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Saturday, 6 March, 2004



Religious title offering ceremony being held on a grand scale at Maha Pasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hill.—MNA

## Religious titles conferred on members of the Sangha, nuns and laity

YANGON, 5 March —Religious titles were presented to 261 members of the Sangha, 24 nuns, 28 lay men and 22 lay women at home and abroad at a ceremony held at Maha Pasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hill here this afternoon, attended by Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of member Sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, Tipitakadhara Tipitakavida Sayadaws and title recipient Sayadaws and nuns. Also present were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Com-

mander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, members of the State Peace and Development Council and their wives, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the chairman of Yangon Division

Peace and Development Council and their wives, ministers and their wives, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General and the Auditor-General and their wives, the chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the chairman of Yangon City Development Committee the mayor and wife, senior military officers, deputy ministers, the vice-mayor, the deputy chief-justice, the deputy attorney-general, the director-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, heads of missions and diplomats of Sri Lankan Embassy, Cambodian Embassy, Laos Embassy and Nepalese Embassy to Myanmar, (See page 9)

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Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party receiving Five Precepts from Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññindabhivamsa.—MNA



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

## PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 6 March, 2004

### Utilize the natural resources most effectively

Taninthayi Division is blessed with land and marine resources and deep sea fish and prawn, petroleum and gas contribute towards national development.

Pearl culture is a reliable and potential business of the division. Mineral resources can still be explored not only in the sea but also in the land.

With the aim of developing Taninthayi Division, the Government is fulfilling the requirements in education, health and transportation sectors of the division.

The government is implementing the development tasks spending a large sum of money with the aim of developing even the far-flung areas.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe met members of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council, departmental officials, chairmen of Myeik District and Township PDCs, officials, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association, social organizations, townsenders and entrepreneurs at Pale Yadana Hall in Myeik on 28 February.

In his guidance given to officials, the Senior General said that exploiting the land resources, paddy cultivation is to be extended so that there will be sufficiency of rice in Taninthayi Division; that lands where oil palm and rubber can be grown are still left and thus the crops can be exported through extended cultivation; that pepper which earns foreign exchange can be grown well in the region; and that effective exploitation of natural resources in Taninthayi Division contributes towards the national economic progress and per capita income of the people in the division.

It is sure that Taninthayi Division will become a prosperous one on which the State can rely if the tasks can be implemented with might and main after realizing the better prospects for development.

In response to the government's goodwill, officials concerned are to make efforts for development through hard work. For national development, the State, the people and the Tatmadaw are to make endeavours harmoniously.

We would like to urge local people to strive for local rice sufficiency, regional and national development by utilizing the natural resources in Taninthayi Division effectively and extending the cultivation of paddy and new items of crops.

### Roads to be temporarily closed

YANGON, 5 March — The 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade columns are going to march back and forth between Myoma Ground and Resistance Park on 10, 12, 14, 17, 21, 23, 25, and 27 March (Armed Forces Day).

During their marching drills, roads such as Shwedagon Pagoda Road-U Wizar Road, Shwedagon Pagoda Road-Pantra Road, Shwedagon Pagoda Road-Minguntai Road, Shwedagon Pagoda Road-Ziwaka Road, U Htuang Bo Road-Kabaaye Pagoda Road (up to Bahan roundabout), Shwegondaing Road-Kabaaye Pagoda Road (up to Shwegondaing traffic lights), Inya Road-Dhammazedi Road, U Wizar Road-Hanthawady roundabout, U Wizar Road-Chindwin Road, Pyay Road-Bagaya Road, Pyay Road-Dhammazedi Road, Ahlon Road-Pyay Road, Manawhari Road-Pyay Road, Pyithaungsu Yeiktha Road-Pyay Road, Pyay Road-Zagawa Road and Myoma Kyaung Road-Samon Road will be closed temporarily, it is learnt. — 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'

### People's Desire

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



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives *Faits & Projets* Magazine Publisher Ms Delphine Evmoon of France. — MNA

### Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives French publisher of *Faits & Projets* Magazine

YANGON, 5 March — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt received *Faits & Projets* Magazine publisher Ms Delphine Evmoon of France at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthar at 5 pm today.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department.

MNA

### Merits shared to mark success of rice and 'soon' offering ceremony

YANGON, 5 March — Organized by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council, a ceremony to offer rice and 'soon' to members of the Sangha took place at Maha Nayaka Kyaungdawgyi on Kaba Aye Hill this morning.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe attended the ceremony and offered provisions to members of the Sangha.

Also present on the occasion were State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee

Vice-Chairman Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Ajotika Aungmyebonsan Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pañindabhivamsa and SSMNC Secretary Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara, member Sayadaws, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Col Wai Lwin, local authorities, commanders of Military Commands, directors-general of departments under the

ministry, and guests.

Next, Maj-Gen Myint Swe supplicated on matters related to holding the ceremony, saying that the ceremony was held under the Notification No 1/2004 released by the State Peace and Development Council to confer religious titles on title-recipient Sayadaws at home and abroad and Sayadaws from different states and divisions who attended the fifth

State Central Working Committee for the Sangha's fourth meeting, adding that he believed such meritorious deeds done today would support

their efforts to attain Nirvana.

Later, Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and the congregation presented offertories to members of the Sangha, followed by a sermon delivered by Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara. Afterwards, the commander, the minister and the congregation shared the merits gained from good deeds.

Sandi herbal medicines family offered provisions to 18 members of the Sangha present on the occasion, while U Sein Hla Win of Sein and San Co Ltd donated K 3,000 each to the Sayadaws.

After the ceremony, the commander, the minister and officials offered 'soon' to the Sayadaws present on the occasion.

MNA

### Thai Minister of Sports and Tourism arrives

YANGON, 5 March — At the invitation of Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister of Sports and Tourism of Thailand Mr Sontaya Kunplome and party arrived here by air this morning. They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Director-General U Khin Maung Latt and officials, Thai Ambassador Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal, the consul of the

Thai Embassy and officials. At 10 am, the Thai Minister and party met with the Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and for Hotels and Tourism at his office and discussed promotion of tourism industry between Myanmar and Thailand.

At the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Thai Ambassador Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal, Director-General U Khin Maung Latt, President of Myanmar Travel Association U Kin Zaw and officials. — MNA

### Measures for assessing hotel grades coordinated

YANGON, 5 March — A meeting to coordinate measures for assessing hotel grades was held at the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, here, yesterday morning, attended by Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw.

After giving an address by the minister, the

president of Myanmar Travel Association, the president of Myanmar Hoteliers Association, officials of hotels, the chairman of Myanmar Marketing Committee and others discussed services of the hotels and fixing of prices.

Later, the minister gave necessary instructions.

MNA



## Senators question intelligence chiefs on Iraq WMD\*

WASHINGTON, 5 March — The Senate Intelligence Committee questioned the heads of the major US intelligence agencies behind closed doors on Thursday about prewar estimates on Iraqi weapons programs, which critics say showed a stronger threat than what was discovered after the US-led invasion.

The directors of the CIA, the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, flanked by staff, met with the Senate panel that is drafting a report expected to criticize the prewar intelligence on Iraq.

"Virtually every concern that you ever read about or heard about was brought up," said Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Pat Roberts, a Kansas Republican.

Whether Iraq had weapons of mass destruction has become a political issue ahead of the November presidential election. Republicans say it is too early to reach any conclusions and Democrats raise questions about whether the White House exaggerated the threat to gather support for the war.

Senators also focused on questions about "what can be done to fix any potential failures that might have taken place," said Sen John Rockefeller of West Virginia, the senior Democrat on

the panel.

The committee plans to have CIA Director George Tenet return to answer more questions before it completes its report, expected in April.

One key intelligence report before the war, a National Intelligence Estimate issued in October 2002, said Iraq had biological and chemical weapons and a program to develop a nuclear weapon. Since the US-led invasion of Iraq in March 2003, no such weapons have been uncovered. — *Internet*

စုတ်တုန်နီသ ဝိုးမြင့်

## Europeans say Iraq war raised threat

WASHINGTON, 5 March — A majority of people living in the two countries bordering the United States and in five major European countries say they think the war in Iraq increased the threat of terrorism in the world, Associated Press polls found.

In the United States, people were evenly divided on whether the war has increased or decreased the terror threat.

The AP polls were conducted by Ipsos, an international polling firm, in Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Germany, Mexico, Spain and the United States. — *Internet*

## Resolution violation did not make Iraq war legal, says Blix

LONDON, 5 March — Former chief UN weapons inspector Hans Blix said in an interview on Friday he did not believe the Iraq war was legal because Baghdad had broken United Nations resolutions.

"I don't buy the argument the war was legalized by the Iraqi violation of earlier resolutions," Blix told Britain's Independent newspaper.

He said it would have required a second UN Security Council resolution explicitly authorizing the use of force for the invasion of Iraq to have been legal.

Blix has become highly critical of Washington and London since the war, accusing President Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair of hyping the threat posed by Saddam Hussein.

Since the Iraqi leader was toppled, no banned weapons of mass destruction — the

reasons Bush and Blair gave for the war — have been found.

Blix said while it was possible to argue Iraq had violated UN resolutions adopted since 1991, it was for the UN Security Council to take action not individual states.

"It's the Security Council that is party to the cease-fire, not the UK and the US individually, and therefore it is the Council that had ownership of the cease-fire in my interpretation," he said. He repeated his belief that Bush and Blair had acted in good faith but said both leaders' credibility had suffered. — *Internet*



US soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division look at a flare shortly after they fired a mortar near one of the palaces of Iraq's former leader Saddam Hussein from the Tikrit Palace Complex recently. — *INTERNET*

## China's govt helps boost grain output

ZHENGZHOU, 5 March — Farmers are busy digging wells to irrigate their spring crops in Huaxian County, central China's Henan Province, but unlike previous years, they are being paid for their efforts.

Huaxian is listed among the top 100 grain producing counties in China. The payments, which are valued according to the depth of the well, are part of a series of local government policies to encourage farmers to grow grain.

Nearly all major grain producers in the country have adopted similar incentives for grain production, like slashing agricultural taxes, subsidizing farm equipment and quality seed purchases, and providing more loans for grain production.

China's grain output has been declining since 1999. Last year's production was 430.65 billion kilos, 5.8 per cent less than 2002. At the same time, demand for grain totalled 485 billion kilos.

Experts attributed the fall to many factors, including lack of enthusiasm for farmers in growing grain because of low prices.

To stop the decline and to ensure food security, the central government implemented incentive policies from the second half of last year. At the beginning of 2004, the government also issued "No 1 Document", the first document in 2004, to underline problems in the farming sector.

The document details the central government's decision to slash agricultural tax rates by one percentage point and abolish taxes on special farm produce.

Also, resources will be channelled into the development of regions specializing in the production of key high-quality grains. Up to 10 billion yuan will be earmarked from the country's grain venture fund, which is worth 30.2 billion yuan, to directly compensate farmers for losses caused by low grain prices.

About 70 per cent of China's grain is produced in what the document calls "regions specializing in the production of key high-quality grains", such as the three provinces in northeast China, the plains along middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River and Huaibei Plain in north China.

"As long as the grain output in those major grain-generating regions is stable, the whole country will avoid grain shortages," said Han Jun, director of the agricultural department under the State Development and Research Centre. — *MNA/Xinhua*

## Stamp marks 10 years of Sino-Singaporean industrial park

SUZHOU, 5 March — China Post and Singapore's SINGPOST have jointly published a stamp to mark the 10th anniversary of the founding of Suzhou Industrial Park, the biggest cooperation project between China and Singapore.

The stamp, with a face value of 8 jiao (0.8 yuan), was published by the Beijing Stamp Plant on Monday.

The design of the stamp is a sculpture named "Harmony" against the backdrop of the Suzhou Industrial Park. The sculpture, standing on the west bank of Jinji Lake in the park, was erected in June

2001.

