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Wednesday, 30 July, 2008

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

Senior General Than Shwe felicitates King Mohammed VI of Kingdom of Morocco

NAY PYI TAW, 30 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 Majesty King Mohammed VI of the Kingdom of Morocco, on the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Morocco which falls on 30 July 2008.—MNA

True patriotism

- * It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects monsoon paddy cultivation in Yangon Division



Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects rain-fed paddy cultivation in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 July— Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspected monsoon paddy cultivation in Yangon Division this afternoon.

The Prime Minister, accompanied by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, inspected monsoon

paddy cultivation in Dagon Myothit (North) Township.

The Prime Minister and party went to Ywathagyi

Station in Dagon Myothit (East) Township. Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin (See page 8)

Ayeyawady Division put 3.6 miln acres under monsoon paddy

YANGON, 29 July — Altogether 3.6 million acres in Ayeyawady Division have so far been put under monsoon paddy, it is learnt.

MNA

Importance of constant maintenance of roads for durability stressed

NAY PYI TAW, 29 July —Central Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth Transport held its 1/2008 work coordination meeting at the office of the State Peace and Development Council,

here, this evening, with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo. (See page 9)

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 30 July, 2008

Scale up anti-narcotic drug activities

Today, cases of production and smuggling of narcotic drugs are mushrooming in the world. In consequence, abuse of narcotic drugs such as opium, heroine, opium oil, and marijuana along with stimulant tablets produced with chemicals in combination such as ATS, Ketamine, ICE and Ecstasy is rampant around the world.

In many cases, some countries see violent crimes committed by the majority of drug addicts who abuse stimulant tablets excessively, following mental disorder. Serious crimes that are rife among teenagers and young people of educated class in the international community are largely due to the use of stimulant tablets.

In particular, many young people around the world are abusing stimulant tablets variously, and that poses grave danger to human beings. Therefore, it is required to give educative talks on evil consequences of narcotic drugs to the youth on a broader scale.

Myanmar is now in pursuance of the 15-year drug elimination plan (1999-2014) through a variety of means. In that case, there has been successful outcome thanks to the cooperation of national people with the government. Moreover, the nation is joining hands with international organizations, neighbouring countries and regional countries in anti-drug activities.

In June 2008, the efforts the Tatmadaw, Myanmar Police Force and the Customs Department made in collaboration led to the exposure of 192 drug related cases, followed by action taken against the culprits.

The entire mankind and its society are still under the threats of narcotic drugs. Thus, the entire people are duty-bound to continue to join hands with the government to step up anti-narcotic drug activities.

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

Mining Enterprise No. 3 and CNMC Nickel Co Ltd sign contract

NAY PYI TAW, 29 July— Mining Enterprise No. 3 and China Nonferrous Metal Mining Nickel Co Ltd signed a contract on production of nickel of Tagaung region nickel deposit existed in Thabeikying, Mandalay Division and Htichaint in Sagaing Division on 50-50 profit sharing basis at a ceremony held in Golden Palace Hotel here yesterday afternoon, attended by Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint.

Also present were Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Brig-Gen Win Myint, Deputy



Managing Director of No 3 Mining Enterprise U Win Htein signs Production Sharing Contract with Mr Wang Xiaowei, Chairman of CNMC Nickel Co Ltd.—MNA

Attorney General Dr Tun Shin, Charge d' affairs of the People's Republic of China Mr Wang Zongying, president of China Nonferrous Mining (Group) Co Ltd Mr Luo Tao, chairman of CNMC Nickel Co Ltd Mr Wang Xiaowei, officials of

Myanmar Investment Commission, Directors-General and Managing-Directors of Ministry of Mines, and guests.

Next, Managing-Director of No. 3 Mining Enterprise U Win Htein and the chairman of CNMC Nickel Co Ltd

signed the contract.

Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint handed over mineral production work permit and permit of Myanmar Investment Commission to the chairman of CNMC Nickel Co Ltd.

MNA

Sedona Hotel (Yangon) wins Myanmar's Leading Hotel Award

YANGON, 29 July— Sedona Hotels International calls for double celebration. Sedona Hotel Yangon was awarded the prestigious Myanmar's Leading Hotel at the World Travel Awards 2008 while its sister property, Sedona Hotel Mandalay was also nominated for the same



Sedona Hotel (Yangon).— NLM

award. In another category, Hotel Sedona Manado was voted Indonesia's Leading Resort.

Sedona Hotel (Yangon) opened its door in October 1996 and has since welcomed many notable dignitaries and Heads of State, earning a steadfast reputation for fine services. Sedona was recently chosen as the official hotel to host an international pledging conference, co-organized by the Association of

Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the United Nations (UN), that sought further international financial aid commitment for Myanmar's cyclone aid relief and rehabilitation efforts.

Sedona Hotel Mandalay has charmed guests with delightful experiences since 1997. The hotel is situated in the heart of the city and faces the glorious sights of the Majestic Royal Palace and magnificent Mandalay Hill.

Hailed by the Wall Street Journal as the travel industry's equivalent to the Oscars, the World Travel Awards are the most comprehensive and prestigious awards program in the travel industry. The awards recognize excellence in the world's travel and tourism industry and are voted by travel professionals from 167,000 travel agencies, tour and transport companies and tourism organizations across the globe. — MNA



Diplomat Mr Prasas Prasasvinit Chai donates FEC 3,125 and K 3,750,000 to International Institute of Abhidhamma through Retd Ambassador U Mya Than, Chairman of the management committee of the institute in Yangon on 26 July, 2008. On behalf of Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar Mr Bansarn Bunnag, Mr Prasas also handed over relief aids including rice, meat cans and dried noodles for storm survivors through U Mya Than. —NLM

Iran tells developing states to fight world-power bias

TEHERAN, 29 July—Iran's president called on Tuesday for developing nations to unite to fight what he said was bias shown by the UN Security Council and other world bodies that only serve the big powers' interests.

Iran wants to broaden its international support in a row over its nuclear plans with Western capitals, which President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad says manipulate the Security Council and other bodies to act against the Islamic Republic.

Ahmadinejad accused world powers of trying to deny others peaceful nuclear energy while they stockpiled atomic weapons.

Ahmadinejad said the Security Council would

never issue a resolution against the United States, Iran's arch-foe, as long as Washington, like four other big powers, had a permanent seat. The permanent council members have veto powers.

A draft NAM statement backed Iran's right to

develop, research, produce and use peaceful atomic energy, while welcoming Teheran's continued cooperation with the UN watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency. The final text has yet to be approved

Internet



Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad speaks during the 15th Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement in Teheran, on 29 July, 2008.—INTERNET

India, Pakistan meet over Kashmir clash

SRINAGAR, 29 July—Senior Pakistani and Indian military officials met Tuesday to discuss a border clash in Kashmir, the first major skirmish between South Asia's nuclear rivals since a 2003 cease-fire.

Pakistan's Army spokesman Maj Gen. Athar Abbas told CNN that Pakistan "made our point clear" regarding the firefight, which he said began after Indian soldiers crossed the Line of Control that separates Kashmir between India and Pakistan.

But an Indian military spokeswoman, Capt Neha Goyal, told CNN Pakistani troops crossed the Line of Control and "started firing

on our patrol," killing an Indian soldier.

Abbas said "further action should be taken" following Tuesday's "flag meeting," but did not elaborate. The meeting took place along the Line of Control.

Reports in India's media said four Pakistani soldiers were killed, but Pakistan's military

"strongly denied the report of any (casualties) on the Pakistani side."

Pakistan's military also denied its forces crossed the Line of Control, saying the skirmish started when Indian soldiers tried to establish a forward post on Pakistan's side of the line.

Internet

Fault forces Qantas plane to land

ADELAIDE (Australia), 29 July—A Qantas passenger plane has been forced to make an emergency landing in Adelaide, Australia, due to a mechanical fault.

Local news reports say the pilot told passengers there was a problem with

one of the landing gear doors. A Qantas spokeswoman said there was no risk to passengers' safety at any time. The incident comes three days after a Qantas plane made an emergency landing in the Philippines after a large hole appeared in its fuselage.

A Qantas spokeswoman told The Canberra Times website that a Melbourne-bound Boeing 737-800 returned to Adelaide



A China Central Television helicopter flies past the Olympic rings on a viewing tower in the Olympic Green in Beijing on 29 July, 2008. The 2008 Beijing Olympic Games open on 8 Aug.—INTERNET

Al-Qaeda chemical expert 'killed'

ISLAMABAD, 29 July—Reports from Pakistan say a leading al-Qaeda chemical weapons expert, Midhat Mursi al-Sayid Umar, has been killed in a missile strike.

Taleban officials in the tribal area of South Waziristan confirmed that he was killed in a missile strike that left at least six people dead.

The US, which has a reward of \$5m on his head, said it had no information.

He was wrongly reported to have been killed in 2006 in a strike aimed at al-Qaeda deputy head Ayman al-Zawahiri.

Pakistani military spokesman Maj Gen Athar

Abbas said that it was still awaiting "authentic information" from the area.

Midhat Mursi al-Sayid Umar, 55, also known as Abu Khabab al-Masri, is an Egyptian national.

Internet

Midhat

Mursi

al-Sayid

Umar.

INTERNET



Tongan king to give up rule

NUKU'ALOFA, 29 July—Tonga's king is giving up power in the South Pacific nation, the country's news agency reported Monday.

King George Tupou V will let the prime minister guide the day-to-day governmental affairs, *Tonga Now* reported. He will continue to hold on to judicial powers, including the ability to appoint judges and commute prison sentences.

