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Saturday, 1 May, 2004

Senior General Than Shwe sends Workers Day message

YANGON, 1 May — *The following is a translation of the Workers Day message sent by Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar:*

Esteemed Workers,

On this year's Workers Day, which falls on 1 May 2004, I send this message in honour of all the workers striving with their physical and spiritual prowess for development and modernization of the Union of Myanmar and raising the social standard of the entire national people, while wishing you peace of mind.

The State Peace and Development Council has been striving with the united strength of the entire national people and on self-reliant efforts for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation, and the entire mass of workers is dutifully and harmoniously taking part in the Government's undertaking as a prominent force towards this end.

Because of the harmonious perseverance of the entire nationalities of Myanmar, including the workers, the correct national policies and the noble national objectives of the State Peace and Development Council have been realized, and the mother Union of Myanmar has been enjoying peace and stability and it is developing in leaps and bounds. All the national people can take pride in this achievement.

The State Peace and Development Council has laid down the national objectives, while harmonizing and integrating the State sector and the private economic sector, in exerting efforts for development of agriculture, the nation's basic economy, and for flourishing of mechanized farming, in parallel to the emergence of a

developed industrialized nation.

In the services sector also, it is building necessary infrastructures and giving support to the sector for the progress of advanced service enterprises based on the IT, which is developing everywhere around the world.

Hence, the mother Union of Myanmar at present is developing at fast pace in accord with the national objectives due to the combined force resulting from the initiative, support and encouragement of the Government, systematic and integrated efforts of the State sector and the private sector run by national entrepreneurs and the endeavours made by blue and white collar workers with a view to serving the national interest.

As a wide array of advanced industries, industrial areas and zones, world-class offices, economic centres and trade and services enterprises are developing all over the nation, workers on their part are also able to use international level manufacturing technologies and services, advanced manufacturing machines and electronic office automation. The corresponding effect of the rapid development of the nation and the emergence of world-class manufacturing enterprises and services enables workers to enjoy fair monthly salaries and rights and generates job opportunities for them.

At this opportune time, the workers themselves have witnessed and experienced the State Peace and Development Council's acknowledgment of their important role in the national development drive and its concentration on further protecting and promoting their rights and prospects including the task to create a better working environment, to prevent occupational hazards and to further raise their living standard in tune with the times.

Esteemed Workers,

In this auspicious era in which the Union of Myanmar is enjoying peace and prosperity and rapid progress, resulting from the collective efforts made by the government and the entire people including the workers, the workers will have to stand as a major united force of the nation, while harmoniously taking part together with the entire people in national development endeavours.

An obvious incident at present is the perpetration of a band of mischievous destructive elements, who are against Myanmar's interest. The destructive elements are forming organizations under the guise of workers and unjustly tarnishing the reputation of the workers for self-interest, while getting involved in the affairs of the international bodies, with the worker's rights as an excuse. The organizations under the guise of workers are forming alliance with other destructive clubs, and applying multiple means to hinder the progress of the Union of Myanmar and to harm the interest of the nation, to occur loss of jobs, destruction of job opportunities and cause social and economic loss among Myanmar workers. In addition, the destructive elements are trying to ruin the unity of the entire national races including the workers, with slanderous accusations as a tool to drive a wedge. When the Union of Myanmar was under colonial rule, workers of Myanmar were firmly building the unity of the entire national races to help restore Myanmar's independence while facing oppression, systematic driving of wedges and economic exploitation of the occupiers. Workers have been worthy of identity with fine traditions.

(See page 2)

Production development in multi-sectors most important factor for national economic development General Thura Shwe Mann underscores points for development of farming business

YANGON, 30 April — A meeting was held this morning at Zeyathiri Beikman here to find means for development of agriculture and livestock breeding business including oil palm cultivation, with an address by member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann. Also present were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, ministers, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, department heads, secretaries and members of Taninthayi Division, Bago Division, Magway Division, Yangon Division and Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Councils,

the president and members of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, entrepreneurs running agriculture business including oil palm cultivation, livestock breeding entrepreneurs and guests.

In his address, General Thura Shwe Mann said that increase in the production benefits both the producers and the nation, and will lead to emergence of a stable economic environment, a firm market and a developing economic system. Production development in multi sectors is the most important factor for national economic development. Growth in production ensures progress in trade and services enterprises. Thus, the role of national entrepreneurs, investing in business enterprises, is much important.

(See page 9)



General Thura Shwe Mann delivers an address at the meeting to find means for development of agriculture and livestock breeding business including oil palm cultivation. — MNA



HONOURING THE 2004 WORKERS DAY

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 1 May, 2004

For regional development in all aspects

Border area development projects are among the efforts of the Government for the nation to become a peaceful, modern and developed one. In implementing these projects, special development regions have been established and the five rural development tasks carried out for harmonious development of all the regions of the country.

The Government, on its part, is implementing major projects. It has built Bala Min Htin Bridge, hospital, universities, colleges in Kachin State and in addition to these facilities, Bhamo and Mohnyin regions have been designated as development zones.

In his meeting with local authorities, departmental personnel and members of social organizations in Myitkyina, Kachin State, on 26 April, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence said that the Government is building an industrialized nation based on agriculture; that not only monsoon and summer paddy but also winter crops, edible oil crops, perennial crops and crops that are suitable to the region should be grown for food sufficiency; and that as transportation plays a vital role in regional development, Myitkyina-Putao Road, Myitkyina-Mogaung-Mohnyin-Shwebo Road, Phakant-Mogaung Road, and Myitkyina-Bhamo-NgaO-Mandalay Road have been built and upgraded with greater momentum.

In his tour of Kachin State, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected roads and bridges in Waingmaw-Myothit section of Bhamo-Myitkyina Road, Jutmin Bridge Project near Thagara Ward in Waingmaw and Mandalay-Bhamo-Myitkyina road and gave instructions on better transportation to officials. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the Aungmye-1 bridge construction project and construction of Bridge No 3 between mileposts 454 and 455. He also inspected the maintenance work being carried out at Maliyan Bridge, which was constructed on 1 February 1999, completed on 14 May and commissioned into service on 15 August the same year, and gave instructions to officials on ensuring durability of the bridge. Near Kandawyin village, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected a new road that will be more convenient for the travellers than the previous one.

At a time when earnest efforts are being made for regional development, we would like to urge service personnel to lend themselves to regional development undertakings in all aspects hand in hand with local people.

World Red Cross Day — 2004

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Stop Discrimination

8 May 2004

Myanmar Red Cross Society

Utilization of scholarship awards discussed

YANGON, 30 April— Officials of the ministries concerned and those of the Indian Embassy met to discuss effective utilization of scholarship awards given by India to Myanmar under the arrangements of Technical Cooperation Scheme of Colombo Plan (TCS), Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) and General Cultural Scholarship Scheme of Indian Council for Cultural Relation (ICCR), at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this afternoon.

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win presided over the meeting. Also present on the occasion were directors-general, managing directors and officials of 15 ministries, Indian Ambassador Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia and embassy officials. They discussed matters related to more effective utilization of the scholarship awards.— MNA

People's Desire

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

Senior General Than Shwe sends Workers Day ...

(from page 1)

As they have acquired the fine tradition of taking part in the anti-colonialist struggles and of safeguarding and maintaining the unity of workers, farmers and national people, I would like to urge the workers to confront and ward off the destructive elements and the alien attempts to interfere in the internal affairs and break up the nation. Moreover, they will have to further foster and cement their indomitable spirit, anti-colonialist spirit, national spirit and Union Spirit, that have been put to test many times throughout the different stages of the course of history, while continuously standing as firm and consolidated national force.

Esteemed workers,

The State Peace and Development Council has already begun its implementation of the seven-point future policy programme of the State that will lay a stable and firm foundation to perpetually uphold the national policy — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of the national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty — in addition to the emergence of a Myanmar

society, flourishing the rights of the Myanmar people including the workers and the principles protecting humankind as the base.

As the convening of the National Convention, the first stage of the seven-point policy, is about to begin, the worker delegates already are acquiring the right to take part in it as one of the groups.

From the successful convening of the National Convention to the realization of the seven-point policy programme, the workers, in accord with their fine traditions, will have to firmly join hands with other national forces to strive harmoniously for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation, that is the national goal.

At this important juncture for the national cause, I would like to urge the workers to continue to strive in unity with the entire national people for earliest emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation; development and strengthening of the national economy; further raising of the living standard of the people; and perpetuation of the Union. — MNA



Chairman of the Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe delivers an address at the meeting. — MNA

National Convention Convening Work Committee meets

YANGON, 30 April— The National Convention Convening Work Committee held the meeting No 2/2004 at the hall of Nyaungnapinkwin in Hmawby Township at 9 am today.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of the Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Vice-Chairman Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Secretary U Thaung Nyunt, Joint-Secretary-1 U Khin Maung Myint, Joint-Secretary-2 Dr Thaung Myint and members.

First, Chief Justice U Aung Toe gave an opening speech. Next, Attorney-General U Aye Maung explained preparations for the National Convention to be held on 17 May made by the Work Committee.

Secretary U Thaung Nyunt reported on regulations for holding the National Convention and assignment of staff. Next, members of the work committee participated in the discussions. Later, the chairman gave the concluding remarks.

At the meeting, the work committee chairman and party inspected completion of preparatory tasks in Pyidaungsu Hall where the National Convention will be held, the meeting rooms for delegates and the meeting halls of the work committee. — MNA



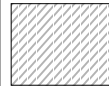
MYANMAR KOREAN GOODWILL CONCERT: Film stars Yarzar Nay Win, Pearl Win, Zin Zin Zaw Myint and comedians rehearse for the Myanmar-Korean Goodwill Concert at the National Theatre on Friday.

NLM

Thingyan Festival held in London

YANGON, 30 April — Under the auspices of Myanmar Association (UK), Myanmar New Year Thingyan Festival was held for Myanmar, who are in the UK, on the lawns of the Permanent Patron of the association and Myanmar Ambassador's residence on 18 April 2004.

Present on the occasion were the patrons of the association, executives, association members, Myanmar and some Britons totalling 250. At the ceremony, Myanmar vocalists entertained those present with Myanmar Thingyan songs and dances. Master "Saya" Richard Morris, leader of Myanmar Bando-Thaing Martial Art team, and champion Mr Paul Keogh also performed their skill demonstration as a special programme. Moreover, Myanmar traditional foods were sold at fair price. The festival concluded at 3 pm on that day. — MNA



Myanmar Bando-Thaing martial arts demonstration at the Myanmar Ambassador's residence in UK.

MNA



မြန်မာနိုင်ငံကြက်ခြေနီအသင်း

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Ten US soldiers killed in spate of attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 30 April—Ten US soldiers were killed in attacks around Baghdad on Thursday, eight of them in an apparent suicide car bombing just south of the capital, the US military said.

The deaths took to 534 the number of US soldiers killed in action since US-led forces invaded Iraq 13 months ago. About 125 of them have been killed in April, the bloodiest month for US forces in Iraq since the invasion.

The car bomb went off just south of Baghdad near Mahmudia at about 11:30 am, the US military said in a statement.

"A driver in a station wagon approached the task force. Once he was close enough to inflict injury he detonated the explosive device," it said a statement, which did not make clear whether the driver was in the vehicle when it exploded.

The soldiers, who were searching for roadside bombs which are a favorite insurgent weapon, were all from the 1st Armoured Division and the wounded were flown to a Baghdad military hospital by helicopter, it said.

Shortly before dawn, a US soldier was killed in a rocket-propelled grenade attack in eastern Baghdad, a separate statement said.

At around 10 am, a roadside bomb killed a US soldier and wounded another in the town of Baquba, 40 miles north of Baghdad. Iraqi police said an Iraqi civilian was also killed in the attack.

With just weeks to go before the United States hands over sovereignty to Iraqis on June 30, US-led forces face a growing insurgency.

New polls showed Iraqi civilian deaths combined with heavy US losses this month have eroded support for President Bush's war plan both among Iraqis and among the Americans who will vote on his re-election in November.

Internet

ထိုက်တိုက်နှစ်ဆ ခိုးမြင်ကြ

South African civilian shot dead in Basra

BASRA (Iraq), 30 April— A South African civilian was killed in a drive-by shooting in the southern Iraqi city of Basra on Thursday, a British military spokesman said.

The spokesman said the shooting took place near the offices of the Southern Oil Company in central Basra. Another person in the car was not hurt.

