Established 1914

The New Light of Myanmar

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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

Prime Minister receives Timorese minister and party

YANGON, 23 July — Prime Minister General Soe Win of the Union of Myanmar received Dr Jose Ramos Horta, Senior Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and party of the Democratic Republic of Timor Leste at Zeyathiri Beikman, Konmyinttha here this evening.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Ministers U Kyaw Thu and U Maung Myint, Director-General U Soe Tint of the Prime Minister's Office and Director-General Thura U Aung Htat of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Dr Jose Ramos Horta was accompanied by Rev. Arlindo Marcal, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Timor Leste in Jakarta, Mr Nelson Santos, Secretary-General for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Mr Juvencio de Jesus Martins, Director of Regional Affairs Directorate, Ms Sonia Neto, Advisor to the office of the Senior Minister.

They discussed matters on bilateral cooperation and friendship between the two countries.—*MNA*

Prime Minister General Soe Win receives Senior Minister Dr Jose Ramos Horta at Zeyathiri Beikman.

MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win greets Senior Minister Dr Jose Ramos Horta at Zeyathiri Beikman.

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INSIDE

Nowadays, there has emerged opportunity to pursue higher education in strategic regions of the nation. And more higher learning institutions were opened in the nation in addition to major cities such as Yangon and Mandalay. In the education, there were 32 universities and colleges in the past, and there are now 156 universities, degree colleges and colleges across the nation. With the emergence of those higher learning institutions, over 700,000 university and college students are now pursuing higher education within their own regions.

PAGE 2 PERSPECTIVES

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 24 July, 2005

Serve national interest with might and main

The State Peace and Development Council has been taking systematic measures in various sectors for the nation to keep abreast of the world community.

Meanwhile, it is placing emphasis on establishment of development infrastructures such as education, health, economy and transport sectors. In this regard, efforts are being made to bring about harmonious development the length and breadth of the nation.

The government has laid down and is implementing the 24 development zones, the five rural development tasks and projects for development of border areas and national races to see to it that equitable development is brought about across the nation.

In building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, nurturing and producing qualified human resources has been accorded special priority. In this connection, the education promotion programmes have been laid down and are being implemented at different levels of the education sector.

Nowadays, there has emerged opportunity to pursue higher education in strategic regions of the nation. And more higher learning institutions have been opened in the nation in addition to those in major cities such as Yangon and Mandalay.

In the education sector, there were 32 universities and colleges in the past, compared with 156 universities, degree colleges and colleges across the nation today. With the emergence of those higher learning institutions, over 700,000 university and college students are now pursuing higher education within their reach.

As systematic steps are being taken in the education sector, the government has been able to produce a number of intellectuals and technocrats on whom the State can rely.

Moreover, the education sector has been making all-out efforts to enhance education standards of the national people and ensure the adequate number of intellectuals and technocrats. Only then, will the nation-building endeavours meet with success.

The intellectuals and technocrats are to strive for the interests of the State and the people in accord with the 12 political, economic and social objectives laid down by the government, distinguishing right from wrong and good from bad.

Therefore, we would like to call on all the intellectuals and technocrats to serve the national interest in whatever sectors they are in, realizing the goodwill of the government and making better use of education and knowledge they have acquired.

TV programmes launched in Lamai

YANGON, 23 July — For extension of TV programmes, the construction of MRTV retransmission station in Lamai, Ye Township was completed on 17 July.

Starting from 18 July, the TV programmes have been aired.

MNA

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**

Ministry of Transport holds robes offering ceremony

YANGON, 23 July— The Ministry of Transport held the 8th ceremony of offering Waso robes to members of the Sangha at the Dhammayone of the ministry in the princint of Maha Wizaya Pagoda this morning.

Present on the occasion were members of the Sangha led by Patron of Mahasi Sasana Yeiktha Kyaukpadaung Sayadaw Maha Kammathanacariya Sasanadhaja Dhammacariya Baddanta Kumara, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe and wife Daw Mya Theingi, Deputy Ministers U Pe Than and Col Nyan Tun Aung, senior officers and their wives, directors and staff members.

Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe and wife presents Waso robes to Sayadaw. (TRANSPORT)

First, the congregation received the Nine Precepts from the Kyaukpadaung Sayadaw, and members of the Sangha recited parittas. Next, the minister and wife and party presented Waso robes and offertories to the members of the Sangha and shared the merits accrued. After the ceremony, the minister and party offered "*soon*" to the members of the Sangha. —*MNA*

Waso robes offering ceremony of CMA held

YANGON, 23 July —The 34th novitiation ceremony and the 16th Waso robes offering ceremony, organized by the Buddhist Association of the CMA under the Ministry of Defence took place at the new office of the CMA on Yankin Road in Yankin Township.

Present on the occasion were Sayadaws and members of the Sangha , Chairman of the Buddhist Association Acting Director General U Kyi and officials, staff families and guests.

First, Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Parahita (Tiger) training school for development of national races Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhama Jotika Bhaddanta Pandita invested the congregation with the Five Precepts. Members of the Sangha recited parittas.

The chairman of the association and families of the staff offered Waso robes and alms to the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha. Next, 108 trainees were novitiated.

After the ceremony, 'soon' was offered to the Sayadaws and members of Sangha and the 108 novices.

MNA

Staff families of Supreme Court offer Waso robes to monks

YANGON, 23 July — Under the patronage of Chief Justice U Aung Toe and wife Daw Aye Kyi, staff families of the Supreme Court held a rice offering ceremony for 420 members of the Sangha and the 55th Waso robes offering ceremony at the Dhammayone of the Supreme Court this morning.

First, Sukha Pariyatti Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Janita invested the congregation with the Five Precepts. Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Deputy Chief Justice U Thein Soe and wife, officials and staff families offered Waso robes and alms to 10 members of the Sangha.

MNA

Blood donation at Jivitadana Sangha Hospital

YANGON, 23 July— Altogether 214 persons donated blood at the fourth blood donation organized by Adminiatrative Board of Jivitadana Sangha Hospital held at the Mingala Hall of the hospital at 9 am today.

wellwishers donate blood at the blood donation ceremony held at the Mingala Hall of Jivitadana Sangha Hospital.— MNA

Present on the occasion were monks and nuns from different monasteries and nunneries in Bahan township, chairman of the Hospital Administrative Board U Ko Ko Gyi, members of the board, doctors and nurses, staff and blood donors.

First, secretary of the board U Maung Maung made a speech. Next, Medical Superintendent Dr U Po Lay thanked the donors.

MNA

China, Vietnam issue joint communique

BEIJING, 22 July — China and Vietnam issued a joint communique here on Thursday, pledging to further strengthen their good-neighbourly and all-round cooperative relations. The communique was signed during Vietnamese President Tran Duc Luong's state visit to China from 18 to 22 July at the invitation of Chinese President Hu Jintao.

The communique says the two presidents had an in-depth exchange of views on bilateral relations and other international and regional issues of common concern and reached broad consensus.

The two sides believe that President Tran Duc Luong's China visit is very successful, which will push forward China-Vietnam good-neighbourly and all-round cooperative relations, the communique says.

It says the two sides are pleased to see the growth of relations between the two countries and the Communist Party of China and the Communist Party of Vietnam. The bilateral relations maintain a good momentum of development under the guidelines of "long-term stability, orientation toward the future, good neighbourhood and all-round cooperation".

The two sides agreed to maintain high-level official contacts, increase mutual understanding and trust and further strengthen the friendly exchanges and cooperation for mutual benefit in various fields to promote the bilateral ties to a new phase, the communique says.

According to the communique, the two sides are satisfied with the development of China-Vietnam trade and economic relations and agreed to expand the two-way trade volume in a positive and pragmatic spirit to gradually reduce the imbalance in the bilateral trade. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Indonesia's fuel campaign targets vehicle owners

JAKARTA, 22 July — The Indonesian Government is considering asking some car owners to buy non-subsidized fuel, as well as raising the purchase taxes and import tariffs for vehicles, a government official has said.

Head of the Finance Ministry's Financial, Economic and International Collaboration Studies Agency Anggito Abimanyu said that among measures under consideration was instructing some car owners to use Pertamax fuel.

He said his office would continue talks with the relevant ministries, including Energy and Mineral Resources Ministry, so the policy could be implemented without disrupting the country's automotive industry.

"We are yet to decide whether the requirement would be imposed on owners of cars with an engine capacity of 2,000cc (cubic centimetres), 2,500cc or 3,000cc," he said. "We also have to consider the fact that Pertamax is not always available across the country, which could be an inconvenience for car owners," Angito was quoted on Thursday by the *Jakarta Post* daily as saying. Pertamax Plus is a non-subsidized fuel available in some of the country's big cities. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Singapore eases rules for publicity of rated films

SINGAPORE, 22 July — Trailers of upcoming films rated Mature 18 (M18) have been allowed for television (TV) broadcast after 10 pm since July 1 in Singapore, the Media Development Authority (MDA) announced on Thursday.

According to a statement by the MDA, trailers of movies rated No Children Under 16 (NC16) and TV programmes rated Parental Guidance (PG) can also be shown on TV any time of the day, provided that the content is suitable for a general audience.

MNA/Xinhua

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At least 83 killed in Egypt Red Sea resort bombing spree

SHARM EL-SHEIKH (Egypt) 23 July — Suicide car bombers unleashed a trail of carnage in Egypt's tourist-packed Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh on, killing at least 83 people and wounding 110, medics and witnesses said.

The attacks on the popular Sinai resort at the peak of the tourist season were the deadliest in Egypt in eight years and officials feared the death toll could rise further.

An AFP reporter saw the wreckage caused by three bombings but police sources said up to seven blasts may have rocked the town in quick succession shortly after 1:00 am (2200 GMT Friday).

In the most devastating of the strikes, a suicide bomber rammed his car into the Ghazala Garden hotel. "A suicide car bomber forced the barrier at the entrance of the hotel. A member of the security staff tried to stop him but he sped towards the reception and there was a huge explosion," a Ghazala hotel employee told *AFP*.

While there was no immediate indication as to who had carried out the blasts, anti-terrorist units were rushed to the scene and tight security was immediately slapped on the area.

"We have cancelled all holidays and dispatched the bulk of our anti-terrorist units to Sharm. We are at the highest level of alert across the country," a high-ranking security official told *AFP*.

An *AFP* reporter said the force of the blast sent debris flying more than 100 metres (yards) from the hotel building, which threatened to collapse.

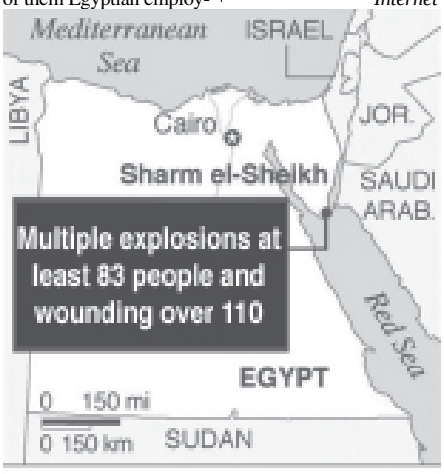
"There were at least 30 dead in this bombing, most of them Egyptian employees of the hotel because the tourist villas are on the other side of the hotel," a police officer said.

Medical sources said at least 83 people were killed and 110 wounded.

There have also been several attacks in tourist areas in Cairo in recent months.

Saturday's attacks followed a new terror scare on London's transport system on Friday after a series of bombings on 7 July that killed 52 people plus four suicide bombers. The Foreign Office in London said British nationals were killed in the Egyptian attacks.

Internet



Map of Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh.—INTERNET

1,775 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 22 July — As of Friday, 22 July, 2005, at least 1,775 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count. At least 1,365 died as a result of hostile action. The figures include five military civilians.

The *AP* count is five higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EDT on Friday.

The British military has reported 92 deaths; Italy, 25; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,636 US military members have died, according to *AP's* count. That includes at least 1,256 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.—*Internet*

US Army Spc Jason Farr, from the 15th Infantry Regiment, searches for guerillas in the town of Taji, on the outskirts of Baghdad, in this military handout photo released on 21 July, 2005. — INTERNET

US General says Iraq forces need more training

WASHINGTON, 22 July — None of the 10,000 American-trained Iraqi troops in western Iraq are yet capable of fighting the insurgency without US support, but some should be ready by next year, Marine Corps Maj Gen Stephen Johnson said on Friday.

The former guerilla stronghold in Fallujah was the scene of heavy combat last November, a fight in which the guerillas suffered heavy losses but Iraqi government troops fell short of expectations. Several Iraqi battalions collapsed.

