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Fullmoon Day of Waso 1371 ME

Monday, 6 July, 2009

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

Tasks of Uppatasanti Pagoda to Pagoda Board of Trustees for systematically carrying out tasks for long term maintenance

Secretary-1 attends coordination meeting on Uppatasanti Pagoda of Nay Pyi Taw



Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo addresses the work coordination meeting on Uppatasanti Pagoda of Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—A work coordination meeting on Uppatasanti Pagoda of Nay Pyi Taw was held at the hall of the Pagoda Board of Trustees at 2 pm today, with an address by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Construction of Uppatasanti Pagoda Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin

Aung Myint Oo.

Also present at the meeting were Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, ministers, the Attorney-General, deputy ministers, members of the leading committee and work committee and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, the Secretary-1 said that

today's meeting was to hand over the tasks of the pagoda to the Pagoda Board of Trustees for systematically carrying out the tasks of the pagoda for long term maintenance, for finishing the remaining tasks of the pagoda, for systematically putting on records the construction tasks and architectural works and

(See page 8)

INSIDE

Waso begins Buddhist Lent

Since the time of Myanmar Kings, ordination in Waso has been the great festive event of the month. The king patronized and supported this event providing lavish finance from royal treasury. His sons and nephews and even he himself would be ordained for a short period and attained the title "Sasana Dayika Min [Royal Inheritor of Buddha Sasana].

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DR. KHIN MAUNG NYUNT

Waso Memoirs

The Fullmoon Day of Waso is the seasons greeting to the beginning of the Buddhist lent and is one of the holiest days in Buddhism.

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PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 6 July, 2009

Fullmoon Day of Waso, a day of extraordinary virtue

Today, the Fullmoon Day of Waso, is a day of religious significance. Better known to the Buddhists as the Dhammacakka Day, significance of the day can be seen in that it was the day on which the Lord Buddha delivered His first Sermon—Dhammacakka Pavattana (The Wheel of the doctrine)—to Panca Vaggi (the group of the first Five Monks) in the Deer Park soon after His Enlightenment.

In the sermon, the Lord Buddha expounded the Middle Way (Majjhima Patipada) that comprises the two extremes—Kama Sukkhalikanuyoga which means indulgence in sensual pleasures and Attakilamathanuyoga which means self-mortification. And with those wrong paths one cannot free oneself from the cycle of birth and dead. The Buddha also said that only through Majjhima Patipada or Noble Eightfold Path, it would be possible for one to gain insight and attain Nibbana.

The Noble Eightfold Path consists of right understanding, right thought, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness and right concentration.

The Fullmoon Day of Waso, is also a day of extraordinary virtue as it was the day on which the Buddha-to-be Prince Siddhattha was conceived and the day on which he renounced the worldly life. This being so, all the Buddhists usually offer Waso flowers to pagodas and monasteries, offer Waso robes and requisites to members of the Sangha and do meritorious deeds such as keeping the Precepts and practise meditation on that day.

Therefore, all the Buddhists are to do constantly meritorious deeds such as making charity (dana), observing morality (sila) and undertaking meditation (bhavana) while practising the Noble Eightfold Path that includes in His first Sermon “Dhammacakka Pavattana”.

Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han delivers an address at Mandalay Natural Disaster Management Committee in Mandalay.—NLM



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

Progress of Yatanarpon Myothit Project inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspected sand filtering pond and water tank being built by Mandalay City Development Committee and construction of roads in the area of Yatanarpon Myothit Project near PynOoLwin on 4 July.

The minister looked into construction of CDMA-450 control room and building of factories and workshops in Soft Base Factories. The minister gave instructions on timely completion of the construction tasks.

After visiting Incubation Center, the minister viewed provision of software courses at MCC Training Institute. The minister visited the training school and left necessary instructions.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspects providing of software courses of MCC Training Institute in Incubation Center in Yatanarpon Myothit.—COMMUNICATIONS

International Day of the Cooperatives observed

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—A ceremony to mark the International Day of the Cooperatives was held at the hall of the Ministry of Cooperatives, here, yesterday morning.

Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Tin Htut delivered an address.

Managing Director U Kyi Tint of Central Cooperative Society read the message sent by

International Cooperative Federation.

The minister and officials presented prizes to 12 outstanding students of Cooperative Degree College and Cooperative Colleges for 2008-2009 academic year and 51 outstanding students of staff in the 2009 matriculation examination.

Also present on the occasion were

departmental heads of Cooperative Department, Cottage Industries Department and Cooperative Export and Import Enterprise, heads of State/Division Cooperative Departments, principals of Cooperative Degree College and Cooperative Colleges, Central Cooperative Society and Cooperative Bank Ltd.

MNA

Mandalay Natural Disaster Management Committee meets

MANDALAY, 5 July — A coordination meeting of Mandalay Natural Disaster Management Committee took place at the office of Mandalay City Development Committee on 24 June with an address by Chairman of MNDMC Chairman of MCDC

Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han.

It was also attended by Vice-Chairman of MNDMC Secretary of MCDC U Maung Pu, Joint-Secretary U San Maung, divisional level departmental officials, Joint-Secretary of Mandalay Division USDA U Sein Myint, heads of department of MCDC and local authorities.

First, Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han delivered a speech. U San Maung reported on the formation of the committee and duties assigned.

Later, officials of various departments took part in the discussions and the mayor gave a concluding remark.—NLM



Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut presents prize for outstanding students through principal for 2008-09 academic year to mark International Co-operatives Day.—CO-OPERATIVES

Well-wishers donate US\$ 60000 for Labutta Youth Training School

YANGON, 5 July—Well-wishers Mr. Zuiho Nakashita and wife Daw Aye Aye Khine, son Maung Pyae Thuta and Shin Nyanajoati (Theravada University) donated US\$ 60000 to build a Labutta Youth Training School through Secretary of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Social Welfare and Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe at the hall of Fire Service Department in Mayangon Township, here today. The Minister presented the certificates of honour and spoke words of thanks.—MNA



In this photo taken on 4 July, 2009, destroyed vehicles are seen at the site of a suicide attack in Lashkar Gah, the provincial capital of Helmand Province south of Kabul, Afghanistan. An Afghan civilian was killed and five others were wounded in the attack, Afghan police officials said.—INTERNET

Suicide bombing kills security guard, wounds four others in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 5 July—A suicide car bombing against security guards of an Afghan private security company Saturday afternoon killed one person and injured four others in southern Afghan province of Helmand, an official said on Saturday.

“A man, driving explosive-laden car, exploded himself next to a convoy of local security firm in Kandahar-Helmand highway, killing one guard and injuring four more,” Mohammad Dawod Ahmadi told *Xinhua*.

No groups or individuals have claimed responsibility for the incident so far.

Taliban-linked insurgency and violence, mostly in southern and eastern region, is sharply going up in the country, as more than four dozen people, including two NATO-led International Security Assistance Forces soldiers, were killed in a single day Saturday.

Internet

17-year-old charged with shooting girl

BALTIMORE, 5 July—A Baltimore teenager was charged Saturday with wounding a 5-year-old girl who was shot in the head as she walked home with her aunt, police said.

Police Commissioner Frederick H Bealefield III said Lamont Davis, 17, will be charged as an adult, *The Baltimore Sun* reported.

The charges included attempted murder, assault and reckless endangerment.

Investigators said Davis and other teenagers were hanging out Thursday when they got into a fight.

Davis allegedly went to get a gun, returned with a semi-automatic and opened fire.

The commissioner said the shooting was not drug or gang-related.

“This wasn’t because people were trying to achieve hierarchy in La Cosa Nostra or Bloods or Crips or whatever. It’s just people being dumb,” Bealefeld said at a news conference Saturday.

“Two young men being insanely stupid.” The girl was in the pediatric intensive care unit at the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore.—

Internet



Smoke is seen across Ocracoke Island, NC on 4 July, 2009 after a truckload of fireworks exploded on a remote island dock, killing one worker and injuring others preparing for an Independence Day celebration, authorities said. The explosion shook homes and businesses and was heard across a village on the southern end of Ocracoke Island, which is the only inhabited part of the 15-mile spit of land.—INTERNET

One killed, four wounded in US fireworks truck blast

WASHINGTON, 5 July — One person died and four others were critically injured when a truck carrying fireworks exploded on an island in North Carolina on Saturday, authorities said.

Jamie Tunnell, spokeswoman for Hyde County, North Carolina, said the fireworks were to be used for the evening’s Fourth of July fireworks show on Ocracoke Island, and the dead person and the four wounded were members of a crew involved in setting up the display. The truck exploded at the island’s docks. Emergency crews and firefighters were called to the scene and two of them were being treated for smoke inhalation and exhaustion.

The Ocracoke Island can be reached only by ferry, private boat or plane. After the explosion, ferry service to the island was suspended. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives will participate in the investigation.

Internet



In this photo released by China’s Xinhua News Agency, taken on 4 July, 2009, local people paddle boats through a flooded street in Rongshui county, southwest China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.—XINHUA

Obama seeks new start in US-Russia relations

Moscow, 5 July— Presidents Barack Obama and Dmitry Medvedev end a seven-year hiatus in US-Russian summitry on Monday, with both men declaring their determination to further cut nuclear arsenals and repair a badly damaged relationship.

Both sides appear to want to use progress on arms control as a pathway into possible agreement on other, far trickier issues ó like Iran and the

tiny country of Georgia, a former Soviet republic. Those difficulties and many others have soured a promising linkage in the first years after the Cold War and pushed ties between Moscow and Washington to depths not seen in more than two decades.

Obama arrives here Monday afternoon, the first stop on a weeklong trip that will also take him to Italy and Ghana.

“It’s not, in our view, a zero-sum game, that if it’s two points for Russia it’s negative two for us, but there are ways that we can cooperate to advance our interests and,

at the same time, do things with the Russians that are good for them, as well,” Obama’s top assistant on Russia, Michael McFaul, said in a pre-summit briefing.

He seemed to be of one mind with the Russian leader, Medvedev.

“Russia and America need new, common, mutually beneficial projects in business, science and culture,” the Russian president said in his weekly Internet address. “I hope that this sincere desire to open a new chapter in Russian-American cooperation will be brought into fruition.”—*Internet*

16 dead, about 320,000 flee homes in China floods

BEIJING, 5 July—At least 16 people have died and more than 320,000 have evacuated homes in southern and central China after heavy rains toppled houses, flooded roads and damaged a dam, news reports say.

In the central province of Hunan, floods have killed eight people and forced 140,000 to relocate since rain began pounding the region on Wednesday, the official *Xinhua News Agency* said.

Five people have died in southeastern Fujian Province, two others were missing, and 22,000 people have been evacuated, *Xinhua* said Saturday.

Another three people died and four were missing in Jiangxi Province of the Guangxi region.

Another 80,000 people were forced from their homes.

Rains caused 287 rural houses in Guangxi to topple and inundated Rongshui county causing the Rongjiang river to overflow its banks. More than 70,000 people in the region have been moved, the news agency said.

