

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to President of Poland

YANGON, 3 May— Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Aleksander Kwasniewski, President of the Republic of Poland, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Poland, which falls on 3 May 2004.—MNA

World's nations including US as well as UN Agencies and international organizations acknowledge Myanmar's efforts for eradication of drug menace Prime Minister attends Special Meeting of Central Committee for Drugs Abuse Control 1/2004

YANGON, 2 May — A Special Meeting 1/2004 of the Central Committee for Drugs Abuse Control (CCDAC) was held at the Drug Elimination Museum, Kamayut Township this evening.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attended the meeting and made a speech.

Also present at the meeting were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, the ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Vice-Chief of Military Intelligence, the deputy Ministers, senior military officers, members of the CCDAC, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, the Director-General of Myanmar Police Force, departmental heads, charimen and officials of the Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association, Myanmar Narcotics Elimination Association and Border Area Development Association.

At the outset, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt made a speech on the occasion.



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses Central Committee for Drugs Abuse Control Special Meeting 1/2004.—MNA

He said efforts to eliminate the narcotic drugs is not the tasks carried out only at present but, in the successive governments, the Union of Myanmar has been striving for elimination of narcotic drugs on its own or with the cooperation of neighbouring countries and international organizations.

In the time of the present government, greater success has been achieved in efforts to eliminate narcotic drugs with the cooperation of the neighbouring countries.

Moreover, in the time

of the present government, drug elimination tasks have been carried out with added momentum in cooperation with local national races and that the major 15-year plan for elimination of narcotic drugs has been implemented since 1999-2000 fiscal year.

Under the 15-year plan, three 5-year plans have been implemented. The first 5-year plan will conclude in the fiscal year 2003-2004 and it can be seen that significant achievements have been made.

At a time when success has been achieved in the

first 5-year plan of the 15-year plan, the New Destiny Project has been implemented in order to accelerate the momentum of drug elimination drive.

Under the New Destiny Project, the ministers and the deputy ministers made field trips and presented food, seeds for poppy-substitute crops, pedigrees and agricultural and livestock breeding methods to poppy growers. The tasks have been carried out with a view to providing assistance immediately to poppy growers who have faced difficulties due

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, 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

to destruction of poppy fields.

After implementing the New Destiny Project, drug elimination tasks have gained more achievements.

Therefore, it can be vividly seen in the reports of poppy yield survey, jointly carried out by Myanmar and the United States that both poppy cultivation and opium production in Myanmar have decreased significantly year by year.

In the year 2004 also, Myanmar and the United States have successfully made the poppy yield survey as the tenth year.
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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses Central Committee for Drugs Abuse Control Special Meeting 1/2004.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 3 May, 2004

Kason Fullmoon Day,
Buddha Day

The Fullmoon Day of Kason is a day of significance. It was an auspicious day on which Gotama Buddha attained Enlightenment. Gotama Buddha was born, He attained enlightenment and entered Mahapari-Nibbana on this day.

It was also the day on which, as a recluse in Gotama Buddha's previous existence he, Sumedha was blessed by the prophecy of Depankara Buddha that, after the complete fulfillment of "paramis" needed for Buddhahood he would also become a Buddha one day in this world-cycle.

The Fullmoon Day of Kason is marked by the waterpouring ceremony at the Maha-Bodhi tree, the holy Bodhi tree (*Ficus religiosa*) at the foot of which Gotama Buddha attained Buddhahood. Devotees also poured water there to make sure it did not die of drought during summer, especially in Kason, the middle of the hot season, and the custom has survived to the present day.

In reverence of the Lord Buddha and upholding the traditions, the Buddhists, young and old, will be observing the Fullmoon Day of Kason by pouring water at the Maha-Bodhi tree, taking sabbath, doing meritorious deeds, paying homage at the pagodas and paying obeisance to the monks.

Buddhist devotees of Myanmar have been able to do meritorious deeds with peace of mind and delight in view of flourishing of the Sasana throughout the country.

Thanks to earnest efforts of the government and immense generosity of the wellwishers, there have emerged a great number of occasions and incidents for promotion and propagation of Theravada Buddhism across the country for years.

For example, with the contribution of the government and donation of the wellwishers, new pagodas and religious edifices were constructed and Shwehtidaw, Hngetmyatnadaw and Seinbudaw hoisted atop pagodas across the country.

Moreover, provisions were donated to a host of Kyaungtaiks and nunneries, and religious tiles conferred on outstanding Buddhist monks at grand ceremonies.

With Theravada Buddhism flourishing in the country, the Fullmoon Day of Kason will be observed by the Buddhist devotees with full of essence upholding the fine traditions.

World Red Cross Day — 2004

ကမ္ဘာ့ကြက်ခြေနီနေ့

ခွဲခြားဆက်ဆံ မပြုရန်
ကြက်ခြေနီ၏စိတ်ထားမှန်

Stop Discrimination

8 May 2004

Myanmar Red Cross Society

မြန်မာနိုင်ငံကြက်ခြေနီအသင်း

ထူးချွန်ကြက်ခြေနီတွေ့ဆုံပွဲ

မေလ (၅) - (၁၁) ရက်

အမှတ်(၂) အခြေစိုက်ညာအထက်တန်းကျောင်း၊ လသာမြို့နယ်၊
ရန်ကုန်မြို့။

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

Commander, Mayor inspect sanitation tasks in Yangon City

YANGON, 1 May—Chairman of the Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, this morning inspected sanitation tasks and tasks for proper flow of water at drains being carried out by Tatmadawmen, members of Myanmar Police Force, workers of YCDC, NGOs and people and they gave instructions to responsible officials and fulfilled their needs.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Mayor Brig-

Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected the above-mentioned tasks in Pazundaung, Mingala Taungnyunt, South Okkalapa and Kamayut townships. Officials reported on carrying out of sanitation tasks and dredging of drains.

The commander and the mayor gave necessary instructions. Similar tasks were also undertaken in North Okkalapa, Dagon Myothit (East), (South), (Seikkan) and (North), Thakayta, Tamway, Dawbon, Thingangyun, Sangyoung, Dagon, Pabedan, Lanmadaw, Bahan and Ahlon townships. — MNA



Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe inspects the airport extension work. — TRANSPORT

Extension project of Yangon International Airport inspected

YANGON, 2 May — Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, accompanied by Director-General of Department of Civil Aviation U Win Maung arrived at the construction site of extension project for Yangon International Airport this morning.

At the briefing hall, the minister heard reports on progress of work and future tasks presented by Project Manager U Nay Lin of Asia World Co Ltd. The minister

gave instructions on completion of construction projects as early as possible.

After giving instructions, the minister inspected construction of bored piles, land preparation for the apron, construction of the power station, the water treatment plant and drains. Moreover, the minister also inspected construction of water tank which supplies water for greening of the airport and its environs. — MNA

Paper-reading session held
to remember Saya Taik Soe

YANGON, 2 May— The paper-reading session to remember Saya Taik Soe, organized by Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association and Myanmar Library Association, was held at the hall of Sarpay Beikman this morning, attended by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan. Also present were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises, Chairman of MWJA U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), Vice-Chairmen U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha), U Myint Thein (Myint Thein Aung) and U Than Maung (Than Maung), Secretary U Hla Tun (Hla Tun-Twantay), officials, Chairman of Myanmar Library Association U Khin Maung Tin and members, writers and enthusiasts.

In the morning session, Daw Kyan (Ma Kyan), U Kyaw Win (Manoktha Kyaw Win), U Aye Cho (MA) and U Arnt Maung (Arnt Maung) submitted their papers.

In the afternoon session, U Min Naing (Min Naing), U Sein Hlaing (Thura Zaw), U Kyaw Naing (Htet Myet) and U Myint Kyaing (Cultural Institute) read out their papers. — MNA

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attends while Daw Kyan (Ma Kyan) presents a paper at the paper-reading session. — MNA

Sermon to be delivered to mark
success of Htidaw hoisting ceremony
of Thabbyinnyu Stupa

YANGON, 1 May—A ceremony to hoist Seinbudaw, Hngetmyatnadaw and Shwehtidaw atop Thabbyinnyu Stupa will be held on 3 May 2004 (on Fullmoon Day of Kason) at the stupa to be built in Kyaukyedwin Ward, Mayangon Township, Yangon Division.

Chancellor Sayadaw of

Thitagu International Buddhist Academy Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dhaja Mahadhammakathika Bahujana Hitadhara Bhaddanta Nanissara will deliver a sermon at 7 pm on Fullmoon Day of Kason at the stupa to mark the success of the ceremony. — MNA

မူးယစ်အန္တရာယ် လူ့ရန်စွယ်
ကာကွယ်တိုက်ဖျက် လက်ချင်းဆက်။

Four US service members killed in Iraq

FALLUJAH, 2 May—Guerillas killed a US soldier and two civilian contractors in northern Iraq and attacked a US convoy Saturday in Baghdad, as scores of people took to the streets of Fallujah to celebrate a deal to end a monthlong siege of the city.

The soldier was killed in a roadside bomb attack on his convoy Saturday near the town of Qarraya, 45 miles south of Mosul, the military said. A second soldier died Saturday of wounds suffered in a Friday roadside bombing in the same area. The latest deaths brought to 140 the number of US service members who have died since the current wave of violence began in early April.

In another Saturday bombing, two foreign contractors were killed and five other foreigners were injured in an attack in the northern city of Mosul, the US military and witnesses said. Nationalities of the victims were unavailable.

In the Baghdad attack, a bomb set a military tanker truck ablaze as a convoy traveled along the main highway between Fallujah and the capital. When US reinforcements arrived, the attackers fired four mortar shells, which caused no casualties, witnesses said.

Elsewhere, a British soldier was wounded Saturday in an ambush in the southeastern city of Amarah, the British military said. The Al-Mahdi Army, led by radical anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, is active in the area.

The latest violence followed a deal signaling the apparent end of the siege of Fallujah, launched last month after a mob killed four US contractors and mutilated their bodies.

Amid mounting international criticism, the US military forged an agreement to withdraw US Marines from much of the city and turn over security to an Iraqi force made up largely of former soldiers from Saddam Hussein's army, which the US-led occupation authority disbanded last year.

Some 1,360 Iraqis have also died, according to a count by *The Associated Press* — more than in any month since Saddam's fall. — *Internet*

စုတ်ကုန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ခြင်း

Blair condemns Iraq abuse photos

LONDON, 2 May—Tony Blair has condemned as "completely and totally unacceptable" pictures which appear to show the torture of an Iraqi prisoner by British soldiers.

If the pictures, published in the *Daily Mirror*, prove to be genuine Mr Blair said he would "condemn it utterly".

"We went to Iraq to get rid of that sort of thing, not to do it," he added.

Earlier Armed Forces Minister Adam Ingram agreed the pictures were "appalling" if they were genuine.

Military police are conducting an investigation into the photos which appear to show a soldier using violence and urinating on a captive.

Mr Ingram said this investigation had to be given time. Pictures showing American troops humiliating Iraqi prisoners, with a hooded and naked prisoner standing on a box with wires attached to his genitals, also generated outrage earlier this week.

US President George W Bush vowed that those responsible would be "taken care of".

Mr Ingram said there was no "culture of abuse" in the British Army despite the fact that five separate inquiries into maltreatment are under way.

He admitted: "If these allegations are true, they are appalling, they are despicable and there can be no justification for them at all."

The reason for making the photos public was, they said, to show why the US-UK coalition was encountering such fierce resistance in Iraq.

And he said the inquiry by the Royal Military Police's Special Investigations Branch would "not leave any stone unturned". Those who are opposed to the coalition's occupation of Iraq would employ "full exploitation of these incidents", Mr Ingram said.

The *Mirror* says the pictures were handed over by British soldiers from the Queen's Lancashire Regiment who claimed a rogue element in the British army was responsible for abusing prisoners and civilians.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the soldiers told the paper no charges were brought against the unnamed captive.

They allege that during his eight-hour ordeal he was threatened with execution, his jaw broken and his teeth smashed.

After being beaten and urinated on, he was driven away and dumped from the back of a moving vehicle, the soldiers claimed, unaware if he was dead.

