Priority being given to emergence of national industrialists
Industrial zones established for industrial development

Prime Minister visits bulb and fluorescent lamp factory, Yangon Children’s Hospital, inspects
salvage of sunken vessels, ocean liners berthed

Prime Minister General Thein Sein views production process in bulb and fluorescent lamp factory,
Shwepyitha Industrial Zone.—MNA

Ocean liners rest at dock in Yangon harbour.—MNA

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<th>Four political objectives</th>
<th>Four economic objectives</th>
<th>Four social objectives</th>
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<td>* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well</td>
<td>* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation</td>
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<td>* National reconsolidation</td>
<td>* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system</td>
<td>* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character</td>
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<td>* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution</td>
<td>* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad</td>
<td>* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit</td>
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<td>* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution</td>
<td>* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples</td>
<td>* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation</td>
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YANGON, 5 July — Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by the director-general of Government Office and departmental heads, went to Myanmar Lighting Manufacturing Co Ltd on Hla Theingi street in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone, Shwepyitha Township this morning.

They were welcomed there by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and officials, the chairman of MLM Co Ltd and responsible persons.

At the factory hall, the Prime Minister and party heard reports on the background history of the factory, the production lines and future tasks.

U Sein Wam, Chairman of the company, gave a presentation on the products—Superlamp fluorescent lamps, bulbs and Cyclone fans of the factory, high-tech electronics and the new factory to be built. Next, U Khin Maung Soe, Chairman of Yangon City Electricity Supply Board, reported on supply of electricity and arrangement for supplying power to the new factory, and Director-General U Aung Win of Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development explained matters related to the factory building.

In response to the reports, the Prime Minister said the power generated by Hydropower Projects will be supplied to the factories in the industrial zones and the industrialists are to strive for development of firm agro-based industrial work for the economic growth of the State.

Priority is being given to emergence of national industrialists and industrial zones have also been established for industrial development. (See page 8)

Nearly cent per cent telephone lines restored in Yangon

Plan under way to repair remaining damaged telephone lines

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July — Myanma Posts and Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegrams had carried out substitution of new telephone posts and cables in the places of damaged ones caused by storm Nargis. At present, about cent per cent telephone lines in Yangon have been restored.

The special groups will repair the remaining damaged telephones as soon as possible through home visits. The subscribers who wish to repair their telephones may dial 106 and 102, and fax 01-392244 round the clock including holidays. — MNA
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Sunday, 6 July, 2008**

**Harmonious collaboration brings development to storm-hit areas**

The cyclone that occurred in Myanmar on 2 and 3 May this year brought wholesale death and destruction to some areas of Ayeyawady and Yangon divisions. However, rescue and resettlement measures gathered momentum in a short time in the storm-hit areas, resulting from the efforts of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw made in concert and contribution of national entrepreneurs.

The government managed to launch a quick start to carry out rescue tasks in the disaster-affected areas with the internal and international assistance to avert possible outbreak of infectious diseases, provide health care and fulfill the basic needs of the victims.

Now, the whole rescue and relief operation has proved successful, and resettlement and reconstruction undertakings are well under way owing to the leadership of the government and cooperation and contribution of well-wishers and national entrepreneurs. As part of the drive, durable houses with concrete post shoes and timber floors, roofed with corrugated iron sheets are being built for those who became homeless in the catastrophe.

With the assistance such as power-tillers, paddy seeds and fertilizers provided for the agricultural purpose, the whole Ayeyawady Division including the storm-affected areas had put 1.17 million acres under monsoon paddy up to 3 July. Moreover, necessary equipment is being provided for the fishery and salt farming, two major businesses for the storm-hit areas, and now they have been restored, as a result.

With the aim of ensuring development of those areas and long-term preparedness against possible future natural disasters, the government is making arrangements to construct five roads that are concentrated in townships and go to the coastal regions.

Local people, on their part, have to try to lead a normal life again with durable houses by making earnings through hard work, drawing lessons from the recent disaster.

Local residents in the areas that have come under the storm will be in a position to enjoy better social and economic conditions on the basis of the fact that the government, the people and well-wishers are engaged effectively in the rehabilitation tasks with goodwill and compassion.

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**Ministry of Industry-1 opens special sales in Meiktila**

**NAY PYI TAW, 5 July — Special sales of the Ministry of Industry-1 were opened at Kandaw Mingala Hall in Meiktila on 3 July.**

Chairman of the Organizing Committee for the sales Col Win Naung and Chairman of Meiktila District Peace and Development Council U Myint Than formally opened the special sales.

Brig-Gen Khin Maung Hay of the local station unveiled the archway of the special sales. They then visited the showrooms of the special sales.

A total of 326 kinds of products worth K 80 millions manufactured by enterprises under the Ministry of Industry-1 will be sold at the special sales from 3 to 9 July. — MNA

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**Home Affairs Ministry offers Waso robes to Sayadaws**

**NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—The Ministry of Home Affairs held the third Waso robes offering ceremony at the hall of the ministry here, this morning. State Ovadacarinya Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Chari Bhaddanta Kavirasa of Maha Withutayama Zaygon Monastery of Nay Pyi Taw Pyimmana administered the Five Precepts. Members of the Sangha recited Metta Sutta.**

**Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo and wife offered Waso robes and alms to the Sayadaw. Directors general and wives together with officials also donated Waso robes and provisions to members of the Sangha.**

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**Public continue making donations for storm victims**

**YANGON, 5 July**

Funds Collection and Distribution Sub-committee Chairman Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Colonel Hla Thein Swe accepted cash donations by wellwishers at home and abroad at Central Bank of Myanmar (Yangon Branch) here, today. Cash donations made on 2 July were K 30,000 each by Daw Nyo Nyo Han in memory of late Lt-Col Aye Myint and Daw Baby Kys and a person from Thailand through Myawaddy Relief Aid Accepting Camp, K 185,200 by the central training school of the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs in Dagon Myothat (North) Township, K 29,084,257 by Mon State Peace and Development Council, K 400,000 by Daw Khin La Pyae Wun of Bangkok Airways, K 100,000 by U Cho Cho Tun (Tamwae), K 3 million by Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation for five houses and K 2 million by U Than Tin and Daw Aye May (Thitsa Aungmyin Gold Shop) for house construction.

Today’s donations were K 300,000 by Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank, K 10,000 by U Han Min Oof Swetawgantian Street, K 600,000 by Adviser U Aung Maung and Daw Tin Tin Win for a house and K 600,000 by U Kyaw Htoo and Daw Lay Lay Nwe for a house. — MNA

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**Health care services provided in Mawlamyinegyun Township**

**YANGON, 5 July**

Under the arrangement of the Ministry of Health, health care services are being provided for the storm victims of Mawlamyinegyun Township with added momentum.

A medical team led by Assistant Director Dr Zaw Win of Leprosy Control Project of the Health Department together with local health staff made field trips to the remote areas of the township and gave medical treatments to the local people.

On 2 July, they provided health care services to children, expectant mothers and local people of Kyonlamu and Yuzana villages of the township by boat and gave talks on health knowledge to the villagers. — MNA

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**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

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Protesters rally ahead of G8 summit

SAPPORO, 5 July—Thousands of activists and farmers from around the world gathered in northern Japan Saturday for a major protest ahead of next week’s summit of the Group of Eight rich nations.

