Established 1914

The New Light of Myanmar

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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Honorary Patron of MWAF Daw Kyaing Kyaing presents prizes to outstanding women on Myanmar Women's Day

MWAF praises entire national people for their approval of the constitution in national referendum

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July — Honorary Patron of the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, attended the ceremony to mark the Myanmar Women's Day, organized by the MWAF, at the City Hall, here, at 9 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Honorary Patron of MWAF Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye; member of the Panel of Patrons of MWAF Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of member of SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann; and members of the Panel of Patrons President of MWAF Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Prime Minister General Thein Sein; Vice-Presidents and CEC members, patrons of State and Division Women's Affairs Organizations and representatives, State service personnel, intellectuals and intelligentsia, members of the supporting committees, departmental heads, Ambassadors, Charges d'Affaires ai of foreign missions and their wives, resident representatives of UN agencies, representatives of social organizations, well-wishers, prize winners, their parents and guests.

Daw Khin Moe Oo and Daw Lein Mong Pan of Myanma Radio and Television acted as MCs.

In her speech, President of MWAF Daw Khin Khin Win said that Myanmar women possess significant cultural traditions in safeguarding the lineage and religion. The Myanmar women have been serving not only the family duties but also the nation-building tasks hand in hand with their male counterparts throughout Myanmar history. Many Myanmar women who were put on record in national, religious, social, administration, judiciary, executive,

(See page 8)

Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Senior General Than Shwe, and guests browse documentary photos displayed at City Hall to mark Myanmar Women's Day for 2008 in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

All remaining schools already reopened in Ayeyawady Div

Text books distributed to students

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July—All remaining schools damaged by storm in Ayeyawady Division have already been reopened since 25 June.

These schools have been upgraded based on the places and conditions. There remains no self-reliant affiliated primary schools in Ayeyawady Division. They were upgraded as Basic Education Primary Schools under the sponsorship of the State.

As soon as the schools were reopened, the text books were distributed to the students.—*MNA*

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 4 July, 2008

Make all-out efforts to step up national development undertakings

The government is now building social and economic infrastructures for development of border areas and national races, while implementing the plans for development of human resources it has laid down.

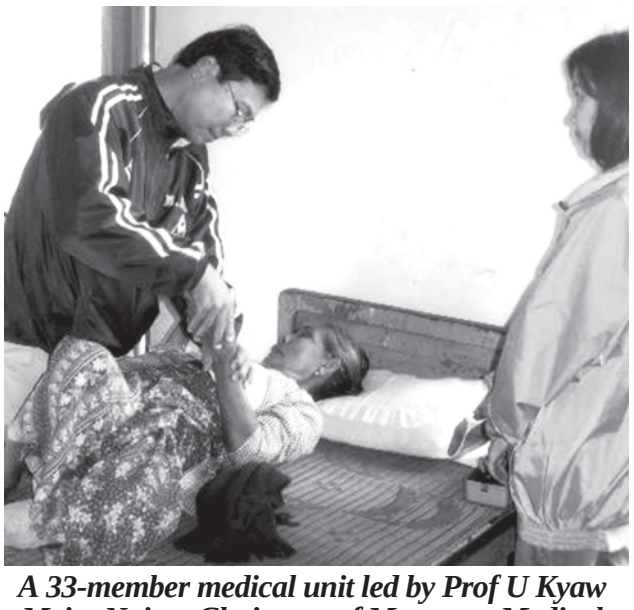
More and more school buildings are being built as part of the course of action for improving the efficiency of national races. Now, over 200,000 youths of national races are pursuing education. In addition, the youth of national races have enjoyed better opportunities to pursue education on account of the fact that technical training schools and vocational training schools for women have been opened.

In the meantime, the youth of border areas are being trained and nurtured to produce intellectuals and intelligentsia in the drive for development of human resources there. In the process, Nationality Youths Resource Development Degree Colleges (Yangon) and (Mandalay), which have come into existence since 2000, are educating youths of national races. The Nationality Youths Resource Development Degree College (Mandalay) held its graduation of training course No. 7 on 27 June 2008, thus amounting to an increase in the educated population of the nation.

Now, plans are well under way to raise the economic, education, health and social standards of local people in border areas. So, the youths, who have completed the courses, have to apply the knowledge and experiences they have gained from the courses to help improve the social and economic conditions of local residents.

Projects for development of border areas and national races have been implemented with added momentum since 1989. So far, funds of more than 100,000 million kyats have been spent on the projects.

At a time when the government is taking all possible measures to expand the horizons of the youth of national races, the students are duty-bound to make all-out efforts in doing their bit to expedite the national development tasks.



A 33-member medical unit led by Prof U Kyaw Myint Naing, Chairman of Myanmar Medical Association (Central), gave medical treatment to the storm victims in Kungyangon Township in Yangon Division and Dedaye Township in Ayeyawady Division on 22 June. The unit donated 50 Hourchold packages, 150 Hygienic kids and variety of relief supplies to the victims.—H

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**

43rd ASEAN Culture and Information Committee Plenary Meeting continues

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July— The second day program of the 43rd ASEAN Culture and Information Committee Plenary Meeting (COCI) continued at Shwe Nan Daw Hotel, here, yesterday.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of National Committee for Myanmar ASEAN Culture and Information Director-General U San Win of Archeology, National Museum and Libraries Department and high-ranking officials, leaders and delegates from ASEAN countries— Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam and officials of ASEAN Secretariat and ASEAN foundation.

Director-General U San Win presided over the meeting together with member of panel of chairman delegation leader of the Philippines Angelica C Escalona.First, Director-General U San Win explained about the plans to be discussed to those present and participants of the meeting approved the plans.

Next, the meeting discussed the resolutions passed at the meetings and made review on budget of the 2008-2009 and small and medium culture production services and matters on expenditures. Afterwards, cooperative measures of ASEAN dialogue partners and ASEAN countries and general matters such as Status of ASEAN COCI Websites, the Best of ASEAN Performing Arts Series and ASEAN Quest-ASEAN Foundation were discussed.

The meeting decided to hold the 44th COCI in the Philippines during July next year and successfully ended with the remarks by the meeting chairman.

MNA

The 43rd ASEAN Culture and Information Committee Plenary Meeting (COCI) in progress in Nay Pyi Taw.— MNA

KMD Group of Companies introduces NEC PC Note Book Computer

YANGON, 3 July—Press conference on launching of Japan's No1 best selling NEC PC Note Book Computers to Myanmar's market as authorized distributor by KMD was held at Café Blue on Mahabandoola Park Street here this afternoon. It was attended by Chairman of KMD Group of Companies and CEO U Thaung Tin, executives and journalists.

Chairman of KMD Group of Companies and CEO U Thaung Tin and KMD Sales and Service Center Manager U Zaw Hlaing Bwar explained matters related to distribution of NEC PC Note Book Computers to Myanmar market.

KMD have made arrangements to exhibit NEC PC Note Book Computers show at Mingalar Hall of Strand Hotel on Strand Road here on Saturday from 12 am to 5 pm. And arrangements have been made to sell Note book at a reduced price to K 50,000 as well as giving special gifts. Customers may contact KMD Sales and Service Center No 550/552, Corner of Merchant street and 36th street, Kyauktada Township, Ph-(245180, 204071, 384109,503511, 503522)

MNA

More relief aids arrive

YANGON, 3 July — Relief supplies provided by Thai-based World Food Programme arrived at Yangon International Airport today.

The supplies weighed 54.94 tons.

MNA

Chairman of KMD Group of Companies and CEO U Thaung Tin making a speech. — MNA

Postelection violence in Mongolia leaves five dead

BEIJING, 3 July — The capital of Mongolia remained under a state of emergency Wednesday after five people were killed in postelection violence amid allegations of voter fraud.

The crisis erupted late Tuesday when several thousand protesters associated with the opposition Democratic Party clashed with police in Ulan Bator and set fire to the headquarters of the ruling Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, according to news reports and witnesses.

Preliminary results from the weekend elections suggested the ruling party won 46 of the parliament's 76 seats and the opposition garnered 27, with three still undecided. The results have not been certified. Parliamentary elections have been held every four years since the country became a democracy in 1992.

Mongolia's justice minister said about 220 civilians and 108 service members were injured in the clashes. About 700 protesters were detained. Montsame, the national news agency, reported five deaths from Tuesday's violence.—*Internet*

Residents walk past burnt out vehicles on a street in Ulan Bator, the capital of Mongolia, on 2 July, 2008. Mongolian police cordoned off part of the capital's downtown Wednesday in a four-day emergency declared after protesters rioted over allegations of fraud in weekend elections. At least four people were killed in the violence, state TV said.— INTERNET

A firefighting air tanker drops fire retardant south of Isabella Lake, California. California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on 2 July ordered the evacuation of about 200 homes in the fire-threatened coastal resort of Big Sur as 1,400 wildfires raged out of control across parts of the state.— INTERNET

Big Sur evacuated, Calif wildfires surge

BIG SUR (Calif), 3 July — Authorities ordered the remaining residents of this scenic coastal community to leave Wednesday because an out-of-control wildfire, one of hundreds in California, had jumped a fire line and was threatening more homes.

Flames raged in the hills above and ash fell from orange skies as evacuees in packed cars streamed north along Highway 1, the only major road out of Big Sur. Sheriff's deputies told residents they needed to leave the area by late afternoon.