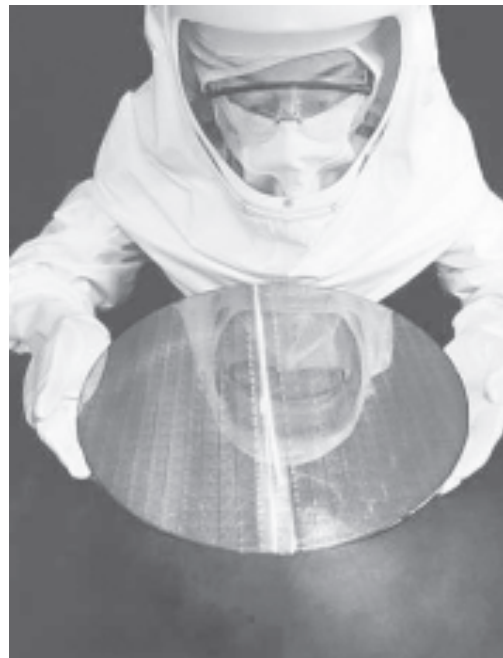
The governments of China and Singapore signed an agreement on building the Suzhou Industrial Park, in east China's Jiangsu Province, on 26 February, 1994. Construction of the park began on 12 May that year.

The industrial park has flourished after 10 years of

development, with a gross domestic product of 36.5 billion yuan (4.41 billion US dollars) in 2003. The park registered a revenue of 4.6 billion yuan (556 million US dollars) last year.

The two sides issued a set of two stamps featuring the park in 1996.

MNA/Xinhua



Intel Corp, the world's largest computer chip maker, on 4 March, 2004 narrowed the range of its quarterly revenue estimate toward the bottom end, saying its core microprocessor business was performing at the lower end of historical seasonal patterns. An Intel technician holds a wafer containing hundreds of Pentium 4 processors in this November 2002 file photo. INTERNET

## Last week's earthquake killed 628 in Morocco

RABAT, 5 March — A total of 628 people were ultimately killed and 926 others injured in last week's earthquake in northern Morocco, according to a rescue committee report released Wednesday night.

According to the report, 101 of the 926 injured are still in hospital, and 2,539 houses were destroyed, with 152,300 people being homeless.

The Moroccan Government has provided the victims with 18,760 tents, 168,870 blankets, 1,561 tons of food, 106 tons of medicines and 48 tons of clothes in addition to power generators and farm equipment.

Since the earthquake, more than 20 countries including China have offered humanitarian aid to victims.

Moroccans in other parts of the country have also donated food, clothes and medicines to the tremor-hit area, said the committee.

MNA/Xinhua

Don't  
smoke

## Polls find world not pleased with Bush

WASHINGTON, 5 March — The AP-Ipsos poll found that people in the two countries bordering the US and in five major European countries think the war in Iraq increased the threat of terrorism in the world.

(AP) A majority of people in Canada, Mexico and five European countries have an unfavourable view of the role that President Bush plays in world affairs, *Associated Press* polls found.

Only in the United States did a majority of those questioned, 57 per cent, have a positive view

of President Bush's role.

The AP polls were conducted by Ipsos, an international polling firm, in Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Germany, Mexico, Spain and the United States.

Just over half in Mexico and Italy had a negative view of Mr Bush's role. In Britain, the closest US ally in the war in Iraq, and in

Canada, two-thirds had a negative view.

Sam McGuire, director of opinion research at Ipsos UK, said Mr Bush's low ratings in Britain are notable, given that country's close alliance with the United States. Britain traditionally has been seen as the United States' "staunchest European ally

on world affairs," he said, and long has been a buffer between the United States and Europe.

Three-fourths of those in Spain and more than 80 per cent in France and Germany had a negative view of Mr Bush's role in world affairs.

"Bush has a lot of work to do if he wants to be popular in France," said Edouard LeCerc, director of opinion research for Ipsos France.

The AP-Ipsos poll found that people in the two countries bordering the US and in five major European countries think the war in Iraq increased the threat of terrorism in the world.

In the United States, people were evenly divided on whether the war has increased or decreased the terror threat.

Internet

*Iraqis shout as they condemn the attack in Baghdad, on 3 March, 2004.*

INTERNET

### Former top Australian diplomat to head Iraq inquiry

CANBERRA, 5 March — A former top Australian diplomat and intelligence chief, Philip Flood, was appointed on Thursday to head an independent inquiry into intelligence that led to Australia's involvement in the Iraq war.

Prime Minister John Howard said Flood, a former head of Australia's Foreign Office and head of the Office of National Assessments (ONA) that advises the Prime Minister, would report back to the government by June 30.

MNA/Reuters



### Indonesian govt launches \$1b int'l bond

JAKARTA, 5 March — The Indonesian Government launched a one billion US dollars international bond, more than double the initial plan of 400 million US dollars, following overwhelming demand from global investors, *The Jakarta Post* reported Thursday.

The 10-year bond was launched with a yield of 6.85 per cent, lower than the 7 per cent target set earlier by the government.

Government officials could not be reached for confirmation, although the increase in the size of the offer had been expected as Minister of Finance Boediono had hinted earlier in the day.

"There is a possibility it will be more than 400 million US dollars, as we see room for it," Boediono told reporters before the announcement late on Wednesday.

Demand for the bonds has topped four billion US dollars, more than 10 times larger than the 400 million US dollars initially planned.

The upcoming issue, jointly managed by JP Morgan and Deutsche Bank, will be the first since the 1997-1998 financial crisis after the government issued its maiden sovereign bond issue in 1996 worth 400 million US dollars, due to mature in 2006.

In the 2004 state budget, the government plans to issue a total of 32.5 trillion rupiah (3.8 billion US dollars) in bonds throughout the year — both international and domestic — to help plug the deficit.

State budget deficit is forecast to narrow to 1.2 per cent of gross domestic product this year, down from 1.9 per cent last year.

Earlier, Bank Indonesia governor Burhanuddin Abdullah said demands from investors had skyrocketed to 4.2 billion US dollars, in what he claimed as a vote of confidence from the international community on Indonesia's economy.

"Demands received from Asia, Europe and the US have reached 4.1 billion US dollars. This is a warm welcome to our economy," he said.

The demands were booked during a week-long roadshow ending on Wednesday by a government team to a number of the world's major financial centres, including Hong Kong, Luxembourg, Frankfurt, Boston and Los Angeles.

MNA/Xinhua

### First Int'l Women's Film Festival to be held in India

MUMBAI, 5 March — An international festival of films by woman directors from India and four other countries, the first of its kind, will be held here from March 5.

The five-day festival — "Made by Women" — is to be inaugurated by film director Aparna Sen of India at the Y B Chavan auditorium, according to sources at 'Point of View', a non-profit organization and one of the organizers of the film festival.

The festival, also commemorating the Women's Day on March 8, would showcase the works of directors from Iran, Australia,

Argentina, Czech Republic, besides India.

The festival would also pay tribute to the first woman film-maker ever — French Producer-director Alice Guy, who made films in 1896 — a century ago, it said.

The films to be featured at the festival include "The Apple" by Samira Makhmalbaf (Iran), "Daisies" by Vera Chytilova (Czech Republic) "Sweetie"

by Jane Campion from New Zealand, "La Cienega — The Swamp" by Lucrecia Martel from Argentina and the landmark film "36 Chowringee Lane" by Aparna Sen.

The festival, before it concludes on April 23, would travel to six major Indian cities — Delhi, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Chennai, Trivandrum and Bangalore, the sources said.

MNA/PTI



Christopher Dresser's ceramic designs for Linthorpe Art Pottery are displayed in an intricate carved case in the former Andrew Carnegie mansion, which is now the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum in New York, on 1 March, 2004. The pottery, which shows Dresser to be a daring colorist, is part of the exhibit, "Shock of the Old: Christopher Dresser," which open on 5 March through 25 July. — INTERNET

### US soldier investigated in Iraq

TIKRIT, 5 March — The US military is investigating two incidents near Kirkuk involving claims that American soldiers killed five Iraqis while on missions to seek out insurgents, the Army said Thursday.

In one, a group of Iraqis claimed soldiers shot and killed four people Wednesday in the northern Iraqi city. In the other, an Iraqi man was killed 27 Feb during a US military operation to arrest insurgents.

Both involved soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division that arrived in Iraq about a month ago to replace soldiers who had been in the country for about a year. They followed a 18 Feb killing of an Iraqi girl, also near Kirkuk. Soldiers were cleared of any wrongdoing in that case.

"I don't think it's a case of unseasoned soldiers being twitchy on the trigger," Army spokeswoman Maj Josslyn Aberle told *The Associated Press*. "These are soldiers who have been specifically trained for the combat mission they are facing in Iraq."

Aberle said the military is investigating the complaint that soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment of the 25th Infantry Division killed four Iraqis early Wednesday.

She said the soldiers were on a mission to capture insurgents involved in attacking an American forward operation base in the area when militants fired AK-47 machine guns at them.

The soldiers returned fire and captured two men, one of whom was wounded. The wounded man was taken to Kirkuk Hospital for medical treatment.

"Later that day, some civilians approached a (US military) base claiming that four civilians were killed during the earlier fire fight," Aberle said. — Internet

### China's agenda on education, science

BEIJING, 5 March — Premier Wen Jiabao Friday pledged to continue implementing the strategy of invigorating China through science and education and stay on the road of sustainable development.

"In the course of development, we will steadfastly give priority to education and devote more energy and financial resources to accelerating its development," Wen said in a report on government work at the opening of the Second Session of the Tenth National People's Congress.

This year China will begin to implement the plan to make nine-year compulsory education basically available throughout the western region and basically eliminate illiteracy among the adults there by 2007. The central government will spend 10 billion yuan on this work.

Meanwhile, the central government will contribute six billion yuan to carrying out the second phase of the plan for renovating dangerous primary and secondary school buildings in rural areas. Both central and local governments will increase their investment to develop modern distance education in rural primary and secondary schools.

MNA/Xinhua



## Turkey vows to promote ties with Djibouti

ANKARA, 5 March — Turkish Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Gul said on Wednesday that his country will further improve its relations with Djibouti while taking new steps in its policies towards Africa.

Gul made the remarks at a joint Press conference with visiting Djiboutian Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Parliamentary Relations Ali Abdi Farah.

The two ministers also signed an agreement on cooperation in culture, education, science, Press, youth and sports between Turkey and Djibouti.

Gul said that despite the geographical distance between the two countries, there was a close friendship between them in the long history.

Commenting on the strategic importance of the eastern African country, Gul said that the Djibouti port was one of the most important ports in the continent and enhanced cooperation with it would be beneficial.—MNA/Xinhua

## Foreign fighters still small minority in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 5 March — The number of foreigners involved in attacks in Iraq has increased significantly, but Iraqi guerillas remain the mainstay of the insurgency, a senior US military official said on Thursday.

Brigadier-General Martin Dempsey said that while foreign fighters posed the biggest threat in terms of the sophistication and effectiveness of their attacks, it was wrong to suggest Iraq was awash with foreign guerillas.

"That's a misconception," he told reporters. "When we say foreign fighters, we are really talking about expertise, financial support, sometimes about command and control. "So less than 10 per cent of the physical enemy is foreign fighter and that is proven true in the number of people we captured."

Dempsey, commander of the 1st Armoured Division in charge of security in Baghdad, said in the past six months about 35 suspected foreign fighters had been taken into custody in the capital, mainly Syrians and Jordanians. —MNA/Reuters

## Blast in western Baghdad kills at least 3

BAGHDAD, 5 March — A rocket slammed into a Baghdad street near a telephone exchange on Thursday, killing at least three people, Iraqi police at the scene said.

On Wednesday, a bomb exploded in another telephone exchange in Baghdad, sparking fears that guerillas were targeting Iraq's communications system in a new form of sabotage. The country's energy infrastructure has frequently been attacked. Police at the scene of Thursday's attack said the rocket had skidded along the ground after the initial impact, hitting a car and killing its occupants. A large crowd of Iraqis stood around the mangled remains of the car. "Three were killed and two were wounded," policeman Luay Majeed said. Some of the crowd that gathered after the attack shouted anti-US slogans, chanting: "America is the enemy of God."

MNA/Reuters

## Israel signs deal to import water from Turkey

JERUSALEM, 5 March — Israel on Thursday signed a deal to buy drinking water from Turkey in a move aimed in part at enhancing relations between the two Middle East allies.

Under the agreement, Israel will buy 50 million cubic metres of water a year from Turkey's Manavgat River for 20 years. That would account for about three per cent of Israel's annual fresh water consumption of 1.5 billion cubic metres.

Turkey and Israel have become an important Israeli strategic ally in recent years and have widened security cooperation.