Security was tight for the rally, which brought together union activists, anti-war demonstrators, farmers and students in a park in Sapporo, the closest city to the lakeside resort of Toyako, where world leaders will meet from Monday.

Riot police wearing helmets and carrying shields patrolled the park, part of a 21,000-strong force deployed to ensure security for the summit.

Air strikes kill civilians in Afghanistan

KABUL, (Afghanistan), 5 July—The US military said air strikes by its attack helicopters hit two vehicles carrying insurgents in eastern Afghanistan. The province’s governor said 22 civilians, including a woman and a child, were killed.

A spokesman for the US-led coalition said Friday the air strikes in Nuristan province hit militants who earlier attacked a US military base with mortars.

The helicopters identified the militants’ firing positions, tracked them down and destroyed the vehicles they were traveling in, said 1st Lt Nathan Perry.

“These were combatants. These were people who were firing on us,” Perry said. “We have no reports of noncombatant injuries.”

He gave no account of casualties in the vehicles. Nuristan’s Gov, Tamim Nuristani said, however, 22 civilians were killed in the Waygal district of Nuristan province. “This afternoon (Friday), two civilian vehicles were hit by air strikes,” Nuristani said over the phone.

Among those killed was a woman and a child. All 22 dead bodies were brought to a provincial hospital, Nuristani said. Seven other people were wounded.

Earthquake shakes Russia’s Sea of Okhotsk, no casualties reported

MOSCOW, 5 July—A 6.9-magnitude earthquake jolted the region of the Sea of Okhotsk in southeast Russia on Saturday, the har-Tass news agency reported. The tremor occurred at 06:13 Moscow time (0213 GMT), the Kamchatka office of the geophysics service of the Russian Academy of Sciences said.

According to seismologists, the epicenter was at a depth of about 600 km under the seabed, 400 km west of the Kamchatka territorial center. The quake was felt in the far eastern city of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky.

Nobody was hurt, and there was no destruction, the Kamchatka territorial emergencies department said, adding that there is no tsunami threat for Kamchatka Peninsula.

Four killed in US home shooting

WASHINGTON, 5 July—Four people were shot dead in a home in Milwaukee, Wisconsin early Friday morning, police said.

The victims include two women, ages 23 and 27, and two men, ages 24 and 28, according to Anne E. Schwartz, a spokeswoman of Milwaukee Police Department.

Two other people were injured and their injuries were not life-threatening, she said.

Police said they are interviewing witnesses at the scene to try to figure out what occurred.

Around 150 people were in the area at the time of the shooting.

Police are trying to determine the number of shooters and the number of shots fired.

Japanese sailor first to cross Pacific in wave-powered boat

TOKYO, 5 July—Japanese sailor and environmentalist Kenichi Horie has completed a 110-day solo voyage across the Pacific Ocean in a boat propelled by wave power to claim another world first.

Weak waves and opposing ocean currents delayed his arrival, which was originally set for late May. “When waves were weak, the boat slowed down. That’s the problem to be solved,” the adventurer told reporters Saturday from aboard his catamaran Suntory Mermaid II off the Kii Peninsula in western Japan.

The 9.5 metre (31-foot) boat is equipped with two special fins at the front which can move like a dolphin’s tail each time the vessel rises or falls with the rhythm of the waves.

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Syria, Israel agree to hold fresh talks in July

ANKARA, 5 July—Syria and Israel have agreed to hold a fourth round of indirect talks in Turkey in late July, a Turkish Government source told Reuters on Thursday.

An official said the two countries also agreed to hold fifth and sixth rounds of talks in August. They would decide at the July meeting whether the August talks would be indirect or direct, the source said.

The third round of talks started in Istanbul on Tuesday and ended on Thursday. "The talks were constructive and the countries started talking on core issues," the source said.

The parties are negotiating over the fate of the Golan Heights, a strategic plateau which Israel occupied in a 1967 war and which Syrian wants it to return.

OFFICIALS FROM CHINA AIRLINES WAVE TO PASSENGERS ONBOARD THE FIRST CROSS-STRAIT FLIGHT OF THE DAY FROM TAIPEI TO SHANGHAI, CHINA, AT THE TAOYUAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON 4 JULY, 2008.—INTERNET

Downpours kill five, affect 600,000 in Yunnan Province

KUNMING, 5 July—Heavy rain that has drenched southwestern China since Monday has left five dead, with more than 600,000 people affected in Yunnan Province, local authorities said on Thursday.

More than 2,100 houses collapsed and 14,200 others were damaged by the rain, according to statistics tallied as of 4:00 pm on Thursday by the provincial civil affairs department. About 2,500 people were evacuated from their houses and are living in tents.

Tuesday’s rain here in the provincial capital was the third-highest volume since records began in 1951. As much as a meter of water flooded the center city after a six-hour storm on Tuesday night, swamping major thoroughfares and shops.

By Thursday afternoon, the water had been diverted except for a few low-lying neighbourhoods. Forecasters said more rain is due in most of the province in the next two days, and residents were ordered to take precautions against possible flooding.—MNA/Xinhua

Gazprom, Azerbaijani agree to talks on gas sales

MOSCOW, 5 July—Russia’s gas monopoly Gazprom and Azerbaijani gas companies have agreed to start talks on sales of Azerbaijani natural gas to Gazprom, the RIA Novosti news agencies reported Thursday.

"Azerbaijan could become one of the countries selling natural gas to Gazprom," said Gazprom CEO Alexei Miller, who accompanied Russian President Dmitry Medvedev to Azerbaijan.

Miller told reporters that the company is seeking to buy the largest possible volumes at market prices. Gazprom forecasts that Russian gas prices will reach 500 US dollars per 1,000 cubic meters by the end of 2008.

MNA/Xinhua

100 Malay literature works to be translated into eight languages

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 July—One hundred works of Malay literature will be translated into eight major world languages, local media reported on Friday.

The books would be translated into English, Portuguese, French, Chinese, Arabic, German, Japanese and Korean to boost the readership of Malay literature, Malaysian National Institute of Translation (ITNM) chief executive officer Mohd Khalir Ngadion said after a press conference here on Wednesday.

The institute started translating 30 books earlier this year after getting the green light from Malaysian Education Ministry.

One of the books, Kampung Boy, an illustrated narrative by Mohd Nor Khalid, will make its German debut at the Frankfurt book fair in October.

The book, written more than 30 years ago, has also been translated into four other languages—Portuguese, Japanese, French and English—by the institute.

The institute will work on the remaining 70 books over the next two years.

MNA/Xinhua

New draft UN treaty to streamline sea trade law

UNITED NATIONS, 5 July—A UN body on Thursday adopted a new draft convention on carriage of goods by sea that officials said would modernize and streamline existing legislation and reduce costs of international trade.

Officials said a key feature of the convention was that it covered shipping between inland centres that includes sea transport and not just between one seaport and another.

The 39-page document was approved by the UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) after a three-week session at UN headquarters in New York. It followed six years of negotiations by about 90 states.

The convention will be sent to the UN General Assembly for final adoption later this year or early next.—MNA/Reuters

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US weak on preventing passport snooping

WASHINGTON, 5 July—The US State Department’s system to prevent snooping into passport records has many weaknesses, according to a government investigation that was released on Thursday and was launched after workers improperly peeked into the files of three presidential candidates.