The Big Sur blaze is one of more than 1,100 wildfires, mostly ignited by lightning, that have scorched 680 square miles and destroyed 60 homes and buildings across northern California since June 20, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

New mandatory evacuation notices were issued Wednesday for a 10-mile-stretch along Highway 1. Authorities have closed a total of 25 miles of the scenic roadway, blocking access to popular resorts, restaurants, shops and art galleries that attract tourists from around the world.

The blaze had destroyed 16 homes and charred about 81 square miles of forest since it was started by lightning on 21 June in the Los Padres National Forest. It was only about 3 percent contained.

Internet

Explosion kills five Afghan soldiers

KABUL (Afghanistan), 3 July — A police chief says a roadside blast has killed five Afghan soldiers in central Afghanistan.

Provincial police Chief Mustapha Khan says the blast hit an Afghan army convoy late Wednesday in Logar province. Gunfire brought down a US UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter in the same province on Wednesday. No US personnel were hurt.

In the northwest, Badghis provincial police Chief Gen. Mohammad Ayub Naizyar says Afghan and international troops killed 25 Taliban after militants ambushed an Afghan patrol in Muqur district.

Naizyar says 12 bodies of militants were left on the field and many others were wounded during the fight.There was no report of casualties among Afghan or international forces. —*Internet*

Arms dump explosions rock Bulgarian capital

Sofia, 3 July—A series of powerful explosions rocked an arms disposal depot storing 1,500 tonnes of obsolete munitions outside Sofia on Thursday, shaking apartment blocks and panicking thousands, authorities and eyewitnesses said.

The explosions followed a fire at the complex near the village of Chelopechene on the eastern edge of the Bulgarian capital, interior ministry officials said.

They continued for some hours afterwards. But Defence Minister Nikolai Tsonev later said after an emergency cabinet meeting that the explosions were slackening.

Guards at the complex, which is attached to a military base that is being closed down, were evacuated. No casualties or injuries had been reported so far, Interior Minister Michail Mikov told parliament.

Internet

An explosion rocks an arms disposal depot near the village of Chelopechene, on the eastern outskirts of the capital Sofia 3 July, 2008.
INTERNET

At 60, Britain's health service needs reality check

LONDON (Reuters), 3 July—Britain's National Health Service is famous for being free at the point of need, but analysts say that if the 60-year-old NHS is to serve an ageing and expanding population, the reality of its cost must be accepted.

The anniversary of the NHS, launched on July 5, 1948 by then Labor Health Minister Aneurin Bevan as a cradle-to-grave system, has prompted an avalanche of reviews and studies into its — and the nation's — future health.

Views vary on how to provide the best service for the NHS's 60 million users, but analysts agree on one point: Britain's public and its politicians must accept that the cost of the world's largest publicly funded health service is going up, and acknowledge it is a luxury, albeit one this society can afford.

Internet

Pakistan's Sharif rebuffs US comment

ISLAMABAD (Pakistan), 3 July—Ex-premier Nawaz Sharif has rebuffed a senior US official for saying that Pakistan should focus on food prices and militancy rather than the fate of President Pervez Musharraf.

Sharif told reporters Thursday that what Pakistan does with its "unconstitutional president" is an internal affair and it does not need "external consultation" on the matter.

US Assistant Secretary of State Richard Boucher said Wednesday during a visit to Pakistan that its pressing problems were soaring food prices, electricity shortages and Islamic militancy.

Musharraf toppled Sharif as prime minister in a 1999 coup. Sharif's party is in Pakistan's new coalition government and is demanding the US-backed president's ouster.—*Internet*

File photo shows a chain and defaced Ford logos cross the access road to the auto giant's plant in Blanquefort, near Bordeaux, as employees picketed in a bid to keep the sites open. Stiff inflation and stagnating growth are shifting the spotlight onto the European Central Bank as investors look beyond a widely expected interest rate hike for clues as to what might lie ahead.—INTERNET

Onlookers gather at the site where a suicide bomber exploded a truck at a residential area outside Mosul.
INTERNET

Former Australian FM Downer quits politics

SYDNEY, 3 July—Australia's former foreign minister Alexander Downer, one of the most visible supporters of US President George W Bush's war in Iraq, announced his retirement from politics Thursday.

Downer, the international face of Australian diplomacy for a record period of nearly 12 years, served in prime minister John Howard's conservative government until it was ousted by the centre-left Labor Party last November.

The 56-year-old told reporters he would quit on 14 July after 24 years as Liberal Party member of parliament for Mayo in the South Australian capital of Adelaide because "it is time to move on."

Downer said he had held talks with the United Nations about becoming the UN's special envoy for Cyprus but that the role had not yet been confirmed. The UN had approached him over the position and he would be delighted to take it up but the secretary-general was yet to make a decision, he said.—*Internet*

Venezuela 1Q oil income rises 80 percent

CARACAS, (Venezuela), 3 July—Venezuela's state oil company said net income rose 80 percent in the first quarter as world oil prices soared.

Petroleos de Venezuela SA, or PDVSA, said late Tuesday that net income reached US$3.5 billion in the quarter ending 31 March up from US$1.9 billion in the same period last year. Export earnings rose 53 percent to US$30.7 billion, even as exports fell by 1 percent over the year-ago period, buoyed by soaring oil prices.

Venezuelan crude, which is heavier than benchmark crude traded worldwide, averaged US$88 per barrel for the quarter, up 81 percent from last year. On Wednesday, light, sweet crude for August delivery rose to a record $144.32 on the New York Mercantile Exchange after regular trading hours ended. PDVSA increased spending by 38 percent to US$24.3 billion, including overall operational costs that increased 67 percent to US$5 billion. Those costs were led by spending in the heavy-crude rich Orinoco Belt, where the government took a majority stake in four large oil projects last year, the company said.—*Internet*

Betancourt calls her rescue 'a miracle'

BOGOTA (Colombia), 3 July—Colombian spies tricked leftist rebels into handing over kidnapped presidential candidate Ingrid Betancourt and three US military contractors Wednesday in a daring helicopter rescue so successful that not a single shot was fired.

Betancourt, who was seized on the campaign trail six long years ago, appeared thin but surprisingly healthy as she strode down the stairs of a military plane and held her mother in a long embrace. The Americans Marc Gonsalves, Thomas Howes and Keith Stansell also appeared as they arrived in Texas, to undergo tests and reunite with their families at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio.—*Internet*

French-Colombian politician Ingrid Betancourt hugs her mother Yolanda Pulecio after her arrival at Catam military airport in Bogota on 2 July, 2008.—INTERNET

Blast kills four, wounds 11 in southern Philippines

MANILA, 3 July—At least four men were killed and 11 others wounded when a grenade exploded on Thursday at a bakery in the southern Philippines, a military spokesman said, blaming Maoist-led rebels for the attack.

Hours later, another group of communist New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas raided a town hall in a nearby province on the troubled southern island of Mindanao, wounding a police officer, and carted away three assault rifles and a handgun.—*Internet*

Members of Indonesian police bomb squad remove explosives seized from terrorist suspects following a raid in Palembang, Sumatra Island, Indonesia, on 2 July, 2008.—INTERNET

Nine terror suspects arrested in Indonesia

JAKARTA (Indonesia), 3 July— A Singaporean who met several times with Osama bin Laden was among nine terror suspects arrested Wednesday in western Indonesia, a local television station reported.

A cache of powerful bombs packed with bullets was also seized in the raid.

The men initially planned to attack Western tourists on Sumatra Island, but changed their minds after realizing too many Indonesian lives could be lost, TVOne quoted anti-terror police as saying. They reportedly were considering a bombing in the capital, Jakarta, instead.

Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim nation, has been hit in recent years by a string of suicide bombings that have killed more than 240 people. The regional terror group Jemaah Islamiyah has been blamed in those attacks.

The last bombing occurred on Bali in late 2005 and earlier this year the United States lifted a travel warning imposed in 2000, citing improvements in security.

Internet

UNSG urges progress towards achieving N-free world

UNITED NATIONS, 3 July — A robust Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) is essential to take steps towards checking nuclear proliferation and achieving disarmament, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said Tuesday, marking the 40th anniversary of the UN-backed pact's opening for signature.

"The treaty has suffered serious setbacks and faces multiple challenges to its credibility, though it has also seen steady progress and significant measured success," Ban said in a statement.

He highlighted the efforts of some nuclear-weapon states towards decreasing their arsenals and speeding up dismantlement.

In spite of international backing for the objectives of nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation, the Secretary-General pointed out that tens of thousands of nuclear weapons still remain.

"Nuclear proliferation —whether by states or non-state actors—threatens everyone, and therefore requires global cooperation in addressing non-compliance, in resolving concerns over nuclear programmes, and in ensuring the most reliable controls over nuclear materials," the statement said. —*Xinhua*

Taxi drivers queue at a parking lot while waiting for passengers at the new Beijing Capital International Airport on 2 July, 2008. Beijing started a month-long inspection of its 66,000 taxis aimed at polishing its image as the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games approaches, state media reported INTERNET

All items from Xinhua News Agency

French diplomat appointed as new UN peacekeeping chief

UNITED NATIONS, 3 July — French diplomat Alain Le Roy has been appointed as the new head of UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), UN spokesperson Michele Montas said on Monday.

Le Roy will succeed Jean-Marie Guehenno, who also hails from France and has held the post since October 2000. In a statement announcing the appointment, UN chief Ban Ki-moon thanked Guehenno for his "dedicated service" to the DPKO and "important contribution to the achievement of its goals".

The Secretary-General "recalled the strong sense of commitment and professionalism shown consistently by Mr Guehenno to the fulfillment of his responsibilities," Montas said.

