

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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... Sunday, 16 May, 2004



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt views new products of Fortinet Antivirus Firewall.—MNA

## Prime Minister attends ceremony to introduce Fortinet Antivirus Firewall

YANGON, 15 May —Under the arrangement of Bagan Cybertech a ceremony to introduce Myanmar Millennium Group Co Ltd as the first sole official representative of Fortinet Co and to introduce Fortinet Antivirus Firewall to support e-Government projects was held at Myanmar Information and Communication Technology Park in Hline Township this morning, attended by Chairman of Myanmar Computer Science Development Council Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Yangon Mayor, the deputy ministers, senior military officers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, officials of Myanmar Computer Federation, Myanmar Computer Scientists Association, Myanmar Computer Industry Association, Myanmar Computer Enthusiasts Association, entrepreneurs of computer companies and guests.

Managing Director of Myanmar Millennium Group (MMG) Co Ltd U Min Zeya Hlaing extended greetings. He said the introduction aims to use Fortinet Antivirus Firewall for safety in e-Government projects and IT networks at low price. The firewall was introduced in Myanmar about two years ago. There were some difficulties in sale because the firewall did not consist of Antivirus Software. Later, MMG Co Ltd contacted Fortinet Company. He said the firewall produced by that company includes Antivirus Software and other features such as Virtual Private Network (VPN), Intrusion Detection System (IDS) and Web Content Filtering. Next, Sales Director of Fortinet Co Mr Benjamin Teh explained the Fortinet Antivirus Firewall with audio visual aids. Next, Mr Benjamin Teh presented a certificate of sole official representative of Fortinet Co to Managing Director U Min Zeya Hlaing.

Mr Benjamin Teh and U Min Zeya Hlaing presented gifts

in commemoration of the introduction of Antivirus Firewall to the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister and party inspected Antivirus Firewall which can be used in e-government projects, equipment related to Gemtek systems outdoor wireless and Linksys networking products.—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

## National Convention Convening Commission Chairman inspects accommodation and welfare services for delegates

YANGON, 15 May— National Convention Convening Commission Chairman State Peace and Development Council Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, accompanied by members of the NCCC, the Chairmen of the National Convention Convening Work Committee and the Management Committee and officials, this morning, inspected arrangements being made for accommodation, food, health and welfare of delegates to the National Convention at Nyaungnapin Camp in Hmawby Township where the National Convention is going to be held and met the delegates and spoke cordially with them.

Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party met and greeted

delegates of workers from Mandalay Division, Yangon Division, Shan State (North), Ayeyawady Division, Mon State, Rakhine State and Shan State (East), delegates of State service personnel from the ministries, other invited delegates, delegates from Shan State (North) Special Region-1, Special Region-2, Special Region-3, Shan State (East) Special Region-4, Shan State (North) Special Region-5 (KDA), Special Region-7, Kayah State Special Region-1, Special Region-2, Special Region-3, Kayinni National Progressive Party (KNPP), Kayinni National Progressive Party (KNPP Splinter, Hoya), Kayinni

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Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially meets delegates to National Convention.—MNA

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#### Circulation

22,316

**Welcome the National Convention.**

## PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 16 May, 2004

### Towards rural area development

The Union of Myanmar is an agro-based country and 70 per cent of its population is residing in rural areas. They earn their living through agriculture.

With the aim of providing assistance to the rural economy, the Government has opened one dam or reservoir per month and up to this date, altogether 159 dams have been opened throughout the country.

On one occasion, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance saying that water is essential for agriculture and thus, dams, reservoirs and lakes are to be built wherever possible in the country. In accordance with his guidance, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is engaging in building dams and reservoirs. Over 69,000 million kyats have been spent on building the 159 dams.

Supplying potable water and water for agriculture purpose is one of the five rural development tasks which are important for national development. Thanks to emergence of the 159 dams throughout the country, not only over 2.1 million acres of farmland have benefited but also potable water has been supplied through these facilities. It is incumbent upon all the rural people to grab these good opportunities for their benefit and they are to maintain the facilities for their durability. At the same time, efforts are to be made to boost the agricultural produce.

People living near dams are to abide by the irrigation rules in getting water, ensuring not to harm the facilities, proper flow of water and not to pollute it. In the arid zone of the country, the Nine Districts Greening Projects have been extended and implemented in 13 districts. Dams built in these areas benefit greening of environment.

With the active participation of the local people in these projects, fruitful results have been achieved. With adequate availability of water in the region, the climate will improve. Moreover, it is sure that sown acreage in the region will increase and it will help raise the living standard of local people. At a time when one dam after another has emerged throughout the country, rural people are urged to effectively use the irrigation facilities to strengthen the rural economy and also that of the State.



NPE Managing Director Col Soe Win presents offerings to the Mya Thein Tan Sayadaw. — MNA

### Ordination ceremony held

YANGON, 15 May—A total of eight male staff of the Myanmar Alin Daily and three sons of the staff were ordained and three female staff initiated into nunhood at its 26th ordination ceremony held at Mya Thein Tan Monastery in Pazundaung Township here this morning. Present on the occasion were Managing Director of the News and Periodicals Enterprise Col Soe Win and wife, Director (News) U Hla Tun, chief editors and deputy chief editors of the dailies and guests. The managing director and wife, the director and the chief editors presented alms to members of the Sangha. — MNA

### People's Desire

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

### Lt-Gen Aung Htwe meets departmental officials in Mongnaung

YANGON, 15 May— Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence met officers and other ranks and their families at the local battalion in Mongnaung, Shan State (South), on 11 May morning. He gave instructions on regional development and extension of agriculture and livestock breeding tasks and presented K 100,000 to 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 called on township level departmental officials and social organization members at the hall of Mongnaung Basic Education High School. Officials reported to Lt-Gen Aung Htwe on development of Mongnaung being carried out by departments concerned and future tasks.

The commander briefed him on agriculture, functions of departments concerned, opening of the BEHS, upgrading of Wamhsin-Mongnaung-Mongshu Road and arrangements for development of Mongnaung. After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe said that the Government laid down the plan for bringing about harmonious development throughout the nation including border areas. Service personnel and local people are to cooperate in development of the region. Efforts are being made to ensure better transport for regional development. In so doing, Kholam-Wamhsin-Mongnaung-Mongshu Road, 81 miles long is being upgraded by Tatmadawmen and staff of Public Works.

Similarly, 55-mile Tangyan-Mongkaung-Mongshu Road is being built in Shan State (north). On completion of the roads, Shan State (South) can easily access to Shan State (North) and it will contribute towards smooth flow of commodities between the two regions. In addition, two-mile long road from Pakhi junction to Wamhai is being repaved. Arrangements are being made for generating electricity and irrigation in the region. Therefore, departmental personnel and local people are to harmoniously participate in peace, tranquillity and development of the region.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party inspected building of Kholam-Wamhsin-Mongnaung-Mongshu Road. In-charge Col Tha Aung and Senior Engineer U Myint The reported on work done. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe attended to their needs. The road is being built by Tatmadawmen and employees of Public Works.— MNA

### Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects regional development tasks

YANGON, 15 May — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of Southeast Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Kayin State Peace and Development Council Chairman Col Khin Kyu and departmental officials arrived at Kyainseikkyi in Kayin State on 10 May morning where they were welcomed by Col Aung Kyaw Nyein of Kyainseikkyi Station, Kyainseikkyi Township PDC Chairman U Tin Win and departmental officials.

At the Station Yeiktha, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met members of the township PDC, Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Township Organization for Women's Affairs and departmental personnel. After hearing reports by officials, Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave necessary instructions. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected water supply tasks for Kyainseikkyi and maintenance of Ngayantgaungto Lake and gave necessary instructions to officials.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party then inspected construction of the new two-storey school building of Kyainseikkyi Basic Education High School. They proceeded to Thanpaya Village BEHS in Kyainseikkyi Township, viewed round the construction of the new two-storey school building and fulfilled the requirements. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the commander and party went to Kotpran Village in Mudon Township. Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected ploughing and land reclamation in the field of local farmer U Ye and natural fertilizer sale centre of Mudon Township Agricultural Education camp and farm equipment. He gave necessary instructions. In meeting local farmers of Mudon Township at the camp, Lt-Gen Maung Bo urged them to make efforts for production of 100 baskets of paddy per acre, cultivation of good quality paddy strains and use of local fertilizers. Later, he cordially greeted the farmers. — MNA

### Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party lecture on health

YANGON, 15 May — Leading Patron of Myanmar Medical Association (Women's Chapter) President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party gave talks on health knowledge in Kayan Township this morning.



MWAF President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe asks after patients in Kayan Township Hospital. — MNA

### Customs Dept holds ordination ceremony

YANGON, 15 May — The Customs Department held its 17th ordination and novitiation ceremony at Aung San Tawya Monastery on Mingaladon Street (lower) in Insein Township here this morning. Present on the occasion were wife of Minister for Finance & Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe and wife, Director-General of the Department Col Khin Maung Lin and wife, departmental heads under the ministry and staff families.

A total of 62 men were ordained, 10 boys novitiated and 21 young women initiated into nunhood.

MNA

ing. A 45-member group of MMA (Women's Chapter) led by Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe left here by car and arrived in Kayan at 8.10 am. They were welcomed there by Chairman of Yangon South District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Aung Pyay, departmental officials and social organization members. The talks on health knowledge, organized by MMA (Women's Chapter), was held at Byamaso Hall of Kayan Township Peace and Devel-

opment Council. First, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe explained matters related to the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation. Next, Dr Daw Khin Ohn Lwin and Dr Daw Khin Mon Mon lectured on health knowledge. After the ceremony, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe cordially conversed with those present.

They proceeded to Kayan Township Hospital. Medical Superintendent Dr Thet Phyo, surgeons and staff welcomed them. At the hospital, Dr Daw Khin

Win Shwe and party viewed health care service provided to the patients by specialists. The specialists who accompanied Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe treated 800 patients — 69 from Thongwa Township and 731 from Kayan Township. They recommended those who need to undergo medical treatment to contact specialist hospitals in Yangon. Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe arrived back here in the afternoon.

MNA



# Blair faces mutiny over Iraq abuse scandal

LONDON, 15 May—Tony Blair has dismissed talk of his resignation as “froth” but some in his party say the revelations of prisoner abuse in Iraq could be the final straw for the damaged Prime Minister.

Increasing numbers of Labour Party parliamentarians are calling for Blair to stand down, worried the charismatic leader who was once their best electoral asset has become a liability.

“The unfolding picture in Iraq means that if you have taken such a high position in going to war against such enormous opposition and it appears that it’s the disaster it is, if I was him I would consider my position,” anti-war Labour member of parliament (MP) Bob Marshall-Andrews said on Friday.

“And there is a substantial number of people

who think that’s the case — more in sorrow than in anger,” he added.

Many other MPs and political analysts say talk of an end to the Blair era is premature but the fact his resignation is being openly discussed — something unthinkable just months ago — shows Iraq has left Blair more vulnerable than ever.

Blair’s trust ratings have plummeted and while Labour remains favourite to win the next general election, expected in a year’s time, the latest Populus poll put support for Labour at 32 percent, four points behind the Conservative Party and a

17-year low.

Bookmakers William Hill this week slashed the odds on Blair quitting before the next election to 8/1 from 14/1 with Chancellor Gordon Brown the favourite to take over.

Blair defiantly vowed in an interview in The Independent on Friday to fight the next general election and called talk of his exit “froth”.

Ultimately, it is for Blair to say when he goes since Labour rules require more than 80 MPs to trigger a leadership contest.

Nor is Blair the type to leave under a cloud and

Brown would shoot himself in the foot if he is seen seeking to exploit his boss’ weakness, MPs say.

Blair knows he is walking a fine line with his fractious party. On Friday the government amended a bill to defuse a major rebellion by MPs next week over plans to protect pensions.

But there are many other potential pitfalls ahead that could further undermine Blair’s authority and electoral appeal.

Internet

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## US guard faces trial over abuses

BAGHDAD, 15 May—A fourth US soldier is to face court martial over the abuse of Iraqi prisoners, the American army has said.

Military Police Cpl Charles A Graner will appear before a court on Thursday to enter a plea on charges including cruelty and maltreatment of detainees.

Seven soldiers have been charged over the abuse — three are still waiting to hear whether they will be tried.

The US defence secretary has said all those involved in the abuse row at Abu Ghraib jail will be brought to justice.

Cpl Graner faces seven charges — more than any of his co-defendants so far. Staff Sergeant Ivan Frederick and Sergeant Javal Davis will also be arraigned next Thursday, facing five charges each. Specialist Jeremy Sivits becomes the first to go on trial on Wednesday. —Internet

## Graner charged in Iraq prison scandal

BAGHDAD, 15 May — The US Army has filed criminal charges including adultery against Military Police Cpl Charles A Graner in connection with the Abu Ghraib prisoner abuse scandal, a senior US officer announced Friday.

Brig Gen Mark Kimmitt said the seven charges against Graner included conspiracy to maltreat detainees, dereliction of duty for woefully failing to protect detainees from abuse, maltreatment of detainees, assaulting detainees, committing indecent acts, adultery and obstruction of justice.