In a two-way audio link with reporters at the Pentagon, Johnson acknowledged that because of the strength of the attack in Anbar Province, which stretches west from Baghdad to the borders with Syria and Jordan, the rate of progress in training Iraqi troops and police has been slower than elsewhere in Iraq. Pentagon officials said on Thursday that only three of the 107 Iraqi army battalions are capable of operating on their own, without US support. About two-thirds of the battalions are rated as "partially capable" of battling the insurgency, but only with US support, the report said.—*Internet*

Space shuttle Discovery Mission Specialist Soichi Noguchi of Japan gestures after arriving from Houston to the Shuttle Landing Facility at Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, on 22 July , 2005.
INTERNET

NY Police begin random bag searches on subways

NEW YORK, 23 July — New York authorities began randomly searching bags of subway passengers on Friday in the aftermath of a second set of London bombings and planned to extend the practice to buses, airport trains and suburban commuter lines.

Riders on the nation's largest subway system waited patiently while officers at various stations around the city combed through their briefcases and knapsacks on the first day of what Mayor Michael Bloomberg said would be a practice that would go on indefinitely.

"Clearly we'll do it for a little while. It's partially designed to make people feel comfortable ... and keep the potential threat away," Bloomberg said in his weekly radio show, adding that there were no new threats to New York.

In Washington, D C, officials said they were not instituting a similar system of random searches on subways, but were still considering it.

Neither were random searches launched in Boston or Los Angeles, although security was stepped up with officers and bomb-sniffing dogs.

And in Chicago, police spokesman David Bayless said, "Nothing has changed for the last two weeks," when security was stepped up on train and bus stations after first London bombings on 7 July.

Authorities announced plans to begin searching passengers' luggage and packages beginning on Monday on some buses and trains and travellers who refuse the searches will be asked to leave the terminals.

Police also will start randomly searching passengers' bags on suburban commuter trains in New Jersey as of Monday.

Searches at a subway station near the city's bustling Port Authority bus station certainly appeared random, as police stopped White tourists, a Jewish man wearing a yarmulke, an Asian man, a young Black woman and a man wearing a turban.

"I think it's necessary, especially at this time, as a precaution. I think it should have been in place even before the London attacks," said subway passenger Tony Decal at the Columbus Circle subway station.

Security on New York's transit system had already been stepped up since the 7 July bombings in London, when three subway trains and a bus were targeted by suicide bombers.

MNA/Reuters

Indonesia prepares to open labour market

JJAKARTA, 22 July – The Indonesian Government is lobbying foreign countries and making the necessary preparations ahead of the liberalization of regional labour markets.

The chief of the Centre for Research, Development Studies and Information at the Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, Harry Heriawan Saleh, said the government has prepared the necessary infrastructure and attending international conferences as part of efforts to protect the interests of the country when labour markets are opened up.

"Indonesia is committed to providing job opportunities for foreign workers only in the professional, energy, maritime, education, construction, finance and health sectors," Heriawan was quoted by the *Jakarta Post* as saying on Thursday.

The local labour market will be opened to foreign workers amid the global economic liberalization drive, starting with the implementation of the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (AFTA) next year and a World Trade Organization (WTO) agreement in 2008.

MNA/Xinhua

Journalists look at role of media in interfaith relations

JAKARTA, 22 July — In a discussion on the role of media in relations between people of different faiths, journalists from Europe and Asia agreed that it should be handled with great care and wisdom so as not to fuel the conflict.

This conclusion came from the Third Journalists' Colloquium of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) being held in Bali, Indonesia, *Antara* news agency reported Thursday.

In his keynote address at the seminar on Wednesday, Arizal Effendy of the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the media has a role to play in promoting not only inter-faith dialogue, but also "intra-faith".

Arizal termed journalists alongside educators, religious leaders and civil society organizations as important players in promoting inter-faith dialogue, and to defuse the threat of religious conflict.

"When leaders of different religions meet, they discover that they have more commonalities than differences. The question then becomes how do we mainstream these common values, how do we overcome barriers that exist by peaceful means," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Int'l symposium on APEC held in Vietnam

HANOI, 22 July — Some 150 foreign and local delegates are discussing the APEC's issues, especially those for the APEC Year 2006 to be hosted by Vietnam, at the international symposium on the preparation for APEC 2006 which opened here on Thursday.

The year of 2006 will be a milestone in the development process of the APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation), since the forum is halfway toward the Bogor goals, which were adopted by APEC economic leaders at their 1994 meeting in Bogor, Indonesia, specifying its objectives for free and open trade and investment among industrialized members by 2010, and among developing members by 2020, Ambassador Kim Jong Hoon, Chair of the 2005 APEC Senior Officials Meetings, said at the symposium's opening session.

The symposium will help identify the central theme and sub-themes for the APEC Year 2006, he said, noting that the central theme of APEC Korea 2005 is "Toward One Community: Meet the Challenge, Make the Change," and its sub-themes include Renew the commitment to the Bogor goals, Ensure transparent and secure business environment, and build bridges over differences.

During the two-day symposium, the delegates from 21 APEC member economies, and the forum's secretariat and relevant organizations are to centre their discussions on four main topics, namely 15 years in retrospect, new global and regional context — implications to APEC, the way forward, and preparation for APEC Vietnam 2006.

MNA/Xinhua

Stressed US troops in Iraq 'turning to drugs'

BAGHDAD, 23 July — Two years into the occupation of Iraq the menace of drug abuse appears to be afflicting American troops.

Aware of the debilitating effect drugs had on the morale and effectiveness of GIs in the Vietnam War, the authorities are attempting to stifle a repeat in Iraq.

Aside from random urine tests and barrack room searches, commanders have asked their troops to inform on colleagues.

In the past month a soldier has been arrested for selling cocaine and two per cent of the troops from one brigade have been charged with drug and alcohol abuse.

According to US army figures, out of the 4,000 men of the 256th Brigade Combat Team, 53 faced alcohol-related charges and 48 were charged with drug offences. Since the overthrow of Saddam's regime the borders that have been so porous for fighters have been equally open for heroin and hash smugglers from Afghanistan and Iran providing a cheap market for troops. With colleagues being killed or wounded on a daily basis, some US soldiers have turned to drugs to escape the horrors of fighting guerillas. In one case, according to Stars and Stripes, the in-house US forces newspaper, Sgt Michael Boudreaux was found with drugs, four bottles of whiskey and 22 videos of Iraqi pornography. He received a seven month confinement, was demoted to private and given a bad conduct discharge. In another case, Pte Emily Hamilton told a court martial that she used a hashish pipe belonging to a colleague because "it helped me go right to sleep".

She was given a year's confinement and a bad conduct discharge. "Some of these young soldiers just can't handle the stress," said Capt Christopher Krafchek, a military defence lawyer.

The majority of drug-users are in their teens or early 20s, and sometimes get their drugs from local Iraqis while on patrol in Baghdad. Troops caught in possession of illegal substances are either jailed, demoted or discharged from the forces.

Internet

A damaged car seen outside a building following an explosion in Egypt's Red Sea resort of Sham el-Sheik early Saturday 23 July, 2005. Mutliple explosions, possibly as many as seven, rocked the Egyptian tourist resort of Sharm el-Sheik in the Sinai Peninsula early Saturday, targeting several hotels and severely damaging at least one hotel, witnesses said.
INTERNET

Malaysia not to allow foreign forces to patrol Malacca Straits

KUALA LUMPUR, 22 July — Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said on Thursday his country would never allow foreign military forces to help it patrol the Malacca Straits.

Malaysia firmly believes in the principle of sovereignty and independence of a country, no matter how small the country is, Badawi said in his keynote speech at the 56th General Assembly of the ruling United Malays National Organization (UMNO).

"Their presence (of foreign forces) without our permission is an encroachment which we consider as being disrespectful of our country's sovereignty," Badawi, who was also UMNO president, was quoted as saying by the *Bernama* news agency. The Straits of Malacca is now jointly patrolled by the littoral states of Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore.

However, Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak said on June 7 that the international community could help reinforce security in the straits by providing maritime surveillance aircraft which would be operated by security forces of the littoral states. According to a recent report issued by the International Maritime Bureau, eight piracy attacks have been reported in the straits with increasing violence during the first half of the Year 2005.

Over 60,000 vessels, with shipment of a third of global trade and half of the world's oil, pass through the straits every year.— *MNA/Xinhua*

China purchases 20 Airbus planes

BEIJING, 22 July — Air China signed a contract with Airbus on Thursday for purchasing 20 Airbus *A330-200s.*

The planes are scheduled for delivery from May 2006. China Aviation Supplies Import and Export Group (CASC) was also involved in this deal.

Air China President Li Jiaxiang, CASC president Li Hai and Airbus president and CEO Gustav Humbert signed the contract at the Great Hall of the People. Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and visiting Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero witnessed the signing ceremony .

"These 20 *A330-200* aircraft will help us expand our fleet and open new international routes," said Li Jiaxiang, "*A330-200* will also further strengthen our reliability, punctuality and efficiency, and improve our competitiveness in the global market. " Air China's fleet now has 16 *A319s,* five *A320s* and six *A340s.* The selection of 20 *A330-200s* will further diversify its fleet. — *MNA/Xinhua*

China approves reform plan on postal system

BEIJING, 22 July — An executive meeting of the State Council, the Chinese Cabinet, was held on Wednesday to hear reports on key state enterprises and a reform plan on postal system.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao presided over the meeting.

The meeting heard a report by Commission for Supervision and Management of State-owned Properties under the State Council on the supervision of major enterprises.

The meeting stressed the supervision committee should increase supervision ability of state assets, and promote the reform of state enterprises.

The meeting also heard a report by State Development and Reform Commission on the reform of post system. Postal service is an important public service and the postal network is a major telecommunication infrastructure. To better the service, the reform plan required to separate the administrative functions from the enterprises, strengthen governmental supervision, guarantee general services and special services and ensure postal security.

To this end, China will form State Post Administration as the supervision organ and the China Postal Group Corporation to deal with all kinds of postal services, the meeting said.

A postal depository bank will be set up to regulate financial services in postal area, the meeting said.

MNA/Xinhua

From left, Hong Kong actor Leon Lai, martial art actor Donnie Yen, actress Charlie Yeung and director Tsui Hark attend their movie premiere 'Seven Swords' in Hong Kong, on 22 July, 2005.—INTERNET

Iraq police search for Algerian diplomats

BAGHDAD, 22 July —Police tightened security in an upscale Baghdad neighbourhood on Friday as the search intensified for two Algerian diplomats kidnapped there. At least 16 people died in attacks in Baghdad and elsewhere.

More police were on the streets and motorists reported extra checkpoints Friday in the western Baghdad neighbourhood of Mansour, where top Algerian envoy Ali Belaroussi, 62, and fellow Algerian diplomat, Azzedine Belkadi, 47, were seized the day before. They were not traveling with bodyguards, officials said.

The kidnappings brought to five the number of key diplomats from Islamic countries targeted in Baghdad in less than three weeks in an attempt to undermine support for the Iraqi government among Arab and Muslim nations.

Police officials said they suspected the diplomats and their kidnappers may still be in the Mansour area because witnesses reported the abduction too quickly for the gunmen to have gone far.

Egypt's top envoy, Ihab al-Sherif, was seized at gunpoint in another western Baghdad neighborhood on 2 July, also without security. Three days later, gunmen opened fire on senior envoys from Pakistan and Bahrain in separate attacks police described as kidnap attempts.

The Pakistani diplomat's security guards returned fire and the assailants fled. The Bahraini, who was slightly wounded, had no bodyguards, but a traffic policeman saw the attack, fired his pistol in the air and the assailants fled, police said.—*Internet*

More Americans believe Iraq war hurts fight against terrorism

WASHINGTON, 22 July — Nearly half of Americans say the war in Iraq has hurt what the White House calls its "war on terror"— the highest percentage since the US-led invasion of Iraq in March 2003 — according to a major new poll released on Thursday in the immediate aftermath of the latest bomb attacks in London.

The survey, by the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, also showed that 49 percent of respondents now believe that Washington should set a timetable for withdrawing from Iraq. President George W Bush opposes such a move, as did 45 percent of the 1,502 American adults surveyed 13-17 July.

Pew released the survey after the US House of Representatives approved Wednesday a non-binding resolution opposing the early withdrawal of US troops from Iraq and declaring that setting a date for a troop pullout would encourage terrorists to ratchet up their operations.

The Pew findings were broadly consistent with those of a Gallup poll released before the fatal 7 July London bombings, suggesting that those incidents have had no significant impact on US public opinion. No one was killed in yesterday's attacks.

Forty-five percent of Americans believe that the war in Iraq has increased the chances of terrorist attacks in the United States, up from 36 percent last October, the Pew survey said.

By contrast, 22 percent of citizens said they agreed with Bush that the Iraq war has lessened the chances of terrorist attacks on home soil.

Internet

US Marines look for weapons caches at Tharthar Lake, west of Baghdad on 22 July 2005.—INTERNET

Malaysian CPI for first six months increases by 2.8%

KUALA LUMPUR, 22 July—Malaysian Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the first six months of 2005 increased by 2.8 per cent to 108.1 compared with the same period last year, the Statistics Department said on Wednesday.

The 2.8 per cent rise in the CPI was brought about by increases in the indices of all main groups except those of clothing and footwear which decreased by 1.1 per cent, the department said in a statement released here.

