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*** Monday, 17 May, 2004

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivers an address Promotion and Implementation of Myanmar-Thai Economic Cooperation Meeting.— MNA

Prime Minister addresses coordination meeting on promotion and implementation of Myanmar-Thai economic cooperation

YANGON, 16 May—A coordination meeting on promotion and implementation of Myanmar-Thai economic cooperation was held at Zeyathiri Beikman here at 4 pm today with an address by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were ministers, the Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee the Yangon Mayor, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Develop-

ment Council Office, heads of department and officials.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, in his address, said that the meeting is to coordinate matters related to promotion and implementation of Myanmar-Thai economic cooperation.

Promotion of Myanmar-Thailand economic cooperation is one of agreements reached at the Summit Meeting on Economic Cooperation Strategy of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and

Thailand held in Bagan, Myanmar in 2003.

The summit meeting promoted economic cooperation among Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand, cooperation in trade and development sectors and discussed matters related to creating mutual interest among the four nations.

In addition, the summit meeting discussed matters related to narrowing the development gap among (See page 9)

National Convention Convening Commission holds Meeting No 10/2004

YANGON, 16 May— The National Convention Convening Commission held its Meeting No 10/2004 at Anawrahta Yeiktha of Nyaungnapin Camp in Hmawby Township at 4 pm today.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of National Convention Convening Work Committee U Aung Toe, Chairman of

National Convention Convening Management Committee Maj-Gen Lun Maung and members of the commission.

The chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission gave instructions on completion of preparations for successfully holding the National Convention on 17 May, arrangements for convenience of delegates to be able to attend the convention and fulfilment of requirements in health, food and accommodation of the delegates.

Secretary of the Commission Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan then reported on completion of preparatory tasks for holding the Convention.

Chairman of National Convention Convening Work Committee U Aung Toe briefed them on matters related to the discussions of the Convention. Chairman of National Convention Convening Management Committee Maj-Gen Lun Maung also reported on accommodation, health, food and welfare of the delegates, followed by a round of discussions.

Later, Lt-Gen Thein Sein gave necessary instructions and the meeting concluded at 5.30 pm.—MNA



Chairman of National Convention Convening Commission Lt-Gen Thein Sein addresses National Convention Convening Commission Meeting No 10/2004.— MNA

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Welcome the National Convention.

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 17 May, 2004

For boosting production of ten major crops

The government has laid down five rural development tasks for rural development and uplift of living standard of national people, and central-level organizations have been fulfilling requirements.

The government is also providing necessary assistance which contributes towards progress of education and health of rural areas, better transport and availability of water for rural development.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party attended the opening of Tatdaw U Bo Yahan Basic Education Primary School and Mya Kyaing Taung BEPS of Zokthok Model Village in Bilin Township on 8 May morning and unveiled the stone inscriptions of the buildings.

The Prime Minister inspected Gwedanshei Sluice Gate in Bilin Township being implemented under the leadership of Kyaikhtisaung Sayadaw. On completion, the project will have a capacity to benefit some 1,200 acres of arable land.

The Prime Minister held a meeting with local authorities, departmental officials and members of social organizations in BEHS of Zokthok Model Village. The Prime Minister said that the Government has introduced ten major crops for ensuring development of economy of rural regions. Therefore, township officials in the fields of agriculture are to provide necessary assistance such as disseminating agricultural methods and distributing quality strains for successful realization of the objectives.

Township departmental officials are to make field trips right down to the grassroots level so as to fulfil the requirements for development of rural regions in their townships and improvement of living standard of local people.

As the respective committees have been formed to carry out rural development tasks, the township level departmental officials are to make concerted efforts through right leadership and proper management.

In addition, for regional development, the departmental officials are to enlist the strength of social organizations formed in every township.

Therefore, through the four agricultural methods laid down by the Head of State, measures are to be taken for boosting per acre yield of the ten major crops for ensuring greater development of rural areas and elevating the living standard of rural people.

Teachers of night schools honoured

YANGON, 16 May — A ceremony to honour teachers who taught voluntarily at night schools organized by Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association, during 2003-2004 academic year, which were opened by Ahlon Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Yangon West District, was held in Ahlon Township hall this morning. Present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife, Patron of Supervisory Committee for Yangon Division MCWA Daw Khin Thet Htay, No 3 Military Region Commander Col Tint Hsan, Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myint Kyi and members, members of panel of patrons of Division MCWA, Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint, chairmen of District Peace and Development Councils, chairmen of Township PDCs, members of MCWA and teachers. Patron of Yangon Division MCWA Daw Khin Thet Htay spoke on the occasion. Then, Daw Khin Mya, President of Ahlon Township MCWA presented reports on measures taken for enabling night schools to be opened under the arrangements of Yangon Division MCWA. Next, tenth standard student from the night school, Maung Ko Ko Aung who sat for the matriculation examination of 2003-2004 academic year expressed his thanks. Next, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife and Dr Hla Myint respectively presented certificates of honour and souvenirs to a total of 31 teachers. After the ceremony, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife and party viewed documentary photos on activities of Ahlon Township MCWA displayed at township hall. — 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

Seminar on Promotion of National Education launched

YANGON, 16 May—The opening of the Seminar on Promotion of National Education (Mandalay) (2004) took place at the Education College in Mandalay yesterday morning.

It was attended by Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for Education U Than Aung, Mandalay City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein, local authorities, officials and members of social organizations.

The commander said that the government is pursuing the National Education Promotion Plan step by step to ensure an education system that contributes towards development of the nation and the people, to enable the students to catch up with international level science and technology, to polish and elevate national character, traditions, culture and customs, and to bring about a constant studying society. Respective departmental officials, education staff and teachers are to play the main role in

reviewing steps and tasks of the national education promotion plan and discussing future tasks, he said. The special four-year national education promotion plan launched in 2000-2001 academic year has been completed successfully this year, and the exhibition to mark accomplishment of the four-year national education promotion plan has been opened starting yesterday, he said.

Teacher-centred teaching method has been turned into interactive teaching system and there have emerged multimedia teaching classrooms, learning centres and resource centres, resulting in betterment of education sector and narrowing down the gap of opportunity to pursue education between urban and rural areas, he said. The minister also delivered a speech. The commander and the minister cordially greeted those present and inspected laboratory equipment that the Education Planning and Training Department distributed to basic education schools in 2002-2004 academic years. The seminar continues till 18 May. — MNA

Commander, Ministers meet industrialists in Sagaing, Mandalay Divisions

YANGON, 16 May—The meeting to coordinate development of industrial zones was held in the town hall in Monywa, Sagaing Division, yesterday morning.

Present were Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Committee Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Monywa Industrial Zone in-charge Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Joint-Secretary Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, chairmen of Sagaing, Shwebo and Monywa Industrial Zones and members of the industrial zone management committees.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister U Aung Thaung said that year 2004/2005 was designated as Industrial Sector Development Year. As such, industrial entrepreneurs are urged to participate with might and



The commander and ministers inspect Win Thuza shop in Monywa. — MNA

main in development of the industrial sector. Only then will it be possible to develop the industrial sector and the sector develop.

Since the industrial zones were established beginning 1995, the number has increased to 19. Industrial management committee members and industrialists are not to be satisfied with the ordinary development and they should expedite momentum of development. The industrial management committee members and industrial entrepreneurs, on their part, are to cooperate to build factories. In so doing, they are required to carry out construction meeting set standard for timely completion. At the same time, they should train the employees to become skilled workers.

Next, Minister Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe and Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw gave instructions on active participation in development of the industrial sector. The industrialists from Sagaing, Shwebo and Monywa industrial zones reported on their sectors.

The commander also instructed to realize the goodwill of the government and actively participate in development of the zones.

Afterwards, the ministers inspected Win Thuza Shop in Monywa.

The commander and the ministers proceeded to Monywa Industrial Zone and inspected manufacturing of trailers of cycle, four-wheel mini-tractors and tractors.

On arrival at Monywa Industrial Zone Heavy Factory Construction Project, the commander and the ministers gave instructions on growing of toddy-palms, tamarind trees, rain trees and Thitseint trees (Belleric myrobalan) in the environs of the project site.

In the afternoon, Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister U Aung Thaung and Deputy Minister Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw met the chairman and members of industrial zone management committee and industrialists at Kanaung Hall in Pyigyidagun Township Industrial Zone. Minister U Aung Thaung said that as the plan was laid

down to upgrade Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi (Ayethaya) industrial zones out of all industrial zones in line with the guidance of the Head of State, industrial entrepreneurs, on their part, are to actively take part in implementation of the plan as soon as possible.

Chairman of Mandalay District Peace and Development Council Chairman of Industrial Zone Supervisory Committee Lt-Col Maung Maung reported on progress of the zone. Those present reported on requirements and Minister U Aung Thaung attended to the needs. The commander said that the government encourages development of the industrial zones. As such, the entrepreneurs are to cooperate for materialization of the factory project as soon as possible. Later, they inspected sites for building the foundry, press machine, forge, heat treatment plant and machine shop.

On 16 May morning, Minister U Aung Thaung met factory managers of Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions at Kanaung Hall of Mandalay Brewery. — MNA

Bomb explodes at Iraq army recruiting centre

KARBALA, 16 May—American troops fought militiamen loyal to radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr on Saturday in the southern city of Karbala, but the city of Najaf was relatively quiet following intense clashes a day earlier.

Guerillas fired a mortar round at an Iraqi army recruiting centre in the northern city of Mosul, killing four people and injuring 19, hospital officials said. The shell landed in a crowd of people who were waiting to sign up for the military. Guerillas have previously targeted police and army recruitment centres in an effort to undermine Iraqi involvement in the

US-led coalition.

The US military announced the deaths of five soldiers: three from wounds suffered in rebel attacks on Friday, one in a vehicle accident and one from "natural causes."

On Saturday, an explosion was heard near the headquarters of the US-led coalition in Baghdad. Sirens wailed briefly. There was no report of casualties.

South of Baghdad, a soldier died from injuries received during a mortar attack on Friday, and another soldier died on the same day in a sniper ambush. Near Balad, north of Baghdad, a soldier died and another was injured in a car bomb attack on a military convoy.

Early Friday, a military vehicle overturned during a patrol south of Baghdad, killing a soldier. A fifth

soldier died of natural causes Friday in the capital, the military said.

As of Friday, 14 May, 775 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.

Also Saturday, fighting ebbed in the southern city of Nasiriyah, where gunmen believed loyal to al-Sadr had attacked the local coalition headquarters. Two Filipino guards suffered shrapnel wounds. Shooting lasted all night until early morning around the coalition building, where some international staffers and four Italian journalists were trapped inside, said coalition spokesman Andrea Angeli, who was among those in the building. — *Internet*

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Iraqis jubilate as they display destroyed US Army equipment in the holy city of Najaf, Iraq, on 14 May, 2004 after American tanks charged into the centre of this holy city and shelled positions held by fighters loyal to a radical cleric who launched an uprising against the US-led coalition last month. — INTERNET

Iraqi newspaper urges Rumsfeld to resign

BAGHDAD, 16 May—A major Iraqi newspaper urged US Defence Minister Donald H Rumsfeld to resign in an editorial Saturday, joining the international outcry for him to step down over the Abu Ghraib prisoner abuse scandal.

It also cited a meeting he held with Saddam Hussein in the 1980s when he served in the administration of former President Ronald Reagan.

"Rumsfeld, known for his past links with Saddam should have announced his resignation in Baghdad to satisfy the poor Iraqi people,"

the newspaper *Azzaman* said in a front page editorial.

Rumsfeld paid a one-day visit to Iraq on Thursday to look into the prison scandal and boost the morale of US troops.

"He should have gone to Abu Ghraib prison to look for those deliberately hidden ... or to announce the release

of all detained in Abu Ghraib and then go to pray to get forgiveness for the abuses he inflicted on Iraqi people," the newspaper added.

Four US soldiers have been charged in the abuse and humiliation of Iraqi detainees at Abu Ghraib. The first trial is set to begin Wednesday. — *Internet*



Shiite Mehdi Army militiamen take position in the centre of Najaf, Iraq, on 14 May, 2004 as American tanks charged into the centre of this holy city. — INTERNET

Danish medics reported seeing tortured Iraqis

COPENHAGEN, 16 May — Danish Army medics in Iraq saw two prisoners at a British field hospital who had been beaten, one of them to death, the Danish Defence Ministry said on Friday.

The incident was reported to British officials in September.

Danish troops serve under British command in southern Iraq, where two unnamed medics said that last September in Basra two Iraqi prisoners were brought in with signs of having suffered "rough treatment during an unauthorized interrogation in the field by a British unit", said a ministry statement.

"According to the information, one of the Iraqis was later to die of his injuries," the ministry said. Britain and its ally the United States are struggling to contain a growing scandal over abuse of Iraqi prisoners. Danish Defence Minister Soren Gade told lo-

cal television the British military had agreed to provide information about the incident, which was reported immediately to a Danish Army lawyer back in September but was not reported to Copenhagen.

The Danish legal officer contacted British authorities and was told the incident was

already being investigated.

"Because no Danish soldiers were involved, the episode was not reported back home," said Gade, promising to find out why the report was not followed up and to keep track of the British investigation into the incident.

MNA/Reuters

Malaysia's PM says web terror sites unacceptable

KUALA LUMPUR, 16 May—Malaysia will bar companies from hosting Internet sites such as the one that carried a video of the beheading of American Nicholas Berg, Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said on Friday.

Acme Commerce Sdn Bhd, the Malaysian firm hosting the Muntada al-Ansar Islamist web site www.al-ansar.biz that originally showed the killing, pulled the site on Thursday.

"We will not allow any kind of web page or any company operating on behalf of any terrorist organization, we won't allow certainly," Abdullah told reporters. — *MNA/Reuters*

Five more GIs die in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 May—The US military reported the deaths of five soldiers on Saturday: three from wounds suffered in rebel attacks on Friday, one in a vehicle accident and one from "natural causes."