The State Department’s Office of Inspector General (OIG), an internal watchdog, began its probe after the disclosure in March that workers obtained unauthorized access to records of Republican Senator John McCain and Democrats Senator Barack Obama and Senator Hillary Clinton, who has since dropped out of the race.

Five contract workers have since been dismissed, four of them for looking at the candidates’ records, a State Department official told reporters.

“OIG found many control weaknesses— including a general lack of policies, procedures, guidance and training — relating to the prevention and detection of unauthorized access to passport and applicant information,” the report said.

MNA/Reuters

Israelis spray water on each other during a waterfight club event at Rabin’s square in Tel Aviv, Israel, on 4 July, 2008. About 200 people participated in the event of the Water Fight Club to open the summer vacation in Israel.—INTERNET
UNSG expects bigger role of ROK in UN peacekeeping missions

SEOUL, 5 July — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said Thursday that he hopes South Korea to play a bigger role in global peacekeeping missions.

Ban, who had worked as South Korean Foreign Minister before being elected as UN Chief, arrived in South Korea earlier in the day. It was Ban’s first visit to his homeland after taking office in UN.

“I believe now is the time for us to reciprocate to the international community. The international community also expects it from us,” he said at a meeting with South Korean soldiers who were dispatched to Lebanon.

South Korea dispatched 350 soldiers to southern Lebanon as part of UN peacekeeping forces.

Ban was to meet with South Korean President Lee Myung-bak, Foreign Minister Yu Myung-hwan during his stay in South Korea. He will also visit his rural hometown of Eumseong, North Chungcheong Province, over the weekend.

Ban will fly to Japan on Monday to attend the 7-9 July G-8 Summit.

Chinese-Russian committee discusses bilateral relations

MOSCOW, 5 July — Chinese and Russian officials in charge of the Chinese-Russian Committee of Friendship, Peace and Development met here Thursday to discuss ways to boost bilateral relations.

Visiting Chinese chair of the committee Li Guixian and his Russian counterpart, Leonid Drachevsky, summarized the recent progress, and exchanged views on how to strengthen non-governmental exchanges between the two countries. The two sides also signed the work plan of the committee for 2008.

Li, who arrived in Moscow Wednesday, is on a five-day working visit to Russia. On Thursday, he also held talks with Yevgeny Primakov, Russia’s honorary chairman of the committee. — Xinhua

Bush’s Iraq report ignored by US media

WASHINGTON, 5 July — There’s little media reaction to a new Bush Administration report outing “progress” in Iraq, US Media Research Center said Thursday.

The Administration had expected the report to be a big news Tuesday, which claimed that Iraq had made satisfactory progress on 15 of the 18 political benchmarks set by the United States. But the Media Research Centre said in a finding that there wasn’t a word about the report on the CBS Evening News, NBC Nightly News, or ABC’s World News Tonight.

The New York Times also ignored the story, and the Washington Post relegated its coverage of the report to page eight.

Malaysia, Qatar sign pact to avoid double taxation

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 July — Malaysia and Qatar signed an agreement on Thursday at Putrajaya, the administrative centre of the Malaysian Federal Government, to avoid double taxation and income tax evasion here.

Malaysian Deputy Finance Minister Ahmad Husni Mohamad Hanafiah said the agreement would strengthen bilateral ties and further expand cooperation between the two countries to other areas, such as trade and investment, education, tourism, culture and information.

After the signing of the agreement, Qatar became the 68th country that signed such an agreement with Malaysia, and the 20th country of among 57-member the Organization of Islamic Conference, which concluded such a deal with Malaysia. — Xinhua

Foreign tourists spend more money in Switzerland

GENEVA, 5 July — Foreign tourists spent a total of 14.5 billion Swiss francs (about 12.6 billion US dollars) in Switzerland in 2007, an 8 per cent rise over the previous year, eight according to government figures released on Thursday.

Of the total expenses, some 7.8 billion Swiss francs (about 7.6 billion US dollars) were spent on accommodation, a rise of more than 12 per cent, the Federal Statistics Office said.

This was good news for Swiss hotels as well as youth hostels, campgrounds and holiday homes, it said.

China’s grain output to reach 540 billion kilos by 2020

BEIJING, 5 July — China’s Cabinet on Wednesday approved a plan to ensure the country would be 95 per cent self-sufficient in grain over the next 12 years after hearing how farmers faced tremendous challenges in increasing output.

The State Council approved at an executive meeting the plan to to ensure grain output exceeds 500 billion kilogrammes until 2010, and reaches 540 billion kilos by 2020.

Sprawling industrialization and urbanization pushed up demand, while land and water shortages, as well as climate change, hurt production, the meeting, presided over by Premier Wen Jiabao, heard.

The State Council agreed the country faced grim challenges in grain security. They approved a mid to long-term plan to ensure national grain security, which would make the country more than 95 per cent self-sufficient.

Relentless efforts should be made to ensure a minimum of 120 million hectares of arable land. Agriculture infrastructure and water facilities should also be improved, the meeting was told.

Grain production subsidies would increase annually to boost farmers’ incomes, but no details were given.


Chinese tourists from Guangzhou take pictures during an honour guard changing ceremony at the Sun Yat-sen Memorial in Taipei on 4 July, 2008. — Xinhua

Buyers pick maize at an open air market in Kagemi, Kenya. Biofuels have caused world food prices to increase by 75 percent, according to the findings of an unpublished World Bank report published in The Guardian newspaper on Friday. — Xinhua

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China warns of “empty talk” before G-8 meet

BEIJING, 5 July — China said it is open to general discussion of longer-term goals and industrial targets to combat global warming at the G-8 summit, but fended off talk of any specific pledges, stressing rich nations should lead the way.

Despite its growing economic and diplomatic clout, China is not a member of the Group of Eight industrialized countries whose leaders meet in northern Japan next week.

But Chinese President Hu Jintao is attending the talks around the G-8 gathering, and his country is sure to be the focus of many issues, including climate change and economic policy.

The G-8 countries have been discussing among themselves whether to take on the medium-term targets, with China and other developing countries saying rich nations should make big cuts in the next few decades.

The G-8 countries have been discussing among themselves whether to take on the medium-term targets, with China and other developing countries saying rich nations should make big cuts in the next few decades.

A senior official in charge of steering China’s climate change policy told a news conference on Thursday that his government was open to discussing longer-term commitments, and Tokyo’s proposals for emissions goals for specific industries.

Three in robbery gang shot dead in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 July — Three foreigners believed to be members of a robbery gang were shot dead in a rubber plantation in Sibu, Malaysian eastern Sarawak state on Thursday, local media reported on Friday.

The three, in their 20s and 30s, had charged at 18 policemen with parang and a home made .38 calibre pistol during a raid by police.

The police team fired several warning shots but were forced to fire at the three as they continued their charge, District police chief Shafie Ismail said.

The gang was believed to have been involved in a series of armed robberies around Sibu since 26 June, Shafie said.

Cyprus approves EU reform treaty, communists oppose

NICOSIA, 5 July — Cyprus’s Parliament on Thursday ratified the European Union’s reform treaty despite opposition from the ruling communists, who had dismissed it as pandering to big-business at the expense of ordinary people.

The Lisbon Treaty, designed to streamline the 27-member bloc’s institutions after the accession of central and eastern European countries in 2004, was rejected by Irish voters in a referendum last month. But the vote did not sway other members from forging ahead with ratification plans.

In Nicosia, 31 members of the 56 seat Parliament approved the pact. Seventeen members of AKEL, the communist party which won presidential elections in February, opposed it.