Notable among these increases were beverages and tobacco (13.4 per cent), food (3.6 per cent) and transport and com-munication (2.8 per cent).

The CPI for June rose by 3.2 per cent to 109 when compared with the same month last year, and was up by 0.2 per cent when compared with the previous month, the department said.

MNA/Xinhua

Piracy attacks reduce in half of 2005 worldwide

KUALA LUMPUR, 22 July — The number of piracy attacks worldwide dropped by approximately 30 per cent in the first six months of 2005, the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) said in a report released recently.

The first half of this year reported 127 cases of piracy attacks compared with 182 cases over the same period last year, IMB said in its 2005 half-yearly report on Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships.

IMB said that the Straits of Malacca was free from piracy threats for nearly two months beginning at the end of 2004.

"However, since the end of February 2005, eight attacks have been reported in the Straits of Malacca with increasing violence and innocent crew being abducted for ransom," IMB was quoted as saying by the *Bernama* news agency on Wednesday.

Indonesia recorded the highest number of attacks, accounting for one third of the world's total with 42 incidents, IMB said.

In the 127 cases of attacks, pirates boarded ships in 92 instances and six ships were hijacked.

A total of 176 crew were taken hostage and 12 kidnapped during the first six months of this year, IMB said. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Chinese farmer Tan Chengnian (R) tells two enthusiasts about his self-designed and self-assembled plane in Weifang, east China's Shandong Province on 22 July , 2005. Tang is making the final preparation for his third test flight scheduled on 24 July .— INTERNET

WHO names HLA alleles by Chinese scientists

HANGZHOU,22 July —The World Health Organization (WHO) has named four newly identified human leukocyte antigen (HLA) alleles that will hopefully enhance the success rates of bone marrow transplants for leukaemia patients.

The alleles, HLA-A*3308, HLA-B*1586, HLA-B*4061 and HLA-DRB1* 1212, were identified recently by transfusion specialists with the Zhejiang provincial blood centre, said Professor Yan Lixing, head of the research team based in the provincial capital Hanghzou, on Wednesday.

He said the finding has been reported in Tissue Antigen, an international authoritative journal on immuno-genetics.

HLA is a kind of antigen of the white blood cells.

Doctors rely on an HLA antigen system that gauges how well donated tissue matches the patient's immune system. The more HLA matches there are, the greater the success rate of transplants.

The new alleles will match more adequate types of bone marrow for leukemia and other fatal blood disease sufferers, for whom the best therapy available so far is bone marrow trans-plant. In China, leukemia patients increase by 40,000 each year, and currently, there are more than four million patients waiting for bone marrow transplants.

The results of the Chinese scientists' research may also help organ transplant patients find ideal donors and help anthropologists study the migration of different ethnic communities in history.

Chinese scientists have so far identified more than 20 of all the 2,088 known alleles of HLA-A, B and DRB1, the absolute majority of which were discovered by Americans. Profes-sional Yan's team alone has identified six HLA alleles, including two last September.

MNA/Xinhua

Science association to host annual academic conference

BEIJING,22 July— The China Association for Science and Technology (CAST) announced here on Wednesday that it will organize its annual academic conference from 20 to 23 August in Urumqi, capital of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

Xu Shanyan, vice-CAST president, said at a Press conference that more than 5,000 participants nationwide, including 150 academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Chinese Academy of Engineering, are expected to attend the meeting and discuss inter-disciplinary and frontier areas of science and technology.

Meanwhile, Xu said, scientists and technologists are encouraged to provide suggestions to Xinjiang, a border region, for its social and economic development.

MNA/Xinhua

Pakistan arrests 200 suspected of involving in terrorist activities

ISLAMABAD, 22 July — Pakistani Interior Minister Aftab Ahmed Khan Sherpao on Wednesday said that 200 people have been arrested during the crackdown against the extremists involved in terrorist activities.

The operation was taken against the terrorists and extremist elements in the light of the directives of President General Pervez Musharraf and the law enforcing agencies have arrested 200 people involved in terrorist related activities and violation of publication ordinance, Sherpao told reporters in Islamabad.

He added those arrested have no link with the 7 July London attacks.

Sherpao said that the operation against extremists, terrorists and those fanning hatred in the society will continue till complete elimination of extremism from the society.

Earlier Wednesday, Sherpao stressed that crackdown against prescribed religious organizations should be made effective and result-oriented.

During a meeting attended by home secretaries and police chiefs of provinces, Sherpao said that it is high time to have an effective blow against the workers of prescribed organi-zations and speakers in mosques and Madaras or religious schools involved in fanning hatred against other sects should be closely monitored and involved persons must be booked and arrested under the relevant law.

He urged them to send a weekly report on such mosques and Madaras which provoke religious sentiments and action taken against them.

Literature provoking sectarianism must be confiscated, the writers, printers and publishers be booked and in this regard zero tolerance will be shown by the authorities, he said.

Sherpao directed the authorities to implement the law against display of arms in letter and spirit and no one should be spared at all.

It was a follow-up meeting of the directions given by President Musharraf against religious extremism and terrorism.—*MNA/Xinhua*

China's certified public accountant business grows fast

BEIJING,22 July— Four indigenous certified public accountant (CPA) companies have seen their 2004 earnings break the record of 100 million yuan (about 12.09 million US dollars), Wednesday's *Economic Daily* reports.

Citing a recent report from the Chinese Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Beijing-based newspaper said that domestic CPA companies have picked up their pace amidst the competition with foreign peers.

The Shu Lun Pan Certified Public Accounts Co Ltd, based in Shanghai, ranked first among all domestic players with earnings of 153.3 million yuan (about 18.54 million US dollars).

The other three are the Beijing-based Shinewing, Accountant Final and Yuehua, whose 2004 earnings stood at 120.95 million yuan (14.63 million US dollars), 116.59 million yuan (14.1 million US dollars) and 100.96 million yuan (12.21 million US dollars), respectively. Still, foreign heavyweights like PricewaterhouseCoopers, Kpmg Peat Marwick, Deloitte touche Tohmatsu and Ernst & Young, still have taken an absolute lead in the Chinese market.

MNA/Xinhua

Yukio, a 17-year-old polar bear, licks a block of ice containing a salmon at Ueno Zoo in Tokyo on 23 July , 2005.

INTERNET

Australia to review anti-terror laws

LONDON, 23 July — Visiting Australian Prime Minister John Howard said on Thursday that Australia was reviewing its laws to see if they were adequate to tackle terrorist threats in the 21st Century.

British police specialists who dealt with the 7 July bomb attacks in London would travel to Australia to pass on their experience, Howard told a joint news conference with his British counterpart Tony Blair after their talks

Australia was considering new legislation outlawing indirect incitement of terrorism — a law which Britain plans to have in place by the year's end, Howard said at the news conference, which were held hours after a series of four explosions on London's transport system on Thursday.

"We are carrying out an examination at the moment of the need to change and strengthen our laws against terrorist activity or potential terrorist activity," said Howard, who arrived in London for an official visit on 20-24 July. "We will include in that examination the sort of changes that have been contemplated here in Britain," he said, adding he had discussed the issue with Blair.

"We have a 19th Century legal response to potentially 21st Century technological terrorist capacity. Now you don't want to rush these things but you do want to recognize there is a case for looking at where the laws are adequate," Howard said, adding that Australia would look into the proposed British legislation.

The legislation would outlaw "indirect incitement" of terrorism — targeting extremist Islamic clerics who glorify acts of terrorism and seduce impressionable Muslim youth. It will outlaw receiving training in terrorist techniques in Britain or abroad. A new offence of "acts preparatory to terrorism" would outlaw planning an attack and activities such as acquiring bomb-making instructions on the Internet.

Howard praised the British response to the London terrorist attack on July 7, which left 56 people dead, and more than 700 others injured.

On Thursday, there have been a series of four incidents on the London transport network on Thursday. The emergency services are in attendance.

The incidents took place at Warren Street and Oval tubes, an area above ground at Shepherds Bush, and a number 26 bus, en route from Waterloo to Hackney.

Attacks on the transport system were designed to scare people, and police hoped London will return to normal quickly, Blair said. "Fortunately, in this instance, there appear to have been no casualties ... We've got to react calmly." said he. —*MNA/Xinhua*

Beirut blast wounds seven in busy street

BEIRUT, 24 July — A loud explosion in the Lebanese capital Beirut wounded seven people near a busy street of restaurants and bars on Friday, security sources said.

Security forces first reported the blast, which came hours after a short visit by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, had killed one person.

The blast was caused by a small bomb near a car parked outside a restaurant in Rue Monot. It destroyed two cars and sprayed the street, bustling with nightlife, with shards of glass. Four of the wounded were sent to hospital, security sources said.

Three others were treated with minor injuries. Police cordoned off the area and evacuated the street after the blast.

Lebanon has been hit by a string of bombings since a massive car bomb killed former Primer Minister Rafik al-Hariri in February. But no politician was apparently targeted by the latest bombing.

Friday's blast was the first explosion since a new government, the first since Syrian troops withdrew, took office on Thursday.

Internet

NZ PM expresses "sadness" to second London bomb attacks

WELLINGTON, 23 July — New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark on Friday expressed "sadness" at the reports of more bomb attacks on London's transport system.

Clark said that "her thoughts today are with (British Prime Minister) Tony Blair and the people of London at this testing time." "I have great respect and admiration for the speed with which the British authorities identified those who carried out the bombings two weeks ago," she said.

"Their response to these crises has been impressive, and I am sure will be on this occasion," she added. Officials in New Zealand are meeting on Friday morning, and they will advise the Prime Minister further on the bombings.

The steps were taken by the British authorities in response to these awful events, said Clark.

Four blasts hit London's bus and underground train network on Thursday, injuring one person, two weeks after bombers killed more than 50 people in the British capital.

MNA/Xinhua

Thailand sets up dengue fever vaccine research center

BANGKOK, 23 July — The provincial hospital of Khon Kaen, northeast Thailand set up a center for dengue fever vaccine research with total 25 million baht (625,000 US dollars) funding.

Vithaya Jarupoon-pol, Director of Khon Kaen Hospital was quoted by the Thai News Agency as saying that the research center will hold a comprehensive and systematic database to dengue vaccine research. The 20 million baht (500,000 US dollars) funding over three years from now will go to research activities into the development of the vaccine, while an additional five million baht (125,000 US dollars) has been used to equip the centre with state-of-the art facilities to ensure top-quality and reliable clinical data. — *MNA/Xinhua*

WHO says Cambodia one of nations hardest hit by TB

PHNOM PENH, 23 July — The World Health Organization (WHO) has singled out Cambodia as one of the countries hardest hit by tuberculosis (TB), local Press reported on Thursday.

With 70,000 people infected with the respiratory illness each year, TB killed 107 people for every 100,000 Cambodians last year, according to WHO estimation on Wednesday.

The global health body has set a specific strategy for Cambodia to fight the illness, calling for the provision of TB-specific treatment programmes, an 85-percent recovery rate and the identification of 70 per cent of all cases of BK, a new strain of TB, Khmer newspaper Island of Peace reported. Approximately 33,000 of the 70,000 TB patients have tested positive for BK, Mao Tan Eang, director of the National Tuberculosis Centre, was quoted by Rasmei Kampuchea as saying.

He said 225 of every 100,000 Cambodians develop BK each year, while 508 of every 100,000 Cambodians are infected with all forms of TB.

Speaking at the National Tuberculosis Centre's biannual evaluation meeting on Wednesday, Mao Tan Eang said Cambodia discovered 35 per cent of BK or 10,500 positive patients in the first half of this year, Chinese newspaper Jian Hua Daily said.

Last year, Cambodia cured 90 per cent of TB cases, identified 64 per cent of BK cases and provided treatment to 100 per cent of all TB cases. Meanwhile, the government spends six million to seven million US dollars annually on the fight against TB.

MNA/Xinhua

NZ concerns meat exports to Malaysia

WELLINGTON, 23 July — Departments of New Zealand Government issued on Friday a joint statement, expressing concerns over "apparent changes" by Malaysia to the status of New Zealand's meat exports to that country.

The statement said three days after Malaysia apparently reduced the number of New Zealand meat premises that can export to the country, New Zealand has yet to receive any official notification.

The joint statement was signed by the New Zealand Food Safety Authority, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Meat Industry Association, Meat & Wool New Zealand, New Zealand Islamic Meat Management and the Federation of Islamic Associations of New Zealand. New Zealand trade officials have met with the Malaysian High Commissioner in Wellington and New Zealand's High Commissioner in Kuala Lumpur has spoken to the Malaysian Government to express New Zealand's concern that the apparent change to New Zealand's export status came without warning and that no reason has been given.

Spokesman for the joint statement Richard Trow told Xinhua that he has yet no exact number of the changes of meat export premises.

Malaysian officials have advised informally that a letter explaining the situation will be forthcoming in the very near future, but there is now no feedback on the issue from Malaysian foreign officials here.