One told the paper: "We are not helping ourselves out there. We are never going to get them on our side. We are fighting a losing war." Army spokesman Roger Goodwin, on behalf of the Queen's Lancashire Regiment, said there was "clearly some form of link to the regiment".

"But the precise form of that link, including whether the soldiers involved in the alleged atrocities were members of the QLR, needs to be established.

Internet

Internet

Assad says US has failed in Iraq

DAMASCUS, 2 May—The US occupying force in Iraq has not liberated the country and has failed to bring the promised peace and democracy, Syrian President Bashar al-Assad said in an interview aired by the Qatar-based Al-Jazeera television channel.

The United States "has not liberated Iraq, nor installed democracy, nor improved the standard of living in the country. It is certainly one (an occupation). Even they say that. They have failed in Iraq that's for sure," said Assad in a wide-ranging interview lasting around 90 minutes, extracts of which had been aired on Wednesday.

The United States may

slap sanctions on Syria "very soon" under a law meant to punish Damascus for allegedly supporting terrorism and seeking unconventional weapons, the White House warned Friday.

In comments unlikely to deter Washington from such action, Assad said that attacks targeting US-led occupation forces in Iraq amount to "resistance".

"What happened at the

popular level (in Iraq) confers legitimacy on the resistance and confirms that most of what is happening amounts to resistance," he told Al-Jazeera news channel.

"Some of the actions kill civilians, and the Iraqis too don't approve of those. I distinguish (between attacks on military and civilian targets)," he added.

US officials attribute the

ongoing violence in Iraq to foreign fighters linked to the Al-Qaeda network who they say enter the country via various borders, including Syria's. They accuse Damascus of doing too little to prevent forces looking to attack the US-led coalition from crossing into Iraq.

"Is it possible that all those, the hundreds of thousands, the millions, resisting the occupation—in various ways, not necessarily military resistance only — are (affiliated to) Al-Qaeda ... or are all supporters of the (deposed) regime of Saddam Hussein?" Assad asked.

He said that dialogue with Washington was continuing "but that doesn't mean that relations are good... There are elements at the heart of the American administration who refuse dialogue while others judge it important".

Last November, the US Congress approved economic and diplomatic sanctions against Syria, accusing it of meddling in Iraq and supporting Palestinian and Lebanese movements considered to be terrorists by Washington and Israel.



The US occupying force in Iraq has not liberated the country and has failed to bring the promised peace and democracy, Syrian President Bashar al-Assad said.

Here Iraqi guerillas heavily armed stand behind their national flag in Fallujah on 1 May. —INTERNET

China promises more efforts to promote decent employment

BEIJING, 2 May—The Chinese Government will exert more efforts to promote full and decent employment along with the International Labour Organization, says the consensus reached at the China Employment Forum that closed here Friday.

During the three-day forum, participants from over 20 countries held heated discussions over issues concerning employment, gender, rural labour force and the building of fair labour force market.

"China will give more priority to employment in policy making," said Zheng Silin, China's Labour Minister at the closing ceremony of the forum.

Experts at the forum said that China's over-heated pursuit of economic growth in the past decade has caused imbalanced development, including the high unemployment rate against the fast economic growth.

The government will adjust its strategy

of development to realize coordinated development of economy and employment, said the minister.

"We must make good use of the advantages of rich labour force and give a stronger drive to labour-intensive industry as well as small and medium-sized enterprises," said Zheng.

As system barriers in labour market has blocked the promotion of employment in China, the participants suggested the building of a unified and fair labour market.

More efforts should go to improve policy on labour market and build a unified labour market, says the consensus.

MNA/Xinhua



One of the pictures of British torture in Iraq published by the Daily Mirror.—INTERNET

British troops clash with Shiite militants in southern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 2 May—A British foot patrol came under attack in the southern city of Amarah on Saturday, sparking a seven-and-a-half-hour gun battle with guerillas in the city center that left five Iraqis dead and six British soldiers injured, witnesses and a British forces spokesman said.

Witnesses said the five Iraqis killed were members of the radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's al-Mahdi Army. The bodies of the dead were brought to al-Sadr's office in the town, they said.

The clashes were ongoing Saturday night, said British Royal Air Force Squadron Leader Jonathan Arnold, a military spokesman. He confirmed the six British wounded but had no information on Iraqi deaths.

"There is some ongoing unrest in the city right now. There are ongoing follow-up operations going on now," Arnold said.

Witnesses said guerillas fired rocket-propelled grenades

at a British base Saturday night, and British soldiers lobbed flares into the night sky to illuminate and fire upon attackers' positions.

The clashes started just after midday, when a British army foot patrol responding to gunfire came under attack and one of its soldiers was wounded, Arnold said.

Five more troops among a force trying to recover the wounded soldier were also wounded, Arnold said by telephone from British forces headquarters in the southern city of Basra. Witnesses said two British trucks were burned in the fighting.

Internet

ဝက်စွမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

Six British soldiers wounded in gun battle

AMARAH (Iraq), 2 May—Six British soldiers were wounded in a seven-and-a-half-hour gun battle in the southern Iraqi city of Amarah yesterday.

Five Iraqis were killed in the firefight, sparked when the foot patrol was attacked in the city centre. Witnesses said the five Iraqis killed were members of radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's al-Mahdi Army. The

bodies of the dead were brought to al-Sadr's office in the town.

The British soldiers, one of whom was seriously injured, were evacuated to a military hospital at Shaibah, near Basra. A military spokesman said the clashes were still going on last night. Insurgents fired rocket-propelled grenades at a British base and British soldiers lobbed flares into the night sky to illuminate - and fire upon - attackers' positions. "There is some ongoing unrest in the city," said the spokesman. "There are follow-up operations going on now."

The earlier clashes started just after midday when a British army foot patrol sent to deal with a demonstration outside the city's Civic House came under attack and one of its soldiers was wounded.

Five more troops sent out to try to help the injured soldier were also wounded, and two British trucks were burned in the fighting.

The demonstration was sparked by an operation in Amarah on Friday in which several Iraqis were arrested on suspicion of attacking coalition forces.

The spokesman said he had no information on any Iraqis injured or killed. "It is very difficult for us to get any firm estimate of the enemy casualties," he said. "The enemy body count is not our priority."

Last month, 15 Iraqis were killed and eight wounded in Amarah in fighting between al-Sadr's followers and British troops.

Internet



Hostile fire : A US soldier secures the area where a military petrol tanker was attacked by a rocket propelled grenade at the al-Gazalieh area in Baghdad on 1 May.

INTERNET

Interpol chief fears terror threat from stolen IDs

BERLIN, 2 May—Most countries are failing to supply Interpol with details of stolen passports and "governments will fall" if terrorists exploit this in future attacks, the head of the world police body said on Friday.

Secretary-General Ronald Noble said Interpol had been "woefully and grossly underfunded" and political leaders were not exploiting its full potential in the war on terror.

He voiced bitter frustration at the lack of cooperation on stolen travel documents, particularly blank passports in which criminals or militants can insert photographs, descriptions and aliases at will.

"The world is at great risk that another terrorist act will occur...unless more countries get serious about checking Interpol's stolen travel document database and about contributing to it," Noble told Reuters.

"I cannot rule out stolen passports having played a role in the Madrid attack, in the attack in Indonesia, in the attack in Uzbekistan, in the US September 11 attack. I can't rule it out because I'm not getting enough data to make that kind of determination," he said in a telephone interview.

He was referring to attacks attributed to al-Qaeda or related militant Islamist groups in Spain and Uzbekistan last month and in the Indonesian resort of Bali in October 2002.

Noble, the first American to head the world police organization, said he was "disgusted" at comments by a senior EU official this week describing the Interpol database as a "rather empty shell".

He said it now contained serial numbers of 1.1 million stolen travel documents, of which 188,609 were blank papers and therefore a special risk.

"We know that the so-called al-Qaeda training manual says that to truly be a terrorist organization, military-like, you need stolen or forged travel documents, and they have a lesson in this manual concerning counterfeit currency and forged documents," Noble said.

MNA/Reuters

Abuse by UK soldiers in Iraq 'common'

BAGHDAD, 2 May—It was pitch dark when Walid Fayaz Mazban drove home through British-controlled southern Iraq late on 24 August last year.

Asso often happened amid the confusion still gripping Iraq less than six months after the fall of Saddam Hussein, the street lights were not working. Mazban's family are convinced this was why he did not see the makeshift roadblock erected by British soldiers near their base in Basra. They also believe that one 'mistake' cost him his life.

When the 42-year-old drove through the checkpoint, punishment was immediate: the troops opened fire and he was hit several times in the back. It is believed he was dead by the time they got to his car.

After a perfunctory search, the soldiers found nothing suspicious in his vehicle and the incident was written off as a tragic accident. The following month, his family was given around £1,000 as a "humanitarian" payment, although the Ministry of Defence insists the gesture does not signify guilt.

The incident is among a series of cases compiled by Amnesty International as evidence of what it claims is the continuing "abuse" of civilians in Iraq, and the apparent failure of coalition forces to deal with them correctly.

As is often the case with war zone images, a handful of pictures apparently showing British troops abusing an Iraqi detainee have done more damage to the UK's image than all the reported - but unphotographed - incidents that came before.

At a stroke, the perhaps

naive, complacent assumption that UK forces were benign, beret-wearing versions of their trigger-happy American brothers in arms has evaporated.

"It comes as no surprise to us that there are allegations of torture involving British forces in Iraq," said Nicole Choueiry, Amnesty's Middle East spokeswoman.

"It is true that the Americans are in general involved in more incidents of brutality than the British, but we have discovered a pattern of torture in the British zone as well."

Amnesty estimates more than 10,000 Iraqi civilians have been killed as a direct result of the military intervention in Iraq, and the forces ostensibly attempting to pacify the country do not escape the blame.—Internet

Indian mangoes to hit Chinese markets

NEW DELHI, 1 May —

The Chinese people could enjoy Indian mango as early as May, an Indian agricultural product export official said on Friday.

After paying a visit to a number of mango orchards in India early April, a Chinese delegation showed strong desire to import Indian mango, and expressed satisfaction over the heat water treatment facility in India for

dealing with infestations.

The Indo-Asian News Service quoted K.S. Money, Chairman of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority of India as saying that the Chinese delegation was quite happy with the arrange-

ments for heat water treatment for tackling the fruit fly and other pest infestations.

But whether the Indian mango can be shipped to China in May depends largely on how fast the approval comes from Chinese authorities, he said. —MNA/Xinhua

Japanese airline pilot caught dozing in flight

TOKYO, 2 May—A pilot for Japan's All Nippon Airways fell asleep at the controls for several minutes while on a domestic flight and had to be awakened by a government inspector who was travelling in the cockpit.

A spokesman for the airline said on Friday that the 50-year-old pilot, whose name was not released, dozed off while flying on 23 March from Tokyo's Haneda Airport to the western prefecture of Yamaguchi, a trip that takes about an hour. MNA/Reuters



US Army soldiers set up a new checkpoint as they reposition to outside the town of Fallujah, Iraq, on 1 May, 2004.

AP/PHOTO

British sun-seekers help Cuban tourism recovery

HAVANA, 1 May — British tourists seeking Caribbean sun and beach have spurred the recovery of Cuba's tourism trade, which grew 13.6 percent in the first quarter of this year, the Cuban Government said.

Despite world security concerns and the SARS scare, British tourists have flocked to Communist-run Cuba in growing numbers, and charter companies are increasing weekly flights from eight to 12 a week. Rebecca Jara, sales promotion director at Cuba's Ministry of Tourism, said arrivals in the first three months of 2004 were up 13.6 per cent over last year's first quarter. "We are on track to meet our target for this year of 2 million tourists," she told reporters. Jara said British tourism grew 37 per cent in the first quarter to 32,616 visitors, and became the fastest growing European market for Cuba in March, though still behind Canada, Italy, Germany, France and Spain in overall numbers. Tourism is Cuba's biggest hard-currency earner, generating 2.1 billion US dollars in earnings last year, when 1.9 million people visited the island. The number of Germans visiting Cuba has fallen off, Jara said. —MNA/Reuters

US troops withdraw from Fallujah

BAGHDAD, 1 May — US Marines started withdrawing from their positions in several parts of Fallujah early on Friday as Iraqi police deployed in some parts of the besieged Iraqi city, witnesses said.

