

Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of the French Republic to the Union of Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July — Mr Jean Pierre Francois Lafosse, newly-accredited Ambassador of the French Republic to the Union of Myanmar presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Bayintanung Yeiktha,

here, today.

Present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department.

MNA

Senior General Than Shwe receives Ambassador of France Mr Jean Pierre Francois Lafosse at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of France Mr Jean Pierre Francois Lafosse.

MNA



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

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 7 July, 2007

Exert more efforts for rural development

The government is making all-out efforts for the improvement of socio-economic life of rural people. As a result, there has brought about rural development.

As rural economy is based on agriculture, systematic measures are being taken for full acquisition of water for agriculture and drinking purpose and for development of economic, education and health sectors.

Smooth and secure transport plays an important role in development of a nation. This being so, extended building of village-to-village roads, village-to-town roads and district-to-district roads is being carried out renovating the old ones.

In the meantime, dams, reservoirs and lakes were built and tube-wells sunk for availability of potable water and greening. Altogether over 1 million gallons of water are being supplied to 11 wards of Meiktila daily while over 1 million gallons of water from Hsinlan Dam, Thekkan, People's Park, Naungkhangyi and Thittabintaung water resources are being supplied to PyinOoLwin daily.

There have emerged model villages facilitated with double and mixed cropping, gravel roads, new tarred roads, affiliated high schools, rural health care centres and libraries.

As the government is providing all the necessary requirements for rural development so also the local people and wellwishers are making contributions to the project. Such continued efforts coupled with generous donations will surely contribute to the improvement of socio-economic life of rural people.

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People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Progress of factory projects inspected in Magway Division

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung heard reports on construction of horse stables, feedstuff warehouses, breeding of horses and tasks for 99-acre pasture for horses presented by Project Manager Dr Aung Khaing of Horse Breeding Project (Yanpei) under Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industries of the Ministry of Industry-1 in Taungdwingyi Township yesterday.

The minister inspected the project site and instructed officials to extend the pasture and strive for breeding horses.

At Cereal Products Factory Project of Myanmar Foodstuff Industries, the minister inspected maize warehouses and products of the factory.



Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspects Horse Breeding Project (Yanpei) in Taungdwingyi Township. — INDUSTRY-1

At Feedstuff Factory, the minister instructed officials to install machines at the factory as soon as possible. Factory Manager U Zaw Tun Aung reported on ex-

penditure for 2006-07, production task and growing of maize. Managing Director U Thaik Tun and General Manager Dr Cho Win Maw gave supplementary reports.

The minister left instructions on extended cultivation of maize for supplying raw materials to the factory and efforts to be made for boosting production. — MNA

Road construction, water supply facilities supervised in Mandalay Division

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July — Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt inspected upgrading of No 1 village-to-village road to a tarred one being undertaken by Kyaukpadaung Township Development Affairs Committee on 3 July.

In Zayatkon Village of Kyaukpadaung Township, the minister heard a report on progress of the upgrading task presented by the executive officer of the DAC and gave necessary instructions.

In Kyaukpadaung Township, the four miles and three furlongs

long road section of No 1 village-to-village road has been upgraded to a tarred one.

In Meiktila, the minister heard reports on supply of water from Meiktila Lake to 11 wards and water supply facilities presented by the executive officer of Meiktila Town-

ship DAC. The minister instructed officials to emphasize on cleaning of water tanks.

At present, a total of 1.2 million gallons of water from Meiktila Lake are supplied daily to 11 wards of the town.

On 1 July, the minister and party inspected water supply, greening and development tasks in PyinOoLwin. He also viewed the nursery and park of the Township Development Affairs Committee and gave necessary instructions.

The Township DAC supplies clean water from Hsinlan Dam, Thekkan, Pyithu Pangyan, Naungkhamgyi and Thittabintaung springs to the local people.

While in PyinOoLwin, the minister viewed beautifying of the urban area, greening and sanitation tasks along the ringroad. — MNA



Minister Col Thein Nyunt hears reports on development tasks and water supply of Meiktila Township by officials. — DAD

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Iran takes practical steps with IAEA to resolve dispute

TEHERAN, 5 July—An Iranian official said on Wednesday that Teheran has taken practical steps to resolve the outstanding nuclear issues with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the official IRNA news agency reported.

Iran's Under-Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) for International Affairs Javad Vaeedi said Secretary of the SNSC "Ali

Larijani has invited IAEA inspectors to visit Iran to resolve the technical issues with the specialized agency, preferring the IAEA to the United Nations Security Council. We would better resolve the issue in Vienna instead of New York," Vaeedi said. He also said that Teheran and the IAEA are to draw up a "modality plan" within 60 days to resolve Iran's nuclear standoff.

Vaeedi warned that imposing a new UN Security Council resolution against Iran's nuclear activities would be "an improper, hostile or destructive move to harm pace of cooperation between Iran and the IAEA".

The West pursues its old belief of suspension of Iran's uranium enrichment, but it will not help resolve the dispute, he added.—MNA/Xinhua



International concert violinist David Juritz plays with members of the Hout Bay Music Project during a workshop near Cape Town on 4 July, 2007.—INTERNET

Afghan roadside bomb kills six Canadian soldiers

KABUL, 5 July —Six Canadian soldiers were killed in southern Afghanistan on Wednesday when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb, the

Canadian Government said, in what was the deadliest attack on NATO forces this month in the country. The Taliban claimed responsibility for

the attack, the deadliest since April, when six Canadian soldiers were killed in a similar incident. It brings the total number of foreign troops killed in action in Afghanistan to more than 70 this year.

Afghanistan is going through one of its bloodiest phases of violence since US-led troops overthrew the Taliban's radical Islamic government in 2001. The Taliban are strongest in southern Afghanistan.

Ottawa said the six men and a local Afghan interpreter died when their armoured vehicle hit the device in the Panjwai District about 20 kilometres (13 miles) southwest of the southern city of Kandahar, which is home to Canada's 2,600-strong mission.—MNA/Reuters

One killed as US helicopter forced down in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 5 July—A US soldier on board a military helicopter was killed when the aircraft was forced down in northern Iraq on Wednesday, the military said. A spokesman said it was unclear if the helicopter had taken ground fire, adding the incident was under investigation. He declined to give the type of helicopter or provide more details on the victim.

In a statement, the

military said the helicopter came down in Nineveh Province.

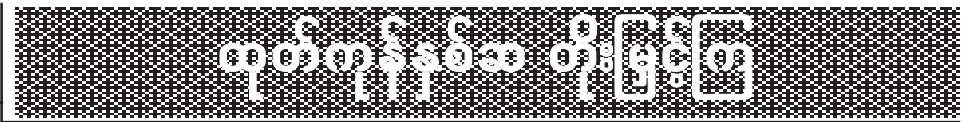
Another soldier on board had been hurt, the military said. At least 10 helicopters have been shot down in Iraq this year prior to Wednesday's incident, killing 30 people, most of them American military personnel.

An Iraqi al-Qaeda-led group said its fighters clashed with US aircraft, including an Apache

helicopter whose pilot flew the gunship into a high voltage power cable in an area close to the road between Baghdad and the northern city of Mosul in Nineveh.

"After engaging them with light and medium weapons, God blinded the pilot of one of the aircraft, who collided into a power line ..." the Islamic State in Iraq said in a statement posted on the Internet.

MNA/Reuters



Visitors look at a giant Titan Arum flower blooming at the US Botanic Garden in Washington on 4 July, 2007. The flower, also known as the Corpse Flower, is a native of central Sumatra and uses its pungent attraction to entice the insects it needs for pollination.

INTERNET

US military deaths in Iraq rises to 3,591

WASHINGTON, 5 July—As of Thursday, 5 July, 2007, at least 3,591 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. The figure

includes seven military civilians. At least 2,951 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The AP count is four higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated Thursday at 10 am EDT.

The British military has reported 156 deaths; Italy,

33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 20; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia, three; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Romania, South Korea, one death each.

Internet



Girls play in a public fountain on a hot day in downtown Rome on 5 July, 2007.

INTERNET



A couple under an umbrella crosses through traffic at an intersection as rain falls along the Boulevard of the Allies during a lunchtime downpour in Pittsburgh, on 5 July, 2007. — INTERNET

Malaysia’s “Tooth King” to break own world record

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 July—VRathakrishnan, also known as the “Tooth King,” is attempting to break his own world record on the eve of Malaysia’s 50th Independence Day celebration, local media reported on Tuesday.

He plans to pull three railway coaches weighing more than 300 tons with his teeth. Rathakrishnan made his name in the world record in 2003 when he pulled two coaches weighing 260.8 tons with his teeth for 4.2 metres.