Turkey will ship the water to Israel in specially built tankers. A shipping company has yet to be chosen while Israel will equip its ports with a suitable water storage facility.

MNA/Reuters

## China saw 27.39% growth in social security insurance last year

BEIJING, 5 March — Chinese taxation departments collected a total of 169.174 billion yuan (20.481 billion US dollars) in social security insurance last year, up 36.487 billion (4.417 billion dollars) or 27.39 per cent increase year-on-year.

A spokesperson for the State Administration of Taxation said Wednesday that 129.645 billion yuan (15.695 billion dollars) in basic pension insurance was collected last year, up 22.54 per cent over the previous year, 10.031 billion yuan (1.248 billion dollars) in unemployment insurance and 27.32 billion yuan (3.307 billion dollars) in basic medical insurance.

The country's taxation departments also collected a total of 1.425 billion yuan (172.5 million dollars) in workplace injury premiums and 751 million yuan (90.92 million dollars) in birth insurance, according to the administration.

MNA/Xinhua



China is the world's largest mobile phone market with 277 million users.—INTERNET

## Indian scientists claim to devise technology for diabetes drug

NEW DELHI, 5 March — Indian scientists claimed to have devised a technology which may speed-up drug development against the disease for which currently there is no medicine in the world.

"We have filed the US and Indian patents for the technology," Dr C S Dey, professor at the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Punjab, told a symposium on Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease, organised by Ranbaxy Science Foundation here Tuesday.

The new technique would reduce the expenditure on drug testing for diabetes, hasten the process and is ethically more desirable.

The development is significant in view of the fact

that the world market for a diabetic drug is likely to be billions of dollars, he said.

The technology, in-vitro screening model, involves biotechnologically modifying animal cell lines so that they behave like diabetic cells. The cell lines that have been modified are muscle cells from mice, Dey said.

The potential drug molecules can then be fed to these modified cells and their impact analysed. It would minimize analysis time as a molecule may be tested in as little as single day while in the conven-

tional method, it would take months to see the impact of a drug.

In the usual screening of drug molecules against diabetes, scientists need to kill a number of animals which are genetically modified for the purpose, Dey said.

Such animals are expensive, costing about 10,000 rupees to 20,000 rupees per piece, he said. Besides, animal testing has been a problem in the country, he added.

Thus, out of thousands of molecules, scientists can zero down to ten molecules which can be clinically

tested on animals, the professor said. The obtaining alternative is to test all of them on animals.

The team is negotiating with companies for its commercialization. The technique has potential not only in India but the world over as pharmaceutical companies engaged in drug development against diabetes would like to use it, he said.

The team is working on further improving the technology so that these cells can absorb more glucose from the medium, he said.

MNAPTI

## Airbus, American blame each other for 2001 crash

WASHINGTON, 5 March — American Airlines and aircraft maker Airbus blamed each other on Wednesday for the second-worst air disaster in US history — a 2001 crash that killed 265 people in New York.

American blamed the November 12, 2001, crash on the plane's flight control system, while Airbus said the pilot was improperly trained.

Documents submitted by each company to the National Transportation Safety Board signalled that the government is close to finishing one of its most complex air crash investigations. It was also the agency's first probe involving the European-based Airbus.

The submissions also crystallize arguments the companies have been making piecemeal and in private since the Airbus A300-600 lost its tail fin over New York and plunged into a residential neighbourhood near John F. Kennedy Airport.

All 260 people on the American Airlines flight, bound for the Dominican Republic, and five on the ground were killed. The crash shook an already-trau-

matized New York City just two months after hijacked airliners slammed into the World Trade Center in the September 11 attacks.

The American Airlines crash was the first time anyone could recall a tail fin and rudder snapping off a commercial plane, creating a mystery that has tested the most advanced theories on the effects of turbulence and aerodynamics on aircraft construction.—MNA/Reuters

## Two die in helicopter crash near England airport

LONDON, 5 March — A helicopter crashed Wednesday near Boumemouth Airport, southern England, killing two people on board.

The Augusta helicopter came down close to a wooded area about one mile east of the airport and burst into flames shortly before 2000 GMT, a BBC report said. A Dorset police spokesman said two bodies had been removed from the scene while police were still searching the area for any other bodies. —MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi women weep as they visit the cordoned off area, on 4 March, 2004, at the site of Tuesday's suicide attacks in Baghdad, Iraq which killed at least 58 people and injured 200 more. —INTERNET

## Sept 11 families disgusted by Bush campaign ads

NEW YORK, 5 March — Families who lost relatives in the September 11, 2001, attacks voiced outrage on Thursday at President George W Bush's first ads of his re-election campaign that use images of the devastated World Trade Center to portray him as the right leader for tumultuous times.

"Families are enraged," said Bill Doyle, 57, of New York, who is active in several September 11 family groups. "What I think is distasteful is that the president is trying to use 9/11 as a springboard for his re-election."

"It's entirely wrong. He's had 3,500 deaths on his watch, including Iraq," said Doyle, whose 25-year-old son Joseph died at the Trade Center.

Long time Bush adviser Karen Hughes defended the four commercials — which began running on Thursday in at least 16 important battleground states — as "tastefully done".

"September 11 is not some distant event in the past," Hughes told ABC's "Good Morning America." "All of us feel deeply that tragedy but it's also important to recognize the impact it had on our national public policy."

Two ads refer to the hijacked airliner attacks that killed about 3,000 as the Bush campaign seeks to present him as a leader who rose to the challenge. One ad shows World Trade Center ruins behind an Ameri-

can flag. Another shows firefighters removing the flag-draped remains of a victim.

Ron Willett of Walnut Shade, Missouri, said he was disgusted when he saw the ads. Willett, who lost his 29-year-old son, John Charles, when planes hit the Trade Center, said he is now so upset, "I would vote for Saddam Hussein before I would vote for Bush."

"I think it is an atrocity," his wife, Lucy, added. "He should not be allowed to use those images at all."

With Republicans holding their political convention in New York in late August, victims said they hope Bush does not make it worse by speaking at the site now known as Ground Zero, which many view as sacred.

"If he does, there will be a protest and it could get ugly," said Doyle.

Several family members said their annoyance stemmed in part from Bush's refusal to testify publicly before the federal commission investigating the September 11, 2001, attacks. — MNA/Reuters

မြို့ပြဓနတာ၊ ဆိန်ပါလေလွင်၊ ထုတ်ကုန်မြင့်



*Iraq, torn apart by years of war and sanctions, remains so rich in hidden ancient wonders that a leading expert believes the world's archaeology books will have to be rewritten over the next decade. The 5,000-year-old 'Sumerian Mona Lisa' or the Lady of Warka, is displayed at the Baghdad Museum after its recovery on 23 Sept, 2003. — INTERNET*

## Iraqi police station comes under mortar attack

MOSUL, 5 March — Guerillas launched at least five mortar rounds on a police station and mosque in the northern Iraq city of Mosul on Thursday, injuring three people including a police officer, police said.

Officers at the station in central Mosul said the attackers fired a volley of rounds, hitting the station, the street in front and an adjacent mosque, before fleeing by car.

Police cordoned off the area and began searching vehicles, witnesses said. One of the injured was in serious condition, a police officer said.

The attack was the latest in a string on Iraqi police and security forces, which

were set up by the country's US occupiers as a key element in a plan to put Iraqis in charge of security before Washington hands them sovereignty in July.

Gunmen assassinated a senior police commander in Mosul in February, when separate suicide attacks on a police station in the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk and another just outside Baghdad killed dozens of people.

MNA/Reuters

## ASEAN Ministerial Meeting Retreat ends in Vietnam

HALONG, 5 March — The ASEAN Ministerial Meeting Retreat ended here Thursday.

Delegates focused their discussions in the retreat on the three pillars, namely security, economy and socio-culture of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) community. Nine ASEAN foreign ministers, general secretary of the Malaysian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who is on behalf of the foreign minister of Malaysia, and ASEAN General Secretary Ong Keng Yong also discussed measures to build the ASEAN community by 2020 on the three pillars.

They talked about regional and international issues, including the upcoming admission of Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia to the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), the possibility of establishing a peacekeeping force in ASEAN, nuclear talks of the Korean Peninsula, and the role of the

United States in Iraq, Noer Hassan Wirajuda, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, said after the retreat.

"We have discussed common concerns in a very friendly and open manner, even on sensitive issues," he noted.

The retreat's delegates also discussed preparations for the 10th ASEAN summit to be held in Laos in late 2005, and put forward concrete directions to strengthen ties between ASEAN and dialogue countries. Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia will join the ASEM, said Nguyen Dy Nien, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam.

"The issue of peacekeeping in ASEAN has been raised in the retreat, but it is too early. ASEAN is an organization which is unlike the EU (the European Union). Each country has its own policy about politics and military," he concluded. — MNA/Xinhua

## ASEAN supports "one-China" policy

HALONG, 5 March — Members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) have deep concern in situations in Taiwan, and continually supports the "one-China" policy, Indonesian Foreign Minister Noer Hassan Wirajuda said on Thursday.

He made the remarks after the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting Retreat which concluded here on Thursday.

ASEAN member countries have a strong interest in the maintenance of peace and

stability in Taiwan in particular, and of course in the region in general. In this regard, ASEAN member countries reaffirm that they continually support the "one-China" policy, he said. — MNA/Xinhua

## Asia remains bright spot in world economy

NEW YORK, 5 March — Deutsche Asset Management reported Wednesday that Asia, excluding Japan, continued to be a bright spot in the global economy aided by its proximity to China.

In its report on Asia economic outlook, Deutsche Asset Management, which takes its headquarters here, said that China was enjoying a boom fuelled by rising consumer credit and robust confidence. In Hong Kong there was room for spending to recover further as tourism from the Mainland increased. In Singapore and Taiwan, however, consumption would remain sluggish due to the drag on confidence from structural transition.

Overall, the economic situation in Japan was more favourable now than at any time in the last ten years. But Japanese economy was heavily dependent on foreign trade, and therefore, any sharp slowdown in either the US or China could undermine its recovery. — MNA/Xinhua

## Father of hybrid rice suggests efforts to improve food security

BEIJING, 5 March — An eminent Chinese agronomist and father of hybrid rice, Professor Yuan Longping, urges his government Thursday to spend more on projects to increase per-hectare yield and protect the country's shrinking farmland resources so as to ensure food safety.

Professor Yuan, a noted academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, said China's grain output continued to drop in the fifth consecutive year in 2003 to about 430 million tons from a record of approximately 520 million tons for 1998.

Yuan, a member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) that is in its second plenary session, said governments at all levels should increase input in research programmes to increase per-hectare yield, and

provide more direct subsidies to grain growers in a bid to fill them with zeal to produce more cereals.

Yuan, who is currently in Beijing for the on-going CPPCC session, said he would go on working hard and consistently on his super-hybrid rice project.

Hybrid rice, which has been introduced to more than half of the rice acreage in China, makes up over 60 per cent of its total rice output since it was developed by the prestigious agronomist Yuan Longping in the 1970s.

Partly thanks to the spread of hybrid rice strains, Chinese farmers are able to maintain rice production for food safety, while several million hectares of paddies have been released for growing other crops to raise farmers' incomes.

Meanwhile, China has, since the early 1990s, sent veteran rice specialists to Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Vietnam and other south and South-east Asian nations to impart hybrid rice nursing, cultivating and other related technologies.

MNA/Xinhua



*A view of the Otero Mesa, a large desert grassland in New Mexico is seen in this undated photo released by the New Mexico Wilderness Alliance. The Interior Department has eased Clinton-era oil and gas drilling restrictions in Otero Mesa in a decision that has angered environmentalists.*

INTERNET



# Htidaws hoisted atop MyoU pagodas at Mingaladon Garden City

YANGON, 5 March — Under the aegis of Kyaikhtisaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pannayadipa, htidaws were hoisted atop 171 pagodas at Mingaladon Garden City on Fullmoon Day of Tabauing today.

At the Mingaladon Garden City, replicas of Shwedagon Pagoda, Mandalay Maha Muni Image, Kaylatha Hsawdawshin Pagoda, Bagan Dhammarajaka Pagoda, Kyaikhtiyoe Hsawdawshin Pagoda, etc have been built. Diamond orbs and hngehtmyatna vanes will also be hoisted atop the pagodas on 7 March. MNA



Devotees throng at the ceremony to hoist htidaws atop the MyoU pagodas in Mingaladon Garden City on Fullmoon Day of Tabauing. — NLM

## Wellwishers invited for sinking tube-wells

YANGON, 5 March — The Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs are making concerted efforts in sinking tube-wells in order to get sufficient fresh water in rural areas in States and Divisions where water is scarce.