Graner, a member of the 372nd Military Police Company, will be arraigned Thursday but no trial date has been set, Kimmitt said. The charge of adultery was for having sex with Pfc Lynndie England, who was married, the military charge sheet said.

She also faces charges in the prison scandal, and family members have said she is pregnant with Graner’s child.

Spc Jeremy C Sivits, of Hyndman, Pa., goes on trial Wednesday before a special court-martial in the first trial of defendants in the abuse scandal.

Graner was photographed with a big grin as he stood behind a pile of naked Iraq prisoners in one of the series of pictures that triggered an international scandal about America’s treatment of captives at the Abu Ghraib prison west of Baghdad.

On Thursday, the military set a May 20 arraignment date for Staff Sgt. Ivan Frederick II and Sgt. Javal S. Davis. Charges against the soldiers were announced Wednesday.

At the arraignment, the men must enter pleas. The military said the date and venue

for their trials have not been set. Graner’s attorney, Guy Womack, said in an e-mail to The Associated Press that the 35-year-old reservist will plead not guilty.

Defense Secretary Donald H Rumsfeld, under fire for his handling of the scandal, paid an unannounced visit Thursday to Iraq including the Abu Ghraib prison west of Baghdad.

The charge sheet also accuses Graner of striking several detainees by jumping on them as they piled on the floor of the Abu Ghraib prison. He is also accused of stomping the hands and bare feet of several prisoners and punching one inmate in the temple so hard that he lost consciousness.

He also struck a prisoner with a metal baton so hard that the inmate screamed “mister, mister, please stop.”

Graner and three other guards, including two women, also allegedly watched prisoners masturbate while other American soldiers watched and photographed them, the charge sheet said.

In an April 12 memorandum, Lt Col Jerry L. Phillabaum, who was reprimanded and relieved of command of the 320 MP Battalion at Abu Ghraib prison, singled out Graner and a second soldier discharged for abuses as having “led acts of abuse in clear violation of any standard of morality.” He said training alone would not have prevented their actions. —Internet



A US Army officer treats an injured Iraqi on the highway leading from Baghdad to Fallujah, Iraq, on 13 May, 2004, after a US Army tank hit their vehicle by accident.

INTERNET

## NAM calls for UN peacekeeping force in Palestine

KUALA LUMPUR, 15 May — The Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Committee on Palestine has strongly urged the United Nation’s Security Council to establish a peacekeeping mission in the Occupied Territory including East Jerusalem.

In a nine-point communique released after the one-day meeting on Thursday, the ministers called for compliance with all relevant Security Council resolutions and stressed the importance and usefulness of a comprehensive Security Council resolution in view of the current circumstances.

With a membership of 117 nations, NAM plays a significant role in the post-Cold War world as custodian of Southern interests.

The members of the NAM Committee on Palestine are Algeria, Bangladesh, Colombia, Cuba, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Palestine, Senegal, South Africa and Zimbabwe while Angola, Chile, Pakistan and the Philippines are NAM Caucus members of the UN Security Council.

Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Sri Lanka are invited guests as they play an important role towards solving the Palestinian issue.

They called on the Security Council to fulfil its responsibility under the UN

Charter with regard to the violation of International Law and the maintenance of international peace and security.

Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, when opening the meeting earlier, had suggested that the world body establish a UN mission or authorize an international presence to

monitor the situation, ease tension and maintain peace and security on the ground in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

The ministers deeply regretted that the West Asia Roadmap had yet to be implemented and that the situation had been gravely aggravated by Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon’s “unilateral disengagement plan.” MNA/Xinhua

## Pakistan, Tajikistan vow to combat terrorism, drugs

ISLAMABAD, 15 May — Pakistan and Tajikistan pledged on Thursday to work together to fight terrorism and drug trafficking and discussed the possibility of linking their countries by road via Afghanistan.

The pledge came during talks between Pakistani officials and Tajikistan President Imomali Rakhmonov, who was on the second day of a three-day official visit to Pakistan.

“We consider the fight against global terrorism and illegal drug trafficking as vital for the regional peace and stability,” Rakhmonov told a news conference after talks with Pakistani Prime Minister Zafarullah Khan Jamali.

A Pakistani Foreign Ministry official later said the two sides had set up a working group to coordinate their efforts to combat terrorism.

Rakhmonov’s visit came as a number of al-Qaeda militants, mainly from Central Asian states, are thought to be hiding in Pakistan’s semi-autonomous tribal region bordering Afghanistan.

MNA/Reuters

## US trade deficit expands to record high in March

WASHINGTON, 15 May — The trade deficit of the United States expanded to an all-time high of 46 billion dollars in March, the Commerce Department reported Wednesday.

The trade gap was 9.1 per cent bigger than the 42.1-billion-dollar deficit posted in February.

Sales of US goods and services to other countries climbed in March to their highest level on record. This was encouraging news for US manufacturers and exporters.

Exports totalled 94.7 billion dollars, marking a 2.6-per-cent advance from February and reflecting in part better demand from overseas market.

MNA/Xinhua



A US Marine from the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, patrols in a Humvee in Kandari, Iraq, on 13 May, 2004. —INTERNET

# France urges UN-backed conference on future of Iraq

BAGHDAD, 15 May—Michel Barnier, the French Foreign Minister, has called for a UN-sponsored inter-Iraqi conference, to ensure a genuine handover of sovereignty to a representative caretaker Iraqi government at the end of June.

Talking to Le Monde ahead of a visit to New York and a meeting of G8 foreign ministers in Washington today, he said: "The government must be accepted by the international community and the different Iraqi groups: hence our idea for a conference."

Officials said the gathering could introduce transparency into opaque United Nations deliberations on Iraq's future government, and offer assurance that the outcome enjoyed popular support. The first step could be an

Iraqi round-table meeting, inside the country, before the handover. Mr Barnier's plan comes amid difficult discussions on how to marry a genuine transfer of authority with the US insistence that it retain unified command over security forces.

Testifying before the House International Relations Committee on Thursday, Marc Grossman, the undersecretary of state for political affairs, said the terms of the US military role in Iraq would be negotiated with the Iraqi government

formed after elections expected next January and not with the interim government as some officials had previously stated.

Mr Grossman said he expected Lakhdar Brahimi, the UN special envoy to Iraq, to put forward the names of leaders for the interim government within 10 days.

Some governments have expressed concern over discussing any new mechanisms in foreign capitals while Mr Brahimi continues to seek a solution inside the country.

UN delegates say that the discussions remain constructive.

But in a sign of rising tension, Condoleezza Rice, the US national security adviser, is due to fly to Moscow at the end of this week for top-level talks.

Russian diplomats have hinted at their frustration following claims that they were excluded in recent days from preliminary discussions about the terms of a new text and they have called for an international conference ahead of the June 30 Iraqi handover.

Ms Rice's trip, and the foreign ministers' meeting in Washington, come ahead of discussions between Vladimir Putin, the Russian president, President George W. Bush and other leaders at the G8 summit next month.

Internet



Iraqis raise appointment slips to visit prisoners to a US Marine standing guard outside the prison in Abu Ghraib, on the outskirts of Baghdad, Iraq, on 13 May, 2004. — INTERNET

## US and G8 allies clash on Iraq handover

BAGHDAD, 15 May—The US and its allies in the Group of Eight developing countries on Friday clashed openly over Iraq, as foreign ministers argued about how much authority the proposed interim government would exercise after the 30 June transfer of sovereignty.

Pre-war transatlantic tensions surfaced again, with the foreign ministers of France, Russia and Canada all telling a Washington news conference that their countries would not send troops to Iraq even if their demands were to be met in a UN Security Council Resolution.

"There will be no French troops in Iraq, not tomorrow, nor later," Michel Barnier declared. All the ministers agreed on one issue: that the coalition powers would pull out their forces if the new, as

yet unformed, Iraqi government asked them to.

Colin Powell, US secretary of state, said he was "losing absolutely no sleep" over that hypothesis, and Britain's Jack Straw said no one believed an abrupt withdrawal would help Iraq.

The ministers had met to prepare for the G8 summit to be hosted by the US next month. But most of their time was spent discussing a new UN resolution for Iraq.

"Nothing is easy," Javier Solana, European Union

foreign policy chief, conceded. But he predicted common language would eventually be found in a resolution to support the interim government that Lakhdar Brahimi, the special UN envoy, is trying to put together by the end of this month. The day-long talks, which also covered a US initiative to encourage reforms in the "greater" Middle East as well as the latest Israeli incursions into Gaza, agreed on little of substance, another European official said.

Internet

## 777 US military deaths since beginning of Iraqi war

BAGHDAD, 15 May—As of Friday, 14 May, 777 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year, according to the Department of Defence. Of those, 565 died as a result of hostile action and 210 died of non-hostile causes.

The British military has reported 58 deaths; Italy, 17; Spain, eight; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, four; Poland, three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia and the Netherlands have reported one each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 637 US soldiers have died 456 as a result of hostile action and 181 of non-hostile causes, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by US Central Command: A Marine died of non-hostile causes Thursday at Camp Al Asad.

The latest identification reported by the Department of Defence: Marine Lance Cpl. Jeremiah E Savage, 21, Livingston, Tenn., died Wednesday in fighting in Anbar province; assigned to 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.—Internet

## Defence Minister says China opposes terrorism in all forms

BEIJING, 15 May — China condemns and opposes terrorism in all forms, Chinese Defence Minister Cao Gangchuan said here Thursday.

Cao, also vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission and state councillor, made the remarks in meeting with foreign participants of the International Sym-

posium on International Counter-Terrorism Situation and Cooperation.

Cao called terrorism "the enemy of human beings, which threatens world peace

and security". The new security concept featuring peaceful coexistence, mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and cooperation is the guiding principle of China in the fight and international cooperation against terrorism, he said, stressing that double standards in the fight against terrorism should be prohibited.

Combat against terrorism cannot solely rely on military means and it also requires comprehensive means, he said, adding that the leading role of the United Nations in the fight against terrorism is needed. He said China, as a responsible member of the international community, is ready to make active efforts in safeguarding world security and prosperity. The three-day symposium was jointly sponsored by the China Institute for International Strategic Studies and the Hotung Institute for International Relations.

MNA/Xinhua

## China to strengthen oil cooperation with Kazakhstan

BEIJING, 15 May—China is willing to further cooperation with Kazakhstan in oil and gas exploitation and transportation, said Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Liu Jianchao here Thursday.

Liu made the remark when asked whether Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev will discuss the Sino-Kazakh pipeline programme with Chinese leaders in his upcoming visit to the country.

The cooperation in this field started in September 1997, aiming to build a pipeline from western Kazakhstan to western China. The pipeline, with an estimated cost of between 2.5 and three billion US dollars, will transport no less than 20 million tons of oil annually, experts said.

According to Liu, the joint exploration programme in Aktyubinskaya, an oil field in northwestern Kazakhstan, is going smoothly. Besides, the two sides are preparing for the second phase of the pipeline programme, a 1,000-kilometre-long pipeline from Kazakhstan's eastern Atasu to China's western Alatau Pass.

"Energy cooperation is crucial to bilateral ties. It is in the interest of both sides and enjoys promising prospects," Liu said. — MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi men survey bullet holes on a car windscreen following fresh clashes between the US troops and members of the Shi'ite Mehdi army, in Najaf, on 13 May, 2004. —INTERNET

## Thailand delivers 4 attack aircraft to Philippines

MANILA, 15 May — Four attack aircraft from Thailand were formally delivered to the Philippine Air Force on Wednesday, which is the last of a batch of eight promised by Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

The donation of the United States-made, twin-engine OV-10 Bronco aircraft will boost the dwindling strike capacity of the Armed Forces of the Philippines due to aging aircraft for lack of funds, the Air Force said, without disclosing how much the aircraft were worth.

Last year, Thaksin announced he was donating the eight aircraft to the Philip-

ippines as a goodwill gesture to a fellow member of the Association of South-East Asian Nations. The first four Broncos were handed over when Thaksin visited the Philippines in September 2003.

The Philippine Air Force had successfully reconditioned four mothballed aircraft to make up for their lack of new planes, said spokesman Colonel Restituto Padilla. — MNA/Xinhua



# GI describes Iraq prison horrors

**ABU GHRAIB, 15 May** — Prison guard Spc Jeremy Sivits, who took photos of abuse at the Abu Ghraib detention center in Iraq, described soldiers laughing and joking as they beat, stripped and sexually humiliated detainees, according to newspaper reports.

Sivits, the first soldier scheduled to be court-martialed in the abuse scandal, was expected to plead guilty next Wednesday in Baghdad. He has cooperated with prosecutors and faces lesser charges than his colleagues.

He said the mistreatment was not authorized by higher-

ups in the chain of command. "Our command would have slammed us," he said. "They believe in doing the right thing. If they saw what was going on, there would have been hell to pay."

On Friday, the US Army announced it has filed criminal charges including adultery against Military

Police Cpl. Charles A. Graner — who figures prominently in Sivits' account.

Brig Gen Mark Kimmitt said other charges against Graner also included conspiracy to maltreat detainee, dereliction of duty, cruelty and maltreatment of detainees. He will be arraigned 20 May but no trial date has been set, Kimmitt added. Sivits' statements are the most in-depth descriptions of the abuse by a defendant to have been made public. Lawyers for the soldiers that Sivits named said his statements were "fabricated" and questionable because of his plea deal.