“I want to break that record to prove that Malaysians are capable of achieving feats deemed impossible,” the national news agency *Bernama* quoted Rathakrishnan as saying. “It is also a show of support and loyalty to the country which will be

celebrating the independent golden jubilee and also for the success of the Visit Malaysia Year 2007,” he said.

Malaysia’s Prime Minister Auk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi is scheduled to watch Rathakrishnan, 42, attempt his feat at the Kuala Lumpur Railway

Station on 30 August.

If successful, it will be entered in the *Malaysia Book of Records* and later the *Guinness Book of World Records*. The “Tooth King” has drawn up a hectic training schedule which begins at 4:30 am daily to prepare for the feat.

MNA/Xinhua



Dutch sand sculptor Lars Borst puts final touches on his sculpture showing Icarus and Zeus during the sand sculpture festival “Sand World” in Travemuende near Luebeck on 5 July, 2007. — INTERNET

Five killed by manure pit gas in US

WASHINGTON, 5 July—Five people succumbed to toxic gases from a manure pit at a dairy farm in Rockingham, Va, on Monday, *NBC* reported on Tuesday.

According to the report, the deaths occurred when each person entered the pit to rescue others but were then unable to make it back.

Scott Showalter, 33, the owner of the farm, was emptying a smaller manure pit into a larger one Monday night when the transfer pipe between

the two pits clogged.

Showalter climbed in the pit to fix the blockage, but was apparently overcome by methane gas.

Amous Stoltzfus, 24, who was a helper at the farm, entered the pit to help Showalter out, followed by his wife Phyllis, 34, and two daughters Shayla, 11, and Christina, 9. None were

able to make it out alive.

The remains of the victims were recovered from the pit by early Tuesday morning.

Methane is a colourless and odourless gas that is produced by decomposing manure along with three other gases — hydrogen sulfide, methane, ammonia, and carbon dioxide.

In high concentrations, each of these gases may pose a health threat to humans and livestock.

MNA/Xinhua

Emergency service workers gather outside Mile End underground station following the derailment of a Central Line train in the east-end of London. A rush hour train derailed on the London Underground network on 5 July, 2007, injuring 37 people, as the city remained on high alert following recent security scares.— INTERNET



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India approves setting up of Pan-African e-Network

NEW DELHI, 5 July — The Indian government on Thursday approved the setting up of a Pan-African e-Network in 53 countries of the African Union (AU) at a cost of 130 million US dollars, a government statement said .

The project, which will show India’s capability in information technology, health care and education, aims at setting up a demonstration model in each country. “Its successful implementation is expected to enhance

India’s profile in the region and add a fresh dimension to India’s partnership with Africa,” the statement said.

An India-AU MOU for the Pan-African e-Network was signed in October 2005.

Indian President APJ Abdul Kalam, during the inaugural session of the Pan-African Parliament held at Johannesburg, South Africa, in September, 2004, had proposed to connect all the 53 nations of the African Union (AU) by a satellite and fiberoptic network.

Thereafter, Indian Ministry of External Affairs proceeded with the setting up of the network, now called Pan-African e-Network.

MNA/Reuters

Xinhua

One dead, 12 hurt as train hits bus in Germany

BERLIN, 5 July—A train crashed into a tour bus carrying 40 pensioners in the northeastern German town of Malchin on Tuesday, killing one woman and leaving six people badly injured, police said.

A further six people were slightly hurt in the crash at a level crossing, said police in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern state. The police had earlier said 29 people had been injured. Held up by a traffic jam on the road ahead, the back of the bus was still on the tracks at the level crossing when the train ploughed into it, said police.

None of the 20 train passengers were hurt, although the driver sustained minor injuries.

MNA/Reuters

Subway train derails in London

LONDON, 5 July — A subway train derailed in London at rush hour Thursday morning, leaving hundreds of passengers stranded.

Up to six carriages came off the rails on the westbound Central Line between Bethnal Green and Mile End at about 9:04 am BST (0804 GMT), and one person was slightly injured, according to the British Transport Police.

The Central line was suspended temporarily between Leytonstone and Liverpool Street after the accident occurred, said the Transport for London (TfL).

TfL said it was looking at if there was any obstruction on the track.

Paramedics were sent to the scene, and given the current threat of terror attacks in the country, there was a prompt response from the emergency services, the *Sky News* channel reported.

But the police said nothing suggested the derailment is suspicious.

Xinhua

ECONOMIC NEWS

Oil prices surge close to \$75 mark

NEW YORK, 6 July — Oil surged almost \$2 to nearly \$75 a barrel on Thursday as fresh violence in Nigeria spurred supply concerns and strong demand. Oil prices have risen over the past week as traders fret over thin US gasoline supplies.

London crude rebounded

after sliding following US government data that showed a crude supplies rising and refiners ramping up gasoline output to meet summer holiday driving demand.

London Brent crude gained \$1.76 to \$74.81 a barrel at 1732 GMT. US crude rose 32 cents to

\$71.73 a barrel.

In Nigeria, a rebel group responsible for a large number of the attacks on the country's oil industry ended a month-long truce, while an attack on a Shell oil rig in the delta served as a reminder of the supply risks there.

Internet



A member of the Italian Fiat 500 car club drives during a rally at the Fossato di Vico village in central Italy on 1 July, 2007. The new model of the Fiat Cinquecento (500) was to be officially launched in Turin on 4 July.

INTERNET

Fiat wants Cinquecento to be the iPod of cars

TURIN (Italy), 5 July — It was the small car that could park in the tightest of spots on the piazza, as Italian as prosciutto and espresso.

On its 50th birthday, the Cinquecento is back, and Fiat wants it to become the iPod of cars.

Fiat is launching a

new version of the three-door Cinquecento — meaning “500” in Italian — at a huge, televised ceremony in its hometown of Turin on Wednesday, with the car making its comeback after being out of production for 32 years.

Slightly bigger than the original, it is part of the

aim of Fiat's chief executive to emulate Apple by making its cars as stylish as the US company's computers and electronic gadgets, including the iPod portable music player.

“I want Fiat to become the Apple of cars,” Sergio Marchionne told *La Stampa* daily in an interview on Wednesday.

“And the Cinquecento will be our iPod,” he added, referring to the hugely successful music player.

Like the Mini or the Volkswagen Beetle, the Cinquecento is an icon.

For Italians, it epitomises the economic boom that their country enjoyed after the World War II.

MNA/Reuters



A LG Electronics television with a LG Philips LCD is displayed at a store in Seoul on 11 April, 2005.

Flat-screen televisions, computers and other hi-tech gadgets will use nearly half of a typical British household's total electricity by 2020, an energy conservation body said in a report on 4 July, 2007.

INTERNET

Russia to cooperate with Guatemala in natural gas processing

GUATEMALA CITY, 5 July — Russia's President Vladimir Putin has offered to work with Guatemala in natural gas processing, Guatemala's Foreign Minister Gert Rosenthal told a Press conference.

Putin, who wrapped up a visit to Guatemala on Tuesday, held a “very profitable” half-hour meeting with Guatemalan President Oscar Berger, said Rosenthal.

Noting that “Russia is the number one world natural gas producer and crude oil refiner,” Rosenthal said President Putin “spoke about working with Guatemala in the processing of natural gas for energy”.

Russia also promised to open an embassy in Guatemala at the end of the year, he added.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia unfazed by Indonesia's rising palm oil output

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 July — Malaysia does not consider it a problem if Indonesia takes over its place as the world's largest palm oil producer, local Press reported on Wednesday.

Indonesia obviously has a bigger plantation area compared to Malaysia, enabling it to produce more of the commodity, Malaysia's Prime Minister Auk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said here on Tuesday.

“Indonesia potentially can produce more than us and it is up to them how they want to do it, but it does not matter to us,” the *New Straits Times* quoted Badawi as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

A file photo of Dell's XPS M2010 is displayed during a XPS product launch in Hollywood recently. — INTERNET



Nepal, UAE sign labour pact

KATHMANDU, 5 July — Nepal and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Tuesday signed a labour pact that will grant Nepalese labourers in the UAE legal status, local media reported.

According to a leading website, nepalnews.com report, Nepali State Minister for Labour Ramesh Lekhak and his Arab counterpart Ali bin Abdullah al-Ka'abi signed a memorandum of understanding that will increase the minimum wage rate for Nepali workers as well as grant them legal status.

The UAE minister arrived in Nepal on Monday on a three-day visit to sign the labour pact.

With the signing of the accord, the Nepalese labourers are now eligible to receive the salary, and benefits in par with workers of other countries as per the law while given legal recognition and protection.

Lekhak said that a permanent mechanism comprising officials from both Nepal and the UAE to evaluate the implementation of the labour pact will be formed.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam’s pepper export earnings up in first half

HANOI, 6 July — Vietnam reaped pepper export revenues of 142 million dollars in the first half of this year, a year-on-year rise of 29.8 per cent, despite lower export volume, according to a

local trade agency on Thursday.