One 200 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 250,000; one 400 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000; and one 200 feet deep four-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000.

Those wishing to donate cash for the tube-well sinking projects for rural areas may contact the Director-General (Tel: 01-245420 & 253088), the Deputy Director-General (Tel: 01-240118), the Director (Engineering) (Tel: 01-291967), the Directors (Sagaing Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 071-21012), the Director (Magway Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 063-23164) and the Director (Mandalay Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 02-54657).

MNA

## Nursery Market Festival continues

YANGON, 5 March — The Nursery Market Festival continued at Myay Padetha Park in Bahan Township here today with the aim of providing necessary assistance to growers and attracting the public to be interested in agriculture, horticulture, livestock breeding and vegetable farming. Kitchen crops, fruits and saplings of herbal plants are being shown at the festival. Poultry farming and fish breeding are also exhibited there. MNA



The 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative postcard.

## Study warns US faces asbestos disease crisis

WASHINGTON, 5 March — Ten-thousand Americans die each year from asbestos-related diseases and the number appears to be increasing in a growing public health crisis, according to a report by an environmental research group released on Thursday.

The analysis by the Washington-based Environmental Working Group (EWG) also projects that more than 100,000 people in the United States will die of four asbestos-related diseases — mesothelioma, asbestosis, lung cancer and gastrointestinal cancer — over the next ten years.

The nonprofit research organization said it based its analysis on 25 years worth of US Government data on asbestos mortality and examined the toll from just two causes of asbestos deaths — mesothelioma and asbestosis.

The report said that

while most of the deaths were among workers who were exposed to the fire-proofing mineral decades ago, more than one million people are currently exposed to asbestos on the job and millions more are exposed to asbestos in the environment.

Asbestos was widely used for fireproofing and insulation until the 1970s. Scientists have concluded that inhaled asbestos fibers are linked to cancer and other diseases.

"We're at the beginning of a tidal wave of asbestos diseases and mortality that needs to be brought to the attention of the public, federal policymakers and health officials," the report's author, Richard Wiles, said in an interview.

Among recommendations to address what it says is a public health problem of epidemic proportions, the EWG report calls for an im-

mediate ban on asbestos.

Dr Richard Lemen, an occupational and environmental health consultant and former assistant US Surgeon General, said that beyond a ban, public health agencies need to work to dispel the misconception that asbestos is no longer a threat.

"Asbestos is still with us. We have reduced exposure and that's a step in the right direction," Lemen said in a telephone interview. "What we haven't done is we haven't had an educational campaign and public health campaign to educate people that it still exists and that there needs to be precautions taken and people are going to continue to get sick."

The EWG report also recommends federal asbestos health screening and a "fair measure of assistance" for victims of asbestos exposure. — MNA/Reuters

## China to launch new-generation communication satellite in 2005

BEIJING, 5 March — Sinosat-2, a new-generation communication satellite, is to be launched at Xichang space launch centre in 2005, according to sources with the Chinese Research Institute of Space Technology.

The new satellite, which is being assembled, had a bigger capacity and longer service duration, said Zhou Zhicheng, chief designer of the satellite.

The institute will start a month-long test for the launch in a few days, Zhou said. The satellite will be carried by Long March 3B rocket.

The satellite under development will feature nearly 10,000 kilowatts of output power, 5,100 kilograms of takeoff weight and a designed service life of 15 years, the largest satellite China has ever developed and the first anti-jamming communications satellite.

The institute and Chi-

na's Sino-Satellite Communications Company Ltd. signed the contract to develop the Sinosat-2, in May 2002. Under the contract, Sinosat-2 will be based on the Dongfanghong-4 common platform developed by the institute for large-scale geostationary orbit communications satellites.

MNA/Xinhua

## 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



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and wife offer robes and provisions to a Sayadaw. (News on page 1) — MNA

## International Women's Day 8th March 2004

ကမ္ဘာ့အမျိုးသမီးများနေ့  
၂၀၀၄ခုနှစ် မတ်လ (၈)ရက်

### အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည့် ရောဂါများ

အရက်ကိုလွန်ကျွံစားသူနှင့် စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သူများကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သော ရောဂါများမှာ အသည့်ရောင်ခြင်း၊ အသည့်ခြောက်ခြင်း၊ သွေးအန်ခြင်း၊ အစာအိမ်ရောဂါ ဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ နှလုံးရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ ဦးနှောက်နှင့်အာရုံကြော ထိခိုက်ခြင်း၊ စိတ်ရောဂါ များဖြစ်ခြင်း စသည်တို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်တတ်သော စိတ်ရောဂါများမှာ -  
၁။ ကယောင်ကတမ်းဖြစ်ခြင်း (Delirium Tremors)၊ ကြောက်လန့်ခြင်း၊ အချိန်၊ နာရီ၊ နေရာ၊ လူ ခန့်မှန်းနိုင်စွမ်း မရှိခြင်း၊ ကြောက်စရာလန့်စရာများဖြစ်ရခြင်း၊ အသံဗလများ ကြားရခြင်း၊ ဂိုဏ်းများ ခန္ဓာကိုယ်ပေါ် ရွံ့ရွံ့ သွားသလို ခံစားရခြင်း၊ လက်တုန်ရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း။

၂။ အရက်အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သည့်အခါတွင် လူမရှိမှ နားထဲတွင် ခေါ်သံများ ဖြစ်တတ်သဖြင့်၊ စေတိကားမော်ကားသံ များကြားနေရတတ်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Halluncinosis)။

၃။ အတက်ကြွ ရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Rum Fits) (ဝက်ရူပြန် ရောဂါ ကဲ့သို့တတ်ခြင်း)။

၄။ စိတ်ဓာတ်ကျရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Depressive Illness)။

၅။ စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Psychosis)။

၆။ ဦးနှောက်ချို့ယွင်းခြင်း။

၇။ အရက်နှင့်မတည့်သောသူများသည် အရက်အနည်းငယ်သောက် ရုံဖြင့် ရုတ်တရက် စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်တတ်ခြင်း (Pathological Drunkenness)။

၈။ မိမိ၏နီးကို အထင်အမြင်လွဲမှားခြင်းများဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Morbid Jealousy)။

၉။ အရက်ကြောင့် ရာဇဝတ်မှု ကျူးလွန်သည့်အထိဖြစ်နိုင်ခြင်း။

အထက်ပါဆိုကျိုးများကို မခံစားရစေရန် အရက်သောက် သုံးခြင်း၊ အထူးသဖြင့် အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ အရက်ကို စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းတို့မှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ရန်တိုက်တွန်း အပ်ပါသည်။ အရက်စွဲရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားပါက စိတ်ကျန်းမာရေး ဆေးရုံနှင့် ကုသရေး ဌာနများတွင် စနစ်တကျ ကုသမှုခံယူရန် အသိပေးနှိုးဆော် အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

## Religious titles conferred on members of the Sangha, nuns and laity



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye offers Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru title to a Sayadaw.—MNA*



*Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika title to a Sayadaw.—MNA*



*General Thura Shwe Mann presents Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika title to a Sayadaw.—MNA*



*Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win offers Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika title to a Sayadaw.—MNA*



*Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents Agga Maha Pandita title to a Sayadaw.—MNA*



*Lt-Gen Ye Myint presents Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title to a Sayadaw.—MNA*

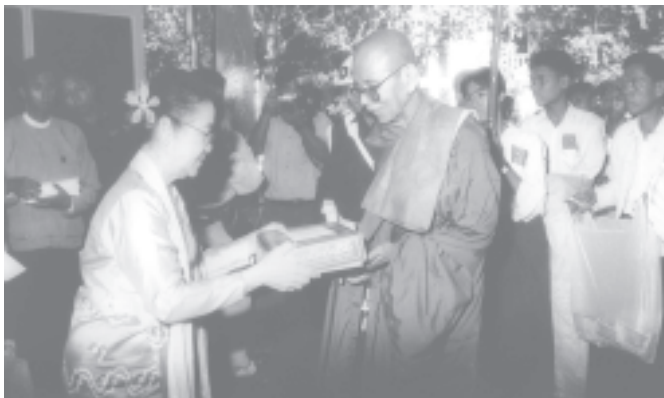


*Lt-Gen Tin Aye presents Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title to a Sayadaw.—MNA*



*Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe offers provisions to a Sayadaw.—MNA*





*Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Senior General Than Shwe, offers provisions to a Sayadaw.— MNA*



*Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, presents offertories to a Sayadaw.— MNA*



*Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe donate provisions to a Sayadaw.— MNA*



*Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, offers provisions to a Sayadaw.— MNA*



*Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of General Thura Shwe Mann, donates provisions to a Sayadaw.— MNA*



*Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife donate provisions to a Sayadaw.— MNA*

## Religious titles conferred...

(from page 1)

military region commanders, local authorities, members of the boards of the Shwedagon Pagoda, the Botahtaung Pagoda, the Sule Pagoda, the Shwephonepint Pagoda, the Thiri Mingalar Kaba Aye Pagoda and the Tooth Relic Pagoda (Yangon), religious organizations, administrators of the markets in Yangon, wellwishers, officials, title recipients, lay disciples and distinguished guests.

Officials concerned ushered the title recipient Sayadaws, nuns and laity to their seats.

The ceremony started at 12 noon.

Assistant Director of Yangon Division Religious Affairs Department U San Thin Hlaing acted as master of ceremonies.

Deputy Minister for

Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko supplicated on religious matters.

Next, on behalf of Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Myingyan Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita, Vice-Chairman of the SSMNC Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Mahaaungmyebonsan Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pan̄indabivamsa administered the Five Precepts to the congregation.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presented certificates of Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Title to Sayadaw of Thitzanawdaya Monastery in Sagaing, Sagaing Division, Bhaddanta Sijanabhivamsa,

Sayadaw of Ponnamar Ramazay Monastery in Nyaungdon, Ayeyawady Division, Bhaddanta Osadhabhivamsa and Sayadaw of Shwewahwin Monastery in Mahaaungmye Township, Mandalay Division, Bhaddanta Sasana Bhivamsa.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presented certificates of Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Titles to Sayadaw of Mahaaungmyebonsan Monastery in Bahan Township, Yangon Division, Bhaddanta Pan̄indabivamsa, Sayadaw of Mebaung Monastery in Hpa-an, Kayin State, Bhaddanta Indriya and Sayadaw of Zayamaydani Waso Monastery of Maha Withuddayon Taikthit, East Daywun Ward, Mahaaungmye Township, Bhaddanta Agghiya.

Member of the State Peace and Development

ship, Bago Division, Bhaddanta Candimabhivamsa and Sayadaw of Thawbanawatha Monastery of Myatheintan Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Pazundaung Township, Yangon Division, Bhaddanta Sobhana. Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win presented certificates of Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Title to two Sayadaws.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented certificates of Agga Maha Pandita Title to five Sayadaws. Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence presented certificates of Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Title to four Sayadaws.

(See page 10)



*Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Senior General Than Shwe, presents religious title to a nun.—MNA*



*Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, presents religious title to a nun.—MNA*



*Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, wife of General Khin Nyunt, presents religious title to a nun.—MNA*



*Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, presents religious title to a nun.—MNA*



*Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of General Thura Shwe Mann, presents religious title to a nun.—MNA*

## Religious titles conferred...

(from page 9)

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence presented certificates of Agga Maha Pandita Title to five Sayadaws.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence presented certificates of Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to five Sayadaws.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence presented certificates of Agga Maha Pandita Title to six Sayadaws.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo presented certificates of Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to six Sayadaws.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented certificates of Agga Maha Pandita Title to three

Sayadaws and certificates of Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to two Sayadaws.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence presented certificates of Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to five Sayadaws.

Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear Admiral Soe Thein presented certificates of Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to five Sayadaws.

Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein presented certificates of Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to five Sayadaws.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe presented certificates of Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to five Sayadaws.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint presented certificates of Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to five Sayadaws.

Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung presented certificates of Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to five Sayadaws.

Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha presented certificates of Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to five Sayadaws.