The county government estimated damage at 210 million yuan (\$31 million).

Internet

Bleak payrolls report mauls Wall St; volume thin

NEW YORK, 5 July— Stocks tumbled on Thursday, driving the S&P 500 down to its third-straight weekly loss, as a steeper-than-expected slide in June non-farm payrolls revived caution about economic recovery prospects.

News that US employers shed nearly half a million jobs last month and the unemployment rate jumped to 9.5 percent, the highest in nearly 26 years, dampened recent hopes that the recession might be abating.

Investors pummeled stocks across the board, but energy, industrials, financials,

technology and consumer-oriented shares were among the hardest-hit sectors.

These sectors were at the forefront of the broader market's recent recovery from the 12-year closing lows of early March as investors bet that the worst of the economic slump was over.

All told, the jobs data served as a reality check and signaled that any recovery will not be smooth sailing, analysts said.

"Quite frankly, rising unemployment is bad for the entire economy," said Sasha Kostadinov, portfolio manager at Shaker Investments in Cleveland, Ohio. "It's not positive for discretionary stocks. It's not positive for financials — because there's a direct correlation between the high unemployment rate and charge-offs and delinquent payments."

Internet



Tourists enjoy the "Pineapple Tour" at the "Finca Corsicana" in Sarapiquí, 100 km north from San Jose in 2008. Costa Rica is the happiest place on earth, and one of the most environmentally friendly, according to a new survey by a British non-governmental group.—INTERNET

Green Room helping Japanese expedition

MATSUDO, 5 July—The head of a Japanese expedition in the Antarctic says so-called Green Room growth techniques have proved invaluable to the researchers.

Expedition leader Shuki Ushio said the Japanese agricultural breakthrough that uses fluorescent lights to grow vegetables indoors has allowed expedition members to eat more than simple freeze-dried food products, *Kyodo News* reported Saturday.

"I didn't think we could

eat fresh crispy vegetables," Ushio said. "I was very impressed."

Mirai Co President Shigeharu Shimamura said the technology being used by the Antarctic team is based on the Green Room plant his company constructed in Tokyo in 2006. Shimamura said vegetables grown via Green Room techniques can grow twice as fast as vegetables grown through more traditional outdoor cultivation efforts.

Internet



German Thomas Spiegl carries his wife Anke Kindlin during the wife-carrying World Championships in Sonkajarvi, central Finland in 2008. Finland put an end to Estonia's 11-year reign and took gold and bronze on Saturday at the annual Wife-Carrying World Championships held in Sonkajaervi, central Finland, organizers said.—INTERNET

Late blight hits early in Northeast

ITHACA, 5 July—The disease blamed for the Irish potato famine in the 1840s is infecting tomato and potato plants in the eastern United States, agricultural officials said.

A press release from Cornell University, New York state's land grant college, warned home gardeners and commercial farmers that late blight is killing the tomato and potato plants. Meg McGrath, associate professor of plant pathology and plant-microbe biology said "late blight has never occurred this early and this widespread in the US."

Another blight, basil downy mildew, is also affecting plants in the Northeast.

McGrath said an early symptom is brown spots on stems. As the spots enlarge, white fungal growth develops until a soft rot collapses the stem.

Since the spores are carried on the wind, McGrath said gardeners must act quickly to make sure their plants are not the source of blight spreading to commercial farms. She recommended gardeners spray regularly with fungicides and destroy plants with severe blight.

Internet



In this photo taken on 8 May, 2006, a shark bites a piece of fish on a line during a shark-seeing tour three miles from the Haleiwa, Hawaii town on the North Shore of Oahu.—INTERNET

Beatings spark fears for Bangladesh's tigers

DHAKA, 5 July—When forest officials in southeastern Bangladesh heard that two tigers had strayed out of the forest and into a remote village they knew they had to act quickly.

Though villagers in the area were worried about their own lives, the authorities were racing to save the big cats after a wave of similar incidents in recent years have ended with the endangered animals being beaten to death.

In this instance, the tigers were already dead by the time the officials arrived.

"Tigers go in and out of villages in the night but if they go in during the day, they never survive. The villagers beat them to death," said Aboni Bhusan Thakur, the government's chief conservation officer for the Sundarbans mangrove forest.

One of the tigers, a five-year-old male, had apparently got lost and hid in a shack, where he was attacked by villagers wielding sticks, spears and machetes, Thakur said.

An 18-year-old tigress was also attacked and killed.

Police have arrested one man accused of being the ringleader.

The story is not a new one in Bangladesh. There have been 14 registered cases of tigers being killed in similar circumstances since 2000. Newspaper reports suggest the real figure is closer to 30 while conservationists say it is even higher.

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List, there are fewer than 2,500 Bengal tigers left in the world with as few as 200 of those in Bangladesh — the single largest population in the wild.—Internet



A dead Royal Bengal tiger, slain by local villagers, is carried in the Khalishabunia village of Shyamnagar upazila in Satkhira on 2 July. There have been 14 registered cases of tigers being killed since 2000. Newspaper reports suggest the real figure is closer to 30 while conservationists say it is even higher.—INTERNET

Movement to shut down shark tours in Hawaii grows

HALEIWA, 5 July—Three women donned scuba masks and jumped into the waters off Oahu's North Shore, floating inside a submerged cage as about a dozen sharks glided toward bloody fish scraps tossed into the water by a tour company.

Tourist Kim Duniec said the experience of coming eye-to-eye with sharks was exhilarating. "Their eyes were scary, but they were still graceful, absolutely beautiful," the Beaver Dam, Wis, woman said.

Shark tours like this have become a popular visitor attraction in Hawaii, but a movement is gaining momentum to shut them down.

Some Native Hawaiians consider sharks to be ancestral gods and view feeding them for entertainment to be disrespectful of their culture. Surfers and environmentalists fear the tours will teach sharks to associate people with food — leading to an increase in attacks — while disrupting the ocean's ecological balance. Federal fisheries regulators, meanwhile, are investigating the tours on the grounds that they are illegally feeding sharks.—Internet



Chinese President leaves for leaders' dialogue between G8, emerging economies

BEIJING, 5 July—Chinese President Hu Jintao left Beijing on Sunday for a meeting between the leaders of the Group of Eight (G8) and five emerging economies (China, India, Brazil, South Africa and Mexico) from 8 to 10 July in L'Aquila, Italy, at the invitation of Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi.

Hu will also pay state visits to Italy from 5 to 8

July at the invitation of Italian President Giorgio Napolitano and to Portugal from 10 to 11 July as a guest of Portuguese President Anibal Cavaco Silva. Hu's entourage includes Ling Jihua, member of the Secretariat of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and director of General Office of the CPC Central Committee; Wang Huning, member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Com-

mittee and director of Policy Research Office of the CPC Central Committee; State Councilor Dai Bingguo; Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi; Minister of the National Development and Reform Commission Zhang Ping; Minister of Commerce Chen Deming; Vice Foreign Minister He Yafei; Director of the President's Office Chen Shiju and Assistant Foreign Minister Wu Hongbo.

Xinhua



The groundbreaking ceremony of Japan's corporation pavilion for the Shanghai 2010 World Expo is held in Shanghai, east China, on 4 July, 2009. With the theme of "Better Life from Japan", the pavilion stresses "recycle" by using the deserted site of a boatyard in Shanghai built long ago and scaffolds which could be recycled. —XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency

China, India to become big powers in future

SINGAPORE, 5 July—When the current economic crisis is over, the world will be a different place with many centers of political, economic and cultural influence, and Asia's two emerging giants China and India will become big powers in the future, said a Singapore minister on Saturday.

Speaking at the 15th anniversary celebrations of a local secondary school here on Saturday, Foreign Minister George Yeo also said that Russia and Brazil will also play major roles.

The Middle East, as the major supplier of oil and gas to the world, will be important to Singapore. So too emerging markets

in Africa and Latin America. The minister urged Singapore students to prepare for a different world.

"We must prepare for a different world in which we make a living and safeguard our security," he said, adding that "Our students should anticipate the changes so that they are well prepared for them. Learning languages is an obvious example. But we do not only need to speak different languages, we must also understand different cultures and political systems."

The minister said that the current global economic crisis will also test the moral character of Singaporeans.—Xinhua



The exterior of a new European Center for Renewable Energy plant that produces gas from wood in Guessing, southeastern Austria, paving the way toward new possibilities in renewable energy. The facility in Guessing, a town renowned for being entirely energy self-reliant, can produce some 100 cubic metres of bio-gas per hour.—INTERNET

13 injured in French train crash

PARIS, 5 July—A Friday train crash near southwestern French city of Limoges left 13 injured, among whom two were seriously injured and are remained in hospital on Saturday, local officials said.

The train which derailed on Friday around 8:40 p.m. (1840 GMT) caused 13 people injured after it hit a trailer.

Five people were hospitalized. But only two seriously injured are still in hospital. An investigation is under way. The owner of the trailer has

been arrested.

The train was carrying about 450 people traveling between Paris and Cahors when the accident occurred, the SNCF rail authority said.

Speaking on LCI news channel, French Transport Secretary Dominique Bussereau described the accident as "absolutely improbable," "absurd" and "maybe just unpredictable." Rail traffic resumed on Saturday around 10:30 a.m. (830 GMT) after 150 workers worked overnight.—Xinhua

Int'l business communities call for anti-protectionism

BEIJING, 5 July—International business communities released a joint proposal against trade and investment protectionism here on Saturday at the Global Think Tank Summit. The proposal, jointly issued by the International Chamber of Commerce in China, European Union Chamber of Commerce in China, Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China and Korean Chamber of Commerce in China, called for internationally-united efforts to fight against all kinds of protectionism.

All countries are

closely connected and dependent on each other, and protectionism could only bring further disasters to the world economy that had already been severely damaged, said the proposal.

The proposal called for enhanced cooperation between political leaders of major economies.

The world should maintain an open economic system and countries involved in the Doha Round need to complete the talks as soon as possible to boost global trade and economic growth, it said.

Xinhua

Gas pipeline in W Canada targeted by second bomb in four days

VANCOUVER, 5 July—EnCana-owned gas pipeline in the western Canadian province of British Columbia was targeted by a second bomb explosion in four days on Saturday, which police described as "domestic terrorism", according to local media reports.

The bomb went off near Dawson Creek in the north of the province, not far from the bombing site on 1 July. The recent case is the sixth pipeline attack since last October.

The explosion caused gas leak but "no harms to the worker, the public or the environment," EnCana said via a statement by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

"This is considered domestic terrorism. These people, or this person, are terrorizing these communities of Pouce Coupe and Dawson Creek and inflicting stress on these people," RCMP Cpl Dan Moskaluk was quoted by the Canadian Broadcasting Company as saying.—Xinhua



Youths from different countries put the messages they have written into the 'Giant Ear', symbolizing their right to get their word in to the G8 leaders during an event organized by the United Nations Children's Fund, UNICEF, near Rome's Colosseum, on 4 July, 2009. —XINHUA



In this undated photo supplied by Air New Zealand on 3 July, 2009, its staff is seen with body paint on in the airlines latest safety video call the 'Bare Essentials of Safety.'

