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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets with officials to discuss upgrading of Kandawgyi Gardens and Yangon Zoological Gardens. — MNA

All-round upgrading of Kandawgyi and Yangon Zoological Gardens coordinated

YANGON, 9 March — A coordination meeting on all-round upgrading of Yangon Kandawgyi Gardens and Yangon Zoological Gardens was held at the briefing hall of Water Plaza in Central Forest Zone in Kandawgyi Garden this evening, attended by Prime Minister General

Khin Nyunt.

Also present were Chairman of the Work Committee for All-round Upgrading of Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoological Gardens Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen

Myint Swe, the ministers, the Yangon mayor, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, members of the work committee and officials.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe reported in detail on measures taken in the relaxation zone, recreation zone, education zone and central forest zone, progress of work of each zone and tasks being undertaken and to be undertaken.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin reported on functions for keeping the waters of Kandawgyi clean forever, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw on upgrading of hotels

and restaurants, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein on construction of fresh water fish garden in education zone, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung on growing of plants, landscaping and conservation of shade trees and other plants in central forest zone and upgrading of Zoological Gardens, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin on fencing, construction of viewing plaza and bridge that links islands and landscaping, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Nyi Hla Nge on quality control of the buildings in the project, Architect Mr Jun-Ichi Inada

on designs relating to the tasks, Chairman of Myanmar Hoteliers Association U Khin Shwe on arrangements for construction of restaurants and playgrounds and Managing Director of Woodland Co Ltd U Win Aung and officials on tasks being implemented.

Next, General Khin Nyunt fulfilled the requirements and gave instructions on construction of buildings suitable for the original nature and beauty of Kandawgyi Garden and systematic implementation of the tasks for emergence of advanced garden where people can take rest in peace.

After the meeting Prime Minister General Khin

Nyunt inspected the tasks for upgrading of the Kandawgyi and gave instructions. — MNA

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Circulation

22,769

Commerce Minister receives Japanese guests

YANGON, 9 March — Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone received Mr Toshihide Orita, General Manager of Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation of Japan, and party at his office at the ministry on Strand Road here this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun, Director-General of Directorate of Trade U Nyunt Aye, Director-General of the Border Trade Department U Nay Win, and officials of the Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects tasks for upgrading of Kandawgyi Gardens. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 10 March, 2004

Improving socio-economic life through agricultural development

The Union of Myanmar is an agro-based country and therefore the government is trying for the nation to become an industrialized one through development of agriculture. Moreover, it is encouraging the establishment of such basic industries as mining and energy sectors and taking systematic measures for region-wise development.

It goes without saying that agriculture is the main industry that can ensure self-sufficiency and strong national economic life for an agricultural country like Myanmar. It is a sector that can guarantee food sufficiency of each and every region across the Union, regional economic growth and higher living standard for local people.

This being the case, the government is giving top priority to fulfilling all the requirements for the development of the agricultural sector, especially for increasing sown acreage and boosting agricultural production. The construction of the recently-completed Shwe Hlay sluice gate was a step taken in that direction.

The opening of the Shwe Hlay sluice gate in Kawa Township in Bago Division was held on 28 February and Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attended the ceremony and delivered a speech. The Prime Minister, in his address on the occasion, urged the local people to try as hard as they could to improve their socio-economic life by making effective use of advantages offered by the sluice gate.

Bago Division is mountainous, has a lot of creeks and is contiguous to the sea. As there is a vast area of wetlands between the Bago river and the Sittoung river, the government is building sluice gates to turn those wetlands into arable land.

The construction of sluice gates including the recently-opened Shwe Hlay sluice gate is to prevent floods in the rainy season and the inflow of sea water in summer, thus enabling the farmers to grow paddy and other crops on more than one hundred thousand of acres of farmland all the year round.

We would like to call upon all the local people including the farmers to put their energies into their work to improve the socio-economic life by making effective use of the assistance rendered by the State.

Armed Forces Day Book Fair to be held

YANGON, 9 March — Hailing the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March 2004, a book fair sponsored by Sarpay Beikman of Printing and Publishing Enterprise of the Ministry of Information will be held at 379-383, PPE (former Head Office) on Bo Aung Kyaw Street in Kyauktada Township from 19-3-2004 to 28-3-2004.

The book fair will be open from 9 am to 5 pm and books will be sold to the public.

Bookshops wishing to participate in the fair may contact Chief Editor of Sarpay Beikman at 529-531, Merchant Street (phone 252560), Deputy Chief Editor (240048) or Manager (Sales) (381448/249031) not later than 15-3-2004. — MNA

Tourists arrive by M S Europa

YANGON, 9 March — Under the supervision of the Ministry of Hotels & Tourism, with assistance of the Ministry of Transport and under the arrangements of Diethelm Travel Ltd Myanmar, Cruiseline M S Europa with 170 passengers on board arrived Thilawa International Port in Kyauktan here early this morning. The tourists in groups were scheduled to visit Yangon downtown, Bago and Bagan. The vessel will leave on 11 March morning. — 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'

Nursery Market Festival continues

YANGON, 9 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. — MNA



The 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative postcard.



Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint views the condition of patient Daw Saw Ma Ma who has undergone kidney transplant. — HEALTH

Doctors successfully conduct kidney transplant on patients

YANGON, 9 March — Both the patient and the donor are in good health after a successful kidney transplant conducted on Daw Saw Ma Ma at Mandalay General Hospital on 7 March.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint visited the donor, the patient's elder brother U Hla Myint, at the

hospital in the evening, and the patient, Daw Saw Ma Ma, the next morning.

The surgical team led by Director-General of Medical Research Department (Upper Myanmar) Dr Paing Soe, explained the improving condition of the patient.

Other members of the team were Dr Khin

Maung Htay, Dr Than Aye, Dr Sai Lun Maung, Dr Toe Lwin and other physicians.

Another patient, Ko Win Thura Latt, and donor, his younger sister, Ma Win Rupa Latt, are also in good

health after undergoing surgical operation.

Today, doctors are conducting kidney transplant on Daw Aye Aye. The donor is her elder sister Daw Ni Ni. — MNA



COMPLETION CERTIFICATES PRESENTED: A ceremony to give away basic education primary level completion certificates to the students was held at the No 2 Basic Education Primary School in Kamayut Township on Tuesday. Headmistress Daw Kathy Soe Thein gives away a certificate to a student. — MNA



Myanmar Geosciences Society (MGS) President Dr Maung Thein formally unveils the signboard of the MGS at the opening of office of the Myanmar Geosciences Society. — MOGE

MGS signboard unveiled

YANGON, 9 March — A ceremony to open office and unveil the signboard of the Myanmar Geosciences Society (MGS) was held at the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy at No 78/80 Minye Kyawswa Road, Lanmadaw Township here at 9 am today. MGS President Dr Maung Thein formally unveiled the signboard. — MNA

552 US service members killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 9 March—As of Monday, 8 March, 552 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq, according to the Department of Defence.

Of those, 379 died as a result of hostile action and 173 died of non-hostile causes, the department said.

The British military has reported 58 deaths; Italy, 17; Spain, eight; Bulgaria, five; Thailand, two; Denmark, Ukraine, Estonia and Poland have reported one each.

Since 1 May, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 414

US soldiers have died—264 as a result of hostile action and 150 of non-hostile causes, according to the military.

Since the start of military operations, 2,744 US service members have been injured as a result of hostile action, according to the Defence Department's figures on Monday. Non-hostile injured numbered 423.

Internet

Mubarak says US reform ideas could promote violence

PARIS, 9 March—US plans for political reform in the Arab world could encourage violence and cannot succeed without an end to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said in remarks published on Monday.

"That is the danger they (the Americans) do not seem to understand," he told the Paris newspaper *Le Figaro*.

"An initiative imposed from abroad would be rejected by the peoples concerned and would lead to anarchy in the whole region, from Morocco to Pakistan," he said in an interview.

"That would play into the hands of terrorism, which will not be confined to the Middle East but will reach Europe and the United States. If the extremists win, you can forget democracy," Mubarak added.

MNA/Reuters



An American special forces soldier and Estonian troops raid a milk processing plant in Baghdad, Iraq, on Sunday, 7 March, 2004. —INTERNET

Attackers kill Iraq local Council member

MOSUL, 9 March—Attackers opened fire Monday on a car carrying two local Council members in Mosul, killing one and wounding the other, police said.

In Baghdad, guerrillas fired mortar shells at two police stations in central Baghdad,

injuring four people, including one policeman, Iraqi officials said. The attacks occurred shortly before the Iraqi Governing Council signed an interim constitution. Guerrillas, believed to be loyalists of ousted leader Saddam Hussein or foreign fighters, have targeted Iraqi police and civilians working with the US-led occupation.

In the northern city of Mosul, gunmen fled after firing on the car. Akram Mahmoud Nijim, a member of a local council, was killed and another councilor was wounded. In Khaldiya, west of Baghdad, a bomb exploded under the car of the police chief, Ismail Turki, as he left his home Monday morning. Turki's driver and abodyguard were wounded, said a neighbour, Khaled Fayyad. — Internet

Qantas to operate direct flights from Sydney to Mumbai

SYDNEY, 9 March—Airline major Qantas will operate direct services linking Sydney to western Indian metropolis of Mumbai beginning September this year in view of a double-digit spurt in the number of tourist arrivals from India.

Qantas will fly direct services between Mumbai and Sydney, three times per week and the Mumbai services would operate in two-class *Boeing 747-300* aircraft. The services would commence from 1 September, 2004, Executive General Manager of Qantas Air lines John Borghetti, said here on Thursday.

"Australia has seen a double-digit increase in the number of tourist arrivals from India over the past decade—with an average annual growth of approximately 17 per cent, Australian Tourist Commis-

sion general manager, South & South East Asia, Maggie White said.

These new services connecting the two commercial capitals, for the first time, will operate non-stop to Mumbai, leaving Sydney on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. "India is one of the fastest growing economies in the world and the burgeoning trade relationship between Australia and India has increased demand for business travel between our two countries, Borghetti said.

MNA/PTI

NPC deputies say 7%eco growth a pragmatic goal

BEIJING, 9 March—Deputies to China's top legislature laud the 7-per-cent economic growth rate for 2004 as a "scientific and pragmatic" goal. The growth target, the same as that for 2003, has been set by Premier Wen Jiabao in his report to the legislature Friday and led to heated discussions among 2,900-plus deputies from all walks of life.

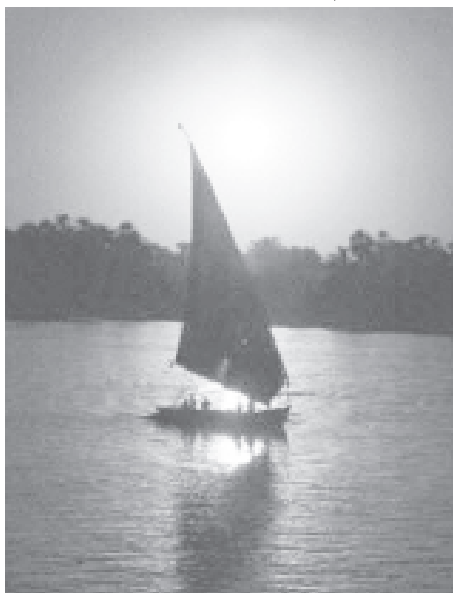
"It is a realistic and pragmatic goal and will help maintain the continuity of China's macro-economic policies," said Qin Chijiang, a deputy to the ongoing Second Session of the 10th National People's Congress (NPC), and deputy secretary-general of China Finance Association.


The goal, if materialized, will bring China the gross domestic product (GDP) totalling some 12 trillion yuan (1.45 trillion US dollars) in 2004, laying a solid foundation for implementation of the 10th Five-Year Plan (2001-2005) and construction of a well-off society in an all-round way, according to Qin.

The low-profile growth rate will ease the pressure on resources and environment after years of rapid economic growth, and put an end to the practice of seeking solely economic growth rate, so as to improve quality of the economy and adjust economic structure, said NPC deputy Zhang Kui from north China's Shanxi Province.

In 2003, the Chinese economy grew by

9.1 per cent despite the outbreak of the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), hitting a new record since the Asia Financial Crisis in late 1990s. However, overheated investment in some economic sectors also resulted in a growing pressure on resources and environment. Last year, China consumed 31 per cent of the world's total coal output, and its consumption of iron ore, steel and cement accounted for 30 per cent, 27 per cent and 40 per cent of the total global output respectively, but the country contributed merely less than 4 per cent of the total GDP output worldwide. "Economic growth powered by huge resource consumption cannot last long. Even if the growth target is accomplished, it will not be conducive to China's economic growth. If the reported overheated investment in a few economic sectors is not inhibited, the overall economic situation will be affected, and a greater cost had to be paid," said deputy auditor Zhang Chengqi from north China's Hebei Province. — MNA/Xinhua




A felucca, an Egyptian sailboat, plies the waters near Luxor. Experts from 10 African countries began talks in Uganda to plan how to share the waters of the mighty Nile river.—INTERNET



Singapore begins month-long anti-drug campaign

SINGAPORE, 9 March—Singapore on Sunday launched a month-long anti-drug campaign as part of its efforts to deal with synthetic drug abuse in the island state.

According to local Press reports, the campaign, kicked off by Singapore's National Council Against Drug Abuse (NCADA), will target youths aged 15 to 30 years old because they form a relatively larger group of synthetic drug abusers arrested in recent years.

Anti-drug creations, to be featured on TV, cinemas, outdoor posters, newspapers,

magazines, Internet as well as radio, will inform young Singaporeans of the need to stay drug-free or risk losing their social credibility otherwise.