In the year ending May 2005, New Zealand exported meat worth at least 66 million NZ dollars (46.5 million US dollars) (Free On-Board) to Malaysia, and meat export has been one of the kingpin of the country's trade.

MNA/Xinhua

A giant turtle in Kampot Z00, Cambodia. An endangered 'royal' turtle, believed to be one of 10 left in Cambodia, has narrowly escaped a trip to a Chinese soup-pot thanks to a tiny microchip implanted in its leg.

INTERNET

Indaing Station holds tree planting ceremony

Commander Maj-Myint Swe plants a tree at tree-planting ceremony in Hlegu Township. YANGON COMMAND

YANGON, 23 July — Indaing Station of Yangon Command held the tree planting ceremony at local regiment in Hlegu Township, Yangon Division this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay.

Present on the occasion were Commander of No 77 Light Infantry Division Brig-Gen Win Myint, Station Commander of Indaing Station Col Bo Lwin, Commander of No 1 Military Region Col Myat Thu, senior military officers, departmental officials and others.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe made a speech, saying that Yangon Command has been holding the ceremony for four times since 2002. As an agro-based country, monsoon and summer paddy, oil crops as well as perennial, shady and wind break trees were to be planted all the year round for raising national incomes. Planting tree is beneficial to the regional greening tasks, greening projects of 30-mile radius of Yangon International Airport all the year round and Bago Yoma greening projects, added the commander.

Station Commander Col Bo Lwin then reported on progress of planting and conserving trees and Deputy Director U Than Myint of Yangon Division Forest Department gave reports on progress of taking tree planting measures to the commander.

The commander, wife and party also viewed round the herbal plant showroom, displayed by the Forest Department.

Maj-Gen Myint Swe, wife and officials delivered the saplings to those present.

The commander and wife then planted *Gantgaw* trees to mark the ceremony.

Brig-Gen Win Myint and officials also planted a wide range of saplings.

The commander and party viewed round the progress of growing trees and the ceremony ended.

After that, the commander, wife and officials also inspected the nursery plantations of the local regiment.

A total of 24,060 saplings were planted today. *MNA*

Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization Patron Daw Khin Thet Htay plants a tree at Indaing Station tree-planting ceremony. YANGON COMMAND

Construction of Saikhoung-Namhsan rail road inspected

YANGON, 23 July —Shan State Peace and Development Council Chairman Eastern Command Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint arrived at Namhsan railroad construction project site in Punchaung on 15 July morning. Brig-Gen Thaung Aye of the local battalion reported on progress in construction of Saikhoung-Namhsan railroad and future tasks and project director U Tin Soe on progress in construction of bridges, use machinery and removal of rock.

The commander stressed the need for timely completion of the project meeting the set standards, maintenance of roads and bridges and measures to be taken for work site safety. Next, the commander viewed construction tasks from Pun Creek Bridge.

Saikhoung-Punchaung-Namhsan railroad will be 103 miles long, and 324 bridges have been built along the road.

MNA

Knowledge Bank Paper Reading Session held

YANGON, 23 July — Knowledge Bank Paper Reading Session organized by Myanmar writers and Journalists Association took place at the Salpay Beikman building of MWJA Office on Merchant Street at noon today.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of MWJA U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), Vice-Chairmen U Tin Kha (Takkatho Tin Kha), U Than Maung (Than Maung), Secretary U Hla Tun (Hla Tun Twantay) and joint secretaries, CEC members, guests and MWJA members and guests.

First, U Myo Thant (Maung Su Shin) extended greetings. Next, resource persons Daw Kyan (Ma Kyan) and Dr Myint Hlaing read out their respective papers. Later, the resource persons answered the queries raised by those present and MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) expressed thanks. — *MNA*

Resource person Dr Myint Hlaing reads out his paper at Knowledge Bank Paper Reading Session. — MNA

Waterways changed for vessels plying under Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway)

YANGON, 23 July—The waterway between pillars Nos 2 and 3 of the Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway) was designated for vessels sailing downstream and the waterway between pillars Nos 1 and 2 for vessels moving upstream the Ayeyawady River. Now, the current of the river is rising, and so beginning 25 July 2005, vessels driving downstream are to take the waterway between pillars Nos 3 and 4, and vessels upstream, between pillars Nos 2 and 3.

The clearance of each new waterway is 110 metres wide and 17 metres high. A green triangle mark is shown on the entrance to the waterway, and a red-colour red cross mark represents no-entry sign.

The Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems today announced that parallel running of two vessels under the bridge is not allowed and priority is to be given to the vessel plying downstream.

MNA

Myanmar Archery team bags 4 gold, 3 silver and two bronze

YANGON, 23 July — Members of Myanmar Archery Team are participating in the 29th Men's International Invitational Archery Championship being held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia starting from 21 July, and won three gold, one silver and two bronze till yesterday.

Zaw Min Tun won gold in man's individual recurve (70m). NLM

Paw Oo in man's individual compound competition (70m), Nyi Nyi Tun in man's individual recurve (90m) and Zaw Min Tun in man's individual recurve (70m) bagged one gold each. Kay Thi won silver in woman's individual compound and, Thin Thin Khine and Kay Thi two bronzes in woman's individual compound.

After today's competitions, Myanmar archery athletes bagged one gold and two silver again. Altogether 4 gold, three silver and two bronze were bagged by Myanmar athletes.

Totalling 6 countries including Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia and Iran are taking part in the competitions and they continue tomorrow.

NlM

Khamoutkyi TV retransmission station begins telecasts

YANGON, 23 July — The construction and installation of Khamoutkyi TV retransmission station in Taninthayi Division were completed on 17 July 2005.

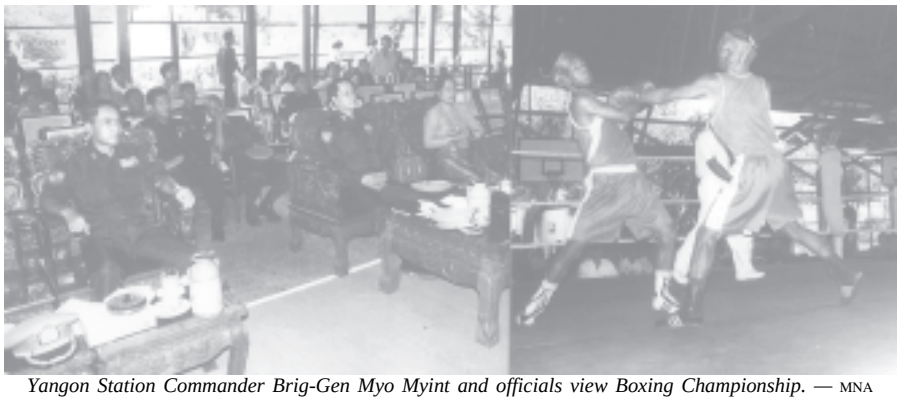
It begins telecasting of MRTV programmes at from 18 July 2005.

MNA

All this needs to be known

* **Do not be frightened whenever intimidated**
* **Do not be bolstered whenever flattered**
* **Do not be softened whenever appeased**

Yangon Station Commander's Boxing C'ship opened



Yangon Station Commander Brig-Gen Myo Myint and officials view Boxing Championship. — MNA

YANGON, 23 July — Yangon Command Yangon Station Commander's Boxing Championship was opened at Fusan gymnasium on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this afternoon, attended by Yangon Station Commander Brig-Gen Myo Myint, commanders of stations, officers, Tatmadawmen and athletes.

First Yangon Station Commander Brig-Gen Myo Myint extended greetings and formally opened the competition. Altogether 87 athletes of seven teams from the units and regiments in Yangon Division take part in the competition and it continues up to 27 July. — *MNA*

Commander and Mayor visit Mandalay industrial zone

YANGON, 23 July —Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and officials inspected construction of the Convocation Hall of Mandalay University on 21 July.

Rector Dr Nyunt Hlaing and senior engineer U Khin Maung Swe of construction project special group-6 reported on progress of work and tasks to be undertaken. The two-storey convocation hall can accommodate 1,800 people— 1,400 on the ground floor and 400 on the first floor. The commander inspected a fertilizer plant, installation of turbines at sub-power station and distribution of power, foundry plant, textile plant and wheat mill in Mandalay Industrial Zone, and factories and installation of computerized lathe. He attended the prize presentation of Central Command Commander's Shield Football Tourney at Aungmye Mandala sports ground in Aungmyethazan Township and presented the shield to the winner. Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Nay Win and officials presented prizes to the teams that stood second and third.—*MNA*

Basic accounting course concludes at Auditor-General's Office

YANGON, 23 July — The No-1 basic accounting course co-organized by the financial department of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and the Auditor-General's Office concluded at the training hall of the office on Thakhin Mya Park in Ahlon Township this morning, attended by Head of financial department of MWAF Daw Aye Aye.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Auditor-General Daw Thin Thin, Director-General of Auditor-General's Office U Myo Myint, members of MWAF, deputy directors-general, directors, course instructors, guests and trainees.

First, the Deputy-Auditor-General made an opening speech. Next, Head of financial department of MWAF Daw Aye Aye made a speech and presented course completion certificates to the trainees.

MNA

Head of financial department of MWAF Daw Aye Aye makes a speech at the concluding ceremony of the basic accounting course. — MNA

Mayor attends tree-planting ceremony in Hlinethaya

YANGON, 23 July— The Parks and Playgrounds Department under the Yangon City Development Committee conducted its seventh collective tree-planting ceremony in Hlinethaya Township, Yangon North District, this morning.

Present on the occasion were YCDC Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Vice-Chairman Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and members, heads of department, staff, local authorities, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and social organizations and local people.

Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin plants a tree in the 7th collective tree-planting ceremony in Hlinethaya Township — MNA

Those present collectively planted 1,120 landscaping trees along Nyaungdon Road from Aung Zeya Bridge to Hlinethaya Roundabout.

Next, the mayor, Joint-Secretary U Tin Soe and members and officials inspected the implementation of the Dagon Ayeya Brokers' Sales Centre and Highway Bus Terminal Project being undertaken by the YCDC Revenue Department near Nyaungdon Road in Hlinethaya Township. The Head of the Revenue Department and officials reported on work progress and future programmes.

The mayor instructed the officials to ensure smooth transport between the centre and terminal and downtown Yangon, construct halls for passengers and car park for trucks, and pay attention to proper drainage and spruce up the project site and its surroundings. — *MNA*

Universities hiking team on excursion tour of Mon State

YANGON, 23 July — Universities hiking team comprising 96 members of various universities, led by U Myo Thant (Myanmarsar Department), President of Yangon University Hiking Association, made an excursion tour of Taikkala hilly region in Bilin Township, Mon State from 16 to 19 July. During their tour, they offered Waso robes and provisions to 20 Tawya Monasteries on Waiponla and Kaylatha mountains.

MNA

Yangon University Hiking Association being seen on their excursion tour. — H

ကျေးရွာတိုင်းကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ဖို့၊ ပိုင်းဝန်းကူညီဆောင်ရွက်စို့။

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Tropical storm "Franklin" gently douses Bahamas

MIAMI, 23 July — The sixth tropical storm of one of the busiest Atlantic hurricane seasons on record brought light showers to the Bahamas on Friday as it took a northerly track that forecasters said was likely to steer it away from Florida.

Tropical Storm Franklin was over the northern portion of Great Abaco island, or 80 miles east of Freeport in the Bahamas by 8 am (1200 GMT), the US National Hurricane Centre in Miami said.

The storm was moving northwest at 9 mph, with winds of 45 mph, but was expected to shift to a more northerly direction and eventually toward the northeast, the centre said. The Department of Meteorology of the Bahamas said light to moderate rains were falling over the Abaco area but Franklin had not yet brought strong winds.

"We're not getting a whole lot of weather from the system," a department spokeswoman said.

Some forecast models held out the possibility that Franklin could eventually loop back around in a circle and aim for the central Florida coast, potentially affecting NASA's plans to launch on Tuesday the first space shuttle mission since the *Columbia* disaster in 2003.

Franklin's formation on Thursday marked the earliest in the season since records began in 1851 that six tropical storms have formed in the Atlantic. The hurricane season runs from 1 June to the end of November. Hurricane experts have predicted an unusually busy season this year as the Atlantic swings into a decades-long period of increased storm activity. Two hurricanes, Dennis and Emily, have already pounded the Caribbean, Mexico and the US Gulf Coast. Last year saw 15 tropical storms, of which nine became hurricanes. Florida was struck by four of the hurricanes in a six-week period.

Most US hurricane experts do not attribute the high number of storms to global warming. But climatologists say warmer sea-surface temperatures and greater amounts of water vapour in the atmosphere could lead do more intense hurricanes in the future.

MNA/Reuters

Shell to invest $ 125m in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 23 July — Anglo-Dutch Shell will invest 125 million US dollars in petroleum exploration and production in Brazil this year, a senior official of the company said on Friday.