Vietnam, the world’s biggest pepper exporter, shipped abroad 49,000 tons of the product in the period, down 35.2 per cent, said the Trade

Information Centre under the Trade Ministry.

The higher pepper export earnings were attributed to increasing prices of pepper in the world market, the centre said, noting that export

prices of the local product currently stand at around 2,755 dollars per ton, doubling those of last year.

Vietnam’s pepper output is estimated at 80,000-90,000 tons this year, lower than last year, mainly due to unfavourable weather situations.

The country, which used to export raw pepper, has in recent years intensified investment in employing advanced production lines to turn out high-grade pepper, capable of meeting strict requirements set by such big markets as the European Union, the United States, Russia, China, Japan and Singapore.

MNA/Xinhua



VH-71 Presidential helicopter test vehicle #2 (TV-2) conducts its maiden flight from AgustaWestland’s facility at Yeovil, UK, on 3 July, 2007. — INTERNET

12 killed, eight injured in minibus crash in S-W China

GUIYANG, 5 July — A minibus plunged into a 87-metre gorge after veering off a mountain road on Wednesday in Shuicheng County in southwest China’s Guizhou Province, leaving 12 people dead and eight injured.

The accident occurred at 12:25 am when the 19-seater vehicle overturned on a rugged mountain path and plunged into the valley, according to local

police.

The bus, with 20 people aboard, including a child, was heading from Nayong County to Shuicheng County, both in the Bijie Region of Guizhou.

Eight people died at the scene, two died on the way to hospital, two died in hospital, and the other eight, including the driver, were injured, the police said.

MNA/Xinhua



60 dead as Mexico mudslide buries bus

PUEBLA (MEXICO), 5 July — A mudslide buried a bus carrying as many as 60 passengers in a remote region of Mexico on Wednesday. A local rescuer said those on board were probably killed but the government held out hope for survivors.

After days of heavy rain, part of a sodden hill collapsed on the bus as it was driving through the southern state of Puebla.

The slide trapped passengers under as much as 23 feet (seven metres) of mud and rock, senior state rescue official

German Garcia told Reuters.

The accident took place early in the morning, but the first professional rescue teams did not reach the site in the municipality of Eloxochitlan until mid-afternoon.

The federal go-

vernment said the bus was carrying 60 people, although Garcia estimated closer to 45 victims were buried. While soldiers and other rescue workers took hours to navigate slippery mountain roads, a second smaller mudslide hampered early efforts by bystanders to dig for survivors.

“They were trying to rescue them when another collapse buried (the bus) even more,” firefighter Abimael Garcia told Reuters by telephone from

a fire station at Tehuacan, the nearest city to the accident.

President Felipe Calderon sent orders for the Interior and Defence ministries to join in the effort to dig out the bus, which had left the town of Porfirio Diaz bound for Tehuacan.

Mud and debris from the slide covered 200 square metres around the bus. The passengers were presumably suffocated or crushed, the firefighter said.

MNA/Reuters



Rescue workers dig in search of victims of a mudslide in San Miguel Eloxochitlan, Mexico, on 5 June, 2007. — INTERNET

Powerful quake jolts southern Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 6 July — A strong 6.1 magnitude earthquake rocked the

poor southern Mexican state of Chiapas on Thursday, the US Geological Survey said.

The quake struck 24 miles (39 kilometres) from Tuxtla Gutierrez, the capital of the coffee-growing state.

Mexican television said some people were panicked by the temblor, which knocked out power and mobile telephone services for about 10 minutes. No damage or injuries were initially reported, television network Televisa said.

MNA/Reuters

US soldier killed in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 5 July — An American soldier was killed Wednesday during combat operations in southern Baghdad, the US military said.

The soldier’s unit continues conducting combined clearing operations with Iraqi security forces in part of the capital to promote Iraqi lead security operations, the military said in a brief statement.

More than 3,585 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the Iraq war broke out in March 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.

MNA/Xinhua

A woman walks past a Barneys New York store in New York City, June 2007. Japan-based Fast Retailing Co Ltd is offering 900 million dollars for the upscale US retail chain Barneys New York, topping a bid from a Dubai private equity firm, Barney’s parent said on 5 July, 2007. — INTERNET

Hailing International Day of the Cooperatives

Kyaw Myint Kyaw

International Day of the Cooperatives for this year falls on 7 July.

The day was initiated at the 49th UN General Assembly held in 1994. The UNGA proclaimed the first Saturday of July every year as the International Day of the Cooperatives based on the paper on the role of the cooperative sector in new changing and developing economic and social prospects.

The International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) observed 7 July (the first weekend of the month) as the International Day of the Cooperatives in 1927. The day was observed on the first Saturday of July every year from 1927 to 1949. Beginning 1950, the date on which the day was observed was changed to the first Sunday of every September. In 1995, the UNGA decided to observe the Day on the first Saturday of July every year. Till now, the Day is being observed on the first Saturday of every July.

Central Cooperative Society of the Union of Myanmar after joining the ICA on 7 September 1993 annually marked the Day on 1 July in 1995.

At every annually held International Day of the Cooperatives, the ICA sends a message to every member country. The topic of this year's message is

“Cooperative Values and Principles for Corporate Social Responsibility”.

Cooperative values and principles were born of the struggles to overcome economic and social sufferings resulting from food, clothing and shelter hardships the economic turmoil had produced in the mid 18th century.

Cooperative system came into being in some European countries in the 19th century initiated by eight cooperative basic principles of Rockdale forerunners.

The 15th Congress of ICA held in Paris in 1937 amended the eight principles into seven to catch up with changes in international economic systems. The fundamental principles were being accepted as cooperative procedures.

The 23rd ICA Congress held in Vienna in 1966 amended the principles to six. Although the principles were amended, their original essence has remained unchanged. They are always fit for the changing era and systems and suitable for all the cooperatives of the world. The most important thing is the flourishing of cooperatives in conformity with changing and developing economic systems.

The 20th century saw incredible science and technology advancement in addition to global economic growth. Because of the astounding advances in IT the world can be even called Global Village.

The idea to reform cooperative ideologies, values and fundamental principles was initiated at the ICA Conference held in Stockholm in Sweden in 1988.

The paper on “Cooperative Values and Changing World” was presented at the 30th ICA Conference organized in Tokyo in 1992. The conference held discussions and made suggestions on the topic “Cooperative Identity”. The Cooperative Centenary Conference held in Manchester, the United Kingdom, from 20 to 23 September 1995 unanimously approved and proclaimed the definition, values and ideologies of the topic as follows for the 21st century:

- (1) Voluntary and open membership
- (2) Democratic member control
- (3) Member economic participation
- (4) Autonomy and independence
- (5) Education, training and information
- (6) Cooperation among cooperatives
- (7) Concern for community

The act of laying down the definition, values and fundamental principles without harming the original essence proves the flourishing of cooperatives throughout their history of over 160 years.

There can be doubts whether cooperatives will be able to catch up with the advancing era that is experiencing global reforms, especially economic developments. The point seven of the fundamental principles is the essence of the paper “Cooperative Values in the Changing World.”

What's more, the topic of the ICA message for 2007 is “Cooperative Values and Principles for Corporate Social Responsibility”. I would like to urge all cooperators to harmoniously realize the topic, while honouring the International Day of the Cooperatives.

(Translation: TMT)
(Myanma Alin: 6-7-2007)

The International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) observed 7 July (the first weekend of the month) as the International Day of the Cooperatives in 1927. The Day was observed on the first Saturday of July every year from 1927 to 1949. Beginning 1950, the date on which the Day was observed was changed to the first Sunday of every September. In 1995, the UNGA decided to observe the Day on the first Saturday of July every year. Till now, the Day is being observed on the first Saturday of every July.

Officials urged to organize ...

(from page 16)
After hearing the reports of officials, Lt-Gen Myint Swe fulfilled the requirements.
In Ward 1 and Ward 2 of Mayangon Township, they inspected cleaning and sanitation tasks at schools and drains. During his inspection tour, Lt-Gen Myint

Swe instructed officials to supervise the task for prevention against floods and overflow of water from drains in Yangon City due to torrential rain, dredge outlet channels to the rivers, drains and under-ground drains in respective townships, and organize the city dwellers to participate in practising systematic throwing of garbage to be able to keep the city clean, pleasant and hygienic. — MNA

Construction Minister visits bridge project sites

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July—Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun inspected the Bago Bridge Project yesterday morning.
Senior Engineer U Khin Maung Swe reported on setting up of bore piles, work progress in construction of a temporary bridge to change direction, and follow-up programmes.
The minister instructed the officials to effectively use machinery, give priority to the works scheduled to be carried out in the rainy season, and minimize loss and wastage.