George V, 60, announced his plans as the country prepares a days-long coronation ceremony that begins Friday. The decision, he said, is meant to prepare the country for parliamentary elections in 2010.

Tonga, with a population of 119,000, is the only monarchy that remains in the Pacific.

George V ascended to the throne after the death of his father in September 2006, and promised to speed up the changes.

Tonga is an archipelago of 171 islands directly south of Western Samoa. Less than a third of the islands are inhabited.

The present dynasty was founded in 1845 after the Tongan islands were first united.—*Internet*

Canadian troops in Afghanistan kill two children

KABUL, (Afghanistan), 29 July—Canadian troops opened fire on a speeding car they feared was about to attack their convoy, killing a 2-year-old boy and his 4-year-old sister, officials said Monday.

NATO and the Canadian military said in statements that the troops near Kandahar opened fire Sunday after the driver ignored repeated signals to keep back.

Afghan and UN officials have urged international troops to avoid civilian casualties, which threaten to undermine support for the President Hamid Karzai and the presence of foreign forces.—*Internet*

Nigerian militants bomb two Shell-operated pipelines

LONDON, 29 July—Nigeria's main militant group said it bombed two Royal Dutch Shell PLC-operated oil pipelines early Monday and warned more attacks were planned over the next month, helping push up oil prices by more than \$1 a barrel.

Shell confirmed one of the pipelines, Nembe Creek, was damaged and it was forced to reduce flows, but didn't say by how much.

"We can say that part of Nembe Creek was damaged and that we have shut-in some production," Shell spokesman Rainer Winzenried said, declining to confirm what caused the damage. Nembe Creek typically operates at about 130,000 barrels a day of capacity and feeds the Bonny oil export terminal.—*Internet*



Israel-Syria peace talks to resume under Turkish mediation

JERUSALEM, 29 July—Israel and Syria will begin on Tuesday a fourth round of indirect peace talks under Turkish mediation, an Israeli official said.

Two advisers to Prime Minister Ehud Olmert — Shalom Turjeman and Yoram Turbowitz — will travel to Turkey during the day to resume the talks, the source told *AFP* on condition of anonymity.

“Israel’s desire for peace is very serious,” the official said. “That is why

we expect that the process that has been begun will soon evolve into direct bilateral negotiations with a view to achieving significant results.”

The Israeli-Syrian talks started in May after an eight-year freeze, and the third round was held in early July.

Under the format of the talks, Israeli and Syrian officials do not see each other and Turkish diplomats shuttle between them.

Israel and Syria have been formally in a state of war since the Jewish state was created in 1948, but the two countries since signed an armistice.

The last negotiations broke down in 2000 over the fate of the Golan Heights, the strategic plateau Israel seized from Syria in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war and annexed in 1981 in a move not recognised by the international community.

Internet

After bombing, Turkish leader urges unity

ISTANBUL, 29 July—Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan, eight government ministers and thousands of mourners stood as burial prayers were said at a local mosque on Monday for 10 of the 17 victims of Sunday’s double bombing.

The coffins, like many houses in the area around the bombing site, were draped with Turkey’s red-and-white flag.

On Monday, the country’s highest court began

considering a prosecutor’s contention that Erdogan’s party, Justice and Development, or AK, had brought Islamic practices into politics in violation of the founding principles of the Turkish republic.

If the party is found guilty, it could be banned and 71 senior members, including President Abdullah Gul and Prime Minister Erdogan, could be bar-red from politics for five years. The court is expected to reach its verdict in two weeks.

neighbourhood, alluding to the case as he called for calm and urged nationwide solidarity.

“Our problem or issue right now is not the closure of AK Party, but the problem that Turkey struggles with,” Erdogan said in a televised Press briefing. “Our problem is to maintain unity and togetherness so that our nation can attain a better position.”

As he spoke, local residents chanted slogans against a Kurdish separatist group that is suspected in the bombing.

Internet

Doctor shot dead on honeymoon

LONDON, 29 July—A newly wed doctor was killed and her husband is in critical condition after being shot during their honeymoon on the Caribbean island of Antigua, the Foreign Office said on Monday.

The couple are believed to have been fired at by intruders during a botched robbery in their cottage at a hotel during the early hours of Sunday.

Catherine Mullany, nee Bowen, a doctor from the Pontardawe area of south Wales, was killed at the scene. Her husband,

Benjamin, is fighting for his life in intensive care.

The Foreign Office said their families had been informed, and that Antiguan police had launched an investigation.

Paul Williams, chief executive of the university trust in south Wales where Catherine Mullany was training as a GP, said it was devastated by the death of the “popular, talented and caring young doctor”.

Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust (ABM) Paediatric Consultant and Clinical

Director Mike Cosgrove added: “We were expecting Catherine back from her honeymoon today and instead we heard this terrible news.”

Internet

Catherine Mullany and her husband Benjamin are seen cutting their wedding cake in a photo dated on 12 July, 2008 and released by South Wales Police on 28 July, 2008.

INTERNET



Fire destroys 12 homes near Yosemite National Park

MARIPOSA (Calif), 29 July—Smoke had turned the sun a deep glowing red by the time Dutch tourist Trees Duipmans and her three teenage children reached a campground outside Yosemite National Park on Sunday.

By Monday, they decided it was time to go. “There was ash falling on our tent. We think we will go to the beach,” Duipmans said.

A wildfire burning almost completely out of control Monday outside

the famed park has charred more than 42 square miles, destroyed 12 homes and shrouded many an iconic vista with smoky haze. Some visitors toughed it out, while others packed their bags.

“You would like to be relaxed on your holiday,” Duipmans said.

“If you’re looking for tension you visit New York City. This here is a whole other kind of tension.”

Internet



Orange County Firefighters look at fires burning across the Briceburg mountains along side the Merced River on 27 July, 2008 in Briceburg, Calif. An out-of-control wildfire burning Sunday near an entrance to Yosemite National Park has destroyed eight homes and threatened thousands more as flames forced authorities to cut power to the park.

INTERNET

Unexploded bomb found in western Indian city

AHMEDABAD, 29 July—Police found an unexploded bomb in the western Indian city of Surat, one of the world’s biggest diamond-polishing centres, on Tuesday, three days after a series of bombs in the same state killed 45 people.

“We received a phone call from a residence in Surat informing us about a suspicious package. A bomb squad was sent. They are now defusing it,” said a senior police officer, who asked not to be named.

A series of 16 bombs ripped through the nearby city of Ahmedabad in the state of Gujarat on Saturday, a day after bombs killed one woman in the IT hub of Bangalore.—*Internet*

Petrol bombs found underneath Indonesia train

JAKARTA, 29 July—Police have launched an investigation after a cache of up to 10 petrol bombs was found stashed underneath a train heading to the Indonesian capital Jakarta, officials said on Tuesday.

The petrol bombs were detected on the executive train after it had departed the West Java city of Cirebon, 225 km (140 miles) from Jakarta on Tuesday morning.

“There were at least nine bottles with wicks and wrapped in black plastic attached to the train,” said Suhartono, a spokesman for Cirebon operations at rail company, PT KAI.—*Internet*

Small bomb explodes at Spain’s Torremolinos resort

MADRID, 29 July—A small bomb exploded on Tuesday at Spanish holiday resort Torremolinos without causing injury or any significant damage, a government official said.

There was no warning before the blast on the beach at Torremolinos in Spain’s southern Costa del Sol tourist area, the government spokesman said. Four bombs exploded along Spain’s northern coast earlier this month. Local authorities blamed those on Basque separatist group ETA, which has often bombed tourist resorts during the summer holiday season.—*Internet*

OPEC chief says current oil prices ‘abnormal’

JAKARTA, 29 July—Crude oil prices above 120 dollars a barrel are “abnormal” and could fall to around 78 dollars under the right circumstances, OPEC President Chakib Khelil said here Tuesday.

“If the dollar continues to strengthen and the political situation (regarding Iran) improves, then the long-term prices will be about 78 dollars,” Khelil told reporters in

Jakarta, adding the market was well-supplied with oil. Crude prices have doubled over the past two years but fallen from record highs of around 147 dollars a barrel reached earlier this month. They were trading at around 125 dollars on Tuesday.

“There’s a balance in the market. I would say stocks are at a good level and there hasn’t been any disruption in demand,”

Khelil said.

Asked whether any members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) should cut production if oil prices continued to fall, he said: “No, I don’t think so. Why should they cut production?” “They always want to make sure there’s good supply and demand and to satisfy the demand,” he said.—*Internet*



A policeman stands guard beside a decoration at the Hong Kong Olympic Village on 29 July, 2008. Hong Kong police chief said the territory will deploy 4,000 police officers during the Olympic equestrian event to be held in August.—INTERNET



A visitor views sand sculptures on the beach at Weston-Super-Mare in south west England on 28 July, 2008. The Sand Sculpture Festival runs until the end of August with intricate designs ranging from cityscapes to animals to iconic people.—INTERNET

Vietnam’s foreign investment hits record

HANOI (Vietnam), 29 July—Foreign direct investment pledged for Vietnam in the first seven months of the year has hit a record \$45.3 billion, up 373 percent from the same period a year ago and surpassing the record of \$21.3 billion for all of 2007, the government said Tuesday. Some 654 new projects with a total investment of \$44.5 billion were granted licenses, and an additional \$788.6 million from 188

existing projects was also licensed in the first seven months, according to the General Statistics Office, or GSO. Taiwan tops the list with a total pledged investment of \$8.4 billion, it said. Japan is ranked second with \$7.2 billion. Malaysia was third with \$5.1 billion. The GSO said 381 projects with a pledged investment of \$21.5 billion were in industry and 243 projects with an investment of \$22.8 billion were in the service sector.—*Internet*

FTC: Kids target of \$1.6 billion in food ads

WASHINGTON, 29 July—The nation’s largest food and beverage companies spent about \$1.6 billion in 2006 marketing their products especially carbonated drinks to children, according to a Federal Trade Commission report. The report, to be released Tuesday, stems from lawmakers’ concern about growing obesity rates in children. It gives researchers new insight into how much companies are spending to attract youth to their products, and what venues the companies are using for their marketing. To come up with its estimate, the FTC used confidential financial data that it required the companies to turn over. An executive summary of the report was obtained by *The Associated Press*.—*Internet*

First US beef arrives in S Korea after ban

SEOUL, 29 July —The first shipment of US beef under a controversial import deal arrived in South Korea on Tuesday, state media reported.

