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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects decoration tasks of Maha Pasana Cave.—MNA

Prime Minister attends coordination meeting to hold Fourth World Buddhist Summit

YANGON, 21 Feb— The meeting to coordinate Fourth World Buddhist Summit was held at the Central Hall of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University in Mayangon Township at 11.30 am today, attended by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present at the meeting were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the Yangon mayor, the deputy the ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental

heads, the Pro-Rector and officials of the University, members of the Leading Committee, Working Committee and Sub-committees for Organizing the Summit.

At the meeting, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivered an address. He said that the leading committee, the working committee and sub-committees have been formed for holding the Fourth World Buddhist Summit in Myanmar this year and the committees are carrying out the tasks.

(See page 8)

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Prime Minister attends meeting of Leading Committee for Implementation of Myanmar-China Economic Agreements

YANGON, 21 Feb — The Leading Committee for Implementation of Myanmar-China Economic Agreements held its meeting at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyintha, here, at 9 am today, with an address by Chairman of the Leading Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein,

the ministers, the deputy ministers, members of the leading committee, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads and officials.

First, Chairman of the Leading Committee for Implementation of Myanmar-China Economic Agreements Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivered an address. He said that agreements on economic cooperation were signed after goodwill visits by the Heads of State be-

tween Myanmar and China. As Myanmar, on its part, has agreed on bilateral economic cooperation among neighbouring countries, committees were set up to promptly implement the agreements. While implementing the agreement on economic co-operation between China and Myanmar laid down by State leaders of both sides during the goodwill visit of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe to the People's Republic of China and the goodwill visit of PRC leaders Mr

Jaing Zemin and President Mr Hu Jintao, some agreements have been completed and some are being implemented. It is necessary to systematically carry out matters related to economic co-operation in the future. The Prime Minister invited ministries concerned to report tasks being carried out and to be done for rapid implementation of the bilateral economic cooperation agreements between Myanmar and China.

Next, Secretary of the

Leading Committee Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung reported on economic plans to be implemented jointly by Myanmar and China.

Then, the ministers, the deputy ministers and committee members submitted reports on undertakings of Myanmar-China bilateral economic cooperation agreements and future tasks.

Later, the Prime Minister gave necessary instructions and the meeting came to an end.— MNA

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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses meeting of Leading Committee for Implementation of Myanmar-China Economic Agreements.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 22 February, 2004

Strive for greening of the regions

Myanmar is a green and pleasant nation with lush forests and trees that make up more than half the area of the country. However, getting scanty rainfall, its central regions are not covered with dense vegetation yet.

Therefore, in accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, the Nine Regions Greening Project was launched in 1994 to green Anyar region where water is scarce and that gets less rain.

In 1997, the Arid Zone Greening Department was established so as to expand the scope of greening tasks, which now cover 13 districts.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt made an inspection tour of Magway Division the other day. During the tour, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt held a meeting with local administrative bodies, departmental officials and members of social organizations at Myaing Township Peace and Development Council Office and called on officials at all levels to make endeavours in unison for accomplishment of the tasks for greening of the arid zones, conservation of forests and establishing of tree plantations, which are being carried out by the Government, to ensure a balanced climate.

Systematic and effective measures are to be taken in supplying sufficient water for Myaing Township that gets a little rainfall. So efforts are to be made for construction of small scale dams and underground water tapping stations and digging lakes in the township in cooperation with respective departments.

Officials concerned in the agricultural field are to render necessary assistance including distributing high-yield strains of crops and disseminating agricultural methods to local farmers for boosting per acre yields of groundnut and beans and pulses that are the main crops of Myaing Township.

Now, a modern textile mill is being constructed in Pakokku Region and measures are thus to be taken for boosting production of cotton, an industrial raw material. This will make significant contributions towards the mill as well as creating job opportunities for local people.

Therefore, local people are urged to speed up tasks for greening of the regions while extending cultivation of cotton to provide sufficient raw materials for the new textile mill.



Medical Superintendent Dr U Teik Wan accepts the vascular surgical materials from wellwishers. —MNA

Vascular surgical materials donated

YANGON, 19 Feb — Dr Pierre De Leu and party of Belgium-based Support Fund Myanmar donated vascular surgical materials worth US\$ 35,500 to Yangon General Hospital on 19 February.

Medical Superintendent of the hospital Dr U Teik Wan accepted the donations and spoke words of thanks. —MNA

59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Objectives

- To strive hand in hand with the people for successful realization of the State's seven-point policy programme
- To crush internal and external destructive elements hindering the stability and progress of the State through people's militia strategy
- To implement border area development tasks and the five rural development tasks hand in hand with the entire people
- To build up a strong and efficient Tatmadaw to uphold 'Our Three Main National Causes'



Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) delivers an address at the centennial ceremony of Daw Dagon Khin Khin Lay. — MNA

Centennial of Daw Dagon Khin Khin Lay observed

YANGON, 21 Feb — A ceremony to observe the centennial of Daw Dagon Khin Khin Lay who was the first woman short story writer and established Bama Khit daily and Yuwaddy Journal was held yesterday morning at the International Business Centre on Pyay Road here.

Present on the occasion were Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), Vice-Chairmen U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha) and U Than Maung (Than Maung), Joint Secretary-1 U Myint Kywe (Maung Myint Kywe) and Central Executive Committee members, literati, journalists, Yuwaddy

families and guests.

First, MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) delivered an address. Next, Daw Saw Mon Hnyin's ratu poem was cited by vocalist Daw Yi Yi Thant. Then, writer Daw Saw Mon Hnyin, Daw Dagon Khin Khin Lay's niece Daw Tin Tin Ma, theatrical artiste U Ye Sein and writer Yuwaddy Shwewa Sein spoke words of appreciation. Master of ceremonies U Win Nyein read out messages sent to the occasion.

Advisor to the Ministry of Information U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) spoke words of honour. —MNA

Development works inspected

YANGON, 21 Feb — Director-General of the Development Affairs Department of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Myo Myint, together with officials arrived in Kalay on 19 February and inspected development affairs works. Officers concerned reported to him on the work progresses and he gave necessary instructions. He also inspected the repair to Aungzeya Road and paving of 1200-ft Padanya Road there.

Next, the director-general proceeded to Khanpat and Tamu. In Tamu, he also inspected the paving of Namphalon-Gadon Road. Later, he went to Kalewa and met with staff of the department. He also inspected the paving of market circular road.

Likewise, Deputy Director-General of the department U Kyaw and officials inspected the construction of Kyaungsu bridge in Thanatpin Township, Bago Division yesterday. —MNA

Wellwishers invited

YANGON, 21 Feb — The Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs are making concerted efforts in sinking tubewells in order to get sufficient fresh water in rural areas in States and Divisions where there is a shortage of water. One 200 feet deep two-inch diameter tubewell costs K 250,000; one 400 feet deep two-inch diameter tubewell costs K 500,000; and one 200 feet deep four-inch diameter tubewell costs K 500,000. —MNA



Myanmar-India bilateral trade discussed

YANGON, 20 Feb — The 11-member delegation headed by Past President Mar Rajive Kaul, Chairman and Managing Director of Nicco Corporation Ltd and Mr S Sen, Deputy Director-General of CII (Confederation of Indian Industry) of India held discussions with UMFCCI (Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce & Industry) President U Win Myint, Vice-Presidents U Zaw Min Win and U Aung Lwin, General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing and Central Executive Committee members at the head office of the UMFCCI here yesterday afternoon. They discussed matters relating to promotion of investment and bilateral trade between the two countries, enhancing economic cooperation, ensuring better transportation for border trade, signing of MoU for establishing joint task force of CII and UMFCCI. —MNA

The CII delegation and the UMFCCI delegation hold discussions on Myanmar-India bilateral trade. —MNA

**The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.
The second best time is now.**

US soldier wounded in bombing as troops leave Iraq

BALAD, 21 Feb — A bomb blast wounded at least one US soldier travelling in a convoy with thousands of troops heading home after a tense year in Iraq, a US officer said.

A US military helicopter evacuated the Fourth Infantry Division (4ID) soldier after a roadside explosion hit his convoy just south of Balad, about 75 kilometres (55 miles) north of Baghdad, Major Douglas Babb told AFP.

Troops from the 30,000-strong Task Force Iron

Horse, who have spent a year in the so-called Sunni Triangle hunting rebels, were driving through hostile territory along the main north-south highway toward Baghdad.

After reaching Baghdad, they are to head to Kuwait, where they will fly back to the United States.

In all, as many as 200,000 troops are coming in or out of the restive Sunni Muslim belt north and west of the capital in the biggest US troop rotation since World War II as Taskforce Iron Horse and other contingents are relieved by fresh troops.

Internet



A soldier (left) frisks an Iraqi at left as they guard the ongoing construction of their base in Samawa, 360 kilometres southeast of Baghdad, Iraq on 19 Feb, 2004.

INTERNET

Nepal, Malaysia to sign labour accord next month

KATHMANDU, 21 Feb — Nepal will sign a labour accord with Malaysia in March in a bid to gear up bilateral labour relations with its major labour-importing country, a Nepali Government official said.

"The government has made all necessary arrangements to ink the accord, while Malaysian officials are very positive in this regard and have planned to arrive here for the signing of accord," *The Kathmandu Post* newspaper on Friday quoted Narayan Prasad Silwal, secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Transport Management, as saying.

The draft for the labour accord has already been forwarded to the Nepali Ministry of Law and Justice for some legal recommendations, Silwal said.

Nepali labourers would be facilitated

with rights to challenge any kind of inequality in salary and working condition in Malaysia after the signing of the accord, he noted, adding, "The inking of such an accord with Malaysia could be a historic to Nepal, as it could be the Himalayan kingdom's first labour accord with any other country."

Nepal is one of the top labour-exporting countries to Malaysia, where there are more than 100,000 Nepali workers, each of them earning at least 125 US dollars per month.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia to refresh call for south-south cooperation at G-15

KUALA LUMPUR, 21 Feb — Malaysia would be using the 12th G-15 Summit as a platform to refresh call for economic cooperation among developing countries, Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar said on Friday.

"It will be a pity if the G-15 cannot move forward from what it was before. With globalization and the failed trade talks in Cancun, there is much to gain among south-south countries," Syed Hamid said at a Press conference here.

This would be among the points raised by Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi at the summit, he said.

As one of the founding members of the group, he said, Malaysia's presence reflected its continued support for the south-south economic cooperation.

The summit, to be held in Caracas, Venezuela, on February 24-28, had been postponed several times.

"I think it is necessary for G-15 to get off the ground again so that it can benefit from greater economic cooperation

among countries of the south," added Syed Hamid.

Now grouping 19 developing countries from Asia, Africa and Latin America, G-15 was set up in September 1989 to foster south-south cooperation and provide input for other international groups, such as the World Trade Organization and the Group of Seven rich industrialized nations.

MNA/Xinhua

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White House admits failure of Iraq caucus plan

WASHINGTON, 21 Feb — The Bush Administration acknowledged on Friday that its ambitious plan to transfer sovereignty directly to a democratically elected government in Iraq was unlikely to succeed, after Iraqis insisted on elections untainted by US influence.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan said the Administration's initial plan for an interim, democratically elected government through a complicated series of 18 regional caucuses had failed to pass muster with Iraqi leaders.

"There's wide recognition that the caucus plan is something that has not received much support," he said. "This is becoming more and more of an Iraqi-driven process."

Barely four months before the June 30 transfer of sovereignty by the US-led Coalition Provisional Authority, the White House said it was talking to Iraqi leaders about new options for leaving the Muslim country with a "representative, transitional government" while awaiting recommendations from the United Nations.

Details of the UN position on elections will be announced next week, with a time frame for elections to select a permanent government, probably late this year or early in 2005.

The United Nations, which has backed the US position that elections cannot be held before June 30, says it is ready to help Iraqis find a consensus on proposals that diplomats

say include expanding the Iraqi Governing Council, a group of 25 Iraqis handpicked by the United States in July, or a national conference of leaders that would select a provisional government.

But McClellan said the United Nations had not assumed a presiding role over negotiations in Iraq.

"We have always said the United Nations had a vital role to play. We appreciated their efforts in assessing the feasibility of elections, and we will continue to discuss ways they can continue to be involved," he said.

Washington expects US troops to remain in Iraq long after the transition, although the Bush Administration has yet to come up with an agreement under which the soldiers would stay.

There are currently about 115,000 American troops in the country. Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, the top Iraqi Shi'ite religious leader who was first to challenge the Bush caucus plan with a call for direct elections, said in an interview published on Friday that any interim government left behind by the Americans should have limited authority.

MNA/Reuters

US soldier seeks asylum in Canada

OTTAWA, 21 Feb — A US paratrooper is seeking refuge in Canada as a conscientious objector, it is reported here Thursday.

According to a Canadian Television report, Jeremy Hinzman joined the US Army in January 2001, but he soon became horrified by chants about blood and killing during basic training marches.

By August 2002, the member of the US 82nd Airborne Division and the practising Buddhist applied to be a conscientious objector which means his personal beliefs prevented him from participating in war. But his application was delayed.