INTERNET

Teen 5th killed by apparent serial killer

GAFFNEY, 5 July —A teenage girl shot while helping her father in their family's small furniture and appliance store died Saturday, becoming the fifth victim of a suspected serial killer terrorizing a small South Carolina community, authorities said.

Abby Tyler, 15, died about 11:15 am at a Spartanburg hospital after fighting for her life for two days, Cherokee County Coroner Dennis Fowler said.

Tyler was wounded and her father was killed Thursday as they worked to close the Tyler Home Center near downtown Gaffney.

County Sheriff Bill Blanton said investigators believe the killings are

linked and the search is on for a suspected male serial killer. An 83-year-old mother and her daughter were shot to death Wednesday, and a 63-year-old peach farmer was found dead at his home a week ago.

Blanton said all the victims were shot, but he

would not say how the deaths were linked. The shootings all occurred within about 10 miles of each other in Cherokee County, a rural community of 54,000 people set amid peach orchards and farms some 50 miles west of Charlotte, NC.

Internet

Michigan officials turn geese into food

MILFORD, 5 July —Michigan officials, calling it a last resort, rounded up about 800 Canada geese this year and turned the birds into food for soup kitchens throughout the state.

This is the first time in many years the state Department of Natural Resources authorized the killing of the birds as part of its management plan, the *Detroit News* reported this week.

Animal rights groups and many residents object to killing geese. State officials say they have limited options for removing geese from areas where they interact with humans and there is more interaction now than in the past.—*Internet*

Gunmen kidnap 16 Afghan UN demining workers

GARDEZ, 5 July —Unidentified gunmen have kidnapped 16 Afghans working for a United Nations-sponsored demining agency in eastern Afghanistan, UN officials and police said on Sunday.

The Afghan deminers work for the Mine Detection and Dog Center (MDDC), part of the overall UN mine clearing agency in Afghanistan known as UNMACA. They were seized while traveling between Khost and Paktia Provinces late

on Saturday, Paktia's police chief said.

"We do not know who kidnapped them and why. We are investigating," Azizullah Wardak told reporters in the Paktia provincial capital Gardez.

UNMACA official Gul Agha Ahmadzai said they were snatched as they drove along the Logar-Gardez road which links with Khost.

Afghanistan is one of the most heavily mined countries in the world after almost 30 years of war,

with more than 640 sq km (250 sq miles) of land still containing mines.

No group has yet claimed responsibility for Saturday's abductions, the latest episode in an escalation of attacks and kidnappings by Taliban militants and criminal gangs. In Gardez last year, 13 deminers working for another agency were kidnapped by a criminal gang. They were freed a month later after mediation by tribal chiefs.

Internet

One dead, several hurt in Fla lightning strike

LAKELAND, 5 July —A lightning strike at a Fourth of July gathering in central Florida killed one person and 18 others were taken to hospitals, officials said Saturday.

About 100 people from a church group were outside playing soccer and volleyball in Lakeland, about 30 miles east of Tampa, when a lightning bolt or series of strikes hit nearby, seemingly out of nowhere, Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd said.

Benjamin Gonzalez, 30, who was playing soccer, was hit and collapsed. He was taken to a nearby hospital and pronounced dead. Eighteen others were hospitalized and nine more treated at the scene.

Judd said their injuries were not life-threatening, with symptoms including numbness and tingling.

"It's very sad to see folks just celebrating the Fourth, in a way that you would hope people would celebrate the Fourth, with

friends and family, and a lightning strike, an act of God occurred, and one person died," Judd said.

Authorities were called to the Iglesia Bautista Maranatha's property at about 4:40 pm. Prior to that, the afternoon had all the makings of a festive holiday: Men were playing soccer; trophies, apparently soon to be awarded, stood nearby. Women played volleyball and children came with their families.—*Internet*



Visitors watch stone-made 'Man-Han Banquet' at a household exposition in Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang Province. All of the 108 vivid dishes of the banquet are made of colorful rare stones, which becomes a special view of the expo.

Woman on tracks to 'clear her mind' hit by train

Birmingham police said a 22-year-old woman has suffered a broken leg after being hit by a train. Officer Lawrence Billups said the woman told police she was lying on the tracks "to clear her mind" when the train approached around 7 am.

Billups said the CSX train was moving about 10 mph when it hit her. The train's operator told police he tried to stop.

The woman was transported to UAB Hospital.

Car going strong at 558,000 miles

A 90-year-old Florida woman said the Mercury Comet Caliente she purchased in 1964 is still going strong 558,000 miles later.

Rachel Veitch of Orlando, a retired nurse who volunteers several days a week at an Orlando Police Department office, said the car, which she calls "Chariot," has lasted her through 45 years and three husbands, the Orlando Sentinel reported Monday.

"I'll tell you something: This little

Chariot has never lied to me, never cheated on me, and I can always depend on it," Veitch said. She said the secret behind her car's longevity is simply taking good care of it.

"I was never a destructive child," she said. "I still have the first doll I was ever given. I've taken care of most everything I've ever had, except for husbands."



Contestants compete during the Nathan's annual hot dog eating contest in the Coney Island section of New York. Joey Chestnut (2nd L) from California and Takeru Kobayashi (3rd L) of Japan won the first and second places by eating 68 and 64 hot dogs within 10 minutes during the contest on Saturday.

People take part in a beer drinking competition in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province. The winner of the competition was able to drink three bottles of beer in one minute.

NEWS ALBUM

Bus rider finds 19th century checks, old tools

Some 19th century checks and old rusty tools were left months ago at a bus stop in Longmont, and police say no one has come forward to claim them. The Regional Transportation District turned over the unusual items to police in March after a rider said she found them at a bus stop in Longmont. The items include handwritten checks from 1884 mounted on mat boards, as if they'd been on display.

The rider also found two rusty handtools. Longmont police said no one has claimed the antiques or reported them stolen. They said that unclaimed items are usually auctioned after 60 days, but that they're publicizing the finds in hopes someone will claim them. If no one does, they'll go to the Longmont Museum & Cultural Center.





Waso begins Buddhist Lent

Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

Waso the fourth month of Myanmar calendar ushers in the peak period of heavy rain. There is a Myanmar rhymed couplet “ဝါဆို၊ ဝါခေါင်၊ ရေမေင်မေင်” [In Waso and Wakhaung there are billows of rainwater]. The period covers three months, Waso [July], Wakhaung [August] and Tawthalin [September]. It is the busy time for Myanmar farmers for wet cultivation. It was this busy period which Lord Buddha prescribed Buddhist Lent. At first monks were free to go about in all seasons for their religious mission. Green grass, plants, cultivations and insects were accidentally trodden upon by travelling monks whereby damaging and destroying them. When Lord Buddha heard of such unintentional harm, He forbade monks to go out of their residing monasteries for overnight journey during the three months of cultivating season—lent.

There are two alternative Wa or lent. Purima Wa [First lent] covers three solid months—from the first waning moon day of Waso to the fullmoon day of Thadingyut [October]. Pyitsima Wa [Second lent] begins on the first waning moon day of Wakhaung and ends on the fullmoon day of Tazaungmon [November]. Monks may choose either of these two alternative lents. Monks usually choose Purima Wa.

In the evening or at night of the first waning moon day of Waso, monks of the same residing monastery assemble in the spacious hall facing the shrine of Buddha Images. After paying homage to the Buddha, the abbot monk describes to the assembly the boundaries of the monastery and precincts, within which the residing monks are obliged to stay during lent. Starting with the most senior monk in the assembly [seniority in ordained years] every monk by turn, recites the following Wa vow in Pali.

“Imasmin vihare imam temasam vassam upemi” [I shall stay in this monastery during the three months of raining season.]

Once, twice or thrice. Every time of taking Wa vow is followed by a chorus of exclamation “Sadhu” [well done] three times as the expression of appreciation.

If unavoidable circumstances require a residing monk to stay away from his residing monastery during lent, he can make a formal request for the dispensation from the duties of lent during his absence. If he fails to make this request and stay away from his residing monastery, he commits breach of Wa vow and he suffers “Wa Kyo” which means losing the priestly character in consequence of a breach of monastic discipline and Wa vow. But there is hardly a case of Wa Kyo because monks strictly observe vinaya disciplines.

Lent period of three months provides monks fulltime religious learning and, observance of religious practices. In Pariyatti monasteries, teaching and learning of Tipitaka and all appertaining religious literature are intensively carried out by teacher and pupil monks, preparing for religious examinations. At meditation centres, instructor monks guide their pupils in correct ways of meditation. Material needs of teacher and pupil monks especially alms food are donated by generous lay devotees and public.

The fullmoon day of Waso is one of the auspicious

days in the Buddhist history, because it is fourfold blessed. It was on this day that four great events in Lord Buddha’s lifetime took place. Firstly, it was on the fullmoon day of Waso, Thursday that Prince Siddhatha [Bodhisatha] was conceived in the womb of Queen Mahamaya of King Siddhatha of Kapilavatsu. Secondly, it was on the fullmoon night of Waso, Monday, that Prince Siddhatha at the age of 29, after seeing the four omens, renounced his mundane life and left his family and palace for forest to become a recluse. Thirdly, it was on the fullmoon night of Waso Saturday, that Lord Buddha gave his first sermon “Dhammacakya [the wheel of law] to five ascetics, Kondana, Vappa, Bhaddiya, Mahanam and Assazi in the Deer Park Migada Wun. Fourthly, it was on the fullmoon day of Waso that Lord Buddha under the shade of Mango Tree in Savathi showed miracles to the heretics to subdue them. Fullmoon day of Waso is designated “Dhammacakya Day” which is observed by group recitation of Dhammacakya Sutta at religious centres.

Like other months of Myanmar calendar, Waso has its astrological name Kataka [Cancer], zodiacal sign, crab, designated flower Myat Lay [fragrant Jasminum grandiflorum] and traditional festival ordination. A Buddhist male on reaching the age of 20 [19+] is required to be ordained monk. Though ordination can take place in any month, Waso is specially chosen for ordination because it was on the fullmoon night of waso that one of the five recluses Kondana after hearing Dhammacakya Sutta, became saint monk and the rest became saint monk in Waso. Besides, ordination in Waso is in sequence with religious examination of the previous month Nayon.