Witnesses said gunmen in a car sprayed a four-wheel drive vehicle with bullets, killing the man and causing the car to crash into a wall. Attacks on foreigners are on the rise across Iraq as US-led forces struggle to stamp out guerrillas in the centre and south of the country.

A South African security guard was shot dead in a Baghdad supermarket last week. — MNA/Reuters



British soldiers keep guard at the scene was a foreign civilian was killed in the southern city of Basra, on 29 April, 2004. A foreign civilian was killed in a drive-by shooting in the southern Iraqi city of Basra on Thursday, a British military spokesman said. —INTERNET

Chirac urges genuine Iraqi sovereignty

PARIS, 30 April— French President Jacques Chirac on Thursday called for a swift and genuine return of sovereignty to Iraq within a framework set out by the United Nations.

His comments came after US Secretary of State Colin Powell said earlier this week an interim Iraqi government due to take power on June 30 would have to give up some of its sovereignty to allow a free hand to US-led Armed Forces.

"It is urgent today to return sovereignty to the Iraqis," Chirac told a wide-ranging news conference at his Elysee Palace on the European Union and other issues.

"There is no possible solution that would lead to the reconstruction of Iraq without a genuine transfer of sovereignty under the effective control of the United Nations," he added.

"What would be disastrous would be a compromise solution based on an ambiguity along the lines of: 'Right, the United Nations you go and stand up the front' but in fact nothing has changed and the coalition is really still in charge," he said.

Such a result would not mend the "deep resentment" felt by many Iraqis at the current situation there, he said.

France, which led opposition to the US-led war in Iraq, has backed calls for the UN Security Council to adopt a resolution to guarantee a transfer of power to the Iraqi people when the US-led occupation ends.

Chirac said he expected the EU to broadly concur with the conclusions of UN envoy Lakhdar Brahimi, who said on Tuesday that an interim Iraqi government could be chosen by the end of May despite an "extremely worrying" security situation there.

Chirac is due to meet new Spanish Premier Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero for talks in Paris later on Thursday. The two are expected to discuss details of a possible resolution.

MNA/Reuters

Megawati calls for enhancing maritime transport business

JAKARTA, 30 April— Indonesian President Megawati Soekarnoputri on Thursday called for the enhancement of domestic maritime transport business. President Megawati said that the current competition of airline business could halt the marine transport business, which has a great potential to develop in this archipelago country.

"The weakening of the maritime transport business, because of the tariff war in the

airline business, must be ended immediately," President Megawati said in her address on the opening of the National Maritime Workshop in front of hundreds of maritime transport businessmen at the State Palace.

The Indonesian leader expected that the workshop could find a solution on this problem, and asked the businessmen to strengthen the business activities in this sector. — MNA/Xinhua

Kuwaiti group blasts coalition's collective punishment in Iraq

KUWAIT CITY, 30 April— A newly formed Kuwaiti group on Wednesday accused US-led occupation forces of inflicting collective punishment on several Iraqi cities resulting in hundreds of civilian casualties, reported local newspaper *Kuwait Times*.

"Collective punishment measures have been committed against Fallujah and Kufa, that resulted in the killing of hundreds by using heavy guns and aircraft," said a statement by the Parliamentary-Popular Committee to Support the Iraqi People.

The committee was established on April 13 by a group of Islamist lawmakers and activists to help provide moral and material support to the Iraqi people.

"The excessive use of military force is an indication of a vengeance mentality influencing the decisions of military field commanders" of the US-led coalition, the committee said in the statement.

US officers said fresh fighting broke out between US marines and Iraqi guerrillas in Fallujah on Wednesday, where scores of US soldiers and hundreds of Iraqis were killed this month despite a fragile ceasefire.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese FM says Shanghai declaration marks new start for ESCAP

SHANGHAI, 30 April— Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing said here Wednesday that the Shanghai Declaration just adopted at the 60th Session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) will become a new start for ESCAP in its future work.

Li, also chairman of the session, told a Press conference after the closing ceremony of the ESCAP conference that the ESCAP Shanghai conference has adopted a series of documents including the Shanghai Declaration, which will be of great significance for the future development of the Shanghai-originated UN body.

Li said that as a unique comprehensive economic

and social organization in the Asia-Pacific Region, the ESCAP has made long-term efforts and achieved great progress in promoting regional economic and social development. Li also expressed the hope that the ESCAP can make further reform in line with the times, so as to play a greater

role in helping the region resolve the issues confronted in the process of globalization and achieve sustainable economic and social development, thus becoming a strong partner for all countries of the region in promoting regional cooperation and development. MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi women stand at a check point, waiting to get back into the Iraqi city of Fallujah on 29 April, 2004. The US military has rushed more tanks and other armoured vehicles to Iraq after requests from commanders in the bloodiest month for American troops since Saddam Hussein was toppled.—INTERNET

Cheney says Iraq sovereignty transfer begins June 30

WASHINGTON, 30 April— The Bush Administration's June 30 deadline for ceding power to an interim Iraqi government would mark only the beginning of the transfer of sovereignty, Vice-President Dick Cheney said on Thursday.

In a conference call with campaign supporters, the Vice-President said guerillas in Iraq could step up violent attacks to derail plans to set an interim government in place ahead of elections expected early in 2005.

"We think June 30 will be crucial in terms of the date on which we begin to transfer sovereign authority back to the Iraqi people," Cheney said in answer to a question from an Ohio campaign volunteer.

"This will be a difficult time, over the next two months, getting to June 30, because the enemy is well aware that their circumstances will become

more difficult as soon as we begin to transfer authority back to the people of Iraq," added Cheney, who was among the leading advocates of last year's invasion. US President George W Bush has repeatedly reaffirmed his commitment to a June 30 transfer of sovereignty in Iraq as a critical step for the establishment of democratic government.

But the Bush Administration has had to change course on how to set up an interim government, while analysts have questioned the degree of sovereignty Iraqis are likely

to get by July 1.

The United States saw its original plan to create an interim government through a series of regional Iraqi caucuses run afoul of Shiite religious authorities.

It has since placed much of its hopes for ultimately extricating itself from Iraq in the hands of UN envoy Lakhdar Brahimi, who has proposed a caretaker government led by a prime minister, a president and two vice-presidents.

But critics of the plan have said the United States is not really restoring sovereignty to Iraq because 135,000 US

troops will remain in the country.

US Secretary of State Colin Powell acknowledged this week that an interim government in Baghdad would have to give up some sovereignty to allow a free hand to US-led Armed Forces that have been battling guerillas from both the Sunni and Shiite Muslim communities. The issue of sovereignty also was sure to come up as the United States pushes for a UN resolution to bless whatever new Iraqi government emerges and to legitimize the presence of US troops in Iraq. —MNA/Reuters

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Fallujah attacked despite US resolve to withdraw besieging troops

BAGHDAD, 30 April— US troops bombarded the besieged city of Fallujah west of Baghdad late Thursday, hours after a US commander announced the planned withdrawal of the Marines surrounding it.

Explosions and gunfire were heard in the northern area, with US warplanes roaring over the city, witnesses said.

It was not immediately known if there were any casualties. American forces have dropped heavy bombs in the last three days, as efforts to negotiate a peace accord was repeatedly disrupted.

The Pentagon insisted that the continuous airstrikes were not intended to end the current ceasefire.

A US commander said earlier on Thursday that the Marines will end the siege of Fallujah and they will start their withdrawal on Friday to allow a newly established Iraqi security forces to move into the city.

The move is according to a new agreement signed by US officials and representatives of Fallujah on Wednesday evening. —MNA/Xinhua

Explosion near US patrol in Baghdad kills Iraqi civilian

BAQUBA (Iraq), 30 April — An explosion near a US patrol north of Baghdad on Thursday killed an Iraqi civilian and caused American casualties, a police source said.

Another Iraqi civilian was wounded in the blast in the city of Baquba, 40 miles north of Baghdad, the source said. The US military had no immediate comment.

US-led forces have frequently come under attack from improvised roadside bombs in Iraq.

MNA/Reuters

Holland calls for UN "clear role" in Iraq

PARIS, 30 April— Dutch Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende said here Wednesday after holding talks with French President Jacques Chirac that a "clear role" of the United Nations is needed so that the international community could take action in Iraq.

"We're convinced that it is important that the United Nations can play a role in Iraq," Balkenende said. Concerning the UN Security Council's resolution to back the power transfer to the Iraqis on June 30, the Dutch leader said he had not discussed the details of the resolution. But it is clear that if the international community must be involved in Iraq, a clear role of the United Nations is needed," he said, adding that he shared this view with Chirac in this regard.

UN special envoy to Iraq Lakhdar Brahimi handed over on Tuesday in New York his plan for the power transfer to the Iraqi people on June 30, with an interim government until the general elections in early 2005. Washington wished for a resolution to back this power transfer and help encourage more countries to contribute troops to the US-led coalition. The Netherlands has deployed a 1,100-strong force in Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua



Smoke rises past a minaret over the besieged city of Fallujah, Iraq on 29 April, 2004. US Marines agreed to ease their grip on Fallujah on Thursday, striking a deal to entrust security to former Iraqi army officers in hope of ending a month-long siege which has cost hundreds of lives. —INTERNET

Sino-US Technology, Engineering Conference a platform for cooperation

BEIJING, 30 April — Sino-US Technology and Engineering Conference has served as a platform for long-term bilateral exchange and cooperation since its establishment decade ago, said a Chinese official Wednesday at the end of the 6th Sino-US Technology and Engineering Conference.

The conference, which started here April 18, has drawn 62 US experts from well-known multinationals like GE, IBM, INTEL, and HP, as well as over 180 Chinese entrepreneurs and experts in various fields, to raise suggestions and work out growth strategies for Chinese companies.

By the end of April 26, the US experts had visited 25 well-known Chinese companies in 13 cities including Haier, TCL and Lenovo.

The conference, based on a wide-ranging investigation, set up seven expertise teams and 131 research subjects, receiving 81 theses from Chinese and US experts, which covered computer and software, telecommunication, electronic facilities, machinery, petrochemical and chemical industries, pharmacy, bioengineering and material science.

During the conference, Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan listened to advice raised by delegates of both sides, speaking highly of the results of the conference.

At the closing ceremony, the US experts in their respective expertise teams, announced their 85 proposals and advice, which were all constructive to certain professions and trades in Chinese economy.

Ma Kai, Chinese Minister of the State Development and Reform Commission, said that the conference has also served to make better use of the brains of overseas Chinese, as China stepped into an important era full of opportunities.

MNA/Xinhua

Pakistan, Turkey to collaborate in defence production

ISLAMABAD, 30 April — Pakistan and Turkey have expressed the desire to collaborate and cooperate in the field of defence production, said a statement issued by the Pakistani Defence Ministry here on Wednesday.

The statement was issued after a meeting between visiting Turkish Defence Minister M Vecdi Gonul and his Pakistani counterpart Rao Sikandar Iqbal.

Both sides underscored the need of undertaking a joint venture for the production of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), it said. Pakistan attached special importance to its relations with Turkey, Rao Sikandar Iqbal

said. He said that both countries enjoyed excellent relations and it was imperative to have a closer collaboration in the fields of defence. The High Level Military Dialogue Group (HLMDG) between Pakistan and Turkey would prove very helpful in achieving the desired results in the field of military cooperation and defence collaboration between the two countries, Rao Sikandar Iqbal said. —MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi boy flexes his muscles in front of a burning US truck at the al-Shu'alah district of Baghdad, Iraq on 29 April, 2004. One US soldier was reported dead after a rocket-propelled grenade attack on the US convoy. —INTERNET

India signs Asian Highway network agreement

NEW DELHI, 30 April — India signed the United Nations-backed plan on Wednesday for a 140,000 kilometres highway network crisscrossing 32 Asian countries and reaching up to Europe.

India is the 24th country to sign the agreement on the Asian Highway network that covers 11,400 kilometres in India alone, according to a statement issued by the United Nations Information Centre in New Delhi.

The plan to "complete a 140,000 kilometres network of standardized roadways crisscrossing the Asian continent and reaching to Europe received an added boost, when India signed a legally binding international agreement," the statement said.

Meanwhile, officials of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific estimate that 83 per cent of the 140,000 kilometre network is already completed.

MNA/Xinhua

Annan says US offensive in Iraq may hurt transition

UNITED NATIONS, 30 April — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan warned on Wednesday that US military action in the besieged city of Fallujah could bolster resistance and make it harder to end the occupation.