The resumption of US beef imports follows a nearly five-year ban after a case of mad cow disease turned up in the United States. It also comes in the midst of continuing public concern over it.

Tens of thousands of people in South Korea have protested the South Korean government’s decision to resume beef imports from the United States.

The initial shipment of 1.5 tons of ribs and other bone-in cuts arrived by plane at Incheon International Airport, said Nerp Corporation, a Seoul-based meat importer, according to the *Yonhap* news agency.

Eating meat products contaminated with the illness has been linked to variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, a rare and fatal malady in humans. Until the 2003 ban, South Korea was the third-largest market for US beef exporters.—*Internet*



A pedestrian walks past a banner opposed to importing US beef in Seoul.—INTERNET

Merrill to sell troubled assets, raise capital

NEW YORK, 29 July—Merrill Lynch & Co, in a broad move to clean up its troubled balance sheet, said Monday it will sell a big slice of its toxic asset-backed securities and issue new stock to raise \$8.5 billion of fresh capital.

The world’s largest brokerage, struggling to right itself as the credit crisis continues, said it will issue more than 200

million new common shares as part of the deal. Merrill said it will write-down \$5.7 billion because of additional losses on the sale of mortgage securities and hedging contracts. Chief Executive John Thain, who joined Merrill Lynch last year, had vowed in the past he wanted to avoid using a public offering to raise money. The latest move comes just over a week after Merrill reported a \$4.6 billion second-quarter loss, where he raised \$8 billion

of much needed capital from asset sales instead of diluting the stock by issuing more shares. Perhaps the biggest benefactor in the deal is Temasek Holdings, the Singapore sovereign wealth fund that is already one of Merrill’s biggest investors. The firm agreed to buy \$3.4 billion worth of shares at a yet-to-be determined price, a potentially large percentage considering shares of the brokerage are down 54 percent this year.

—*Internet*

Sony Q1 profit down 39 pct on weak mobile phone sales

TOKYO, 29 July—Sony Corp (6758.T) posted a 39 percent fall in quarterly operating profit on Tuesday, hit by losses in its mobile phone joint venture with Sweden’s Ericsson (ERICB.ST) and a firmer yen.

Despite the loss, the electronics and entertainment conglomerate raised its annual outlook to reflect a change in its accounting method.

The US economic slowdown, the yen’s appreciation and higher fuel and raw materials prices are eating into profits at Sony and other Japanese exporters, and thwarting cost-cutting plans.

The supplier of Cyber-shot digital cameras, Vaio PCs and PlayStation game machines suffered a sharp downturn at Sony Ericsson as demand fell for its more expensive phones.—*Internet*

Toshiba plunges into red in first quarter

Tokyo, 29 July—Japan’s Toshiba Corp said Tuesday it plunged to a net loss of 11.6 billion yen (108 million dollars) in the fiscal first quarter on problems at its semiconductor operations and a stronger yen. The figure is a significant reversal from a net profit of 20.6 billion yen made during the April-June quarter last year.

Toshiba’s operating loss reached 24.2 billion yen, compared with a profit of 21.2 billion yen a year ago.

Revenue slipped to 1.62 trillion yen from 1.66 trillion yen a year ago.—*Internet*



A student at the University of California, Berkeley. The cafeteria tray is being elbowed out of US university canteens as campuses change the way students collect their food and look for savings in tough economic times.—INTERNET

India looks to 100 developing nations for support on agri

GENEVA, 29 July— Unhappy with the fresh proposal on agriculture at the WTO meeting here, India is looking up to over 100 developing countries for support to ensure that farmers remain protected after a global trade deal is signed for liberalizing the farm and other sectors.

“India is trying to get support of 100 developing countries, including Africa, LDCs and G-33— agriculture alliance of the developing countries— to change the Special Safeguard Mechanism (SSM) provision,” an Indian official told PTI.

World Trade Organization Chief Pascal Lamy has circulated a new proposal on agriculture and non-agriculture market access Saturday which was discussed by the all the ministers in the greenroom.

The proposal suggests “SSM for above bound rate trigger is 140 per cent of base imports”.

MNA/PTI



A Swedish smokers stubs out her cigarette in Stockholm. Lung cancer has become the deadliest form of cancer among women in Sweden, overtaking breast cancer, Sweden’s National Board of Health and Welfare said in a report.—INTERNET

Psychologist helps Chinese handball squads to release pressure

BEIJING, 29 July — With only 10 days to go before the Beijing Olympic Games, both Chinese men’s and women’s handball teams walked out of their gym and received a pressure-

releasing psychologic aid in their training camp here on Tuesday.

Psychologist Ding Xueqin, vice chairman of China Sports Psychology Society and professor of China Institute of Sports

Science, has been working in the sport psychology community for years.

During her aid session, Ding pointed out to the handballers some possible pressure they could meet in the coming Beijing Games and taught them how to cope with it.

“Pressure is not a horrible thing. You need learn to get used to it and control it. You shall have a brave heart and learn to dance with the pressure,” Ding said in her speech.

She also told the handballers several ways to control the in-game mood and highlighted the importance of teamwork.

The one and a half hours’ aid session was filled with not only theories and instructions, but also games and stories, as well as communication time.—Internet

Pakistan party defends civilian control of spy agency

ISLAMABAD, 29 July —The decision to put Pakistan’s main spy agency under civilian control was aimed at keeping the Army out of the diplomatic line of fire, the head of the ruling party said in remarks published on Sunday.

Pakistan Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani on Saturday put the Inter Services Intelligence Agency (ISI) under control of the Interior Ministry before flying off to Washington for talks with President George W Bush. Critics say the ISI played a major role in the creation of the Islamist Taleban movement, which took control of Afghanistan in the 1990s and harboured al-Qaeda until it was forced from power by US-led forces in the wake of the 11 September attacks.

Neighbouring India and Afghanistan have often blamed the ISI for masterminding acts of terrorism in their countries. — MNA/Reuters

Russia plans new carriers, subs to boost Navy

Moscow, 29 July — Russia announced plans on Sunday to revive its once-mighty Navy by building several aircraft carriers and upgrading its fleet of nuclear submarines in the coming years.

Russia’s power at sea is a shadow of the formidable Soviet Navy which challenged US military dominance in the Cold War. But, with a strong

economy now from booming oil exports, it is seeking to raise its profile on the world stage by modernizing the Armed Forces.

Russia will build five or six aircraft carrier battle groups in the near future, RIA news agency quoted Navy Commander Vladimir Vysotsky as telling Navy Day festivities in St Petersburg, the second

city. “We call this a sea-borne aircraft carrier system which will be based on the Northern and Pacific fleets,” Vysotsky said. “The creation of such systems will begin after 2012.”

He said such carrier groups would operate in close contact with Russia’s military satellites, Air Forces and air defences.

Russia now has only one aircraft carrier, the Soviet-built *Nikolai Kuznetsov*, which was launched in 1985 but did not become fully operational for 10 years due to the turmoil following the Soviet Union’s collapse in 1991.

In fact, it is not even a fully-fledged aircraft-carrier, being officially called an air-capable cruiser. It carries fewer aircraft than US carriers and features a steam-turbine power-plant with turbo-generators, while all modern carriers are nuclear-powered.

MNA/Reuters

US Army apologizes to 28 WWII Black soldiers

WASHINGTON, 29 July — The US Army has formally apologized to 28 Black soldiers, who were wrongly convicted of rioting and lynching of an Italian prisoner of World War II in Seattle about six decades ago.

“The Army is genuinely

sorry. I am genuinely sorry,” Assistant Secretary of the Army for manpower and reserve affairs Ronald James was quoted as saying by *Seattle Times*. “We had not done right by these soldiers,” James said Saturday, besides calling the

convictions a “grievous wrong”. The soldiers were convicted in 1945, a year after a clash between them and the Italian prisoners of war left one person dead and several others injured at Seattle’s Fort Lawton Army Reserve Centre.

MNA/PTI



Nikita Glushik, 19, visits Russian site Vkontakte at an Internet cafe in Moscow, on 25 July, 2008. In its bid to go global, Facebook is facing off against itself. In Russia, where Facebook launched last month, the Web site finds itself competing against entrenched Russian sites like Vkontakte, a Russian-language look-alike that has already hooked over 14 million users.—INTERNET

Just to mend ways if wrong

Hnin Oo Khin

Mending wrong ways after learning lessons from a mistake is a sign of improvement. Deeming an impossible case to be possible, and a false case, to be true has adverse effects on the whole human society. Every truth has its value. Truth lies within objective conditions.

