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16th cash donation ceremony held for supply of clean drinking water to rural areas

NAY PYI TAW, 19 June—The Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs organized the 16th cash donation ceremony for supply of clean drinking water to the rural areas at the City Hall of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee this afternoon.

It was attended by Minister for PBANRDA Col Thein Nyunt, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, deputy ministers, departmental officials, social organization members and wellwishers.

Director-General U Myo Myint of Development Affairs Department reported on supply of clean drinking water to the rural areas. The ministers, the attorney-general and the deputy ministers accepted K 165.7675 million donated by 78 wellwishers.

On behalf of wellwishers, wellwisher U Soe Nyunt (Tawwin Hninzi) explained the purpose of the donation.

On behalf of Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister Col Thein Nyunt said that the Development Affairs Department has been implementing the 10-year plan for supply of clean water to rural areas since 2000-2001 financial year with the contributions of the government, development affairs committees and wellwishers in addition to social organizations and international social organizations. He said that the development affairs committees are undertaking water supply tasks not

only in arid regions but also in other States and Divisions where water is scarce. Clean water can be supplied to 34 townships in Sagaing Division, 25 townships in Magway Division and 23 townships in Mandalay Division, totalling 82, he added. Sagaing, Tamu, (See page 8)



Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein accepts cash donation of a wellwisher.
PBANRDA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Shan State (East) sees better road transport facilities

Article: Tin Win Lay (Kyimyindine); Photos: Htay Aung (Kyemon)

I would like to quote the words of a local who went by car along with me from Taunggyi to Kengtung recently. He said, "Now, the travellers can enjoy fruits of better transport along this road. The progress of the road is so remarkable that those who have travelled along the road cannot believe their own eyes."

The secure and smooth transport plays a vital role in the development of the region. Along with secure and smooth transport, the

(See page 7)



A highway bus leaving for Tachilek seen at exit of Kengtung.

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 20 June, 2009

Enhance national prestige and integrity through the might of literature

Throughout the course of history, the Union of Myanmar has been standing tall among international community with its own culture, traditions and customs to be in line with national characters and identity.

Literature is the cultural pillar of a race. Literature that has been deeply entrenched in Myanmar society for ages reflects the standard of the culture of the nation or the race.

The literati organized the people with the might of the pen during the period of independence struggles, and that finally led the entire nation to regain independence after the people had driven out the colonialists. And they have been able to safeguard the independence and sovereignty.

As literature is a national culture deeply rooted in the daily life of people, efforts are to be made for Myanmar readers to widen their scope of knowledge through classic Myanmar and world literatures and contemporary literature.

It is incumbent upon all the literati to strive for development of literature. In the meantime, they are to make all-out efforts through the might of literature for successful realization of the development projects, national level education and health plans being undertaken in respective regions of the nation.

Therefore, all the literati are to exert strenuous efforts with national outlook for the emergence of literature capable of serving the national interest and development of Myanmar literary world.

Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo meets with fresher doctors of the Basic Management Course No. 2/2009.

HEALTH



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

Commander views World Population Day commemorative painting contest

NAY PYI TAW, 19 June — Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe viewed participation of contestants in the painting contest in commemoration of World Population Day at No. 2 Basic Education High School in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay on 13 June morning.

On 14 June morning, the commander inspected weekly sanitation tasks being carried out by departments

concerned and social organizations in Pyigyidagun Township.

The commander attended prize-awarding ceremony of the Central Command Commander's Shield Sepak Takraw Competition at Bahtoo Gymnasium.

In the afternoon, the commander delivered an address at the seminar on production and sales of safe foods in Chanayethazan Township.—MNA

Industry-2 Minister receives officials from HMT International Ltd

NAY PYI TAW, 19 June — Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein received Mr. P. Prakash and Mr. I. G. Kandaraji from Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT) International Ltd at his office here today. They discussed matters on

construction of Industrial Training Centre in Pakokku with the assistance of Indian government.

The minister instructed the guests to deliver machinery to the training centre in early August and start conducting training courses in July. Also present at the call were the deputy minister, director-general and officials.

MNA



Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein receives Mr. P. Prakash and Mr. I.G Kandaraji of Hindustan Machine Tools International Ltd.—MNA

Dy Health Minister meets fresher doctors

YANGON, 19 June—Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo met with fresher doctors of the Basic

Management Course No. 2/2009 for Fresher Doctors at the hall of University of Nursing, here, this morning.

Speaking on the occasion, the deputy minister said that he was pleased with the aims of fresher doctors to provide health care services to the people dutifully. He stressed the need for the fresher doctors to try hard to become qualified medical officers. It is necessary to carry out not only tasks of hospital but also public health care services, he said. In conclusion, the minister urged them to abide by doctors' ethics and rules and regulations.—MNA



Eight special civil appeal cases heard

NAY PYI TAW, 19 June—The Special Appellate Bench comprising Deputy Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (Yangon) U Thein Soe, Supreme Court Judges of the Supreme Court (Yangon) U Myint Thein and U Chit Lwin sitting at court room No. 1 of the Supreme Court (Nay Pyi Taw) heard seven special civil appeal cases under Section (7) and one special civil appeal case under Section (8) of the Judiciary Law, 2000 on 19 June 2009.—MNA



File photo shows an Iraqi man walks across the blood stained street where three US soldiers and four Iraqis were killed in a blast in Dora neighbourhood in Baghdad, Iraq.—INTERNET

US report into Afghan civilian deaths delayed

LONDON, 19 June—The results of an investigation into deadly US air strikes in Afghanistan has been delayed allegedly due to disagreements over what details should be made public.

The US defence secretary Robert Gates has declared the controversial report will be released within the next day or two. The inquiry has looked into raids on Farah Province last month which local officials claim left 140 people dead. The US military instead claims 30

civilians and between 60 and 65 Taliban militants were killed.

Leaked parts of the report appear to suggest the investigation will call for a review of the way in which the military uses air strikes in support of ground operations in the battle against the Taliban.

The AFP news agency claims the defence department has tried to release an unclassified summary of the investigation as well as a video but has been hampered by the desires of the top military officers to edit the final version.

Internet

Bombs kill five police, two civilians in Afghanistan

KANDAHAR, 19 June—A bomb strapped to a parked bicycle exploded near a construction office in southern Afghanistan on Thursday, killing one employee and a child about 11 years old, police said.

Meanwhile, five police officers died when a police vehicle hit a roadside bomb in Kandahar Province's Shorawak District, said Gen Saifulah Hakim, a border police commander. He said two officers were also wounded in the explosion.

It was unclear whether

the construction company was the target of the bicycle bomb attack in Kandahar City. The city's deputy police chief, Abdullah Khan, said officers were investigating but did not yet know if the attack was connected to the Taliban insurgency.

Internet

Afghan policemen keep watch next to a damaged vehicle belonging to a US aid organization after a bomb blast in Kunduz on 18 June, 2009. Four Afghan employees working for a US aid organization were wounded when their vehicle hit a roadside bomb in the northern city of Kunduz, detective police officer Abdul Rahman Aqtaash said.—INTERNET



NATO Invasion of US and allies kills, injures Iraqi people

BAGHDAD, 19 June — There has been daily casualties in Iraq since the US and its allies have invaded the country.

Casualties of Iraqi people

The total number of casualties as from the day they invaded the country to 15 June reached 697,523 and the total number of serious injured people reached 1,255,541, according to the news on the internet.

No.	Subject	Number
1.	Death toll of Iraqi people	697,523
2.	The total number of seriously injured people	1,255,541—Internet



Patients injured during a car bomb blast lie in hospital beds in Baqouba, some 65 kms north-east of Baghdad.

Casualties of Afghan people in invasion of NATO troops led by US

KABUL 19 June —The NATO troops led by the US have invaded Afghanistan and they are there for a long time.

A number of Afghan people are killed and injured due to invasion of the NATO troops led by the US.

Casualties of Afghan people

According to the Internet news, a total of 7589 Afghan people were killed and 13,660 injured seriously as from the day when the NATO troops led by the US invaded Afghanistan to 15 June.

No.	Subject	Number
1.	Number of Afghan people killed	7589
2.	Seriously injured Afghan people	13660 — Internet

Wounded Afghans seen in hospital after air strike bombings.



Iraq taking over security as deadline approaches for US withdrawal from cities

UNITED NATIONS, 19 June —Iraqi forces are successfully filling the security vacuum as US combat troops withdraw from Iraqi cities ahead of a 30 June deadline, Iraq's UN envoy said on Thursday.

Ambassador Hamid al-Bayati said Iraq has already taken responsibility for 90 of the 138 military sites where US troops were in charge of security, and by the end of the month the ministries of defence and interior will be responsible for the remaining 48 sites.

The withdrawal from the cities will be a major test for Iraq's army and police, which failed to stem a wave of Shiite-Sunni slaughter in 2006. That prompted the US troop surge of 2007 which is widely credited with quelling the violence. Many Iraqis are happy to see foreign soldiers off their streets but fear their own security forces may not be up to the challenge.—Internet



An Airbus A380 aeroplane is seen during the 48th international Paris Air Show at Le Bourget airport in Paris, France, on 17 June, 2009. Airbus held a celebrating ceremony here on Wednesday.—XINHUA

Pilot on Continental flight dies; jet lands safely

NEWARK, 19 June—The only inkling passengers had that something was wrong on the Continental Airlines flight over the Atlantic Ocean was when an announcement came over the loudspeaker asking if there was a doctor on board.

