghai store also opened in a shopping district designed to attract high-end spenders. In both cases, the openings attracted long lines of people of all backgrounds eager to be the first to see inside the high-tech structure, which should have been Shanghai’s first clue that this was not just another Gucci outlet. It’s an idea factory. Two years after the opening of the Beijing store, crowds still gather daily to try out the gadgets inside. —Xinhua

Hundreds of penguins wash up on Brazilian coast

SÃO PAULO, 22 July—Biologists suspect that unusually cold waters off the coast of Brazil were responsible for the deaths of more than 550 penguins that washed up on shore in the past 10 days. Since 11 July, about 556 dead penguins have appeared on beaches, Thiago do Nascimento, a biologist at the Peruibe Aquarium, told CNN.

At the beach of Praia Grande alone, on the São Paulo coast, more than 170 penguins have washed up on shore since Friday, according to the local government. It is not unusual for penguins to show up on the Brazilian coast during their migration, but most of the time, they are alive, said another biologist, Isabelle Nunes.

Unusually cold seas may have displaced the penguins’ food sources, scientists say. —Internet

MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION

MYANNA RAILWAYS

INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER

1. Sealed Tender is invited for supply of the following in Myanmar

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Closing Date / Time: 24.8.2010 (Tuesday) (12:00) Hours

Tender documents are available at our office starting from 23.7.2010 during office hours and for further details please call Deputy General Manager Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of Theibyin Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon. Phone No: 95-219185, 291994.

It’s a bird. It’s a plane. No.

MOSCOW, 22 July—Authorities in Russia are opening an animal cruelty probe into a weekend stunt on a beach in southern Russia in which a donkey parasailed high over the surf. Amateur video footage showed men attaching a parasail harness to the trembling mule.

The English-language Kremlin news channel Russia Today reported that sunbathers were distressed at the sight of the flying donkey, which brayed in fear as it glided above the bay for half an hour. Russia Today reported the donkey was shell-shocked but survived. Reports said the donkey flight was a promotional stunt. —Internet

Australian inventor of ‘black box’ recorder dies

SYDNEY, 22 July—David Warren, an Australian scientist who invented the “black box” flight data recorder, has died, defence officials said. He was 85. Warren, who died on Monday, came up with the idea for the cockpit voice recorder after investigating the crash of the world’s first commercial jet airliner, the Comet, in 1953, the Department of Defence said in a statement.

He thought it would be helpful for airline accident investigators to have a recording of voices in the cockpit. He designed and constructed a black box prototype in 1956, but it took several years before officials understood just how valuable the device could be and began installing them in commercial airlines worldwide.

Warren was born in 1925 in a remote part of northeast Australia. In 1934, his father was killed in a plane crash in Australia.

Australian scientist David Warren poses with his flight data recorder. Warren, who invented the ‘black box’ flight data recorder, has died, defence officials said on 21 July, 2010. —INTERNET

Unusually cold waters may have displaced the penguins’ food sources, scientists say. —INTERNET
Jennifer Aniston’s stalker arrested

Beijing, 22 July—Actress Jennifer Aniston has obtained a restraining order against a man who was arrested after prowling around her Hollywood Hills home, media reported Wednesday.

Court documents reveal 24-year-old Jason Peyton was found on 15 July “laying in wait in a location he believes she frequents with a sharp object, a bag, a roll of duct tape and written messages about Aniston”. He spent eight days trying to find her, according to Aniston’s attorney.

In the documents, obtained by TMZ, “Peyton is an obsessed, mentally ill and delusional stalker — with a history of violence and criminal stalking — who drove cross-country in his delusional ‘mission’ to locate and marry Aniston, with whom he believes he is in a relationship.”

Kate Winslet, Lin Chi-Ling join hands in ad

Beijing, 22 July—Chinese supermodel-actress Lin Chi-Ling has received international exposure by joining Oscar-winning British actress Kate Winslet and Bollywood beauty Aishwarya Rai in a commercial.

The trio was seen in Rome, Italy on Tuesday (20 July) shooting an ad for the Swiss luxury watch brand Longines.