Last year, Singapore narcotics officers busted 30 syndicates in 56 major drug raids, and the number of drug abusers arrested in the country declined sharply by 47 per cent compared to the year before. — MNA/Xinhua

South Korea lodges complaint against US military in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 9 March—The brief detention of three South Korean journalists Saturday by Baghdad's Palestine Hotel after soldiers thought they detected explosive traces on their luggage has triggered a formal protest against the US military.

The South Korean embassy in Baghdad has demanded an official apology from US forces on Sunday over their treatment of the journalists, South Korea's foreign ministry announced.

The ministry said US forces in Iraq were asked to clarify the incident and promise the prevention of its recurrence.

Three Gorges region becomes China's largest geological park

WUHAN, 9 March — The Three Gorges on the Yangtze River has become the largest geological park in China with an area of 25,000 square kilometres.

The park, added to the list of national geological parks last month, covers both banks of the mainstream of the Three Gorges from Fengjie County, Chongqing Municipality, to Yichang City, Hubei Province.

The region was accepted on the list because of its rich geological phenomena, said Yan Daoping, a researcher at Yichang Geological and Mineral Research Institute under the Ministry of Land and Resources.

Yan said the region boasted southern China's oldest metamorphic rock base, formed 3.2 billion years ago, the world's oldest glacier sediment dating back 700 million years, and a complete stratum layer from the Proterozoic Era.

It also has several thousand varieties of animal and plant fossils and rich phenomena recording geological disasters, and the evolution of rivers and karst.

MNA/Xinhua

A US military spokesman said the men were released after it was determined the sniffer dogs had only detected used car parts in the bags.

South Korea's national Yonhap news agency said that the three from state-run Korea Broadcasting Corp were detained for three hours in front of the Palestine Hotel after a sniffer dog alerted guards to their luggage.

The ministry said South Korean ambassador to Iraq Im Hong-jae had visited the US guard base at the hotel to request the release of the journalists. They were set free after being taken to a nearby base.

The journalists said their treatment by American soldiers were "arrogant" and "inhumane," Yonhap news agency reported.

"The US soldiers knew we were journalists," Jeong Chang-jun, one of the three, told Yonhap.

"We showed them our ID cards and said we were South Korean journalists. A (US) captain there knew who we were," he said.

The journalists were on their way back to the hotel after failing to catch a flight bound for Amman at the Baghdad airport. They were returning home after one month of reporting on Iraq.

Internet

Back from Iraq, soldier dies in NJ car crash

BAGHDAD, 9 March—Army Reservist Rosendo Ricketts returned home Thursday from more than a year of combat duty in Iraq and rushed into his wife's arms carrying a necklace with her name written on it in Arabic.

"He was so happy to see me he pushed people down to get to me," Wanda Ricketts said through tears last night, adding that the display of emotion was out

of character for her husband. "He usually acts like Mr Cool."

Sgt. Ricketts was killed in a car accident early Monday at Fort Dix in New Jer-

sey, where his unit is preparing for demobilization, base officials said.

Ricketts, 43, of Brooklyn, was a member of the 310th Military Police Battalion, headquartered in Unioadale. Members of the unit, which returned from Iraq last week, are preparing to return to civilian life.

Ricketts apparently was alone in his car when he lost control shortly after 3 am, according to base officials. The vehicle slid off the road on West Main Street in Wrightstown, where the army base is located, and smashed into a house. The incident happened, officials said, in a heavy rain that was mixed with snow.—Internet

Chinese centenarian says eat meat and live longer

BEIJING, 9 March — Meat meals are the secret of Chinese centenarian Bi Deben, a retired dustman with 103 years behind him, news agency Xinhua said on Sunday.

"The Beijing centenarian says if he has no meat for just a day, he feels 'uneasy'," the official news agency said.

The idea may appeal to fans of low-carb diets gaining popularity in the United States, but China has only one-twelfth of the world's centenarians, despite being home to about one-fifth of its population.

Or maybe the key to longevity is more mundane. A study of about one-fifth of Beijing's 257 centenarians showed many ate and drank in moderation, took regular exercise, were cheerful and had "harmonious" family lives, Xinhua said.

It quoted Wu Cangping, chairman of the China Senior Citizens Society, as saying the country had just 17,000 of the global total of 210,000 centenarians. Xinhua did not explain the low ratio of centenarians, but the vast majority of China's people live in the countryside, where poverty is widespread and health care is rudimentary. About 10 per cent of the population of 1.3 billion was over the age of 60, Wu said. — MNA/Xinhua

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An Iraqi picks up the pieces from a truck after it was damaged by a roadside bomb, apparently intended for US military convoys, in Baghdad, Iraq, on Tuesday, 9 March, 2004. The truck driver was killed. —INTERNET

Jordan to hold second Iraq rebuilding exhibition

AMMAN, 9 March — The Amman World Trade Centre and the American Chamber of Commerce in Jordan would jointly hold the second Iraq rebuilding exhibition, Jordan Times reported Sunday.

The exhibition, which includes a conference, would be held during March 17-22 at the Amman International Motor Show.

The participants of the exhibition would get information of the contracts from the Iraqi Programme Management Office and opportunities of sharing the contracts, the report said.

Businessmen from 22 countries, such as the United States, Jordan and Iraq, are expected to attend the exhibition.

The first Iraq rebuilding exhibition, organized by the Kallman Group of Waldwich, a US-based exhibition management firm with more than 40 years of international trade show experience, was held in last December in Amman.

About 300 manufacturers from 21 countries displayed their latest products and special services during the fair.

MNA/Xinhua

WMO says developing nations vulnerable to natural disasters

NEW DELHI, 9 March — About 95 per cent of the total number of deaths due to natural disasters occur in developing countries and the main reason for the "vulnerability" of such nations is their economic situation, World Meteorological Organization says in a report.

"There is great geographical inequality in the places where natural disasters occur," WMO publication World Climate News reports.

Some 95 per cent of the deaths caused by natural hazards occur in developing countries while natural hazards rarely cause large number of deaths in industrialized nations, it says.

For example, recent hurricanes in the US or typhoons in Japan did not cause more than 500 deaths. Even devastating category 5 hurricane "Andrew" in 1992 caused less than 100 deaths in the US, it says.

On the other hand, category 5 hurricane "Mitch" in 1998 caused over 10,000 deaths in Central America. In Bangladesh, an estimated

500,000 people were killed in 1970 cyclone and 140,000 in 1991 cyclone.

The report says though there have been remarkable developments in scientific and engineering techniques in the 20th Century, scientists have not yet succeeded in preventing natural hazards nor insulating humans from their effects.

On the contrary, as population increases and more land is utilized, more people are at risk from natural hazards. Between 1970s and 1990s, deaths from natural disasters fell from two million a decade to less than 800,000. Yet the number of people affected tripled to 2000 million. Economic losses multiplied five times to some 629,000 million dollars in the 1990s, it says.

The report says one of the most significant factors for developing countries being more vulnerable is their economic situation. Government and most people in developing countries cannot afford to prepare for natural hazards, it says and adds, lack of technology and education, both of which are associated with economic hardship, are the other obstacles. It says mitigating the effects of natural hazards in the developing countries requires a different perspective than in developed countries.

Pointing out that world is also facing the emerging threats related to climate change, the report says global warming, not only produces stronger storms and sea-level rise, but may also trigger rapid environmental change. — MNA/PTI



This image taken by the Mars Exploration Rover Spirit's navigation camera shows the rocky landscape lying due east of the rover, with boulders as large as 1.6 feet dotting the terrain. The east hills, over 1.3 miles away, can be seen to the far right.—INTERNET

IRAQ UNDER US OCCUPATION



US troops comb an area near the UN headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq , on Monday, 8 March, 2004, following an attack by guerillas at a passing US military convoy. —INTERNET



Iraqis gather next to the debris at the former Foreign Ministry in Baghdad, on Monday, 8 March, 2004 after rockets were fired overnight. The rockets were apparently fired from an SUV, which was then torched, the culprits fleeing the scene. —INTERNET



US soldiers stand guard at the scene of the rocket attacks in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad on 7 March, 2004. —INTERNET



An Iraqi boy looks at the scene of a rocket attack in a private house in Iraqi capital Baghdad, on 8 March, 2004. —INTERNET



A US soldier stands next to demonstrating Iraqi women in the centre of the Iraqi capital Baghdad on 8 March, 2004. Several hundred women demanded more rights in a demonstration, marking International Women's Day. —INTERNET

Guard unit preparing to go home delayed in Iraq

SPEARFISH, 9 March—A South Dakota National Guard unit that was preparing to go home after serving nearly a year in Iraq won't be leaving the Middle East after all — at least not now.

Members of the Guard's 740th Transportation Co. had transferred to Kuwait where they handed in their weapons, gave their vehicles to replacement troops and shipped most of their personal belongings back to the states.

Then they got word that they would be sent back to Iraq, minus some of their military vehicles.

"It's heart-wrenching for everyone," said Maj Harold Walker, public information officer for the South Dakota Army National Guard. "By simple math, this unit will reach 365 days 'boots on ground' on 19 April. It may have appeared they might go (home) a bit early, but there's still work to do."

South Dakota Army National Guard Lt Col Steven Dunn said the delay was "kind of typical" of military operations. But he said the equipment substitution was unusual and of concern. More than 2,500 South Dakota guardsmen and reservists were mobilized for duty in 2003. Most of the soldiers are in Iraq and beginning this spring, many of the

units will reach one year of service overseas.

"We haven't heard about any problems with the rotations, and we have no indications that rotations will push beyond 365 days 'boots on ground,'" Walker said. "As tough as it may sound, guard members know that you don't know when you're leaving until you're on the plane."

The 740th Transportation Company is based out of Brookings and Milbank and has 140 members.

The delay has received attention from members of South Dakota's congressional delegation.

"I have heard from many soldiers and families regarding the 740th Transportation Company currently serving in Kuwait," said Senator Tom Daschle, D-SD. "I am particularly disturbed by reports that these soldiers lack basic equipment to perform their duties safely." A spokesman for Senator Tim Johnson, D-SD, said he, too, was looking into the matter.

Internet

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An Iraqi girl
helps her
father as he
works on the
reconstruction
of an abandoned
building at the al-
Rashid
military
compound in
Baghdad.
INTERNET



First ever Indo-Pakistan theatre festival begins in Lahore

ISLAMABAD, 9 March — The first ever Indo-Pakistan theatre festival, 'Janani', began in Lahore Sunday with 66 Indian artists arriving in the city to perform along with their Pakistani counterparts.

Organized by a Pakistani progressive artists group 'Ajoka Theatre' to mark its 20th anniversary, the festival will feature more than 18 plays focussing on women, playwright and Ajoka co-ordinator, Shahid Nadeem told PTI from Lahore.

The week-long extravaganza is attended by 66 Indian artists from five theatre groups.

An attraction of the festival would be a performance by the veteran Sehgal sisters. Ninety-three-year-old Indian theatre personality Zohra Sehgal would feature along with her sister from Pakistan, 87-year-old Uzra Butt. The duo would perform Nadeem's play "Aik Thee Naani".

Both Zohra and Uzra started their theatre career in 1930s' Mumbai but were separated for over four decades after partition.

The Indian theatre groups taking part in the festival includes Rangoli and Manch Rangmanch from Amritsar, Ranga Karmee from Kolkata and Kitchen Katha from Chandigarh.

Nadeem, praising the governments of India and Pakistan for their support to the event, said it is a "historic breakthrough" for cultural relations between the two nations.

India's High Commissioner to Pakistan, Shivshankar Menon, took part in the opening ceremony. — MNA/PTI

One dead, three missing in Maryland boat accident

BALTIMORE, 9 March — Fire department and Coast Guard teams searched on Sunday for the bodies of three people believed to have died after a water taxi capsized in Baltimore's Inner Harbour and killed one person.

"We are in recovery mode now, given the time they've been in the water," said Kevin Cartwright, a Baltimore Fire Department spokesman.

One person was confirmed dead and three were missing and presumed dead, after wind flipped over the 36-foot boat during a "microburst" thunderstorm on Baltimore's Inner Harbor on Saturday, city officials said.

Twenty-one people were pulled from the cold water and plucked off the hull of the overturned boat by Naval reservists, who were credited with preventing more deaths.

Two people, one of them a child, suffered cardiac arrest and were taken to the hospital. The child was resuscitated, but a woman in her 60s died, Fire Department officials said.

MNA/Reuters

Air India to commence bi-weekly London-Ahmedabad flights

LONDON, 9 March — The long-awaited bi-weekly Air India direct flights from London to Ahmedabad, in the western Indian state of Gujarat, will commence from 28 March, the airline announced here.

"Boeing 747-400s will be pressed into service for the direct flights, departing from here on Friday and Sunday nights," V Thulasidas, chairman and managing director of Air India, said at a launching function here Saturday night.

Complimenting the national carrier for the new service, India's High Commissioner to Britain, Ronen Sen, said Ahmedabad would become the third Indian city apart from Delhi and Mumbai to have direct Air India flights from London.

"This will provide not only benefits to the

sizeable Gujarati community in this country which is a vibrant community, it is also deeply linked with India in terms of cultural and kinship and contribute in strengthening the bonds between India and Britain".

He said India has already been identified by Lonely Planet, a well-known travel magazine, as one of the preferred destinations. Not only there has been a 13-per-cent increase in the tourist traffic to India from Britain, the number of people travelling on business visas had gone up by 31 per cent.

MNA/PTI



Beagle 2, the British space probe which disappeared as it descended toward Mars, may have been detected on the surface of the Red Planet, scientists said on March 8, 2004. No signal has been received from the craft since it was due to land on Christmas Day last year, despite various attempts by Mars orbiters and telescopes on Earth to make contact. An artist's impression shows the Beagle 2 lander on Mars. —INTERNET

US swimming in debt

WASHINGTON, 9 March — United States is rich beyond dreams but at the same time swimming in debt, the latest figures released by the US Federal Reserve show.

