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Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to French President

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Nicolas Sarkozy, President of the French Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the French Republic which falls on 14 July 2007. — *MNA*

2nd Plenary Meeting of Sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee commences

YANGON, 13 July — The 2nd Plenary Meeting of Sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee was held at State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) on Kaba Aye Hill, here, this morning.

Joint-Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Manitabhivamsa of Maha Withokdayon Monastery of Mandalay Division acted as MC.

Chairman of the SSMNC Magway Maha Withotayama Taikthit Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Kumara, who presided over the meeting, gave Saraniya Ovadakatha.

Joint-Secretary Dvipitakadhara Bhaddanta Nimala of Kyaukhtongyi Monastery of Katha submitted the report of the SSMNC (Second Branch).

Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Sumana of Natmaw Monastery of Mawlamyine and Bhaddanta Nandavamsa of East Shwepandaw Monastery of Aunglan presented the report of Viniççhaya affairs; Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Sirinda of Lewun Monastery of Thaton, Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Garava of Maha Zawtikayama Monastery of Monywa

(See page 10)

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

The 2nd Plenary Meeting of Sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee meeting in progress.—MNA

INSIDE

Let's unite for national interest

Daw Suu Kyi, in particular, should realize her position, which is like that of Galon U Saw, a stooge, who brutally conspired the assassination of her father; she should be repentant and try to escape from the present position today when the Martyrs Day is approaching. They should immediately cooperate with the government and the people unconditionally in the interest of national unity and national interest. The entire people of Myanmar are desirous of achieving national unity. They all believe that Myanmar will surely achieve rapid economic development overcoming all the socio-economic problems being confronted today if the entire people are united in national interest.

PAGES 8+9

NGAR MIN SWE

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 14 July, 2007

Save lives through disinfected blood

Blood is indispensable for medical treatment. This being the case, the donation of blood amounts to donation of life. Donating blood and striving for increasing the number of blood donors is a great offering.

The World Health Organization designates 14 June yearly as Blood Donors Day, and this highlights the pivotal role of blood donors.

The sufficient amount of disinfected blood is required in order to enhance the standard of health care services of breast-feeding mothers, reduce the child mortality rate and prevent the infection from blood.

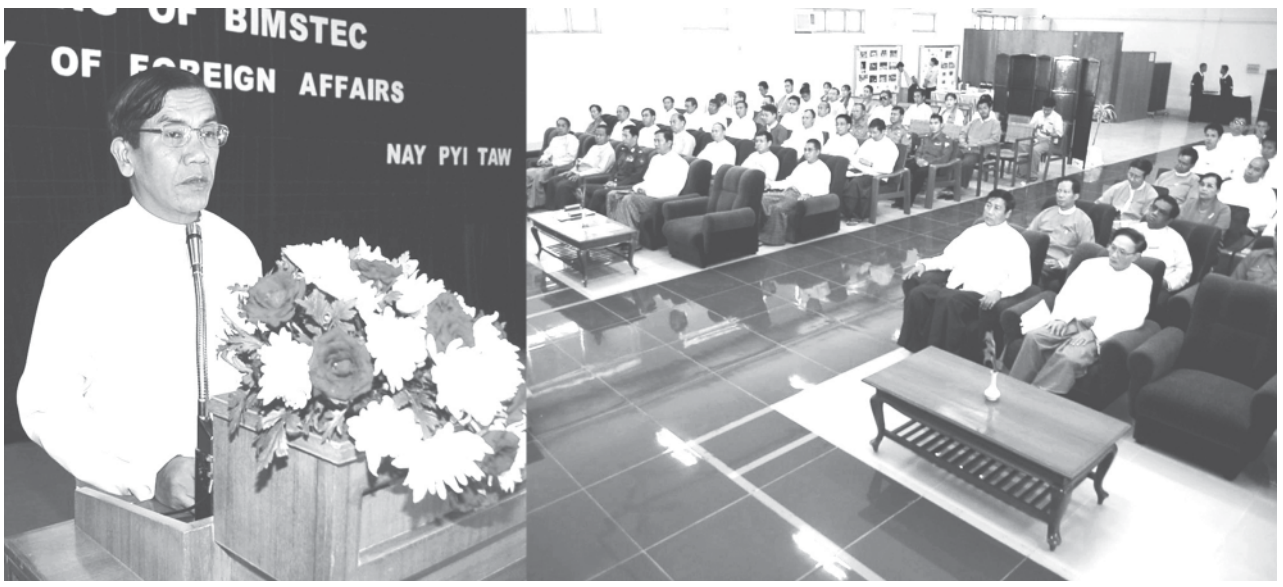
The sufficient amount of blood needs to be obtained in time for patients who need blood transfusion. So also, it is required for blood donors to donate disinfected blood. Hence, blood donors need to be healthy and free from infected diseases.

The Ministry of Health is taking systematic measures in diagnosing infected diseases including HIV virus and controlling the quality of blood. At present, altogether some 2,500 blood donors who donate blood once every four months and some 1,500 who donate blood once a year are donating blood at 15 hospitals in Yangon.

Saving a life through donating blood is a noble and benevolent task. The increase in the number of blood donors and social organizations that are directly or indirectly engaged in blood donation will contribute much towards saving many more lives.

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**



Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win speaks at 10th Founding Anniversary of BIMSTEC.—MNA

10th Anniversary BIMSTEC Day observed in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July — Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win extended greetings at the ceremony to mark the 10th Anniversary of the Bay of Bengal Initiative on Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Day at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here this afternoon.

At the ceremony, documentary photos on meetings of BIMSTEC, the list of meetings and reports were displayed.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint, directors-general and officials.

The BIMSTEC was established on 6 June 1997 in Thailand to set up a new sub-regional economic group comprising countries situated on the Bay of Bengal to foster socio-economic progress by promoting the cooperation in various sectors. The group now comprises of seven countries namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

The aim and objectives of the BIMSTEC are: to create an enabling environment for rapid economic development through identification and implementation of specific cooperation projects in the sectors of trade, investment and industry, technology, human resources development, tourism, agriculture, energy, infrastructure and transportation; to accelerate the economic growth and social progress in the sub-region through joint endeavours in a spirit of equality and partnership; to promote active collaboration and mutual assistance on matters of common interest in the economic, social, technical and scientific fields; to provide assistance to each other in the form of training and research facilities in the educational, professional and technical spheres; to cooperate more effectively in joint efforts that are supportive of and complementary to national development plans of member States, which result in tangible benefits to the people in raising their living standards, including through generating employment and improving transportation and communications infrastructure; to maintain close and beneficial cooperation with existing international and regional organizations with similar aims and purposes; and to cooperate in projects that can be dealt with most productively on a sub-regional basis among the BIMSTEC countries and that make the best use of available synergy.

Throughout the 10 years tenure, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal signed the Framework Agreement for BIMSTEC Free Trade Area at the Sixth BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting and the Fifth Trade/Economic Minister's Meeting in Phukhet of Thailand. Bangladesh joined the FTA by signing the agreement on 25 June 2004 in Bangkok, Thailand. The organization launched the Visit BIMSTEC Year 2004-05 and the year-long Plan of Action on Tourism. In addition, the BIMSTEC Chamber of Commerce was set up. The organization sponsored the First Football Tournament in Phukhet of Thailand and set up the BIMSTEC Centre in Bangkok. Furthermore, they established a biomass gasifier plant in Kokke Village in Myingan Township of Myanmar.

MNA

Gem merchants examine jade lots at Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales. **(News on page 16)** —MNA

Shan State (South) Forest Department holds seminar

YANGON, 13 July — A seminar on growing of physic nut plant and production of bio-fuel was held at the office of the director of Shan State (South) Forest Department in Taunggyi on 6 July, attended by Director U Maung Maung Htwe, Assistant Director U Win Myint, officials and writers and editors from media circle.

Those present participated in discussions on thriving of perennial trees and progress of agricultural tasks. — *MNA*

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

US House votes for troop pullout from Iraq

LONDON, 13 July— The United States House of Representatives has voted in favour of pulling most combat troops out of Iraq by April next year.

The legislation calls for the Pentagon to begin withdrawing combat troops within four months.

The vote comes despite President George W Bush's threat to veto any timetable.

Correspondents say the House of Representatives, controlled by the Democrats, is hoping to pressure the Senate to approve a similar timeline.

It is the third time this year the House has voted to end US military involvement in Iraq.

Two previous efforts either failed in the Senate or were vetoed by President Bush.

The latest attempt would allow some US forces to stay in Iraq to train the Iraqi army and carry out counter-terrorism operations.

"It is time for the president to listen to the American people and do what is necessary to protect this nation," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, a Democrat.

Internet

Singaporean Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong (R) meets with visiting Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Yi in Singapore on 11 July, 2007. — XINHUA

Egypt criticizes proposed US conditions on aid

CAIRO, 12 July— Egypt said on Wednesday US moves to link some military aid to improve-ments in its human rights record and efforts to halt weapons smuggling from Egypt into Gaza were unacceptable.

The US House of Representatives advanced legislation last month to withhold 200 million US dollars in military aid until Cairo takes steps to curb police abuses, reform its judicials system and stop arms smuggling.

"Egypt clearly rejected these conditions," the state-owned *Al-Ahram* newspaper quoted Foreign Minister Ahmed Aboul gheit as saying during a visit to Washing-ton that included talks with Vice-Presidetn Dick Cheney and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

"This is an internal, private matter for Egyptians, and no party has the right to interfere."

Aboul ghiet said Cheney had told him the US Administration was opposed to the legislation and had pledges to work with Congress to "correct this siutation", *al-Ahram* said.

MNA/Reuters

A diamond-studded Mont Blanc Pen that was bought by Al Parish for $170,000 is displayed at the Al Parish auction at the North Charleston Convention Centre in North Charleston, SC, on 11 July, 2007. — INTERNET

Six Lebanese troops die as Army pounds Nahr al-Bared

NAHR AL-BARED CAMP, 12 July—Six Lebanese soldiers and a civilian were killed on Thursday during exceptionally fierce fighting between the Lebanese Army and Fatah al-Islam militants in Nahr al-Bared, a day after an evacuation that reportedly cleared all remaining civilians, with the exception of the militants' families. In a marked intensification of fighting, the army appeared to throw its full force into its new offensive against the militants.

Nonstop powerful bombardments from land and sea struck all sides of the camp, leaving a veil of heavy black smoke.

The army announced the names of three soldiers killed Thursday: Captain Walid Yassen al-Shaar, born in 1969; First Adjutant Khalil Mohammed Shouman, born in 1972; Sergeant Mahmood Mahmoud Darwish, born in 1979. Ninety soldiers have been killed in the conflict so far.

Adel al-Ajel, a resident of Menih, was also killed around 5:30 pm on Thursday by a stray bullet along the Menih-Aabdeh highway.

The main northern highway via Akkar that goes all the way to Syria was closed off on Thursday, with the army only allowing media and emergency crews to pass through.

Army sources said that 23 soldiers were also wounded in Thursday's fighting, which began in the early morning after Fatah al-Islam snipers shot dead two soldiers, prompting a response with heavy artillery and gunfire. — *Internet*

US airstrike kills four in Iraq

MOSUL, 12 July—A US helicopter struck two houses in the city of Mosul in Iraq's northern province of Nineveh on Wednesday, killing four people and wounding 14 others, a provincial police source said. "A US helicopter at dawn struck two adjacent houses in the Zanjiely neighbourhood in south-western Mosul, killing four people and wounding 14 others, four of the operations told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

The source said that the US military told his office that its helicopter received gunfire from the attack area.—*MNA/Xinhua*

China rodents spark disease fears

LONDON, 13 July— Severe flooding in central China has brought a mass invasion of mice, raising fears of outbreaks of disease. The floods forced about two billion mice from islands in Dongting Lake in Hunan Province, local officials said.