The purpose of ordination is two fold. To recruit for sangha [Priestly order] to promote and perpetuate Buddha Sasana from those who choose to remain monk for life and to impart Buddhist culture and educations to those who stay in monkhood for a certain period. It is a religious requirement for every Buddhist male to become novice or ordained monk at least for a short period. The highest religious merit one can attain is by becoming oneself novice or monk, if one is a male or by making one’s own son, or other’s son novice or monk. By virtue of this religious performance, the performer become the inheritor of Buddha Sasana

[Sasana Dayika]. Besides he or she receives from the community an honorific title of “Shin Taka” “Shin Ama” “Yahan Taka” “Yahan Ama” [Donor of Novitiation] [Donor of ordination] prefixed to his or her name. At death his or her body is conveyed with two ceremonial gold umbrellas shading as token of honour to the departed “inheritor for of Buddha Sasana”.

Two precedents to support and justify novatation and ordination as a religious requirement for the Buddhists were the novitiation of young Prince Rahula, son of Lord Buddha and the ordination of Prince Mahinda and Princess Sanghamita, son and daughter of Emperor Asoka at the request of Raja Guru monk Ashin Maha Mogalliputra Tisa.

Since the time of Myanmar Kings, ordination in Waso has been the great festive event of the month. The King patronised and supported this event providing lavish finance from royal treasury. His sons and nephews and even he himself would be ordained for a short period and attained the title. “Sasana Dayika Min [Royal Inheritor of Buddha Sasana].

Ordination takes place in specially built house called Sima. The candidate has to go through a series of tests-questions by a chapter of examiner monks to the candidate, (1) He must be human male (2) He must be an ablebodied, free from all diseases, healthy body and healthy mind (3) He must be free from debt, crime and sin (4) He must get consent of his parents, his family, his boss, employer, if he is a serviceman to be ordained (5) He must be prepared to abide by vinaya monk’s disciplines and (6) He must be prepared to learn Pariyatti and observe religious practices, etc, etc. If he is found faulty, he faces immediate dismissal.

Donors, devotees and guests gather outside the Sima to watch with respect of the procedure of ordination, when the newly ordained monk and his preceptor monks came out in procession after the rite of ordination is over, donors line up to give offertories to the monks. Religious music byaw drum is struck to announce that a religious merit has been performed. May all sentient beings take a share in this merit. Feasts are given to the invited monks and lay guests.

Ceremonies of offering Waso robes to monks are also held in this month.

Lent period of three months provides monks fulltime religious learning and, observance of religious practices. In Pariyatti monasteries, teaching and learning of Tipitaka and all appertaining religious literature are intensively carried out by teacher and pupil monks, preparing for religious examinations. At meditation centres, instructor monks guide their pupils in correct ways of meditation. Material needs of teacher and pupil monks especially alms food are donated by generous lay devotees and public.





Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo views sample paintings of famous pagodas from States and Divisions and sample reliefs on 10 Jataka stories. — MNA

Tasks of Uppatasanti Pagoda to Pagoda...

(from page 1)

for growing more trees in the precinct of the pagoda in the rainy season.

He stressed the need to display religious affairs, the documents related to the pagoda, the Buddhological works and scale models of the famous pagodas across the nation at the museum of Uppatasanti Pagoda for the public obeisance. Moreover, the Secretary-1 called for growing more shady trees and flowery plants in the precinct of the pagoda and nurturing them.

The commander reported on duties assigned to the pagoda board of trustees and formation of the

office staff, implementation of their tasks, visits of pilgrims, availability of cash donations and holding of religious ceremonies at the pagoda.

Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Maj-Gen Nyan Tun of the Ministry of Defence, Managing Director U Soe Win of the News and Periodicals Enterprise on behalf of the Minister for Information and Director-General U San Lwin of Forest Department on behalf of the Minister for Forestry reported on construction of the pagoda, maintenance tasks, compilation of the pa-

goda history, religious affairs and greening of the pagoda precinct.

After giving necessary instructions, the Secretary-1 gave concluding remarks.

After the meeting, the Secretary-1 inspected sample paintings of famous pagodas from States and Divisions and sample reliefs on 10 Jataka stories to be installed in the cave of the pagoda.

In-charge Head of Public Relations and Information Department of Yangon City Development Committee U Hla Myint Swe and responsible persons of Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Asiayon submitted the reports on decoration works.

MNA

Stationery, cash provided to basic education schools in Myaing Tsp



Deputy Minister for CPT Maj-Gen Thein Tun donates teaching aids and cash to Myaing BEHS No. 1 through officials.

CPT

YANGON, 5 July—Deputy Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Maj-Gen Thein Tun on 3 July attended the computer, stationery and cash to the funds and the third cash donation for Gaunggwe-Thanatyin Road Section at the hall in Myaing.

He presented one set of computer, 200 dozens of exercise books and

stationery and K 500,000 to Myaing Basic Education High School, 40 dozens of exercise books and stationery and K 200,000 to Myaing BEMS and 21 dozens of exercise books and K 200,000 for BEPSs.

The deputy minister and family and friends donated 200 bags of cement and K 5.5 million for the road construction.

Yesterday, the deputy minister donated K 700,000 to the funds of three schools in Wayinchanug Village-tract and Kunlat Village-tract and 46 dozens of exercise books and stationery to Wayinchaung Village Post-Primary School and 37 dozens of exercise books and stationery to Kunlat Village BEPS.—MNA

Sales of mobile phone directory on 15 July

YANGON, 5 July—A ceremony to introduce Yellow Mobile software for Yangon and themyanmardirectory.com to be used on the Internet and in mobile phones was held at Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road, yesterday afternoon.

Executive Director U Soe Paing of Novel Light Media Ltd explained production of mobile phone directory software and matters related to 10 years old Myanmar Industrial and Commercial Directory.

U Htoo Myint Naung

of Technomation Studios further explained use of Yellow Mobile software and replied to the queries raised by those present.

Yellow Mobile software includes address and telephone numbers of hospitals and government offices (Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw), township offices of Yangon, foreign embassies and UN agencies, UMFCFI, hotels and businesses in alphabetical order.

Yellow Mobile can be browsed on themyanmardirectory.com. Mobile phone users can

upgrade the Yellow Mobile Directory through themyanmardirectory.com. While chatting, G-Talk user can apply Yellow Mobile.

The software of Yellow Mobile is available at mobile phone shops in Yangon and Mandalay starting from 15 July. For more information related to Yellow Mobile, themyanmardirectory.com and advertisement, may contact Novel Light Media Co Ltd at 134 on 40th Street in Kyauktada Township, Tel: 391186 and 252232.—MNA



Executive Director U Soe Paing of Novel Light Media Ltd explains Yellow Mobile Software and themyanmardirectory.com.—MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe and MD of Myawady Bank Maj-Gen Win Than open new building of Myawady Bank Ltd (Pyawbwe).—MNA



Photo shows new building of Myawady Bank Ltd (Pyawbwe).

MNA

New building of Myawady Bank...

(from page 16)

Lt-Gen Tin Aye and party attended the opening of new building of Pyawbwe Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association. The chairperson and member of Division Maternal and Child Welfare

Supervisory Committee formally opened the building. The wife of the commander unveiled the signboard of the association.

Lt-Gen Tin Aye and party sprinkled scented water on the signboard.

The chairperson of the township association presented commemorative pennants to officials.

Lt-Gen Tin Aye and party visited the Township MCWA Office and Myitta Yinkhwin delivery room.

While in Pyawbwe, Lt-Gen Tin Aye viewed progress of Township Sasana Beikman and gave necessary instructions.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min waving to passengers at new Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station.—MNA

MNA

Taxis at new Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station to ensure smooth travel of passengers.

MNA

Running of trains commences...

(from page 16)

Arrangements have been made to ply the buses of Tawwin, Shwe Myodaw, Ahmanthit and Taungnyo-Moeswe bus lines and Nay Pyi Taw taxis along their respective routes centring at new Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station for the convenience of passengers.

To mark the runs of trains from the new railway station, the Ministry of Rail Transportation held the rainy season tree growing ceremony for 2009 in front of the railway station this morning.

Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min and wife Dr. Daw Wai Wai Tha, the deputy ministers and departmental heads planted star-flower saplings.

Staff of the ministry today grew 3517 saplings of various tree species.

MNA



A train departs from new Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station.—MNA



Waso Memoirs

Ma Hmwe

The skies were clear and fine on the morning of the Fullmoon Day of Waso, and as of every year we went to pay our respects, pray and offer our Waso robes to the Shan monastery at 9th mile on the Yangon-Pyay highway. The small Shan village across the road has a long history of over a hundred years. The beginnings of the village and the monastery are inscribed on a small marble plaque embedded on a brick platform on the grounds in front of the old monastery building which was partially burnt during the Second World War. The writing on the plaque in Shan simply describes the dates of the building of the monastery and the beginnings of the village. The majority of the inhabitants of the village are Shan, speaking the main dialect of the language of Shan land west of the Thanlwin river. Their ancestors who built the village were part of a peripatetic group wandering in search of a permanent home, and since they had now found it had firmly embedded themselves. The present inhabitants still speak the old language, but time, environment and education has transformed them wholly into the surrounding Myanmar society.

The Fullmoon Day of Waso is the seasons greeting to the beginning of the Buddhist lent and is one of the holiest days in Buddhism. The Lenten period starts from the Fullmoon Day of Waso and lasts until the Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut. The pilgrims flocking the grounds of the monastery are from the village and various parts of Yangon, many of them in traditional Shan dress. On such a holy day even the young have put aside their jean pants and blouses, the boys for the baggy “pinne” Shan trousers and jackets, and the girls for Inle longyi and Myanmar dresses. Everyone is carrying an offering, various kinds of food and edibles, wax candles, medicinal drugs and other necessities to sustain the monks during their long months of meditation and prayer that marks the lenten time. An air of quietness surrounds the whole place despite the large crowd of people talking and greeting each other for this is also a social event. There are no loudspeakers broadcasting music to spoil the mood. From some far off corner of the spacious monastery grounds there is a faint sound of a Shan “ohzi” drum.

All these sights and sounds bring back to me far off memories of my younger years, growing up in the

small town of Kehsi Mensam in the middle of Shan State. There, the Fullmoon Day of Waso is celebrated in a much more austere and stricter way than it is today. I remember our whole family locking up the house and going to the monastery to offer our respects and offerings to the monks. Villagers gather flowers from the woods and forests, and the “Waso flower” as it is called is offered to the monastery altar and pagodas. Waso candles offered on the Fullmoon Day were made from bees wax and they were all hand made. It seemed as if the whole town had come. Everyone moved into the monastery to reverently deposit their offerings in front of the seated monks. The head of the monastery raised his hand and began his sermon. The whole crowd listened in hushed silence to his sermon on the significance and holiness of Waso, and when it ended everyone went down on their knees to pay their respects. After that the crowd would break up, the elders to keep their Sabbath and meditate, and the youngsters to wander around the many small pagodas that seemed to fill the monastery grounds.