Upon completion, the 360-foot-long reinforced concrete bridge will have a 72-foot-wide motor way and two six-foot-wide pedestrian lanes on it, and will be able to withstand 60 tons of loads.
He also inspected the Swachaung Bridge Project. Engineer in charge U Kyaw Lwin reported on the launch of erecting bore piles on Yangon side and future programmes. On completion, the 270-foot-long reinforced concrete bridge will have a 48-foot-wide motor way and two three-foot-wide pedestrian lanes on it. It will be able to withstand 60 tons of loads.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspects Electric Meter Box Factory in South Dagon Industrial Zone.— ELECTRIC POWER NO 2

New Rainfalls Record

The amounts of rainfall recorded at (09:30) hour MST today, at the following stations observed the (24) hours new maximum rainfall records for the month of July.

No	Station	New rainfall Record		Previous Record		Late Rainfall Date	Record Period
		(mm)	(inches)	(mm)	(inches)		
1.	Kyaukpyu	411	16.18	351	13.82	19-7-1971	44
2.	Longlon	376	14.80	335	13.19	28-7-2002	25
3.	Thandwe	350	13.78	311	12.24	25-7-1965	61
4.	Manaung	340	13.39	262	10.32	27-7-1982	35



Gem merchants view pearls at Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales for 2007 (News on Page 16).—MNA

Minister inspects Electric Meter Box Factory

YANGON, 5 July — Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint together with officials heard reports on production process and production of meter boxes presented by the general manager and the production manager of the factory at the electric meter box factory of Myanmar Machine Tool and Electrical Industries under the Ministry of Industry-2 in South Dagon Industrial Zone on 3 July.

After hearing reports, the minister urged them to boost production of electric meter boxes and attended to the needs.

Next, the minister and party viewed moving disc, base, terminal block cover, die and mould produced by meter box factory in Pandaung Township.

Later, the minister and party inspected transformers and accessories to be used in Nay Pyi Taw and Tatkon at Soe Electric and Machine Tools Co Ltd and heard reports on installation and production of 5000 KVA 33/11 KV transformers by an officials of the company.

The minister and party proceeded to Pabedan Township Electrical Engineer's Office. The minister heard reports on power supply task by Township Engineer U Htay Naing and gave necessary instructions. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe presents prize to an officer of Magway Division.—MNA

Officials urged to perform duties successfully I&P Ministry holds work coordination meeting for 2007

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July — Ministry of Immigration and Population held work coordination meeting for 2007 at the ministry, here, today.
At the meeting, Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe heard reports on work being done and future programmes by the officials of states and divisions, and gave necessary instructions.

Next, the director-general of Immigration and National Registration Department and the director-general of Population Department submitted reports on measures being taken by the departments and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Win Sein made a discussion.

Later, the minister presented prizes to the outstanding staff of states and divisions. And the staff who won prizes in respective training courses were also honoured.

The minister assigned duties to the directors-general. He called on these present to participate in the successful implementation of the seven-step Road Map.

Also present at the meeting were directors, deputy directors of departments and staff officers of states and divisions.—MNA

Minister receives Korean Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July—Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint received Korean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Park Key Chong at his office here on 4 July afternoon.
Also present at the call were Director-General of the Department of Electric Power Dr Thein Tun, Managing-Director of the Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise Dr San Oo and officials.—MNA

Myanmar Women's Day 2007 observed in Pyay

YANGON, 5 July — The Myanmar Women's Day 2007 was held at Thiri Khittaya Yadana Hall in Pyay On 3 July morning. Chairperson of Bago Division (West) Women's Affairs Organization Daw Myint Myint Ohn delivered an address.
Next, she presented prizes to 42 outstanding women and winners in the essay and extempore talk in commemoration of the Myanmar Women's Day.
Afterwards, they viewed documentary photos of the Division, District and Township WAOs.
Also present on the occasion were responsible persons of social organizations. —MNA

F&R, Energy, Information hug wins ...

(from page 16)
Revenue thrashed Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs 5-1 in the morning and Ministry of Energy routed Ministry of Hotels and Tourism 7-0 in the afternoon.

At Lewe Township Sports Ground at 4 pm, Ministry of Information edged out Ministry of Defence with a 4-3 result.

Minister for PBANRDA Col Tin Ngwe, Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, Governor of Central Bank



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan enjoys the match of Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Information in 1st Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament.—MNA



Deputy Minister for PBANRDA Col Tin Ngwe, Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, Governor of Central Bank

of Myanmar U Than Nyein, departmental heads, responsible persons of Myanmar Olympic Committee and Myanmar Football Federation, departmental personnel and family mem-

bers enjoyed the football matches.

Tomorrow's fixtures:

At Paunglaung Sports Ground, Ministry of Health will play against Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettle-

ment in the morning, and Ministry of Electric Power No 1 will meet with Attorney-General's Office in the afternoon.

At Lewe Township Sports Ground, Ministry of Rail Transporta-

tion will compete with Ministry of Labour in the afternoon.

The first round matches will continue till 15 July, and the second round matches will last from 17 to 29 July.—MNA

Mawlamyine observes Myanmar Women's Day

YANGON, 6 July — The Myanmar Women's Day 2007 was observed at the hall in Mawlamyine of Mon State on 3 July.

Chairperson of Mon State Women's Affairs Organization Daw Nyein Nyein Htaik delivered an honouring address.

Secretary of Mon State WAO Daw Yin Yin Myat, Members and Mawlamyine District WAO Chairperson Daw Yi Yi Nwe presented prizes to the winners in the respective competitions.

The Chairperson accepted K 1.1 million donated by Mawlamyine Industrial Zone Automobile Manufacturing Group from U Sein Win of Super Mon Auto Industry.

Students of Mawlamyine Education College sang songs to mark the Myanmar Women's Day to those present. — MNA

Two Chinese Wushu coaches arrive

YANGON, 6 July — To provide training to tentatively selected Myanmar Wushu athletes, two Wushu coaches from the People's Republic of China arrived in Yangon yesterday afternoon.

Coach Su Tong Yu, who will train the athletes for Taolu event, was a former selected Wushu athlete and had discharged duties as Chief Coach of Wushu Team of Hebei Province.

Coach Dai Xiao Ping, who will handle the team for Shanshou event, is an associate professor of Wushu Sport University.

Both Chinese coaches will discharge duties to train Myanmar Wushu athletes up to end of the XXIV SEA Games. — MNA

Two Chinese Wushu coaches who will train Myanmar Wushu athletes.
MWF

Myanmar Women's Day observed in Lashio

YANGON, 6 July — A ceremony to mark the Myanmar Women's Day was held at the town hall in Lashio, Shan State (North) on 3 July, attended by Daw Su Su Hlaing, wife of the deputy commander of North-East Command, Chairperson of Shan State (North) Women's Affairs Organization Daw Wint Wint Naing and members, State/District/Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association members, teachers, members of Fire Services Department and Red Cross Society, outstanding students and guests.

First, the Chairperson of Shan State (North) WAO spoke on the occasion.

Next, the prize presentation ceremony followed. the Chairperson, Secretary Daw Mo Mo Aye and member Daw Sao Tin Mya of Shan State (North) WAO presented prizes to winners in state level essay contest.

Then, Daw Su Su Hlaing presented awards to a schoolgirl winning award in the Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Art Competitions and a student who stood third in arts combination of the matriculation examination for 2006 in the entire nation.

After the ceremony, Daw Su Su Hlaing and party viewed documentary photos of State/District/Township WAOs. — MNA



Petronas grants scholarships to five students

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July — Petronas Company of Malaysia granted scholarships to five Myanmar students to Petronas Technological Institute in Malaysia.

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi presented scholarship awards to the students in the presence of Malaysian Ambassador Dato Shaharuddin bin Md Som and Resident Representative of Myanmar Patronas Trading Co Ltd Mr Abu Baker bin Salleh at the ministry here yesterday.

Four students will take a course in engineering and one in technology at the institute. After their course, the students would be assigned to the Ministry of Energy of Myanmar.

Since 2004, the oil company of Malaysia granted scholarships to Myanmar students. The number of students who were awarded scholarships to the university reached 25 in 2007.

Also present at the ceremony to present scholarships to students were Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, departmental officials of the ministry and Myanmar Petronas Trading Co Ltd and students. — MNA

One member quits Chauk Township NLD due to its unacceptable acts

YANGON, 6 July — U Than Win, member of Chauk Township National League for Democracy of Magway Division on 1 July resigned from the NLD of his own accord, sending his resignation letter to the NLD headquarters and local authorities.

In his resignation letter sent to Chauk Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommission, he said that he no longer wished to remain as NLD member due to unacceptable acts of the NLD; and that is why he resigned from it of his own accord. — MNA

UNDP funds Nepal for mini-hydro power project

KATHMANDU, 6 July — The Nepali Government and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Thursday signed a 3.85-million-US-dollar mini-hydro power project to be implemented in central Nepal.