Health authorities have been sent to three cities on the lake and crops have been destroyed by the field mice.

Flooding and land-slides have killed at least 360 people across south-ern and central China in recent weeks, with more rain expected, officials say.

The rodent rampage began on 23 June, when the flooded Yangtze River raised water levels in Dongting Lake, forcing the mice from their holes on islands in the lake, China's state-run news agency *Xinhua* said on Monday.

Internet

Actresses of the Yinguang performance troupe rehearse in Tianjin Municipality, north China, on 10 July, 2007.—INTERNET

A Typhoon jet fighter takes off from RAF Coningsby, central England, on 11 July, 2007. The planes were on display as it was announced by the RAF that they will take up a role to become responsible for protecting southern UK airspace from potential 11 September style attacks. — INTERNET

စက်မှုဓနအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

China city suburb puts a bounty on flies

BEIJING, 12 July—A Chinese city suburb has set a bounty on dead flies in a bid to promote public hygiene, *Xinhua* news agency said on Tuesday.

Xigong, a district of Luoyang in the central province of Henan, paid out more than 1,000 yuan (125 US dollars) for about 2,000 dead flies on 1 July, the day it launched the scheme with the aim of encouraging cleanliness in residential areas. "I and colleagues believe it is the best way to push residents to do more for their living environment," Hu Guisheng, the office chief, was quoted as saying.

The payment scheme is the first of its kind in Luoyang, a city of 1.55 million people which is striving to earn the title of "state-level hygienic city".

But critics have questioned the benefits of paying 0.5 yuan (seven US cents) per insect turned in, a scheme which has sparked an on-line debate.

MNA/Reuters

Study finds wives have more power at home than hubbies

BEIJING, 12 July — A study in the US finds wives have more power than their husbands in making decisions and dominating discussions, media reported on Wednesday.

"The study at least suggests that the marriage is a place where women can exert some power," said lead author David Vogel, a psychologist at Iowa State University (ISU).

Most of the previous researchessuggested that women have less power, but that is not the case in this study. "They have largely based that on the fact that traditionally men earn more money and so therefore would have the ability to make big decisions in the relationship," said Vogel.

Vogel, Megan Murphy, also of ISU, and their colleagues video-taped 72 married couples, who were on average 33 years old and had been married for about seven years.

The study participants discussed each of the issues for 10 minutes.

Wives were more demanding — asking for changes in the relationship or in their partner — and were more likely to get their way than the husbands. "[Women] were communicating more powerful messages, and men were responding to those messages by agreeing or giving in," said Vogel. According to Murphy, one reason why wives are in charge could be that "women are responsible for overseeing the relationship, making sure the relationship runs, that everything gets done, and that everybody's happy." — *Xinhua*

Participants perform during the opening ceremony of the 9th All Africa Games in the stadium of Algiers in Algeria on 11 July, 2007. The All Africa Games take place until 23 July . — INTERNET

US mily claims killing almost 30 militants in Iraq

BAGHDAD,12 July — US and Iraqi forces killed 20 suspected al-Qaeda in Iraq militants in a two-day operation north of Baghdad this week, the US military said on Wednesday.

The military also said eight suspected militants were killed during raids in eastern Baghdad on Monday.

In a statement, the military said the operation north of Baghdad targeted al-Qaeda leadership members near the town of Sherween in volatile Diyala Province. It said 20 al-Qaeda militants were also detained.

The operation began early on Tuesday with aircraft dropping bombs on three river crossings and one bridge to prevent militants from escaping, the statement said. It said the locations were also used by al-Qaeda to conduct attacks.

It said residents of Sherween "played a vital role in this operation as they fought side-by-side" with the Iraqi security forces to help them capture and kill militants. The statement did not elaborate but members of some Sunni Arab tribes in Diyala along with members of Sunni Arab insurgent groups that have previously fought American troops have joined with Iraqi security forces to fight al-Qaeda.

Sunni Islamist al-Qaeda has fallen out with some insurgent groups it previously cooperated with partly over its indiscriminate killing of civilians and harsh interpretation of Islam. — *MNA/Reuters*

Rare giant squid washed up in Australia

CANBERRA, 12 July — One of the largest giant squid ever found has washed up on a remote Australian beach, sparking a race against time by scientists to examine the rarely seen deep-ocean creature.

The squid, the mantle or main body of which measured two-metre (6.5-feet) long, was found by a walker late on Tuesday on Ocean Beach, near Strahan, on the western coast of island state Tasmania.

"It's a whopper," Tasmanian Museum senior curator Genefor Walker-Smith told local media on Wednesday. "The main mantle is about one metre across and its total length is about eight metres."

Scientists would take samples from the creature, identified by state parks officials as an Architeuthis, which can grow to more than 10 metres (33 feet) in length and weigh more than 275 kilogrammes (606 pounds).

The Tasmanian animal was 250 kilogrammes, Pemberton said.

The tentacles had been badly damaged, so the overall length of the animal could not be determined, a Tasmania Parks and Wildlife spokeswoman said. Park rangers had moved the remains from the water.

Giant squid, once believed to be mythical despite occasional sightings by mariners, feed on fish and other squid. Last year, fishermen off the Falkland Islands caught a complete animal measuring 8.62 metres.

MNA/Reuters

The carcass of a giant two-metre squid, which was washed up on the shores of Tasmania's Ocean Beach on Tuesday night, is seen near Strahan in this 10 July, 2007 handout photo. — INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

China bans diethylene glycol as toothpaste ingredient

BEIJING, 12 July— China has forbidden domestic enterprises from using diethylene glycol as an ingredient in toothpaste after a number of countries banned the sale fo toothpaste containing this chemical, according to the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine.

Imports and exports of toothpastes containing this substance known as DEG are banned starting Wednesday.

In exceptional cases where the chemical finds its way into toothpaste mixed up with other ingredients, quantities must not exceed limits set by importing countries or regions.

Most Chinese toothpaste firms have abandoned DEG as a production raw material. The administration maintained that toothpaste containing DEG would not jeopardize the health of consumers.

Citing a report by experts from the Ministry of Health, the administration said the long-term use of toothpaste in which the DEG content was less than 15.6 per cent would have no adverse affect on people's health. None of the data suggested that toothpaste containing this substance had directly led to the human poisonings.

Recent random inspections by domestic quality authorities found most domestically made toothapste contained no such substance. The quantities of DEG in the few detected were less than 10 per cent, it said.

MNA/Xinhua

China Shipbuilding Industry Corp (CSIC), one of the nation's leading shipbuilding groups, will seek an initial public offering (IPO) in 2007, according to sources close to the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission (SASAC).— XINHUA

Models show creations by Hong Kong designer Lo Sing Chin during the Hong Kong New Fashion Collection Award at the Hong Kong fashion week for Spring/Summer 2008 on 12 July, 2007. The show has attracted a record 1,147 exhibitors from 19 countries and regions. —INTERNET

Japan asks for materials of US fighter jets on order list

TOKYO, 12 July— Japanese Defence Minister Yurio Koike said on Wednesday that Japan wants to have materials of US fighter jets which are in planned procurement of the Japanese Air Self -Defence Force.

The newly-appointed minister expressed the desire when meeting with US Ambassador to Japan Thomas Schieffer earlier in the day, local media reported.

Schieffer said Japan should think more about how to enhance Japan-US joint military capabilities than which type of aircraft to buy, according to the officials of the ministry. The Japanese Government will diecide by next summer which type of US fighter jets to buy to update the Self-Defence Forces' major fighters, the report said. When talking about the importance of strengthening Japan-US ally Koike pledged that Japan will faithfully implement the realignment of US forces in Japan.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Malaysian company wins bid to manage Istanbul airport

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 July—Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd (MAHB) has edged out four other international airport operators to win a bid to manage Sabiha Gokcen International Airport in Istanbul, Turkey, local media reported on Wednesday.

The job scope includes taking over the operations, maintenance and revenues of the international and domestic terminals of the airport and all their related buildings, equipment and groundhandling, fuel supply and bonded warehousing operations in the airport, the *New Straits Times* reported.

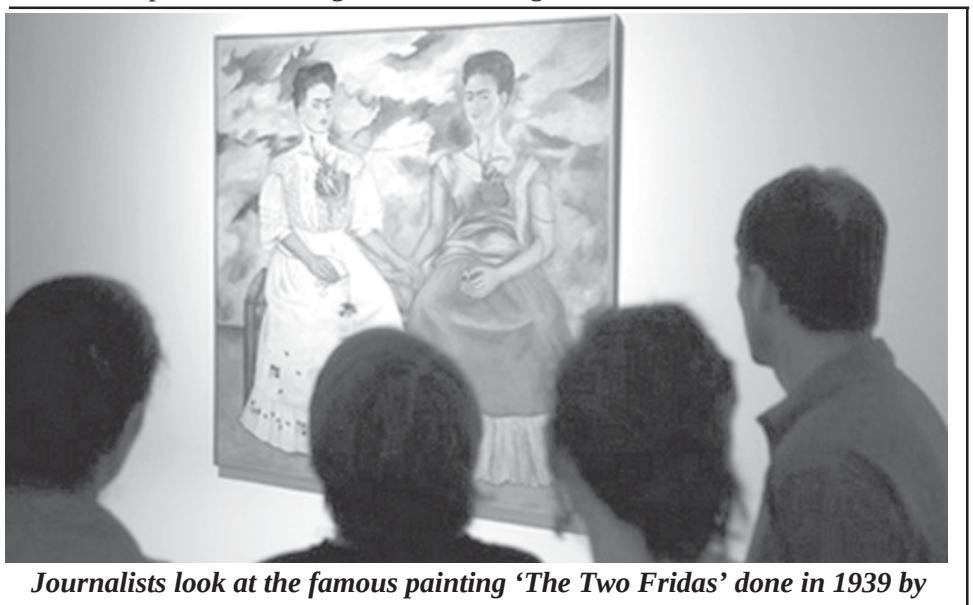
"This project also involves the construction of a new international terminal with a 10 million capacity in 30 months. The current international terminal will be converted to an all domestic terminal subsequent to construction of a new terminal," MAHB said in a statement

The total concession fee is 1.93 billion euros (2.61 billion US dollars) that is structured over a 20-year concession period, with no concession fees payable in the first three years.

"This is indeed a great news for Malaysia airports as it further reinforces our status as one of the most sought-after service providers in the field of airport operations," MAHB Managing Director Auk Seri Bashir Ahmad said.

Sabiha Gokcen International Airport is the second largest airport in Istanbul with two terminals, covering an area of 1,337 hectares.

MNA/Xinhua



Journalists look at the famous painting 'The Two Fridas' done in 1939 by Mexican artist Frida Kahlo, during a preview to the Press of the National Homage to Frida Kahlo on the 100th anniversary of her birth at the palace of fine arts in Mexico City, in this 12 June, 2007 file photo.— INTERNET

China's agricultural trade deficit falls 67.2% in Jan-May

BEIJING, 12 July— China's trade deficit in agricultural products dropped to 490 million US dollars in the first five months, down 67.2 per cent from the same period last year as export growth outpaced imports, according to figures from the Ministry of Agriculture.

From January to May, exports of agricultural products rose to 14.42 billion US dollars, up 22.5 per cent, while imports rose by 12.4 per cent to 14.92 billion US dollars.

The total trade volume stood at 29.34 billion US dollars, up 53.4 per cent from the same period last year. According to the ministry, China exported 5.078 million tons of cereals between January and May, up 53.4 per cent, while its cereal import slid by 51.4 per cent to 797,000 tons.