Lin debuted on the silver screen in 2008 with John Woo’s historical blockbuster “Red Cliff”. She also co-starred with Jay Chou in the 2009 film “The Treasure Hunter”. Her most recent film is the comedy “Welcome to Shama Town”.

Lindsay Lohan to spend only 14 days in jail

Beijing, 22 July—US actress Lindsay Lohan will serve only about 14 days of her 90-day sentence due to overcrowding issues and good behaviour, LA Sheriff’s spokesman Steve Whitmore told PEOPLE.

Earlier this month, she was sentenced to 90 days in prison and 90 days in-patient rehab for violating her 2007 probation.

Danger! High voltage human

A 65-year-old man living in Jianmin village, Cixi, Zhejiang Province is electrifying his community with his ability to withstand a charge of as much as 380 volts. Thirty-six volts is commonly considered the most a human can withstand with no ill effects.

But Xu Chunzhang, a welder, found he could take 389 volts with no harm after he was connecting a power wire in 1996 and forgot to cut off the power supply.

“I only felt my hand go numb,” said Xu, who has since become a celebrity in his village for his electrical resistance.

“When we have electrical problems we go to Xu,” said one villager.

Heart-attack victim saved by pizza deliveryman

Ordering a pizza may have saved George Linn’s life. Linn’s wife said he had just gone into cardiac arrest Friday when the pizza deliveryman knocked on the door of their Colorado home to bring their order. Kami Linn said she opened the door to “some burly-looking dude” and immediately asked for help.

Chinese man eats light bulbs for breakfast

A compulsive glass-eating man named Wang Jun, who often crunches down on a light bulb for breakfast and eats about 25 a month, has baffled doctors at Xinggiao Hospital in Lingshui county, Sichuan Province with his bizarre diet, which has had no apparent ill effects.

Wang, 52, said he has eaten glass since he was 12 and originally did so on a dare by other children. He later did it as a freak feat in a circus. “I’ve eaten more than 1,000 light bulbs in 40 years;” said Wang. “If I don’t eat one for several days, I get very nervous.” But he added his habit also cost him his marriage because his wife couldn’t accept it.

Spanish freestyle motocross rider Dani Torres performs during a show jump at the bullfighting arena of the picturesque village of Chinchon, south of Madrid, on 19 July, 2010. The show was held to announce the fourth stage of the Red Bull X-Fighters World Tour in Madrid, which will take place on 22 and 23 July, 2010.

A handout picture from Ferrari press office shows an artist’s illustration of “Ferrari World” theme park, the first of its kind for the iconic Italian carmaker that is being constructed in Abu Dhabi.

Mancini says Man City may be interested in Donovan

HARRISON, 22 July—Manchester City manager Roberto Mancini may be interested in acquiring Landon Donovan from Major League Soccer and the Los Angeles Galaxy. The 28-year-old midfielder had a successful 10-week loan to Everton last season and was the top American player at the World Cup with three goals.

“Donovan is a good player. Could be possible,” Mancini said on Wednesday ahead of his club’s exhibition games against Sporting Lisbon and Thierry Henry’s New York Red Bulls.

“The market is open until the end of August. Could be,” MLS commissioner Don Garber said last week he doesn’t intend to sell Donovan, the American career World Cup scoring leader with five goals.

United States soccer team member Landon Donovan.—INTERNET

New young coach but same old Milan

ROME, 22 July—New coach Massimiliano Allegri will give Milan’s old guard another chance to return the club to former glories, despite pressure from fans to invest in youth after a season of under-achievement. Rookie coach Leonardo led Milan to a third-place finish in Serie A last term, but they finished 12 points behind city rivals and champions Inter Milan and were knocked out in the Champions League last 16 by Manchester United.

The average age of the squad has become a source of consternation for supporters and pundits in recent years. On Wednesday, 34-year-old full-back Masiemo Oddo signed a contract extension that will keep him at the club until past his 36th birthday, while Miliyan will have five defenders in the 33-35 age bracket by the end of the season. —INTERNET

No decision yet on Sao Paulo stadium for 2014 WCup

SAO PAULO, 22 July—Sao Paulo officials have yet to decide on a stadium for the 2014 World Cup, leaving South America’s biggest city in danger of being left out of the tournament. City officials and members of the World Cup organizing committee met Wednesday but failed to come up with a stadium proposal to send to FIFA, although they insist the goal is for the city to host the competition’s opening match.