American troops fought militiamen loyal to radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr on Saturday in the southern city of Karbala, although the clashes were less intense than they had been.

The city of Najaf was reported to be relatively quiet following fierce fighting Friday around one of the Shiites' holiest shrines.

Shooting subsided in Nasiriyah after an all-night battle around coalition headquarters between Shiite militiamen and

Italian forces.

Near the southern city of Amarah, a British patrol was ambushed and a firefight erupted.

In the northern city of Mosul, guerillas fired a mortar round at an Iraqi army recruiting centre, killing four people and injuring 19, hospital officials said. The shell landed in a crowd of people who were waiting to sign up for the military. Guerillas have previously targeted police and army recruitment centres in an effort to undermine Iraqi involvement in the US-led coalition. — *Internet*

President Castro leads mass protest against Bush

HAVANA, 16 May — President Fidel Castro led hundreds of thousands of Cubans in a mass protest in Havana on Friday against new steps taken by the United States to squeeze Cuba's economy and topple its Communist government.

Workers and students wearing red shirts and soldiers and military cadets in uniform marched waving small Cuban flags along Havana's waterfront past the American diplomatic mission, shouting slogans against US President George W Bush.

"Bush, you fascist, there is no aggression that Cuba cannot resist," they chanted during the six-hour march organized by the government. It was one of its largest rallies in years.

Officials said 1.2 million people marched to repudiate what they see as US meddling. Castro denounced as "ruthless and cruel" measures adopted last week by the White House to step up support for Cuban dissidents and limit dollar remittances to Cubans and visits from their relatives in the United States. The 77-year-old Cuban

leader, wearing his trademark military fatigues and cap, walked one mile, at times leaning on a marcher.

"You have no right whatsoever, except for that of brute force, to intervene in Cuba's affairs...and proclaim the transition from one system to another and take measures to make this happen," Castro said in a speech. Castro said Bush had no moral authority to speak of freedom, democracy and human rights in Cuba when his election to the White House was a "fraud" and US troops were killing Iraqis.

"The unbelievable torture applied to prisoners in Iraq has rendered the world speechless," Castro said.

Castro's younger brother and designated political successor, Raul Castro, marched in uniform at the head of a contingent of Cuban army generals and officers.

In a move criticized as pandering to Cuban voters in Florida, Bush decided to limit visits by Cuban Americans to relatives in Cuba to one every three years and restrict their cash remittances to immediate family members. He also prohibited sending money to government officials and members of the ruling Communist Party.

Experts believe the new US sanctions will barely dent the flow of an estimated 800 million US dollars a year to Cuba, a vital injection of cash for Cuba's battered socialist economy.

Cuban authorities, however, suspended sales of all but food and toiletries in dollar shops on Monday, warning of price increases and tough times ahead, as they seized on the issue to bash Bush's policies and rally support.

MNA/Reuters

Sistani aide asks US forces, militia to quit Najaf

DUBAI, 16 May — An aide to top Shiite cleric Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani called on Friday on US forces and militiamen of cleric Moqtada al-Sadr to cease fighting and leave the holy Iraqi city of Najaf.

Ayatollah Mohammad Baqer al-Mohri, Kuwait-based aide to Sistani, said the fighting was spreading fast and he feared for holy sites and for Sistani's life.

"The fighting is getting closer to the house of the Grand Ayatollah. We fear that his life will be in dan-

ger," he told *Reuters* by telephone.

"We ask the coalition forces and (Sadr's) Mehdi militia to quit the holy city Najaf," he said. He urged US forces not to violate the sanctities of Najaf or damage its shrines and cemetery where religious clerics were

buried.

US forces intensified their war against Sadr on Friday, sending tanks into Najaf's vast cemetery to blast guerilla positions among its ancient tombs for the first time.

Explosions and gunfire rocked the city, with much

of the fighting apparently around the main police station, less than a mile from some of the holiest Shiite shrines.

Mohri said most of Sadr's men were not from Najaf and they should leave. He said US forces wanted to arrest or kill Sadr, whose offices he said were close to Sistani's house.

"We heard reports that Imam Ali's shrine was violated and this breached all red lines," he added.

US commanders have said they will try not to encroach on holy sites, including the Imam Ali shrine where Sadr has taken sanctuary. But they said this week the "illegal militia" must be disbanded and their patience was wearing thin after more than a month of fighting across southern Iraq.

MNA/Reuters

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200 peacefully protest Iraq war

SEATTLE, 16 May—More than 200 demonstrators gathered peacefully in downtown Seattle Friday to protest the Iraq war.

May Mineissi, a fourth- and fifth-grade teacher at the School of Seattle in the Central District, said she had always been against the war. "There's no real reason for us to have gone in in the first place," she said.

But the recent disclosure of photos showing the degradation and torture of Iraqis at Abu Ghraib prison outside Baghdad caused a physical reaction, said Mineissi, 24, the daughter of Egyptian immigrants.

"Honestly, when I saw them, I had to turn away," she said. "I couldn't eat or do anything else for the rest of the day." They carried signs such as "The Iraqi Children Cry Too For Peace" and "How Many Lives Per Gallon?"

Some motorists honked their car horns in support. No jeers could be heard.

The peace movement in Seattle had lost some traction after the beginning of the Iraq war, some inside the group have claimed. But this rally, and other recent events, could be indicators that the movement is gaining some renewed momentum. — Internet

Former British detainees tell Bush of Guantanamo abuse

LONDON, 16 May—Two Britons freed from the US military base in Guantanamo Bay have told President George W Bush that they suffered abuse similar to that inflicted on Iraqi prisoners at the Abu Ghraib prison, the British *Guardian* newspaper reported Friday.

In an open letter to Bush, Shafiq Rasul and Asif Iqbal accused US military officials of deliberately mis-

leading the public about procedures at Guantanamo, where about 600 detainees are held without trial, the paper said.

Rasul and Iqbal, who were freed in March after being arrested in Afghanistan and held without charge for more than two years, alleged in the letter that heavy-handed treatment was systematic.

"From the moment of our

arrival in Guantanamo Bay, we were deliberately humiliated and degraded by methods we now read US officials denying," the paper quoted the letter as saying.

According to the report, Iqbal and Rasul have issued repeated allegations of abuse at the camp since their release in March. But their previous claims were dismissed by the US Embassy in London. — MNA/Xinhua

Official says Iraq abuse hurt MP's reputation

FORT LEONARD WOOD, 16 May—The reputation of the Army's military police has been "sullied" because of abuses at Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison, but core standards have not changed, the Army's top military police trainer said Friday.

Brig Gen Steve Curry, who runs the MP school at Fort Leonard Wood, insisted those standards include the humane and respectful treatment of prisoners — a message repeated throughout the day as the Army post opened to reporters to watch training for Iraq-bound MPs.

About 180 privates are currently in their 14th week of a 17-week military police training programme.

Internet

South Korean demonstrators oppose troop dispatch to Iraq

SEOUL, 16 May—Opposition to a government decision to send troops to Iraq flared here as South Korean President Roh Moo-Hyun returned to office to face the sensitive issue.

Don't send our boys in harm's way for an unjust war," read a banner as some 200 people, including human rights activists and leftist

students, chanted slogans opposed to the planned troop deployment outside the US embassy in central Seoul Saturday. They urged the government to resist US pressure and reject "the humiliation" of sending troops to the war-torn country.

Hundreds of riot police with shields surrounded the protesters to bar their way to the heavily guarded US diplomatic compound.

The protest lasted an hour before the protesters broke up peacefully. There were no arrests or injuries.

An opinion poll by the independent *Hankyoreh* daily indicated that reported mistreatment of Iraqi prisoners by US troops had stoked opposition to South Korea's decision to send more than 3,000 troops to Iraq.

The survey published Saturday showed 64 percent of respondents believe the government should call off the troops dispatch, up from 52 percent a month earlier.

The percentage of those who believe the government should abide by its commitment to sending the troops fell to 30 percent from 39 percent.

Roh, suspended from office for two months, was reinstated Friday after the Constitutional Court rejected a parliamentary vote to impeach him.

Internet



A Shiite Iraqi raises his gun as hundreds of others shout anti-US slogans in the Sadr City district in Baghdad, Iraq, on 14 May, 2004. — INTERNET

Shiite fighters attack coalition Hqs in Iraqi town

BAGHDAD, 16 May — Shiite militiamen attacked the office of the US-led civilian administration in the southern Iraqi town of Nassiriya on Friday, firing at least five rocket-propelled grenades, an official in the building said.

Andrea Angeli, spokesman for the coalition in Nassiriya, said Italian troops and Filipino security guards traded fire with the militiamen, who had earlier occupied the governor's office in the town, 235 miles southeast of Baghdad.

He said he was among about 20 international staff trapped inside the building, along with four Italian reporters. He had no information on any casualties.

Italian troops are responsible for security in Nassiriya, where there have been sporadic clashes with militiamen loyal to

rebel cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, who launched an uprising against occupying troops last month. Angeli said the battle erupted around 7 pm (1500 GMT) and was still going on more than an hour later.

Earlier on Friday, groups of militiamen, some carrying rocket-propelled grenades, stormed the governor's offices in the centre of Nassiriya and took it over.

Others gathered around the main bridge over the Euphrates in the centre of the town and outside a nearby police station in small pick-up trucks. — MNA/Reuters

Philippine workers quit Iraq over security fears

MANILA, 16 May — About 600 Filipinos working at a US military camp in Iraq have quit their jobs after one of their countrymen was killed in a mortar attack, a Philippine official said on Friday.

"There is a paralysis of work in Balad because of fear, and they (Filipinos) refuse to work after the incident," the official from the Foreign Affairs Department, who requested not to be identified, told reporters.

The Philippines — a stalwart ally of Washington — has confirmed a Filipino civilian was killed in the at-

tack on the US military camp at Balad, north of Baghdad, on Tuesday night.

The US military said five were also wounded. It did not specify their nationalities.

An estimated 3,000 Filipinos are working as civilian contractors in Iraq, including about 1,360 at the Camp Anaconda in Balad.

The workers who left their jobs would be flown into the United Arab Emirates by their employer, Prime Projects Inc, and will be repatriated to Manila, the Philippine official said. Repatriation expenses will be deducted from the workers' salaries, the official said.

MNA/Reuters



A South Korean protester holds an image showing US soldiers' abusing Iraqi prisoners at a rally against the US-led war in Iraq in Seoul, on 14 May, 2004. — INTERNET

Italy condemns prisoner abuses in Iraq

ROME, 16 May — The Italian Government issued a statement on Friday condemning the abuses against Iraqi prisoners committed by American forces and stressing that it had been unaware of the mistreatment until the scandal exploded.

The statement, issued after a Cabinet meeting, said the government "severely condemned" the abuse episodes and wanted to see the perpetrators "justly punished".

"The Cabinet indignantly rejects accusations of co-responsibility or reticence with regard to these shameful and despicable acts," it said.

It underscored that the abuses had been committed by members of the Armed Forces of "other countries in the coalition".

The statement ended by expressing support for the almost 3,000 Italian troops currently serving in Iraq.

The centre-right government, a staunch ally of US President George W Bush, has repeatedly rejected Italian opposition parties' accusations that it must have known about the prisoner abuses.

Italian Defence Minister Antonio Martino told the Lower House on Wednesday that the Italian Government knew nothing of the abuse, adding that: "If it had, it would have taken appropriate steps against its allies."

The minister also denied that the International Red Cross had given the Italian

Government a report on the abuses.

Accusations that the government was aware of the abuses have been fuelled in the past few days by allegations that Italian troops serving in southern Iraq knew about the mistreatment of prisoners, at least those being detained in Iraqi-run jails.

MNA/Xinhua

Western allies press US to give Iraqis real power

WASHINGTON, 16 May — Major powers challenged the United States on Friday to transfer real power to Baghdad at the June 30 handover of sovereignty by giving Iraqis authority to control their security forces and influence US military decisions.

France, which last year blocked UN approval of the US invasion, said Washington must give up control over local forces and Italy, a US ally with troops in Iraq, said a new government must have a say over American troop tactics. In a nod to Iraqi authority, Secretary of State Colin Powell said the United States would withdraw its troops if the interim government made such an unlikely demand.—MNA/Reuters

Spain's Parliament backs Iraq troop withdrawal

MADRID, 16 May — Spain's Parliament backed the Socialist Party's decision to withdraw Spanish troops from Iraq in a vote on Thursday.

All parties, except former Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar's Popular Party (PP), backed the Socialists' move, which was their first major policy decision after their upset victory in a general election in March.

The PP government firmly backed the US-led invasion of Iraq and contributed to the coalition by sending 1,300 troops for humanitarian tasks despite widespread popular opposition to the war.

In Thursday's vote, the 141 PP lawmakers

opposed the move, while the Socialists of Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero and all the other smaller parties — totalling 186 votes — voted in favour.

Defence Minister Jose Bono said on Wednesday that the Spanish withdrawal was happening faster than expected and could be complete next week, Spanish newspapers reported. That would be ahead of the May 27 date the government had set.

MNA/Reuters

782 US military killed in the Iraq war

BAGHDAD, 16 May — Guerillas and US troops battled across Iraq as talk of Shiite peace moves competed with sounds of mortars and gunfire in Najaf, the stronghold of Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr and his Mehdi Army militia.

The death count over the last 24 hours was high for guerillas: 21 in the Baghdad area, 16 near Amarah, and four in Karbala, where coalition troops and the Mehdi militia have been fighting for the last four days, coalition officials said Saturday.

In the northern city of Mosul, a mortar or a rocket-propelled grenade struck a line of Iraqi civilians lined up outside an army recruitment center, killing four recruits and wounding 15 others.