As the new undersecretary-general for peacekeeping operations, Le Roy "brings to the job an extensive experience in public administration, management and international affairs, both at the political level and in the field," Montas said. —*Xinhua*

Little progress achieved in Palestinian-Israeli negotiation

SHARM EL-SHEIKH (Egypt), 3 July — Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas on Monday said here that the ongoing peace negotiation between the Palestinians and the Israelis had achieved little progress.

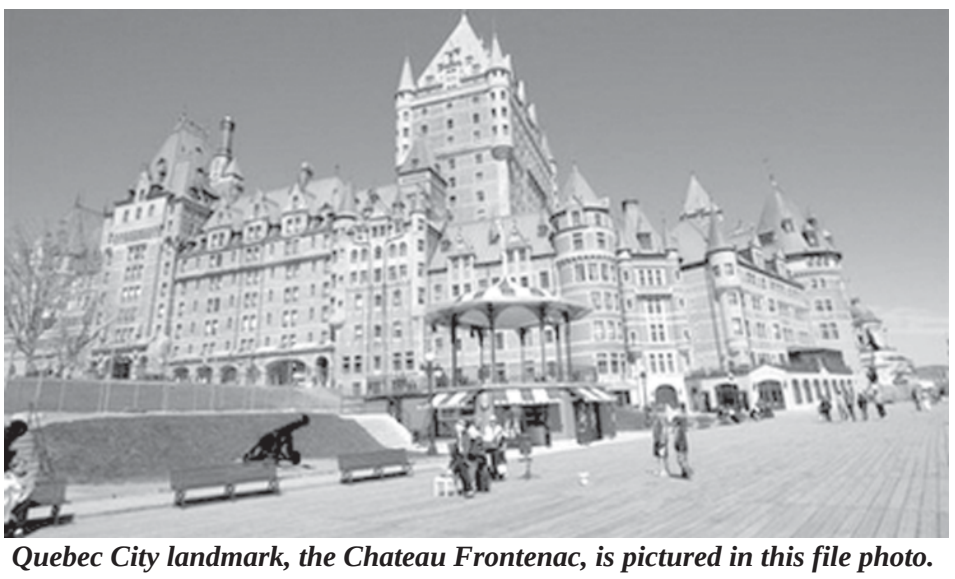
Abbas made the remarks in his address to the AU Summit in the Egyptian Red Sea resort, noting that Israel continues its hostile practice against the Palestinians, including the building of settlements and the continuing siege against the Palestinians.

He expressed his appreciation of the AU's support to the Palestinians in its struggle for liberation, as well as Egypt's efforts to broker the Gaza truce.

Recalling the Palestinians' strong solidarity with the AU as an observer since the era of late Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian president expected to boost cooperation between the two sides.

Under the theme "Meeting the Millennium Development Goals on Water and Sanitation", the two-day 11th AU Summit is attended by heads of State and Government or representatives of 53 AU members, as well as EU, Asian and Latin American delegates as observers.

Xinhua



***Quebec City landmark, the Chateau Frontenac, is pictured in this file photo. UNESCO's World Heritage Committee began deliberations on 2 July, in this oldest of Canadian cities over which of the globe's architectural and natural wonders to add to its list of protected sites.*—INTERNET**

Canadian teenager jailed for abandoning newborn baby

OTTAWA, 3 July— A teenage girl who abandoned her newborn baby near her home has been sentenced to 27 months in prison, Canadian media reported Monday.

The girl pleaded guilty to manslaughter at a court appearance last November. The baby was found dead in November 2006 in a wooded area on the outskirts of the small Laurentian town of Sainte-Sophie in Quebec Province, not far from Montreal.

The teen, who was 16 at the time, gave birth in her parents' house and left the baby in the woods before going to the hospital, where she expelled the placenta, the Canadian Press reported.

Police officers were sent to the hospital, and the girl gave them directions to find the baby, but the baby was dead by the time he was found.

Xinhua

***Replicas of Terracotta warriors made of chocolate are seen on sale in a chocolate shop in downtown Shanghai on 1 July, 2008.*—INTERNET**

Killer of US volunteer sentenced in Philippines

MANILA, 3 July — One year after the body of US Peace Corps volunteer Julia Campbell was found, her confessed killer was convicted in the Philippines of her murder and meted a sentence of 40 years in prison without parole, media reports said on Tuesday.

Juan Donald Duntugan, a 27-year woodcarver who killed the victim in April 2007, was also ordered by a local trial court to pay at least 39 million pesos (890,000 US dollars) in damages to the family of the 40-year-old Campbell, the Philippine Star reported.

Duntugan had confessed to bludgeoning Campbell, 40, with a rock and a stick in a fit of rage when she accidentally bumped into him on a narrow mountain trail in the Philippines' northern province of Ifugao. Duntugan said he was upset from a spat with a neighbor.

The murderer was not sentenced to death as death penalty has been banned in the country.

Duntugan and his wife have three children, including a less than one-year-old baby who was born during Duntugan's trial. Duntugan's lawyers said that they will appeal the verdict to the Court of Appeals.

Xinhua

OPEC president concerned about future demand of oil

MADRID, 3 July — The Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) was concerned about future demand when considering whether to boost investment in oil production, the cartel's president said on Tuesday.

"The concern we have is about the security of demand," Chakib Khelil told delegates here at the World Petroleum Congress, which is the biggest gathering of leaders from the world oil producers in every three years.

Khelil said the big uncertainties have increased the risks for oil producing countries to make huge investments in production.

As the international oil prices kept rising, which climbed above 143 US dollars per barrel, oil producing countries were under growing pressure from consuming nations to increase production in order to contain further oil price hike.

But most OPEC members have insisted the market is currently fully supplied, blaming speculations for the price hike. They said there should be clear demand in the market before any increase of production.

Khelil said the oil cartel's concern about future demand mainly result from the global economic outlook, prospects of oil prices, the looming of a global financial crisis and the promotion of alternative energies in many countries.— *MNA/Xinhua*

A Chinese worker inspects electronic circuit boards at a technology plant in Tianjin, northern China. The government is set to launch a forex monitoring system to scrutinise checks on the authenticity of export transactions, the government has said, in its latest move to crack down on speculative capital inflows.—INTERNET

Philippines, Spain to drill oil, gas in Sulu Sea

MANILA, 3 July— A Philippine oil company has partnered a Spanish gas producer to explore the energy reserves around Balabac Island, to the southwest of the province of Palawan, local media reported on Tuesday.

Burgundy Global exploration Corp (BGEC), a private Philippine oil firm, has entered an agreement with Madrid-headquartered Union Fenosa Gas, SA of Spain to tap oil and gas under the Sulu Sea, national TV network GMA News reported.

The report said that the location these two companies targeted may hold trillions of cubic feet of methane gas an possibly oil, similar to areas in Sabah and Brunei.

"Though the area is partially in the deep-water and is considered a frontier due to very sparse data available, it has a potential for hug hydrocarbon discovery," BGEC's website said.

"BGEC's partnership with UFG will surely contribute to the acceleration of petroleum exploration activities in the Philippines," Michael Louis H Sia BGEC vice president said.

The Philippines buys over 90 per cent of its energy demand from aborad.

In recent years, it has stopped up efforts to explore potential oil reserves at home by collaborating with a number of countries which have also showed interest in tapping new source of energy in the region.

MNA/Xinhua

File photo shows a worker climbing down a ladder on the deck of a Thai oil jack-up rig under construction in Batam, Indonesia. Oil has continued its record-breaking run hitting 145 dollars a barrel for the first time after a US report added to supply worries and the US dollar weakened, analysts said.—INTERNET

Palestinian activist describes ceasefire as illusion

GAZA, 3 July— A Palestinian anti-siege activist on Monday warned that many people in Gaza started to feel that a recent ceasefire with Israel was sort of illusion.

Ten days after the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire took effect, the people's hopes of getting the blockade eased and the reviving of economy faded, said Rami Abdo, spokesman for the Popular Campaign against Siege.

The ceasefire is sought to lift the blockade that Israel imposed on Gaza when Hamas took over the coastal strip by force in June 2007. The deal succeeded to restore calmness but Israel doesn't open the commercial crossings into Gaza in the way the Palestinians want.

Abdo said the Israeli occupation "turned away from its obligations".

Israel stopped short from going ahead with opening the crossings after Palestinian militants fired rockets into Israel. Hamas took measures against the factions that violated the ceasefire and Israel on Monday put the ceasefire back on course.

MNA/Xinhua

Developed countries urged to slash farm subsidies

BUENOS AIRES, 3 July— Diplomats of the South American Common Market (Mercosur) Monday urged developed countries to cut agricultural subsidies, which are widely blamed for the stalled Doha trade negotiations.

In a statement issued after a meeting in Argentina's northern city of Tucuman, foreign and economic ministers and chiefs of central banks of the Mercosur nations said the developed countries must take substantial measures to ensure a breakthrough in the upcoming World Trade Organization (WTO) ministerial meeting in July.

MNA/Xinhua

People are seen walking into a Starbucks coffee shop, in New York City. Drinkers of frothy lattes, European-style macchiatos and syrupy Frappuccinos across the United States were in denial on 2 July, as Starbucks fell victim to the economic downturn and announced it was closing 600 coffee shops.—INTERNET

International migration office bombed in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 3 July — Three bombs exploded at an office of the International Organization of Migration (IOM) in east Nepal that helps Bhutanese refugees to settle in third countries, police and government officials said on Tuesday.