He was sent to Afghanistan in the meantime, but put to work as a dishwasher. His conscientious objector application was turned down while he was there. Upon his return to the United States, Hinzman thought it was only a matter of time before he was sent to

Iraq. He felt that conflict was unjust and was really about oil. On 20 December, he was told his unit would be shipping out to Iraq.

About two weeks later, he packed his wife Nga Nguyen and their 14-month-old son Liam into a car and drove to Canada. By 5 January, the Army had noticed he was gone and declared him AWOL, absent without leave. During the Vietnam War, an estimated 30,000 US citizens sought refuge in Canada to avoid military service.

Of the 268 Americans who applied for refugee status in Canada last year, none was accepted. Those who are denied refugee status may be allowed to stay under other provisions, according to officials sources.

MNA/Xinhua



One and a half year old Polar bears Bering and Sedov tussle with each other at St Petersburg's Zoo, February 18, 2004. St Petersburg Zoo, one of the oldest in Europe, will celebrate its 140th anniversary next year.—INTERNET

US troops kill one after attack on Baghdad prison

BAGHDAD, 21 Feb — Guerillas launched dozens of mortars and rockets at the main US prison in Baghdad and troops killed one Iraqi as they returned fire on Wednesday evening, the US military said on Thursday.

The attackers fired 33 mortar rounds and five rockets at the Abu Ghraib Prison, where US forces hold hundreds of Iraqi detainees, at about 6:30 p.m. (1530 GMT), a US military official said. "Coalition forces engaged and killed one enemy as he tried to flee the scene."

US soldiers arrested 55 others at the scene. One US soldier suffered minor wounds, but was treated and returned to duty.

The prison on Baghdad's outskirts in Abu Ghraib, where toppled Iraqi president Saddam Hussein once kept his enemies, has been renamed the Baghdad Correctional Facility by the US occupation.

Hundreds of prisoners are held there for suspected involvement in attacks against the US-led occupation forces or for ordinary crimes.

MNA/Reuters

Two US soldiers, Iraqi citizen killed in roadside bomb

BAGHDAD, 21 Feb — Two US soldiers and at least one Iraqi citizen were killed on Thursday in a roadside bomb attack in the Iraqi city of Khalidiyah, 80 kilometres west of Baghdad, the US military said.

"Two US soldiers were killed and one wounded at 10:30 this morning (0730 GMT) in a roadside blast near Khalidiyah," a military spokesman in Iraq said, adding that at least one Iraqi was also killed. It is still not

clear if the Iraqi was a civilian or a member of Iraq's security forces, who often patrol alongside US troops.

Thursday's deaths brought to 378 the number of US soldiers killed in hostile action in Iraq since the war erupted last March.

During the same period, at least another 163 US soldiers were killed in Iraq in various accidents.

MNA/Xinhua

China attaches great importance to China-India relations

NEW DELHI, 21 Feb — China attaches great importance to the development of long-standing, stable and healthy relations with India, said He Guoqiang, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), while meeting with Bahiron Singh Shekhawat, Vice-President of India, Thursday.

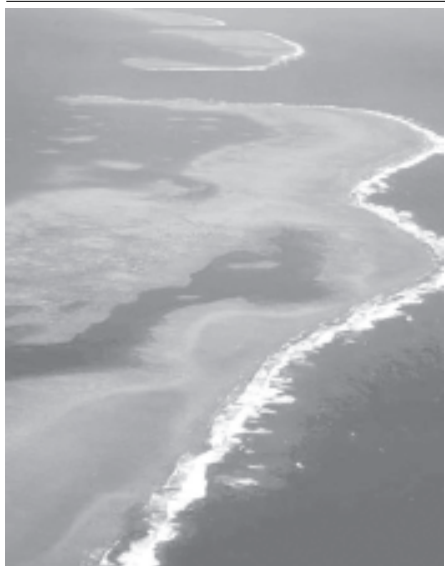
He, also head of the Organization Department of the CPC Central Committee, is leading a delegation of the Chinese Communist Party on a three-day visit to India.

He spoke highly of the stance on Tibetan issue that Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee expressed during his visit to China last year. Shekhawat shared his view, saying that India will scrupulously abide by the stance. Shekhawat, who is also Chairman of Rajya Sabha (Council of States) of

India, said that there has been steady improvement in the relations between India and China over the past few years and the bilateral economic and trade cooperation has been further expanding.

Shekhawat encouraged more people-to-people contact on the basis of the friendly intercourse between the governments, parties and parliaments of both countries so as to push forward the all-round friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

MNA/Xinhua



Australia's Great Barrier Reef will lose most of its coral cover by 2050 and, at worst, the world's largest coral system could collapse by 2100 because of global warming, a study says.—INTERNET

Wu Yi calls for innovation in developing traditional medicine

BEIJING, 21 Feb — China's traditional medicine is part of Chinese culture and a major component of the country's health industry, said Vice-Premier Wu Yi Thursday when she addressed the opening of a national working conference on traditional Chinese medicine.

In her speech, Wu called for inheriting and developing traditional medicine. Great efforts should be made to support the industry, so as to help it develop in a sustained, healthy and rapid way, she noted.

Economic globalization and cultural pluralism have created broad prospects for traditional Chinese medicine, Wu said. She urged all localities and departments concerned to give priority to this issue.—MNA/Xinhua

Indian economy grew 8.9% in third quarter

MUMBAI, 21 Feb — Riding high on the performance of manufacturing, services and agriculture sector, Indian economy has recorded a 8.9-per-cent growth in the third quarter ended December 31, 2003, even as the government expects inflation to remain in the range of 4-4.5 per cent by end of fiscal 2003-04.

"As per the quick estimates, Indian economy has posted a growth of 8.9 per cent because the manufacturing, services and agriculture sector have done well and this (growth) is a remarkable achievement", Indian Finance Minister Jaswant Singh said Thurs-

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US soldier killed in accident in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 21 Feb — An American soldier died Friday in a traffic accident close to the central Iraqi town of Balad, the US military command said.

The soldier was from Task Force Ironhorse, a 30,000-strong unit that began leaving Iraq this week after almost a year in the country, the command said giving no more details. The accident brings to 546 the number of American service members who have died since the war in Iraq began March 20. Most of the deaths have occurred after President Bush declared an end to active combat May 1.—Internet



A teary eyed Sue Albert, middle, of Princeton, NJ, hugs Sue Niederer, left, of Hopewell, NJ, at an anti-war protest across the street from Princeton University, on 20 Feb, 2004, after learning that Niederer's son was killed in Iraq. — INTERNET

Dismal six weeks for Bush has supporters edgy

WASHINGTON, 21 Feb — Since the beginning of 2004, President George W Bush has suffered one political misfire after another, prompting some Republicans to wonder anxiously when the White House political machine will get in gear.

"This may have been the worst six weeks of Bush's political career," said Rick Davis, who managed the 2000 presidential bid by Arizona Republican Senator John McCain which lost to Bush.

In the latest embarrassment to hit the White House, the Administration on Wednesday distanced itself from its own buoyant employment forecast that had predicted 2.6 million new jobs this year.

That followed red faces over a statement by Gregory Mankiw, chairman of the White House Council of Economic Advisers, who described the process by which hundreds of thousands of US jobs are migrating overseas as both natural and good.

With many Americans extremely anxious over their job security, that statement seemed particularly callous and politically ill-judged.

"For whatever reason, the White House has hit a rough patch and can't seem to get its political machinery in motion," said Keith Appell, a Republican political consultant.

"They seemed to be caught by surprise by the force of the negative rhetoric that emerged from the Democratic presidential campaign and now they need to start scrambling to get their own message out," he said.

A CNN/Gallup/USA Today poll issued on Thursday showed the two top Democratic contenders with big leads over Bush. Massachusetts Senator John Kerry, the front-runner, led Bush 55 to 43 per cent among likely voters and North Carolina Senator John Edwards was ahead 54 per cent to 44 per cent.

Strategists say early year jitters may mean little for the election outcome. Many be-

lieve Bush, with a big advantage in campaign funds — he has raised almost 150 million US dollars — still has the upper hand going into the battle.

Bush's State of the Union Address was not well received and neither was his budget. Major policy initiatives on sending humans to Mars and reforming immigration law had a mixed reception at best. An interview with NBC's Tim Russert, a rare such appearance for Bush, failed to quieten the criticism.

The White House allowed a controversy over Bush's service in the National Guard to grab headlines for two weeks. And the failure to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, Bush's main justification for last year's war, promises to be a continuing embarrassment.

MNA/Reuters

always a matter of concern for the Finance Ministry but are confident that we will manage inflation".

Earlier in his speech, Singh said "it is my conviction that India is on a dynamic growth path and there is also a resurgence in the self-confidence".—MNA/PTI

NO LET-UP IN ANTI-OCCUPATION ATTACKS



An Iraqi man pushes a cart piled with his family's belongings salvaged from a bomb site after an explosives-laden trucks were detonated outside a Polish military camp in Hillah, south of Baghdad on Wednesday Feb 18, 2004.

INTERNET



An armed Iraqi stands guard to protect a crowd of Iraqis marching in a rally in Najaf, southern Iraq on Friday, 20 Feb, 2004.

INTERNET



US Army officer (R) points directions to soldiers from the 1-24 Signal Battalion, 4th Infantry Division, before an inspection of their vehicles, on 17 February 2004 in Tikrit, 180 kms (110 miles) north of Baghdad. — INTERNET



US Army Major Douglas Babb from the 1-24 Signal Battalion, 4th Infantry Division, inspects a line of vehicles in Tikrit on 20 February. —INTERNET



A group of Iraqi men survey the damaged house of a local leader in the village of Aamriya, near the anti-American hotbed of Falluja, some 50 km (30 miles) west from the Iraqi capital Baghdad, on 16 February, 2004.

INTERNET



An unidentified Iraqi father carries his son for treatment at Samawa General Hospital in southeastern Iraq, meet with Iraqi doctors on Thursday 19 Feb, 2004.

INTERNET



Four US troops wounded, Iraqi translator killed in ambush

BAGHDAD (Reuters) 21 Feb— Four US soldiers were wounded and their Iraqi translator was killed on Saturday when gunmen ambushed their convoy south of Baghdad, the US army said.

Four US soldiers were wounded and their Iraqi translator was killed in a small arms fire ambush 22 km (14 miles) south of Iskandariya (near Bag-

dad).

Two civilian type SUVs were destroyed in the attack," a US military spokeswoman said.

A guerrilla campaign

of bombings and shootings has killed 378 American soldiers since the war that ousted Saddam Hussein began in March.

Internet

US convoy attacked close to Baghdad

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) 21 Feb— Insurgents opened fire on a US military convoy south of Baghdad on Saturday, apparently causing some US casualties, witnesses said.

Coalition officials in the capital were unaware of the reported attack, which occurred in the al-Haswa area, 25 miles south of Baghdad.

Iraqis opposed to the US occupation make daily attacks against coalition troops in Iraq. Since the war began March 20, 546 American service members

have died.

Most of the deaths have occurred after President Bush declared an end to active combat on 1 May.

Internet

China willing to conduct cooperation with Iran

BEIJING, 21 Feb— China is willing to carry out mutually-beneficial and friendly cooperation with Iran in various areas, including energy, said a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman here Thursday.

Spokeswoman Zhang Qiyue said the governments of China and Iran had once signed a framework agreement for energy cooperation.

It is natural for the two countries' companies to conduct business activities and mutually-beneficial cooperation within this framework, she said.

Zhang said China encourages Chinese companies to carry out mutually-beneficial cooperation with their counterparts in Iran.

MNA/Xinhua

India to launch recoverable satellite in 2005

NEW DELHI, 21 Feb— India will launch a recoverable satellite in 2005, the Press Trust of India (PTI) quoted K Chattopadhyay, coordinator of the experiment, as saying on Thursday.

The satellite would conduct some micro gravity experiments in space and return to Earth after five days, Chattopadhyay told the National Space Science Symposium being held in Kottayam of Kerala State, far south India.

An orbiting satellite provided the condition for conducting experiment in a virtually zero gravity environment, he said.

In one of the experiments Indian scientists will grow a kind of crystal called quasi crystal of gal-

lium-magnesium-zinc alloy. In another experiment, they will grow a polymer blend used as bone substitute.

Once the experiments were over the capsule will parachute to Earth, he said.

Chattopadhyay said this would be one of the several recoverable satellites to be launched by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) this year. The recoverable satellite would complement after micro gravity experiment planned to be conducted in balloon.

MNA/Xinhua

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HK, Chinese mainland establish world's first China Brain Bank

HONG KONG, 21 Feb— The University of Hong Kong (HKU) and the Central South University signed on Friday an agreement for collaboration on the establishment of the world's first China Brain Bank.

At the agreement signing ceremony, Head of the Department of Psychiatry of HKU Faculty of Medicine Tang Siu Wa said that understanding the brain is important to all disciplines, such as humanity, national security, politics, business and medicine. Brain is the most complex organ of the body, most importantly, no other organ but the brain, represents the person, he added.