“This (treaty) contains rules which protect the few to the detriment of many,” Pambis Kyritsis, a senior communist party which won presidential elections in February, opposed it.

China’s armed police demonstrate a rapid deployment during an anti-terrorist drill held in Jinan, east China, on 2 July, 2008, roughly one month ahead of the Beijing Olympic Games.—XINHUA
Goodbye, 1990 election results!

It is common knowledge that 92.48 per cent of more than 27 million eligible voters of the nation cast ‘yes’ vote for the State Constitution (2008).

In this regard, I would like to put NLD members a question “Well, how is that?” The political trick they have made repeatedly that they have gained the public mandate with the intention of seizing power under the pretext of 1990 election results has gone down the drain due to the desire of the people. The government made them an offer to draw a constitution together. However, they did decline the offer, and in response, they issued Gandhi declaration that said that the first priority was handing over power, and the second priority, drawing a constitution, adding that they would temporarily exercise the constitution NLD had written to hold a Pyithu Hluttaw (parliament) session.

They also said that the drawing of a constitution deserved the second priority. However, they also claimed that they would hold a Pyithu Hluttaw session with the constitution the party had written. That made it clear they were deceiving Myanmar people, giving them an enticement of a sham democracy. They gave it clear they were deceiving Myanmar people, giving with the constitution the party had written. That made it possible to hold a dialogue with the government.

NLD attended the National Convention that was launched in 1993, and participated in the proceedings of laying down some fundamental principles and detailed basic principles for drawing a constitution. Witnessing National Convention delegates were working together in the interests of the nation, the entire people welcomed their efforts.

However, they walked out of the National Convention on 30 November 1995, criticizing with negative views the National Convention proceedings and the ratio of NC delegates, for which they themselves had participated in the discussions, giving an excuse that they were not allowed to hold a dialogue with the government.

In the meantime, the woman who was the former party general secretary challenged the government to choose either dialogue or utter devastation. And she staged roadside talks over the weekends in which she spoke ill of and made an accusation against the government. In collusion with some of her western masters, she called for international tourists not to visit Myanmar but to ostracize the country in order to put the international community not to recognize it. A person said to be the NLD’s spokesman in an interview with the BBC said that the NLD will not recognize any elections, asserting that it will stick to implementing the results of the 1990 election.

As a matter of fact, their chronic diseases of sticking to the result of the 1990 election is so severe that even well-known physicians would be virtually impossible to find a cure. And it is sure that they would finally meet their end of such kind of the disease. At present also, their persistence of coming to power is in such a position that their ailment cannot be cured by modern medicines even when the Constitution (2008) has been approved by 92.48 per cent of the people in the referendum.

Nowadays, the result of the 1990 election is no longer legal as it has been ditched by the entire people who are desirous of the emergence of a new modern developed democratic nation. This being so, the NLD’s better join hands with the people and then stand for the 2010 election in line with the laws instead of longing for the result of the 1990 election.

(Translation: MS + TS)

Thabaung Township honours outstanding students

Nay Pyi Taw, 5 July—The fourth ceremony to award the outstanding students of Thabaung Township for 2007-2008 academic year took place at the basic education high school in Hlaygyitet village in the township this morning. It was organized by Secretariat Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Central) Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaug.

Managing Director of Myanma Paper and Chemical Enterprise U Nyunt Aung addressed the ceremony. On behalf of the minister, the managing director presented gifts to 13 teachers whose outstanding performances helped 31 students win distinctions through the township education officer; the chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council, to nine outstanding ninth standard students; general managers, factory managers, Township Education Officer Htaw Palawt Phaw, the secretary of the Township USDA and officials, to outstanding students.

At the ceremony, certificates of honour and K 1,144,000 were presented to the students.—MNA
Priority being given to emergence of national...

(from page 1)

By opening technical universities, the State is making efforts for producing the needed intelligentsia in the industrial sectors.

In addition, the industrialists are to redouble their efforts for keeping abreast of all the latest industrial developments, he said.

The Prime Minister urged them to produce high-quality and low price items for domestic and global markets.

Next, the Prime Minister inspected display of Superlamp fluorescent lamps, bulbs, Cyclone fans and electronics and quality differences between home-made lamps and foreign-produced ones.

The Prime Minister and party viewed production process of lamps and bulbs, and quality control process of the produced items. They observed production of Superlamp bulbs, 100-watt bulbs, Cyclone fans and other lamp accessories. The chairman and responsible persons of the company conducted the Prime Minister and party around the plant.

The Myanmar Lighting Manufacturing Co Ltd could produce only 400 fluorescent lamps per hour in 2000. The production was the 7 per cent of market demands. Import of machines for fluorescent lamp and accessories, production from the Republic of Korea and sending of the staff there to attend the technical training course resulted in production of Cyclone fans in August 2004, conductors and lead wires in April 2006.

Now, 2400 Superlamp fluorescent tubes can be produced per hour and annual output is over 11 million.

On arrival at Yangon Children’s Hospital in Dagon Township, the Prime Minister and party were welcomed by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, departmental officials, Medical Superintendent Dr Aung Kyi Win and hospital staff. At the meeting hall, the medical superintendent reported on background history of the hospital, the project for construction of extended hospital building, the formation of the committee for the project and cash donations by public wellwishers and estimated cost of the project.

The health minister gave a supplementary report. Next, the Prime Minister gave necessary instructions saying that in providing public health care, treatment alone is not enough and health education and talks are to be given right down to rural villages for disease prevention and keeping oneself fit and healthy. He then fulfilled the requirements.

Nyan Tun Aung and officials.

At the meeting hall, the minister reported on loss and damages in water transport enterprise due to the storm, carrying out of rehabilitation work, salvaging of sunken ships in the waterway of Yangon River, repairs of damaged jetties, running of watercraft, transporting of relief items by departmental watercraft, sending hospital ships, implementation of water transport enterprise to full capacity and requirements. Giving instructions, the Prime Minister stressed the need of seeking ways to salvage the sunken ships in a short time in cooperation with experts and private entrepreneurs and of ensuring that the ships that were washed ashore are to be reused only after they have been checked whether they are safe.

On board Balaraiza Vessel at Nanthidar Jetty in Seikkan Township, the Prime Minister was briefed by Deputy Minister Col Maj-Gen Thein Swe on the location of the sunken ships during the storm with the help of maps.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party in a watercraft inspected repairs of the damaged jetties, salvaging of the sunken ships, repairs of the ships and running of passenger and cargo ships and arrivals of international vessels.

In the afternoon, the Prime Minister and party arrived back at Nanthidar Jetty.

MNA
Commander attends work competition prize presenting ceremony of All Bus Lines Control Committee.

YANGON, 5 July—All Bus Lines Control Committee (Yangon) held a ceremony to present work competition prize and work efficiency prize for 2007-2008 financial year at its Head Office on Laydauntakan Street in Tamway Township this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint.

In his speech, the Commander said that Yangon Division PDC is putting emphasis on safe and smooth transport for the passengers, that All Bus Lines Control Committee at different levels, bus owners, drivers and conductors are to abide by traffic rules and make concerted efforts for safety of the passengers.