"The more the occupation is seen as taking steps that harm the civilians and the population, the greater the ranks of the resistance grows," Annan told a news conference.

Annan said the United Nations had received an appeal to intervene from a committee in Fallujah, where US troops have begun to expand operations, but would not so.

"But I have spoken to US authorities about this and the need for caution, the need to do all that is possible to avoid a violent confrontation," Annan said. "Violent military action by an occupying power against inhabitants of an occupied country will only make matters worse."

Annan spoke a day after his envoy for Iraq, Lakhdar Brahimi, told the UN Security Council that unless the situation in Fallujah was resolved peacefully there was a risk of a confrontation with potentially "dramatic and long-lasting consequences."

But Brahimi said it was possible to select non-partisan

professional Iraqis to form a caretaker government by the end of May, in time for it to take office by June 30, the official end of the US-led occupation.

Brahimi also made clear that the new government would not have full sovereignty and should not take long-range decisions before elections in January 2005.

"I think Mr Brahimi was quite right to say that violent military action by an occupying power against inhabitants of an occupied country, will only make matters worse," Annan said.

"It's definitely time now for those who prefer restraint and dialogue to make their voices heard," he added.

Annan said he was concerned about any assault on the holy city of Najaf, where radical Shiite Muslim cleric Muqtadaal-Sadr is said to be hiding. He is wanted by US troops, who want to suppress his militia, for the alleged murder of another Shiite cleric.—MNA/Reuters

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Annan says Iraq, terror divert focus from environment

UNITED NATIONS, 30 April— The Iraq war and terrorism have shoved critical environmental problems like global warming and dwindling natural resources out of the world spotlight, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said on Wednesday.

"However understandable that focus might be, we cannot lose any more time, or ground, in the wider struggle for human well-being. Just as we need balanced development, so do we need a balanced international agenda," the UN leader said.

Annan was addressing a meeting of more than 80 environment ministers and other high officials, called to gauge progress toward the global goal of "sustainable development", in which economic growth would no longer come at the expense of environmental degradation.

While there has been important progress toward achieving sustainable development, key challenges remain, Annan said. Twelve years after the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit, "the natural resource base is under siege. Unsustainable patterns of consumption and production are still the norm. Progress in slowing deforestation and biodiversity loss has been glacial", he said.

Annan singled out the United States and Russia for undermining efforts to rein in global warming, saying unless Moscow and Washington ratify the 1997 Kyoto protocol limiting greenhouse gas emissions, "we cannot fully and properly address the issue of climate change".

The United States is by far the world's biggest polluter, but after initially embracing the Kyoto treaty, US President George W Bush withdrew from it in 2001, saying it was too expensive and unfairly excluded developing nations.

Russia signed the pact in 1999, but last year put off ratification indefinitely, saying it needed to reexamine whether its economic interests would be damaged.

Developed nations responsible for 55 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions have to ratify the pact for it to come into force. This means that either Moscow or Washington must do so for the treaty to go forward.— MNA/Reuters

Iraqi oil official wounded in assassination attempt

KIRKUK, 30 April—Unknown gunmen wounded the Iraqi official in charge of protecting northern oil installations on Thursday, police said.

Two of the official's guards were also wounded when the gunmen fired at their car in the city of Kirkuk, on the edge of one Iraq's largest oilfields.

Northern Iraq is one of the least stable parts of the country and saboteurs regularly target oil infrastructure in the area. —MNA/Reuters



An Iraqi man beats a blazing oil tanker which was fired on by guerillas while travelling in a US military convoy through Baghdad, Iraq on 29 April, 2004. Nine US soldiers were killed in attacks around Baghdad on Thursday, eight of them when a car bomb exploded in a suburb south of the capital. —INTERNET

Bush, Cheney questioned over Sept 11 attacks

WASHINGTON, 30 April — President George W Bush and Vice-President Dick Cheney faced questions on Thursday from the 11 September commission about whether they considered al-Qaeda an urgent priority before the catastrophic attacks and if they could have done more to counter the threat.

In a historic session with potential election-year ramifications, Bush and Cheney sat down in the Oval Office promptly at 9:30 am EDT (1330 GMT) with the panel of five Republicans and five Democrats to answer questions for possibly several hours.

Bush agreed under pressure from victims' families and the commission to answer questions from all panel members, but only on condition he have Cheney at his side and they meet in private, with no recording of the session. They were not under oath.

The meeting took place in the very heart of presidential power, the Oval Office, rather than in a room that would have provided a

traditional table-and-chair setting.

Bush and Cheney took up opposite seats in front of the fireplace, and commission members were clustered in the room on couches and chairs.

Bush was joined by White House legal counsel Alberto Gonzales and two others, unidentified White House lawyers who were there to take notes. The commission was allowed to bring one staffer for note-taking.

Past testimony has established that elements of the US intelligence apparatus were aware of threats to American targets from the militant al-Qaeda network, led by Osama bin Laden, before the 11 September, 2001, hijacking attacks.

MNA/Reuters

Ford Motor (Philippines) to export 16,000 vehicles

MANILA, 30 April — US automaker Ford Motor Co plans to export 16,000 assembled vehicles from the Philippines this year, the Philippine Department of Trade and Industry said Wednesday.

The export will earn some 220 million US dollars in export revenues, as Ford Motor Co (Philippines) aims to export some 33,000 vehicles next year, and 40,000 by 2006, the department said in a statement.

Likewise, Ford Philippines plans to export vehicles as "completely-knocked-down kits" to Viet-

nam and possibly Malaysia, for assembly there, it added without elaborating.

Ford exported 13,327 vehicles worth some 190 million dollars to Thailand last year, a sharp increase from the 2,785 vehicles exported from the Philippines in 2002, the department said.

Trade Secretary Cesar Purisima said Fords' exports

showed the success of Manila's automotive export programme, adding that the company was also buying components from local firms for use in models abroad.

Counting such components, Ford exports from the Philippines amounted to 450 million dollars in 2003, Purisima said.

MNA/Xinhua

Syrian President sees "legitimate resistance" in Iraq

DUBAI, 30 April — Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, under pressure from Washington to help stop attacks against US forces in Iraq, said in an interview shown on Wednesday that the Iraqi unrest was legitimate resistance.

US forces in Iraq are trying to quell twin threats from Sunni Muslim guerillas in Fallujah and Shiite fighters in the south before they hand over sovereignty to Iraqis on June 30.

"Certainly, what has happened on the popular level gives legitimacy to the resistance and shows that the major part of what is happening is resistance," Assad said in comments aired on Arabic satellite channel

Al Jazeera.

"You are talking now about resistance which is against the occupation forces," Assad said. Asked if the resistance was legitimate, he said: "Well, of course, it's understood that way". The United States has accused Syria of sheltering "terrorists" and not doing enough to stop foreign fighters infiltrating from its territory into neighbouring Iraq.

MNA/Reuters



US Marines take their fighting positions near the Iraqi town of Fallujah, on 29 April, 2004.—INTERNET



A girl picks up debris from the roof of her family home after a rocket, landed in a residential area of Mosul, on 30 March, 2004.



Iraqis inspect a destroyed house on 27 April 2004 near Najaf, Iraq.

Images of Iraq



A student cleans up debris after a rocket hit a school in the northern Iraq city of Mosul on 28 March, 2004.



An Iraqi man gestures in front of a destroyed house in Fallujah, Iraq, on 29 April 2004.



An Iraqi boy passes four military vehicles destroyed by a blast in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad on 26 April, 2004.



An injured Iraqi man is lifted up by others after he got injured during an explosion in the northern part of Baghdad, Iraq, on 26 April 2004.

New and fast developments throughout Myanmar



Dawei railway station in Taninthayi Division.



The wide view of Ngwetha Dam in Salingyi Township, Sagaing Division.



Newly opened Myoma Bridge seen on Monywa-Yagyi-Kalaywa Road in Mingin Township, Sagaing Division.

Senior citizens, strength of the nation

Aung Si Hein

I happened to read a story in the issue of The New Light of Myanmar dated 18 September 2003, which featured some nations with high percentage of aging population. The citizens aged 65 or above made up 19 per cent of the population for Japan in 2003, 18.2 per cent for Italy in 2001 and 16.1 per cent for France in 2003. According to the figures collected in 2001 by the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs, the number of Myanmar people aged 65 or older stood at 2,647,000 or 5.28 per cent of the nation's population.

The nations with high percentage of aging population are industrialized ones, resulting from their population control programme which has been laid down under their economic plans. These nations are well aware that in the long run they will have to run into a serious problem to import foreigner labourers due to decreasing percentage of their young population. According to the census taken in 2003, 8.1 per cent of Myanmar's population of over 52 million were aged 60 or above. In Myanmar, there is no limitation of the number of children for a family. With development of economic and health sectors, the percentage of married people and population growth rate are still in good condition in the nation.

The United Nations General Assembly designated the first of October as International Day of Older Persons in 1999. The UN member nations including Myanmar yearly hold ceremonies to mark the International Day of Older Persons on 1 October. At the ceremonies, respects are paid and cash and kind presented to the older persons according to fine traditions and customs of respective nations and peoples.

Since distant past, Myanmar has already possessed such fine traditions in accordance with the Buddhist culture. When I was young, I paid respects to my grandparents, parents and elder brothers and sisters on the day on which the Buddhist lent starts, the day on which the Buddhist lent ends, on the New Year Day, and before I made a long trip. Normally, I paid respects to them before going to bed every day. In addition to the elders at home, Myanmar people also paid respects to elderly persons and teachers door to door in the ward. It is a fine tradition of Myanmar.

In my opinion, I think among the old persons, those who are still hale and hearty should participate more in the nation-building tasks. In Myanmar, generally, those at the age of around 50 begin to be called bobo or bwabwa (grandpa or grandma). They can be called junior bobos or bwabwas. They have been mature with considerable knowledge gained from their experiences. When they are around 70, they become senior bobos and bwabwas. And they can endure vicissitudes much more than in the past. I think that throughout the Myanmar history, most of those held in high esteem in religious, education, literary and

arts areas were senior bobos and bwabwas.

Writer Aung Win (Psychology), in his book 'Progress and wealth through will power', wrote that generally people used 10 percent of the capability of their brains while putting 90 percent to rest; that the brain of the 60-year-old man was more delicate than that of the 30-year-old man and had more creative power; that it was, therefore, safe to assume that the brain could not become old, despite old age; that working power could be gained by arousing the seemingly sleeping brain; that continuous engagement in doing something interesting and fresh one after another could keep the heart young; and that right attitude would contribute to regular blood circulation, better digestion, and pleasant looks.

Generally speaking, service personnel retire at the age of 60 in Myanmar. What seems to overwhelm them first is the idea that they are getting old and have to retire soon. Of them, some turn to religion. Normally, they adapt themselves to religious, economic, sports and social activities, especially to the one which suits them most. There are also some who contribute their service making use of what they have learned. With no jobs in particular, others have to be satisfied with such work as baby-sitting and household chores. The life of those aged over 60 who are not service personnel will be the same.

In some developed European countries, a majority of senior citizens, as they did in their puberty, continue to get dressed decently, kill time at libraries and museums, take a rest in parks and gardens, and go on vacation in pursuit of knowledge.

In contrary to Myanmar culture, it is only once or twice in a year that parents and grandparents in those countries feel delighted at the gifts sent to them by their offspring to mark their birthdays or to celebrate the Christmas. Rare are the events of looking after the parents and grandparents by their offspring staying with them. Normally, what the grandparents have to rely on is hospitals and homes for the aged where their health is insured. Mostly, they lead lonely and boring life with their children away and end their life unhappily.

In Myanmar, however, parents and grandparents enjoy the opportunity to receive the care and affection from their families while staying together with them. A few helpless ones have to take shelter at the home for the aged.

There are also some who unavoidably have to go to the home for the aged for various reasons although they have their own families capable of looking after them.

Of numerous reasons for cultural traditions varying from one country to another and from one nationality to another, prime is the world outlook and the system of human cultural society.

In short, it is incumbent upon all of us to rely on the intellectual power of the senior citizens possessing life experiences money cannot buy and the efficient brain nature provides and to help them participate actively in nation-building tasks.

(Translation: MS+KTY)



The delegation being welcomed back at the airport. MNA

Writers delegation arrives back

YANGON, 30 April — The Myanmar writers delegation led by U Chit Naing (Chit Naing-Psychology), CEC member of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association and Director-General of the Information and Public Relations Department, arrived back here by air yesterday evening after paying a study visit to the People's Republic of China.