That makes a net cereal exports of 4.281 million tons, up 156 per cent. A breakdown shows exports of rice, corn and wheat grew markedly, while imports of barley declined, the ministry said.

The trade surplus in aquatic products enjoyed a steady increase to hit 1.91 billion US dollars, up 10.4 per cent.

The deficit in livestock products widened in the past five months, up 150 per cent from the same period of last year to 910 million US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

One of two German hostages in Iraq free

BERLIN, 12 July — A German woman who was kidnapped by militants in Iraq in February is free but her son remains in captivity, German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said on Wednesday. "After 155 days, Hannelore Krause's captivity is over. She has been free since yesterday afternoon," Steinmeier told reporters in Berlin, declining to talk about the circumstances of her release.

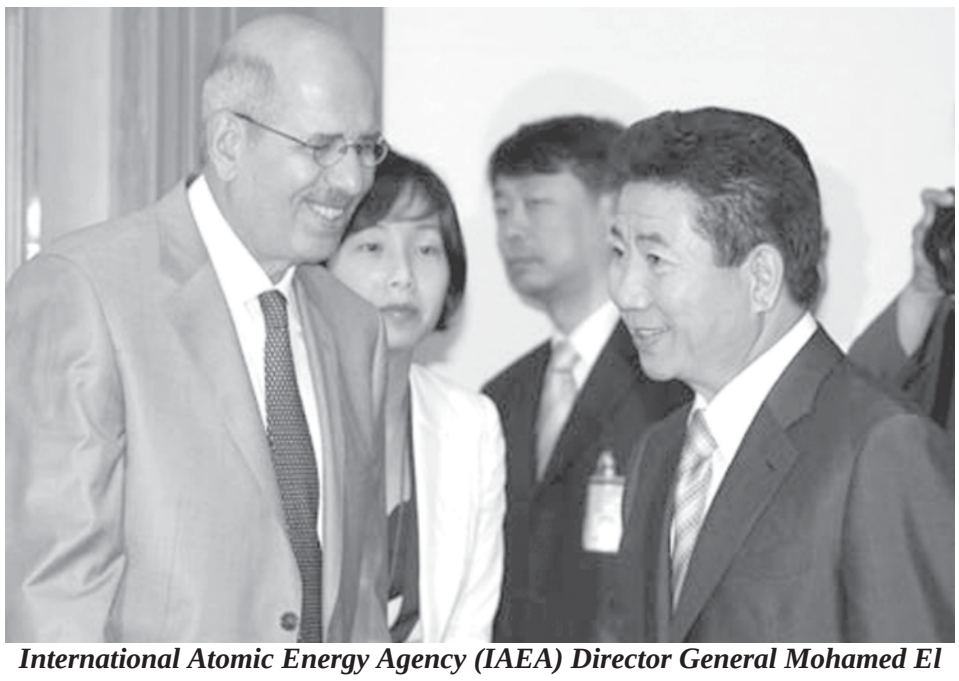
"We are relieved that Mrs Krause is now free, but the worrying uncertainty about the fate of her son, who is still in captivity, remains," he added.

Iraqi militants had threatened to kill the two, seized from their home in western Baghdad on 6 February, unless Germany withdrew its troops from Afghanistan.

In April, the Arrows of Righteousness group posted a video on the Internet showing Hannelore Marianne Krause urging Germans to press their government to heed the demands of the militants.

Krause, who broke down in tears on the video, is married to an Iraqi physician and moved to Iraq 40 years ago. Her son, Sinan, is reported to be in his mid-20s and has dual German-Iraqi citizenship.

MNA/Reuters



International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General Mohamed El Baradei (L) and South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun meet at the Presidential Blue House in Seoul on 11 July , 2007. — XINHUA

Eight killed, two missing after Philippine ferry sinks

MANILA, 12 July—At least eight people were killed while two others were still missing after a passenger ferry sank in the central Philippines on Thursday morning, according to the update counts of the Coast Guard.

Fifty people were finally rescued from the ship that carried a total of 60 passengers, a report by GMA news network quoted the Philippine Coast Guard as saying.

In earlier reports, 28 passengers were said to be travelling on the vessel.

The vessel *M/B Blue Water Princess*, had just left Lucena City in Quezon Province and was bound for Masbate Province when it sank at around 3:00 am said the report.

MNA/Xinhua

Switzerland experiences unseasonably cold weather

GENEVA, 12 July— Heavy rain and unseasonably low temperatures have marred the beginning of the summer holiday period in many parts of Switzerland, the official Swissinfo website reported on Tuesday.

While the mixed weather appears to have had no major impact on tourism, the authorities issued warnings as the levels of several lakes reached a critical point, according to the report.

Several weeks of bad weather with violent thunderstorms and intermittently heavy rain have filled up many riverbeds and lakes, particularly in the region around the capital, Bern, as well as in southwestern Switzerland. The authorities have called on people living near lakes to watch water levels carefully and evacuate their basements to limit damage to property. On Monday regions in central and eastern Switzerland were also hit by heavy rain.

A drop in temperatures led to snow falling in the Alps above 1,800 metres at the beginning of the week.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Suicide bomb kills eight in Algeria

ALGIERS, 12 July—A suicide bomber detonated an explosives-laden vehicle near an Algerian military barracks on Wednesday, killing himself and about eight other people in the restive Kabylie Region east of Algiers, residents said.

The explosion occurred in Lakhdaria village near Bouira town 120 kilometres (75 miles) east of the capital, the residents said. They said several other people were wounded.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack. An al-Qaeda-aligned rebel group previously known as the Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat (GSPC) has claimed responsibility for such attacks in recent months, including a triple suicide bombing in Algiers on 11 April that killed 33 people.

MNA/Reuters

In an image provided by Equi-Photo, Florida Snow Fall, with Chuck C Lopez aboard, leaps over a shadow on the track in the final yards of the third race at Monmouth Park in Oceanport, NJ, on 11 July , 2007. Florida Snow Fall recovered in time to win the horse race. — INTERNET

An Algerian policeman stands guard as security forces block the road to Lakhdaria, 70 kms (45 miles) southeast of Algiers recently. The Al-Qaeda branch in North Africa claimed responsibility for Wednesday's suicide car bombing at an Algerian barracks that killed 10 soldiers, Al-Jazeera television reported. — XINHUA

Multiple suicide bomb attacks kill 21 in west of Baghdad

FALLUJAH (Iraq), 12 July—Multiple suicide bomb attack the house of a Sunni tribal leader during a gathering in a town near the city of Fallujah Wednesday, killing at least 21 people and wounded some 50 others, local police and medical sources said.

"Two suicide bombers wearing explosive belts blew themselves up at about 5;00 pm (1300 GMT) among a crowd of the al-Jumailat tribe in the house of Sheikh Meshhin al-Khalaf in the town of Garmah," a police source in the town told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

Afterwards, two more suicide bombers sneaked among dozens of people gathered of help evacuating casualties and blew themselves up, the source said.

Earlier, Khalaf called on a gathering in his house to urge his tribesmen join the Iraqi security forces to fight the al-Qaeda militants in Iraq's western Anbar Province, the source added.

Many of the wounded people were in critical condition, he said.

Khalaf's house was totally destroyed by the blasts, the source said, adding that several nearby houses and a police station were also damaged.

Ambulances, police vehicles and private cars transferred killed and wounded people to the General Hospital in Fallujah.

MNA/Xinhua

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects …

(from page 16)

In his instructions, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that the plan has set to put 550,000 acres of land under edible oil crops in 2007-08 for ensuring edible oil sufficiency in the whole division. Hence, Pyay District is to contribute to cultivation of edible oil crops to meet the target. Mixed cropping of pea and sunflower are to be grown in Pyay District and Paukkhaung Township to increase sown acreage. Pyay District and Paukkhaung Township are to distribute quality strains of sunflower, sesame and groundnut to other townships.

They viewed thriving monsoon sesame plantations. Next, they looked into display of sesame strains.

Pyay District set a plan to grow edible oil crops on 190,000 acres and Paukkhaung Township on 56,000 acres this year.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than views running of physic nut oil-run power tillers.—MNA

At the local battalion in Paukkhaung Township, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than cordially met with servicemen and family members.

In Tituk Model Village of Pyay Township, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party attended the physic nut cultivation ceremony on 200 acres of land. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and the commander presented physic nut saplings to responsible persons of social organizations. They viewed participation of departmental personnel and social organization members in the physic nut cultivation ceremony.

They looked into physic nut oil-burning stoves and lamps, oil, seed and bulbs of physic nut plants displayed by Agricultural Mechanization Department and use of physic nut oil at Leyar-22 power-tiller.

The 1,440-acre Tituk Farm has so far been put under physic nut plants.

Bago Division (West) has cultivated 110,000 acres of land under physic nut against the target of 120,000 acres this year. Officials are striving for growing the remaining 10,000 acres of physic nut in rainy season. — *MNA*

Minister accepts cash donations for construction of Theravada Buddhist Missionary Myanmar Monastery in Paris

YANGON, 13 July — The fifth cash donations ceremony for the construction of Theravada Buddhist Missionary Myanmar Monastery in Paris, France was held at the Mahapasana Cave this evening, attended by Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung.

First, the minister and the congregation received the Five Precepts from the Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Suddhamma Jotika Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara of Magway Maha Withotayama Taikthit Monastery.

Next, Missionary Sayadaw Ashin Nanda Siri from France supplicated the matters on the monastery in France and the minister and party offered provisions to the members of the Sangha.

Later, the minister and officials accepted K 400,000 each by Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, and family and Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and family, K 3.2 million by Thabawa Mothinga in South Okkala Township, K 2.6 million by U Ko Ko Htwe and Thiri Thudhama Theingi Daw Aye Aye Than (Tawwin Co), K 2.1 million by Daw Khin Htar Latt, K 2 million by Principal U Win Thein and staff of Institute of Marine Technology and over K 8 million and FEC 1,000 donated by other wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them.

After that those present shared the merits gained. The donation from first to firth times for the construction of the monastery in France totaled K 434,365,512, FEC 3,833 and US$ 29,810.

MNA

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi views the match of Ministry of Information and Ministry of Energy.—MNA

Labour and Rail Transportation…

(from page 16)

At Paunglaung Sports Ground, Ministry of Religious Affairs will play against Ministry of Hotels and Tourism in the morning match, and Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement will meet with Ministry of Electric Power No 1 in the afternoon match.

At Lewe Township Sports Ground, Ministry of Health will compete with Ministry of Sports. — *MNA*

Proficiency Course No 26 for Auditors concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July—Proficiency Course No 26 for Auditors concluded at the training school of the Auditor-General's Office here this afternoon.

Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung delivered a speech at the ceremony.

Sixty-nine trainees completed the two-month course.

Now, plans are under way to conduct courses (Grade, I, II and III) for clerks, and on-job training courses for chief auditors of the Auditor-General's Office at the same venue.—*MNA*

NLD has no genuine political programme Strong disagreement among its leaders

Not giving any hand to national development tasks Sagaing Township NLD members quit

YANGON, 13 July — Members of Sagaing Township National League for Democracy in Sagaing Division U Soe Myint, U Marmad, U Thaung, U Kyaw Mya and U Gani Bai of Ywathitkyi Village, U Aung Kyaw Moe, Daw Khin Lay Maw, U Nay Lin, U Myint Kyaw, U Myint Htoo and U Thaung of Ywama Village and U Than Tun of Padu Village resigned from the party of their own accord and sent copies of their resignations to the NLD Headquarters and authorities concerned.