“We will do everything possible for the opener to be in Sao Paulo,” Brazilian soccer federation president Ricardo Teixeira said. “We didn’t discuss stadiums in this meeting, we only talked in general terms about the need for Sao Paulo to have a significant participation in the 2014 World Cup.” —INTERNET

Manchester United: ‘most valuable sports team’

NEW YORK, 22 July—English Premier League giants Manchester United is the most valuable franchise in sports, according to a study compiled by Forbes Magazine.

Forbes released its list of the world’s most valuable teams Wednesday, with Manchester on top at $1.84 billion dollars. The second highest and top North American franchise is the National Football League’s Dallas Cowboys at $1.65 billion dollars.

The New York Yankees, Washington Redskins, New England Patriots, Real Madrid, New York Giants, Arsenal, New York Jets and Houston Texans round out the top 10. A mid protests from fans, Manchester United’s owning Glazer family has said it would not entertain offers to buy the club, which has around one billion dollars of debt.—INTERNET

French clubs count cost of economic downturn

PARIS, 22 July—Hit hard by the economic crisis, French football clubs are moving towards shorter, less lucrative contracts for their players and a greater emphasis on youth development. “It’s the continuation of a situation already observed last summer (2009),” says Philippe Diallo, head of the French Union of Professional Football Clubs (UCPF).

“The public was struck by the big transfers of Real Madrid, and Lyon and Marseille in France, as well as Bordeaux’s bid to keep Yoann Gourcuff (pictured), but apart from that, the market was already sinking (in 2009),” says Philippe Diallo, head of the French Union of Professional Football Clubs (UCPF).—INTERNET

AC Milan’s newly appointed team coach Massimiliano Allegri follows the first training day of the season, at the Milanello training center in Carasco, near Milan, on 20 July.—INTERNET

‘Marathon man’ Isner outlasts Muller at ATP Atlanta

ATLANTA, 22 July—John Isner needed 33 aces and two and a half hours, outlasting Gilles Muller at the Atlanta Tennis Championships as the American registered his first win since making history at Wimbledon. Isner, 30, beat the German in the final and broke the player’s record in the final set tiebreakers to 16-5.

Muller, ranked 206, turned in a miracle performance for a player who said last of 2009 with injury and was playing in only his second event at the ATP level after his Queen’s club last month. The outsider fired 29 aces, just four less than Isner.—INTERNET

Hodgson era in low-key start, Nasri stars for Arsenal

LONDON, 22 July—Roy Hodgson’s Liverpool reign got off to a low-key start with a 0-0 draw at Swiss side Grasshoppers on Wednesday, while French star Samir Nasri scored twice as Arsenal defeated Sturm Graz 3-0.

With new signing Joe Cole watching from the sidelines, and with the likes of Steven Gerrard, Fernando Torres and Javier Mascherano still on their post-World Cup breaks, Hodgson opted for an experimental side in Switzerland. Lucas was skipper for the friendly match, David Ngog and David Ameobi played up front while Diego Cavalieri started in goal. Alberto Aquilani’s free-kick was saved by Ivan Buiten in Liverpool’s best effort, while Ngog wasted two good chances.

“It was a good effort from the players against a side who have already started their season,” said Hodgson.—INTERNET

London cafes take the heat out of cycling

LONDON, 22 July—It might be the inspiration of the Tour de France, the traffic or the unexpectedly hot weather, but London has gone cycle crazy this summer — and biking cafes are now the coolest spots in town. Frequented by lycra-clad racers and trendy fashionistas alike, bike-friendly bars are popping up all over the British capital, providing refreshment, repairs and a place to meet fellow members of a burgeoning two-wheeled community.