In one instance, a prisoner handcuffed to a bed with bullet wounds in his legs screamed

"Mister, mister, please stop," as Graner struck him with a police baton, according to statements Sivits made to military investigators.

"I was laughing at some of the stuff that they had them do," Sivits told investigators in January. "I was disgusted at some of the stuff as well."

Transcripts of Sivits' statements were provided to *the Washington Post*, *the New York Times* and *the Los Angeles Times*. Seven soldiers have so far been accused of abusing prisoners. Spc Megan M Ambuhl was the only GI who Sivits did not accuse of wrongdoing in the statements.

Internet

## UNSG describes mistreatment of prisoners as real damage

**UNITED NATIONS, 15 May** — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said here Thursday that the mistreatment of prisoners by the coalition forces has caused a real and deep damage.

"There's no doubt that the mistreatment of the prisoners has caused a real and deep damage," he told reporters at the UN Headquarters in New York.

Annan said he hoped the UN team led by his Special Adviser, Lakhdar Brahimi, will be able to focus on the work in establishing an interim government without letting the prison issue drag, or hold them back.

Meanwhile, the UN chief condemned once again the "horrible" beheading of an American civilian, and urged all parties to respect the international norms and the rules of law, in accordance with the Geneva Convention.

MNA/Xinhua

## US Marine killed in Iraq's Al-Anbar Province

**BAGHDAD, 15 May** — A US Marine died on Wednesday of wounds sustained in an attack in Iraq's western Al-Anbar Province, the coalition announced Thursday.

"A Marine assigned to the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force died on May 12 from wounds received earlier in the Al-Anbar Province while conducting security and stability operations," the US-led coalition said in a statement.

The statement did not give further details about the incident, saying that the release of more details could place the US soldiers at greater risk. — MNA/Xinhua



Audience members protest as National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice speaks at Vanderbilt University, on 13 May, 2004 in Nashville, Tenn. — INTERNET

## Iraqi Fallujah force will not disarm guerillas for now

**FALLUJAH (Iraq), 15 May** — The Iraqi general leading a force that controls Fallujah said he had no plans to disarm guerillas, defying demands by US commanders who appointed him and raising tension with Marines encircling the restive city.

Mohammed Latif, a former intelligence officer who now heads the Fallujah Brigade, also told Reuters in an interview late on Thursday that US forces should go home if they wanted peace.

"Weapons are not the problem. They are easy to collect," he said. "What we need to do is to rebuild our country. There is no need for American soldiers. I am sure

the Americans would be happy to go to their homes".

Latif's comments came after he held lengthy talks with Major-General James Mattis, the commander of the 1st Marines Division encircling Fallujah.

The two appeared to have markedly different perspectives on how the Fallujah operation was going.

"We discussed all our

problems but we didn't find any problems," Latif said after he, Mattis and other US commanders had shared a traditional Iraqi meal of lamb and rice at a US camp on the outskirts of Fallujah.

"Everything is easy and going well. The population is really satisfied. There are no bullets at night in Fallujah, like in Baghdad," said Latif, who commands a 1,800-strong force made up largely of former soldiers from Saddam Hussein's disbanded army. But Mattis, repeating comments from other US commanders, sounded much less at ease and said time was running out.

"We have to get done what we came to get done. I am always a bit impatient," he said. "We want it all: peace, the weapons and the foreign fighters dead or out of here. Negotiations are going fine but they can always go faster."

MNA/Reuters

## Arroyo orders closer review of OFWs safety in Iraq

**MANILA, 15 May** — Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo Wednesday ordered a reassessment of the security situation of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) after more Filipinos were killed and injured in Iraq.

According to the latest Press release from the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs, one Filipino was killed, another four were injured in a mortar attack on an American military camp late Tuesday local time in the war-torn Middle East country.

Arroyo gave the order to the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs and Team Iraq headed by special envoy Roy Cimatu following the incident, the Philippine Presidential Palace said in a statement.

MNA/Xinhua

## Lawyer announces suit against Britain over Iraq abuses

**PARIS, 15 May** — A French lawyer announced plans on Thursday to file a war crimes suit against Britain at the International Criminal Court in The Hague on behalf of the families of Iraqi prisoners.

Jacques Verges, who says he has been asked to act for the deposed Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, said by telephone he would file the suit over the abuse of Iraqi prisoners held by US-led forces in Iraq.

"The reality of torture and systematic abuses of the dignity of Iraq prisoners — which may be followed by murders — by US and British troops has been widely denounced by world media

and is no longer doubted by anyone," the text of the complaint said.

Verges told *Reuters* he was unable to file a complaint against the United States at the court in The Hague because Washington does not recognize its jurisdiction.

"The United States has

put itself above the law," he said.

"This is not against the British people but against the British Government... It is a question of responsibility at all levels of command," he added.

The International Criminal Court declined comment.

MNA/Reuters

## Vietnamese President to visit Russia, Hungary, Britain

**HANOI, 15 May** — Vietnamese President Tran Duc Luong will visit Russia, Hungary and Britain from May 17-26, Vietnam's Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced on Thursday.

"The purpose of the visits is to strengthen the relationship between Vietnam and the three countries, and to seek measures to further promote the friendship and cooperation ties, especially in economy and trade," the ministry's spokesman Le Dung said in a regular Press briefing. Luong will pay a visit to Russia on May 17-19, to Hungary on May 19-21, and to Britain on May 22-26.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi boy Ayoob Hassan, 16, is comforted by his mother in the hospital in Karabala, 110 km south of Baghdad, Iraq, on 13 May, 2004. — INTERNET

## Jordan discusses cooperations with Iraqi airways

**AMMAN, 15 May** — Officials from the Royal Jordanian Airline (RJ) and the Iraqi Airways discussed on Wednesday their cooperations in light of the difficult conditions in Iraq, the *Petra* news agency reported.

During the meeting, the two sides also reviewed challenges facing the Iraqi air transport sector, the report said, adding that their talks covered the possibilities of operating flights on specific airlines to link Baghdad with the outside world in the next stage especially after the transfer of powers to the Iraqis on 1 July.

The RJ expressed its readiness to place its capabilities at the service of the Iraqi airlines to enable it to face challenges of the next stage, according to the report.

MNA/Xinhua



*Iraqis try to extinguish a fire in the centre of Najaf, Iraq, on 14 May, 2004, as American tanks charged into the centre of the city and shelled positions held by fighters loyal to a radical cleric who launched an uprising against the US-led coalition last month.*



*A badly wounded Iraqi man receives medical treatment in Najaf on 14 May 2004.*



*Smoke rises from a cemetery following an explosion during clashes in Najaf, on 14 May, 2004.*



*An Iraqi boy stands among women waiting for information about their relatives detained at Abu Ghraib prison outside Baghdad on 14 May, 2004.*

## Images of Iraq



*A wounded Iraqi man, screams in pain in a Najaf hospital on 14 May, 2004.*



*An Iraqi man places a sheet of metal to restrict fire from spreading in a storage depot following a mortar attack in Abu Ghraib in the outskirts of Baghdad, Iraq, on 15, May 2004.*



*Iraqis survey a destroyed car after an improvised explosive device went off in a suburb of Mosul, on 14 May, 2004.*



*Iraqi women walk past destroyed shops following clashes between Iraqi guerillas and the US army, in Najaf, on 15 May 2004.*



## Border and rural area developments



*In the past, people living in Takawet region, Shan State (North) had to rely on ferries to cross the Thanlwin river. To overcome the natural barrier, the government has built Thanlwin Bridge (Takawet) and now, people can cross the river easily using the bridge.*



*Tea plantation of local national race farmers in Silu region, Shan State (East).*



*Kandawyan diversion weir built by the State in Waingmaw Township, Kachin State, benefits 12,000 acres of farmland in the region.*



*Students in Mongla Region, Shan State (East) are now able to pursue their education in their own region as a Basic Education High School has been built there.*

## Promotion of education standard in border and rural areas

by T. Htut

The Government has been implementing the plans adopted for ensuring equitable development of all parts of the Union with a view to enabling the nation made up of 14 States and Divisions to stand tall among the world nations, to further cementing national solidarity, and to maintaining the development momentum for a long time. The Government is making efforts with might and main for harmonious development of all regions of the Union after laying down the 24 special development regions projects, the five rural development tasks and the border areas development project as a network.

Myitkyina and Bhamo, the main development regions of Kachin State, are making progress with the opening of universities and colleges. Being convinced that it also needs to establish degree colleges and government technical insti-



Opening ceremony of Mohnyin GTI being seen in Mohnyin on 10-2-2004.—MNA

tute to produce intellectuals and intelligentsia in Mohnyin region, which plays an important role in the economic sector of Kachin State and has a heavy population, the Government made efforts with genuine goodwill and so Mohnyin Government Technical Institute has emerged. A total of five institutions of higher educa-

tion have been opened in Kachin State for turning out human resources on science and technology — two technological colleges and two computer colleges in Myitkyina and Bhamo, and a government technical institute in Mohnyin.

Only when development gap between rural regions where the majority of the people reside and urban re-

gions is narrow will there be the national development. With this concept, the government has laid down and is implementing the five rural development tasks to bring about harmonious and equitable development.

As regards rural area development, ceremonies to open Myawady Mingyi 1st lane, Bayintnaung Street and a Dagon MyoU new monastic school building were held in ward 51, Dagon Myothit (North) Township on 15 May 2004. Myawady Mingyi 1st lane is 1,100 feet long and 12 feet wide. The Bayintnaung Street is 540 feet long and 12 feet wide. The two-storey school building is 26 feet wide and 55 feet long. It can vividly be seen that the State is laying emphasis on rural development. Such facilities are indeed very beneficial to the rural area development.



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe formally unveils the signboard of a new monastic school building in ward 51, Dagon Myothit (North) Township on 15-5-2004. —MNA

### Low-cost rural housing projects inspected

YANGON, 15 May — Director-General of the Development Affairs Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Myo Myint attended the opening ceremony of a tube-well in Zawgyi village, Singaing Township, Mandalay Division, on 13 May morning.

Present on the occasion were Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council member U Kyin Lin, Director of Mandalay Division Development Affairs Department U Kan Hla, local authorities and departmental officials of Kyaukse District, personnel of social organizations and guests. The 2-inch tube-well is 360 feet deep and it can pump 2,000 gallons of water per hour. Altogether 609 people of 124 households of Zawgyi and neighbouring villages are now having sufficient clean water.

Director-General Col Myo Myint next proceeded to Kanthit village of Windunt Township and inspected the low-cost rural housing projects. So far, ten such houses — 4 in Kanthit village and 6 in Phayaphyu village have been built by the Ministry of PBANRDA.

Later, the director-general and party went to Thazi and inspected the rural housing projects in Ywagyi village and Hlaingtet township. Next, they proceeded to Yecho village of Meiktila Township and inspected the rural housing projects. As guided by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, the Development Affairs Department has built 685 rural low-cost houses in six Divisions during 2003-2004 fiscal year as the first phase. In Mandalay Division, it has built 149 rural houses in 16 townships, it is learnt. — MNA



The opening ceremony of a rural tube-well in Zawgyi village, Singaing Township, in progress. — PBANRDA

### Efficient use of electricity

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

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

### Efficient use of fuel

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

### All this needs to be known

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

### အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည့်ရောဂါများ

အရက်ကိုလွန်စွာသုံးစွဲခြင်းကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သော ရောဂါများမှာ အသည်းရောင်ခြင်း၊ အသည်းခြောက်ခြင်း၊ သွေးအန်ခြင်း၊ အစာအိမ်ရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ နှလုံးရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ ဦးနှောက်နှင့်အာရုံကြောထိခိုက်ခြင်း၊ စိတ်ရောဂါများဖြစ်ခြင်း စသည်တို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်တတ်သော စိတ်ရောဂါများမှာ -

၁။ ကယောင့်ကတမ်းဖြစ်ခြင်း (Delirium Tremors)၊ ကြောက်လန့်ခြင်း၊ အချိန်၊ နာရီ၊ နေရာ၊ လူ၊ ခန့်မှန်းနိုင်စွမ်း မရှိခြင်း၊ ကြောက်စရာလန့်စရာများမြင်ရခြင်း၊ အသံဗလများ ကြားရခြင်း၊ ပိုးမွှားများခန္ဓာကိုယ်ပေါ် ရွံစွဲစွဲသွားသလိုခံစားရခြင်း၊ လက်တုန်ရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း။

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

၃။ အတက်ကြွရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Rum Fits) (ဝက်ရူးပြန်ရောဂါကဲ့သို့တတ်ခြင်း)။

၄။ စိတ်ဓာတ်ကျရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Depressive Illness)။

၅။ စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Psychosis)။

၆။ ဦးနှောက်ချို့ယွင်းခြင်း။

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

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

၉။ အရက်ကြောင့် ရာဇဝတ်မှုကျူးလွန်သည့်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်ခြင်း။

အထက်ပါဆိုကျိုးများကို မစားရစေရန် အရက်သောက် သုံးခြင်း၊ အထူးသဖြင့် အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ အရက်ကို နှလုံးစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းတို့မှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ရန် တိုက်တွန်းအပ်ပါသည်။ အရက်စွဲရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားပါက စိတ်ကျန်းမာရေးဆေးရုံနှင့် ကုသရေး ဌာနများတွင် စနစ်တကျကုသမှုခံယူရန် အသိပေးနိုးဆော် အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန





Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party receive Five Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Rajindabhivamsa.—MNA

## Prime Minister attends ceremony to pay homage to two religious title recipient Sayadaws

YANGON, 15 May—A ceremony to pay homage to two religious title recipient Sayadaws was held in conjunction with the ceremony to hand a over new school building for monastic education at Thiriyadana four-storey building of Thiri Mingala Mahasi Sasana Yeiktha on Myawady Mingyi 1st Lane, Ward 51, Dagon Myothit (North) Township, this afternoon, attended by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were State Ovadaçariya Joint Sasanabaing of Shwekyin Nikaya Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Thirimanda Sankyaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Rajindabhivamsa and members of the Sangha, Agga Maha Pandita title recipient Sayadaw Bhaddanta Viçintavamsa and Dhamma Kahtika Bahujanahitadhara title recipient Sayadaw Twantay Ashin Indaka, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development

Council Office, departmental heads, authorities, social and religious organization members, disciples and wellwishers.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Rajindabhivamsa administered the Five Precepts. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt donated provisions to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Rajindabhivamsa and the two title recipient Sayadaws. The commander and the ministers also offered donations to members of the Sangha. Wellwisher Thiri Thudhamma Manijotadhara U Sein Hla Win handed over documents related to the building to Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung.