It was not immediately clear who was responsible for the blasts, in the eastern town of Damak late on Monday. No one was hurt, police said, although there was minor damage to the buildings.

It was the third attack on the IOM in Nepal since some Western countries, including the United States, began taking in some of the 107,000 Bhutanese of ethnic Nepali origin that live in Nepal earlier this year.

They fled their homes in Bhutan or were expelled after demanding democracy in the 1990s.

MNA/Reuters

Honourable Myanmar Women's Day

Khin Hla Myint (Admin)

Myanmar Women's Day (3 July) has been celebrated by holding commemorative ceremonies. As a gesture of hailing this year's Myanmar Women's Day, Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization organized a show of Myanmar women's traditional costumes worn in the 12 seasonal festivals. It had more salient points than ever before.

I would like to present some facts about the show.

In order to conduct the show successfully, I had to refer to the book "Festivals in Twelve Myanmar Months" by Tharawaw Soe Kyi, and hold talks with Shan Tun (Myanmarsar) and John Lwin (Stars and Models Agency).

Myanmar people hold religious, cultural and social festivals on a grand scale in each of the 12 months of Myanmar calendar.

We named our show "Twelve Colourful Months and Elegance of Myanmar Women". We opened it with an introductory song "Honourable Myanmar Women's Day" composed by Shan Tun (Myanmarsar) and sung by famous vocalist Chaw Su Khin.

We presented "Nyaungyaythwun (pouring water onto Bo Tree) Festival" of the month 'Kason' first. The theme song was "Noble Month Kason". Myanmar being an agro-based country, we presented a dance of young female transplanters and demonstrated Sarbyanpwe (oral examination) Festival for the month 'Nayon' to the accompaniment of a song by Shan Tun.

For the month 'Waso', we presented a play starring Kyu Kyu Thin and Pwint to amuse the audience, demonstrating the Festival of Novitiation.

In describing the month 'Wakhaung', we presented a song "Overcast Sky" reflecting the months of the rainy season. The time is also the school season. So, we presented the costumes of university students.

Tawthalin is the month when regattas were held in Myanmar. We demonstrated national unity, using the Pyidaungsu (Union) boat.

As festivities usually start to take place in the month of Thidingyut, there was a presentation, in which some damsels in traditional costumes holding paper lanterns demonstrated a religious event that the Lord Buddha went back to the human abode after delivering Abhidhamma to a male celestial being who was His mother in her past life, in the celestial abode.

For the month of Tazaungdaing, we staged a presentation in which film stars in wedding suits demonstrated a wedding reception.

For that episode, we chose yellow colour used in royal occasions, and pink colour that reflects love.

The month 'Nadaw' falls in the beginning of the cold season. Sarsodaw (Literati) Festival is held throughout the nation. So, we presented the pictures of exemplary female literati in the nation's history. And some damsels presented a variety of dances, highlighting the beauty of long hair so as to win the satisfaction of the fans.

For the month of Pyatho, some young girls in modest warm clothes of various fashion designs presented an entertainment programme.

Htamahne-making Festival is the symbol of the month of Tabodwe. Young women demonstrated how to make Htamahne (traditional snack). And they were in festival costumes.

Thebonzedi (building a sand pagoda) Festival takes place in the month of Tabaung. We presented a play starring some comedians and film stars, in which pagoda festivals were held on a grand scale across the nation and young women paid a visit to a pagoda.

To demonstrate the month 'Tagu' in which Water Festival, the most enjoyable of its kind and the one held on a grander scale than any other, takes place, we presented a variety of lively dances of young women wearing Padauk flower in their hair.

Together with all the performers, vocalist Kar Kar sang the closing song composed by Shan Tun (Myanmarsar).

The enthusiasts enjoyed all the seasonal festivals along with various traditional costumes in a single show. At a time when costumes of alien nations are penetrating the Myanmar culture, we could emphasize the real traditional costumes through a costume show by MWAF members. We hope Myanmar women notice traditional costumes for each of the 12 months and each festival. Now, various cultures, religions and ideologies are spreading from one hemisphere to another. We consider that it is worth making efforts and performances designed to commemorate Myanmar Women's Day if they are rewarding to an extent.

Translation: MS

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Honouring Myanmar Women's Day

Elegance and dignity of Myanmar women

* **The world over**
Are Myanmar women
Held in high esteem
Blooming like flower
Pure beauty they have
Tenderness and delicacy
Sincerity their virtue
True to themselves
Living as models

* **In unity ever**
Never hesitate for country
In harmony women perform
All-round duties with men
Hands joined in harmony
Family duties they serve
Religious and bighearted
Rounded fully are they

* **All around Myanmar**
Are women enjoying rights
Like men in equality
"Ladies First" everywhere
Welfare services in harmony
Community they serve freely
Dignity they do have
True friends are women.

Min Yin Su
(Translation)

Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Senior General Than Shwe, attends the ceremony to mark Myanmar Women's Day and Daw Khin Khin Win, President of MWAF delivers an address at the ceremony. — MNA

Honorary Patron of MWAF Daw Kyaing Kyaing…

(from page 1)

economic, education, health and literature sectors emerged in the history. At present, the women who have achieved successes in economic, education, health and technology sectors are taking part in the nation-building tasks in the forefront.

The government set up the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs on 3 July 1996 to be able to give directives for the uplift of women's efficiency and their lives, and the day 3rd July was designated as the Myanmar Women's Day. Therefore, today is the significant day to honour the dynamic capabilities and good traditions of Myanmar women.

Since its birth, the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs had been standing as a national mechanism for development of women's lives. On 20 December 2003, the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation was established as a nation-wide organization led by women for extensively undertaking the tasks of security and development of the entire women.

The MWAF adopted the basic principles to serve the authentic national interest. The MWAF was formed in accord with seven lofty objectives:-

(1) to enhance the role of women in the reconstruction of a peaceful, modern and developed nation
(2) to protect the rights of women
(3) to ensure the economic, health, education and general welfare of women and to take measures for their security
(4) to instill in Myanmar women a greater appreciation of their national, cultural heritage and customs
(5) to systematically protect women from violence and provide means for rehabilitation where necessary
(6) to diminish and finally eliminate trafficking in women and children as a national task, and
(7) to collaborate with international as well as local organizations, in ensuring the right of women in accordance with the national traditions and customs.

To implement the objectives, while striving for development of Myanmar women's lives, members at different levels of Women's Affairs Organization in State, Division, District, Township, Ward and Village are serving the interests of the nation and the people. Over the four-year period, the federation has organized 4.1 million members as the women force on which the State can rely. Every woman joined the federation with national spirit and patriotic spirit, and the increasing members of the federation are also serving the interest of the State.

The MWAF is taking part in the tasks to realize the development plans of the nation. Likewise, the federation is also undertaking the tasks in conformity with the lives of women in line with the international conventions and charters.

The federation is joining hands with the ministries concerned and NGOs to realize its tasks. In carrying out the tasks of prevention of violence against women, prevention against human smuggling and human trafficking and rehabilitation and reintegration, the federation gave educative talks, opened the educative units and performed the counselling tasks in cooperation with the departments of the government. In addition, the mobile training teams of the federation conducted the training courses for prevention against trafficking in persons, provided health care services to the human trafficking victims and opened the job opportunities for the victims in States and Divisions.

Moreover, the MWAF, hand in hand with the Ministry of Education, participates in non-formal education, literacy campaign and continuous education, while striving for the uplift of the education standard by providing stipends to students and teaching aid to the schools.

In the health sector, MWAF is carrying out tasks of reproductive health care, prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and conselling in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, international organizations including UN agencies.

It is also conducting vocational courses and technological courses for socio-economic improvement of women and to generate their income. Moreover, the federation is trying for the flourishing of patriotism, conserving environment and forging national unity.

(See page 9)

Honorary Patron Daw Mya Mya San gives prize to disabled athlete Ma Htet Htet Aye.
MNA

Daw Khin Lay Thet presents award to a winner in photo competition.
MNA

The government set up the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs on 3 July 1996 to be able to give directives for the uplift of women's efficiency and their lives, and the 3rd of July was designated as the Myanmar Women's Day.

Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Senior General Than Shwe, and guests browse documentary photos displayed at City Hall in Nay Pyi Taw to mark Myanmar Women's Day for 2008. — MNA

Honorary Patron Daw Kyaing Kyaing gives prize to writer Daw Moe Thida Htwe (Shin Htwe Yin) (Anthropology). —MNA

MWAF itself will try its utmost to ensure life security and development of Myanmar women. It will also try to remain a reliable force of the State.

Honorary Patron of MWAF Daw Kyaing Kyaing…

(from page 8)

Myanmar Women's Day, the significant day of Myanmar women folk, is held on July 3 under the leadership of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation. The day is celebrated in every state and division. As a gesture of hailing Myanmar Women's Day, activities on education, health, sport and art fronts are carried out.

On 27 June 2008, paper reading sessions in commemoration of Myanmar Women's Day were held under such titles as development of Myanmar micro-credit scheme and the role of women, trafficking in persons and the role of women, sport and health of Myanmar women, education for all and the role of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and national culture and the women sector.

Myanmar Women's Day billboards were ceremonially erected in front of Yangon City Hall and at Hledan traffic lights on 24 June and in front of Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market on 25 June. Traditional costume show, article, photo and extempore talks contests were held. Life security and development of women is possible only if there is peace and stability of the State with a sound environment. The goal of building a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation is the interest of the national people including women.