“People come here to sit around, have some coffees, hang out with friends — and while they are doing that we fix their bikes,” said Nicole Hamilton, a mechanic at the popular “Look Mum No Hands!” cafe-bar in east London.—INTERNET

People visit the “Look Mum No Hands!” cycle cafe in central London on July 17, 2010. The cafe offers customers the chance to eat and drink while watching for instance the Tour de France as their bicycles are repaired by the mechanics behind the cafe.—INTERNET
Hong Kong cancels all typhoon signals

HONG KONG, 22 July—All typhoon signals were cancelled at 14:40 local time (6:40 GMT) on Thursday, the Hong Kong Observatory said. At 15:00 local time (7:00 GMT), typhoon Chanthu was centered about 400 km west-southwest of Hong Kong, near 21.5 degrees north and 110.4 degrees east, and is forecast to move northwest at about 14 km per hour further inland and weaken gradually.

Chanthu has made landfall over western Guangdong Province on the Chinese mainland and continues to move away from Hong Kong. However, there may still be swells locally. The Observatory advised the public to stay away from the shore line and not to engage in water sports.—Xinhua

WEATHER

Thursday, 22nd July, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain or thunderstorms have been isolated in Kayah State and Magway Division, scattered in Chin State and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in lower Sagaing and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavy falls in Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were M’ikin (3.19) inches, M’gaung (2.56) inches, M’lawlamyine (2.21) inches, M’yikyan (2.05) inches, Thaton and Paung (1.77) inches each and Homalin and K’aykpyu (1.57) inches each.

Maximum temperature on 21-7-2010 was 89°F, Minimum temperature on 22-7-2010 was 77°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 22-7-2010 was 88%. Total sunshine hours on 21-7-2010 was (Nil) .

Rainfall on 22-7-2010 was (0.52) inch at Mingaladon, (43.78) inches at Kaba-Aye and (51.65) inches at Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (37.76) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.28) inch at Central (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from South at (14:30) hours MST on 21-7-2010.

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

Forecast valid until evening of the 23rd July 2010: Rain or thunderstorms will be isolated in Kayah State and Magway Division, scattered in lower Sagaing Division, fairly widespread in Chin State and Mandalay Division and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Shan State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in M’yanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in the Coastal areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 23-7-2010: Isolated rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 23-7-2010: One or two rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 23-7-2010: Isolated rain or thunderstorms. 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

UEC Chairman meets district/township subcommissions in Shan State (East)

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July—The meeting between Chairman of Union Election Commission U Thein Soe and members of Tachileik, Mongphyat and Monghsat Township election subcommissions and ward and village-tract election subcommissions in Shan State (East) was held at Aung Myat Hall in Tachileik this evening.
The UEC chairman spoke on the occasion.
After hearing reports on electoral process presented by election subcommission members, the UEC chairman replied to the queries raised by those present and made concluding remarks. —MNA

Rural library gets new building in Twantay Township

YANGON, 22 July—A ceremony to open new building was held at Yangchithit Library in East Ayoteauxng Village in Twantay Township on 12 July.
The local authorities and Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Thet Oo formally opened it.
Secretary of Township Peace and Development Council U Thant Zin Tun and the Head of Township IPRD explained durability of the library.
At the ceremony, Township IPRD donated 150 books and journals and village elder U Sein Hla one radio for the library to officials.
The building was constructed at a cost of K2 million.

Yaybok Dam: drive for development in Hlaingbwe Township

Article & Photos: Khin Maung Than (Sethmu)

Yaybok Dam with 17720 feet long and 46 feet high embankment that can store 36,000 acre-feet of water and to irrigate 5452 acres of farmlands is under construction by damming Yaybok and Kasaiing creeks near Htilon Village of Hlaingbwe Township.

Main canal of Yaybok Dam under construction for development of Hlaingbwe Township.

With regard to Yaybok Dam, Assistant Director U Nyunt Htay explained that on completion, Yaybok Dam will irrigate 5452 acres of farmlands for cultivation of 4000 acres of proper monsoon paddy and 1452 acres of late-monsoon paddy. In the past, monocropping of monsoon paddy was grown on 4000 acres of proper monsoon farmlands. On completion, the dam will benefit 3000 acres of summer paddy, 280 acres of beans and pulses and 720 acres of edible crops through mix-cropping pattern. In addition, proper monsoon paddy was cultivated in 1452 acres of wetlands due to floods yearly. However, the agricultural task cannot be supported with rainwater after the rainy season. Therefore, the region cannot store adequate water depending on rainfalls. That is why cultivation of late monsoon paddy could not meet the achievement to a certain extent.

(See page 10)