As introduced by Tang, the China Brain Bank is a collection of brains with records of different characters and personalities, normal and abnormal thoughts and psychology systems and markets of life experience so that it really cuts across humanity and medicine, cuts across disciplines.

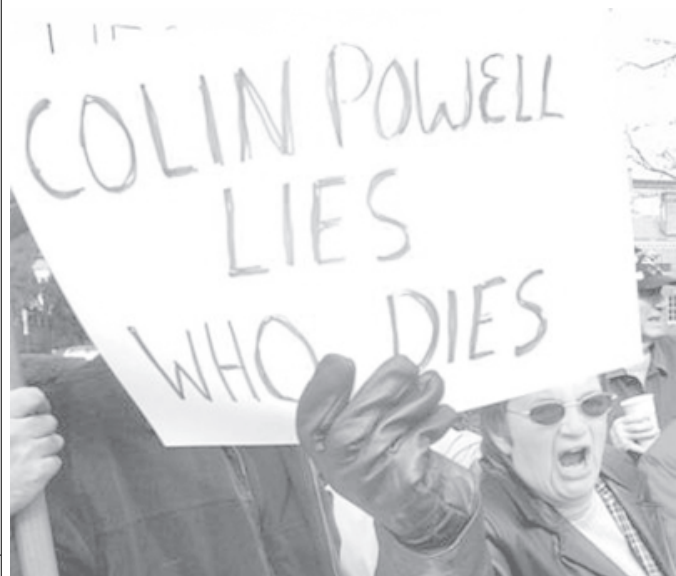
Tang said there are many brain banks around the world but no collection from

these banks have got a systematic and prospective design to recognize the fact that behind every brain.

Tang said collections from the brain banks in Western countries are not accompanied by detailed medical history or psychological profile of the patient, or a research based prospective psychometric or psychiatric profiling of the donors all of which are important information to the interpretation of data.

Furthermore, the Western based brain banks do not have an adequate supply of brain tissues originated from Chinese subjects. As a result, while brain research is progressing fast in the West, there is a serious deficiency of data in Chinese brains, said Tang.

MNA/Xinhua



Anti-war protester shouts at Secretary of State Colin Powell's motorcade as he leaves after speaking at Princeton University in Princeton, NJ, on 20 Feb, 2004.— INTERNET

"People's Daily" underlines principle for HK's prosperity, stability

BEIJING, 21 Feb— Leading Chinese newspaper, the People's Daily, is to run a commentary on Friday, pointing out the principle of "one country, two systems" is the fundamental guarantee of Hong Kong's long-term prosperity and stability.

In June 1984, late Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping made famous remarks on the concept of "one country, two systems", the commentary says, noting it is of great significance to review Deng's remarks before the 14th anniversary of the promulgation of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Basic Law.

"One country, two systems" means that within the People's Republic of China (PRC), the main body of the nation will maintain the socialist system, while Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan continue under the capitalist system, and the aim is to fulfill peaceful reunification and maintain stability and prosperity in Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan, Deng is quoted by the commentary as saying.

The premise of the principle is "one country", which refers to the PRC, says the commentary, quoting Deng as saying "nothing can be discussed without trust in the PRC and the Chinese Government".

The commentary demands respect for the PRC's resumption of the exercise of

sovereignty over Hong Kong and the maintenance of China's unity and territorial integrity, as well as acknowledgment of socialism as the country's main body.

The alteration of socialism with Chinese characteristics led by the Communist Party of China will "end Hong Kong's prosperity and stability", Deng is quoted.

Deng also put forward the concept of "Hong Kong people govern Hong Kong", saying patriots, the main part of Hong Kong people governing Hong Kong, should respect the nation and sincerely uphold the country's resumption of the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong and should not damage Hong Kong's prosperity and stability, says the commentary. The chief executive, major officials as well as members of the Executive Council, Legislative Council and all levels of courts must take oaths to uphold the Basic Law of the HKSAR, the commentary quotes the Basic Law as saying. Any person governing Hong Kong or wishing to govern Hong Kong should adhere to those regulations, the commentary says.— MNA/Xinhua

Mitsubishi Electric Corporation displays a prototype of what the company says is the world's first 'reversible LCD,' capable of displaying imagery on both its front and rear surfaces, as its rear side is reflected in mirrors in Amagasaki, western Japan on 20 Feb, 2004.

INTERNET



Those who daren't show their face — 49

Pauk Sa

For the time being I remained silent, though I have a lot to say. The developments in the entire nation stand witness to Tatmadaw Government's endeavours. The people all around the nation has already supported the seven-point future programme of the State that is the policy to practise democracy in Myanmar. However, some of the so-called present-day politicians and the so-called veteran politicians within the nation are criticizing it. So, I cannot stay quiet any more.

Instead of blindly saying that there is no progress at all in the nation, those persons (some of them were the ministers, the members of the parliament or the secretaries of the previous governments after the nation regained her independence) should try to compare the extent of progress they had been able to make and that of the positive changes and the developments the Tatmadaw Government has brought to the nation.

It is quite clear. Miles and miles of roads and a large number of bridges have emerged the length and breadth of the nation, an achievement reaching beyond man's imagination, and facilitating transport and trade in every aspect. Aren't those the developments of the present era? As the so-called politicians include the persons living in Ayeyawady delta region and Shan State, I would like to ask a question. "Do they dare compare the travelling times between the delta area and Yangon in the past and at present, and also the times in the past and at present that take in travelling from Yangon to Shan State? Even a journalist like me can see the truth. So, I believe that those so-called veteran politicians, who had served in various high level posts in the previous eras, can see it more. According to my childhood knowledge about Independence, that handed down to me by the elders, and that I have gained from studying the nation's political history, I have known that the Aung San-Attlee Agreement, signed by the national leader Bogoyoke Aung San and British Prime Minister Attlee, assured independence of Myanmar. However, the Communist daily, the mouthpiece of the Burma Communist Party, and the Pyithu Arbau (the People's Voice) journal slandered and criticized Bogoyoke Aung San, saying that he had made concessions; that he had betrayed the independence struggle; and that he had allied with the colonialists.

The worst is that the national traitor Galon U Saw and cohorts assassinated Bogoyoke Aung San and Arzanis. Thus, Vice-chairman of the AFPFL Thakin Nu (U Nu) as acting chairman signed the Nu-Attlee Agreement. Myanmar regained independence under the Agreement.

But the BCP under the leadership of Thakin Than Tun holding the extreme leftist doctrine made an announcement nation-wide, saying that it was a sham independence;

that the AFPFL was destroying the people's independence struggle with the sham independence; and that the genuine independence could be restored only through armed struggle line. Soon after the BCP ignited the armed internal insurgency, various national race political parties and the PVOS began to launch the armed opposition against the government in power. The result was the loss of peace and stability in the whole nation and of the lives and property of the people.

The consequences of the internal insurgency was the break-up of the long-run rivalry and conflicts among the legally-existing political parties, followed by the political murders during the election period to grab power. The worst part was that the AFPFL, the sole national alliance of the independence struggle, split into two factions — the AFPFL (Clean) and the AFPFL (Stable) — some time after the nation regained her independence. Moreover, the Pa-ha-sa, originated from the AFPFL (Clean), met its end after breaking up into U-Bo faction and Thakin faction.

The BCP, that went underground with the slogan — to fight for the genuine independence — also met its tragic end. However the old and the new generation BCPs failed to take the lesson of the history. Instead they are trying to raise the old problem of sham independence through the Internet till today. History stands proof to the fact that the tragic end is the result of the destructive policy.

The final answer to the splits, slanders and unrest between the political parties and individuals, with the claims to serve the interest of the people and the nation, is the agony the nation and the people had to face. However, the so-called present-day politicians and the so-called veteran politicians, instead of taking the lessons of the past, should not follow the wrong way, still believing that slandering and opposing the ruling Government is the work of politics. If they continue to uphold the belief they will get nowhere. They should realize the fact that it is wrong for them to leave the evil legacy for the future generations. It is time they cooperated in paving the correct and smooth way for the nation to march.

Anyhow, the so-called politicians and the so-called veteran politicians did play a role in the course of history for a certain period in a certain situation. But their status depends on their actions. They will fall into the dustbin of history, if they still go against the advancing and developing stream of the present era.

The seven-point future political programme, designed to build a modern and developed democratic nation, is a practical guideline, the State has laid down in accord with the bounden duty of the people, while taking the lessons of the past, assessing the objective conditions of the present,

Efficient use of electricity

- * Use daylight as the main source of light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
- * Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp everyday by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

Efficient use of fuel

- * Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
- * Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US\$ 5.5 million in a year
- * The amount, US \$ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

All this needs to be known

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

and foreseeing the future.

For me, I wish the so-called present-day politicians and the so-called veteran politicians understand that trying to find fault with negative views and hand down the evil legacy have become an outdated idea at present.

All in all, I would like to warn them that if they continue to commit evil deeds and to cause disturbances to the people's march towards a new democratic nation, while placing in the fore the conviction of self-importance, their status will fall and they will surely be like the persons who daren't show their face in public.

(Translation: TMT)

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 21-2-2004

Welcome to enhancing Myanmar-India bilateral trade

Aung Shwe Oo

International trade has been in practice since time immemorial. Military, Mission and Trade were tools in the trade under colonial system. Those days were long gone by. At any cost, trade partners love equality and equity. Real international trade always extends with gains to all partners.

Nature never favours any country. It is impartial. Each country has its own advantages and disadvantages. Myanmar for example is rich in natural resources. Human resources have been up and coming.

Globalization is yet to be defined. So far its double faced philosophy has been cautiously received by countries, particularly developing and less developed ones. It harvests more than it gives. Globalization is multifaceted. Cultural penetration to taint other countries is one example to be cited. Genuine division and specialization of labour is welcome to any country if international trade is to serve as a catalyst, not as a crutch. No country in the modern world will prosper in isolation.

Myanmar's active foreign policy interacts international trade that is objective and productive. Commerce Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone in his address at the opening ceremony of the Made in India Show held at Yangon Trade Centre the other day said: India and Myanmar have signed General Trade Agreement in 1970 and Border Trade

Agreement in 1994 and volume of trade between two countries has been increasing in the last 5 years. By 2006, volume of trade between two countries is expected to reach US\$ 1 billion according to the mutual understanding.

Mr R K Bhatia, Ambassador of India at the same inaugural ceremony in his welcoming speech said: Progress is not confined just to one or two sectors, it encompasses diverse sectors as Information and Technology, Biotechnology, Pharmaceuticals, automotive sector, iron and steel engineering products, textiles and leather products. There is thus natural compatibility between India's capabilities and Myanmar needs. Seven new bilateral agreements had been signed during 2003 alone to further enhance interaction.

Bilateral trade has grown from US\$ 287.6 million in 1999-2000 to US\$ 428 million in 2001-2002, despite exclusion of third country trade and informal trade. Slight fall by US\$ 4 million for the year 2002-2003 is insignificant. Balance of trade between the two countries is in the ratio of 4:1 in Myanmar's favour. In its efforts to correct the imbalance India's export is increased from US\$ 69 million in 1998-1999 to an estimated US\$ 110 million in 2002-2003.

In 1999-2000, the trade turnover was figured at US\$ 287.6 million, in 2000-2001 at US\$ 345 million and in 2001-2002 at US\$ 428 million. The actual trade turno-

ver is more if trade via third countries, particularly Singapore is taken into account.

Myanmar's exports to India in 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-2002 were US\$ 215.35 million, US\$ 261.99 million and US\$ 345.74 million respectively. Myanmar's imports from India for the same year are US\$ 72.26 million, US\$ 83.16 million and US\$ 82.26 million respectively. India is number 7 in terms of the value of exports to Myanmar while Myanmar is second largest supplier of beans & pulses to India next to Australia, accounting for one-third of India's total requirements of imported pulses. In 2001-2002, pulses & beans accounted for 64 per cent of Myanmar's export to India. Myanmar contributes to nearly one-fifth of India's imports of timber; second only to Malaysia. In 2001-2002, timber and wood products accounted for 30 per cent of Myanmar's exports to India in 2001-2002. India was the second largest market for Myanmar's exports, according to the research of Mr Rajinder Khanna.

Ambassador Mr Bhatia said India-Myanmar relations, close and cooperative as they are, rest on the foundations of geography, history and common bonds of culture, religion, recounting the history of Shwedagon Pagoda. Yes, two Myanmar merchants brothers Tapussa and Balika received some strands of hair from Lord Buddha himself at Majjhima Desa middle region during their entourage in India. Some strands of hair were enshrined in Shwedagon Pagoda who some were enshrined in Hsawdashin Pagoda in Rakhine State more than 2,500 years ago. As good neighbourliness also means good trade partners, may one billion dollar trading target realize with despatch!



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt speaking at coordination meeting on Fourth World Buddhist Summit.—MNA

Prime Minister attends co-ord ...

(from page 1)

Committees concerned should make preparations to systematically hold the summit with essence of Theravada because the Theravada Buddhism is flourishing in Myanmar.