The US troops had moved back from southern, western and southeastern parts of Fallujah, including the industrial zone in the south where they abandoned their frontline bases in some factories and garages.

A fragile ceasefire was announced earlier this month but the Marines and people in the city traded accusations of breaching the truce, which ended the fighting that erupted on April 5 between the US troops and guerrilla following the killing and mutilation of four US civil security in the city.

US military officials have said their talks with leaders of Fallujah would lead to the deployment of Iraqi police and the newly established security forces named as Fallujah Protective Army (FPA).

US troops bombarded the besieged city late Thursday, hours after a US commander announced the planned withdrawal of the Marines surrounding it.

US commander Lieutenant-Colonel Brennan Byrne 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 announced in line with a new agreement signed by US officials and representatives of Fallujah on Wednesday evening.

The agreement stated the establishment of the FPA which will consist of 1,100 Iraqi soldiers led by an Iraqi general from the former Iraqi Army. Byrne told reporters.

He said the Marines will pull out from their positions in and around the city to pave the way for the FPA to deploy around the city and then to enter it.

"The plan is that the whole of Fallujah will be under the control of the FPA," Byrne said.

MNA/Xinhua

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Local Iraqi council member wounded by unknown gunmen

BAQUBA (Iraq), May 1 — Unknown assailants critically wounded a member of a local Iraqi Governing Council after raking his car with gunfire north of Baghdad, witnesses said on Friday.

They said Najah Hamdoush, a Communist Party official and member of the local governing council in Baquba, 40 miles northeast of Baghdad, was shot in the face during the attack late on Thursday.

Guerrilla battling the US-led occupation of Iraq have repeatedly targeted members of local governments established in coordination with the US military.

Baquba, one of several

cities near the capital where guerrilla activity has been fiercest, has been the site of several bomb attacks on police and civilian facilities as well as ambushes of US soldiers.

MNA/Reuters



Cars line up in front of a US Army checkpoint at the entrance of Fallujah, Iraq waiting to enter the city, on Saturday, 1 May, 2004. —INTERNET

General "sickened" by Iraq prison abuse photos

NEW YORK, 2 May — The Army Reserve general whose soldiers were photographed mistreating Iraqi prisoners said she was "sickened" by the pictures and suspected those involved acted with the encouragement of intelligence units that ran the cellblock, *The New York Times* reported in Sunday editions.

Brigadier-General Janis Karpinski of the 800th Military Police Brigade told the newspaper in a phone interview from her home in South Carolina on Saturday that the high-security cellblock where the abuses took place had been under the tight control of a separate group of military intelligence officers who had so far avoided any public blame.

The treatment of the prisoners at the Abu Ghraib Prison outside Baghdad has drawn widespread condemnation, including from President George W Bush, since photographs documenting it were broadcast on Wednesday by CBS News.

Karpinski said that while the reservists involved were "bad people" who should be punished, she suspected they were encouraged, if not directed by, military intelligence units that ran the special cellblock used for interrogation.

She said military commanders in Iraq were trying to shift the blame exclusively to her and the reservists, who she said the mili-

tary considered "disposable".

"Why would they want the active-duty people to take the blame? They want to put this on the MPs (military police) and hope that this thing goes away. Well, it's not going to go away," the *Times* quoted her as saying.

The general said repeatedly she was not defending the actions of the reservists who took part in the brutality, who were part of her command, and that when she first saw the photos in January, they "sickened" her, the paper reported.

"I put my head down because I really thought I was going to throw up," she said. "It was awful. My immediate reaction was: These are bad people, because their faces revealed how much pleasure they felt at this."

But she also said the context of the brutality had been lost, noting that the MPs involved represented only a small fraction of the nearly 3,400 reservists who reported to her from 16 Iraqi prisons and similar locations.

MNA/Reuters

Bush says US troops face serious challenges in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 2 May — A year after declaring major combat over in Iraq, President George W. Bush said on Saturday that US forces still faced serious challenges there but that daily life was improving for Iraqis.

But speaking for the Democrats, an Iraq war veteran accused the President of leaving soldiers in the lurch there.

Bush, in his weekly radio address, sought to put the best face possible on a difficult situation in Iraq, where the United States and its allies went to war over weapons of mass destruction that have never been found and are now caught in a bloody guerrilla war.

A year ago, Bush put on a flight suit, landed on the deck of the *USS Abraham Lincoln* aircraft carrier and declared major combat operations over in Iraq in front of a "mission accomplished" banner.

In the Democrats' weekly radio address, Iraq war veteran 1st. Lieutenant Paul Rieckhoff said Bush should take responsibility for an ill-prepared mission that was on the wrong course.

"Mr. President, our mission is not accomplished," said Rieckhoff, 29, of New York.

In the past year parts of Iraq have descended into chaos. Since Bush said major combat was at an end,

428 US service personnel have been killed in action in Iraq, 127 of them in April alone. Fewer than 100 died in the three weeks it took to topple Saddam Hussein.

"My question for President Bush — who led the planning of this war so long ago — is this: When will you take responsibility for the decisions you've made in Iraq and realize that something is wrong with the way things are going?" Rieckhoff said.

Bush said more violence as likely as the transfer of sovereignty from the US-led coalition to an interim Iraqi government approached a June 30 deadline.

MNA/Reuters

India railway bans smoking

NEW DELHI, 1 May — Beginning from Saturday smoking is banned in all Indian trains and railway premises.

Chewing of tobacco products, sale, advertisement and trade in tobacco and tobacco related products, including their production, supply and distribution will also be prohibited in trains and railway premises, a Railway Ministry statement said Friday.

The punishment for smoking in railway premises is 200 rupees (around 4.4 US dollars). It is compoundable and subject to summary trial in accordance with the procedure, added the statement.

It is reported that there are around 250 million smokers in India.

With this, India will join the league of select countries like Sri Lanka that have gone beyond curbing smoking in public places to banning tobacco promotion directly or in any surrogate form. —MNA/Xinhua



A US Army soldier approaches a burning US Army military truck after a convoy came under attack in the outskirts of Baghdad, Iraq, on the highway leading to Fallujah, on Saturday, 1 May, 2004. —AP/PHOTO

မိုး

သတိပြု



Iraqi youths look at the damage to a house caused by a helicopter gunship strike on the restive town of Fallujah on 6 April, 2004.



Bursts of gunfire have ripped Fallujah as guerillas and US Marines skirmished intermittently on 1 May 2004 despite a deal to hand security responsibilities back to Iraqis. Here an Iraqi in front of destroyed houses in Fallujah.



Iraqis return to Fallujah to find their homes damaged on 30 April 2004.



The rubble of a building that was shelled by a mortar during a fight between Iraqi guerillas and US troops in Fallujah, Iraq, seen on 30 April, 2004.

Images of Iraq



An Iraqi man carries electrical wire past his destroyed house in an attempt to restore electricity, after returning to Fallujah, on 1 May, 2004.



Iraqi men search through the rubble of their house which was shelled by a mortar during a fight between Iraqi guerillas and US troops in Fallujah, Iraq on 30 April 2004.



An Iraqi boy leaves the town of Fallujah, on 30 April, 2004.

New and fast developments throughout Myanmar



Opening ceremony of Myingyan Government Technical Institute in progress on 11-2-2004. — MNA



200-bed Kengtung General Hospital in Kengtung, Shan State (East). — MNA



Paunglin Dam in Hlegu Township, Yangon, Division. — MNA

Five factors of striving

Win Pe



Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party pour water to Bo tree on Mindhamma Hill on 15-5-2003, Kason Fullmoon Day.

Kason Fullmoon Day is Buddha Day. It is a thrice glorious day. On this day Buddha was born, attained Enlightenment and passed into the final liberation of Parinibbana.

On this day, the Lord of the Three Worlds made the supreme effort and gave to us that light which helps us to see the true nature of becoming and birth with their three characteristics of impermanence, incapacity to satisfy and non-disposability. Such a day of culmination of Buddha's effort should be an auspicious day for us to consider the nature of the attitude and behaviour required to realise the characteristics of compounded natures, not as a matter of intellectual opinion held either tenuously or with firm belief but as a matter of knowledge acquired and developed in our heart of hearts.

Buddha's doctrine requires of us seriousness of purpose. It is not for the easy-going man of glib tongue and facile disposition. It calls for diligence and application which the slothful man, oppressed by torpor, is unwilling to offer. It demands scrupulousness which is lacking in the careless man of slipshod ways and distracted mind.

In the sutta preachments Buddha kept stressing the need for zeal and effort. "I declare to you, I protest to you: Let there be no falling back in your aim while there is something further to be done. And what is there further to be done? First, to become conscientious and scrupulous; to become pure in deed, speech, thought and mode of living; to become guarded as to the senses; to become intent on diligence, to become mindful and circumspect; to become possessed of the six-fold knowledge. Each of these is something further to be

done, and while there is something to be done let there be no falling back in your aim".

In another passage in the Majjhima Nikaya, Buddha preaches that there are five factors of striving.

"What are they? He is full of faith in the Awakening of the Enlightened One. He is without disease, endowed with a good digestion that is neither too cool nor too warm, but medium, innuring to striving. He is not dishonest nor deceitful but manifests himself as he is to his teacher. He fares along putting forth energy, he is staunch, strong in effort. He comes to be wise. Endowed with these five factors for striving, taking the Enlightened One as his guide, having realised here and now that supreme goal of the good-faring for the sake of which young men of good family rightly go forth from home into the homeless, may fare along towards it."

It is a laudable practice of Myanmar young men to go forth from home to the homelessness of the monastery either as novices or monks for a week or more during the transition days from the old Myanmar year to the new. It is desirable that on Buddha Day we should remember that if the life of good-faring is to be lived, if what is to be done is to be done, there is no avoiding the striving. A man must make an intense desire, an effort, endeavour, exertion, struggle, mindfulness and attentiveness to give up every evil and wrong state of mind and manner. He cannot do things in a half-hearted way, a way of ease and comfort. He will need to do them rigorously.

Buddha exhorted in the Anguttara Nikaya: "Be not of those who turn back afterwards."

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

အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကာကွယ်ရေးနည်းဆော်ချက်

ယခုအခါတွင် နွေရာသီရောက်လာပြီဖြစ်သဖြင့် ရာသီဥတု ပူပြင်းလာပြီ ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ထိုအပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ချွေးထွက်လွန်ပြီး နွေကိုယ်အတွင်းရှိ ရေနှင့်ဓာတ်ဆားများ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုများပြားပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ဆုံးရှုံးမှုကြောင့် မိတ်နှင့်ယားဖုများထွက်လာခြင်း၊ ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ မူးမောခြင်း၊ ကြွက်တက်ခြင်း၊ ချွေးခြောက်ခြင်း ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းတို့အပြင် အသက်အန္တရာယ် စိုးရိမ်ရသော အခြေအနေအထိ ဖြစ်တတ်ပါသည်။

သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် မလိုလားအပ်သော အကျိုးဆက်များ မဖြစ်စေရန် အောက်ပါအချက်အလက်များကို လိုက်နာကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

- (၁) နံနက် (၁၀)နာရီမှ ညနေ (၅)နာရီအတွင်း လွင်တီးခေါင်ပြင်း ဖြစ်ကမ်းနား၊ ရေဆိပ်သေတ္တံတို့တွင် ရေချိုးခြင်းမှရှောင်ကြဉ်၍ အရိပ်၍ အေးမြသောနေရာများတွင် နေပါ။
- (၂) နေပူထဲမှပြန်လာပြီး ချက်ချင်းရေချိုးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၃) နေပူထဲတွင် ပြင်းထန်သောကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုများ မပြုလုပ်သင့်ပါ။
- (၄) အရက်သောက်ခြင်းသည် အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကို ဖြစ်ပေါ်လွယ်စေခြင်းနှင့် ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ပြင်းထန်စွာ ခံစားရခြင်းကြောင့် ရှောင်ကြဉ်သင့်ပါသည်။

- (၅) နေ့ခင်းဘက် အပြင်ထွက်သည့်အခါတိုင်း အရိပ်လုံလောက်စွာ ရရှိနိုင်သည့် ထီး၊ ဦးထုပ်များ ဆောင်းပါ။
- (၆) အလင်းရောင်ပြန်သော အဖြူရောင်၊ သို့မဟုတ် အရောင်ဖျော့ဖျော့ အဝတ်အထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၇) ပွပူချောင်ချောင် ချည်ထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၈) ချွေးထွက်လွန်ပါက ကိုယ်တွင်းရှိ ရေနှင့်ဓာတ်ဆားဆုံးရှုံးမှုကို ပြန်လည်ဖြည့်တင်းနိုင်ရန် ဓာတ်ဆားရည်သောက်ပါ။
- (၉) ကိုယ်အပူရှိန်တက်ပါက ရေအေးဖတ် နိုင်နိုင်တိုက်ပါ။
- (၁၀) ဆီးချိုရောဂါ၊ နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ သွေးတိုးရောဂါအခါရှိသူများ၊ ကလေးသူငယ်များနှင့် သက်ကြီးရွယ်အိုများအနေဖြင့် နေ့လယ် နေ့ခင်းတွင် အရိပ်၍ လေဝင်လေထွက်ကောင်းသော နေရာမျိုး၌ နားနေပါ။
- (၁၁) မိတ်ဖု၊ ယားနားများထွက်ပါက ရေအေးဝတ်ကပ်ခြင်း၊ သနပ်ခါးလိမ်းခြင်းတို့ကို ပြုလုပ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ ကိုယ်အပူရှိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းနှင့် အတက်ရောဂါဖြစ်ပါက နီးစပ်ရာ ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတွင် ပြသပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



မီးသုံးစွဲလျှင်
အသိယှဉ်
အစဉ်သတိ
အမြဲရှိ

World's nations including US...