The investment includes drilling a new probing well in the BC-10 area of Campos maritime basin, off the coast of Espirito Santo, where a heavy-crude deposit has been found, Exploration Manager for Latin America Graeme Smith said. Shell and Brazil's state-run oil company PETROBRAS have a 35-per-cent share of the crude deposit each, while ExxonMobil gets 30 per cent. According to Smith, Shell will drill another probing well in BS-4 area of Santos basin, off the coast of Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, where 14-15 API degree heavy crude was discovered.

In case of a positive assessment, extraction would start in 2009 in Campos deposit and 2011 in Santos basin.

Shell, which participates in the exploration in 12 Brazilian areas with a petroleum potential, is in charge of oil production in Bijupira/Salema deposit, located in Campos where it extracts 50,000 barrels of oil a day.

The Anglo-Dutch firm will participate in the seventh round of bidding to a number of areas with a potential for petroleum and natural-gas production, organized by the National Petroleum Agency (ANP) of Brazil this year. —*MNA/Xinhua*

သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါကာကွယ်နိုမ်နင်းရေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

၁။ မိုးရာသီအတွင်း၊ အသက် ၃–နှစ်မှ ၁၄–နှစ်အထိ ကလေးငယ်များတွင် သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်ပါသည်။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါဖြစ်လျှင် ရင်သွေးငယ်များ အသက်ဆုံးပါးသည်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်သဖြင့် မိမိတို့၏ ရင်သွေးများ ရောဂါဘယကင်းဝေးစေရန် သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေး ရောဂါ ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

၂။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါသည် ရေကြည်ရေသန့်တွင် ပေါက်ပွားသော ခြင်ပုန်း၊ ခြင်ကျား အကိုက်ခံရခြင်းကြောင့် ကူးစက်ပါသည်။ သို့ပါ၍ ခြင်ပုန်း၊ ခြင်ကျား မပေါက်ပွားစေရန်မိမိတို့ ရင်သွေးငယ်များ ခြင်ကိုက်မခံရစေရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

လိုက်နာရမည့်အချက်များ

(က) ရေစည်ရေအိုးများကို လုံခြုံစွာ ဖုံးအုပ်ထားပါ။
(ခ) ပန်းအိုး၊ ညောင်ရေအိုးတို့မှ ရေကို နေ့စဉ်လဲလှယ်ပေးပါ။
(ဂ) ရေစည်၊ ရေအိုးများ၌ ပိုးလောက်လန်းများအား ရေစစ်ဖြင့် ခပ်ထုတ်ပစ်ပါ။
(ဃ) မိုးရေတင်နိုင်သော ဘူးခွံ၊ ပုံးခွံ၊ တာယာစုတ်၊ အိုးခြမ်းပဲ့ စသည်တို့ကို ဖယ်ရှားရှင်းလင်းပါ။
(င) မိမိတို့ အိမ်ရှေ့ အိမ်နောက်တို့မှ ရေမြောင်းများအား ရေစီးရေလာ ကောင်းအောင် ရှင်းလင်းပါ။
လိုအပ်ပါက စည်ပင်သာယာရေးအဖွဲ့၏ အကူအညီကိုယူပါ။
(စ) အိမ်ပတ်ဝန်းကျင်ရှိ ရေဝပ်နိုင်သော မြေနိမ့်များကို ဖို့ပါ။
(ဆ) အလင်းရောင်ရရှိရန် တံခါးများကို နေ့ခင်းပိုင်းတွင် ဖွင့်ထားပါ။
(ဇ) အိမ်တွင်း၊ အိမ်ပြင် သန့်ရှင်းအောင်ထားပါ။
(ဈ) ကလေးများ နေ့လည်အိပ်ချိန်တွင် ခြင်ထောင်ဖြင့် သိပ်ပါ။
(အကျီလက်ရှည်၊ ဘောင်းဘီရှည်၊ ထမီ၊ ပုဆိုး စသည်တို့ကို ဝတ်ဆင်ထား ပေးပါ။)

၃။ ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာနနှင့် ပူးပေါင်းပြီး ခြင်များ မပေါက်ပွားစေရန် ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း၊ အသိပညာပေးခြင်း၊ ကာကွယ်တားဆီးခြင်း လုပ်ငန်းများကို ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါရန် တိုက်တွန်းနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Chinese villagers check the site of a collapsed reservior in the Xiaocaoba township of Yiliang county, southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 22 July , 2005.— INTERNET

Boeing in talks with IAF on super hornet aircraft

NEW DELHI, 23 July — Two days after India and the US decided to strengthen cooperation in nuclear, defence and security issues, American aircraft firm Boeing on Friday said it was talking with Indian Air Force (IAF) and Navy on offering supper hornet aircraft for IAF's multi-role combat planes and its co-production.

"We are just entering the talk process with the IAF and the industry. Some IAF personnel have flown the aircraft. We think there is a lot of capability for production, and India will be the launch customer (if it chooses the warplane)," *PTI* quoted Boeing Vice-President Chris Chad-wick as saying on Friday.

As for the request for information (rfi) document already issued to fighter jet manufacturers, the IAF would initially require 18 aircraft and then transit into co-production.

Claiming that the super hornets, which are now being operated only by the US Navy, provide the latest advanced technology available anywhere in the world, Chadwick said the company was pleased to offer a premier aircraft that will help guarantee the security of India and its people.

The super hornet is the second (block-2) phase of the hornet which is flown by eight countries — the US, Kuwait, Australia, Malaysia, Canada, Finland, Switzerland and Spain.

The *F/A-18E/F* super hornet is in competition with aircraft of three other countries including the euro-fighter of Britain for the IAF's combat fleet, for which the request for proposals (rfp) documents are likely to be issued in the next two months.

The Boeing official said the US aircraft major was hopeful of receiving the rfp document soon.

The *F/A-18E/F* super hornet is fitted with electronic beaming capabilities, ray radars, day-night strike with precision-guided weapons, besides integrated and networked systems providing enhanced interoperability, situation awareness and support which allows direct communication with the troops on ground or ships at sea. On the question whether Boeing was considering joint production or manufacturing super hornets in India, Chadwick said there is no issue at all with this aircraft being manufactured in India.

"We have co-production (of the earlier version of hornets) with a number of countries apart from country support", Chadwick said, and added that if Boeing succeeded in getting the Indian deal; the Indian industry could build parts of the fighter jet, and we could look at marketing to third countries as well.

"But no discussions have taken place as yet on these issues, Chadwick said.

MNA/Xinhua

Peru applauds revaluation of Chinese yuan

LIMA, 23 July — The Peruvian authorities welcomed on Friday the appreciation of the Chinese currency, yuan, saying this will benefit this Andean country's exports.

Exports Commission (ComexPeru) director Patricia Teullet said the revaluation was a "good sign" and a more truthful embodiment of "the concept of a market economy".

Director of Economic Studies of BBVA-Continental Bank, David Tuesta, said that the revaluation of the yuan will not damage Peru's mining, agricultural and fishing exports to China.

"The revaluation of the Chinese currency will help add competitiveness to Peru's non-traditional products, mainly textiles, which compete with their Chinese counterparts abroad," said he.

MNA/Xinhua

China, Spain ink a dozen agreements

BEIJING, 23 July — China and Spain here inked a dozen agreements to cement their cooperation in justice, industry, tourism, finance, seismological study, railway and civil aviation.

Visiting Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, who arrived in Beijing on Thursday on a three-day official visit to China, and Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao witnessed the signing of the agreements following their hour-long meeting. The two sides will strengthen political dialogue through a mechanism between foreign ministries of the two countries, according to an agreement.

The two sides will each establish a cultural centre in the other country.

China will buy 20 Airbus A330 jetliners, according to a framework agreement signed by the two sides.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao said the two sides reached wide-range consensus on developing bilateral relations between China and Spain as well as on regional and international issues of mutual concern.

Wen Jiabao highly praised the Spanish Government's plan to strengthen relationship with China and other Asian-Pacific nations, adding that China attaches equal importance to its relationship with Spain.

The Chinese Premier proposed that the two countries should step up their cooperation in areas of politics, economy, science and technology as well as culture.

The Chinese Premier pledged that China would increase imports from Spain.

China-Spain trade reached 7.2 billion US dollars last year, up 38 per cent from a year ago. The trade volume added up to four billion US dollars in the first five months of the year, up 48 per cent.

In addition, Wen highly appreciated the Spanish Government's adherence to one-China policy.

For his part, Zapatero stressed that Spain wants to be a friend of China, and that it supports China's economic development and national reunification.

The Spanish Prime Minister said Spain hopes to increase consultations with China on major regional and international issues, and upgrade the level of economic cooperation. In addition, he said Spain would help promote the development of EU-China relationship.

MNA/Xinhua

Susilo to visit China

BEIJING, 23 July — President of the Republic of Indonesia Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono will pay a state visit to China from 27 to 30 July at the invitation of President Hu Jintao, the Foreign Ministry announced here on Thursday.

According to the original arrangement, President Susilo was going to pay a state visit to China from 13 to 16 July, but he delivered a speech on 11 July on postponing his visit to China and other countries due to a domestic emergency.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao said at a previous Press conference that during President Susilo's upcoming visit, Chinese leaders will confer with him on expanding the friendly cooperation between the two sides, and a series of documents on economic and trade cooperation will be signed.

China and Indonesia, as two good neighbours, have enjoyed good bilateral relations, with an exchange of high-level visits being more frequent as well as mutual understanding and trust continuously deepening.

President Hu Jintao made a successful visit to Indonesia in April this year. During the visit, Hu and Susilo signed a joint declaration on strategic partnership between China and Indonesia, pushing the Sino-Indonesian relations to a new high.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Malaysia ringgit opens steady against US dollar

KUALA LUMPUR, 23 July — Malaysian ringgit opened for trading at 3.7930/7950 against the US dollar on Friday morning under the managed float system.

The new floating level was close to Thursday's closing rates of 3.7995/8005 on the foreign exchange screens.

Major currencies were mixed against the ringgit at the opening.

The ringgit opened lower against the Singapore dollar at 2.2862/2881 from 2.2584/2603.

Against the British pound, the Malaysian currency was lower at 6.6412/6469 from 6.6294/6334 while it opened steadier against the euro at 4.6062/6113 from 4.6130/6153.

The currency peg of 3.80 ringgit to the US dollar had been adopted since September 1998 when Malaysia imposed capital controls to curb speculation against the ringgit.

Malaysian central bank said on Thursday evening that the government decided to unpeg the ringgit to the greenback and the ringgit would be traded under a basket of currencies of Malaysia's trading partners.

The bank added that "the exchange rate after shifting to this new system is not expected to deviate significantly from the current prevailing level."

Governor of the central bank Zeti Akhtar Aziz assured the public on Thursday that the ringgit would be traded close to its fair value when it opened for trading on Friday.

Aziz also said that Malaysian exports would not become less competitive as the central bank would monitor the level closely to ensure that it was consistent with price stability and growth in the country.

In the first half of the year 2005, the ringgit had already appreciated quite significantly against major currencies at 8 per cent to 11 per cent, Aziz said.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese language, culture still unfamiliar to most westerners

BEIJING, 23 July — Although China has a trade surplus, with foreign exchange reserve of 700 billion US dollars, Westerners still have a very limited knowledge of the Chinese culture and language, said Zhao Qiguang, director of the Asian Language and Culture Department of Carleton University said here on Thursday at the World Chinese Conference.

He added that some Chinese children speak better of Western culture than their own.

Currently more than 300 million foreigners are learning Chinese, but it is hard to tell how many of them can really master the language, Zhao said. In the United States, about 24,000 high school students are learning Chinese, while more than one million high school students are learning French.

"We should take notice that the 1.3 billion population in China and the 80 million population in France stand behind these two languages. The Chinese language still has a long way to go before becoming an international language," Zhao said.

As a veteran Chinese teaching expert, Zhao pointed out the Chinese teaching method should comply with a modernized society. "We should emphasize Putonghua, Pinyin and simplified characters in the teaching courses. The textbooks should be simple, and standard Chinese should be taught systematically and continuously".

"Most importantly, only 50 per cent of the Chinese people can speak Putonghua, so we must improve ourselves to better popularize our language and culture," said Zhao.

He noted that the establishment of the Confucius Institute overseas was of great significance, as more and more foreign students and businesses are taking an interest in Chinese language and culture.

The two-day conference debuted here on July 20 with the theme of "the Development of Chinese in a Multi-cultural World", and has attracted nearly 600 government officials, Sinologists and Chinese learners from 67 countries and regions, among which more than 350 came from overseas. —*MNA/Xinhua*

Japan votes missile interception bill into law

TOKYO, 23 July — Japan's Upper House on Friday voted for a bill which aims to speed up the process of intercepting missiles against Japan.

Under the revision to the Self-Defence Forces Law, the Defence Agency chief is able to order interception in emergencies without the approval of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet.

The bill was approved by the ruling coalition-controled House of Representatives in June.