Five US soldiers have died in the past 24 hours — three in separate attacks Friday, one in a vehicle accident shortly after midnight, and another from natural causes, according to coalition news releases issued Saturday. The deaths brought to 782 the number of US forces killed in the Iraq war, 643 of them since President Bush declared the end of major hostilities on 1 May, 2003.—Internet



An armed Iraqi fighter takes up position in the centre of Karbala, 110km south of Baghdad, Iraq, on 13 May, 2004. — INTERNET

သားငါးပွဲပြီး ပြန်အကျိုး

Kerry says people ran amok in Iraqi abuse scandal

WASHINGTON, 16 May — Democratic challenger John Kerry said on Friday images of abuse at a US-run Iraqi prison showed "people run amok" and accused President George W Bush of alienating US allies with "stiff-arm" tactics.

Despite what he called the depraved pictures of violence and sexual humiliation at the Abu Ghraib Prison, Kerry said the Bush Administration probably would be better off releasing them to the public and taking responsibility rather than having them leak out in "drips and drabs".

The senator from Massa-

chusetts, who made a special trip to Capitol Hill for a private viewing, blamed lack of training, the rapid deployment of troops in jobs for which they were unprepared and failure to apply the Geneva Conventions for creating the climate for abuse.

"What those pictures told me was that these were a group

of people run amok," Kerry said.

Kerry, a decorated Vietnam War veteran, said he learned in survival training to quote the Geneva Conventions and that "it sure helps to have other people who believe that it is important to live up to them."

MNA/Reuters

Turkmen party official killed in Iraq

ISTANBUL, 16 May — Gunmen shot dead a senior party member from the Turkmen minority in northern Iraq on Friday when they opened fire on his convoy, Turkey's state-run Anatolian news agency said.

The agency said Mustafa Kemal Yayıci, the Iraqi Turkmen Front's representative in the city

of Kirkuk, and his driver were killed in the attack on Friday morning in the town of Tuz Khurmato near Kirkuk.

Anatolian said there was a report that US soldiers had opened fire on the convoy. Yayıci was the party's candidate for the post of mayor in Kirkuk in municipal elections last year.

Kirkuk, which sits on some of Iraq's richest oil reserves, is divided between Arabs, Kurds and Turkmen who all lay claim to the city.

MNA/Reuters



A US Marine, from the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, takes a low position after hearing nearby gunfire in Kandari, Iraq, on 13 May, 2004. — INTERNET

Experts worry about indoor air pollution in developing countries

TIJANIN, 16 May — Statistics show that indoor air pollution has doubled over the past 15 years in surveyed cases in some developing countries and regions like China and India, according to a visiting Danish environmental expert.

Each day about 5,000 people die of indoor air pollution, P Ole Fanger, an expert from the Technical University of Denmark, said here Thursday at an ongoing international seminar on architecture and urban environment.

Some 30 environmental experts attended discussions on "green" or environmentally friendly architecture involving issues like indoor environment and urban environment. They came from over 10 Chinese and foreign universities including those of Denmark, Japan, South Korea and the United States.

Fanger said that in many developing countries and regions, indoor environment has become worse because of polluting gases arising from cooking, toilet use and furniture which are posing serious threats to human health. Moreover, modern buildings

have become more tightly closed for the purpose of energy efficiency, which therefore reduces ventilation.

He added that poisonous gases may leak from upholstery materials, modern office equipment and home electrical appliances, leading to the worsening of indoor pollution.

People who inhale the gases may feel dizzy, fatigued and weary and thus become less efficient in work.

A person spends about 90 per cent of his or her life indoors and is subject to a large amount of unclean gas.

Zhu Neng, an environmental expert of Tianjin University, suggested people be conscientious and active to increase ventilation, the best way to improve indoor environment.

MNA/Xinhua

Polluted drinking water poisons Iraqis

BAGHDAD, 15 May — More than 300 Iraqis in Mada'in, one of the southern districts of Baghdad, were poisoned by polluted drinking water, said Azzaman newspaper Thursday. During the past few months, many cases of poisoning took place because of the polluted drinking water, which resulted from people throwing poisonous wastes in the drainage and rivers, said the local newspaper.

"The drinking water that we use in our houses from the river of Diyala is full of polluted materials from the sewage and the industrial wastes," said Hameed Hussam, chairman of the municipality of the city. He added international organizations are distributing drinking water to the residents of the area, and the mosques used the loudspeakers to urge people not to use regular water tabs for drinking. Many of the Iraqi cities, especially the southern ones, are suffering the problem of polluted drinking water, which led to the spread of some epidemics, especially among children.

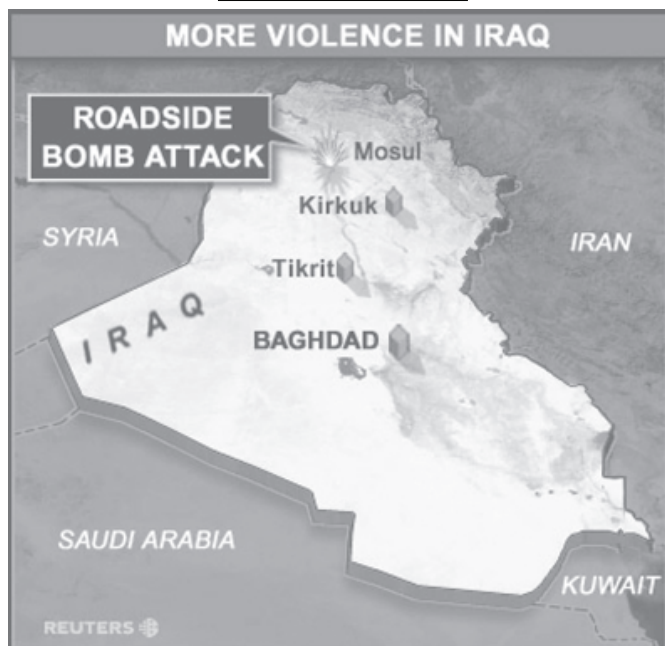
MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi man tries to extinguish a burning barricade at the entrance to the suburb of Sadr City, Baghdad, Iraq, on 15 May, 2004.



Iraqi men are seen through a bullet hole as they survey damaged shops, in the centre of the city of Najaf, on 15 May, 2004.



A map showing roadside bombings in the northern Iraq city of Mosul on 7 May, 2004.



Civilians rush a wounded Iraqi man into a local hospital in the holy city of Najaf on 14 May 2004.

Images of Iraq



Iraqi civilians flee as sporadic clashes erupted between militiamen loyal to wanted cleric Moqtada Sadr and US forces in the city of Najaf, south of Baghdad, on 15 May, 2004.



An Iraqi man who was wounded in mortar attack which killed four people is treated at the hospital in Mosul, on 15 May, 2004.



Iraqi firefighters battle a burning storage depot following a mortar attack in the Abu Ghraib suburb of Baghdad, on 15 May, 2004.

Border and rural area developments



Water supply in rural areas		
Sr	State/Division	Projectimplemented
1.	Sagaing Division	1166
2.	Magway Division	750
3.	Mandalay Division	2268

Water is being supplied to the villagers through tubewell in Nyaungbinkan Village, NyaungU Township, Mandalay Division.



To disseminate knowledge to the rural public, TV retransmission station was built in Konggyan region of Shan State (North).

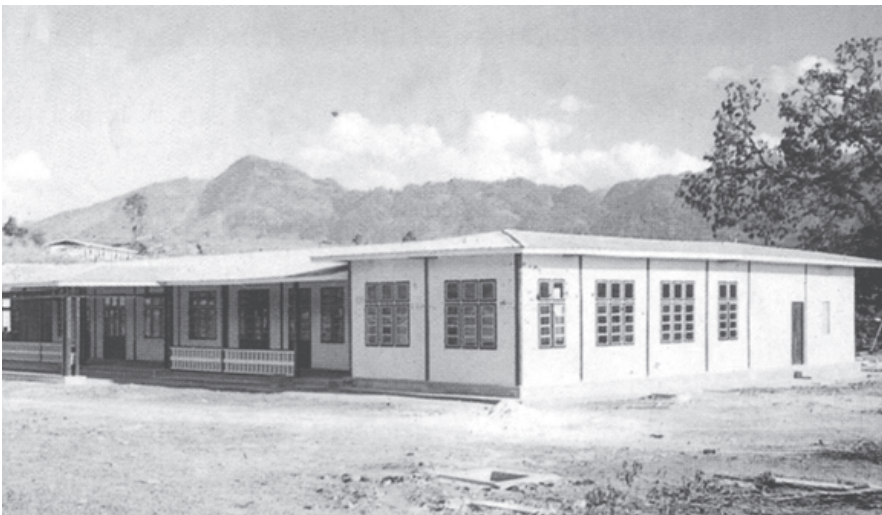
Communication in border areas		
Sr	Subject	Total
1.	Retransmission Station	97
2.	Post Office	47
3.	Telephone Station	80



A post office built in Alon Station of Monywa District for the convenience of local people.



Traditional Medical Centre built in Myaung, Sagaing Division to provide health care services to local people.



Health care services in border areas

Sr	Subject	Total
1.	Station Health Centre	82
2.	Rural Health Centre	29
3.	Rural Health Branch	40

Local national people living in Kokang region, Shan State (North) are provided health care services at Chinshwehaw Hospital.

Paying serious attention on development of rural areas and national races

by T. Htut

Nowadays, emphasis is being laid on ensuring equitable development of all parts of the Union with a view to further cementing national solidarity. The State is making earnest efforts 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.

Shweli Hydro-electric Power Project is being implemented on Shweli River near Mantet Village, 17 miles south-west of Namhkam Township, Shan State (North). The 531-foot long and 154 feet high concrete gravity dam and 33-foot diameter and 850 feet long tunnel with 33-foot diameter and 3.12 miles long tunnel with 23-foot diameter will be built.



The Shweli hydro-electric power project site in Namhkam Township, Shan State (North).

With the generation capacity of 400 megawatts and it will generate 3,022 kilowatt hours a year.

The electricity generated from the project will be supplied to Shan State (North) through 66-kv high-tension cables. A grid including

230-mile long double high-tension cable line from Shweli to Mandalay will be built to supply power to other regions.

The Shweli hydel power project is one of the instances showing the Government's serious attention

to the development of national races in border areas.

At the same time, the State is giving priority to the implementation of rural development tasks — ensuring smooth and secure transportation in rural areas; enabling rural people to obtain clean water; enhancing education standard of rural people; stepping up health care facilities of rural people and bringing about economic development of rural people.

Apart from other rural development endeavours, low-cost rural housing projects are being implemented in accordance with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe.

With the gaining of momentum in endeavours for developing the national races and rural people, the nation will prosper certainly.



Director-General Col Myo Myint inspects low-cost housing project in Sansu village, Chauk Township, Magway Division, recently.

Rural development facilities inaugurated

YANGON, 16 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 gravel road leading to the Government Technological College in Meiktila Township, Mandalay Division on 14 May morning. The road is 4656 feet long and 12 feet wide.

Next, the director-general inspected sinking of tubewells by the Township Development Affairs Committee in outskirts of Meiktila.

The director-general first attended the opening ceremony of a tubewell in Kyigon village. The 2-inch tubewell is 210 feet deep and it can supply 1500 gallons of water per hour. Now, 355 people of 65 households in

the village are having sufficient clean water. The director-general next inspected the sinking of tubewell in Aungtha village. It is being sunk to the depth of 200 feet and at completion, 702 people of 240 households in the village can have sufficient water.

The director-general next inspected sinking of tubewell in Chanthagyi village. The tubewell gets water at the depth of 215 feet. Now the tubewell with the capacity of supplying 1,200 gallons of water per hour is providing water to 340 people of 59 households in the village. Col Myo Myint also inspected sinking of tubewell in Talingon village. The tubewell there with the capacity of 1,200 gallons per hour is 210 feet deep and it is providing water to 102 people of 21 households in the village. — MNA



The opening ceremony of the gravel road leading to Meiktila GTC, 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

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

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်တတ်သော စိတ်ရောဂါများမှာ —

၁။ ကယောင်ကတမ်းဖြစ်ခြင်း (Delirium Tremors)၊

ကြောက်လန့်ခြင်း၊ အချိန်၊ နာရီ၊ နေရာ၊ လူ၊ ဓန့်မှန်နိုင်စွမ်း မရှိခြင်း၊ ကြောက်စရာလန့်စရာများမြင်ရခြင်း၊ အသံဗဟများ ကြားရခြင်း၊ ဝိဇ္ဇာများနွှော့ကိုင်ပေါ် ရွတ်ရသံသွားသလိုခံစားရခြင်း၊ လက်တုန်ရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း။

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

၃။ အတက်ကြွရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Rum Fits)

(ဝက်ချဖြစ်ရောဂါကဲ့သို့တတ်ခြင်း)။

၄။ စိတ်ဓာတ်ကျရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း

(Depressive Illness)။

၅။ စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Psychosis)။

၆။ ဦးနှောက်ချို့ယွင်းခြင်း။

၇။ အရက်နှင့်မတည့်သောသူများသည် အရက်အနည်းငယ်သောက်

ရခြင်း ချတ်တရက် စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်တတ်ခြင်း (Pathological Drunkenness)။

၈။ မိမိ၏ဇနီးကို အထင်အမြင်လွဲမှားခြင်းများ ဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း

(Morbid Jealousy)။

၉။ အရက်ကြောင့် ရာဇဝတ်မှုကျူးလွန်သည့်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်ခြင်း။

အထက်ပါဆိုကျိုးများကို မခံစားရစေရန် အရက်သောက်

သုံးခြင်း၊ အထူးသဖြင့် အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ အရက်ကို

စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းတို့မှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ရန် တိုက်တွန်းအပ်ပါသည်။

အရက်စွဲရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားပါက စိတ်ကျန်းမာရေးဆေးရုံနှင့် ကုသရေး

ဌာနများတွင် စနစ်တကျကုသမှုခံယူရန် အသိပေးနူးဆော်

အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects renovation of Maha Pasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hill.— MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects renovation of Maha Pasana Cave

YANGON, 16 May — Accompanied by officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt arrived at Maha Pasana Cave on Thiri Mingalar Kabaaye Hill here this morning where they were welcomed by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Ministers, the Yangon

mayor, Deputy ministers and officials.