In those days elderly persons went to the monastery on the eve of the Fullmoon Day to go and sleep at the rest houses in the monastery compound which could accommodate all the fasting devotees, passers by and travellers. They would stay there for about a week while some stayed the whole Lenten period. The elders who stayed the whole Lenten period at the monastery usually served the monks at their meals. It was a daily routine for the householders to cook and bring the food for the monks and the elders. For those who came from distant villages, the abbot of the monastery took care of all their necessities. The elders usually brought their grandchildren to the monastery to stay with them simply to give the children religious education and to get used to religion and social behavior. During the whole week, apart from their prayers, the elders would discuss religious discourses and talk about Jataka tales. As for the children they had a good time since they could play in the big monastery compound and the abbot distributed surplus edible things to them. It is sort of a religious indoctrination for the children. They could learn at least how to fold their hands in worship and prayer, and how to pay respect to the monks. They learned the basic principles in the usage of religious language and monastic cus-

toms. It is a way of gradually and unconsciously teaching the children in their early ages in the Shan villages. During the Lenten time children were not allowed to make loud noises near the meditation places, and they were warned not to disturb the fasting devotees.

From that day and for three days after hunters pledge to keep away from the forests and their hunting, and fishermen refrain from fishing in the mountain streams.

There is an air of calm silence in the villages and mothers try their best to keep their babies from crying lest it disturbs meditating elders. In those days there were little or no motor cars or trucks to spoil the silence, and needless to say there were no loudspeakers. At night candles were lit in most of the pagodas, not in the fashion of a candle light display but in pure reverence offer the lamps and lanterns to the Buddha. One day while offering alms food to the head of the monastery I asked the abbot to explain to me the origin and beginnings of the Lent the “Wa-dwin” period. He said it is specially sacred because in the following days after Lord Buddha’s first teachings the monks remained totally in the monasteries in Magadha, reciting and explaining to all the sacred law and urging them to follow the path leading to Nibbana.

Another characteristic of the Waso period as far as I remember was the Noviciating ceremony at the monastery. The whole village celebrated it as a community celebration. In our villages it is the custom and tradition for the young boys who had come of age to undergo this ceremony and they don the yellow robe for the whole period in the monastery. In a way the young gain experience of commune life and living with others. Under the strict eyes of the abbot and the monks they learn the basic Buddhist scripts to follow the true path of a good Buddhist. The boys are no strangers to the monastery because since they learnt to speak they had been there before to learn, to read and write.

My annual visit to the monastery this year of Waso time has rekindled all these old memories. We paid our respects to the abbot and left the beautiful surroundings. The Fullmoon Day of Waso will always be remembered in my hearts.

(As narrated to me by my mother)

Vietnamese communist party major meeting

HANOI, 5 July—The Communist Party of Vietnam’s (CPV) 10th Central Committee closed the 10th plenum here on Saturday, the Vietnamese Government website reported. Nong Duc Manh, General Secretary of the CPV Central Committee delivered a speech at the close of the week-long meeting.

Manh said during the years of implementing Vietnam’s socio-economic development

strategy for 2001-2010, Vietnam has made full use of opportunities, overcome many difficulties and made significant achievements.

Manh said Vietnam drew out many lessons during this period and the most vital one was to place importance on the sustainability of development.

The Party chief underlined the overall target of the new socio-

economic development strategy for 2011-2020. Vietnam should continue speeding up industrialization, modernization and sustainable development in order to become a modern industrial country by 2020.

Manh said that the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee would give instructions on organizing the 11th Party Congress, slated for 2011.

MNA/Xinhua

At least 23 somalis killed in latest clash

MOGADISHU, 5 July—At least 23 Somalis, mostly civilians, were killed and more than fifty wounded in Mogadishu on Saturday in the latest clash between government troops and insurgents, medics said.

“As of now, I can tell you that 23 died and more than fifty injuries were dropped at the hospital,”

Ali Muse, a paramedic told Reuters. The attack brings the

death toll to over 70 killed since Wednesday as government troops try to drive insurgents out of their Mogadishu bases.

African Union peace keepers (AMISOM) have warned hardline Islamist insurgents who have been advancing on Somali Government positions to back down or face retaliation.

“There is a limit, when they (insurgents) cross that line we shall

engage them immediately,” Major-General Francis Okello, AMISOM’s commander, told Reuters. “That is in our mandate, and we are carefully watching them.”

The 4,300 Ugandan and Burundian troops have been confined to their bases and are limited to protecting key sites such as the presidential palace, airport and seaport.

MNA/Reuters



Canadian police probe sixth gas pipeline bombing

VANCOUVER, 5 July —An explosion damaged a natural gas pipeline in northeast British Columbia on Saturday, the sixth attack on an energy facility in that area of the Canadian province in recent months.

The explosion about 8 kilometres south of the community of Dawson Creek, British Columbia, caused a leak but no injuries and was heard by crews repairing wellhead equipment damaged in a bombing on Wednesday, police said.

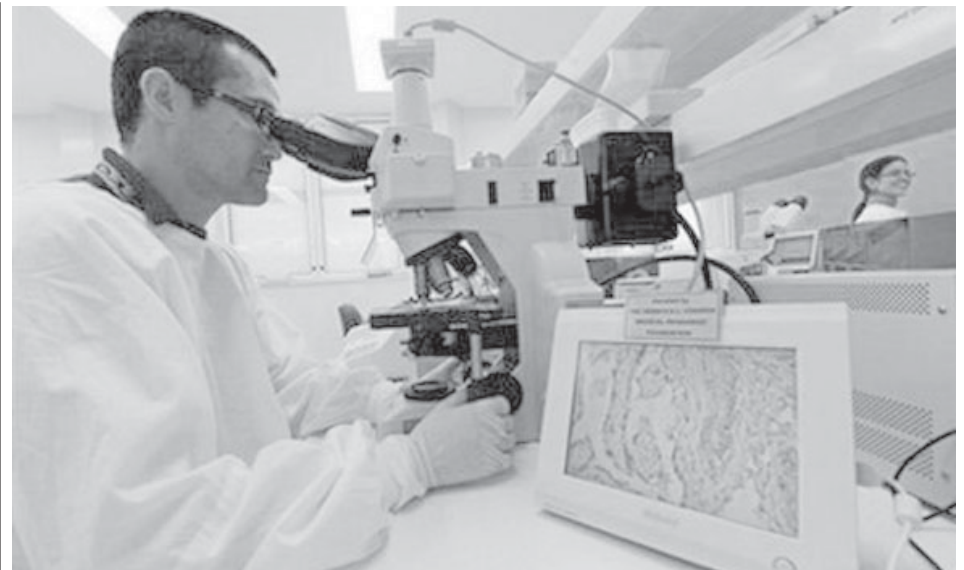
“The elements of this incident thus far, are consistent with the previous blast sites and the RCMP considers this latest bombing linked to

the others,” the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said in a statement. Pipeline owner EnCana Corp said 12-inch (30-centimetre) diameter line carried “sour” gas that contains hydrogen sulphide and can be deadly if breathed, but none had been detected by monitoring equipment and there was no threat to the public.

The incident caused pressure in the line to drop, which activated emergency valves that immediately shut down the pipeline and stopped the leak, the company said. The bombings that began in early October have all targeted EnCana natural gas facilities near

the communities of Dawson Creek and Tomslake, British Columbia. None of the attacks have caused injuries but have produced small gas leaks.

Investigators believe the saboteur is a resident of the area and that the incidents are linked to a letter sent to media before the first blast warning EnCana to stop drilling for natural gas in the area.—MNA/Reuters



A microbiologist test samples for signs of the swine flu virus at Sydney's Prince of Wales Hospital in April 2009. Australia has reported its 11th death linked to swine flu, as the number of cases in Asia-Pacific's worst-hit nation soared to 5,298.—INTERNET

New weapons in fight against TB?

SAN DIEGO (CALIFORNIA), 5 July —Extreme drug-resistant tuberculosis might someday meet its match in two drugs now used to treat Parkinson's disease, suggests a new study.

Researchers, led by a team from the University of California, San Diego, report in the July 3 issue of PLoS Computational Biology that commercially available entacapone and tolcapone have the potential to treat the difficult-to-kill strain of TB.

The discovery was made after a computational analysis that found the chemical structure of the two Parkinson's drugs might work to thwart the TB enzyme InhA, which previous research had determined to be a prime target in treating the disease. A subsequent lab experiment found that the active ingredient in the two drugs inhibited the M. tuberculosis bacterium without being deadly to its host cells.

Internet

Suicide attack kills 32 militants in E Afghanistan

KABUL, 5 July —A militants, riding an explosive-laden car, blew it up in Paktika Province east of Afghanistan Saturday morning, killing one foreign soldier and injuring another Afghan trooper, spokesman of provincial administration Hamidullah Zhawak said. “Taleban insurgents carried out this attack next to headquarters of Zirok District at 6:30 a.m. local time (0200 GMT) killing one soldier of the US-led forces and injuring another Afghan trooper,” Zhawak told Xinhua.

The incident triggered heavy fighting in the area, during which 32 suspected insurgents were killed. Following the blast, a group of Taleban militants, the spokesman added, raided the district headquarters when National Security Forces came for support and encountered the rebels.

Moreover, Zhawak said Gunships of US-led forces, which were also called in, pounded militants killing 32 on the spot. “Eight more insurgents have been detained,” he stressed.—MNA/Xinhua

Teen loses hair in attack

ELANORA (AUSTRALIA), 5 July —A teenage boy lost hair and part of an eyebrow after another youth set his head on fire at Elanora, says the victim's mother.

The Currumbin Waters woman contacted The Bulletin during the week to express her concern over the incident which happened near The Pines shopping centre on Monday night. She said her son had been at a bus stop when another teenager held a lighter to the 14-year-old's hair.

The woman, who would not be named, said the flames briefly engulfed her son's head. The incident was reported to police and the child protection unit is investigating.—Internet



A sand sculpture is displayed during the international sand sculptures festival in the Bulgarian town of Burgas east of the capital Sofia, Thursday, 2 July, 2009. The town holds the festival for the second time.—INTERNET

MBA student killed in ‘fake’ encounter bore torture marks

DEHRA DUN, 5 July —The body of Ranbir Singh, gunned down by Uttarakhand police in an alleged fake encounter, bore 12 marks of bullets fired from closerange and 27 other injuries showing that he may have been tortured, according to an autopsy report.

Chief minister Ramesh Pokhariyal Nishank had yesterday ordered a CB-CID probe into the killing of 22-year-old Singh, an MBA qualified from Uttar Pradesh who police claimed was shot dead on Friday in an encounter after he fled with a sub-inspector's revolver, but his family today demanded a CBI inquiry into the incident.

Police sources on Sunday said a post-mortem conducted at Doon hospital on Saturday revealed that Singh's body bore deep wounds and 12 bullet marks which showed that he was fired at from close range, raising questions about the police's version of events.

The report also revealed that Singh might have been tortured before his death. This was corroborated by 28 injury marks found on his body, the sources said.

However, SSP Dehradun Amit Sinha, who was given the postmortem report by hospital authorities, was not available for comment. Supporting the demand of Singh's father Ravindra Pal Singh for a CBI probe, the main opposition Congress also sought an inquiry by the central agency.—Internet

COTABATO CITY (PHILIPPINES), 5 July —Five people have been killed and at least 34 injured in a bomb attack outside a Catholic church in the southern Philippines.