In the resignation letter sent to Sagaing Division Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommission, they said that there was a strong disagreement among the NLD leaders and they had no genuine political programme, that it was seeking self-interest bent on grabbing the State power without giving any hand to national development tasks, and that the leaders were playing political tricks lacking political skills. That was why, the NLD members who resigned said, they quit the party of their own violation as they no longer wanted to stand as its members. — *MNA*

Let's unite for national interest

Ngar Min Swe

The date on which Arzani leaders died passes 60 years on the forthcoming Arzani (Martyrs) Day which falls on 19 July. Bogyoke Aung San, the architect of independence, and Arzani leaders died long ago, but the entire people of Myanmar never forget them. Bogyoke was only 32 when he was brutally assassinated. Citing his age, morale and efficiency, he could serve the national interest much. The assassination of Bogyoke is an invaluable loss to the nation.

The root cause of the atrocious assassination was the breaking up of national unity resulting from disagreements among the people. The colonialists made instigation to break up national unity and supported the plan to murder Bogyoke Aung San and Arzani leaders.

On 20 December 1946, the British House of Commons invited the delegation led by Bogyoke Aung San to London to hold talks with the British government. The delegation to hold talks for Myanmar's independence comprised British sympathizers such as U Saw and Thakin Ba Sein. Those sympathizers tried to disturb the meeting. U Saw wanted dominion instead of independence. Those sympathizers refused to sign the Aung San-Atlee Agreement. The British faced an uneasy situation, when the Panglong Agreement was reached to unitedly strive for independence in accord with the Aung San-Atlee Agreement.

When AFPFL conference held in May 1947 and Taing-pyu Pyi-pyu Hluttaw organized in June passed a resolution demanding total independence, the British dream of granting dominion to Myanmar or granting her total independence as Commonwealth member ended.

The colonialist had no choice, but to install U Saw as the leader through violent means. U Saw too came to realize that although independence was imminent, he had no hope of getting a senior position. In addition, he calculated that the people would entrust power to no other organization or persons than the AFPFL. So, he tried to grab power through violent means, while relying on the colonialists.

In the early 1946, U Saw received a submachine gun, three carbines, one Sten gun, two Tommy guns, one Lugar pistol and one revolver and rounds of ammunition from Maj Yang, a commander of the British army. Yang visited U Saw's house and presented in person sealed papers to get guns and bullets from Botahtaung Ordnance Depot. On 24 June 1947, 200 Bren guns, 200 extra barrels and 800 magazines were trucked to U Saw's house. On 1 July, U Saw received 100,000 point 303 bullets for Bren guns, 25,600 Sten gun rounds and 200 hand grenades from Mingaladon-based British ammunition unit. **It was obvious that the British military brass got involved in the case as the act of permitting U Saw to receive such a large haul of arms and ammunition was beyond the authority of mid level army commanders like Captain Vivian and Maj Yang.**

Meanwhile, news was spreading that 200 Bren guns of the British army went missing and that the colonialists and national traitors were hatching a secrete plot to assassinate Bogyoke Aung San. U Saw's house by the Inya Lake on AD Road was frequented by visitors. It seemed that Bogyoke was able to calculate his fate. At his meeting with British governor Dorman Smith, Bogyoke said that a national hero could not live long in the country for he had so many enemies; and that he might live only three more years. Bogyoke also told him that as for him he could live no more than another 18 months. However, intelligence and security personnel were not able to fully protect Bogyoke Aung San.

When Bogyoke Aung San and other AFPFL leaders came to know that U Saw received arms and ammunition from the British army, Bogyoke and U Nu on 16 July met with the British governor and discussed the case with him. A special cabinet meeting was going to be convened on 19 July to discuss the matter. U Saw was under suspicion in connection with the case. But U Saw got complete information on the cabinet meeting on 18 July evening. He summoned his men at 9 pm and ordered them to assassinate Bogyoke Aung San and the ministers.

(Dear readers, I have referred the book "The High Treason I Have Witnessed" compiled by Ko Than (Kyimyindine) to write the above facts). **During the time, the Myanmar people tried in unity to free themselves from the yoke of colonialists who had exploited them for over 100 years and to rebuild the nation that was reduced to ashes. Later, national unity was lost because of the conspiracy of the colonialists, and U Saw assassinated Bogyoke Aung San and Arzani leaders. The colonialists raised U Saw as their stooge and made plots and helped him to commit the high treason. The loss of national unity and national leaders had immense negative impacts on the national interest.**

Myanmar regained independence on 4 January 1948. Burma Communist Party (BCP) went underground on 28 March 1948 saying that Myanmar was granted only sham independence. BCP's act ignited the internal armed strife leading to destruction of the national unity and a lot of public lives and property while seriously harming the national interest.

In 1958, the ruling AFPFL party split into two factions due to its disunity, and that meant the collapse of the national force into two groups. In consequence, the nation was on the verge of collapse. So, the Tatmadaw took over State power and formed the Revolutionary Council on 2 March 1962. The Revolutionary Council held peace talks with the BCP with the aim of gaining national reconsolidation, however the talks did not come to fruition. Then, the council nationalized all private enterprises, large and small, thereby harming the national economy.

The Revolutionary Council drew a State constitution and approved it through a referendum. Under the new State constitution, it practised the sole party system to rule the country. The ruling Myanma Socialist Programme Party was incapable of building unity with the BCP and national race armed groups, which were taking a stronghold in border areas and rising against the government with the assistance given and abetted by certain foreign countries. At the time, the Myanma Socialist Programme Party exercised the centralized economic system. The failure to introduce the market-oriented economic system and to achieve national reconsolidation reduced Myanmar to a least developed country (LDC).

While the nation was facing crises in various sectors, the Myanma Socialist Programme Party demonetized the currency in circulation. As a result, the entire people lost their trust in it and took to the streets and staged mass demonstrations, shouting "No party or council", culminating in the 1988 unrest. The nation would not have faced the 1988

(See page 9)

A review of the above facts will show that the big foreign nations interfered with Myanmar's politics raising lackeys beginning from the period of independence struggle in 1946-47. Their interference undermined national unity and caused a lot of hardships in the national economy. The nation became backward. For 60 years from 1946-47 to this day, some Myanmar politicians became lackeys and puppets of foreign nations, As a result, national unity was in jeopardy and the people of Myanmar faced many adversities. Some citizens were not a position to escape from these adversities the whole life. This has been most saddening and shameful. There may be differences of opinions in personal beliefs but such differences should not harm national interests in any way. All must be united for the sake of national interest. Realizing the acts of Daw Suu Kyi and NLD harmful to national unity and national interests, members have been resigning from NLD continuously in the interest of national unity and national interest.

Let's unite for national interest

Ngar Min Swe

(from page 8)

unrest had the party practised the market-oriented economic system and built internal peace at the time of about 1980. And if it had served national interests and built national unity, today's Myanmar would have enjoyed the fruits of development better than the People's Republic of China and Vietnam that are now enjoying cumulative economic growth.

The 1988 unrest dealt a devastating blow to the Myanma Socialist Programme Party. Therefore, the Tatmadaw, the only strong force, had to take a leadership role in the nation's political sector to avert possible disintegration of the Union. With a view to enhancing the national interest, the Tatmadaw government introduced the market-oriented economic system, and permitted the people to form political parties as part of the drive for the emergence of the multi-party system aspired by the people. It held the multi-party election freely and fairly in 1990. It achieved success in building peace with national race armed groups through peace talks. It launched the National Convention in January 1993 to draw a State constitution.

The nation is now enjoying rapid economic growth thanks to the earnest efforts the government has been making to serve the national interest and regain national unity. In addition, the living standard of Myanmar people is getting high. The nation has seen many housing estates, and many people who had only huts in the past have become owners of apartments and automobiles. Around 1995, an apartment in downtown Yangon was worth about 400,000 to 500,000 kyats, and Corolla Van, 300,000 to 400,000 kyats. Moreover, government service personnel and staff of companies could lead an easy life with own cars and flats. Many small entrepreneurs from rural areas like me have migrated to Yangon and owned residences and cars.

The Tatmadaw government's efforts brought prospects for economic growth to the nation. In 1995, the government lifted the restrictions imposed on Daw Suu Kyi, the leader of NLD, to enhance national consolidation.

One of the basic principles the ongoing National Convention has laid down is "No foreign troops shall be permitted to be deployed within the borders of the Union". Thus, the Western power that eyes Myanmar situated between two Asian giants was not happy with that principle. Due to the principle, the big nation was beyond the hope of installing a puppet government and stationing its troops in Myanmar. American Ambassador to the UN Madeleine Albright visited Myanmar and held a private discussion with Daw Suu Kyi. Soon after Madeleine Albright went home, under the irrevocable order of Daw Suu Kyi, NLD representatives who were attending the NC that had been launched in January 1993 walked out of the NC. Daw Suu Kyi's attacks on the NC had adverse effects on national unity and she became a lackey of an alien country.

In order to expedite the momentum of success in the economy which began to bear fruits in 1995, the government launched the Visit Myanmar Year in 1996. If the plan had proved success Myanmar would have earned billions of dollars a year from the tourism industry. However, Daw Suu Kyi and NLD dissuaded the tourists from visiting the country. Daw Suu Kyi and NLD trampled on the move, which was designed to serve national interest.

Furthermore, Daw Suu Kyi and NLD had gone so far as declaring that there would be utter devastation unless there was a dialogue. They also called on the West bloc to impose sanctions on Myanmar. Myanmar people were hit hard by the sanctions, imposed by the West bloc. More than 80,000 workers lost their jobs in the garment industry alone. In their broadcasts on 25 June VOA and RFA disclosed that Myanmar earned 180 million US dollars only in 2006, compared with 850 million US dollars in 2001 from the industry. When the garment industry of Myanmar collapsed that in the neighbouring countries flourished rapidly. Bangladesh, for instance, earned as much as 9,000 million US dollars every year.

In response to Daw Suu Kyi's outright order in 1995, NLD delegates turned their back on the National Convention. This led to temporary adjournment of the National Convention thereby disrupting national unity. Daw Suu Kyi and NLD's calls for economic sanctions on Myanmar were immensely harmful to national interests. Myanmar people suffered a lot of hardships after 1996 due to their acts to undermine the national unity and harm national economy.

Although Myanmar citizens had been able to live in peace enjoying life with their families in the past many were separated from their families as they had to go to neighbouring countries to earn their living. An apartment in downtown Yangon cost about K 400,000 or K 500,000 previously but its price has risen to K 20-30 million today. A Corolla van that could be bought for K 300,000 or K 400,000 costs K 90 million or K 100 million at present. Under the circumstances, the people of Myanmar seem to be returning to the hutments from the brick buildings and some have to sell off their private cars and take buses or slow-moving vehicles. What is worse, tens of thousands of garment factory women workers lost their jobs. Some had to engage in the flesh trade. Some got infected with HIV/AIDS.

Daw Suu Kyi and NLD that caused such hardships were sure to face legal action and get punished in the democracy nations they held in esteem if they committed similar offences there. However, the people of Myanmar forgave them according to the four cardinal values such as loving-kindness, compassion, rejoicing at somebody's success and indifference, that are much higher than democratic practices. Still, the people of Myanmar are no saints; their tolerance, therefore, is limited. This should be realized by Daw Suu Kyi and NLD.