First, the Prime Minister and party paid homage to Sitagu International Buddhist Academy Chancellor International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University Honorary Professor Agga Maha Pandita Maha Dhamma Kahtika Bahujana Hitadara Bhaddanta Dr Nanissara.

Next, Sitagu Sayadaw Bhaddanta Nanissara explained

World Buddhist Summits held earlier. The Prime Minister, the chairman of sub-committee and officials supplied on arrangements for holding of the Fourth World Buddhist Summit in Myanmar. The Sayadaw delivered the Ovadakatha. The Prime Minister then inspected renovation of Maha Pasana Cave and gave necessary instructions. — MNA

Prime Minister urges ...

(from page 16)

Major cities including Yangon have greatly developed in a short time. Now there are modern buildings, religious edifices such as pagodas, stupas, monasteries and public rest-houses, modern condominiums, world-class management or business centres, departmental stores, banks, hotels and service apartments, garden cities comprising golf course of international standard, and modern buildings in all sectors. Therefore, the Union of Myanmar can now stand as a modern, developed nation in the international arena.

He said the government made efforts for national development in good time due to the active participation of national forces architects, intellectuals and intelligentsia, departmental officials, national entrepreneurs, social organizations.

He said efficiency of architects and engineers plays a vital role in urban development and building of urban structures and uplift of quality of life of the people.

The architects are builders of magnificent urban structures of high quality with the application of advanced technology. Architecture also plays a crucial role in emergence of safe high-rise buildings of international standard, he said.

In the time of the Tatmadaw, mushrooming high-rise buildings have emerged and it is encouraging to note that these facilities were built by national architects, engineers, construction entrepreneurs and experts on self-reliance basis but without any foreign aids, he said.

In accord with the government's concept that it is necessary for constructing high-rise and modern buildings systematically in an attempt to upgrade Yangon to a world-class

city, measures are being made to enable Yangon City to possess characteristics of international level cities after forming the City Housing Project Supervisory Committee made up of high-ranking officials, he said.

Now, under the supervision of the committee, national construction entrepreneurs, architects and engineers including departments, and Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Association, Myanmar Engineering Society and Myanmar Architects Association are participating individually or in groups in tasks for upgrading of Yangon City, he noted.

The Supervisory Committee for Construction of High-rise Buildings is providing necessary assistance to systematize in implementing the city housing projects, to meet set standard and to ensure fine and strong facilities, he said.

At such an opportune time, the seminar "Tall Buildings: A Challenge for Myanmar Architects & Engineers", part of technological development task of Myanmar Architects Association, will contribute much towards emergence of mushrooming high-rise buildings and skyscrapers in the nation, he said.

The BOC College launched in 1954 had been teaching architecture to the students, and 2004 is its golden jubilee, he said. The successful holding of this seminar is endowed with full national essence for it will help national architects and engineers build modern sky-high buildings as activities to mark its golden jubilee in order to set a milestone in Myanmar architecture, he said.

Architecture has been prominent in the nation since the beginning of Myanmar's cultural history. So, today's architects are still amazed with the beautiful architecture of the time of King Anawrahta, founder of the First Myanmar Empire, such as Buddha images, pagodas, stupas, monaster-

ies and lakes, he said.

It is crystal clear that Myanmar architecture is in the fore if compared with those of other nations, he said.

He spoke of the need to revitalize high standard of Myanmar architecture and idea which existed long, long ago and to promote it with the combination of modern architecture.

Owing to science and technology and urban development today, emphasis is being placed on supply of needs on quality in building of high-rise structures of international level. Moreover, architecture has significantly developed today. He spoke of the need for the architects to improve in the field with the nationalist spirit.

He said he believed that fruitful results will ensue from the seminar. Making full use of these results, all architects and engineers are to make concerted efforts for realizing the goals of the State, he said.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister wished for the seminar to realize the objectives and urged the architects and engineers to work for national development.

Next, Myanmar Architects Association General Secretary U Hsan Oo submitted the paper on Design Consideration & Importance of Team Work.

After the ceremony, Chairman of City Housing Project Supervisory Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspected the scale model of Cyber Tower to be built in the compound of MICT Park and construction materials.

At today's seminar, resource persons submitted their papers on Tall Buildings in the Context of Urban Development, the Role of Architecture in Seismic Design, Basic Mechanical & Electrical Considerations for Tall Buildings and Existing High Rise Building Projects in Yangon. MNA

Prime Minister addresses...

(from page 1)

the four nations including development of production, seeking market for products, promotion of agricultural and industrial sector, ensuing mutual interest between development of one nation and development of the remaining nations.

Myanmar, on its part, has been taking necessary measures relating to resolutions and agreements of the summit meeting.

Myanmar and Thai are neighbours sharing long border and strengthening friendly ties. The two nations are meeting with success in cooperating in development sector and humanitarian tasks, while striving for development of economic, trade, production, agriculture, tourism and communications sectors. At a time when progress has been made in Myanmar-Thai cooperation it is required to accelerate cooperation in accord with resolutions and agreements of the summit meeting.

Moreover, steps are being taken for cooperation between the two nations for ensuring the emergence of heavy industries and industrial zones under industrial cooperation between Myanmar and Thailand.

In the meantime, arrangements are being made for cooperation in implementing development infrastructures including transportation.

Therefore, at a time when progress has been made in cooperation in all aspects between the two nations those present are to discuss matters related to promoting and implementing cooperation which serves mutual interest, he said.

Next, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung reported on measures taken sector-wise after laying down programmes on Myanmar-Thai economic cooperation under Bagan Summit Economic cooperation.

Afterwards, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung reported on holding discussions on matters related to investment in Myanmar and cooperation between the two countries in industrial sector under Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong economic cooperation strategy in meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Chavalit Youghchaiyudh, Minister of Industry Mr Phinij Jurusombat and Chairman of Investment Board Mr Sonphong Wanapha of Thailand and businessmen during his visit to Thailand from 3 to 7 March 2004.

This was followed by a general rounds of discussions.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.—MNA

Industry-2 Minister inspects factories, workshops in Padaung

YANGON, 16 May— Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin went to No 1 Agricultural Equipment Factory (Hsinde) in Padaung Township on 14 May morning.

The minister inspected manufacturing and assembling of KND5B diesel engines, 12-inch pumps and Ayeyaya-1 power-tillers. Next, the minister also inspected completion of the generator workshop and the electric meter workshop.

On 15 May morning, the minister arrived at No 2 Automobile Factory (Htonbo) in Padaung Township. He met supervisors and explained annual boosting of production of the ministry, functions of the factory for 2004-2005 financial year, target and production.

Next, the minister inspected manufacturing of DS-70 diesel engines to be installed in TE-21 trucks and gave necessary instructions.— MNA

Nursery Market Festival continues

YANGON, 16 May — The Nursery Market Festival continued at Myay Padetha Park in Bahan Township here today with the aim of providing necessary assistance to growers and attracting the public to be interested in agriculture, horticulture, livestock breeding and vegetable farming. — MNA

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

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects construction tasks in Pathein, attends opening of Bio-technology Development Centre

YANGON, 16 May — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and members, arrived at the poultry farm of the command and the chicken distribution camp yesterday morning after attending the stake-driving ceremony for building Myinkaseik (Pannawady) Bridge in Pathein. At the briefing hall, farm in charge Lt-Col Tin Myo Tint reported on kinds and number of chickens being bred at the farm, running of hatchery and distribution of chickens. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave necessary instructions and inspected the farm and hatchery. Then, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party headed for Pathein University and attended the ceremony to open Bio-technol-



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than formally unveils the stone inscription of the Bio-technology Development Centre. — MNA

ogy Development Centre and to hand over the building. Also present at the ceremony were Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing, senior military officers, members of division, district and township PDCs, the rector, the pro-rector and professors of Pathein University, Director Dr Katsuhiko-Ando of the National Institute of Technology and Evaluation and guests.

First, Rector U Cho

explained the purpose of opening of the centre. Ayeyashwewa Co Chairman U Teza, the donor of the centre building, handed over documents related to the building to Director-General of the Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) U Saw Lwin. Dr of Katsuhiko-Ando gave an honorary speech and presented a gift to the rector.

Afterwards, Director General U Saw Lwin spoke

words of thanks, and the first session of the ceremony ended. At the second session, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than formally unveiled the signboard of the Bio-technology Development Centre. Then, the commander, the director general and the rector formally opened the centre by cutting a ribbon. To hail the opening of the centre, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than planted a *Gangaw* tree. Lt-

Gen Khin Maung Than and party then viewed round the centre. After that, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to the project site for the construction of Pathein Bridge being implemented by Public Works, the Ministry of Construction. At the briefing hall, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports by officials on progress in construction of the bridge and construction of the embankment with the

use of gravel and gave necessary instructions. Then, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party viewed the construction of the road linking between Kanni and Chaungtha by car. They went to Kayukchaungyi Bridge construction project and left instructions. Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party visited Sulamani Pagoda and Lawka Nanda Aungdawmu Pagoda in Kanni Village. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects development of Myaungmya District

YANGON, 17 May — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental officials, left here by car on 14 May morning.

On arrival at Pandine Village in Htantabin Township, they were welcomed by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and officials.

Accompanied by the commander and party, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than proceeded to Bo Myat Tun Bridge in Nyaungdon Township. In the briefing hall, officials reported on maintenance of the bridge and prevention of bank erosion. The commander gave a supplementary report. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected measures being taken for prevention of bank erosion at the bridge. Next, they went to the site of 1,000-acre of fish breeding project being carried out by South-West Command in Mogok-Deedok area in Mogok Village between Einme and Pantanaw Townships. Lt-Col Tin Myo Tint reported on digging of 250 acres of fish ponds, breeding of fish and building of the ice factory. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than attended to the requirements and inspected completion of digging 250-acre of fish ponds. The 1,000-acre of fish breeding project will be implemented within three years. A total of 250 acres will be dug in the first year, another 250 in the second year and 500 in the third. Digging of 250 acres of ponds was completed on 30 April. At Mayangnu Bridge across Thayetkon Creek on Einme-Myaungmya Road, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on building of the bridge by officials. The bridge will be 240 feet long and 24 feet wide and it is of reinforced concrete. In Kwingale Village, they heard reports on building of Gyogon Bridge on Einme Creek and choosing of the axis by officials. At Naungyoe Hall in Myaungmya, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met departmental officials and social organization members. Chairman of Myaungmya District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyi Htut Win briefed him on geographical condition, education, health, economic matters, construction works and agriculture and livestock breeding. The commander gave a supplementary report. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than instructed them. At the local battalion in Myaungmya, he met officers, other ranks and families. He also inspected durability of Myaungmya suspension bridge and then left for Pathein. — MNA

Commander inspects tax-free markets

YANGON, 16 May — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, accompanied by military region commanders and officials inspected tax-free markets here this morning.

The commander and party inspected the shops of ministries, YCDC, Yangon Command and companies in Pantaya, Hanthawady, Konmyinthta, Nawaday, Yankin and Tamway tax-free markets. Next, the commander gave necessary instructions and fulfilled the needs of dealers and purchasers. — MNA

Labour Minister back from Brunei Darussalam

YANGON, 16 May — The Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Labour U Tin Winn arrived back here by air this evening after attending the 18th ASEAN Labour Ministers' Meeting in Brunei Darussalam.

The minister and party were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Minister at the Prime Minister's Office U Than Shwe, Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Deputy Minister for Labour Brig-Gen Win Sein, departmental officials of the ministry and families. Members of the delegation, Director-General U Soe Nyunt of the Labour Department, Adviser U Aye Ngwe and Assistant Director U Kyaw Kyaw also arrived back here on the same flight. — MNA

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspects progress of building Kholan-Wamhsin-Mongnaung-Mongshu Road

YANGON, 16 May — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence met officers, other ranks and families of the local battalion in Wamhsin Village, Mongnaung, Shan State (South), on 12 May morning. Accompanied by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and officials, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspected building of Kholan-Wamhsin-Mongnaung-Mongshu Road between mile posts 20 and 21. Construction in-charge Col Tha Aung and Senior Engineer U Myint Thet reported on work done.

At mile post 18 on the road, Col Tha Aung reported on quarry and building works. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe fulfilled the requirements. Next, Col Tha Aung and officials briefed him on production of gravel and building of the road.

The commander reported on building of Kholan-Wamhsin-Mongnaung-Mongshu Road, arrangements for production of gravel, use of heavy machinery, fuel and tar, plan to build 46-mile Laikha-Mongnaung Road and 27-mile Pakhi-Mongpok Road, progress of 16-mile Keshi-Namhpok Road and requirements. After giving necessary instructions, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe attended to their needs. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo tours Palaw, Myeik

YANGON, 16 May — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, together with Chairman of the Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, on 13 May morning inspected Dawei-Myeik Road and communication station and staff quarters in Palaw Township.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met with departmental staff, social organizations and townsenders at the township hall. At the meeting, officials concerned reported on agriculture tasks in the region. After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Maung Bo urged the departmental officials to cooperate with local people in implementing the transportation, education and health tasks. He also attended to the needs.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected building of Bokechan-Daw-Myeik new bypass and Papyin Bridge on Dawei-Myeik Road. At the briefing hall of the bypass construction project near Daw Village, an official concerned reported on building tasks. Next, Commander Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and Deputy Chief Engineer U Ye Myint Swe and Superintending Engineer U Chit Pan gave a supplementary report.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo yesterday attended the ceremony to enshrine religious objects into the reliquary and erect pivot of the Maha Theikdhizaya Pagoda built on Sandawut Hill in Myeik.