(from page 1)

The combined team of the two countries have toured Mongpan, Hsieseng, Namsan, Leikha and Mongshu townships in Shan State (South), Mongpyin, Kengtung and Mongkhat in Shan State (East), Wa regions of Khwinmar, Mongmaw, Namtit, Lonhtan, Panlon and Hopan and Kokang regions of Laukkai and Shaikhaw in Kutkai township and Kaungkha in Shan State (North). It can be seen that during the tour, they have made survey on poppy fields and collected poppy bulb and raw opium, met with poppy growers in the regions and interviewed them, studied the destroyed poppy fields and viewed agriculture and livestock breeding tasks being carried out as poppy substitute undertakings.

According to Myanmar-US opium yield survey, there were 47,130 hectares of poppy fields that produced 484 tons of opium in 2003 and it was the 39 per cent less than that of the previous year. And according to this year's survey, cultivation of poppy decreased compared with that of the previous year and opium yield would also be on a decline. It can be said that the decrease in poppy cultivation year by year was fruitful result of the New Destiny Project under which poppy fields have been destroyed and assistance provided to farmers whose poppy fields were destroyed.

Especially, the New Destiny Project has been successfully implemented in northern, southern and eastern Shan State. The poppy growers, of their own volition, have abandoned poppy cultivation and handed over poppy seeds and thus ceremonies to destroy poppy seeds have been held one after another.

At the same time, illegally grown poppy fields have been destroyed by combined teams including local populace and as a result, 1,557 acres of poppy field were destroyed in 2002-2003 poppy cultivation season. In 2003-2004 poppy cultivation season, 7,519 acres of poppy field were destroyed up to 21 April 2004.

As regards providing assistance to farmers who have no longer engaged in poppy growing, it is learnt that 5,000 bags of rice and 100 bags of salt were provided free of charge to farmers of Kokang region in Shan State (North), 400 bags of rice and 20 bags of salt to farmers of Phaunghsai region and 600 bags of rice and 30 bags of salt to farmers of Manpan region in June, 2003.

Arrangements have been made to provide 5,000 bags of rice and 150 bags of salt to villages in Wa region, Pinalung and Pekhon in Shan State (South) and Mongpan township where poppy fields were destroyed most. International organizations have also lent themselves to the tasks under the New Destiny Project. The WFP with the cooperation of NGOs will have to provide 760 tons of rice to Shan State (North) Special Region-1 Kokang region. Altogether 11,937.61 bags of rice weighing 596.89 tons were provided free of charge to 124 villages with 7,212 households of 47,999 people in Kongyan, Manlaw, Shaukkai, Shaupinkai and Tarshwehtan regions. Moreover, 3,262.2 bags of rice weighing 136.11 tons have been provided to the people for building roads and bridges, dredging drains, erecting toilet and carrying out sanitation tasks. Thus, a total of 15,200 bags of rice weighing 733 tons have been provided. Progress has been made in the fight against drugs together with neighbouring countries.

Under Myanmar-China drug control programme, the two countries are making integrated and well-coordinated efforts in exchange of information on drug eradication. As a result, progress has been made in the fight against drug trafficking and Myanmar has been able to arrest and hand over Chinese culprits wanted in China to Chinese authorities.

Under MoU on Myanmar-Thai drug control, Thailand has pledged to provide baht 20 million for control of drug in border areas of Myanmar, and Yaungkha Village in Monghsat Township was established into Yaungkha Model Village after designating the village as a project region. Yaungkha Model Village development project was launched in February 2001. Under the project, there have emerged poppy-substitute plantations and one 500-capacity school and one 16-bed hospital in the region.

Furthermore, to cultivate soy bean and Pedisein as poppy-substitute crops in Mongka project region, altogether 50 model plots were established for cultivation of 80 hectares of Pedisein in the region and agricultural courses were conducted to as many as 200 local farmers. Pedisein is now being cultivated in the region.

A time when significant progress has been made in the fight against drug and there has been a dramatic drop in poppy growing and production stringent measures are to be taken for preventing the recurrence of trafficking of stimulants.

Nowadays, steps for control of stimulants are to be

taken with added momentum as there have been seizures of the drugs in some regions. Precursor chemicals for making stimulants entered the country from neighbouring countries. Therefore, only when there is cooperation with neighbouring countries in the fight against stimulants will the nation be able to make progress.

Regarding narcotic drug elimination, Wa national race leaders have pledged to totally eliminate drug in Wa region in 2005 whereas Kokang national race leaders have pledged to totally eliminate drug in their region in 2005.

Therefore, it is incumbent upon the departmental officials to contribute their shares in successful realization of the project. To be brief, the first five-year of the 15-year drug elimination project and the New Destiny Project are meeting with success and there has been a significant decrease in poppy growing and production. Similarly, tough measures are to be taken for preventing the recurrence of stimulant trafficking.

Likewise, cooperation with international community and neighbouring countries in the fight against drug is meeting with success. At such a time, systematic measures are to be taken for Myanmar to be able to fully implement the resolutions of the international meetings on control of drug, meetings between ASEAN nations and meetings on cooperation between the two nations. It is needed for the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs that are the most responsible in the successful realization of the project are to make relentless efforts with the participation of the related ministries.

Collective and concerted efforts are to be made for development of education, health and social infrastructures of local people while making efforts for ensuring achievement in poppy substitute agriculture and livestock breeding and providing assistance to local farmers who quit the habit of poppy growing for their food, clothing and shelter needs.

Next, CCDAC Chairman Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing submitted the reports. He said that the New Destiny Project to add the narcotic drug elimination 15-year plan for opium elimination is being implemented beginning 2002-2003 financial year. Thus, poppy seeds and dry poppy bulbs weighing 163,720 kilos handed over by poppy growers, on their own accord, were incinerated for 11 times. The New Destiny Project will continue to implement in coming five years.

According to the project, the target could exceed for distribution of 90,000 baskets of seeds of various kinds of crops, 74,611 kilos of vegetable seeds, 5,049,796 saplings of perennial crops, 921,360 kilos of hybrid maize and paddy and 31,131 viss of potato, onion and kitchen crops and cultivation of crops on 492 acres of test-plot and 9,186 acres of model plots. In addition, fertilizers and pesticide were distributed and land reclamation was carried out.

Macadamea plantations were grown although it was not included in the master plan. Before the project, 12 acres of land were put under macadamea plantations in Kaungkha and Tamoanye regions. In 2003-2004 cultivation season, macadamea plantations were grown on over 600 acres of lands. And 200,000 acres of saplings were nurtured and 60,000 seeds were sown.

In the livestock breeding sector, animal infectious diseases were treated in the project areas. The health care service work group could perform exceeding the target in opening of 46 drug addict treatment units and hospitals, conducting of 28 research works, conducting of 38 drug addict treatment and prevention courses and providing health care services to 7,277 drug addicts. According to the Wa region development programme provided by UNODC, the southern Wa region drug addict elimination project was implemented in the first five-year period and dry addict are now receiving medical treatment.

The student youth educative work group, on its part, could carry out school and township level talks for 10,365 times, dangers of narcotic drug show and contest for 9,752 times, training course for teachers and parents for 93 times in addition to opening and upgrading 207 basic education schools in the first five years.

The public educative work group also gained beyond the target in opening of Information and Public Relations Offices and TV retransmission stations, presenting of wall magazines, pamphlets and photo shows, describing of perspectives on narcotic drug elimination, articles, news photos, dramas and songs, interviews, educative talks on radio and TV, poems and cartoons in the project areas.

A total of 549 persons were rehabilitated at Shwepyitha Youth Nurturing Centre, 150 at Shwepyitha Youth Nurturing Centre, 118 at Mandalay Rehabilitation Camp and 23 at Tachilek Rehabilitation Camp and 831 persons through community based rehabilitation system.

Work groups of CCDAC implemented cultivation and production of narcotic drugs and elimination tasks as well as regional development and construction tasks with the use of the funds of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs and ministries concerned for ensuring uplift of living standard of national races who reside in the border areas. In constructing roads, bridges and buildings, they constructed 250 miles of tarred road, 1,008 miles of gravel road and 922 miles of earth road, 237 staff quarters and schools, 36 schools, hospital, rural health care units and staff quarters and 35 bridges were repaired. So, the sector could exceed the target. Similarly, matters related to power supply, communications and trade were fulfilled.

In the drug elimination sector, there were seizures on 1,806 cases of opium, 5,694 cases of heroin, 1,924 cases of marijuana, 2,637 cases of stimulant tablets, 142 cases of Ephedrine, 12 cases of diazepam tablets, 81 cases of cough syrup, 10 cases of acetic anhydride, 72 cases of chemical liquid and 16 cases in chemical powder. In doing so, 7,333 kilos of opium, 1,357 kilos of heroin, 1,651 kilos of marijuana, 100,064,106 stimulant tablets, 13,997 kilos of Ephedrine, 456 litres of cough syrup, 596,066 tablets of diazepam, 20,533 litres of acetic anhydride, 60,903 litres of chemical liquid and 62,641 kilos of chemical precursors were seized. Likewise, 33 opium refineries and 69,562 acres of poppy plantations were destroyed in the five-year period.

The Money Laundering Law was promulgated as the law No 6/2002 of the State Peace and Development Council and the rules by notification No 1/2003 of the Ministry of Home Affairs. In addition, the Mutual Legal Assistance Law was also enacted. At present, tasks are being carried out to issue the restricted chemicals supervisory rules. News exchange, investigation, taking of action and judgement are being performed in connection with UN convention member countries, international and regional organizations and neighbouring countries.

The groups comprising the chairmen and vice-chairmen of CCDAC, region in-charge ministers, diplomats and foreign news agencies went on field trips to Wa and Kokang regions annually and discussed with national race leaders, so various countries recognized success of works. Furthermore, 37 meetings related to narcotic drugs, 29 workshops and three times of training courses were held as a host country.

(See page 10)



Rail Transportation Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min welcomes back the Myanmar delegation at the Yangon International Airport. — MNA

Myanmar delegation arrives back from Cambodia

YANGON, 2 May — Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin attended the cross-border transport meeting of Six Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and arrived back here yesterday.

The six countries in Mekong Sub-region are having discussions in three phases to reach the Cross-Border Transport Agreement in view of multilateral socio-economic promotion through cooperation in trade, investment and tourism.