There is a saying that goes 'Pride goes before a fall'. So, one must be free from ego and conceit while trying to find truth. According to some scholars, ordinary people are more likely to find truth than those with egoism.

A wrong decision of a person can have adverse effects on his society only, whereas a wrong policy of a political party can harm the entire nation. That is evidenced by the wrong decision the Burma Communist Party made to exercise the armed struggle policy that caused dire consequences to the people.

Now, the State Constitution (2008) has been adopted with the approval of 92.48 per cent of the voters, and plans are well under way to form a democratic government. However, local saboteurs are found to be turning their blind eye to the prevailing situations.

Some destructive elements at home and abroad are opposed to the State's seven-step Road Map that is in progress for transition to democracy. Subversive elements are ignoring the truths, while regarding the Tatmadaw government as their enemy. They should have worked out the issue, keeping an eye on the prevailing situation of Myanmar in order to find out what the outcome of their activities are—fruitful results or undesirable consequences.

Myanmar is located in a strategic area, surrounded by Southeast Asian countries, Northeast Asian countries and Southern Asian countries. It is situated on the international water, air and land routes. It is not a landlocked country. With an entrance to the sea, it plays an important role in geopolitics in the region. It is rich in land, forest and mineral resources. It has a fine tradition of preserving and promoting traditions and culture. So, the people including members of the

Sangha love and value their motherland and, they have been able to protect their country.

Having fallen under the rule of the colonialists for more than 100 years, and the Fascists for three years, Myanmar people are capable of distinguishing between good and bad.

Myanmar has faced a wide range of stresses and straits due to variety of ideologies. It is still under the threats posed by those who are trying to push the nation into the abyss of havoc.

So long as some persons under alien influence and certain powerful countries approach the Myanmar issue just superficially, the solution to the issue is beyond their reach. Such policies as confrontation, riots, and economic sanctions are based on selfishness and personality cult, so they are just destructive acts, well far from the truth.

The State Peace and Development Council has promulgated the State Constitution through Announcement No 7/2008. Since then, the Tatmadaw government has won the trust and reliance of 92.48 per cent of the voters.

There are several points of why the government has won the trust and reliance of those who are knowledgeable enough to differentiate between constructive and destructive. They are as follows:—

Today's State leaders are well knowledgeable about the politics of the motherland; they have passed through times of the parliamentary system, Myanmar Socialist Programme Party, and the Tatmadaw government; they faced and overcame internal multi-coloured insurgency, intrusion of Kuomintang nationalist Chinese troops, various forms of internal armed insurgency, and political conflicts and crises; and they know well the conditions of the nation that have taken place in the course of the nation's history. In spite of various forms of disruptions created by internal and external elements, the government has managed to achieve internal peace, build development facilities such as roads, bridges, hospitals, schools and dams, and it has served the interests of the nation and

the people of its own volition. So, there was a record public support in the referendum.

Learning lessons from the historic events, the people are well convinced that the government is implementing the State's seven-step Road Map it has laid down for long-term practice of democracy.

However, saboteurs in the nation are detonating bombs, inciting riots, spreading rumours to create public panic, and calling for cuts in humanitarian aid to and economic sanctions against Myanmar to make commodity prices go up, and push the nation into ashes. So, I wonder if they are really persons who were born in Myanmar. They were committing destructive activities throughout the periods of the National Convention, drafting the State constitution, and the referendum, while having disregard for the desires of the people. If they think they are politicians who really love the nation and the people, they should not call for any economic sanctions against the nation and they should call for international assistance and work in the interests of the nation and the people.

Here, I would like to present an excerpt from the VOA's broadcast on 15-7-2008 of an interview between the Bangkok Post and Professor Noam Chomsky, 80, who is held in highest esteem among world's live scholars.

When asked what are the consequences of the enormous UK investment in Myanmar, of earlier US weapons sales, of recent Israeli weapons sales and of Chevron Oil's continued supply of millions and millions of dollars in oil money, he said that the consequences of the US-UK-Israeli operations are, of course, to strengthen the Myanmar government.

That indicated the policy of 'double face and double tongue' national lackeys' masters exercised.

When asked if he thought that mass protests would be successful in Myanmar, he said that mass protests did not usually work. The international community understands well that mass demonstrations do not yield any fruitful results. The entire Myanmar people are opposed to riots.

He also said that the issues should be addressed through non-violent ways. So, destructive elements should choose non-violent ways instead of confrontation in working out the problem.

Therefore, destructive groups should have noticed that their practice of confrontation policy, and attempts to provoke riots and bomb attacks under the instructions of certain western countries that are putting pressure with the use of media tool, invading and imposing economic sanctions against other countries on the pretext of democracy and human rights do not contribute towards the drive for democracy transition and that will reduce the nation into one where anarchy reigns. And they should have realized they are doing wrong and they should have stopped committing their destructive acts.

Translation: MS

Destructive groups should have noticed that their practice of confrontation policy, and attempts to provoke riots and bomb attacks under the instructions of certain western countries that are putting pressure with the use of media tool, invading and imposing economic sanctions against other countries on the pretext of democracy and human rights do not contribute towards the drive for democracy transition and that will reduce the nation into one where anarchy reigns.



Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects rain-fed paddy cultivation in Dagon Myothit (East) Township. — MNA

Minister for Electric Power 2 inspects sub-power stations

NAY PYI TAW, 28 July—Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint together with officials concerned, looked into Meiktila sub-power station (Thapyaewa) on 26 July.

Next, the minister proceeded to Mandalay sub-power station (Taguntaing) where he inspected control room and arrangements for generat-

ing electricity from the station to Shwesayan sub-power station. Afterwards, the minister went to Shwesayan sub-power station in which he inspected generating of electricity to PyinOoLwin, Yadanabon Myothit and Kyaukchaw sub-power stations via Shwesayan sub-power station and construction works in the switch yard of the station.—MNA

Talk on ITPEC will be given on 2 August

YANGON, 29 July — With the sponsorship of Myanmar Computer Professionals Association, a talk on ITPEC will be given by Joint-Secretary of MCPA U Ye Yint Win at Myanmar Info-Tech Building in Hline Township from 1 to 3 pm on 2 August.

The talk will largely

focus on advantages of course syllabus for ITPEC exam and job opportunities.

Members of MCPA, computer enthusiasts and those interested may attend the talks. For further information, contact the MCPA's office and dial 652276.—MNA

Minister for Construction inspects construction tasks along Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana-Pinlaung Road

NAY PYI TAW, 29 July— Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun yesterday inspected construction of a suspension bridge along Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana-Pinlaung Road and gave necessary instructions to officials.

Accompanied by officials concerned, the minister arrived at the briefing hall of Kogway Yetagun road station of Road Construction Special Group-13 that is engaged in the construction of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana-Pinlaung road section and gave instructions on

maintenance of the road section.

Next, the minister and party looked into the repair and maintenance tasks along the road, and proceeded to Leinli Suspension Bridge construction project near Leinli Village where they inspected work being carried out.

The 1760 feet long suspension bridge is of reinforced concrete floor and steel beam type and it is flanked by three feet wide pedestrian lanes on either side. The motor road of the bridge is 28 feet wide and it can withstand 75 tons of load.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects...

(from page 1)

reported on the area of the Ministry of Rail Transportation near the Ywathagyi Station and construction of buildings and cultivation of monsoon paddy in vacant lands.

Next, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint reported on cultivable land in four Dagon Myothit Townships.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe also reported on cultivation of monsoon paddy in Yangon Division.

In his discussions, the Prime Minister spoke on use of vacant lands on the land of the department and in industrial zones, reclamation of cultivable lands, double cropping in a year and cultivation of high quality paddy strain.

The Prime Minister and party inspected cultivation of monsoon paddy in the environs of Ywathagyi Station, near sluice gate of Nyaungbintha Creek in Dagon Myothit (East), in Ward 98 in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township and cultivated lands.

Chairmen of the respective township peace and development councils reported on cultivation of monsoon paddy in their townships. The Prime Minister fulfilled the requirements.

The Prime Minister and party inspected cultivation of monsoon paddy along the ring road of Bago River in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan).—MNA



Rain-fed paddy cultivation in Dagon Myothit (East) Township. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen
Thiha Thura Tin
Aung Myint Oo
addresses meeting of
the Central
Supervisory
Committee for
Ensuring Secure
and Smooth
Transport in
Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

Importance of constant maintenance...

(from page 1)

Also present were Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, members of Central Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth Transport the ministers, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Yangon Mayor, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mandalay Mayor, the deputy ministers, members of Work Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth Transport, the director-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, secretaries of State and Division Peace and Development Councils, officials and private entrepreneurs.

The Secretary-1 said the central supervisory committee is implementing the road and bridge construction projects in cooperation with private entrepreneurs for ensuring better transport and convenience of the travelling public in the country.

He spoke of the need for the respective ministries, local authorities



and private entrepreneurs to undertake the respective tasks harmoniously.

He said the government had allowed the entrepreneurs to build roads that can benefit them from economic point of view.

Road work needs to be maintained constantly so that the work will be successful. The amount of investment is great and road sections are different from one after another according to the different conditions of the regions, he said.

He stressed the importance of constant maintenance of roads for durability. The government and local authorities will provide necessary assistance to the entrepreneurs, he added.

He said the government assigned duties to the entrepreneurs for ensuring better transport and smooth flow of commodities. Therefore, they are responsible for maintenance of the road.

Local authorities on their part will provide nec-

essary assistance to the entrepreneurs for the success of the tasks, he added.