Otherwise, flight attendants continued to serve snacks. Passengers read magazines and watched movies. And the flight kept on its schedule. But in the cockpit, the 60-year-old captain had died of a suspected heart attack and two co-pilots took over the controls.

The 247 passengers aboard did not learn what had happened until the flight from Brussels landed safely Thursday and was met by fire trucks, emergency vehicles and dozens of reporters.

"I was shocked," said Dora Dekeyser of Houston. "Nobody knew anything."

"We weren't panicking. I never thought it was something as serious as this."

We were relaxed," said Dekeyser's granddaughter, Stephanie Mallis, 18, of Lansdale, Pa.—Internet



Workers hang Claude Monet's "Au Parc Monceau" at Christie's auctioneers in London on 18 June, 2009.

XINHUA

E China's Fujian to turn buses, ships "green"

FUZHOU, 19 June — East China's Fujian Province is to substitute gasoline and diesel oil with liquefied natural gas (LNG) as fuel for 2,000 inter-city buses running on its expressways, to make its public transport greener.

According to a contract signed on Thursday between Fujian Investment and Development Group Ltd and Fujian Expressway LLC, the former will

invest 320 million yuan (46.85 million US dollars) in building 30 gas filling stations to supply 133,000 tonnes of LNG for the 2,000 inter-city buses.

The move will replace 180,000 tonnes of gasoline and diesel a year, the investment and development company said.

Wang Dongping, general manager of Zhongmin Logistics Company under the investment and

development company, said Thursday that as a sort of clean energy, liquefied natural gas could help slash motor vehicle's carbon monoxide, hydrocarbon and sulphur dioxide emissions by 97 percent, 72 percent, and 90 percent respectively.

The "green" energy could also help reduce vehicle noise by 40 percent, Wang added.

Internet

Indian air force Mig-21 crashes, pilots survive

NEW DELHI, 19 June—An Mig-21 fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force crashed Thursday soon after it took off from an air base in Assam, northeast India, reported the Indo-Asian News Service.

However, the two pilots managed to eject safely, the news service quoted Indian officials as saying.

The aircraft caught fire after it plunged into a pond near a tea garden in a village in the Dibrugarh district, about 520 km east of Assam's main city of Guwahati, said the news service.

The aircraft was supposed to be on a routine training-flying mission when the accident took place.

Internet

LA city approves proposal to ban smoking in outdoor dinning areas

LOS ANGELES, 19 June—The Los Angeles City Council said on Thursday that it has approved a proposal to ban smoking in outdoor dinning areas in the city.

The proposal would prohibit smoking in outdoor dinning areas, and within a 10-foot radius of those areas, as well as the area within a 30-foot radius of outdoor food courts, food kiosks, food carts and mobile food trucks, the council said.

However, an exception

is provided for outdoor areas attached to bars and nightclubs that require customers to be 18 years old or older.

"I think it's important that we have a practical way to balance out the needs of those people who enjoy smoking and those people who enjoy eating without the smell of smoke," Councilman Tom LaBonge said.

LaBonge, the council chairman and member of the Arts, Parks, Health and Aging Committee, said he

would visit several establishments which would be affected by the smoking ban before the proposal took effect.

"Before this goes forward, I'm going to be taking a field trip with the fire inspector, the building inspector, the city attorney, those for and against smoking in outdoor dinning areas, to make sure there's a practical application to this," LaBonge said. "I want to make sure it works."

Internet



A senior citizen shows a dish at the Senior Citizens University of Jinchang District in Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 15 June, 2009. Elders in the area put on their cooking skills to show their happy life.—XINHUA



Gold declines as unexpected jobless data eases worries on economy

CHICAGO, 19 June—Gold futures on the COMEX Division of the New York Mercantile Exchange fell slightly on Thursday as a better-than-expected jobless data indicates the economy is recovering, reducing gold's appeal of safety. Silver ended lower, but platinum gained a little.

Gold price for August delivery lost 1.40 US dollars, or 0.1 percent, finishing at 934.60 dollars an ounce.

Despite the rise of new claims for jobless benefits, the total number of people on the unemployment insurance rolls dropped for the first time since early January after companies made deep cuts earlier this year, reported by the Labour Department.

According to the report, initial claims rose by 3,000 to a seasonally adjusted 608,000 in the week ending 13 June, above analysts' expecta-

tions. However, job losses are easing with the total unemployment insurance rolls falling by 148,000 to 6.69 million in the week ending 6 June, the largest drop in more than seven years.

The jobless data convinced investors that the economy is on the way to recover, which means the appeal to purchase gold as an alternative to hedge economy uncertainty is weakened.

Xinhua



The pupils release fish fry into the water by the Chunshen Lake in Suzhou City of east China's Jiangsu Province, on 18 June, 2009. More than 10 million fish fry were released into the rivers and lakes within the city area of Suzhou on Thursday to improve the city's ecological environment. —XINHUA



A brocade embroideress puts the final embellishment to the restituted ceremonial robes for the royalty of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), in Suzhou City, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 17 June, 2009. —XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency

First solar plane set for round-the-world trip in 2011

SHENYANG, 19 June—The world's first solar plane is expected to complete the round-the-world trip in 2011, a representative of one of the sponsors of the project said here Thursday.

Jean Cai, vice president of Deutsche Bank (China) Co, Ltd, a main partner of the solar plane project, told Xinhua that the plane, powered solely by solar energy without polluting emissions, will fly around

the world in 30 days in 2011 and land once on each continent. A model of the Solar Impulse plane is exhibited in Shenyang, capital of northeast China's Liaoning Province, where the Deutschland-Chinesische Promenade program, part of a Sino-German friendly exchange event, is being staged, Cai said.

The prototype is to be unveiled to media on 26 June at Dubendorf airfield next to Zurich, Switzerland, added Cai. The plane, covered in almost 12,000 photovoltaic cells, has a wingspan of 63.4 meters, or roughly that of Airbus A340, and only weighs 1,600 kg, equivalent to that of a motor car.

It is reported to be able to reach a flying speed of 70 km per hour.

"The solar plane project is aimed at promoting sustainable energy in the world and the potential and future of clean energy and solar energy," said Cai.

The ongoing Deutschland-Chinesische Promenade programme is part of the Germany and China Moving Ahead Together, an event jointly launched by Germany and China in 2007 under the theme of "sustainable urbanization".

The whole event is scheduled to conclude during the Shanghai World Expo next year.

Xinhua

China to provide free medication to curb birth defects

BEIJING, 19 June—China will launch a health programme to provide free folic acid supplements for 12 million rural women of child-bearing age, to help prevent birth defects in their future babies, the Ministry of Health said here on Thursday.

The programme seeks to provide folic acid supplements by the end of 2009 to all rural Chinese women wanting a child, Friday's *China Daily* quoted the ministry as saying. China, particularly the rural areas, has always been hit hard by varied birth deformities, which afflict about 1.2 million new borns in China each year, said Zhu Jun, deputy director of the National Maternal and Child Health Surveillance Office. Neural tube defects are common birth defects, as well as congenital heart disease, cleft lip and hydrocephalus.—Xinhua

World condemns suicide car bombings in Somalia

NAIROBI, 19 June—The international community has condemned the killing of Somalia's National Security Minister, Omar Hashi Aden, in a suicide car bomb in Beletweyne, north of the capital Mogadishu on Thursday.

In a joint statement the UN, the African Union (AU), the European Union (EU), the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the League of Arab States (LAS) condemned this week's upsurge in violence in Mogadishu, where another suicide bomb or shelling is reported to have killed at least ten people attending a mosque.

They called on the transitional federal government of Somalia not to be deterred in its pursuit for peace by the actions of a small minority.—Xinhua

Two killed in small plane crash near Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, 19 June—A small plane crashed in Riverside County near Los Angeles, killing two people on board, aviation authorities said on Thursday.

The single-engine plane took off from Corona Municipal Airport in Southern California after 11 am local time Wednesday and crashed later near Lake Elsinore in Riverside County, said Ian Gregor, spokesman of Federal Aviation Administration. It remained unknown what time the plane crashed or under what conditions, Gregor said. The wreckage was discovered at about 6:40 pm local time by a friend of the victims, who flew over the area searching for the plane, Gregor said.

Riverside County firefighters reached the wreckage early Thursday morning and found two bodies.

The victims' names have not been released pending notification of kinsfolk.

Xinhua

Photo shows a Spanish cruise ship named the Ocean Dream docked off the island of Margarita, northeast Venezuela. Venezuela quarantined a cruise ship on 17 June, 2009 after three crew members were diagnosed with the A/H1N1 flu virus.

XINHUA



Mekong River dolphins close to extinction

BEIJING, 19 June—Pollution in the Mekong River in Southeast Asia has pushed freshwater dolphins in Cambodia and Laos to the brink of extinction, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has said.

“There are only 64 to 76 Irrawaddy dolphins in the Mekong,” the WWF said on Wednesday. It said toxic levels of pesticides, mercury and other pollutants were found in more than 50 calves that have died since 2003.

“Necropsy analysis identified a bacterial dis-

ease as the cause of the calf deaths,” WWF veterinary surgeon Verne Dove said in a press statement. “This disease would not be fatal unless the dolphins’ immune systems were suppressed, as they were in these cases, by environmental contaminants.”