Rising house and stock prices have pushed the total net worth of US households to a record 44.41 trillion US dollars at the end of 2003.

However, the nation's debt also grew at a rapid pace in 2003. It increased by some 1.7 trillion US dollars to touch 22.4 trillion US dollars, the figures said.

Creditors abroad financed about a third of the year's borrowing, roughly 5 per cent of the nation's total output of products and services.

Such heavy indebtedness, says Allen Sinai of Decision Economics, a consulting firm, "is a time-bomb issue. There are potential adverse consequences, but we don't know when".

Debt can hobble the economy, said Sinai, author

of a recent study on the dangers of ballooning budget deficits along with Robert E. Rubin, former Treasury Secretary, and Peter Orszag, a Brookings Institution economist.

Sinai said that the household balance sheet seems sound only because the price of household assets, like homes and stocks, are high and interest rates are low.

Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan declared himself at a loss to explain how a corrective could be applied. He asked, without providing an answer: "Can market forces incrementally defuse a worrisome buildup in a nation's current account deficit and net external debt before a crisis more abruptly does so?"

MNA/PTI

North China province posts record premium growth

SHIJIAZHUANG, 9 March — The insurance sector in north China's Hebei Province chalked up a record high growth of 48.26 per cent in premiums last year, according to the local industry regulatory commission.

The annual growth rate was 21.16 percentage points higher than the national average of 27.1 per cent, the second highest in China, the industry watchdog says.

In 2003, the province's premium income amounted to 2.01 billion US dollars, an increase of 655.3 million US dollars over the previous year, statistics from the commission shows.

More efforts will be

exerted to perfect the provincial insurance market this year. Measures will include the establishment of more joint-stock insurance intermediate institutions to help standardize the performance of the local market.

China registered 46.75 billion US dollars in insurance premiums in 2003, up 27.1 per cent over the previous year.

MNA/Xinhua

My defective heart — myocardial Infarct — that needs treatment abroad

Myat Tun Oo

(Continued from yesterday)

Currently, there are many new and modern equipments and machines in the Cardiac Medical Unit and also at the Cardiac Surgical Unit. Coronary artery study was done with procedural coronary angiogram. When the result of the study came out, I was heavily upset and also depressed. One of the arteries coming from the aorta was blocked in two places (L A D—left anterior descending). At one place it was blocked for (99) per cent and at the other place, it was blocked for (90) per cent.

I thought that "I feel fine," but the result of the angiogram, revealed, "You are terribly ill".

Further more, a remark was clearly written, "The artery is blocked in two places and that it has plaque. It will be difficult to make angioplasty (enlarging the artery with balloon) to left anterior descending". The crystal clear remarks made me sick.

In fact the responsible doctor did not show me the result. She had given the documents to my wife. However, in lightning speed, grabbed it and read it.

That night, I could not sleep even for a wink.

I was blaming bluntly on the unfairness of life with no proper reason. "Why me? Why this sort of difficult situation picked me up?"

On the following morning, the Senior Physician came to my bed and said that currently, the Yangon General Hospital has many new and modern types of equipment, but however, the Myanmar Physicians (cardiology) — for the time being — has no experience in surgical intervention for difficult cases like my case, where two blockages existed in one artery. He said that my artery was accumulated with plaque, and that he consoled me not to get depressed.

The Senior Physician went on to say that one foreign expert in cardiology is scheduled to arrive Yangon General Hospital, and that this expert is rendering treatment out of his own good-will free of charge to heart patients. All the difficult cases will be submitted to the foreign expert for consideration, he said. It may depend on my luck to be selected by the foreign expert in cardiology, he added. He further explained that the surgical interventions on the heart

would be carried out jointly with the foreign expert and the Myanmar Physicians.

In case, if the foreign expert did not select me, then the hospital officials would render necessary recommendation to enable me to go abroad and take treatment at my own expense, the Physician explained with soft sentiments.

My defective heart — Myocardial Infarct — may now require taking treatment abroad. I came home on 14 November 2003 after having my angiogram. On this occasion, I am home again with a very heavy heart. It was because; that I am carrying a defective heart that needs treatment in a foreign country.

What should I do, if I was not selected out of many difficult heart cases?

One could easily suggest that "Go abroad", since the case was Myocardial Infarct that needs to take treatment abroad. How much it will cost for the treatment abroad?

No substantial and concrete answer was received from my friends as they have had their own different experiences in the cases of treatment abroad, and thus, I could not calculate how much it might cost.

On 17 November 2003, it was learnt that foreign expert cardiologist Dr Patrick J. Simpson of Carolina from the States had arrived Yangon. Phone rang at 9:00 am., and it was from the Senior Nurse of the Cardiac Medical Unit of the Yangon General Hospital, who said "U Mya Tun, Please come immediately to the Cardiac Medical Unit. Your case is being selected by the foreign expert for treatment".

I arrived Yangon General Hospital for the third time at 10:00 hours in the morning. The doctors executed initial clinical examination. The blood thinning injection was shot at me in the same morning. I was advised to take only a small amount of food in the evening, as I was to undergo surgical intervention the following morning. Before bed, again I was given another vial of blood thinning injection.

I was in the large operation theatre of the Cardiac Catheterization Unit of the hospital.

The operation theatre was very much similar to the types that I had seen in the foreign movies and television serials. The room was equipped with modern

heart treating equipments.

The operation theatre was packed with Senior Physicians (cardiac), Heart Specialists, doctors, technicians, and nurses. The Professor and Head of Cardiac Medical Unit was there along with other observers. Earlier, I thought it was "a cool and stress-free work", but in actuality the treatment involved complexity while inserting small surgical instruments through the vein at the base of the thigh up to the heart. I was also a witness to see that there was no easy way out to perform angioplasty (enlarging the artery with balloon) and placing stent in the artery (putting spring like meshed wire in the blocked artery). Although I could not see the actual performances of the foreign expert and the Myanmar physicians, as there was a blockade of an object in front of my vision, I could hear them working jointly. The procedural treatment was not an easy one. Not as easy as I thought. However, the surgical intervention was successful. I was brought in to the operation theatre at 09:00 hours and was taken out at 1030 hours. The net treating time was only fifteen minutes. After two months, I visited again as a follow up treatment to the Cardiac Medical Unit of the Yangon General Hospital, and had my E C G monitored. The E C G was being read out as a good result and that my arteries in the heart are functioning properly, except some minor damages were permanently inflicted as scars. On the whole, my heart is fine.

I have to continue on medication for about one year.

I was reading the instruc-

tions — what to avoid and what to abide — given to me in neat and tidy handwriting on the hospital discharge certificate

- * Do not Smoke.
 - * Do not stay near a person who is smoking.
 - * Do not consume animal fats (fats derived from beef, pork, sheep, goat), butter, milk cream, and coconut milk, egg yolks.
 - * Any item that taste sweet on the tongue. (This for Diabetic Patient)
 - * Eat vegetables and as much as fish
 - * Be sure to take regular medication
 - * Be regular to visit hospital.
 - * Take appropriate exercise regularly. Take walking exercise for about 20 minutes.
 - * For consultation on heart check up, please contact first at Emergency Unit of the Yangon General Hospital.
- My defective heart — myocardial infarct — that needs treatment abroad has been treated successfully at the Yangon General Hospital.

Efficient use of electricity

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

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

Efficient use of fuel

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

All this needs to be known

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



The 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative postcard.

Guangdong Province targets for basic modernization by 2020

BEIJING, 9 March — South China's Guangdong Province, one of the economic powerhouses in the country, has both capacity and resolve to lead the other parts of the country in materializing basic modernization by the year 2020, Governor Huang Huahua said here Sunday.

"After more than two decades of reform and opening up, Guangdong Province, which has a solid economic foundation and accumulated much experience in reform and opening, is fully capable and resolved to lead other areas in the Pearl River Delta to realize basic modernization with an av-

erage per-capita GDP of 6,200 US dollars by 2020," said Huang at an ongoing session of the National People's Congress (NPC).

Guangdong's GDP has been beefed up with an average of 13.4 per cent a year over the past 25 years since 1979 and reached 1,345 billion yuan in 2003, or 11.5 per cent of the national total. The southern economic powerhouse plans to raise its per-capita GDP to 3,100 US dollars by 2010, the governor noted.

Huang also warned that the accomplishment of the ambition of his province might be affected by such factors as an imbalanced

economic growth, an ever widening gap between rural and urban areas, an economic growth mode seeking large investment, high energy consumption and the ensuing grave pollution, and numerous structural constraints.

The provincial governor also noted that legislative means and other measures have been taken by his province for protecting the lawful rights of the rural farmers and having their wages and salaries paid timely and in full.

At present, there are 30 million rural farmers in Guangdong, with one-third of them migrated from other

provinces or autonomous regions. "They have contributed tremendously to the province's economic growth and it is crucial to maintaining local economic prosperity and social stability and their lawful rights from infringement should be protected well," said Huang.

The governor vowed a strict and meticulous inspection of industries and businesses which employ a large rural workforce so as to ensure rural labours are paid adequately and timely. And he also warned of a severe penalty on payoff defaults.

MNA/Xinhua



Minister U Aung Thaung receives Ms Ellen Yonghi Han and party. — INDUSTRY-1

18 killed as cyclone hits Madagascar

ANTANANARIVO, 9 March — Eighteen people were killed and at least 50,000 were left homeless after a tropical cyclone hit the giant Indian Ocean island of Madagascar, in what was likely to be the country's worst storm in 10 years.

Radio Madagasikara said on Monday two people were killed by a falling tree, another person was electrocuted and 10 others drowned as the cyclone swept across the island at the weekend.

Five died in the northern town of Maroantsetra which was still under water after cyclone-related flooding, it said.

"There is very little information on the extent of the damage, but it's predicted to be the most serious cyclone for 10 years," said Roy Probert, Africa spokesman for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Geneva.

12 acres of poppy plantations in Shan State (East) destroyed

YANGON, 9 March — Poppy plantations are being destroyed during the 2003-2004 poppy cultivation season. A combined team comprising members of local Tatmadawmen, local intelligence unit, Myanmar Police Force, Shan State (East) Special Region-4 and local people destroyed 12 acres of

Madagascar issued a cyclone alert on Saturday as Tropical Cyclone Gafilo approached, gaining speeds of up to 124 miles per hour.

Gafilo made landfall late on Sunday before churning across the northern part of the giant Indian Ocean island, destroying buildings, uprooting trees and flooding towns.

The government was calling the cyclone a "national emergency" and appealed for food, water and medicine after the tempest left as many as 50,000 people homeless, according to initial reports.

Foreign Minister Marcel Ranjeva appealed on Monday for international aid for the vanilla-producing island.

The French Army was set to fly in an emergency water treatment facility for 20,000 people and shelter for 10,000 people from neighbouring Reunion, a French territory, the Red Cross's Probert said. — MNA/Reuters

poppy plantations illegally grown on Pansali mountain range north-east of Wunshan Village, Shan State (East) on 28 February, putting the total number of the already-destroyed acres of poppy plantations illegally grown in the region as far as 28 February 2004 to 6618.476.

MNA

Industry-1 Minister receives Chinese guests

YANGON, 9 March — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung received Ms Ellen Yonghi Han, Project Manager of China National Machinery & Equipment Import & Export Corporation, and party at his office at the ministry at 2.30 pm today. Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Win, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises. — MNA

Brazil, Portugal agree on migration, trade

BRASILIA, 9 March — Brazil and Portugal decided to conclude this year the process of mutual regularization of illegal migrants and further boost their trade, Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said on Monday. Lula made the remarks after meeting here with visiting Prime Minister Jose Manuel Durao Barroso of Portugal, the only country with which Brazil holds regular meetings at the presidential level. Lula thanked the Portuguese Government for the measures it has taken to deal with the situation of Brazilian immigrants and promised to facilitate the control of illegal Portuguese immigrants in Brazil before the end of this year.

MNA/Xinhua



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo visits the booth of the Ministry of Cooperatives. COOPERATIVES

Minister visits Armed Forces Day booth

YANGON, 9 March — Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspected the booth for the 59th Anni-

versary Armed Forces Day of the ministry at the Defence Services Museum here today. The minister was con-

ducted round the booth by heads of department and officials of the ministry.

MNA

Pakistan, UAE sign three agreements

ISLAMABAD, 9 March — Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) here Monday signed three agreements including an extradition treaty, according to the official *Associated Press of Pakistan*.

The agreements, signed during the one-day visit of

UAE Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sheikh Hamdan Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan to Pakistan, are related to extradition of criminals, the recognition and enforcement of judgment in civil and commercial matters as well as protocols on

media and cultural cooperation. The two sides also inked six loan agreements totalling 265 million US dollars to finance vital hydropower and water projects in Pakistan with emphasis that the construction should commence as soon as possible.

MNA/Xinhua

IAF to hold largest-ever firepower display

NEW DELHI, 9 March — Indian Air Force (IAF) will undertake its largest ever firepower display at Chandan air ground range in Pokhran, west India's Rajasthan Pradesh, on March 14.

All the fighter aircraft in the inventory of the IAF including the just inducted SU-

30MKI and mid-air refuellers would display their precision strikes.

The *Press Trust of India* (PTI) Monday quoted an IAF spokesman as saying that it would be for the first time that the force would put up a firepower display in a phased manner to showcase its ca-

pability in the air defence, battle field interdiction and close air support.

The firepower demonstration to be held for the first time since 1999 would be climaxed by an acrobatic display by the IAF Surya Kiran team.

MNA/Xinhua

NZ eco growth expected to slow in next two years

WELLINGTON, 9 March — The economy of New Zealand has grown faster than expected but the growth rate is likely to fall off earlier than expected, the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research (NZIER) said here Tuesday.