Afterwards, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung accepted K 2,635,117 for building the entrance road to the Yeiktha donated by Twantay Ashin Indaka and Thiri Thudhamma Manijotadhara U Sein Hla Win; K 500,000 by U Ye Tun-Daw Lamin Nge; K 500,000 by Dagon Myothit (North)

Peace and Development Council and wellwishers; K 500,000 by U Han Nyunt-Daw Khin Aye Myint and sister Daw Si Si Wah; K 310,000 by Maj Kyaw Kyaw Tun and U Aye Kywe; and K 500,000 by Daw Lwan Yint and sister Daw Ku Nyan and family. Today's donations for building the road amounted to K 8,095,117. U Sein Hla Win supplicated on the purpose of the donations. Head of Yangon Division Religious Affairs Department U San Thin Hlaing supplicated on brief biographies of the two title recipient Sayadaws.

Then, Tipitakadhara Dhamma Bhandagarika Agga Maha Pandita Tipitaka Maha Gandayon Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Sumangalalankara delivered a sermon and the Prime Minister and party shared merits gained. General Khin Nyunt performed the rituals of golden and silver showers to mark successful completion of the ceremony.

MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attends ceremony to introduce Fortinet Intivirus Firewall. (News on page 16)—MNA



Sales Director Mr Benjamin Teh presents announcement of Exclusive Distributorship in Myanmar to Managing Director U Min Zeya Hlaing of Myanmar Millenium Group Co Ltd. (News on page 16)—(H)

## Lt-Gen Maung Bo tours Mon State

YANGON, 15 May—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, together with Mon State Peace and Development Council Chairman South-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and departmental officials, met departmental officials at Lamaing Township General Administration Department in Mon State on 11 May morning.

Officials reported on opening of township GADs, strength of the staff and land allotments. Lt-Gen Maung Bo fulfilled requirements, giving instructions to departmental officials on enforcement of rules and regulations on the local people. At a time when measures are being taken in line with the guidance of the Head of State for narrowing down the development gap between urban and rural areas, efforts are to be made to improve living standard and regional development, he urged. Lt-Gen Maung Bo looked into building of a combined office in Lamaing Township and attended to the needs.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and the commander and party visited Aung Mingalar Monastery in the township and offered alms to Sayadaw U Sobhana.

In the meeting townsenders and members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association and the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Lt-Gen Maung Bo called for participation of local people in regional development tasks and five rural development tasks.

In the afternoon, they inspected progress of Kawtdwut model village in Ye Township, Mon State, and building of an office of Lamaing Township Myanmar Police Force and gave necessary instructions.

They visited Kyaikday Tamoparet Monastery in Aryutaung village, Ye Township, and presented offertories to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Puppha Ramma. On 12 May morning, they inspected building of a railway station of Myanma Railways in the township. Officials reported on the project. Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions to the officials and attended to the needs.—MNA

## Commander, Mayor inspect sanitation tasks in Yangon City

YANGON, 15 May — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected sanitation tasks and tasks for proper flow of water at drains being carried out by Tatmadawmen, members of Myanmar Police Force, workers of YCDC, NGOs and people this morning.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected the above-mentioned tasks in Botataung, Pazundaung, Mingala Taungnyunt and Tamway Townships. Officials reported on carrying out of sanitation tasks and dredging of drains. The chairman of Yangon Division PDC and the mayor gave necessary instructions to responsible officials and fulfilled their needs.—MNA

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



National Convention Convening Commission Chairman Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects co-operative welfare shop at Nyaungnnapin Camp. — MNA



National Convention Convening Commission Chairman Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects co-operative welfare shop at Nyaungnnapin Camp. — MNA



National Convention Convening Commission Chairman Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially greets delegates to the National Convention at Nyaungnnapin Camp. — MNA



National Convention Convening Commission Chairman Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially greets delegates to the National Convention at Nyaungnnapin Camp. — MNA

## National Convention Convening ...

(from page 1)

National Unity and Solidarity Organization (Ka Ma Sa Nya), Shan State Nationalities People's Liberation Organization (Ya La La Pha), New Mon State Party, Democratic Kayin Buddhist Association (DKBA), Haungthayaw Special Region Group, Phayagon Special Group, Shan State National Army, Burma Communist Party (Rakhine Group), Arakanese Army (AA) Group, Homein Region Welfare and Development Group, Shwepyithar (MTA) Group, Manpan Regional Militia Group, Mon Armed Peace Group (Chaungchi Region) and Mon Splinter Nai Saik Chan Group who are putting up from hostels number 6 to 10.

Next, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party met and greeted delegates of intellectuals

and intelligentsia, delegates of State service personnel, delegates of national races from Yangon Division, Shan State (South), Shan State (North), Ayeyawady Division, Sagaing Division, Kachin State, Kayah State, Kayin State, Chin State, Bago Division and Mon State who are putting up at the Hostel No 5, the Hostel No 3 and the Hostel No 1. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party cordially greeted the delegates who are purchasing items at such welfare shops as GEC shop of the Ministry of Co-operatives, shops selling Seinsetkya bags, traditional costumes of national races and textiles and shops of Grand health care cooperative syndicate.

Next, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party inspected services for delegates such as ordinary telegram, e-mail, tel-

ephone, regular mail, money order, registration (parcel) and selling of stamps at the Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications' camp under the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs.

Next, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party greeted delegates of national races from Bago Division, Magway Division, Mandalay Division, Mon State and Rakhine State, other invited delegates from Shan State (South) Special Region-6, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of State service personnel, delegates of national races from Bago Division and Taninthayi Division, delegates of political parties from Kokang Democracy and Unity Party, Union Pa-O National Organization, Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization, Lahu National De-



National Convention Convening Commission Chairman Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects mess arrangements for National Convention delegates at Nyaungnnapin Camp. MNA

velopment Party, Wa National Development Party and representatives-elect of Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization and independent parties who are staying at from the Hostel No 11 to the Hostel No 39.

Next, they greeted delegates of national races from Kachin State, Kayah State and Kayin State, intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of the National Unity Party, delegates of State service personnel, delegates of national races from Kayin State, Chin State, Sagaing Division and Taninthayi Division and delegates of national races from Rakhine State, Yangon Division, Shan State (South), Shan State (North), Shan State (East) and Ayeyawady Division.

Later, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party greeted delegates of national races

from Ayeyawady Division, delegates of peasants from Kachin State, Kayah State, Kayin State, Chin State, Sagaing Division, Taninthayi Division, Bago Division, Magway Division, Mandalay Division, Mon State, Rakhine State, Yangon Division, Shan State (South), Shan State (North), Shan State (East) and Ayeyawady Division and delegates of workers from Kachin State, Kayah State, Kayin State, Chin State, Sagaing Division, Taninthayi Division, Bago Division, Magway Division and Mandalay Division.

Next, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party proceeded to the

mess halls and met the delegates who were having lunch and fulfilled the requirements.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party enquired after U Mahn Tin Aung Than of Union Kayin League, who is enthusiastically attending the National Convention although he is not in good health, and made arrangements for medical treatment and left there.

The delegates to the Convention were enjoying the entertainment programmes at Nyaungnnapin Camp, exercising at gymnasium and playing golf or shopping. — MNA



The golf course at the Nyaungnnapin Camp. — MNA

အိမ်တိုင်းမှာသစ်ပင် ရွာစဉ်မှာတောတန်း  
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မြို့တက်မယ့်လမ်း။



## Japan to hang on to nuclear power as main energy source

**TOKYO, 15 May — Japan will hang on to nuclear power as a main energy source while trying to expand other energy sources to diversify risks, according to an annual report on national energy policy released Friday.**

Despite a data cover-up scandal involving Tokyo Electric Power Co. two years ago, the government vows in the report to continue promoting an energy policy that designates nuclear power generation as a key source of energy with the basic premise that safety should be ensured. It is the first annual report compiled on energy issues by the Natural Resources and Energy Agency, an organization under the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

After the TEPCO scandal, the government implemented steps to tighten safety regulations on nuclear power generation such as making inspections mandatory instead of voluntary, the report says.

The report stresses the merits of nuclear energy, saying it is recyclable and free of carbon dioxide, a global warming gas.

At the same time, it is necessary for the government to fully implement safety regulations while power companies must do their utmost to restore public trust, the report says. As an energy resource-scarce country, Japan has been trying to diversify its energy sources with the dependency ratio on oil dropping to 49.4 per cent in fiscal 2001 from 77 per cent in fiscal 1973.

Nevertheless, oil accounts for nearly half of national energy supply, and about 90 per cent of it comes from the politically unstable Middle East region, the report says.

As part of efforts to promote use of new energy sources, the government put a new law into force in April 2003 which requires power suppliers to use a certain percentage of designated new energy sources such as wind power and ground heat.

MNA/Xinhua

## Indonesian coal producers urged to prioritize local market

**JAKARTA, 15 May — Indonesian Minister of Energy Purnomo Yusgiantoro on Thursday urged coal producers to prioritize local market in selling their products. He said the high price of coal in foreign countries has forced coal producers to prefer exporting their product rather than selling in local market.**

“So I appeal to coal producers not to divert their market into foreign countries. I ask them to pay greater

attention for the national sale even though they will reap greater profit if they export (their product),” Purnomo was quoted by Detikcom online news service as saying.

Coal is one source of power in the country, so the short supply of coal can influence the power supply here. However, Purnomo made sure that the government will not raise electricity tariff following the shortening supply of the power source.

MNA/Xinhua

### သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါကာကွယ်ပါ

၁။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါသည် အသက် (၃) နှစ်မှ (၁၄) နှစ်အထိ ကလေးငယ်များတွင် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်ပါသည်။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ဖြစ်လျှင် ရင်သွေးငယ်များ အသက်ဆုံးပါးရသည်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်သဖြင့် မိမိတို့၏ ရင်သွေးများ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။  
၂။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါသည် ရေကြည်ပေးသောနံရံတွင်ပေါက်ပွားသော ခြင်ပုန်း၊ ခြင်ကွား အတိုက်ခံရခြင်းကြောင့် ကူးစက်ပါသည်။ သို့ပါ၍ ခြင်ပုန်း၊ ခြင်ကွား၊ မပေါက်ပွားအရန်နှင့် မိမိတို့ရင်သွေးများ ခြင်ကိုက်မခံရအရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

### သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါကာကွယ်ရန်

- ရေစည်ရေအိုးများကို လုံခြုံစွာအိုးအုပ်ထားပါ။
- ရေအိုး၊ ညောင်ရေအိုးတို့မှရေကို နေစိုင်းလှလှပေးပါ။
- ရေစည်၊ ရေအိုးများရှိ ပိုးလောက်လန့်များအား ရေစစ်ဖြင့် ခပ်ထုတ်ဖယ်ပါ။
- မိုးရေတင်နိုင်သော ဘူး၊ ခုံး၊ ပုံး၊ ဘူး၊ ဘာယာစုတ်၊ အိုး၊ ခြစ်ပုံး စသည်တို့ကို ဖယ်ရှားရှင်းလင်းပါ။
- အလင်းရောင်ရရှိရန် တံခါးများကို နေအင်းပိုင်းတွင် ဖွင့်ထားပါ။
- အိမ်တွင်း၊ အိမ်အပြင်သန့်ရှင်းစွာထားပါ။
- ကလေးများ အိမ်ချိန်တွင် ခြင်ဆောင်ပြွင်းသိပ်ပါ။
- အိပ်စက်ဝန်းကျင်ရှိ ရေတင်နိုင်သော ခြေခံများကို ခြေဖိပါ။
- မိမိတို့အိမ်ရှေ့၊ အိမ်နောက်တို့မှ ရေပြောင်းများကို ရေစီးရေလာကောင်းအောင် ရှင်းလင်းပါ။

လုံအပ်ပါက စည်ပင်သာယာရေးအဖွဲ့၏ အကူအညီကိုယူပါ။

၃။ ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာနနှင့်ပူးပေါင်းပြီး ခြင်များမပေါက်ပွားအရန် ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း၊ အသိပညာပေးခြင်း၊ ကာကွယ်တားဆီးခြင်းလုပ်ငန်းများကို ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါရန်နှင့် သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးဖြစ်ပွားသည့်ဟု သဘာယရှိသော ကလေးများကို ဆေးပေးစနစ်၊ ဆေးရုံများသို့ အချိန်မီ ပို့ဆောင်ကြပါရန် တိုက်တွန်းနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

## Vietnamese PM to visit China, Mongolia

**HANOI, 15 May — Vietnamese Prime Minister Phan Van Khai will visit China and Mongolia from May 20 to 26 to enhance the ties between Vietnam and the two countries.**

“The purpose of his trip is to continue consolidating and beefing up the comprehensive cooperation ties between Vietnam and China, and to explore possibilities to further develop the relationship with Mongolia, especially in economy and trade,” Le Dung, spokesman of Vietnam’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs said on Thursday.