MWAF itself will try its utmost to ensure life security and development of Myanmar women. It will also try to remain a reliable force of the State. MWAF praises the entire national people for their approval of the constitution in the national referendum, the fourth step of the seven-step Road Map.

In conclusion, she said, Myanmar women have been playing their part in their respective sectors and it is a great honour for every Myanmar woman to see that Myanmar Women's Day is held annually.

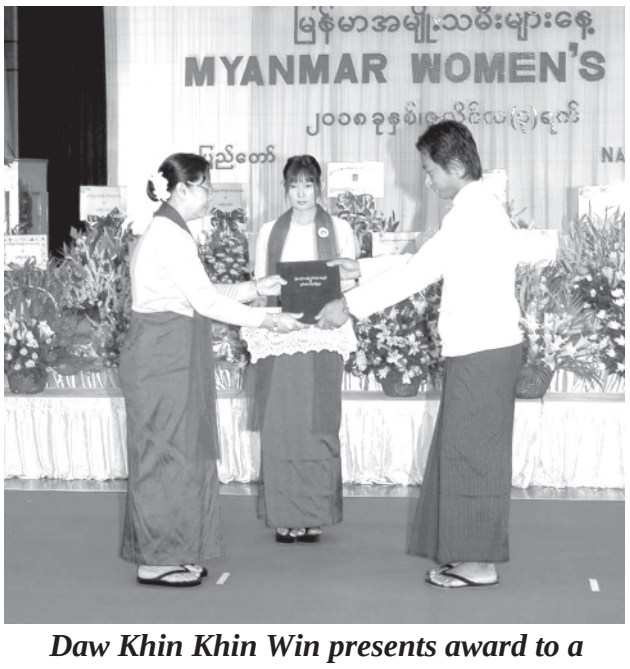
Then, the lists of prize winners were announced in Myanmar and English. Next, wife of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe Honorary Patron of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Kyaing Kyaing presented awards to Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Daw Khin Myint Myint, who won ASEAN women's business outstanding award in 2008; writer Daw Kyan (Ma Kyan), who won life-time national literary award-2006; writer Daw Cho Cho Tin (Ma Sandar), who won national literary award-2006 (Youth literature); Daw Moe Thida Htwe (Shin Htwe Yin), who won national literary award-2006 (Cultural and art literature); Ma Khin Myat Noe Tun of No. 1 BEHS, Dagon Township, who passed the matriculation in 2007 with the highest marks in the whole country; and Police Major Daw Than Aye, who won outstanding award of Myanmar Police Force in 2007.

Daw Mya Mya San, Honorary Patron of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, presented awards to outstanding members of MWAF. Those who won outstanding awards for 2007 are Company Commander Ma Lay Lay Khat of Mawlamyine Township Red Cross Battalion, Ma Soe Soe Myar, a Taekwondo athlete, Ma Htet Htet Aye, a disabled athlete, Corporal (Fire) Tin Sandar Cho of North Okkalapa Township Fire Brigade and Daw Myint Myint San who donated blood for 95 times.

Member of Panel of Patrons Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of General Thura Shwe Mann, awarded winners of the photo competition which was held to mark the Myanmar Women's Day. U Myint Thein (Physics) won the first prize; U Aung Kyaw Tun (Patheingyi) the second and Ko Ko Soe Nyunt (the New Light of Myanmar) the third and seven contestants won consolation prizes in the competition.

President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Khin Khin Win awarded the winners of the article competition. In the article competition Ma Saw Eindar Thet Maung won the first prize; House Sergeon Chan Nyein Thu; Dr Cho Cho Tint (Ma Tint-Myanmarsar) and Dr Nwe Nwe Soe (Nwelay-Myanmarsar) the second; and U Tun Tun Win (Khun Hti Nge-History) the third.

After the ceremony, Honorary Patron of MWAF Daw Kyaing Kyaing and members of the patron and the guests browsed the documentary photos on celebrations and activities of MWAF, works of literary award winners of MWAF and documentary photos of outstanding athletes of MWAF. — *MNA*



Daw Khin Khin Win presents award to a winner in article competition. — MNA

Donations invited for storm survivors

YANGON, 3 July—Rehabilitation is under way for local people in storm-hit regions who have lost their property in the storm. In that regard, well-wishers are invited to make donations for the following items individually or in groups in cooperation with the government at the donations accepting supervisory committee at the Fire Services Department (Head Office) here.

Houses built by donors for storm survivors.
MNA

Power-tillers to be distributed to farmers in storm-affected areas.—**MNA**

Fishing boats to be used in storm-affected areas in Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions.
MNA

Items	Per unit price (in kyat)
1. House	K 600,000
2. 21-foot fishing boat (with engine)	K 400,000
3. 21-foot fishing boat (without engine)	K 200,000
4. Power-tiller	
(a) Leya-16	K 1,090,000
(b) Leya-22	K 1,550,000
(c) Ayeya-1	K 1,128,600
5. Bag of fertilizer	K 18,000

MNA

School uniforms, stationery donated in Kungyangon, Dedaye Tsps

YANGON, 3 July — The staff led by U Aung Win of Ghani Win International Modern Processing Plant and Cold Storage and Mr Ian of Ruskim Sea Foods Ltd (UK) on 25 June donated school uniforms, exercise books, pencils and stationery to students of the basic education schools in Daemyanmar, Wagauktaw and Tawkayan of Kungyangon and Dedaye townships and T-shirts, longyi, bags of rice, dried fish and fish worth K 13 million to the storm victims. — *MNA*

***Donation of school uniforms and stationery presented by wellwishers for school children in progress.*—H**

BESs urged to carry out School Environment Day activities

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July— The Ministry of Education is implementing more long-term projects in the basic education sector. An education calendar is set for all the basic education schools in every academic year and practical education development tasks have been carried out.

In 2008-2009 academic year, 13th July this year, Sunday, has been designated as School Environment Day.

Teachers and students under the leadership of headmasters of the basic education schools across the nation were urged to fully take part in the School Environment Day activities.—*MNA*

Motorized boat sinks in Yway River

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July — A passenger boat sank in Yway River in Myaungmya Township on 1 July morning, and some passengers died in the incident.

Passenger boat Myo Pa Pa Tun leaving Pakeikkyi Village of Myaungmya Township for Myaungmya along Yway River sank at 4.50 am on 1 July due to entering of water into the stern. A total of 44 passengers of 82 had been saved and the remaining 38 persons died.

Local authorities, Tatmadawmen and health staff rushed to the scene of the incident and carried out relief and medical treatment tasks. Moreover, necessary assistance was rendered for those who died in the incident.

MNA

Cambodia offers ways to save electricity, reduce waste

PHNOM PENH, 3 July — Cambodia's state-run Electricite du Cambodge (EdC) is calling on the public to reduce its electricity consumption, local newspaper the *Cambodia Daily* reported Wednesday.

The EdC intended to inform all kinds of users about ways to cut wasteful electricity consumption, EdC Director General Keo Rattanak said in a statement, which contains seven points on how the public can lower their electricity usage.

"We released the statement to encourage users to save energy," he said, adding that EdC lacks about 40 megawatts to meet electricity consumption in Phnom Penh at the peak hours of 7 am to 8 pm.

"Users should avoid using many electrical appliances at once," according to the EdC statement.

"Do not turn on outside lamps before sunset, and turn these lamps off after sunrise," it said.

The EdC is unable to meet the nation's growing appetite for electricity, forcing the agency to frequently black out sections of the capital.

And electricity usage nationwide is predicted to increase by at least 10 per cent annually, EdC officials said earlier this year.

MNA/Xinhua

Two girls play beneath a poster of the anti-US cleric Muqtada al-Sadr in Baghdad's Shiite enclave of Sadr City, Iraq, on 3 July, 2008. The Iraqi government has banned candidates in upcoming provincial elections from using pictures in their campaign materials of people not running for office, the government's spokesman said.—INTERNET

Children ill after water poisoned in China school

BEIJING, 3 July — More than 60 children fell ill after drinking water that may have been deliberately poisoned at a primary school in southern China, state media reported on Tuesday.

Thirty-four were still in hospital, suffering from headaches and nausea, and the rest were under observation at their rural school in Guangxi Province after drinking the water in their school canteen, the official *Xinhua* news agency reported.

The water in the school's storage tank smelled of pesticide and police found an empty bottle that they suspected of containing the poison, *Xinhua* said.

While the investigation is continuing, local education officials have already accused the school of mismanagement, it added. —*MNA/Reuters*

A worker checks one of the cooling towers at Block B of the Nuclear power plant in the southern German town of Gundremmingen.—INTERNET

US Midwest floods show signs of global warming

WASHINGTON, 3 July — Floods like those that inundated the US Midwest are supposed to occur once every 500 years but this is the second since 1993, suggesting flawed forecasts that do not take global warming into account, conservation experts said on Tuesday.

"Although no single weather event can be attributed to global warming, it's critical to understand that a warming climate is supplying the very conditions that fuel these kinds of weather events," said Amanda Staudt, a climate scientist with the National Wildlife Federation.

Warmer air can carry more water, Staudt said in a telephone briefing, and this means more heavy precipitation in the central United States.

Big Midwestern storms that used to be seen every 20 years or so will likely occur every four to six years by century's end, she said.