A review of the above facts will show that the big foreign nations interfered with Myanmar's politics raising lackeys beginning from the period of independence struggle in 1946-47. Their interference undermined national unity and caused a lot of difficulties in the national economy. The nation became backward. For 60 years from 1946-47 to this day, some Myanmar politicians became lackeys and puppets of foreign nations. As a result, national unity was in jeopardy and the people of Myanmar faced many adversities. Some citizens were not in a position to escape from these adversities the whole life. This has been most saddening and shameful. There may be differences of opinions in personal beliefs but such differences should not harm national interests in any way. All must be united for the sake of national interest. Realizing the acts of Daw Suu Kyi and NLD that have been harmful to national unity and national interests, members have been resigning from NLD continuously in the interest of national unity and national interest.

In order to bring about national unity and serve national interests, Daw Suu Kyi and NLD will have to try to escape from foreign influence and domination. Daw Suu Kyi, in particular, should realize her position, which is like that of Galon U Saw, a stooge, who brutally conspired the assassination of her father; she should be repentant and try to escape from the present position today when the Martyrs' Day is approaching. They should immediately cooperate with the government and the people unconditionally in the interest of national unity and national interest. **The entire people of Myanmar are desirous of achieving national unity. They all believe that Myanmar will surely achieve rapid economic development overcoming all the socio-economic problems being confronted today if the entire people are united in national interest. It is the strong desire of the Myanmar people to be free from the socio-economic evils resulting from the deterioration of national unity. In order to fulfil this ardent desire of the people soonest I would like to urge one and all to unite keeping national interest in mind.**

Translation: TMT+MS+AK

Myanma Alin & Kyemon

(13-7-2007)

- **In response to Daw Suu Kyi's outright order in 1995, NLD delegates turned their back on the National Convention. This led to temporary adjournment of the National Convention thereby disrupting national unity.**
- **Daw Suu Kyi and NLD's calls for economic sanctions on Myanmar were immensely harmful to national interests. Myanmar people suffered a lot of hardships after 1996 due to their acts to undermine the national unity and harm national economy.**
- **People of Myanmar forgave them according to the four cardinal values such as loving-kindness, compassion, rejoicing at somebody's success and indifference, that are much higher than democratic practices. Still, the people of Myanmar are no saints; their tolerance, therefore, is limited.**

2nd Plenary Meeting of…

(from page 1)

and Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Çandima of Zeyathukha Waso Monastery of Mohnyin the report on religious affairs; Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Panditabhivamsa of Maha Bawdi Monastery of Yankin Township the report on promotion and propagation of the Sasana; Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Vepullabhivamsa of Shwebontha Monastery of Nyaungshwe Township and Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Janeya of Khemayama Monastery of Hpa-an the report on education sector.

Members of SSMNC discussed the Viniçchaya, religious and education affairs.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung supplicates on religious matters.
MNA

Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung supplicated on the religious affairs.

The second-day session of the meeting continues tomorrow.

Today, under the aegis of Sayadaw Bhaddanta Manita of Kyaikkasan Weluwun Shwegyin New Monastery, disciples offered a day meal to members of the Sangha.

Also present at the meeting were Adviser U Arnt Maung, Director-General U Myo Kyaw of Religious Affairs Department, Director-General Dr Myo Myint of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sangha and officials.

MNA

Magway Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddham-majotika Bhaddanta Kumara.
MNA

Foreign Minister sends felicitations to French Republic

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July — U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Barnard Kouchner, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the French Republic which falls on 14 July 2007. — *MNA*

Minister receives Bangladeshi guests

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July — Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min received Secretary Mr M Fouzul Kabir Khan of the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh who was accompanied by Bangladeshi Ambassador Mr M Khairuzzaman and party at the ministry here on 11 July afternoon.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Myo Myint, directors-general of departments and officials under the ministry.

MNA

Announcement on illegal incoming calls

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July—The Myanma Posts and Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs today announced that it is now working hard to ensure a standard communication system for both local and long-distance calls. However, some dishonest persons in collusion with some foreign companies are illegally making incoming calls to Myanmar. In consequence, the nation is facing tax losses and receiving poor incoming telephone calls and Fax and e-Mail messages.

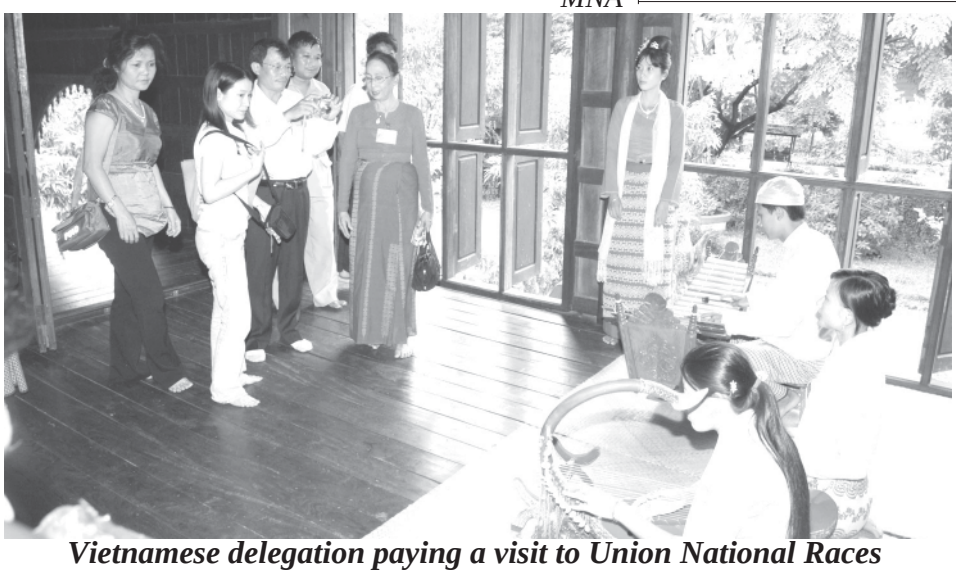
If there is an illegal incoming call through a local telephone number, the owner of the local telephone should note the local number, and dial MPT complaint Tel No (106) or Fax No 067-422106 and give information. — *MNA*

Vietnamese delegation visits National Races Village

YANGON, 13 July — The goodwill Vietnamese delegation headed by Mr Pham Duy Hung of Radio the Voice of Vietnam, accompanied by the officials of MRTV, visited Union National Races Village in Thakayta Township this evening.

Officials conducted them around the village.

MNA



***Vietnamese delegation paying a visit to Union National Races Village.—*MNA**

Indian General Officer Commanding-in-Chief visits National Defence College, Defence Services Museum

***General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Lieutenant General KS Jamwal AVSM, VSM of Eastern Command (Kolkata) visits Defence Services Museum.—*MNA**

YANGON, 13 July— The visiting Indian delegation led by General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Lieutenant General KS Jamwal AVSM, VSM of Eastern Command (Kolkata) of Indian Armed Forces left Mandalay this morning and arrived here at 9.30 am.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai, senior military officers and officials.

Accompanied by officials concerned, the Indian delegation and party visited Myanma Gems Museum of the Ministry of Mines on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road.

On arrival at the National Defence College in Dagon Township they were welcomed by Commandant of NDC Maj-Gen Mya Win and officials.

At the hall of the college, the commandant briefed the Indian delegation and party on the background history of the institution.

Next, Commandant of NDC Maj-Gen Mya Win and General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Lieutenant General KS Jamwal AVSM, VSM of Eastern Command (Kolkata) exchanged gifts.

After observing booths and library of the college, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Lieutenant General KS Jamwal AVSM, VSM signed the visitors' book.

Next, the Indian delegation and party proceeded to the Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda Road where they were welcomed and conducted round by Commandant of Defence Services Museum and Historical Research Institute Col Zaw Win and officials.

MNA

In this file picture, police search streets around Haymarket, the London street where a vehicle containing an explosive device was discovered, on 29 June , 2007. A Briton wanted in connection with failed car bomb plots in London has been found by police in Thailand and sent back to the UK, a senior Thai police officer said on Wednesday. — INTERNET

Two British Council employees arrested in Eritrea

ASMARA, 13 July — Eritrea has arrested two British Council employees in Asmara, the Red Sea State said on Thursday, and also accused a British diplomat of breaking its laws.

"Only one is (still) in detention. I don't want to enter into details. The law has been violated," Ambassador Petros Fessahazion, head of the European desk at Eritrea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, told *Reuters* by telephone.

"If there is an infraction of the law, we can't stay without reacting just for the sake of having bilateral relations."

A British Council spokesman said both its employees where Eritrean nationals, and said it would be unhelpful to speculate on the reasons behind the arrests.

"We are concerned about this and we are working closely with the British Embassy and are also in contact with the Eritreans," the spokesman said. "We believe it is a misunderstanding we are trying to resolve."

Media reports have also said Eritrea stopped a British diplomat based in neighbouring Ethiopia from leaving Eritrea following a visit, but Asmara dismissed that.— *MNA/Reuters*

Nine killed in Baghdad violence

BAGHDAD, 13 July — Fierce clashes and sniper shooting killed nine people in two incidents in Baghdad on Thursday, an Interior Ministry source said.

"US troops backed by helicopters fiercely clashed with militiamen in Baghdad's eastern neighbourhood of al-Amin," the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

At least eight people were killed and 15 others wounded in the clashes, the source said.

US troops sealed off the neighbourhood as fighting continued in the afternoon while helicopters could be seen hovering over the area, he added.

Separately, clashes erupted in the afternoon between police forces and gunmen in the neighbourhood of Saidiyah in southwestern Baghdad, the source said.

It was not known what caused the clashes or whether there was any casualty, he said, adding that the Saidiyah Sunni enclave was frequently attacked by militias from neighbouring Shiite neighbourhoods.

MNA/Xinhua

Venezuela ambassador calls for US cooperation

HOUSTON,13 July — Venezuela's ambassador to the United States called on Wednesday for cooperation between the two often-hostile nations, but said Washington first needs to show some respect.

Ambassador Bernardo Alvarez said Venezuela's push toward socialism and recent nationalization of foreign oil operations in the Orinoco heavy oil belt were an effort to bring "equilibrium" to the society.

Neither that nor the recent rise of other leftist governments in Latin America were a threat to the United States, he said.

"With all this new reality, we think that Venezuela and the US have a clear role of cooperation. We have to go beyond our selfish interests and look at the interests of the hemisphere with a sense of medium and long-term," Alvarez said in a speech to the Greater Houston Partnership.

Venezuela is one of the largest energy producers in the Western Hemisphere and the United States the largest consumer, he pointed out.

The Bush Administration has had frosty relations with Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez. Its recently departed ambassador, William Brownfield, had a particularly rocky stay in Caracas, where eggs and tomatoes were thrown at him and Chavez threatened him with expulsion.

When asked what message Chavez hoped to hear from the next ambassador, Alvarez replied curtly: "We are ready to respect Venezuela,' period."

MNA/Reuters

Three-year-old Nigerian boy abducted in Niger Delta

PORTHARCOURT (Nigeria), 13 July — A 3-year-old Nigerian boy has been kidnapped in the oil-producing Niger Delta in southern Nigeria, police said on Thursday, four days after a British girl of the same age was released by her kidnappers.

Police spokeswoman Ireju Barasua said the boy was the son of a traditional ruler in the community of Iriebe, on the outskirts of Port Harcourt, the delta's main city. Barasua gave the father's name as Eze Francis Amadi.— *MNA/Reuters*

A woman wearing a coat, hat and scarf walks her dog on a cold day in Buenos Aires on 11 July , 2007. The cold weather is expected to last several days, local media reported. — INTERNET

A man walks out from his house after a landslide triggered by heavy rains hit the district in southwest China's Chongqing municipality on 9 July, 2007. Torrential rains battered large swathes of China on Monday after killing 94 people and displacing more than half a million over the pastweek, state media said. — INTERNET

Over 50 injured in Athens head-on train collision

ATHENS, 13 July — Fifty-three people were injured in a head-on collision between a passenger train packed with commuters and a cargo train in Athens on Thursday, police said.

