

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## Lt-Gen Aung Htwe tours Kehsi, Shan State (South)

YANGON, 14 May—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence met officers and other ranks of local regiment of Kehsi, Shan State (South), on 10 May morning.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe dealt with regional development and extension of agriculture and livestock breeding, and presented K 100,000 to the Maternal and Child Welfare Association of the battalion.

Accompanied by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and departmental officials, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe visited Satu Thitha Maha Wihara Hnitmile Wutpaung Monastery in the township. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe supplicated religious matters to Shan State Ovadacariya Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhamma

Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Javana. He presented cash donations to the Sayadaw and alms to members of the Sangha.

Next, they inspected the computer room and multimedia teaching rooms of Kehsi Township Basic Education High School and fulfilled requirements.

Later, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe held a meeting with departmental officials at the office of township Peace and Development Council. Officials reported on measures for regional development and future plans. The commander gave an account of preparations for extended planting of coffee, building of a theatre for Kehsi People's Hospital and rebuilding of Loilem-Pankaytu-Tonlaw Road, requirements and assistance to be rendered.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe said that the government has been

making all-out efforts for better communication sector of the nation after building national reconsolidation. He dealt with the 52-mile Pankaytu-Kehsi-Mong-naung Road Project, upgrading of the township people's hospital and education promotion for the region. In so doing, departmental personnel are to co-operate with local people to accomplish the projects, he urged.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe looked into Kehsi Town Hall Extension Project and attended to the needs. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe presented K 300,000; the commander, K 200,000; and entrepreneurs in the township, K 500,000 for the project. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party looked into health care services at the rural health care centre in Monaghan village, Kehsi Township, and attended to the requirements. — MNA

### Four political objectives

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

### Four economic objectives

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

### Four social objectives

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

## Meeting to ensure smooth and secure transport

YANGON, 14 May—The Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport held a coordination meeting at the office of All Bus-Line Control Committee (Yangon Division) in Tamway Township this evening, attended by Chairman of the Supervisory Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present on the occasion were military region commanders, Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myint Kyi and members, Supervisory Committee members, rectors and registrars of universities and colleges in Yangon, local authorities, chairmen of bus lines and guests. First, the commander gave instructions on tasks for the supervisory committee members with a view to ensuring convenience of the people travelling in downtown Yangon and those from Yangon to other States and Divisions daily. Next, Supervisory Committee members, the rectors, registrars and the chairmen of bus lines participated in the discussions.

Afterwards, the commander delivered a speech, saying that Yangon City is being upgraded in all sectors such as extension of motor roads, repaving of roads and repair of pedestrian ways. For minimizing traffic accidents, drivers and conductors are to follow traffic rules and passengers on the bus should avoid throwing of litter and spittle on the road. Officials are to take action against those breaking traffic rules. Later, the commander fulfilled requirements. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe addresses at the meeting of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee. — PUPR

## Stake-driving ceremony of Ngamoeyeik Bridge (Kamakayi) held

YANGON, 14 May — The stake-driving ceremony of Ngamoeyeik Bridge (Kamakayi) to be constructed by Public Works was held at the top of Kamakayi Street on the bank of Ngamoeyeik creek in Thingangyun Township here this morning. It was attended by Yangon Division Peace and

Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein and departmental heads, local authorities, departmental officials,

personnel of NGOs, members of band troupe and pom pom troupe and guests.

At the auspicious time, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein drove the stakes Nos 1, 2, 3 and 4 and

sprinkled scented water on them.

Next, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun drove the Yadana Pile. The commander, the minister, the mayor and official sprinkled scented water on the pile, and the ceremony came to a close.

Ngamoeyeik bridge (Kamakayi) across Ngamoeyeik Creek is of reinforced concrete type, linking between Thingangyun Township and Thakayta Township.

It will be 850 feet long and 48 feet wide. It has 6 feet wide pedestrian lanes on both sides. It can withstand 60 tons of loads. On completion, the people of the townships of Thingangyun, Tamway, South Okkalapa, North Okkalapa and Dagon Myothit and Thakayta, Dawbon, Thanlyin, Kyauktan, Kayan and Thongwa can travel within a short space of time. — MNA



Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun launches pile-driving machine for building Ngamoeyeik Bridge (Kamakayi). — CONSTRUCTION

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 15 May, 2004

## For human resource development

It can be vividly seen that changes in the field of science and technology have driven nations of the world to promote the education standard continually, and each country is striving competitively for educational reform to be in conformity with global changes.

At present, the Government is laying emphasis on creating an education system which sustains the historical background of the nation and its people, culture and customs, the striking features of the nation made up of different national races and the national policy based on the national character.

In his address at the ceremony held at the Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road on 10 May, to open Seminar on Promotion of National Education (Yangon) for the Basic Education Sector 2004 of the Ministry of Education, Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that the National Education Promotion Plan has been formulated and implemented with the aim of creating an education system which promotes the development of nation and its people leading on the correct national path, turns the students into qualified ones who are on par with the global development in science and technology, and preserves the national character and Myanmar social values and creates a constant learning society.

As a result, accessibility to education has been enhanced. In the basic education sector, child-centred approach has been adopted and vocational education programmes have been created. In the higher education sector also, institutes of vocational education have been established and post-graduate programmes provided.

Moreover, teacher-centred or one way system has been transformed into the education system which is based on Information and Communication Technology and interactive system. Multi-media classrooms, learning centres and resource centres which support the new system have been established so that the quality of teaching and learning has been promoted and the gap in accessibility to educational opportunities between urban and rural areas could be narrowed.

At the time when achievements are being made in the education sector, responsible personnel, teachers and students are urged to strive harmoniously for raising the national education standard and human resource development.

မိုးရွာစဉ် ယာဉ်မောင်းလျှင်  
အောက်ပါတို့ကိုသတိပြုပါ

- ၁။ လမ်းပေါ်တွင် စက်ဆီ၊ချောဆီများ မိတ်စင်လျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
- ၂။ မော်တော်ယာဉ်တို့များ ပန်းမရှိလျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
- ၃။ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ လေပေါင်ချိန်များလွန်လျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
- ၄။ လမ်းပေါ်တွင် ရွှံ့နွံများရှိလျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
- ၅။ အရှိန်ပြင်းစွာ မမောင်းပါနှင့်။
- ၆။ တရိတ်တို ရုတ်တရက် မနင်းပါနှင့်။
- ၇။ ကုန်တင်ယာဉ်များ ဟန်ချက်ညီမျှရန် ဂရုပြုပါ။
- ၈။ ရေသုတ်တံပါရှိရမည်။ ကောင်းမွန်ရမည်။
- ၉။ မိုးသည်းထန်စွာ ရွာသွန်း၍ မြင်ကွင်းမကောင်းလျှင် ရှေ့မီးကြိုကို ဖွင့်မောင်းပါ။
- ၁၀။ မြေသယ်ယာဉ်၊ အုတ်၊ သဲ၊ ကျောက် သယ်ယာဉ်များ မိတ်စင်မှု မရှိစေရန် လုံခြုံစွာ တင်ဆောင်ပါ။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

## 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

## National Convention will be successfully reconvened with the current delegates attending

YANGON, 14 May—The National League for Democracy today issued an announcement that they would not attend the National Convention.

The 86-NLD member group led by U Aung Shwe attended the National Convention launched in 1993. In November 1995 when the National Convention was moving into top gear, all the NLD delegates made a demand for political meeting and walked out of the National Convention after sending a letter to the chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission which said they would never return to the National Convention again so long as their demand is not met. The NLD delegates were biased against the rules and regulations of the National Convention, and consequently, the Commission had to terminate their representatives in the National Convention in ac-

cord with the rules and regulations of the National Convention.

With a view to ensuring national reconsolidation, the government invited the NLD to attend the National Convention which will resume on 17 May 2004. In fact, the NLD delegates would have to apply if they want to represent their party at the National Convention. The government would decide for the NLD to attend the National Convention only after receiving their application.

Though the NLD did not make any application, in all magnanimity and goodwill to the NLD to attend the National Convention and to ensure the Convention to be a plenary meeting, the government invited the NLD delegates to the Convention. And the government made every arrangement for five NLD members representing the political parties and 49

NLD representatives-elect, altogether 54, to attend the National Convention.

The NLD gave a reason for their refusal of the government's invitation in the declaration that U Tin Oo and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi have no right to travel freely and the party has not obtained permission for reopening of its offices yet.

Chairman of the National League for Democracy U Aung Shwe did not receive the invitation when it was sent by officials to his house respectfully. Knowing their demands would not be met they intentionally asked for them. When their demands were not met they issued an announcement to the effect that they would not attend the Convention. The Government addressed and fulfilled the demands of the NLD to the most possible degree. Moreover, as emphasis is being placed on prevalence of peace and

stability at a time when the National Convention is being reconvened officials held discussions with U Tin Oo and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to retain their status quo with patience. But the NLD did not accept it and announced that they would not attend the Convention. As a matter of fact, U Tin Oo and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi were not included as delegates to the National Convention when it was held in 1993.

Though the NLD does not attend the National Convention, it will resume with delegates including delegates of political parties, delegates of representatives-elect, delegates of national races and delegates of mass and class organizations. The government will successfully continue reconvening the National Convention, the first step of the seven-point Road Map of the State, as it has announced previously.—MNA

## Books donated to libraries of IPRD

YANGON, 14 May—Wellwishers donated various kinds of books to libraries of Information and Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Information at the meeting hall of IPRD on Pansodan Street this morning.

Present were Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Director-General U Khin Maung Htay of Myanma Radio and Television, Director-General U Chit Naing of IPRD, officials and wellwishers.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein accepted 2,000 various kinds of magazines and journals donated by Dr Tha Tun Oo (Today Book House) of Pazundaung Township; 400 books by U Zaw Min Htoo (Padetha

Sarpy) of Kamayut Township; 50 books written by Htala Sitthu by Capt Khin Oo-Daw Mya Mya Soe of Bago; various titles of 204 books by U Nay Myo Thura (Tagaung Book House) of Kamayut Township; 25 books written by Htala Sitthu by Poet Min Shwe Min-Daw Tin San of Botahtaung Township; 13 books written by Htala Sitthu by Daw Phyu Phyu Lwin and Daw Nilar Lwin of Mayangon Township; 10 books written by Htala Sitthu by Dr Pe Nyan of Sangyoung Township; 525 periodicals by actress Daw Su Hlaing Hnin of South Okkalapa Township; and 250 sports journals by U Myo Min Hlaing (Htet Myet Aung Sarpy) of Dagon Myothit (North) Township.

Next, certificates of honour were presented to the wellwishers. The deputy minister thanked the donors.

Today's donations totalled 3,477 books worth K 1,314,250. The books will be distributed to libraries of IPRD and self-reliant ones all over the country.—MNA



Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein accepts books from a well-wisher. — MNA

## UMFCCI President meets guests

YANGON, 14 May — Deputy Minister of Transport of Malaysia Datuk Douglas Uggah Embas met with Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce & Industry President U Win Myint at the Grand Plaza Parkroyal Hotel on Alanpya Pagoda Road here at 8.30 am today. They discussed matters on promotion of trade between the two countries. Malaysian Ambassador to Myanmar Dato Cheah Sam Kip, UMFCCI Vice-Chairmen U Zaw Min Win and U Aung Lwin, General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing and Joint Secretary-I U Myo Nyunt and CEC member U Tun Kyi were also present on the occasion. The business meeting between the Penang Port Commission and the UMFCCI was also held. MNA

## Nursery Market Festival continues

YANGON, 14 May — The Nursery Market Festival continued at Myay Padetha Park in Bahan Township here today with the aim of providing necessary assistance to growers and attracting the public to be interested in agriculture, horticulture, livestock breeding and vegetable farming.

Kitchen crops, fruits and saplings of herbal plants are being shown at the festival.

Poultry farming and fish breeding are also exhibited there. — MNA



The Malaysian Deputy Minister calls on UMFCCI President U Win Myint and party. — UMFCCI



# Vatican says Pope expected to tell Bush he is wrong on Iraq

ROME, 14 May — Pope John Paul II is expected to warn President George W Bush when the two men meet on 4 June that his policy in Iraq is wrong and the actions of US troops are damaging efforts to bring religions closer together, a senior Vatican official revealed.