Dove said: “these pollutants are widely distributed in the environment and so the source of this pollution may involve several countries through which the Mekong River flows.”

The Mekong flows

from China through Laos, Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam.

“The Mekong River dolphins are isolated from other members of their species and they need our help,” said WWF Cambodia country director Seng Teak, adding that the mammals “can show remarkable resilience” if their habitat is protected.

Internet



File photo of a dolphin in the Mekong river, northeast of Phnom Penh. Pollution in southeast Asia's Mekong River has pushed freshwater dolphins in Cambodia and Laos to the brink of extinction, an international conservation group said.—INTERNET

French woman jailed in frozen babies case

TOURS, 19 June—A Frenchwoman who strangled three of her newborn babies and stored two of them in the family freezer was sentenced to eight years in jail on Thursday after a trial that focussed on her psychiatric problems.

The case of Veronique Courjault, 41, told the court before the sentence was handed down.

The couple were living

in South Korea when her husband, trying to make space in the freezer, found the frozen bodies of two babies he had no idea were his own.

“I am aware that I killed my children and that will stay with me forever,” a tearful Veronique Courjault, 41, told the court before the sentence was handed down.

in South Korea when her husband, Jean-Louis, discovered the babies in the freezer. Horrified, he alerted the police.

The couple said at first the babies were not theirs and they did not know who had put them there.

They returned to France, where DNA tests proved that they were the parents.

Internet

Sirius XM to unveil iPhone Apple

BEIJING, 19 June—Satellite radio company, Sirius XM, is launching an application for the Apple iPhone on Thursday that will bring the service to iPhone and iPod Touch users.

The service will be free for those who subscribe to Sirius' Internet service, others will have to pay about 3.00 US dollars per month, said a Reuters report.

The move is seen an important way for Sirius to gain and retain subscribers, by providing easier access to its news, talk, music and sports programming through means other than its traditional satellite-based platform. Sirius currently has about 19 million subscribers, most of which signed on when buying cars that had the necessary equipment built in to a newly purchased vehicle.

Under a related accord, Fujian will buy 2.6 million tonnes of LNG from Indonesia annually in a 25-year period from 2009 to fuel the plan, the local government said.—Internet

Bus stowaway eludes British military brass

LONDON, 19 June—An illegal stowaway from Afghanistan eluded multiple security checks to sneak into the famous British military college Sandhurst aboard a bus, authorities said.

The 20-year-old man boarded the bus, full of officers and non-commissioned officers, at a British Army base in Hameln, Germany, Tuesday, the London newspaper *The Sun* reported. He hid in stairwell near a bathroom during the ride to the academy where Prince William and Prince Harry trained to become officers.

A corporal and a lance corporal found the Afghan man as they left the bus and police were called. “This is an extremely serious breach of security,” a military source told the newspaper. The head of the Army, Gen Sir Richard Dannatt, ordered an investigation, the *Sun* said.

The man, who was to be fingerprinted and interviewed by Border Agency officers, is expected to be deported, the *Sun* said.—Internet

NEWS ALBUM



Hundreds of Havaianas slippers are used to form a slipper-shape artwork in the Ibirapuera Park in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Havaianas, the most famous Brazilian slipper brand, gets more and more popularity in the world these years and has been selected into the gift package of Academy Award for 4 times.

Five puppies cloned from Trakr, a German Shepherd search-and-rescue dog used to locate Ground Zero survivors after the on 11 September attacks, in Los Angeles, California. The puppies are the first German Shepherds ever cloned, according BioArts International whose South Korean scientists created them.

Boy, 8, saves sister and drunk adults from fire

Police in Poland say an 8-year-old boy saved his sister and three drunk adults from a fire by calling police and fighting the flames before help arrived.

The fire started outside the door of the boy's apartment in the western town of Miedzyrzecz late Monday.

Police said on Tuesday that the boy was unable to wake up his mother or two men—all of whom were intoxicated—so called the emergency number himself.

He helped his 5-year-old sister get dressed and repeatedly poured water on the burning door as he waited for help.

Police spokesman Artur Chorazy said: “If it wasn't for him, there might have been a tragedy.”

Police are investigating the cause of the fire. They say they are considering whether to charge the 26-year-old mother with endangering her children.



Tool helps gauge autistic language skills

Canadian researchers say a questionnaire could help parents gauge language skills of their autistic children.

A report by a panel of experts commissioned to evaluate the questionnaire by the US National Institute of Deafness and Other Communication Disorders in Bethesda, Md, is published in the Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research. “This is very exciting news,”

Light-emitting transistor sets record

US scientists have constructed a light-emitting transistor that has set a record for a signal-processing modulation speed.

University of Illinois researchers said they achieved a speed of 4.3 gigahertz, breaking the previous record of 1.7 gigahertz held by a light-emitting diode.

Then by internally connecting the base and collector of a light-emitting transistor, they also created a new form of light-emitting diode, which modulates up to 7 gigahertz—breaking the speed record once again.

The university and licensee Quantum Electro Opto Systems in Melaka, Malaysia, reported the fabrication and testing of the new high-speed light-emitting transistor and the new “tilted-charge” light-emitting diode.

questionnaire developer Daniela O'Neill of the University of Waterloo in Ontario says in a statement. “This report will be of tremendous help to researchers, clinicians and speech-language professionals involved in intervention with young children with autism.”

The questionnaire, The Language Use Inventory, provides a set of measures for evaluating spoken language development in children with autism spectrum disorders. Parents are asked about their child's use of language in many different kinds of settings. One area of testing in The Language Use Inventory is pragmatic language development how young children are able to use their language in everyday interactions, the study says.



A visitor views a sculpture named 'Create Adam' at an exhibition for graduates of China Academy of Art in Hangzhou, capital of southeast China's Zhejiang Province.



Shan State (East) sees better road transport facilities

Article: Tin Win Lay (Kyimyindine); Photos: Htay Aung (Kyemon)

(from page 1)
education, health, economic and social sectors will develop in the region.

In the past, it took many a night to travel to townships of Shan State (East). Now, the news crew of Kyemon Daily reached there without waste of time. At 8 am, we visited All Bus-line Control Committee office, west of Yankham Market in Kengtung. In the office, I unexpectedly saw my old schoolmate U Htay Win (Deputy Director of Road Transport Administration Department) from Kyimyindine Basic Education High School No. 2. In meeting with my friend, I asked about efforts made for road transportation at first.

U Htay Win explained, "The department gives priority

undertaking the transport programmes such as the routes and number of buses, kinds of vehicle and bus fares in line with the rules and regulations of the transport coordination committee."

Chairman of All Bus-line Control Committee U Sein Hlaing explained, "A Kengtung-based bus line was launched in 1996. On 3



Daw Yin Yin Mya,
Assistant Director of
Transport Planning
Department.



U Htay Win, Deputy
Director of RTAD.

vehicles only. At present, express buses of the bus lines drive along the route by taking four hours only. The bus lines manage to operate six buses daily.

In the past, the travellers spent four-five nights on their trips along 281-mile Kengtung-Taunggyi Road due to poor transport. A few number of buses of the bus lines could not realize the transport schedules of the buses regularly. At



Photo shows better condition of Kengtung-Monghsat Road.

a local. He said, "I have been travelling this road up and down since my childhood. In 1994-95, it was an earthen road and then gravel facility. In some cases, the passengers had to spend the night on the route. After 2003, the upgrading

to construction of universities in our region, the new generation youth have the opportunity to pursue higher education without spending much money."

In Shan State (East), aircraft from Myanmar Airways, Yangon Airways and Air Bagan are flying to Tachilek and Kengtung Airports. Moreover, these domestic airlines operate their flights on Yangon-Heho and Mandalay-Lashio-Nay Pyi Taw routes.

Only Fokker F-27 airplanes landed at Kengtung Airport due to short runway. Such flights can carry only 44 passengers and take one hour and 45 minutes on Kengtung-Yangon route. After extending the runway, Kengtung Airport can serve Fokker F-28 flights that can carry 84

passengers. As Fokker F-28 can endure and overcome the unfavourable weather, passengers can travel to their destinations on schedules. Moreover, Y-8 cargo flights can land at the airport and it is a drive for smooth flow of commodities in the region.

Actually, national brethren residing in various regions of the Union had missed the chance to meet each other for many years due to poor transport. In the time of the Tatmadaw government, the utmost efforts for narrowing the gap of development between hilly and plain regions can shrink the distances among the national brethren through better transport.

Translation: TTA
Kyemon: 13-6-2009



Kengtung-Taunggyi Road seen on hilly area.

to ensuring traffic safety as the main task because there are about 1500 vehicles in the region."

Assistant Director Daw Yin Yin Mya of Transport Planning Department said, "With a view to ensuring convenience of the passengers, the department is providing necessary assistance for

December 1999, the Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council formally opened the highway bus terminal."

Before 1988, there were only two highway bus lines that took two nights for 102-mile Kengtung-Tachilek route. At that time, bus lines could use jeeps and Hilux

present, Superroof vans that left Kengtung early morning can arrive in Taunggyi next morning by spending a night. BM buses can smoothly drive along the three-day route. The passengers can stop over and put up at the rest houses and food shops.