A single suspect left a home-made bomb outside the Immaculate Conception cathedral in Cotabato city which exploded just as the congregation was leaving after early morning mass.

The church was not heavily damaged but a restaurant across the street appeared to have absorbed much of the impact, witnesses said.

Ordinance experts searched for clues among blood-spattered debris on the road outside the church.

Police said four people, including two

soldiers, were killed at the scene, while another died of his injuries in hospital.

Internet

Whirling : Dancers performs on the music of Mercan Dede during the opening show of the season of Turkey in France in Paris.
INTERNET



CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SIRI VOY NO (334)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BHUM VOY NO (334) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.7.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P. where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 AM to 11:20 AM and 12 noon to 4 PM 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/ 376797

Yemen airline cancels route after Comoros crash

SANAA, 5 July — Yemenia Airways is canceling all its flights between Yemen and the Comoros Islands after this week's crash on the same route, the airline said on Saturday. One more flight between Sanaa and Moroni is scheduled for Sunday, but all flights on the route are canceled after that, Yemenia said.

A Yemenia Airways Airbus 310 went down early Tuesday, carrying 142 passengers and 11 crew members. It originated in Yemen's capital, Sanaa, and went down just miles from Comoros'

capital, Moroni. One person, 13-year-old French girl Bahia Basari, survived for hours in the Indian Ocean clinging to the debris of the downed plane. She arrived home in France on Thursday, where she was reunited with her father.

She is the only known survivor from the crash, which killed her mother.

The Airbus 310 plane tried to land at the airport in Moroni, then made a U-turn before it crashed, Comoros Vice President Idi Nadhoim said. The Comoros Islands are be-

Strong quake rocks Panama City

PANAMA CITY, 5 July — A strong earthquake measuring 6.0 on the Richter Scale rocked the Panama City at 1:49 am local time Saturday (0649 GMT), but there are no reports of casualties so far. The temblor happened at midnight when most habitants were sleeping and lasted around 50 seconds. The buildings shook heavily and windows rattled. People wearing nightclothes rushed into streets, and cars on the road stopped moving.

The epicentre was located only 95 kilometres northeast of the capital city with a depth of 43.1 kilom-

etres, said the US Geological Survey (USGS) on its website. The USGS published a preliminary report eight minutes after the quake happened, but changed its magnitude from 6.4 to 6.0 20 minutes later.

On 8 May, an earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter Scale shook the Panamanian province of Chiriqui, which borders Costa Rica. The tremor was also felt in the Panamanian provinces of Veraguas and Bocas del Toro and in Costa Rica, according to the Institute of Geo-Science from the University of Panama.

MNA/Xinhua



Bahia Bakari holds her father's hand as she lies on a stretcher in a plane after landing in France.—INTERNET

tween the east African country of Tanzania and the island nation of Madagascar.

Internet

British Airways to slash 3,700 more jobs

LONDON, 5 July — British Airways says it is looking to cut 3,700 jobs in addition to 2,500 positions already trimmed and will reduce capital spending.

The airline announced Friday it would wait up to two years to place orders for new Airbus A380 superjumbo jets, which had been envisioned as a new flagship for British Airways' long-haul fleet, the *Financial Times* reported. The new job cuts are to be carried out by March 2010 and

British Airways' capital spending this year will be slashed from \$1.2 billion to \$948 million, the newspaper said. The airline says it is trying to absorb hits to its revenues from slackening air travel demand, especially from business-class travelers, while also reeling from having to sell many more seats at a discount. The airline is also engaged in a stand-off with employees as it seeks to cut costs and raise productivity, the *Financial Times* said.

Internet

Turkish police seize 500 kilos of hashish

ANKARA, 5 July — Turkish police seized nearly 500 kilos of hashish in an anti-drug operation in southern Turkey on Saturday.

A police officer was wounded in a clash with the drug gang during the operation, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported.

The police raided a farm in the Samandagi town of the southern province of Hatay on a tip-off and arrested six people of the drug gang who raised cannabis at the

farm. They opened fire on the police, said the report.

The wounded police officer was injured in his chest and later taken to a hospital for an outpatient treatment, the report cited the police as saying.

In another operation, police impounded 5.9 kilos of heroin in the tourist town of Marmaris of the southwestern province of Mugla and arrested two people, according to the report.

MNA/Xinhua

Australian dinosaur that lived 98m years ago found

CANBERRA, 5 July — Scientists have confirmed for the first time that Australia was once home to a dinosaur that was big, fast and terrifying, and they've named it like something from an Arnold Schwarzenegger movie. Meet the Australovenator.

The beast was a 1,100 pound (500 kilogram)

meat-eating predator with three slashing claws on each of its powerful forelimbs that stalked the Outback 98 million years ago, researchers said in a report published on Friday.

Fossilized remnants of its limb bones, ribs, jaw and fangs were found — along with bones of two other new species of gi-

gantic, long-necked herbivores weighing up to 22 tons (20 metric tons) — in Queensland state over the past three years.

The discovery, analyzed in a 51-page report published in the peer-reviewed online science journal PLoS ONE, was the first substantial find of large dinosaurs in Australia to be revealed in 28 years.

Internet

In this undated photo supplied by Queensland Museum, paleontologist Scott Hocknull analyses the Diamantinasaurus fossils in Winton, in central Queensland, Australia.—INTERNET



World's largest underwater observatory project launched

VANCOUVER, 5 July — The world's largest and most advanced underwater observatory project was launched Friday in a ceremony at Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt in the western Pacific province British Columbia, Canadian media reported.

The 100-million-dollar Neptune Canada project will make it possible for life beneath the ocean to go live on the Internet, giving people an unprecedented experience. Led by the University of Victoria (UVic), it will provide 25 years of long-term monitoring of ocean

events as they occur. "At a time when our understanding of the oceans is clearly becoming more essential than ever, Neptune Canada will play a leadership role in advancing our knowledge of the oceans in ways not previously possible," Dr. David Turpin, UVic president, said in a statement.

The underwater observatory is consisted of five 13-tonne module-like structures, which will be lowered down to the sea floor off the west coast of Vancouver Island, where they will be connected to 800 kilometers of fibre-optic

cable winding its way over the sea floor.

The modules contains hundreds of observation instruments that will send real-time data and allow researchers around the world to conduct deep-sea experiments.

At depths of up to 2.6 kilometres, the module-like nodes will supply power and two-way communications.

Much of the project's infrastructure was developed by Canadian company Alcatel-Lucent, a global transmission provider known for developing submarine cable networks.

MNA/Xinhua



Swiss develop new form of knee surgery

BERN, 5 July—A Swiss medical team says its technique for treating torn anterior cruciate ligaments in the knee provides quicker healing and more stability.

A torn anterior cruciate ligament, or ACL, most often is treated by grafting a tendon from another part of the body. Replacement tendons, however, are never as good as the original ACL, which acts like an antenna and collects information about where the knee is about to move, Dr Stefan Eggli of Bern University Hospital said.

Eggli's technique in-

volves helping the patient's own ACL grow back by stabilizing the knee with a spring that is placed inside a small screw in the shinbone. The mechanism stabilizes the torn ligament at the proper position for it to heal, the hospital said in a release Saturday.

"You can still move around and walk normally and with this implant the knee is not unstable anymore," Eggli explained. Healing of the ACL is boosted by clotting some of the patient's blood and placing it around the injured ACL, he said.—*Internet*

Bone marrow stem cells may help heart

SAN FRANCISCO, 5 July—US researchers, in a study in mice, found bone marrow stem cells improve cardiac function. Study author Dr Yerem Yeghiazarians of the University of California, San Francisco, and colleagues administered three different groups of mice with bone marrow cells, bone marrow cell extract, or saline for the control group.

The injections were administered three days after a heart attack. At day 28, both the bone marrow cell group and the extract group had significantly smaller heart damage than

the control group.

The extract derived from bone marrow cells helped decrease the formation of scar tissue and improved cardiac pumping capacity. Both the cell and cell extract therapies resulted in the presence of more blood vessels and less cardiac cell death — apoptosis — than no therapy.

"Peer-reviewed medical literature is controversial as to whether bone marrow cells differentiate into cardiomyocytes, or cardiac muscle cells, but there is general agreement that stem cell therapy with these cells results in some level of functional improvement after a heart attack," Yeghiazarians said in a statement.—*Internet*

Compound may help diabetic retinopathy

OKLAHOMA CITY, 5 July—US researchers say a new, natural compound may stop diabetic retinopathy — a leading cause of blindness. Project investigator Jay Ma of the Oklahoma University Health Sciences Center and Dean A McGee Eye Institute said when the researchers delivered the new compound to cells using nanoparticle technology, the treatment stopped leakage, blocked inflammation and kept unwanted blood vessels from growing in research models.

"There is no good treatment for retinopathy, which is why we are so excited about this work," Ma said in a statement. "This opens an entirely new area for pharmaceutical companies to target." The discovery of the compound's function in inflammation and blood vessel formation related to eye disease means scientists can develop new therapies — such as eye drops — to stop diabetic retinopathy, Ma said.

Internet

A/H1N1 flu cases in Beijing school rise to 29

BEIJING, 5 July—A primary school in Beijing confirmed seven more A/H1N1 flu cases Saturday, including six students and one teacher, the municipal health bureau said.

As of 10 pm Saturday, 28 students and one teacher at the Nanhu Zhongyuan Primary School in Chaoyang District are all in stable condition, according to the bureau. The school reported seven cases Wednesday, 10 Thursday and five Friday. The mass infection was caused by a housekeeping servant, Fang Laiying, director of the municipal health bureau, said late Thursday.—*Internet*

Malaysia's flu A/H1N1 cases rise to 326

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 July—The total number of flu A/H1N1 cases in Malaysia rose to 326 on Saturday as the authorities reported 35 new confirmed cases on the day. The Malaysian Health Ministry said that 11 of the 35 new cases were local transmitted cases, the highest number of such cases reported in a single day in the country.

Malaysian Health Ministry Director-General Ismail Merican said five of the locally transmitted cases were participants of the Asia-Pacific Pharmaceutical Conference held in Penang, in northwest Malaysia, from 27 to 30 June. A total of 12 participants at the Conference have been confirmed infected with the flu so far.—*Internet*

Macao's flu A/H1N1 cases climb to 54

MACAO, 5 July—Macao reported seven more confirmed cases of influenza A/H1N1 on Saturday, bringing the total number of such cases to 54.

The newly confirmed cases, all imported, included three local residents who have traveled abroad recently, a resident from the Chinese mainland and three Indonesians, according to the Health Bureau.