The institute's March quarter forecasts are for an annual growth rate of 3.3 per cent in the year to March 2004, up from a forecast of

2.7 per cent for the period made in December.

The institute also upped its forecast for the March 2005 year, to 2.5 per cent from the 2.3 per cent it forecast in December.

But the growth rate is now expected to slip to a trough of 1.9 per cent in the March 2006 year, instead of the previously forecast 2.5 per cent.

NZIER senior econo-

mist Doug Steel said the delayed effects of the strong NZ dollar will filter into domestic spending by 2006 when house building is also expected to be softer than previously thought.

Despite the expected growth slowdown, Mr. Steel still thought the Reserve Bank would raise the official cash rate on Thursday.

MNA/Xinhua



The combined team destroying the 12-acre poppy plantation on Pansali Mountain Range in Shan State (East) on 28-2-2004. — MNA



The combined team members destroy the poppy plantation on Pansali Mountain Range in Shan State (East) on 28-2-2004. — MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint gives instructions to officials concerned at the Meiktila Bypass Project. (News on page 16) — MNA

Chinese offshore oil giant aims at 7% output rise

BEIJING, 9 March— China National Offshore Oil Corp (CNOOC) aims to increase its domestic oil and natural gas output by 7 per cent by 2008.

The company plans to raise its domestic oil and gas production to 40 million cubic metres of oil equivalent by 2008 from 37 million cubic metres last year, said Fu Chengyu, chairman of the CNOOC, quoted by Tuesday's *China Daily*.

In 2008 the company's turnover is expected to exceed 20 billion US dollars and the profit oil (the amount of oil it can get from joint production with foreign partners) of both domestic and overseas production to rise to 220 million barrels of oil equivalent from 130 million last year.

Overseas production will make up 30 per cent of the company's total in 2008, he said.

Other than an output rise, downstream business, including petrochemical complexes, refineries and fertilizers, is another focus

for CNOOC, which aims to catch up with its international rivals, Fu said.

The investment in its downstream business will top 100 billion yuan (12 billion US dollars) in the next five years, accounting for 30 per cent of the company's total investment, half of which comes from its local and overseas partners, Fu said.

"Middle and downstream business will become the pillar industry of the company," said Fu.

"The business structure change will help the company become a real integrated energy company."

The CNOOC, the parent company of the Hong Kong and New York-listed CNOOC Ltd., is building a world-class petrochemical complex with Shell in south China's Guangdong Province.

It also plans to build its first refinery with an annual

output of 12 million tons of oil products.

The gas business will play a growing role in downstream business, Fu said.

The CNOOC is building China's first two liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects in South China's Guangdong Province and east China's Fujian Province, using LNG imports from Australia and Indonesia.—MNA/Xinhua

Multiplication table from 1,800 years ago found in China

CHANGSHA, 9 March— Archaeologists claimed that they had found a multiplication table at the Gurendi cultural relics of the Eastern Han Dynasty (25-220) in Zhangjiajie, central China's Hunan Province.

The table was discovered on a 22centimetre-long wooden strip which was broken when it was discovered and the handwriting on it is quite illegible.

"We can see that the multiplication table begins at nine times nine equals 81, in a sequence that is the inverted opposite of modern tables, which start at one times one is one," said Zhang Chunlong, a research

member with Hunan Archaeological Research Institute.

This is the second time Zhang has come across traditional Chinese multiplication tables inscribed on wooden strips. The others were found on a wooden strip of the Qin Dynasty (221 BC-206 BC), the oldest ever discovered in China, excavated at a site in Liye City in Hunan Province in June 2002.

An expert with China Cultural Relics Research Institute said another multiplication table similar to the newly unearthed one was discovered in documents from Loulan, which was written on two pieces of paper and discovered by Swedish explorer Sven Hedin a century ago.

"Ancient Chinese were not the only people inventing multiplication tables as they have also been discovered on the clay tablets from ancient Babylon," said Liu Dun, director of the Institute of History of Natural Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

"But as the pronunciation of Chinese words is monosyllabic, the traditional Chinese multiplication table

can be read smoothly and easily to be remembered and used," said Liu.

The excavation of the Gurendi cultural relics site began in April 1987. So far, 90 wooden strips of the Eastern Han Dynasty have been unearthed, covering a wide variety of subjects, including laws and regulations, prescriptions, official documents, letters, calendars and multiplication tables.

MNA/Xinhua

WHO says millions of Pacific kids not immunized

WELLINGTON, 9 March—Millions of children in the Pacific region are not immunized against potentially deadly diseases such as Hepatitis B and measles, said speakers at a UNICEF- World Health Organization (WHO) conference which opened in Auckland on Monday.

The conference, which was jointly organized by the United Nations Children's Fund and WHO, attracted delegates from 18 Pacific countries, many of which are grappling with low immunization rates among children, according to *The Dominion Post* Tuesday. The paper quoted WHO regional adviser on immunization Yang Baoping as saying that seven million children in the western Pacific region were not immunized.

Poor measles immunization rates have been a leading cause of death in the region, particularly in Papua New Guinea where 17 children died of measles in the 2001-2002 financial year.

And more than half of the world's deaths from Hepatitis B are in the western Pacific area. WHO aimed to have a 95-per-cent measles immunization rate in the region as soon as possible.

At present it is about 80 per cent.

New Zealand Health

Ministry national immunization manager Clair Mills said about 85 per cent of New Zealand children are immunized against a range of diseases, including measles, polio and Hepatitis B, but the ministry targets a 95-per-cent immunization.

The national immunization register will start in July, and will provide an immunization history for each child, Mills said.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese, Scottish scientists to cooperate

BEIJING, 9 March— Chinese and Scottish scientists exchanged ideas for cooperation on Monday at a symposium titled "Sino-Scottish Science — Sharing Ideas" organized by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE).

An official from the CAS Bureau of International Cooperation said the event was a platform for future academic cooperation between Chinese and Scottish scientists. Both sides hope to carry out substantive cooperation in research, the official said.

The scientists, 10 Chinese and 10 Scottish, are scheduled to focus on botany and genetics, nanotechnology, optoelectronics and public understanding of sciences.

The Scottish scientists are from the University of Glasgow, the University of Edinburgh, Heriot-Watt University and the University of Dundee.— MNA/Xinhua

Zimbabwe seizes US plane, "mercenaries"

HARARE, 9 March— Zimbabwe has seized a US-registered cargo plane with 64 suspected mercenaries of various nationalities and a cargo of "military material", Home Affairs (Interior) Minister Kembo Mohadi said on Monday.

"A United States of America-registered Boeing 727-100 cargo plane was detained last night at about 1930 hours (1730 GMT) at Harare International Airport after its owners had made a false declaration of its cargo and crew," Mohadi said in a statement.

"The plane was actually carrying 64 suspected mercenaries of various nationalities," he said, adding that an investigation had also revealed "military material" in the cargo. Mohadi said fuller investigations were under way to establish the identity of the men and the nature of their mission. There was no word on where the airplane arrived from, or whether Zimbabwe was its destination. Mohadi said a fuller statement would be released "in due course".

MNA/Reuters

HK govt launches learning programme for women

HONG KONG, 9 March— To celebrate International Women's Day, the Women's Commission of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government launched on Monday a large scale tailor-made learning programme for women.

Speaking at a reception to celebrate the International Women's Day and the launching of the "Capacity Building Mileage Programme", the chairperson of the Women's Commission, Sophie Leung Lau Yau-fun, said women have to embark on capacity building and self improvement all the time to meet the new challenges and grasp new opportunities of the new century.

Leung noted an important objective of the programme is to equip women with a positive mindset and values which would help them in facing different life challenges and coping with adversities.

The convenor of the Steering Committee on Capacity Building Mileage Programme, Agnes Yeung Law Koon-chui, said the programme caters for the interests and needs of women, and the contents are highly relevant to their daily lives.

"We are glad that 35 non-governmental organizations have agreed to organize supplementary learning activities, such as tutorial classes and peer group activities," she said. — MNA/Xinhua

California university apologizes for body parts scandal

LOS ANGELES, 9 March — Officials at one of California's most prestigious universities on Monday apologized for a widening scandal over the sale of body parts from donated cadavers but declined to shut down the beleaguered programme. Meanwhile, families of donors to the Willd Body Programme University of California at Los Angeles said they will sue the university, claiming that officials there must have condoned the sale of their relatives' remains.

Two people, including the programme administrator, were arrested over the weekend and accused of selling body parts from the university's body freezer to medical research laboratories.

Ernest Nelson, 46, said he bought parts from more than 800 cadavers over the past six years with the consent of programme administrator Henry Reid, who was arrested on Sunday on suspicion of grand theft. At a tense news conference on Monday, UCLA officials said police had served a search warrant on the offices of the Willd Body Programme and added the investigation could result in more arrests and federal charges if body parts crossed state lines.

"These alleged crimes violate the trust of the donors, their families and of UCLA," Dr Gerald Levey, vice chancellor of UCLA School of Medicine. "We are deeply sorry." Levey said there were no indications that any of the anatomical specimens were used for anything other than medical research. UCLA attorney Louis Marlin said university officials had no reason to suspect any wrongdoing and had, in fact, sworn last week in an unrelated lawsuit that the programme was running smoothly under Reid.

That lawsuit, filed in 1996 by relatives of donors, accused the UCLA programme of cremating thousands of donated bodies along with the remains of animals used in laboratory experiments.

Reid, 54, a licensed embalmer, was hired to keep better track of the 175 bodies donated each year to UCLA to be used by medical students and researchers.

Officials said the 54-year-old Willd Body Programme, the nation's oldest, will not shut down even temporarily during the investigation. —MNA/Reuters

Putin praises women

NOVO-OGARYOVO (Russia), 9 March — President Vladimir Putin, sure to win re-election in six days, on Monday lauded the traditional homemakers' role on Women's Day — the occasion for effusive praise of Russia's long-suffering women.

He presented medals and flowers to women who had distinguished themselves in the past year, including a policewoman, a businesswoman and a museum manager, who sat beaming under the weight of their neat bouquets.

"March 8 is undoubtedly a day to celebrate women: their kindness, their beauty and their wisdom," Putin said at his country house in a forest outside Moscow.

"One of their main privileges is to uphold the family, to raise children, and to fill homes with warmth and comfort," a smiling Putin said before offering his guests tea and champagne.

"Even on a holiday, there are women who are taking part in ceaseless work. They are baking bread, treating the sick and working in other areas that are not typically female," Putin, far ahead in a field of six in next Sunday's contest, has eschewed official campaigning.

MNA/Reuters

7 still missing in Xinjiang coal mine flooding

HAMI (Xinjiang), 9 March — Two miners were confirmed dead in the coal mine flooding accident in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, while 7 are still missing.

Bodies of 2 miners were found at 9 am and 9:30 am respectively on Monday, said Tian Guangxiong, an official with Xinjiang coal mine security supervision bureau.

Another 7 miners were still missing, Tian said, and the possibility of their survival was small.

The accident hap-

pened in the No 2 Mine owned by a drilling company of Xinjiang Hami Coal Corporation at 8:50 am Sunday when 49 miners were working below ground.

Twenty-five miners managed to escape, and another 15 were rescued at 3:35 am, Monday.

MNA/Xinhua



Thai economy enjoys second highest growth rate after China

BANGKOK, 9 March — Thailand's economy grew 7.8 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2003 and 6.7 per cent for the whole year, the second highest after China, according to the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB) Monday.

Chakramon Phasukavanich, NESDB's secretary-general, was quoted by the *Thai News Agency* as saying that China enjoyed the economic growth of 9.1 per cent last year, as the global economy grew 3.2 per cent, with the United States expanding 3.1 per cent, the European Union (EU) 0.7 per cent, and Japan 2.7 per cent.

The Thai economic growth of 7.8 per cent in the final quarter of last year was much higher than targeted, he said.

The NESDB chief said that the non-agricultural sector grew 8 per cent as a result of the improvement in the construction, financial service, local consumption, and exports.

The farm sector expanded 6.3 per cent, as the industrial sector grew 10.7 per cent, boosted by the significant improvement in the construction, automobile, machinery and electrical appliance industries.

The financial sector grew 18.2 per cent, he noted.

With the continued increase in trade, investment, and exports, NESDB projected that the country's economy would expand 7-8 per cent this year.

In particular, direct investment by foreign investors, which would play a key role in boosting the economic growth, had begun to gain momentum, he disclosed.

Chakramon said he believed the outbreak of bird flu in the country would reduce the annual economic growth by only 0.4 per cent.

But he conceded the avian influenza outbreak, which continued until early this year, would have an effect on some sections of the economy in the first half, but the impact would ease in the second quarter.

He said the national think tank targeted to see the export grow 17 per cent, with a total value of around 7.65 billion US dollars a month, and the import expand 19 per cent this year on the assumption that the economy would enjoy an 8 per cent growth.

MNA/Xinhua

Japan eyes improvement of "H-2A" rocket

TOKYO, 9 March — Japanese experts advised Monday in a report to redesign the H-2A rocket's booster nozzles which was blamed for a serious launch failure. The carbon fibre nozzles are easy to be burned into a hole by fire, said the report delivered by a 14-member research panel of the official Space Activities Commission.

In the failed launch last November, hot fuel gas leaking from the hole damaged a wire which was

supposed to separate the booster from the rocket.

Ground controllers detonated the H-2A, alone with two spy satellites on it.

The H-2A rocket is the backbone in space exploration projects of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency. The blast grounded Japan's launch plan for a year. The agency plans to send a weather satellite into space with the H-2A in November.