Next, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Maj-Gen Khin Zaw reported on measures taken in the respective regions for ensuring smooth and secure transport.

Secretary of Central Supervisory Committee Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun reported on roads to be built by the private entrepreneurs under BOT system and rules and regulations.

Next, officials of Asia World Co, Thawda Win Co, Shwethanlwin Co, High Star Co, Shwetaung Co, Yuzana Co, Myanma Economic Holdings Ltd, Kanbawza Road Exploration and Industries Ltd, Max Myanmar Co and Myat No Thu Co reported on the work being done.

The Secretary-1 fulfilled the requirements and the meeting came to an end. —MNA

ကမ္ဘာ့မိခင်နို့တိုက်ကျွေးရေး ရက်သတ္တပတ်

(၁-၈-၂၀၀၈ မှ ၇-၈-၂၀၀၈ ထိ)

World Breastfeeding Week

(1-8-2008 to 7-8-2008)

Mother Support; Going for the Gold!

“မိခင်နို့စနစ်တကျတိုက်ကျွေးဖို့၊ ဝိုင်းဝန်းကူညီပံ့ပိုးဖို့”

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

STI Education confers certificates on graduates, awards winners of essay, debate competitions

YANGON, 27 July — A mid-year graduation ceremony and final debate competitions of STI Education was held at Park Royal Hotel here on 27 July.

At the final competitions, two finalists of the category A debate teams which comprised 3 candidates competed for the topic of “It is better to be young and poor than to be old and rich” and in the category B debate, two teams representing TESOL and TEFL competed for the topic of “Money is the root of all evils”.

Certificates of Diploma in TESOL, Diploma in Hospitality and Tourism Management, Diploma in Business Management, Diploma in Logistics Management, Certificate in TEFL, Certificate in Business Management and English, Certificate in English Communication Skills and English-To-Go were conferred on graduates by STI Education.

STI's visiting Professor Mrs Jean Braid

awarded winners of the essay competitions for the category A and category B.

The winners of the debate for the category A were awarded by the Judge, Emeritus Prof Daw Khin Su Su Thwin and winners of the debate for the category B were awarded by Emeritus Prof Daw May Kyaw Myint.

STI Education will start recruiting the students for the Bachelor Degree in Business Management of University of London (UOL), 3-year programme to be studied at Queensfield Business School (QBS). The stu-

dents will be waived security deposit SG\$ 5000.

STI will introduce Diploma in Design (Interior, Exterior, multimedia) by Edith Cowan University (ECU), Australia in collaboration with Singapore Institute of Materials Management (SIMM). The diploma and degree will be awarded by Edith Cowan University (ECU), Australia. The architecture design these days is one of the highest ranking salary indexes and there are plenty of demands for those design diploma or degree graduates globally. —MNA



Mrs Jean Braid awards first-prize winner of essay competition. — MNA

International relief supplies arrive

YANGON, 29 July—A total of 24,051 tons of relief supplies do-

nated by Thai-based WFP (World Food Programme) arrived at

Yangon International Airport today.

MNA

Shwedagon Pagoda holds Pathana reciting ceremony

YANGON, 29 July — The Pathana reciting ceremony of Shwedagon Pagoda's Pujaniya was held at the north prayer hall of the pagoda here this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint and wife Daw Kyin Myaing.

The ceremony was

opened with the three-time recitation of Namo Tassa by members of the Sangha led by Chairman Sayadaw of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee Bhaddanta Iddhibala, the commander and wife and the congregation.

Next, members of Yangon Division SNC Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Gunalankara recited

Pathana verse and the congregation led by the commander and wife received the Nine Precepts from Bhaddanta Iddhibala.

After that, the commander and wife and those present presented offertories to the members of the Sangha. And then members of the Sangha recited Pathana.

The Pathana reciting ceremony continues till 1 August.—MNA

Sayadaw to deliver sermon on MRTV on 1 Aug

YANGON, 30 July — A sermon on advantages and disadvantages of those who are equipped with morality and those who lack of morality

delivered by member of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Nathmaw Kyaungtaik of Mawlamyine Agga Maha

Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Sumana will be on air on MRTV at 7 am on 1 August (Friday) (15th Waning of Waso 1370 ME).—MNA

Objectives of the 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

1. Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
2. Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
3. Keeping genuine patriotism based on national solidarity alive and dynamic
4. Turning out younger generation who will continue to safeguard the national culture and character

Congregation led by Managing Director of NPE U Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Aye receives Five Precepts from a Sayadaw during the ceremony to offer Waso robes to members of the Sangha. — MNA



Book on Myanmar poems published

YANGON, 29 July — A ceremony to publish a poem book namely *Course of Myanmar Poems (classical+modern poems)* was held at Zin Min Aung Teashop near Sarpay Beikman,

Kyauktada Township here this morning, with a discussion on history of Myanmar poems and modern poems by U Soe Nyunt (Dr Htila Sitthu).

Next, organizer of the book Min Yoe Yin

explained the purposes of the publication of the book and the ceremony came to an end. The book consists of six classical poems and modern poems.

MNA

Rakhine Thahaya Association (Yangon) grants scholarships

YANGON, 29 July — Rakhine Thahaya Association (Yangon) conducted a ceremony to present scholarships to students of Universities and Colleges at International Business Centre here on 27 July. It was organized by Rakhine Social organization from abroad.

At the scholarship presentation ceremony, Patron U Kyi Min and Chairman of the association U Kyaw Zan

Hla made speeches. Next, U Tun Aung Lin of Representative of Rakhine State Education Foundation explained the purposes of the scholarship providing programmes.

They presented prizes to the outstanding students of Rakhine State who passed the matriculation examination in 2007 and granted scholarships to 66 students. The students received K 200,000 each for their scholarships.—MNA



U Kyaw Zan Hla briefs on scholarship programme during a scholarship awarding ceremony. — MNA

NPE holds 11th Waso robe offering ceremony

YANGON, 29 July — Under the patronage of the Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Win, families of the News and Periodicals Enterprise held the 11th Waso robe offering ceremony at Dagon Pariyatti Sarthintak on Myomakyaung Street in Dagon Township this morning.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of Dagon Pariyatti Sarthintak Presiding Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Guna Nanda and members of the Sangha, and attended by Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise U Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Aye, the Vice-Chairmen of Myanmar Writers and Journalists

Association, chief editors, deputy chief editors, managers and departmental officials, families of staff and guests.

First, the ceremony was opened with the three-time recitation of *Namo Tassa* and then the congregation received the Five Precepts from Sayadaw Guna Nanda. After members of the Sangha had recited Parittas, Managing Director U Soe Win and wife and the congregation donated Waso robes and offertories to members of the Sangha.

Next, the congregation shared merits gained and ended the ceremony and then offered *Soon* to members of the Sangha.

MNA

Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry football tournament goes on

NAY PYI TAW, 29 July — The Second Inter-Ministry football tournament continued here this evening. At Nay Pyi Taw football ground No 2, Ministry of Industry-1 won over the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries with 2-1. At Paunglong football ground, Ministry of Education and Ministry of

Electric Power No. 2 ended with a goalless draw.

On 30 July, Ministry of Labour will play against Ministry of Electric Power No-1 at Nay Pyi Taw football ground No 2 and Ministry of Culture against Supreme court in the Group-B at Paunglong football ground.—MNA



Ambassadors, diplomats, resident representatives of UN agencies and journalists view settlement of storm survivors in houses in Kyeinchaunggyi New Model Village in Bogale Township. — MNA

TCG Chairman, diplomats, resident representatives of UN organizations, officials of INGOs and MFCC observe reconstruction in storm-hit regions in Ayeyawady Div

YANGON, 29 July— The study group comprising foreign ambassadors to Myanmar, charge d' affaires, military attaches, resident representatives of UN organizations, officials of INGOs, the president of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club and member reporters totaling 148 led by Chairman of Tripartite Core Group

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu dividing into three groups aboard six helicopters went on a field trip to storm-affected regions in Ayeyawady Division this morning and observed accomplishment of the reconstruction tasks.

Upon arrival at Labutta, Chairman of Myaungmya District

Peace and Development Council U Aye Han briefed members of the study group-1 on losses and damages due to the storm, progress in carrying out reconstruction tasks, fulfillment of food, paddy strains, power-tillers and draught cattle, progress in ploughing the farmlands and then he replied to the queries raised by

members of the study group-1. On arrival at Pyinsalu, Head of Pyinsalu General Administration Department U Zaw Min Tun briefed members of the study group on progress in carrying out reconstruction tasks in the town and accommodation of storm victims at newly-built houses and then he replied to the queries raised by members of the study group. Next, members of the study group viewed the storm victims who are being accommodated at the newly-built houses and observed progress in ploughing the farmlands and reconstructions and continued their visit to Theikpankon village.

At the village PDC Office, responsible persons from the village briefed members of the study group on reconstruction of the village and progress in ploughing farmlands. At Theikpankon village Affiliated Basic Education High School, members of the study group viewed the students who are pursuing education and donation of personal hygiene related items by a social organization namely ADRA and water purifiers. They arrived back Yangon by helicopters in the afternoon.

In Bogale, Chairman of Bogale Township PDC U Soe Thein briefed members of the study group-2 on losses and damages caused by the

storm in the township, accomplishment of rescue and accommodation operation, arrival of relief aids and progress in carrying out rehabilitation tasks and then he replied to the queries raised by members of the study group.

Next, members of the study group viewed health care services to the storm survivors carried out by specialists and the public health group, the students who are doing lessons at Bogale Township No. 1 BEHS, reconstruction of the damaged buildings and developments of the township.