As they have gained experience of the previous summits held in Cambodia and Thailand, it is necessary to systematically host the fourth summit on a grander scale than the previous ones. Later, the work committee and subcommittees are to report progress of tasks, future programmes and requirements to the meeting.

Next, Secretary of the Leading Committee Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung reported on progress of work carried out by the committees and future tasks to the Prime Minister.

Secretary of the Working Committee Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko reported

on preparations for holding the summit to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Afterwards, Chairmen of the subcommittee Deputy Ministers and directors-general reported on their respective sectors. Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and participants participated in the discussions.

After hearing the reports, the Prime Minister gave instructions that departmental officials are to coordinate tasks for timely completion.

Then, the Prime Minister inspected the design of the eastern archway of Kaba Aye Maha Pasana Cave and sample of jade to be put on interior and exterior of the cave. Afterwards, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party went to Thirimingala Kaba Aye Hill and saw over the archway of the cave, greening tasks at the cave's environs and renovation tasks at interior of the cave and gave necessary instructions to officials.—MNA



Prime Minister attends dinner...

(from page 16)

cultural and sports spheres to stand tall with national prestige and integrity among the world nations. At such a time, efforts are being employed with lofty aim, ardent desire, decisive determination and constant perseverance for achieving success in the sports sector with national concern.

In accord with the concept that winning victory in the international sports games elevates the dignity of the nation and the peo-

ple, the Government has been taking systematic measures in implementing the policies and work programmes on sports for promotion of the national sports standard after laying down the ultimate goal "Myanmar Sports the World to Conquer".

Thanks to the hearty and active performances of the sports federations, generous donations of national entrepreneurs, strenuous efforts of the athletes and encouragement of the people in ad-

dition to the State's correct sports promotion policy and systematic measures, it has revitalized Myanmar sports standard to a certain degree.

Now, Myanmar has achieved success again in ASEAN games, and it has started to penetrate Asian and world levels in some sports events. However, it has been a long time since Myanmar last won the victory in soccer, the national sports event. That is why the entire people are providing great encouragement with a passion for the vic-

tory of Myanmar soccer team that could dominate the ASEAN soccer world and penetrate the Asian level. Myanmar has achieved success in soccer for several times due to the encouragement of the entire people but the success has not met with the expectation of the people. Brilliant Myanmar youth footballers have turned out and began to win victory.

Myanmar team set unbeaten record in the soccer tournament. It is heartening to note that 10-man Myanmar team won the final match.

The achievement has revealed stamina, team spirits and strong determination of Myanmar team. That is why the footballers, the manager and the coach were honoured, he said.

U Aung Ko Win, Chairman of Kanbawza Bank Co Ltd, provided necessary assistance for Myanmar soccer teams. Over K 674 million, 550,000 bahts and over US\$ 100,000 were provided to Myanmar Football Federation through Myanmar National Olympic Council for promotion of the standard of Myanmar football beginning 2000.

On behalf of the government and football players, he expressed thanks for donations. He also thanked patrons of MFF, presidents and executives for winning the trophy of the first BIMST-EC U-18 football tournament after reforming of the MFF. He spoke of the need for the MFF to make continued efforts for achieving success under the correct leadership and active participation.

The government is making arrangements to promote Myanmar football standard for acceleration of the prospects and success of Myanmar youth football players, he said.

He said arrangements have been made for construction of standard training grounds and stadiums, upgrading of football grounds, appointing efficient coaches, providing nutritious food and assigning duties to doctors to check up records on health of individual players. Arrangements are being made to provide accommodations, track suits, sports techniques and sports gear to football players, he said. At a time when high-ranking officials, MFF officials, wellwishers and sports fans are encouraging the football unanimously Myanmar selected football players are to achieve more success with firm determination and full perseverance.

He urged the players to make efforts for winning successive victories in international football matches with strong determination maintaining momentum of success achieved and for increasing encouragement and expectations of the people and repaying the gratitude of the people. In conclusion, he praised Myanmar youth football team that brought honour to the nation for winning victory.

The Prime Minister presented K 23 million donated by the State Peace and Development Council to the football team—K 1 million each for players and the coach and K 500,000 each for the manager and the

doctor.

Director-General U Win Mra of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs presented 10,000 bahts donated by Myanmar Embassy in Thailand for the team to Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint. On behalf of Patron of MFF Chairman of Kanbawza Bank Ltd U Aung Ko Win and wife Daw Nan Than Htwe, Managing Director of Kanbawza Bank Ltd U Zaw Win Naing K 11.5 million to Deputy Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thein Aung. Then cash donations were made. President of MFF Chairman of Dagon International Ltd U Win Aung presented K 10 million, Chairman of Tawwin Family Co U Ko Ko Htwe K 5 million, Chairman of Shwe Than Lwin Co Ltd U Kyaw Win K 7 million, Managing Director of TMW Enterprise U Wai Lwin K 3,060,000, Managing Director of Asia World Co Ltd U Tun Myint Naing K 3 million, the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry K 2 million, Managing Director of Myanmar Teak Wood Ltd U Kyi Sein K 1.5 million and other wellwishers K 7.69 million.

Patron of the MFF Vice-Chief of Military Intelligence Maj-Gen Kyaw Win and officials accepted the donations.

Next, Maung Zaw Htet Aung spoke words of thanks. The documentary video of the match between Myanmar and India youth teams was shown and dinner was hosted.—MNA

MWAF Vice-President explains organizational set-up

YANGON, 21 Feb — Vice-President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Than Nwe and party left Yangon for Mawlamyine on 18 February.

They met with CEC member of Mon State Organization for Women's Affairs at Dawna Hall of South-East Command Headquarters. Vice-President Daw Than Nwe explained the purpose of their field trip. Member of the Secretariat Daw Kyu Kyu clarified organizational set-up and joining to it. Working Group leaders Daw Mya Mya and Daw Yin Yin Lay explained organizing and functions of five working groups out of 16 working groups. Then, they answered the queries.

On 19 February morning, the meeting to explain organizational set-up was held in the town hall in Mawlamyine, attended by the Mon State Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander of South-East Command Commander's wife Daw Than Nwe, members of the panel of patrons of Mon State Organization for Women's Affairs and members totalling over 960. Vice-President Daw Than Nwe gave a speech, saying that officials of the federation went on field trips to States and Divisions for clarification of their tasks. In Mawlamyine, they will explain organizational set-up and functions of the federation. Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs and Working Committee for Women's Affairs were formed by the

State. As there are 50.3 per cent of women out of the country's population, there are limits to effectively carry out women's affairs of the entire nation. Therefore, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation was formed on 20 December 2003. The federation is a non-governmental organization. The federation is undertaking its tasks under seven lofty aims such as uplift of women's role, protection of the women's rights, development of social, education, health and economic affairs of women and securing women's life, uplift of morale that adores traditional customs, prevention of violence against women and rehabilitation, prevention of trafficking in women and children and cooperation with international, regional and local organizations. Entire women of the country are to be organized to submit membership applications on their own accord and it should not be compulsory. Realizing lofty aims of the federation for development of the women's life, participants in the meeting are to actively strive for enabling women to become intellectual and intelligentsia in accord with the motto 'Let's make efforts for development of women's life'.

Then, the member of Secretariat and leaders of working group explained functions of their working groups. Then, Vice-President Daw Than Nwe accepted K 4.5 million from wellwishers and spoke words of thanks. —MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivers an address at the third four-monthly coordination meeting of the Myanmar Police Force for 2003. —MNA

National development tasks cannot be carried out and democratic nation cannot be built in the absence of stability of the State, security and prevalence of law and order

Second and third four-monthly work coordination meeting for 2003 of MPF held

YANGON, 21 Feb—Chairman of Myanmar Police Force Management Reform Committee Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended the second and third four-monthly work coordination meeting for 2003 of MPF at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Home Affairs here at 1 pm today and made a speech on the occasion.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, Director-General of MPF Brig-Gen Khin Yi, the MPF deputy director-general, police brigadier-generals, police commanders, commanders of state and division MPFs, the principals of police training schools and commanders of police battalions and others.

First, Chairman of Myanmar Police Force Management Reform Committee Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein made a speech. He said that the government is making all-out efforts for the emergence of a peaceful modern and developed nation after laying down the 12 national objectives. He added the government has declared that its future objective is to build a discipline-flourishing democratic nation through the seven-point political programme of the State.

The most important thing not only in building a new modern and developed nation but also in transforming the nation into a democratic one is stability of the State, security and prevalence of law and order. The national development tasks can not be carried out and a democratic nation can not be built either in the absence of stability of the State, security and prevalence of law and order.

That is why stability of the State, security and prevalence of law and order are absolutely imperative. The Head of State has pointed out that good armed forces, good police forces and good administrative bodies are required for ensuring stability of the State, security and prevalence of law and order he noted.

In the process, the government is building the Tatmadaw into a strong, highly qualified and modern one to be able to safeguard the nation as long as the world exists.

At the same time, Myanmar Police Force Management Reform Committee was formed in 1994 with its six sub-committees and the committee has now entered its tenth anniversary. The aim of the committee is to build MPF to be systematic one, to be the one loved by the people and to be a reserve force for the national defence.

The Secretary-2 said that the Chairman of the committee was Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt (now Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt) and the responsibilities are now handed over to him. Therefore, with the six sub-committees, he will have to make strenuous efforts for successful realization of the objectives of MPF accepting the guidance of the Head of State.

The Head of State has prescribed the three main responsibilities of MPF—to ensure community peace and prevalence of law and order, to enable the people to earn their living with peace of mind under the protection of law and to serve the national defence and security duties in times of emergency—and the tasks are to be carried out dutifully, he stressed.

Furthermore, the MPF must have patriotic spirit and be capable and modern. To be patriotic, the MPF is to quit the ideas of colonial period and unsavoury bureaucratic acts, and to be equipped with the spirit to stand by the people, to be one with the people and to help the people and the spirit to cherish the nation and the people

and Union Spirit.

To be capable, the MPF needs to undergo a constant training. To be modern, it needs to constantly learn computer science and modern science and technology.

In carrying out the main police tasks of community peace and prevalence of law and order, the police officers are to avoid four partialities and stay away from taking bribes in consideration of their rank and dignity.

In exposing the suspects, the police officers themselves are to go right down to the scene and search the evidences thoroughly and arrest the real suspects with firm evidence to support the case. In doing so, they are to co-operate with the judges, law officers, prosecution members, forensic doctors and laboratory experts. Only then, will they be able to expose the real suspects and give them the deterrent sentence.

Some committed crimes due to greed, anger and ignorance and some did so under unavoidable circumstances. There are also some who have been accused of committing crimes. Therefore, it is required to expose the real culprits patiently and take action against them. Police officers are to quit unfair and unsavoury acts of colonial period.

In discharging the national duty, there have been incidents that some powers are now attempting to bully and influence the small developing nations taking advantage of their superiority in military strength, technology and wealth, and are invading and occupying them with their military forces.

He spoke of the need for Myanmar Police Force to be one with the people in order to ward off powerful enemy. He said it must have ability to organize the people to enhance patriotism of the people. Upholding the interest of the people, efforts are to be made to enable MPF to become the force which people love, he added.

He said police battalions are to preserve the twelve traditions of the police force, building five qualities like the Tatmadaw. In addition to its duties, the police force needs to be trained and ready for any tasks to be assigned by the State, he said.

He said as a national duty, the police force is to carry out the tasks for eradication of narcotic drugs which was left as the evil legacy of the colonialists to be free from Myanmar soil while implementing the two strategies and three tactics practically.

He said educative activities are to be undertaken among the people as narcotic drugs tarnish the nation and dignity of the people and are very dangerous to mankind. Endeavours are to be made for cultivation of poppy substitute crops in accord with the New Destiny Project, he added.

He said now nations of the world are laying down effective plans as the human trafficking issue comes to the fore. In connection with this, projects to take action against those who want to work abroad illegally were drafted and central supervisory committee was formed. Besides educative tasks, he said, effective actions are to be taken according to law in cooperation with regional authorities and social organizations.

In conclusion, he said, the MPF Management Reform Committee and various sub-committees would render assistance as far as possible for emergence of the police force equipped with form and essence and the one the people love. Members of the police force are to discharge duties for realization of the objectives upholding their dignity with patriotism and Union Spirit.

Control commander of MPF battalions control office Police Brig-Gen Than Han reported on organizational setup, discharging security duty, livestock breeding and wel-

fare tasks, community welfare services and tasks to be carried out. Director-General of MPF Brig-Gen Khin Yi gave a supplementary report.

Next, Police Commander of Ayeyawady Division Police Col Than Tun reported on work done during the third four-monthly period in 2003.

Principal of No 2 Police Training School Police Lt-Col Win Khaing reported on training programme of the school.

The Secretary-2, Police Chief of Staff Police Brig-Gen Win Myaing, deputy Director-General of MPF Police Brig-Gen Zaw Win and Director-General of MPF Brig-Gen Khin Yi and Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe presented prizes to the respective police forces for their outstanding performance.

