

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XII, Number 63

2nd Waxing of First Waso 1366 ME

Friday, 18 June, 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



Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses Meeting 2/2004 of Myanmar Education Committee.— MNA

Educational progress made through harmonious cooperation between Government and people

Prime Minister addresses Meeting 2/2004 of Myanmar Education Committee

YANGON, 17 June—The Myanmar Education Committee held its meeting No 2/2004 at the Universities Central Council in Kamayut Township this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the MEC Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

It was also attended by Vice-Chairman of the MEC Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, ministers, the chairman of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, deputy ministers, members of the MEC, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads and officials.

The Prime Minister in his address said that the National Education Promotion Special Four-Year Plan launched in 2000-2001 had been implemented successfully in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State. Simultaneously, the 30-year plan is being implemented phase by phase after adopting long-term goals for promotion of the national education standard, he said.

The basic education schools have been opened

since 2 June. At the basic and higher education levels seminars are held yearly prior to the opening of the schools, scholars of the Ministry of Education discuss promotion of education. The seminars have laid down future education plans, resulting in effective implementation of educational tasks, he noted.

Consequently, the education gap between urban and rural regions and between border areas and remote regions can be narrowed down remarkably thanks to thorough implementation of the National Education Promotion Four-Year Plan and the Special Plan for Development of Border Areas. Besides, the government, in its drive for ensuring rural areas development and equitable development of all parts of the nation, has been implementing development projects with heart and soul after designating the 24 special development zones. So, the education standard of the nation including border areas, remote regions and rural areas has been raised to a high degree, he said.

During the inspection tours of the Head of State

and the State leaders, educational requirements have been fulfilled many times. Moreover, they also attended to the needs regarding the reports on education presented by local people, he added. That is why the education standard has been raised to a such degree in a short period, he said.

It can be said that active participation of those in charge of respective regions, social organizations, the people and teachers has resulted in accomplishment of the plan for ensuring enrolment of all school-age children. Organizing measures have been taken successfully to help needy children to attend classes, he said.

As to the higher education sector, more universities and colleges have been built and at the same time measures are being taken for upgrading of the education standard of teachers and study aids, he said.

On the whole, he said that heartening progress has been achieved in basic and higher education levels and in producing reliable human resources. It is a result of hearty participation of the people and wellwishers. In other words, progress has

been made in the education sector through harmonious cooperation between the State and the people. In conclusion, he called for continuous efforts for maintaining the already-achieved momentum.

Those present approved the agenda of the meeting No 1/2004 of the MEC.

Next, Minister for Education U Than Aung reported on successful implementation of the National Education Promotion Special Four-Year Plan (2000-2001 to 2003-2004), and successful exhibition on the National Education Promotion Special Four-Year Plan.

Minister U Than Aung also reported on upgrading of branch, affiliated and post-primary schools to enable all children to pursue education at basic education level. He said that arrangements will be made for upgrading of 5,917 basic education schools and appointment of 21,060 teachers within a three-year period from 2004-05 to 2006-07 academic years. A total of 4,788 post-primary schools have been opened from 2001-2002 to 2004-2005 academic year.

With regard to opening new basic education schools and upgrading schools, the

minister said 1,257 schools were upgraded during six-month period from December 2003 to 15 June 2004—40 Basic Education High Schools, 60 BEHSs. (Branch), 69 BEMSs, 26 BEMSs (Branch), 962 post-primary schools and 100 BEPSs. Nowadays, a total of 40,505 schools—1,895 BEHSs, 3,040 BEMSs, 4,788 Post-Primary Schools and 30,872 BEPSs—have been opened. Those present participated in the discussions.

Later, the Prime Minister gave instruction and made concluding remarks. °

MNA

Winners in competitions to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking announced

YANGON, 17 June—Winners in Short Story, Article, Poem, Song, Cartoon, Painting, Poster, Computer Painting/Poster and Photo Competitions to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking which falls on 26 June 2004 were announced today.

In the short story contest, U Zaw Moe Kyaw (Design Zaw Htet, Architect-Mandalay) won the

first prize, Ma Kaythi Oo (Kaythi Oo-Monywa GCC) the second and Ma May Einsai Oo (Ekari May Oo Kyaw) the third together with five consolation prize

winners.

In the article contest, U Thein Win (Muse Wong Kham) secured the first prize, Daw Hla Thein the (See page 16)

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Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects land reclamation in Bago Division (Page 16)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 18 June, 2004

Work in concert with the Government for all-round development of the nation

Although the production of paddy in Myanmar is adequate for domestic consumption, it is not sufficient enough for export. Out of the nations in Southeast Asia, Myanmar has the highest per capita consumption of rice. Therefore, it is necessary for us to try to increase per-acre yield as well as extending sown acreage to be able to export rice.

As the Kalay Region of Sagaing Division is the gateway to Chin State and it is contiguous to India, it is a strategic region for the Union of Myanmar. Moreover, having favourable conditions for agriculture, it can produce enough rice and thus surplus food needed for Chin State.

In his meeting with members of District and Township Peace and Development Councils, departmental personnel, townsenders and entrepreneurs at the Aung San Hall in Kalay, Sagaing Division, on 11 June, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that it is necessary for farmers and responsible personnel in agricultural field to cooperate with one another to increase agricultural production. It is also necessary to systematically record statistics on sown acreage and per-acre yield, he added. And he urged the farmers and all those responsible to put their energies into their work to be able to extend the sown acreage up to 2 million so that Sagaing Division will become the granary of Upper Myanmar.

Only with increased production will the economic life of the people be elevated. Therefore, township-level officials are required to go on field trips to villages and make sure that rural development tasks are systematically implemented. As a township is the most fundamental administrative level, township-level officials ought to throw themselves into the task for agricultural and rural development.

The Government has been building such infrastructures as irrigation facilities, roads and bridges, hospitals and clinics, and schools, colleges and universities for all-round development of the nation. We would like to call on the entire national people to work in concert with the Government in all the national endeavours.

Appointment of Ambassador of Israel agreed on

YANGON, 18 June — The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mrs Ruth Schatz as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Israel to the Union of Myanmar in succession to Mr Yaacov Avrahamy.

Mrs Ruth Schatz was born in 1950. She attended the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and obtained B.A degree (Middle East and Arabs Affairs). She served in the military from 1968 to 1970. She joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1974 and has served in various capacities at the Ministry and at the Israeli Embassy in Singapore and Consulate-General in Houston. She is currently serving as Minister-Counsellor in the Egypt Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

She is married and has 3 children. — MNA

Film entertainment for NC delegates

YANGON, 17 June — The Entertainment and Welfare Subcommittee of the National Convention Convening Management Committee is organizing entertainment programmes for delegates to the National Convention daily at the gymnasium of Nyaungnapin Camp. Yesterday evening, the delegates were entertained with a film entitled "Maya Yahta" (Train of tricks) starring Lwin Moe, Nanda Hlaing, Tun Eindra Bo and Kyi Le' Le' Oo.