Minister for Commerce Brig Gen Pyi Sone presented certificates of Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Title to five Sayadaws; Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, certificates of Agga Maha Kammathana Cariya Title to six Sayadaws; Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, certificates of Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Title to five Sayadaws; Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, certificates of Agga Maha Kammathana Cariya Title to one Sayadaw and Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to five Sayadaws; Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, certificates of Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Title to five Sayadaws; Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, certificates of Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to six Sayadaws; Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, certificates of Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Title to six Sayadaws; Minister for Education U Than Aung, certificates of Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to six Sayadaws; Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, certificates of Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Title to six Sayadaws; Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, certificates of Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to six Sayadaws; Chief Justice U Aung Toe, certificates of Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Title to five Sayadaws and Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Title to one Sayadaw; Attorney-General U Aye Maung, certificates of Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Title to six Sayadaws; Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, certificates of Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Title to six Sayadaws.

Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun presented Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title to five Sayadaws and Maha Kammathana Cariya title to one Sayadaw; Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko gave away Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita title to six Sayadaws.

YCDC Vice-Chairman Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa presented Maha Kammathana Cariya title to three members of the Sangha and Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title to three members of the Sangha; Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Brig-Gen Khin Maung presented Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita title to six Sayadaws; Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe presented Saddhammajotika title to seven Sayadaws; Deputy Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein presented Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita title to six Sayadaws; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win presented Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title to eight Sayadaws; Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein gave away Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita title to six members of the Sangha; Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Area and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe gave away to Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title to six Sayadaws; Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung presented Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita titles to seven members of the Sangha; Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung presented Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title to five Sayadaws and Kammathana Cariya title to one Sayadaw; Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Aung presented Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita title to seven Sayadaws; Deputy Minister for Labour Brig-Gen Win Sein presented Maha Dhammakatika Bahujana Hitadhara title to one Sayadaw, Dhammakatika Bahujana Hitadhara title to two Sayadaws and Ganthavacaka Pandita title to four Sayadaws; Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Myo Myint presented Ganthavacaka Pandita title to seven Sayadaws; Deputy



*Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Senior General Than Shwe, confers title on a lay woman.—MNA*



*Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, confers title on a lay woman.—MNA*



*Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, wife of General Khin Nyunt, confers title on a lay woman.—MNA*



*Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, confers title on a lay woman.—MNA*



*Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of General Thura Shwe Mann, confers title on a lay woman.—MNA*

Chief Justice U Thein Soe presented Ganthavacaka Pandita title to seven Sayadaws and Director-General Lt-Col Pe Nyein of the State Peace and Development Council Office presented Ganthavacaka Pandita title to four Sayadaws.

Next, Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Senior General Than Shwe, presented Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita titles to four nuns and Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita title to one nun. Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, presented Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita title to five nuns. Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, wife of General Khin Nyunt, presented Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita title to two nuns, Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title to two nuns and Ganthavacaka Pandita title to one nun. Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, presented Ganthavacaka Pandita title to five nuns. Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of General Thura Shwe Mann, presented Ganthavacaka Pandita title to two nuns and Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title to two nuns.

(See page 11)



## Religious titles conferred...

(from page 10)

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye conferred Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Manijotadhara title on five lay men. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presented Thiri Thudhamma Manijotadhara title to four lay men and Thiha Thudhamma Manijotadhara title to one lay man. General Thura Shwe Mann presented Thiha Thudhamma Manijotadhara title to three lay men and Thudhamma Manijotadhara title to two lay men. Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win gave away Thudhamma Manijotadhara title to three lay men and Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title to two lay men. Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein conferred Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title on five lay men. Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence conferred Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title on three lay men.

Daw Kyaing Kyaing conferred Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Theingi title on three lay women and Thiri Thudhamma Theingi title on two lay women. Daw Mya Mya San gave away Thiri Thudhamma Theingi title to four lay women and Thiha Thudhamma Theingi title to one lay woman. Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe also presented Thiha Thudhamma Theingi title to five lay women. Daw Khin Lay Thet conferred Thudhamma Theingi title to two lay women.

Afterwards, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung supplicated on religious affairs that nowadays the government and the people are giving encouragement to purification, promotion and propagation of the Sasana such as wiping out of dogmatism, all-round renovation of historic pagodas and stupas, building of religious edifices where necessary. On 4 January 2004, the State Peace and Development issued Notification No 1/2004 to offer religious titles to the Sayadaws. In conclusion, the minister supplicated that the government and the people are to join hands in serving the interest of the Sasana. Next, Joint-Secretary of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Nyaungdon Ponnamayama Zaykyangtaik Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Osadhabhivamsa gave the Sammodaniya Ovadakkatha.

Then, Secretary Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara delivered a sermon. The congregation shared merits gained before the concluding of the religious title offering ceremony.

After the ceremony, the rice and provision offering ceremony followed. At the ceremony, families of the Ministry of Defence, the office of the Prime Minister, families of Military Intelligence, the office of the State Peace and Development Council and Central Offices, families of the Adjutant-General's Office and the Quartermaster-General's Office, Defence Services (Navy), Defence Services (Air), Yangon Command Headquarters, ministries, the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General's Office, the Auditor-General's Office, Yangon City Development Committee, district and township Peace and Development Councils, religious and social organizations, UMFCCL, companies and wellwishers donated rice and provisions to title recipient members of the Sangha and nuns at the designated places.

At the donation ceremony, Daw Kyaing Kyaing, Daw Mya Mya San, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, Daw Khin Than Nwe, Daw Khin Lay Thet, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, members of the State Peace and Development Council and their wives, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and wife, the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and wife, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife, the ministers and their wives, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Mayor, the deputy ministers and their wives, departmental heads, officials and local people took designated places and presented rice and offertories worth K 70,579,115 to the title recipient Sayadaws and nuns.

Wellwishers and those present at the ceremony were served with bottled water and soft drinks by Sunday Evening Sanitation Group of Kaba Aye Pagoda. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye confers a title on a lay man.— MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt confers a title on a lay man.— MNA



General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence confers a title on a lay man.— MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win confers a title on a lay man.— MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein confers a title on a lay man.— MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence confers a title on a lay man.— MNA



Chief of Staff (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein confers a title on a sayadaw.— MNA



Minister for National Planning & Economic Development U Soe Tha confers a title on a sayadaw.— MNA



Minister for Education U Than Aung confers a title on a sayadaw.— MNA



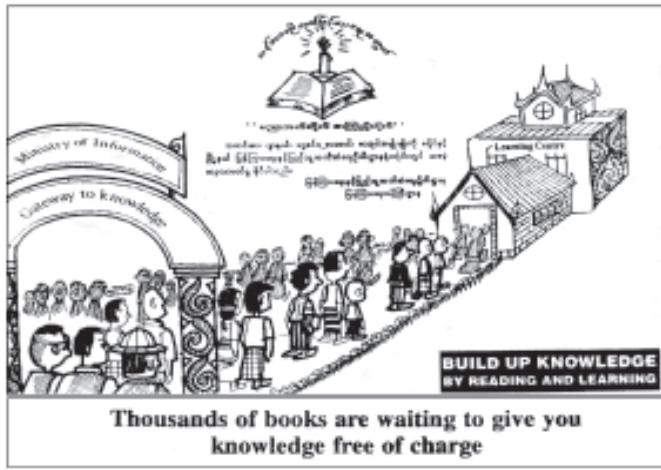
Minister for Communications, Posts & Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw confers a title on a sayadaw.— MNA



Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung confers a title on a sayadaw.— MNA

### ပျားရည်နှင့် အစွမ်းသတ္တိ

ပျားရည်သည် အင်အားဖြည့်တင်းပေးရာတွင် အသန့်စင်ဆုံးအဟာရတစ်မျိုး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။  
ပျားရည်တွင် သတ္တုဓာတ်၊ အင်ဗိုင်းနှင့် အဟာရဓာတ် အများအပြားပါဝင်ပါသည်။  
ပျားရည်သည် သစ်သီး၊ သကြားဓာတ်၊ အဓိကပါဝင်သော သကြားဓာတ်ပေါင်း တစ်မျိုးဖြစ်ပါသည်။  
ပျားရည်တွင် ဘက်တီးရီးယား၊ ဖိုနပ်စ်၊ သန့်စင်ပါသည်။  
ပျားရည်တွင် ပဋိဇီဝစွမ်းရည်သတ္တိပါရှိသဖြင့် အနာ ဒါဏ်ရာများ အနာကျက် မြန်စေပြီး လျှင်မြန်စွာ ပျောက်ကင်းစေပါသည်။  
ပျားရည်စားသုံးပြီး မိနစ်ပိုင်းအတွင်း စွမ်းအား တိုးတက်လာစေနိုင်ပါသည်။



## ADVERTISEMENT

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Furniture; microwave oven racks; TV rack; audio racks; closets for clothes; washstands; gas cooker cabinets; kitchen cabinets; wall cabinets; mail boxes, not of metal or masonry; steps (ladders), not of metal. (Class - 20) [Reg. No. IV / 4066 / 2003]

Household utensils; brushes; electric toothbrushes; electric clothes cleaners; magnetic window cleaners; portable toilets; electric brushes; dustbins; smoke absorbers for household purposes; sprinklers for watering flowers and plants; water apparatus for cleaning teeth and gums; watering devices; electric mouth washing and rinsing devices. (Class - 21) [Reg. No. IV / 4067 / 2003]

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Any imitation or fraudulent use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.  
U OHN MAUNG, B.Sc., B.L.  
Advocate & Notary Public  
No. 3, 34th Street, Yangon.

## 352 people die of dengue fever in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 5 March — The death toll of the dengue fever across Indonesia has reached 352, while the sufferers have increased to 22,384 since the disease began to hit the country in January, a spokeswoman of the Health Ministry said Wednesday. Two people died

of the disease and 1,625 people became new patients on Wednesday across the country. But the number of provinces experiencing the extraordinary cases decreased to 12 from 13, according to the spokeswoman.

MNA/Xinhua

## မြန်မာ့ပြန်ကြားရေး

## Russia says US plans to put armed guards on flights "negative"

Moscow, 5 March — A senior government official said on Wednesday that Russia opposed US plans to put armed guards on passenger flights having tried using them with disastrous results, RIA news agency reported.

"Putting armed guards on passenger flights can be more negative than positive," it quoted acting Deputy Transport Minister Gennady Moshkov as saying.

The US Government has

ordered foreign airlines to put "air marshals" on selected flights to and from the United States as a precaution against a repeat of the suicide hijack attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001.

"Our aviation security department has prepared a letter of objections on this for the United States," Moshkov said.

He said the Soviet Union used to put armed guards on passenger planes during the

1970s. But when a TU-104 airliner was hijacked, the guard fired his weapon and hit an explosive device, causing a catastrophe.

Moshkov did not specify which flight he was referring to, but according to data a bomb on an Aeroflot TU-104A killed 81 people in May 1973.

He also said terrorists might see an armed guard as a means of getting hold of a weapon on the flight.

MNA/Reuters

## Egyptologist finds early king's name in desert

CAIRO, 5 March — An Egyptologist said here she had found the first evidence that the earliest rulers of Egypt had influence deep into the Western Desert, more than 120 miles from their powerbase in the Nile Valley.

Salima Ikram of the American University in Cairo said her team had discovered a royal name dating from before 3,000 BC inscribed on a rock outcrop near the oasis of Kharga.

She told Reuters she read the name of the previously unknown king as Aa and thought he lived about the

time of the dynasty now known as Dynasty Zero because they ruled in the south before Egypt was united under the First Dynasty.

"We don't have other attestations for any early royal names in that area. The earliest previously was from the 4th dynasty (about 500 years later)," Ikram told Reuters.

German Egyptologist Guenter Dreyer, one of the world's leading experts on the period, said the inscription would indicate some early activity in the Western Desert. "That is somewhat surprising," he told Reuters. Egypt's Supreme Coun-

cil for Antiquities said in a statement that the presence of the royal name far out in the desert could indicate early trade with Africa or the exploitation of raw materials in the desert at an early date.

The King's name follows the standard pattern for the period — a falcon on top of a picture of a niched palace facade and one hieroglyph indicating his name, in this case a forearm.

Ikram said the name did not appear in any of the existing lists of kings which Egyptologists have compiled for the period, many aspects of which remain obscure.