The Secretary-2 delivered a concluding speech. He said MPF is to strive for enhancing form and essence and its members are to make trips to the grassroots levels for community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order in cooperation with regional administrative bodies, to take part in the tasks in the interest of the nation, to lay emphasis on economic, education, health and social matters of families of the MPF members and to extend its agriculture and livestock breeding tasks.

MNA

Construction of dams, summer paddy field inspected in Ayeyawady, Yangon Divisions

YANGON, 21 Feb— Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, accompanied by departmental officials arrived in Mamya Dam in Hmyinwataung, Myanaung Township, on 18 February.

Officials reported on construction of the main embankment, spillway and conduit. Then, the minister inspected construction of the spillway.

On arrival at Kanyin Dam near Tatkon Village, Ingapu Township, officials reported on completion of separation wall and construction for the main embankment. The minister inspected construction tasks.

In Kwinkauk region, the minister inspected thriving summer paddy with the use of irrigated water of Nankathu Dam and gave instructions on extension of agriculture.

In the afternoon, the minister saw over digging of 46,200 feet long main canal of Myokwin river water pumping project in Hinthada Township.

At Hsemyaung Yeiktha in Hinthada, the minister met with industrial entrepreneurs and departmental officials and gave instructions on production and departmental tasks. Then, the minister inspected maintenance of Panhlaing sluice gate in Nyaungdon Township. In Htantabin Township, the minister looked into summer paddy field and sales of fertilizers and gave necessary instructions. — MNA

Chinese Embassy donates computers

YANGON, 21 Feb— The Embassy of the People's republic of China in Myanmar donated five computers to the Ministry of Immigration & Population at the office of the ministry yesterday afternoon. Present on the occasion were Minister for Immigration & Population Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Deputy Minister U Maung Aung, departmental heads, Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinjun and embassy staff. The ambassador explained the purpose of the donation. The minister spoke words of thanks. — MNA

Yanagon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth Transport meets

YANGON, 21 Feb—Yanagon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth Transport held the coordination meeting at the hall of Yanagon Command yesterday, attended by Chairman of the Supervisory Committee Chairman of Yanagon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yanagon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Commander of Yanagon Command Col Wai Lwin, military region commanders, local authorities of Yanagon Division and districts, members of the supervisory committee and chairmen of bus lines.

First, Supervisory Committee Chairman Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe gave a speech. Then, the supervisory committee members took part in the discussions. Later, the meeting came to an end with remarks by the commander.

MNA



Chairman of the Supervisory Committee Chairman of Yanagon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yanagon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe delivers an address at the meeting. — MNA

Agreement on fishing rights signed

YANGON, 21 Feb—The agreement signing ceremony on fishing rights between Fisheries Department and Siam Jonathan Co Ltd of Thailand was held at Grand Plaza Parkroyal on Alanpya Pagoda Road in Dagon Township on 19 February. Present were Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Deputy Minister U

Aung Thein, Joint-Secretary of YCDC U Kyi Win, departmental heads and guests.

Director-General U Than Tun of Fisheries Department, Deputy Director-General U Hla Win and Chairman Mr Aroon Anthanasart and Managing Director Mr Jirawat Supaseta Anun of Siam Jonathan Co Ltd of Thailand signed the agreement and exchanged the documents.

On 19 February morning, the meeting to coordinate mutual co-operation in fisheries between Myanmar and Thailand was held at the Fisheries department.

MNA

Made in India Show goes on

YANGON, 21 Feb — Made in India Show continued for the third day today at Yangon Trade Centre on Upper Pazundaung Road in Mingalar Taungnyunt Township here from 9 am to 5 pm. It was packed with departmental officials, businessmen and the public. At the show, 100 booths of 71 Indian companies put on display and sell iron and steel wares, electrical goods, industrial machinery, medicines, medical equipment, farm implements, sewing machines, different types of bicycles, personal goods, clothes and cosmetics. It will continue till 22 February. — MNA

စေတနာရှင်ပြည်သူများခင်ဗျား

စည်ပင်သာယာရေးဦးစီးဌာနသည် ရေရှားပါးသော ကျေးလက်ဒေသများတွင် သန့်ရှင်းသော သောက်သုံးရေဖူလုံစွာ ရရှိရေးကို ဆောင်ရွက်လျက်ရှိပါသည်။ ရေလျှော့ချခြင်းဖြင့် အောက်ပါ အကျိုးဆယ်ပါးကို ရရှိနိုင်ပါသည်။

- (၁) လျင်မြန်ခြင်း၊
- (၂) သန့်ရှင်းစင်ကြယ်ခြင်း၊
- (၃) ကျော်ကြားလူသိများခြင်း၊
- (၄) ဆာလောင်မွတ်သိပ်မှုကင်းခြင်း၊
- (၅) အခြေအရာများခြင်း၊
- (၆) အသက်ရှည်ခြင်း၊
- (၇) အဆင်လျင်ခြင်း၊
- (၈) ချမ်းသာကြီးခြင်း၊
- (၉) စွန့်အားစလကြီးစားခြင်း၊
- (၁၀) ဉာဏ်ပညာကြီးစားခြင်း တို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

စည်ပင်သာယာရေးဦးစီးဌာနသည် ရေရှားပါးသော ဒေသများမှာ သန့်ရှင်းသောရေဖူလုံစွာရရှိရန် စီမံချက်များချမှတ်ပြီး အင်တိုက်အားတိုက် ဆောင်ရွက်နေပါသည်။ ရေအကျိုးဆယ်ပါး ရရှိစေရန် ရေရှားပါးသည့် ကျေးလက်ဒေသများသို့ စက်ရေတွင်းများ လျှော့ချလုံခြုံစွာ အောက်ပါနံနံ့ထားအတိုင်း လျှော့ချနိုင်ပါသည်။

- (၁) ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူးချုပ်၊ ၀၁-၂၄၄၂၀၊ ၂၄၄၀၈၈။
- (၂) ဒုတိယညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူးချုပ်၊ ၀၁-၂၄၄၀၁၈။
- (၃) ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး (အင်ဂျင်နီယာ)၊ ၀၁-၂၄၄၀၆၇။
- (၄) ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး (စစ်ကိုင်းတိုင်းစည်ပင်အဖွဲ့)၊ ၀၇၁-၂၄၄၀၂။
- (၅) ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး (မကွေးတိုင်းစည်ပင်အဖွဲ့)၊ ၀၆၃-၂၄၄၀၄။
- (၆) ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး (မန္တလေးတိုင်းစည်ပင်အဖွဲ့)၊ ၀၂-၅၄၄၇။

ပျားရည်နှင့် အစွမ်းသတ္တိ

- * ပျားရည်သည် အင်အားဖြည့်တင်းပေးရာတွင် အသန့်စင်ဆုံး အာဟာရတစ်မျိုး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- * ပျားရည်တွင် သတ္တုဓာတ်၊ အင်ဇိုင်း နှင့် အာဟာရဓာတ် အများအပြားပါဝင်ပါသည်။
- * ပျားရည်သည် သစ်သီး၊ သကြားဓာတ် အဓိကပါဝင်သော သကြားဓာတ်ပေါင်း တစ်မျိုးဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- * ပျားရည်တွင် ဘက်တီးရီးယား၊ ချေး၊ သန့်စင်ပါသည်။
- * ပျားရည်တွင် ပဋိဇီဝ စွမ်းရည်သတ္တိပါရှိသဖြင့် အနာဒဏ်ရာများ အနာကျက်မြန်စေပြီး လျင်မြန်စွာ ပျောက်ကင်းစေပါသည်။
- * ပျားရည်စားသုံးပြီး မိနစ်ပိုင်းအတွင်း စွမ်းအားတိုးတက်လာစေနိုင်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင် ဘဝတစ်ခွင်

ကျန်းမာခြင်းဆိုသည်မှာ ဧကရာဇ်ဘက်ကင်းရှင်းမှု သာမက ကိုယ်၏ကျန်းမာကြံ့ခိုင်ခြင်း၊ စိတ်ချမ်းသာခြင်းနှင့် လူမှုရေးသုခ ဖြည့်ဝခြင်းတို့ကိုဆိုသည်။

ဘဝတစ်ခွင် ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင်စေရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။

- (၁) တစ်ကိုယ်ရည်သန့်ရှင်းမှုကိုဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၂) အန္တရာယ်ကင်း၍ အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသော အစားအသောက်များ ကိုစားသုံးပါ။
- (၃) ပိုမိုစွမ်းအားစင်၍ သန့်ရှင်းသောရေကို သောက်သုံးပါ။
- (၄) ရာသီဥတုနှင့်လိုက်လျောညီထွေစွာ ဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်နေထိုင်ပါ။
- (၅) အသက်အရွယ်နှင့်လိုက်လျောညီထွေရှိသည့် သင့်တော်မျှတသော ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုကို မှန်မှန်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၆) နေ့စဉ်လုပ်ငန်းဆောင်တာများ ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်းကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်မှုကိုပြေပျောက်စေရန် အနားယူပါ။
- (၇) ခြင်္သေ့ရုပ်သိမ်းမှုကွယ်ရန် ခြင်္သေ့တောင်မြင့်အိပ်ပါ။
- (၈) ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့်ညီညွတ်သော ယဉ်ကျေးမှုသဘာဝကိုသုံးစွဲပါ။
- (၉) အရက်သောက်ခြင်း၊ ဆေးလိပ်ဆေးရွက် သောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ ကွမ်းစားခြင်းတို့ကိုရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၀) မူယစ်ဆေးဝါးနှင့် စိတ်ကိုပြောင်းလဲစေသည့် ဆေးဝါးများ သုံးစွဲခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၁) အပျော်အပါးလိုက်စားခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) ရေ၊ မြေ၊ လေ သဘာဝပတ်ဝန်းကျင်နှင့် နေထိုင်မှု အသက်မွေးမှုပတ်ဝန်းကျင်တို့အား ညစ်ညမ်းစေသည့် အပြုအမူများကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Sanitation tasks inspected in Yangon municipal areas

YANGON, 21 Feb — Members of the Tatmadaw and Myanmar Police Force, staff of Yangon City Development Committee, those of NGOs and the public today carried out sanitation works in Yangon municipal areas. Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and YCDC Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected the tasks and gave necessary instructions to officials.

First, the commander and the mayor then inspected dredging of Thamaing creek in Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township for proper drainage and clearing of rubbish and weeds. Officials reported to

them on implementation of dredging works in the creek. After giving necessary instructions to officials, the commander and the mayor proceeded to Shwepyitha Township in Yangon North District and unblocking of ditches and sanitation tasks on Sethmudetha Street between No 4 Highway and



The commander and the mayor inspect sanitation work in Kyauktada Township. YGN CMMO

Mahogani Street. The commander instructed officials to maintain the durability of flat gates. Afterwards, the commander and the mayor saw over sanitation tasks being carried out along Sittway

Street in Hlinethaya Township. The commander and the mayor then gave instructions on construction of box culverts in Yangon municipal areas, measures to be taken for sanitation and dredging works for

proper drainage, systematic disposing of garbage and cooperation between local authorities and departmental officials. Similarly, dredging and sanitation tasks were carried out in other townships. — MNA



Dam projects inspected

YANGON, 20 Feb — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin inspected Kyee-on Kyee-wa Dam Project being undertaken by the Irrigation Department in Pwintbyu, Minbu District, Magway Division, on 17 February.

Director of the Construction-3 U Tun Aung Lwin reported on construction of separation wall of the main embankment. The minister looked into construction of the main embankment.

Next, the minister proceeded to Maday Dam Project near Gyobin Village west of Patheingyi Road in Kanma Township, Magway Division. Director of Construction-2 of the ID U Tin Maung Ohn reported on construction of the main embankment, spillway and storage capacity of the dam. The minister gave instructions and looked into the project site.

In the evening, the minister inspected Khawa Dam Project near Chinyawgyi in Padaung Township, Bago Division. Officials reported on building of the main bridge. The minister gave instructions on ensuring simultaneous completion of the project and irrigation system, extended irrigation of cultivable land, crop patterns and minimizing loss and wastage. Afterwards, the minister inspected the Kunchaung-2 Dam Project near Tatkon Village, Kyaukse Township, Ayeyawady Division. Officials reported on work progress and future tasks. The minister gave instructions on construction of the main embankment in accordance with the original design, and timely completion of construction tasks.