It was also attended by Commander Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein and senior military officers, and local people. At the ceremony, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and officials presented religious objects and offertories to the Sayadaws and Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maharahtaguru Abhidhaja Aggamaha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Kumara delivered a sermon and shared merits gained. At the auspicious time, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the commander and the minister enshrined the religious objects into the middle reliquary and erected the pivot.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party offered *soon* (day meal) to the members of the Sangha. Later, cash donation ceremony was followed. At the ceremony, wellwishers donated cash amounted to K 59,824,677 through Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein. — MNA

World Telecommunication Day (17 May 2004) ICTs: Leading the way to sustainable development

Message from Mr Yoshio Utsumi, Secretary-General of
International Telecommunication Union

It is often said that if you don't like the way the world is, you should change it. Fortunately, many of the things we do not like about our world — poverty, ignorance, hunger — could all be changed through better communications. This belief was shared by the 11,000 delegates, including nearly 50 Heads of State and Government and 80 ministers and vice-ministers who attended the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in Geneva last December.

The Summit was organized by ITU to ensure that social and economic development, which is increasingly driven by information and communication technologies (ICT), will result in a more just, prosperous and equitable world. It is this promise that lies at the heart of our information society and it is the reason we have chosen to celebrate the 139th anniversary of the founding of ITU with the theme ICTs: Leading the way to sustainable development.

Reliable and affordable communications can be used effectively as part of the toolbox for addressing global problems. ICTs alone may not feed the hungry, eradicate poverty or reduce child mortality, but they are an increasingly important catalyst that spurs economic growth and social equity. ICTs allow for more efficient agricultural production, diversity and distribution. They offer the possibility of delivering basic health services to those in dire need living in areas with little or no access to healthcare facilities. They can extend the reach of educators allowing them to bring knowledge to the most remote corners of our planet.

Access to information technology can boost the creation of small companies and groupings of artisans in the poorest and most isolated areas of the world and help them join the mainstream of national and even global markets. Information technology makes it possible to leapfrog poor infrastructures so that distance from markets is no longer a drawback and poor distribution channels a thing of the past.

ICTs can also be extremely effective in improving governance. They give a voice to people who have been isolated, or have been invisible and silent, allowing them to speak out regardless of their gender and where they live.

Given their enormous power to improve people's economic, social and cultural well-being, ICTs must be at the centre of any development strategy.

The global commitment of world leaders at the Summit is no doubt a historical recognition of the importance of ICTs in addressing many of the major social, political and economical problems. But the successful outcome of the first phase of the Summit is only the start of a long process. We now need to transform the vision and plans adopted in Geneva into concrete action. And above all, we need to enlist the long-term commitment of all stakeholders to ensure that ICTs truly lead the way to sustainable development.—MNA

ပျားရည်နှင့်အစွမ်းသတ္တိ

- ပျားရည်သည် အင်အားမြှင့်တင်ပေးရာတွင် အသန့်စင်ဆုံး အာဟာရဓာတ်မျိုးဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်တွင် သတ္တုဓာတ်၊ အင်ဇိုင်းနှင့်အာဟာရဓာတ် အများအပြား ပါဝင်ပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်သည် သစ်သီး၊ သကြားဓာတ် အဓိကပါဝင်သော သကြားဓာတ်ပေါင်းတစ်မျိုး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်တွင် ဘက်တီးရီးယားပိုးများ သန့်စင်ပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်တွင် ပဋိဇီဝစွမ်းရည်သတ္တိပါရှိသဖြင့် အနာရောဂါများ အနာကျက်မြန်စေပြီး လျင်မြန်စွာပျောက်ကင်းစေပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်ဓာတ်သည် ငြိမ်မိန့်ပိုင်းအတွင်း စွမ်းအားကို တက်လာစေနိုင်ပါသည်။

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည့်ရောဂါများ

- အရက်ကိုလွန်ကျွံစွာနှင့် စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သောရောဂါများမှာ အသည်းရောင်ခြင်း၊ အသည်းခြောက်ခြင်း၊ သွေးအန်ဒြိုင်း၊ အစာအိမ်ရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ နှလုံးရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ ဦးနှောက်နှင့်အာရုံကြောထိခိုက်ခြင်း၊ စိတ်ရောဂါများဖြစ်ခြင်း စသည်တို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်တတ်သော စိတ်ရောဂါများမှာ -
- ၁။ ကယောင်ကတမ်းဖြစ်ခြင်း (Delirium Tremors)၊ ခြောက်လန့်ခြင်း၊ အချိန်၊ နာရီ၊ နေရာ၊ လူ ခန့်မှန်းနိုင်စွမ်း မရှိခြင်း၊ ကြောက်စရာလန့်စရာများမြင်ရခြင်း၊ အသံဗလံများ ကြားရခြင်း၊ ပိုးမွှားများခန္ဓာကိုယ်ပေါ် ရွံစိမ့်သွားသလိုခံစားရခြင်း၊ လက်တုန်ရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း။
 - ၂။ အရက်အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သည့်အခါတွင် လူမရှိဘဲ နားထဲတွင် ခေါ်သံများ၊ ခြိမ်းခြောက်သံများ၊ ဖော်ကားဖော်ကားသံများ ကြားနေရတတ်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Hallucinations)။
 - ၃။ အတက်ကြီးရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Rum Fits) (ဝက်ရူးမြန်ရောဂါကဲ့သို့တတ်ခြင်း)။
 - ၄။ စိတ်ဓာတ်ကျရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Depressive Illness)။
 - ၅။ စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Psychosis)။
 - ၆။ ဦးနှောက်ချို့ယွင်းခြင်း။
 - ၇။ အရက်နှင့်မတည့်သောသူများသည် အရက်အနည်းငယ်သောက်ရုံဖြင့် ရုတ်တရက် စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်တတ်ခြင်း (Pathological Drunkenness)။
 - ၈။ မိမိ၏ဇနီးကို အထင်အမြင်လွဲမှားခြင်းများ ဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Morbid Jealousy)။
 - ၉။ အရက်ကြောင့် ရာဇဝတ်မှုကျူးလွန်သည်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်ခြင်း။ အထက်ပါဆိုကျိုးများကို မခံစားရစေရန် အရက်သောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ အထူးသဖြင့် အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ အရက်ကို စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းတို့မှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ရန် တိုက်တွန်းအပ်ပါသည်။ အရက်စွဲရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားပါက စိတ်ကျန်းမာရေးဆေးရုံနှင့် ကုသရေးဌာနများတွင် စနစ်တကျကုသမှုခံယူရန် အသိပေးနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

ASEAN+3 agree to further financial, monetary cooperation, structural reforms

JEJU (South Korea), 16 May — Finance ministers from the ASEAN+3 countries held their 7th meeting here Saturday and agreed to further promote financial and monetary cooperation and structural reforms in the region.

The ministers from the 10-member Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and China, Japan and South Korea agreed that growth was supported by accommodative monetary and fiscal policies in many countries, which contributed to further strengthening in domestic demand.

In a joint statement, the ministers, who are here attending the annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank, noted that continued efforts to accelerate corporate and financial restructuring, fiscal consolidation and improved investment climate have also led to a more conducive economic environment.

In this regard, the ASEAN+3 countries have contributed positively as an additional source of growth to global economic recovery, the statement said. The ministers agreed to undertake further review of the Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI) to explore ways of enhancing its effectiveness.

Under the CMI, a total of 16 Bilateral Swap Arrangements worth 36.5 billion US dollars have been signed among the members in the region as of April 2004.

They said six groups

have made substantial progress under the Asian Bond Market Initiative (ABMI).

Such efforts will contribute significantly to the development of deeper and more liquid regional bond markets that will assist in the efficient allocation of the large pool of savings in Asia to fund productive investment in the region, the statement said.

The ministers also stressed the important role of information exchange in the development of regional bond market. As one of the measures to promote this, the Asia Bond Online Website was officially launched immediately after the ministers' meeting.

The ministers welcomed China's offer to continue with training courses and seminars on the regional economy and financial cooperation, as well as the technical assistance provided by the Japan-ASEAN Financial Technical Assistance Fund for participating members and the assistance by South Korea and Malaysia in the area. The ministers agreed to hold further discussions on further regional financial cooperation in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2005.

MNA/Xinhua

သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

ခရီးသည်တင်စေတံတော်ယာဉ်များအား မြို့တွင်းသို့ နေ့/ည ခရီးသည်ပို့ဆောင်နိုင်ရေးအတွက် သတိပေးချက်အရ အညီစက်သုံးဆီ ထုတ်ပေးထားပြီးဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ယာဉ်စီးများအားလည်း သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ထားရာအတွင်းတောင်ခရိုင်၊ ညွှန်ကြားထားရှိပါသည်။ သို့ရာတွင် အချို့ယာဉ်လိုင်းများမှ ယာဉ်မောင်းနှင့် ယာဉ်နောက်လိုက်တို့သည် ယာဉ်စီးများကို ညပိုင်းတွင် ပို့ဆောင်ယူနေကြောင်း သိရပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ပို့ဆောင်ခံပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူနိုင်ရန် အောက်ပါနံပါတ်များသို့ တိုင်ကြားနိုင်ပါသည်။

(၁) မြန်မာနိုင်ငံရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့၊ ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း (ဖုန်း ၁၉၉)

(၂) ကြိုမဲကြေးနန်းနှင့်ယာဉ်ထိန်းတပ်ဖွဲ့ချုပ် (ဖုန်း ၂၅၁၅၅/၂၅၁၅၆)

(၃) မော်တော်ယာဉ်လုပ်ငန်းပေါင်းစုံအဖွဲ့သိမ်းချက်မတ်မတ် (ဖုန်း ၅၄၁၉၀၅/၅၄၁၉၀၆)

ယာဉ်စီးကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

AIDS ရောဂါပညာပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

AIDS ရောဂါကူးစက်စေသောနည်းလမ်းများ

AIDS ရောဂါသည် HIV ဗိုင်းရပ်(စ်)ပိုးကူးစက်မှုကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည်။

AIDS ရောဂါကူးစက်စေသောနည်းလမ်းများမှာ

- * ရောဂါပိုးရှိသူနှင့်လိင်ဆက်ဆံခြင်း
- * မသန်ရှင်သောဆေးထိုးအိမ်ဆေးထိုး ပြွန်များကိုမျှဝေသုံးစွဲခြင်း
- * HIV ဗိုင်းရပ်(စ်)ပိုးသွေးနှင့်သွေးပစ္စည်းများကိုမျှဝေသုံးစွဲခြင်း
- * ရောဂါပိုးရှိသောကွယ်လွန်ဆောင်မိခင်မှသန္ဓေသားသို့ကူးစက်ခြင်းတို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

HIV ဗိုင်းရပ်(စ်)ပိုးကူးစက်မှုအခြေခံပုံစံအဖြစ် မသိနိုင်သောကြောင့် ရောဂါကူးစက်မှုမခံရအောင် အစဉ်အမြဲသတိရှိပါ။

AIDS ရောဂါမကူးစက်နိုင်သောနည်းလမ်းများ

AIDS ရောဂါမကူးစက်နိုင်သောနည်းလမ်းများမှာ

- ချောင်းဆိုးနာရီချွေးခြင်း
- သာမန်ထိတွေ့မှုများဖြစ်သော လက်ဆွဲနှုတ်ဆက်ခြင်း၊ ဖက်ခြင်း၊ အရေပြားချင်း ထိတွေ့ခြင်း
- ပန်းကန်ခွက်၊ နှစ်ဖက်၊ အိမ်သား၊ တံခါးလက်ကိုင်၊ ထိုင်ခုံတို့ကိုအတူတူသုံးစွဲခြင်းတို့ကြောင့် မကူးစက်နိုင်ပါ။
- AIDS ရောဂါသည်တစ်ဦးမှတစ်ဦးသို့သာမန်အားဖြင့်လွယ်ကူစွာမကူးစက်နိုင်သဖြင့် AIDS ဝေဒနာရှင်များကိုပေးသောသွေးခြင်းမပြုဘဲ ကြင်နာစွာ ပြုစုဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။

AIDS ရောဂါကာကွယ်ရန်နည်းလမ်းများ

AIDS ရောဂါကာကွယ်ရန်ဆေးနှင့် ပျောက်ကင်းအောင်ကုသရန် ဆေးမပေါ်သေးပါ။ ထို့ကြောင့် မိမိတို့၏အပြုအမူကိုဆင်ခြင်ခြင်းသည်သာ အကောင်းဆုံးကာကွယ်နည်းဖြစ်သည်။

AIDS ရောဂါမကူးစက်စေရန်အတွက်

- လိင်အပျော်အပါးလိင်စားခြင်းကိုရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။ မရှောင်နိုင်ပါက အကာအကွယ်ကုန်သုံးစွဲ စနစ်တကျအသုံးပြုပါ။
- အိမ်ထောင်ရှိသူများ တစ်လင်တစ်မယားစနစ် ကျင့်သုံးပြီး မိမိအိမ်ထောင်ဖက်အချင်းချင်း အပြန်အလှန်သစ္စာရှိပါ။
- မှူးစပ်ဆေးဝါးကိုလုံးဝမသုံးစွဲပါနှင့်။
- ဆေးထိုးရန်လိုအပ်ပါက တစ်ခါသုံးဆေးထိုးအပ်ကိုသာအသုံးပြုပါ။

AIDS ရောဂါကြုံတွေ့သူများအားပြုစုဆောင်ရွက်ရေး

- HIV ဗိုင်းရပ်(စ်)ပိုးကူးစက်ရသူများသည် အကျင့်တရားစွဲ ဖျက်ယှဉ်သူများ မဟုတ်သောကြောင့် ဝေဒနာရှင်များအား နှိမ့်ချဆက်ဆံခြင်း မပြုလုပ်ဘဲ နှစ်သိမ့်ကူညီအားပေးပါ။
- AIDS ရောဂါကြုံတွေ့သူများကို ကြည်ဖြူစွာနားလည်ကူညီမှုသာ ဝေဒနာရှင်များ၏ သဘာဝပုံစံဖြစ်ပြီး သူတို့၏ ကိုယ်စွမ်း ဉာဏ်စွမ်းများကို အသုံးပြုနိုင်ကာ လူလောကအားအကျိုးပြုရင်း အဓိပ္ပာယ်ရှိရှိ နေထိုင်သွားနိုင်မည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Toxic red tide spreads off East China

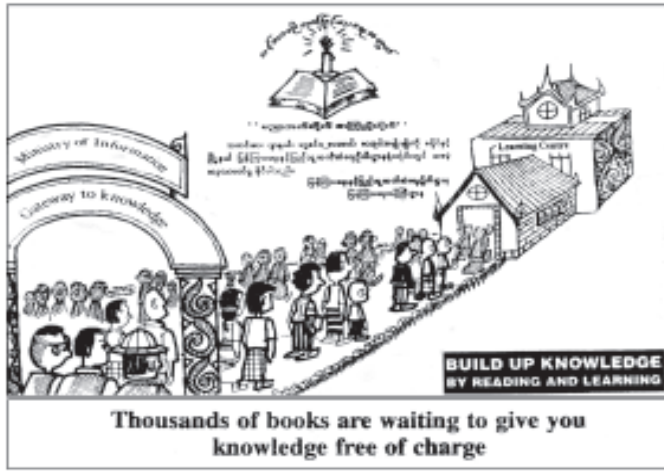
BEIJING, 16 May — A toxic red tide has blanketed the equivalent of more than 1.3 million soccer fields of sea off eastern China, threatening marine and human life, state media said on Saturday.