Cardinal Pio Laghi said the US-led occupation force in Iraq should be replaced by "a multinational presence which is not dominated by those who wanted and fought the war."

It was not enough for a military force in Iraq not to be under US command, "it must not even give the impression that it is," he said Thursday.

Laghi was the pope's envoy to Washington last year in a fruitless attempt to persuade Bush not to invade Iraq against the wishes of the

majority of the United Nations and its 15-member Security Council.

Referring to revelations this month of torture and humiliating mistreatment of Iraqi prisoners by US soldiers, the cardinal asked "how is it possible to remain in Iraq if these abuses continue?"

Laghi said he liked the United States and "could not have imagined that this madness was possible". He said he was "astonished" at the behaviour of US troops and called for "all light to be shed

on this affair, justice to be done and guarantees given so it does not happen again."

Bush is due to meet the pope on 4 June before travelling to France for ceremonies commemorating the 60th anniversary of the allied landings on the Atlantic coast on June 6, 1944, which began the liberation of Europe from Nazi occupation.

Laghi said Bush had been very anxious to see the pope and had changed his schedule to make the meeting possible, but said he did not think the President wanted to make

political capital out of it before the election due to take place in November.

"If ever there were a difficult time to ask for an audience with the pope it is now," he said.

The cardinal said he also expected the pope to tell Bush that his policies in the Middle East in general were not helping the cause of peace.

"We must build bridges with Islam, not dig trenches between us," he went on. "And we must give top priority to the Israeli-Palestinian question, which is the root cause of terrorism."

The pope would tell Bush that "the fight against terrorism must not be purely repressive and punitive but must also proceed from the elimination of its causes, which are rooted in injustice."

Bush and the pope have met twice before, but the June 4 audience will be their first since the start of the war in Iraq. — *Internet*

ထိုက်တိုက်နှစ်သစ် တိုးမြှင့်ခြင်း

## Lawmakers shocked by new images of Iraqi prisoners

WASHINGTON, 14 May — Members of the US Congress saw new images of violence and sexual humiliation from a US-run Iraqi prison on Wednesday in a closed viewing one lawmaker likened to a descent into "the wings of hell."

Lawmakers said images showed inmates apparently being coerced to commit sodomy, wounds possibly from dog bites, a number of dead bodies, and examples of "sadistic torture" and "sexual humiliation."

Some top Republicans urged that the still pictures and video not be released publicly, saying they could endanger US forces overseas.

"What we saw is appalling. It is consistent with the photos that you've seen in the press to date. They go beyond that in many ways in terms of the various activities that are depicted," said Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, a Tennessee Republican.

"There were some awful scenes. It felt like you were descending into one of the wings of hell and sadly it was our own creation," said Senator Richard Durbin, an Illinois Democrat. "And when you think of the sadism, the violence, the sexual humiliation, after a while you just turn away, you just can't take it any more."

"I still cannot believe that this happened without the knowledge of those at higher levels," Durbin added.

Many lawmakers said the images were similar to photographs shown around the world of naked prisoners stacked in a pyramid or positioned to simulate sex acts at the Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad, but they said some were even more shocking. — *Internet*



An Iraqi boy peers through a shattered window of a car after the driver came under gun fire between US Army forces and Shiite Mehdi Army militiamen in Najaf, Iraq, on 13 May, 2004. The driver of the car was instantly killed, and another person injured, according to local witnesses. — *INTERNET*

## Medics witnessed British troops' Iraqi abuse

BAGHDAD, 14 May — A pair of Danish army medics working in a British field hospital saw two Iraqis who were beaten during an interrogation admitted to the clinic, including one who allegedly died, the Danish defence ministry said today.

The September 2003 incident was not immediately reported to Danish authorities because none of Denmark's 500 or so troops in southern Iraq were involved, Defence Minister Soeren Gade said.

Denmark has 496 troops based in Basra and nearby Qurnah, 400 kilometres south-east of Baghdad. They are under British command. The incident was reported today to defence officials in Denmark by an army lawyer in Basra.

According to her report, the two unidentified medics said they saw two Iraqis being brought to a British military hospital in Basra "after having been exposed to brutal

treatment during an unauthorised interrogation in the field by a British unit".

The report has not been released and the nature of the injuries was not announced.

The Danish army lawyer contacted British authorities about the allegation and was told it was already being investigated, Gade said. Britain's Ministry of Defence said it believed the case was that of Baha Mousa, who died in custody last year.

Mousa was a 28-year-old hotel receptionist who died after allegedly being beaten by British troops in Basra in September. His death was among those highlighted in a Red Cross report in February. — *Internet*

## Iraqi's neighbouring countries call on UN to play greater role

AMMAN, 14 May — Parliament speakers of Iraq's neighbouring countries on Wednesday called on UN to play a greater role in building Iraqi democracy, the official Petra news agency reported.

In their meeting held here on Wednesday, the speakers stressed the importance of ending the grave situation in Iraq and restoring security, stability and democracy to the war-torn country.

Secretary-General of the

Arab Parliamentary Union (APU), Noriddin Boshkouj, said the Amman meeting reflected parliamentarians' intentions of providing assistance to Iraq.

He indicated the occupation of Iraq is part of a plan to dominate the region and control its wealth, especially oil.

President of the Syrian People's Council, Mahmoud Abrash, underlined the importance of supporting democracy and freedom in Iraq as well as enabling the Iraqis to choose their independent

national government without the interference of the occupation forces.

Speaker of the Kuwaiti Parliament, Jassem Kharafi, said the meeting expressed the commitments towards the Iraqi people and affirmed their support for Iraqis at this critical stage.

He added the meeting also reflected their keenness to determine the region's future, preserve its security and independence of its countries and people.

MNA/Xinhua

## Pentagon admits Iraq methods violated Geneva Rules

WASHINGTON, 14 May — Top Pentagon officials conceded on Thursday some of the interrogation methods approved for use by the US military on Iraqi prisoners may violate the Geneva Convention governing treatment of war prisoners.

The admission came as Senators investigated revelations of sexual and psychological abuse of detainees at the Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad which prompted outrage around the world and undermined US efforts to stabilize the occupied country.

During a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing, Democrats confronted Deputy Defence Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, the No 2 official at the Pentagon, and General Peter Pace, the No 2 US general, with "rules of engagement" for interrogations approved by the top commander in Iraq, Lt General Ricardo Sanchez.

These methods included sleep and sensory deprivation, forcing prisoners to assume "stressful" body positions for up to 45

minutes, threatening them with guard dogs, keeping them isolated for longer than 30 days, and dietary manipulation.

Sen Jack Reed asked Pace if a foreign nation held a US Marine in a cell, naked with a bag over his head, squatting with his arms uplified for 45 minutes, would that be a good interrogation technique or a Geneva Convention violation.

"I would describe it as a violation, sir," replied Pace, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

US interrogation techniques have come under scrutiny amid revelations that prisoners were kept naked, stacked on top of each other, forced to engage in sex acts and photographed in humiliating poses. — *Internet*



Supporters of radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr show their support in the center of Sadr City, a suburb of Baghdad, Iraq on 12 May, 2004. — *INTERNET*

## Second Iraqi identifies himself in prison abuse photographs

BAGHDAD, 14 May—Saddam Saleh, an Iraqi who says he was one of the naked prisoners shown in the photographs of abuse inside Abu Ghraib jail, has accused American soldiers of torturing him for 18 days.

He said he saw several senior figures connected with the Saddam Hussein regime being held in the now notorious area of Abu Ghraib shown in the pictures, including Saddam's nephew and the owner of the house where the former dictator was hiding when he was captured last year.

Mr Saleh is the second Iraqi to come forward and identify himself as one of those in the Abu Ghraib photographs. He says that he is

one of the naked Iraqis shown standing in a row, while Private Lynndie England points at their genitals and grins, the third from the right.

He says he knows that he is the man in the photograph despite the fact he was wearing a hood because American soldiers brought the picture to him in his cell and pointed his own naked body out to him, apparently to humiliate him further. That would back up Private England's claim that she had been

ordered to pose for the photo so it could be used to weaken prisoners for interrogation.

He recalls being ordered to stand in a line and hearing the click of the camera, but said that he did not know until he was shown the photograph that a woman soldier was posing in front of the line of prisoners.

He alleges that he was held completely naked for 18 days, and that American soldiers beat him, tortured him with an electric shock

baton, set dogs on him, and at one point urinated on him.

It is impossible to confirm Mr Saleh's allegations, and some Iraqis who have claimed they suffered abuse in US-run prisons since the Abu Ghraib pictures emerged have been accused of lying. Mr Saleh has US prisoner release papers which give his prisoner number as 200144, and the dates he was held as 1 December, 2003, to 28 March this year. The document is signed by Lieutenant-Colonel Craig A Essick. Mr Saleh says he wants to be allowed to give evidence at the first court martial of a soldier for mistreating prisoners, scheduled for Baghdad next week.

Internet



Armed Iraqi fighters take position in the center of the holy city of Najaf, Iraq, on 13 May, 2004 in heavy sand storms. Fighting erupted again when American forces battled Iraqi militiamen on the outskirts of the town. — INTERNET

## Mexico's President worried about Iraq

BUDAPEST, 14 May—Mexican President Vicente Fox on Thursday said he was concerned about the situation in Iraq and wanted the United Nations to play a greater role.

"We would like to see a strong and active presence of the United Nations and with enough capacity to solve this conflict," Fox said during a visit to the Hungarian capital. "Mexico's position at this time is one of worry about what is happening in Iraq."

Though tradition and the constitution prevent Mexico from contributing troops to military operations or peacekeeping efforts, the country is "involved in the search for

peaceful solutions to such conflicts," Fox said after meeting Hungarian Prime Minister Peter Medgyessy.

The Hungarian leader said Budapest was determined to keep its 300 troops in Iraq at least until their mandate expired at the end of 2004, adding that the country was among those "who decidedly stand up to terrorism."

Fox was to visit Poland on Friday, as part of a European trip meant to strengthen political and economic ties.—Internet

## Turkey criticizes US sanctions against Syria

ANKARA, 14 May—Turkey on Wednesday criticized a decision by its NATO ally the United States to impose sanctions on Syria, saying they would prove counterproductive.

US President George W Bush announced economic sanctions on Syria on Tuesday for backing militant factions fighting Israel and for failing to prevent guerrillas opposed to the US occupation entering Iraq.

"I don't think embargoes are in accordance with human rights in this era. This kind of approach does not help a solution but increases the problem," the state

Anatolian news agency quoted Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan as saying.

"The way to peace and globalization is not through embargoes," he said during a joint news conference with visiting Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik al-Hariri.

Turkey came close to war with its much smaller neighbour Syria in 1998 over Damascus' harbouring of Turkish Kurdish guerrilla leader Abdullah Ocalan. Syria finally relented and expelled Ocalan, who was captured and jailed by Turkey in 1999.

MNA/Reuters

## Vatican says Iraq abuse bigger blow for US than September 11

ROME, 14 May—The abuse of Iraqi prisoners by US soldiers represents a bigger blow for the United States than the September 11 attacks, the Vatican's foreign minister was quoted as saying on Wednesday.

Archbishop Giovanni Lajolo told *La Repubblica* daily the scandal would fuel Arab hatred for the West and by extension for Christianity.

"The torture? It's a bigger blow for the United States than September 11. The thing is that this blow wasn't inflicted by terrorists but by Americans against themselves," Lajolo said.

MNA/Reuters

စက်မှုဥစ္စာများအား ခေတ်တော်တို့တွင်း

## Chirac, Schroeder express horror at beheading, torture in Iraq

PARIS, 14 May—French President Jacques Chirac and German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder expressed horror over the beheading of US businessman Nick Berg in Iraq and the torture of Iraqi detainees in US custody.

Chirac told a joint news conference Thursday that images of US soldiers abusing Iraqi prisoners, along with Berg's gruesome slaying "in conditions that were unimaginable in their barbarity", inspired "horror and indignation".