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

Broilers breeding course opened

YANGON, 17 June — The opening of the broilers breeding course No 1 of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries jointly organized by the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department and Myanmar CP Livestock Co was held at the LBVD in Insein Township this morning. Present on the occasion were Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Deputy Minister U Aung Thein, departmental heads, General Secretary of Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation Dr Zaw Win Myat, officials of Myanmar CP Livestock Co and entrepreneurs.

The Minister delivered a speech. Vice Chairman of Myanmar CP Livestock Co Mr Nuttha Krit explained the purpose of the course. The Minister and Mr Nuttha Krit formally opened the training centre.

A total of 20 trainees from departments and enterprises and livestock breeders are attending the 14-day course. — MNA

Cash and kind donated to storm victims in Rakhine State

YANGON, 17 June — Wellwishers in Yangon donated cash and kind valued at over K 22.5 million for relief measures at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement this morning.

On behalf of the wellwishers Dr Kyaw Thein explained the purpose of the donation. Next cash and kind were donated. Dr Kyaw Thein of Rakhine Thahaya Association donated K 8.1 million; U Zaw Aye Maung representing Alpine Co, purified water worth K 2 million; U Myo Swe of Rakhine welfare society (Japan), 647 rice bags worth over K 3.2 million; Daw Yin Yin of Rakhine women's association, over 9,000 clothes worth about K 4 million; Daw Khaing Khaing Zin of Sittway College Old Students Association, 320 mosquito nets worth over K 1.2 million; Chairman U Hla Tun Oo of Myaybon Township Association (Yangon), 300

blankets worth over K 2.4 million and Daw Nu Mra Zan of Rakhine Literature



Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa accepts donations from wellwishers. — MNA

and Cultural Association (Yangon), stationery worth over K 0.8 million. Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa accepted the donations and spoke words of thanks. — MNA

Myanmar Gazette

YANGON, 17 June — The State Peace and Development Council has appointed the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(a) U Ye Phone Myint Deputy Director-General Settlement and Land Records Department Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation	Managing Director Myanmar Jute Enterprise Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
(b) Col Aung Win Deputy Director-General Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development Ministry of Construction	Director-General Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development Ministry of Construction

MNA

ASEAN Radio quiz on 2 July

YANGON, 17 June — Under the "ASEAN in Action" project being implemented by MRTV, the monthly radio quiz on ASEAN have been held. The ASEAN radio quiz for the month of June will be held at 10 am on 2 July. Those wishing to participate are to report at MRTV not later than 9:30 am that day. Handsome prizes and allowances will be given, it is learnt. — MNA

ငါးရစ်၊ ငါးသန် ရာသီချိန်တွင် ငါးဖမ်းရန်

ပညာပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက် (၁/၉၇)

ငါးရစ်၊ ငါးသန် ဘေးမချန်

ပုံမှန်စားသုံး မျိုးမတုံး

မိုးမြိုင်မြိုင်ရွာသော မေလနှောင်းပိုင်းနှင့် ဇွန်၊ ဇူလိုင်လများတွင် ငါးရစ်၊ ချောင်း၊ အင်းအိုင် အနုအပြာ၌ ပဉ္စာမြိုင် ပြည့်နေသော ငါးမကြီးများနှင့် မျိုးရည်ပြည့်ဝသော ငါးတို့ကြီးများသည် ပဉ္စာရန် နေရာရှာဖွေ၍ ငါးရစ်တက်ကြပါသည်။ ထိုငါးရစ်ငါးများကို ဖမ်းဆီးလိုက်ပါက ပေါက်ဖွားလာမည့် သန်းပေါင်းများစွာသော နုနယ်လှသည့် သားပေါက်ငါးသန်များသည်လည်း သေကျေပျက်စီးကာ တစ်နိုင်ငံလုံး ဖုလုစာ စားသုံးမှုနှင့် အမျိုးသား စီးပွားရေးဖွံ့ဖြိုးမှုကို အထောက်အကူ မပြုနိုင်တော့ဘဲ ငါးမျိုး ပြုန်းတီးသွားစေနိုင်ပါသည်။

မေမြူရေနှင့် ရေလုပ်ငန်းဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ငါးလုပ်ငန်းဦးစီးဌာနက အမိန့်ကြော်ငြာစာအမှတ် (၂/၉၂)ဖြင့် ငါးရစ် ငါးသန် ရာသီချိန်များတွင် ငါးလုပ်ငန်းဦးစီးဌာန၏ နှစ်ပြိုင်ကုန်တစ်ပါး ငါးများ ဖမ်းဆီးခြင်းမပြုရန် တားမြစ်ထားပါသည်။ အဆိုပါ တားမြစ်ချက်ကို ဖောက်ဖျက် ကျူးလွန်ပါက ရေချိုငါးလုပ်ငန်း ပဉ္စာမြိုင်(၄၄)အရ ဖမ်းဆီးတရားစီရင် အပြစ်ပေးနိုင်ရန် ပြဋ္ဌာန်းထားပါသည်။

သို့ပါ၍ ငါးရစ်တက်ချိန်နှင့် ငါးသန်သားပေါက်သော မိုးရာသီအချိန်များတွင် လွတ်လပ်စွာ ပဉ္စာမြိုင်ပေါက်နိုင်ရန် ဖမ်းဆီးခြင်းမပြုဘဲ ဘေးမလေးကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ငါးလုပ်ငန်းဦးစီးဌာန၊

မေမြူရေနှင့်ရေလုပ်ငန်းဝန်ကြီးဌာန

ဥကင်နေသောရေချိုပုစွန်ထုပ်ကြီးများဖမ်းရန် ပညာပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက် (၂/၉၇)