The missile interception bill has stirred up contentions that the civilian control over the Self-Defence Forces would be weakened. Under a new provision on measures to intercept ballistic missiles, if signs of an imminent missile attack are detected, the Defence Agency chief will seek permission from the Prime Minister to deploy the missile shield, including Aegis vessels, and the SDF will launch interceptors if the enemy fires a missile toward Japan.

However, if there are no clear signs of a launch but conditions call for high alert and there is no time to seek consent, the agency chief can mobilize the SDF to stand by for any sudden attack and order an intercept under emergency guidelines approved in advance by the Prime Minister.

The House of Councillors also approved a law on the day to reorganize the SDF under a unified command by setting up a Joint Staff for command of the air, ground and maritime forces. The Defence Agency plans to introduce the new structure by next March.

Japan is ratcheting up the drive to deploy ground- and sea-based missile defence systems in cooperation with the United States. The deployment is expected to start in 2007 at the earliest.

Despite its pacifist postwar Constitution, Japan has ardently pushed forward with a shift in its defence policy over the past several years. The move intends to enable the self-defence-only troops have a more aggressive and far-flung manoeuvrability.

MNA/Xinhua

A moose swims in a pond in June. Moose caused serious havoc on highways in Canada this week, according to officials. — INTERNET

ADVERTISEMENT

INVITATION TO TENDER

Sealed tenders are invited by the Department of Health, Central Medical Stores Depot for the supply of Medical Instrument.

Tender documents are available during office hours at the office of the Deputy Director (Medical Stores), Central Medical Stores Depot, No-57, Sakawa Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, commencing from (26-7-2005).

Sealed bids are to be submitted to the office of the Deputy Director (Medical Stores), Central Medical Stores Depot, not later than (9-8-2005) 14:00 hour, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraphic/telex proposal will be accepted.

For detail information please contact the Deputy Director (Medical Stores) Phone No. 371284/371969.

Central Medical Stores Depot.
Department of Health

A Bangladeshi trader sells imported fish at a wholesale market in Dhaka on 20 July , 2005.—INTERNET

Bangladesh garment exports to US make significant growth

DHAKA, 22 July—Bangladesh's export of garments to the United States is witnessing a significant growth, thanks to higher quality and competitiveness of the country's products.

The knitwear alone showed a 60-per-cent growth in the US market during May-July period of fiscal 2004-05 when its exports fetched 371 million US dollars. The total exports to the United States stood at around two billion US dollars during the period, local daily *The Financial Express* reported on Thursday.

On an average, the growth this time marked 25-per-cent increase in America, reversing a declining trend demonstrated since 2000 when the United States allowed preferential trading facilities to 72 Sub Saharan and Caribbean countries.

"The quality of our products has improved and that they are also very competitive," Mir Shahabuddin Ahmed, vice-chairman of the Export Promotion Bureau, was quoted as saying.

Ahmed said in case of knit, Bangladesh products were enjoying a well-founded comparative advantage because of the sector's backward linkage supports and its efficient management.

Annisul Huq, president of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association said the trade growth in the US market would sustain more or less until 2008, when the WTO safeguard clause would eventually go.

The textile and clothing exporters are seeing more opportunity in the future, provided that the government works with the exporters closely for support services, the report said.

The garments industry developed in Bangladesh and emerged as the major export in about two decades. Readymade garments accounts for 9.5 per cent or more of GDP in the country.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Italian trade deficit hits 6.277b euros in first five months

ROME, 22 July—Italy's trade deficit for the first five months of the year hit 6.277 billion euros, the highest since 1992, the national statistics bureau (Istat) reported on Wednesday.

According to the Istat that the trade deficit for the same period last year was 2.742 billion euros.

The trade deficit in May stood at 366 million euros, compared to a surplus of 142 million euros a year before, Istat said.

Compared to May of last year, exports for the month rose 8.9 per cent while imports jumped 11.1 per cent, exports were stationary over April 2005 and imports dipped 1.4 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua

WTO chief presses alarm button over trade talks

GENEVA, 22 July—World Trade Organization chief Supachai Panitchpakdi said on Thursday the time had come to press the alarm button over the lack of progress in the WTO's free trade talks.

"I have said before that my finger was hovering over the alarm button. Now I have pressed it," he told the talks' steering group, the Trade Negotiations Committee.

"I urge you all to hear the alarm and to act upon it," he added.

Leading trade ministers had called for accords by the end of July to clear the way for the full WTO virtually to wrap up its Doha Round of trade liberalization negotiations at a ministerial meeting in Hong Kong in December.

The round, launched in the Qatari capital in November 2001 and whose successful conclusion would boost the global economy, has already missed its initial end-2004 deadline.

The new target is early 2007, but for that to be realistic, ministers need to be able to gavel a blueprint in December with the most difficult issues resolved.

However, with the talks way behind schedule again, hopes of a so-called "first approximation" for Hong Kong being agreed this month have been dashed. All negotiators are aiming for in a final week of intensive discussions is to make some progress.

But Supachai and others fear that it may leave too much to be done in the autumn.

"In the beginning of the year, ministers set themselves objectives which clearly now are not going to be reached by the end of July," said WTO spokesman Keith Rockwell.

Officials said that negotiators would focus on agriculture over the coming days and only if there were some advance there, would it be possible to talk seriously about industrial goods.

Rich members, such as the United States and the European Union, under pressure to cut farm subsidies and tariffs to give developing countries more chance to compete, want opportunities for their manufacturing and service industries in return.—*MNA/Reuters*

Kodak plans to cut up to 10,000 more jobs

WASHINGTON, 22 July—Eastman Kodak Co said on Wednesday that it is cutting as many as 10,000 more jobs as it posted disappointing second-quarter results amid a struggle to make the wrenching transition from film to digital photography.

Kodak, the largest maker of film and other camera product in the United States and targeted 12,000 to 15,000 job cuts by 2007 early last year, made the announcement of more job cuts as it swung to a loss for the second quarter in a row.

As part of its effort to fortify its digital businesses to counter a faster-than-expected decline in consumer film sales, Kodak said it will cut deeper into its work force than it set out to do in January 2004 and now plans to cut 22,500 to 25,000 jobs. The restructuring is expected to be largely completed by the middle of 2007 and will trim its work force to around 40,000.

The company reported that it lost 146 million dollars in the April-June quarter, compared with a profit of 136 million dollars in the same quarter of last year, although its sales grew by 6 per cent to 3.69 billion dollars from 3.46 billion dollar a year ago.

MNA/Xinhua

East African TV to continue broadcasting in Uganda

KAMPALA, 22 July—East African Television (EATV), a TV station that transmits to Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania, is to continue broadcasting in Uganda after partly conforming to the broadcasting regulations, according to the chairman of the Broadcasting Council.

Godfrey Mutabazi told *Xinhua* by telephone on Wednesday that the station, popular with the youth, was making improvements in the programme line-up.

"We do not expect them to make sudden changes in their programmes but so far they are taking the right direction," said Mutabazi.

Last month, the council threatened not to renew the stations broadcasting licence because it had failed to comply with the broadcasting regulation.

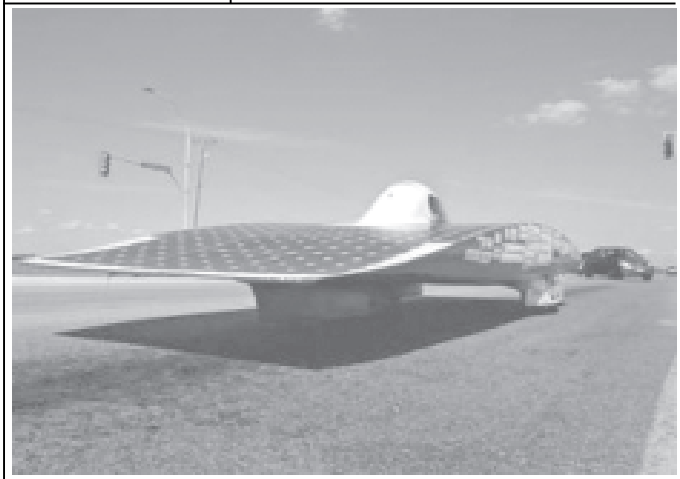
The council said that the station was not broadcasting local content and development programme for the targeted society.

Mutabazi said that after the warning, the station started broadcasting brief news reports from east Africa and around the world, which was not the case before.

He noted that a copy of their new line-up complies with the council's guidelines.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Toyota recalling about 350,000 vehicles in US

WASHINGTON, 22 July—Toyota Motor Co said on Wednesday that it would recall 345,000 Sienna minivans in the United States because the seat belt in some seating positions may become difficult to retract when unbuckled. The company said that the voluntary recall in the United States involves Siennas from the 2004 and 2005 model years and it had received 14 complaints but there have been no accidents or injuries from the problem.—*MNA/Xinhua*



The University of Calgary's solar car stops at a red light on Inkster Boulevard, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada on 22 July, 2005 while on its way to the checkpoint at Red River College.—INTERNET

Ashes of "Star Trek" star to be sent into space

Los Angeles, 22 July — The ashes of Star Trek's James Doohan, who died on Wednesday at his home in Redmond, Washington, will be sent into space in accordance with his wishes, his agent here said.

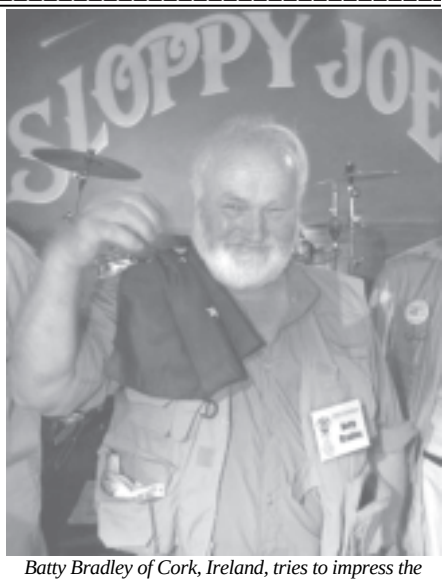
The 85-year-old actor, who played engineer Montgomery "Scotty" Scott in the original "Star Trek" TV series in the 1960s and the motion pictures that it spawned, died early in the morning of pneumonia and complications from Alzheimer's disease, said Steven Stevens.

The actor's ashes are to be sent into space — as Doohan had wanted — by a company called Space Services Inc, according to the agent.

The Houston-based company teams with commercial launch organizations in offering out-of-this-world memorial services and it has sent into space the ashes of "Star Trek" creator Gene Roddenberry and drug guru Timothy Leary.

Meanwhile, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce is offering a more earthly tribute to Doohan on Wednesday afternoon, when representatives will place flowers on Doohan's star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. "I don't think anyone loved his fans and appreciated his fans more than he did," said Stevens. "He just adored them, and it shows — they adored him."

MNA/Xinhua



Batty Bradley of Cork, Ireland, tries to impress the judges during the second preliminary round of the 'Papa' Hemingway Look-Alike Contest in Key West, Florida, on 22 July, 2005. Almost 150 look-alikes are vying for the 2005 title during the featured event of Key West's 25th annual Hemingway Days festival. The 2005 winner is to be named late Saturday.—Internet

FAO says Africa locust alert persists

Rome, 22 July — Many countries in sub-Saharan Africa are still at risk from locust swarms in the coming months, the United Nations food agency said on Thursday.

The Food and Agriculture Organization ruled out its previous worst-case scenario of over a million hectares of land being devastated by the insects, but a serious risk remained in some countries due to favourable rains in breeding areas.

"FAO is prepared for the probable scenario with locusts infesting between 50,000 and 250,000 hectares of land in the next months," Director-General Jacques Diouf said.

The situation in Chad and western Sudan was critical, the FAO said. Mali, Mauritania, and Niger were also at risk and the agency urged continued monitoring.

In 2004 the worst locust infestation for 15 years worsened food shortages in West Africa.

MNA/Reuters

Fraudsters swindle Japan's isolated elderly

Tokyo,22 July — Fraudsters keen to cash in on the growing ranks of Japan's isolated old people have hit on a new way to swindle them — tell them their homes are falling down.

Con men are making millions of yen by duping or threatening senior citizens into signing up for unnecessary home repairs, according to a government survey issued this week.

More than 8,700 people complained about door-to-door house renovation services in 2004, almost three times the figure for 1995, the National Consumer Affairs Centre of Japan report said.

More than half the victims were over 60, and many suffer from impaired judgement due to senile dementia, the survey found. Consumer groups say the growing number of old people need more support.

"In the past, communities were very close-knit, but now elderly people are increasingly isolated," said Hiroko Mizuhara, head of the Consumers' Union of Japan. "They have no one to consult with."

Nearly one in five Japanese is aged 65 or older, and the figure will jump to one in four over the next decade, according to government data. Increasing numbers of the elderly live alone.

The con men usually operate by offering potential victims a free home survey, then persuading them to agree to expensive repairs by saying their houses are on the verge of collapse.