MNA

Minister for Agriculture & Irrigation Maj- Gen Nyunt Tin inspects the construction of retaining wall of Kyee-on Kyee-wa Dam in Pwintbyu Township, Minbu District, Magway Division, on 17 February.—IRRIGATION



Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Htay Oo formally opens the Import-substitute Domestic Industrial Products Exhibition on 20 February 2004. (News reported) — MNA



Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung watches the Indian cultural performances and folk dances at National Theatre in Yangon on 20 February 2004 evening. (News reported) — MNA

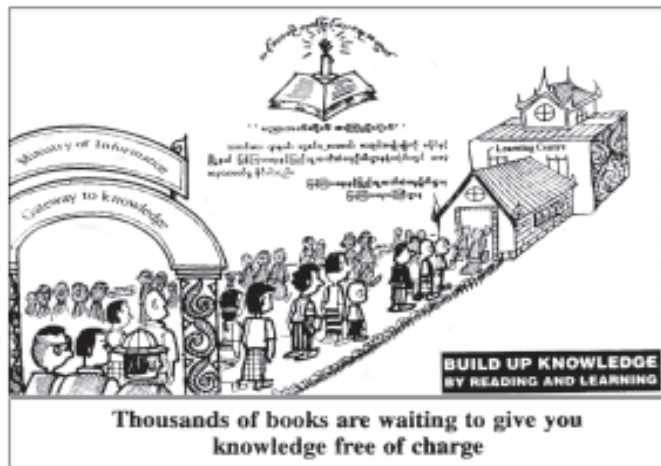
လူတွင်ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်သော ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါကာကွယ်ရေး သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

- ၁။ ယခုအခါ အိမ်နီးချင်းနိုင်ငံများအပါအဝင် ကမ္ဘာ့နိုင်ငံအချို့၌ ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါများ ဖြစ်ပွား လျက်ရှိပါသည်။ ဤရောဂါသည် ဗိုင်းရပ်စ်ဖိုကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပွားပြီး ကြက်ငှက်များမှ တစ်ဆင့် လူများသို့ ကူးစက်ပျံ့နှံ့ကာ ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားစေနိုင်ပါသည်။
- ၂။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် ဖြစ်ပွားခြင်းမရှိသေးသော်လည်း ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ဝင်ရောက်မလာနိုင်ရေးအတွက် ကာကွယ်ရေးရန် အထူးလိုအပ်လျက်ရှိပါသည်။
- ၃။ ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါဖြစ်စေသော ဗိုင်းရပ်စ်ဖိုများသည် ဆောင်းဦးငှက်များ၊ ငှက်ရိုင်းများဖြစ်သောရောဘဲရော့က်စင်ရော်၊ နီအစရှိသောငှက်များတွင် ရောဂါလက္ခဏာ မပြဘဲရှိနေနိုင်ပြီး ငှက်တို့၏ မစင်၊ အညစ်အကြေးမှတစ်ဆင့် မွေးမြူရေးကြက်၊ ဘဲငှက်များသို့ကူးစက်နိုင်ပါသည်။ မွေးမြူထားသောကြက်ငှက်များသို့ ရောဂါ ကူးစက်ပါက အချိန်တိုအတွင်း ချက်ချင်း ကြက်ဘဲငှက်များ ဖြုတ်ချွတ် ရောဂါ ကူးစက် သေဆုံးသွားနိုင်ပါသည်။ ဤကဲ့သို့ ကြက်ငှက်များ ဖြုတ်ချွတ်သေဆုံးမှု ဖြစ်ပွားပါက နီးစပ်ရာ မွေးမြူရေးနှင့်ကုသရေးဦးစီးဌာနသို့ အမြန်ဆုံး အကြောင်းကြားပြီး ညွှန်ကြားချက်အတိုင်း လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ရန် လိုအပ်ပါသည်။
- ၄။ ရောဂါဖြစ်နေသော ကြက်၊ ဘဲ၊ ငှက်များနှင့် အနီးကပ်ထိတွေ့နေသောသူများနှင့် ရောဂါကြောင့်သေဆုံး သွားသော ကြက်၊ ဘဲများကို ကိုင်တွယ်မိသူများထံသို့ အောက်ပါအတိုင်း ကူးစက်နိုင်ပါသည်။
- (က) ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါဖြစ်နေသော ကြက်၊ ဘဲ၊ ငှက်များထဲမှ ရောဂါပိုး တိုက်ရိုက်ကူးစက်ခြင်း

- (ခ) ရောဂါဖြစ်နေသော ကြက်၊ ဘဲ၊ ငှက်တို့၏ မစင်များ၊ အညစ်အကြေး များကိုလက်ဖြင့် ကိုင်တွယ်ခြင်း
- (ဂ) ရောဂါဖြင့် သေဆုံးသွားသော ကြက်၊ ဘဲ၊ ငှက်များနှင့် ရောဂါပိုးပါရှိနေသော ကြက်မြွေတုပ်ပစ္စည်းများကို ထိကိုင်ပြီးလက်မဆေးမီခြင်း
- ၅။ လူများအား ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ကူးစက်ခံရခြင်းမှ ကာကွယ်ရန်အတွက်
- (က) ကြက်မြွေတုပ်ပစ္စည်းများသည် သတ်မှတ်ထားသောဝတ်ရုံ၊ ခေါင်းစည်း၊ နှာခေါင်းစည်း၊ လက်အိတ်၊ လည်ရှည်ဖိနပ်များ ဝတ်ဆင်ရန်
- (ခ) မွေးမြူရေးခြံများအတွင်းသို့ မသက်ဆိုင်သူများ၊ ကလေးများလုံးဝဝင်ရောက်မှုမပြုရန်
- (ဂ) ကြက်၊ဘဲသယ်ဆောင်သူများ၊ ကြက်ကိုင်သူများ၊ ကြက်ခိုင်းလုပ်သားများ၊ ရောင်းသူများ သည် ရောဂါကာကွယ်နိုင်သည့်လက်အိတ်၊ ဖိနပ်၊ အပေ့ဝတ်စုံစည်း၊ စသည် သတ်မှတ်ထားသောဝတ်စုံများ ဝတ်ဆင်ရန်
- (ဃ) ကြက်၊ ဘဲများကို မကိုင်တွယ်မီနှင့်ကိုင်တွယ်ပြီး လက်ကိုဆပ်ပြာဖြင့် စင်ကြယ်စွာ ဆေးကြောရန် လိုအပ်ပါသည်။
- ၆။ ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားသောမွေးမြူရေးခြံများနှင့် ထိတွေ့မှုရှိသည့် ကြက်မြွေတုပ်ပစ္စည်းများနှင့် အနီးကပ် ထိတွေ့နေထိုင်သူများတွင် တပ်ကွေးရောဂါ လက္ခဏာများ ပေါ်ပေါက်ပါက နီးစပ်ရာ ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနသို့ အကြောင်းကြားပြီး ညွှန်ကြားချက်အတိုင်း လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

မွေးမြူရေးနှင့်ရေလုပ်ငန်းဝန်ကြီးဌာနနှင့်ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

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ADVERTISEMENTS

COP-7 ministers call for more protected areas

KUALA LUMPUR, 21 Feb— Ministers responsible for environmental affairs Thursday evening adopted the Kuala Lumpur Declaration calling for more protected areas and transfer of the sound technology to preserve biological diversity.

The declaration is the outcome of the 7th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biodiversity (COP-7) which was held on Wednesday and Thursday here.

Delegations from 123 countries, including 78 ministers and deputy ministers as well as representatives of non-governmental organizations attended the conference.

The declaration called for an international regime on access and benefit sharing, which would provide developing countries and indigenous peoples with a fair and equitable share in the benefits from their genetic resources.

It also called for indicators and incentives to meet the 2010 target of significantly reducing biodiversity loss which was set during the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development.

An unacceptable rate of

about 60,000 species become extinct each year, according to Klaus Toepfer, the United Nations Environment Programme Executive Director.

The declaration affirmed the significant role of indigenous peoples and local communities in conservation and sustainable use of biological resources.

It also urged governments to set up a mechanism for continuing scientific assessment and to support the development of national and regional centres of excellence to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to exchange experiences.

The convention was opened for signature at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. It entered into force on December 29, 1993 and currently has 188 parties.

MNA/Xinhua

Ten million farmers to have adequate drinking water this year

HEFEI, 21 Feb— Some 10 million more rural people in China will likely have adequate drinking water this year, thanks to continuous national efforts, said a senior official on Thursday.

"We'll focus on improving the quality of water including removing harmful contents such as fluoride and arsenic," said Vice-Minister of Water Resources Chen Lei at a national conference on water resources programming held in Hefei, capital of central China's Anhui Province.

According to the country's water shortage easing programme, 10 million rural residents from arid areas are expected to have adequate water to drink this year.

Water shortages in most

of the cities in north China are expected to be eliminated by 2010 when part of the project to divert water from the Yangtze River is completed, according to Chen.

The central government poured 4.3 billion US dollars in water resources infrastructure construction in 2003, 11.2 per cent over the previous year. The total investment was 9.05 billion US dollars, of which 1.76 billion US dollars is for rural water resources infrastructure construction.

MNA/Xinhua

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3G mobile phone opens video service in HK

HONG KONG, 21 Feb— For the first time in the world, a video phone has been successfully connected to a 3G video mobile phone in Hong Kong, "3 Hong Kong", the solo 3G operator in Hong Kong, announced here Thursday.

The company, joining hands with two other companies CK Communications Limited and Hutchison Global Communications Limited, has been successful in connecting video communications between 3 and Vfone users in Hong Kong, marking a major technological breakthrough.

Agnes Nardi, managing director of "3 Hong Kong", noted that "The launch of this world-first video communications service between 3 videomobilephone and Vfone can further enhance the video communications frontier, enabling the mass public to video call '3' users in the most user-friendly way via a simple dial from the Vfone."

No IDD charges will be involved for "3" users to make video calls with overseas Vfone users. Plans are in place to extend the pioneering connection between "3" and Vfone to other countries, further establishing a global network and community extensively using video-based communications. "3"



Engagement

Maung Wai Phyo

(Bachelor of Science in Business Administration) USA
Managing Director(Cho Cho Co.,Ltd., Yathar Cho Co.,Ltd., Yather Cho Industry Ltd., Cho Cho Industry Ltd.)
Only Son of U Win Thein-Daw Nyunt Nyunt Yee (Director, Cho Cho Industry Ltd.), residing at No.118(C), Pyay Road, Mayangone Township, Yangon.

Ma Yu Mon

B.Tech(Biomedical Science)1st Class Honours, Ph.D(Molecular Medicine and Pathology)Thesis Auckland University, New Zealand, Daughter of Dr. Shein Myint (Raymond) Assistant Audiologist, South Auckland Health Care(Manukau Super Clinic)and Daw Khin Myat Khine(Dolly)residing at 7-B, U Kyaw Hla Road, Mayangone Township, Yangon on 21st February, 2004 at Traders Hotel, Myanmar Ballroom.

ASEAN, Japan officials meet to follow up Tokyo Summit

JAKARTA, 21 Feb— Senior officials of Japan and the ten-member Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) held a brainstorming session here Thursday to follow up agreements adopted in the Tokyo Summit and to identify priority areas for further cooperation.

"This is the follow up meeting to the ASEAN-Japan Summit last December in Tokyo. Our officials are sitting down to follow up actions, what need to be done," ASEAN Secretary-General Ong Keng Yong told

reporters on the sidelines of the meeting. He said the senior officials have narrowed down the agendas into 16 priority areas, with focus on Japan's assistance to human resource development in ASEAN. He added Japan is going to talk to some of the ASEAN countries on closer economic cooperation, which will include free trade area agreement on bilateral basis. "All the years, Japan has helped ASEAN in many ways to develop our own capabilities. ASEAN also has been receiving Japanese investments," he said.

"And now we have this declaration which our leaders adopted in December last year, and our leaders expect all officials to implement the projects, which will help strengthen the important re-

lationship between ASEAN and Japan," he added.

Separately, an Indonesian official said the officials discussed the breakdown of Japan's pledge of three billion US dollars in development assistance for ASEAN.

"It has been agreed in Tokyo that 1.5 billion US dollars of the assistance will go to human resource development and another 1.5 billion US dollars to development in the areas along the Mekong River," said Makarim Wibisono, Director General of Asia and the Pacific Affairs under the Foreign Affairs Ministry. Established in 1967, ASEAN now groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam. —MNA/Xinhua

3 feared killed, 11 injured in "Mig-21" crash

NEW DELHI, 21 Feb— Three people were feared killed and 11 injured when a MiG-21 fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) crashed into a village near Jamnagar of Gujarat State, west India Friday morning, according to the Press Trust of India.

The jet crashed in Lakha Baval Village, about 20 kilometres from Jamnagar, a police official said.

The jet ploughed into houses, killing three persons and another 11 injured on the ground but the pilot bailed

out, the official said.

This is the second disaster for the IAF this month. On 7 February, a MiG-23 fighter aircraft crashed in the desert state of Rajasthan, west India, killing the pilot. —MNA/Xinhua

Swazi King declares disaster over drought, AIDS

MBABANE, 21 Feb— Swaziland's King Mswati, has declared a humanitarian disaster in his impoverished African country ravaged by drought and HIV/AIDS — a move aimed at bringing in more foreign aid.