တန်ခူး၊ ကဆုန်၊ နယုန်လများတွင် ဥကင်နေသော (သို့) ဥကင်ပြည့်ဝနေသော ရေချိုပုစွန်ထုပ်ကြီးများသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတစ်ဝန်းလုံးရှိ မြစ်၊ ချောင်း၊ အင်းအိုင်များတွင် ပဉ္စာရန် ပြင်ဆင်လျက်ရှိပါသည်။ ၎င်းတို့မှ မကြာမီ ထောင်ပေါင်းများစွာသော ပုစွန်များလည်း ပေါက်ဖွားလာတော့မည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အကယ်၍ အဆိုပါဥကင်နေသော (သို့) ဥကင်ပြည့်ဝ နေသော ပုစွန်ထုပ်ကြီးများအား ဖမ်းဆီး သတ်ဖြတ်ခဲ့ပါက ၎င်းတို့မှ ပုစွန်သားလောင်းများ ပေါက်ဖွားနိုင်တော့၍ မျိုးပြုန်းတီးရာလည်း ရောက်စေပါသည်။ ရေချိုပုစွန်များ ပေါက်ကြွယ်လာစေရန် ယခုကဲ့သို့ ဥကင်နေသော ရာသီချိန်များတွင် ဖမ်းဆီးခြင်းမပြုဘဲ ဘေးမလေးမှသာ ထုတ်လုပ်မှုအား မြှင့်တင်ပြီး အမျိုးသားစီးပွားရေး ဖွံ့ဖြိုးလာမည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ဥကင်နေသော (သို့) ဥကင်ပြည့်ဝနေသော ရေချိုပုစွန်ထုပ်ကြီးများအား ဖမ်းဆီးခြင်း၊ သတ်ဖြတ်ခြင်း၊ သယ်ယူခြင်း၊ သိုလှောင်ခြင်း၊ လက်ဝယ်ထားရှိခြင်း၊ အရောင်းအဝယ် ပြုလုပ်ခြင်းများ မပြုလုပ်ရန် မေမြူရေနှင့် ရေလုပ်ငန်း ဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ငါးလုပ်ငန်းဦးစီးဌာနက အမိန့်ကြော်ငြာစာအမှတ် (၁/၉၂)ဖြင့် တားမြစ်ထားပါသည်။ အဆိုပါ တားမြစ်ချက်ကို လိုက်နာခြင်းမရှိပါက ရေချိုငါးလုပ်ငန်း ပဉ္စာမြိုင်မ (၄၂၊ ၄၄၊ ၄၅)ပါ ပြဋ္ဌာန်းချက်များအရ တရားစွဲဆို အရေးယူခြင်းခံရမည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ ရေချိုပုစွန်ထုပ်ကြီးများ ရေလှည့်တည်တံ့စေရန် ယခုကဲ့သို့သော ဥကင်သော ရာသီချိန်တွင် ဖမ်းဆီးခြင်းမပြုဘဲ နေရာတိုင်းတွင် ဘေးမလေးကြရန် အသိပေး နှိုးဆော် အပ်ပါသည်။

ငါးလုပ်ငန်းဦးစီးဌာန၊

မေမြူရေနှင့်ရေလုပ်ငန်းဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Three US soldiers among 14 killed in Iraq attacks

RAMADI, 17 June—Nine people were killed, including four foreigners, and 10 were wounded when a vehicle was targeted in a blast on Wednesday in the restive town of Ramadi in western Iraq and three US soldiers were killed in a rocket attack in the city of Balad, officials said.

"We have the bodies of five Iraqis and four foreigners," said Mohammed Jalal, a doctor in the neighbouring town of Fallujah, 50 kilometres west of Baghdad. "In addition, 10 injured Iraqis were admitted to our hospital."

The US military said that three US soldiers were killed and 25 people were wounded, including two foreign civilians in a rocket attack in Balad, 75 kilometres north of Baghdad. A military spokesman said air and ground forces responded to the suspected location from which the attack was launched. The deaths rose to 613 the number of US soldiers killed in action since the US-led invasion of Iraq in March 2003, according to numbers from the Pentagon.

One Iraqi was shot dead and two foreign contractors wounded in a gunbattle when a convoy of several cars was ambushed near Baghdad airport, a senior military official said Wednesday.

Elsewhere, the head of security for oil fields in Kirkuk has been assassinated, Al Jazeera television reported on

Wednesday. The television quoted Iraqi police as saying Ghazi Talabani was killed. It gave no further details.

Radical Iraqi cleric Moqtada al-Sadr on Wednesday told all members of his Mehdi Army militia who are not from Najaf to leave the city.

The announcement came a day after Iraq's new President Sheikh Ghazi al-Yawar said Sadr could join national politics if he is found innocent of murder charges and agrees to disband his Mehdi Army militia.

"Members of the Mehdi Army who have agreed to make sacrifices are asked to return to their regions" of origin, said a brief statement from the cleric published in Najaf, 160 kilometres south of Baghdad.

Saboteurs blew another hole in a main Iraqi southern oil export pipeline on Wednesday, further damaging the network after two sabotage attacks earlier in the week that brought oil exports to a halt. It was uncertain when exports would resume. — *Internet*

ထိုက်ထိုက်နှစ်ဆ ဝိုးမြင့်စေ

828 US troops killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq last year

BAGHDAD, 16 June—As of Wednesday, June 16, 828 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year, according to the Defence Department. Of those, 609 died as a result of hostile action and 219 died of non-hostile causes.

The British military has reported 58 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Bulgaria and Poland, six each; Ukraine, four; Slovakia three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one each. Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 690 US soldiers have died—500 as a result of hostile action and 190 of non-hostile causes, according to the military.

The latest deaths reported by the US military:

Three US soldiers were killed Wednesday in a rocket attack on a US logistics base near Balad. — *Internet*



Children in the Sadr City district of Baghdad, sit along the street to watch a militia member loyal to the Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr as he and others hold a demonstration in support of al-Sadr and against the US military in Iraq on 16 June, 2004. — *INTERNET*

Another pipeline struck in Iraq; security chief killed

BAGHDAD, 16 June—Gunmen struck at the heart of Iraq's economic livelihood Wednesday, blasting a major pipeline to halt vital oil exports and killing the top security chief for the northern oilfields.

A rocket slammed into a US logistics base near Balad, 50 miles north of Baghdad, killing three US soldiers and wounding 25 other people, including two civilian workers, the military said.

Elsewhere, radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr ordered his militiamen to leave the holy cities of An Najaf and Kufa unless they live there, fulfilling a key aspect of an accord meant to end fighting between his fighters and US troops.

An explosion before dawn Wednesday damaged a pipeline carrying crude oil from Iraq's southern fields to the Basra oil terminal in the Persian Gulf. Iraqi engineers had diverted crude shipments to that pipeline after another was bombed two days ago.

"Due to the damage inflicted on the two pipelines, the pumping of oil to the Basra oil

terminal has completely stopped," said Samir Jassim, spokesman of the state-owned Southern Oil Co. "Exports have come to halt."

Exports were halted last month through Iraq's other export avenue — the northern pipeline from Kirkuk to Ceyhan, Turkey — after a May 25 bombing, Turkish officials said.

Gunmen killed Ghazi Talabani, the official in charge of protecting the northern oilfields, in an ambush in Kirkuk. General Anwar Amin of the Iraqi Civil Defence Corps said three gunmen attacked Mr Talabani's car after his bodyguard briefly left the vehicle in a crowded market.

The bodyguard was wounded. Mr Talabani was the third Iraqi official slain since Saturday.