Aboard Shwe Myo Daw highway bus, we had an interview with



U Sein Hlaing,
Chairman of All
Bus-line Control
Committee.

of road commenced. After 2007, the vehicles take four hours only for the trip due to better transport."

In another interview, a national race girl Nan Huam Noon said, "When I had a chance to attend the university, Kengtung had not been facilitated with university yet. So, I went to Mandalay for pursuing higher education. While suffering from homesick, I had spent a large sum of money on food and accommodation. Thanks



"Due to better conditions of roads, we can take only four hours for Kengtung-Tachilek route."

U Sai Ohn Khin (passenger)



16th cash donation ceremony held for supply of clean...

(from page 1)

Shwebo, Monywa, Katha, Kalay and Mawlaik districts in Sagaing Division, Pakokku, Minbu, Magway, Thayet and Gangaw districts in Magway Division, Mandalay, Kyaukse, Meiktila, PyinOoLwin, Myingyan, Yamethin and NyaungU districts in Mandalay Division have been supplied with safe water, he noted. The minister stressed the need to speed up tasks of water supply to all the States and Divisions. At present, he said that every village has been facilitated with one tube-well. It is necessary to continue sinking more tube-wells in the villages, he added. In conclusion, the minister thanked the wellwishers for their donations to the funds of water supply and their participation in the development tasks of the government.

After the ceremony, they viewed the documentary photos on water supply task.

The Head of State, in April 1999, gave guidance to supply clean drinking water to all the villages of three arid divisions by implementing the 10-year plan. According to the data, it is necessary to supply clean drinking water to 23,225 villages across the nation—8,042 villages in Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay divisions and 15,183 villages in other 14 States and Divisions. The Development Affairs Committees had spent K 8,418.14 million on rural development task and rural water supply tasks from 2000-2001 to 2008-2009 financial years. Moreover, the committees set the plan to spend K 2,541.81 million on the similar tasks in 2009-2010 financial year.

From 2000-2001 to May 2009-2010 financial years, a total of 8,042 villages in three arid divisions have been supplied with safe water, accounting for cent per cent and 14,382 villages from 14 States and Divisions, 95 per cent. Out of 23,225 villages, 22,424 villages get clean drinking water, accounting for 97 per cent.

In so doing, the government spent K 2,187.14

million, the development affairs committees K 8,418.14 million, the cash donations of wellwishers for 15 times K 1,835.85 million, US\$ 76,752, Euro 770 and FEC 10,012, international organizations US\$ 6.85 million and ¥ 1,015.47 million on water supply tasks.

In undertaking water supply task, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) sank 250 tube-wells in Shan State (North) and 42 tube-wells in arid regions, Bridge Asia Japan (BAJ) 101 tube-wells in Bagan, NyaungU and Kyaukpadaung Townships and UNICEF 3,298 tube-wells in rural areas.

In accelerating the rural water supply task, the whole villages in 34 townships in Sagaing Division, 25 townships in Magway Division and 23 townships in Mandalay Division, totalling 82 have been supplied with clean drinking water. Moreover, a total of 19 districts get clean drinking water.

The cash donations of wellwishers were spent on sinking 1,914 tube-wells in three arid regions and 525 tube-wells in other States and Divisions, totalling 2439 tube-wells.—MNA

Sports Refresher Course for Teachers concludes

YANGON, 19 June—Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint this morning attended the concluding ceremony of the Sports Refresher Course No. 15 for Sports Teachers of the Ministry of Education at the hall of Sports and Physical Education Institute (Yangon), here.

The minister presented prizes to the outstanding trainees and completion certificates to all trainees.

At International Shooting Range in Dagon Myothit (North) Township, the minister delivered an opening address and formally opened the 10th Inter-State/Division Shooting Contest 2009.

Altogether nine shooting teams representing States and Divisions are taking part in the contests that will last up to 21 June.—MNA



Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint delivers an opening address at 10th Inter-State/Division Shooting Contest 2009.

MNA



Gift for Central Women's Hospital (Yangon)

YANGON, 19 June—The donation ceremony of the Foetal Actocardiograph

(TOITU Brand CTG Machine, Japan) (worth US\$ 7,500) to Central Women's Hospital

(Yangon) was held at the meeting room of the hospital on 16 June.

At the

ceremony, Mr. Yoshinori Komaru, Managing Director, Myanmar Yutani Co Ltd donated the CTG machine and Professor Dr. Win Win Mya, Professor and Head of the YCWH, accepted and presented a certificate of appreciation. Then Dr. Aung Wynn, Medical Superintendent of Central Women's Hospital (Yangon) spoke words of thanks and presented gift to the donor. Present on the occasion were directors of Department of Health, medical superintendents and responsible personnels of Central Women's Hospital (Yangon).

NLM



Medical Superintendent Dr. Aung Wynn presenting a certificate of appreciation to a donor.—MNA

Winners of International Day against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking competitions announced

YANGON, 19 June—Winners of the competitions to mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking which falls on 26 June were announced today.

The competitions comprise the short story, article, poem, song, painting, cartoon, poster, computer painting, computer poster and photo competitions.

First, second, third prizes and handsome prizes will be awarded to winners.—MNA

Saplings distributed free in Mudon Township

YANGON, 19 June — Service personnel led by Staff Officer U Mann Tin Tun Kyi of Mudon Township Forest Department is carrying out extended nurturing of various trees and distribution of saplings at Tapathon nursery in Mudon Township, Mon State. A total of 76,260 saplings were nurtured at the nursery.

Mudon Township Forest Department is distributing the saplings to regiments and units, departments and schools free of charge for greening of the township. Every one may contact the department.

MNA



Ways sought to implement ASEAN-Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint

NAY PYI TAW, 19 June—A coordination meeting was held at the Ministry of Culture here this afternoon to implement ASEAN-Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint.

In his speech, Chairman of the Committee for Implementation of ASEAN-Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint said that the 13th ASEAN Summit held in Singapore on 20 November 2007 reached an agreement to set up ASEAN Political and Security Community, ASEAN Economic Community, and ASEAN Socio-Cultural

Community by 2015 with the aim of establishing an ASEAN community in line with the ASEAN Charter; at the first meeting held in Thailand, second meeting in Laos, third meeting in Thailand, and fourth and fifth meetings in Indonesia, ways and means were sought sectoral body-wise to implement the blueprint; the blueprint (draft) was approved country-wise at ASEAN Joint Consultative Meeting and was endorsed at the 14th ASEAN Summit held in Thailand from 27 February to 1 March; and that the blueprint consists of six sectors.

The Ministry of Culture will take the

leading role to implement the blueprint in cooperation with related ministries, he said, inviting the attendees to hold discussions about work progress ministry-wise.

Secretary of the committee Director-General of the Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Libraries U San Win presented facts about the blueprint, sectoral work, and tasks to be carried out by respective ministries. The attendees dealt with work progress.

The committee chairman gave concluding remarks.

MNA

Minister inspects pharmaceutical factory



Minister U Aung Thaung visits Myanmar Pharmaceutical Factory (Yangon).—INDUSTRY-1

YANGON, 19 June—Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung arrived at Myanmar Pharmaceutical Factory (Yangon) under

the Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industries this morning. Manager U Win Ko reported on extension works of Infusion

Division and Managing Director U Than Shwe gave supplementary reports.

Next, the minister looked into maintenance of infusion building and civil construction site to extend the building with the GMP system.

Afterwards, the minister also inspected intravenous injection, infusion ingestion, antibiotic injection and production of anti-rabies vaccines through tissue culture divisions and gave necessary instructions.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint delivers an address at coordination meeting for implementation of Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint.—MNA



19th Myanmar Police Force Chief's Shield Chess Tournament prize presenting ceremony



Police Brig-Gen Than Han presents a championship shield to Yangon Division Police Force.—MPF

YANGON, 19 June—The prize presenting ceremony of the 19th Myanmar Police

Force Chief's Shield Chess Tournament was held at the meeting hall of Yangon Division Police

Force this afternoon. On behalf of the Chief of MPF, Police Battalions Control Commander

Police Brig-Gen Than Han delivered a speech.

Next, Chairman of MPF Chief's shield Chess Tournament Commander Police Col Win Naing, Deputy Commander of Yangon Division Police Force and District Police Commander presented a special prize to six members of MPF, first prize to Yangon Division PF, second prize to Kayah State PF, third prize to Mandalay Division PF and honour prize to coach of the tournament.

Afterwards, Police Battalions Control Commander Police Brig-Gen Than Han presented trophy to Yangon Division Police Force.—MNA

Construction of training hall in CICS (Phaunggyi) inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 19 June—Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe inspected construction of training hall that can house 1800 people, in Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi). The deputy minister fulfilled the needs after hearing the reports presented by officials concerned.—MNA

Tobacco Kills



Kunchaung Dam in Kyangin Township, Ayeyawady Division

Article: Kyaw Sein; Photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)



U Zaw Zaw, Staff Officer, Construction-2.

(from page 16)

Staff Officer U Zaw Zaw, in-charge of the dam, said that the facility had supplied water to summer paddy fields since 2003-2004; that they reinforced the embankment for its durability; that the size of the irrigation water to summer paddy fields would increase to 15,000 acres the following year; that a 220 feet long and 100 feet wide additional spillway was under construction for maintenance of the dam.