"On behalf of His Majesty's government, I appeal to the international community to assist and make whatever available resources in order to respond effectively to the challenges the country is facing," Prime Minister Themba Dlamini said as he announced the move at a news conference late

on Wednesday. Sub-Saharan Africa's last absolute monarch, Mswati has been criticized for pushing through expensive royal projects even though a quarter of his one million subjects receive food aid and 40 per cent of Swazi adults are believed to be infected with HIV/AIDS. —MNA/Reuters

မညာရေးပြင် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Africa develops roadmap to reduce maternal, newborn deaths

HARARE, 21 Feb— The World Health Organization (WHO) regional official for Africa, Doyin Oluwole, said in a statement here on Thursday that the roadmap, which is a regional framework for action, is goal-driven with clear strategies, phases, timelines and benchmarks.

A meeting attended by experts from various international agencies and non-governmental organizations on maternal and neonatal death reduction ended in Harare on Wednesday with the development of a roadmap aimed at accelerating progress to reduce maternal and newborn morbidity and mortality in the African region.

"It focuses on two areas critical to the reduction of maternal and newborn deaths, provision of skilled attendance at all levels of care, and the strengthening of individual, family and community capacity to improve maternal and newborn health," said Oluwole.

The UN agency said actions to be taken to ensure skilled attendance at all levels included ensuring the

availability of skilled and competent health workers to provide emergency obstetric care for the benefit of mothers and newborns and identification of essential supplies, equipment, and infrastructure necessary for maternal and newborn health services delivery.

The actions would also include mobilization of support for their procurement and distribution, and in-service as well as pre-service training of medical and paramedical workers in emergency obstetric and newborn care and family planning.

With regard to the focus on community, the actions recommended in the roadmap include provision of outreach mechanisms from the health facility level to communities and households, support to health min-

istries to strengthen existing links between the formal health system and communities.

Establishment of community emergency committees to be linked to the formal health system and the institutionalization of birth preparedness at community level was another action recommended.

She added that this was the first time partners working in the area of maternal and child health have come together to agree on the contents of their collective support to countries for accelerated reduction of maternal and newborn deaths.

She said it was a historical moment witnessing the creation of a regional movement to advocate for maternal and child health.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese State Councillor meets Indian, Japanese guests

BEIJING, 21 Feb—Chinese State Councillor Tang Jiaxuan met here Thursday with RL Bhatia, chairman of the China-India Eminent Persons' Group, who is here attending the fourth session of the group.

Tang said that developing Sino-Indian good-neighbourly relations conforms to the fundamental interests of the two peoples, helps promote unity and cooperation among Asian nations, and benefits the stability and prosperity of the region and the world at large.

He said the two countries should maintain the good momentum of their bilateral ties, and realize the consensus reached by the two heads of state according to the declaration on the principles for relations and comprehensive cooperation between

China and India.

Bhatia spoke highly of the relations between India and China, expressing the hope that the group would continue its due role in promoting friendly cooperation between the two countries.

When meeting with Noda Takeshi, chairman of the Japan-China Society, Tang said it was significant for developing non-governmental exchanges between the two countries, and China welcomes Japanese people to visit China, particularly young people.—MNA/Xinhua

Ex-Italian POWs sue Germany for compensation

BERLIN, 21 Feb—Two former Italian soldiers launched a legal bid for damages from Germany on Thursday for being forced into slave labour under the Nazis during World War II in a case that could influence thousands of similar claims.

The two men, aged 81 and 82, are each seeking some 7,700 euros (9,788 US dollars) in damages from the German Finance Ministry and the body which oversees payments to former victims of slave labour, the "Remembrance, Responsibility and Future" foundation.

The foundation previously refused their request for redress on the grounds that, as former prisoners of war under German law, they were ineligible for payments.

The result of their lawsuit, the first from former Italian prisoners of war to reach court, could have an impact on some 4,200 similar claims for compensation.

Germany has faced many Nazi-related claims from Jewish, Roma and Slavic groups but has consistently denied the need to compensate prisoners of war.

Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy initially fought on the same side in World War II, but Italy changed sides in September 1943.

Lawyers representing the plaintiffs said German troops took around 600,000 Italian soldiers captive following the surrender and sent all who refused to fight for Hitler into forced labour in Germany, thus denying them their rights as prisoners of war.—MNA/Reuters



Pediatric anesthesiologist Carlene Broderick, center, leads her team in preparing conjoined twins Carl and Clarence Aguirre for surgery at The Children's Hospital at Montefiore in the Bronx borough of New York, on 20 Feb, 2004.—INTERNET

Austrian court clears accused over ski train blaze

SALZBURG (Austria), 21 Feb—An Austrian court acquitted 16 people on Thursday of responsibility for a ski train blaze that killed 155 tourists in November 2000, saying the disaster could not have been foreseen.

Relatives of the dead shouted in protest from the public gallery or walked out as the judge cleared the resort workers, train operators and safety inspectors of negligence in Austria's deadliest post-war disaster.

"The court did not have an easy time reaching this decision," Judge Manfred Seiss said in announcing the verdict.

Only 12 people survived the accident at the Alpine ski resort of Kaprun when fire raced through a funicular train, bringing its two crowded carriages to a halt in a tunnel.

Prosecutors said an elec-

tric heater not designed for use in vehicles had caused the blaze, that there had been no fire-fighting equipment in the carriages and that the doors had failed to open when the train stopped, trapping the passengers.

But the defendants, who could have been jailed for up to five years, argued that no one could have foreseen the chain of events that led to the deaths. The judge agreed. He said they had had no reason to suspect the heater was not up to standard, and added that the train's construction had been approved by state inspectors.

MNA/Reuters

Spain nabs top Colombian drug money launderer

MADRID, 21 Feb—Spanish police said on Thursday they had arrested an alleged member of Colombia's defunct Cali cartel wanted by the United States for money laundering.

A police spokeswoman said the suspect, a 63-year-old Colombian named only as Fernando Antonio GC, had been in charge of a financial network that laundered a trillion dollars — more than the annual gross domestic product of Spain — for the Cali cartel between 1982 and 1995.

The man was arrested in Barcelona as he was about to board a flight to Bogota, police said.

The notorious Cali cartel ceased to exist in 1995 when its founders, brothers Miguel and Gilberto Rodriguez Orejuela, were jailed. It was believed at the time to be responsible for 80 per cent of cocaine shipped to the United States.

US authorities in December indicted the brothers with new drug trafficking charges, accusing them of continuing to run the trafficking ring from behind bars.

MNA/Reuters

Philippines, France jointly hunt for suspect freighter

MANILA, 21 Feb— The Philippines and France have launched a joint operation to hunt for a Philippine-flagged freighter suspected of causing a collision that killed five French fishermen, the French Embassy in Manila said Friday.

"We are in contact with the Philippine authorities. They are doing their best. We are very thankful to the Philippine authorities for the spirit of cooperation they are showing," the embassy said in a statement.

However, no more details were given as for the case of the *Seattle Trader*, a freighter blamed for sinking a French trawler off southern England last month, leaving the boat's five crew members dead.

"The French Embassy in Manila has not been asked to make formal demands,"

the embassy said, adding that most of the talks were taking place through the Philippine Embassy in Paris.

French investigators have issued an international warrant to allow them to take their inquiry to foreign ports to hunt down those responsible, who may face five years in prison if convicted.

At a Press briefing, Philippine Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Rafael Seguis said Thursday France had been in contact concerning the hunt for the *Seattle Trader*, but declined to reveal details.—MNA/Xinhua

Shanghai Port to be enlarged

BEIJING, 21 Feb— Another project to enlarge the Shanghai Port, involving an input of about 2.8 billion yuan (some 340 million US dollars), was approved by the government recently, sources with the Ministry of Communications said here Thursday.

The fifth-phase project of the Waigaoqiao Port, aiming to increase annual throughput by 8.3 million tons including 700,000 containers, will finish construction and go into operation by October 2004, according to sources.

The port of Shanghai, with a total throughput exceeding 300 million tons, including 11.28 million containers in 2003, ranks largest among all Chinese ports and the third in the world.—MNA/Xinhua



သတိပြု

SPORTS

Zidane extends Real Madrid contract until 2007

MADRID, 21 Feb—World Player of the Year Zinedine Zidane will remain at Real Madrid for an extra two years after reaching an agreement to extend his contract until June 30, 2007, the Spanish club said on Thursday.

The France playmaker signed a four-year deal with Real in July 2001 after leaving Italian side Juventus for a world record fee of 66 million US dollars. He will be 35 when his Real contract expires.

Zidane helped Real win a record ninth European Cup in his first season, scoring a spectacular volley in the 2-1 victory over Bayer Leverkusen in the final at Hampden Park, Glasgow.

Real won the Spanish championship the following season and Zidane has established himself as one of the club's most influential players both on and off the pitch.

Last month he said he would like to end his career at Real and although the club already had an option to extend his contract until 2006, a two-year extension has now been agreed.

MNA/Reuters



England captain David Beckham, left, is held off by Portugal's Armando Petit during the international friendly match at the Algarve Stadium in Faro, Portugal, on 18 Feb, 2004.

England and Portugal tied 1-1. — INTERNET

Study finds heading balls may damage footballers' necks

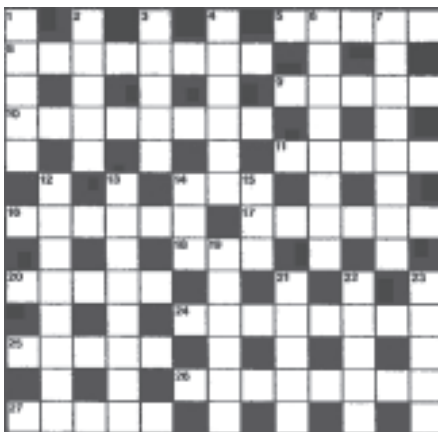
LONDON, 21 Feb—Heading the ball could be a pain in the neck for soccer players.

Turkish researchers who used X-rays and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans to study the necks of 30 amateur footballers found they were less flexible and had more movement between and damage to discs than non-players.

"Such damage may be just mildly painful, but it can also lead to more serious conditions," New Scientist magazine said on Wednesday.

MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

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- 8 Treats fiendishly
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DOWN

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- 1 Bearing
- 14 Married
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- 23 Caisson disease

Lahm debut impresses Voeller in laboured Germany win

BERLIN, 21 Feb—Germany failed to shine in a laboured 2-1 win over Croatia on Wednesday but there was good news for coach Rudi Voeller with a fine debut from Philipp Lahm.

The VfB Stuttgart defender showed maturity beyond his 20 years, clearing a header from Josip Simunic on the line and displaying his skills with a couple of great runs.

After just 16 Bundesliga games and three appearances in Germany's Under-21 team, Lahm seemed a bit raw for the big stage but he seized his chance and was arguably the best man on the pitch in the friendly international in Split.

His performance suggests Voeller might have found a solution at last to the problem position on the left side of the defence, which has been one of his main concerns for years. "It was a really good debut," said Voeller, who is expected to pick Lahm in his squad for the Euro 2004 finals in June in Portugal. "Philipp showed that we can count on him."

Lahm himself rated his performance as average.

"I was a bit nervous," he said. "I played all right but I can play better."

The fresh-faced defender, who is a bit shy off the pitch but full of confidence on it, had only amateur football experience when he joined Stuttgart on loan from Bayern

Munich at the end of last season.

In just a few weeks he secured a place in coach Felix Magath's first team and started to shine both in domestic matches and in the Champions League. "He certainly can help Germany out," Magath had said before Wednesday's Euro 2004 warm-up. "There's no better German player at that position." A reliable defender and a superb technician who likes to move the ball forward, Lahm seems to have more potential than Christian Ziege and Joerg Boehme, Voeller's other options at left back.

Magath realized Lahm was special even before the season started.—MNA/Reuters

Ignatiev replaces Romantsev at Saturn

MOSCOW, 21 Feb—Former Russia manager Boris Ignatiev has been named as new coach of Saturn Ramenskoye, the Russian Premier League club said on Wednesday.

The 63-year-old Ignatiev replaces Oleg Romantsev, another former coach of the national team who quit the Moscow-region club on Monday because of poor health.

Ignatiev coached Russia from July 1996, when he took over from Romantsev following a disappointing showing at Euro 96, until June 1998 when he quit after being unable to guide Russia to the 1998 World Cup finals.

Ignatiev has also coached a number of Russian clubs and he briefly worked with Chinese First Division side Shandun Liunen in 2001. Since last year he has been working as sporting director of Lokomotiv Moscow. — MNA/Reuters



South Korea's Lee Chun-soo, front, fights for ball with Lebanon's Abbas Kanaan, back, during a preliminary game for the 2006 World Cup Game, at the Suwon World Cup Stadium, south of Seoul, on 18 Feb, 2004. South Korea defeated Lebanon with 2-0.—INTERNET

Saha sets sights on Euro 2004 after debut goal for France

BRUSSELS, 21 Feb—Manchester United striker Louis Saha has set his sights on Euro 2004 after scoring a goal on his international debut in France's 2-0 defeat of Belgium.

Saha, who also scored in his first game for United after moving from Fulham in January, struck after 76 minutes to help the European champions extend their winning run to 14 matches.

With opportunity knocking for France's reserve strikers four months before the European Championship, Saha undoubtedly made an impact on coach Jacques Santini in the absence of Thierry Henry and David Trezeguet.