MNA/Xinhua

New school building opened

YANGON, 9 March — A new school building of the Nangmon village primary school in Hsihseng Township was opened with ceremony on 28 February. The building was built by Cetana Foundation (Japan) Nippon Foundation (Japan) and local people. Township Peace and Development Council Chairman U Saw Oo, Township Education Officer Daw Nan Ngwe Ngwe and Cetana Foundation Chairman Mr Tirano formally opened it by cutting a ribbon. —MNA



The MAPT team which beat the CPT team 2-1 in the soccer tournament. — MNA

MAPT beat CPT 2-1 in First Division Soccer Tourney

YANGON, 9 March — The football match of the 2003-2004 football season First Division Soccer Tournament was held at the Padonma sports ground in Sangyoung Township here at 3.30 pm today. The Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading team beat the Communications, Posts and Telegraphs team 2-1.

The two goals for the MAPT team were scored by S' Htet Naing Win and Myo Hlaing Oo. The single goal for CPT team was scored by Thant Zin Tun. The referee of the match was U Thein Myaing, it is learnt.

MNA

CORRIGENDUM

In the news "Evidence confirms ancient Tagaung city situated on west bank of Ayeyawady", which appeared on page 10 of yesterday's paper, please read "Momeik Chronicle" instead of the book on the "History of Momeik", and "at present" instead of "in reality" in the first paragraph. In the fifth paragraph, please read "since the pre-historic time" instead of "since time immemorial". —Ed



The MAPT team and the CPT team in action in the 2003-2004 football season soccer tournament. — MNA

e-Education Learning Centre သင်ခန်းစာထုတ်လွှင့်မည့်အစီအစဉ်

- ၁၀-၃-၂၀၀၄ (ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့)
 - * ပုဂံခေတ်ကျောက်စာအဆောက်အဦ (၅)ခုအနက် “နန်းဘုရား”အကြောင်း၊ ရှေးဟောင်းသုတေသနပညာအထူးပြုနှင့် စိတ်ဝင်စားသူများ
 - * Some Well-known Name Reactions for Organic Synthesis မဟာသိပ္ပံနှင့်ပါရဂူဘွဲ့ သင်တန်းများ ၁၁-၃-၂၀၀၄ (ကြာသပတေးနေ့)
 - * Elemental Analysis using EDXRF မဟာသိပ္ပံ/မဟာသုတေသနပါရဂူဘွဲ့ သင်တန်းများနှင့် ဘွဲ့ကြိုသင်တန်းများ
 - * Computer Aided Teaching for Nuclear Physics မဟာသိပ္ပံ/မဟာသုတေသနပါရဂူဘွဲ့ သင်တန်းများနှင့် ဘွဲ့ကြိုသင်တန်းများ ၁၂-၃-၂၀၀၄ (သောကြာနေ့)
 - * Systems of Ordinary Differential Equations မဟာသိပ္ပံပထမနှစ်နှင့်ဒုတိယနှစ်သင်တန်းများ
 - * The Diversity of Life on Earth မဟာသိပ္ပံဒုတိယနှစ် သတ္တဗေဒနှင့် Environmental Studies သင်တန်းသားများ ၁၃-၃-၂၀၀၄ (စနေနေ့)
 - * အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ကျောင်းသူ/သားများအတွက်သင်ခန်းစာများ ၁၄-၃-၂၀၀၄ (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)
 - * အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ကျောင်းသူ/သားများအတွက်သင်ခန်းစာများ ၁၅-၃-၂၀၀၄ (တနင်္လာနေ့)
 - * Introduction to Plant Biotechnology ပထမနှစ်မှမဟာသိပ္ပံအထိ(ရုက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြုကျောင်းသူ/သားများ) မြန်မာ့ရတနာ ပတ္တမြားနီလာစာတိုက်မိမိဗေဒ ဘူမိဗေဒအထူးပြု မဟာတန်းများ ၁၆-၃-၂၀၀၄ (အင်္ဂါနေ့)
 - * Angiospermae ဒုနွယ်ရုက္ခ/တနင်္သာတက္ကသိုလ်ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * Heterocyclic Compounds and Alkaloids တတိယနှစ်ဓာတုဗေဒကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * Forms of Condensation ပထဝီဝင်နှင့်အခြားသိပ္ပံကျောင်းသူ/သားများ ၁၇-၃-၂၀၀၄ (ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့)
 - * Economics (1) ဖန်စီးစီးပွားရေးပြည်သူ့ရေးရာစီးပွားစီမံအထူးပြုကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * Poetry ပထမနှစ်အင်္ဂလိပ်စာအထူးပြုကျောင်းသူ/သားများ ၁၈-၃-၂၀၀၄ (ကြာသပတေးနေ့)
 - * Poetry ဒုတိယနှစ်အင်္ဂလိပ်စာအထူးပြုကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * Conditional/ If Patterns Physics

ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင် ဘဝတစ်ခွင်

ကျန်းမာခြင်းဆိုသည်မှာ ရောဂါဘယကင်းရှင်းမှု သာမက ကိုယ်၏ကျန်းမာကြံ့ခိုင်ခြင်း၊ စိတ်ချမ်းသာခြင်းနှင့် လူမှုရေးသုခ ဖြည့်ဝခြင်းကိုဆိုသည်။

ဘဝတစ်ခွင် ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင်စေရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။

- (၁) တစ်ကိုယ်ရည်သန့်ရှင်းမှုကိုဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၂) အန္တရာယ်ကင်း၍ အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသော အစားအသောက်များကို စားသုံးပါ။
- (၃) ပိုးမွှားကင်းစင်၍ သန့်ရှင်းသောရေကို သောက်သုံးပါ။
- (၄) ရာသီဥတုနှင့်လိုက်လျောညီထွေစွာ ဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်နေထိုင်ပါ။
- (၅) အသက်အရွယ်နှင့်လိုက်လျောညီထွေရှိသည့် သင့်တင့်မျှတသော ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုကို မှန်မှန်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၆) နေ့စဉ်လုပ်ငန်းဆောင်တာများ ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်းကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်မှုကိုပြေပျောက်စေရန် အနားယူပါ။
- (၇) ခြင်္သေ့အန္တရာယ်မှကာကွယ်ရန် ခြင်္သေ့တောင်ဖြင့်အိပ်ပါ။
- (၈) ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့်ညီညွတ်သော ယဉ်လုံအိမ်သာကိုသုံးစွဲပါ။
- (၉) အရက်သောက်ခြင်း၊ ဆေးလိပ်ဆေးရွက် သောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ ကွမ်းစားခြင်းတို့ကိုရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၀) မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးနှင့် စိတ်ကိုပြောင်းလဲစေသည့် ဆေးဝါးများ သုံးစွဲခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၁) အပျော်အပါးလိုက်စားခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) ရေ၊ မြေ၊ လေ သဘာဝပတ်ဝန်းကျင်နှင့် နေထိုင်မှု၊ အသက်မွေးမှုပတ်ဝန်းကျင်ကိုအား ညစ်ညမ်းစေသည့် အပြုအမူများကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

တတိယနှစ်အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ အထူးပြုကျောင်းသူ/သားများ

- ၁၉-၃-၂၀၀၄ (သောကြာနေ့)
 - * National Unification of Myanmar by Alaungmintaya တတိယနှစ်သမိုင်းအထူးပြုကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * Introduction to the Study of Law ပထမနှစ် ဥပဒေအထူးပြုကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * Continuous Functions တတိယနှစ် သင်္ချာအထူးပြုကျောင်းသူ/သားများ ၂၀-၃-၂၀၀၄ (စနေနေ့)
 - * အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ကျောင်းသူ/သားများအတွက်သင်ခန်းစာများ ၂၁-၃-၂၀၀၄ (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)
 - * အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ကျောင်းသူ/သားများအတွက်သင်ခန်းစာများ ၂၂-၃-၂၀၀၄ (တနင်္လာနေ့)
 - * ရဲဘော်မသေ သေသော်ငရဲမဟာ (မ-၁၀၀၀) စကားပြေ ပထမနှစ်အထူးပြုအားလုံး
 - * ဝေရွန်းစန္ဒာ ကဗျာပို၊ ချရုတ် (မ-၁၀၀၀)ကဗျာပထမနှစ်အထူးပြုအားလုံး
 - * ဥဗ္ဗာဒန္တီပျို့မိတ်ဆက် ပျို့ပို၊ ချရုတ် (မ-၁၀၀၂) ပျို့ပထမနှစ် မြန်မာစာအထူးပြုအားလုံး
 - * Alphabet အက္ခရာ ပထမနှစ်မြန်မာစာ၊ ဒဿနိကဗေဒ၊ ရသစာပေ အထူးပြုကျောင်းသူ/သားများ ၂၃-၃-၂၀၀၄ (အင်္ဂါနေ့)
 - * အကြောက်လွန်တုံ့ပြန်မှု (Phobic Reaction) တတိယနှစ် စိတ်ပညာအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * Application of Maxwell's Equations တတိယနှစ် သင်္ချာအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * Nuclear Binding Energy and Semi-Empirical Mass Formula တတိယနှစ် ရူပဗေဒ အထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * The applications of Schroedinger Equation (a) The Potential barrier (b) The Potential Step တတိယနှစ် သင်္ချာအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ ၂၄-၃-၂၀၀၄ (ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့)
 - * Advanced Logic ဒုတိယနှစ် ဒဿနိကဗေဒအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * The Structure of DNA တတိယနှစ် သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * The Skin and Four Major Function တတိယနှစ် သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ ၂၅-၃-၂၀၀၄ (ကြာသပတေးနေ့)
 - * Systematic Position and External Features of Mystus Seenghala (Nga-gyaung) ဒုတိယနှစ် သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * Characteristics of the Invertebrates တတိယနှစ် သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * Beneficial and Harmful Insects တတိယနှစ် သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ ၂၆-၃-၂၀၀၄ (သောကြာနေ့)
 - * Digestive System of Rana tigrina ဒုတိယနှစ် သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * Migration of Fish တတိယနှစ် သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ ၂၈-၃-၂၀၀၄ (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)
 - * အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ကျောင်းသူ/သားများအတွက်သင်ခန်းစာများ ၂၉-၃-၂၀၀၄ (တနင်္လာနေ့)
 - * An Introduction to Educational Psychology ဘီအီးဒီ ပထမနှစ် စာပေစာယူကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * Validity & Reliability ဘီအီးဒီ ဒုတိယနှစ် စာပေစာယူကျောင်းသူ/သားများ ၃၀-၃-၂၀၀၄ (အင်္ဂါနေ့)
 - * Key Functions of Management ဘီအီးဒီ ဒုတိယနှစ် စာပေစာယူကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
 - * The Home ဘီအီးဒီ ပထမနှစ် စာပေစာယူကျောင်းသူ/သားများ ၃၁-၃-၂၀၀၄ (ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့)
 - * General Methodology ဘီအီးဒီ ဒုတိယနှစ် စာပေစာယူကျောင်းသူ/သားများ

Say No To Drugs

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည့် ရောဂါများ

အရက်ကိုလွန်ကျွံစွာနှင့် စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သော ရောဂါများမှာ အသည့်၊ ရောင်ခြင်း၊ အသည့်၊ ခြောက်ခြင်း၊ သွေးအနံ့ခြင်း၊ အစာအိမ်ရောဂါ ဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ နှလုံးရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ ဦးနှောက်နှင့်အာရုံကြော ထိခိုက်ခြင်း၊ စိတ်ရောဂါ များဖြစ်ခြင်း စသည်တို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်တတ်သော စိတ်ရောဂါများမှာ -

၁။ ကယောင်ကတမ်းဖြစ်ခြင်း (Delirium Tremors)၊ ကြောက်လန့်ခြင်း၊ အချိန်၊ နာရီ၊ နေရာ၊ လူ ခန့်မှန်းနိုင်စွမ်း မရှိခြင်း၊ ကြောက်စရာလန့်စရာများမြင်ရခြင်း၊ အသံဗလံများ ကြားရခြင်း၊ ပိုးမွှားများ နွေကုတ်ပေါ် ရွစ်ရွစ် သွားသလို ခံစားရခြင်း၊ လက်တုန့်ရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း။

၂။ အရက်အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သည့်အခါတွင် လူမရှိပဲ နားထဲတွင် ခေါ်သံများ၊ ခြိမ်းခြောက်သံများ၊ ခော်ကား၊ မော်ကားသံ များကြားနေရတတ်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Halluncinosis)၊

၃။ အတက်ကြွ ရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Rum Fits) (ဝက်ရုပ်မြန် ရောဂါ ကဲ့သို့တတ်ခြင်း)၊

၄။ စိတ်ဓာတ်ကျရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Depressive Illness)၊

၅။ စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Psychosis)၊

၆။ ဦးနှောက်ချိုယွင်းခြင်း။

၇။ အရက်နှင့်မတည့်သောသူများသည် အရက်အနည်းငယ်သောက် ရခြင်း ရုတ်တရက် စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်တတ်ခြင်း (Pathological Drunkenness)၊

၈။ မိမိ၏ခန့်ကို အထင်အမြင်လွဲမှားခြင်းများဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Morbid Jealousy)။

၉။ အရက်ကြောင့် ရာဇဝတ်မှု ကျူးလွန်သည့်အထိဖြစ်နိုင်ခြင်း။

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

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

“သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်”

ခရီးသည်တင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်များအား မြို့တွင်းသို့ နေ့/ည ခရီးသည် ပို့ဆောင်နိုင်ရေးအတွက် သတ်မှတ်ခေါက်ရန်းအညီ စက်သုံးဆီ ထုတ်ဝေ ထားပြီးဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ယာဉ်စီးခများအားလည်း သတ်မှတ်နှုန်းထားများ အတိုင်းတောင်းခံရန် ညွှန်ကြားထားရှိပါသည်။ သို့ရာတွင် အချို့ယာဉ်လိုင်းများမှ ယာဉ်မောင်းနှင့် ယာဉ်နောက်လိုက် တို့သည် ယာဉ်စီးခများကို ညပိုင်းတွင်ပိုမိုတောင်းယူနေကြောင်း သိရပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ပိုမိုတောင်းခံပါက ထိရောက်စွာအရေးယူနိုင်ရန် အောက်ပါနံပါတ်များ သို့တိုင်ကြားနိုင်ပါသည်။

(၁) မြန်မာနိုင်ငံရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့၊ ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း (ဖုန်း ၁၉၉)

(၂) ကြိုခံကြေးနန်းနှင့်ယာဉ်ထိန်းတပ်ဖွဲ့မှူးရုံး(ဖုန်း ၂၉၂၁၅၇/၂၉၂၁၅၈)

(၃) မော်တော်ယာဉ်လုပ်ငန်းပေါင်းစုံထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကော်မတီ (ဖုန်း ၅၄၁၉၀၇/၅၄၁၉၀၄)

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

Wellwishers invited for sinking tube-wells

YANGON, 9 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 Director (Sagaing Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 071-21012), the Director (Magway Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 063-23164) and the Director (Mandalay Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 02-546577).