Chairman of Kyangin Township Peace and Development Council U Tun Tun Naing said that there was no need to worry about difficulty with irrigation water and fire; that owing to the dam, local farmers could grow kitchen crops in summer such as cucumber, tomato, onion and bean; that they did not need to pay for irrigation water;

that he thought the sown acreage of kitchen crops would rise the following year; and that Kyangin Township had been able to grow kitchen crops.

Farmer U Soe Myint, 58, from Thitseintkaing Village said, "I have a field of 18 acres. Agri-



U Yee, Deputy Director, Construction-2.

cultural farming is our family business. I grow paddy and beans. We farmers are pleased with the adequate supply of irrigation water. Previously, we could not grow summer paddy because there was no irrigation water supply in summer. We make higher profits because per acre paddy yield has increased to about 100 baskets. So, we thank the government for the dam."

Farmer U Tin Aung, 59, from the same village said that he had a field of about nine acres; that he had been growing both monsoon and summer paddy since the dam was



The main canal of Kunchaung Dam near Kyangin-Myanaung Road.

Shwepantaung Village is now in a position to grow summer paddy due to Kunchaung Dam.

commissioned; that he had harvested two acres of summer paddy and the per acre yield was more than 120 baskets; that he had bought a tractor due to bumper harvest of paddy; that he was trying to get a combine-harvester that year as he



U Soe Myint (farmer), Thitseintkaing Village.

wanted to expedite his agricultural work; and that he thanked the government for the facility.

U Myint Thein, 54, from Shwepantaung Village said that he grew eight acres of monsoon paddy and three acres of



summer paddy; and that he thanked the government for the dam and for Pashinchaung Dam that protects the farmlands against floods in the rainy season.

U Soe Than, 51, from Wegyi Village said that he grew groundnut and



U Myint Thein (farmer), Shwepantaung Village.

black gram in addition to monsoon and summer paddy; that he grew nine acres of monsoon paddy and four acres of summer paddy; that his income had increased two times if compared with that in the past; and that he thanked the Irrigation De-

partment and the government for the dam.

The irrigated acreage of the dam has surged to 9312 from 500 in 2003-2004. The 16,720 feet long



U Tun Tun Naing, Chairman of Kyangin Township PDC.



U Soe Than (farmer), Wegyi Village, Kyangin Township.



U Tin Aung (farmer), Thitseintkaing Village, Kyangin Township.

and 135 feet high dam is of earthen type. Its maximum water storage capacity is 98,400 acre feet and its water surface area, 2200 acres. The main canal has 635 structures and is 23.5 miles long, and its tributaries, 40 miles in total. It benefits 9000 acres of arable lands of 20 village-tracts.

In a word, Kunchaung Dam helps boost agricultural production and improve the living standard of local people.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin:
18-6-2009



The 220 feet long and 100 feet wide spillway is under construction.



A whaleship brings two fin whales to base in Hvalfjordur, Iceland, on 19 June, 2009 as the fin whale season started on Thursday. Japan and Norway are giving large subsidies to their whaling industries, which have become unprofitable due to rising costs and declining demand for whale meat, the WWF said on Friday.—INTERNET

DPRK to strengthen ties with countries friendly toward it

PYONGYANG, 19 June—The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) will strengthen relations with the countries that are friendly toward it, a top legislator said on Thursday.

Kim Yong Nam, president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, said the DPRK vowed to frustrate "the reckless

political and military provocations" of the United States and South Korea, the official KCNA news agency reported.

The DPRK will also make efforts to maintain the stability of the Korean Peninsula, realize national reunification and safeguard global peace, the top legislator said. He made such remarks at a national meeting marking the 45th anniversary of the top DPRK leader Kim Jong Il's start of work at the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

MNA/Xinhua

China "dissatisfied" with ADB document

BEIJING, 19 June — China is "strongly dissatisfied" with the Asia Development Bank (ADB) in regard to a document that meddles in the China-India border dispute, Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said here Thursday.

Qin Gang made the remarks at a Press conference when asked to comment on a document concerning the disputed China-India border areas that the ADB's board approved Tuesday. "The ADB, regardless of China's grave concerns, adopted the Country Partnership Strategy for India (2009-2012), which involves

disputed areas between China and India. China is strongly dissatisfied with it." Qin said the document "can not change the existence of the China-Indian territorial disputes, nor China's position on this issue". Qin urged the ADB, as a regional development agency, not to intervene in the political affairs of its members. He said adopting such a document seriously damaged the reputation of the ADB and undermined the interests of its members. "The Chinese Government strongly demands that the ADB take effective measures to eliminate the impact", he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Hu Jintao meets Russian State Duma chairman

Moscow, 19 June — Chinese President Hu Jintao met Thursday with Chairman of the Russian State Duma Boris Gрызlov. This year marks the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries, Hu said, hailing the sound and fast development of bilateral ties.

Mutual political trust, strategic cooperation and

pragmatic cooperation between the two countries have been brought to a higher level, he said. China is ready to work with Russia to seize the opportunity and meet the challenges so as to push bilateral strategic cooperation to a higher level, Hu said.

There have been close exchanges and fruitful cooperation between the legislative bodies of the

two countries in recent years, which has given an impetus to the development of bilateral relations as a whole, Hu said. The Chinese President made a three-point proposal for the two legislative bodies to make greater efforts in the interests of the overall bilateral relationship.

Firstly, the two legislative bodies should enhance cooperation so as to lay a firm legal foundation for further development of bilateral relations. Secondly, there should be more exchanges and cooperation between different committees of the two legislative bodies. Thirdly, more efforts should be made to consolidate and expand the social foundation for developing the bilateral friendship for generations to come. — MNA/Xinhua

China, Slovakia pledge efforts to enhance friendship, coop.

BRATISLAVA, 19 June — Chinese President Hu Jintao and his Slovakian counterpart Ivan Gasparovic held talks here on Thursday and they agreed to take the 60th anniversary of diplomatic ties as an opportunity to consolidate their traditional friendship and enrich the contents of cooperation.

Speaking highly of the longstanding friendship between the two countries, Hu noted in particular the substantial development of bilateral relations since the Central European country gained independence 16 years ago.

Expressing satisfaction at the state of bilateral ties, Hu said there are no outstanding issues left over by history or conflict of interests between China and Slovakia, Hu said. It is the shared goal of the two countries to expand consensus and deepen cooperation, he added.

"This is in the fundamental interests of the two countries and the two peoples," Hu said. He made a four-point proposal for the further development of bilateral ties.

Firstly, the traditional friendship should be consolidated and bilateral mutual political trust be enhanced, Hu said.

Second, both side should enhance economic and trade cooperation and join efforts to cope with the ongoing financial crisis, Hu said, adding that this is the focus of bilateral cooperation at present.

MNA/Xinhua



A boy stands inside a temporary shelter made by his parents as the family has been displaced from their land by a tidal wave caused by cyclone Aila in Shatkira, on 19 June, 2009.—INTERNET

Malawi's new president names cabinet

LILONGWE, 19 June — Malawi's president Bingu Wa Mutharika on

Wednesday announced his new Cabinet almost a month after being re-elected. The 41-member cabinet, excluding the president and his deputy, was appointed with effect from June 15, according to a statement issued by the Office of the President and Cabinet.

"The new Cabinet will be sworn in on Thursday at the New State House in Lilongwe," said the statement. Mutharika's Cabinet, which has been widely described as surprising, has many new faces with some unexpected changes to his previous Cabinet.

The most shocking move is former finance

minister Goodall Gondwe, who has been shifted to Local Government and Rural Development. Other surprises are the dropping from Cabinet of former ministers of economic planning and development, industry and trade, housing and urban development, and youth and sports development, Ken Lipenga, Henry Mussa, Jaffalie Mussa and Vuwa Kaunda, respectively. Undule Mwakasungura, an influential political commentator in the southern African country, told Xinhua that the new cabinet was "too bloated for a small economy like Malawi." — MNA/Xinhua



A woman exits a shop where Apple iPhone 3GS are on sale in Paris, on 19 June, 2009. The new iPhone sports a faster processor, longer battery life, an internal compass, a video camera and a photo camera with better resolution and auto-focus.—INTERNET

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (293)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (293) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.6.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Low infant birth weight linked with maternal work stress

LOS ANGELES, 19 June—Women who suffer work stress during early pregnancy may face greater risk of giving birth to underweight babies, a new study shows.

A work week of 32 hours or more and high job strain during the first trimester had an impact on an infant's birth weight, according to the study conducted by Dutch researchers.

A combination of high job stress and a long work week was associated with the greatest birth-weight reduction and the highest risk of delivering a small-for-gestational-age baby, said the study appearing Thursday in the online issue of the American Journal of *Public Health*. The study analyzed responses from 8,266 pregnant women who filled out a questionnaire on employment and working conditions.

"Although pregnant women typically reduce their working hours or workloads at the end of the pregnancy, our results suggest that reducing job strain and working hours in the initial stages of pregnancy may be beneficial among women with stressful full-time jobs," the researchers concluded.—*Internet*



A woman works on an exhibit at a mammoth show. Woolly mammoths survived in Britain until 14,000 years ago, around 6,000 years longer than previously thought, according to a study released on Thursday.—INTERNET

Union of Myanmar**Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee****Invitation for supply**

1. Everyone is invited for supply of the following Materials;

Sr No; Description

1. External electrification
2. Internal electrification
3. Elevator
4. Air conditioning
5. Lightning Arrestor
6. Internal water supply & sanitation
7. External water supply & sanitation
8. Construction Materials (such as glass wall, ceiling, paints etc.).