Internet

Africa, G-8 to work on plan for continent development

JOHANNESBURG, 16 June — African and developed countries would make a joint plan by next year to transform broad commitment to the continent's development into concrete action, the executive of Africa's growth plan said Tuesday.

While all agreed that current levels of development aid were insufficient to address African underdevelopment, no clear commitments were on the table, Wiseman Nkuhlu, chairman of the secretariat of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), said in Pretoria.

Such details would be discussed by representatives of the NEPAD steering Committee and the Group of Eight industrialized nations (G-8), Nkuhlu was quoted as saying by the *South African Press*

Association (SAPA).

A plan to be devised from the talks would be submitted to decisionmakers early next year, Nkuhlu said. It is expected to outline how much money will be needed to achieve stated goals of addressing unemployment, poverty, hunger and disease such as HIV/AIDS. Nkuhlu was briefing reporters on the outcome of talks between six African leaders and the G-8 summit in the United States last week. He said he was optimistic about progress made

in the discussions attended by the presidents of South Africa, Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal, Algeria and Uganda.

Reducing African indebtedness and unequal world trade opportunities were among the concerns raised by the leaders, Nkuhlu said.

Another worry highlighted was the lack of assistance for developing countries to manufacture their own products from raw materials rather than exporting capital and jobs to the developed world.

MNA/Xinhua

Iraq oil pipeline repairs to take 7-10 days

LONDON, 17 June—Repairs to one of Iraq's main southern oil export pipelines will take seven to 10 days following sabotage attacks overnight, an Iraqi industry official said on Tuesday.

Separately, shipping agents said exports from Iraq's Basra terminal on the Gulf had ground completely to a halt after having been reduced to less than 500,000 barrels per day earlier in the day. Normally the terminal handles up to 1.7 million bpd.

"Nothing is loading and nothing is being received at the terminal," said one agent.

Industry sources said a second export pipeline did not appear to be damaged, but may have been shut for security checks.

Oil Minister Thamir Ghadban earlier told *Reuters* that there had been two sabotage attacks in the south and it was not immediately clear whether they were against the same or different pipelines. — *MNA/Reuters*



US-led forces will begin handing control of Baghdad's international airport over to Iraqi authorities after the formal end of occupation at the end of June, aviation officials said on 16 June, 2004. Baghdad airport has been the main US military base in Iraq since last year's invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein. The airport is seen on 10 July, 2003. — *INTERNET*

IAF to phase out "MIG-21" trainer aircraft

NEW DELHI, 16 June — Indian Air Force (IAF) will phase out its remaining MIG-21 trainer aircraft by 2012.

"The aging MIG fighter is still the mainstay of IAF. About 70 to 80 will be phased out by 2012 and substituted with the British Hawk advanced jet trainers," the *Indo-Asia News Service* quoted Air Chief Marshal S Krishnaswamy as saying Monday.

"The induction of the British aircraft will augment pilot training and the IAF would soon send its pilots to Britain for training," he said.

A total of 22 Hawk jets would be delivered off the shelf by BAE Systems while 44 more would be manufactured under license by state-

owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.

The Russian-made MIG series jets have come under a cloud after a spate of crashes in recent years.

The IAF has lost more than 50 fighter aircraft in accidents since January 2000.

MNA/Xinhua

British Defence Ministry may release photos of abused Iraqis

LONDON, 17 June — The shocking photos of the abuse of Iraqi detainees that led to charges against British troops could be made public by the British Ministry of Defence, the *British Independent* newspaper reported on Wednesday.

The ministry was considering releasing the pictures, which were said to show Iraqi prisoners being forced to perform indecent acts and a naked prisoner, bound and gagged, suspended in a net from a forklift truck, the paper said.

According to the paper, taken as "trophy" pictures, the photos became photographic evidence for allegations against four British soldiers from the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.

British Attorney General Lord Goldsmith announced Monday that the British Army Prosecuting Authority has

decided that the four soldiers were to face courts-martial for abusing Iraqi prisoners.

The charges would include allegations of "assault, indecent assault and a military charge of prejudicing good order and military discipline," Lord Goldsmith said in a statement. The courts-martial were to be held at Celle, near Hamburg in Germany, where the accused are based, the paper said.

British military chiefs said there would be as much transparency as possible during the proceedings, which would be open to the public.

MNA/Xinhua

ICO welcomes establishment of interim government in Iraq

ISTANBUL, 17 June — Member states of the Organization of Islamic Conference (ICO) on Wednesday welcomed the establishment of an interim government in Iraq.

The ICO made the statement in a joint communique issued after their three-day session of foreign ministers in Istanbul, the largest city in Turkey.

The communique strongly condemned the inhuman practices committed against the Iraqi prisoners and detainees in Abu Ghraib Prison and demanded that those responsible be put on trial.

It welcomed the appointment of the president and prime minister of the Republic of Iraq and the establishment of the interim government as a beginning for sustained and urgent

action to end occupation. It is also a beginning for a fully sovereign, free and democratic Iraq, which will define its political future and national options without any interference, said the communique.

It demanded occupation forces in Iraq to imply with international humanitarian laws, particularly the 1949 Geneva Convention, stressing the need for the occupation forces to respect the civil and religious liberties of the Iraqis and preserve their cultural, religious and historical heritage.

MNA/Xinhua

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Two Lebanese taken hostage in Iraq

BEIRUT, 16 June — Kidnappers in Iraq have taken two more Lebanese men hostage and are demanding a ransom for their release, a Foreign Office official in Beirut said on Tuesday.

George Frando and Jamil Deeb, working for a company called Sweidan, disappeared two days ago, said Boutros Asaker, head of political affairs at Beirut's Foreign Ministry.

"We were informed by our charge d'affaires in Baghdad that two new

Lebanese have disappeared," he said.

"They have been kidnapped by a group asking for money.

We don't know who kidnapped them, but we have been informed by our charge d'affaires that they are in good condition."

One Lebanese man, Hussein Ali Alyan, was taken hostage in Baghdad last week and later killed and dumped by a road, along with two of his Iraqi colleagues.

MNA/Reuters

New Halliburton whistleblowers say millions wasted in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 June — New testimony from former Halliburton workers and congressional auditors released in Washington, DC, this week has revealed millions of dollars worth of wasteful practices, major over billing and virtually no oversight of the company's work to support the US invasion and occupation of Iraq in March 2003.

Under an agreement for logistical support for Operation Iraqi Freedom, Kellogg Brown and Root (KBR), a Halliburton subsidiary, has received \$4.5 billion for activities in Iraq and Kuwait since the invasion, including more than \$3 billion to import fuel and repair oil fields. The full contract may eventually be worth as much as \$18 billion.