MNA

အိမ်တိုင်းမှာသစ်ပင် ရွာစဉ်မှာတောတန်း တစ်တောဝင်တစ်တောင်တက် ဖြို့တက်မယ့်လမ်း။

(၇) (၈) (၉) (၁၀) စာသင်သားများအတွက်

သင်ရိုးညွှန်းတမ်းနှင့်အညီ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ သင်ခန်းစာများပါရှိပါသည်။

JUNIOR LEADER

သစ်နှစ်ကူးသင်တန်းစာအုပ် (၂၀၁၆)

၂၀၁၆ ခုနှစ်ကူးသင်တန်းစာအုပ်ကို အောက်ပါအတိုင်း ရေးသားတည်းခံခဲ့ရပါသည်။

Myat Khin Kyau Pyada (Fiction)

၂၀၁၆ ခုနှစ်ကူးသင်တန်းစာအုပ်ကို အောက်ပါအတိုင်း ရေးသားတည်းခံခဲ့ရပါသည်။







အတွဲ(၅) အမှတ် (၅၁) ဖြန့်ချိလိုက်ပါပြီ

သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းဓာတ်ဆိုင်ဆိုင်၊ စာပေဗိမာန်ဓာတ်ဆိုင်ဆိုင်နှင့်သတင်းစာ ကိုယ်စားလှယ်များကလွှဲလက်လီဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

The New Light of Myanmar

အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ တိုးတက်လို့သူတိုင်း ဂျူနီယာလီဒါကို ဖတ်ကြသည်။

Read Junior Leader to improve your English.

- ❖ ကနဦးချုပ်ချယ်မှုကို သွားရောက်ရာ ချိတ်ချိတ်သွားသွားတွင် ၂၀၀၉ခုနှစ်၊ ဖော်ဗရဝါရလ် **Guardian Magazine** သတင်းစာ၊
- ❖ ဆရာတော် ဆရာမများနှင့် ကောလိပ်ဆရာမများကလေးများ အတတ်ပညာ၊ အတတ်သင်တန်းများတွင် ဆက်သွယ်ပို့ချရာ၊ **Grassroots** မျိုးသား ဦးရွက်ချက်၊ ကျောင်းကန်များတွင် ဆရာ C.T.O ခုန့် ဆရာ ဦးကုတ္တန်အောင် ဝိဇ္ဇာ၊ စွမ်းစာခံချက် ဆရာမအေးအောင်ပါသည်။
- ❖ အတတ်ပညာ ကျောင်းများနှင့် ချိတ်ချိတ်သွားသွားတွင် ပြန်ပို့ချ ပျော်ပျော်ချစ်ချစ် အတတ်ပညာချိတ်ချိတ် အတတ်ပညာ၊ သူ့ချစ်သူကလေးများ ဆောင်ရွက်ချက်များနှင့် အတတ်ပညာကလေးချိတ်ချိတ် အတတ်ပညာ ကလေးများပါသည်။
- ❖ သတင်းဦးစီးချုပ်အင်္ဂလန်နှင့် ဆရာမချိတ်ချိတ်၊ အေးအေးချိတ်ချိတ်များကို ၂၀၁၆ခုနှစ်သတင်းစာချိတ်ချိတ်နှင့် သတင်းစာချိတ်ချိတ်အေးအေးများအားလုံး ဖတ်ရှုချက်ပါသည်။

CANBERRA, 9 March — One boy drowned and hundreds of homes were damaged when heavy rains, gale winds and floodings hit Australia's eastern states of Queensland and New South Wales since Friday night.

Roads have been cut by rising waters and uprooted trees while power was cut to thousands of houses, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation radio reported Saturday. A 10-year old boy died when he was swept to a flooded creek in northern New South Wales. His body was found Saturday morning.

MNA/Xinhua

Win Mu Tin,
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for **NISSAN CHEMICAL**
INDUSTRIES LTD.,
P.O. Box 60, Yangon.
Dated: 10 March, 2004

Over 80 firemen fought the flames for nearly two hours before putting it under control by Sunday morning. A government library and some media archives gathered over the years were believed damaged in the fire, the Prime Minister's spokesperson Dimitar Tsonev said.

cream mixes, Sherbet mixes, Unroasted coffee (unprocessed), Cereal preparations, Almond paste, Chinese stuffed dumplings (Gyoza, cooked), Sandwiches, Chinese steamed dumplings (Shumai, cooked) Sushi, Fried balls of batter mix with small pieces of octopus (Takoyaki), Steamed buns stuffed with minced meat (Niku-manjushu), Hamburgers (prepared), Pizzas (prepared), Box lunches (prepared), Hot dogs (prepared), Meat pies (prepared), Ravioli (prepared), Yeast powder, fermenting malted rice (koji) (Yeast, baking powder), Instant confectionery mixes, Sake lees (for food), Hushed rice, Hushed oats, Hushed barley, Flour for food, Gluten for food, Processed foods in the form of grains, tablets, capsules, liquid or jelly which main ingredients are grains.

Class 32, Beer, Carbonated drinks (refreshing beverages), Non-alcoholic fruit juice beverages, Extracts of hops for making beer, Whisky beverages, Vegetable juices (beverages).

Class 33, Japanese liquors (in general), Western liquors (in general), Alcoholic beverages of fruit, Chinese liquors (in general), Flavored tonic liquors.

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trademark shall be dealt with according to law.

Umyint Lwin, Advocate,
LL.B, DBL
Dip In Marine Affairs (UK)
No. 162, 35 St. Yangon,
Ph. 371 890 10.3.2004

"In Nigeria you do what you like and nothing happens to you. We don't follow law and order, no due process, but we are happy that it is changing now," he said.

"How can you explain, for example, in a country of 130

The EFCC, set up eight months ago, is charged with the responsibility of eliminating various crimes, including smuggling, fraud, oil pipeline vandalism and other financial crimes.

MNA/Xinhua

"We want services to get closer to people, but for a long time we have not been able to achieve this due to the limited number of medical personnel available for the exercise. With implementation of the VHT's concept, we are confident that finally health services will reach all," she added.

MNA/Xinhua

"There are other areas of procedures that need proper documentation, which they (Nigeria Eagle Airline) are following," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြုစိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Study finds inhaled steroids do not harm foetal growth

WASHINGTON, 9 March — Pregnant women with asthma can use inhaled steroids without worrying that they will affect growth of their babies, according to a study released on Monday.

Babies are more endangered by getting too little oxygen from an asthmatic mother than they are by the drugs, the researchers found.

The research team, led by Michael Schatz from Kaiser-Permanente Medical Centre in San Diego, found inhaled steroids given to 396 pregnant women did not have an effect on the growth of the foetus or impact the baby's birth weight.

The study shows that inhaled steroids are safer in pregnancy than steroid pills, Schatz said.

Oral steroids also are used to treat asthma, but have been shown to slow the growth of the foetus.

"Now, women don't have to make a choice between their health and the health of the baby," Schatz said in a telephone interview. "They don't have to think that making that choice is going to somehow harm the baby," he said.

The study was published in the *March Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*.

Inhaled steroids are given to some women with persistent asthma during pregnancy. Previous research indicated that 7 per cent of women have some degree of asthma during their pregnancy, but not all are treated with steroids.

The National Asthma Education and Prevention Programme, a division of the Department of Health and Human Services, supports the use of steroids in pregnant women with serious asthma.

Uncontrolled asthma can reduce the flow of oxygen to the foetus, increasing the possibility of retardation, preterm birth, low birth weight or infant death.

"Asthma is the most common potentially serious medical problem to complicate pregnancy," Schatz said. "In fact, the risk of the uncontrolled asthma is greater than the risk of the inhaled steroids." —MNA/Reuters

Chinese doctor to attempt 49-day fast for world record

CHENGDU, 9 March — A 50-year-old Chinese herbalist doctor announced Sunday he will fast for 49 days to challenge the world record of 44 days set by US magician David Blaine in October in London.

A second-generation doctor of traditional Chinese medicine, Chen Jianmin will begin the life-challenging adventure on March 20. He will have no food, but he will drink water over the 49-day ordeal.

Chen, of Luzhou City, southwest China's Sichuan Province, said his fast would "attest to the regimen of traditional Chinese medical science".

The record attempt would take place in Bifengxia Valley, a mountain resort in neighbouring Ya'an City, and be monitored by 50 witnesses invited from around the world.

Chen claims to have undergone long-term fasting on three previous occasions in 1987, 1994 and 1999. He says the longest lasted 81 days, during which he ate no food but only drank water, while going to work regularly.

Experts of Western medicine questioned

Chen's the wisdom of fasting for such a long time. An physiologist at Sichuan University, who declined to be named, said modern medical research showed the average person could survive only seven days without food or water, and he dismissed Chen's claim of an 81-day fast as definitely impossible.

Chen said he would break the record through his method of "pigu shengong" or "the magic of fasting", which had been documented in ancient Chinese medicine documents or Buddhist scriptures.

Liang Chao, a gastrointestinal doctor with the Chengdu Chinese Medicine University, said "pigu shengong" resembled a legendary practice in the Hindu discipline of yoga, in which people were buried deep underground for long periods without suffering any harm, but this practice was questionable, Liang said. — MNA/Xinhua

China to get first naval warfare museum

NANCHANG, 9 March — China's first museum of naval warfare has been built at Poyang Lake's Xieshan Island, in east China's Jiangxi Province.

The museum, covering 1,300 square metres, features more than 500 weapons, including lances, spears, axes, iron forks, iron chains and artillery found in the lake by archaeologists and fishermen.

The weapons, together with Xieshan's ancient city walls, emplacements and beacon towers were of great importance to study ancient Chinese naval warfare, archaeologists said.

Xieshan Island was once of military significance. From the Three Kingdoms period (220 to 280) to the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), it witnessed about 100 battles. — MNA/Xinhua

Two bright comets near Earth in 2004

MUMBAI, 9 March — The astronomers have predicted a celestial delight for the sky gazers who would be able to see two comets, appearing simultaneously in May 2004, the time when they also would be closest to the Earth.

"This may be the first time that two comets are going to be visible (with naked eye or with binoculars) at the same time. Comet C/2001 Q4 (NEAT) — discovered three years ago — and C/2002 T7 (LINEAR) — discovered two years ago — will reappear closest to Earth on May 7 and May 19 respectively, Nehru Planetarium scientists said here Sunday.

Along with this, another spectacle is likely when the observers in Northern Hemisphere could see in the western horizon after sunset the comet NEAT and four bright planets (Venus, Mars, Saturn, and Jupiter) all in a line during May 12-16, they said.

"The dramatic line up not only offers a wonderful photographic opportunities, but also graphically demonstrates the contrast," the astronomers said.

Comet NEAT will be seen near the horizon just after sunset at a distance of 48 million kilometres while comet LINEAR will make its closest pass at 40 million kilometres.

NEAT is expected to be brighter, brightening to magnitude one or two in late April and this will make it visible even in polluted skies. From non-light-polluted, clear skies, comet NEAT may be visible to the unaided eye from early April through late June, the scientists added. — MNA/PTI



Expatriates in Sri Lanka sit behind mahouts as they play elephant polo in the southern Sri Lankan city of Galle, on 14 February, 2004. With fewer traditional jobs like logging for domestic elephants, the animals are being recruited for pastimes like elephant polo. INTERNET

Annan says women bearing brunt of "AIDS" epidemic

UNITED NATIONS, 9 March — Women are now bearing the brunt of the AIDS epidemic, especially among young adults, in what UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Monday called a "terrifying pattern" in the galloping disease.

Opening a session to mark International Women's Day, Annan said that women and girls accounted for more than half of the estimated five million newly-infected people with AIDS or HIV, the virus that causes the disease.

Moreover, among young people below 24 years of age, females make up nearly two thirds of those with HIV.

"Even a decade ago, statistics indicated that women were less affected," Annan said. "But a terrifying pattern has since emerged. All over the world women are increasingly bearing the brunt of the epidemic."

The global AIDS epidemic crossed a significant threshold in 2003 when for the first time, UN statistics showed nearly half of those living with HIV were women, up from 41 per cent six years ago. Many of the young women are married to older men, who had affairs and brought the disease home.

Some 40 million people are living with AIDS worldwide, most of them in sub-Saharan Africa by the end of 2003, of which

19 million were women.

Jordan's Queen Noor told the meeting that in the Middle East a modest 600,000 people were thought to be living with HIV/AIDS and about 45,000 died last year.

But despite the seemingly low rates, 55 per cent of those infected were female as of 2002.

"Our strong sense of family and religious tradition may inhibit behaviour that spreads the virus, but at the same time those traditions may inhibit testing and reporting of those who may be infected," she said.

Queen Noor, the widow of King Hussein, questioned the low rates because of the widespread stigma attached to the disease, saying many who carried the virus would simply rather die than be rejected by friends and family.