The delegation was welcomed back at the Yangon International airport by Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, officials, MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) and CEC members. MWJA Joint-Secretary U Myint Kywe (Maung Myint Kywe) and CEC member Daw Khin Than Win (Kyu Kyu Thin) also arrived back here on the same flight. — MNA

သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

ယာဉ်မတော်တဆမှုများမှ အချို့သည် ခါးပတ်မပတ်ကြ၍ မလိုလားအပ်သော ထိခိုက်ဒဏ်ရာရသောဆုများ ဖြစ်ကြရသည်။ သို့ပါ၍ ခါးပတ်ပါရှိသော ဆလွန်၊ ဗင်နှင့် စတော့ဝပ်ရှပ် အပါအဝင် ခါးပတ်ပါသောယာဉ်များပေါ်တွင် မောင်းနှင်စီးနင်းကြသူများအနေဖြင့် ခါးပတ်ပတ်၍စီးနင်းကြရန် သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြပ်မက်မှုတော်

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



မီးသုံးစွဲလျှင် အသိယှဉ် အစဉ်သတိ အမြဲရှိ

အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကာကွယ်ရေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

ယခုအခါတွင် နွေရာသီရောက်လာပြီဖြစ်သဖြင့် ရာသီဥတု ပူပြင်းလာပြီ ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ထိုအပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ရွေးကောက်လွန်ပြီး နွေကုန်အတွင်းရှိ ရေနံဓာတ်ဆားများ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုများပြားပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ဆုံးရှုံးမှုကြောင့် မိတ်နှင့်ယားဖုများထွက်လာခြင်း၊ ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ မူးမော်ခြင်း၊ ကြွက်တက်ခြင်း၊ ရွေးခြောက်ခြင်း ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းတို့အပြင် အသက်အန္တရာယ် ဖိုရိမ်ရသော အခြေအနေအထိ ဖြစ်တတ်ပါသည်။

သိရှိစွဲပါ၍ အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် မလိုလားအပ်သော အကျိုးဆက်များ မဖြစ်ပေါ်စေရန် ဆောက်ပါအချက်အလက်များကို လိုက်နာကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

- (၁) နံနက် (၁၀)နာရီမှ ညနေ (၅)နာရီအတွင်း လွတ်တီးခေါင်ပြင်း မြစ်ကမ်းနား၊ ရေဆိပ်စသည်တို့တွင် ရေချိုးခြင်းမှရှောင်ကြဉ်၍ အရိပ်၍ အေးမြသောနေရာများတွင် နေပါ။
- (၂) နေပူထဲမှပြန်လာပြီး ချက်ချင်းရေချိုးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၃) နေပူထဲတွင် ပြင်းထန်သောကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုများ မပြုလုပ်ပါ။
- (၄) အရက်သောက်ခြင်းသည် အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကို ဖြစ်ပေါ်လွယ်စေခြင်းနှင့် ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ပြင်းထန်စွာ စောင့်ရှောက်ကြောင့် ရှောင်ကြဉ်သင့်ပါသည်။

- (၅) နေ့ခင်းဘက် အပြင်ထွက်သည့်အခါတိုင်း အရိပ်လုံလောက်စွာ ရရှိနိုင်သည့် ထီး၊ ဦးထုပ်များ ဆောင်ပါ။
- (၆) အလင်းရောင်ပြန်သော အဖြူရောင်၊ သို့မဟုတ် အရောင်ဖျော့ဖျော့ အဝတ်အထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၇) ပွပျော့ချောင်းချည် ချည်ထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၈) ရွေးထွက်လွန်ပါက ကိုယ်တွင်းရှိ ရေနံဓာတ်ဆားဆုံးရှုံးမှုကို ပြန်လည်ဖြည့်တင်းနိုင်ရန် ဓာတ်ဆားရည်သောက်ပါ။
- (၉) ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ပါက ရေအေးဖတ် နိုင်နိုင်တိုက်ပါ။
- (၁၀) ဆီးချိုရောဂါ၊ နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ သွေးတိုးရောဂါအစရှိသူများ၊ ကလေးသူငယ်များနှင့် သက်ကြီးရွယ်အိုများအနေဖြင့် နေ့လယ်နေ့ခင်းတွင် အရိပ်၍ လေဝင်လေထွက်ကောင်းသော နေရာမျိုး၌ နားနေပါ။
- (၁၁) မိတ်ဖု၊ ယားနားများထွက်ပါက ရေအေးဝတ်ကပ်ခြင်း၊ သနပ်ခါးလိမ်ခြင်းတို့ကို ပြုလုပ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းနှင့် အတက်ရောဂါဖြစ်ပါက နီစပ်ရာ ကျွန်ုပ်တို့မာရ်ဌာနတွင် ပြသပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Production development in multi-sectors most important...

(from page 1)

Of the Head of State's guidances, General Thura Shwe Mann recounted the ones concerning the farm entrepreneurs, and quoted the Senior General as saying, "The emergence of advanced cultivation fields stretching thousands of acres is needed to run farming and farm production business on a commercial scale and for marked progress of the farm production sector."

"In this regard, encouragement has been given to national entrepreneurs having capital and economic management skills to invest in reclaiming virgin, vacant and fallow lands and wetlands for cultivation. They are being invited to invest in the agricultural business as the new economic force of the nation."

"The advanced cultivation enterprises will bring progress to rural areas where farmers live."

In accord with the guidance, the Government is providing assistance for entrepreneurs for agricultural development. At the previous meetings, the Government has already assured all necessary assistance including land and legal protection for entrepreneurs for the development of farming business. Moreover harmonious efforts will bring progress to the farming business. However, there may be difficulties, and the Government will solve them to the best of its ability. For example, it is applying various means to supply water to crops.

The Government has been laying down and implementing plans to develop the electricity and industrial sectors, and transforming from conventional farming to mechanized farming, and the plans have connections with the large-scale cultivation projects.

Entrepreneurs possessing management skill and capital should strive to develop their agriculture businesses with zeal and perseverance.

The Government has permitted free trade for cotton, sugarcane and rubber in addition to rice. Production and export businesses of the nation will achieve progress in the long run. Thus, entrepreneurs will have to work in accord with the law.

Next, Secretary of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myo Nyunt reported on allotment of plots to national entrepreneurs for growing oil palm starting from 1993, actual cultivation of oil palm by 17 companies, arrangements for allotment of the lands to 18 national entrepreneurs who wish to put the land under oil palm this year and their field study in the region.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo also reported on water and geographical conditions of Taninthayi Division and the areas where oil palm can be grown actually to be chosen by the entrepreneurs. Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin explained the plan to give permission and guarantee to the entrepreneurs in allotment of the vacant and virgin lands.

Next, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung reported on rules and disciplines for giving permission

and guarantee to plant oil palm in forest area and existence of the forests in the long term.

Afterwards, Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin explained arrangements for disbursement of loans.

The entrepreneurs reported on acquiring of the plots for growing oil palm in Taninthayi Division and requirements for construction of crude palm oil mill. Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha explained matters related to import of machinery.

Next, General Thura Shwe Mann gave necessary instructions.

Afterwards, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein gave a speech. He said that in building the country to become a modern and developed one, it is required to strengthen and develop economy of the State basically.

It is necessary to develop the agricultural sector which is a prerequisite for economic development as well as the industrial sector. In carrying out improvement of the industrial sector, investment, technology and human resources are required.

The country has land, water, suitable climate and experience in undertaking development of the agricultural sector and thus it can be said that the agricultural sector will gain progress rapidly.

The agriculture is of traditional business of generations, it should be added with modern agricultural technology, investment and earnest efforts.

The private entrepreneurs have obtained over 900,000 acres of land in total for carrying out agricultural and livestock breeding tasks in Ayeyawady, Yangon, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and Shan and Kachin States.

Therefore, the private entrepreneurs, on their part, are to make concerted efforts to achieve greater success in carrying out agricultural and livestock breeding tasks in their areas. The Government, on its part, will fulfil requirements of the entrepreneurs.

After that, the national entrepreneurs reported on steps being taken for reclamation of virgin and fallow land and requirements. Next, the Secretaries of the respective Division Peace and Development Councils gave supplementary reports.

Later, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Lt-Gen Tin Aye stressed the importance of coordination and cooperation of the national entrepreneurs in implementing the national development tasks.

In response to the reports, Minister for Home Af-



Secretary-2
Lt-Gen
Thein Sein
speaks at
the meeting.
MNA

fairs Col Tin Hlaing and Minister for Livestock & Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Thein reported on assistance to be provided ministry-wise for the entrepreneurs, integrated and well-coordinated efforts required and breeding of fish and prawn on the land where agriculture undertakings cannot be carried out.

Next, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann made the concluding remarks, stressing the need for the entrepreneurs to engage in research and development work company-wise in order to achieve further progress in agriculture undertakings and produce quality varieties in the long-run.

The government will render necessary assistance for accomplishment of the projects.

It is incumbent upon the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry to penetrate the foreign market while striving for further boosting production. In addition, the UMFCI is to encourage the farm industry.

Only then will there be a firm and wider market with increase in export of crops, fish and meat. Only when there is a firm and wider market will there be a strong economy, thereby contributing to creating a sound economic environment for the nation. Therefore, based on goodwill and wider knowledge, all are to make strenuous efforts for successful realization of the projects, he said, and the meeting ended.

MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint looks into development tasks in Momauk, Bhamo

YANGON, 30 April— Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Brig-Gen Soe Nwe of Bhamo Station and officials, inspected Myothit Station Hospital of Momauk Township on 27 April morning.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint fulfilled the requirements and gave necessary instructions. Next, they proceeded to Myothit Basic Education High School and inspected the site chosen for construction of a two-storey school building. Lt-Gen Ye Myint presented K 500,000 for construction of the school building to Headmaster U Sein Yun Tang Gun.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party saw over construction of Nantkyayi Creek Bridge on Momauk-Namhsaing Road near Manpon Village, Momauk Township.

At the briefing hall, Senior Engineer U Nyi Nyi of Public Works reported on construction of the bridge. The commander gave a supplementary report. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected progress in building the bridge. Nantkyayi Bridge is 310 feet long. The approach structure and piers have been completed cent per cent and overall construction tasks 50 per cent so far.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party went to Bhamo Nursing and Midwifery Training School where they were welcomed by Deputy Director Daw Nwe Nwe Khin of Medical Science Department, Principal Daw Leo Ni and officials.

Thuriya Construction Co engineer in-charge U Aung Myo Min reported on completion in building the training school. Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave necessary instructions. The training school has been completed by 92 per cent so far.

They arrived at the site of Bhamo Degree College Project. Principal U Khin Maung Tint and faculty members welcomed them. At the main hall, Principal U Khin Maung

Tint and Eden Group Co Ltd Manager U Yu Tin reported on academic matters, construction tasks and requirements. Lt-Gen Ye Myint attended to their needs. They inspected progress of construction tasks.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with local authorities, departmental officials, social organization members, teachers and trainees of the Bhamo Nursing and Midwifery Training School at the Town Hall in Bhamo. Chairman of Bhamo District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Hla Thauang reported on management matters in the district, implementation of economic and social matters.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said that Bhamo District has enjoyed food sufficiency but Bhamo Township does not yet have sufficiency of food. For ensuring sufficiency of food, district and township level officials are to carry out land reclamation, feasibility study of water sources, changing of manual farming to mechanized farming. At the same time, it is necessary to grow perennial crops on the land where paddy cannot be cultivated. Thus, Bhamo Township will reach the stage of not only local food sufficiency but also surplus of food. Furthermore, township officials should conduct feasibility study to generate hydroelectric power. Service personnel are also to join hands with local people in carrying out regional development tasks with goodwill.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and the commander met with officers, other ranks and family members of regiments in Myothit Station at Mogyo Hall in the morning. Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on extension of agriculture and livestock breeding tasks and carrying out of five rural development tasks laid down by the State.

Later, they viewed agriculture and livestock breeding tasks of the regiments in Myothit Station.— MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects ...