In testimony submitted to members of Congress, one truck driver explained in detail how taxpayers were billed for empty trucks driven up and down Iraq and how \$85,000 vehicles were abandoned for lack of spare tires. A labor foreman said dozens of workers were told to "look busy" while doing virtually no work for salaries of \$80,000 a year. An auditor related how the company was spending an average of \$100

for every single bag of laundry and \$10,000 a month for company employees to stay in five-star hotels.

"We saw very little concern for cost considerations," David Walker, head of the General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of the Congress, told members of the Congress who attended a hearing at the Government Reform Committee in the House of Representatives. "There are serious problems, they still exist, and they are exacerbated in a wartime climate."

William Reed, director of the Pentagon's Defence Contract Audit Agency (DCAA), also released a report to members of Congress that stated: "In our opinion, the contractor's billing system is inadequate in part. We also found system deficiencies resulting in material in-

voicing misstatements that are not prevented, detected, and/or corrected in a timely manner."

Critics say that the Halliburton's contract with the military has been especially problematic because the company has what is called a "cost-plus" contract, which means the company is repaid for all expenditures, plus a percentage fee and possible bonus on top of that. — Internet

UNICEF launches student surveys in Africa

UNITED NATIONS, 17 June — The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) launched on Tuesday a child-to-child survey of the 121 million children in Africa who are not attending school.

In the survey, teams of schoolchildren would interview out-of-school children to find out why they were not enrolled. Reporting their results, they would call on communities and governments to place education for all at the top of their list of priorities, according to a Press release issued on the eve of the Day of the African Child.

"We want this project to start a chain reaction, whereby the children and their teachers will not only identify those out of school, but will also commit to getting them enrolled and helping them succeed," UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy said in the Press release.

The chain reaction would later draw in parents, communities, government ministries and external partners in drives to achieve education for all, she said.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi Shiite youths parade during a fourth day of mourning for slain Mehdi army militia commander Karim Daram in the Baghdad suburb of al Sadr city on 16 June, 2004. Daram, who led forces allied with Shiite cleric Moqtada al Sadr in the Baghdad suburb of Al Sadr city, was killed on Saturday night during battles with the US Army. —INTERNET

New Zealand pledges to work for security in APR

WELLINGTON, 17 June — New Zealand has pledged to work closely with other nations to ensure security in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Speaking to the Returned Services Association National Council meeting Wednesday, Defence Minister Mark Burton outlined his meetings last week in Singapore with Ministers of the Five Powers Defence Arrangement.

He also attended the International Institute of Strategic Studies Asia Security Conference, alongside which he held bilateral meetings with his counter-

parts from the United States, Australia, Britain, Malaysia, Thailand, and Timor Leste.

"Our discussions reinforced the increasing need for defence and security agencies around the world to focus on non-conventional threats such as terrorism, maritime and border security, people and drug smuggling, and money laundering," Burton said.

But it is clear that the security of both New

Zealand and our region actively involves many other organizations, particularly in today's rapidly changing global environment, he said.

"It is crucial that we gather and share intelligence efficiently with our defence partners, as well as maintain clear communication and cooperation across a wide range of non-military agencies."

MNA/Xinhua

Singapore to shorten full-time national service to two years

SINGAPORE, 16 June — Singapore will cut its full-time national service from the current two-and-half years to two years, becoming effective in December this year.

Announcing this in a statement to the Parliament on Tuesday, Singapore's Defence Minister Teo Chee Hean attributed this change to the transformation of the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) into a third generation fighting force and a projected surge in the national

service intake over the next 10 years.

As of 2006, the next 10 years will witness an increase of 15 per cent to 20 per cent in the annual intake of full-time national service men.

From December this year, the national service-

men, aged 18 and promoted to the rank of corporals or higher, will only serve two years.

The Ministry of Home Affairs will also make similar cuts for those serving national service in the island state's police force and the civil defence force. — MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi police officer passes a destroyed police vehicle after an overnight attack on a police station in the town of Salman Pak, south east of Baghdad, on 16 June, 2004. — INTERNET

US general was told to treat Iraqi prisoners "like dogs"

LONDON, 16 June — A US general once in charge of the Abu Ghraib Prison in Iraq has told the BBC that a US military intelligence official told her last autumn that Iraqi prisoners should be treated "like dogs".

US Major-General Geoffrey Miller, the current head of the US prisons in Iraq, said Iraqi prisoners "are like dogs, and if you allow them to believe at any point that they are more than a dog then you've lost control of them," US one-star general Janis Karpinski told the BBC in an interview broadcast on Tuesday.

Karpinski was in charge of the military police unit that ran US prisons in Iraq when Iraqi prisoners were abused by US troops in the Abu Ghraib Prison, also told the BBC that she had been made scapegoat for the abuse which was ordered by others.

The US Army investigators ruled that Karpinski paid too little attention to the prison's operations and did not act strongly enough to discipline her soldiers. However, she was only suspended but not charged with any crime.

"I was absolutely sickened by those

images. And I could not even fathom a guess as to what happened to these people to make them go so far away from what they have been trained to do so," Karpinski said.

"But I will say I know my military police personnel... well enough to know they believed they were following instructions from a person authorized to give them instructions," Karpinski added, stressing that interrogations at the Abu Ghraib were not under her command but were run by a military intelligence unit.

Karpinski also blamed the abuse of Iraqi prisoners on the introduction of Guantanamo-style interrogation methods.

Miller, who was in charge at the Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, told her during a visit to Baghdad that "at Guantanamo Bay, we learned that the prisoners have to earn every single thing that they have," Karpinski said. — MNA/Xinhua



Children in the Sadr City district of Baghdad, Iraq, march holding a portrait of Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr during a demonstration in support of al-Sadr and against the US military in Iraq on 16 June, 2004. — INTERNET

Australian military knew of Iraqi abuse in 2003

CANBERRA, 17 June — An Australian military officer in Baghdad knew last November about reports of Iraqi prisoner abuse, but documents on the mistreatment by US military police took six months to reach the Australian Government.

The government has come under fire for its handling of prisoner abuse reports after Prime Minister John Howard misled Parliament in May when he said no Australian knew of the reports before graphic photographs were published.

Australia is a staunch ally of the United States and sent troops to Iraq as part of the US-led invasion.

Defence Minister Robert Hill told Parliament on Wednesday that Major George O'Kane had access in November to working papers by the Red Cross after its October 2003 inspection of Abu Ghraib Prison where US military police abused prisoners.

But the documents were not examined closely by defence officials until after the

abuse scandal became public in April.