For his part, Schroeder spoke of "the horror that this frightening crime conjures up," with reference to Berg's killing. "Nothing can ever excuse such acts," the German chancellor said.

Chirac on Sunday had indirectly criticized the US abuse of Iraqi prisoners, saying: "Every time you humiliate, in one way or another, you create aggressive reflexes. Respect for others is the key to development and peace in the world." — Internet

## Neighbouring countries call for end of US occupation in Iraq

AMMAN, 14 May—Parliamentary speakers from countries neighbouring Iraq have called for an end to the occupation in the war-torn country and a wider UN role in restoring the sovereignty to it, local newspaper *Jordan Times* reported on its website on Thursday.

The speakers made the call during their meeting in Amman, in which all delegates agreed that consensus among different Iraqi groups and factions should be reached before the country embarks on a true rebuilding process including political reform and free elections. Parliamentary speakers from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Syria, Egypt, Bahrain, Turkey and Jordan as well as representatives of Arab and international parliamentary unions took part in the two-day meeting.

Participants continued their discussions, as the meeting came into its second day on Thursday, on the current situation in Iraq, the support of the international community towards achieving security and constitutional process in Iraq.

"Achieving stability, freedom and prosperity for the Iraqi people will not happen without a truly representative political system based on national unity and consensus," said Saleh Ben Hamid, President of Saudi Arabia's Al Shura Council.

Ross Mountain, special representative of the United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, said there was an urgent need to restore stability and security in Iraq but the prevailing conditions make it difficult to work on the ground. He underlined the UN role in helping Iraqis establish an inter-

mediate government after the handover of sovereignty on 30 June, referring to the work undertaken by the international body to prepare for elections in January 2005. Meanwhile, delegates approved an initial draft statement on the Iraqi issue. The official document is expected to be released at the conclusion of the meeting later Thursday, according to the website. — Internet

## S Korean FM regrets over abuse of Iraqi prisoners

SEOUL, 14 May—South Korea's Foreign Minister Wednesday voiced regrets over the abuse of Iraqi prisoners by US soldiers.

Ban Ki-moon called the mistreatment of Iraqi prisoners by US troops "inhuman behaviours" and expressed hope that no such cases would recur. Public pressure is mounting for the South Korean Government to scrap its plan to send troops to Iraq, following the disclosure of graphic scenes of abuses of Iraqi prisoners by American and British soldiers.

But in the wake of continuing instability in Iraq and the abuse of Iraqi prisoners by the US and British soldiers, more and more South Korean people oppose the plan. Local activists plan to hold an anti-war candle vigil in downtown Seoul Friday evening to urge the government to scrap its plan. — MNA/Xinhua



A US Marine surveys an area where at least four soldiers were wounded in an attack, after getting struck with a roadside explosive device near Falluja, on 13 May, 2004.—INTERNET



# Sadr defiant but says may disband militia

**NAJAF, 14 May** — Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr vowed on Wednesday to press on with his fight against the US-led occupation of Iraq but said he would disband his Mehdi Army militia if Shiite leaders asked him to.

"If the Americans want to leave Iraq then this would bring peace, but their presence in Iraq is not peace and will lead to the spread of terrorism," Sadr said in Najaf's Imam Ali shrine, one of Shiite Islam's most sacred sites.

"We are ready for any American escalation. We don't expect anything else," he told a rare news conference.

Sadr did not say whether talks over the past two days among Shiite groups in

Najaf had produced an agreement that could end his uprising. But he praised efforts by "honest parties" to try to end the crisis and accused US-led forces of sowing discord.

If Shiite religious authorities issued a fatwa, or edict, telling him to disband his Mehdi Army militia then he would comply with it, Sadr said.

"The dissolution of the Mehdi Army depends on the religious authorities. If they issue an edict to dis-

band the Mehdi Army then we will disband it. If not, then it will remain to defend this country and its sanctity," he said.

On Tuesday, the US general commanding forces in the Najaf region indicated that elements of the Mehdi Army could be included in a local force which could take over security in Najaf. But Sadr said the Mehdi Army would not join such a force until foreign troops left Iraq.

"When the occupying

forces leave Iraq, at that time the Mehdi Army could be merged into the Iraqi army," he said.

Sadr condemned the abuse of Iraqi prisoners by US forces, and said the American people should press their leaders to withdraw from Iraq.

"Look at what your army has done at the behest of its leaders — torture of all kinds," he said. "Are those who came to remove Saddam becoming just the same as Saddam?" — *MNA/Reuters*

## Mortars fired at Italian Embassy in Baghdad

**ROME, 14 May** — Three mortar rounds were fired at the Italian Embassy in Baghdad on Wednesday but the building was not damaged, Italy's ANSA news agency reported.

The agency gave no further details on the attack.

The report came after a journalist from Italy's state broadcaster RAI said that an explosion had hit the embassy building.

The journalist, Monica Maggioni, reporting live, said she had received news from the Qatar-based Al Jazeera Arab television that the embassy had been hit by a blast. Seconds later the link between Rome and the reporter failed. Last November, the Italian Embassy in Baghdad was hit by an explosion at night causing structural damage but no injuries.

Italian forces and officials have been on high alert in Iraq since a suicide attack killed 19 Italians in the southern city of Nassiriya, also last November. — *MNA/Reuters*

## Decrying Rumsfeld, Kerry eyes McCain for defence

**ORLANDO (Florida), 14 May** — Democratic presidential hopeful John Kerry said on Wednesday Republican Senator John McCain topped his list for defence secretary as he criticized the Bush Administration for failed policies in Iraq.

Kerry slammed President George W. Bush and Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld over the abuse of Iraqi prisoners, their failure to build an international coalition and other "miscalculations surrounding this war".

"This thing has been so extraordinarily mismanaged and ineptly prosecuted," the Massachusetts senator told the "Imus in the Morning" radio programme one day after Army Major General Antonio Taguba, who investigated the mistreatment at the Abu Ghraib prison, told Congress the abuse reflected a failure of leadership in the US Armed Forces.

Renewing his call for Bush to take full responsibility for the prison scandal and Rumsfeld to resign despite his apology, Kerry singled out McCain of Arizona, a fellow Vietnam War veteran and frequent Bush critic, when pressed on who he would want running the Pentagon.

"I'm not the president today," Kerry said, but he added: "I have any number of people that I would make secretary of de-

fence, beginning with our good friend John McCain as an example."

Kerry listed other possible candidates "who could manage it (the top defence job) very effectively", including Democratic Senator Carl Levin of Michigan and Republican Senator John Warner of Virginia, the top ranking senators on the Armed Services Committee.

McCain's office had no comment to Kerry's latest comments. But the Arizona Republican, in response to earlier talk of being Kerry's running mate, said he plans to remain in Congress as a Republican and wants Bush re-elected.

Meanwhile, Senator George Allen, a Virginia Republican, responded incredulously when told of Kerry's comments. "Kerry said that?" Allen said with a grin. "It's a political gambit." Kerry said his goal was to bring other countries into Iraq to "get rid of this American occupation, (to) get the target off the American troops alone, (and to) get the war out of the pocket of the American taxpayer exclusively." — *MNA/Reuters*

## Germany's ruling coalition says Rumsfeld should go

**BERLIN, 14 May** — Leaders of Germany's ruling coalition called for the resignation of US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on Wednesday, warning the West would be held collectively accountable for the

abuse of Iraqi prisoners.

Franz Muntefering, chairman of Schoeder's Social Democrats, and the SPD's foreign policy expert in Parliament, Gernot Erler, said Rumsfeld should leave office.

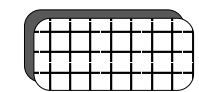
Erler told German Radio it was "completely warranted" for Rumsfeld to resign. "In any case the whole chain of command has to be held accountable," Erler said.

*MNA/Reuters*

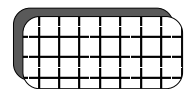


*Iraqis take cover as smoke rises in the center of Karbala, 110 km south of Baghdad, Iraq on 12 May, 2004 as fighting erupted in this holy Iraqi city.*

INTERNET



*An Iraqi woman waits outside Abu Ghraib prison, while she hoping to get information about her relative, held inside, Baghdad, on 12 May, 2004.—INTERNET*



## UNICEF disturbed by reports on abuse of Iraqi children detainees

**GENEVA, 14 May** — The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) said on Tuesday that it is profoundly disturbed by news reports alleging that children may have been among those abused detainees in Iraq.

Although the news reports have not been independently substantiated, they are alarming nonetheless, UNICEF said in a statement released here.

UNICEF said any mistreatment, sexual abuse, exploitation or torture of children in detention is a violation of International Law, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Geneva Conventions.

The New York-based agency warned that the detention or imprisonment of a child must be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time.

For their safety and protection, children should never be incarcerated with adults, and should have prompt access to legal, medical, emotional and other appropriate assistance, it said.

UNICEF reiterated that all persons in detention must be treated with humanity and with respect for their inherent dignity as human beings.

In particular, states have an obligation to protect children and to ensure that their officials are aware of, trained in, and comply with the relevant international standards, it said.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## US hopes for early NATO role in Iraq fading

**BRUSSELS, 14 May** — US hopes that NATO would agree at its Istanbul summit next month to take a greater role in stabilizing Iraq have evaporated, diplomats and analysts say.

Worsening violence in occupied Iraq, the prisoner abuse scandal, dismay at US Middle East policy, Spain's decision to withdraw its forces and military "overstretch" in Afghanistan have combined to make any prospect of the 26-nation alliance taking on greater responsibility remote.

"You can expect a discussion of Iraq at Istanbul, but not a decision," a senior NATO diplomat said.

Analysts said US President George W. Bush's backing for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's unilateral Gaza withdrawal plan, without consulting European allies, has made the Europeans even less inclined to help out.

Although France and Germany — Europe's fiercest opponents of last year's invasion — expressed misgivings at the time, many diplomats had expected them to agree at the June 28-29 Istanbul meeting to launching a NATO operation in Iraq.

But Iraq barely gets a mention these days at NATO headquarters, where diplomats are struggling to expand their peacekeeping mission in Afghanistan on time for Istanbul.

Declared priority number one by NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, the Afghan operation has been dogged by the allies' reluctance to provide troops, planes and helicopters.

*MNA/Reuters*



*Iraqis survey the scene of a bomb explosion at a market in the northern town of Kirkuk, on 11 May 2004.*



*Iraqis wait for treatment at a hospital in Kirkuk, on 11 May 2004 after a bomb exploded in a crowded market.*



*Badly wounded eleven-year-old Iraqi girl who lost seven members of her family during clashes between militiamen and US forces on 12 May 2004 sits on a hospital bed in Najaf, Iraq.*



*The blast in the northern town of Kirkuk, Iraq, killed three people and wounded 22 on 11 May 2004.*

## Images of Iraq



*An emergency vehicle attends the scene after a bomb exploded at a market in Kirkuk, northern Iraq, on 11 May 2004.*



*An Iraqi girl walks past a wall marked with bullet holes in 'Sadr city' district of Baghdad, on 12 May 2004.*



*An Iraqi schoolgirl runs past burning tires in the Sadr City suburb of Baghdad, on 12 May 2004.*



## Border and rural area developments



*The Development Affairs Department is implementing rural housing project to raise the living standard of rural people. The photo shows a rural house built by the Development Affairs Department in Mogaung Village in Aunglan Township, Magway Division.*



*To supply water for agricultural purpose, river water pumping station was built in Tayokehla Model Village, Hpa-an Township, Kayin State.*



**FOR BETTER TRANSPORTATION IN RURAL AREAS:** *The Cheinchaung Bridge in Zokthok Village, Bilin Township, Mon State.*



*A tube-well sinking truck in action in Pyibin Village, Chauk Township, Magway Division to supply potable water to rural people.*



*Youth Development Training School built in Kengtung, Shan State (East), for border area and national races development.*

# The National Convention to be reconvened on 17 May

Aung Moe San

The entire national people in Myanmar suffered internal armed conflict and disintegration of national solidarity after regaining independence. Myanmar that suffered the scourge of World War II for the second time continued to suffer internal armed conflict. So economic, political and social conditions diminished like a patient with anaemia. After realizing these situations, the Tatmadaw unavoidably took up the duties of State in 1988 and rebuilt national reconsolidation and made efforts for national development. Then, the government gave top priority to national reconsolidation, building of a new democratic nation in unity, development of economic productive forces and uplifting the quality of life.