Next, the Commander gave prizes to the Head Office and respective departments of the committee and Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun and officials gave prizes to prize winners and the ceremony came to a close. The total amount of the work competition prizes was K 80 million and the total cash amount was 140 million.—MNA

Information Minister attends third-week rainy season tree planting ceremony for 2008

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attended the third-week rainy season tree planting ceremony for 2008 at the Ministry of Information and its environs, here, this morning.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan planted a neem sapling to mark the ceremony.

Next, Managing Director U Soe Win of News and Periodicals Enterprise and Managing Director U Aung Nyein of Printing and Publishing Enterprise grew neem trees.

Afterwards, the minister viewed participation of staff of departments and enterprises under the ministry in the tree planting ceremony. After inspecting flowery plants and seasonal crops, flow of water into the dams and breeding of fish, the minister gave necessary instructions to officials.

The Ministry of Information held the third-week rainy season tree planting ceremony by growing 300 saplings at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw, 1,600 saplings at Myanmar Radio and Television in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon, 400 saplings at Nay Pyi Taw Newspaper House in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon and 525 saplings at Nay Pyi Taw Printing Press in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon, totaling 2,825.

The ministry plans to hold the tree planting ceremonies and to grow trees in vacant and virgin lands for greening and beautifying of environs. The remaining trees will be grown at the designated places during July.—MNA

Discussion on regenerating of farming industry held

YANGON, 5 July—Concerning regenerating of farming industry in storm-affected areas, Korea Rural Community and Irrigation Corporation (KRC) of the Republic of Korea and Myanmar Daewoo International Corporation held a discussion at Irrigation Department in Yangon yesterday evening.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo explained repair of embankments. Next, Deputy Director-General of Irrigation Department U Hla Baw elaborated on existence of embankments in Ayeyawady Divisions, repair of embankments with machinery and labor, cultivation progress and KRC reported on works to be carried out in rebuilding embankments.

Next, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Mr Park Key Chong explained assistance of the Republic of Korea to storm-hit areas.

Myanmar Daewoo International Corporation discussed investment to be made in farming industry in States and Divisions.

Shweli-Mansan-Shwesayan power grid project inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Deputy Minister for Electric Power No.2 Brig-Gen Win Myint attended the coordination meeting on implementation of Mansan-Shwesayan section of Power Supply Project (Northern) Shweli-Mansan-Shwesayan 230 KV power grid project on 30 June.

He called for timely completion of the works and fulfilled the needs.

Vice-Mayor inspects tax-free markets

YANGON, 5 July—Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Colonel Maung Pa looked into tax-free markets in Thirimangalar road in Hlinethaya and Kamayut Townships this morning.

At the meeting hall of Hanthawady tax-free market, he met with rice dealers.
Donations invited for storm survivors

YANGON, 5 July—Rehabilitation is under way for local people in storm-hit regions who have lost their property in the storm. In that regard, well-wishers are invited to make donations for the following items individually or in groups in cooperation with the government at the donations accepting supervisory committee at the Fire Services Department (Head Office) here.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Per unit price (in kyat)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. House</td>
<td>K 600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. 21-foot fishing boat</td>
<td>K 400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(with engine)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. 21-foot fishing boat</td>
<td>K 200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(without engine)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Power-tiller</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a) Leya-16</td>
<td>K 1,090,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Leya-22</td>
<td>K 1,550,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Ayeya-1</td>
<td>K 1,128,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. A bag of fertilizer</td>
<td>K 18,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commander inspects Thasi Dam in Monywa Township

YANGON, 5 July—Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Myint Soe, accompanied by officials arrived at Thasi Dam in Monywa Township on 3 July.

The commander heard reports on supply of water for agriculture purpose and matters related to the dam presented by officials.

After attending to the needs, the commander viewed the dam. — MNA

More relief supplies arrive

YANGON, 5 July—Relief supplies donated by international community to storm-affected regions are being delivered to the nation. Altogether 9.65 tons of relief aid donated by Thailand-based World Food Programme (WFP) arrived at Yangon International Airport today. — MNA
Developed, developing nations need coop on global challenges

BEIJING, 5 July — A senior Chinese diplomat on Thursday urged developed and developing countries to work on common policies and cooperation to address the global challenges such as climate change and food security.

“China values dialogue between the Group of Eight (G-8) and developing countries”, Assistant Foreign Minister Liu Jieyi said at a briefing on President Hu Jintao’s attendance at the Outreach Session of the G-8 Summit in Japan from 7 to 9 July. The G-8, comprising the United States, Britain, Germany, Canada, France, Italy, Japan and Russia, holds a summit each year.

Liu said the issues to be discussed would promote the dialogue between South and North, step up multilateral cooperation to resolve global issues and ensure lasting peace and common prosperity.

Liu said China had been cementing dialogue and exchanges with the G-8, citing the fact that Hu had participated in the past four dialogues among leaders of the G-8 countries and developing countries.—MNA/Xinhua

Panama says no to US military base

PANAMA CITY, 5 July— Panama has ruled out hosting a US military base to replace one in Ecuador which is being reclaimed by the Quito government, a senior Panamanian official said on Friday.

Panama — along with Peru and Colombia — had been tipped as a possible site to replace the Manta air base in western Ecuador, a key strategic asset in Washington’s campaign to stop Latin American countries from allowing the United States made the establishment of new bases impossible.

“This will be neither bases nor installations (in Panama),” Delgado told Reuters.

Although Panama has close ties with the United States, the Central American country has enjoyed full sovereignty only since Washington handed over control of the US-built Panama Canal and its surrounding land and military bases at the end of 1999.—MNA/Reuters

Bush’s Independence Day speech interrupted by protesters

WASHINGTON, 5 July— Anti-war protesters repeatedly interrupted US President George W. Bush’s Independence Day speech Friday in Charlottesville, Virginia, ABC News reported.

As Bush started speaking at the naturalization ceremony welcoming new citizens at Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson, one of the country’s Founding Fathers, a group of anti-war protesters began shouting at him, calling him a “war criminal”.

The President paused in his remarks and then responded, “To my fellow citizens, we believe in free speech in the United States of America.

One woman moved towards the stage before being stopped by security, but other protesters still made their voices heard.

Only minutes later, another protester shouted expletives at Bush, while still another called him “a fascist”.

By the time Bush finished his 10-minute remarks, at least nine protesters had been taken away from the event by police.

In the speech, there is no word on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, he only thanked US troops for their service to the nation.

In the afternoon, Bush returned to the White House to celebrate Independence Day, a holiday which falls right at the start of his birthday weekend. Bush turns 62 on Sunday.

—MNA/Xinhua

Castro happy with rescue of former Colombian candidate

HAVANA, 5 July— Former Cuban leader Fidel Castro said Friday that he was happy with the rescue of former Colombian presidential candidate Ingrid Betancourt and other hostages held by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC).

“For elemental feelings toward the humanity, we are happy with the news,” Castro told the local Press.

“Civilians never should have been kidnapped, nor kept as hostages in the conditions of the jungle,” Castro said, adding that the rescue opened a new chapter of peace process in Colombia that Cuba has supported for more than 20 years.

Betancourt was rescued Wednesday by Colombian Army with US citizens Thomas Howes, Marc Gonsalves and Keith Stansall and 11 Colombian soldiers in the country’s southeastern jungle province of Guaviare.

Girl killed, ten wounded in Pakistan blast

QUETTA, 5 July— A bomb planted on a motorcycle exploded on Friday outside a bank in the Pakistani city of Quetta, capital of gas-rich Baluchistan Province, killing a girl and wounding 10 people, police said.