"HIV is not simply a public health crisis but a human rights issue and especially a women's rights issue," she said. "They bear the children but seldom control their own sexual lives. They hold communities together but are marginalized in the political life."

MNA/Reuters

China's West-East gas pipeline to be in operation this year

BEIJING, 9 March — A 3,900-kilometre-long natural gas pipeline that spans across the breadth of the country is scheduled for completion and commercial operation by the end of this year, according to Vice-Minister Zhang Guobao of the State Development and Reform Commission here Monday.

The mammoth project, which starts in the Tarim Basin of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region in northwest China and ends in the east China coastal city of Shanghai, is part of the efforts of the country to make full utilization of the rich resources in the western part of the country and ease energy-hunger in the economically developed eastern part.

The eastern part of the pipeline, which refers to the 1,500 kilometres from Jingbian in northern Shaanxi to Shanghai, was completed by the end of last year and has begun to supply natural gas to Shanghai from January 1, 2004, Zhang told a Press conference as sidelines of the annual session of China's top legislature.

"During the icy cold winter, Shanghai

got a supply of 1.1 million cubic metres every day," Zhang said.

Welding for the 2,400-kilometre western part of the project has been completed and the joints across the Yangtze and Yellow rivers have also been completed, encountering no problems that affect the schedule of the entire project, he noted.

"At the current progress, the whole pipeline can be put into test run by October this year and by December 31, natural gas will flow from the Tarim Basin in Xinjiang to Shanghai and Zhejiang Province," he said, adding that that means the project is completed one year ahead of schedule, a speed that has never attained in the history of pipeline laying in the world.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Bastia thrash Olympique Marseille 4-1

PARIS, 9 March—Bastia dampened Olympique Marseille's European hopes with a 4-1 defeat in a Ligue 1 game on Sunday.

Bastia remain 14th in the standings with 32 points from 27 matches. Marseille are sixth with 43 points, six behind fourth-placed Sochaux.

After a sluggish start, the Corsicans opened the scoring after 22 minutes courtesy of a goal by Florian Maurice who headed home a Pascal Chimbonda cross.

Six minutes later, Alou Diarra made it two as he pushed the ball into the empty net after Fabien Barthez had failed to block an attempt from Bartholomew Ogbeche.

Five minutes after the interval, Chaouky Ben Saada scored his team's third with a fine volley from inside the box. Ogbeche sealed the win with a powerful 16-metre drive.

Didier Drogba scored a consolation 10 minutes from time from the penalty spot.

On Saturday, Paris St. Germain let slip an opportunity to stay in touch with the top two teams when they were held 1-1 at home to fourth-placed Sochaux.—MNA/Reuters

Barcelona hold on to claim 7th straight win

MADRID, 9 March—Resurgent Barcelona survived a late bout of nerves to beat Real Mallorca 3-2 on Sunday and stretch their winning league run to seven matches.

Eye-catching goals from Luis Garcia, either side of a tap-in from Luis Enrique, set Barcelona on their way and the home side held on despite a 90th-minute chip from Samuel Eto'o and an Andrija Delibasic strike deep in injury time.

Victory for Barcelona took them to within a point of third-placed Deportivo Coruna and kept second-placed Valencia in their sights.

With 11 games remaining, Real Madrid lead the standings with 60 points, following their 1-1 draw away to Racing Santander on Saturday, with Valencia in second place now six points behind them after their 3-0 win at home to Deportivo Coruna.

Deportivo remain third on 50 points with Barcelona breathing down their necks.

Barcelona have an eight-point cushion in the fourth and final Champions League qualification slot after fifth-placed Athletic Bilbao's surprise 4-1 defeat at home to Valladolid on Sunday.

Athletic Madrid, in sixth place with 40

points, have the chance to cut that back to six points with victory over Murcia in a later game on Sunday.

Barcelona were in command against Mallorca for all but the final three minutes and managed to hold on for a well deserved win. Rijkaard's side opened the scoring in the third minute, when Garcia lashed in from outside the box after Michael Reiziger's cross had been blocked.

Luis Enrique, playing as a makeshift striker in the absence of Patrick Kluivert and Javier Saviola, celebrated his return to the side by making it 2-0 in the 16th minute.

Mallorca keeper Miki spilled the ball after a mix-up with his defender Ivan Ramis and allowed Ronaldinho to set up a simple chance for the Spanish midfielder.

Barca hit the frame of the goal twice in the remainder of a one-sided first half, with a Giovanni van Bronckhorst free kick and a header from Mallorca's Edu Moya that came close to supplying an own goal.

MNA/Reuters



Barcelona's Luis Enrique, left, celebrates his goal against Mallorca with his teammates Luis Garcia, centre, and Ronaldinho during their Spanish league soccer match in Barcelona, Spain, on Sunday, 7 March, 2004.—INTERNET

Penalty save keeps Tranmere's FA Cup hopes alive

LONDON, 9 March—Australia defender Kevin Muscat missed a penalty as First Division Millwall were held 0-0 at home by Second Division Tranmere Rovers in their FA Cup quarterfinal on Sunday.

Muscat's 65th-minute spot kick was tipped over the bar by Tranmere's Dutch goalkeeper John Achterberg following a foul by defender Ryan Taylor on Australian midfielder Tim Cahill.

Millwall were dominant and their player-manager Dennis Wise brought a diving save from Achterberg with a free kick in the 15th minute, the first of a string of chances for the home side.

Ten minutes before halftime, Cahill had a

point-blank header from Wise's corner brilliantly tipped away by Achterberg.

Millwall goalkeeper Andy Marshall made a good save at the other end from a volley by Welsh international defender Gareth Roberts early in the second half.

Tranmere, 16th in the Second Division, will be at home to Millwall, seventh in Division One, in the March 17 replay.

Millwall's last appearance in an FA Cup semifinal was 1937 while Tranmere have never reached the last four.

Premier League leaders Arsenal and champions Manchester United booked their places in the semifinals on Saturday.

MNA/Reuters



Milan's forward Filippo Inzaghi (R) fights for a header with Sampdoria Genoa defender Aimo Diana, during their Serie A football match at San Siro Stadium in Milan.—INTERNET

Milan march on with victory over Sampdoria

MILAN, 9 March—European champions AC Milan maintained their lead at the top of Serie A with an impressive 3-1 win over Sampdoria on Sunday.

Milan lead on 61 points with champions Juventus on 55 while third-placed AS Roma go into their game with Inter Milan later on Sunday eight points behind the leaders.

A spectacular drive from Andrea Pirlo put Milan ahead in the 17th minute but Cristiano Doni brought the enterprising visitors level 10 minutes later.

A header from Filippo Inzaghi before the break and then a well-taken goal from Brazilian Kaka in the second half ensured Carlo Ancelotti's side's 10th win from their last 11 league games. Lazio's game at Bologna was postponed due to snow while on Saturday Juventus came back from two goals down to beat Brescia 3-2.

Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti opted to leave Serie A's leading goalscorer Andriy Shevchenko on the bench ahead of Wednesday's Champions League game with Sparta Prague but in the absence of the Ukrainian, Inzaghi and Jon Dahl Tomasson reached an instant understanding in attack.

After some sparkling moves in the opening minutes, Milan went ahead through Pirlo's 25-metre drive which flew in off the inside of the post. While Milan were producing some lively attacking football,

Sampdoria, the surprise package of the season so far, were always dangerous going forward and, in contrast to many visitors to the San Siro, were keen to play positively.

Milan keeper Dida needed to be quick off his line to foil Aimo Diana in the 24th minute and then three minutes later the visitors drew level.

With Dida stranded, Gattuso cleared a Diano effort off the line only for

Cristiano Doni to slam home the loose ball.

But Milan were unshaken and continued to press forward, Kaka forcing Francesco Antonioli into action with a wickedly swerving long range effort.

Ten minutes before the break Milan restored their lead when Inzaghi rose superbly to meet a Giuseppe Pancaro cross with a perfectly angled glancing header at the near post.

MNA/Reuters

Lebedeva leaps into triple-jump history

BUDAPEST, 9 March—Russia's Tatyana Lebedeva leapt into history on Saturday by equalling and then twice breaking the world record to win the women's world indoor triple jump title.

The 27-year-old, already a double world outdoor champion and seeking an unprecedented double in the long and triple jumps in Budapest, took just four of her six jumps, all of which would have been good enough for gold.

She was already being photographed saluting her first world record of 15.25 metres with several competitors yet to jump a second time and the photographers flocked back after her final effort of 15.36.

Yamile Aldama, once of Cuba and who switched to Sudan after failing to ensure British nationality in time for this year's Athens Olympics, took silver with a second-round effort of 14.90. Bronze went to Hrysopiya Devetzi of Greece (14.73).

Lebedeva's achievement was reminiscent of Jonathan Edwards' performance in the 1995 outdoor world championships when the former British triple jumper broke the men's world record with his first two efforts in Gothenburg.

Extraordinarily Lebedeva, who interrupted her career in 2002 to have a baby, had been in action only hours earlier, qualifying for the long jump final with her first effort.

MNA/Reuters



Russia's Tatyana Lebedeva gestures in front of the board showing the results of her world record 15.36 metre triple-jump after twice beating the old world record at the World Indoor Athletic Championships in Budapest, on Saturday, 6 March, 2004.—INTERNET

Isinbayeva sets world indoor pole vault record

BUDAPEST, 9 March—Russian pole vaulter Yelena Isinbayeva set a world indoor record on Saturday with a clearance of 4.86 metres at the world indoor championships.

Isinbayeva, who also holds the world outdoor record, beat the previous best mark of 4.85 set by compatriot Svetlana Feofanova in Athens on February 22.

MNA/Reuters

MRTV-3


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

- 9:00 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
Let's Talk About Labu
Nationals
- 9:06 **10:10 National News**
9:12 Mazin Industry's
Wood Products
- 9:15 **National News**
9:20 Expedition of Rare
Crocodile Species In-
habiting in Fresh And
Seawaters (II)
- 9:25 An Exulting Male
Dance
- 9:30 **National News**
9:35 Myanmar's Pride &
Glory
- 9:40 Song "Ngwe Hsaung
Beach Resort"
- 9:45 **National News**
9:50 38 Modes of Auspi-
cious Conduct
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**10-3-2004 (Wednesday)
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 Let's Talk About Labu
Nationals
- 15:40 **Headline News**
15:42 Mazin Industry's
Wood Products
- 15:45 **National News**
15:50 Expedition of Rare
Crocodile Species In-
habiting in Fresh And
Seawaters (II)
- 15:55 An Exulting Male
Dance
- 16:00 **National News**
16:05 Myanmar's Pride &
Glory
- 16:10 Song "Ngwe Hsaung
Beach Resort"
- 16:15 **National News**
16:20 38 Modes of Auspi-
cious Conduct (Great
Endeavour Maker)
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar

- 16:30 **National News**
16:35 Kindness to Pet Ani-
mals
- 16:40 Indulge yourself with
Traditional gourmet at
Yangon's chic "Green
Elephant"
- 16:45 **National News**
16:50 Interview on Marque-
try Painting
- 16:55 Myanmar National
Races Cultural Dances
(U Shwe Yoe & Daw
Moe)
- 17:00 **National News**
17:05 Kyaungtaung Waterfall
Myanmar Modern
Song "Golden
Myanmar Golden Wel-
come"
- 17:12 Inlay Blacksmith
Craftsmanship
- 17:15 **National News**
17:20 Golden Plum Job of
Central Myanmar
- 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 "Myanmar Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 19:35 Myanmar's Ancient
City Bagan
- 19:40 **Headline News**
19:42 Myanmar Natural Re-
source Spirulina
- 19:45 **National News**
19:50 Cultural Museum
(Keng Tong)
- 19:55 Ah- Hla-Kabya-Pan-
Pawah
- 20:00 **National News**
20:05 Expedition of Rare
Crocodile Species In-
habiting in Fresh And
Seawaters (I)
- 20:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Feel like an
Earthquake"
- 20:15 **National News**
20:20 Myanmar Rattan Fur-
niture for the Connois-
seurs
- 20:25 Song "Fetch me in a
horse-cart"
- 20:30 **National News**
20:35 Excursion in Yangon
River
- 20:40 Early Silver Jubilee
Era of Myanmar Mo-
tion Picture
- 20:45 **National News**
20:50 Folk Art of Pottery

- 20:55 Kham Traditional
Cultural Dance
- 21:00 **National News**
21:05 Conservation of Forest
Resources in Myanmar
Songs On Screen
"Flourishing"
- 21:15 **National News**
21:20 Discussion Points on
Lacquerware College
Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 21:35 Let's Talk About Labu
Nationals
- 21:40 **Headline News**
21:42 Mazin Industry's
Wood Products
- 21:45 **National News**
21:50 Expedition of Rare
Crocodile Species In-
habiting in Fresh And
Seawaters (II)
- 21:55 Ah Exulting Male
Dance
- 22:00 **National News**
22:05 Myanmar's Pride &
Glory
- 22:10 Song "Ngwe Hsaung
Beach Resort"
- 22:15 **National News**
22:20 38 Modes of Auspi-
cious Conduct (Great
Endeavour Maker)
- 22:25 Songs On Screen
"Hmoneshweye"
- 22:30 **National News**
22:35 Kindness to Pet Ani-
mals
- 22:40 Indulge yourself with
Traditional gourmet at
Yangon's chic "Green
Elephant"
- 22:45 **National News**
22:50 Interview on Marque-
try Painting
- 22:55 Myanmar National
Races Cultural Dances
(U Shwe Yoe & Daw
Moe)
- 23:00 **National News**
23:05 Kyaungtaung Waterfall
Myanmar Modern
Song "Golden
Myanmar Golden
Welcome"
- 23:12 Inlay Blacksmith
Craftsmanship
- 23:15 **National News**
23:20 Golden Plum Job of
Central Myanmar
- 23:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**10-3-2004 (Wednesday) &
11-3-2004 (Thursday)
Evening & Morning
Transmission
(23:30-1:30)**