Looking back at Myanmar history in the course of independence, it was found that the Tatmadaw took up the duties of State when there was political instability and economic recession. Therefore, the Tatmadaw governments usually made efforts to overcome political instability and economic recession.

Thanks to the present government's endeavours, 17 armed groups that opposed the successive governments with arms for years returned to the legal fold.

National reconsolidation that the successive governments could not carry out has been achieved. Nation-building tasks were implemented unprecedentedly including the border areas. This is why the present government laid down seven future tasks for establishment of discipline-flourishing democratic nation and is implementing them.

The National Convention to be resumed on 17 May is the first step of seven future tasks and it is also the convention that will decide the establishment of a new democratic State. It is the National Convention that is attended by most of the national forces in Myanmar history.

However, there are still some groups that oppose

and slander the National Convention which aims at national reconsolidation and establishment of a new democratic nation.

These groups are unable to convene the National Convention themselves and yet are opposing what is being held by the Government. Hence, they could not reach the trend of reconsolidation but to fall into the vicious circle. Indeed, such pessimistic acts are antagonizing and opposing the steps namely after the successful holding of the National Convention, step by step implementation of the process necessary for the emergence of the genuine and discipline-flourishing democratic system; drafting of a new constitution in accordance with fundamental principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention; adoption of the Constitution through National Referendum; holding of free and fair elections for Pyithu Hluttaws (Legislative Bodies) according to the new Constitution; convening of Hluttaws attended by Hluttaw members in accordance with the new Constitution; and building a modern, developed and democratic nation by the State leaders elected by the Hluttaw, and Government and other central organs formed by the Hluttaw.

Hence, the following four basic agreements are required for the national forces to shape the future of the nation unitedly and for the National Convention to meet success.

- (1) to give up confrontation
- (2) to ensure national reconsolidation and emergence of a new democratic nation
- (3) to make collective efforts in implementing the seven-point Road Map of the State which knows least problems in building up a new democratic nation
- (4) to focus on modernization and development of economic productive forces for ensuring the emergence

of a new democratic nation.

Of them, the fourth point is the fundamental social requirement for building up a new democratic nation. The reason is clear. The development of economic productive forces is the highest criterion for the advancement of a society. Human history is the history of fulfilling the food, clothing and shelter needs of the people as well as the history of production. The heart of mankind is the economy and production. In as much as there are economic developments and progressive achievements in production, society gains prosperity and development. As regards the availability of human rights, it can be seen that under feudalism, man did not own himself or herself. When she or he has human rights, he or she owns himself or herself as well as his or her own production without requiring to give them up to the feudal lords. He or she can expand his or her economy with the interest so gained. In this way, production and economic undertakings can be expanded with momentum. Gradually, human rights overwhelm the whole universe", said the modern political economy.

In today's international sphere, some nations open up the political freedom first before taking firm economic steps in transitional period towards democracy. Thus, they had to encounter social crisis and problems. Hence, it can be witnessed that those nations which are taking firm economic steps in combination with the provision of political freedom are achieving stability and gradual development.

Basically, the national interests depend on the development of economic productive forces. Economic sanctions are, in fact, violation of human rights. Only when there is national reconsolidation, will there be national stability. Only when there is national stability, can production be carried out for prosperity. This way, a new modern and democratic nation can be built up. To do so, it is incumbent upon the delegates to make collective efforts in oneness in line with the seven-point Road Map of the State at the National Convention to be reconvened on 17 May.

(Translation: T. Htut + NY + TS)

## Rural water supply endeavours gaining momentum

by T. Htut

Water is very valuable where it is scarce. It is natural that the people in arid regions in central parts of Myanmar prefer water than gold. There is a saying which goes "We want water rather than gold".

As a result of zealous efforts of the officials and staff of the Development Affairs Department with the assistance of local authorities, a ceremony to unveil the billboard to mark the provision of sufficient water to the entire Myittha Township was held at the junction of Myingyan-Mandalay Road in downtown Myittha on 13 May morning. Director-General of the Development Affairs Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs formally unveiled the billboard. Next, the opening ceremony was held in Loktha Kyemon Hall in Myittha. Director-General Col Myo Myint delivered an address. As guided by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, five rural development tasks are being implemented with might and main throughout the country, he said. In this

context, rural water supply works are carried out with added momentum while emphasis is being laid on building of rural roads. In Myittha Township, 144 manual water pumps have been built and 77 tube-wells sunk to supply sufficient water to 145,026 people of 227 villages in 82 village-tracts. To supply rural water in Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, huge sums of fund have been spent. So far, 4,907 villages out of 8,042 villages in these three divisions have been supplied with sufficient water.

Rural development, in fact, is very beneficial to the rural people that make up the majority of our nation's population.

It is believed that the five rural development tasks namely ensuring smooth and secure transportation in rural areas; enabling rural people to obtain clean water; enhancing education standard of rural people; stepping up health care facilities of rural people and bringing about economic development of rural people will be carried out with added momentum.



Director-General Col Myo Myint unveils the billboard to mark the supply of water to entire rural people of Myittha Township.

### အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည့်ရောဂါများ

အရက်ကိုလွန်ကျွဲစွာနှင့် စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သော ရောဂါများမှာ အသည်းရောင်ခြင်း၊ အသည်းခြောက်ခြင်း၊ သွေးအန်ခြင်း၊ အစာအိမ်ရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ နှလုံးရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ ဦးနှောက်နှင့်အရံကြောတို့ခိုက်ခြင်း၊ စိတ်ရောဂါများဖြစ်ခြင်း စသည်တို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်တတ်သော စိတ်ရောဂါများမှာ -  
၁။ ကယောင်ကတမ်းဖြစ်ခြင်း (Delirium Tremors)၊ ကြောက်လန့်ခြင်း၊ အချိန်၊ နာရီ၊ နေရာ၊ လူ ခန့်မှန်းနိုင်စွမ်း မရှိခြင်း၊ ကြောက်စရာလန့်စရာများမြင်ရခြင်း၊ အသံဗဟ်များ ကြားရခြင်း၊ ပိုးများ၊ ခန္ဓာကိုယ်ပေါ် ရွစ်ရစ်သွားသလိုခံစားရခြင်း၊ လတ်တုန်ရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း။

၂။ အရက်အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သည့်အခါတွင် လူမရှိဘဲ နားထဲတွင် ခေါ်သံများ၊ ခြိမ်းခြောက်သံများ၊ ဇော်ကားမော်ကားသံများ ကြားနေရတတ်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Hallucinations)။

၃။ အတက်ကြီးရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Rum Fits) (ဝက်ရုပ်ပြန်ရောဂါကဲ့သို့တတ်ခြင်း)။

၄။ စိတ်ဓာတ်ကျရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Depressive Illness)။

၅။ စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Psychosis)။

၆။ ဦးနှောက်ချိုယွင်းခြင်း။

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

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

၉။ အရက်ကြောင့် ရာဇဝတ်မှုကျူးလွန်သည့်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်ခြင်း။ အတက်ပါဆိုကျိုးများကို မခံစားရစေရန် အရက်သောက် သုံးခြင်း၊ အထူးသဖြင့် အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ အရက်ကို စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းတို့မှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ရန် တိုက်တွန်းအပ်ပါသည်။ အရက်စွဲရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားပါက စိတ်ကျန်းမာရေးဆေးရုံနှင့် ကုသရေး ဌာနများတွင် စနစ်တကျကုသမှုခံယူရန် အသိပေးနှိုးဆော် အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



## Development works inspected in Mingin, Kalewa

YANGON, 14 May— Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye arrived at the Yeiktha of Mingin Township General Administration Department, Kalay District, on 9 May morning. Officials reported on development tasks in the region.

Sagaing Division Development Affairs Committee Director U Khin Maung Swe and officials reported on their respective sectors.

Next, the commander attended the opening ceremony of Napin Suspension Bridge in Kyweku Village, Kalaywa Township. The commander formally opened the bridge. He also opened the library in Myothit Village, Kalaywa Township.

In Masein Station, the commander presented a computer and accessories and 100 bags of cement for Basic Education High School Branch to officials and garments and periodicals to the local people. On arrival at Natmawkei Village, he inspected building of Kalaywa-Mawlaik Road and bridges on it. — MNA

## Commander inspects thriving of sunflower, paddy in Lashio Township

YANGON, 14 May—Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, accompanied by departmental officials, on 12 May inspected thriving plantations of Hsinshweli special high yield sunflowers and Hsinshweli special high yield hybrid paddy of the command and gave necessary instructions to officials concerned.

Next, the commander proceeded to the high land farming-1 where he inspected digging of new lakes, storage of water, seasonal crop plantations, land reclamation with heavy machinery and the 50-acre model plantations being jointly undertaken by the command and Myanmar Agriculture Service and attended to the needs.

Afterwards, the commander viewed the boxing tourney of the command being held at the parade grounds of the command.

Altogether 90 participants from the Eastern Command, the Central Command, the Southern Command and the North-East Command are taking part in the boxing tourney which continues up to 16 May.—MNA



Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung delivers an address at the meeting. — MNA

## Environmental Conservation Committee meets

YANGON, 14 May— The Environmental Conservation Committee held the third meeting at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this afternoon.

Present were Chairman of Environmental Conservation Committee Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Vice-Chairmen of the committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung and members.

Chairman of the committee Minister U Win Aung delivered an address. He said that environmental issues are being given priority at the international forums, and global efforts are being made to address environmental issues such as global warming and climate change, the depletion of the ozone layer, deforestation, land degradation, desertification, and loss of bio-diversity. At the national level, countries are implementing plans and strategies to protect and conserve the environment.

In Myanmar, the State Peace and Development Council is paying great attention to environmental matters, and has recently formed the Environmental Conservation Committee to further promote environmental protection activities in the country. In order to systematically address the environmental issues, the Committee will set down and implement short-term and long-term strategic environmental plans of action. Conservation of the ecosystems of the four main rivers, the Ayeyawady, Chindwin, Sittoung and Thanlwin, including the protection and conservation of the river sources, river basins and the watersheds are greatly needed. Moreover, controlling and preventing sedimentation, coastal erosion and waterway changes should also be undertaken. Environmental degradation due to human irrigation behaviour and ignorance should be addressed through environmental education and through systematic enforcement of the existing rules and regulations.

Economic activities being carried out at river sources and along the rivers without paying heed to existing laws and regulations should be prevented. In doing so, there is a need for close cooperation from the local authorities. The minister pointed out that the prevention of deforestation and illegal logging is important and that shifting cultivation should be gradually replaced with terrace cultivation. The Head of State has farsightedly given direction and guidelines for the greening of the Dry Zone, and it is crucial to sustain this project. Necessary support should also be given for the successful implementation of the 30-year plan of the Ministry of Forestry. The minister stressed that it is most crucial to obey the rules and regulations issued by the Ministry of Mines. The Environmental Conservation Committee will carry out environmental conservation both in the urban and rural areas in accordance with the guidance of the Head of State.

Next, Ministers Col Tin Hlaing, Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and Brig-Gen Thein Aung and the deputy ministers participated in the discussions.

MNA

## Commander attends prize-presentation of basketball tourney

YANGON, 14 May — The final matches and prize-presentation ceremony of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Chairman's Trophy men's and women's Basketball tournament took place at Koethein gymnasium in Patheingyi yesterday morning.

Present on the occasion were Ayeyawady Division PDC Chairman South-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing and wife, Secretary Col Thein Hlaing, council members, officials and guests.

Hinthada District won the match in the men's event and Patheingyi District in the women's event.

After the final matches, the commander and officials presented prizes to the winning teams.

In the afternoon, the commander attended the coordination meeting on cultivation of summer paddy for 2004-2005 in Ayeyawady Division, where officials reported on work department-wise and work programmes and chairmen of the PDCs from 26 townships on arrangement for cultivation of summer paddy. The commander then gave necessary instructions.