According to the national news agency, RSS report, the project will be funded by the government

of Norway, Himal Power Limited, a private power producer company and UNDP for the period of 2007 to 2010.

The project aims to electrify 3,100 households in Dolakha and Ramechhap districts through the construction of 400 kilowatts mini-hydro power plant.

MNA/Xinhua



Workers set up the stage for the Live Earth concert on Copacabana Beach in Rio de Janeiro on 5 July, 2007. Brazilian organizers of the Rio de Janeiro leg of the Live Earth global concerts were trying to convince authorities on Wednesday not to cancel the Saturday show due to security concerns.

INTERNET



Police personnel in plain clothes travel on a boat as they make their way along a flooded street in the eastern Indian city of Kolkata on 3 July, 2007.

INTERNET

Vietnam builds 600-mw thermoelectric plant

HANOI, 6 July — Construction of a 600-megawatt coal-fired power plant with an investment of 625 million US dollars has started in Vietnam's northern Hai Phong City, local newspaper *Vietnam Economic Times* reported on Thursday.

The two-turbine plant named Hai Phong 2 is scheduled to annually generate 3.6 billion kwh of electricity after it becomes operational in 2010. Its investor is the state-owned power group

Vietnam Electricity (EVN).

The construction of a similar thermoelectric plant with the same capacity, Hai Phong 1, is undergoing in the city.

Vietnam's electricity demand is estimated to annually grow 10-15 per cent in the 2007-2010 period, so the country needs 20 billion dollars from now to 2010 to implement electricity

production, transmission and distribution projects, according to the EVN, the country's biggest electricity producer and sole distributor.

Vietnam plans to increase its electricity capacity to 25,000-26,000 MW in 2010 from 11,400 MW in 2005, meeting demand for its socio-economic development, said the EVN.

MNA/Xinhua

China, ROK vow to develop relations

BEIJING, 6 July — China and the Republic of Korea (ROK) should continue to take a strategic approach to bilateral ties, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said at a meeting on Thursday with Iim Chae Jung, speaker of the ROK National Assembly.

Wen said this year marked the 15th anniversary of China-ROK diplomatic ties, and the relationship had developed well because the two countries had adopted a good-neighbourly policy and maintained mutual respect and equal treatment.

Iim Chae Jung said the ROK and China had made remarkable progress in economic and trade cooperation, and cultural and personnel exchanges had also greatly expanded.

He said the ROK hoped to further cooperation with China and continue to build the relationship.

MNA/Xinhua

World champ chomps 66 hot dogs, sets new record

BEIJING, 5 July — Some people may never consume 66 mustard-slathered hot dogs and buns in a lifetime, but that's what American Joey Chestnut did in 12 minutes on Wednesday at Coney Island, New York, to become the world's hot dog eating champion.

Chestnut broke his own world record and knocked off six-time contest winner Takeru Kobayashi of Japan.

"If I needed to eat another one right now, I could," the 23-year-old Californian said after receiving the mustard

yellow belt emblematic of hot dog eating supremacy.

Kobayashi recently had a wisdom tooth extracted and received

chiropractic treatment due to an arthritic jaw. But the winner of every Nathan's restaurant hot dog competition from 2001 to 2006 showed no ill effects as he stayed with Chestnut frank-for-frank before a screaming crowd until the very end of the 12-minute competition. — Internet

Australian scientists identify gene cluster relating to chronic fatigue

CANBERRA, 5 July — Australian researchers have identified a cluster



Australian researchers have identified a cluster of genes linked to chronic fatigue syndrome, the Australian Associated Press reported on Thursday. — INTERNET

of genes linked to chronic fatigue syndrome which may help finally explain the mysterious condition.

The team from the

University of New South Wales sifted through more than 6 million pieces of DNA information in people who had glandular fever, including half who went on to develop chronic fatigue, the *Australian Associated Press* reported on Thursday.

Professor Andrew Lloyd and his colleagues at the Center for Infection and Inflammation Research found 35 genes linked to the symptoms of the illness.

"These (35) genes might point to the nature of the disease process that underlies chronic fatigue syndrome, which is currently unknown," said Lloyd, whose findings are

published in the latest *Journal of Infectious Diseases*.

He was quoted as saying that the findings were the tentative beginnings of better understanding the disease.

"It's given us the starting point for some gene expression pattern that might become a diagnostic test for the condition," he said.

Chronic fatigue is most commonly triggered by an acute illness, like glandular fever. It is characterized by extreme tiredness but recent studies have left researchers puzzled as to what it actually is. — Xinhua



Iraqi artist Basim Hamed works at his house in the suburb of Dumar, near Damascus, on 5 July, 2007. Part of an exodus of more than a million Iraqis to Syria, artists, filmmakers and writers are seeking to document their country's woes from Damascus, hoping they can influence opinion at home for the better. — INTERNET



Theresa Turner (L) and Tina Garner “wring out” a cat after they decontaminated the feline following a recent flood and oil refinery spill in Coffeyville, Kansas on 3 July, 2007. Turner, who runs a tropical bird store in Tulsa, Oklahoma, volunteers to organize pet rescues and decontaminations after natural disasters while Garner is a Coffeyville resident whose house flooded and her own pets are still missing. — INTERNET

Environmentalists warn of disasters caused by global warming

JERUSALEM, 6 July — A report published by Israeli environmentalists on Thursday warned the public of the environmental disasters that could be caused by global warming, local media reported.

The report was conducted by the Israel Union for Environmental Defence (IUED) as part of a campaign to educate the public about global warming, the popular daily *Yedioth Ahronoth* said.

The report detailed the consequences of

global warming in Israel as was published by United Nations climate scientists, said the daily.

According to the environmental report, in the worst-case scenario, Israel’s sea level could rise by five metres, causing flooding of low-lying areas. In such a case, part of Israel’s major cities, such as Haifa and Tel Aviv, would be wiped out.

The best-case scenario, said the report, would be a 3.3-degree temperature rise during the

summer, a 33-per-cent drop in general precipitation, and a rise in the number of heavy rains.

MNA/Xinhua

France says H5N1 bird flu virus confirmed in swans

PARIS, 6 July — Tests have confirmed that three swans found dead in eastern France were killed by the H5N1 bird flu virus, the French Agriculture Ministry said on Thursday, France’s first cases of the disease in over a year.

“Michel Barnier, Minister of Agriculture and Fishing, is putting in place the risk prevention measures corresponding to the shift from the ‘moderate’ level to the ‘high’ level,” the ministry said in a statement.

The “high” level means that in mainland France birds and poultry will have to be either locked up or protected by nets to avoid all contact with wild birds, a ministry official said. The gathering of birds and pigeon contests will be forbidden.

Germany said on Thursday it was raising its assessment of the risk of bird flu following the French announcement and after officials this week discovered more birds that had died of the H5N1 virus, this time in the eastern state of Thuringia.

French Health Minister Roselyne Bachelot said on French television that the country was not threatened by a flu pandemic at this stage but that the government would be remain on alert. — MNA/Reuters



Lebanese soldiers and civilians inspect the wreckage to a family’s truck after a crash in Mays al-Jabal village, southern Lebanon on 3 July, 2007. A Lebanese family of four was killed when their truck crashed into a Polish UN peacekeepers’ fuel truck in southern Lebanon on Tuesday. — INTERNET

Does Tasmanian tiger still roam ancient forests?

BEIJING, 5 July — It’s officially reported the last wild Tasmanian tiger was killed between 1910 and 1920 and the last captive one died in 1936 in the Hobart Zoo, but rumored sightings of the carnivore that looks like a striped coyote continue to emanate from the island’s ancient forests.

In 1986, the Tasmanian tiger was declared extinct. Its extinction marked the demise of the only member of its family, Thylacinidae, and the world’s largest marsupial (pouched) carnivore. It weighed about 65 pounds and had a nose-to-tail length of six feet.

Now zoologist Jeremy Austin of the Australian Center for Ancient DNA

are turning over every leaf looking for evidence, especially in the DNA from animal droppings discovered in Tasmania in the late 1950s and 1960s. The scat specimens have been preserved in the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.

Eric Guiler, a thylacine expert who found the scats, said he thought the droppings probably came from a Tasmanian tiger rather than a dog, Tasmanian devil or a quoll (cat-sized marsupial), according to Austin. — Internet

Kidnapped German freed in Afghanistan

BERLIN, 6 July — The German citizen who was kidnapped a week ago in Afghanistan was freed on Thursday, German media reports quoted Afghan Government sources as saying.

“He is released, he is safe and his interpreter is also with him,” Afghan Interior Ministry spokesman Zemarai Bashary told the German news agency DPA.

“He was released as a result of efforts by Afghan police,” the spokesman added.