The Indonesian patients are mother, brother and sister of an Indonesian girl who has tested positive for the virus.—*Internet*

Number of A/H1N1 flu cases in Bangladesh rises to 18

DHAKA, 5 July—The Bangladeshi government has confirmed two more A/H1N1 flu cases, bringing the total number to 18, leading English-language newspaper *The Independent* reported on Sunday.

The Institute of Epidemiology Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) under the Health Ministry on Saturday confirmed two people in Dhaka got the infection through their relatives, who had recently returned from Australia and the United States, the report said.—*Internet*

Thailand reports 231 new A/H1N1 cases

BANGKOK, 5 July—Thailand's Public Health Ministry on Sunday announced 231 more patients, who are confirmed to have infected with the A/H1N1 flu virus, bringing the country's total number to 2,076.

Of the total new confirmed cases, 26 are domestically infected, said Deputy Minister Manit Nopamornbodi, the *Thai News Agency* reported.

The deputy minister said 205 of the total new cases are students.—*Internet*



People build use sandbags to hold back flood waters outside a restaurant in Liuzhou in south China's Guangxi region on 4 July, 2009. Hundreds of thousands have been evacuated from homes in southern and central China after heavy rains toppled houses, flooded roads and damaged a dam.

INTERNET

One in six adults admit urinating in pool

ATLANTA, 5 July—Seventeen percent of U.S. adults say they have urinated in a pool, but 78 percent think their fellow swimmers have urinated in pool, a survey indicates.

The survey, conducted by the Water Quality and Health Council, reveals that 35 percent of pool swimmers say they don't shower before going in a pool. Sixty-three percent of the respondents say they are unaware of illnesses associated with swallowing, breathing or having contact with contaminated pool water.

"Swimming is a fun and healthy activity for old and young alike. Proper water chlorination helps protect swimmers from germs that can make swimmers sick," Michele Hlavsa, an epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, says in a statement. "Unhygienic behavior brings germs into the pool and makes it harder for chlorine to do its job."

Unclean water can lead to diarrhea, respiratory illness and ear and skin infections, Hlavsa says.

The CDC urges pool users:

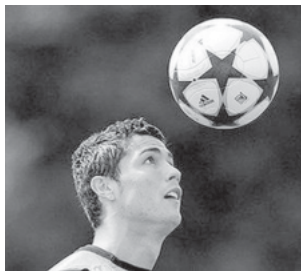
- Don't swim when you have diarrhea.
- Don't swallow pool water.
- Shower with soap before swimming and wash your hands after using the toilet or changing diapers.
- Take kids on bathroom breaks and check diapers often.
- Change diapers in a bathroom or a diaper-changing area and poolside.

The survey was conducted from April 30-May 3 among a national sample of 1,000 US adults. The margin of error is plus/minus 3.1 percentage points.

Internet

SPORTS

I'm worth 94 millions euros, insists Ronaldo



Cristiano Ronaldo

MADRID, 5 July—Portuguese striker Cristiano Ronaldo said on Saturday that the 94 million euros Real Madrid paid for him was a “fair price” and he is delighted to be the most expensive player in the world.

The former Manchester United player will put the finishing touches to his move on Monday night

when he is officially unveiled as the Spanish giants' latest signing.

“I think it's a fair price,” Ronaldo told sports daily Marca. “If Manchester and Real reached agreement on this figure there's nothing to add. The top footballers cost a lot and if you want them you have to pay. I'm happy to be the most expensive player in the world.”

Real Madrid signed Ronaldo on a six-year deal worth 94 million euros where he is believed to be going to earn 13 million euros a year, becoming the world's highest-paid footballer.—Internet

Landreau blow for Lille

LILLE, 5 July—Newly-signed Lille goalkeeper Mickael Landreau has been ruled out for at least six months with a serious knee injury, the club confirmed on Saturday.

The 30-year-old former French international has ruptured cruciate ligaments in his knee just six days after signing from Paris Saint Germain in a three-year deal.

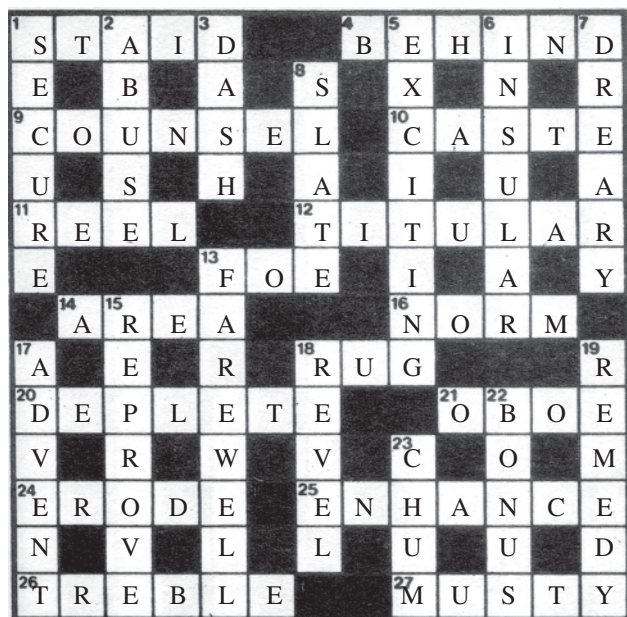
His place will be taken by Ludovic Butelle, 26, who also recently signed for three years after being on loan with the north-eastern side last season.

Internet



Lille's new goalkeeper Mickael Landreau poses with his new jersey during his official presentation in June 2009 in Lille, northern France.—INTERNET

Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle



Serena Williams beats sister Venus at Wimbledon

WIMBLEDON, 5 July—Serena Williams kept telling herself she was facing just another foe in the Wimbledon final Saturday, just another woman who hits the ball quite hard, just another player trying to deny her a Grand Slam title. She wasn't facing just anyone, of course. She was playing her older sister Venus. And when the latest all-Williams final finished, when Serena wrapped up a 7-6 (3), 6-2 victory for a third Wimbledon championship and 11th major title overall, she jogged to the net with her arm extended for a handshake.

Venus pulled her close for a warm embrace, instead. “I didn't think about Venus at all today. I just saw her as an opponent,” said Serena, who also beat her sister in the 2002 and 2003 finals at the All England Club. “At one point, after the first set, I looked on the side of the court at the stats, and it was like ‘Williams,’ ‘Williams.’ I couldn't figure out which was which.” That also might have been because she was facing the only other woman who can equal her power and court coverage on grass courts. Monday's rankings will say Serena is No. 2, and Venus No. 3 — behind No. 1 Dinara Safina, a 6-1, 6-0 loser to the elder Williams in the semifinals — but it is clear who the best woman in the world is at the moment.—Internet



Serena Williams of the US (L) holds her winners trophy and Venus Williams of the US holds her runners-up trophy after their Ladies' Singles finals match at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, on 4 July, 2009. Serena Williams clinched her third Wimbledon title and 11th Grand Slam crown with a 7-6 (7/3), 6-2 victory over sister Venus, the defending champion, on Saturday.

INTERNET

Chopra heads for Cardiff

LONDON, 5 July—Cardiff have completed the signing of striker Michael Chopra from Sunderland for a club-record fee.

Chopra, who agreed a three-year deal worth in the region of 4 million pounds (6.5 million dollars), told Cardiff's official website: “I'm really glad it's all sorted now and, like all the other lads, I'm excited and determined to go that extra mile to gain promotion.”

The 25-year-old is the third player to sign for Cardiff this week after the arrival of centre-backs Mark Hudson and Anthony Gerrard, while full-back



Cardiff have completed the signing of striker Michael Chopra, from Sunderland for a club-record fee.—INTERNET

Paul Quinn is also expected to complete his move from Motherwell in the coming days.—Internet

Federer bracing for Wimbledon comeback kid Roddick

LONDON, 5 July—Roger Federer will attempt to write a new chapter in tennis history on Sunday when he targets a record 15th Grand Slam title by beat-



Roger Federer is seen playing against Germany's Tommy Haas in their semi-final match during the 2009 Wimbledon Tennis Championships at the All England Tennis Club, in southwest London, on 3 July.—INTERNET

ing Wimbledon comeback kid Andy Roddick.

Five-time champion Federer is playing in a seventh straight Wimbledon final, and a record 20th Grand Slam title match, where victory will take him past Pete Sampras's mark of 14 majors he equalled with his French Open win in June.

Roddick, desperate for a second major to add to his 2003 US Open title, has been here before, losing the 2004 and 2005 All England Club finals to Federer. “I'm very proud of all the records I've achieved, because I never thought I would be that successful as a kid,” said Federer, who lost his five-year grip on the title to Rafael Nadal here last year.—Internet

Moreno retains WBA bantamweight title

POITIERS, 5 July—Anselmo Moreno of Panama has retained his WBA bantamweight title with a split decision over Mahyar Monshipour of France. Moreno (26-1-1) overcame Monshipour's pressure between the eighth and 10th rounds, keeping his composure and then holding on for the victory.

Moreno's only loss was in 2002, when he was just beginning his professional career. The 34-year-old Monshipour (31-4) returned to boxing in December, nearly three years after losing his super bantamweight title to Thailand's Somsak Sithchatchawal in a brutal fight in March 2006.—Internet

Dortmund boosted by Turkish tyro's contract extension



Young Turkish international Nuri Sahin

ISTANBUL, 5 July—Young Turkish international Nuri Sahin gave Bundesliga side Borussia Dortmund a boost on Saturday when he signed a four-year extension to his present contract.

The 20-year-old - who in 2005 became the youngest player in Bundesliga history to sign a professional contract when he signed for Borussia - said he had had numerous offers but had opted to stay with the former Champions League winners.—Internet

Woods and Kim tied for lead at Congressional

BETHESDA, 5 July —Anthony Kim finally gets a crack at Tiger Woods, and when he says he has been practicing for a moment like this all his life, Kim isn't kidding.

As a 10-year-old growing up in Los Angeles, in those final hours of twilight as he waited for his father to pick up from the golf course, Kim imagined he was in the final pairing with Woods and had a 10-foot putt for the victory, with the world's No. 1 player watching.

“Man, they were going in a lot,” Kim said, laughing. He can only hope fantasy meets reality Sunday in the AT&T National. Kim kept his cool after a couple of blunders at Congressional, saving par from 84 yards with a creative chip he had been too scared to try in competition, then making birdie on the 16th that led to a 2-under 68 and his name atop the leaderboard.

Internet



ASLEEP IN JESUS DAW SUNG HNIANG (85)

Daw Sung Hniang, wife of U Lal Bik (Supdtg Engineer (Rtd) Public Works) residing at Bldg. 31 Rm 8 Uwisara Housing, Dagon Township Yangon, mother of (Rev. Lan Thuna-Daw Ida), Daw Kip Nawn (Asst. Supervisor (Domestic) (Rtd) Education Dept)-U Rang Hlur (Asst. Director (Rtd Co-op: Dept), Daw Ahsui (Asst. Teacher), Daw Sui Par-U San Lwin, Daw Sui Hniar-U Henry Tin Kio Bik (Captain, Maersk Line), (U Van Hre)-Daw Hoi Pen (U.D.C), U Lal Tin Mang (Deputy Director. Chin State Audit Dept.)-Daw Tial Tin Par, Daw Ni Siang, U Mang Tin Lian, grand-mother of 20 and great-grand-mother of 6, slept in the arms of Jesus on 4 July 09 at 4 pm. She will be buried after funeral service at Yeway Christian Worship Hall at 11:00 am on 9 July 09.