Afterwards, they arrived at Kyeinchaunggyi village by helicopter and then they were conducted by responsible persons as they made observations on stay of respective storm-hit families at newly-built houses.

Upon arrival at Sethsan village, they viewed storm-hit families who are being accommodated at new houses built by the State. On their way back to Yangon by helicopters they viewed reconstruction of storm-hit towns and villages and progress in carrying out farming and fisheries industries.

Likewise, members of the study group-3 were welcomed by Member of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Col San Myint of Local Battalion and departmental officials in Pyapon. At Pyapon

District PDC Office, Chairman of Pyapon Township PDC U Kyaw Oo Lwin briefed members of the study group-3 on losses and damages caused by the storm, progress in relief and reconstruction tasks and then he replied to the queries raised by members of the study group. Next, they viewed documentary photos on reconstruction tasks being carried out by INGOs.

Afterwards, members of the study group accompanied by Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing arrived at the boat building station in Ohnpin village of Dedaye Township and observed building of fishing boats, fishing nets and engines and then viewed reconstruction tasks in the township.

At Pyapon Township No. 1 BEHS, members of the study group together with Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing studied the students who are doing lessons and repair of the buildings. On arrival at Dedaye, they viewed progress in constructing houses to accommodate storm-hit families.

Next, they conducted round Dedaye Township People's Hospital and then viewed progress in repairing damaged buildings in the township and durable houses donated by Aden Company in Kyoneda and Toe villages.

Afterwards, they arrived back in Yangon by helicopter in the afternoon.

MNA

Myanmar Pharmaceutical Index 2008 comes out

YANGON, 29 July— The first Edition book is published with the aim of providing names of medicines which are sold legally on markets, treatments and use of medicines and medical equipment, pharmaceutical companies, side effects and precautions. Besides, the book also contains lists of 60 pharmaceutical companies and 1,600 medicines. Pharmaceutical companies can put ads in the book. Per copy costs K 4,000, and anyone can buy 100 copies at 15% discount and from 50 and 100 copies at 10% discount.

At the launching ceremony, Chairman of MMA Prof Dr U Kyaw Myint Naing and President of MPMEEA Dr Win Sithu extended greetings and Prof Dr U Myo Myint briefed on Myanmar Pharmaceutical Index 2008 (first edition).

The two associations published the book for the first time and they have a plan to publish the book every year. The

MMA, Sarana Co Ltd, MPMEEA, universities of medicines, Inwa Book Shop, Medical Book Store in Wahdan, City Mart and Thet Wai Soe Book Shop (Mandalay).—MNA



Prof Dr U Myo Myint introduces Myanmar Pharmaceutical Index 2008 (First Edition). — MNA

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(For. Domnrm Somgiat & Boonma Attorneys at Law, Thailand.)
Dated: 30 July, 2008

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P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 30 July 2008

Sixteen dead in Angola Army truck collision

JOHANNESBURG, 29 July—Sixteen people have been killed in a collision between an Army truck and a taxi in southeastern Angola, the state-run newspaper *Jornal de Angola* reported on Monday. Authorities said the truck was travelling at a high speed on Saturday evening when it hit and then flipped on top of the taxi near Camungamba, the newspaper said. All the fatalities, including three soldiers, occurred in the taxi. The government has established a commission to investigate the causes of the accident.

Many roads in Angola are unlit, forcing vehicles to rely on their lights and those of oncoming traffic for visibility. The country's road system also is in a state of disrepair after neglect during the 27-year civil war that ended in 2002. —MNA/Reuters

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
MYANMA RAILWAYS
INVITATION TO SEALED TENDERS

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the following Stores which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyat;

SrNo	Tender No	Description	Quantity
(i)	12(T)3/MR(MC) 2008-2009	Shearing Blade, Punch & Die for Shearing Machine and Bending Machine	11-Items
(ii)	9(T)1/MR(CRA) 2008-2009	Paper Cardboard for Printing Railways Ticket	50-M Tons

Closing Date/Time - 29.8.2008 (Friday) (12:00) Hours

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon starting from 29.7.2008 during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 01-298583, 291994. Deputy General Manager, Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botahtaung, Yangon.

One killed, hundreds stranded by New Mexico flood

RUIDOSO (New Mexico), 29 July—One man was killed and hundreds of people were stranded in the New Mexico mountain town of Ruidoso by flash floods triggered by the remnants of Hurricane Dolly.

The body of a man, believed to have been about 20, was found on Monday morning near the Rio Ruidoso after he was swept away by the flood Sunday night, Ruidoso Fire Department spokes-

woman Darlene Hart said.

Hart said that no one else has been reported missing but that about 400 people fled from homes, camps and recreational vehicles, as the water rose. Many of those people were being sheltered at local churches.

Another 200 people who had been camping in the forests near the town were cut off by the floods. There had been no reports of injuries but rescuers

were going to try to drop food and water to them by helicopter, Hart said.

The deluge also destroyed 12 bridges in the area, all on secondary or residential streets. US Highway 70 and New Mexico Highway 48 were still open Monday.

About 60 homes were flooded, according to the office of Gov Bill Richardson, who was scheduled to visit the area Monday afternoon.

Internet

Sweet fruit drinks found to lead to diabetes

CHICAGO, 29 July—Sweetened fruit drinks are often marketed as a healthier alternative to non-diet soft drinks but are just as likely to cause weight gain and increase the risk of diabetes, researchers said on Monday. "The public should be made aware that these drinks are not a healthy alternative to soft drinks with regard to risk of type 2 diabetes," Julie Palmer and colleagues at Boston University wrote in their report, published in the Archives of Internal

Medicine.

Type 2 diabetes, the most common form of the disease, is closely linked to obesity and has become more common worldwide.

The findings came from a look at nearly 44,000 black women in the United States who were checked from 1995 through 2005.

Those who said they drank two or more non-diet soft drinks a day had a 24 percent increased risk for developing type 2 diabetes than those in the

study who drank fewer than one regular soft drink per month, the research team said.

Women who drank two or more sweetened fruit drinks per day had a 31 percent increased risk compared to those who drank fewer than one such fruit drink a month. Diet soft drinks, grapefruit juice and orange juice were not linked to a higher diabetes risk, the researchers said.

Internet

Impotence drugs help treat brain tumours: study

WASHINGTON, 29 July—Impotence drugs may help carry cancer-fighting drugs through the brain to treat malignant tumours, US researchers reported on Monday.

Tests in rats showed two erectile dysfunction drugs—Schering-Plough's Levitra and Pfizer's Viagra—helped carry a chemotherapy drug past the blood-brain barrier, the team at Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre in Los Angeles said.

Rats with brain tumours lived 42 days when injected with the cancer drug adriamycin. But when they also got Levitra, known generically as vardenafil, the rats survived an average of 53 days. Levitra appeared to be more effective, the researchers reported in the journal *Brain Research*. Levitra and Viagra, known generically as sildenafil, are in a class of drugs known as PDE5 inhibitors. They were originally tested as heart drugs because they increase blood flow in small vessels. "We chose adriamycin for this study because it is one of the most effective drugs against brain tumour cell lines in the laboratory but it has very little effect in animals and humans because it is unable to cross the blood-brain tumour barrier," neurosurgeon Dr Keith Black, who led the study, said in a statement. —Internet

US cop accused of electroshocking youth to death

WASHINGTON, 29 July—A former US police officer shocked a handcuffed Black youngster to death with an electric taser and may face a criminal trial, said a federal prosecutor from Louisiana on Monday.

Baron Pikes, 21, suspected of drug possession, was arrested on 17 January in Winn Parish District, New Orleans. And Scott Nugent, a former police officer allegedly handcuffed him and shocked him with a 50,000 volt taser for nine times, said Prosecutor Chris Nevils. Nugent was dismissed in May.

Coroner Randolph Williams ruled after autopsy Pikes' death as a homicide, saying all nine shocks occurred when Pikes was handcuffed, who showed no "pain or neuromuscular response" to the last two shocks. Nevils said the case has already been submitted to a grand jury, who decided to begin hearing evidence on 12 August.

Nugent has acknowledged using the device on the suspect, but his lawyer said his client just followed the protocols of the police without using unnecessary force.

MNA/Xinhua

**Drive
with
care**

Sri Lanka troops kill 30 Tamil Tiger rebels in north

COLOMBO, 29 July—Sri Lankan troops killed 30 Tamil Tiger rebels in renewed fighting in the north of the island, officials said on Monday, as security was tightened in the capital ahead of a regional summit.

The government has dismissed a declaration by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) of a unilateral ceasefire from 26 July to 4 August as a goodwill gesture for a summit of South Asian countries.

The latest round of

battles took place at the weekend in the districts of Jafna, Vavuniya, Polonnaruwa, Mannar and Mullaitivu. "Troops have killed 30 LTTE terrorists in fighting on Saturday and Sunday," said a spokesman at the media centre for National security asking not to be named in line with the policy. Three soldiers were killed.

The Indian ocean island nation is on high alert with some 19,000 extra police and soldiers deployed in Colombo for the South

Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC) summit.

The rebels have said they would be forced to take "defensive action" if the military continued to attack them despite their declaration of a brief truce. The government is pursuing a strategy to gradually retake the Tiger's northern stronghold and win the 25-year civil war amidst an almost daily barrage of land, sea and air attacks in northern rebel-held territories. —Internet

Virgin Galactic shows off mothership aircraft

MOJAVE, 29 July—The space tourism race marked a milestone Monday as British mogul Sir Richard Branson and American aerospace designer Burt Rutan waved to a crowd from inside the cabin of an exotic jet that will carry a passenger spaceship to launch altitude.