(from page 16)

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party went to Sitha Model Village and attended to requirements of the region.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party met with local authorities, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and townsmen at No 1 BEHS in Shwegu. Officials reported on progress of Shwegu Township, agriculture, livestock breeding, rural development tasks and requirements. Lt-Gen Ye Myint attended to the needs, saying that in its endeavour to transform the nation to a peaceful, developed and modern one, the government places emphasis on equitable development of all states and divisions. In the process, local people are to take part in the five rural development tasks in cooperation with departmental officials, he urged. Undertakings are to be carried out for more reclamation of arable land and construction of small hydropower stations on self-reliance, he said.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint looked into progress in constructing the two-storey building of No 1 BEHS in Shwegu and attended to the needs. He also inspected Shwegu People's Hospital and presented cash donations to mothers and newly born babies. He inspected construction of retaining wall for prevention against bank erosion along Ayeyawady River on Strand Road, Ward 2, Shwegu, and the 100-foot-long bridge and left necessary instructions.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint held a meeting with officers and other ranks and family members at Shwegu Station and then viewed agriculture and livestock breeding farms of the station.

Later in the morning, Lt-Gen Ye Myint held a similar meeting at Bhamo Station. — MNA

မြို့ရွာတစ်ခွင်သာစေရန် မီးတွင်မလျှံနှင့်။

The Union of Myanmar
The State Peace and Development Council
The Electronic Transactions Law
(The State Peace and Development Council
Law No. 5/2004)

The 12th Waxing of Kason 1366 M.E.
(30th April, 2004)

(from page 16)

- (f) **Electronic signature** means any symbol or mark arranged personally or on his behalf by electronic technology or any other similar technologies to verify the authenticity of the source of the electronic record and the absence of amendment or substitution;
- (g) **Certification authority** means a person or an organization that has been granted a licence by the Control Board under this Law for services in respect of the electronic signature;
- (h) **Certificate** means the certificate issued to a subscriber by the certification authority as an electronic data message or other record identifying the relation between the signer of an electronic signature and the electronic data message;
- (i) **Originator** means a person by whom or on whose behalf the electronic record or electronic data message purports to have been created, generated or sent. This expression does not include a person acting as an intermediary with respect to electronic record or electronic data message;
- (j) **Addressee** means a person who is intended by the originator to receive the electronic record or electronic data message. This expression does not include a person acting as an intermediary with respect to electronic record or electronic data message;
- (k) **Subscriber** means a person who is by any technologies identified as an authentic signer of an electronic signature in the certificate;
- (l) **Central Body** means the Central Body of Electronic Transactions formed under this Law;
- (m) **Ministry** means the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs;
- (n) **Control Board** means the Electronic Transactions Control Board formed under this Law.

Chapter II
Aims

3. The aims of this Law are as follows:-
- (a) to support with electronic transactions technology in building a modern, developed nation;
- (b) to obtain more opportunities for all-round development of sectors including human resources, economic, social and educational sector by electronic transactions technologies;
- (c) to recognize the authenticity and integrity of electronic record and electronic data message and give legal protection thereof in matters of internal and external transactions, making use of computer network;
- (d) to enable transmitting, receiving and storing local and foreign information simultaneously, making use of electronic transactions technologies;
- (e) to enable communicating and co-operating effectively and speedily with international organizations, regional organizations, foreign countries, local and foreign government departments and organizations, private organizations and persons, making use of computer network.

Chapter III
Application

4. (a) The provisions contained in this Law shall apply to any kind of electronic record and electronic data message used in the context of commercial and non-commercial activities including domestic and international dealings, transactions, arrangements, agreements, contracts and exchanges and storage of information.
- (b) This Law shall apply to any person who commits any offence actionable under this Law within the country or from inside of the country to outside of the country, or from outside of the country to inside of the country by making use of the electronic transactions technology.
5. The provisions contained in this Law shall not apply to the following matters:
- (a) "Will" defined in sub-section (h) of section 2 of the Succession Act;
- (b) Negotiable instrument" defined in section 13 of the Negotiable Instruments Act;
- (c) "Trust" defined in section 3 of the Trusts Act;

- (d) Power of Attorney" granted under the Powers of Attorney Act;
- (e) Documents relating to title;
- (f) Instruments prescribed in any existing law to be registered;
- (g) Matters exempted by the Ministry by issuing notification, with the approval of the Government.

Chapter IV

Formation of the Central Body of Electronic Transactions and Functions and Duties thereof

6. The Government: -
- (a) shall form the Central Body of Electronic Transactions for enabling the implementation of the aims of this Law, comprising the Minister for the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs as the Chairman and persons from the relevant ministries, government departments and organizations and technicians as members;
- (b) may, in forming the Central Body, determine the Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Joint Secretary and assign duties thereof;
- (c) may reorganize the Central Body as may be necessary.
7. The functions and duties of the Central Body are as follows: -
- (a) laying down plans for application step by step of electronic transactions technologies extensively in building the modern, developed nation;
- (b) laying down and implementing programmes for enriching experience and knowledge on electronic transactions technologies and readiness in globalization process;
- (c) carrying out activities to be in conformity with the policies relating to electronic transactions technologies, legal affairs and specifications to enable communicating, co-operating and dealing effectively and speedily, with international organizations, regional organizations, foreign countries and local and foreign organizations;
- (d) communicating and co-operating with international organizations, regional organizations, foreign countries, local and foreign organizations on matters relating to electronic transactions technologies;
- (e) forming the Control Board and supervising and guiding thereof;
- (f) forming the necessary working committees and stipulating functions and duties thereof for enabling the implementation of their functions and duties successfully.
8. The Central Body may, if necessary, assign any of its functions and duties to an appropriate government department and organization or person.

Chapter V

Formation of the Electronic Transactions Control Board and Functions and Powers thereof

9. The Central Body:
- (a) shall, for the purposes of this Law, form the Electronic Transactions Control Board comprising suitable persons and experts for enabling the supervision of the activities of the electronic transactions.
- (b) may reorganize the Control Board as may be necessary.
10. The Control Board shall exercise and carry out the following functions and powers under the guidance of the Central Body:
- (a) issuing licence to enable performing as a certification authority and refusing to issue the same;
- (b) specifying the manner in which dealings shall be conducted between the certification authority and the subscribers;
- (c) specifying the terms and conditions and standards subject to which the certification authority shall conduct its business and the detailed data to be recorded in the accounts to be maintained by it;
- (d) specifying the qualifications and experience that employees of the certification authority should possess;
- (e) settling disputes relating to interests which arise between the certification authority and the subscriber;
- (f) facilitating the establishment of any electronic system by a certification authority either solely or jointly with other certification authority and regulation of such system;
- (g) maintaining a database containing the disclosure record by certification authority of particulars that shall be accessible to the public;
- (h) reproducing, copying or extracting, if necessary, of records, accounts, data and documents stored

by a certification authority and examining thereof

- (i) having access to and inspecting and checking the operation of any computer system and any associated apparatus or material which it has reasonable cause to suspect is or has been in use in connection with any offence under this Law;
- (j) exposing and acquiring any necessary identification document from any person with respect to any offence contained in this Law;
- (k) examining and supervising the activities of the certification authority;
- (l) investigating as may be necessary to scrutinize whether this Law and rules, procedures, notifications, orders and directives issued under this Law are abided by or not;
- (m) recognizing any foreign certification authority in accordance with the stipulations;
- (n) submitting its activities to the Central Body in accordance with the stipulations;
- (o) performing other functions and duties as are assigned by the Central Body and the Ministry from time to time.
11. The Control Board may, if necessary, assign any of its functions and duties to a body after forming it or to an expert, with the approval of the Central Body.

Chapter VI

Certification Authority

12. Any person or organization from inside or outside of the country desirous of performing service as a certification authority shall apply to the Control Board to obtain the licence in accordance with the stipulations.
13. The Control Board may, after scrutinizing the licence application under section 12, issue the licence to the person or organization by prescribing the terms and conditions or refuse to issue the same.
14. The certification authority shall:
- (a) utilize the trustworthy system so as not to cause intrusion and misuse of computer hardware, software and procedures of computer;
- (b) prescribe a reasonable level of reliability in its services which are reasonably suited to the performance of intended functions;
- (c) carry out the secrecy and privacy of the electronic signatures in accordance with the security procedures;
- (d) observe the specified standards;
- (e) mention the detailed facts of electronic transactions certificate;
- (f) disclose its service that can be provided with respect to issuance of certificate;
- (g) disclose facts that may materially and adversely affect reliability, or responsibility or guaranty of a certificate that is issued or its ability to perform its services;
- (h) in the event of occurrences that may materially and adversely affect due to conditions permitted in the certificate or failure in the computer system:
- (i) notify the person who may foreseeably be affected, by any possible means;
- (ii) act in accordance with procedures governing such an occurrence specified in its certification practice statement;
- (i) comply with the regulations and duties prescribed by the Control Board from time to time.
15. (a) The certification authority who obtains a licence issued under section 13 shall, on submitting a proposal to obtain a permit under the Myanmar Citizens Investment Law or Union of Myanmar Foreign Investment Law, apply to the Myanmar Investment Commission together with the licence issued by the Control Board.
- (b) The Myanmar Investment Commission may, with respect to application under sub-section (a), seek the remark of the Control Board, if necessary.

Chapter VII
Subscriber

16. (a) Any person, desirous of performing as a subscriber, shall apply to the certification authority to obtain the certificate in accordance with the stipulations.
- (b) The certification authority may, after scrutinizing the application under sub-section (a), issue the certificate by prescribing conditions or refuse to issue the same.
17. The subscriber shall: -
- (a) when using valid signature by decryption of the electronic signature, take care so that such decryption may not be used by others unlawfully;
- (b) in using the certificate issued for electronic signature during the period granted, take care to be completely accurate and correct with respect to facts relevant to him or facts that are to be inserted;

(See page 11)

(from page 10)

- (c) if the secrecy of decryption of the electronic signature has been compromised or is in a situation where compromise may possibly occur, inform the persons who are related to his electronic signature as arranged by the certification authority or by any suitable arrangement without delay.

18. The subscriber shall be responsible for the consequences of the loss and damage to be caused by his failure to comply with the provisions of section 17.

Chapter VIII

Electronic Record, Electronic Data Message and Electronic Signature

19. (a) Matters prescribed to be reduced to writing or to be signed under any existing law may be made by electronic record, electronic data message or electronic signature.
- (b) The electronic record, electronic data message or electronic signature made under sub-section (a) shall be lawful as if they were made under the relevant law.
20. The originator and the addressee shall, in accordance with the stipulated means, perform the sending, receiving or storing of electronic record, electronic data message or electronic signature. However, if there is a specific agreement between them, it may be performed in accordance with the means of such agreement.

Chapter IX

Contracts made by Electronic Technology

21. In making contracts unless otherwise agreed by the parties, offer acceptance of offer and other requirements may be made by electronic technology.
22. The electronic record and electronic data message shall be deemed to be that of the originator if it was sent by the originator himself or by a person who had the authority to act on behalf of the originator or by an information system programmed by or on behalf of the originator to operate automatically.
23. An addressee is entitled to regard an information electronic record or electronic data message as being that of the originator if it conforms to any of the following points and to act on that assumption:
- (a) sending in accordance with the procedure previously agreed between the originator and the addressee;
- (b) receiving by the addressee data message which resulted from the action of a person who has relationship with the originator or who has the authority to act on behalf of the originator and sending by a procedure used by the originator.
24. On or before sending of the electronic record or electronic data message, the originator and the addressee:
- (a) may acknowledge the receipt by any of the following procedures:
- (i) communicating by the addressee himself or automated or by any other means;
- (ii) any conduct sufficient to indicate to the originator that addressee has received it;
- (b) may enter into specific agreement in respect of the acknowledgement of receipt.
25. Where:
- (a) the originator has stated that electronic record or the electronic data message is conditional on receipt of the acknowledgement of the electronic data message or electronic record, it shall be treated as though it had never been sent until the acknowledgement is received;
- (b) the originator has not stated that electronic record or the electronic data message is conditional on receipt of acknowledgement and the acknowledgement has not been received by the originator within the time specified or agreed or if no time has been specified or agreed within a reasonable time, the originator may give notice to the addressee stating that no acknowledgement has been received.
26. Unless otherwise agreed between the originator and the addressee in respect of dispatch and receipt of an electronic record or electronic data message:
- (a) dispatch of it occurs when it enters information system outside the control of the originator or his agent;
- (b) the time of receipt of it is as follows:
- (i) the time when it enters the designated information system;
- (ii) if an information system which is not designated is used, the time when it is retrieved by the addressee;
- (iii) if no information system has been designated, the time when it enters an information system of the addressee.
27. (a) Unless otherwise agreed between the originator and the addressee the place of business of the originator shall be deemed to be the dispatching place and the

place of business of the addressee shall be deemed to be the receiving place.