The deputy minister on 30 April attended the ceremony to sign the documents of the agreement and protocols related to cross-border transportation. Members of the delegation Director of Road Transport U Aung Myint, Director of Transport Planning Department U Myint Maw, Director of Transport Department Daw Yin Kyway, Deputy Director of Immigration and National Registration Department U Saw Aung, Assistant Director of Agricultural Planning Department U Aung Hlaing and Assistant Director of Customs Department Salai Aung Min Hlaing arrived at Phnom Penh on 26 April and discussed documents and protocols related to the agreement for the second step. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt conveys the diamond orb around the Aungmyan Pagoda. — MNA

World's nations including US as well as UN agencies...

(from page 9)

Moreover, tasks were carried out in the Shan State (North) Drug Abuse Reduction Project implemented in cooperation with UNODC, Wa Region Drug Control and Development Project, Yaungkha Village Development Project in Monghsat Township, Shan State (East) being implemented in cooperation with Thailand and Kokang Special Region-1 Poppy-Substitute Crop Cultivation Project being undertaken in cooperation with the People's Republic of China. From 2000 to date, 25 culprits wanted in narcotic drug cases by China were handed over.

In addition, CCDAC conducted opium yield survey in cooperation with the United States and illicit poppy cultivation data collection tasks with UNODC in the first five years.

In 2004, the illicit poppy cultivation data collection task was carried out in Shan State (South), (North) and (East) regions, and the Rapid Assessment Survey was conducted in Kachin and Chin States and northern part of Sagaing Division and Shan State (East) Special Region-4 separately. Due to carrying out of cooperation works by Myanmar, US and UNODC, it is reviewed that poppy cultivation and production of Myanmar continues to decline.

Meanwhile, various countries pay attention to the case on food sufficiency of local farmers in Kokang, Wa and Shan State (South) regions.

CCDAC and UNODC often organize for study tours of journalists of popular magazines in foreign countries and TV crews to enable global people to know correct progress of border areas, opium elimination and regional development of national race organizations and development of infrastructures being undertaken by the State.

He reported matters related to the study on poppy-substitute buckwheat cultivation project and suggestions by JICA. The team led by Managing Director Mr Mikiharu Sato of Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Head Office went on a field trip to compile data for implementing the Kokang Special Region-1 Elimination of Poppy Cultivation and Economic Programmes from 6 to 14 February 2004.

He reviewed accomplishment of the narcotic drug elimination 15-year plan and reduction of poppy cultivation and production in the first five-year period. In so doing, aims of the first five-year project of the narcotic drug elimination 15-year plan realized thanks to implementation, supervision and fulfilment of the Government in cooperation with local authorities, national race leaders and local people, the border areas development project, the 24 development regions project, five rural development project and improvement of living standard of the people who reside in the border areas.

Therefore, earnest efforts are to be made to gain success in carrying out elimination of production and use, prevention, cooperation of the people and international cooperation in the second five-year period.

Next, Vice-Chairman of the CCDAC Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung explained at length matters relating to international meetings on prevention of precursor chemicals used in producing stimulant tablets, observation of diplomats and representatives of UN agencies in Myanmar at border areas, international acknowledgement of the endeavours of the CCDAC.

Afterwards, Vice-Chairman of the CCDAC Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt presented reports on condition of direct assistance rendered from the funds of work committee for development of border areas and national races to projects of the CCDAC, cooperation with UNDP, FAO and non-governmental organizations in data.

Likewise, members of the CCDAC Minister for Labour U Tin Winn and Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone presented reports on achieving success in combating narcotic drugs, decrease in slanderous accusation of narcotic drugs, measures taken for prevention of cultivation of poppy and manufacturing and trafficking stimulant tablets in northern and eastern regions of Myanmar and carrying out the tasks to gain success for New Destiny Project.

Later, Secretary of the CCDAC Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Ye presented reports on implementation of minutes of the special meeting of the CCDAC.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Brig-Gen Khin Maung reported on cultivation of opium substitute crops, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win on drop of poppy cultivation in Myanmar according to the 2003 International Narcotic Control Board's report, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo on health care services, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint on rehabilitation, Deputy Minister for Education Col Aung Myo Min on the educative tasks for the teachers and students, Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein on information on drugs, Chairman of Myanmar Anti Narcotics Association Dr Nay Win on holding the IFNGO-meeting of ASEAN in Myanmar.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivered the concluding address.

He said the 15-year drug elimination master plan has been successful and more achievements have also been made with the assistance of New Destiny Project. The Union of Myanmar is implementing the tasks for elimination of narcotic drugs by 2014. It is certain that the objectives will be realized with the present momentum.

He said cooperation with international communities has become a great success. Diplomats in Myanmar were invited to the border areas in order to witness Myanmar's efforts for eradication of narcotic drugs and cooperation of local people so that they realized the true situations and international communities accepted the government's anti-drug campaign.

This is why nations of the world including the US and UN agencies and international organizations acknowledged Myanmar's efforts for eradication of narcotic drugs.

He said government departments are to provide assistance for realization of the multi-projects for development of Wa region, Mongpauk and Hotaung region being implemented in cooperation with the UN agencies, water supply project in Mongka, agricultural projects and Yaungkha Mongka regions development projects being undertaken in cooperation with Thailand.

He spoke of the need to provide necessary assistance for acceleration of momentum of buckwheat cultivation project in Kongyan and Tarshwehtan regions being carried out in cooperation with Japan.



The Naga Cave Aungmyan Pagoda. — MNA

He also spoke of the need to speed up the success already achieved for establishment of Tachilek, Myawady and Kawthoung drug free zones and to promote cooperation on drug elimination with all neighbouring countries including China, Thailand and Laos. Formation of treatment groups for drug addicts is very excellent and measures are to be taken with greater momentum, he added.

Activities of Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association (MANA) are gaining momentum. He spoke of the need for ministries concerned to provide assistance for keeping the activities dynamic. Support tasks of the New Destiny Project being implemented by four deputy ministers are useful to local people and non-poppy growers and continued efforts are to be made for achieving more progress, he said.

He said cooperation with international organizations including UNDOC is to be promoted. Extended cultivation of macadamia which can earn a lot of money is to be undertaken in connection with opium substitute crops cultivation.

Spiritual development activities and training of vocational education at Shwepyitha and Shwepyitha rehabilitation camps for drug addicts in Bago Division and southern Shan State are effective and useful, he said.

He said the youths trained at the camps were formed as Youth Force under the leadership of MANA. Anti-narcotic drug campaigns and educative activities among the youths are effective and successful. Based on the achievements, arrangements are being made for rehabilitation of drug addicts after opening of Shwepyithit camp in northern Shan State, he said.

He said it is certain that the objectives of the drug elimination project launched by the State will be successful with the implementation of prevention tasks against opium cultivation and production, trafficking of stimulant tablets and rehabilitation of drug addicts in harmony.

He said the government departments are to provide assistance for drug elimination tasks in 2005 being carried out by national race leaders of Wa and Kokang regions. There were some accusations of money laundering in connection with drug trafficking. Myanmar is undertaking necessary measures including prescribing law and it can refute accusations on drug cases. In connection with the drug elimination works, efforts are being made to promote the socio-economic lives of the national races at border areas. In conclusion, he urged all to make energetic efforts collectively for realizing the aims of the State in full.

After the meeting, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt went to Drug Elimination Museum and viewed round the booths displaying the introduction of opium to Myanmar, drug control activities during the reign of Myanmar kings, the dangers of narcotic drug abuse, the anti-drug movement in the post-independence period and historic documentary photos.

Iraqi prisoners face “sadistic” abuses

WASHINGTON, 2 May — Iraqi prisoners faced numerous “sadistic, blatant and wanton criminal abuses” by US soldiers, including sodomy and beatings, according to a US Army report quoted by the *New Yorker* magazine.

The *New Yorker* said it had obtained a 53-page, internal US military report into alleged abuses at the notorious Abu Ghraib Prison outside Baghdad. In an article posted on its web site on Saturday, the magazine said the report had been authorized by Lieutenant-General Ricardo Sanchez, the top US officer in Iraq, and was completed in February. The May 10 issue of the magazine goes on sale on Monday. The Army report listed abuses such as “breaking chemical lights and pouring the phosphoric liquid on detainees; ... beating detainees with a broom handle and a chair; threatening male detainees with rape; allowing a military police guard to stitch the wound of a detainee who was injured after being slammed against the wall in his cell; sodomizing a detainee with a chemical light and perhaps a broom stick.”

The report, written by Major-General Antonio Taguba, said evidence to support the allegations included “detailed witness statements and the discovery of extremely graphic photographic evidence”.

A senior Pentagon official said he had seen no allegations of rape or the use of chemicals against prisoners in Iraq, but said abuse of prisoners was “despicable and inexcusable”.

News of the military report comes days after photographs showing abuse by US troops of Iraqi prisoners were published and broadcast around the globe. The photos showed US troops smiling, posing, laughing or giving the thumbs-up sign as naked, male Iraqi prisoners were stacked in a pyramid or positioned to simulate sex acts with one another.

Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman declined to comment on the allegations in the *New Yorker*, but stressed that “we take all reports of detainee abuse seriously and all allegations are thoroughly investigated.”

He said that when incidents of abuse first came to light earlier this year, the Army immediately ordered an investigation, and Sanchez ordered a separate probe to make sure that such incidents were not widespread throughout the military detention system in Iraq.

MNA/Reuters

တီဘီရောဂါကာကွယ်နိုင်နည်းရေး

- (က) ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားကူးစက်ပုံ
ဤရောဂါသည်တီဘီရောဂါဖြစ်သော ကူးစက်ရောဂါဖြစ်သည်။
ဝေဒနာရှင် ရောင်းဆိုးခြင်း၊ နှာချေခြင်း၊ သလိပ်တံတွေးမှ တစ်ဆင့် ရောဂါပိုးများလေထဲတွင်ပျံ့နှံ့၍ ကူးစက်သည်။
- အသက်အရွယ်မရွေး လူတိုင်းတွင်ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်သည်။
 - အဆုတ်တွင်အများဆုံးဖြစ်ပွားပြီး ကိုယ်ခန္ဓာအနံ့အပြားတွင်လည်း ဖြစ်နိုင်သည်။
 - ဆီးချိုရောဂါ၊ ခုခံအားကျဆင်းမှုကူးစက်ရောဂါနှင့် အာဟာရ ချို့တဲ့မှုရှိသူများတွင် အဖြစ်များသည်။

- (ခ) ရောဂါလက္ခဏာများ
- ရုတ်တရက်ရောင်းဆိုးခြင်း (ရက်သတ္တပတ် (၃) ပတ်နှင့်အထက်)။
 - ရောင်းဆိုးသွေးပါခြင်း။
 - သလိပ်တွင်သွေးပါခြင်း။
 - အဖျားတာရှည်ခြင်း။
 - ခံတွင်းပျက်ခြင်း၊ မောပန်းလွယ်ခြင်း။
 - ကိုယ်အလေးချိန်လျော့နည်းပိန်ချခြင်း။
 - ကျောရင်အောင့်ခြင်း။

- (ဂ) ဤတင်ကာကွယ်ခြင်း
- ရင်သွေးငယ်များအား ကာကွယ်ဆေး(ဘီစီဂျီ)ကိုမပျက်မကွက် ထိုးပေးပါ။

- အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသော အစားအစာများကိုစားသုံးပါ။
- သင့်တင့်လျောက်ပတ်သောကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုပြုလုပ်ပါ။
- ရောင်းဆိုးခြင်း၊ နှာချေလျှင် လက်ကိုင်ပတ်ကို အသုံးပြုပါ။
- သလိပ်နှင့်တံတွေးကိုစည်းကမ်းမဲ့ထွေးခြင်းမှရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- ဆေးလိပ်သောက်ခြင်းမှရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

- (ဃ) ကုသမှုယူခြင်း
- တိုက်ရိုက်ကြည့်ရှုအချိန်တိုနှင့်ကုသခြင်းဖြင့် ရောဂါကင်းသည်အထိ ကုသမှုခံယူပါ။
 - ကုသမှုခံယူခြင်းသည် အခြားသူများသို့ကူးစက်စေခြင်းမှ အကောင်းဆုံးကာကွယ်ခြင်းဖြစ်သည်။
- တီဘီရောဂါသံသယရှိလျှင် နီးစပ်ရာကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတွင် စစ်ဆေး၍ တီဘီရောဂါရှိပါက အစွမ်းထက်သောတီဘီဆေးဝါးများဖြင့် အခမဲ့ကုသမှုခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Russia promises decision on far East oil pipeline by year-end

MOSCOW, 2 May — The Russian Government will make a decision on the feasibility of the oil pipeline from Angarsk in Siberia to Nakhodka facing Japan by the end of the year, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Zhukov said Friday.