MNA/Reuters

A group of journalists wait on 2 July, at Catam airport in Bogota, for the arrival of French-Colombian hostage Ingrid Betancourt, three US nationals and 11 Colombian soldiers who were rescued from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) rebels in a jungle operation by Colombian elite forces.—INTERNET

Maoist rebels derail train in eastern India

PATNA, (India) 3 July —Maoist insurgents blew up railway tracks and derailed a train in eastern India on Wednesday, police said, in response to what the Maoists say is a campaign of violence by local police against villagers.

No one was injured, but dozens of trains were held up or cancelled as rebels used explosives to blow tracks in two separated districts of Bihar State, police said.

"We found a third bomb which did not explode and the situation could have been worse then," said Sanjay Singh, a senior police officer.

MNA/Reuters

Four arrested over stabbed teenager in London

LONDON, 3 July — Four teenagers have been arrested over the murder of 16-year-old Ben Kinsella in north London, Scotland Yard said on Tuesday.

The four, all in their late teens, were being held at north and east London police stations after being arrested on Monday and early on Tuesday.

"One was arrested in the Islington area yesterday afternoon, two were arrested at an address in Chadwell Heath late last night, and a fourth was arrested in Bethnal Green this morning," a spokesman said. —*MNA/Reuters*

French exhume body of woman murdered in Ireland

PARIS, 3 July – French authorities on Tuesday exhumed the body of a woman murdered in Ireland in 1996 in an attempt to find new evidence that could lead to her killer, associates of the victim's family said.

The Christmastime killing of Sophie Toscan du Plantier, who was found dead with head injuries outside her country house in remote southwestern Ireland, received a lot of media attention in France because her husband Daniel was a famous film producer.

Sophie Toscan du Plantier, who was 39 at the time of her death, had been buried in the central French village of Combret and her exhumed body was due to be examined by forensic specialists in search of traces of DNA. —*MNA/Reuters*

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(For. Domnern Somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand.)
Dated: 4 July, 2008

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Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.,
for **Kikkoman Corporation**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 4 July 2008

Drive with care

Beijing takes 300,000 high-emission cars off roads

BEIJING, 3 July—Beijing took 300,000 high-emission cars off its roads on Tuesday, as part of measures to clean up the capital's air pollution and ease traffic on perennially clogged highways ahead of the Olympics.

Pollution is a major concern for many athletes ahead of the August 8 Games and the International Olympic Committee has said it may reschedule endurance events to remove a potential health risk. The Chinese capital is one of the most polluted cities in the world and rapidly becoming one of the most congested, with about 1,000 extra cars crowding on to already choked roads every day.

The 300,000 "yellow grade" cars, which fall short of the city's benchmark emissions standards, would be banned from Beijing's roads until 20 September, Beijing's transport authority said in a notice posted on its website (www.bjjtgl.gov.cn) on Tuesday. — *MNA/Reuters*

Iran names new member of nuclear negotiating team

TEHERAN, 3 July—Iran has named a new member to its nuclear negotiating team to act as a deputy to chief negotiator Saeed Jalili in a move analysts said could strengthen hardline voices in a key policy-making body.

The student news agency *ISNA* said Ali Bagheri, a senior Foreign Ministry official, had taken over from Javad Vaeedi, who served as the deputy in charge of international affairs for the policy body, the Supreme National Security Council. One analyst said Bagheri was a loyalist to revolutionary values, similar to Jalili. A Western diplomat said the move could indicate an effort by Jalili to increase his influence in the council which groups a range of viewpoints.

Iran is embroiled in a standoff over its nuclear ambitions with the West, which says Teheran wants to make atomic bombs. Iran says it has only peaceful plans to produce electricity.

Ultimately, nuclear policy is decided by the Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's top authority who analysts say tends to reach decisions through consultation and consensus.

MNA/Reuters

IEA sees world oil supplies staying tight to 2013

LONDON, 3 July—World oil supply will rise more slowly than expected by 2013, leaving little spare capacity on the market despite weaker demand growth, the International Energy Agency said on Tuesday.

In its Medium-Term Oil Market Report, the Paris-based agency said global supply capacity will reach 95.33 million barrels per day (bpd) by 2012, some 2.7 million bpd less than its previous forecast a year ago.

The outlook signals little relief from high oil prices, which have hit record peaks above 140 US dollars a barrel on supply concerns and robust demand in Asia and the Middle East, adding a strain to the world economy

"Structural demand growth in developing countries and ongoing supply constraints continue to paint a tight market picture over the medium term,' said the IEA, which advises 27 industrialized countries.

MNA/Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (TBH-233)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (TBH-233) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.7.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Last of the 'Baby Ballerinas' dies

SYDNEY (Australia), 3 July—Irina Baronova, world renowned in the 1930s as part of a trio of Russian-born dancers dubbed the "Baby Ballerinas," has died at her home in Australia, the Australian Ballet said. She was 89. Baronova died peacefully in her sleep on 28 June, the Australian Ballet said in a statement viewed on its Web site Thursday. She had lived in the coastal resort town of Byron Bay north of Sydney since retiring from dancing in 1946.

"It is a very sad day for the ballet world," said David McAllister, artistic director of the Australia Ballet. "Irina inspired generations of dancers to aspire to the beauty she created on stage and then in later years she shared so generously her experience."

Baronova came to fame as a 13-year-old after being spotted in Paris by legendary choreographer George Balanchine, who teamed her with two other young Russian-born dancers, Tamara Toumanova and Tatiana Riabouchinska, in 1932.

The three toured the world as the Baby Ballerinas. The shows by the Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo were a hit in the United States, Europe and in Australia, where the dance troupe toured in 1938 and Baronova began her association with the country.—*Internet*

Midwest floods spotlight decrepit US infrastructure

CHICAGO, 3 July—The latest US natural disaster is triggering fresh rounds of concern and debate about how to repair America's aging infrastructure.

The worst Midwest flooding since 1993 has generated images of swamped towns, cracked roads, washed-out bridges, overwhelmed dams, failed levees, broken sewage systems, stunted crops and water-logged refugees.

The losses are in the billions of dollars and still mounting, as the costs of crop losses alone send shocks through the inflation-wracked world food system and threaten insurers.

The disaster has reminded policymakers of the decrepit state of US infrastructure, stirring concerns similar to those following the deadly Minneapolis bridge collapse in 2007 and the flooding of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

MNA/Reuters

This undated image provided by National Geographic and George Washington Foundation, archaeology technician Erin Goslin washes archaeological material at the site of the Washington family house in Stafford County, Va Archaeologists, students and volunteers worked for five seasons before positively identifying remains of the house, occupied by the Washington's beginning in 1738.—INTERNET

Promising finding made in severe lung disease

WASHINGTON, 2 July — Researchers at University of Illinois have identified a novel function for an enzyme that plays a role in the tissue injury in acute respiratory distress syndrome, also known as ARDS, according to the latest online version of the journal Nature Immunology.

The finding offers a completely new set of possible therapeutic targets for the prevention and treatment of lung inflammation and injury.

ARDS is an often fatal complication of bacterial infections, blood transfusions, overdoses of some medications, or traumatic injury.

In ARDS, the lungs become swollen with water and protein, and breathing becomes impossible, leading to death in 30 per cent to 40 per cent of cases.

There is no effective treatment. It has previously been shown that a enzyme named MYLK plays a pivotal role in the disruption of the endothelial barrier - a single thin layer of cells that line blood vessels — which prevents water and protein from accumulating in tissues.

MNA/Xinhua

Survey finds Denmark as world's happiest country

WASHINGTON, 2 July — Denmark, with its democracy, social equality and peaceful atmosphere, is the happiest country in the world, researchers said on Monday.

Zimbabwe, torn by political and social strife, is the least happy, while the world's richest nation, the United States, ranks 16th.

Overall, the world is getting happier, according to the US Government-funded World Values Survey, done regularly by a global network of social scientists. It found increased happiness from 1981 to 2007 in 45 of 52 countries analyzed.

"I strongly suspect that there is a strong correlation between peace and happiness," said Ronald Inglehart, a political scientist at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research, who directed the study.

MNA/Reuters

Study shows People with HIV living longer

LONDON, 2 July — People with HIV in the developed world are no more likely to die in the first five years following infection than men and women in the general population, British researchers said on Tuesday. The risk for people infected through sex creeps up after that, according to the study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association that highlights the power of AIDS drugs introduced in the mid-1990s.

The findings did not include men and women infected through injected drug use, and their death risk remained higher in the five years after infection, said Kholoud Porter of Britain's Medical Research Council, who led the study.

"This is looking really good that life expectancies are becoming close to the uninfected popula tion," said Porter, an epidemiologist. "It also underscores the importance that people are identified and treated early."

The advent of combination drug therapy in the 1990s called highly active antiretroviral therapy, or HAART, has greatly extended the lives of many HIV-infected people, particularly in developed countries.

MNA/Reuters

A scientific study published here on 2 July, sheds light on why men who eat a lot of broccoli are less likely to develop prostate cancer.—INTERNET

Dutch test "universal" spectacles for poor children

AMSTERDAM, 2 July— Dutch scientists launched field tests in India on Tuesday of universal spectacles they have designed to help the vision of children in developing countries.

Scientists at Amsterdam's Free University Medical Centre worked for years on the U-Specs, which have a "one size fits all"frame and lenses that can be easily adjusted by hand to improve the vision of those with moderate long and short sight.

They say the U-specs are suitable for about 90 per cent of children who need glasses. The Dutch foundation that funds the project aims to reach 10 million poor children who cannot afford to go to an eye specialist.

"It is actually sort of a total solution," said project leader Sjoerd Hannema before heading to India, where the glasses will be tested in hospitals from July to September. He said the foundation plans to distribute the glasses via local organizations and local entrepreneurs.