- (b) If the originator and the addressee conduct business in more than one place, the principal place of business shall be deemed to be the permanent address. If there is no place of business, their place of permanent residence shall be deemed to be the permanent address, and if it is a corporate body, the place where it has been incorporated and established legally shall be deemed to be the permanent address.

Chapter X

Taking Administrative Action

28. The Control Board may, if the certification authority violates any condition of the licence or is convicted for the commission of any offence under this Law, pass any of the following administrative orders:
- (a) imposing a penalty as stipulated;
- (b) suspending the licence subject to a time limit;
- (c) cancelling the licence.
29. The certification authority may, if the subscriber violates any condition contained in the certificate or is convicted for the commission of any offence under this Law, pass any of the administrative orders:
- (a) suspending the certificate subject to a time limit;
- (b) cancelling the certificate.

Chapter XI

Application for Revision and Appeal

30. (a) A person dissatisfied with any order or decision made by the certification authority in respect of the refusal of issuing certificate, suspension of the certificate subject to a time limit or cancellation of the certificate may apply for revision to the Control Board within 30 days from the date of passing such order or decision;
- (b) The Control Board may confirm, revise or set aside the order or decision made by the certification authority.
31. (a) A person dissatisfied with any order or decision made by the Control Board in respect of the refusal of issuing certificate, imposing a penalty as stipulated, suspension of licence subject to a time limit or cancellation of the licence or with any order or decision made under sub-section (b) of section 30 may file an appeal to the Central Body within 60 days from the date of passing such order or decision;
- (b) The Central Body may confirm, revise or set aside the order or decision made by the Control Board.
32. The decision made by the Central Body under sub-section (b) of section 31 shall be the final and conclusive.

Chapter XII

Offences and Penalties

33. Whoever commits any of the following acts by using electronic transactions technology shall, on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend from a minimum of 7 years to a maximum of 15 years and may also be liable to a fine:
- (a) doing any act detrimental to the security of the State or prevalence of law and order or community peace and tranquillity or national solidarity or national economy or national culture.
- (b) receiving or sending and distributing any information relating to secrets of the security of the State or prevalence of law and order or community peace and tranquillity or national solidarity or national economy or national culture.
34. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 5 years or with fine or with both:
- (a) sending, hacking, modifying, altering, destroying, stealing, or causing loss and damage to the electronic record, electronic data message, or the whole or part of the computer programme dishonestly;
- (b) intercepting of any communication within the computer network, using or giving access to any person of any fact in any communication without permission of the originator and the addressee;
- (c) communicating to any other person directly or indirectly with a security number, password or electronic signature of any person without permission or consent of such person;
- (d) creating, modifying or altering of information or distributing of information created, modified or altered by electronic technology to be detrimental to the interest of or to lower the dignity of any organization or any person.
35. Any certification authority or any of his officer or employee who violates any of the prohibitions contained in the order issued by the Control Board shall, on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 3 years or with fine or with both.
36. Whoever violates any of the prohibitions contained in the

rules, notifications and orders issued under this Law shall, on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 1 year or with fine or with both.

37. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 1 year or with fine or with both:
- (a) knowingly misrepresents to the certification authority his identity or authorisation in applying for a certificate or in submitting for suspension or cancellation of a certificate;
- (b) obstructing or impeding or assaulting the Central Body and body or person assigned duty by it or the Control Board and body or person assigned duty by it which performs the functions and duties in accordance with this Law or failing to comply with the demand to perform in accordance with this Law.
38. Whoever attempts to commit any offence of this Law or conspires amounting to an offence or abets the commission of an offence shall be punished with the punishment provided for such offence in this Law.

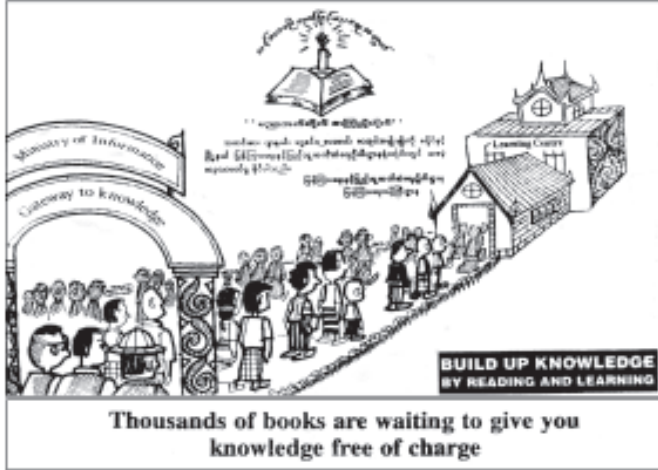
Chapter XIII

Miscellaneous

39. The government departments and organizations shall recognize the transaction of electronic record or electronic data message as lawful for the following matters:
- (a) submitting, accepting or retention of documents;
- (b) issuing permit, licence or approval;
- (c) claiming the required payment, paying, receiving and issuing a receipt therefor.
40. The persons making use of electronic transactions may determine the required type and level of security of electronic record and electronic data message and may select, use and implement the methods which accord with their requirement.
41. The Ministry shall determine the tenure of licence, licence fees and renewal fees of tenure of licence in respect of business licence to enable performance as the certification authority.
42. The Control Board has the right to recover the fees and fines to be received under this Law from the defaulter as if they were arrears of land revenue.
43. The Ministry:-
- (a) may prescribe and allow remuneration to the members of the Central Body, who are not government servants.
- (b) shall arrange to carry out the functions of the office of Central Body and shall also bear the expenses.
44. In prosecuting under this Law, prior sanction of the Central Body shall be obtained.
45. Any offence contained in this Law is cognizable by the Myanmar Police Force.
46. If an exhibit involved in any offence prosecuted under this Law is not easily producible before the Court, such exhibit needs not be produced before the Court. However, a report with other relevant documentary evidence as to the manner of custody of the same may be submitted. Such submission shall be deemed as if it were a submission of the exhibit before the Court and the relevant Court may dispose of the same in accordance with Law.
47. The expression "experts" referred to in section 45 of the Evidence Act shall be deemed to include the Control Board, the body or person assigned duty by it or the certification authority.
48. Information, electronic record, electronic data message, electronic signature or other documents communicated between the originator and the addressee shall not be denied legal effect, validity or enforceability solely on the ground of being made through electronic technology.
49. No suit or prosecution shall lie against the Central Body and body or person assigned duty by it or the Control Board and body or person assigned duty by it or the certification authority for duties and functions done in good faith in pursuance of this Law.
50. The Ministry may, with the approval of the Government, issue a notification if necessary, to clarify the definition of any technical terms of this Law.
51. Notwithstanding anything contained in any existing law, the provisions contained in this Law shall prevail over the provisions not in conformity with or contradicting any provisions contained in this Law.
52. In implementing the provisions of this Law:-
- (a) the Ministry may, with the approval of the Government, issue necessary rules and procedures;
- (b) the Central Body and the Ministry may issue necessary notifications, orders and directives and the Control Board may issue necessary directives.

(Sd.) Than Shwe
Senior General
Chairman

The State Peace and Development Council



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**UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
MYANMA SHIPYARDS
INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER**

1. Sealed tenders are invited by Myanma Shipyards, for supply of the following M.S. Plates and Angles which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyats:-

| Sr.No | Tender No | Description | Qty |
|-------|-----------------|--|-----------|
| 1. | T(1) MS/2004-05 | Ship construction material complying with Lloyd's (OR) ABS Grade A | |
| | | M.S Plates | |
| | | 65 x 65 x 6mm (or) (6' x 20') x 6mm | 500 Tons |
| | | (8' x 30') x 8mm (or) (6' x 20') x 8mm | (Approx:) |
| | | (8' x 30') x 10mm (or) (6' x 20') x 10mm | |
| | | M.S Angles (6M in Length) | |
| | | 65 x 65 x 6mm | 50 Tons |
| | | 75 x 65 x 8mm | (Approx:) |
| | | 100 x 75 x 7mm | |
| | | 125 x 75 x 8mm | |

Tender Closing Date : 28th May, 2004 (10:00) Hours
Tender Opening Date : 28th May, 2004 (14:00) Hours

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Assistant General Manager (Store), Myanma Shipyards, Sinmalike, Kamayut, Yangon, starting from 17th May, 2004 during the office hours.

3. For further detail please call 536521

Assistant General Manager (Store)
Store Department, Myanma Shipyards,
Sinmalike, Kamayut, Yangon.

Largest painted pottery museum opens in N-W China

XINING, 30 April — China's largest painted pottery museum with a collection of 37,925 antique pieces opened Wednesday in the northwestern Qinghai Province.

The Liuwan Museum of Ancient Painted Pottery is located in Ledu County and was named for its location on the ruins of the Liuwan tombs, where archaeologists have unearthed more than 30,000 items of cultural her-

itage — including over 20,000 pieces of painted pottery — since the 1970s.

The museum opened to the public its first antique show on Wednesday, featuring 540 pieces of painted pottery dating back some 3,000 to 4,500 years. The Liuwan tombs, a large burial ground for members of a primitive clan, offers valuable materials representing four typical cultures in ancient China for archeologists

to study ancient social structure. Archaeologists say sacrificial objects unearthed from the graves over the years — often stone axes, knives and chisels with males and pottery or stone spinning wheels, bone awls and needles with females — show that male members of the clan were mainly involved in social production whereas females were engaged solely in housework.

MNA/Xinhua

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for **Ozone Ayurvedics**
P.O. Box 60, Yangon:
Dated: 1 May, 2004.

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (351)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR Voy No (351) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1-5-04 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T. where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EAGLE CORPORATION
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (505)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA MERCHANT Voy No (505) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-5-04 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T. where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

ဆပ်ပြာကုန်ကြမ်းဆီအမျိုးမျိုးအဝယ်တင်ဒါ

၁။ ဝယ်ယူမည့်ပစ္စည်းများ -
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၂။ တင်ဒါပိတ်ရက် - (၁၁-၅-၂၀၀၄) ရက်နေ့
၃။ အချိန် - (၁၄:၀၀)နာရီ

တင်ဒါပိတ်ခံနိုင်တင်ဒါစည်းကမ်းအသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ ဌာနများတွင် စုံစမ်းမေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာ့ဆေးဝါးနှင့်အိမ်သုံးပစ္စည်းလုပ်ငန်း (ရှေးချမ်း) ဝဠု၊ ကမ္ဘာ့အေးဘုရားလမ်း၊ ဗဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။

တယ်လီဖုန်းနံပါတ် - ၅၆၁၃၅၁၊ ၅၆၁၃၅၂၊ ၅၆၁၃၅၃၊ ၅၆၁၃၅၄

Sources of 39 types of inferior milk powder identified:

HEFEI, 30 April — The sources of 39 types of inferior milk powder, including 48 brands, have been found, local police in east China's Anhui Province said Wednesday.

Chen Xiaoping, deputy director of the provincial public security department, said that as of April 28, the

Anhui police have destroyed three workshops producing substandard milk powder and investigated three major dealers of the milk powder.

The police have filed 34 cases and captured 39 suspects, Chen said.

The local police
MNA/Xinhua

FRUIT TREE

Reg. No. 486/1995

SEASONS

Reg. No. 488/1995

Used in respect of:-
Aerated waters and other non-alcoholic drinks; fruit drinks and fruit juices; syrups and other preparations for making beverages, all included in International Class 32.

Any unauthorized use, imitation, infringements or fraudulent intentions of the above marks will be dealt with according to law.

TIN OHNMAR TUN
B.A(Law)LL.B,
LL.M(UK)
P.O. Box 109, Ph:248108/
723043
(For. Domnarn Songiat & Boonma Attorneys at Law, Thailand.)
Dated: 1 May, 2004.

Nepali Gov't calls bids for airport construction

KATHAMANDU, 30 April — The Nepali Government will invite national and international tenders for the construction of three airports in the country, a government official said. The airports to be constructed include an international airport in Pokhara City, a regional airport in Dhangadhi City and a short take off and landing airport in Dharan City, *The Kathmandu Post* newspaper on Thursday quoted an official at the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Civil Aviation as saying.

"The government has decided to construct them under Build, Operation, Own and Transfer scheme," the official said on condition of anonymity. Under the scheme, the companies constructing the airports will be endowed with an authority to operate them for a period of 35 years, after which the ownership will automatically be transferred to the Nepali Government.