There was no claim of responsibility but separatist insurgents in Pakistan’s western province of Baluchistan have been fighting for control of its gas resources for years.

“The girl was a beggar, she succumbed to her wounds during surgery in hospital,” said city police chief Mohammad Akbar.

Baluchistan is Pakistan’s poorest province and many of its people say they do not get a fair share of the profits from its resources.

French DNA students murdered in “horrendous” attack

LONDON, 5 July— Two French DNA research students were tied up, repeatedly stabbed and left in a burning flat in an attack described by one senior detective on Thursday as the most shocking he had ever seen.

The bodies of Laurent Bonomo and Gabriel Ferez, both 23, were found in a house in southeast London after neighbours heard an explosion and saw a man running from the scene.

The Metropolitan Police said the biochemistry students working on a DNA project were covered with stab wounds all over their bodies.

The friends were dead before the fire started at Bonomo’s rented flat in New Cross late on Sunday.

“The extent of their injuries was horrific,” said Detective Chief Inspector Mick Duthie. “ Everyone working on this case has been deeply shocked by what they’ve seen. I’ve never seen injuries like this throughout my career.”-—MNA/Reuters

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CLAIRNS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TAMPA VOY NO (+)

Signees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPA VOY NO (+) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.7.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.F.E. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon. Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now due on Tuesday 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: ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
PTE LTD
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Three dead, eight missing in Slovenian boat accident
LJUBLJANA, 5 July — At least three people died and eight were missing after two boats capsizled on the River Sava in Slovenia on Thursday, police said.

“Three people are dead, another three were taken to the hospital and eight are still missing,” police spokesman Drago Menegalija told Reuters.

Slovenian media reported that only one of the three taken to hospital had survived, raising the death toll to at least five.

The two boats, with 14 people aboard, turned over because of strong currents close to the site of the hydropower plant Blanca, still under construction at a point on the Sava some 100 kilometres (60 miles) southeast of the capital Ljubljana.

According to Slovenian media one of the missing was Kristijan Janc, a member of Parliament and mayor of the city of Sevnica, who organized the pleasure trip.

Two other boats avoided the disaster by stopping before the site of the power plant. Most people on the boats wore no lifejackets. — MNA/Reuters

Pakistani agents arrest five, say foil suicide attacks
LAHORE (Pakistan), 5 July — At least five Pakistani security agents have arrested five militants who were plotting suicide attacks in revenge for an offensive against pro-Taliban militants, a security official said.

The suspects were seized with suicide-bomb jackets, explosives and weapons in a raid in the eastern city of Lahore on Tuesday night, a security official said, days after security forces launched a sweep in the northwestern region of Khyber.

Officials of the country’s two main intelligence agencies said the arrested men were members of the banned Lashkar-e-Islam militant group, the target of security forces in the sweep launched in the Khyber region on the Afghan border on Saturday.

“They came here soon after the security forces launched the sweep,” an official in Lahore said. “They planned to target law enforcement agency installations and officials in reaction to it,” a security official, who declined to be identified, said on Thursday. — MNA/Reuters

Rocket from Gaza lands in southern Israel
JERUSALEM, 5 July — A rocket fired from the Gaza Strip landed in southern Israel on Thursday, putting further strain on a fragile ceasefire deal in the Hamas-controlled territory.

An Israeli army spokesman said the rocket landed in an open field near the Gaza border town of Sderot and caused no casualties.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the rocket fire, the sixth such attack since an Egyptian-brokered ceasefire took effect on 19 June.

Israel has responded to previous rocket salvos by closing border crossings used to bring supplies into the Gaza Strip, which Hamas Islamists seized from President Mahmoud Abbas’s more secular Fatah forces a year ago.

The crossings were closed on Tuesday following a similar rocket attack. They reopened on Wednesday. — MNA/Reuters

Two people die in helicopter crash in Slovakia
BRATISLAVA, 5 July — Two people died and another was severely injured in a crash of a private helicopter near Banska Bystrica, Central Slovakia, the Czech news agency CTK said on Thursday.

The Mi-8 helicopter of the Tech-Mont Helicopter company from the airport in Spisska Nova Ves, east Slovakia, transporting timber from an inaccessible region for the state-owned Slovak Lesy forestry company, CTK said.

Although the cause of the accident is not yet known, the helicopter had problems immediately after the take-off, company employees said.

The injured man has been taken to hospital and has undergone an operation. His condition is stabilized, according to doctors, CTK reported.

The last helicopter accident in Slovakia occurred at the beginning of 2006 when an Air Transport Europe Poprad (ATE) emergency medical service helicopter crashed. All three members of the crew died. — MNA/Xinhua

China, Thailand sign on agri produce in Guangzhou
GUANGZHOU, 5 July — Thai Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej on Wednesday signed contracts with China worth 400 million US dollars in Guangzhou, capital of southern China’s Guangdong province.

They included deals for two Chinese enterprises to import 280 million US dollars worth of rubber and 140 million US dollars worth of fruit from Thailand.

Samak said at the signing ceremony that Thailand would work to expand the export of agricultural products to China and welcome China’s agricultural produce to Thailand.

The China-ASEAN trade agreements had played a great role in Thailand-China economic and trade relations, Samak said.

Samak also visited the Jiangnan fruit wholesale market, the largest fruit and vegetable wholesale market in China, on Wednesday morning.

General manager Ye Caijiang said the market imported Thai fruit worth more than 2.5 billion US dollars every year.

Samak tasted Thai longan, then picked some mangosteens and durians, cutting them open and sharing them with Chinese merchants.

He asked the Chinese merchants about their specific needs.

Samak said he was “very optimistic” about the prospect of Thai fruit in the Chinese market.

Thailand would try its best to ensure the quality of the export produce.

The governor of Guangdong, Huang Huahua, met with Samak on Wednesday evening, and pledged closer economic ties with Thailand.

Samak said Thailand welcomed Guangdong enterprises to come and invest, saying the Thai consulate in Guangzhou would be further expanded in order to meet the needs of increasing bilateral cooperation. — MNA/Xinhua

Cos allow to build solar power plants on public lands
LOS ANGELES, 5 July — California has lifted a ban forbidding companies to build huge solar power plants on public lands, the San Jose Mercury News reported on Thursday.

Under a new ordinance by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), companies planning to build solar plants will be able to file new applications to use federal lands, according to the news paper.

The BLM had imposed a two-year moratorium on new land claims in May, but once that decision became public last week it ignited a controversy with companies fearing it would harm a burgeoning industry hoping to capitalize on the growing need for renewable energy sources.

Executives from the local Acura and Oakland’s BrightSource Energy, which is planning to build solar-thermal power plants in California and elsewhere in the West, suggested the BLM’s moratorium might halt progress.

So far, about 125 solar projects requesting rights of way on more than one million acres of federal lands have been filed. Holly Gordon, Acura’s vice president of legislative and regulatory affairs, characterized the BLM’s reversal as “welcome news”.

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Alzheimer’s less likely for men over 90 than women
WASHINGTON, 5 July — Men are much less likely than women to live into their 90s, but those who do have a much lower chance of having Alzheimer’s disease or another form of dementia, US researchers said on Wednesday.

In a study involving 911 people age 90 and older, 28 per cent of the men and 45 per cent of the women had some type of dementia. Alzheimer’s disease is the most common form of dementia in the elderly, and vascular dementia — loss of brain function thanks to a series of small strokes — is second.