Greek television showed that both trains had suffered extensive damage, with the drivers' cabins completely wrecked.

Police said the crowded passenger train was heading towards central Athens from the northern suburbs when the driver saw a goods train from the city of Corinth, south of Athens, approaching on the same track.

"The reasons for the accident will be investigated immediately," the OSE rail company said in a statement.

Police said about half of those hurt had serious injuries. The rest would be released from hospital soon after treatment. They said the driver had rushed down the train, shouting to passengers to prepare for an imminent crash.

Eyewitnesses at the site of the crash, in the working-class district of Sepolia, told television they saw dazed passengers stumbling out of the train right after the collision.— *MNA/Reuters*

ADVERTISEMENTS

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV FRIENDLY SEA VOY NO (9)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRIENDLY SEA VOY NO (9) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.7.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: EASTERN CAR LINER LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

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"Steel tire, wheel and axle, car truck coupler and draft gear, oil pipe, copper sheet, strip, bar, brass sheet, strip, bar, aluminium and its alloys, sheet, strip, bar and wire, press, shear, electric wire and cable manufacturing machine, mineral dressing plant, mine car, feeder, crusher, mill, classifier, screen, flotator, sintering plant, sulphuric acid manufacturing plant, salt manufacturing plants, ladden excavator, drag line, clamshell, shovel, cycle reducer, infinitely variable gear, crane, conveyor, electric winder, pump, fan and blowes."

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Thein Aung *B.Sc,R.L,D.B.L* Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm
Tel:254037 G.P.O Box:666
Yangon. 14 July 2007

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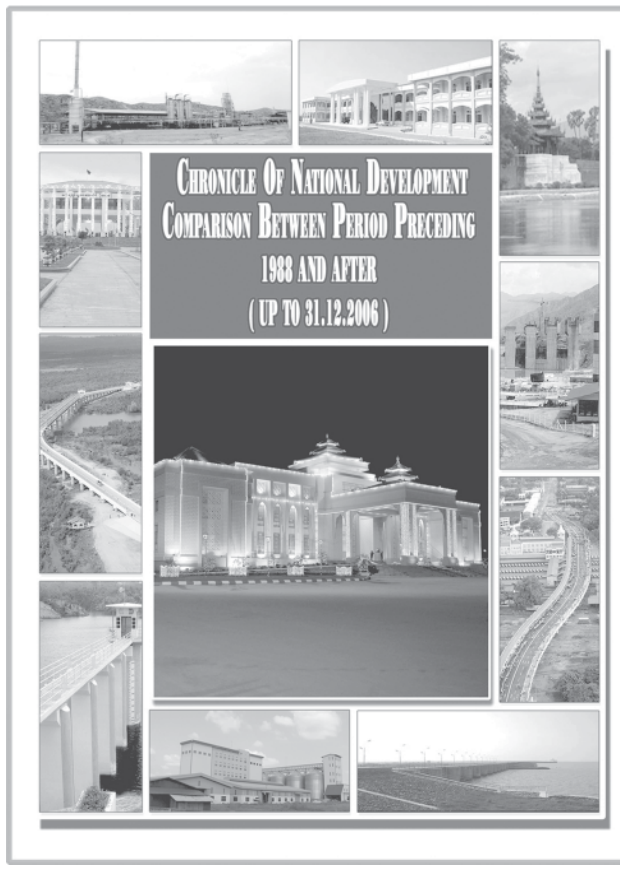

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Romania warns of heavy rain

BUCHAREST, 12 July—Eight counties in Romania received orange code warnings of heavy rain on Tuesday from the National Weather Forecast Administration.

From Wednesday evening through Thursday morning, rainfall in the central and eastern counties of Prahova, Buzau, Vrancea, Bacau, Neamt, Suceava, Harghita and Covasna are expected to exceed 50-60 liters per square metre, according to predictions by the administration.

MNA/Xinhua

Gunmen kill 11 by blowing up house in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 12 July—Gunmen killed at least 11 people when they locked them inside a house west of Baghdad on Wednesday then blew it up, the US military said.

Major Jeff Pool, a spokesman for US Marines based in Iraq's western Anbar Province, said the attack in the town of Garma may have been a "vendetta" against the owner who is involved with the provincial security forces.

He said 11 civilians had been killed, although Iraqi police said the death toll could be as high as 30. Police earlier said at least seven of those killed were members of one family.

"According to eyewitnesses, two vehicles drove to a house in the village, locked the occupants inside and demolished the house with explosives," Pool said.

It was unclear if any people had been forced inside the house before the explosives were laid.

MNA/Reuters

Peru bus crash kills 14, injures 25

LIMA, 12 July—At least 14 people were killed and 25 more injured when a long-distance coach fell into a ravine in the department of Cusco, the Peru National Police said Tuesday.

The accident took place on Monday night, when the vehicle hit a bridge in the Saya area, turned over and fell off a 100-metre cliff. It was travelling on the Ocongate-Cusco route in the southern Andes.

Rescue teams are still searching for victims and the injured were sent to hospital Tuesday morning. The names of the passengers and the causes of the accident have not been released yet.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Tories propose tax break for married couples

LONDON, 12 July—Married couples would get a tax break worth 80 pounds a month under Conservative proposals that seek to challenge Prime Minister Gordon Brown on family values, a senior Tory said on Tuesday.

Former Conservative leader Iain Duncan Smith said that rewarding married couples through the tax system was at the heart of the party's campaign to "fix Britain's broken society".

"What we are saying is that the system at the moment is jigged against married couples and we want to set that right," he told GMTV.

Duncan Smith, chairman of a Tory group probing social problems, will publish a report on Tuesday that will identify five "paths to poverty" — family breakdown, personal debt, addiction, failed education and unemployment.

His group's final report, Breakthrough Britain, will recommend nearly 200 ways to tackle social problems. Speaking ahead of the report's release, Conservative leader David Cameron said there needed to be a "big cultural change" in favour of marriage. "I think it is absolutely the big question, the big argument of our times," he said. "Kids do best if mum and dad are there to look after them." After 10 years out of power, the Tories have tried to draw electoral battle lines with Labour over social issues such as crime, drugs and debt.

Labour has repeatedly rejected Conservative claims that society is "broken", pointing to record economic growth, falling crime rates and improving school results.

Labour's Cabinet Office Minister Ed Miliband said it would be wrong to help only married couples rather than all parents.—*MNA/Reuters*

Libya court upholds death sentence on medics

TRIPOLI, 12 July—Libya's Supreme Court upheld on Wednesday death sentences on six foreign medics for infecting Libyan children with HIV, but the judgment could clear the way for the government to free them. Experts said the ruling completed the role of the judiciary in the highly-politicized trial of the five Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor, and Libya's executive can now seek their release subject to a deal with families of the children.

The case is expected to go to a government-controlled High Judicial Council which will have the power to commute the sentence or even pardon them. "The court rejects the appeals of the defendants and confirms the death penalty," judge Fathi Dhan told a five-minute hearing. The six medics were not in court to hear the ruling.

European Union leaders expressed regret at the court ruling but said they were still confident a solution could be found.

"I firmly hope that clemency will be granted to the medical staff," EU External Relations Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner said.

The case has blocked Moammar Kadaffi's efforts to deepen links to the West after shaking off decades of isolation in 2003 when Libya scrapped its programme of prohibited weapons.

The six medics were sentenced to death in December after being convicted of infecting 426 Libyan children with the deadly virus while they worked at the children's hospital in the city of Benghazi in the 1990s.

MNA/Reuters

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ခဲ့

Little-known virus causes outbreak in Pacific isles

HONG KONG, 12 July — An epidemic caused by a little-known virus has broken out on a group of islands in the western Pacific Ocean, as warmer weather and heavy rain fuel the spread of mosquito-borne diseases in many parts of the world.

The outbreak of Zika, carried by mosquitoes, has made 60 people ill in the Yap islands in Micronesia since April and experts are trying to confirm a further 65 probable cases.

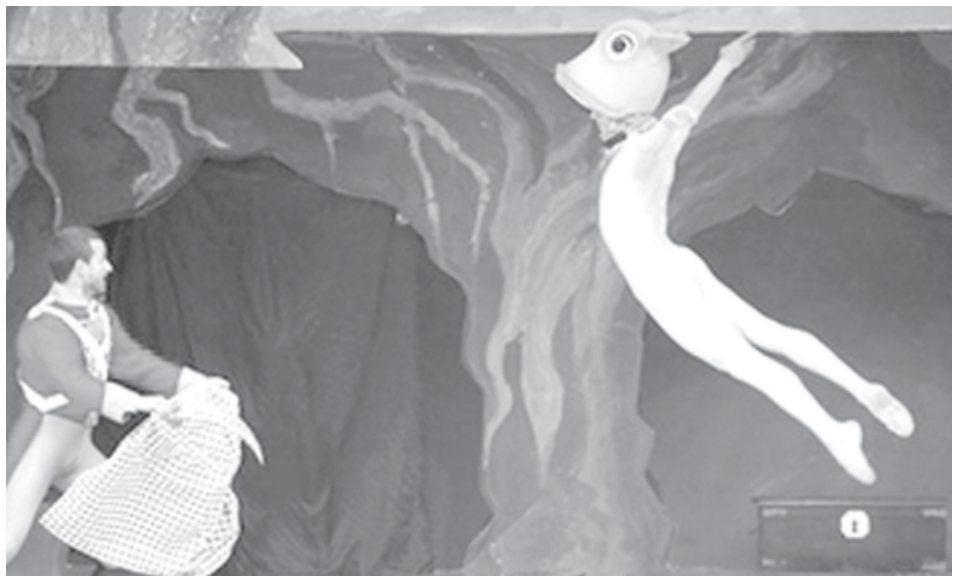
"It's spread by mosquitoes and when the virus got carried to different individuals in our community. Nobody had the right antibodies to fight the virus, so a larger number of our community got ill from it," media director Thane Hancock of a regional health network, Yap Epinet, said in an interview.

The epidemic comes as dengue, which is also mosquitoborne, is making an aggressive comeback in Southeast Asia, infecting tens of thousands this year. Like dengue, zika belongs to a class known as flaviviruses.

Although zika has similar symptoms as dengue, such as fever, pain in the joints, headache, fatigue, diarrhoea, conjunctivitis and a rash, it is milder.

There have been no deaths so far, and no one has been admitted to hospital."Our healthcare system is doing fine. We haven't been overloaded by heaps of patients coming in. We have been fortunate in that way," said Hancock, adding that measures, such as removing breeding sites, had been implemented to curb the spread.

MNA/Reuters



Actors dance in the final rehearsal of a ballet based on one of Hans Christian Andersen's classics, 'The Tinder Box,' on 12 July, 2007. Denmark's Queen Margrethe designed the costumes and scenery for the 30-minute ballet, which opens on Saturday at Tivoli's Chinese-inspired pantomime theater in Copenhagen.—INTERNET

From Russia to Mars without leaving Moscow

BEIJING, 12 July — From Russia to Mars and back without leaving Moscow. That's what Russian scientists have in mind after creating a section of a mock spacecraft that will simulate a 520-day roundtrip mission, an official at the Moscow institute leading the project said on Wednesday.

The barrel-shaped metal structure will serve as living quarters for six crew members picked from thousands of applicants around the world. The simulated space flight will begin late 2008, and is meant to set the stage for a trip to Mars by testing the health, performance and crew interaction under the trying conditions of such a journey.