In Ayeyawady Division, 3.4 million acres had been targeted to be put under summer paddy cultivation for 2004-2005. In 2004-2005, 3.5 million acres are to be put under paddy. — MNA

## Financial outlay provided on township Maternal and Child Welfare Associations

YANGON, 14 May—Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association provided financial outlay on township MCWAs in Yangon East District at No 4 Basic Education High School in Tamu Township this afternoon.

Present on the occasion Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Patron of Yangon Division MCWA Daw Khin Thet Htay, No 2 Military Region Commander Lt-Col Ne Win, local authorities, departmental heads, officials, presidents and members of township MCWAs and guests.

On the occasion, Daw Khin Thet Htay briefed those present on the purpose of providing small loans to the township MCWAs and presented cash assistance to MCWAs of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan), Tamu, North Okkalapa, Dawbon, South Okkalapa, Mingala Taungnyunt, Yankin, Dagon Myothit (South), Dagon Myothit (East) and Pazundaung townships. Member of Panel of Patrons of Yangon Division MCWA Daw Nan Shwe presented 1,008 membership applications to Chairman of Yangon Division MCWA Head of Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint, who then accepted cash donations by township MCWAs in Yangon East District to Yangon Division MCWA Supervisory Committee. President of South Okkalapa Township MCWA Daw Thida Aye expressed gratitude.— MNA



Minister for National Planning & Economic Development U Soe Tha being welcomed back at the Yangon International Airport. (NEWS ON PAGE 16) — MNA

## Wellwishers invited for sinking tube-wells

YANGON, 14 May— The Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs are making concerted efforts in sinking tube-wells in order to get sufficient fresh water in rural areas in States and Divisions where water is scarce.

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

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

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

# US lawmakers differ on whether to release more abuse photos

WASHINGTON, 14 May — US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said during a surprise visit to Iraq on Thursday that Administration lawyers are advising the Pentagon not to make public any more photos of Iraqi prisoners being abused by American soldiers, a stance rejected by Democrats at home.

Rumsfeld said no government lawyers were recommending releasing the photos to the public even though he would personally "be happy" to do so and "get it behind us", reports said.

The government lawyers argue that releasing such photos, which would certainly present images of prisoners viewed as degrading, would violate the Geneva Convention, Rumsfeld said.

But Senator Edward Kennedy, a Democrat from Massachusetts prefer to get the photos out. "The people want to sort of know about it," he said during an interview with NBC's "Today".

As for Rumsfeld's surprise visit to Baghdad,

Kennedy said the Defence Secretary should have made the visit even earlier — in January when the Defence Department was notified of the abuse by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The United States has become "the most hated nation in the world as a result of this disastrous policy in the prisons", he said.

Democratic Senator Ben Nelson from Nebraska agreed that more photos should be released to the public.

"But I suppose if they're not released, you're going to have a concern that something is being covered up or not all is being disclosed," he said during an

interview with CBS's "Early Show".

Senator Nighthorse Campbell, a Republican from Colorado, however, disagreed that more photos of abuse should be made public at this time.

"I don't think at this time they should," he said in the interview with CBS's "Early Show".

"Some of them bordered on absolutely hardcore porn," he said.

Nelson and Campbell were among the lawmakers who viewed fresh photos and videos of Iraqi prisoner abuse on Wednesday, which they said included disturbing images of torture and humiliation.

MNA/Xinhua

## France raises alarm over Iraq chaos

PARIS, 14 May — France expressed deep concern on Thursday over the future of Iraq, saying prisoner abuses, the seizure of foreign hostages and persistent violence showed the country and region were spinning out of control.

"It all gives the impression of a total lack of direction," Foreign Minister Michel Barnier told *Le Monde* newspaper in unusually tough comments about Iraq under US-led occupation.

"What strikes me is the spiral of horror, of blood, of inhumanity that one sees on all fronts, from Fallujah to Gaza and in the terrible pic-

tures of the assassination of the unfortunate American hostage," he added of images on an Islamist Web site of the decapitation of a young American in Iraq.

Barnier, due in Washington on Friday to meet US officials, reaffirmed that France would not contribute troops to any peacekeeping force in Iraq and renewed his call for the US-led occupying force to hand over full sovereignty to the Iraqis. Paris, which led international opposition to the war in Iraq, has sought to ease tensions with Washington and has generally avoided harsh criticism of its policy there.

But France, Russia and

others on the UN Security Council want the United States to make sure that Iraqis have a major say in their future before endorsing a UN resolution on the official end of the occupation, due by June 30.

Barnier said the resolution should include arrangements for an internationally-backed conference including various Iraqi parties which would help guide the transition process — an idea which Moscow also backs but which has yet to gain wide support.

He said the interim government to be put in place after June 30 should have authority over Iraqi Armed Forces and that the future administration to be elected next year should have the power to end any foreign peacekeeping mission.

"The fully sovereign government which emerges from the 2005 elections should be able to decide what becomes of this force, and if need be, its departure," he said.

MNA/Reuters

## Three Iraqis killed, seven wounded in Najaf fighting

BAGHDAD, 14 May — Three Iraqis were killed and seven wounded in overnight fighting between US forces and militants loyal to radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr in the holy city of Najaf, a hospital source said Thursday.

"We have three people killed and seven wounded, three of them seriously," Dr. Falah at Najaf hospital told *Xinhua*. Heavy fighting erupted last night between US soldiers and Sadr's militiamen, or Mehdi Army, when US troops entered the city of Najaf from three directions.

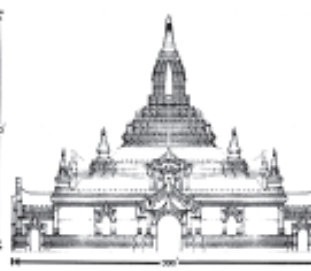
US tanks and armoured vehicles entered the city's 1920 Revolution Square, less than two kilometres from the holy Shiite Muslim Imam Ali shrine in the city centre, a witness named Muhsin Jawad told *Xinhua*.

The battles continued until dawn. Many families in the city were forced to evacuate their houses to safer places, the witness said. —MNA/Xinhua

## တကောင်းမြို့ ရှေးဟောင်း လေးမျက်နှာတရားကြီး ပြန်လည်ပြုပြင် တည်ဆောက်ရာတွင် ကုသိုလ်ယူ ငါဝင်လှူဒါန်းနိုင်



အေဒီ (၁၁)ရာစု အနောက်တောင်အာရှတိုက်တွင် တည်ရှိသော လေးမျက်နှာတရားကြီး သည် လေးပါးတော်တော် နှစ်ဆယ်နှစ်ခန့် ကြီးကြပ်မှုဖြင့် ပြန်လည်ပြုပြင် တည်ဆောက်မှုများ ပြုလုပ်နေကြောင်း သိရသည်။



အုတ်တံဆိပ် (၁၂ x ၉ x ၃) - ၄၆/-  
 ဝိသုဒ္ဓိတံဆိပ် - ၄၀၀/-  
 သံတံဆိပ် - ၆၀၀/-  
 ပြင်ပကျောက် (အသေး) တံဆိပ် - ၂၀၀/-  
 ငွေ (တံဆိပ်) - ၁၀၀/-  
 သံတံဆိပ်ပြား တံဆိပ် (၁၂ x ၁၂) - ၅၀/-

ယဉ်ကျေးမှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန (ဝန်ကြီးရုံး) ငွေ ၅၄၂၃၇၅ ၅၄၂၃၇၅  
 ရှေးဟောင်းသုတေသနဦးစီးဌာန (ရုံးချုပ်) ငွေ ၅၁၂၀၄၀ ၅၁၂၀၄၀  
 ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအမွေအနှစ်ဝေဝေဌာန (ဗန္ဓုတလေး) ငွေ ၁၂-၃၆၃၆၅ ၁၂-၃၆၃၆၅  
 တကောင်းမြို့ ရှေးဟောင်းလေးမျက်နှာတရားကြီး ဝေါဟာရအဖွဲ့ရုံး

## Iraqi neighbours reject US sanction against Syria

AMMAN, 14 May — Parliament speakers of Iraq's neighbouring countries on Thursday expressed absolute rejection to the US sanction against Syria.

The sanction is a clear violation of International Law, conventions and human norms, according to a statement issued by Parliament speakers in their meeting in Amman.

Parliamentary speakers from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Syria, Egypt, Bahrain, Turkey and Jordan as well as representatives of Arab and international parliamentary unions took part in the meeting.

Such sanction is an odd practice that comes within the double standard policy adopted by the US Administration towards the region, to serve the Israeli policies of discrimination and expansion, as well as the course of state terrorism practised by Israel

against the Palestinian people, the statement said.

The statement affirmed that such policy comes within the framework of practising pressure on the Arab countries due to their stand regarding what is taking place in Iraq and Palestine.

It stressed the Parliaments' full solidarity with the Syrian people and their support to Syria's efforts to achieve just and comprehensive peace in the region.

The two-day meeting which concluded Thursday evening, is aimed at helping to end the unprecedented situations in Iraq and enable Iraqis to form a national government.

MNA/Xinhua

## Greece condemns human rights violations in Iraq

ATHENS, 14 May — The Greek Government Wednesday condemned reported serious human rights violations in Iraq.

Greece shares the abhorrence of the international public opinion over the photographs brought to light of the torture of Iraqi prisoners

by US soldiers, government spokesman Theodoros Roussopoulos told reporters.

"The Greek Government condemns violence from wherever it originates," he stressed, adding that "violence only breeds violence".

Seventy MPs of the main opposition PASOK Party and an MP of the Coalition of the Radical Left (SYN) issued a statement Wednesday, denouncing the "unprecedented violation of human rights in Iraq".

The MPs called on the US Government to take measures proving that it actively condemns the torture and humiliation of Iraqi citizens.

They further called for an emergent discussion of the human rights violations in Iraq at the upcoming session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. —MNA/Xinhua

## Russian hostages in Iraq believed to be alive

MOSCOW, 14 May — Two Russians seized in Iraq on Monday are apparently alive and well but their whereabouts are unknown, their employer said on Wednesday.

The men were captured after coming under fire as they were driving home on Monday, when a third colleague was killed. Interenergoservis, eight of whose workers were briefly taken hostage last month, is involved in a power plant project just outside Baghdad.

"We have encouraging evidence that our people who were kidnapped in Iraq are alive and well, but so far we do not know where they are," company general director Alexander Abramov told *Interfax* news agency.

MNA/Reuters

## ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင် ဘဝတစ်ခွင်

ကျန်းမာခြင်းဆိုသည်မှာ - ရောဂါဘယကင်းရှင်းစွာ သာမက ကိုယ်၏ကျန်းမာကြံ့ခိုင်ခြင်း၊ စိတ်ချမ်းသာခြင်းနှင့် လူမှုရေးသုတေသနပြုခြင်း ကိုဆိုသည်။

ဘဝတစ်ခွင် ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင်စေရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။

- (၁) တစ်စုံတစ်ရာသန့်ရှင်းမှုကိုဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၂) အန္တရာယ်ကင်းစွာ အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသော အစားအသောက်များကိုစားသုံးပါ။
- (၃) ပိုမိုကင်းစင်စွာ သန့်ရှင်းသောရေကို သောက်သုံးပါ။
- (၄) ရာသီဥတုနှင့် လိုက်လျောညီထွေစွာဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်နေထိုင်ပါ။
- (၅) အသက်အရွယ်နှင့်လိုက်လျောညီထွေစွာ သင့်တော်သော ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုကို မှန်မှန်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၆) နေ့စဉ်လုပ်ငန်းဆောင်တာများ ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်းကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်မှုကိုပြေပျောက်စေရန် အနားယူပါ။
- (၇) ခြင်္သေ့ရယ်မှကာကွယ်ရန် ခြင်္သေ့အဖြစ်အသိပါ။
- (၈) ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့်ညီညွတ်သော ယဉ်ကျေးမှုသဘောကိုသုံးစွဲပါ။
- (၉) အရက်သောက်ခြင်း၊ ဆေးလိပ်ဆေးရွက် သောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ ကွမ်းစားခြင်းတို့ကိုရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၀) မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးနှင့် စိတ်ကိုပြောင်းလဲစေသည့် ဆေးဝါးများ သုံးစွဲခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၁) အပျော်အပါးလိုက်စားခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) ရေ၊ မြေ၊ လေ သဘာဝပတ်ဝန်းကျင်နှင့် နေထိုင်မှု၊ အသက်မွေးမှုပတ်ဝန်းကျင်အား ညစ်ညမ်းစေသည့် အပြုအမူများကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန









# စီးပွားရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

## Economic indicators to turn "green" in China

CHONGQING, 14 May — China is making progress toward its plan to take environmental factors into account when determining the gross domestic product, or GDP, in a bid to ensure a sustainable economic and social development.

Southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, the trial city for developing the "green" GDP system, has recently had its research outcome of a cost accounting approach for natural resources and environment pass experts appraisal.

According to Professor Lei Ming with the Guanghua Management Institute of the Beijing University in China's capital, the "green" GDP will be an important indicator to measure how harmonious the relationship is between economic growth and natural environmental protection.

Traditional GDP statistics failed to take into account the affect of industrial

pollution and consumption of water resources on the domestic economy, said Qin Yao, head of the research team for the "green" GDP accounting approach.

The failure to deduct environmental deterioration caused by industrial pollution and cost of water resources consumption from GDP deprived the traditional indicator of the ability to objectively reflect whether and how a local economy is sustainable, Qin added.

According to Qin, in 2001 the National Bureau of Statistics designated Chongqing as the only city in the nation to experiment with resources cost accounting for GDP. The city has since studied

data collected from 1,415 local enterprises and non-profit institutions. Based on the study, an initial feasible "green" GDP accounting approach has come into being.

It is imperative for China to establish a new "green" GDP growth assessment system, says Qian Yi, academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

The incumbent leadership of China has kept underscoring the value of scientific development since it took office. A "green" GDP growth accounting approach is seen as part of efforts to realize a scientific development of an economy and a society. — MNA/Xinhua

## Cholera kills 10 in southwest Nigeria

LAGOS, 14 May — An outbreak of water-borne cholera in Ekiti State, southwest Nigeria, has claimed at least 10 lives in the past three weeks, leaving many others critically ill.

The incident was suspected to be as a result of residents at Ilupeju-Ekiti Town drinking contaminated water from Etiku River, the *Punch* newspaper citing an unspecified source reported Tuesday.

Due to lack of potable water in the town in the past 10 years, the river, alongside with another one, had been the major source of water used for domestic purposes by the residents, it said.

MNA/Xinhua

## Canadian groups decry killings of native women

UNITED NATIONS, 14 May — Some 500 indigenous women have disappeared or been murdered in Canada over the last 16 years, with police having done little to solve the crimes, native groups said on Wednesday.

The cases include that of Lana Derrick, a 19-year-old forestry student who disappeared in 1995 along northern British Columbia's Highway 16, called the "Highway of Tears" by local residents because of the six women feared to have been abducted or killed on the road since 1988.

"When it comes to indigenous women it seems easy for authorities to overlook unexplained murders and missing person cases," said Wilton Littlechild, a lawyer and prominent Native leader from Alberta. "These cases are just not looked at seriously."

He made his comments on the sidelines of the current two-week Permanent UN Forum on Indigenous Issues, a meeting, punctuated by impassioned appeals

on behalf of the victims in Canada.

"Canada is not particularly listening so we are going to the international community," Kukdooka Terri Brown, President of the Native Women's Association of Canada, told *Reuters*. "This is the number one issue for aboriginal women in Canada," Brown added. "Our lives are at risk."

Delegates likened the situation to that of Mexico's Ciudad Juarez, on the southern US border, where federal officials have taken over investigating the murder of some 300 women in the last 10 years. Families of those victims have long complained about local and state official ineptitude and corruption.

MNA/Reuters

## New waterworks bring fresh water to HK Disneyland

HONG KONG, 14 May — The completion of Sunny Bay Fresh Water Service Reservoir at Yam O Tuk, Lantau, marks the successful achievement of one major infrastructure projects for Hong Kong Penny's Bay Development and provides assurance of permanent fresh water supply to the Hong Kong Disneyland.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the new waterworks, the Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Works), Y. C. Lo, said Wednesday that the government had also planned to feed HK Disneyland with the third type of water supply.

"Apart from the provision of potable water and flushing water, the Water Supplies Department (WSD) will provide raw water for irrigation purpose and for topping up the artificial lake in the Water Recreation Centre adjacent to HKD," Lo said.

While ensuring timely completion of the service reservoir, WSD has spent much effort to bring the service reservoir and the associated works such as the access road and the water mains to blend harmoniously with the environment.

The works, as part of the infrastructure project for Penny's Bay Development Package I, started in August 2001 and was substantially completed in November 2003 at a cost of about 120 million Hong Kong dollars (15.38 million US dollars). — MNA/Xinhua

## Scientists say wetter world counters greenhouse gases

SYDNEY, 14 May — Australian scientists have found the Earth may be more resilient to global warming than first thought, and they say a warmer world means a wetter planet, encouraging more plants to grow and soak up greenhouse gases.

"The global water cycle has changed in response to greenhouse emissions," almost 100 Australian greenhouse scientists said in an annual statement on their research received on Wednesday.

"As the world warms it is, on average, getting wetter," said the scientists, who met recently under the banner of Australia's Cooperative Research Centre for Greenhouse Accounting.

A wetter and cloudier world would see more plants and more photosynthesis to counter greenhouse gases and also mean less evaporation as less solar radiation reaches the Earth. "Contrary to widespread expectations, potential evaporation from the soil and land-based water bodies like lakes is decreasing in most places," the scientists said.

An increase in trees and shrubs in the world's grasslands in recent decades was a major counter to greenhouse gases, they said. "Forests, farms and grasslands across the world absorb significant volumes of greenhouse gases. They have the potential to absorb more, ameliorating climate change."

"Properly managed, they could buy time for the world's people to make the major reductions in greenhouse emissions from power generation, industry and transport that will be required to reduce the damage from climate change."

MNA/Reuters

## Fuel pumped from stricken ship off South Africa

CAPE TOWN, 14 May — Salvage experts began pumping fuel from the tanks of a stricken bulk carrier off South Africa's west coast on Tuesday, to avert an environmental disaster should the ship sink.

The fate of the 150,000-ton Taiwanese-registered *Cape Africa* remains in the balance after heavy seas delayed for three days efforts to transfer 1,900 tons of fuel to a waiting salvage tug.

Local shipping authorities fear the vessel, which was transporting iron-ore from Brazil to Japan, may sink after it started taking on water two weeks ago through a hole.

The hole has now grown to 20-metre wide and between five- and seven-metre high.

The South African Marine Safety Authority

(SAMSA) said in a statement salvage workers began pumping fuel from the carrier to a Russian tug on Tuesday.

"A pumping rate of approximately 50 tons per hour is currently being achieved and the operation will continue day and night, weather and swell conditions permitting," SAMSA said.

The ship is to be kept at least 120 nautical miles west of Cape Town until all the fuel that can be pumped out has been removed so as to minimize possible environmental damage.

MNA/Reuters

## Rising diabetes cases a global threat

HOUSTON, 14 May — India, China and United States top the list of countries with the maximum number of diabetes cases and this number is expected to more than double by 2030, a report says on Wednesday.

In the United States, third only to India and China in diabetes cases, the number will increase by 70 per cent, says a study by researchers with the World Health Organization and universities in Scotland, Australia and Denmark. — MNA/PTI

## Deadly cocktail kills 10 Colombians

BOGOTA (Colombia), 14 May — A poisonous cocktail of industrial methanol, whiskey and sugar-cane liquor has killed 10 Colombian drinkers in the northern city of Barranquilla, and caused blindness in others, authorities said on Wednesday.

Some of the victims thought they were buying "Cococho," a homemade Colombian moonshine with a wooden aftertaste. Each bottle of the deadly booze costs about 1.50 US dollars.

"I never knew that this would happen," cried Colombian Adolfo Munoz, shown twisting in his hospital bed on local television. White patches covered his eyes.

Authorities said they were searching Barranquilla moonshine makers to find those responsible for the poisonings.

Thirteen Colombians were intoxicated from the brew, some in critical condition, said Barranquilla health authorities. Many survivors could remain blind for life. — MNA/Reuters



This image, courtesy of the University of Nebraska Entomology Department (UNL), shows adult Periodical Cicada (*Magicicada septendecim*). From Maryland to Indiana Americans are bracing themselves as billions of cicadas begin to emerge from a 17-year slumber. — INTERNET

## SPORTS

## Bergkamp extends contract with Arsenal for one year

LONDON, 14 May—Dutch striker Dennis Bergkamp has agreed a one-year extension to his contract with Premiership champions Arsenal, the club website reported. "I am so pleased that I will be at Arsenal for another year," the former Dutch international told arsenal.com on Wednesday.

"Next season will be my 10th with the club, and that just shows what Arsenal means to me.

"We have a great squad and team spirit at the club, which we have proved by winning the Premiership this year. I hope I will be part of another successful campaign for Arsenal next season."

Bergkamp, turning 35 on May 18, scored seven goals in 35 games this season. Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger added, "We are delighted that Dennis is staying with us for another season.

"He has once again showed throughout this year what an important part of our squad he is.

"Dennis is a great professional and I know his experience and natural ability will continue to help us greatly next season."

MNA/Xinhua



Lazio's Fabio Liverani, left, and his teammate Rodriguez Cesar from Brazil celebrate at the end of the Italy's Cup soccer match between Juventus and Lazio at Turin, northern Italy, on 12 May, 2004. Lazio tied up and won the trophy on 4-2 aggregate score.

INTERNET

## Lazio fight back against Juve to win Italian Cup

TURIN (Italy), 14 May — Lazio came back from two goals down to lift the Italian Cup for the fourth time on Wednesday with a 2-2 draw at Juventus in the second leg to secure a 4-2 aggregate victory.

Juventus, trailing 2-0 from the first leg, pulled a goal back through French striker David Trezeguet in the 20th minute and then Alessandro del Piero brought the tie level with a goal right after the interval.

But Lazio fought back with a header from Bernardo Corradi and a late Stefano Fiore strike to make it 2-2.

The match was Juve coach Marcello Lippi's last on the bench at the Delle Alpi as he will leave the club at the end of the season and it looked as though it might well end in triumph as his side made a positive start.

Trezeguet rose above Giuseppe Favalli to meet an Alessandro Birindelli cross with a superb angled header that flashed into the bottom corner.

Juventus were well on top, particularly in midfield, with Lazio restricted to a shot from Fabio Liverani before the break.

Just 24 seconds after the restart del Piero put Juve 2-0 up on the night, and level overall, with a clinical finish after Trezeguet had put him though following a Pavel Nedved knock down.

That opened up the prospect of extra time but Lazio coach Roberto Mancini brought on Simone Inzaghi to boost his attack and the move paid handsome dividends.

Suddenly, Lazio looked dangerous and the vital away goal came when Corradi rose majestically to power home a header from a Sinisa Mihajlovic corner.

The goal left Juventus needing two in the final 20 minutes but Lazio never looked back and six minutes from the end they

made sure of lifting the Cup with Corradi heading down to Fiore who fired home from just inside the area. — MNA/Reuters

## Brazil's Belletti eyes move to Barcelona

MADRID, 13 May (Reuters) - Brazil defender Juliano Belletti is hoping to seal a move from Spain's Villarreal to Barcelona in a deal put at about four million euros (\$4.75 million), Spanish Press reports said on Wednesday.

The clubs reached agreement on the transfer on Tuesday but Barcelona still have to work out terms with Belletti, a member of Brazil's 2002 World Cup-winning squad, they said.

Spanish news agency Europa Press quoted Belletti as saying on Wednesday he saw no problems with sealing the move because, he said, he was not difficult in negotiations given that he liked "football more than money".

If the deal goes through, Belletti would be reunited with Ronaldinho, who inspired Barcelona's 17-match unbeaten run in the Primera Liga which ended last Saturday.