The German citizen was reportedly kidnapped on June 28 in the western Afghan province of Farah. Afghan officials said earlier that the unidentified kidnappers had demanded a ransom of 40,000 US dollars.

Germany now has about 3,000 soldiers stationed in Afghanistan under the command of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), most of them in the relatively stable northern region.

A German Government spokesman said on Wednesday the kidnapped man was not a peacekeeper, a journalist or an aid worker. — MNA/Xinhua

Two killed in plane crash in western Ireland

DUBLIN, 6 July — A light aircraft crashed in western Ireland on Thursday, killing two people, police said.

“A light aircraft crashed in Inveran in County Galway. It is a small airstrip there,” a police spokeswoman said. “We can confirm there were two fatalities.”

She said she could not comment on media reports that the aircraft was an eight-seater Cessna that had missed the runway while landing at an airfield 20 miles (32 kilometres) west of Galway City.

National broadcaster RTE said three people had walked away from the wreckage and ambulances had taken injured from the scene. — MNA/Reuters

Three Polish climbers die on Mont Blanc

ROME, 6 July — Three Polish climbers were found dead on Thursday after they were caught up in an avalanche on the Mont Blanc Mountain in the Alps on the French-Italian border, local authorities said.

The climbers — two men and a woman — probably died from wounds sustained when they fell during the avalanche on Wednesday, the authorities said.

Two other members of the climbing expedition earlier managed to get down safely and call for help, but strong winds and poor weather conditions had hampered rescue efforts, local media reported.

Mont Blanc is the highest mountain in Western Europe. — MNA/Reuters

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MARINA STAR-2 VOY NO (711N)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV MARINA STAR-2 VOY NO (711N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.7.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
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Dated: 7 July 2007

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Five killed by suicide bomb north of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 5 July—Five people were killed on Wednesday by a suicide car bomb in Baiji, a town 180 kilometres (120 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.
Police Lieutenant Immad al-Qaisi said that three of the dead were police officers and that 10 other people had been wounded in the attack, including several other policemen. Initial reports had identified all five dead as police. Al-Qaisi said the suicide bomber had driven into a police patrol that had pulled up outside a local restaurant for lunch.
US and Iraqi security forces had launched a major security clamp-down targeting Islamist militants blamed for many of the suicide car bomb attacks which have wrecked havoc in Iraq.
MNA/Reuters



Study says organic tomatoes healthier for people

LONDON, 5 July — A 10-year study comparing organic tomatoes with those grown conventionally suggests that organic food is healthier for people.
New research published in the latest issue of *New Scientist* available on Thursday found levels of the flavonoids quercetin and kaempferol were found to be on average 79 and 97 percent higher, respectively, in organic tomatoes. Flavonoids have been linked to reduced rates of cardiovascular disease, some forms of cancer and dementia. Differences in soil quality, irrigation practices and the handling of harvested produce have made direct comparisons difficult in the past. So in this study, researchers at the University of California, Davis, used data from a long-term project in which standardized farming techniques are used to reveal trends in crop productivity.
The researchers say the finding can be explained by the availability of nitrogen. Flavonoids are produced as a defense mechanism that can be triggered by nutrient deficiency. The inorganic nitrogen in conventional fertilizer is easily available to plants and so, the researchers suggest, the lower levels of flavonoids are probably caused by over-fertilization.
Previous research has found no differences between organic and conventional crops such as wheat or carrots.
Xinhua

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are probably caused by over-fertilization.

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Xinhua

Nightclub blast kills 25, injures 33 in China

BEIJING, 5 July—An explosion in a nightclub in northeast China killed 25 people and injured 33, state media reported on Thursday as investigators sought to pin down the cause.
The blast hit an entertainment club in Benxi county, Liaoning Province, at about 9 pm (1300 GMT) on Wednesday, the *China News Service* reported.
After authorities finished rescue efforts on Thursday, the official *Xinhua* news agency reported the death toll, citing province officials,

but it did not say how badly hurt the injured were or explain the cause of the explosion.

A county official at the scene told *Reuters* that investigators were trying to work out whether the blast was accidental or deliberate.

"It's too early to announce any conclusions," said the official, who gave his surname as Chi. The Communist

Party chief of Liaoning Province, Li Keqiang, ordered harsh punishment of anyone found to be responsible for the explosion, the news service said.

Also on Wednesday night, a fire swept through a cinema complex in Hengyang city in central Hunan Province. *Xinhua* reported that one person died.

MNA/Reuters

Two dead, 18 injures after tourist bus crash in E China

HANGZHOU, 6 July—Two people are dead and 18 injured, one seriously, after a tourist bus overturned in a crash in east China's Zhejiang Province on Thursday, local authorities said.
The accident occurred at about 9:00 am when the bus was hit side-on by a container truck on an expressway near Jiaxing City, a police spokesman said.
The Tianjin-registered bus, carrying 31 people, including two drivers, a tour guide and 28 Chinese tourists, was en route to Mt Wuyi, in the southeastern Fujian Province, from Nantong, a city in eastern Jiangsu Province.
The injured were taken to hospital and the uninjured passengers had continued on to their destination, police said. Local authorities are still investigating the accident.
MNA/Xinhua

An armed policeman seen patrolling Heathrow Airport, London in this 1 July, 2007 file photo. Terminal 4 at London's Heathrow Airport was evacuated on Tuesday after a suspicious package was found, passengers said.
INTERNET

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Napoleon's letter to Josephine fetches record price

LONDON, 5 July— One of the world's greatest collections of historical letters, including an apologetic note written by Napoleon to his lover Josephine after a row, fetched 3.8 million pounds (7.7 million US dollars) at auction on Tuesday.

The treasure trove of almost 1,000 documents, collected over 30 years by an Austrian banker, included letters written by Winston Churchill, Peter the Great, Alexander Pushkin, John Donne and Queen Elizabeth I.

The auction proceeds almost doubled pre-sale expectations.

One of the rarest and



Undated handout photo from Christie's auctioneers of a rare love letter written by Napoleon Bonaparte which was sold at auction in London on 3 July, 2007.

INTERNET

most touching items in the collection was a passionate letter written by an apologetic Napoleon to his

wife-to-be, Josephine de Beauharaais, the morning after a furious argument.

The letter sold for 276,000 pounds, a record for a Napoleon letter and more than five times its pre-sale estimate of 30,000 to 50,000 pounds, auctioneers Christie's said.

"I send you three kisses — one on your heart, one on your mouth and one on your eyes," wrote the chastened lover in a spidery scrawl full of corrections and crossings out.

Napoleon was believed to have provoked the quarrel by inquiring about Josephine's wealth held in family estates in the West Indies. — MNA/Reuters



South Korean housewives wearing traditional dresses dance in a rally shout to wish for the Pyeongchang's bid to host the 2014 Winter Olympic in Pyeongchang, east of Seoul, South Korea, on 5 July, 2007. — INTERNET

Few aware of pre-conception folic acid benefits

NEW YORK, 5 July— Most women are aware that getting enough folic acid during pregnancy can help prevent some birth defects, but many do not know that they should be taking the vitamin before they become pregnant, a new survey shows.

Researchers from the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia, found that while 78 per cent of women in Oklahoma who delivered babies in 2000-2003 were aware of the benefits of folic acid, 73 per cent did not take multivitamins at least four times weekly in the month before they became pregnant.

The CDC team also found that 85 per cent of the women had not gone to see a health-care provider for preconception

counselling before getting pregnant — including 72 per cent of those who had planned to become pregnant. The findings of the survey can be used to help target outreach to women who may not be aware of the steps they can take to improve their health before pregnancy, say editors of the CDC publication Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.

MNA/Reuters

Four killed as vehicle falls off cliff in southern Philippines

MANILA, 5 July— A passenger vehicle fell off a cliff in Sarangani Province, the southern Philippines, killing four people and leaving at least 20 others injured, local radio reported on Tuesday.

Some victims have been taken to various hospitals in General Santos City, said a report by dzBB radio.

Officials from the Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council have dispatched response teams to the mishap site.

The authorities are still investigating the cause of the accident.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysian astronaut to research bioscience in outer space

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 July — Malaysia's first astronaut would conduct bioscience research on cells, bacteria and the crystallization of protein in outer space, the national news agency Bernama reported on Tuesday.

A sample would be given to the astronaut, and hopefully it would lead to new discoveries in science, technology and industry, said Dr A Rahma A Jamal, director of Molecule Medical Institute, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM).

Malaysia's first astro-

naut was expected to be sent to the International Space Station (ISS) on 10 October.

The research on the crystallization of protein was important in industries like cosmetics and pharmaceutical, Rahman said on Tuesday, adding that research in space with its unique microgravity surrounding would affect organisms and the biological system.