This will be Khai’s third visit to China, and his second trip to Mongolia, he added. Khai is to visit China on May 20-24, and Mongolia on 24-26, at the invitations of Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Mongolian Prime Minister Nambaryn Enkhbayar.

The Vietnam-Sino ties, especially economic and trade ones, have developed strongly in recent years. The two-way trade of the two countries stood at 4.6 billion US dollars last year, a year-on-year rise of 42 per cent. By April this year, investors from Chinese Mainland and Hong Kong SAR had had 564 projects with a total registered capital of nearly 3.6 billion dollars in Vietnam. — MNA/Xinhua

## Thailand seeks harsh punishment for human traffickers

**BANGKOK, 15 May — Thai Deputy Prime Minister Purachai Piumsomnabun has pledged to punish human traffickers in a tough way as that for drug dealers, the Bangkok Post reported on Friday.**

The government was preparing to stiffen enforcement of the Asset Seizure Law against human traffickers so they would face similar treatment to drug smugglers after their convictions, Purachai said Thursday when chairing an anti-human trafficking workshop in the northern province of Chiang Rai. The anti-money laundering law, which allows seizure of assets suspected of having been acquired illegally, must be swift to cut the bloodline of trafficking networks, he was quoted by Bangkok Post as saying.

He asked for close border patrol around the border pass areas, including the kingdom’s northern and northeastern border provinces, which were at high risk of illegal entry.

More than 10 human trafficking rings were thought to be based near the border channels in Mae Sai District of Chiang Rai Province alone, the report said.

At the same time, Purachai urged for law enforcement officials to treat alien victims of human trafficking with “compassion and empathy”. The Thai Government would trace human trafficking network in collaboration with neighbouring countries and a memorandum of understanding on this aspect would be signed with those countries, Purachai said.

Thailand has been the source, destination and transmission centre for human trafficking in the Mekong River Sub-region for a long time, said the non-government organization ECPAT, which tries to put an end to child prostitution and trafficking of children. ECPAT said that many Thai children have been trafficked to Japan, Europe, North America, South Africa, Australia and Cambodia. An earlier International Labour Organization’s report estimated that around 200,000 to 300,000 women and children are trafficked annually into Thailand. — MNA/Xinhua

## Singapore reports 242 “AIDS” cases in 2003

**SINGAPORE, 15 May — Singapore reported a total of 242 AIDS cases last year, the highest number since the start of the killing disease here in 1985.**

According to local Press reports on Thursday, there is also a rising trend of cases among youths, who make up half of all the infections. AIDS activists on Thursday repeated their call for the Singapore Government to do more in the fight against AIDS. Brenton Wong, Vice-President of Action for AIDS, urged the government to pay more attention to the rising rate of HIV infection among youths and subsidize those infected with HIV virus.

To honour those who have died from HIV/AIDS and to raise awareness about the disease, Action for AIDS will organize this year’s International AIDS Candlelight Memorial here on Sunday. — MNA/Xinhua

### CORRECTION

Please read “Chairman of the National League for Democracy U Aung Shwe did not accept the invitation” instead of “Chairman of the National League for Democracy U Aung Shwe did not receive the invitation” in the sixth paragraph of the news “National Convention will be successfully reconvene with the current delegates attending” which appeared on page 2 of yesterday issue. — Ed

### သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

ခရီးသည်တင်စက်တော်ယာဉ်များအား မြို့တွင်းသို့ နေ့/ည ခရီးသည်ပို့ဆောင်နိုင်ရေးအတွက် သတိမှတ်ခေါက်ရေနှင့်အညီ စက်သုံးဆီ ထုတ်ပေးထားပြီးဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ယာဉ်စီးခများအားလည်း သတိမှတ်နှုန်းထားများအတိုင်းတောင်းခံရန် ညွှန်ကြားထားရှိပါသည်။ သို့ရာတွင် အချို့ယာဉ်လိုင်းများမှ ယာဉ်မောင်းနှင့် ယာဉ်နောက်လိုက်တို့သည် ယာဉ်စီးခများကို ညပိုင်းတွင် ပိုမိုတောင်းယူနေကြောင်း သိရှိပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ပိုမိုတောင်းခံပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူနိုင်ရန် အောက်ပါနံပါတ်များသို့ တိုင်ကြားနိုင်ပါသည်။  
(၁) မြန်မာနိုင်ငံရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့၊ ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း (ဖုန်း ၁၉၉)  
(၂) ကြိုမကြေ နန်းနှင့်ယာဉ်ထိန်းတပ်ဖွဲ့ (ဖုန်း ၂၅၁၅၅/၂၅၁၅၅)  
(၃) မော်တော်ယာဉ်လုပ်ငန်းပေါင်းစုံ၊ ဖုန်း ၅၄၁၉၀၅/၅၄၁၉၀၅

(ဖုန်း ၅၄၁၉၀၅/၅၄၁၉၀၅)

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြပ်မက်မတ်

### AIDS ရောဂါပညာပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

**AIDS ရောဂါကူးစက်စေသောနည်းလမ်းများ**

AIDS ရောဂါသည် HIV ဗိုင်းရပ်(စ်)ပိုးကူးစက်မှုကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည်။

AIDS ရောဂါကူးစက်စေသောနည်းလမ်းများမှာ

- \* ရောဂါပိုးရှိသူနှင့်လိင်ဆက်ဆံခြင်း
- \* မသန်ရှင်သောဆေးထိုးအိမ်ဆေးထိုး ပြန်များကိုမျှဝေသုံးစွဲခြင်း
- \* HIV ပိုးပါသောသွေးနှင့်သွေးပစ္စည်းများကိုသွင်းမိခြင်း
- \* ရောဂါပိုးရှိသောကွယ်ဝန်ဆောင်မိခင်မှသန္ဓေသားသို့ကူးစက်ခြင်းတို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

HIV ပိုးရှိနေသူကိုအမြင်ပန်းအမြင်ဖြင့်မသိနိုင်သောကြောင့် ရောဂါကူးစက်မှုမခံရအောင် အစဉ်အမြဲသတိရှိပါ။

**AIDS ရောဂါမကူးစက်နိုင်သောနည်းလမ်းများ**

AIDS ရောဂါမကူးစက်နိုင်သောနည်းလမ်းများမှာ

- ချောင်းဆိုးနာရချေခြင်း
- သာမန်ထိတွေ့မှုများဖြစ်သော လက်ဆွဲနှုတ်ဆက်ခြင်း၊ ဖက်ခြင်း၊ အရည်ပြာချင်း ထိတွေ့ခြင်း
- ပန်းကန်ခွက်၊ ဖုန်း၊ တယ်လီဖုန်း၊ အိမ်သာ၊ တံခါးလက်ကိုင်၊ ထိုင်ခုံတို့ကိုအတူတူသုံးစွဲခြင်းတို့ကြောင့် မကူးစက်နိုင်ပါ။
- AIDS ရောဂါသည်တစ်ဦးမှတစ်ဦးသို့သာမန်အားဖြင့်လွယ်ကူစွာမကူးစက်နိုင်သဖြင့် AIDS ဝေဒနာရှင်များကိုဝတ်စုံဝတ်စုံဖြင့် မမြှင့် ကြင်နာစွာ ပြုစုစောင့်ရှောက်ပါ။

**AIDS ရောဂါကာကွယ်ရန်နည်းလမ်းများ**

AIDS ရောဂါကာကွယ်ရန်ဆေးနှင့် ပျောက်ကင်းအောင်ကုသရန် ဆေးမပေါ်ပေးပါ။ ထို့ကြောင့် မိမိတို့၏အပြုအမူကိုဆင်ခြင်ခြင်းသည်သာ အကောင်းဆုံးကာကွယ်နည်းဖြစ်သည်။

- AIDS ရောဂါမကူးစက်စေရန်အတွက်
- လိင်အမျှော်ပါးလုံးဝတားမြစ်ခြင်းကိုရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။ မရှောင်နိုင်ပါက အကာအကွယ်ကုန်သုံးကို စနစ်တကျအသုံးပြုပါ။
- အိမ်ထောင်ရှိသူများ တစ်လင်တစ်မယားစနစ် ကျင့်သုံးပြီး မိမိအိမ်ထောင်ဖက်အချင်းချင်း အပြန်အလှန်သစ္စာရှိပါ။
- မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးကိုလုံးဝသုံးစွဲပါနဲ့။
- ဆေးထိုးရန်လိုအပ်ပါက တစ်ခါသုံးဆေးထိုးအပ်ကိုသာအသုံးပြုပါ။

**AIDS ရောဂါကြုံတွေ့သူများအားပြုစုစောင့်ရှောက်ရေး**

- HIV ပိုးကူးစက်ရသူများသည် အကျင့်စားစွာ ဖျက်ဖျက်သူများ မဟုတ်သောကြောင့် ဝေဒနာရှင်များအား နှိမ့်ချဆက်ဆံခြင်း မပြုလုပ်ဘဲ နှစ်သိမ့်ကူညီအားပေးပါ။
- AIDS ရောဂါကြုံတွေ့သူများကို ကြည်ဖြူစာနာလက်တွဲကူညီသော ဝေဒနာရှင်များ၏ သဘာဝစွာ ပိုမိုကြာရှည်သို့ ညွှတ်တို့၏ ကိုယ်စွမ်း ဉာဏ်စွမ်းများကို အသုံးချနိုင်ကာ လူ့လောကအားအကျိုးပြုရင်း အဓိပ္ပာယ်ရှိရှိ နေထိုင်သွားနိုင်မည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

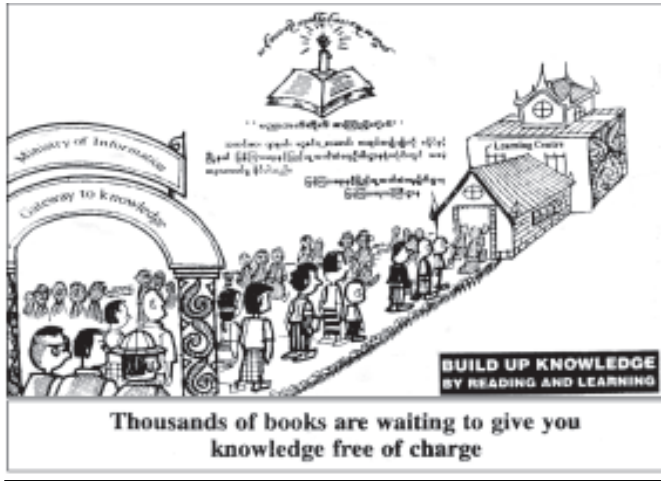
## Indonesia plans to renew sea patrol pact with Singapore

**JAKARTA, 15 May — The Indonesian Government is planning to restart a maritime patrol agreement with Singapore, giving Singapore’s marine patrol aircraft access to some Indonesian airstrips.**

The Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA II) agreement would allow Singaporean aircraft to land on the Natuna Islands and would strengthen defence relations between the two countries, a defence official told the House of Representatives Commission on Defence and Security Affairs on Thursday.

Head of strategy in the Ministry of Defence Sudrajat told the commission that Singapore had long requested Indonesia to reopen the MPA II. Many aspects, including political, social and cultural issues should be negotiated with Singapore before agreeing to reopen the MPA II, Sudrajat was quoted Friday by The Jakarta Post as saying.

MNA/Xinhua



## ADVERTISEMENTS

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### Italian President suffers broken collar-bone in fall

ROME, 15 May— Italian President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi has had a fall and broken his collar-bone, the Italian President's Office said Thursday.

The 83-year-old President slipped Wednesday evening while climbing some stairs in his private apartments in the Presidential Palace, a statement from his office said, adding that subsequent x-rays revealed a fracture to his right collar-bone.