MNA/Xinhua

မညာရေးပြင် ခေတ်မီပို့ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Familiar designs touted for US rocket to Mars

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 30 April—Aerospace giants are already prepared to compete for lucrative contracts in NASA's next big step toward the moon and Mars but they are not eager to start from scratch on a new rocket to take it there.

Rather than a crash programme to produce a new super-rocket, like the *Saturn 5* moon rocket in the 1960s, this new initiative—which NASA is a year or more away from detailing—is more likely to use existing technology from space shuttles and expendable rockets.

That was the word from industry representatives attending the 41st Space Congress this week in Cape Canaveral, Florida.

Boeing Co and Lockheed

Martin Corp. representatives say their companies are both looking at new, or "clean sheet", rocket designs but agree that the cost of building new systems from scratch, including the manufacturing plants and launch facilities that would be needed, might prove prohibitive.

"Clearly, one of the challenges is to make sure there's money left for space exploration after you've built a launch vehicle," said Michael Gass, vice-presi-

dent for space transportation at Lockheed Martin.

One of the main points of the proposal US President George W. Bush announced in January was that this initiative, unlike the *Apollo* programme, would move forward with only small, stable increases in NASA's annual budget.

The early years will be the leanest. While the space shuttle is still flying and the *International Space Station* is still under construction, they will con-

tinue to eat up most of NASA's budget.

Both Boeing and Lockheed are looking at their new generations of expendable rockets, Boeing's *Delta 4* and Lockheed's *Atlas 5*, to see if they can be modified for the job.

The problem is that both rockets were developed under US Air Force contracts for putting satellites into orbit. Launching humans, or even heavy cargo, into interplanetary space would require extensive modifications to both the rockets and their launch facilities.

MNA/Reuters

Airbus says enough space on "A380" to isolate crew

WASHINGTON, 30 April — The world's largest commercial plane will be designed with enough space to deeply isolate the crew from the passenger cabin, if airlines want to use that feature to guard against potential hijackers, a senior Airbus executive said on Thursday.

The 555-seat double-decker A380 is not scheduled for delivery until early 2006, and airline customers could instead choose to use that extra space for first-class or business-class seats or amenities to attract business. The plane will also be designed for cargo carriers.

"It's a customer-driven decision," said Allan McArtor, chairman of Airbus North America Holdings Inc., a unit of European-based EADS.

"There is enough real estate to completely isolate the crew and backup crew," McArtor told reporters. The A380 is being developed for long-haul flights, some of which could carry two cockpit crews. McArtor and other Airbus officials would not discuss security options for the A380, but said various configurations for the entire aircraft have been considered.

MNA/Reuters

Report predicts asthma epidemic from pollution

WASHINGTON, 30 April—Poor and minority children are likely to develop asthma at worsening rates due to global warming and air pollution, environment experts predicted on Thursday.

They released a report showing that as the climate gets warmer, allergens such as pollen and mold will flood the air, interacting with urban pollutants such as ozone and soot to fuel an already growing epidemic of asthma.

"It is affecting the trees, the molds, the subsurface organisms," Dr. Paul Epstein of Harvard Medical School's Center for Health and the Global Environment, told a news conference.

"The combination of air pollutants, aeroallergens, heat waves and unhealthy air masses — increasingly associated with a changing climate — causes damage to the respiratory systems, particularly growing children,

and these impacts disproportionately affect poor and minority groups in the inner cities," the report reads.

The report finds that asthma among US preschool children, age three to five, grew 160 per cent between 1980 to 1994.

"This is a real wake-up call for people who think global warming is only going to be a problem way off in the future or that it has no impact on their lives in a meaningful way," said Christine Rogers, a senior research scientist at the Harvard School of Public Health.

"The problem is here today for these children and it is only going to get worse," Rogers, Epstein and the

American Public Health Association worked together on the report.

Most climate experts agree that the world is becoming steadily warmer, and that human activity is much to blame. Burning fossil fuels such as coal and gas releases carbon dioxide into the air.

The carbon dioxide forms a kind of invisible blanket that traps the sun's radiation. While average temperatures warm, the effects are not predictable and even. Storms may become more severe and some areas may get colder weather.

MNA/Reuters



A Soyuz space capsule set off on schedule from the International Space Station to bring a Russian, a US astronaut and a Dutchman back to Earth in the steppes of Kazakhstan. The capsule disengaged from the International Space Station at 0:52 am on 30 April, 2004

Moscow time (4:52 pm EDT 29 April), according to a spokesman for mission control outside Moscow. The three astronauts are seen aboard the space station on 28 April.—INTERNET

Malaria hits 300 million victims yearly

LAGOS, 30 April—Some 300 million new cases of malaria occur every year, with two to three million deaths globally, the *News Agency of Nigeria* reported on Wednesday.

Theophilus Motayo, director of Nigeria's Federal Medical Centre in Abeokuta, about 80 kilometres north of Lagos, was quoted as saying, "in Nigeria, malaria is by far the most important cause of morbidity and mortality in the populace, accounting for 41 per cent morbidity and 30 per

cent mortality in the under-five age group."

The director expressed regret that Africa had been the worst hit by malaria, with an estimated 90 per cent of the global incidence.

Motayo said: "11 per cent of maternal deaths in Nigeria are attributed to malaria."

The director noted that the theme of this year's Malaria Day "A Malaria-Free Future" could be attained if the objectives of the Roll Back Malaria Initiative were vigorously pursued.

"With the initiative, at least 60 per cent of those affected by malaria should have

access to rapid, adequate and affordable treatment," he said.

Statistics show that malaria accounts for about 30 per cent of hospital admissions amongst women and children, and has remained a major challenge to the well-being of Africans.

MNA/Xinhua

Afghan poppy crop up 50% this year

WASHINGTON, 30 April—Afghan farmers are expected to harvest 50 per cent more poppy plants this year, hindering the government's efforts to curb opium trade, a top US Agriculture Department official said on Wednesday.

USDA Deputy Secretary Jim Moseley, who travelled to Afghanistan last week to review its agricultural development, said the world's leading producer of opium could only hope to turn the tide on poppy production beginning next year. Poppy plants are used to make heroin and morphine.

"We have to understand that we are not going to do anything about it this year in terms of (Afghan poppy) production," Moseley told reporters. "What we have to do is look at what we may be able to do in 2005."

Moseley recommended Afghanistan provide farm-

ers easier access to financing and loans through local banks. Afghan farmers, which represent 80 per cent of the population, must also be presented with better crop alternatives—such as spices and fruit, Moseley said.

"You've got to get their family income so it is not dependent on growing poppy seeds," he said.

The United Nations estimated Afghan's poppy crop last year at a near-record 3,600 tons, more than three-quarters of global supply. Under the USDA's estimate, this year's poppy crop would be about 5,400 tons.

MNA/Reuters

US cable giant Comcast drops bid to buy out Disney

LOS ANGELES, 30 April—US cable TV giant Comcast announced Wednesday it has dropped its bid to acquire Hollywood entertainment giant The Walt Disney Co.

"We have always been disciplined in our approach to acquisitions," said Brian L. Roberts, Comcast president and CEO, in a statement. "Being disciplined means knowing when it is time to walk away. That time is now."

The unsolicited bid was valued at 50 billion US dollars when it was announced in February.

Disney's board of directors unanimously rejected the proposal from Philadelphia-

based Comcast, which cited a lack of interest by Disney management for the decision announced today to withdraw its bid.

"It has become clear that there is no interest on the part of Disney's management and board in putting Comcast and Disney together," Roberts said. "As a result, we have withdrawn our offer."

If the transaction had gone through, a merger of Philadelphia-based Comcast

with Burbank-based Disney would have made it the largest media company in the world, eclipsing Viacom, which owns CBS.

Roberts said that as the nation's largest cable TV provider, with 22 million subscribers, the company does not need to acquire more companies.

Disney Chief Executive Officer Michael Eisner, meanwhile, announced that Disney has completed its ac-

quisition of the "Muppets" and "Bear in the Big Blue House" properties from The Jim Henson Co.

Disney has already begun integrating these characters into the company. It is also considering using Muppet characters for live action releases, theatrical productions, computer-generated three-dimensional animation projects and attractions and parades at Disney's theme parks.—MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Classy Brazil thump Hungary 4-1 in Budapest

BUDAPEST, 30 April — World champions Brazil showed their class with a dazzling performance to beat Hungary 4-1 in a highly entertaining international friendly on Wednesday.

First-half goals from Kaka and a Luis Fabiano double wrapped up victory for Brazil by the break with a superb Ronaldinho solo effort rounding off the night at the Ferenc Puskas stadium.

It was the first time the Brazilians had beaten Hungary in an official match in five attempts.

Brazil took the lead in the 33rd minute when Ronaldinho played a one-two with Kaka who blasted home from 10 metres.

The visitors doubled their advantage three minutes later when Ronaldinho's shot was parried by Gabor Babos only for Luis Fabiano to follow up and tap in from close range.

The Sao Paulo striker got his second goal on the stroke of halftime when he connected with a perfect cross from wing back Roberto Carlos and finished flawlessly.

Hungary pulled one back just before the hour when substitute striker Sandor Torghelle broke free and raced through to score on the rebound after his first shot was saved by Dida.

MNA/Reuters



Brazil's Ronaldinho fights for the ball with Hungary's Roland Juhasz (R) during their friendly soccer match in Budapest on 28 April, 2004. Brazil won 4-1. INTERNET

PSG reach Cup final after penalty shootout

PARIS, 30 April — Paris St. Germain beat Nantes 4-3 on penalties to reach the French Cup final on Wednesday, Cameroon midfielder Modeste M'Bami scoring the winner after the semifinal finished 1-1 at the end of extra time.

PSG, last season's losing finalists, will meet Second Division Chateauroux at the Stade de France on May 29.

Chateauroux midfielder Marc-Eric Guei scored one goal and set up another for Sebastien Roudet as they beat Third Division Dijon 2-0 to reach the final for the first time.

Both goals were scored in the first half with Chateauroux proving too quick for the visitors' defence.

The results mean Chateauroux will be in the UEFA Cup next season if PSG finish in Ligue 1's top four. PSG are second, nine points above fifth-placed Sochaux with five games left.

Nantes, who also lost the League Cup final on penalties 11 days ago to Sochaux, missed four spot kicks in the shootout.

Vahid Halilhodzic's PSG team, who were beaten 2-1 in last year's final by AJ Auxerre, still harbour dreams of a double.

The capital side, who have 66 points from 33 games, trail leaders Olympique Lyon by just three points.

"It was a breathless evening," said Halilhodzic. "We conceded a goal in the last

minute which was a huge blow for the players. Fortunately, we did not concede another in extra time."

"We suffered a lot but the most important thing is that we qualified (for the final)."

Nantes dominated the first half but were denied the opening goal in the 17th minute when PSG winger Fabrice Fioresse rushed back to dispossess unmarked midfielder Gilles Yapi Yapo.

PSG were without prolific Portugal striker Pedro Pauleta, who was called up for a friendly against Sweden.

But they took the lead through Fioresse five minutes after the break as he beat Nantes keeper Mickael Landreau from close range after being set up by Argentine defender Juan Pablo Sorin.

The Canaries grabbed a last-gasp equalizer when Colombia defender Mario Yepes outjumped the PSG defence to head home in the second minute of injury time.

It was all in vain, though, as M'Bami converted the winning spot kick to leave Nantes with little hope of European football next season since they are only seventh in Ligue 1. — MNA/Reuters

Yakin header gives Switzerland 2-1 victory

GENEVA, 30 April — Midfielder Hakan Yakin headed the winner five minutes from time to end Switzerland's poor run of form with a 2-1 friendly victory over Slovenia at the Stade de Geneve on Wednesday.

Yakin, the architect of everything Switzerland created, deservedly grabbed the winner to give the Euro 2004 finalists their first victory of the year.

Zlatko Zahovic opened the scoring for Slovenia in first-half injury time as he stroked home his 35th international goal from the edge of the penalty area following a one-two with Ermin Siljak.

But substitute Fabio Celestini fired a 66th-minute equalizer, a minute after coming on, after Yakin had cleverly squared a free-kick across the edge of the area.

Yakin got the goal his all-action performance deserved when he glanced home a Daniel Gyagax cross into the far corner five minutes from time for his 13th goal in Swiss colours.

He had earlier brought saves from Slovenia goalkeeper Borut Mavric with two efforts from distance in the first-half.

Yakin saw a curling free-kick turned

around the post mid-way through the second-half and then failed to find a finish when bursting through a static defence late in the game.