In other cases, the fraudsters simply intimidate elderly people into paying for repair work they pretend to carry out in parts of the house the owners cannot see, such as roofs or foundations.

In one of the most serious cases, Tokyo police arrested four men last month on accusations they had swindled 5,400 people out of a total of 11.5 billion yen (102 million US dollars) in unnecessary repair contracts.

Other fraudsters were found to have fitted dozens of unneeded ventilation fans under the floor of a house belonging to two elderly sisters suffering from senile dementia in the city of Fujimi, north of Tokyo, in March.

Preying on fears about the safety of old wooden houses in the latest in a string of techniques, criminals have used to swindle elderly Japanese out of their often substantial savings.

A wave of what became as "it's me" fraud over the past couple of years has deceived many elderly people into transferring substantial sums of money to the bank accounts of people posing as relatives in financial trouble.

MNA/Reuters

Roche reports strong interim benefits

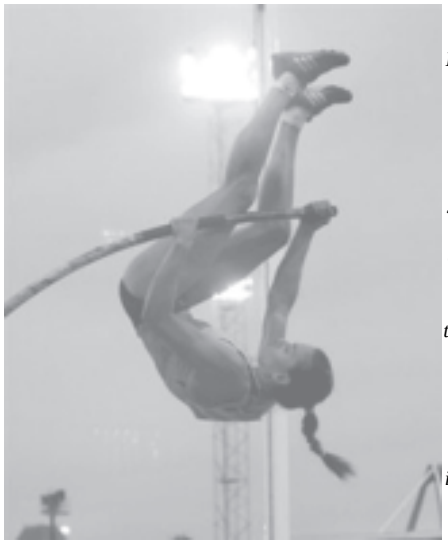
Geneva,22 July — Roche, the world's largest maker of cancer drugs, on Wednesday reported strong interim results, with net profit of 3.24 billion Swiss francs (2.5 billion US dollars), a four-percent increase over the same period of last year and above market expectations.

"Roche performed extremely well in the first half of 2005. We increased our net income, strengthened our market position and made progress on major development projects," said chairman and chief executive Franz Humer in a statement.

The company, based in Basel, Switzerland, reported first-half sales of 16.2 billion Swiss francs (12.5 billion dollars), up 14 per cent from a year earlier.

With pharmaceuticals and diagnostics as core businesses, Roche said the pharmaceuticals division was the "key growth driver" during the period, with its sales increasing three times bigger than the global market average. Sales in the pharmaceuticals division rose by 19 per cent to 12.65 billion Swiss francs (9.76 billion dollars), significantly ahead of the average growth rates in the United States, Europe and Japan — the division's three most important markets.

MNA/Xinhua



Yelena Isinbayeva of Russia jumps 5 meters in the pole vault to break the world record during the Crystal Palace athletics Grand Prix, in southern London on 22 July, 2005. The 23-year-old Russian Olympic champion easily cleared the 5 meters on her first attempt, barely nudging the bar on a still evening. It was the fourth time this month that Isinbayeva has set a world record and the 17th world record — indoors and out — of her career.
internet

HK surgeons upbeat on brain cancer removal method

Hong Kong, 22 July — Surgeons in Hong Kong who invented a less-invasive way of removing cancers from the base of the brain said on Thursday that patients had had no complications after the treatment and ran very little risk of relapse.

Doctors traditionally remove these tumours — which occur between the roof of the nasal cavity and the base of the front part of the brain — through extensive surgery, which requires cutting open the face, removing nasal bones and a craniectomy.

But this procedure is invasive and results in severe facial pain, as well as permanent facial deformity, numbness and scars.

In 1996, doctors at the University of Hong Kong developed a less-invasive way to remove such cancers.

Using endoscopes and forceps inserted through the nose, surgeons cut off nasal tissues and bones to isolate the tumour, which is then removed through craniectomy. The team has since performed 12 such surgeries.

While up to 66 per cent of patients who have undergone traditional open-face surgery run a risk of relapse, the problem has recurred for only one of the 12 patients treated under the new method. "None of them had complications after the treatment.

MNA/Reuters

S P O R T S

Robinho deal still not sealed, says Real

MADRID, 23 July— Real Madrid have not yet completed the signing of Brazilian forward Robinho from Santos, the Spanish club said on Friday.

"We have to be cautious," vice-president Emilio Butragueno told Real's website. "The door has been opened to the signing of Robinho but it still hasn't been finalized, although it is very close."

The nine-time European champions said they paid 60 per cent, or 30 million US dollars of the 50 million US dollars buy-out clause stipulated in Robinho's contract to buy Santos' share of his rights.

"We've presented a document to the Brazilian Federation that guarantees the payment of 60 per cent of the player's rights. We still have to wait but there is no doubt that it is a very important decision.

"We have to remain prudent but we hope that everything will become clear in the next 24 to 48 hours.

"He's a different player with enormous talent and there aren't many players like him around at the moment. We've got a week left of our tour (of Asia) and if the signing is speeded up then we will take a decision to see if he can join up with the rest of the team."

In a further development the Primera Liga club said they had presented the documentation for the transfer to the Spanish FA (RFEF) who in turn had requested Robinho's International Transfer Certificate from the Brazilian FA.

Robinho's agent Wagner Ribeiro said the 21-year-old had agreed to forego the 40 per cent of his rights to which he was entitled, accounting for the shortfall of 20 million US dollars in the buy-out clause.

But Brazilian club Santos insisted Robinho still belonged to them and that they were due the full 50 million US dollars.

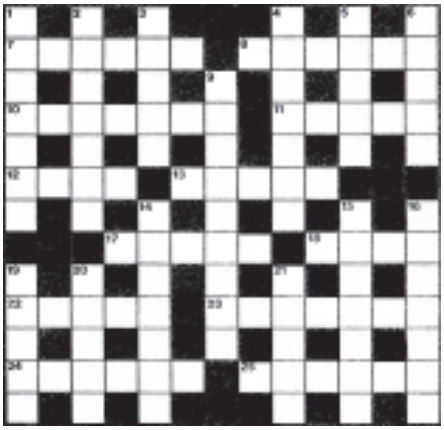
"They haven't deposited anything," club president Marcelo Teixeira was quoted as saying by Spanish sports daily Marca.

"The situation hasn't changed and things are the same as they were before. If Real Madrid deposits 50 million US dollars Robinho will go, but if not he will stay at Santos."

MNA/Reuters

India's Sania Mirza returns a volley to Japan's Akiko Morigami during their quarter-final round match at the 2005 Western & Southern Financial Group Women's Open tournament in Cincinnati 22 July, 2005. Morigami defeated Mirza 6-4 6-3. —INTERNET

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

7 Stature
8 Cause
10 Winter apple
11 Prussian lancer
12 Snares
13 Short
17 Nickname for Irishman
18 Rebuff
22 Apportion
23 Clover
24 Bauble
25 Unassuming

DOWN

1 Masticating
2 Brown coal
3 Abyss
4 Fastened
5 Sacred song
6 Silly
9 Goddess of lov e
14 Biased
15 Disclose
16 Skill
19 Measure
20 Buffon
21 Broom

CBF supports Santos, vetoes Robinho's transfer to Real Madrid

RIO DE JANEIRO, 23 July— The Brazilian Soccer Confederation (CBF) Friday supported Santos and confirmed its veto to the transfer of striker Robson de Souza "Robinho" to Real Madrid, of Spain, announced by the player's agent, Wagner Ribeiro.

"Despite the respect for the player, who is an outstanding professional and was part of the victory in Confederations Cup in Germany, CBF cannot back the transfer petition in the terms it is being put forth, as it does not meet the necessary legal aspects," Friday read CBF's communique through the Internet.

It reminded that the contract of 21-year-old Robinho with Santos was signed on 31 August, 2004, and will run until 30 January, 2008, and that the unilateral suspension of it, as sought by Robinho and his advisers, less than a year before its conclusion, goes against three years set by the International Soccer Federation (FIFA).

CBF underscores that the fine for the cancellation of the contract for 50 million US dollars, as established by Santos for foreign clubs interested in hiring Robinho, goes in agreement with Pele Law, which rules sports in Brazil, thus, the 30 million US dollars paid for by Real Madrid to complete the transfer are insufficient.

In announcing the transfer to Real, Ribeiro said that the "dream of the player to play" for the European club made Robinho giving up 20 million US dollars, the equivalent to the 40 per cent of the amount he had a right to receive in leaving Santos. CBF also said "this would only be valid if Santos accepted it, but this was rejected by the club."

CBF's Legal Director Carlos Eugenio Lopes said Friday "the amount Santos has to receive is 50 million US dollars, in accordance to the conditions for the cancellation of the contract". The payment of the 30 millions does not proceed because of the unilateral cancellation by the player.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Desailly, Benarbia join Qatar Sports Club

DOHA, 23 July— Marcel Desailly, the former captain of France and Chelsea, has left Qatar champions Al Gharafa for First Division rivals Qatar Sports Club (QSC). The 37-year-old central defender scored six goals in 27 games to help Al Gharafa collect their fourth Qatar title last season. Algerian midfielder Ali Benarbia, formerly of Manchester City, has also joined QSC from Qatar's Al Rayyan club.

"We are happy that these two fine players have agreed to join us. I think we now have a formidable line-up," said Sheikh Jassem bin Hamad Al Thani, QSC's director of football, on Friday.

Former Argentine World Cup strikers Claudio Caniggia and Gabriel Batistuta, who were playing for QSC and Al Arabi Sports Club respectively, announced their retirements towards the end of last season. — *MNA/Reuters*

Celta Vigo sign Brazilian striker Baiano

MADRID, 23 July— Promoted Celta Vigo have signed Brazilian striker Fernando Baiano on a three-year contract, the Primera Liga club said on Friday.

The 26-year-old Baiano joined Malaga on loan from Brazilians Sao Caetano in January and was the Spanish side's leading scorer with nine goals from 17 games.

Protracted negotiations led to Malaga, Celta and Galician rivals Deportivo Coruna competing for the player's services in the close season before he eventually agreed to join Fernando Vazquez' side.—*MNA/Reuters*

Brazilian coach Wortman joins Dynamo on one-year deal

MOSCOW, 23 July— Dynamo Moscow presented their new coach Ivo Wortman on Friday, hoping the Brazilian can turn around the fortunes of the Russian Premier League club.

"I'm honoured to work with such a great European club and my aim is to make Dynamo even better and stronger," said Wortman, who signed a one-year contract on Friday.

The 55-year-old, who quit Brazilian club Juventude earlier this month, becomes the first top level coach from Latin America to work in Russia.

"I know that I'm the first Brazilian coach to come to Russia but hopefully my stay here will be a pleasant one," said Wortman who has extensive coaching experience at domestic and international level.

Dynamo's caretaker coach Andrei Kobelev, who had been in charge since former Russia manager Oleg Romantsev quit in mid-May, became Wortman's assistant.

On Friday Dynamo also unveiled four new signings, a pair of Nigerian internationals Joseph Enakarhire from Sporting Lisbon and Krylya Sovietov Samara's Patrick Ovie, Russia defender Denis Kolodin also from Samara and Porto goalkeeper Nuno.

Nuno's addition brings the number of Portuguese-speaking players at Dynamo to nine. "It's always difficult to join the team in the middle of the season but at least, I shouldn't have any language barrier," Wortman said. "Our goal this season is to fight for the championship or at least for places in the UEFA Cup."—*MNA/Reuters*

Dutch keeper Westerveld joins Portsmouth

LONDON, 23 July— Dutch goalkeeper Sander Westerveld, a free agent after leaving Spanish club Real Mallorca last season, has joined Portsmouth.

"Sander has bags of experience, not least in the Premier League, and this afternoon we have agreed terms with him," chief executive Peter Storrie told Portsmouth's website on Friday.

Westerveld, who previously played for FC Twente and Vitesse Arnhem, made 75 appearances for Liverpool before joining Real Sociedad in 2001.

MNA/Reuters

Manchester United's soccer player Ryan Giggs signs on the jersey of a fan after arriving at the Hong Kong Airport 22 July, 2005. Manchester United will play a soccer match with the Hong Kong national team on 23 July, in the territory.—INTERNET

Indonesia prepares hospitals for bird flu care

JAKARTA, 23 July — Indonesia is preparing 44 hospitals across the sprawling archipelago for treatment and detection of bird flu after recording its first deaths from the virus, the Health Minister said on Thursday.

Siti Fadillah Supari also told reporters authorities were yet to determine how a government official and his two young daughters living in a Jakarta suburb contracted the H5N1 strain of the virus.

All three died earlier this month, but the official's wife and son have not shown any signs of the disease. The family lived in Tangerang, a suburb about 20 miles from the centre of Jakarta, a city of 10 million.

"We will still investigate and do surveillance ... Until now, we don't know the cause," Supari said.

Speaking at the same news conference, World Health Organization (WHO) representative Georg Petersen said: "It is an alarming situation. It shows us that most countries can get this infection and we need all to be alert and prepared."