Egyptologists have been piecing together the political history of Dynasty Zero only for the past few decades and do not claim to have identified all the rulers of the period. Their work has shed new light on Egypt's political history, which traditionally began when the first king of the First Dynasty united the north and the south.

Ikram, co-director with Corinna Rossi of the North Kharga Oasis Survey project, said the inscription lay on a known caravan route and was one of many inscriptions on the outcrop. —MNA/Reuters

## Drought causes less wine production in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 5 March — The drought in South Africa's Western Cape Province means that the 2004 wine grape harvest will be slightly lower than last year's, according to the industry's information gathering body.

The latest estimate of the 2004 wine grape harvest was 1.23 million tons, SA Wine Industry Information & Systems executive manager Yvette van der Merwe said in a statement on Tuesday.

This represented a decrease of 0.8 per cent from the 2003 harvest.

It was expected that the

2004 wine harvest, including juice and concentrate for non-alcoholic purposes, rebate and distilling wine, would total 947.9 million litres at an average recovery of 772 litres per ton of grapes.

This was 16.8 million litres or 1.74 per cent less than the estimate made in mid-January this year.

"The most important reasons for the decrease can generally be attributed to the heat wave that occurred in February and the drought, currently experienced in the Western Cape," she said.

The Orange River was

the only region that showed an increase on the January estimate. The main reason for this was the summer rain along the Orange River, which resulted in grapes destined for the table- and dry market ending up in wine cellars.

Domestic sales of natural wine showed a 12.1-per-cent decrease in 2003 compared to 2002, and would decrease by a further 4.4 per cent in 2004. Exports however grew by an estimated 9.7 per cent and were expected to increase by an additional 11.5 per cent in 2004. —MNA/Xinhua

## Australia, NZ discuss single economic market

CANBERRA, 5 March — The Australian and New Zealand prime ministers on Wednesday expressed their support to advance a single economic market linking their countries.

At a joint Press conference held here, both John Howard and visiting Helen Clark agreed that the two countries' relationship will go beyond the current bilateral Closer Economic Relations (CER) trade agreement.

The 21-year-old CER has virtually removed all trade barriers between the two countries. The two countries are working on a single account standard and a harmonization of the banking systems of the two countries.

The two prime ministers also agreed that their countries should work harder to help the Doha Round of World Trade Organization talks re-focus on agricultural reforms. "The intransigence of the larger trading blocs, particularly the European Union and the apparent reluctance of other big agricultural subsidisers, the Americans and the Japanese in this area, means that we have to work harder through the Cairns group to revive Doha and to keep it very much on track," Howard said.

MNA/Xinhua

## Indonesia expects bank of China's loan for gas field project

JAKARTA, 5 March — Bank of China has expressed agreement to disburse 1 billion US dollars in loan to finance the liquefied natural gas (LNG) project at Tangguh gas field, an Indonesian official said Wednesday.

"Bank of China agreed to disburse more than 1 billion US dollars during a recent meeting with us," Kardaya Warnika, deputy head of the Indonesian oil and gas executive board (BP Migas), was quoted as saying by Detikcom online news service.

He added Japan is also interested in investing in the project through the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) but no commitment has been mutually signed.

"It's more likely that China will become the major financier of this project," he said.

Located in the eastern-most province of Papua, the Tangguh gas field is the major gas source for the government's LNG export.

The field is projected to supply 2.7 million tons of

LNG a year to China's Fujian Province starting in 2007 and the government has planned to supply 1.5 million tons a year to South Korea also from Tangguh.

Last December, the government and Beyond Petroleum (BP) signed an agreement with Sempura Energy LNG Corp for a 20-year supply of LNG to US and Mexican markets. Under the agreement, 3.7 million tons of LNG a year will be delivered from Tangguh over a period of 15 years. —MNA/Xinhua



# မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



US astronaut Michael Fincke, Russian cosmonaut Gennady Padalka and Dutch astronaut Andre Kuipers gesture inside the training module of a Soyuz-TMA, in Star City outside Moscow, on 4 March, 2004. Padalka, Kuipers and Fincke are to blast off to the International Space Station from Baikonur cosmodrome on 19 April. —INTERNET

## Experts say no “showstoppers” for humans on Mars

CAPE CANABERAL (Florida), 5 March—Experts in the effects of space travel on the human body told a presidential commission on Wednesday that there were challenges but no “showstoppers” in building a permanent moon base, then sending astronauts to Mars.

Aerospace medical experts Stanley Mohler and Mary Ann Frey, both longtime researchers in the field, identified a number of health risks future astronauts could face, from radiation poisoning to meteoroid collisions, but said NASA was developing plans for every known contingency.

“From the medical standpoint, there is further research to be done, but we don’t see any ... showstoppers out there,” Mohler told the President’s Commission on Moon, Mars and Beyond.

The commission, chaired by former Air Force Secretary Edward “Pete” Aldredge, is charged with developing strategies for implementing the space goals announced by President George W. Bush in January.

“It should be a relatively straightforward programme of establishing 90-day (crew) rotations on a colony on the moon,” Mohler told the panel in hearings at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio. Radiation, whether from solar flares or cosmic rays, was the highest hurdle identified by the scientists.

While the moon has plenty of lunar soil to shield habitation modules, a Mars mission, which could last 15 months, most of that time in transit, presents special problems.

But Mohler said the Russians have developed effective countermeasures that involve positioning their ships so the crew is shielded from most of the radiation from solar flares, and research in the United States is producing lighter-weight radiation shielding. —MNA/Reuters

## Scientists say ants, like humans, avoid traffic congestion

LONDON, 5 March—Ants, just like motorists, hate congestion and use alternative routes to avoid it, scientists said on Wednesday.

The industrious insects push and shove each other out of the way when it gets too crowded, forcing some to find another route from a food source back to the nest.

“Ants are able to find a solution when they are faced with congestion on trails,” said Vincent Fourcasselle, a biologist at the Centre for Cognitive Animal Research in Toulouse, France.

In a study published in the science journal Nature, Fourcasselle and a team of researchers analyzed videotapes of thousands of ants in an experiment on collective movement.

Using a mathematical model, they explained how the individual behaviour of the ants affected their collective movement and group behaviour.

Foraging ants prefer to carry food along a favourite trail that is marked with scent clues. In the experiment, the insects had to cross a diamond-shaped bridge between the location of the food and their nest. —MNA/Reuters

## Study says drugs cut kidney failure risk in lupus

BOSTON, 5 March—Patients with lupus have a better chance of preventing kidney failure if they start taking one of two drugs which suppress the immune system, researchers reported on Wednesday.

About 1.4 million Americans have lupus, a chronic disease in which the immune system can confuse healthy and foreign tissues and sometimes attacks both. Roughly 780,000 lupus sufferers have kidney disease.

Sandra Raymond, president of the Lupus Foundation of America, said patients have been desperate for better therapies with fewer side effects. “Patients are thrilled,” she told Reuters.

A study of 59 volunteers, published in this week’s *New England Journal of Medicine*, found that the conventional treatment — injections of the drug cyclophosphamide — found that the drug prevented a relapse in 43 per cent of the cases.

By comparison, one of the drugs found to be effective, azathioprine, worked about 57 per cent of the time. The other drug, mycophenolate mofetil, was effective in about 77 per cent of the volunteers.

The research team, led by Gabriel Contreras of the University of Miami, said there were not enough people in the study to determine whether mycophenolate mofetil, marketed as CellCept by Roche, was actually better than azathioprine, sold by several companies. Salix Pharmaceuticals Ltd. sells azathioprine under the name Azasan.

An editorial in the *Journal* said both drugs “are good options for maintenance therapy” in patients whose lupus was damaging their kidneys. —MNA/Reuters

## Early copy of “Hamlet” could fetch up to \$2m

NEW YORK, 5 March—To bid, or not to bid, that is the question that will face collectors when offered a 1611 edition of Shakespeare’s *Hamlet* at auction next month.

The extremely rare third quarto edition of the tragedy, that was first published in 1603 is from the collection of Mary, Viscountess Eccles, and is expected to fetch between 1.5 million US dollars and 2 million US dollars at Christie’s sale on 14 April.

MNA/Reuters

## Canada commits funding to get more immigrant doctors

OTTAWA, 5 March—The Canadian Government said Tuesday that 4 million Canadian dollars (about 3 million US dollars) in funding will be used to get more immigrant doctors to practice medicine in the country.

The Health Ministry said in a Press release that this initiative reflects the government’s commitment to build a sustainable health care system in which every Canadian has timely access to quality care, regardless of income or geography.

This funding will help meet Canadians’ need for more doctors by enabling more international medical graduates who have immigrated to Canada to become physicians here.

It will also support measures to create a better system for bringing these graduates into Canada’s supply of physicians, the ministry said.

MNA/Xinhua

## Sony, Marvel plan to shoot “Spider-Man 3” movie

LOS ANGELES, 5 March—Hoping to cash on expected success of its pending release of “Spider-Man 2”, Sony Pictures is already planning to shoot a third sequel, Sony Pictures confirmed on Wednesday.

Sony Pictures had already started development plans for a third “Spider-Man” movie with comic books publisher Marvel Enterprises Inc., an unidentified Sony Pictures spokes-

man said.

The plan for a third film was first disclosed Tuesday by Marvel’s film chief Avi Arad.

Speaking to financial analysts and reporters on a

conference call, Arad said a “Spider-Man 3” movie could possibly come out in 2006, but he would play it safe by predicting its first release in 2007.

MNA/Xinhua

## Americans under 25 do not save for retirement

BOSTON, 5 March—Millions of young Americans are not putting away any money for retirement, according to a new study released days after the top US central banker warned federal retirement benefits may soon need to be cut.

According to a study conducted by CIGNA Retirement & Investment Services, one third of all US workers under the age of 25 are not participating in company retirement plans.

Instead, they are spending their salaries on everyday expenses and saving a little for big-ticket items like new cars or houses, the study

found.

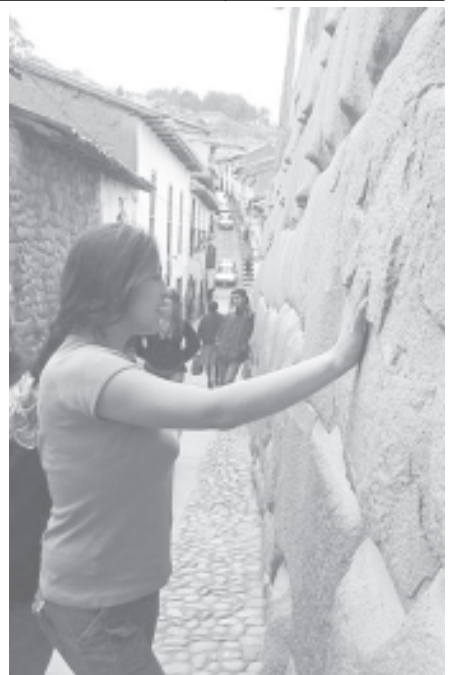
The survey was released only one week after Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said Congress should consider trimming future Social Security benefits by raising the retirement age and offering less generous adjustments to future payments.

For US workers who are

not saving for the future now and face the prospect of receiving fewer benefits later, retirement may prove to be far less glamorous than many people had hoped.

“We are definitely on a road to disaster here,” said Rick Meigs, president of Web site <http://www.401khelpcenter.com>.

MNA/Reuters



A woman touches the famous stone of 12 angles in Cuzco, some 350 miles southeast of Lima, Peru, on 3 March, 2004. Government historical preservation authorities are concerned that automobile pollution, tourists’ sweaty palms and poor maintenance are damaging the magnificent trapezoidal rock walls in the former Inca capital of Cuzco. —INTERNET

## SPORTS

## Ameobi double sends Newcastle through

LONDON, 5 March— Newcastle United edged into the UEFA Cup fourth round 4-2 on aggregate following an unconvincing 3-1 victory over Norwegian side Valerenga at St James' Park on Wednesday.

Substitute forward Shola Ameobi struck twice in the second half to send Newcastle through after former England captain Alan Shearer, controversially left out of the team for the first leg, had put them ahead on 19 minutes with a fierce free kick.

Erik Hagen's volley levelled for Valerenga five minutes after Shearer's goal and the Norwegians caused problems for a Newcastle side short of creativity. Valerenga goalkeeper Oyvind Bolthof gifted a goal to Newcastle two minutes after halftime when he allowed Ameobi's near-post shot to squirm through his hands.