Doctors have advised the President to suspend his public duties for a brief period and rest. All presidential appointments at the palace have been cancelled for the

next three days and it is unlikely the head of state would travel to Spain on Sunday as planned for the wedding of the son of Spanish King Juan Carlos, officials said.

They said a trip to Romania at the end of the month is still on. According to the programmes, Ciampi will go to China for a state visit next month. On Thursday, Ciampi celebrates his fifth anniversary as Italian President. — MNA/Xinhua

### HK to take vigilant action against illegal workers

HONG KONG, 15 May— Hong Kong Secretary for Security Ambrose SK Lee in the Legislative Council Wednesday said that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government has always been vigilant against illegal employment.

He said the departments concerned have adopted the following measures effectively to combat the employment of illegal workers to carry out renovation works in private premises.

Lee said, to combat crimes and illegal employment more effectively, an Inter-departmental Task Force was set up in April 2003 to devise specific strategies, coordinate joint operations amongst various departments and enhance the gathering and exchange of intelligence.

He said the Task Force is chaired by a Deputy Commissioner of Police. Its membership includes the Security

Bureau, Immigration Department, Labour Department, Customs and Excise Department, Correctional Services Department and other departments concerned.

Since mid-January 2003, the Immigration Department has been carrying out on an ongoing basis a series of operations code-named "Contribute" to crack down on illegal workers engaging in interior renovation or building maintenance works as well as on their employers. The scope of these operations also covers small houses under construction and on-site maintenance works. — MNA/Xinhua

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### FDI in China hits \$19.6b in Jan-April period

BEIJING, 15 May— Actually used foreign direct investment (FDI) in China surged 10 per cent to hit 19.6 billion US dollars year-on-year in the January-April period, official figures show.

Statistics from the Ministry of Commerce show that the contractual FDI soared by 53.96 per cent year-on-year to achieve 47 billion US dollars and 14,328 new foreign-funded enterprises were established in China during the first four months, up 17.46 per cent.

By April, 479,605 foreign-funded enterprises had been established in China since it approved such applications about two decades ago. The contractual FDI summed up to 990 billion US dollars and the actually used FDI totalled 521 billion US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

## ပြည်တွင်းပြန်ကိုအားပေးပါ

### ASEAN to strengthen trade relations with EU, Australia, NZ

MANILA, 15 May— Philippine Trade and Industry Secretary Cesar V Purisima said that the Association of the South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) is to intensify the region's trade relations with the European Union, Australia and New Zealand, a local newspaper said Thursday.

Purisima told the Philippine Star that ASEAN Economic Ministers Conference, which was held in Singapore at the end of last month, considers the move to strengthen

trade relations with less active but equally promising partners like the European Union, Australia and New Zealand would benefit ASEAN through potential free trade agreements (FTA).

Purisima said that such a move would "balance the negotiating dynamics with the more powerful partners through a pragmatic diversification of the ASEAN FTA portfolio".

The ASEAN economic ministers, as the secretary said, considered recommending to ASEAN leaders that the organization should hold a summit this year in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the ASEAN-Australia and ASEAN-New Zealand relations to promote closer economic relationship

between the regional organization and the two countries.

Purisima said that ASEAN had also achieved progress in negotiations with important partners like China and Japan. For the ASEAN-India engagement, modalities are being considered for an early harvest programme, Purisima said.

In the meeting of ASEAN economic ministers, the Philippines urged ASEAN members to abolish import tariffs on the trade of electronic and semiconductor products by next year.

Zero tariffs on electronics could lead to lower costs of production, making ASEAN electronics and semiconductors more competitive, Purisima said earlier. — MNA/Xinhua

### China, S Korea sign agreement on youth exchanges

BEIJING, 15 May— China and South Korea signed an agreement Thursday on youth exchanges, which says the South Korean Government will invite 500 Chinese young people to visit the country each year from 2004 to 2006.

The agreement, aimed at enhancing understanding and friendship between the young peoples and promoting bilateral friendly ties between the two countries, is an implementation of the consensus laid down in the joint statement issued during South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun's China visit last year.

According to the organizers, the All-China Youth Federation and the South Korean Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the agreement will be valid for three years, and afterwards the validity period will continue for another three years if there are no objections.

Jiang Guangping, deputy

secretary-general of the All-China Youth Federation, said the enlargement of the scale of youth exchanges between the two countries, which currently stands at 40 people a year, demonstrates the deepening of their friendly ties and will further promote such ties.

He said the 500 young people for 2004 visit will be sent to South Korea in three groups, and the first batch will go around early July. Hu Wei, vice-chairman of the All-China Youth Federation, and Kim Ha-joong, South Korean Ambassador to China, signed the agreement on behalf of the two governments respectively.

MNA/Xinhua

### Italy, Spain continue to strengthen bilateral relations

ROME, 15 May— Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi and new Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero agreed Thursday to strengthen bilateral relations.

Speaking at a joint Press conference after talks at the Italian Prime Minister's Office here in Rome, the Socialist Spanish leader said that "Spain and Italy enjoy and must maintain excellent bilateral relations."

"We are both Mediterranean countries and maximum collaboration and accord is essential to two countries," Zapatero said. Berlusconi spoke in similar terms, saying that the new Spanish Prime Minister had confirmed a "political willingness for continuity."

The proposed European Constitution was the main issue on the agenda of Thursday's talks, with the two leaders agreeing on the need to clinch a deal on the historic treaty as soon as possible. Zapatero told reporters he hoped for an accord by July, when Ireland wraps up its six-month stint as the EU rotating presidency. — MNA/Xinhua



# မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

## Exim Bank to extend \$150m loans to developing countries

**NEW DELHI, 15 May—**The Export-Import Bank of India is planning to extend loans worth 150 million dollars to developing countries in Africa, Asia and Europe in six months.

"In the coming six months we will be signing more Lines of Credit (LOC) amounting to 150 million dollars with countries in Africa, Central Asia and CIS region," Exim Bank chairman TC Venkat Subramanian told PTI here.

In the fiscal year 2003-04, Exim Bank had extended 168 million dollars through 12 credit lines to countries in Asia, Central Europe and Africa, he said.

Exim Bank will focus on project exports from India in the fiscal year 2004-05, Subramanian added.

The bank will also promote in a big way exports of agricultural products and services like health, education and entertainment in addition to

technology and engineering services from India during this fiscal.

Currently, the bank has 28 line of credits covering 51 countries with credit commitments totalling 53 million dollars available for utilization and they are at various stages of negotiations.

Exim Bank's sanctioned loan aggregated rupees 10.26 billion last fiscal, which is 18 per cent higher than the figure the previous fiscal.

Disbursements of loans totalled 60.95 billion rupees in 2003-04, a growth of 31 per cent over 2002-03.

Subramanian said the bank targets to disburse loans worth rupees 90 billion this fiscal. In order to step up

credit to exporters and importers, the bank plans to raise 70 billion rupees including 300 million dollars from international market.

Reserve Bank of India has already given its approval for the external commercial borrowing of 300 million dollars, Subramanian said.

The bank has set a target of 25-per-cent growth in its lending operations for the financial Year 2004-05, he said.

Disclosing plans for its lending operations, he said the bank will also encourage Indian companies to invest overseas to set up manufacturing or assembly units in potential markets like China, Central Asia and Eastern Europe as well as Africa.—MNA/PTI



A video game enthusiast gets a first look at the new Sony PlayStation Portable, a portable gaming device introduced at The Electronic Entertainment Expo in Los Angeles on 12 May, 2004. Sony does not expect to make money on its new PlayStation Portable handheld games console at launch, due to the price of components and initial development costs, the head of Sony's US games unit said.—INTERNET

## Thai economy may grow less than targeted

**BANGKOK, 15 May —** Thai Finance Minister Somkid Jatusripitak conceded Thursday that the country's economy might grow less than targeted, or 7 per cent, due to many negative factors, both externally and internally.

Presiding over the opening ceremony of Money Expo 2004, he was quoted by the *Thai News Agency* as saying that Thailand had enjoyed an economic, social and political stability since the economy had recovered and continued to expand.

Last year, the country enjoyed the impressive economic growth of 7.8 per cent.

However, people's confidence had begun to be shaken by many negative factors such as the recent bird flu outbreak and the opposition to state enterprise privatization, he noted.

In particular, the violence in the deep South had caused foreign investors to feel uncertain about the internal security. Their concern could be reflected by the plunge in the stock market earlier this week.

Worse still, he said, rising oil prices in the world market had made many worry about higher production costs and export decline.

The negative factors had markedly undermined consumer confidence, as the index had dropped for the four consecutive months, he disclosed.

MNA/Xinhua

## Italian scientists say universe older than believed

**ROME, 15 May—**The universe is 1.5 billion years older than was previously thought, according to new research by a team of Italian scientists, Italian media reported on Thursday.

Researchers from the National Nuclear Physics Institute are set to publish studies in two international publications showing that the universe is actually 14 billion years old, rather than 12.5 billion years. "Our experiment is unique as it is based on a completely different method than that used by the other research groups so far," explained the project's coordinator Carlo Brogini on Thursday. Details of the study, carried out in the Italian Gran Sasso Laboratories in collaboration with Germany's Ruhr University, will be published in *Physics Letters* and *Astronomy and Astrophysics* next month.

MNA/Xinhua

## Chinese nurses urged to be devoted to medical cause

**CHENGDU, 15 May—**Basang Dundrub, China's only male nurse awarded the Florence Nightingale medal, urged Wednesday on International Nurses' Day for his fellow workers across the country to devote themselves to the profession, which he said requires them to offer more attention and love to patients.

Basang, who has been working as a nurse for more than 30 years, stressed that the importance of nurses in hospitals equals that of doctors, comparing the two occupations to the two wings of an eagle.

Any hospital needs male nurses, he said, calling for more males to take to the job.

Basang was among ten Chinese nurses who were awarded Florence Nightingale medals in Beijing in August 2003 by Chinese President Hu Jintao for their great contributions to the country's medical cause. He

is also the only Tibetan to obtain the laurel.

Born to a herdsman family in 1951, he began his career as a nurse in the People's Hospital of the Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of Garze, southwest China's Sichuan Province, after graduating from a medical nurses' school when he was 21 years old.

Unlike his 20 male schoolmates who have all quit their nursing work to be involved in other areas, Basang is still engaged in the profession and now serves as the hospital's vice-director in

charge of nursing.

By the end of 2003, the prefecture had 422 medical institutions, involving 4,033 employees, including nearly 2,000 doctors and 697 nurses.

The Chinese Red Cross Society began to recommend candidates for the award in 1983 and since that time 38 Chinese nurses have been recognized with it.

MNA/Xinhua

## Uganda to train flower growers for floriculture export

**KAMPALA, 15 May—**Uganda will set up a training centre to impart growing, handling and exporting skills to flower growers to promote its floriculture export, the *Monitor* reported Thursday.

The 983-million-US-dollar centre, to be situated near the capital Kampala, will be funded by the European Union and other donors.

Floriculture is the leading non-traditional export of the East African country. The firms exporting floriculture products have increased to 19 from three in 1992 when Uganda started to export floriculture products.

Keith Henderson, executive director of the Ugandan Flower Exporters Association, recently said that currently Uganda exports 5,300 tons of flowers a year and earned the country 26 million dollars last year.

MNA/Xinhua

## NBC, Universal merge to create new media giant

**LOS ANGELES, 15 May —** French media giant Vivendi Universal completed a deal with US General Electric Co's NBC in a merger to create a new media conglomerate.

The new company, NBC Universal, will rival Time Warner Inc and Viacom Inc in the US media and entertainment industry by combining a top-rated TV network with a major film and TV studio.

The expected sales for the new firm, which includes the NBC US television network, Universal film studios and theme parks in Hollywood as well as the Sci-Fi Channel and USA cable networks, will reach 15 billion US dollars by 2005.

NBC chief Bob Wright

will be the chairman and CEO of NBC Universal, while NBC's entertainment leader Jeff Zucker will be in charge of the company's programming. Meanwhile, the head of the NBC network, Randy Falco, will oversee the company's sales and operations.

The new management has only one executive from the Universal side. Ron Meyer, the head of Universal Studios, will remain as head of the Hollywood studio and the Universal theme parks.

MNA/Xinhua

## Road accident kills three in S-W China

**CHENGDU, 15 May—**A mini bus fell into a river Wednesday morning leaving three passengers dead and 16 wounded in the Tongjiang County, southwest China's Sichuan Province, sources from the local government said. The accident happened at 8:05 in the morning when the mini bus fell off the road after clashing against a light van. One passenger was killed immediately and the other two died at hospital.—MNA/Xinhua

## Italian airline Alitalia loses 190m euros in 1st quarter

**ROME, 15 May—** Italian national airline Alitalia Thursday said first quarter operating losses reached 190 million euros and admitted it would need a public loan to stay afloat, the local media reported Thursday.

According to the report the first meeting of shareholders under new Alitalia chief Giancarlo Cimoli also agreed that the air transport division would need to be separated from other sectors in order to survive.

The airline's first quarterly balance for 2004 showed that operating losses had risen 10 per cent on last year's 173 million euros, while cash reserves had been slashed in half since January. By the end of March, the airline had

only 256 million euros left compared to 515 million at the start of the year.