"The research is aimed at giving local scientists the opportunity to study, design and experiment in space," he added.

Cooperation in research with scientists from Russia, Europe and the United States would also help develop Malaysia's expertise and capacity in gravitational biology and space re-search, he said.

On completion of the research, the cells and bacteria would be analyzed to study its effects when in outer space, Rahman said.

Areas to be analyzed include gene mutation, gene expression and three dimensional growth of cancer cells and the growth rate of bacteria, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

China to launch French-made communications satellite

BEIJING, 5 July — China is preparing to launch a French-made broadcasting satellite, said sources with the National Space Administration here Wednesday, without giving an exact date for the blast-off.

The satellite and the Chinese-made rocket

carrier Long March 3B have been moved to the launch site at Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in southwest China's Sichuan Province.

The mission is the 101st launch by a Long March rocket carrier.

The Chinasat 6B satellite was manufactured by France's

Alcatel Alenia Space and has a designed lifespan of 15 years.

Fitted with 38 transponders, the satellite is expected to improve signal transmission for radio and TV stations across China, Southeast Asia, the Pacific and Oceania.

MNA/Xinhua



A handler holds up a hawksbill turtle while a green sea turtle swims in a holding tank at the Turtle and Marine Ecosystem Centre in Rantau Abang, Malaysia, recently. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Sochi awarded 2014 Winter Games

GUATEMALA CITY, 6 July — The Black Sea resort of Sochi, boosted by the personal intervention of Russian President Vladimir Putin, won the right to stage the 2014 Winter Olympic Games on Wednesday.

Putin came to Guatemala to address the International Olympic Committee session and his polished performance, in English, French and Spanish, wooed members who responded by awarding the Games to Sochi by just four votes. Sochi gained 51 votes to upset favourites Pyeongchang of South Korea who took 47 votes in the second round of the ballot.

The third candidate, Salzburg of Austria had been eliminated in the first round with 25 votes behind Pyeongchang on 36 and Sochi on 34.

The Russian delegation erupted in elation af-

ter IOC president Jacques Rogge opened the envelope to announce the winning bid.

Putin, who had left the session before the vote to return to Moscow, called from his plane. "He was excited and he congratulated each and every one of us," said Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Zhuchov.

Sochi had started the bid as outsiders as none of their venues have yet been built. But they made up ground with a slick campaign and Putin's support may ultimately have been the final ingredient for success.

Rogge said Putin's presence in Guatemala had been important. "This is very reassuring for the IOC," he said. "It shows the support of the government authorities which is very, very important."

MNA/Reuters



Fans show watch a training session for Australia's national soccer team in Bangkok on 5 July, 2007. Australia is scheduled to play Oman in the AFC Asian Cup 2007 on 8 July. — INTERNET

Dunga under fire after another Brazil letdown

RIO DE JANEIRO, 6 July — Coach Dunga has been widely criticized after Brazil, devoid of midfield creativity, struggled to a 1-0 win over Ecuador in the Copa America.

Brazilian media on Thursday praised Robinho as the team's saviour again, although Dunga had denied after the game that they relied too much on the Real Madrid forward.

Robinho scored all four goals in the group stage as the holders limped into the

quarterfinals.

Dunga was also criticized for fielding three defensive midfielders.

O Globo, the Rio de Janeiro-based daily, ran

the headline 'Robinho saves the team again' and lambasted what it called "another dreadful performance".

MNA/Reuters



McLaren Formula One driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain drives a cart at the Daytona International Cart Track in Milton Keynes, central England on 5 July, 2007. — INTERNET

Chelsea hope to conclude Malouda deal soon

COBHAM (England), 6 July — Chelsea hope to buy France midfielder Florent Malouda in the next few days to help their pursuit of the "Holy Grail" of the Champions League, chief executive Peter Kenyon said on Thursday.

Speaking after billionaire owner Roman Abramovich made a rare public appearance to open Chelsea's new

training centre, Kenyon said he expected Malouda to be their last acquisition of the close season. He also said he hoped to tie up the deal in time for Malouda, 27, to join Jose Mourinho and his squad on their tour of the United States which starts next week. Six-times French champions Lyon are asking for 25 million euros (34.12 million US dollars) but Kenyon did not discuss a transfer fee.

Unlike previous close seasons since Abramovich bought the London club in 2003, Chelsea have seriously curbed spending on players.

Israel defender Tal Ben Haim and midfielder Steve Sidwell have joined as free transfers and Chelsea are also looking to bring in Brazilian defender Alex from PSV Eindhoven. Kenyon denied newspaper reports Chelsea had made a bid for Tottenham Hotspur defender Pascal Chimbona.

MNA/Reuters

Djokovic tames Hewitt in 4-set thriller

LONDON, 5 July — Novak Djokovic squeezed past former champion Lleyton Hewitt 7-6, 7-6, 4-6, 7-6 to reach the quarterfinals of Wimbledon for the first time on Thursday.

A month after reaching the French Open semis, fourth seed Djokovic proved his grasscourt credentials in a match lasting more than four hours and full of long rallies, lunging shots and rackets flung down in frustration. For the 2002 cham-

pion it was the earliest defeat here since 2003. An exhilarated Djokovic celebrated by falling to his knees with his arms aloft. He then pulled off his shirt and hurled it high into the stands. Their only previous meeting at last year's US Open had been a forgettable affair with Djokovic winning only six games. Fast forward 10 months and the duo lit up a damp and gloomy Wimbledon with an electrify-

ing encounter. With break points in short supply in a tight first set, the pair headed into a tiebreak. Trading thundering strokes from the baseline, Hewitt sneaked ahead 5-4 with a mini break after punching away a cross-court winner to end a 40-stroke rally. But the Australian 16th seed went on to squander three set points and lost the tiebreak 10-8 when he overshot a forehand. — MNA/Reuters

Nadal plays best on grass to beat Youzhny

LONDON, 6 July — Rafael Nadal produced his best performance on grass as he fought back to beat Russian Mikhail Youzhny 4-6, 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2 and reach the quarterfinals at Wimbledon on Thursday.

Nadal, runner-up last year, struggled to find his rhythm for two sets after his third-round match against Swede Robin Soderling, a

five-setter which was on the Saturday schedule but did not conclude until Wednesday. Youzhny initially played near flawless tennis, finding the corners and hitting fine volleys at the net, before being hampered by a long-standing back problem.

Youzhny, who had twice beaten Nadal in the last 12 months, took the first

set on his first break point of the match after a rare double fault from the Spaniard and broke again two games into the second after a superb backhand crosscourt winner. The roles were dramatically reversed from the start of the third set which Nadal raced through in 27 minutes after breaking Youzhny to go 2-0 up.

MNA/Reuters



Switzerland's Roger Federer plays a return during his quarter finals singles match against Spain's Juan Carlos Ferrero at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, on 5 July, 2007. — INTERNET

Ivanovic saves three match points to reach semis

LONDON, 6 July — Ana Ivanovic saved three match points before overcoming fellow teenager Nicole Vaidisova 4-6, 6-2, 7-5 on Thursday to reach her first Wimbledon semifinal.

The 19-year-old Serb, runner-up at the French Open last month, will face Venus Williams for a place in the final.

Facing defeat in the ninth game of the third set, Ivanovic saved three match points on her serve to get herself back into the contest and then broke to turn the tables on her opponent.

A double fault by 18-year-old Vaidisova handed a delighted Ivanovic the match after two hours on court.

Vaidisova, who overcame defending champion Amelie Mauresmo in the previous round, broke in the first game of the match and that was enough for her to claim a scrappy first set despite her 16 unforced errors.

Ivanovic blamed her nervous start on stage fright because she was playing on Centre Court for the first time. — MNA/Reuters



Serbia's Ana Ivanovic plays a return to Nicole Vaidisova of the Czech Republic during their quarter final singles match at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, on 5 July, 2007. — INTERNET

“Shanghai Red” heads to US film festival

BEIJING, 5 July — “Shanghai Red,” a production by Hollywood couple Oscar Luis Costo

and Vivian Wu, is set to feature at the third Hollywood Chinese American Film Festival in

Los Angeles.

Leading actress Wu on Friday expressed the wish that the film could offer the American viewing public a better understanding of urban life in China.

According to the movie’s official Web site, the film’s story, set in the modern metropolis of Shanghai, revolves around a young mother whose guilt over her husband’s death leads her to a double life of murder and deception.

The film festival is to be held from 1 to 9 Nov in Hollywood. Several recent Chinese movies are in the event’s lineup, including the historical film “Tokyo Trial,” Derek Yee’s “Protege,” the China-

Poland co-production “Love in the Year of the Tiger” and “American Fusion,” a comedy portraying the life of Chinese immigrants in the United States.

The films will be screened for eight days at a local theater.