The hosts survived a few scares before the lanky Ameobi, who replaced Welsh international Craig Bellamy at the interval, secured his team's last-16 spot with a neat finish one minute from time.

MNA/Reuters



Luis Mario Da Silva (C), of Brazil's Coritiba FC, kicks the ball away under pressure from Clarence Willimas Acuna (L) and Emiliano Ramiro Papa (R), both from Argentina's Rosario Central, during the first half of their soccer match in group nine of the Libertadores Cup, in Rosario, 320 km north of Buenos Aires, on 4 March, 2004.—INTERNET

## Southampton name Sturrock as new manager

LONDON, 5 March— Southampton will formally appoint Paul Sturrock as their new manager on Thursday, having already agreed personal terms, the Premier League club said.

Sturrock, manager of Division Two leaders Plymouth Argyle, will be officially unveiled as Gordon Strachan's replacement after agreeing a deal on Wednesday, Southampton said on their web site.

Strachan stood down last month, having initially said in January that he would leave at the end of the season to take a break from top-flight football.

"Saints will today confirm Paul Sturrock as their new manager," the club said. "(He) held talks with Southampton chairman Rupert Lowe Wednesday before agreeing personal terms. He takes over immediately from caretaker boss Steve Wigley."

Wednesday was also the day that former Southampton boss Glenn Hoddle, who Lowe had been keen to bring back as manager, pulled out of the race to replace Strachan.

Hoddle, who made an acrimonious departure in March 2001 to take over at Tottenham Hotspur, said he did not believe he had the full support of Southampton's directors.

Sturrock, 47, arrives with no experience of top-flight football management in England, though the Scot has achieved impressive results at the lower levels.

After a playing career spent entirely with Dundee United, Sturrock's first management positions were with St. Johnstone and his old club, before he moved south of the border to join Plymouth in October 2000.

Transforming the club's fortunes, he turned them from relegation battlers to Division Three champions in his first full season, 2001-2002, and has now taken them four points clear at the top of Division Two, his team scoring an impressive 70 goals in 34 league games so far. — MNA/Reuters

## Owen says death threats part of modern game

LONDON, 5 March— England striker Michael Owen has received several death threats in his career but he said on Thursday it was "part and parcel" of the modern game.

"There is no place for this kind of thing in the game or in life," Owen told the Liverpool web site.

"Sadly, these days it seems it can happen to anyone in a high profile position. I can't tell you how many times it has happened to me now."

Owen's club manager, Liverpool's Gerard Houllier, received a death threat in the post last week that is being investigated by police.

"To be honest, although it is unfair and awful, nothing surprises me anymore. It shouldn't happen and it is not acceptable but it has almost become part and parcel of the game nowadays," said Owen.

Owen said he believed England captain David Beckham had faced similar threats.

"It is the kind of thing I don't think would have happened years ago but is happening to people in the game regularly now."

"If you speak to David Beckham I'm sure he'll tell you this kind of thing has happened to him about a dozen times."

MNA/Reuters

## Inter face Benfica, Celtic get Barca in UEFA Cup

LONDON, 5 March — Inter Milan will meet Benfica and last season's finalists Celtic take on Barcelona in a UEFA Cup fourth round draw filled with former European champions.

Liverpool play Olympique Marseille in another showcase clash thrown up by the fourth round draw at UEFA's Nyon headquarters in Switzerland on Thursday.

With four teams, Spain is the best represented nation. In addition to Barca's clash with Celtic, twice Champions League finalists Valencia take on Genclerbirliği of Turkey, Villarreal play Italy's AS Roma and Real Mallorca face English team Newcastle United.

The first leg matches will be played on March 11, with the second leg ties on March 25. Inter, who won this competition three times in 1990s, will start out with home advantage at the San Siro against Portugal's Benfica but almost certainly without talisman Christian Vieri.

The Italy striker was sent off in the closing minutes of Wednesday's goalless draw with Sochaux which booked his side into the fourth round on the away goals rule.

Adding further spice, the winners will then meet either four-times European champions Liverpool or Marseille in the quarter-finals. Liverpool, whose boss Gerard Houllier will be returning to his home country for the second leg at the Stade Velodrome, have come through a turbulent week with flying colours.

Liverpool revealed that Houllier had received a death threat after the club's mediocre form this season, but the Frenchman insisted it had not dimmed his love of the club or the city.

The players answered their critics by

hammering Levski Sofia 4-2 on Wednesday for a 6-2 aggregate win, throwing down the gauntlet to a Marseille team with an old foe, former Manchester United keeper Fabien Barthez, between the posts.

Scottish club Celtic, the first British club to win the European Cup back in 1967, will have to make the most of their home leg before travelling to the Nou Camp.

Barca will be looking for a potential all-Spanish quarterfinal if Villarreal see off Roma. Newcastle manager Bobby Robson expressed some relief at being drawn with Mallorca, though the former Barca boss was taking nothing for granted. — MNA/Reuters



Brazilian soccer star Pele, left, greets France and Arsenal player Thierry Henry, at a news conference in London, on 4 March, 2004, to mark FIFA's 100 years.—INTERNET

## Howell targets Ryder Cup after strong start in Dubai

DUBAI, 5 March — Former winner David Howell signalled his Ryder Cup intentions after a five-under-par 67 in the Dubai Desert Classic first round on Thursday.

The 28-year-old Briton, champion at Dubai Creek Golf and Yacht Club in 1999, was one of the most consistent players in Europe last season and is determined to play his way on to the European Ryder Cup team at Oakland Hills this September.

"I definitely feel I can make it," he told reporters after mixing six birdies with a solitary bogey in bright sunshine at Emirates Golf Club. "Obviously, it relies upon playing well but it is a goal of mine."

"I played the Walker Cup and I loved that."

Howell won 2-1/2 points out of three in Britain and Ireland's 1995 victory over the United States in the Walker Cup amateur team competition.

He finished 16th in the 2003 European Tour order of merit and lies 12th in the overall European Ryder Cup standings for this year.

Bernhard Langer's 12-man team to take on the US will comprise the top five in a Ryder Cup world points list, the leading five not otherwise qualified in a Ryder Cup European points list and two captain's picks.

"In previous years I've been reasonably close (to selection)," said Howell. "If I played like I did last year, I wouldn't be a million miles away, even without winning."

The Englishman ended 2003 with earnings of 1.03 million euros (1.26 million US dollars), including four top-eight finishes in September. He has not won since making his European Tour breakthrough in Dubai in 1999 but believes he has become a much more consistent player.

"It's taken me longer to win the second (title) than to win the first, which I certainly didn't think was going to be the case," he said. "It's certainly not easy."

"It's taken a lot of hard

work to become a lot more consistent and I am more consistent."

"I'm not really playing any more great golf than I used to, I'm just playing a lot less bad golf and waiting for the good stuff to come out."

"When I'm good enough to get in (the Ryder Cup), I will," he added.

The 2004 Ryder Cup will take place between holders Europe and the United States at Oakland Hills Country Club in Detroit, Michigan from September 17-19.

MNA/Reuters



Maria Sanchez Lorenzo of Spain hits a forehand return to Argentina's Mariana Diaz Oliva during their Mexican Open tennis championships match in Acapulco, Mexico, on 4 March, 2004. Lorenzo won 6-3, 6-3.—INTERNET



## MRTV-3


**6-3-2004 (Saturday)  
(Programme Schedule)  
Morning Transmission  
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune  
Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 9:06 Myanmar Mat
- 9:10** **Headline News**
- 9:12 Enjoy our Shan Food
- 9:15** **National News**
- 9:20 Myanmar Footware  
and Bags
- 9:25 Kachin Dance
- 9:30** **National News**
- 9:35 Migadawun - Delivering  
the first Discourse
- 9:40 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Commencement  
of Dry Summer"
- 9:45** **National News**
- 9:50 Biological Expedition  
to Hponkan Razi  
Region (IV) (Ziadam  
Village- Wang Mung  
Camps 1 & 2)
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**6-3-2004 (Saturday)  
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 "Mingalabar"
- 15:36 Myanmar Map
- 15:40** **Headline News**
- 15:42 Enjoy our Shan Food
- 15:45** **National News**
- 15:50 Myanmar Footware  
and Bags
- 15:55 Kachin Dance
- 16:00** **National News**
- 16:05 Migadawun - Delivering  
the first Discourse
- 16:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Commencement  
of Dry Summer"
- 16:15** **National News**
- 16:20 Biological Expedition  
to Hponkan Razi  
Region (IV) (Ziadam  
Village- Wang Mung

- 16:25 Camps 1 & 2)  
Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanma Pano-  
rama & Myanma Sen-  
timent"
- 16:30** **National News**
- 16:35 Myanmar Traditional  
Musical Instruments  
(Brass Instruments  
Cymbal) (Linguin)
- 16:40 Conservation of Sea-  
turtles
- 16:45** **National News**
- 16:50 Myanmar Movie im-  
pact "Paunk Myauk  
Myauk"
- 17:00** **Weekly News High-  
lights**
- 17:05 Where the Rhododen-  
dron Blooms
- 17:10 Song On Screen "Pre-  
destination"
- 17:12 NAn Pan Market Day
- 17:15** **Weekly News High-  
lights**
- 17:20 Highland farmland  
Reclamation in Kaung  
Kha Region
- 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 "Mingalabar"
- 19:36 Tabau Festival
- 19:40** **Headline News**
- 19:42 Pagodas in Yangon,  
The Shwedagon Pa-  
goda
- 19:45** **National News**
- 19:50 A Peaceful Place of  
Mind
- 19:55 Lumbini — Birth Place  
of Buddha
- 20:00** **National News**
- 20:05 The Alaungdaw  
Kathapa National Park  
Song "Sagawa Flowers  
Land"
- 20:10
- 20:15** **National News**
- 20:20 Biological Expedition  
to Hponkan Razi  
Region (III) (Awadam  
Village- Ziadam Vil-  
lage)
- 20:25 Song "Do you love  
me?"
- 20:30** **National News**
- 20:35 Special Teak Planta-  
tion Programme in  
Myanmar
- 20:40 Myanma Traditional  
Flower Arrangements  
(Harp)

- 20:45** **National News**
- 20:50 Shwezawar Lacquer-  
ware
- 20:55 Pakhanthar Myin Nyo  
Shin
- 21:00** **National News**
- 21:05 Colourful Garden City  
of Yangon
- 21:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "The Towering  
Flower"
- 21:15** **Weekly News High-  
lights**
- 21:20 Mother O'pearl Mosaic  
Painting
- 21:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 21:35 Shwe Kyaung (or) the  
Golden Monastery
- 21:40** **Headline News**
- 21:42 Enjoy our Shan Food
- 21:45** **National News**
- 21:50 Myanmar Footware  
and Bags
- 21:55 Kachin Dance
- 22:00** **National News**
- 22:05 Migadawun - Delivering  
the first Discourse
- 22:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Commencement  
of Dry Summer"
- 22:15** **National News**
- 22:20 Biological Expedition  
to Hponkan Razi  
Region (IV) (Ziadam  
Village- Wang Mung  
Camps 1 & 2)
- 22:25 Song "Hill Resort  
Town"
- 22:30** **National News**
- 22:35 Myanmar Traditional  
Musical Instruments  
(Brass Instruments  
Cymbal) (Linguin)
- 22:40 Conservation of Sea-  
turtles
- 22:45** **National News**
- 22:50 Myanmar Movie im-  
pact "Paunk Pauk  
Myauk Myauk"
- 23:00** **National News**
- 23:05 Where the Rhododen-  
dron Blooms
- 23:10 Song On Screen "Pre-  
destination"
- 23:12 NAn Pan Market Day
- 23:15** **Weekly News High-  
lights**
- 23:20 Highland farmland  
Reclamation in Kaung  
Kha Region
- 23:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**6-3-2004 (Saturday) &  
7-3-2004 (Sunday) Evening  
& Morning Transmission  
(23:30-1:30)**