In a statement released after the meeting, Alitalia said "a temporary crisis in distribution relations and industrial conflict in the first part of the quarter" were to blame for the losses.

After certain improvements, it said, the transport division should look to creating and solidifying international alliances with other carriers. — MNA/Xinhua

## SPORTS

## Beckenbauer says Hitzfeld might leave Bayern immediately

HAMBURG (Germany), 15 May—Bayern Munich coach Ottmar Hitzfeld might leave the club at the end of the season, club president Franz Beckenbauer said.

Hitzfeld indicated he would leave at the end of next season and Bayern had so far denied reports that he might leave earlier but Beckenbauer suggested it could happen.

"Hitzfeld has been a blessing for Bayern and you can't be more successful than he has been but there comes a time when you're maybe no longer in a position to motivate the team," Beckenbauer told German television channel Premiere in an interview to be broadcast on Saturday. "We should get together (with Hitzfeld) at the end of the season and make a decision," added the World Cup-winning captain and former national team coach.

Bayern's preferred candidate to succeed Hitzfeld is Felix Magath, who is under contract at VfB Stuttgart for another season but might leave his club earlier. "We're waiting to see what decision Magath will make," said Beckenbauer.—MNA/Reuters



Mikhail Youzhny of Russia celebrates his victory against Florian Mayer from Germany, during the Hamburg Masters Tennis tournament on 13 May, 2004. Youzhny won the match 6-0, 7-6.—INTERNET

## England keeper Robinson completes Spurs move

LONDON, 15 May—England goalkeeper Paul Robinson has completed his transfer from Leeds United to Tottenham Hotspur in a two-million-pound (3.53-million-US-dollars) deal, Leeds said on Thursday.

The 24-year-old with four England caps has been linked with Spurs since January when the London club bid 2.5 million pounds for him and teenage midfielder James Milner.

Milner said on Thursday he wanted to stay with Leeds, whose relegation from the Premier League was confirmed last week.

"We are very pleased with the deal for Paul and we wish him every success at

Tottenham. Despite reports to the contrary it was the best offer made for him," Leeds chairman Gerald Krasner said in a statement.

"None of the top four Premiership clubs were interested or had an opening for him, so the market was very limited regardless of his enormous talents.

"Paul is the highest paid goalkeeper in England," added Krasner. "We have made no secret that the wage

bill at the club has to come down. Leeds look certain to sell strikers Alan Smith and Mark Viduka, continuing the dismantling of the team that reached the Champions League semifinals three years ago.

Krasner confirmed that a bid had also been made for the 18-year-old Milner.

"We were obliged to pass on the offer, despite the fact that we wanted him to stay," he said.

"There was no pressure on him to go, so we are delighted that, as a local lad, he wants to remain with us and be part of the club's future plans."—MNA/Reuters

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



## ACROSS

- 1 Abridge
- 5 Retinue
- 8 Horseman
- 9 Institute for higher education
- 10 Flagrantly
- 12 Before
- 13 Vacillate
- 14 Bosom
- 17 Pelt
- 18 Nature
- 20 Altered
- 21 Idol
- 23 Awe
- 24 Country walks

## DOWN

- 1 Scour
- 2 Curious
- 3 Row of houses
- 4 Degree of precision
- 5 Foolish
- 6 Graceless
- 7 Basic part
- 11 Wrangle
- 13 Disfigured
- 15 Fidelity to life
- 16 Run in stocking
- 18 Imprisoned
- 19 Stagers
- 22 Everything

## Real president promises "exciting" new signing

MADRID, 15 May—Real Madrid president Florentino Perez has pledged to sign another of the world's leading players less than a week after the club were condemned to finishing without a major trophy for the first time in five seasons.

"There will be an exciting new signing," Perez was quoted as saying in sports daily Marca on Thursday.

Real, who bought England captain David Beckham at the start of the season, saw their last chance of winning a trophy disappear on Sunday when Valencia wrapped up the Spanish title with two games left.

Despite the fact they now have to battle arch-rivals Barcelona for the runners-up spot and an automatic place in next season's Champions League, Perez does not view the season as a failure.

"I wouldn't say it was that bad because we had a good season up until the final month and a half," said Perez who has hinted that he will seek re-election as president in July.

"We all had very great expectations but to call it a bad season would be wrong—that

would be the case if we had finished sixth in the table.

"I think that our own ambition and the desire to win everything took its toll on the players." Spanish media have reported that Real will dismiss coach Carlos Queiroz at the end of the season and look to sign several new players.

Former Spain coach and long-time Real Madrid player Jose Antonio Camacho has been widely tipped as a replacement if Queiroz is discarded.

On the playing side, Argentina central defender Walter Samuel, his AS Roma teammate Francesco Totti, Manchester United striker Ruud van Nistelrooy and Real Sociedad midfielder Xabi Alonso have been touted as possible new recruits.

MNA/Reuters

## Dyson, Norman lead first round at BMW Golf Asian Open

SHANGHAI, 15 May—Australian legend Greg Norman displayed some old bite en route to a five-under-par 67 at the 1.5 million US dollars BMW Golf Asian Open here on Thursday, wrapping up the first round one shot behind leader Simon Dyson of England.

The 49-year-old "White Shark" enjoyed a bogey-free outing at the par 727,300-yard Tomson Golf Club.

Thailand's Prayad Marksang, playing alongside former world number one Norman, matched his illustrious playing partner's 67 in a round sparked by an outstanding run on the back nine.

Asian stalwart Choi Kyung-ju of South Korea and Greg Hanrahan of the United States also finished the day one off the pace.

Asian Tour star Marksang, who stumbled to one-over after a double bogey seven on his 11th hole, bounced back magnificently, shooting four birdies and an eagle two at the seventh.

A week after missing the cut in the British Masters, Dyson found his way to the top of the day after chalking up seven birdies to establish a new course record at

Tomson.

Choi, playing in the afternoon with the winds picking up, was pleased to end the day just one back.

Defending champion Padraig Harrington battled to an even par 72 where he

found water on his final hole to lie six off the lead.

China's No.1 golfer Zhang Lianwei carded a 70 to finish a jointly 16th.

More than 150 players are competing in the 4-day tournament.—MNA/Xinhua

## Serena leads top seeds into last 8 at Rome Masters

ROME, 15 May—Top seed Serena Williams bustled into the quarter-finals of the Rome Masters Thursday as the American brushed aside qualifier Dally Randriantefy 6-1, 6-3. The 2002 champion was unstoppable to the world's 100-ranked Randriantefy in a 48-minute match although Williams did not produce an even display, mixing clean winners with unforced errors.

Williams will fight for a semifinal berth against Russian ninth seed Svetlana Kuznetsova, who overcame seventh-seed Ai Sugiyama of Japan 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (7-4).

Second seed Amelie Mauresmo disposed of four-times winner Conchita Martinez 6-3, 6-4 while fifth seed Jennifer Capriati enjoyed easy win over 12th seed Paola Suarez 6-2, 6-2, setting up a quarterfinal against 16th seed Anna Smashnova-Pistoletti.

Capriati's victory over Argentine claycourter Suarez confirmed her return to full fitness after a back injury forced her to withdraw from the Australian Open and the Indian Wells tournament earlier this year.

With Capriati and Williams the strongest players in the top half of the draw, Mauresmo remains the overwhelming favorite in the bottom half.

The Frenchwoman powered past third-round opponent Martinez, who dominated the tournament between 1993 and 1996 and had won her only previous meeting with Mauresmo in the final of the Berlin claycourt tournament six years ago.

The win maintained Mauresmo's remarkable series of results in Rome, where she has never failed to reach the quarterfinals and has finished runner-up three times in the past four years.

MNA/Xinhua



Italy's Silvia Farina Elia hits a forehand return to Russia's Maria Sharapova during their third round match at the Rome Masters WTA tournament on 13 May, 2004. Farina Elia won 7-6, 6-0.—INTERNET

## Morgan's bid not attractive

LIVERPOOL, 15 May—Liverpool said on Thursday that an investment offer from British businessman Steve Morgan was "not attractive".

The Liverpool board met to discuss offers from Morgan, referred to as the Bridgemere Proposal, and Thailand's billionaire Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, a telecoms tycoon before he turned to politics.

The club later issued a statement saying: "The Board notes that the Bridgemere Proposal, at 1,750 pounds per share, implies a current value of 61 million pounds (107.6 million US dollars) for the entire club, which is a substantial discount to the value placed on the club by the board.

"The board has therefore concluded that the Bridgemere Proposal as currently constituted is not attractive. It intends to discuss its response to both these proposals with the respective parties."

Liverpool's response is bound to be welcomed by Thaksin, who offered 100 million US dollars for a 30-per-cent stake in the Premier League club and now has a clear advantage over his rival.

The Thai Premier has described his proposal as the better of the two and offering the fairest conditions.

Property developer Morgan wanted to increase his five-per-cent stake with a deal funded by a rights issue and the sale of shares to supporters.

Liverpool is 51 per cent owned by David Moores, whose family has had control for half a century, and 9.9 per cent owned by television company Granada.—MNA/Reuters



## MRTV-3


**16-5-2004 (Sunday)**  
**(Programme Schedule)**  
**Morning Transmission**  
**(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune Greeting  
 9:02 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"  
 9:06 Simple and Beautiful Rural Life  
**9:10** **Headline News**  
 9:12 Manufacturing of Home furniture and Accessories Part-II  
**9:15** **National News**  
 9:20 Myanmar Traditional Tamarind Juice  
 9:25 Pakhanthar Myin Nyo Shin  
**9:30** **National News**  
 9:35 Wa Traditions & An Engagement Ceremony  
 9:40 Song "Dear Myanmar"  
**9:45** **National News**  
 9:50 A Journey to Research Taron Race  
 9:58 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**16-5-2004 (Sunday)**  
**Evening Transmission**  
**(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune Greeting  
 15:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"  
 15:36 Simple and Beautiful Rural Life  
**15:40** **Headline News**  
 15:42 Manufacturing of Home furniture and Accessories  
**15:45** **National News**  
 15:50 Myanmar Traditional Tamarind Juice  
 15:55 Pakhanthar Myin Nyo Shin  
**16:00** **National News**  
 16:05 Wa Traditions & An Engagement Ceremony  
 16:10 Song "Dear Myanmar"

- 16:15** **National News**  
 16:20 A Journey to Research Taron Race  
 16:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"

- 16:30** **National News**  
 16:35 Traditional Chin Li-queur (Khaung Yay)  
 16:40 Native of PaO Nationals (Kyauktalane)  
**16:45** **National News**  
 16:50 Fossilized Wood Garden

- Performance of King Brahminy Bird Dance  
**17:00** **National News**  
 17:05 The Birth Place of Lacquerware Technicians  
 17:10 Song "Sagawa Flowers Land"

- 17:15** **National News**  
 17:20 Innwa Ancient Capital Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"  
**17:28**

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

- 19:30 Signature Tune Greeting  
 19:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"  
 19:36 Kaung Kha Region "Today"

- 19:40** **Headline News**  
 19:42 Tha Mee Hla Island  
**19:45** **National News**  
 19:50 Travelogue (Taunggyi)  
 19:55 Long Drum Folk Song & Dance

- 20:00** **National News**  
 20:05 The City of Kalay to Tamu, border Town  
 20:10 Song "The Beauty of the Ayeeyawady River (Sagaing)"

- 20:15** **National News**  
 20:20 Shwe Nan Daw Kyaung  
 20:25 Songs On Screen "Pre-destination"

- 20:30** **National News**  
 20:35 Fabulous Bagan (V)  
 20:40 Myanmar Bamboo Xylophone (or) Pattala

- 20:45** **National News**  
 20:50 Myanmar Movies Impact  
**21:00** **National News**

- 21:05 Traditional Chin House  
 21:10 Song "Lodestar"  
 21:12 The Myanmar Turban-Unique

- 21:15** **National News**  
 21:20 Tasty fried Nga-Poe from Padu Village  
 21:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"

- 21:35 Simple and Beautiful Rural Life  
**21:40** **Headline News**  
 21:42 Manufacturing of Home furniture and Accessories

- 21:45** **National News**  
 21:50 Myanmar Traditional Tamarind Juice  
 21:55 Pakhanthar Myin Nyo Shin

- 22:00** **National News**  
 22:05 Wa Traditions & An Engagement Ceremony  
 22:10 Song "Dear Myanmar"

- 22:15** **National News**  
 22:20 A Journey to Research Taron Race  
 22:25 Song "Hill Steps Town"

- 22:30** **National News**  
 22:35 Traditional Chin Li-queur (Khaung Yay)  
 22:40 Native of PaO Nationals (Kyauktalane)

- 22:45** **National News**  
 22:50 Fossilized Wood Garden  
 22:55 Performance of King Brahminy Bird Dance

- 23:00** **National News**  
 23:05 The Birth Place of Lacquerware Technicians  
 23:10 Song "Sagawa Flowers Land"

- 23:15** **National News**  
 23:20 Innwa Ancient Capital  
 23:28 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

- 23:30** **National News**  
 23:35 The Birth Place of Lacquerware Technicians  
 23:40 **Headline News**