MNA/Reuters

A teacher instructs students from the Philippine School for the Deaf during an earthquake drill in Pasay city, suburban Manila, on Thursday on 3 July, 2008. The simultaneous nationwide earthquake drill was done in observance of the National Disaster Consciousness Month to generate awareness to the public in the wake of recent earthquakes in various parts of the world.—INTERNET

B'desh Police wants stiff jaywalking fines

DHAKA, 2 July — Police in Bangladesh are proposing hiking fines for jaywalking by 4,000 per cent in a bid to ease the gridlock that cripples the capital Dhaka every day, Home Ministry officials said on Tuesday.

The proposal, which officials said was likely to be approved by the government, calls for fines to be increased to 200 taka (2.92 US dollars) from five taka for a single jaywalking offence.

Dhaka, a city of about 11 million people, struggles with huge traffic jams. The city has at least 50,000 vehicles and more than 400,000 rickshaws cramming its streets, as well as millions of pedestrians who largely avoid foot bridges and crossings, preferring to weave through traffic instead.

"Now police have proposed to raise the fine to 200 taka from existing five taka, which was imposed decades ago but seldom used," a ministry official said. Police officials said they would use volunteers to boost their surveillance of the streets, and would fine jaywalkers on the spot.

Those unable, or unwilling, to pay will be taken to the nearest police station, an official said.

MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Turkey moves 6 places up in FIFA world ranking

ANKARA, 3 July — Turkey climbed 6 rows in FIFA World Soccer Ranking for July 2008 to 14th place with 1010 points, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported on Wednesday.

Turkey's (semi finalist) performance in Euro 2008 Soccer Championship was the driving force behind its advent in the FIFA world rankings.

Turkey was knocked out of the tournament by Germany in the semi finals after beating teams like Czech Republic and Croatia. Top 20 teams of the world are as follows:

1. Spain 1557
2. Italy 1404
3. Germany 1364
4. Brazil 1344
5. Netherlands 1299
6. A.rgentina 1298
7. Croatia 1282
8. Czech Rep. 1146
9. Portugal 1104
10. France 1053
11. Russia 1023
12. Romania 1021
13. Cameroon 1011
14. Turkey 1010
15. England 1003
16. Scotland 988
17. Bulgaria 930
18. Greece 911
19. Mexico 906
20. Ghana 885— *MNA/Xinhua*

Man City sign Brazilian Jo for club record fee

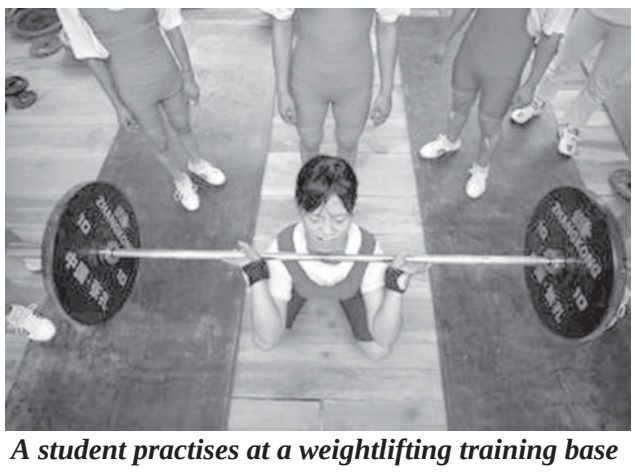
LONDON, 3 July — Manchester City have completed the club record signing of Brazilian striker Jo from CSKA Moscow, the Premier League club said on Wednesday.

City said the 21-year-old had signed a four-year deal and though the fee was undisclosed they said it was a club record. City's previous record was for Nicolas Anelka's transfer from Paris-Saint Germain in 2002 for around 13 million pounds (25.81 million US dollars) and local media speculated that the fee for Jo would be around 18 million pounds.

Jo is the first player signed by Mark Hughes, who took over as manager from Sven-Goran Eriksson last month.

"He's a big talent and a young man with a big future," Hughes told www.mcfc.co.uk. —*MNA/Reuters*

Roger Federer of Switzerland serves to Mario Ancic of Croatia during their quarter-final match at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London on 2 July, 2008.—INTERNET



A student practises at a weightlifting training base of the No 6 Middle school in Suining, Sichuan province on 2 July, 2008. About 24 students, aged from 11 to 16, receive training here and the top ones will be recommended to the provincial team, local media reported. China's future Olympic hopefuls train at one of the thousands of provincial sports schools around the country. Even though these athletes might be too young to make the 2008 Beijing Games, they harbour dreams of winning Olympic gold in London 2012 or beyond. Picture taken on 2 July.—INTERNET

Olympic torch takes relay in China's revolution base

YAN'AN (Northwest China), 3 July — The Olympic flame took relay on Wednesday in one of China's revolution base Yan'an, a city in the Shanbei region of Shaanxi Province.

Liu Tianyou, a 92-year-old Chinese Red Army woman soldier, ran in the first place from the starting point in Zaoyuan Garden at 8:10 a.m. local time.

The closing ceremony was put on in Huangdi Mausoleum, 90 minutes' drive from Yan'an, at 11:05 a.m. local time with Wang Ximin, 51, a local entrepreneur, lit the cauldron. The hand to hand relay lasted 6.31km with 208 torchbearers holding the torch.

Yan'an was the endpoint of the Long March, and the centre of the Chinese Communist revolution from 1935 to 1948. Chinese Communists celebrate Yan'an as the birthplace of the revolution.

Yan'an is currently a Prefecture-level city administering several counties, including Zhidan, formerly Bao'an, which served as the Chinese Communist capital before the city of Yan'an proper took that role.

The flame moved on at the afternoon to Yangling, a county-level city, poised for Thursday's relay in Yangling and Xianyang. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Alves hailed as world's best right back

MADRID, 3 July — Brazil right back Daniel Alves completed his move from Sevilla to Barcelona on a four-year contract on Wednesday.

The club said they had paid 29 million euros (45.78 million US dollars) with a further six million (9.47 million US dollars) dependent on appearances and results, for the 25-year-old international.

"We have signed the best player in his position in the world. He is a full back who likes to attack and offer a great all-round contribution," Barca sports director Txiki Begiristain told a news conference.

Alves was an outstanding figure at Sevilla in his five and a half seasons there helping them to win two UEFA Cups, a King's Cup, a European Super Cup and a Spanish Super Cup, making him a target for a number of Europe's top clubs. Alves said: "Barcelona want to return to be the side they were two years ago (when they won a second consecutive Primera Liga title and the European Cup) and I am honoured they have come for me to form a part of this project." —*MNA/Reuters*

Medvedev hails Russia's soccer success

MEIENDORF CASTLE (Russia), 3 July – Russia's success in reaching the semi-finals of the Euro 2008 soccer tournament is a mark of its revival off the pitch, President Dmitry Medvedev said on Wednesday.

"This is a great sporting achievement," Medvedev told the team's players and Dutch coach Guus Hiddink at a reception at a state residence outside Moscow.

"Russia has focused its energies and attacked on all fronts. A weak state very rarely achieves anything, not only in industry, ensuring its security ... but also in sport." Russia's performance at the Euro 2008 finals in Austria and Switzerland, which ended on Sunday, was its best showing in a major soccer tournament in 20 years. Russia has enjoyed an oil-fuelled economic boom that has encouraged its leaders to try to reassert Moscow's political and economic clout abroad.

"You gave the whole country great joy just from watching you play. We waited for such success for a very long time," said Medvedev, who was presented with a team shirt by the players.— *MNA/Reuters*

Federer, Ivanovic head Olympic entries

LONDON, 3 July— World number ones Roger Federer and Ana Ivanovic head a strong field at the Olympic tennis tournament in Beijing next month.

The International Tennis Federation (ITF), who released the entry lists for the men's and women's singles and doubles on Wednesday, said Beijing would witness the best lineup since tennis returned as a full medal sport in Seoul 1988.

Fifty-six players gained direct entry based on their singles rankings immediately after last month's French Open with 17 of the men's top 20 and 18 of the women's top 20 confirmed for the tournament which will run from 10-17 August. Six men and women were handed ITF places in recognition of their records in the Davis Cup and Fed Cup despite not meeting the rankings criteria.

Swiss Federer, who stayed on course for a sixth consecutive Wimbledon title on Wednesday by reaching the semi-finals, is attempting to win his first Olympic medal after a surprise defeat in Athens four years ago by Czech Tomas Berdych.

French Open champion Ivanovic, defeated by China's Zheng Jie in the third round of Wimbledon last week, will be making her Olympic debut. The top five in the men's rankings will all play in the singles with the only absentees from the top 20 being American Andy Roddick and Richard Gasquet of France.

MNA/Reuters

Federer brushes aside Ancic in three sets

LONDON, 3 July— Champion Roger Federer snuffed out the challenge of the last man to beat him on grass with a 6-1 7-5 6-4 victory over Mario Ancic in the Wimbledon quarter-finals on Wednesday.

The Croat, then 18, upset Federer in the first round on his Wimbledon debut in 2002, since when the Swiss has won 64 consecutive matches on grass, 39 at the London grand slam where he has lifted the trophy five times in a row.

World number one Federer, in devastating form from the start allowed Ancic only one point in his first four service games as he ran away with the opening set.