Mavric had frustrated Switzerland before Celestini levelled, the Slovenia goalkeeper brilliantly keeping out a point-blank header from defender Bruno Berner six minutes after the break.

Young striker Daniel Gyagax, earning his second Swiss cap, was denied a first international goal by the feet of the impressive Mavric 12 minutes from time after Yakin had once again created an opening.

Veteran striker Stephane Chapuisat earned his 99th cap for Switzerland but endured a frustrating evening before being withdrawn nine minutes from time.

Switzerland had not won since qualifying for Euro 2004, suffering defeats to Morocco and Greece in warm-up friendlies.

MNA/Reuters

Bosnia beat Finland 1-0 to give Hibic perfect send-off

ZENICA (Bosnia), 30 April — Bosnia gave their departing captain Mirsad Hibic the perfect send-off with a 1-0 victory over Finland in a friendly on Wednesday.

Substitute striker Zvezdan Misimovic's late header sealed the win in Hibic's final match for his country.

Centre-back Hibic, who announced his retirement in January when he cancelled his contract with Spanish Primera Liga club Atletico Madrid, started the game wearing his trademark number six shirt.

Macedonian referee Emil Bozinovski then halted play in the sixth minute for the 30-year-old Hibic to be given presents and a farewell from

national team officials and both teams before he ran a lap of honour as fireworks lit up the sky.

The venue was ideal for his final game, having begun his professional career there with his hometown club Celik Zenica. He then played for Croatian side Hajduk Split before moving to Spain with Sevilla and Atletico Madrid.

He won 36 international caps and led Bosnia to the brink of qualifying for their first major tournament since gaining independence in

1992.

They drew 1-1 with Group Two winners Denmark in their final qualifying match last October, finishing fourth in the standings just a point behind Norway and Romania.

The rest of Wednesday's match was largely uneventful, Bosnian skipper Sergej Barbarez coming closest to scoring midway through the first half when Finland keeper Antti Niemi denied him from a free-kick with a diving save.

Coaches Blaz Sliskovic of Bosnia and Antti Muurinen of Finland made 18 substitutions between them, mainly in the second half.

Bosnia, however, pressed forward in the dying minutes and lively left-back Vedin Music of Moden provided a perfect cross in the 88th minute which Bayern Munich's Misimovic converted with a diving header.

MNA/Reuters

Vieri header gives Italy draw as Baggio bids farewell

GENOA (Italy), 30 April — Italy and Spain drew 1-1 in a friendly on Wednesday as former European Player of the Year Roberto Baggio returned after a five-year absence to make his international farewell. Impressive Spain took the lead in the 53rd minute through substitute Fernando Torres but three minutes later a thundering header from Christian Vieri brought the Italians level.

The Spaniards dominated the first half, Ivan Helguera having an effort ruled out for offside and Italy keeper Gianluigi Buffon doing well to keep out a close-range ef-

fort from Raul.

Italy's best chance before the break fell to Baggio but he headed wide from a promising position. Baggio, 37, played until three minutes from the end of what was billed as his farewell match and left the field to a standing ovation. — MNA/Reuters



Italy's forward Roberto Baggio (C) challenges Spain's goalkeeper Iker Casillas (L) and Martin Cesar during their friendly soccer match at Luigi Ferraris stadium in Genoa on 28 April, 2004. — INTERNET

Eto'o set to be named African Footballer of the Year

JOHANNESBURG, 30 April — The performances of Cameroon striker Samuel Eto'o in last year's Confederations Cup tournament in France are expected to be enough to see him named as the 2003 African Footballer of the Year.

The Spanish-based forward is one of three candidates for the award to be handed over as the highpoint of Friday's African soccer awards in Yaounde, Cameroon.

Ivorian striker Didier Drogba and Nigerian captain Austin "Jay-Jay" Okocha are the other two finalists.

Eto'o, 23, scored a brilliant individual goal against

Brazil in Paris and helped Cameroon to last June's final of the eight-nation Confederations Cup tournament, which was overshadowed by the death of compatriot Marc-Vivien Foe.

During the tournament, he also rushed back to Spain to score twice in the King's Cup final when his club Real Mallorca beat Recreativo Huelva 3-0.

Drogba is being lauded

for his goalscoring record in the French league last season, first for En Avant Guingamp and then at Olympique Marseille after his transfer in the off-season.

The 26-year-old forward, whose national team failed to reach the African Nations Cup finals, scored 17 goals last season for Guingamp and nine before the end of 2003 for Marseille.

MNA/Reuters



Lt-Gen Ye Myint provides cash assistance to patients at Shwegu People's Hospital. (News on page 9) — MNA



The Bhamo Degree College in Kachin State. (News on page 9) — MNA



Mr Pankaj Parekh of the GJEPC explains matters on holding of the Show. — MNA

Indian International Jewellery Show introduced

YANGON, 30 April — A ceremony to clarify Indian International Jewellery Show 2004, which will be jointly organized by the Myanmar-India Business Club and the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council, took place at the Sedona Hotel on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here yesterday morning.

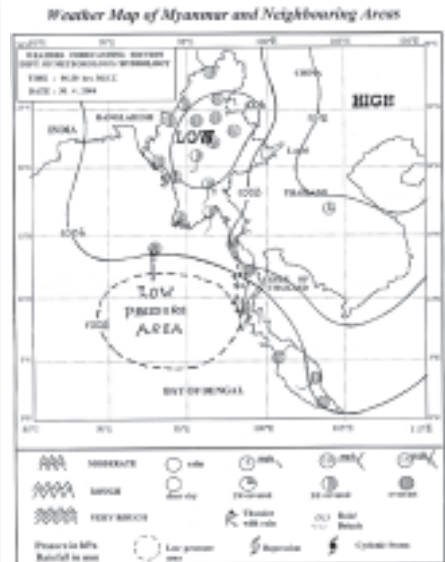
It was attended by officials of the Myanmar Gems Enterprise under the Ministry of Mines, responsible personnel of the Indian embassy here, the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and others.

On the occasion, Secretary of the MIBC U Maung Maung, Deputy Director of the MGE U Maung Maung Thein, Counsellor of Indian Embassy Mr Rahul Kulshreshth and Director of the MGE U Thein Swe made speeches.

Next, Mr Pankaj Parekh of the GJEPC explained matters related to the holding of the Show and replied to queries raised by gem merchants.

With over 1,200 booths, the Show will be exhibited at Goderj Complex, Vikhroli, Mumbai, India, from 15 to 19 July.

In the 2003 Show, gem merchants from 31 countries including Myanmar, Thailand, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Germany and the United States of America, put their jewellery on display and sale. The ceremony was held with a view to attracting more Myanmar gem merchants than the yesteryear's Show. — MNA



WEATHER

Friday, 30 April, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:

During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershowers has been isolated in Shan and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin and Mon States, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, (6°C) above normal in Ayeyawady Division and about normal in the remaining areas. Significant day temperatures were (42°C) in Magway.

Maximum temperature on 29-4-2004 was 37.8°C (100°F). Minimum temperature on 30-4-2004 was 22.8°C (73°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 30-4-2004 was 55%. Total sunshine hours on 29-4-2004 was (5.0) hours approx. Rainfall on 30-4-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport and Kaba-Aye and 2 mm (0.08 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 5 mm (0.20 inch) at Yangon Airport and 12 mm (0.47 inch) at Kaba-Aye and 5 mm (0.20 inch) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 12 mph from Southwest at (18:30) hours MST on 30-4-2004.

Bay inference: According to the observation at (06:30) hours MST today, yesterday's the low pressure area over Southeast Bay and adjoining South Andaman Sea has still persist. Weather is partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 1-5-2004:** Isolated light rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin, northern Shan and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Thundery conditions are likely in lower Myanmar areas. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-5-2004:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the afternoon/evening. Degree of certainty is (60%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-5-2004:** Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Weather outlook for first weekend of May 2004: During the coming weekend, isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.

Myanma Port Authority Warning of Hightide

The Public are here by informed that exceptionally high Spring of from 20.14 feet to 20.44 feet high above the datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period 5th May to 7th May, 2004.

ASLEEP IN JESUS Rev. Saw Tun Gon Gyi Aged 81

Pastor, Yangon City Church & Precious Grace Church Patron, Myanmar Christian Fellowship of the Blind President, Self-supporting Kayin Baptist Mission Society of No 6, U Aung Kyaw Road, East Gyogon, Insein, (Saw Tha Soe - Naw Shwe Tin) brother of (Sister Naw Hnin Kyi), Saw Kyaw Ohn-Naw Rena Zin, (Naw Mya-Mahn Mya Maung), Saw Sein Tun Kyaw-Naw Marina, beloved father of Naw Angelyna Gyi (UNICEF), Saw Kyaw Khaing Tun-Naw Mya Mya, grandfather of Naw Lwai Moo Paw (Linfield College), Naw Day Moo Paw (BARS final year, Myanmar Institute of Theology, passed away on 30-4-2004 at 01.10 hours. Funeral service will be held on Sunday 2-5-2004 at 13.30 hours at the Hpu Tha Byu Memorial Hall, Seminary Hill, East Gyogon, Insein, after which funeral cortege will leave for Yay Way Christian Cemetery for entombment.

Bereaved family

The Union of Myanmar
The State Peace and Development Council
The Electronic Transactions Law

(The State Peace and Development Council Law No. 5/2004)

The 12th Waxing of Kason 1366 M.E.

(30th April, 2004)

The State Peace and Development Council hereby enacts the following Law:

Chapter I

Title and Definition

1. This Law shall be called the Electronic Transactions Law.
2. The following expressions contained in this Law shall have the meanings given hereunder:-
 - (a) **Information** includes data, texts, images, sounds, codes, computer programmes, software and databases;
 - (b) **Electronic record** means a record generated, sent, received or stored by means of electronic, magnetic, optical or any other similar technologies in an information system or for transmission from one information system to another;
 - (c) **Electronic data message** means an information generated, sent, received or stored by means of electronic, optical or any other similar technologies, including electronic data interchange, fax, e-mail, telegraph, telex and telecopy.
 - (d) **Computer** means a device capable of receiving, transmitting, storing, processing or retrieving information and records, using arithmetic and logical means by manipulation of electronic, magnetic, optical or any other similar technologies;
 - (e) **Computer network** means the network system of the interconnection of computers through use of satellite or by any other technologies;

(See page 10)

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

Secretary-2 receives UNICEF Resident Representative

YANGON, 30 April— Chairman of the Committee for Prevention of Child Recruitment Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein received Resident Representative of United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) Ms Carroll C Long at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta at 5 pm today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and Director-General U Sit Myaing of the Social Welfare Department.— MNA

INSIDE

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22,479



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein receives Resident Representative of United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Ms Carroll C Long. — MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects progress of construction tasks in Bhamo District

YANGON, 30 April— Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, of the Ministry of Defence accompanied by Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Maung

Maung Swe, Brig-Gen Soe Nwe of Bhamo Station and officials, inspected construction of Government Technological College Project in Bhamo on 28 April morning.

Officials reported on progress in construction of the college. Lt-Gen Ye

Myint and party inspected completion of the main building and workshops.

On arrival at the site of Sinkhan Bridge Project on Mandalay-Tagaung-Bhamo-Myitkyina Road across Sinkhan Creek, Bhamo Township, Lt-Gen Ye Myint saw over completion

of the approach roads and approach structures.

Sinkhan Bridge will be 460 feet long and it will have 28 feet wide motorway and three feet wide pedestrian ways on both sides. The bridge will be built of five feet wide bored pile foundation, pre-stressed

reinforced concrete beams and reinforced concrete floor. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard reports on repairing works and repaving of the road section between mile posts 150 and 135 on Mandalay-Tagaung-Myitkyina Road at the border of Shwegu and

Bhamo townships by officials.

He also inspected laying of tar on Mandalay-Tagaung-Bhamo-Myitkyina Road. At the view point of the second defile of Ayeyawady River, officials reported on construction of road sections on Mandalay-Tagaung-Bhamo-Myitkyina Road. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party arrived at the site of Paungnet Dam Project and gave necessary instructions. Paungnet Dam will be 75 feet high and 7,670 feet long earth one and it will be built on Paungnet Creek near Sithaung Village, Shwegu Township.

The dam will have 22,586 acre-feet of water storage capacity at highest level. The dam can irrigate 5,000 acres of farmland.

(See page 9)



The Government Technological College in Bhamo. — MNA