O'Kane, a lawyer who assisted prison boss US Brigadier-General Janis Karpinski in Baghdad, made several visits to Abu Ghraib and returned to Australia in February with the Red Cross papers. He submitted the documents on his return. "When the documents were discovered and examined, it was clear that they included allegations we would characterize more seriously in that they referred to allegations of mistreatment," Hill told Parliament in tabling the results of a defence investigation into when Australia knew of Iraqi prisoner abuse.

"I regret that incorrect information was provided to me and through me to the Prime Minister," said Hill.

MNA/Reuters

Russia signs agreements on visa regimes with France, Italy

Moscow, 16 June —

Russia signed agreements with France, Italy on easing visa regime for certain groups of their citizens on Tuesday, Russian news agencies reported.

Under the agreements, visa regulations will be eased for students, individuals taking part in cultural and education exchanges, parliamentarians and other types of officials.

The agreements foresee an increased issue of long-term, multi-entry visas for the groups and shorter processing times. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, who signed the agreements with French and Italian ambassadors to Russia, expressed the hope that the signing of the documents would promote negotiations on visa issues with all EU countries. — MNA/Xinhua

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Thai troops to start leaving Iraq from July

BANGKOK, 16 June — Thailand will start moving its military equipment out of Iraq from July and expects all 451 of its medical and engineering personnel to be back home by September 20, the military said on Tuesday.

But the Armed Forces Supreme Command said in a statement an emergency plan was in place to evacuate the troops, stationed at a base in the city of Kerbala, 60 miles south of Baghdad, if their security was threatened. "The supreme commander has approved Special Task Force 976 to return home after finishing their one-year term. It is a relocation under the normal situation," the statement said.

The costs of relocating equipment and Thai troops, whose one-year mission is due to end on September 20, would be borne by the United States, it said. — MNA/Reuters

Iraq will remain dangerous for US troops

WASHINGTON, 16 June — The global war on terrorism is like fighting cancer, the US Army's top general said on Tuesday, and he saw no reduction in danger for US troops in Iraq after a 30 June shift in power to the Iraqi Government.

"I don't think soldiers will be any safer. ... In fact, I think it's a very, very dangerous notion to think that when 30 June comes along that you can act like it," Army Chief of Staff General Peter Schoomaker said at a breakfast meeting with reporters.

The Bush Administration has called the war in Iraq, where more than 800 US troops have been died in ousting Saddam Hussein and fighting guerillas, the central front in the war on terrorism declared after the September 11, 2001 attacks on America.

"I just don't see us going to flower-filled meadows any time soon," Schoomaker said, noting that extremist

Islamic guerillas aligned against the West could gain access to weapons of mass destruction capable of killing thousands.

"I can't remember a time that, honestly, is more dangerous than what we're in because of the nature of this threat. You know, past wars have been like having pneumonia - it may leave a bunch of scars on your lungs, but you get cured of it," he told reporters.

"This is a little bit like having cancer. You may get it in remission, but it's never going to go away in our lifetime" the general added, rapping on the breakfast table with a knife for emphasis.

MNA/Reuters

Sabotage halts Iraqi oil exports

DUBAI, 17 June — Iraqi oil exports have ground to a halt after twin sabotage attacks this week on two key pipelines feeding vital crude terminals in the south.

An Iraqi oil official told Reuters on Wednesday it was unclear when exports, which were running at more than 1.6 million barrels per day (BPD), would resume.

"There are no exports from Basra oil terminal or Khor al-Amaya and it is unclear when they will restart," he said by telephone from Baghdad.

"Both pipelines feeding the terminals have been destroyed."

The attack was the second incident since 8 May, when saboteurs blew up Iraq's southern export network, cutting Basra Light exports to one million BPD

for nearly two weeks before repairs were completed.

This time round, the damage appears to be more serious.

Iraq was exporting virtually all of its 1.6 million BPD of Basra Light from the key Basra Oil Terminal, while a few tankers were loading at the nearby Khor al-Amaya Port. The official said the two sabotaged pipelines, one 42-inch and the other 48-inch, fed crude from storage tanks to terminals at Basra and Khor al-Amaya.

The official said one line was blown up late on Monday and the other was attacked at around noon on Tuesday.

Benchmark US crude prices for July delivery rose 21 cents to 37.40 US dollars a barrel on Wednesday, rebounding from a session low of 37.11 US dollars, on news the attacks had halted exports from the major pipelines.

Iraq's crude flows from its northern Kirkuk oilfields were also stopped on Tuesday due to sabotage on a pipeline.

Iraqi police said on Wednesday that gunmen killed Ghazi Talabani, a senior official in Iraq's North Oil Company, dealing another blow to the industry.

MNA/Reuters



Three tiger cubs are displayed by zookeepers after their birth at the zoo of Pessac, south-eastern France. — INTERNET



An Iraqi man walks through a police station that was destroyed in an explosion in Yusufiyah, Iraq, on 11 June, 2004.



Onlookers gather at the scene of a car bomb in a main shopping area of Baghdad on 14 June, 2004.

Images of Iraq



A crowd of Iraqis carry an injured man from a damaged building after a car bomb exploded in central Baghdad, Iraq, on 14 June, 2004.



Iraqis rush to the scene of a car bomb attack in the centre of the Iraqi capital of Baghdad on 14 June, 2004.



Iraqi rescuers climb on the destruction caused by a car bomb in central Baghdad on 14 June, 2004.



Rescuers carry a wounded man from the rubble of a building demolished by a bomb in the centre of the Iraqi capital of Baghdad on 14 June, 2004.



A lone Iraqi throws a stone at a burning vehicle as others search the debris of a building at the scene of a car bomb in a main shopping area of Baghdad on 14 June, 2004.

New and fast developments throughout Myanmar



The youth development training school in Kengtung, Shan State (East) has been built for the development of nationalities in border areas.—PBNRDA



*Monywa-Kalewa Road, reflects the goodwill of the Tatmadaw Government.
MYANMA ALIN*



An artesian well at Kyundaw village in Taungdwingyi Township. — PBNRDA



Kachin State Development Affairs Committee built 5,100 feet long Mongna rural road in Waingmaw Township. —PBNRDA

Border and rural area developments



Nantmaung Creek Bridge in Momeik, Shan State (North).— MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects digging of feeder canals connecting Louthout Creek in Hmawza Village-tract, Pyay Township. (News on page 16) — MNA

Victorious Myanmar equestrian team honoured

YANGON, 17 June— A ceremony to honour victorious Myanmar equestrian team in Malaysian National Equestrian Competition held in Penang, Malaysia, from 3 to 6 June, was held at Panda Hotel on Warden Street in Lanmadaw Township yesterday evening, attended by Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint. Also present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of MOC Deputy Minister for

Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein and members, officials of the Ministry of Sports, members of the Leading Patrons of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation, executives of Myanmar Equestrian Federation, the manager, the coach and athletes.