The photo-op was the public unveiling of the White Knight Two mothership before a crowd of engineers, dig-

nitaries and space enthusiasts at the Mojave Air & Space Port in the high desert north of Los Angeles. The four-engine jet, with its 140-foot single wing, is an engineering marvel.

The space between its twin fuselages is where SpaceShipTwo, the passenger rocket being built for Branson's Virgin Galactic, will be mounted.

White Knight Two, billed as the world's largest all-carbon-composite

airplane, is "one of the most beautiful and extraordinary aviation vehicles ever developed," Branson proclaimed.

White Knight Two is the brainchild of Rutan, who made history in 2004 when his SpaceShipOne became the first private, manned craft to reach space.

SpaceShipOne accomplished it with help from White Knight Two's smaller predecessor, White Knight. —Internet



The White Knight Two is unveiled by billionaire Richard Branson, left, in the Mojave Desert. The carrier aircraft is designed to launch passenger-carrying SpaceShipTwo as part of Branson's commercial space programme. Burt Rutan, right, is the owner of Scaled Composites and one of the designers of SpaceShipTwo. —INTERNET

Laos to protect ancient capital to preserve World Heritage status

HANOI, 29 July—Laos has halted plans for new hotels in the town centre of the ancient royal capital Luang Prabang after receiving a warning from UNESCO about its World Heritage status, media reported Tuesday.

The city's heritage office chief, Manivone Thoummabouth, said the provincial government had decided not to allow foreign investors to turn any more state buildings into hotels, the *Vientiane Times* reported online.

Internet

S Korea cat had bird flu: officials

SEOUL, 29 July—A cat found dead in a South Korean city was infected with a virulent strain of bird flu, the first mammal in the country known to have had the H5N1 virus, health officials said on Tuesday.

They said it was the first report of a cat having had the virus since a case in Thailand in 1996, but that there was little risk to humans as there has never been a known transmission of the virus from a cat to other mammals.

"It is quite rare for a cat to be infected by the avian flu virus," said Cho Hyun-Ho, a deputy director of the National Veterinary Research and Quarantine Service. Cats and dogs are usually not susceptible to the virus, so quarantine officials only normally



A Seoul quarantine official. A cat found dead in a South Korean city was infected with a virulent strain of bird flu, the first mammal in the country known to have had the H5N1 virus, health officials said. —INTERNET

check animals that have regular contact with birds.

The cat was found dead in April in Gimje, about 250 kilometres (150 miles) south of Seoul.

"It probably had eaten a sick bird or came in very close contact with chickens or ducks," an uniden-

tified quarantine inspector told *Yonhap* news agency.

Gimje was one of the first regions hit by South Korea's latest bird flu outbreak, which began in early April and swept through most of the country for nearly two months.

Internet

Secondhand smoke raises spouse's stroke risk: study

WASHINGTON, 29 July—Nonsmokers married to smokers have a greatly increased chance of having strokes, according to a US study published on Tuesday showing yet another hazard from secondhand smoke.

Being married to a smoker raised the stroke risk by 42 percent in people who have never smoked compared to those married to someone who never smoked, the researchers said.

This jumped to 72 percent for former smokers married to a current smoker, according to the study published in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*.

Former smokers who were married to smokers had a stroke risk similar to people who themselves were smokers.

"Quitting smoking helps your own health and also the health of the people living with you," Maria Glymour of Harvard School of Public Health in Boston and Columbia University in New York, who led the study, said in a telephone interview.

The study involved 16,225 people aged 50 and up who had never had a stroke. They were followed for an average of nine years.

Glymour said there is accumulating evidence about the number of health problems linked to secondhand smoke. —Internet

Russian sub sets world record in Lake Baikal dive

LAKE BAIKAL, 29 July—A Russian mini-submarine reached the bottom of Lake Baikal on Tuesday, setting a record for the deepest dive in a lake, expedition organisers said.

"The Mir-2 has reached the bottom of Lake Baikal at a depth of 1,680 metres (5,512 feet)," *ITAR-TASS* reported from the barge where the submarine was diving from.

The dive "has set a

record for submersion in freshwater," Vesti-24 said.

The scientific expedition is being organised by Artur Chilingarov, a pro-Kremlin member of parliament and an Arctic explorer who led the submarine team that planted a Russian flag at the bottom of the North Pole last August.

Scientists plan to collect samples at different depths and hope to document the effects of glo-

bal warming on the Siberian lake, as well as drawing the attention of the government to the need for greater environmental protection.

"We want to study and observe Baikal, preserve it," Chilingarov said on Monday ahead of the dive as he inspected the Soviet-designed Mir-1 and Mir-2 submarines in the small port of Turka on the shores of Lake Baikal.

Internet



After the attack : A Palestinian man from the West Bank village of Burin inspects the damage in their home after Jewish settlers from the nearby Brakha settlement set it afire. —INTERNET

SPORTS



Goalkeeper Katy Roberts (L) of the GB women's hockey team makes a save during a training session ahead of the Beijing Olympics at the Macau hockey centre in Macau on 29 July, 2008.—INTERNET

Confident US arrives in China; LeBron practices

MACAU, 29 July—Loaded with star power but wary of complacency, the US Olympic basketball team arrived in China on Monday with a word of caution from coach Mike Krzyzewski.

“We haven’t accomplished anything yet,” he said. The team is taking its Olympic preparations to this southern Chinese casino enclave.

LeBron James joined the squad’s first practice in Macau with his right ankle taped. He sat out the Americans’ first tuneup against Canada on Friday with a sprain.

“Every time we step onto the court, we know we have the talent and we know we have the strength to go out and be the best team on the court,” James said. “The chemistry right now is really good.”—*Internet*



US Olympic basketball team head coach Mike Krzyzewski talks to his teammate during a training session in Macau, on 28 July, 2008. US team will play the friendly match against Turkey and Lithuania in Macau.—INTERNET

Barcelona to take Messi on US tour despite Olympic row - report

MADRID, 29 July—Barcelona could take Argentine playmaker Lionel Messi on tour to Italy and the United States later this week even if FIFA orders the Spanish club to release him for the Olympic Games, a newspaper reported Monday. FIFA are expected to issue a ruling on Tuesday to settle a dispute between the Argentine Football Federation, who have called on the 21-year-old for the Olympics, and Barcelona who want to keep the player for early Champions League matches in August. Barcelona-based sports daily *El Mundo Deportivo* reported Monday that the world football governing body will likely side with the Argentines but the Catalan club will then take the dispute to the sport’s highest appeal body, the Court of Arbitration for Sport.—*Internet*

Johnson survives tire debacle at Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS, 29 July—It’s one of the biggest events of the year at a venue intended to help NASCAR showcase its racing. Instead, Sunday’s race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway left everyone apologizing to the fans for what could only be called a fiasco.

Hopefully NASCAR can bounce back better than Goodyear’s tires did over the course of a chaotic caution-filled race that ended with Jimmie Johnson winning his second 400-mile race at the Brickyard in three years.

Tire troubles derailed one of NASCAR’s crown jewel events when Goodyear’s product wasn’t durable to withstand more than 10 or so laps at a time.

“Every lap. Every lap I was concerned about it. Every corner, for that matter,” said Johnson, who beat Carl Edwards to the finish in a seven-lap sprint to the checkered flag.

“As a group, we all knew we couldn’t push the envelope. I knew at the end, a seven-lap shootout, I could blast it off in there and I’d be OK.”

Johnson was indeed OK. Goodyear and NASCAR were not OK, left to explain why the race became a debacle.—*Internet*



Jimmie Johnson performs a burnout on the main straight after winning the Allstate 400 at the Brickyard auto race at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indianapolis, on 27 July, 2008.—INTERNET

Nadal closes in on Federer with Toronto tennis title

TORONTO, 29 July— Rafael Nadal lifted Spanish hopes of a dramatic change at the top of world tennis with his Toronto Masters victory on Sunday, the same day countryman Carlos Sastre won cycling’s Tour de France.

World number two Nadal defeated German Nicolas Kiefer 6-3, 6-2, tightening the race for the number one ranking still owned by Roger Federer in a year where Spaniards have enjoyed great sporting success.

“This year we are doing a lot of things very well and seeing a lot of very good sportsmen in Spain,” Nadal said.—*Internet*



Rafael Nadal of Spain poses with the Rogers Cup trophy after defeating Germany's Nicolas Kiefer in the final at the Rexall Centre at York University in Toronto. Nadal won 6-3, 6-2. INTERNET

Ailing Bartoli battles into second round in Montreal tennis

MONTREAL, 29 July— - France’s Marion Bartoli overcame a stomach virus to dispatch British qualifier Melanie South 6-3, 6-7 (5/7), 6-0 here and reach the second round of the 1.34 million-dollar WTA hardcourt tournament.

“I was not feeling good at all,” Bartoli said. “My legs were shaking. My arms were shaking by themselves. I was really dizzy. I got cold.

“The doctor gave me some tablets to take. They helped a lot in the third set, but it took a while for me to feel a little better. But I needed to come up with the win, so whatever it took, I had to hang in tough.”

Bartoli said players had been advised to take precautions to avoid spreading a virus that seems to be going around, including washing their hands often.

Bartoli, known mainly for her surprise showing in the championship match at Wimbledon last year, has struggled to build upon that success for most of this season.