Bereaved Family.

Estonians sing to lift spirits amid slump

TALLINN, ESTONIA, 5 July—More than 20,000 choir singers gathered on Sunday to fill the air with positive vibes as Estonians took their minds off a crippling recession in a mass celebration of folk songs.

The power of music has lifted the Baltic country's spirits before. During five decades of Soviet occupation, Estonians found a rare outlet for celebrating their national heritage by gathering by the thousands to sing patriotic songs. The independence movement of the late 1980s was even dubbed the Singing Revolution.

Now, Estonia again is hoping its Song and Dance Celebration—a four-day event held every five years—will unite the nation of 1.3 million people, which has been severely battered by the economic downturn.

Estonia's economy is expected to shrink by about 15 percent this year—neighbouring Latvia is the only European Union country with a worse outlook.

"When you sing, you forget your everyday problems," said 21-year-old Saale Kreen, one of the choir singers who performed at the festival's first choir concert on Saturday. The high point will be on the festival's final day on Sunday, when a chorus of 24,000 voices will sing in unison at an outdoor stage in the capital, Tallinn.—Internet

MRTV-3

Programme Schedule
(6-7-2009) (Monday)

Transmissions

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

Local Transmission

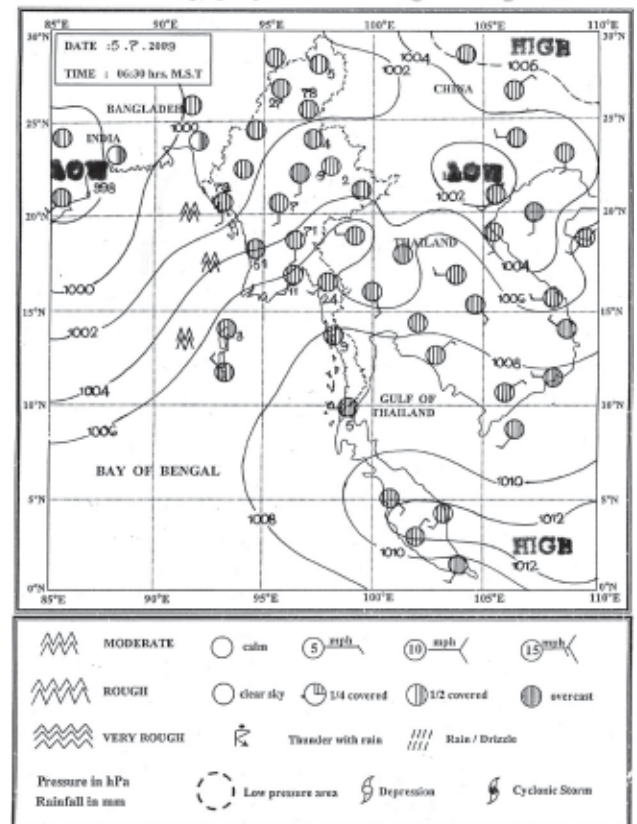
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * Buddha's Day in Rural Way
- * Four Greatest Places of Lord Buddha
- * "Mingadawun-Delivering the first Discourse"
- * Pa-Auk Forest Monastery & Meditation Centre
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * Noble Month of Wazo
- * Ever Green Songs "Loving rain as much as my lover" Chit Swe (Pianist)
- * Progressive Images of Ayeyawady Division
- * "A Visit to Daunt Gyi Village"
- * Welcome To Shwemyaing (Mawlamyaing)
- * Unique Biodiversity of Indawgyi Lake (Part-V)
- * Learning Opportunities for Disabled Persons
- * Buddha's Day in Rural Way
- * Four Greatest Places of Lord Buddha
- * "Mingadawun-Delivering the first Discourse"
- * Pa-Auk Forest Monastery & Meditation Centre
- * From Sandstones to Utensils
- * Let's visit the under water world
- * Unique Biodiversity of Indawgyi Lake (Part-VI)
- * Myanma Traditional Gold Leaf Works
- * Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv 3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Sunday, 5 July, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain have been isolated in Chin State, Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan State and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Ayeyawdy Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfalls in Kachin State and isolated heavyfall in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Pharkant (14.64) inches, Moekaung (5.55) inches, Myitkyina (4.49) inches, Sittway (3.03) inches, Taunggu (2.79) inches, Thandwe (2.40) inches, Hmawbi (2.20) inches and Ye (1.70) inches.

Maximum temperature on 4-7-2009 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 5-7-2009 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 5-7-2009 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 4-7-2009 was (1.0) hour approx.

Rainfall on 5-7-2009 was (0.67) inch at Mingaladon, (0.43) inch at Kaba-Aye and (Tr) at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (41.02) inches at Mingaladon, (45.59) inches at Kaba-Aye and (49.25) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from South at (16:30) hours MST on 4-7-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 6th July 2009: Rain will be isolated in lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan, Chin and Kayah States, fairly widespread in upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 6-7-2009: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 6-7-2009: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6-7-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).



Monday, 6 July
View on today

7:00 am

1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ပရိတ်တရားတော်ယောဆရာတော်ဘုရား၏ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

7:30 am

2. Morning News

7:40 am

3. နိုင်ငံတော်သံယမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့(အဖွဲ့ဝင်)ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း၊ခရမ်းမြို့တိုင်းကွန်း ပါဠိတက္ကသိုလ်ကျောင်းတိုက်ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဇောတိက(အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊အဂ္ဂမဟာ

ဂန္ထဝါစကပဏ္ဍိတ)ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော“ဓမ္မစကြာတရားတော်အကြောင်းသိကောင်းစရာတရားတော်”

8:10 am

4. ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန နိုင်ငံတော်သံရုံးတိုင်းဖျော်ဖြေတင်ဆက်မှုအစီအစဉ်

8:20 am

5. ဓမ္မပူဇော်တေးအစီအစဉ်

8:30 am

6. International News

8:35 am

7. Island of Dhamma

8:45 am

8. ဘဒ္ဒန္တကုမာရ (အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုဏ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက) မဟာဝိသုတာရာမတိုက်သစ်၊ မကွေးမြို့၊ မကွေးတိုင်းထံမှ နဝရံဥပေါသထသီလသံဃုဆောက်တည်ခြင်း

4:00 pm

1. Martial Song

4:10 pm

2. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:20 pm

3. Dance of National Races

4:30 pm

4. ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအမှတ်(၃)အခြေခံပညာဦးစီးဌာနဆဌမအကြိမ်၊ဓမ္မစကြာဝတ်ရွတ်ပူဇော်ပွဲ(ဒုတိယဆု)(အ. ထ. က. ဝဒဂုံ)(အမျိုးသမီးဝတ်ရွတ်အဖွဲ့)

4:45 pm

5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာပထမနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒ၊ ဓာတုဗေဒ၊ သင်္ချာအထူးပြု) (ရူပဗေဒ)

5:00 pm

6. Song of National Races

5:15 pm

7. ဝါဆိုလဘွဲ့တေးများ

5:30 pm

8. ဝါဆိုမိုးဆန်းကန်တော့ပန်း

5:45 pm

9. စူပါတေးသံရှင်ရွေးချယ်ပွဲ

6:00 pm

10. Evening News

6:30 pm

11. Weather Report

6:35 pm

12. Sing & Enjoy

7:15 pm

13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ“သမက်အလိုရှိသည်”(အပိုင်း-၁၉)

8:00 pm

14. News

15. International News

16. Weather Report

17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ“မေ့မေတ္တာ”(အပိုင်း-၈)

18. သီတဂူဆရာတော်အရှင်ဉာဏိသာရ၏ဓမ္မစကြာတရားတော်

19. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီးအရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာမေတ္တာဘာဝနာပွားများခြင်းတရားတော်



New building of Myawady Bank Ltd (Pyawbwe) opened



Lt-Gen Tin Aye unveils the signboard of new building of Myawady Bank Ltd (Pyawbwe).—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—A ceremony to open the new building of Myawady Bank Ltd (Pyawbwe) was held at the bank in Myinbat Ward of Pyawbwe this morning, attended by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Managing Director Maj-Gen Win Than of Myawady Bank Ltd, the secretary for Mandalay Division PDC, senior military officers, the deputy managing director of

Myawady Bank Ltd and members of the BOD, chairman of Yamethin District and Township PDCs, social organization members and guests.

The commander and the managing director formally opened the new building. Lt-Gen Tin Aye unveiled the signboard of the bank and sprinkled scented water on it together with the commander, the minister and officials. The deputy managing director presented commemorative pennants to officials.

After having documentary photos taken, Lt-Gen Tin Aye and party visited the bank office.

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Preventive and control measures against A(H1N1) being taken

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Up to 3 July, 89921 people have been infected with new influenza A(H1N1) virus and 382 died in 125 countries, announces the World Health Organization.

At 10 am today, a coordination meeting on review of preventive and control measures against A(H1N1) took place at the Public Health University in Yangon under the leadership of Infectious Disease Control Central Committee Secretary Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo.

Division, district, township and station hospitals in the states and divisions have been keeping possible outbreaks of SARS and flu-like disease under surveillance and there has been no case of global human flu. From 28 April to date, a total of 1,763,701 people had been monitored—76,485 at Yangon International Airport, Mandalay International Airport and Nyaung U Airport, 6039 at seaports and 1,681,177 at border gates. Lab tests have been carried out on suspected ones.

In Nay Pyi Taw also, officials from the health department, school heads and responsible persons from hotels coordinated surveillance measures.

Till today, 34 suspected persons have been screened and there has been only one person who is infected new influenza A(H1N1). Ministry of Health has urged the public to cooperate in preventive and control measures against the global human flu.—MNA

Running of trains commences at new Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Myanma Railways of the Ministry of Rail Transportation launched the running of trains from new Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station, here, this morning.

At 9.10 am, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min sprinkled scented water on 8-down Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon train that is going to depart from No. 1 Platform of the railway station.

Deputy Ministers Thura U Thaung Lwin and U Pe Than, the managing director of Myanma Railways and officials also sprinkled scented water on the train.

When the train departed, the minister and party waved to the passengers aboard the train.

With the aims of smoothly performing the schedules of trains in Nay Pyi Taw, managing the convenient travels of passengers and ensuring the smooth and speedy flow of commodities, Myanma Railways commenced the control of all the trains except some mail and local trains at new Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station.

Tickets for Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon No. 8/32 down train and Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay No. 25 Up train are being sold at both Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station and Pinyinmana Railway Station in advance for the convenience of the passengers.

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The newly opened Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station.—MNA