Avian influenza, which arrived in Asia in late 2003, has so far also killed 40 people in Vietnam, half of them since December, 12 in Thailand and four Cambodians.

China announced in June that it had discovered the H5N1 virus in domestic geese in Xinjiang. More than 13,000 geese were slaughtered to curb its spread. It has also been grappling with a separate outbreak in migratory birds in the neighbouring province of Qinghai.

The WHO has expressed concern over China's handling of the outbreaks.

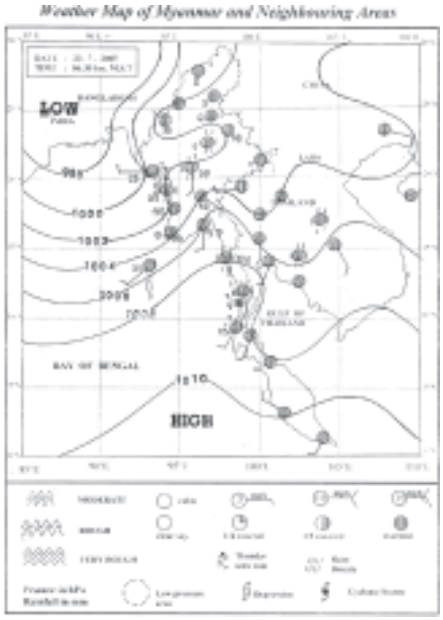
"As far as I know, the Ministry of Agriculture has not sent any samples to any international reference labs or any FAO or WHO collaborating centers," WHO China spokesman Roy Wadia said.

"I really can't say what sort of timetable they're operating under in this case, all I can say is that we would hope that such information would be shared sooner rather than later." —*MNA/Reuters*

"သတိပေး နှိုးဆော်ချက်"

(က) နိုးရွာစဉ် ယာဉ်မောင်းလျှင် အောက်ပါအချက်အလက်များ သတိပြုပါ။
(၁) လမ်းပေါ်တွင် စက်ဆိုးချောဆီများ ဖိတ်စင်လျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
(၂) မော်တော်ယာဉ်ဘီးများ ပန်းမရှိလျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
(၃) မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ လေပေါင်ချိန်များလွန်းလျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
(၄) လမ်းပေါ်တွင် ရွှံ့နွံများရှိလျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
(၅) အရှိန်ပြင်းစွာ မမောင်းပါနှင့်။
(၆) ဘရိတ်ကို ရုတ်တရက် မနင်းပါနှင့်။
(၇) ကုန်တင်ယာဉ်များ ဟန်ချက်ညီမျှရန် ဂရုပြုပါ။
(၈) ရေသုတ်တံပါရှိရမည်။ ကောင်းမွန်ရမည်။
(၉) နိုးသည်းထန်စွာ ရွာသွန်း၍ မြင်ကွင်းမကောင်းလျှင် ရှေ့မီးကြိုးကို ဖွင့်မောင်းပါ။
(၁၀) မြေသယ်ယာဉ်၊ အုတ်၊ သဲ၊ ကျောက် သယ်ယာဉ်များ ဖိတ်စင်မှု မရှိစေရန် လုံခြုံစွာ တင်ဆောင်ပါ။
(၁၁) အထက်ပါစည်းကမ်းချက်များအား မလိုက်နာ၍ ယာဉ်တိုက်မှု၊ ယာဉ်တိမ်းမှောက်မှုများ ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူခြင်းခံရမည်။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ



WEATHER

Saturday, 23 July, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway Division and rain has been isolated in Kayah State and lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Mandalay and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine and Mon States and Taninthayi Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Dawei (7.17) inches, Kyaukpyu (3.11) inches and Hpa-an (2.91) inches.

Maximum temperature on 22-7-2005 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 23-7-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 23-7-2005 was 89%. Total sunshine hours on 23-7-2005 was (0.6) hours approx. Rainfalls on 23-7-2005 were (0.67 inch) at Mingaladon, (0.36 inch) at Kaba-Aye, (0.24 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (39.88 inches) at Mingaladon, (37.32 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (42.52 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southwest at (16:45) hours MST on 22-7-2005.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 24-7-2005: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, Magway and lower Sagaing Divisions, scattered in Kachin State and Mandalay Division and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine and Mon States, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is 80%.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in Rakhine State.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 24-7-2005: Some rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 24-7-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Earthquake report

(Issued at 07:30 hours today)

An earthquake of moderate intensity (5.0) Richter Scale with its epicenter Andaman Islands (India Region) about (250) miles South of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (05) hrs (16) min (26) sec MST on 23rd July, 2005.

TV Myanmar

Sunday, 24 July
View on today:

7:00 am
1. ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းတုန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်ရေး၊ အာဘိဓမ္မဟာရဋ္ဌဂဏ္ဌိရုပ်၊ အာဘိဓမ္မဟာသင်္ဂဟတော်တို့၊ တိပိဋကရေးမူဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တ ဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:15 am
2. တိပိဋကရေးမူဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတာ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တ သိရိနွှဘဝိဝံသ(ယောဆေရာတော်)ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပာတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

7:25 am
3. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
4. Morning news

7:40 am
5. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am
6. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ(၃၈)ကြာမင်္ဂလာ

8:10 am
7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:15 am
8. ကဲတင်ဘီးလင်းရေလောင်တမံ

8:30 am
9. International news

8:45 am
10. Say it in English

11:00 pm
1. Martial song

11:10 pm
2. Musical programme

11:25 pm
3. Round-up of the week's International news

11:40 pm
4. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတော်လမ်းတွဲ "စောရပိစ္ဆာနှင့်မိစ္ဆာဖွင်းစား" (အပိုင်း-၂၃)

12:20 pm
5. (၂၃)ကြိမ်မြောက် အရှေ့တောင်အာရှ အားကစား(ဖြိုင်းမွဲ ဝင်မည့် မြန်မာ့အားကစားအဖွဲ့များ၏ ကြိုတင်ပြင်ဆင်မှုများ(ပိုကိတ်ကျော်ခြင်း)

12:30 pm
6. Teleplay: "ထိုချက်မှန်သော မြားတစ်ချောင်း" စော်ဝမိန်း၊ မျိုးပြေး၊ ထွန်းထွန်း (Examplez)၊ နေဇာဇာ
ဒါရိုက်တာ - မျိုးအေး

2:00 pm
7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:15 pm
8. ကဗ်ဘဲလ်ကြိုးတံတား

2:25 pm
9. "မနိုင်သောအရှုံး" ဟက်တက်၊ ဇင်ရဲထက်၊ နိုင်သင်းကြည်
ဒါရိုက်တာ - အောဝမိုးမောင်လှမျိုး

2:35 pm
10. ဂရုနှံးရေလောင်တမံ

2:45 am
11. International news

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm
3. English for everyday use

4:45 pm
4. သာယာချိုအေး(၃၈)ကြာမင်္ဂလာတေး

5:00 pm
5. အင်းသင်္ဘတ္ထသိုလ်ပညာရေးရုပ်ပြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ်(သတ္တဗေဒ၊ ရုက္ခဗေဒ အထူးပြုများ) (ရုက္ခဗေဒ)

5:15 pm
6. Song of natoinal races

5:30 pm
7. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

5:45 pm
8. Musical programme

5:55 pm
9. Sing and Enjoy

6:30 pm
10. Evening news

7:00 pm
11. Weather reports

7:05 pm
12. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတော်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်ခွန်းခြေသီတစ်ရာ့တစ်လီ" (အပိုင်း-၄၂)

7:30 pm
13. မြန်မာ့ခြင်းလုံး

7:40 pm
14. Musical programme

7:15 pm
15. Agricultural Source Country's Development

8:00 pm
16. News
17. International news
18. Weather report
19. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတော်လမ်းတွဲ "အရှစ်သဲသရာ" (အပိုင်း-၆၀)
19. The next day's programme

Radio Myanmar

Sunday, 24 July
Tune in today:

8.30 am Brief news
8.35 am Music: -Cherish this love
8.40 am Perspectives
8.45 am Music: We will rock you
8.55 am National news/ Slogan
9.05 am Music:Show me your love
9.10 am International news
9.15 am Cultural Images of Myanmar -A wonderland of pagoda—Bago & its environs
1.30 pm New/Slogan
1.30 pm Story for Children "The Heir"
1.40 pm Songs for Children
9.00 pm Weekly news review
9.10 pm Music
9.15 pm Article
9.25 pm Music -My private movie -Evergreen
9.45 pm News/Slogan
10.00 pm PEL

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Upgrading of roads, sanitation tasks inspected

YANGON, 23 July — Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected the upgrading of roads and sanitation tasks in Yangon City this morning.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspect resurfacing of Strand Road in Kyimyindine. — YGN COMMAND

The commander and the mayor arrived at the junction of Pyay Road and Myakantha Road-2 in Kamayut township, and inspected dredging work being carried out at Kamayut Creek for proper drainage, clearing of weeds and bushes on both sides on Myakantha Road-2, and unblocking of ditches on Dhammazedi Road.

They also looked into tarmacking of Strand Road in Kyimyindine Township, dredging of the drain near the junction of Parami Road and Insein Road with the use of heavy machinery and repaving of Kyaikwaing Pagoda Road in Mayangon Township. During the inspections, the commander and the mayor gave necessary instructions to officials.

MNA

Basic organizational course No 22 concluded

Minister U Aung Thaung addresses the concluding of basic organizational course No 22. — INDUSTRY-1

YANGON, 23 July —Member of the Secretariat of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung attended the conclusion of basic organizational course No 22 jointly sponsored by Bahan, Hline, Kamayut and Mayangon Township USDAs at Bahan USDA Office this afternoon.

Trainees sang a song "Yathetpan Pyidaungsu" on the occasion. Member of the Secretariat of USDA Minister U Aung Thaung delivered an address.

The minister and Chairman of Bahan Township Peace and Development Council U Tun Hla Aung presented prizes to the outstanding trainees.

Managing Director of TMDC Co (Tamway Plaza) U Michael Nyunt and Daw Nan Htwe Khan Nyunt donated a computer and a laser printer worth K 1 million to U Aung Thaung who presented certificate of honour to the donor.—*MNA*

Producers, importers to produce or import only genuine, potent and quality food and drug, to participate in government's public health care services

YANGON, 23 July —At a time when technology is advancing in leaps and bounds, packaging and content of unauthorized dyes in local-made and imported foods are harmful to the health of consumers.

In the interests of the health of consumers and students, the government formed the Food and Drug Administration. The government also assigned duties to FDA in order to supervise plum jam and other preserved foods at food stalls in schools, markets and major stores in accord with the set standards and quality.

The national law was enacted in this regard. The Ministry of Health and Development Affairs Committees are examining foods and drugs in order that the people can consume quality food and drugs. The respective development affairs committees in Yangon and Mandalay are undertaking the tasks in accord with the prescribed laws. Development Affairs Departments under the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs and Township Peace and Development Councils are also carrying out the tasks in the rest of the townships.

After examining the quality, potency and side effects of the drugs, the Drug Supervisory Committee permits the producers to register only potent drugs without side effects. Severe action is being taken against those who produce substandard medicines, counterfeit medicines and those which are produced or imported without meeting the standard sample.

The producers or importers are therefore to produce or import only genuine, potent and quality food and drugs and they are to participate in the public health care services being carried out by the State.

MNA

Results of 2005 matriculation exam announced

YANGON, 24 July— The results of matriculation examination held in March 2005 were announced at 6 am today.

The results were posted at the respective exam centres in townships in states and divisions.

The results of other states and divisions except Yangon division were also posted at No 1 BEHS, Insein; No 1 BEHS, Yankin; No 3 BEHS, Kamayut; No 1 BEHS, Lanmadaw; No 2 BEHS, Dagon; and No 1 BEHS, Thingangyun .

MNA

Results of matriculation exam from regions of poor transport to be on air

YANGON, 24 July —Among the results of matriculation examination-2005 to be announced this morning, those of the examination centres in some regions from states and divisions where transport is difficult will be broadcast by Myanma Radio through 41.75 metres at 8.30 am today.

Those regions cover Tanai, Machanbaw, Putao, Nagmon, Phakant, Sumpranbum and Chipwe of Kachin State; Papun, Kya-in-Seikyi and Kamamaung of Kayin State; Kanpetlet, Matupi, Mindat and Paletwa of Chin State; Gwa, Kyeintali and Manaung of Rakhin State; Moemeik, Namhsan (North), Monghsat, Mongkai, Kunlong, Mongton, Mongpyin, Mongyan, Maukmai, Mongyai, Kehsimahsam, Kunhein, Hopong, Monghkat, Mongping, Mongphyat, Mabein, Monghsu, Tonhong and Manton of Shan State; Palaw, Bokpying and Pala of Taninthiyi Division; Pauk, Htilin, Saw, Longshe, Kyaukhtu, Sedoktara and Ngaphe of Magway Division, Nanyun, Leshi and Lahe of Sagaing Division; and Coco Island of Yangon Division. — *MNA*