While dementia rates remained stable for men through their 90s, they climbed in women, to 27 per cent of the women aged 90 to 91 and 71 per cent of women aged 98 to 99.

“This difference in prevalence — basically how many people have the disease at any given time — may be because women may live longer once they get diagnosed with dementia than men,” said Maria Corrada of the University of California at Irvine, who led the study, said in a telephone interview. Another possibility noted by the researchers was that relatively few men live to age 90 and beyond, and those who do may be hardy “survivors” with fewer risk factors for dementia.

Experts predict a worldwide surge in dementia cases in the coming decades as populations in many countries age.

More Chinese students eye British universities
BEIJING, 5 July — The number of Chinese student visa applications to Britain in the first quarter of this year increased by 65 per cent over the same period of 2007, an official source at the British Embassy in China told Xinhua on Wednesday.

“From January to March this year, among all the 3,521 student visa applications, 1,628 visas were granted, accounting for 46 per cent of the total applications,” said Ren Donghua, a Press officer at the embassy.

Official figures from UNESCO’s World Heritage Committee, due to decide during their on-going meeting in Quebec, whether to include the “Rhaetian Railway and the Albula/Bernina Landscape” in the summer 2008 World Heritage List, however, show that out of the 29,202 applications in 2007, about 70 percent or 23,000 visas were granted in China.

Despite a lower rate of granting, there are likely to be more Chinese students applying to study in Britain in 2008 based on the first quarter’s application statistics.

The continuing rise in the number of Chinese students studying in Britain is mainly because of the latter’s mature education system, wide range of universities available and globally recognized degree certificates, analysts said. — MNA/Xinhua

Tumour-starving pill helps thyroid cancer
WASHINGTON, 5 July — Amgen’s once-a-day pill to starve tumors can help many patients with hard-to-treat thyroid cancer, either by shrinking tumors or slowing their growth, researchers reported on Wednesday.

And they found a marker — a genetic clue — that showed which patients were the most likely to be helped. This could offer a step to more tailored treatments, the researchers reported in the New England Journal of Medicine.

They said 49 per cent of patients with advanced thyroid cancer responded to the pill, known as AMG 706 or motesanib diphosphate.

Of these, 14 per cent saw their tumors shrink, and tumors did not grow for more than 24 weeks among 35 per cent. On average, patients gained 40 weeks during which their cancer did not worsen.

Dengue fever a lesser concern this year in Cambodia
PHNOM PENH, 5 July — Dengue, the mosquito-borne illness that claimed the lives of more than 400 Cambodian children, has proven to be less of a menace so far this year, English-Khmer language newspaper the Cambodian Daily said Friday.

From January through May 2008, Cambodia has seen 2,156 cases of the virus and 23 deaths, Ngan Chantha, national dengue programme manager at Ministry of Health, told the paper. That compares to 20,836 cases and 256 deaths in the same period of time last year, it added.

“Now, it is quite better if compared to last year,” said Chantha. While nearly every province was affected in 2007, this year’s outbreaks have been more isolated, and cases have also been linked to a different strain of the virus, he said. Chantha attributed this year’s improved outlook to increased health awareness and prevention efforts after last year’s epidemic, which was the worst in nearly a decade and led to some 40,000 cases overall in Cambodia. — MNA/Xinhua

Google in deal with Brazil to fight child porn
BRASIL, 5 July — Internet search company Google signed an agreement with Brazilian public prosecutors on Wednesday to help combat child pornography on its social networking site Orkut, an accord that the company believes is the first of its kind internationally.

Under the agreement, Google will use filters to remove and prevent illegal content on Orkut, which has about half its users in Brazil. The company will also facilitate evidence gathering under judicial order in suspected crimes against children and teenagers on Orkut without the need for international legal accords. Google will also preserve for six months access logs of users being investigated for illegal conduct.

Google said it was the first such agreement that the company had signed and the firm believes it is the first internationally. Alexandre Hohagen, president of Google in Brazil, told a congressional committee, “It’s an historic day not only for Brazil but for the Internet in the entire world.” — MNA/Reuters
**SPORTS**

**Venus Williams, queen of Wimbledon**

**LONDON, 5 July** — Williams has won the fifth Wimbledon championship of her career. She beat her younger sister Serena, the match favourite, in two sets 7-6, 6-4. Venus Williams outfit younger sister Serena to claim her fifth Wimbledon crown in exhilarating fashion here on Saturday. The defending champion recovered from a whirlwind start by her younger sister to land her seventh Grand Slam title courtesy of a 7-5, 6-4 win. Venus paid tribute to the performance of Serena, who had looked as if she might blast her big sister off court in the opening games. The quality of the meeting dispelled any suggestion that the two siblings were incapable or unwilling to produce their best tennis against each other.

But Venus admitted she never found it easy to take on Serena, who comfortably won their previous Wimbledon finals, in 2002 and 2003.

**Shuettler into semis after epic match**

**LONDON, 5 July** — German Rainer Schuettler grabbed the last Wimbledon men’s semi-final spot on Thursday with a dogged 6-3, 5-7, 7-6, 6-7, 8-6 win over France’s Arnaud Clément in a match lasting more than five hours.

“I don’t know how, but I won it,” a delighted Schuettler told a news conference. “It could have gone over France’s Arnaud Clément in a match lasting more than five hours.

The two former Australian Open runners-up returned to the court after sharing the first two sets on Wednesday when bad light halted play and they faced two rain interruptions the next day. — **MNA/Reuters**

**ACROSS**

7 Church officer
8 Joked
10 Wasting away
11 Depart
12 Ship’s company
13 Sweeters
17 Very salt water
18 Operatic melody
22 Hidden stock
23 Gemstone
24 Contrivance
25 English river

**Venus Williams has won the fifth Wimbledon championship of her career.**

**INTERNET**

**Barca report increased earnings despite lack of trophies**

**MADRID, 5 July** — Barcelona reported earnings of 308.8 million euros (484.8 million US dollars) for the 2007-08 season on Friday despite failing to win any major trophies for the second season in a row.

Figures published on the Catalan club’s website (www.fcbarcelona.com) said income had grown 18.7 million euros on the previous year’s figure to give a net profit of 10.1 million euros.

It said growth had been achieved because of the recovery of licensing rights for merchandising and a new television contract.

Barcelona vice-president Ferran Soriano said the club’s economic model had proven to be “a robust one that has coped with both victories and defeats”.

“Barca is a solid, solvent, secure and competitive entity,” he said.

Soriano reported that bank debts had been reduced from 39.8 million euros to 13.6 million, while the club’s total debt had been reduced from 218 million euros to 190 million. “It is a level of debt that a business like this can consider as a healthy debt,” he said.

Soriano said that although new coach Pep Guardiola had made it clear striker Samuel Eto’o and Brazilian forward Ronaldinho did not feature in his plans for next season, the club would not sell the players unless they were offered a good price. “We will only sell if the prices are right for the market. If we can’t sell them for what we want then they won’t be leaving.”

He said Portugal midfielder Deco had not been under-priced when he was sold to Chelsea for 10 million euros. — **MNA/Reuters**

**Fluminense furious as rivals make fun of final loss**

**RIO DE JANEIRO, 5 July** — Libertadores Cup runners-up Fluminense failed to see the funny side on Friday after their final defeat to LDU was publicly celebrated by local rivals Flamengo.