The minister spoke on the occasion. Next, Manager U Nyein Kyaw recounted experience. Afterwards, the minister presented K 320,000 to Ma Ei Thet Mon who bagged two gold, one silver and one

bronze, K 100,000 to Ma Aye Thet Tar who won one gold, K 70,000 to Maung Aung Thura Tun who secured one silver and K 50,000 to Ma Su Su Pale who won one bronze. On behalf of the winners, Ma Ei Thet Mon expressed gratitude. Later, a dinner was held in their honour.

Over 100 athletes participated in the competition. Of them, one boy and six girls of Myanmar team bagged three gold, two silver and two bronze.— MNA

Pakistan, India agree on steps to curb narcotics

ISLAMABAD, 17 June — India and Pakistan agreed on Wednesday on ways to work together to stop cross-border drug smuggling, notching another small step forward in confidence building between the South Asian rivals.

India's top anti-narcotics enforcer hailed the talks in Pakistan's capital, the first after seven-year hiatus, as a success.

"The agenda was mainly trafficking of illicit narcotics drugs across the border from both sides and we had a very good meeting," M K Singh, Director-General, Narcotics Control Board of India told reporters at the end of the two days of talks.

"We identified the problems and also reached to certain conclusions, how

to go about it, how to handle our future operations. It was a successful meeting."

It remains to be seen whether the two governments can strike a similar upbeat note when their foreign secretaries meet in New Delhi at the end of this month.

It will be the first high-level talks between the two nuclear rivals since the Congress Party formed a government in New Delhi, following a shock election win over former prime minister Atal Behari Vajpayee's Hindu nationalists.

Vajpayee had revived the peace process a year after the two countries teetered on the brink of their fourth war in 2002. But Pakistan's leaders now have to get to know India's new faces.

Making the right noises in the fight against drugs, notably heroin and morphine, is easier.

Especially, as the value and volume of the trade between the two countries, according to officials, is not very high.

But it still depends on stronger political ties.

Khalid Latif, top official at the Ministry of Narcotics Control in Pakistan, said agencies from both sides had agreed to meet regularly and exchange and share information.

"Relations between Pakistan and India are improving and similarly relations between the organizations are improving," Latif said. "This will strengthen our network to break the network of smugglers."

MNA/Reuters

OPEC to ask other producers to raise oil output

JAKARTA, 17 June — OPEC will seek help from producers outside the cartel to raise global oil supplies and cool high prices, which have held stubbornly above 35 US dollars a barrel, president Purnomo Yugiantoro said on Wednesday.

Purnomo said he would send letters to Russia, Angola, Mexico and Oman to request they pump more crude oil. "They have spare capacity to increase production," Purnomo, who is also Indonesian Oil Minister, told reporters. He did not give any details or timeframe. Oil prices were briefly spooked higher again on Tuesday after saboteurs attacked two oil pipelines in Iraq, bringing the country's crude exports to a virtual halt.

US crude touched 38.40 US dollars a barrel after news of the Iraqi blasts. The country, a member of OPEC, had been exporting an average 1.6 million to 1.7 million barrels a day (BPD) from the southern oil terminal Basra and about 200,000 bpd from the northern Kirkuk oilfields. Fears that militants would strike at oil facilities in the Middle East have helped stoke prices higher this year. Robust economic growth and strong oil demand, especially in the United States and China, have left little room in the supply chain for any disruption in a major producer.

The Organization of the Petroleum-Exporting Countries agreed earlier this month to increase formal supply limits by two million BPD from July 1 and by another 500,000 from August 1 to stop a run-up in oil prices to the highest levels in 21 years above 42 US dollars a barrel. Tanker tracking consultancy Petrologistics reckons OPEC's 10 core members will lift supplies by 800,000 bpd in June, before the increase of formal limits next month. Iraq was excluded from OPEC's quota system following its invasion of Kuwait in 1990 and subsequent UN trade sanctions. — MNA/Reuters

Motorola, Samsung, LG emerge as producers of China's new handsets

BEIJING, 17 June — China United Telecom (China Unicom), the world's third biggest mobile telecommunications carrier, said Wednesday three mobile phone handsets produced by Motorola, Samsung and LG have been selected as China's first dual SIM card mobile phones.

These models are Moto A860, Samsung SCHW109 and LGW800, all boasting of cutting-edge manufacturing technology and designed for high-end users who often go abroad for business. Citing as an example, the manager said Moto A860 is fitted with a 1.2 million pixel micro-camera, and its data can be transferred to a computer or vice versa. Users of the new handsets carrying both GSM and CDMA SIM cards will be able to switch between GSM and CDMA networks, and enjoy roaming service in countries where only one of the networks is available. As for prices, the manager said they are more competitive than the high-end mobile phones with a single SIM card on the market, and China Unicom will release low-end dual SIM card phones in the future. But he declined to give more information. China Unicom said last month it planned to release in mid-July mobile phone handsets with dual-band technology that shares data and voice service between GSM and CDMA users. — MNA/Xinhua

Libyan delegation seeks investors in S Korea

SEOUL, 17 June — A delegation of Libyan business and government officials arrived in South Korea on Wednesday to seek investors for a number of petrochemical and telecommunications projects, the South Korean news agency Yonhap reported.

Nuri Rameadan Al Jerd, head of Libya's state-owned General Company for Chemical Industry, said. "We hope many South Korean firms can take part in a three-billion-US-dollar petrochemical plant development project being pursued by the Libyan Government."

The plant is just one of the estimated 45 billion dollars' worth of energy devel-

opment and telecommunications projects that Libya is pushing for, reported Yonhap.

Many South Korean companies, including state-run Korea Electric Power Corp and Samsung Corp, have showed a high level of interest in the projects.

The US-imposed sanctions on Libyan in 1986 left much of Libya's energy industry underdeveloped.

Since the United States eased economic sanctions against the African country in April, the Libyan Government has been appealing for foreign investment in order to revive its economy.

MNA/Xinhua

S Korea to hold rice talks with several countries

SEOUL, 17 June — South Korea will hold a series of talks with several countries on rice in June or July, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry said Wednesday.

It will hold the second round of talks on rice market openings with China in Beijing on Friday and with the United States in Geneva next Tuesday, the Agriculture Ministry said.

The ministry also said South Korea will hold separate rounds of similar talks with seven other countries, including Thailand, Australia, India and Pakistan, later this month or next month.

At stake is the extension of South Korea's right to bar most imports of rice, an increase in the import quota or a shift to a tariff system, according to the ministry.

Lee Jae-gil, Seoul's top diplomat for Doha Development Agenda (DDA) negotiations, is the head of the delegation to the rice market talks.