"I spoke to him (Ronaldinho) yesterday and he told me he also would like me to go to Barca. I'm happy because we will be able to play together again, which we have done in the national team but never at a club," Belletti said. Villarreal reached the UEFA Cup semifinals before being knocked out by regional rivals Valencia last week. They are seventh in the Primera Liga, four places behind Barcelona. — MNA/Reuters

## Newcastle draw puts Liverpool at Europe's door

LONDON, 14 May—Newcastle United's dream of a place in the Champions League was snuffed out in a 3-3 draw at Southampton on Wednesday, all but handing qualification to Liverpool.

Substitute Leandre Griffit, who had been on the pitch seven minutes, put Southampton 3-2 ahead after a breakaway two minutes from time after the home side had twice trailed.

Midfielder Darren Ambrose squeezed in an injury-time equalizer for Newcastle but it was not enough to keep them in contention for fourth spot.

The Magpies needed to beat both Southampton and Liverpool in their last Premier League match on Saturday to bag England's fourth and remaining berth in Europe's premier club competition.

Liverpool can now only be caught by Aston Villa on points but fifth-placed Villa have a far inferior goal difference.

Champions Arsenal and second-placed Chelsea have qualified for the Champions League group stage, while Manchester United, who are third, go into the third qualifying round.

Sixth-placed Newcastle are now battling with Villa and Bolton Wanderers for a UEFA Cup berth.

Newcastle manager Bobby Robson pointed to his team's disappointing away form and said: "If we'd played like this (tonight) much of the season away from home we'd be laughing, we'd have been home and dry, but then Liverpool might be saying the same sort of things.

"They've had some depressing results,

we can all say 'well, if only', if is the biggest word I've ever known in football.

"But overall we've come a long way from four years ago and I hope our supporters will remember that.

"We've had injuries to big players at the wrong time," added Robson, who was without the likes of England centre-back Jonathan Woodgate and Wales striker Craig Bellamy and took a risk with half-fit England midfielder Keiron Dyer.

Striker Shola Ameobi put Newcastle ahead in the seventh minute from a cross by left back Olivier Bernard.

England's James Beattie equalized in the 19th when he netted the rebound from close range after goalkeeper Shay Given had parried Swedish midfielder Anders Svensson's shot.

Newcastle went in front again in the 35th when Lee Bowyer met Ameobi's low cross first time with a crisp left-foot strike that flew past debutant goalkeeper Alan Blayney.

Again Saints drew level, this time after only four minutes when central defender Titus Bramble turned a cross into his own net with his knee.

Newcastle hit the woodwork twice early in the second half and Blayney made a brilliant diving save from Alan Shearer.

"It was a world class save, he had no right to make that save," exclaimed Robson.

MNA/Reuters

## Hearts claim first victory at Rangers since 1996

GLASGOW, 14 May — Hearts consolidated their position as Scotland's third best side with a 1-0 win at second-placed Rangers on Wednesday — their first victory at Ibrox stadium since January 1996.

Joe Hamill pounced on a short back pass by Alan Hutton to race clear and slip the ball past goalkeeper Allan McGregor for a merited winner five minutes into the second half.

It was the Edinburgh side's first victory over Rangers since August 1998 and they are now 12 points ahead of fourth-placed Scottish Cup finalists Dunfermline Athletic with one match left.

Brothers Frank and Ronald de Boer and Michael Mols appeared in Rangers' final home match of the season before they leave the club later this month but Hearts were in no mood to give the Dutch trio a farewell victory.

Rangers are 13 points ahead of Hearts but trail Celtic by 17 after the champions fielded a shadow side in a 1-1 draw at Motherwell.

Celtic manager Martin O'Neill rested all his top players, including Henrik Larsson,

Chris Sutton and Stilian Petrov, before the Cup final against Dunfermline on May 22 at Hampden Park.

They conceded the opening goal to David Clarkson after 64 minutes but Craig Beattie earned his young side a point when he equalized 11 minutes from time.

Celtic have completed the league campaign without losing an away match but manager O'Neill is already building for next season and will speak with Brazilian trialist Marcio Amoroso on Thursday.

The 29-year-old striker left German Bundesliga club Borussia Dortmund last month when his contract was terminated following a series of rows.

Amoroso, who joined Dortmund for 18 million pounds (28.11 million US dollars) from Italian club Parma in 2001, suffered a knee ligament injury last September and has not played a competitive match since.

MNA/Reuters



Players of Colombian soccer club celebrate their victory over Brazilian club Cruzeiro in their Copa Libertadores match at the Mineirao stadium in the Brazilian city of Belo Horizonte, on 13 May, 2004. Cruzeiro won the match 2-1 to tie the series, but Deportivo Cali won the penalty shootout 3-0 to qualify for the tournament's quarterfinals. — INTERNET



**MRTV-3**
**15-5-2004 (Saturday)**  
**(Programme Schedule)**  
**Morning Transmission**  
**(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune  
Greeting  
9:02 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"  
9:06 Kaung Kha Region  
"Today"  
9:10 **Headline News**  
9:12 Tha Mee Hla Island  
9:15 **National News**  
9:20 Travelogue (Taunggyi)  
9:25 Long Drum Folk Song  
& Dance  
9:30 **National News**  
9:35 The City of Kalay to  
Tamu, border Town  
Song "The Beauty of  
the Ayeyawady River  
(Sagaing)"  
9:45 **National News**  
9:50 Shwe Nan Daw  
Kyaung  
9:58 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**15-5-2004 (Saturday)**  
**Evening Transmission**  
**(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting  
15:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanmar Pano-  
rama & Myanmar Sen-  
timent"  
15:36 Kaung Kha Region  
"Today"  
15:40 **Headline News**  
15:42 Tha Mee Hla Island  
15:45 **National News**  
15:50 Travelogue (Taunggyi)  
15:55 Long Drum Folk Song  
& Dance  
16:00 **National News**  
16:05 The City of Kalay to  
Tamu, border Town  
Song "The Beauty of  
the Ayeyawady River  
(Sagaing)"  
16:15 **National News**  
16:20 Shwe Nan Daw  
Kyaung  
16:25 Song of Myanmar

- Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"  
16:30 **National News**  
16:35 Myanmar Bamboo Xy-  
lophone (or) Patala  
16:40 **National News**  
16:50 Myanmar Movies Im-  
pact  
17:00 **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
17:05 Traditional Chin  
House  
17:10 Song "Lodestar"  
17:12 The Myanmar Turban-  
Unique  
17:15 **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
17:20 Tasty fried Nga-Poe  
from Padu Village  
17:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**Evening Transmission**  
**(19:30 - 23:30)**

- 19:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting  
19:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"  
19:36 The Art of Playing  
Cane-Ball  
19:40 **Headline News**  
19:42 Traditional Chin  
Cuisine  
19:45 **National News**  
19:50 Unforgettable Trip to  
Ahka Village  
19:55 Kayah Dance  
20:00 **National News**  
20:05 Mogok, The Ruby  
Land  
20:10 Song "Fetch me in a  
horse-cart"  
20:12 Inn-Waung Waterfall  
20:15 **National News**  
20:20 Wildlife Conservation  
in Myanmar  
20:25 Songs "The Power of  
Paingkyone"  
20:30 **National News**  
20:35 Fabulous Bagan (IV)  
20:40 Community Based  
Drug Control Pro-  
gramme  
20:45 **National News**  
20:50 Myanmar Traditional  
Musical Instruments  
(Percussion Instru-  
ments) (Drum)  
20:55 Magnificent Pindaing-  
san Dance  
21:00 **National News**  
21:05 Travel & Description  
(Yanlong to Thanlyin-  
Kyauktan)  
21:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Naughty Girl"  
21:15 **Weekly News High-**

- lights  
21:20 Traditional Folk Weav-  
ing Works  
21:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanmar Pano-  
rama & Myanmar Sen-  
timent"  
21:35 Kaung Kha Region  
"Today"  
21:40 **Headline News**  
21:42 Tha Mee Hla Island  
21:45 **National News**  
21:50 Travelogue (Taunggyi)  
21:55 Long Drum Folk Song  
& Dance  
22:00 **National News**  
22:05 The City of Kalay to  
Tamu, border Town  
Song "The Beauty of  
the Ayeyawady River  
(Sagaing)"  
22:15 **National News**  
22:20 Shwe Nan Daw  
Kyaung  
22:25 Song on Screen "One  
and only yours  
(Maung Mu Paing  
Shin)"  
22:30 **National News**  
22:35 Fabulous Bagan (V)  
22:40 Myanmar Bamboo Xy-  
lophone (or) Patala  
22:45 **National News**  
22:50 Myanmar Movies Im-  
pact  
23:00 **National News**  
23:05 Traditional Chin House  
23:10 Song "Lodestar"  
23:12 The Myanmar Turban-  
Unique  
23:15 **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
23:20 Tasty fried Nga-Poe  
from Padu Village  
23:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

- 15-5-2004 (Saturday) &  
16-5-2004 (Sunday)**  
**Evening Transmission &  
Morning Transmission**  
**(23:30 - 1:30)**  
 23:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting  
23:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanmar Pano-  
rama & Myanmar Sen-  
timent"  
23:36 Kaung Kha Region  
"Today"  
23:40 **Headline News**  
23:42 Tha Mee Hla Island  
23:45 **National News**  
23:50 Travelogue (Taunggyi)  
23:55 Long Drum Folk Song  
& Dance  
24:00 **National News**  
00:05 The City of Kalay to

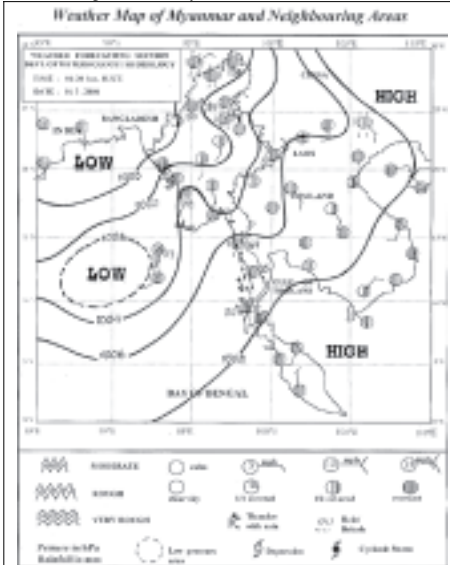
- Tamu, border Town  
Song "The Beauty of  
the Ayeyawady River  
(Sagaing)"  
00:15 **National News**  
00:20 Shwe Nan Daw  
Kyaung  
00:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"  
00:30 **National News**  
00:35 Fabulous Bagan (V)  
00:40 Myanmar Bamboo Xy-  
lophone (or) Patala  
00:45 **National News**  
00:50 Myanmar Movies Im-  
pact  
01:00 **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
01:05 Traditional Chin House  
01:10 Song "Lodestar"  
01:12 The Myanmar Turban-  
Unique  
01:15 **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
01:20 Tasty fried Nga-Poe  
from Padu Village  
01:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**16-5-2004 (Sunday)**  
**Morning Transmission**  
**(03:30 - 07:30)**

- 03:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting  
03:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"  
03:36 The Art of Playing  
Cane-Ball  
03:40 **Headline News**  
03:42 Traditional Chin Cui-  
sine  
03:45 **National News**  
03:50 Unforgettable Trip to  
Ahka Village  
03:55 Kayah Dance  
04:00 **National News**  
04:05 Mogok, The Ruby  
Land  
04:10 Song "Fetch me in a  
horse-cart"  
04:12 Inn-Waung Waterfall  
04:15 **National News**  
04:20 Wildlife Conservation  
in Myanmar  
04:25 Songs "The Power of  
Paingkyone"  
04:30 **National News**  
04:35 Fabulous Bagan (IV)  
04:40 Community Based  
Drug Control Pro-  
gramme  
04:45 **National News**  
04:50 Myanmar Traditional  
Musical Instruments  
(Percussion Instru-  
ments) (Drum)

- 04:55 Magnificent Pindaing-  
san Dance  
05:00 **National News**  
05:05 Travel & Description  
(Yanlong to Thanlyin-  
Kyauktan)  
05:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Naughty Girl"  
05:15 **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
05:20 Traditional Folk Weav-  
ing Works  
05:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanmar Pano-  
rama & Myanmar Sen-  
timent"  
05:35 Kaung Kha Region  
"Today"  
05:40 **Headline News**  
05:42 Tha Mee Hla Island  
05:45 **National News**  
05:50 Travelogue (Taunggyi)  
05:55 Long Drum Folk Song  
& Dance  
06:00 **National News**  
06:05 The City of Kalay to  
Tamu, border Town  
06:10 Song "The Beauty of

- the Ayeyawady River  
(Sagaing)"  
06:15 **National News**  
06:20 Shwe Nan Daw  
Kyaung  
06:25 Song on Screen "One  
and only yours  
(Maung Mu Paing  
Shin)"  
06:30 **National News**  
06:35 Fabulous Bagan (V)  
06:40 Myanmar Bamboo Xy-  
lophone (or) Patala  
06:45 **National News**  
06:50 Myanmar Movies Im-  
pact  
07:00 **National News**  
07:05 Traditional Chin House  
07:10 Song "Lodestar"  
07:12 The Myanmar Turban-  
Unique  
07:15 **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
07:20 Tasty fried Nga-Poe  
from Padu Village  
07:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**WEATHER**

Friday, 14 May, 2004

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:**  
During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayin State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan, Chin States and Mandalay Division, widespread in Kachin, Mon States and Tainthay Division and scattered in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Kachin State. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Myitkyna (3.31) inches, Dawei (2.80) inches and Kawthong (2.13) inches.