2. Application forms are available at our office before end of 30.6.2009 and for further detail please call; Secretary of Procurement Committee Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee. Phone; 067-414205, 067-414202, 067-414204, 067-409363.

Five kidnapped Filipino hospital workers freed in Yemen

MANILA, 19 June—Five Filipino workers who were abducted with 21 other hospital personnel on 11 June in the restive northern province of Saada, Yemen have been released, the Philippine Government said on Thursday.

Citing a report from the Philippine Embassy in Saudi Arabia, the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs said the Filipinos were released this week after successful negotiations with the captors by the sheikh and some government officials. Philippine Ambassador, who is based in Riyadh and concurrently accredited to Yemen, identified the five Filipino workers as Rosan Agfuna, Jerry Boy Forteza, Alvin Francisco, Candelaria Gucio, and Marydon Torres. They all work for an Al-Salam Hospital in Saada.

Villamor said the Filipino workers were travelling with some Egyptian doctors and other hospital staff of different nationalities when captors struck at a mountainous pass in Sufian, outside the centre of Saada.—*MNA/Xinhua*

China, Singapore hold joint anti-terror training exercises

BEIJING, 19 June—China and Singapore are conducting a joint anti-terrorism training exercise in Guilin in the southwest Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, military sources said on Thursday.

The drill, "Cooperation-2009", involves 61 soldiers and officers of the People's Liberation Army and 61 of their Singapore counterparts, Huang Xueping, spokesman with the Ministry of National Defence, told *Xinhua*.

The exercise started on Thursday and will conclude June 26. The exercise will conduct simulations of an attempt by international terrorists to attack an expo sing radioactive contaminants, biological and chemical weapons. The task forces will conduct joint training and seminars to improve their ability to detect and handle those threats, the spokesman said.

The joint training exercises were arranged by defence authorities of the two countries, and they represent the PLA's first joint operation with foreign forces in security maintenance, Huang said.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Oregonian woman with rabbits jailed again

BEIJING, 19 June — An Oregonian woman who was convicted of animal neglect for hoarding hundreds of rabbits in her home, was arrested again Tuesday at a hotel after an employee reported finding 14 rabbits in her room, police said.

Miriam Sakewitz, 47, was banned from owning or controlling animals when 250 rabbits — 100 of which were found dead in freezers and refrigerators — were found in her Hillsboro home in 2006. A court ordered her to stay away from animals.

On Tuesday, police said they found eight adult rabbits, five baby rabbits and one dead rabbit and called for an animal control officer. An employee at the Homestead Suites, an extended-stay hotel on 68th Parkway, tipped off police after seeing the rabbits caged in the hotel room, said Officer Jim Wolf in a police department news release. The employee was conducting maintenance on the property.

Sakewitz was taken into custody by Tigard police officers on a charge of parole violation because she was in contact with animals. She was booked into the Washington County Jail. She was convicted on animal neglect charges and released on 10 years probation. As a condition of her release, Sakewitz was ordered not to keep pets and stay at least 100 yards away from rabbits. —*Internet*



File satellite picture shows the "mud volcano" and its surrounding area in Sidoarjo, East Java. Indonesia's devastating 'mud volcano' could keep spewing for the next 30 years, filling the equivalent of 50 Olympic-size swimming pools every day, a top Australian expert warned.—INTERNET

WHO says Africa accounts for 30% of global TB cases

LAGOS, 19 June—The World Health Organization (WHO) says three out of 10 cases of global tuberculosis (TB) are still in Africa in spite of efforts to eradicate the disease, the *News Agency of Nigeria* reported Wednesday. This is contained in a statement issued by the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) in Lagos. The statement noted that the disease remained a major public health problem on the continent. The statement indicated that the African region accounts for 30 per cent of the global TB burden even though it represents approximately only 10 per cent of the world's population. — *MNA/Xinhua*



US lunar probes lift off on mission to scout water, landing sites

WASHINGTON, 19 June —NASA's two new lunar probes — Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO), Lunar CRater Observation and Sensing Satellite (LCROSS), lifted off Thursday on a landmark mission to scout water sources and landing sites in anticipation of leading astronauts back to the moon in 2020.

The two probes, a powerful lunar orbiter and a smaller spacecraft that will hunt for water ice by crashing into the moon, were launched on an Atlas V rocket at about 5:32 pm

EDT (2132 GMT) from the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida.

LRO is a robotic mission aimed at creating a comprehensive atlas of the moon's features, finding possible landing sites, identifying available resources, characterizing the radiation environment and testing new technology.

LCROSS will search for water ice on the moon by sending the spent upper-stage Centaur rocket to impact part of a polar crater in permanent shadows. It will fly into the plume of

dust left by the impact and measure the properties before also colliding with the lunar surface.

The launch of the dual probes occurred one month shy of the 40th anniversary of the first lunar footprints.

The 583-million-dollar mission has been delayed since October 2008 and was slated to launch on Wednesday. But NASA opted to delay the flight by one more day to allow the space shuttle endeavour to try and launch after a hydrogen gas leak thwarted its initial attempt.

Internet

Greece ready to reunite sculptures

ATHENS, 19 June—Saturday's long-awaited opening of the new Acropolis Museum will show the world that Greece has a world-class facility suitable for the Parthenon Marbles, the Greek culture minister says.

British Museum officials have rebuffed repeated Greek requests for the return of the 2,500-year-old marbles removed from the Parthenon in 1806 by Lord Elgin, British ambassador to the Ottoman Empire when it ruled Greece.

The modern glass and concrete museum, Culture Minister Antonis Samaras told *Xinhua* during a recent interview, knocks down British contentions that Greece has no decent place to house the sculptures. "I think now the argument no longer exists," Samaras said.

"The new argument, a great argument, is not a simple revaluation of the marbles but the reunification

of the marbles."

He likened the absent marbles to family photos that have been cut into several sections. "You need to get photos with whole family members together," Samaras said. "You cannot cut works of Picasso, Rembrandt or Da Vinci into two parts, showing half of them in Spain, other parts in Paris, London or Italy."

The 177 million-dollar museum, initially scheduled to open before the 2004 Athens Olympics, will host most of the Acropolis finds.

That includes some of the best surviving works of classical sculpture that once adorned the structure's marble temples.

The museum, designed by US-based architect Bernard Tschumi in collaboration with Greece's Michalis Photiadis, contains more than 4,000 ancient works in 20,000 square meters of display space.—Internet

New pest discovered in Texas

HOUSTON, 19 June—An agriculture specialist recently discovered in the US state of Texas a weevil that the science world has yet to describe, the US media reported on Thursday.

The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agriculture specialist working in Freeport, Texas, discovered two weCBPevils during a routine cargo examination of a 50,000-kg shipment of Guatemalan pineapples, according to the ABC TV channel.

Since specialists were not able to identify the pests, they sent the specimens to the United States Department of Agriculture for identification, and the United States Department of Agriculture results indicated the pests are a new species.

"On rare occasions while our officers and agriculture specialists are doing their jobs they make history. CBP is very proud of our agriculture specialists and their accomplishments," said Jeffrey O Baldwin, director of Houston Field Operations.—Internet



Undated file photo shows a recovery image of *Limusaurus*.—INTERNET

Japan relaxes over A/H1N1 flu despite rising infections

TOKYO, 19 June — The Japanese government relaxed its guidelines for dealing with the new A/H1N1 influenza Friday although the total infection tally is still on the rise.

Under the revised guidelines, the government basically allows every medical institution in the country to see new-flu patients and for people with mild symptoms to recuperate at home.

The government will also stop counting all individual infections and focus instead more on early detection of group infections.—Internet

Thailand's A/H1N1 patients rise to 589

BANGKOK, 19 June—Thailand's Public Health Ministry on Friday announced 71 more patients, who are confirmed to have caught the A/H1N1 flu virus, bringing the country's total number to 589.

Of the total, some 349 patients are in Bangkok, according to the Ministry's Bureau of Epidemiology. The other 82 cases are those in Nondhbuli Province, 63 in Pathoomthani Province, 30 in Chonburi Province and 27 in Samothprakarn Province, said the Ministry's Bureau of Epidemiology.—Internet

Malaysia introduces stricter measures to fight A/H1N1 flu

KUALA LUMPUR, 19 June—Malaysia has introduced ten new measures to prevent A/H1N1 flu from spreading in the country.

Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin said that one of the measures was compulsory health declaration form by all travelers arriving in the country, which would be gazetted next week, according to local newspapers on Friday. Any travellers whoever fail to do so could be liable to a 10,000 ringgit (2,857.1 US dollars) fine or two years' jail or both, under the Malaysian Disease Prevention Act, Muhyiddin told reporters here on Thursday.

Other measures included sending health officers on board flights to scan body temperatures of passengers coming from the United States, Melbourne of Australia and Manila of the Philippines.—Internet



The new 140mph trains will run between London and Kent.—INTERNET

Javelin train on 140mph test-run

LONDON, 19 June—Guests on a test-run of the "Javelin" — Britain's fastest commuter train with a 140mph (225km/h) top speed - have been whisked from London to Kent and back.