The tide is caused by plankton reproducing itself in large quantities due to nutrients provided in part by sewage and industrial waste.

The Vice-Minister at the State Environmental Protection Administration, Pan Yue, warned people about eating fish from the area off Zhoushan in Zhejiang Province, the *China Daily* said. "It might cause damage to humans because the red tide contains paralyzing toxins," he said.

"The phenomenon, though colourful in appearance, is very dangerous because it can lead to the death of aquatic life and therefore cause damage to the fishing industry."

MNA/Reuters



ADVERTISEMENTS

ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော် ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

ရက်စွဲ ၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ် မေလ ၁၃ ရက်

ချိတ်ပိတ်စျေးနှုန်းလွှာများအသိပေးခြင်း

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ၏ လုပ်ငန်းသုံးအတွက် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါပစ္စည်းများကို ဌာနအရောက် ကျပ်ငွေဖြင့်ပေးချေဝယ်ယူရန် ချိတ်ပိတ်စျေးနှုန်းလွှာများ ဖိတ်ခေါ်ပါသည်။

စဉ်	ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအမည်	အရေအတွက်
၁	Myanmar Convention Centre အတွက် Sound System & Stage Lighting System များ	1 Lot
၂	သံချောင်းလုံးများ	၄၂-၅၅ တန်
၃	ကံကျောက်	၆၅၀ ကျင်း
၄	ထိုး	၁၀၀၀ အိတ်

ချိတ်ပိတ်စျေးနှုန်းလွှာများကို ၂၀-၅-၂၀၀၄ ရက်နေ့ (၁၆:၀၀)နာရီအချိန် နောက်ဆုံးထား၍ တင်သွင်းရန်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အသေးစိတ်သိရှိလိုပါက ဘတ်ဂျက်နှင့်ငွေစာရင်းဌာန၊ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးဌာနမှ ဖုန်းအမှတ် - ၂၀၂၅၄၇၂ ၂၄၈၁၂ လိုင်းခွဲ(၂၃၅)သို့ ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ဆက်သွယ်မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

စက်ပစ္စည်းများဝယ်ယူရန်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ မြန်မာ့ဆေးဝါးနှင့်အိမ်သုံးပစ္စည်းလုပ်ငန်း ကြီးကြပ်မှုအတွင်းရှိ စိမ်းပြာ ရေညှိဆေးဝါးထုတ်လုပ်ရေးစက်ရုံ၊ ပလတ်စတစ်စက်ရုံများနှင့် အလှူကုန် ပစ္စည်းစက်ရုံတို့အတွက် လိုအပ်သောစက်ပစ္စည်းများကို မြန်မာ့ကုမ္ပဏီဌာနမှ ဝယ်ယူလိုပါသည်။

၂။ တင်ဒါအသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို အောက်ပါလိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက်ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။
မြန်မာ့ဆေးဝါးနှင့်အိမ်သုံးပစ္စည်းလုပ်ငန်း
အမှတ် (၁) စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန
၁၉၂၊ ကမ္ဘာ့အေးဘုရားလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
ဖုန်း - ၅၆၆၂၀၊ ၅၆၆၅၀

Germans hope for gold rush after nugget find

BERLIN, 16 May— Thousands of Germans are expected to descend on the eastern region of Thuringia this summer after pensioner Heinz Martin chanced upon a gold nugget in a stream.

Martin, 64, spotted a glinting object in water near the town of Katzhütte, 220 miles south of Berlin, while he was out for a walk. It proved to be the biggest gold find in Germany for 200 years — a 9.64-gram (1/3-ounce) nugget with a collector's value of 1,500 euros (1,770 US dollars).

The news spread across Germany, aided by hordes of TV crews who have converged on the former gold-mining area.

Tourism officials are confidently predicting the media invasion will be followed by a gold rush and say hotel bookings are picking up.

Hundreds of fortune-hunters pan the region's streams each year and Martin's nugget should draw more.

Martin plans to keep the nugget, the size of a smallish coin, but will let a local museum exhibit it temporarily.

Commercial gold mining in Thuringia was abandoned at the end of the 17th Century because the depletion of gold resources made extraction too expensive. Serious fortune-seekers then turned their sights on Africa and America.

MNA/Reuters

EC to provide \$150m for Bangladesh education

DHAKA, 16 May — The European Commission (EC) will provide 150 million US dollars in grant to the Bangladesh Government to support its Second Primary Education Development Programme. The EC and Bangladesh signed a contract in this regard here Thursday, *The Financial Express* reported Friday.

Bangladesh has planned to implement the programme at an estimated cost of 1.815 billion dollars to ensure quality education for the children. EC said the programme will support the government's "education for all" plans, achievement of the Millennium Development goals and its poverty reduction agenda.

The programme represents a pioneering approach to development by bringing together the Bangladesh Government and development partners under one coherent programme to create an environment for nationwide improvement in primary education, the EC said.

MNA/Xinhua

ပြည်တွင်းပြင်ကိုအားပေးပါ

ADB head says economic cooperation on move in Asia

JEJU (South Korea), 16 May — The regional cooperation and integration in Asia that have pushed the region's rapid growth in the last two decades are on a stage toward new levels, said ADB chief here Friday.

"Steps are now afoot to take economic cooperation and integration in Asia to new levels," said Tadao Chino, President of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), at the opening of the (South) Korea Day Seminar, which was part of the major events coinciding the 37th ADB Board of Governors annual meeting in Jeju, a southwestern island of South Korea.

He said, in a relatively short period of time, East Asia has launched several important initiatives to build greater resilience to external shocks.

The initiatives, including peer review and policy dialogue, reserve pooling and sharing and regional bond market development, he said, "could potentially become key instruments in ensuring sustained integration and growth in the future."

In the area of peer review and policy dialogue, the ASEAN Surveillance Process and the ASEAN+3 Informal Policy Dialogue are well established, and for the regional reserve sharing, there is the Chiang Mai Initiative, he said.

For the first time, concrete steps are being taken at the regional level to complement individual country efforts, under

ASEAN+3 (the Association of South-East Asian Nations and China, Japan and South Korea) and various other groups.

He said, under its long term strategic framework to support poverty reduction in the region, the ADB has supported various regional cooperation projects, investing in infrastructure, the exchange of information and experiences, promotion of policy dialogue, and strengthening of institutions and research capabilities.

Meanwhile, Hun-Jai Lee, South Korean Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Economy, in a key speech at the seminar said that "it is quite encouraging to see that Asian countries are making some progress in the area of financial cooperation". He noted that the Chiang Mai Initiative will help in crisis prevention and management, providing liquidity to countries experiencing a temporary shortage of foreign currency.

The development of the Asian bond market will help increase the regional investor base and mobilize regional savings, as well as reduce dependency on and vulnerability to outside capital flows, he added.

MNA/Xinhua

Bangladesh to adopt national plan for disabled

DHAKA, 16 May — The Bangladeshi Government will soon adopt a national plan for the development of disabled people, reported the official *Bangladesh News Agency* on Thursday.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia announced the decision here Thursday when attending a function for disabled people.

Speaking at the function organized by the Ministry for Social Welfare, the Prime Minister stressed the need to integrate the backward section of society with mainstream of development through special programmes.

She said while there was no national plan for the development of disabled before, the present government has formed a task force with 14 ministries for the welfare

of disabled, under which a national plan would be adopted soon.

She also said the issues of disability and disabled people are being included with importance in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper of the country.

Instead of being burden to society, the disabled people can turn into assets through adequate training and care, said the Prime Minister. She expressed her hope that the development partners would come forward for successful implementation of the programmes for them.

Mentioning about disability from acid and fire burns in the country, Zia said the government has taken a 2.5-million-US-dollar special programme in fiscal 2002-2003 for rehabilitation of acid victims.—MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam imports more Chinese steel

HANOI, 16 May— Up to 59,037 tons of Chinese finished steel were imported into Vietnam through the Chua Ve Port in northern city of Hai Phong in the last two months. The increasing amount of Chinese steel imports, which is partly due to the latest governmental decision to cut down import taxes on finished steel to zero per cent, equals to the local demand for construction steel coils in a month, local newspaper *Labour* reported on Friday.

Higher steel imports and lower demands are forcing local steel makers to scale down their production. They have planned to operate at 60 per cent of their capacity to produce nearly 850,000 tons of steel between now and the end of July, said the Vietnam Steel Association (VSA).

To deal with the situation, the VSA has proposed the government to increase import tariffs on steel products from members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to 10 per cent and those from non-ASEAN members to 20 per cent. — MNA/Xinhua

Swede in hot water for towing Russian submarine

STOCKHOLM, 16 May— A Swedish captain has landed in legal hot water, twice, for towing a Russian submarine, now used as a museum attraction.

Captain Stig Martin Sjöberg — whose surname means sea mountain — was intercepted by the Swedish Coast Guard while towing the 75-metre (250-foot) 1950s *Whiskey Class* Soviet sub in the Kalmar Strait off the east coast of Sweden.

Sjöberg, 48, ran afoul of Swedish maritime regulations which state that anything more than 70 metres long must be towed under the supervision of qualified pilot.

"The Coast Guard was on patrol and obviously when you see a tug boat towing a Russian submarine you would want to investigate it," said prosecutor Mats

Ericsson said.

In its prime the 1,005 ton diesel electric sub could dive to 200 metres, travel 14 knots submerged and had six torpedo tubes. Its sister vessel *U-137* is well known in Sweden: in 1981 she ran aground outside the Swedish naval base in Karlskrona.

The sub is now moored, awaiting sale with a 250,000 euros price tag, said ship broker Magnus Wadell.

There is, however, no happy end for Sjöberg. The Coast Guard caught him again towing the submarine — whose engines no longer function — and he will be charged a second time.

MNA/Reuters

စညာရးတြငံ ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Chinese Vice-Premier holds talks with Singaporean Deputy PM

BEIJING, 16 May — Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Yi held talks with visiting Singaporean Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong in Beijing Friday and jointly presided over the first conference of the bilateral cooperation joint committee between the two countries.

Wu said that since China and Singapore established diplomatic ties 14 years ago, heads of the two states have made unremitting efforts to maintain healthy and stable development of the bilateral relations.

Wu said the Chinese Government always attaches great importance to bilateral ties with Singapore. In 2002, heads of the two states reached important consensus on cooperation in four key areas including high technology, western development of China, overseas investment by China and talents exchanges and training.

To promote all-round cooperation between China and Singapore, the two governments established a bilateral cooperation joint committee. Wu said that China and Singapore have not only set a clear goal of bilateral cooperation, but also established an improved

mechanism to promote the cooperation.

Wu spoke highly of Singapore's becoming the first country of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to acknowledge China's market economy status.

She said China and Singapore have become important trade partners for each other. In 2003, bilateral trade between the two countries reached nearly 20 billion US dollars' worth. Wu expressed her belief that with the joint efforts of the two countries, the bilateral trade volume will surely exceed 50 billion dollars.

Wu said the Chinese side welcomes Singapore guests to participate in the development of China's old industrial bases like north-east China, and also welcomes Singapore to attend the first Sino-ASEAN fair to be held in this November in Nanning, provincial capital of south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Wu said China also welcomes Singapore to join the China-Thailand zero tariff arrangement on vegetables and fruits, which was implemented on October 1, 2003.

The Chinese side is willing to cooperate with Singa-

pore in promoting the establishment of a free trade zone between China and ASEAN, and discussing ways to realize free trade between China and Singapore.

The Singapore side is also willing to participate in China's development of the western areas and the old industrial bases like north-east China, said Lee.

He expressed the hope that the both sides will hold further discussions on modifying the bilateral agreement of avoiding dual tariff, and start negotiations on free trade between the two countries in November.

MNA/Xinhua

Study says breastfeeding cuts cardiovascular risk

LONDON, 16 May—Breastfeeding reduces the risk of a heart attack or stroke later in life and could prevent hundreds of thousands of deaths each year, researchers said on Friday.

Babies who are breastfed suffer fewer childhood infections and allergies and are less prone to obesity. British scientists have now shown that breastfeeding and slow growth in the first weeks and months of life has a protective effect against cardiovascular disease.

"Diets that promote more rapid growth put babies at risk many years later in terms of raising their blood pressure, raising their cholesterol and increasing their tendency to diabetes and obesity — the four main risk factors for stroke and heart attack," said Professor Alan Lucas of the Institute of Child Health in London.

"Our evidence suggests that the reason why breastfed

babies do better is because they grow more slowly in the early weeks."