"In order to later help the guys who really do go to Mars, we must model everything on Earth," said Mark Belakovsky, chief manager of the Mars500 project at the Institute of Biomedical Problems, part of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

The living quarters are larger than a railroad car and will be part of a windowless warren of five linked modules being built at the institute off a busy street near central Moscow.

The institute and the European Space Agency, or ESA — a "strategic partner" in the project — are separately considering applications for the mock voyage as well as two shorter, preliminary experiments — also with crews of six. The ESA last month announced it was looking for candidates. Once the main study begins, the crew members will remain aboard for the duration barring emergencies, Belakovsky said. "They will have taken off, and that's it."

Xinhua

The world's tallest man, 56-year-old Bao Xishun, embarks on a trip to receive his bride during his traditional wedding ceremony on 12 July, 2007, in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. — INTERNET

Moderate earthquake jolts N-E Iran

TEHERAN, 12 July— A moderate earthquake mesuing 5.1 on the Richte Scale jolted Iran's northwestern province of Ardebil Wednesday morning, but no casualties ere reported the official *IRNA* news agency said.

The quake was registed at 10:21 am (0651GMT) , head of the seismological base of teh Geophysics Institute of Teheran University Mehdi Rezapour told *IRNA*.

The epicentre of the quake was near Namin City in an area measuing 48.51 degrees in Logitude and 38.58 degrees in Latitude, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Endangered ghost orchid found in Florida sanctuary

BEIJING, 12 July — Ghosts high up in a old cypress tree in a southwest Florida nature preserve are not easy to spot; but luck, a pair of binoculars and good lighting helps.

Two visitors looking for owl Saturday at Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary in Naples discovered an endangered ghost orchid in a tree about 45 feet off the ground.

The orchid, featured in the nonfiction book "The Orchid Thief" and the fictional movie spinoff "Adaptation," is about 150 feet from the sanctuary's boardwalk and can be seen only with binoculars and good lighting.

The orchid, which blooms for about two weeks, has nine flowers, triple the usual number.

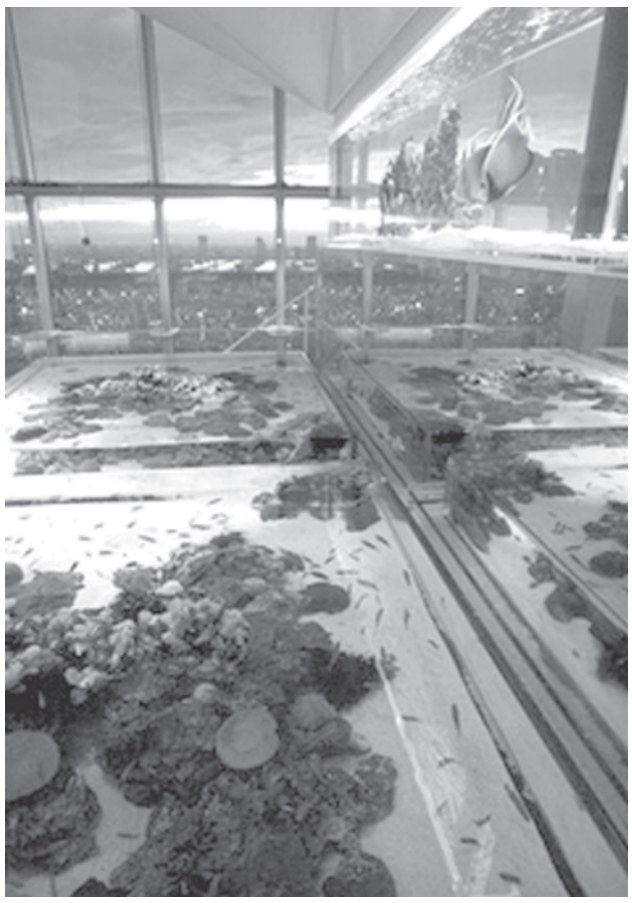
It is not clear how long this ghost orchid has been blooming. Naples photographer Ralph Arwood spent hours waiting to get a shot of the rare blooms.

"They're very rare, and this one is unusual because it has so many flowers," Arwood said. "They're pretty impressive flowers, too, as big as your hand. It's nice to have it at Corkscrew. If it's here, it's safe."

Park Manager Ed Carlson said the orchid could have been in the tree for decades.

It is the first ghost orchid discovered near the sanctuary boardwalk in 12 years.

"It's got a big, old root mass on it," he said. "We've just never seen it before. —*Xinhua*



Tropical fish swim in the newly installed Sky Aquarium water tanks during a press preview atop 250-metre (820 feet)-tall Roppongi Hills, one of Tokyo's landmark tower buildings, on 11 July, 2007. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Wenger convinced Fabregas to spurn Real

MADRID, 13 July — Arsene Wenger convinced Spain midfielder Cesc Fabregas to turn down another approach from Real Madrid to stay and help Arsenal, the player's agent said on Thursday.

"Wenger met with him yesterday and convinced him to stay. It's like a father and son relationship," Joseba Diaz told Spanish television station Antena 3.

"Wenger said with Thierry Henry gone (to Barcelona) they were going to need his services more than ever to help see them through and Cesc is never going to let down the person who showed confidence in him."

Real Madrid have made no secret of their interest in the 20-year-old playmaker after they were warned off AC Milan's Brazilian international Kaka.

"We would like to thank Real for the interest they have shown. President Ramon Calderon and sports director Predrag Mijatovic have been very good to us and it is the second time Real have shown an interest in the player," he added. — *MNA/Reuters*

Brazil refuse to see Argentina as favourites

MARACAIBO (Venezuela,) 13 July — Brazil's players have rejected the idea that Argentina will start as favourites in Sunday's Copa America final.

Argentina have brought a full strength-team and have cruised to the final, scoring 16 goals on their way to winning all five games.

Brazil, on the other hand, kicked off with a 2-0 defeat against Mexico and needed a penalty shootout to beat Uruguay in their semifinal. The defending champions are also without Kaka and Ronaldinho, who asked to be rested from the tournament.

"We can't talk about favourites before the game has even started," said midfielder Elano. "These are two great teams. Anything can happen on the day."

Anderson said: "They have excellent players with excellent quality but so do Brazil."

MNA/Reuters

Masters champion Zach Johnson, seen here in action in June 2007, heads the field at the 4.1 million-dollar John Deere Classic, which starts here on Saturday. — INTERNET

Qatar burst Vietnam's bubble with late strike

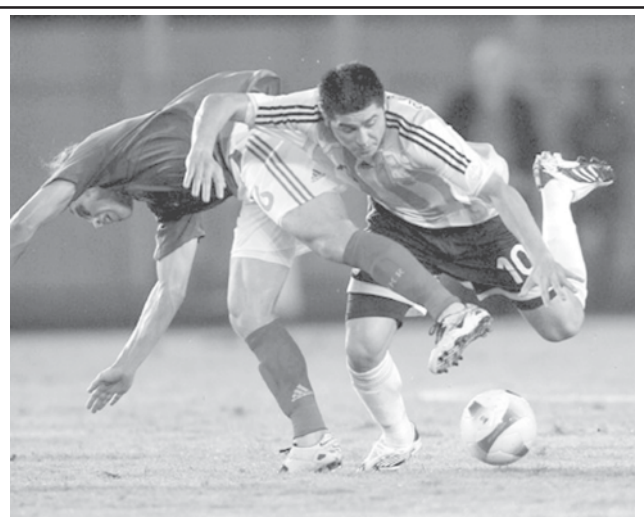
HANOI, 13 July — Striker Sebastian Quintana burst Vietnam's bubble with a 79th-minute equalizer that enabled Qatar to salvage a 1-1 draw with the Asian Cup co-hosts on Thursday.

Vietnam were within sight of becoming the first team to reach the quarterfinals after Phan Thanh Binh's fortuitous strike after 32 minutes.

Qatar goalkeeper Mohamed Saqr's attempt to smother Binh's speculative long-range strike went horribly wrong as he let the ball squirm under his body and trickle across the line. But Uruguay-born Quintana, who scored in Qatar's 1-1 draw with Japan in their opening game, headed home from close range with just over 10 minutes left to throw Group B wide open.

Vietnam, who beat United Arab Emirates 2-0 at the weekend, were almost undone completely when Qatar substitute Ali Hassan hit the crossbar five minutes later.— *MNA/Reuters*

Vietnam's goalkeeper Duong Hong Son (C) and Pham Hung Dung clash with Qatar's Sebastian Soria (R) during their 2007 AFC Asian Cup Group B soccer match at the My Dinh stadium in Hanoi on 12 July, 2007.—INTERNET



Argentina's Juan Roman Riquelme (R) vies with Mexico's Aleardo Torrado during their semifinal match at the Copa America 2007 in Puerto Ordaz, Venezuela, on 11 July, 2007. Argentina won 3-0. — XINHUA

Mourinho upbeat over Chelsea's pre-season work ethic

BEVERLY HILLS (California), 12 July — Coach Jose Mourinho believes FA Cup holders Chelsea are in much better shape preparing for next season than they were this time last year.

The London club are on their fourth consecutive pre-season tour to the United States, and Mourinho is delighted he has a squad close to full strength with a strong work ethic.

"Last year was a disaster because we started the season with half of the team," Mourinho told a news conference at the Beverly Hills Hotel on Wednesday after introducing new signing, Israel defender Tal Ben Haim.

"And after that, every two to three days, some players arrived depending on their (national) team's performance at the World Cup.

MNA/Reuters

Pipat double sends Thailand top of Group A

BANGKOK, 13 July — Striker Pipat Tongkanya scored twice in eight minutes to lift hosts Thailand to a convincing 2-0 win over Oman and top spot in Asian Cup Group A on Thursday.

Pipat combined with fellow substitute Teerathep Winothai in the 70th and 78th minutes to give the Thais a well-earned victory.

The goals came after 69 minutes of relentless Thai attacking, with the Omanis, who drew 1-1 with tournament favourites Australia on Sunday, rarely looking dangerous.

Thailand had the best of the early action and came close on 19 minutes when Sutee Suksomkit's pass flashed across the face of the goal and fell short of the onrushing Kiatisak Senamuang.

They threatened again six minutes later when playmaker Datsakorn Thonglao's lofted pass found Therdsak Chaiman, who headed wide.

Therdsak found himself in space again close to halftime, latching on to Nattaporn Phanrit's pass down the right and blasting the ball into the side netting from a tight angle.

Oman had numerous bookings and few chances but could have gone ahead near the interval when Fawzi Bashir rounded Nattaporn before shooting well wide.

Oman's Fawzi Basheer(L) fights for ball with Thailand's Kiatprawut Saiwaeo during group A match at the Asian Cup 2007 football tournament at the Ratchamangla Stadium in Bangkok. Thailand won 2-0.—INTERNET

The Thais wasted a golden opportunity to score right after halftime when Kiatisak squared the ball to the unmarked Tawan Sripan, who fired wide with men in space.

The crowd had their hearts in the mouths when Ahmad Halid's speculative free kick from near the halfway line went through to keeper Kosin Haithairrattanakool, who tipped the ball on to the crossbar.

Pipat and Teerathep made an instant impact after being sent on.

Within a minute Teerathep delivered a low cross from the right to the unmarked Pipat, who fired home from five metres.

Eight minutes later, the diminutive Teerathep headed Tawan's pass on to Pipat, who chested down and blasted the ball into the top corner.

MNA/Reuters

Mourinho says Malouda no replacement Robben

BEVERLY HILLS (California), 13 July — Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho has denied rumours that French international Florent Malouda was recruited to replace Dutch winger Arjen Robben.

Midfielder Malouda, signed from Lyon earlier this week, had been widely regarded in the media as a replacement for Robben, who has been linked with a move to Real Madrid.