Santini fielded Saha alongside Olympique Lyon forward Peguy Luyindula in Brussels and he labelled the experiment a success.

"These were satisfying debuts for both of them," Santini told reporters after Wednesday's game.

"They were involved in the first goal and then Saha scored."

The United player played most of the first half supporting Luyindula and scored after the interval when playmaker Zinedine Zidane set him up in the box.

"It's a great honour to receive a ball from Zidane," said Saha.

"It is a great moment for me and for my family. Now, I am thinking a bit more about Euro 2004.—MNA/Reuters

Keane says one more defeat will cost United the title

MANCHESTER (England), 21 Feb—Manchester United captain Roy Keane believes his side's Premier League title hopes will be over if they lose again this season.

The champions are five points behind leaders Arsenal and Keane cannot see a repeat of what happened last season when Alex Ferguson's team overhauled the Gunners in the run-in by going 18 games unbeaten.

"We fell behind last year and put ourselves under a lot of pressure but if I am being honest I can't see Arsenal slipping up like they did last year," Keane told the Manchester Evening News on Thursday.

"Of course I am worried that we have lost five times and Arsenal haven't lost at all," the midfielder added. "If you want to win any championship, the fewer games you lose the better."

"We are just putting ourselves under so much pressure. The gap that is between us now must not get any wider."

Keane feels United, who have conceded 10 goals in their past four games, may be even more vulnerable defensively as they attempt to close the gap.

"Basically, we are putting ourselves under a lot of pressure, especially when we are playing the top teams like Liverpool, Arsenal and Chelsea, we have to be winning these matches," said Keane. "That leaves you vulnerable at the back because you have to go gung-ho in attack."

"We did it last year and, hopefully, it will be the same scenario this season." United's next game is at home to Leeds United on Saturday, when Arsenal travel to third-placed Chelsea. — MNA/Reuters



India's Debjith Ghosh, (L) and Singapore's Sazali Bin Mohammed Salleh battle for the ball in Margao, India, on 18 Feb, 2004. India's Renedy Singhs 49th minute penalty conversion clinched India a 1-0 victory against Singapore in the World Cup Asian Zone Group-3 encounter Wednesday. — INTERNET

MRTV-3
22-2-2004 (Monday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)

- 9:00 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 9:06 Shwe Myintzu Pagoda
Festival
- 9:10** **Headline News**
- 9:12 Plaster Toys
- 9:15** **National News**
- 9:20 Reminiscence in the
Glow of Sunset
- 9:25 Khame Traditional
Cultural Dance
- 9:30** **National News**
- 9:35 Weaving Industry of
Pakokku
- 9:40 Myanmar Modern
Song "Wonderful
Country"
- 9:42 Tour In Myanmar
"Pathein"
- 9:45** **National News**
- 9:50 A Wonderful Trip to
Ngwe Hsaung
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

22-2-2004 (Sunday)
Regular Programmes for
Viewers from Abroad
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)

- 15:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 15:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 15:36 Shwe Myintzu Pagoda
Festival
- 15:40** **Headline News**
- 15:42 Plaster Toys
- 15:45** **National News**
- 15:50 Reminiscence in the
Glow of Sunset
- 15:55 Khame Traditional
Cultural Dance
- 16:00** **National News**
- 16:05 Weaving Industry of
Pakokku

- 16:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Wonderful
Country"
- 16:12 Tour In Myanmar
"Pathein"
- 16:15** **National News**
- 16:20 A Wonderful Trip to
Ngwe Hsaung
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 16:30** **National News**
- 16:35 Lobsters Trading
- 16:40 Myanmar As Told By
History
- 16:45** **National News**
- 16:50 SA-LE Monastery
Decorated with
Handicrafts
- 17:00** **National News**
- 17:05 The Stage Male Dance
- 17:10 Songs on Screen "Past
Merit"
- 17:15** **National News**
- 17:20 Safari In Style
- 17:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

Evening Transmission
(19:30 - 23:30)

- 19:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 19:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 19:36 The Pindaya Cave
- 19:40** **Headline News**
- 19:42 Kachin hand-woven
material
- 19:45** **National News**
- 19:50 Ancient Architectural
heritage Taungthaman
Kyauktawgyi Pagoda
- 19:55 Kachin Dance (Ton
Pana (or) Kywe Min
Don Doance)
- 20:00** **National News**
- 20:05 Ancient Architectural
heritage of Taung-
thaman Kyauktawgyi
Pagoda
- 20:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Flowers in Pro-
fusion"
- 20:15** **National News**
- 20:20 Unique Biodiversity of
Indawgyi Lake
(Part-VI)
- 20:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Aristocratic
Beauty"
- 20:30** **National News**

- 20:35 The Alaung Daw
Kathapa National Park
Myanmar Profile
- 20:40 "Antique ?...may be"
- 20:45** **National News**
- 20:50 Myanmar Movie im-
pact "Sun Father,
Moon Son"
- 21:00** **National News**
- 21:05 The Beauty and the
Chinlon
- 21:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Everlasting"
- 21:15** **National News**
- 21:20 Kambozathadi Palace
of Conquerors
- 21:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 21:36 Shwe Myintzu Pagoda
Festival
- 21:40** **Headline News**
- 21:42 Plaster Toys
- 21:45** **National News**
- 21:50 Reminiscence in the
Glow of Sunset
- 21:55 Khame Traditional
Cultural Dance
- 22:00** **National News**
- 22:05 Weaving Industry of
Pakokku
- 22:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Wonderful
Country"
- 22:15** **National News**
- 22:20 Tour In Myanmar
"Pathein"
- 22:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Treasure Land"
- 22:30** **National News**
- 22:35 Lobsters Trading
- 22:40 Myanmar As Told By
History
- 22:45** **National News**
- 22:50 SA-LE Monastery
Decorated with
Handicrafts
- 23:00** **National News**
- 23:05 Misty Land in Central
Myanmar
- 23:10 Songs on Screen "Past
Merit"
- 23:15** **National News**
- 23:20 Safari In Style
- 23:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

22-2-2004 (Sunday) &
23-2-2004 (Monday)
Evening & Morning
Transmission
(23:30 - 1:30)
 23:30 Signature Tune
Greeting

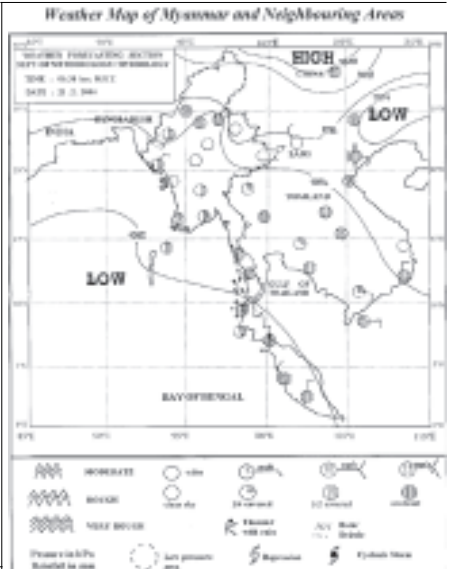
- 23:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 23:36 Shwe Myintzu Pagoda
Festival
- 23:40** **Headline News**
- 23:42 Plaster Toys
- 23:45** **National News**
- 23:50 Reminiscence in the
Glow of Sunset
- 23:55 Khame Traditional
Cultural Dance
- 24:00** **National News**
- 00:05 Weaving Industry of
Pakokku
- 00:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Wonderful
Country"
- 00:12 Tour In Myanmar
"Pathein"
- 00:15** **National News**
- 00:20 A Wonderful Trip to
Ngwe Hsaung
- 00:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 00:30** **National News**
- 00:35 Lobsters Trading
- 00:40 Myanmar As Told By
History
- 00:45** **National News**
- 00:50 SA-LE Monastery
Decorated with
Handicrafts
- 01:00** **National News**
- 01:05 The Stage Male Dance
- 01:10 Songs on Screen "Past
Merit"
- 01:15** **National News**
- 01:20 Safari In Style
- 01:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

23-2-2004 (Monday)
Morning Transmission
(03:30-07:30)

- 03:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 03:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 03:36 The Pindaya Cave
- 03:40** **Headline News**
- 03:42 Kachin hand-woven
material
- 03:45** **National News**
- 03:50 Traevelogue "Ngapali"
- 03:55 Kachin Dance (Ton
Pana (or) Kywe Min
Don Doance)
- 04:00** **National News**
- 04:05 Ancient Architectural

- heritage of Taung-
thaman Kyauktawgyi
Pagoda
- 04:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Flowers in Pro-
fusion"
- 04:15** **National News**
- 04:20 Unique Biodiversity of
Indawgyi Lake
(Part-VI)
- 04:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Aristocratic
Beauty"
- 04:30** **National News**
- 04:35 The Alaung Daw
Kathapa National Park
Myanmar Profile
- 04:40 "Antique ?...may be"
- 04:45** **National News**
- 04:50 Myanmar Movie im-
pact "Sun Father,
Moon Son"
- 05:00** **National News**
- 05:05 The Beauty and the
Chinlon
- 05:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Everlasting"
- 05:15** **National News**
- 05:20 Kambozathadi Palace
of Conquerors
- 05:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 05:36 Shwe Myintzu Pagoda
Festival

- 05:40** **Headline News**
- 05:42 Plaster Toys
- 05:45** **National News**
- 05:50 Reminiscence in the
Glow of Sunset
- 05:55 Khame Traditional
Cultural Dance
- 06:00** **National News**
- 06:05 Weaving Industry of
Pakokku
- 06:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Wonderful
Country"
- 06:15** **National News**
- 06:20 Tour In Myanmar
"Pathein"
- 06:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Treasure Land"
- 06:30** **National News**
- 06:35 Lobsters Trading
- 06:40 Myanmar As Told By
History
- 06:45** **National News**
- 06:50 SA-LE Monastery
Decorated with
Handicrafts
- 07:00** **National News**
- 07:05 Misty Land in Central
Myanmar
- 07:10 Songs on Screen "Past
Merit"
- 07:15** **National News**
- 07:20 Safari In Style
- 07:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"





Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greets Mr Ikuzo Sakurai, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan.

— MNA

Prime Minister receives Member of the House of Representatives of Japan

YANGON, 21 Feb — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt received Member of the House of Representatives Mr Ikuzo Sakurai and party at Zeyathiri Beikman on

Konmyinthar at 5 pm today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Education U Than Aung, Deputy Minister for

Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Director-General U Soe Tint of the Government Office and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department. — MNA

Prime Minister attends dinner hosted in honour of U-18 Myanmar soccer team

YANGON, 21 Feb — A dinner in honour of Myanmar soccer team that brought credit to the nation winning the trophy of the first U-18 BIMST-EC soccer tournament held in Phuket, Thailand, was hosted at the Karaweik Palace in Kandawgyi Gardens here this evening, with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Council Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were ministers, MOC members, deputy ministers, members of the Leading Panel of Patrons of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation, the patron of Myanmar Football Federation and members, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, presidents of sports federations and members, members of social organizations, athletes, wellwishers and guests.

Before the ceremony, the Prime Minister viewed documentary photos of the victorious soccer team taken during their train-

ing sections and matches.

In his address, the Prime Minister said that it is heartening and worthy of pride not only for the entire people but also for Myanmar youth soccer players who lifted the trophies of ASEAN youth soccer tournament and the first U-18 BIMST-EC soccer tournament at a time when the entire Myanmar people are longing for the victory of Myanmar soccer teams in the international tournaments. Myanmar won the first U-17 ASEAN soccer tournament (2002) and the first U-18 ASEAN soccer tournament (2003) as well as the first U-18 BIMST-EC soccer tournament deservedly, and it means Myanmar youth soccer teams have achieved victories one after another. Now is the time when the entire people are making concerted efforts to enable the nation to catch up with international levels in economic, social, (See page 8)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivers an address at the ceremony to honour victorious U-18 Myanmar football team.—MNA

State Peace and Development Council Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein welcomes Vice-Chairman of People's Political Consultative Conference Mr Luo Haocai of PRC and party.—MNA

Vice-Chairman of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference arrives on goodwill visit

YANGON, 21 Feb — At the invitation of Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen

Thein Sein, Mr Luo Haocai, Vice-Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and Vice-Presi-

dent of the Chinese Association for International Understanding (CAIU) of the People's Republic of China and party arrived here by air this evening to pay a goodwill visit to the Union of Myanmar.

Mr Luo Haocai and party were welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Secretary General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador of the Embassy of the People's

Republic of China Mr Li Jinjun and Embassy officials.

Mr Luo Haocai is accompanied by Mr Li Beihai, Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and Vice-President of the Chinese association for International Understanding (CAIU), Mr Yue Meizhen, Director-General of International Department of Central Committee of Communist Party of China and Council Member of CAIU, Ms Yun Suidong, Vice Director General of International Department of Central Committee of Communist Party of China and Council Member of CAIU, Mr Ma Jin, Associate Secretary General of Chinese Association for International Understanding (CAIU) and other responsible officials.

MNA