Ranked 15th in the world and seeded 10th in this prestigious Tier One event, She reached just one semi-final in her first 14 tournaments of the season while being plagued by a wrist injury.

However, the 23-year-old reached the final at Stanford, California, two weeks ago.—*Internet*



Marion Bartoli of France returns a shot to Briton Melanie South in the first round of the Rogers Cup on 28 July, 2008 at Stade Uniprix in Montreal. Bartoli won 6-3, 6-7 (5/7), 6-0.—INTERNET

Fabregas pledges loyalty to Arsenal

LONDON, 29 July—Arsenal midfielder Cesc Fabregas has slammed a report suggesting he is considering a move to Real Madrid.

Fabregas was a key member of the Spain squad that won Euro 2008 and according to a report last weekend in Spanish sports newspaper *Marca* he was quoted as saying he might move to the Bernabeu, especially if Arsenal did not win a trophy this season.

But in a statement the 21-year-old told Arsenal’s official website here Monday: “I have not spoken to any media so it’s frustrating to read quotes that I have supposedly said about my future.

“I have spent the summer relaxing with my family, friends and girlfriend and I return to training with Arsenal tomorrow (Tuesday).

Internet

Arsenal midfielder Cesc Fabregas, seen here in June 2008, has slammed a report suggesting he is considering a move to Real Madrid.

INTERNET



White House sees record budget gap in 2009

WASHINGTON, 29 July— The Bush Administration on Monday projected the US budget deficit will soar to a record of nearly half a trillion dollars in fiscal 2009 as a housing-led economic slowdown cuts into government revenues.

The economic and fiscal deterioration will complicate efforts to bring the budget to

balance and pose challenges for whoever takes over the White House in January, either Republican Senator John McCain or Democratic Senator Barack Obama.

“I believe whoever becomes the next president will have a very, very sobering first week in office,” predicted Senate Budget Committee Chairman Kent Conrad,

a North Dakota Democrat.

Reacting to the White House’s new prediction that the budget deficit will hit 482 billion US dollars in the fiscal year that starts 1 October, Conrad said that number easily could rise by an additional 80 billion US dollars when the full costs of the Iraq war are tallied next year.

MNA/Reuters

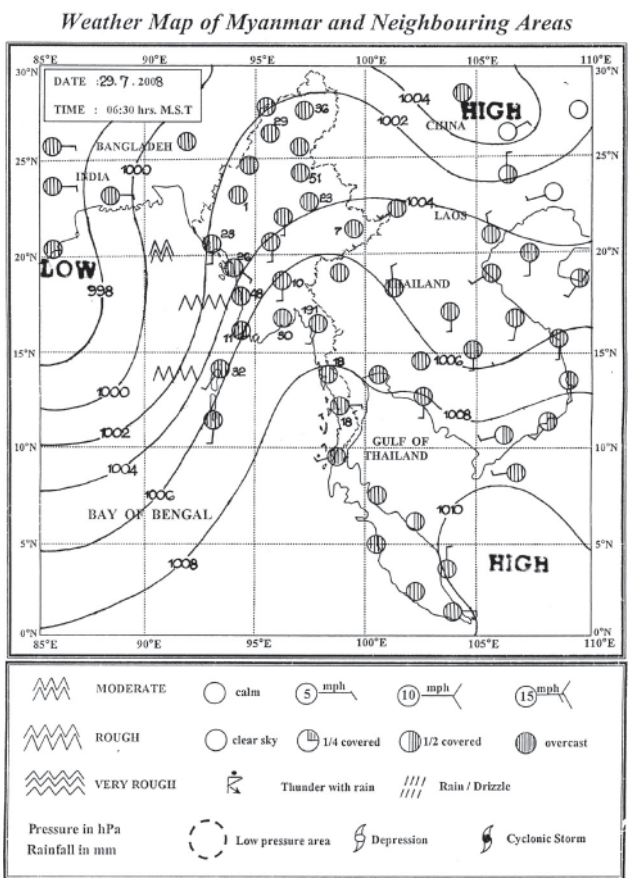
Fire destroys Somerset resort’s historic pier

LONDON, 29 July — A major fire destroyed the 104-year-old pier at the Somerset resort of Weston-super-Mare in less than two hours on Monday, emergency services said.

Flames and thick black smoke shot high into the blue. About 80 firefighters from across the southwest were called to tackle the blaze, which started shortly before 7 am.

The fire gutted all the wooden buildings on the pier, although its iron supports and deck remain standing. Aerial pictures taken afterwards showed a mass of twisted, charred metal on the deck of the still-smoking pier.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Tuesday, 29 July, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain have been isolated in lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, scattered in Kayah State, fairly widespread in upper Sagaing, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavy falls in Mon State, isolated heavy falls in Kachin and Kayin States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mawlamyine (8.11) inches, Kawkaik (5.71) inches, Mudon (5.28) inches, Thaton (5.12) inches, Bhamo (5.00) inches, Kayan (4.92) inches, Hpa-an (2.72) inches, Thandwe (2.28) inches and Maungtau (2.25) inches.

Maximum temperature on 28-7-2008 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 29-7-2008 was 68°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 29-7-2008 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 28-7-2008 was (0.6) hour approx.

Rainfall on 29-7-2008 was (1.14) inches at Mingaladon, (1.18) inches at Kaba-Aye and (2.25) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (60.71) inches at Mingaladon, (68.15) inches at Kaba-Aye and (82.09) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southwest at (14:40) hours MST on 28-7-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 30-7-2008: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Chin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas will be experienced at times 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: Strong monsoon. **Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 30-7-2008:** Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 30-7-2008: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 30-7-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

British soldier killed in Afghanistan

LONDON, 29 July — A British soldier was shot dead while on foot patrol in the southern Afghan province of Helmand on Monday, taking the number of British troops killed in Afghanistan this year to 27.

“The patrol received reports from locals that the Taliban were in the area but before they could take up defensive positions they received incoming fire, and the soldier sustained a single gunshot wound,” Britain’s Ministry of Defence said in a statement.

Fighting has intensified in southern Afghanistan in recent weeks with the Taliban

planting more roadside bombs and ambushing British troops.

The latest death raises the number of British soldiers killed to 113 since Britain joined the United States in invading

Afghanistan to oust the Taliban in 2001.

Britain has around 8,100 troops in the country, serving as part of a 53,000-strong NATO-led force.

MNA/Reuters

Five Russians kidnapped in Nigeria released

PORT HARCOURT (Nigeria), 29 July — Five Russian oil workers kidnapped from their vessel off Nigeria’s Niger Delta last week have been released unharmed, a senior state security official said on Monday.

“They’re looking healthy but tired,” the official said, asking not to be named. The men were taken from a vessel believed to be working for

Italian oilfield services company Saipem SpA late on Thursday.

Eight other Russian, Latvian and Lithuanian men who had been kidnapped in a separate incident from a liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) tanker were also released on Saturday, hours after being seized.

Insecurity in Nigeria, the world’s eighth biggest oil exporter, has cut oil

output by around a fifth since militants launched a campaign of sabotage in early 2006 to press for greater development in their neglected communities.

Criminal gangs have taken advantage of the breakdown in law and order, frequently kidnapping businessmen, local politicians and foreign oil workers for ransom. —MNA/Reuters

 Wednesday, 30 July View on today	7:00 am 1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြု ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်	7:40 am 4. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက	4:30 pm 4. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ	6:50 pm 12. ထက်မြက်ချော့ဆွင်အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်
	7:25 am 2. To be healthy exercise	8:10 am 6. မြန်မာ့မီးရထားအားမာန်	4:45 pm 5. Songs to uphold National Spirit	7:30 pm 13. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
	7:30 am 3. Morning news	8:20 am 7. Musical programme	4:55 pm 6. Musical programme	7:40 pm 14. The mirror images of the musical oldies
		8:30 am 8. International news	5:10 pm 7. ရှုဖွယ်စုံလင် အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်	8:00 pm 15. News
		8:45 am 9. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ	5:20 pm 8. ရသပေါ်လွင်သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်	16. International news
		4:00 pm 1. Martial song	6:00 pm 9. Evening news	17. Weather report
		4:10 pm 2. Dance of national races	6:30 pm 10. Weather report	18. Myanmar movie: “မာယာရထား” (လွင်ချိုး၊ ထွန်းအိန္ဒြာဝို၊ နန္ဒာလှိုင်၊ ကြည်လဲ့လဲ့ဦး၊ သင်းရန့်၊ (ဒါရိုက်တာ-အိအိခိုင်)
		4:20 pm 3. Classical songs	6:35 pm 11. မြန်မာဓလေ့ ရိုးရာလက်ရာ့	

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



Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu, diplomats, representatives of UN agencies and journalists view houses for storm survivors constructed by Eden Co Ltd in Toe Village, Dedaye Township (News on page 11). — MNA

Medical team provides medical treatment in storm-affected regions

YANGON, 29 July—Under the supervision of the Department of Health of the Ministry of Health, a medical team of specialists aboard Teinkhoe floating hospital is providing medical treatment to storm victim patients.

The medical team comprising specialists Dr Mya Htwe Nge, Dr Aung Khin Thein and Dr Soe Soe Lwin is providing medical treatment in storm affected villages starting from 21 July.

The medical team treated 401 child patients, 187 dental patients and 985 ailing patients in storm affected villages from 21 July to date.—MNA

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Just to mend ways if wrong

Learning lessons from the historic events, the people are well convinced that the government is implementing the State's seven-step Road Map it has laid down for long-term practice of democracy.

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HNIN Oo KHIN