The Hitachi train took 30 minutes to travel from St Pancras station to Ashford at an average speed of 114mph. The return journey took 29 minutes. Southeastern will begin a limited high-speed service on the line on 29 June with a full service from 13 December. The Japanese-built trains will reduce journey times by up to 43 minutes. The test-run on the Channel Tunnel line passed without a hitch and was slightly quicker than the forthcoming passenger services as it did not stop at Ebbsfleet.

The services are expected to cut Ashford to London journey times from 80 minutes to 37 minutes. Ebbsfleet to London will take 17 minutes. The trains, which have 338 seats and can carry up to 508 people, will provide the "javelin" service to take spectators from St Pancras to the 2012 Olympics site at Stratford in east London in just seven minutes.—Internet

SPORTS

Homos the Confed Cup hero as Egypt stun Italy

JOHANNESBURG, 19 June—Unknown Mohamed Homos scored the goal that gave Egypt a shock 1-0 win over Italy and heightened hopes of two African qualifiers for the Confederations Cup semi-finals.

The clash of World Cup and African Nations Cup champions at Ellis Park was a thrilling climax to the fourth series of matches that began with Brazil cruising to a 3-0 victory over a 10-man United States at Loftus Versfeld.

Egypt, who came into the tournament under a heavy cloud after a hammering from Algeria in a World Cup qualifier, remain third in Group B behind Italy on goal difference. But the Pharaohs face a demoralised and pointless USA in their final pool fixture in Rustenburg on Sunday night while Italy must confront goal-hungry six-point Brazil in Pretoria at the same time.—*Internet*



Egyptian midfielder Mohamed Homos (centre) celebrates with teammates after scoring against Italy during their FIFA Confederations Cup match at the Ellis Park stadium in Johannesburg. —INTERNET

Melbourne chosen for 2012 track world championship

GENEVA, 19 June — Melbourne of Australia was chosen to host the 2012 world track cycling championships, International Cycling Union's (UCI) announced here on Thursday.

Melbourne, which previously hosted the event in 2004, was chosen during a meeting of the UCI steering committee in Lausanne.

The Australian city is already scheduled to host the world road cycling championship in 2010.

The steering committee also awarded the 2012 BMX world championships to the English city of Birmingham.

Internet

Inter's Ibrahimovic on sale for good price

ROME, 19 June — Inter Milan are willing to sell Swedish striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic for the right price, the club's chief executive Ernesto Paolillo told *La Gazzetta dello Sport's* website on Thursday.

"Everything can happen at the right price," Paolillo said.

"Ibra's value is not less than Kaka's and could be around that of Cristiano Ronaldo."

According to media reports Real paid AC Milan around 68 million euros (94.90 million US dollars) for Brazil playmaker Kaka and bought Ronaldo from Manchester United for 80 million pounds (131.2 million dollars).

Ibrahimovic, 27, Italian Serie A's top scorer last season, has been linked to Barcelona and Chelsea after expressing his frustration at champions Inter.

Internet

Ronaldo celebrates end of drought spell

RIO DE JANEIRO, 19 June — Along with Corinthians' 2-0 win at home against Internacional, Ronaldo celebrated goal drought of 40 days by scoring his teams second goal in Wednesday's match.

By doing so, the player scored his 11th goal with Corinthians. There are 19 goals left for Ronaldo to meet his forecast of scoring 30 goals this year with Corinthians. The Corinthians players continued their physical workouts on Thursday in preparation for the seventh round of the Brazilian Championship. However, head coach Mano Menezes has already made it known that he plans on resting his star players in this weekend's match.

Facing their cross-town rivals, Sao Paulo, Menezes is placing a higher importance on the rest of principal players in order to guarantee a positive result in the return leg against Internacional in the finals of the Brazilian Cup. Ronaldo, William, Jorge Henrique are expected to receive a day off during Sunday's big game.—*Internet*

Wimbledon doubts grow as Nadal beaten by Hewitt

LONDON, 19 June—Spain's world number one Rafael Nadal struggled here on Thursday as he lost 6-4, 6-3 to Australian Lleyton Hewitt to cast further doubt on whether he will be able to defend his Wimbledon title.

The 23-year-old would be the first Wimbledon champion since Goran Ivanisevic to fail to return the following year to defend the crown, which he won in an epic victory over Roger Federer last year.

Nadal is suffering from tendonitis in both knees which saw him fade to a stunning defeat in the French Open fourth round by eventual finalist Robin Soderling of Sweden.—*Internet*



Rafael Nadal of Spain switches end during an exhibition match against Lleyton Hewitt of Australia at The Hurlingham Club in West London, England. Nadal lost 6-4, 6-3. INTERNET

Brazil marches into semifinal of Confederations Cup

PRETORIA, 19 June—South American champions Brazil became the second squad into the semifinals of the 2009 FIFA Confederations Cup by defeating the United States 3-0 here on Thursday in Group B.

The victory came after European champion Spain has secured a place in the semifinal by collecting six points in two matches, defeating Iraq 1-0 and New Zealand 5-0.

The Seleccion Brasileira has been put under spotlight after their sloppy 4-3 win against African champions Egypt on Monday.

Coach Dunga has cited their flight of 32 hours and recent World Cup qualification against Uruguay as major reasons for the result.

Brazilian star Kaka has been quoted as vowing prior to the match against the Star and Stripes that the improvement in their performance would come as the tournament continues.—*Xinhua*

Spanish press hails Madrid's candidature for Olympic Games

MADRID, 19 June — The Spanish press on Thursday hailed the good impression that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) got on Madrid's candidature to host the Olympic Games in 2016.

The Spanish media paid tribute to the presentations done by Madrid's representatives as well as the candidatures from Tokyo (Japan), Rio do Janeiro (Brazil) and Chicago (US).

The IOC will announce on Oct. 2 the city which will host the Olympic Games in 2016, during a ceremony hosted in Copenhagen, Denmark. Madrid's mayor, Alberto Ruiz-Gallardon, led the delegation that presented Madrid before about 100 IOC members at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne, Switzerland.—*Internet*

Perez confident of Villa's sign to Real

MADRID, 19 June — Real Madrid president Florentino Perez on Thursday declared that the David Villa's transfer from Valencia to Real "a matter of time".

Real are hoping to secure Villa for a fee in the region of 40 million euros, having already this month paid 65 million to take Brazil playmaker Kaka from AC Milan and a world record 93 million to gain Portuguese winger Cristiano Ronaldo from Manchester United.

Speaking to Valencia-based local television station Canal 9, Perez expressed optimism over the transfer of Villa, who was the top scorer at last year's European Championship and who has expressed a desire to move to Madrid. The transfer would happen "in a context of friendship and cooperation" between Real and Valencia, according to Perez.—*Internet*

Flooded course and crowded lot make for Open fun

FARMINGDALE, 19 June—19 June—Talk about brutal conditions at the US Open.

The wind was gusting, blowing rain sideways and creating waves in puddles that were nearing ankle deep. Umbrellas were deployed with a mission in mind, because by now it was clear it was every man for himself.

This was no time to get in the way in the parking lot at Bethpage Black, where it was a miracle the best players in world didn't trample each other as they paired off with their caddies in a mad dash through the rain on Thursday afternoon to the safety of their waiting Lexuses.

They were the unlucky ones, this group of morning starters that included Tiger Woods. Now, wet, tired and sick of sitting around the locker room, they were beginning to realize just how unlucky they might really be.—*Internet*



Spectators leave the course as grounds crew squeegee water off the 18th fairway during first round play in the US Open golf championship on the Black Course at Bethpage State Park in Farmingdale, New York, on 18 June, 2009. —INTERNET



Five-week-old Amur tiger cubs play with each other at the Highland Wildlife Park near Kingussie, Scotland, on 16 June, 2009. Their parents Sasha and Yuri, have now bred nine cubs in total with the last three born on 11 May, 2009. Amur tigers, previously known as Siberian tigers, were renamed in the 1990's as they are now only found the Amur River valley in Russia, and no longer in Siberia, hence their new name.—INTERNET

Elbegdorj sworn in as Mongolia's president

ULAN BATOR, 19 June — Mongolian President-elect Tsakhia Elbegdorj took the oath of office on Thursday. In an inaugural speech, Elbegdorj, a two-time former prime minister, called for national unity and vowed to fight corruption to the end.

He also pledged efforts to improve the people's standard of living. On Mongolia's foreign policy, he said his government will give priority to boosting friendly relations with the two neighbouring countries — China and Russia.