"I want to make it very, very clear that Florent is not here to replace anybody," Mourinho told a news conference at the Beverly Hills Hotel on Thursday after introducing his new signing.

"The objective is to have a very good player with a very good mentality who will very easily adapt, in my opinion, to English football. He is also a player with ambition.

MNA/Reuters

NATO soldier killed, 2 injured in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 13 July — One soldier of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) was killed and two others injured in an operation in southern Afghanistan on Thursday, an ISAF statement said.

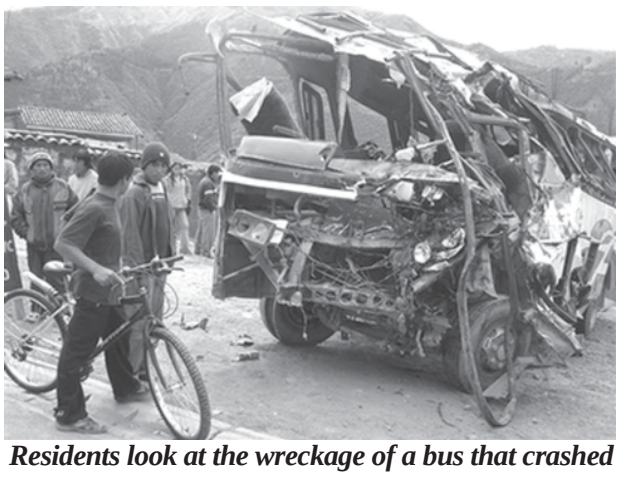
The brief statement did not tell which province the operation occurred and the casualties' nationalities.

ISAF also said Taleban militants used an Afghan boy in a bomb attack in the southern Helmand Province on 7 July, which killed the boy and two Afghan soldiers.

The militants paid the boy to push a cart into position, the statement said, adding the rebels detonated the bomb before the boy could get away as the target arrived earlier than expected.

About 37,000 ISAF soldiers are being deployed in Afghanistan to hunt down militants and keep security.

MNA/Xinhua



Residents look at the wreckage of a bus that crashed killing 14 people, including two Lithuanian tourists, in Peru's southern Andes, near Cuzco, on 10 July , 2007. — INTERNET

Two villagers shot dead in Thai south

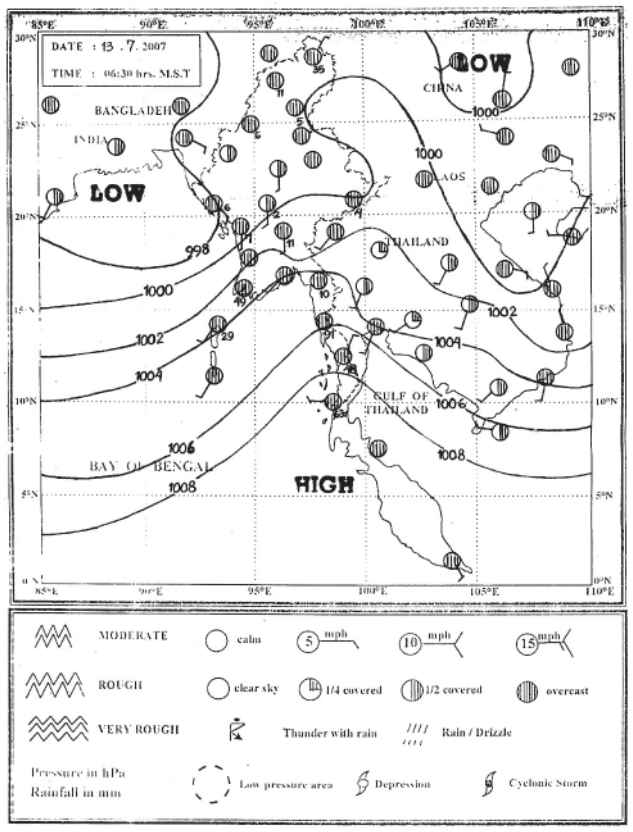
BANGKOK, 13 July — Two villagers were killed in a drive-by shooting in Thailand's southernmost province of Narathiwat Thursday morning.

Phin Hirunphun and his wife Boonthip Hirunphun were shot dead by a gunman on a motorcycle while they were travelling to the market in Rangae District, according to the *Thai News Agency*.

Police believed that the shooting is related to the southern unrest.

Narathiwat and its neighbouring provinces of Yala and Pattani have been hit by insurgents on an almost daily basis and nearly 2,300 persons have died in over three years of violence. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 13 July, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing Division, rain have been isolated in Chin and Kayah States, upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan and Kayin States, Mandalay and Yangon Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin State and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfall in Taninthayi Division and isolated heavyfall in Mon State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Longlon (5.91) inches, Ye (4.84) inches, Dawei (3.98) inches, Kawthong (2.76) inches, Gwa (2.44) inches and Thandwe (2.28) inches.

Maximum temperature on 12-7-2007 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 13-7-2007 was 75°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 13-7-2007 was 88%. Total sunshine hours on 12-7-2007 was (3.0) hours approx.

Rainfall on 13-7-2007 was (0.16) inch at Mingaladon, (0.09) inch at Kaba-Aye, (0.60) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (70.51) inches at Mingaladon, (74.76) inches at Kaba-Aye and (72.72) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (06:30) hours MST on 12-7-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 14-7-2007: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Chin and Shan States, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin and Kayin States and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine and Mon States and Taninthayi Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas will be experienced at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40-45) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong Monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 14-7-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 14-7-2007: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 14-7-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Ahmed Esoaq Dawoodjee
(86 yrs)

Son of late Mr Esoaq Ismail Dawoodjee and Rasult Bi Bi, Residence of No (82), Bo Aung Kyaw Street, Mr Ahmed Esoaq Dawoodjee passed away at 7:30 pm on 13th July 2007. Janaza prayer at Surti Sunni Masjadid, on Shwe Bontha Street at 1:00 pm.

Bereaved family

TV Myanmar

Saturday, 14 July
View on today

7:00 am
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am
5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:05 am
6. ဂမုန်းရေလှော်တမံ

8:15 am
7. Musical programme

8:30 am
8. International news

8:45 am
9. Grammar made easy

11:00 am
1. Martial song

11:15 am
2. Musical programme

11:30 am
3. News

11:40 am
4. Games for children

12:05 pm
5. Round up of the week's TV local news

12:25 pm
6. "တို့တစ်ရွာလုံးချမ်းသာပြီ" (ဆန်းထွဋ်၊ သူသူဟံသာ၊ အကယ်ဒမီကော်ဦး၊ မိုးဒီ၊ ဌေတောင်၊ တက္ကသိုလ်ဝပ်မ်းပုံ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–တင်အောင်ရွှေ–သုတေသီ)

1:00 pm
7. ကျောက်စိမ်း၊ ကျောက်မျက်၊ ပုလဲအထူးရောင်းချပွဲ (၂၀၀၇ ခုနှစ်၊ ရူလိုင်လ)

1:15 pm
8. Dance of national races

1:30 pm
9. သက်တံ့ရောင်သံစဉ်

1:45 pm
10. သာခုခေါ်ဆိုဖွယ်ရာအလင်းအလှူတော်မင်္ဂလာ

2:15 pm
11. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:30 pm
12. ဘော်ဘင်ရေလှော်တမံ

2:45 pm
13. 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 –တတိယနှစ် (စီးပွားရေးပညာအထူးပြု) (စီးပွားရေး)

5:00 pm
5. မြို့တော်အေးမင်းအောင် ဆိုင်းအဖွဲ့ဖျော်ဖြေခန်း (အပိုင်း–၁)

5:20 pm
6. Musical programme

5:30 pm
7. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်

6:00 pm
8. Evening news

6:30 pm
9. Weather report

6:35 pm
10. အလှရှာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်

6:55 pm
11. ဘိုင်းဒါးရေလွှဲဆည်

7:00 pm
12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သမားတော်" (အပိုင်း–၄၂)

8:00 pm
13. News
14. International news
15. Weather report
16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မေတ္တာနှောင်ကြိုး" (အပိုင်း–၅)
17. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာ မေတ္တာဘာဝနာပွားများခြင်း တရားတော်
18. The next day's programme

Radio Myanmar

Saturday, 14 July
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news
8:35 am Music:
-(Pop) (Nysne)
8:40 am Perspectives
8:45 am Music:
-Ravina (Ace of Base)
8:50 am National news
9:00 am Music:
-It's a Miracle (Culture Club)
9:05 am International news
9:10 am Music:
-Sweet love (Lionel Richie & The Commodues)
1:30 pm News / Slogan
1:40pm Music at your request Music
-If you believe (Steps)
-Too much (Spice Girls)
9:00pm ASEAN news Exchange from ASEAN member countries
9:20pm Myanma Culture … Dr Khin Maung Nyunt Chinlon (Cane-ball)
9:30pm Souvenirs
-Carmelito (Linda Ronstado)
-Walk right back (The Everly Brothers)
9:45 pm News /Slogan
10:00 pm PEL

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The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects thriving physic nut, monsoon sesame plantations in Pyay District, Paukkhaung Township

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Bago Division PDC Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Vice-Chairman Col Sein Myint and Col Maung Maung Aye of Inma Station, inspected thriving physic nut plantations of departments concerned on 100 acres of land near Pyay Airport yesterday morning.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than views thriving sesame plantation.—MNA

At 543 acres of monsoon sesame plantation in Laygyi Village of Paukkhaung Township, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on cultivation of monsoon, pea, monsoon sesame and groundnut in the township and arrangements for growing cold season groundnut, sesame, sunflower and summer sesame presented by Chairman of Township PDC U Win Hlaing. The commander gave a supplementary report.

(See page 7)

The plan has set to put 550,000 acres of land under edible oil crops in 2007-08 for ensuring edible oil sufficiency in Bago Division. Hence, Pyay District is to contribute to cultivation of edible oil crops of the division to meet the target.

Labour, Rail Transportation secure wins Information and Energy 2-2 draw

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July — Ministry of Labour beat Ministry of Electric Power No 2 with a 7-0 result in the morning match and Ministry of Rail Transportation routed Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation 3-0 in the afternoon match in the First Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament 2007 at Paunglaung Sports Ground in Pyinmana today.

At Lewe Township Sports Ground, Ministry of Information tied 2-2 with Ministry of Energy in the afternoon match.

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Deputy Minister for Labour Maj-Gen Aung Kyi, Deputy Ministers for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin and U Pe Than, departmental heads, service personnel and local people enjoyed the football matches at two sports grounds.

(See page 7)

NC delegates from Taninthayi Div arrive

YANGON, 13 July — The National Convention delegates from Taninthayi Division arrived here by air this afternoon to attend the National Convention.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Invitation and Accommodation Subcommittee Col Htein Lin and officials. They were accommodated at Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.

MNA

NC delegates from Taninthayi Division being welcomed by officials at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

Merchants buy 4,090 jade lots in eight days

YANGON, 13 July— Fifty-four jade lots were sold through competitive bidding system at the ongoing Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales for 2007 at the Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township yesterday.

Today, the eighth day, local and foreign merchants purchased 35 lots of jade through competitive bidding system from 8 am until 4 pm.

The sales continued till the evening. From 6 July to date, 4,090 lots of jade have been sold through tender and competitive bidding system.

Patron of the Central Committee for Organizing Myanma Gems Emporium Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Secretary of the Central Committee Managing Director of Myanma Gems Enterprise U Thein Swe and members inspected the sales of jade lots today.

Altogether 2424 merchants from 2305 companies of 14 foreign countries and 1650 from 527 local companies are attending the sales.

MNA