- 16-5-2004 (Sunday) & 17-5-2004 (Monday)**  
**Evening Transmission & Morning Transmission**  
**(23:30 - 1:30)**

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

- 23:36 Simple and Beautiful Rural Life  
**23:40** **Headline News**

- 23:42 Manufacturing of Home furniture and Accessories  
**23:45** **National News**  
 23:50 Myanmar Traditional Tamarind Juice

- 23:55 Pakhanthar Myin Nyo Shin  
**24:00** **National News**  
 00:05 Wa Traditions & An Engagement Ceremony

- 00:10 Song "Dear Myanmar"  
**00:15** **National News**  
 00:20 A Journey to Research Taron Race

- 00:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"

- 00:30** **National News**  
 00:35 Traditional Chin Li-queur (Khaung Yay)  
 00:40 Native of PaO Nationals (Kyauktalane)

- 00:45** **National News**  
 00:50 Fossilized Wood Garden  
 00:55 Performance of King Brahminy Bird Dance

- 01:00** **National News**  
 01:05 The Birth Place of Lacquerware Technicians  
 01:10 Song "Sagawa Flowers Land"

- 01:15** **National News**  
 01:20 Innwa Ancient Capital  
 01:28 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**17-5-2004 (Monday)**  
**Morning Transmission**  
**(03:30 - 07:30)**

- 03:30 Signature Tune Greeting  
 03:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"

- 03:36 Kaung Kha Region "Today"  
**03:40** **Headline News**  
 03:42 Tha Mee Hla Island  
**03:45** **National News**  
 03:50 Travelogue (Taunggyi)  
 03:55 Long Drum Folk Song & Dance

- 04:00** **National News**  
 04:05 The City of Kalay to Tamu, border Town  
 04:10 Song "The Beauty of the Ayeeyawady River (Sagaing)"

- 04:15** **National News**  
 04:20 Shwe Nan Daw Kyaung  
 04:25 Songs On Screen "Pre-destination"

- 04:30** **National News**  
 04:35 Fabulous Bagan (V)  
 04:40 Myanmar Bamboo Xylophone (or) Pattala

- 04:45** **National News**  
 04:50 Myanmar Movies Impact  
**05:00** **National News**  
 05:05 Traditional Chin House

- 05:10 Song "Lodestar"  
 05:12 The Myanmar Turban-Unique  
**05:15** **National News**  
 05:20 Tasty fried Nga-Poe from Padu Village

- Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"  
 05:25 Simple and Beautiful Rural Life  
**05:30** **Headline News**  
 05:35 Manufacturing of Home furniture and Accessories

- 05:40** **National News**  
 05:45 Myanmar Traditional Tamarind Juice  
 05:55 Pakhanthar Myin Nyo

- Shin  
**06:00** **National News**  
 06:05 Wa Traditions & An Engagement Ceremony  
 06:10 Song "Dear Myanmar"

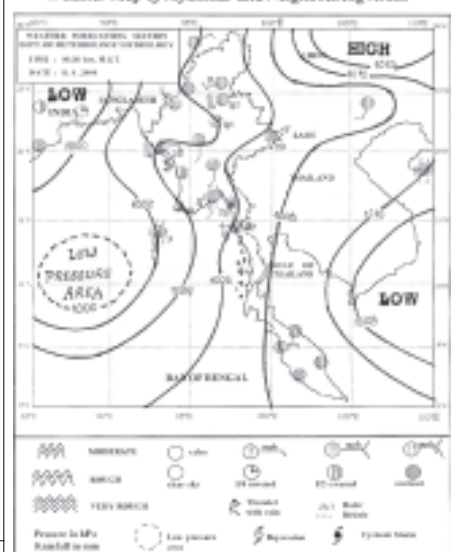
- 06:15** **National News**  
 06:20 A Journey to Research Taron Race  
 06:25 Song "Hill Steps Town"

- 06:30** **National News**  
 06:35 Traditional Chin Li-queur (Khaung Yay)  
 06:40 Native of PaO Nationals (Kyauktalane)

- 06:45** **National News**  
 06:50 Fossilized Wood Garden  
 06:55 Performance of King Brahminy Bird Dance

- 07:00** **National News**  
 07:05 The Birth Place of Lacquerware Technicians  
 07:10 Song "Sagawa Flowers Land"

- 07:15** **National News**  
 07:20 Innwa Ancient Capital  
 07:28 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**

**WEATHER**
**Saturday, 15 May, 2004**

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:**  
 During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State and rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin and Chin States, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Rakhine State, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Mandalay Division. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Kyauktaw (2.76) inches, Kyaukpyu (2.17) inches, Sagaing (1.97) inches, Bhamo (1.93) inches, Zaungtu (1.77) inches and Mandalay (1.61) inches.

Maximum temperature on 14-5-2004 was 31.3°C (88°F). Minimum temperature on 15-5-2004 was 22.0°C (72°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 15-5-2004 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 14-5-2004 was 0.4 hours approx. Rainfall on 15-5-2004 was 4mm (0.16 inch) at Yangon Airport and Kaba-Aye, 7mm (0.27 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 94 mm (3.70 inches) at Yangon Airport and 106 mm (4.18 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 105 mm (4.13 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 12 mph from South at (12:30) hours MST on 14-5-2004.

**Bay inference:** According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, a low pressure area has formed in the Southeast Bay and it may intensity further into a depression. Monsoon is moderate to strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weather is partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 16-5-2004:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State and Magway Division, scattered in Kachin, Kayin, Chin and Shan States, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**State of the sea:** Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Increase of rain are likely in Coastal areas.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 16-5-2004:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 16-5-2004:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).


**Sunday, May 16**  
**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. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မော်(၃၀) ဖြာဟာလာ  
**8:05 am**  
 6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ  
**8:15 am**  
 7. နိဗ္ဗာန်ရေလိမ္မော်(၃၀) ဖြာဟာလာ  
**8:30 am**  
 8. International news  
**8:45 am**  
 9. Say It In English  
**11:00 am**  
 1. Martial Song

**11:10 am**

2. Round-up of the week's international news

**11:25 am**

3. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတတ်လမ်းတွဲ  
 "နက်ရှိုင်းစေ့စွာ" (အပိုင်း-၄၂)

**12:00 am**

4. ASEAN Quiz (2002)

**အစီအစဉ်**
**13:00 am**

5. Myanmar Video Feature:

"တောထဲမှာရင်း၊ တောဝါးတောဝါး"

ဓမ္မစာတတ်လမ်း၊ နိဗ္ဗာန်ရေလိမ္မော်

ဒါနိဗ္ဗာန်-ဓမ္မစာတတ်လမ်းတွဲ

**2:45 pm**

6. 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. သာယာဇီဝအေး(၃၀) ဖြာဟာလာ

**4:55 pm**

5. အစောဆုံးတက္ကသိုလ် ယဉ်ကျေးမှု

ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ - ပထမဆုံး

(သတ္တဗေဒ၊ ဗုဒ္ဓဘေဒ၊ အတ္ထုပ္ပတ္တိ၊ ဗျူဟာ)

**(သတ္တဗေဒ)**
**5:10 pm**

6. Song of national races

**5:25 pm**

7. Musical programme

**5:35 pm**

8. Agricultural Force

**5:45 pm**

- Country's Development

**6:30 pm**

9. Sing And Enjoy

**7:00 pm**

10. Evening news

**7:05 pm**

11. Weather report

**7:05 pm**

12. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတတ်လမ်းတွဲ

"နက်ရှိုင်းစေ့စွာ" (အပိုင်း-၄၂)

**7:35 pm**

13. နက်ရှိုင်းစေ့စွာ ဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်မှု

**7:40 pm**

14. ကျေးလက်အသံတရားအသံ

**8:00 pm**

15. News

**8:00 pm**

16. International news

**8:00 pm**

17. Weather report

**8:00 pm**

18. Calcio Serie A

**8:00 pm**

19. The next day's programme


**Sunday, May 16**  
**Tune in today:**

- 8.30 am** Brief news  
**8.35 am** Music:  
 Paradise (Natural)  
**8.40 am** Perspectives  
**8.45 am** Music: Yoko (Cartoons)  
**8.55 am** National news/  
 Slogan  
**9.05 am** Music: I'm no  
 rockfeller  
 (Modern Talking)  
**9.10 am** International news  
**9.15 am** Music: Somewhere I  
 belong (Linking  
 Park)  
 -Just don't tell me  
 that (N'sync)  
**1.30 pm** News/Slogan  
**1.40 pm** Story for children  
 "The heir"  
**1.50 pm** Songs for children  
**9.00 pm** Weekly news review  
**9.10 pm** Music  
**9.15 pm** Article  
**9:25 pm** Adapted originals  
 -From this moment  
 on (Shania Twain)  
 -Endless love (Arc  
 Anthony)  
 -Upwhere we belong  
 (Joe Cocker)  
**9.45 pm** News/Slogan  
**10.00 pm** PEL

## Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects Parami Overpass Project

YANGON, 15 May—Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Yangon Mayor, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, this morning arrived at the Parami Overpass Project site being undertaken by the Myanmar Railways under the Ministry of Rail Transportation.

They were welcomed there by Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and departmental officials.

The minister reported on salient points on the project, measures for completion of the project ahead of schedule, work progress and future tasks.

The Prime Minister fulfilled requirements.

Next, the Prime Minister



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects progress of building Parami Overpass.— MNA

ter inspected driving of piles and building of approach roads.

The project is being implemented between Kaba Aye Pagoda Road

and Waizayanda Street at the junction of Parami Road and ring railroad.

On completion, the overpass will be 1,175 feet long, 48 feet wide and 14

feet high with four-foot-wide walkways on either side.— MNA

## Stake-driving ceremony for building of Myinkaseik (Panmawady River) Bridge held in Maungmya Township

YANGON, 15 May—A stake-driving ceremony for building of Myinkaseik (Panmawady River) Bridge was held in Kyonthut Village in Maungmya Township this morning.

The ceremony was attended by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of

Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, members of Division, District, Township, Ward and Village Peace and Development Councils, departmental officials, social organizations and local people.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than delivered an address. He said the State Peace and Development Council is building infrastructures needed in economic, education, health and social sectors for national development.

He quoted Head of State Senior General Than Shwe as saying that only when there is better transport from

one region to another in the country will social, education, economic and health sectors develop and a modern nation emerge. In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, major roads and bridges are being built in states and divisions with greater momentum. The government built them in practice, not in words. As a result, socio-economic life in the respective regions has improved, he said.

He said Ayeyawady Division now enjoys the results of better transport. In the division, 403 miles of tar roads, 627 miles of gravel roads, 250 miles of earth roads totalling 1,281 miles were built. Major roads such as Yangon-Kyaunggon-Pathein Road and Yangon-Zalun-Hinthada Road and other road sections are being upgraded. In the division, 39 bridges were built. Pyapon and Ngawun River Bridges will be open soon. On completion of Myinkaseik Bridge, there will be better

transport between Patheingyi and Myaungmya and economic, social, management and security matters of local people will improve, he said.

He called for cooperation in nation-building tasks in harmony.

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun urged local people to participate for timely completion of the bridge.

Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing said that Myinkaseik (Panmawady River) Bridge will be on the road linking Patheingyi and Myaungmya Districts. It will connect Patheingyi with Myaungmya shortly. Ayeyawady Division relied on waterways only in the past. Thanks to building roads and bridges in the time of the State Peace and Development Council, people can go to 24 townships out of 26 townships except Mawlamyinegyun and Ngaputaw townships by car any time. Local people are urged to complete the

bridge in time and maintain its durability.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and the minister drove stakes at the designated places and sprinkled scented water on them.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than launched the vibro hammer to drive the pile. They sprinkled scented water on it. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than performed the rituals of golden and silver showers to mark successful completion of the ceremony.

The bridge will be built by Myanmar women engineers led by Senior Engineer Daw Si Si Than of Bridge Construction Special Group-5 of Public Works. The approach bridge will be 360 feet long on both sides, the main bridge 540 feet long and the whole bridge 1,260 feet long. It will be a suspension bridge. On completion, local people can go to Patheingyi and Myaungmya through the short-cut.

MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than drives stake for building Myinkaseik (Panmawady River) Bridge in Maungmya Township.— MNA

## Roads, school building opened in Dagon Myothit (North)

YANGON, 15 May—Ceremonies to open Myawady Mingyi 1st Lane, Bayintnaung Street and the new building of Dagon MyoU Monastic Education School were held at respective venues in Ward 51, Dagon Myothit (North) Township, this afternoon, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Secretary of Yangon City Development Committee Col Myint Aung, Chairman of Yangon East District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Maung Maung Shein and wellwisher Thiri Thudhamma Manijotadhara U Sein Hla Win formally opened Myawady Mingyi 1st Lane and Bayintnaung Street.

Myawady Mingyi 1st Lane, 1,100 feet long and

12 feet wide, and Bayintnaung Street, 540 feet long and 12 feet wide, were built at a cost of K 14,418,600 by wellwishers and YCDC.

Next, the commander formally unveiled the signboard of the new building at the monastic education school. The building is 26 feet by 55 feet. It was built at a cost of K 8,679,784 donated by the Government and the people.— MNA