Maximum temperature on 13-5-2004 was 28.8°C (84°F). Minimum temperature on 14-5-2004 was 21.5°C (71°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 14-5-2004 was 88%. Total sunshine hours on 13-5-2004 was nil. Rainfall on 14-5-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 90 mm (3.54 inches) at Yangon Airport and 102 mm (4.02 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 98 mm (3.86 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 18 mph from southeast at (12:30) hours MST on 13-5-2004.

**Bay inference:** Monsoon is moderate to strong in the Andaman Sea, South Bay and weather is partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 15-5-2004:** Rain or thundershowers will be scattered to widespread in Kachin, Mon, Kayin States, Ayeyawady, Bago, Yangon, Tainthay Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**State of the sea:** Seas will be moderate in Gulf of Mottama, Deltaic and off and along Mon-Tainthay coast and slight elsewhere in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Advance of southwest Monsoon are likely into Deltaic areas.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 15-5-2004:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 15-5-2004:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Weather outlook for second weekend of May 2004:** During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Yangon Division and isolated in Mandalay Division.

**Significant water level bulletin**

(Issued at 12.00 hrs MST on 14-5-2004)

According to the (06.30) hrs MST observation today, the water level 420 cm of Chindwin River at Hkamti shows a sharp rise of 195 cm (about 6.5-feet) within 24 hours. The Chindwin water level will sharply rise about 150 cm (about 5-feet) along Chindwin River during the next 2 to 5-days above the present water levels commencing noon today.



Saturday, May 15

**View today:**

- 7:00 am  
1. Recitation of Parittas by  
Missionary Sayadaw  
U Ottamathara  
7:25 am  
2. To be healthy exercise  
7:30 am  
3. Morning news  
7:40 am  
4. Nice and sweet song  
7:55 am  
5. Delicacies  
8:05 am  
6. အတိတ်ပြန်  
8:15 am  
7. ဆရာတော်တော်  
8:30 am  
8. International news  
8:45 am  
9. Happy and educational  
English Summer Course  
MRTV  
11:00 am  
1. Martial Song  
11:10 am  
2. Musical programme

- 11:30 am  
3. News  
11:40 am  
4. ဆရာတော်တော်  
နိဗ္ဗာန်  
11:50 am  
5. Round-up of the week's  
TV local news  
1:25 pm  
6. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတမ်းတွဲ  
"ရှင်နိုးဝေဠာ" (အပိုင်း-၄၁)  
2:05 pm  
7. Dance of national races  
2:20 pm  
8. စာတတ်စိုက် (၄)  
"လှပခြင်း၏အဓိပ္ပါယ်"  
အတတ်စိုက်စိုက်၊ နိုင်ငံခြား၊  
နိုင်ငံခြား၊ စုစုပေါင်း  
ဒါရိုက်တာ-ရှင်နိုးဝေဠာ  
2:45 pm  
9. International news  
4:00 am  
1. Martial song  
4:15 am  
2. Songs to uphold  
National Spirit  
4:30 am  
3. English For Everyday Use  
4:45 am  
4. Musical programme  
5:00 pm  
5. အဆင်သင့်တက္ကသိုလ် ယဉ်ကျေးမှု  
ရှင်နိုးဝေဠာ၊ သင်စနစ်  
-တတ်သင် (ရုပ်ပေးအထူးပြု)  
(ရုပ်ပေး)

- 5:15 pm  
6. Dance variety  
5:30 pm  
7. ရာသီဥတုသတိပေး  
5:40 pm  
8. Games for children  
6:05 pm  
9. Musical programme  
6:15 pm  
10. Delicacies  
6:30 pm  
11. Evening news  
7:00 pm  
12. Weather report  
7:05 pm  
13. Discovery  
7:15 pm  
14. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတမ်းတွဲ  
"ရှင်နိုးဝေဠာ" (အပိုင်း-၁၁)  
7:35 pm  
15. တရားရုံး၊ တရားရုံး၊ တရားရုံး  
7:45 pm  
16. ရာသီဥတုသတိပေးအထူးပြု  
8:00 pm  
17. News  
18. International news  
19. Weather report  
20. Myanmar Video Feature:  
"ရှင်နိုးဝေဠာ"  
လှပခြင်း၊ နိုင်ငံခြား၊  
ဒါရိုက်တာ-ရှင်နိုးဝေဠာ  
21. The next day's  
programme



Saturday, May 15

**Tune in today:**

- 8:30 am Brief news  
8:35 am Music: She's not just  
a pretty face  
(Shania Twain)  
8:40 am Perspectives  
8:45 am Music: Fine line  
(Madasum)  
8:55 am National news/  
Slogan  
9:05 am Music: Give me love  
(DJ Date)  
9:10 am International news  
9:15 am Music: (Spotlight on  
a star)  
-Jennifer Lopez  
News/Slogan  
1:30 pm Request  
1:40 pm -Love they will be  
done (Marilla)  
-Dream about you  
(Stevie B)  
-On baby (Eternal)  
9:00 pm ASEAN Review  
-News  
9:10 pm Article  
Myanmar culture by  
Dr Khin Maung  
Nyun  
-Ordination hall  
consecrated by  
Shin Arah  
9:30 pm Souvenirs  
-Let's face the music  
and dance  
(Matt Manso)  
-I fall in love so easily  
(Frank Sinatra)  
News/Slogan  
9:45 pm  
10:00 pm PEL

## Coord meeting on water supply for Meiktila District

YANGON, 14 May—The coordination meeting on supply of water and greening tasks in Meiktila District was held at the meeting hall of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council on 12 May morning.

Present were Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, local authorities of Kyaukse and Meiktila Districts, Director of Mandalay Division Development Affairs Committee U Kan Hla and members of Mandalay Division, Kyaukse and Meiktila District Agricultural Coordination Committees.

Officials reported on supply of water by pumping from Dokhtawady River and digging of canals and ponds for extension of irrigated areas. The commander attended to their needs.

Next, the commander gave instructions on ways to supply water to farmlands and extension of monsoon and summer paddy cultivation. Later, division- and district-level committees for supply of water and greening tasks in Meiktila District were formed. — MNA



Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe speaking at the meeting with advisers to Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation.— MNA

## Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe meets advisers to MWAFF

YANGON, 14 May—President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe met with wives of the ministers who are advisers to the federation at the meeting hall of the federation on Thanlwin Road in Bahan Township this afternoon.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Presidents Daw Khin Lay Thet, Daw Than Than Nwe, Daw Khin Khin Win and Prof Dr Daw May May Yi, General Secretary Prof Dr Daw Khin Aye Win and executives and members of supporting groups.

First, President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe gave instructions on tasks of the federation. Next, General Secretary Prof Dr Daw Khin Aye Win explained rules for women personnel of the ministries and those wishing to submit membership applications to the federation independently.

Afterwards, President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and officials answered the queries raised by the advisers.

Later, the President gave concluding remarks.

After the meeting, the advisers toured the office of the federation.— MNA

## Jade and gems special sale on 26 June

YANGON, 14 May—The special sale of jade and gems will be held at Myanma Gems Mart from 26 June to 3 July. The Myanmar citizens who are engaged in gem mining in accord with the Myanma Gems Law and Myanmar citizens who are engaged in sale of gems in foreign currency will be permitted to attend the special sale in accord with the prescribed rules and regulations.

Moreover, sales counters are being arranged for national entrepreneurs who are engaged in sale of gems in accord with the Myanma Gems Law to enable them to sell gems on the ground floor of Myanma Gems Mart during the special sale period.

Those wishing to attend the special sale and those wishing to obtain sales counters are to contact Myanma Gems Enterprise beginning 25 May.—MNA

### INSIDE

*Perspectives*  
For human resource development  
(Page 2)

*By line*  
Rural water supply endeavours gaining momentum  
(Page 8)

*Article*  
The National Convention to be reconvened on 17 May  
(Page 8)

### Circulation

22,367

## National Convention delegates arrive

YANGON, 14 May—Delegates to the National Convention from States and Divisions arrived at Nyaungnapin camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, by car today. Some of them arrived at Nyaungnapin camp via the reception camps at the railway stations, the airport and Kyaikkasan Grounds, and others arrived at the camp directly. They are from Mandalay Division, Shan State (North), Magway Division, Bago (East), Ayeyawady Division, Shan State (South) and Bago (West).

The delegates from Magway Division and Mon State also arrived at Nyaungnapin camp yesterday. They were accommodated at Nyaungnapin camp. — MNA

## NPED Minister U Soe Tha arrives back

YANGON, 14 May—The Myanmar delegation led by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha arrived back here by air this evening after signing the contract related to edible oil development project with OPEC Fund in Vienna, Austria.

The minister and party were welcomed back by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, departmental officials and families.

Members of the delegation, Director-General U Tin Htut Oo of Agriculture Planning Department of the Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation and Director U Maung Maung Khin of Foreign Economic Relations Department also arrived back on the same flight.

MNA

## Conservation of environment in Kachin State coordinated

YANGON, 14 May — Conservation of environment in Kachin State was coordinated at the town hall in Myitkyina on 10 May.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Chairman of Myanmar Environmental Conservation Committee Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than, the directors-general of the Ministry of Mines and Min-

istry of Forestry, senior military officers, Secretary of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Maung Myo and members, chairmen of Myitkyina District and Township Peace and Development Councils, departmental officials and townsenders.

The commander spoke at length on participation of private jade and gold entrepreneurs in the tasks of environment conservation.

Chairman of Myanmar Environmental Conservation Committee Minister U Win Aung said the beauty

of nature is of great value and contributes to the well-being of the State and the people.

He said the people are to conserve the beauty of nature and to abide by the rules and regulations laid down by the State.

Assistant Director of Myanma Gems Enterprise U Phone Naing reported on the blocks jade and other tasks.

The commander, the minister and party inspected building of retaining walls and preventive measures on bank erosion.— MNA

## Minister inspects Myittha Bridge (Kalewa) construction

YANGON, 14 May—Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun inspected the construction of Myittha Bridge (Kalewa) in Sagaing Division on 12 May morning.

At the briefing hall, Senior Engineer U Kyaw Lin reported to the minister on progress in construction of

the bridge and future tasks.

Next, the minister inspected flooring of the main bridge and tarring on the approach bridge at Kalewa side. He then gave necessary instructions to officials.

The Myittha river-crossing bridge is situated on Monywa-Yagyi-Kalewa road.

The bridge is 1,320 feet long and has four feet wide pedestrian lanes on both sides. The motor road is 28 feet wide.

The clearance of the bridge is 600 feet by 14 feet. It can withstand 60-ton load. It will link Sagaing division and Chin State (North).

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Delegates from States and Divisions arrive here to attend National Convention by car.— MNA



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