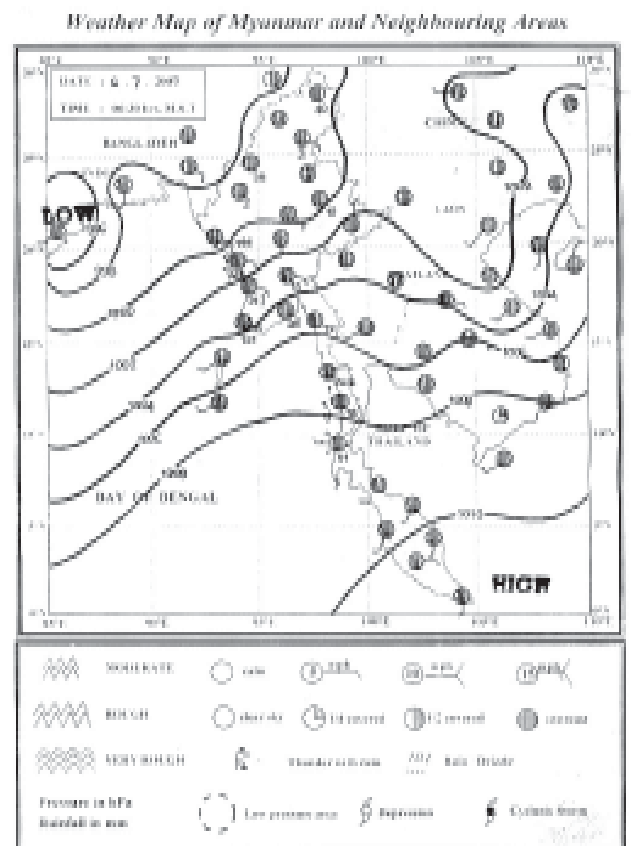
Besides enriching the audience’s knowledge of Chinese film culture, the festival also serves as a platform for international dialogue and collaboration in the areas of film education, financing and production.

Internet



A movie poster of “Shanghai Red”.

INTERNET



WEATHER

Friday, 6 July, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway Division, rain have been isolated in lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, scattered in Kayah State, fairly widespread in Shan State and Yangon Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyaukpyu (16.18) inches, Longlon (14.80) inches, Thandwe (13.78) inches, Man Aung (13.39) inches, Dawei (10.95) inches, Sittwe (7.60) inches, Thaton (7.36) inches, Maungtaw (5.36) inches, Kyauktaw (5.04) inches, Patheingyi (4.77) inches, Hpa-an (4.02) inches, Theinzayat (4.61) inches, Nyaunglebin (4.49) inches, Phyapong (4.45) inches, Hinthada (3.67) inches, Yay (3.66) inches, Tharrawaddy and Bago (3.35) inches each, Mawlamyine (3.22) inches and Zaungtu (3.07) inches.

Maximum temperature on 5-7-2007 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 6-7-2007 was 73°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 6-7-2007 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 5-7-2007 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 6-7-2007 was (1.22) inches at Mingaladon, (1.22) inches at Kaba-Aye, (1.57) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (61.69) inches at Mingaladon, (65.82) inches at Kaba-Aye and (64.40) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from West at (18:30) hours MST on 5-7-2007.

Bay inference: The tropical depression over Northeast Bay has crossed the Bangladesh Coast on Last night and persists as land depression. According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, this depression has weakened, Monsoon is vigorous in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Special feature: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, yesterday’s the tropical depression TORAGI over South China Sea has crossed near Hanoi the Vietnam Coast and weakened.

Forecast valid until evening of 7-7-2007: Rain will be isolated in lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kayah State and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in upper Sagaing Division, Kachin, Chin and Shan States and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, Ayeyawady, Yangon, Bago and Thaninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (100%).

State of the sea: Occasional squalls with rough sea will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (50) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong Monsoon. **Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 7-7-2007:** Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 7-7-2007: Some rain which may be heavy at times. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 7-7-2007: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Weather outlook for second weekend of July 2007: During the coming weekend, Rain will be widespread in Yangon Division and isolated in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay Division.



Saturday, 7 July
View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်တော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌ ဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မ ဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ မဗ္ဗဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

5. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am

6. Musical programme

8:30 am

7. International news

8:45 am

8. Grammar made easy

11:00 am

1. Martial song

11:15 am

2. Musical programme

11:30 am

3. News

11:45 am

4. Games for children

12:05 pm

5. Round up of the week’s TV local news

12:30 pm

6. ကြားမြင်သတိပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပဒေသာ

12:40 pm

7. “ခံစားရင်းခံစားပါ” (ကျော်ရဲအောင်၊ ပန်းဖြူ ကုသိုလ်)

8. မြန်မာအမျိုးသမီးများနေ့ အထိမ်းအမှတ်ကျပန်း စကားပြောပြိုင်ပွဲ (၂၀၀၇)

1:15 pm

9. သက်တံ့ရောင်သံစဉ်

1:40 pm

10. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

1:50 pm

11. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ (သဘာဝဂုဏ်အင်ထူးခြား အလှဆင်သင်ပုန်းကျောက်များ)

2:00 pm

12. Dance of national races

2:25 pm

13. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:35 pm

14. “ငါးရစ်မျိုးငါး- - - တို့မစား”(ဧရာ နိုင်သင်းကြည်၊ မေရိုးအိ၊ ညိုညိုစိန်၊ မြသက်ထား)

2:45 pm

15. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

4:45 pm

4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ

5:05 pm

5. Games for children

5:25 pm

6. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်

5:50 pm

7. အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာ သမဝါယမနေ့တေးများ

6:00 pm

8. Evening news

6:30 pm

9. Weather report

6:35 pm

10. အလှူရှာမယ်လှူကမ္ဘာဝယ်

7:00 pm

11. “ရှင်သန်ခြင်း” (မင်းဟိန်း၊ ဆုပန်ထွာ၊ မိုးဖြူ၊ ခင်စိုးဝင်း၊ ကြည်စိုး(IC)၊ သန်းသန်းစိုး)

7:15 pm

12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “သမားတော်”(အပိုင်း-၄၀)

8:00 pm

13. News

14. International news

15. Weather report

16. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ ဦးဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “မေတ္တာနောင်ကြီး” (အပိုင်း-၃)

18. The next day’s programme

Officials urged to organize dwellers to participate in tasks for keeping Yangon City clean, pleasant and hygienic

YANGON, 6 July — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence inspected carrying out of sanitation and greening tasks and proper flow of water by officials and local people in Yangon City this morning.

Accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, senior military officers and departmental officials, Chairman of Yangon East District PDC U Than Aung and Chairman of Thingangyun Township PDC U Maung Maung Lwin and party, Lt-Gen Myint Swe viewed participation of departments concerned, members of so-



Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects dredging of drains along Kyaung Street and Thanthuma Road in Thingangyun Township. — MNA

cial organizations and local people under the supervision of the local authorities in carrying out sanitation and greening tasks at the corner of Thanthuma Road and Kyaung Street in Thuwunna of Thingangyun Township at 6.30 am.

Social organization members and YCDC workers undertook dredging of drains for proper flow of water along Kyaung Street in Ward 25 and at the corner of Thanthuma and Cherry roads in Thuwunna. After giving necessary instructions, Lt-Gen Myint Swe attended to the needs.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe oversaw sanitation and dredging of silt and garbage at drains along Yaza-thingyan Road in Ward 51 of Dagon Myothit (North) Township with the use of heavy machinery.

(See page 8)

Officials were urged to supervise tasks for prevention against floods and overflow of water from drains in Yangon City due to torrential rain.

F&R, Energy, Information hug wins in 1st Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July — The first round of the 1st Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament continued at the designated places in Pyinmana

and Lewe townships today.

At Paunglaung Sports Ground in Pyinmana, Ministry of Finance and (See page 9)

155 lots of pearl sold at special sales

YANGON, 6 July — At the Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales for 2007, the sale of pearl lots continued through tender at the Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, today.

Foreign gem merchants bought 155 pearl lots today.

A total of 246 gem lots will be sold through tender and competitive bidding system at the same venue tomorrow.

Foreign jade merchants purchased 385 lots of jade through tender at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in

Mayangon Township. The sale of jade lots commenced today and will continue through tender and competitive bidding system up to 16 July.

A total of 3,860 gem merchants — 1,561 at home and 2,299 abroad — have already arrived at the special sales till today. More foreign merchants are expected to arrive at the sales. — MNA



Gem merchants observe jade lots at Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales for 2007. — MNA

Flood Bulletin

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July — According to the (12:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Bago river at Bago is (910) cm. It may remain its danger level (910) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today. — MNA

Storm News

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July — The tropical depression over Northeast Bay has crossed the Bangladesh Coast on last night and persists as a land depression. According to the observations at (06:30) hr MST today, this depression has weakened.

MNA