“By the end of the year a decision will be reached on the route of the pipeline and on the preparation of a feasibility study for this project,” Zhukov said after meeting here with Japanese Economics, Trade and Industry Minister Shioichi Nakagawa, *Interfax* news agency reported. Zhukov said during discussion about the pipeline that the Japanese side expressed its interest in the project, which will require major investment and ecological studies. Ecological issues of the project are currently being carefully examined, said the deputy premier, stressing that the payback issue of the 4,000-

kilometre pipeline should be carefully calculated.

China and Russia have signed a framework agreement to build a pipeline linking Russia's Angarsk to China's Daqing. However, the Kremlin became ambiguous over the project after Japan offered a rival pipeline that would bypass China and stretch to Russia's Far East port of Nakhodka. The third possible route that will also transport crude from Russia's vast Siberian reserves to the Asia Pacific Region is a pipeline to Nakhodka with a branch line to China.

MNA/Xinhua

Serbia ponders case of missing monkeys

BELGRADE, 2 May — Serbia is trying to account for around 600 monkeys thought to be missing from a consignment imported from Africa, the daily *Balkan* reported on Friday.

According to the Serbian Statistics Bureau, the monkeys were imported from Tanzania two years ago and paid for by the kilo. The shipment weighed two tons, which works out at about 1,000 monkeys weighing two kilos each, the paper said.

The national vaccine producer Torlak Institute bought 400 for polio vaccine testing, but the fate of the others is unclear.

Belgrade Zoo director Vuk Bojovic said he had not

bought a single monkey in 20 years.

The Serbian Chamber of Commerce said only Torlak would buy monkeys for laboratory use, and while some people took them as pets, it was unlikely 600 were sold to individuals.

The Chamber of Commerce said Customs had to have all data on live imports. But Customs could not immediately supply figures.

MNA/Reuters

British police use sweet tactics to curb drunken brawls

LONDON, 2 May — Drunken brawlers beware—the weapon of choice for police in the southern England seaside town of Bournemouth is chocolate rather than truncheons and handcuffs.

In an effort to reduce alcohol-related violence in Bournemouth is that people get frustrated, then aggressive, waiting for either food or a taxi home,” said police constable Ian Curtis.

“By giving them something to eat as they leave bars and clubs, we hope to distract people from causing trouble by fulfilling one of their main needs — food — and giving them something else to do.”

MNA/Reuters

Record US gasoline drives oil higher again

LONDON, 2 May — International oil prices hit fresh 3-1/2 year peaks on Friday led by an all time high price for US gasoline, a market haunted by fears of a shortage in the period of peak summer demand.

London's Brent crude stood at 34.85 US dollars, up 47 cents, hitting a session high at 35.00 US dollars, its highest since October 2000. US light crude gained 47 cents to 37.78 US dollars a barrel. US gasoline hit a fresh all-time peak of 1.2510 US dollars a gallon on Friday. — MNA/Reuters

သတိပေးနိုးဆော်ချက်

ခရီးသည်တင်စက်တော်ယာဉ်များအား ဖြိုဖျက်သို့ နေ့/ည ခရီးသည်ပို့ဆောင်နိုင်ရေးအတွက် သတိမှတ်ခေါ်ဝေါ်ရန်နှင့်အညီ စက်သုံးဆီတင်ပေးထားပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ယာဉ်စီမံများအားလည်း သတိမှတ်နှုန်းထားများအတိုင်းတောင်းခံရန် ညွှန်ကြားထားရှိပါသည်။ သို့ရာတွင် အချို့ယာဉ်လိုင်းများမှ ယာဉ်မောင်းနှင့် ယာဉ်နောက်လိုက်တို့သည် ယာဉ်စီမံများကို ညပိုင်းတွင် ပိုမိုတောင်းယူနေကြောင်း သိရပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ပိုမိုတောင်းခံပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူနိုင်ရန် အောက်ပါနံပါတ်များသို့ တိုင်ကြားနိုင်ပါသည်။

(၁) မြန်မာနိုင်ငံရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့၊ ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း (ဖုန်း ၁၉၉၉)
(၂) ဩစတြေးလျနိုင်ငံယာဉ်ထိန်းတပ်ဖွဲ့ (ဖုန်း ၉၅၁၁၅၅/၉၅၁၁၅၆)
(၃) မော်တော်ယာဉ်လုပ်ငန်းပေါင်းစုံထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကော်မတီ (ဖုန်း ၅၄၁၉၀၅/၅၄၁၉၀၆)

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည့်ရောဂါများ

အရက်ကိုလွန်ကျွံစွာနှင့် စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သောရောဂါများမှာ အသည်းရောင်ခြင်း၊ အသည်းခြောက်ခြင်း၊ သွေးအန်ခြင်း၊ အစာအိမ်ရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ နှလုံးရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ ဦးနှောက်နှင့်အာရုံကြောထိခိုက်ခြင်း၊ စိတ်ရောဂါများဖြစ်ခြင်း စသည်တို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်တတ်သော စိတ်ရောဂါများမှာ -

၁။ ကယောင်ကတမ်းဖြစ်ခြင်း (Delirium Tremors)၊ ကြောက်လန့်ခြင်း၊ အချိန်၊ နာရီ၊ နေရာ၊ လူ ခန့်မှန်းနိုင်စွမ်း မရှိခြင်း၊ ကြောက်စရာလန့်စရာများမြင်ရခြင်း၊ အသံဗလများ ကြားရခြင်း၊ ပိုမိုများစွာကိုယ်ပေါ် ရုစိန်သွားသလိုခံစားရခြင်း၊ လက်တုန်ရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း။

၂။ အရက်အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သည့်အခါတွင် လူမရှိတဲ့ နားထဲတွင် ခေါ်သံများ၊ ခြိမ်းခြောက်သံများ၊ စော်ကားမော်ကားသံများ ကြားနေရတတ်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Hallucinations)။

၃။ အတက်ကြီးရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Rum Fits) (ဝက်ရူးဖြစ်ရောဂါကဲ့သို့တတ်ခြင်း)။

၄။ စိတ်ဓာတ်ကျရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Depressive Illness)။

၅။ စိတ်ဓာတ်ပြန်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Psychosis)။

၆။ ဦးနှောက်ချို့ယွင်းခြင်း။

၇။ အရက်နှင့်မတည့်သောသူများသည် အရက်အနည်းငယ်သောက် ရှိပြီး ရုတ်တရက် စိတ်ဓာတ်ပြန်တတ်ခြင်း (Pathological Drunkenness)။

၈။ မိမိ၏ဇနီးကို အထင်အမြင်လွဲမှားခြင်းများ ဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Morbid Jealousy)။

၉။ အရက်ကြောင့် ရာဇဝတ်မှုကျူးလွန်သည်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်ခြင်း။ အထက်ပါဆိုကျိုးများကို မစားရစေရန် အရက်သောက် သုံးခြင်း၊ အထူးသဖြင့် အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ အရက်ကို စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းတို့မှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ရန် တိုက်တွန်းအပ်ပါသည်။ အရက်စွဲရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားပါက စိတ်ကျန်းမာရေးဆေးရုံနှင့် ကုသရေးဌာနများတွင် စနစ်တကျကုသမှုခံယူရန် အသိပေးနိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Germany confirms death of security official in Iraq

BERLIN, 2 May — Germany's Foreign Ministry said on Saturday one of two German security officials who went missing in Iraq last month had been found dead.

The man, who belonged to Germany's elite anti-terror GSG-9 security force, went missing with a colleague last month after his convoy came under attack on the way from Jordan to Baghdad.

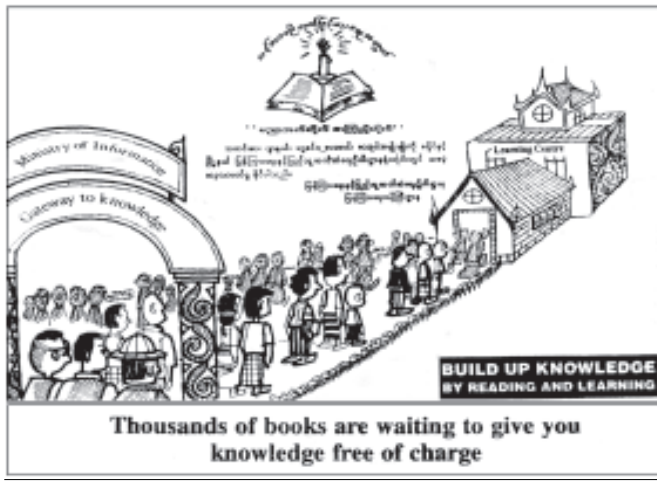
The Foreign Ministry said it would not disclose details on how the man was found while efforts to locate the other man continued. It had earlier said both men were probably dead.

“The Foreign Ministry confirms that the remains of one of the two German security officials has been found and identified by German experts,” the ministry said in a statement.

The Foreign Ministry had said the two men went missing near the Sunni town of Fallujah, the scene of heavy fighting between US forces and Iraqi guerrillas in recent weeks. —MNA/Reuters

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South Africa sends anti-pollution boat to stricken ship

CAPE TOWN, 2 May—South African shipping authorities sent an anti-pollution vessel to remove oil from a stricken bulk carrier off its west coast on Friday as efforts began to save the ship.

The 150,000-ton Taiwanese-registered *Cape Africa* started taking on water on Monday through a hole near its bow. The hole is reported to be 20 metres long by two metres wide.

The Environment Ministry said the ship could sink or break up, releasing 1,800 tons of fuel oil on board, but the South African Marine Safety Authority (SAMSA) said local salvagers Smit Marine had reported the ship to be in a stable condition.

MNA/Reuters

Zimbabwean official says cancer linked to HIV/AIDS

HARARE, 2 May — Zimbabwe Cancer Association said on Friday HIV/AIDS has a big influence on which cancer people get in Zimbabwe, connecting the two big-

gest threats to human health in the country.

The association education officer Shingirayi Dakwa said Kaposi's Sarcoma is the leading cancer affecting Zimbabwean adults. "Kaposi's Sarcoma ranks high, because it is associated with HIV/AIDS," said Dakwa. She said that Kaposi's Sarcoma affects children when they become sexually active.—MNA/Xinhua

မြန်မာ့ပြန်လည်အေးချမ်းရေး

Afghan Foreign Minister to visit Moscow

Moscow, 2 May—Afghan Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah is expected to pay a working visit to Russia on 6-7 May to discuss primarily economic issues, Afghan official said here on Friday.

During his two-day stay in Moscow, Abdullah will talk with his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov "primarily on Russia's assistance to the reconstruction of the Afghan economy, the payment of Afghan debts to Russia," Press secretary of the Afghan Embassy in Moscow Sahi Gairat was quoted by Interfax news agency as saying.

A source at the Russian Ministry confirmed that the debt issue, bilateral relations, fighting terrorism and drug trafficking would be dis-

cussed during Abdullah's visit.

ITAR-TASS cited another Russian official as saying that Afghanistan had "several billion dollars" in outstanding debts inherited from the Soviet time. Noting that the debts "present a certain difficulty in our economic relations", the official said Russia was prepared to write off much of the debt.

In an interview with *Vremya Novostei* daily published on Friday, Abdullah said that the purpose of the talks is "to look for new ideas

to expand cooperation".

"It is important for us to decide how Russian companies can participate in the economic revival of Afghanistan. We believe Russia should be more actively involved in everything related to Afghanistan," he said.