Jiang Shusheng, vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress (NPC), attend the inauguration as special envoy of Chinese President Hu Jintao. Elbegdorj, a member of the second largest party Democratic Party, will serve a four-year term after winning the May 24 election with 51.21 per cent of the vote. — MNA/Xinhua

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (20-6-2009) (Saturday)

Transmissions

Local	- (09:00am ~ 10:00am) MST
Europe	- (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm) MST
North America	- (23:30pm ~ 07:30am) MST

Times

Local Transmission

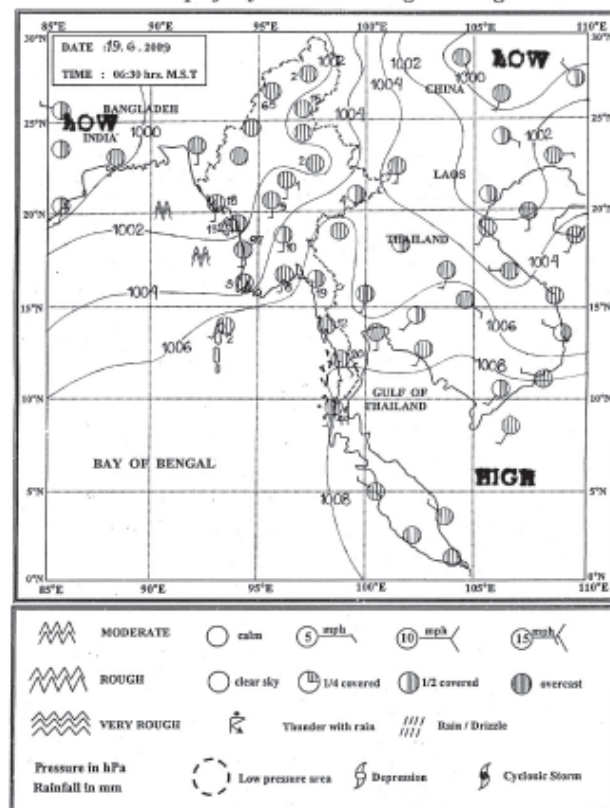
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * A Village on Pearl Island
- * Green Turtle
- * Further Amity Between Myanmar and Srilanka
- * Sightseeing Around Taunggyi, Inlay (Part-I)
- * Take an active part in the anti-drug campaign
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * The Beauty of Zwegabin and Livelihood of Kayin National
- * Use dam water effectively and grow high-yield quality crops
- * The World of Mro Nationals
- * Pleasant Inkyin Park
- * Myanmar's Medicinal Orchid
- * Yoke Sone Monastery of Lea Kai Ancient City
- * Mounzann Maywae
- * A Clean and Green Brewery
- * Myanmar Traditional Snack "Dawei Ngamoun" (Fish Crispies)
- * A Village on Pearl Island
- * Green Turtle
- * Decoration of Myanmar Lacquerware
- * Sightseeing Around Taunggyi, Inlay (Part-I)
- * Take an active part in the anti-drug Campaign
- * Traditional Matrimony of Khamti Shan
- * Climpse at the Architecture (The Dhammayangyi)
- * Unforgettable Traditional Food
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv 3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 19 June, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Chin State and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfall in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyaukpyu (5.20) inches, Thandwe (3.86) inches, Bilin (2.80) inches, Hkamti (2.64) inches, Machanbaw (2.24) inches, Kawthong (2.01) inches and Kyopinkauk (1.14) inches.

Maximum temperature on 18-6-2009 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 19-6-2009 was 70°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 19-6-2009 was 82%. Total sun shine hours on 18-6-2009 was (0.2) hour approx.

Rainfall on 19-6-2009 was (0.08) inch at Mingaladon, (0.32) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.35) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (29.88) inches at Mingaladon, (35.87) inches at Kaba-Aye and (41.81) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (12:30) hours MST on 18-6-2009.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 19th June 2009: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Shan and Kayah States, Mandalay, Magway and Lower Sagaing Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin and Chin States, Upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Rakhine and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of strong monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 20-6-2009: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 20-6-2009: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 20-6-2009: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Weather outlook for fourth weekend of June 2009: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division, widespread in Yangon Division.



Saturday, 20 June
View on today

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြု ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:05 am

6. Dance variety

8:20 am

7. Musical programme

8:40 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. အမျိုးနှင့်မျိုး

11:00 am

1. Martial song

11:10 am

2. Musical programme

11:25 am

3. ချစ်စရာအရွယ်ကစားကြမယ်

11:50 am

4. Round up of the week's TV local news

12:20 pm

5. Yan Can Cook

12:40 pm

6. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဟာသကမ္ဘာ" (အပိုင်း-၃)

1:30 pm

7. Song of national races

1:35 pm

8. လောကနီတိ "လှပခြင်း၏အဓိပ္ပာယ်" (အကယ်ဒမီဆုရရှိသော နိုင်းနိုင်း၊ နိုင်နိုင်း၊ နိုင်နိုင်း၊ နိုင်နိုင်း၊ နိုင်နိုင်း၊ နိုင်နိုင်း)

2:15 pm

9. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:25 pm

10. Musical programme

2:40 pm

11. International news

3:45 pm

1. Myanmar National League MNL-Cup 2009

ဘောလုံးပြိုင်ပွဲတိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်မှုအစီအစဉ် (ဥသယုနီတက် FC အသင်း နှင့် Southern Myanmar FC အသင်း)

5:45 pm

2. Musical programme

6:00 pm

3. Evening news

6:30 pm

4. Weather Report

6:35 pm

5. အလှူရှာမယ်လှူကမ္ဘာဝယ်

6:45 pm

6. Musical programme

7:00 pm

7. ပဉ္စလက်ကျောင်းတော်

7:15 pm

8. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ပေါ်ပြူလာအချစ်" (အပိုင်း-၃)

8:00 pm

9. News

10. International News

11. Weather Report

12. ကာတွန်းအစီအစဉ် "ခိုင်ခိုင်ဆာသားစုစုစားခန်း" (အပိုင်း-၁၇)

13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကျေးဇူးတင်ပါတယ်" (အပိုင်း-၂၀)



Kunchaung Dam in Kyangin Township, Ayeyawady Division

Article: Kyaw Sein; Photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

In our trip, we noticed a large quantity of thriving summer paddy fields, and farmers harvesting summer paddy fields and ploughing fields to grow monsoon paddy along Yangon-Pyay Highway. Long ago, local farmers were in no position to cultivate paddy in summer. Now, they can grow paddy both in the rainy season and in summer due to the dams.

I was further stimulated to write articles depicting regional development by 20,000 acres of flourishing paddy fields irrigated by Kunchaung Dam in Kyangin and Myanaung townships on the western bank of the Ayeyawady River.

On the morning of 10 May, we headed for the dam, passing through Nawade Bridge linking the east bank and west bank of the Ayeyawady River. Deputy Director of Construction-2 (Pyay) under the Irrigation Department U Yee in an interview told the Myanma Alin that Kunchaung Dam was constructed by damming the Ahlon (North) Creek near Tatkon Village in Kyangin Township, Hinthada District, Ayeyawady Division; that it was designed to benefit all-year round the farmlands in Kyangin and Myanaung townships with an average annual rainfall of about 55 inches as the regions had high rainfalls in the rainy season, but water was insufficient in summer; that

Kyangin Township and Kunchaung Dam were located in the northern part of Ayeyawady Division; that the summer paddy sown acreage was on the increase annually thanks to the dams; and that the facilities provided not only irrigation water but also freshwater.

When asked about the irrigation system, he said that then the dam had irrigated sufficiently the summer paddy fields in the two townships; that irrigation water was supplied earlier to summer paddy fields than last year, and 16,000 more acre feet of water could be supplied to the farms; that they carried out maintenance work to the dam. (See page 10)



Kunchaung Dam near Tatkon Village, Kyangin Township, Hinthada District, Ayeyawady Division.

Sony beefs up Blu-ray strategy

SAN FRANCISCO, 19 June —Even as Blu-ray Disc and Blu-ray player sales are growing, Sony is looking to build out its larger strategy surrounding the company's high-definition disc products.

At a small press event here Thursday, the company introduced a new feature of BD-Live and a new piece of Blu-ray hardware.

MovieIQ will be included on some high-profile releases from Sony starting in September. It's essentially IMDb live—while a movie is playing, facts about casting, directors, production,

and actors' filmographies pop up onscreen. It's powered not by IMDb, but by Gracenote, creators of CDDb, which HYPERLINK "http://news.cnet.com/8301-10784_3-9926240-7.html" to "Sony acquires Gracenote for \$260 million — Tuesday, 22 April, 2008" Sony purchased just over a year ago.

It's the kind of feature intended to keep people from pausing a movie and hopping online to ask questions like, "I totally recognize that actress, but from what movie?" It's also meant to build on the inherent capability of Blu-ray players that have Internet access. Sony has tried to do this by allowing BD-Live access to exclusive trailers and some trivia games, but MovieIQ seems like something that users would engage with repeatedly, not something they'd just use once and forget about.

A senior Sony exec at the event, Tracy Garvey, called MovieIQ the "first killer-app for BD-Live." That sounded like an admission that none of the BD-Live features thus far have been all that compelling.

It's clear Sony is still in the process of fine-tuning its BD-Live strategy. At the event, Sony Vice President Rich Marty said that while 37 million Blu-ray Discs were sold in 2008, the company has only released about 100 titles that are BD-Live enabled.

Internet



Collective ploughing for cultivation of monsoon paddy in Waw Tsp, Bago Div

NAY PYI TAW, 19 June—The collective ploughing for cultivation of monsoon was held at Kyaiklat Village-tract in Waw Township, Bago Division on 11 June.

Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min looked into the ploughing task and gave necessary instructions to officials.

MNA

Continuing Professional Development Forum on 24 June

YANGON, 19 June—With a view to promoting medical science on common diseases and family health care medical education, the Continuing Professional Development Forum, organized by General Practitioners Society under Myanmar Medical Association, will be held at Hall (A) of MMA from 12 noon to 3 pm on 24 June. At the forum, a paper on family health care will be read out and it will also include Q&A on Common Surgical Problems in General Family Practice in a programme to meet with a physician.

MNA