Fluminense won the second leg of the two-leg tie 3-1 on Wednesday for a 5-5 aggregate draw but LDU won the penalty shootout to become the first Ecuadorian side to win the tournament. Thiago Neves, who scored a hat-trick for Fluminense, was furious after Flamengo’s players joked and shouted the names of LDU players during an open training session.

Neves remembered that Flamengo suffered a humiliating exit at the same tournament in the second round when they lost 3-0 at home to Mexico’s America after winning the first leg 4-2.

**INTERNET**

**Peru slash bans on Farfan and Pizarro**

**LIMA, 5 July** — Peru have slashed 18-month international bans on forwards Claudio Pizarro and Jefferson Farfan and defender Santiago Acasiete, freeing the trio to play for their country almost immediately.

However, a fourth player, striker Andres Mendoza, will have to serve his full ban, the Peruvian Football Federation (FPF) said in a statement. The FPF said its disciplinary commission had reduced the bans on Pizarro, Farfan and Acasiete to three months, backdated to start on 7 April. — **MNA/Reuters**

**CROSSWORDS PUZZLE**

**DOWN**

1 Loan
2 Cross-country runner
3 Two-seater car
4 Instrument for blowing up fire
5 Wander
6 Indolent person
9 Onlooker
14 Foretell
15 Arched passage-ways
16 Place of disembarkation
19 Of dubious honesty
20 Artillery salute
21 Yielded to another

**INTERNET**

**Switzerland’s Roger Federer right, waits at the net to shake the hand of Russia’s Marat Safin after their semifinal match on the Centre Court at Wimbledon, on 4 July , 2008.**

**Bjorkman sets up final goodbye, Bryans go out**

**LONDON, 5 July** — In his last All England Club campaign, Jonas Bjorkman and partner Kevin Ullyett sent top seeds Bob and Mike Bryan crashing out of Wimbledon to reach the men’s doubles final on Thursday.

Seeded eighth, Bjorkman of Sweden and Zimbabwe’s Ullyett ended the American brothers’ hopes of a fourth consecutive Wimbledon doubles final, winning 7-6, 5-7, 7-6, 7-6.

The Bryans, who won at Wimbledon in 2006 and were runners-up in 2007 and 2005, fought back from one set down but were later undone by their opponents’ tidy serve-and-volley play.

Strong service games took the third and fourth sets to tiebreaks and following two rain interruptions the players resumed with the Bryan brothers serving to stay in the match.

They saved the first two match points but a Bjorkman smash set up a third and this time he and Ullyett made sure. — **MNA/Reuters**
Stampede kills six at India festival

NEW DELHI, 5 July—
Six people were killed and 20 injured in a stampede during the annual Rath Yatra (chariot festival) in Puri city of the eastern Indian state of Orissa Friday morning, according to NDTV Friday afternoon.

More than one million devotees gathered in the city to see idols of three Hindu deities which were taken out in a procession as part of the 11-day annual festival which began on Monday despite flooding in the region.

The deities are Jagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra. Every year, the three deities are taken from this 12th century Jagannath temple, some 56 kilometres from state capital Bhubaneswar to another shrine called Gundicha in the same town.

The annual procession is a celebration of Jagannath’s journey from Dwarka to Kurukshetra along with Subhadra and Balabhadra some 5,000 years ago.

New West Nile virus strain may worsen US epidemic

WASHINGTON, 5 July—
A new strain of West Nile virus is spreading better and earlier across the United States, and may thrive in hot American summers, researchers said on Thursday.

The virus infected an estimated 175,000 people last year, but two drugs, in a class known generically as oseltamivir, may have been linked with some suicides.

They said their study was the first head-to-head comparison in children of the two drugs, in a class known as neuraminidase inhibitors.

The issue is important in Japan, where the drugs are heavily used and where doctors are still trying to determine if Roche’s Tamiflu, known generically as zanamivir, for children.

Doctors can feel free to prescribe them.

The mosquito-borne virus caused an estimated 35,000 cases of fever, was reported to have killed 117 people and caused serious disease like encephalitis and meningitis in 1,227 people in 2007, the CDC reported.

Two flu drugs help kids equally well

WASHINGTON, 5 July—
Two rival flu drugs, Tamiflu and Relenza, made by GlaxoSmithKline and known generically as oseltamivir, may be equally well to fight the symptoms of influenza in kids.

The mosquito-borne virus caused an estimated 35,000 cases of fever, was reported to have killed 117 people and caused serious disease like encephalitis and meningitis in 1,227 people in 2007, the CDC reported.

Social workers carry a woman to a district hospital, injured in a stampede at the Rath Yatra, or Charriot Procession, in Puri, about 60 kilometers (40 miles) from Bhubaneswar, India, on 4 July, 2008. Police say at least six Hindu worshippers have died in a stampede in eastern India as a crowd of pilgrims rushed toward the statue of a godess.—INTERNET

Flood Bulletin
(Edited at 12:30 hr MST on 5-7-2008)
According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Chindwin River at Hkamti is (1378) cm. It may exceed its danger level (2900) cm during the next (28) hours commencing noon today.

Flood Warning
(Edited at 12:30 hr MST on 5-7-2008)
According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Chindwin River at Homalin is (2819) cm. It may exceed its danger level (2900) cm during the next (24) hours commencing noon today.

WEATHER

Saturday, 5 July, 2008
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:
During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin State, lower Sagain Division, scattered in Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagain Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavy falls in Kayah and Rakhine States, upper Sagain and Taninthayi Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.27) inch, Hakamti (6.85) inches, Maungdaw (3.89) inches, Machanbaw (3.86) inches, Dawei (3.03) inches, Gwa (2.56) inches, Myeik (2.44) inches, Homalin (2.24) inches, Coco island (2.20) inches and Sittwe (2.13) inches.

The mosquito-borne virus caused an estimated 35,000 cases of fever, was reported to have killed 117 people and caused serious disease like encephalitis and meningitis in 1,227 people in 2007, the CDC reported.

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Make donations to the storm victims
- Everybody may make donations freely.
- Everybody may make donations to any person or any area.

However, wellwishers are urged to avoid unsystematic donations and acts that may tarnish the image of the nation and its people.

- Certain internal and external anti-government elements, self-centred persons and unscrupulous elements are now seeking their self-interests by sending to the foreign news agencies stories about relief and rehabilitation work they have made up and shot on video.
- Storm victims are hereby warned to remain vigilant with nationalistic spirit against the deceptions of the self-centred persons and unscrupulous elements.

☆ Skyful liars attempting to destroy nation
☆ BBC lying
☆ VOA deceiving
☆ RFA setting up hostilities
☆ Beware! Don’t be bought by those ill-wishers

Witness may inform about misappropriation of internal and international relief funds and supplies

Anyone may dial the following phone numbers of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement if he witnesses or knows that the cash assistance and relief supplies donated from abroad and at home to the storm victims are kept for self-interest, traded, used for particular persons and organizations, or misappropriated for other purposes.

Head of Office Ph: 067 404021 and 067 404022
Deputy Head of Office Ph: 09 860 1002

Goodbye, 1990 election results!

Nowadays, the result of the 1990 election is no longer legal as it has been ditched by the entire people who are desirous of the emergence of a new modern developed democratic nation. This being so, the NLD’d better join hands with the people and then stand for the 2010 election in line with the laws instead of longing for the result of the 1990 election.