- 23:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 23:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic

- 23:36 Sights "Mingalabar"
Let's Talk About Labu
Nationals
- 23:40 **Headline News**
23:42 Mazin Industry's
Wood Products
- 23:45 **National News**
23:50 Expedition of Rare
Crocodile Species In-
habiting in Fresh And
Seawaters (II)
- 23:55 An Exulting Male
Dance
- 24:00 **National News**
00:05 Myanmar's Pride &
Glory
- 00:10 Song "Ngwe Hsaung
Beach Resort"
- 00:15 **National News**
00:20 38 Modes of Auspi-
cious Conduct (Great
Endeavour Maker)
- 00:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 00:30 **National News**
00:35 Kindness to Pet Ani-
mals
- 00:40 Indulge yourself with
Traditional gourmet at
Yangon's chic "Green
Elephant"
- 00:45 **National News**
00:50 Interview on Marque-
try Painting
- 00:55 Myanmar National
Races Cultural Dances
(U Shwe Yoe & Daw
Moe)
- 01:00 **National News**
01:05 Kyaungtaung Waterfall
Myanmar Modern
Song "Golden
Myanmar Golden
Welcome"
- 01:12 Inlay Blacksmith
Craftsmanship
- 01:15 **National News**
01:20 Golden Plum Job of
Central Myanmar
- 01:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

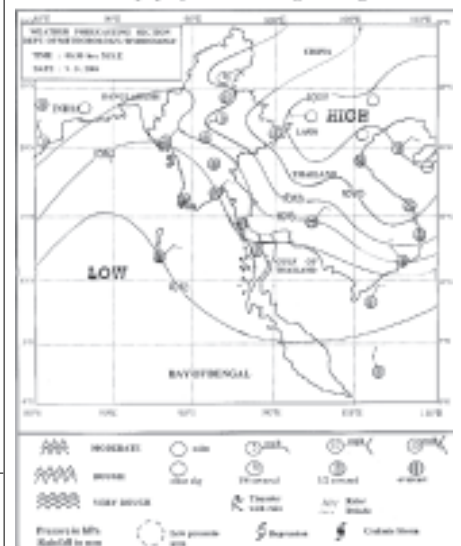
**11-3-2004 (Thursday)
Morning Transmission
(03:30-07:30)**

- 03:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 03:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 03:35 Myanmar's Ancient
City Bagan
- 03:40 **Headline News**
03:42 Myanmar Natural Re-
source Spirulina
- 03:45 **National News**
03:50 Cultural Museum

- 03:55 (Keng Tong)
Ah- Hla-Kabya-Pan-
Pawah
- 04:00 **National News**
04:05 Expedition of Rare
Crocodile Species In-
habiting in Fresh And
Seawaters (I)
- 04:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Feel like an
Earthquake"
- 04:15 **National News**
04:20 Myanmar Rattan Fur-
niture for the Connois-
seurs
- 04:25 Song "Fetch me in a
horse-cart"
- 04:30 **National News**
04:35 Excursion in Yangon
River
- 04:40 Early Silver Jubilee
Era of Myanmar Mo-
tion Picture
- 04:45 **National News**
04:50 Folk Art of Pottery
Kham Traditional
Cultural Dance
- 04:55 **National News**
05:00 Conservation of Forest
Resources in Myanmar
Songs On Screen
"Flourishing"
- 05:05 **National News**
05:10 Discussion Points on
Lacquerware College
Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 05:15 **National News**
05:20 Let's Talk About Labu
Nationals
- 05:35 **Headline News**
05:42 Mazin Industry's
Wood Products
- 05:45 **National News**
05:50 Expedition of Rare

- Crocodile Species In-
habiting in Fresh And
Seawaters (II)
- 05:55 An Exulting Male
Dance
- 06:00 **National News**
06:05 Myanmar's Pride &
Glory
- 06:10 Song "Ngwe Hsaung
Beach Resort"
- 06:15 **National News**
06:20 38 Modes of Auspi-
cious Conduct (Great
Endeavour Maker)
- 06:25 Songs On Screen
"Hmoneshweye"
- 06:30 **National News**
06:35 Kindness to Pet Ani-
mals
- 06:40 Indulge yourself with
Traditional gourmet at
Yangon's chic "Green
Elephant"
- 06:45 **National News**
06:50 Interview on Marque-
try Painting
- 06:55 Myanmar National
Races Cultural Dances
(U Shwe Yoe & Daw
Moe)
- 07:00 **National News**
07:05 Kyaungtaung Waterfall
Myanmar Modern
Songs "Golden
Myanmar Golden
Welcome"
- 07:12 Inlay Blacksmith
Craftsmanship
- 07:15 **National News**
07:20 Golden Plum Job of
Central Myanmar
- 07:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas


WEATHER

Tuesday, 9 March, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:
During the past 24 hours, light rain has been isolated in northern Shan and Chin States, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) above normal in Kachin State, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) above normal in Rakhine State, (8°C) below normal in eastern Shan State and about normal in the remaining areas.

Maximum temperature on 8-3-2004 was 36.0°C (97°F). Minimum temperature on 9-3-2004 was 19.0°C (66°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 9-3-2004 was 54%. Total sun shine hours on 8-3-2004 was (6.0) hours approx. Rainfall on 9-3-2004 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 10 mph from Southeast at (18:30) hours MST on 8-3-2004.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 10-3-2004: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Shan, Kayah and Kayin States, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions and isolated rain are likely in the remaining states and divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).
State of the sea: Strong easterly wind with (35) mph and moderate to rough seas are likely at times in the Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Seas will be slight elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated rain in lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 10-3-2004: Possibility of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (40%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 10-3-2004:** Partly cloudy.



Wednesday, March 10

View today:

- 7:00 am
- နေရာရသင့် မင်းကုန်းအရာတော်
အရာကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံသယဟာ
အယဟာ အဖို့အကုန်တော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊
အသိစေမဟာရသင့်ရ၊ အသိစေရ
မဟာသန္ဓေတော် တစ်ပင်တောရ ဓမ္မ
အရာတော်ရ၊ အရာတော်သန္ဓေတော်
အရာတော်သံသယ ပရိတ်တော်တော်
- 7:15 am
- တိမ်ကောရဓမ္မအရာတော်ရ၊ အရာဟာ
ပရိတ်တော် တဦးသိရတော်သံသယ
(ယောအရာတော်) မဟာကြီးတော်
မူအပ်သော ဥပါသန္ဓေတော်
- 7:25 am
- To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
- Morning news
- 7:40 am
- Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am
- တေးသရုပ်ဖော် အစီအစဉ်
- 8:00 am
- အဆိုတော်

- 8:05 am
- မြန်မာပြည် ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 8:20 am
- ဒါးကတော့ (စရာတော်တော်)
- 8:30 am
- International news
- 8:45 pm
- Learning English the
easy and happy way
for children and begin-
ners
- 4:00 pm
- Martial song
- 4:15 pm
- Songs to uphold
National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
- Practice In Reading
- 4:45 pm
- တပ်မတော်ဓမ္မ၊ ဂုဏ်မြှောက်သီချင်းဖြည့်
အရာတော်များ (၂၀၀၂ ခုနှစ်)
- 5:55 pm
- အဆောင်တော်သို့လုပ်ထွက်ရ
ရပ်မြင်သံကြား အစီအစဉ်
ဗုဒ္ဓဘာသာ (ဗုဒ္ဓအာရုံကြီး(ဗုဒ္ဓစာ))
- 5:10 pm
- Musical programme
- 5:25 pm
- လတ်ဆန်တံခွန်၊ ဂီတတော်
- 5:30 pm
- Dance of national races

- 5:45 pm
- Classical song
- 5:55 pm
- Strong and healthy
Myanmar
- 6:05 pm
- ဗုဒ္ဓမိန့်တော် အာသိယအစီအစဉ်
- 6:15 pm
- Discovery
- 6:30 pm
- Evening news
- 7:00 pm
- Weather report
- 7:05 pm
- Musical programme
- 7:15 pm
- ဓမ္မစာအုပ် (ဇီဝ) ရေးသားတော်
- 7:25 pm
- ဗုဒ္ဓမိန့်တော် တပ်မတော်ဓမ္မဂုဏ်ဖြည့်
အရာတော်များ
- 7:40 pm
- ကော် (အပိုင်း-၂)
- 8:00 pm
- News
- International news
- Weather report
- နိုင်ငံခြားသတင်းအချက်အလက်
"အချစ်သံသယ" (အပိုင်း-၅)
- The next day's
programme


 Wednesday, March 10
Tune in today:

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music
- 8.50 am National news/
Slogan
- 9.00 am Music
- 9.05 am International news
- 9.10 am Music
- 1.30 pm News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm Lunch time music
-Boys (Britney
Spears)
-Whole again
(Atomic Kitten)
- 9.00 pm Variations on a tune:
When you say
nothing at all
- 9.15 pm Article/Music
- 9.25 pm Music at your
request
-Big big world
(Emilia)
-Book of love (Hit
'N' Hide)
- 9.45 pm News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Taungyay Dam construction project in Kyaukpadaung Township

YANGON, 9 March—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint and officials, arrived at the junction of Pinyintha Village on Meiktila-Thazi road where Meiktila bypass is being constructed by Hong Pang Co Ltd on 8 March morning.

At the junction, Com-

mander Maj-Gen Ye Myint and Development Council Lt-Col Win Myint and departmental officials.

Next, they proceeded to Taungyay Dam project being undertaken by Irrigation Department Construction Group-7 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation near Tepinte Village in Kyaukpadaung Township and inspected digging of canal with heavy machinery.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected

Taungyay Dam is situated near Tepinte Village in Kyaukpadaung Township and it is of earthen type with 70 feet in height and 2950 feet in length. The catchment area of the dam is 23 sq-miles and 48 per cent of the project was completed. On completion, it can irrigate Kyetmauktaung Dam and benefit other farmlands in addition to 13,432 acres of farmlands being irrigated by Kyetmauktaung Dam.

MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Taungyay Dam Project. — MNA

mander Maj-Gen Ye Myint reported to Lt-Gen Ye Myint on arrangements for construction of the bypass.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected arrangements being made for construction of the bypass and heard a report presented by officials of the company on surveying of the axis and future tasks.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on timely completion of the work.

After that, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party arrived at the border of Kyaukpadaung where they were welcomed by Chairman of

Kyaukpon Creek and canal to take water to Kyetmauktaung Dam.

Next, they inspected earth work for Taungyay Dam where Deputy Director of ID U Myo Tun reported on progress of earth work and work to be carried out to Lt-Gen Ye Myint who gave necessary instructions.

At the briefing hall, an official reported on progress in construction of Taungyay Dam, Kyauktada Dam, canal and diversion tunnel and future tasks.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on timely completion of the work.

Tax-free markets inspected in Yangon

YANGON, 9 March — Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman and Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, accompanied by commanders of military regions, local authorities and officials of Yangon City Development Committee, inspected tax-free markets here and gave instructions to officials this morning.

When the commander arrived at Pantaya tax-free market in Dagon Township, Yangon West District, at 6.30 am, No 3 Military Region Commander Col Tint

Hsan, Yangon West District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Kyaw Tint and officials welcomed them.

The commander and party also went to the tax-free markets in Kamayut Township, Mayangon Township, Yankin Township, and Tamway Township and inspected the buying and selling conditions at the shops opened by the YCDC, battalions and units under Yangon Command, the Yangon Division Vegetables and Poultry Farming Special Zone, growers and breeders, the Myanmar Rice Wholesalers Association, the Myanmar Edible Oil Entrepreneurs & Oil Millers Association, the Ministry of Industry-1 and other companies.

Giving instructions, the commander said the tax-free markets were opened to enable the public to buy fresh vegetables, meat, fish and eggs at reasonable prices and urged officials concerned to keep the environs of the markets clean and tidy, to ensure the proper drainage in the markets, and to maintain the shops in good condition.

MNA

Armed Forces Day Special Features



The 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day falls on 27 March 2004. The day is commemorated every year in recognition of and tribute to the relentless efforts and the spirit of sacrifice of the Tatmadaw in safeguarding independence and sovereignty.

In honour of the occasion, *The New Light of Myanmar* will feature articles, perspectives and poems of historical significance supported by the documentary photos as from 12 March 2004 under the programme "The Tatmadaw (Armed Forces) in perpetual service of the people".

Commerce Minister meets importers and exporters

YANGON, 9 March — Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone met wheat importers, and coffee, pepper, mango, tea leaf and plum exporters at the meeting hall on the fifth floor of the ministry.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun, directors-general, managing directors, guests, the general secretary and CEC members of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and export-

ers.

On the occasion, the minister spoke of the need of wheat importers to reduce the rate of their wheat import and to make arrangements for cultivation and production of wheat. He also urged exporters to promote the export rate and to award prizes to those who export most.

Those present on the occasion also took part in the discussions. Later, the minister gave instructions in response to reports.

MNA

Drug possessor gets prison term

YANGON, 9 March—Members of Zeyawady Police Force in Pyu Township, Bago Division, on 23 November 2003, searched the house of Zaw Lwin of 1st Aungmingalar Street, Zeyawady and arrested him together with 1.07775 kilo of marijuana concealed in a basket.

Action was taken against Zaw Lwin, son of U Hla Myint of 1st

Aungmingalar Street, Zeyawady under Section 15/19 (A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

He was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment under Section 19 (A) and 5 years' imprisonment with hard labour under Section 15 by Taungoo District Court on 22 January 2004.

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Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects the producers' tax-free market in Yankin.

YANGON COMMAND