Federer was in full flow in the third set and won the match in one hour and 40 minutes on his first match point, going into a semi-final against either Marat Safin or Feliciano Lopez. — *MNA/Reuters*

More than 500 arrested in sex traffic crackdown

LONDON, 3 July — Thirteen children were among 167 victims of human trafficking recovered by police, the Home Office said on Wednesday, in a six-month crackdown which led to 528 arrests. The investigation involved 55 police forces who serached over 800 premises including residential apartments, massage parlours and nail bars and rescued 167 women forced into prostitution or servitude.

The victims were mostly from China, Southeast Asia and Eastern Europe.

"We still have an insidious problem in the heart of our society," Dr. Tim Brain, of the Association of Chief Police Officers told reporters.

Brain added that of those arrested, 88 had been charged with offences including the trafficking of humans, brothel management and money laundering.

"We have some way to go before human trafficking investigation is core business for every single police force," Brain said.

Many of the premises investigated were in "ordinary" suburban areas, Brain said, used as fronts for brothels with neighbours largely unaware of illegal activity taking place. Home Minister Vernon Coaker said one of the main problems facing police was encouraging victims to speak out against traffickers and accept help from the police and non-government organizations (NGOs).

MNA/Reuters

Indonesia's poor fall by 2.21 million

JAKARTA, 3 July—The number of indonesian poor people fell by 2.21. million between March 2007 and March 2008, the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) has said. This is the second yearly decline in a row as poor people in March 2007 were 2.13 million fewer compared with the year before. At the release of its latest survey on Tuesday, The BPS attributed the drop to a fairly stable rice price and a decrease in unemployment between March 2007 and March 2008. The BPS defines as poor those people who eat fewer than three meals a day or live on less than 182,636 rupiah (US 19.73) a month.

The number of poor people fell from 37.17 million, or 15.42 per cent of the population, in March 2007 to 34.96 million in March 2008, as inflation was relatively stable during the period, with a year-on-year inflation rate of 8.17 per cent.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Russian helicopter crash kills 9

MOSCOW, 3 July — Nine people were killed on Wednesday when a helicopter crashed in Russia's far north, Russia's Emergencies Ministry said.

" The helicopter crashed as it was coming into land and nine people were killed," said a spokesman.

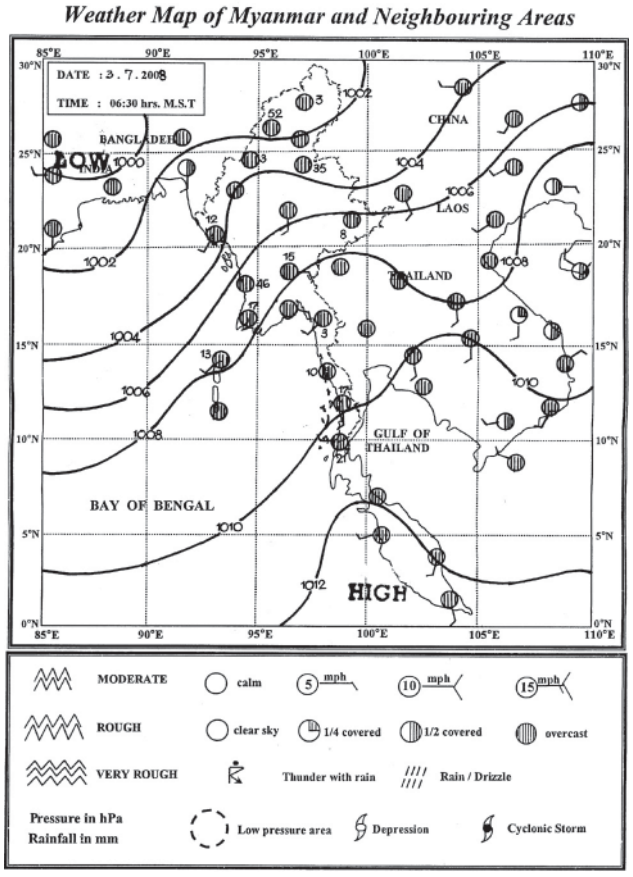
The *M1-8* helicopter was being operated by Russian carrier *UT- Air* when the crash occurred in the Yamal-Nenetsk Region, the spokesman said.

Helicopters are frequently used in remote areas of Russia to cover tough terrain.

MNA/Reuters

A Korean waitress is seen holding a bowl of national vegetarian dish Kimchi. Food safety fears sparked by S Korea's resumption of US beef imports are a headache for the government but good news for vegetarian restaurants. Restaurants and markets specialising in green and organic food on 3 July, reported increasing numbers of customers amid two months of protests over the imports.—INTERNET

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Thursday, 3 July, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayin State, lower Sagaing, Magway and Yangon Divisions, scattered in Kayah State, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Chin and Rakhine States and Bago Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfalls in Rakhine State and Bago Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfalls recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.98) inch, Maungtaw (12.01) inches, Myaukoo (6.02) inches, Shwegyin (4.40) inches, Nyaunglaypin (3.98) inches, Hkamti (2.09) inches, Thandwe (1.89) inches and Bhamo (1.42) inches.

Maximum temperature on 2-7-2008 was 84˚F. Minimum temperature on 3-7-2008 was 72ºF. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 3-7-2008 was 88%. Total sunshine hours on 2-7-2008 was (1.3) hours (approx).

Rainfall on 3-7-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (41.97) inches at Mingaladon, (52.28) inches at Kaba-Aye and (65.16) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (12:30) hours MST on 2-7-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 4-7-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated to scattered in Kayah State, Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan State, Yangon and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Rakhine State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas are likely attimes Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 4-7-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 4-7-2008: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 4-7-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

TV Myanmar

Friday, 4 July
View on today

7:00 am
1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြုဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:40 am
4. Song of yesteryears

7:50 am
5. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:00 am
6. Musical programme

8:30 am
7. International news

8:45 am
8. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:10 pm
2. Song for national races

4:20 pm
3. "အန္တရာယ်ဆိုတာ လက်တစ်ကမ်းမှာ" (စိုးသူ၊ နန်းကလျာလှိုင်၊ ကျော်မင်းနောင်၊ ကောင်းစွာန်သစ်၊ ယင်းမာ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–စောစန္ဒာလှိုင်)

4:30 pm
4. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:40 pm
5. Musical programme

4:55 pm
6. Song to uphold National Spirit

5:00 pm
7. The mirror images of the musical oldies

6:00 pm
8. Evening news

6:30 pm
9. Weather report

6:35 pm
10. သုတစုံလင်ရွေဥဏှ်ရှင်

7:00 pm
11. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကော်ဖီချစ်သူ" (အပိုင်း–၁၀)

8:00 pm
12. News
13. International news
14. Weather report
15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ပင်လယ်ပျော်မင်းသား" (အပိုင်း–၈)
16. မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအမျိုးသမီးရေးရာအဖွဲ့ချုပ်၏ကြီးကြပ်မှုဖြင့် ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအမျိုးသမီးရေးရာအဖွဲ့ကစီစဉ်တင်ဆက်သော (၂၀၀၈) ခုနှစ် ဧပြီလ (၃)ရက် မြန်မာအမျိုးသမီးများနေ့ အထိမ်းအမှတ် "ဆယ့်နှစ်လရာသီ အလှစုံညီ မြင်သူ ရှုမဝ မြန်မာအမျိုးသမီးအလှ" ဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်ထုံးဖွဲ့မှုပြပွဲ (အပိုင်း–၂)

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Make donations to the storm victims

- ❑ Everybody may make donations freely.
- ❑ Everybody may make donations to any person or any area.

However, wellwishers are urged to avoid unsystematic donations and acts that may tarnish the image of the nation and its people.

- ■ Certain internal and external anti-government elements, self-centred persons and unscrupulous elements are now seeking their self-interests by sending to the foreign news agencies stories about relief and rehabilitation work they have made up and shot on video.
- ■ Storm victims are hereby warned to remain vigilant with nationalistic spirit against the deceptions of the self-centred persons and unscrupulous elements.

- ☆ Skyful liars attempting to destroy nation
- ☆ BBC lying
  VOA deceiving
  RFA setting up hostilities
- ☆ Beware! Don't be bought by those ill-wishers

Witness may inform about misappropriation of internal and international relief funds and supplies

Anyone may dial the following phone numbers of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement if he witnesses or knows that the cash assistance and relief supplies donated from abroad and at home to the storm victims are kept for self-interest, traded, used for particular persons and organizations, or misappropriated for other purposes.

Head of Office **Ph: 067 404021 and 067 404022**
Deputy Head of Office **Ph: 09 860 1002**

Tatmadawmen clear debris in a compound of a monastery in Kaingtawwa Village in Bogale Township.

MNA

Tatmadawmen take part in rehabilitation of Labutta

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July —The Government, the people and the Tatmadawmen are joining hands in undertaking the rehabilitation tasks of storm-hit regions in Ayeyawady Division. On 24 June, officers and other ranks from regiments and units led by Deputy Director Col Htay Naing of Directorate of Resettlements under the Ministry of Defence started to construct makeshift schools for enabling the children of 3rd-Mile Relief Camp in Labutta Township to pursue their education.

On 26 June, the construction of makeshift schools completed. At present, the Tatmadawmen are striving for the education of the students in cooperation with the responsible persons.

MNA

Special sales in Magway

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July — The special sales of the Ministry of Industry-1 was held at the ground of Ayezedi Pagoda in Magway on 1 July.

Officials visited the salerooms.

A total of 336 items of personal goods, foodstuffs, textile and medicines are being sold at the special sales. — *MNA*