- 23:30 Signature Tune

- 23:32 Greeting  
Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanma Pano-  
rama & Myanma Sen-  
timent"
- 23:36 Myanmar Map
- 23:40** **Headline News**
- 23:42 Enjoy our Shan Food
- 23:45** **National News**
- 23:50 Myanmar Footware  
and Bags
- 23:55 Kachin Dance
- 24:00** **National News**
- 00:05 Migadawun - Delivering  
the first Discourse
- 00:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Commencement  
of Dry Summer"
- 00:15** **National News**
- 00:20 Biological Expedition  
to Hponkan Razi  
Region (IV) (Ziadam  
Village- Wang Mung  
Camps 1 & 2)
- 00:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanma Pano-  
rama & Myanma Sen-  
timent"
- 00:30** **National News**
- 00:35 Myanmar Traditional  
Musical Instruments  
(Brass Instruments  
Cymbal) (Linguin)
- 00:40 Conservation of Sea-  
turtles
- 00:45** **National News**
- 00:50 Myanmar Movie im-  
pact "Paunk Pauk  
Myauk Myauk"
- 01:00** **Weekly News High-  
lights**
- 01:05 Where the Rhododen-  
dron Blooms
- 01:10 Song On Screen "Pre-  
destination"
- 01:12 NAn Pan Market Day
- 01:15** **Weekly News High-  
lights**
- 01:20 Highland farmland  
Reclamation in Kaung  
Kha Region
- 01:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

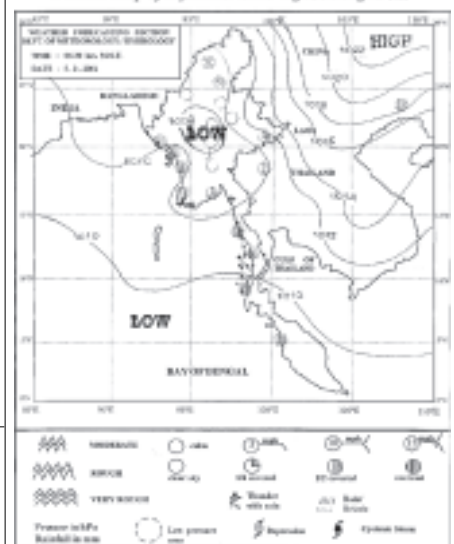
**7-3-2004 (Sunday)  
Morning Transmission  
(03:30-07:30)**

- 03:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting
- 03:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 03:36 Tabau Festival
- 03:40** **Headline News**
- 03:42 Pagodas in Yangon,  
The Shwedagon Pa-  
goda
- 03:45** **National News**

- 03:50 A Peaceful Place of  
Mind
- 03:55 Lumbini — Birth Place  
of Buddha
- 04:00** **National News**
- 04:05 The Alaungdaw  
Kathapa National Park  
Myanmar Modern  
Song "Sagawa Flowers  
Land"
- 04:15** **National News**
- 04:20 Biological Expedition  
to Hponkan Razi  
Region (III) (Awadam  
Village- Ziadam Vil-  
lage)
- 04:25 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Do you love  
me?"
- 04:30** **National News**
- 04:35 Special Teak Planta-  
tion Programme in  
Myanmar
- 04:40 Myanma Traditional  
Flower Arrangements  
(Harp)
- 04:45** **National News**
- 04:50 Shwezawar Lacquer-  
ware
- 04:55 Pakhanthar Myin Nyo  
Shin
- 05:00** **National News**
- 05:05 Colourful Garden City  
of Yangon
- 05:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "The Towering  
Flower"
- 05:15** **Weekly News High-  
lights**
- 05:20 Mother O'pearl Mosaic  
Painting
- 05:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 05:35 Shwe Kyaung (or) the

- Golden Monastery
- 05:40** **Headline News**
- 06:42 Enjoy our Shan Food
- 05:45** **National News**
- 05:50 Myanmar Footware  
and Bags
- 05:55 Kachin Dance
- 06:00** **National News**
- 06:05 Migadawun - Delivering  
the first Discourse
- 06:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Commencement  
of Dry Summer"
- 06:15** **National News**
- 06:20 Biological Expedition  
to Hponkan Razi  
Region (IV) (Ziadam  
Village- Wang Mung  
Camps 1 & 2)
- 06:25 Song "Hill Resort  
Town"
- 06:30** **National News**
- 06:35 Myanmar Traditional  
Musical Instruments  
(Brass Instruments  
Cymbal) (Linguin)
- 06:40 Conservation of Sea-  
turtles
- 06:45** **National News**
- 06:50 Myanmar Movie im-  
pact "Paunk Pauk  
Myauk Myauk"
- 07:00** **National News**
- 07:05 Where the Rhododen-  
dron Blooms
- 07:10 Song On Screen "Pre-  
destination"
- 07:12 NAn Pan Market Day
- 07:15** **Weekly News High-  
lights**
- 07:20 Highland farmland  
Reclamation in Kaung  
Kha Region
- 07:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



## WEATHER

Friday, 5 March, 2004

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:**  
During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan, Kayah and Kayin States, Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) above normal in Kachin State and Mandalay Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperature was (41°C) in Aungmye.

Maximum temperature on 4-3-2004 was 35.5°C (96°F). Minimum temperature on 5-3-2004 was 16.3°C (61°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 5-3-2004 was 77%. Total sun shine hours on 4-3-2004 was (8.0) hours approx. Rainfall on 5-3-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 3 mm (0.12 inch) at Yangon Airport and nil at Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 13 mph from West at (15:30) hours MST on 4-3-2004.

**Bay inference:** Weather is cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 6-3-2004:** Except for the likelihood of isolated light rain in Taninthayi Division, weather will be generally fair in the whole country. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of isolated light rain in Taninthayi Division.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 6-3-2004:** Partly cloudy. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6-3-2004:** Fair weather.



Saturday, March 6

View today:

- 7:00 am**
1. Recitation of Parittas by  
Missionary Sayadaw U  
Ottamathara
- 7:15 am**
2. တိပိဋကဓမ္မသုတ္တံပါဠိတော်  
ပဏ္ဍိတဘုရားရှင်တော်  
(မဟာစာရဇာတိ)ဟောကြားတော်မူ  
အပ်သောဥပုသ်တော်
- 7:25 am**
3. To Be Healthy  
Exercise
- 7:30 am**
4. Morning news
- 7:40 am**
5. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am**
6. Delicacies
- 8:05 am**
7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:15 am**
8. ကော့ကီးဒါးမိတ်တော်
- 8:30 am**
9. International news
- 8:45 am**
10. Grammar Made Easy
- 11:00 am**
1. Martial Song
- 11:10 am**
2. Musical Programme
- 11:30 am**
3. News
- 11:40 am**
4. Games for children
- 12:05 pm**
5. Round-up of the week's  
TV Local News
- 1:55 pm**
6. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတမ်းတွဲ  
"နက်ရှိုင်းစေ့ကွာ" (အပိုင်း-၂၄)
- 2:30 pm**
7. Dance of National Races
- 2:35 pm**
8. "သစ်ကောင်းတစ်ပင်"  
နိဒါန်းပြုစုသူတော်တို့၏  
နိဒါန်းတော်မူပုံနှင့်  
ခါနီးကား-နိဒါန်းတော်မူ(သစ်ကောင်း)
- 2:45 pm**
9. International news
- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
2. Song to uphold  
National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
3. English for Everyday  
Use
- 4:40 pm**
4. Musical Programme

- 4:55 pm**
5. အစောဆုံးသောတော်မူပုံ  
ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ  
-တစ်နေ့ (သပ့်အထူးပြုအားလုံး)  
(တော့စော)
- 5:10 pm**
6. Dance Variety
- 5:25 pm**
7. Musical Programme
- 5:40 pm**
8. ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအနုပညာစာအုပ်  
အသစ်အစုံ
- 5:50 pm**
9. Game for children
- 6:15 pm**
10. Delicacies
- 6:30 pm**
11. Evening news
- 7:00 pm**
12. Weather report
- 7:05 pm**
13. Discovery
- 7:15 pm**
14. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတမ်းတွဲ  
"နက်ရှိုင်းစေ့ကွာ" (အပိုင်း-၂၄)
- 8:00 pm**
15. News
- 8:05 pm**
16. International news
- 8:10 pm**
17. Weather report
- 8:15 pm**
18. Myanmar Video Feature  
"အမြင်လွယ်လွယ်" (အပိုင်း-၁)  
ကျေးဇူးတင်အားလုံးအတွက်  
ခါနီးကား-ကိုမော်(အစုစည်း)
- 8:20 pm**
19. The next day's  
programme



Saturday, March 6

Tune in today:

- 8.30 am** Brief news
- 8.35 am** Music
- 8.40 am** Perspectives
- 8.45 am** Music
- 8.55 am** National news/  
Slogan
- 9.05 am** Music
- 9.10 am** International news
- 9.15 am** Music (Spotlight  
on a star)
- 1.30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm** Request  
-Crazy music  
(Ottawan)  
-The power of love  
(Joey Lewis)
- 9.00 pm** ASEAN Review  
-News
- 9.10 pm** Article
- 9.20 pm** Myanma culture by  
Dr.khin Maung  
Nyunt  
-Grace that is  
Ananda
- 9.30 pm** Souvenirs  
-Look for a star  
(Bobby Vee)  
-A guy is a guy  
(Doris Day)
- 9.45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL

**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

## State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Ghana

YANGON, 6 March — On the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Ghana, which falls on 6 March 2004, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr John Agyekum Kufuor, President of the Republic of Ghana. — MNA

## Prime Minister attends ceremony to drive stake for construction of Gandakuti of Tampilawha Maha Muni Buddha Image in Bago

YANGON, 5 March — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, ministers, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads and officials, left here by car this morning.

They were welcomed at Wanbawdat Bridge near Thayagon Model Village, Bago Division, by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko and officials.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party proceeded to the construction site of Theravada Gandakuti Taik Kyaungdawgyi in Bago where Tampilawha Maha Muni Buddha Image will be kept.

At 7.30 am, the ceremony to drive stake for construction of the Kyaungdawgyi was held in conjunction with the cornerstone laying ceremony at the venue, attended by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the oc-

casion were Bago Dhammalankara Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Visuddha and members of the Sangha, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko, the ministers, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, local authorities, social and religious organizations, wellwishers and local people. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Visuddha administered the Nine Precepts.

Next, the Prime Minister offered Yadana stake, Yadana casket, Golden pot and provisions to the Sayadaw. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko and party also donated provisions to the Sayadaws.

Then, Bago Panhlaing Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Sasana delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained.

Afterwards, the stake-driving ceremony and the cornerstone-laying ceremony followed.

The Prime Minister

drove the stake at the centre of the foundation. Then, the ministers and the deputy ministers drove stakes at the designated places.

The Prime Minister placed the gems casket at the centre of the foundation. Dhammalankara Sayadaw also put the golden pot in which various kinds of gems are kept, in the foundation.

At the auspicious time, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko and the ministers laid cornerstones at the designated places.

The General then laid the bronze plaque and sprinkled scented water on it. Afterwards, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt per-

formed the rituals of golden and silver showers to mark the success of the ceremony. Next, they paid homage to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Visuddha.

The Prime Minister and party proceeded to the work site of Myathahyaung reclining Buddha image in Bago and paid obeisance to the Image.

After hearing the reports on construction tasks presented by Myanmar handicraft technicians, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt gave instructions on construction of the Image. Next, they watered Bo tree in the compound of the pagoda. The Prime Minister and party arrived back here in the afternoon.

MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt drives stake for construction of Theravada Gandakuti Taikkyaw-dawgyi of Tampilawha Maha Muni Buddha Image in Bago on 5 March 2004.

MNA

## Secretary-1 inspects Water Treatment Plant Project

YANGON, 5 March — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win inspected the Water Treatment Plant Project being undertaken by the Yangon City Development Committee in Thanlyetsun, Botahtaung Township, this morning. Accompanied by YCDC Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Chan Nyein, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, and departmental heads, the Secretary-1 heard a report by YCDC Secretary U Kyi Win on the purpose of the project.

Dr Tun Than Tun of the YCDC also reported on area of the project, water treatment process, arrangements made for arrival of machinery for the project, and work progress. The Mayor gave a supplementary report. Regarding the reports, the Secretary-1 gave necessary instructions. Afterwards, the officials reported on benefits to be gained on completion of the project with the use of a scale model.

The Secretary-1 looked around work progress at the project site. The project is aimed at ensuring systematic sewage disposal system. It is the first of its kind in Myanmar being implemented by Myanmar experts and engineers. — MNA



State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects construction of Water Treatment Plant.— MNA