The minister reported progress on the issue of Afghanistan's debts to Russia. "An acceptable solution to the debt problem will be found shortly. Afghanistan is actively working on this," he said. — MNA/Xinhua

South Africans named biggest fans of SMS service

JOHANNESBURG, 2 May—The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has named South African cellphone subscribers as the world's biggest fans of short message service (SMS), who use the service 17 times a month on average.

The global average was only four, the ITU was quoted as saying Friday by local newspaper *This Day*.

In its report, Africa: The World's Fastest Growing Mobile Market, the union interpreted the huge popularity of SMS in South Africa as a sign that wireless Internet access will take off faster in Africa than elsewhere.

"With the region's limited fixed-line penetration effectively curtailing Internet

access via more traditional access methods, mobile technology now has the power to drive the uptake of Internet," said the report.

As the economic powerhouse of the African continent, South Africa was seen as the door into Africa on information and communications technology.

South Africa, now having three mobile communications operators, is the fourth fastest growing market in the world, according

to the country's official statistics.

By October 2003, there were 15 million cellular users and the figure is expected to reach 21 million by 2006, accounting for 46.6 per cent of the total population.

Starting from nearly zero in 1995, cellphones overtook fixed-lines in 2000. By the end of last year, 6.2 per cent of Africans had cellphones and 3 per cent had a landline, said the report.

MNA/Xinhua

19,000 fighters disarmed in Liberia so far

MONROVIA, 2 May—Some 19,000 fighters in Liberia have handed in weapons or ammunition so far under a disarmament scheme to cement peace after 14 years of war, the head of the country's UN peacekeeping force said on Friday.

Lieutenant-General Daniel Opande was speaking as members of one of the most feared forces in Liberia, the Anti-Terrorist Unit (ATU) which backed ex-president Charles Taylor, arrived at a cantonment site

to prepare for a return to civilian life.

The ATU fighters handed in their weapons in December when the United Nations launched the disarmament scheme. But the programme was soon suspended as

former soldiers rioted in a dispute over how they would be paid for turning in their guns.

The UN started a more orderly, revamped version of the scheme earlier April and the ATU fighters turned up at the cantonment site in the capital Monrovia on Friday to resume demobilization—including medical screening and counselling.

"From the time the disarmament started, we have collected 11,000 weapons from fighters. We have also collected four million rounds of ammunition as of yesterday. Also, 19,000 fighters have been disarmed," Opande said.

UN officials have estimated there are around 40,000 fighters to be disarmed but Moses Jarbo, the chairman of the West African country's disarmament commission, told reporters on Friday the true figure could be between 55,000 and 60,000.

Opande, a Kenyan, said the entire disarmament process would take about nine months.

MNA/Reuters

World Historical, Cultural Cities Expo well prepared

NANJING, 2 May—East China's historical city Nanjing, with more than 6,000 years of civilization, is busy preparing China's first World Historical and Cultural Cities Expo scheduled on Saturday.

Xu Ning, spokeswoman of the Nanjing municipal government, told *Xinhua* the exposition, with 58 activities in a week, has attracted mayor-level officials from 21 world historical and cultural cities, among which 10 came from abroad and 11 from China. They will attend various activities including a Forum of Mayors on topics like heritage protection and development.

The ten foreign cities include Leipzig, St Petersburg, Daejeon, Barcelona, Melbourne, Melaka, Vienna, Florence, Kyoto and Nagoya. The Chinese cities include Zhengzhou, Kaifeng, Chengde, Lijiang, Pingyao, Beijing, Hangzhou, Xi'an, Luoyang and Anyang.

"So many delegates attending the event demonstrated the expo has drawn attention from the world, and the Chinese side is attaching more and more importance to cultural heritage protection," Xu said.

She stressed delegates to the meeting also include Chinese ministerial officials and experts in the field, which will play a positive role in pushing forward policy making in the cultural industry and the exchange of experience on heritage protection.—MNA/Xinhua

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သစ်ပင်ကိုနှစ်စဉ်စိုက် ရွှေတိုက်ကိုစိုး။

မညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဒြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

China on holiday SARS alert at airports, stations

BEIJING, 2 May—Airports and rail stations across China are checking temperatures of passengers from Beijing and eastern Anhui Province for SARS as the week-long May Day holiday approaches, state media said on Friday.

The Health Ministry has reported four diagnosed and five suspected cases of severe acute respiratory syndrome in Beijing and Anhui in recent weeks, including one suspected SARS patient who died on April 19 in Anhui.

One of the confirmed cases was in critical condition, the ministry said.

"Railway stations and airports have been ordered to check the temperatures of all passengers from Beijing and Anhui," the *China Daily* said on Friday.

Several countries, fearful of a repeat of last year's devastating SARS outbreak,

have started screening visitors from China. China said it had notified foreign visitors that a Beijing disease control laboratory could be the source of the new outbreak.

The World Health Organization, which has a team of about 16 people in Beijing and Anhui investigating the latest outbreak, said on Friday there was an apparent "chain of transmission" in the cases so far.

"What we are saying at the moment is that there is no significant public health threat from SARS in China," spokesman Bob Dietz said.

Hundreds of people have been isolated for observation

but life in the Chinese capital is going on at its usual hectic pace, with some getting an early start to the holiday in which scores of millions of people will travel.

The *China Daily*, quoting a senior official with the National Tourism Administration, said tour-related industries were expected to reap 4.2 billion US dollars from countrywide travel next week.

At Beijing's main railway station and airport, virtually no one has been seen wearing face masks, ubiquitous during last year's outbreak of the deadly disease that killed nearly 800 people worldwide.—*MNA/Reuters*

HK acts on illegal movement of hazardous e-waste

HONG KONG, 2 May—Hong Kong is committed to curbing illegal movement of hazardous electronic waste (e-waste), said a spokesman for Hong Kong Environment Protection Department (EPD) recently.

The EPD and the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) have been working closely to control and monitor hazardous e-waste shipments imported into or transshipped through Hong Kong, and the joint enforcement action has been stepped up since early 2004, said the spokesman.

Ever since the C&ED launched operation "Trigger" on 1 March to combat illegal import and transshipment of hazardous e-waste, it has examined 133 suspicious consignments.

Of them, 15 consignments were suspected of containing hazardous e-waste, which was imported without a valid permit. The EPD is now investigating these

cases, said the spokesman.

A summons was issued Friday to the importer of one of these shipments for importing 617 waste television sets containing cathode ray tubes to Hong Kong without a permit. The other cases are still under investigation.

"More summonses are expected to be served later this year upon the completion of investigations," the spokesman noted.

For those suspected illegal consignments, nine have been returned to the countries of origin through the Basel Convention liaison. The authorities under the convention for these countries have been notified beforehand to facilitate their investigation.

The spokesman pointed out that the import and export of hazardous e-waste, such as cathode ray tubes in waste computer monitors and TV sets, were subject to permit control under the Waste Disposal Ordinance (WDO).

Under the WDO, any person who imports or exports hazardous e-waste without a permit issued by the EPD is liable to a maximum fine of 200,000 Hong Kong dollars (25,641 US dollars) and six-month imprisonment for the first offence, and 500,000 Hong Kong dollars (64,102 US dollars) and two-year imprisonment for subsequent offence.

MNA/Xinhua

Argentine police seizes 200 kilos of cocaine

BUENOS AIRES, 2 May—Argentine Federal Police seized in the first hours of Friday 200 kilos of cocaine and more than 10,000 bottles of wine with drug hidden inside.

Police sources said the raid was carried out in Munro locality, in the suburbs of the capital Buenos Aires.

They arrested two English citizens, two Yugoslavians and an Argentine, whose identities were not informed, and handed over them to the justice.

Authorities said the five

alleged drug-dealers pretended to have a wine bottler business, but an international drug-dealing and money laundering ring was actually working there.

Federal Police Dangerous Drug Division chief, Commissar Roberto Raglewski, said the 200 kilos of cocaine were hidden

inside some 10,000 bottles of red wine that were ready to be shipped abroad.

Raglewski, who led the Vinas Blancas raid, said the gang had "branches in London, Spain and other countries," where they are working with the local authorities and thus new arrests are not ruled out.—*MNA/Xinhua*

China's localities urged to step up efforts on safety

BEIJING, 2 May—The General Office of the State Council recently issued an urgent circular, ordering local governments to step up efforts to ensure safety in industrial production, social stability, and prevention of epidemic diseases.

The circular was issued due to the rising number of dangerous chemical leaks, explosions, traffic accidents, and the recent reoccurrence of SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) in Beijing, the national capital.

In the circular, the General Office of the State Council urged localities to step up efforts in the prevention of SARS and banned any attempts to conceal, delay or give false information about

the SARS situation.

Factories involved in dangerous or explosive goods must strictly follow laws and regulations, while greater efforts should be to ensure safety in public places and facilities. Companies and institutions engaged in the tourism sector should conduct thorough checks on safety measures as the week-long "May Day" holidays approach, according to the circular.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Siberian tiger gives birth to quadruplets in N-E China

HARBIN, 2 May—A 12-year old Siberian tiger gave birth to quadruplets Wednesday in an animal breeding centre in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province.

"Dou Hua" gave birth to the four tiger cubs on Wednesday and it was the seventh time she became a mother, said an expert with the Hengdahezi Feline Animals Breeding Centre.

"Dou Hua" has given birth to 25 baby tigers and once set a record by giving birth to quintuplets.

MNA/Xinhua

12 killed as bus overturns in East India

NEW DELHI, 2 May—At least 12 people were killed and 85 others injured when a bus overturned at Mohanpur in West Bengal's Birbhum District on Thursday.

The accident occurred when one of the front tyres of the bus burst and came off. Many of the passengers sitting on the roof of the bus were thrown off as the vehicle spun out of control, the *Indo-Asian News Service* quoted local police as saying.

While eight people died on the spot, four more succumbed to their injuries in the hospital.

The injured have been admitted to hospital. Doctors said the conditions of 45 passengers were critical and the death toll was feared to rise.—*MNA/Xinhua*

E China city to host Italian Renaissance art show

NANJING, 2 May—An Italian Renaissance art show is due to open Sunday in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province, featuring classics by Renaissance masters including Michelangelo and Da Vinci.

Insiders say this will be the first exhibition of Italian Renaissance fine arts in China since the People's Republic was founded in 1949.

The show will feature 70 to 80 sculptures and paint-

ings from the 14th to 16th centuries, including Michelangelo's David and Pieta and Da Vinci's Horse.

Reproductions of some Renaissance masterpieces by artists from around the 18th

Century will also be on display at the exhibition. Most of the pieces feature heroes and legendary figures of the Roman Empire and carry religious and humanistic themes.—*MNA/Xinhua*

CPC official highlights importance of ethics education

BEIJING, 2 May—Li Changchun, member of the Standing Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee Political Bureau, has urged to ceaselessly promote ethics education for juveniles, saying that schools are the main classroom, front and channel for the education.

Li said this Thursday when he visited the Ministry of Education to study the issue. He praised the educational authorities in the country for their efforts in further stepping up and improving ethics education for juveniles.

Ethics education is the fundamental job for schools, Li said. He called for imple-

menting the policy of the Communist Party of China on education and including ethics education throughout all the periods of schooling.

It is the common task for the whole party and the whole society to step up and improve ethics education for juveniles, Li stressed.

MNA/Xinhua



Bavarian highlanders carry their 60-foot-long May Tree through the snow on Germany's highest mountain, the Zugspitze, near Garmisch-Partenkirchen, southern Germany, on 1 May, 2004. Following a century-old tradition, May Trees are set up on the first of May all over Bavaria.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Rio de Janeiro teams flop again in Brazilian championship

RIO DE JANEIRO, 1 May — Flamengo and Vasco da Gama suffered embarrassing defeats to leave Rio de Janeiro's four teams without a win in the Brazilian championship.

Flamengo started the campaign with two goalless draws but were beaten 2-1 at Parana, who themselves lost 6-1 to Vitoria four days earlier, and have two points from three games.

Vasco went down 1-0 at home to Guarani in front of a paltry crowd of 1,087, also on Thursday, and have one point from nine.

Rio de Janeiro clubs once dominated Brazilian football but have suffered an alarming decline blamed on chaotic administration.