Lucas said the effects of breastfeeding on blood pressure and cholesterol later in life are greater than anything adults can do to control the risk factors for cardiovascular disease, other than taking drugs. "My provisional estimate suggests that hundreds of thousands of deaths in the Western world could be prevented by breastfeeding," he said in an interview.

"Obviously more could be prevented if the uptake in breastfeeding was even higher."

An estimated 17 million people die of cardiovascular disease, particularly heart attack and strokes, each year,

according to the World Health Organization.

Lucas and his colleagues compared the health of 216 teenagers who as babies had either been breastfed or given different nutritional baby formulas. They reported their findings in *The Lancet* medical journal. The teenagers who had been breastfed had a 14-per-cent lower ratio of bad to good cholesterol and lower concentrations of a protein that is a marker for cardiovascular disease risk.

The researchers also found that, regardless of the child's weight at birth, the faster the infants grew in the early weeks and months of life, the greater their later risk of heart disease and stroke.

MNA/Reuters

Philippine Q1 farm output records highest growth in 15 years

MANILA, 16 May—The Philippines agricultural output recorded a 8.2-per-cent year-on-year growth in the first quarter, the highest rate in 15 years due to the government's efforts to increase food production and improve farm productivity.

The total value of agricultural production in the first quarter increased 13.8 per cent year-on-year to 192 billion pesos (3.43 billion US dollars), more than double the 6.7-per-cent growth a year earlier, the Philippine Government said Friday.

Philippine Agriculture Secretary Luis Lorenzo said the growth in the farm and fishery sectors was achieved despite the dry weather in the period. "We are now seeing the fruits of the various programmes we have put in place to increase production and productivity ... With the sector's consistent growth during the past three years, we have been able to extricate ourselves from the boom-and-bust cycle that characterized our agriculture sector in the past,"

Lorenzo said.

All sub-sectors recorded improvement, with fisheries posting the highest growth rate of 20.94 per cent largely due to a surge in aquaculture output, particularly in seaweed production in the southern island of Mindanao.

The crops sub-sector, accounting for half of the total farm production value, posted an output rise of 6.22 per cent year-on-year due to increased production of unmilled rice and corn, while poultry and livestock outputs grew 3.4 and 3.32 per cent, respectively.

Philippine agriculture accounts for about a fifth of the Philippine gross domestic product.

MNA/Xinhua

Audi to establish production base in Thailand

BANGKOK, 16 May— Famous German car maker Audi will use Thailand as its production base for export market in the region. Audi AG's managing director for the Asian Pacific Region Jorg Hofmann met Industry Minister Pinij Jarusombat here Thursday, stating the company's aim to invest in a Thai plant owned by its local partner, the Yontrakrit Group, the *Thai News Agency* reported Friday.

Being a luxury car unit of the Volkswagen Group, the company plans to produce 7,000-8,000 Audi A4 and A6 models per year.

Deputy Industry Minister Vachara Phanchet was quoted by the agency as saying that Audi chose Thailand to be the second production base in Asia after China due to the Thai Government's policy on turning the kingdom into "Detroit of Asia".

It hoped to be granted

tax privileges by the Board of Investment of Thailand (BOI), and to be benefitted from free trade deals signed by Thailand and other countries.

He said the top car maker would be allowed to pay only zero to five import tax under the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (AFTA) when it uses 40 per cent auto parts produced in the 10-nation group.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam imports more Chinese steel

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To deal with the situation, the VSA has proposed the government to increase import tariffs on steel products from members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to 10 per cent and those from non-ASEAN members to 20 per cent. — MNA/Xinhua

Germany builds world's largest wind generator

BERLIN, 16 May—A German company said Thursday that it had been building the world's largest wind power generator at the Elbe River town of Brunsbuettel.

Bettina Linden, spokeswoman for the RePower company, said at Hamburg's WindEnergy 2004 exhibition that the generator is the prototype for wind generators to be installed offshore. The prototype windmill will have a rotor diameter of 126 metres — longer than a football field — to drive a 5-megawatt generator, which is able to provide enough electricity for up to 6,000 households.

With three propeller blades of each 61.5 metres long, the windmill will be 183 metres tall and built of 1,300 cubic metres of concrete and 180 metric tons of steel.

The German Government has given priority to developing offshore wind generating facilities and given green light to build the first so-called windmill park off the North Sea island of Borkum.

MNA/Xinhua



A newly emerged adult cicada dries its wings on a tree in Arlington, Virginia, on 12 May, 2004. Starting this week, across much of the eastern United States, from Georgia north to southern New York and as far west as Illinois, the cicadas will emerge from their 17 years of sucking on tree roots underground to engage in a two-week orgy of calling, mating, laying eggs and then dying. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Keown to bid farewell to Arsenal against Leicester

LONDON, 16 May—Defender Martin Keown will make his final appearance for champions Arsenal against Leicester City at Highbury on Saturday. The 37-year-old will not be given a new contract after 13-year service in two spells with the London club.

"I think Martin is finished here at Arsenal as a player, but if he wants to go on and play somewhere else he can and that's what I think he will do," manager Arsene Wenger said on Friday.

"I would be prepared to offer him a coaching role in the future, but I feel he still has two years to offer someone somewhere.

"I am happy to speak highly about Martin, though. He went out and did extra training yesterday, even though he knows he will only be a sub (on Saturday) and that tells you everything about him," Wenger added. Keown, whose testimonial match is on Monday against an England XI, will come off the bench against Leicester to qualify for his fourth Premier League winners medal.

During his time with Arsenal, Keown has also won three FA Cup winners medals. He also played 43 times for England.—MNA/Reuters



Valencia's Brazilian player Ricardo Oliveira, left, heads the ball beside Villarreal's Argentinean Fabricio Coloccini and Roger Garcia during their Spanish league soccer match in Villarreal, Spain, on 14 May, 2004.

INTERNET

Ferreira, Koke sign deals with Olympique Marseille

MARSEILLE, 16 May—Brazilian defender Demetrius Ferreira and Spanish midfielder Koke have signed respectively two-year and three-year deals with Olympique Marseille, the club said on their web site on Friday.

The 30-year-old Ferreira joined Marseille during the January transfer window on a free transfer from Bastia. Koke, 21, loaned by Malaga in January, has now been sold in a 700,000-euro (826,000-US-dollar) deal.

MNA/Reuters

McClaren to assist Eriksson at Euro 2004

LONDON, 16 May—Middlesbrough manager Steve McClaren will be England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson's assistant at Euro 2004, the Football Association said on Friday.

The FA have turned to McClaren, who has carried out the role before, after Brian Kidd pulled out of the tournament because he has recently undergone surgery for prostate cancer.

"Physically I don't believe I could fully contribute to the level of coaching that will be required at the European Championship," Kidd said on the FA's web site.

"Therefore I have spoken to Sven several times and have decided that it is in the interests of everyone involved with the England team that I do not travel to Portugal."

The Euro 2004 tournament starts on June 12. McClaren was England's assistant coach from November 2000 until September 2002, helping the team to reach the quarterfinals of the 2002 World Cup in the Far East.

The FA said his appointment was with Middlesbrough's consent and was only temporary.

McClaren said: "I am greatly looking forward to joining up with England again,

although obviously I'm sorry that Brian has had to withdraw.

"It is tremendous honour to be involved with the national team, and I have always enjoyed my relationship with Sven and the rest of the coaches and players.

"Euro 2004 is a huge tournament and I know from my experience at the World Cup just how exciting it will be."

Eriksson said: "It is very good for England that we can bring in someone of Steve's calibre at this late stage.

"I know Steve very well and respect his abilities as a top-class coach, and am looking forward to working with him again."

The FA also announced that England Under-21 coach David Platt would be leaving his post after Euro 2004, where he is acting as a scout for Eriksson.

Former England captain Platt won 12 of his 26 matches as coach of the Under-21 side. The FA gave no details of his replacement.

MNA/Reuters

England supporters want Shearer at Euro 2004

LONDON, 16 May—England fans are calling for Newcastle United striker Alan Shearer to come out of international retirement and partner Michael Owen at Euro 2004, according to a survey on Friday.

The 33-year-old, who has insisted he would not go back on his decision to retire after Euro 2000, was the fans' first choice as Owen's partner with 34 per cent of the vote.

Teenage forward Wayne Rooney, who is expected to be England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson's choice, came second with over 25 per cent, followed by Alan Smith (11) and Jermain Defoe (10).

Emile Heskey, replaced by Rooney as Eriksson's preferred partner for Owen but still expected to go to Portugal, only managed fifth place with 8 per cent of the vote.

Shearer hit 30 goals in 63 appearances for England, eventually becoming captain, but also faced media criticism in the latter stages

of his international career.

His decision to focus on Newcastle has paid dividends for the club, with 22-goal Shearer lying second behind Thierry Henry of Arsenal in this season's Premier League top scorers list.

The nearest English striker in the list, aside from Owen on 15 goals, is Southampton's James Beattie with

14. Eriksson names his squad on May 17 for the tournament in Portugal, where England face holders France, Switzerland and Croatia in the group stage.

The survey was carried out by England sponsor Nationwide and polled nearly 40,000 fans using 75 official club web sites.

MNA/Reuters

FA, Premier League will not block Thai Liverpool bid

LONDON, 16 May—The English Football Association (FA) and the Premier League will not block Thailand's billionaire Prime Minister from buying a stake in Liverpool, spokesmen for the two ruling bodies said on Friday.

Thaksin Shinawatra, a former telecoms tycoon, has said his odds of winning a stake in the Premier League club are "better-than-even" after Liverpool's board rebuffed a rival bid from British businessman Steve Morgan.

"There is nothing in our regulations to prevent such a bid from going ahead," an FA spokesman said.

The Premier League, administrators of England's top-flight division, said it did not comment on speculation but a spokesman told Reuters: "The Premier League is a global phenomenon and as such we can hardly be surprised that it attracts foreign investment.

"Clubs are inextricably linked to local communities but at the other end of the scale they are listed companies and people will trade in their shares."

Thaksin is offering about 100 million US dollars for a 30-per-cent stake in the Premier League club.

"I would say it is now 51:49 in our favour. We are in a good, better-than-even position," Thaksin told reporters in Bangkok after Liverpool directors said Morgan's bid was "not attractive".

If the bid succeeded, the Thais would seek a role in the club's business, he said.

"Our proposals involve not only buying shares but

they also would benefit the club. We will not be just a silent partner," he said.

Foreign investors already hold significant stakes in some of England's biggest clubs. Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich purchased Chelsea last year and Irish racehorse owners JP McManus and John Magnier have a major holding in Manchester United.

American tycoon Malcolm Glazer, who owns NFL team the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, also has shares in the Old Trafford club.

MNA/Reuters

Wenger wants winning flourish to end season

LONDON, 16 May—Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger wants the undefeated Premier League champions to finish the season with a flourish by beating Leicester City in their final match on Saturday.

"We want to sail into history. The most important thing is to keep the (unbeaten) record going because that would really reflect how great this team has been," Wenger said on Friday.

"In recent games I think we have only done enough to ensure we did not lose, but against Leicester we want to go out and finish it with a win."

Arsenal have not lost in 37 league games this season and a win or draw against relegated Leicester will make them the first side to go through a top-flight campaign in England without defeat since Preston North End in 1888-89.

"Since claiming the championship we have eased off a little bit, but now we want to finish it in style and combine a great result with top quality," Wenger said.

"The players know what this record means and I am confident that when they arrive at the stadium and sense the festive atmosphere in the stadium they will not want to disappoint the fans and spoil their day."

MNA/Reuters

Answers for yesterday's crossword puzzle



Fenerbahce captain Umit Ozat shoots the ball past Mkalale of Malatyaspor during their Turkish Super League match at Sukru Saracoglu Stadium in Istanbul on 14 May, 2004. Fenerbahce, who lost their last game to visitors Malatyaspor 4-2, has won the Turkish soccer title in the 2003-2004 soccer season.—INTERNET

MRTV-3
**17-5-2004 (Monday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
Let's Play "Chinlone"
- 9:06 **9:10** **Headline News**
9:12 Palm Leaf Inscription
9:15 **National News**
9:20 Beautiful Taninthayi
9:25 Wararya' Dance
9:28 Tour In Myanmar
"Bago, Thanlyin"
- 9:30** **National News**
9:35 Fabulous Glassware
Decorations
9:40 Song "The Outstanding
Ones"
- 9:45** **National News**
9:50 The Splendour of Mt.
Victoria (Natmataung)
9:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

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

- 15:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 15:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 15:36 Let's Play "Chinlone"
- 15:40** **Headline News**
15:42 Palm Leaf Inscription
15:45 **National News**
15:50 Beautiful Taninthayi
15:55 Wararya' Dance
15:58 Tour In Myanmar
"Bago, Thanlyin"
- 16:00** **National News**
16:05 Fabulous Glassware
Decorations
16:10 Song "The Outstanding
Ones"
- 16:15** **National News**
16:20 The Splendour of Mt.

- 16:25 Victoria (Natmataung)
Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 16:30** **National News**
16:35 Groom Turtle
16:40 Poppy Farmers Hand
Over Poppy Seeds
- 16:45** **National News**
16:50 Myanma Natural
Spirulina (Part - I)
Saging Hill
- 16:55** **National News**
17:00 **National News**
17:05 Current Affairs
"Supermarkets"
17:10 Song "Speaking
through our eyes"
17:12 Thin Straw Pulp Paper
17:15 **National News**
17:20 Kambozathadi: Palace
of Conquerors
17:28 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

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

- 19:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 19:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 19:36 Simple and Beautiful
Rural Life
- 19:40** **Headline News**
19:42 Manufacturing of
Home furniture and
Accessories
- 19:45** **National News**
19:50 Myanmar Traditional
Tamarind Juice
Pakanthar Myin Nyo
Shin
- 20:00** **National News**
20:05 Wa Traditions & An
Engagement Cer-
emony
20:10 Song "Dear Myanmar"
20:15 **National News**
20:20 A Journey to Research
Taron Race
20:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Pleasant
Kayah"
- 20:30** **National News**
20:35 Traditional Chin Li-
queur (Khaung Yay)
20:40 Native of Pa-O Na-
tional (Kyauktalane)
20:45 **National News**
20:50 Fossilized Wood Gar-
den
20:55 Performance of King
Brahminy Bird Dance

- 21:00** **National News**
21:05 The Birth Place of
Lacquerware Techni-
cians
21:10 Song "Sagawa Flowers
Land"
21:15 **National News**
21:20 Innwa Ancient Capital
Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 21:35 Let's Play "Chinlone"
- 21:40** **Headline News**
21:42 Palm Leaf Inscription
21:45 **National News**
21:50 Beautiful Taninthayi
21:55 Wararya' Dance
21:58 Tour In Myanmar
"Bago, Thanlyin"
- 22:00** **National News**
22:05 Fabulous Glassware
Decorations
22:10 Song "The Outstanding
Ones"
- 22:15** **National News**
22:20 The Splendour of Mt.
Victoria (Natmataung)
22:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Flower Alike"
- 22:30** **National News**
22:35 Green Turtle
22:40 Poppy Farmers Hand
Over Poppy Seeds
- 22:45** **National News**
22:50 Myanma Natural
Spirulina (Part - I)
Saging Hill
- 23:00** **National News**
23:05 Current Affairs
"Supermarkets"
23:10 Song "Speaking
through our eyes"
23:12 Thin Straw Pulp Paper
23:15 **National News**
23:20 Kambozathadi: Palace
of Conquerors
23:28 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**17-5-2004 (Monday) &
18-5-2004 (Tuesday)
Evening Transmission &
Morning Transmission
(23:30 - 1:30)**

- 23:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 23:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 23:36 Let's Play "Chinlone"
- 23:40** **Headline News**

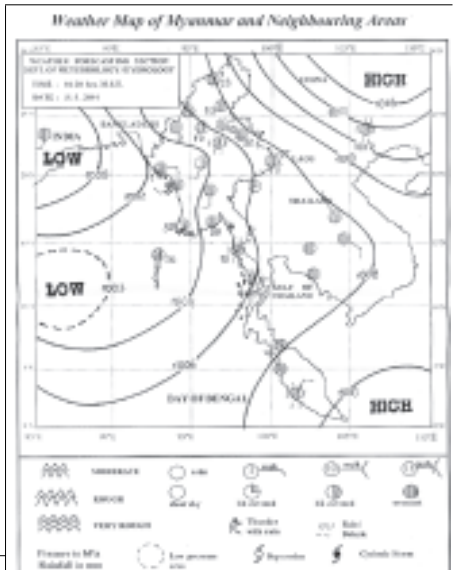
- 23:42 Palm Leaf Inscription
23:45 **National News**
23:50 Beautiful Taninthayi
23:55 Wararya' Dance
23:58 Tour In Myanmar
"Bago, Thanlyin"
- 24:00** **National News**
00:05 Fabulous Glassware
Decorations
00:10 Song "The Outstanding
Ones"
- 00:15** **National News**
00:20 The Splendour of Mt.
Victoria (Natmataung)
00:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 00:30** **National News**
00:35 Green Turtle
00:40 Poppy Farmers Hand
Over Poppy Seeds
- 00:45** **National News**
00:50 Myanma Natural
Spirulina (Part - I)
Saging Hill
- 01:00** **National News**
01:05 Current Affairs
"Supermarkets"
01:10 Song "Speaking
through our eyes"
- 01:12 Thin Straw Pulp Paper
01:15 **National News**
01:20 Kambozathadi: Palace
of Conquerors
01:28 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**18-5-2004 (Tuesday)
Morning Transmission
(03:30 - 07:30)**

- 03:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 03:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 03:36 Simple and Beautiful
Rural Life
- 03:40** **Headline News**
03:42 Manufacturing of
Home furniture and
Accessories
- 03:45** **National News**
03:50 Myanmar Traditional
Tamarind Juice
Pakanthar Myin Nyo
Shin
- 04:00** **National News**
04:05 Wa Traditions & An
Engagement Cer-
emony
04:10 Song "Dear Myanmar"
- 04:15** **National News**

- 04:20 A Journey to Research
Taron Race
04:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Pleasant
Kayah"
- 04:30** **National News**
04:35 Traditional Chin Li-
queur (Khaung Yay)
04:40 Native of Pa-O Na-
tional (Kyauktalane)
04:45 **National News**
04:50 Fossilized Wood Gar-
den
- 04:55 Performance of King
Brahminy Bird Dance
- 05:00** **National News**
05:05 The Birth Place of
Lacquerware Techni-
cians
05:10 Song "Sagawa Flowers
Land"
- 05:15** **National News**
05:20 Innwa Ancient Capital
Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 05:35 Let's Play "Chinlone"
- 05:40** **Headline News**
05:42 Palm Leaf Inscription
05:45 **National News**
05:50 Beautiful Taninthayi

- 05:55 Wararya' Dance
05:58 Tour In Myanmar
"Bago, Thanlyin"
- 06:00** **National News**
06:05 Fabulous Glassware
Decorations
06:10 Song "The Outstanding
Ones"
- 06:15** **National News**
06:20 The Splendour of Mt.
Victoria (Natmataung)
06:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Flower Alike"
- 06:30** **National News**
06:35 Green Turtle
06:40 Poppy Farmers Hand
Over Poppy Seeds
- 06:45** **National News**
06:50 Myanma Natural
Spirulina (Part - I)
Saging Hill
- 07:00** **National News**
07:05 Current Affairs
"Supermarkets"
07:10 Song "Speaking
through our eyes"
- 07:12 Thin Straw Pulp Paper
07:15 **National News**
07:20 Kambozathadi: Palace
of Conquerors
07:28 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**WEATHER**

Sunday, 16 May, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:
During the past 24 hours, southwest monsoon has advanced into the Deltaic areas, weather have been partly cloudy in Kayah State and Magway Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayin States, Mandalay Division, scattered in Shan and Rakhine States, Bago Division and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State and lower Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Kyauktaw (3.03)inches, Kanbalu (2.95)inches, Kayan (2.76)inches, Bago (2.80)inches, Patheingyi (2.27)inches and Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (1.96)inches.

Maximum temperature on 15-5-2004 was 33.0°C (91°F). Minimum temperature on 16-5-2004 was 21.0°C (70°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 16-5-2004 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 15-5-2004 was (4.1) hours approx. Rainfall on 16-5-2004 was 40mm (1.57 inches) at Yangon Airport, 50mm (1.96 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 61mm (2.40 inches) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 134 mm (5.27 inches) at Yangon Airport and 156 mm (6.14 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 166 mm (6.53 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 13 mph from southeast at (12:30) hours MST on 15-5-2004.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30)hrs M.S.T today, yesterday's low pressure area over Southeast Bay become unimportant. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the North Bay and monsoon is moderate to strong elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 17-5-2004:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah, Kayin States, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan State 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 in lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-5-2004: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-5-2004:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).


**Monday, May 17
View today:**
7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးတင်စွာဖြင့် ကျေးဇူးတင်စွာဖြင့်
အုရုရုကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံတော်
နာယကအဖွဲ့ အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊
အဘိဓမ္မဟောရသရ၊ အဘိဓမ္မဟော
သဒ္ဓမ္မတော်တော်၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မ
ဓမ္မသန္တာဂါရိတ၊ ဆရာတော်
ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိညာသာရာတော်သံဃာ
ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

- Song of national races

8:10 am

- Cute little dancers

8:20 am

- ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း မဟာမင်းလှည့်တံခွန်

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Let' go

4:00 am

- Martial song

4:15 am

- Songs to uphold

- National Spirit

4:30 am

- Practice in reading

4:45 am

- Musical programme

5:00 pm

- အဆာသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ယဉ်ကျေးမှု
ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ
- ဒုတိယပုဒ်
(သတ္တဗေဒ၊ မိတ္တူကဏ္ဍအသံပြုစုမှု)
(မိတ္တူကဏ္ဍ)

5:15 pm

- Dance variety

5:25 pm

- လတ်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေးဂီတတော်

5:35 pm

- Musical programme (The
Radio Myanmar Modern
Music Troupe)

5:50 pm

- သံကြားတော်

6:00 pm

- Songs and dance of
national races

6:10 pm

- Industrial Achievement

6:20 pm

- Discovery

6:30 pm

- Evening news

7:00 pm

- Weather report

7:05 pm

- အေးရင်းစင်စင် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား
(အေးရင်းစင်စင်)

7:20 pm

- မုန်တိုင်းရာဇဝင်ဆင်ယင်မှု

7:25 pm

- ကျေးလက်ဒေသတစ်ခုစီအထူးဆောင်ရွက်

8:00 pm

- News

- International news

- Weather report

- နိုင်ငံခြားသတင်းသုံးသပ်
"အချစ်ဆိုသည်မှာ" (အရင်း-ရင်း)

- "ဆေးလှူစာကားကားတော်ငြားက"

- ကျေးဇူး၊ ပြည်ခရီး၊ နေရာရပ်၊ ဓမ္မသု
(ခရီးကတော်-သက်တော်)

- The next day's
programme


**Monday, May 17
Tune in today:**

- 8.30 am** Brief news
8.35 am Music: Never say
never again (Steps)
8.40 am Perspectives
8.45 am Music: I wanna be
with you (Fun
Factory)
8.50 am National news/
Slogan
Music: Tarzan boy
(98)
9.00 am International news
Music: Crazy for you
(N'sync)
9.05 am News/Slogan
9.10 am Luch Time Music:
-I wanna love you
forever (Jessica
Simpson)
-Violet (Savage
Garden)
9.00 pm Spotlight on the star
"Blue"
9.15 pm Article
9.25 pm Women's affairs
- Invaluable force in
which woman folk
can rely
9.25 pm Vocal Gems/Golden
Land's Melody
-Two in a million
(S Club 7)
-When you love
someone (Bryan
Adams)
9.45 pm News/Slogan
10.00 pm PEL

Prime Minister urges architects to revitalize high standard of Myanmar architecture, to promote it in combination with modern technology

Seminar on Tall Buildings: A Challenge for Myanmar Architects and Engineers held

YANGON, 16 May — A Seminar on Tall Buildings: A Challenge for Myanmar Architects and Engineers sponsored by Myanmar Architects Association was held at Myanmar Information and Communication Technology Park in Hline Township this afternoon, with an address by City Housing Project Supervisory Committee Chairman Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Yangon mayor, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, members of City Housing Project Supervisory Committee, officials of Myanmar Architects Association, construction entrepreneurs, architects, engineers, resource persons and observers.

First, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Architects Association U Sai Yi Leik extended greetings. Next, the Prime Minister delivered a speech saying that relying on strength of intellectuals and intelligentsia, the Govern-

ment is making efforts for greater development of the Union of Myanmar in combination with the constructive superior results of changes in science and technology.

It is heartening to note that there have been better results for the nation as all the scholars from different fields are endeavouring for dissemination of science and technology, he said. It is very appropriate to hold Myanmar Architects Association-sponsored architectural seminar which is vital for national development to mark golden jubilee of the association, he said. It is true that the seminar will be useful for the nation and for development of architecture and construction tasks, he said.

Now the government is endeavouring in all sectors for development of the nation, uplift of socio-economic life of the people and improvement of social standard, he said. In so doing, the government is systematically building economic and development infrastructures such as irrigation networks, hydel power projects, major roads and bridges, international airports and international seaports. At the same time, in order that Yangon city and other cities to pos-



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt views scale model of Cyber Tower. MNA

sess the characteristics of international standard which is essential in urban development, the government is making arrangements for emergence of modern buildings, infrastructures with the standard of international management and services, modern gardens and department stores of international standard and is implementing clean, pleasant and systematic housing projects, he said.

(See page 9)

Prime Minister inspects all-round development of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and environs

YANGON, 16 May — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party arrived at the construction site of all-round development of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and its environs this morning. They were welcomed there by Chairman of Work Committee for all-round development of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and its environs and Zoological Gardens (Yangon) Chairman of

Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and officials.

First, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspected booths of Education Zone as well as construction of the aquarium.

Next, the Prime Minister inspected arrangements to be made for building of Natural View Tower, where

officials briefed him with the use of charts. Afterwards, he inspected the triple-deck waterfalls in Central Forest Zone. The Prime Minister gave instructions to officials on measures to be taken for development of Kandawgyi Gardens and its environs without delay, making inspection tours down to grass-roots level by officials at central levels in order to fulfil requirements.—MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party inspect all-round upgrading of environs of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens.—MNA

Cash and kind donated to hail National Convention

YANGON, 16 May — Hailing the National Convention, which is going to be held on 17 May, wellwishers donated cash and kind at the meeting hall of the National Convention Convening Work Committee at Nyaungnabin Camp in Hmawby Township this morning.

At the ceremony, Managing Director of Myanmar Optic Co Ltd U Soe Paing presented 2,000

leather handbags worth K 3.9 million; U Kyaw Nyunt (Kyaw Nyunt Yi) and Daw Wah Wah Kyaw K 500,000; General Manager Dr Aung Thein of Nibban Electric & Electronics 64 sets of Nibban 2-in-1 TV antennas worth K 1,032,639 and U Myat Thin Aung-Thiri Thudhama Theingi Daw Khin Myint Myint ten Star 21-inch TVs worth K1.1 million. National Convention Convening Man-

agement Committee Chairman Maj-Gen Lun Maung accepted the donations.

NCCMC Vice-Chairman Maj-Gen Than Htay, National Convention Convening Decorations Subcommittee Chairman Maj-Gen Thein Tun, Invitation and Accommodation Subcommittee Chairman Brig-Gen Myo Myint and officials also attended the ceremony.

MNA



National Convention Convening Management Committee Chairman Maj-Gen Lun Maung accepts 2,000 handbags worth K 3.9 million donated by Myanmar Optic Co Ltd Managing Director U Soe Paing.—MNA

The National Convention is the concern of all our national races.