The city has also been shunned by the national team because crowds at the famous but crumbling Maracana Stadium jeer and insult the side within minutes of the kick-off if they do not score an early goal.

Brazil's last match at the Maracana was a World Cup qualifier against Bolivia nearly four years ago.

Fluminense (18th) are Rio's highest-placed club in the 24-team table with two points from three games, followed by Flamengo (20th), Vasco (22nd) and bottom club Botafogo, whose coach Levir Culpi resigned after two games on Sunday.

Four-times former champions Flamengo took a first-half lead through Rafael Gauchio in Curitiba but the home side capitalized on sloppy defending to score twice in three minutes through Adriano and Willian in the second half.

Flamengo substitute Robson was sent off 10 minutes after coming on for a second bookable offence. An early goal by Guarani striker Alexandre sank Vasco, the 2000 champions, prompting Vasco coach Geninho to say:

"There's a long way to go. I don't think there's a big difference between Rio and other regions."

MNA/Reuters



Kar Litburtr, center, a player for the Bermuda team alongside Franklin Lopez, left and Miguel Sanchez during a soccer game in Diriamba, 37km south of Managua, Nicaragua, on 30 April, 2004. Nicaragua won 2-0.—INTERNET



Monaco's Fernando Morientes (L) of Spain evades a tackle from Franco Dolci of Nice during their French league 1 soccer match in Nice, on 30 April, 2004.

INTERNET

Desailly has ban cut to two matches

NYON (Switzerland), 1 May — Chelsea defender Marcel Desailly's ban for elbowing an opponent has been cut to two matches after an appeal, UEFA said on Friday.

The Chelsea captain was initially banned for three games after appearing to catch Monaco forward Fernando Morientes in the face during the Champions League semifinal at the Stade Louis II on April 20.

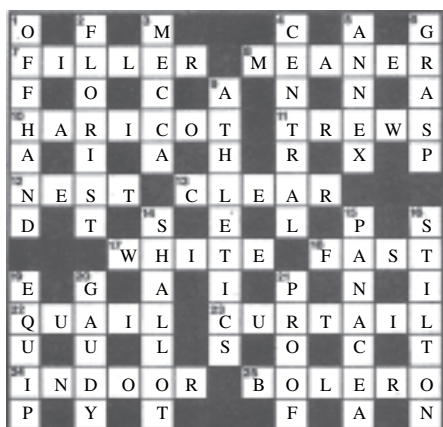
Chelsea appealed and, after Friday's hearing, UEFA said in a statement on their website: "UEFA's Appeals Body has reduced the ban on Chelsea FC defender Marcel Desailly to two matches.

"The Appeals Body ruled that Desailly did not commit an act of deliberate assault. Desailly's good record was also taken into account, as well as the fact that the incident happened when both players were in contention for the ball."

The decision means the 35-year-old, who has already won the Champions League with Olympique Marseille and AC Milan, will still miss the return leg of the semifinal on May 5 and the final, on May 26, should Chelsea win through.

Monaco lead the tie 3-1 after goals from Dado Prso, Morientes and Shabani Nonda. — MNA/Reuters

Answers for yesterday's Crossword Puzzle



Wenger backs Lehmann

LONDON COLNEY (England), 1 May — Criticism of Arsenal goalkeeper Jens Lehmann is unjustified and undervalues the German's contribution to the club's title success, manager Arsene Wenger said on Friday.

The Frenchman also said there was a "good chance" Dutch striker Dennis Bergkamp would still be around to help the London club defend their Premier League title next season.

Lehmann's temperament has been brought into question by off-the-ball clashes with opponents which culminated in him giving away a penalty during last Sunday's 2-2 derby draw against Tottenham Hotspur that sealed the championship triumph. "I have been disappointed with some of the criticism Jens Lehmann has received this season," Wenger said. "I think we have the best defence in the league and you don't do that with a bad goalkeeper."

"The criticism is not justified. He gets it because sometimes he reacts badly when he is provoked by other players, but that means they

are not focusing on how good his game is.

"I cannot think of games where we have dropped points because of a mistake he has made. However, I can easily think of matches where we have gained points due to his performances."

Bergkamp, 35 next month, is out of contract at the end of the season and the recruitment of forward Robin van Persie from Feyenoord earlier this week was thought in some quarters to signal the end of the experienced striker's stay at Highbury.

"With regards to Dennis Bergkamp, there is a good chance he will stay," said Wenger. "He is a great influence in the dressing room and will help Robin van Persie when he arrives in the summer. He is van Persie's idol and he will be able to help him settle in and give him advice." — MNA/Reuters

Hitzfeld to close door on Bayern years

BERLIN, 1 May — Bayern Munich coach Ottmar Hitzfeld will leave the Bundesliga club at the end of next season, he said on Friday.

"It is better to end speculation and say that it will be over in 2005," Hitzfeld told a news conference in Munich.

Hitzfeld is widely expected to remain in charge for the 2004-2005 season after which his contract expires.

The 55-year-old was appointed Bayern coach in 1998. Under his guidance, the club have won four Bundesliga titles, lifted the German Cup twice and won the Champions League in 2001. Bayern are second in the Bundesliga, six points behind leaders Werder Bremen with four games left, and face a struggle to retain their title.

There had been speculation that Hitzfeld might leave after this season following a disappointing run with early exits from the German Cup

and the Champions League.

However, chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, who had himself suggested last month that the coach's job was not safe, said this week the club were definitely planning with Hitzfeld for next season.

MNA/Reuters

Spanish tennis player Tommy

Robredo celebrates after his win over Chilean Fernando Gonzalez, during the quarterfinals of the Barcelona Open in Spain, on 30 April, 2004.

Robredo defeated Gonzalez 4-6, 7-5, 7-6(2).

INTERNET



Beckham leads way in transfer talk

LONDON, 1 May — With just over two weeks left until the transfer window opens, Real Madrid's David Beckham is top of the speculation league as Europe's big clubs prepare for next season.

The likes of Arsenal, Chelsea and Bayern Munich have already agreed deals in advance for Robin van Persie, fellow Dutchman Arjen Robben and Iran striker Vahid Hashemian respectively, even though the moves can only be registered from May 17.

Brazil's Rivaldo, a free agent, is touting for a club.

But bigger transfer deals could well be on the way and few are attracting the kind of intense speculation as that generated in Britain by the possible Premier League return of Beckham.

The England captain's high-profile move from Manchester United to Real for 40 million US dollars last year was heralded as a new lease of life.

The move looked good for Beckham, whose relationship with United manager Alex Ferguson had soured, and for Real, who acquired the most marketable commodity in a global soccer business.

But after a promising start, Beckham's form has dipped sharply in the Primera Liga, where a demanding Press are already turning against him.

Top-selling sports daily

Marca have dubbed Beckham "Forrest Gump" after the hapless movie character, while the wisdom of signing such an attack-minded midfielder has been questioned given Real's defensive frailties.

Widely publicized allegations of an extra-marital affair, the fact that his wife Victoria and children have remained in England and a decision not to renew the lease on his Madrid mansion after May have all fuelled the speculation.

Chelsea, buoyed by the huge wealth of Russian billionaire owner Roman Abramovich, are tipped as the most likely destination for the Londoner.

Beckham, who turns 29 on Sunday, could hardly return to United while Ferguson remains in charge and Beckham's combined transfer fee and wage demands would be tough to swallow for the money men at champions Arsenal.

But Chelsea have the necessary cash and ambition to add yet another top player to a squad that has already been re-built once since last July.

Beckham, meanwhile, has insisted he is happy in Spain, enjoying his football and will be a Real player next season, in a house he is looking to buy in Madrid.

United's Dutch striker Ruud van Nistelrooy has also been sufficiently drawn into the rumour mill for the club to issue a "hands-off" warning to Barcelona and Real.

"I have written to the clubs concerned and told them Ruud is not for sale," United chief executive David Gill told MUTV.

Spain, where Real have also been linked with a bid for AS Roma playmaker Francesco Totti, and England are not the only major leagues facing transfer speculation.

MNA/Reuters

Prime Minister hoists Htidaw atop Naga Cave Aungchantha Pagoda

YANGON, 2 May— A ceremony to hoist Shwehtidaw atop Naga Cave Aungchantha Pagoda of Kalaywa Tawya Monastery was held at the monastery in Mayangon Township this morning, attended by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Aungmyebonsan Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññindabhivamsa, Joint-Secretary Kalaywa Tawya Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotikadhaja Dwi Pitakadhara Dwipitaka Kovida Bhaddanta Jagarabhivamsa and members of the Sangha, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the mayor, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, local authorities, social organizations and wellwishers.

The Prime Minister and party received the Nine Precepts from the Vice-Chairman Sayadaw. Next, members of the Sangha recited *Parittas*.

The Prime Minister offered Seinbudaw, Hngetmyatnadaw and provisions to the Vice-Chairman Sayadaw. The commander presented Hsatthaphudaw and donations to members of the Sangha. The Joint-Secretary Kalaywa Tawya Sayadaw delivered a sermon and the Prime Minister and party shared merits gained.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister, the commander, the ministers and wellwishers conveyed Seinbudaw, Hngetmyatnadaw, Hsatthaphudaw and tiers of Shwehtidaw round the pagoda and carried them again to the pandal of the decorated carriage. The Prime Minister and party sprinkled scented water on them and conveyed them on top of the pagoda.

At the auspicious time, the Prime Minister offered



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt hoists diamond orb atop Naga Cave Aungchantha Pagoda of Kalaywa Tawya Monastery in Mayangon Township on 2-5-2004. — MNA

scented water for cleansing tiers of Shwehtidaw, Hngetmyatnadaw and Seinbudaw after hoisting them atop the pagoda. Later, the Prime Minister performed the rituals of golden and silver showers to mark successful completion of the ceremony.

Next, members of the Sangha consecrated the pagoda.

Yesterday morning, the ceremony to hoist three tiers of Htidaw atop the pagoda was held at the monastery, attended by the Kalaywa Tawya Sayadaw and members

of the Sangha, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Adviser U Arnt Maung, departmental heads, nuns and wellwishers.

The Sayadaw, the deputy minister and wellwisher U Maung Maung Kha Swe fixed three tiers of Htidaw atop the pagoda. Later, the deputy minister and the wellwisher performed the rituals of golden and silver showers to mark completion of the ceremony. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt watches the demonstration of the National Symphony Orchestra. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt enjoys demonstration of National Symphony Orchestra

YANGON, 2 May— The demonstration of the National Symphony Orchestra, organized by Myanmar Radio and Television of the Ministry of Information was held at the Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township at

7.15 pm today, attended by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt. Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the mayor, deputy ministers,

officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, members of the National Symphony Orchestra Committee, musicians and guests. The National Symphony Orchestra led by Conductor Lt Thet Tin Aung (Navy) and U Tin

Thein performed musical programmes to the Prime Minister and party. First, they played the national anthem.

The programmes included the Symphony No 41 of WA Mozart, the song entitled "only when the Tatmadaw is strong, will the nation be strong" by Academy Gitalulin U Ko Ko, melody of Minuet in G of Beethoven, the song entitled "Nagani" by Academy Gitalulin U Ko Ko, melody of Eine Kleine Natch Musik of WA Mozart and Ayarwadi the Great River (1st, 2nd and 3rd movement) by Academy Gitalulin U Ko Ko.

After the ceremony, the Prime Minister cordially conversed with the members of the National Symphony Orchestra Committee and musicians and presented cash awards to the musicians of the orchestra.

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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents cash awards to musicians of the National Symphony Orchestra. — MNA

Yangon Command honours military band, volleyball team

YANGON, 2 May— Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay attended the ceremony to honour the military band representing Yangon Command who stood first in the 13th Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition and Yangon Command men's volleyball team which won the championship shield in the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services' Shield Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Volleyball Tournament at the hall of

Yangon Command Headquarters yesterday evening.

Also present were Deputy Commander Col Wai Lwin, military region commanders and their wives, local authorities and winners.

First, the prize-winning teams presented their championship shield and trophy to the commander who gave away cash prizes to them.

The commander presented new musical instrument to the leader of the military band.

Afterwards, the commander gave a speech. Later, the commander and wife hosted a dinner in honour of the winners. — MNA

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