The delegation is composed of officials from the Agriculture, Finance and Foreign ministries, as well as private experts. Ministry official said Seoul is

giving top priority to pushing for an extension of its right to bar most imports of rice to provide continued protection to local farmers, reported the South Korean news agency Yonhap.

South Korean negotiators are to basically focus on a continuation of the special treatment of rice as stipulated in a 1994 multi-lateral agreement on agriculture, they said.

Under the WTO's 1994 Uruguay Round agreement, South Korea was given a grace period of 10 years to enjoy special treatment regarding rice imports. Thus, the government is to complete negotiations on the nation's rice market with WTO member states by the end of this year.

MNA/Xinhua

S Korean financial groups urged to join forces to avoid crisis

SEOUL, 17 June — South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun on Wednesday urged the nation's financial institutions to join forces to avoid another financial crisis, the nation's news agency Yonhap said.

"No financial institutions gained as they pursued solutions to problems

on an individual basis rather than approaching things with a sense of national crisis when the (1997) financial crisis erupted," Roh said during a meeting with a group of chief executive officers of private and state-run financial institutions.

MNA/Xinhua

Khatami blasts draft IAEA nuke resolution

TEHRAN, 17 June— Iran may resume uranium enrichment if a draft resolution rebuking it for inadequate cooperation with UN inspectors is approved, President Mohammad Khatami said on Wednesday in his toughest warning so far to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

"If this resolution passes, Iran will have no moral commitment to suspend uranium enrichment," Khatami told reporters after a Cabinet meeting.

Iran says it wants to enrich uranium to provide fuel for future nuclear power

reactors. But Washington and many European states fear Iran could use enrichment technology to produce bomb-grade material.

Under intense international pressure to come clean about its nuclear activities, Iran agreed last

year voluntarily to suspend uranium enrichment. But it has always said it could resume enrichment whenever it saw fit.

Khatami described the draft resolution prepared by Britain, Germany and France as "very bad" but said Tehran had no intention of following North Korea's example and withdrawing from the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Angered by the tough language in the draft IAEA resolution being studied by IAEA board members in Vienna this week, Iranian officials have issued a number of warnings that Tehran may scale back cooperation with UN inspectors in retaliation.

Iran, which says its nuclear aims are entirely peaceful, insists it has cooperated fully with IAEA inspectors and has called for its nuclear case to be closed.

MNA/Reuters

20th Meeting of ASEAN National Tourism Organizations 5th Meeting of ASEAN, China, Japan and Korea National Tourism Organizations 3rd ASEAN-India Tourism Consultations



Taunggyi, Union of Myanmar
30 June — 1 July, 2004

23rd Meeting of the Task Force on ASEAN Tourism Marketing 11th Meeting of the Task Force on Tourism Investment 11th Meeting of the Task Force on Tourism Manpower Development



Taunggyi, Union of Myanmar
28 — 29 June, 2004

ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင် ဘဝတစ်ခွင်

ကျန်းမာခြင်းဆိုသည်မှာ - ရောဂါဘယကင်းရှင်းစွာ ဘဝက ကိုယ်၏ကျန်းမာခြင်းနှင့် စိတ်ချမ်းသာခြင်းနှင့် လူမှုရေးသမေ ဖြည့်ဝခြင်း ကိုဆိုသည်။

ဘဝတစ်ခွင် ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင်စေရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။

- (၁) တစ်ကိုယ်ရည်သန့်ရှင်းမှုကိုဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၂) အန္တရာယ်ကင်း၍ အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသော အစားအသောက်များ ကိုစားသုံးပါ။
- (၃) ပိုးမွှားကင်းစင်၍ သန့်ရှင်းသောရေကို သောက်သုံးပါ။
- (၄) ရာသီဥတုနှင့် လိုက်လျောညီထွေစွာဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်နေထိုင်ပါ။
- (၅) အသက်အရွယ်နှင့်လိုက်လျောညီထွေရှိသည့် သင့်တင့်မျှတသော ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုကို မှန်မှန်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၆) နေ့စဉ်လုပ်ငန်းဆောင်တာများ ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်းကြောင့် ပင်ပန်း နှစ်နပ်မှုကိုပြောပျောက်စေရန် အနားယူပါ။
- (၇) ခြင်္သေ့ရယ်မှကာကွယ်ရန် ခြင်္သေ့ထောင်မြင်အိပ်ပါ။
- (၈) ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့်ညီညွတ်သော ယဉ်လုံအိမ်သာကိုသုံးစွဲပါ။
- (၉) အရက်သောက်ခြင်း၊ ဆေးလိပ်ဆေးရွက် သောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ ကွမ်းစားခြင်းတို့ကိုရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၀) မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးနှင့် စိတ်ကိုပြောင်းလဲစေသည့် ဆေးဝါးများ သုံးစွဲခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၁) အပျော်အပါးလိုက်စားခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) ရေ၊ မြေ၊ လေ သဘာဝပတ်ဝန်းကျင်နှင့် နေထိုင်မှု၊ အသက် မွေးမှုပတ်ဝန်းကျင်အား ညစ်ညမ်းစေသည့် အပြုအမူများကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Aussie scientists devise new system to diagnose bone infection

CANBERRA, 17 June— Australian scientists have devised a new system which needs only 10 minutes instead of a day currently to identify bone infection, known as osteomyelitis.

Under the current method, which needs a day, blood is taken from the patient and mixed with a radioactive tracer outside the body and then re-injected into the patient's body. An X-ray examination will be followed finally.

The new system, called Leukoscan, was devised by the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organization (ANSTO).

Leukoscan only needs five steps to diagnose osteomyelitis, which can

cause the joints to stiffen or destroy the bone if left untreated, *Australian Associated Press* Tuesday quoted ANSTO as saying.

The risks of cross-contamination are significantly reduced by injecting the agent directly into the patient's blood instead of mixing it outside the body, and patients also need not endure the needle twice, Albury (a southeastern city)-based nuclear medicine expert Mack Jost said.

"It takes about 10 minutes to administer, followed by a two-hour wait for Leukoscan to get around the body before taking the scan and finally about 30 minutes to an hour for diagnosis," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Domestic violence inflicts most serious harm to Aussie women

CANBERRA, 17 June— Domestic violence inflicts the most serious damage to health of Australian young and middle-aged women, a new research shows.

Physical and sexual abuse leads to more illness and kills more women aged under 45 than any other recognized health problems, according to the research published on Wednesday's *The Australian*, one of Australia's leading newspapers. More than one million Australian women have experienced domestic violence, said the research, conducted by Vichealth, a government-funded and privately run foundation.

The release of the study

came just weeks after the federal government launched a 14-million-US-dollar campaign against domestic violence.

The study shows that mental illness is the greatest health problem faced by abused women, accounting for 60 per cent of the burden of disease caused by domestic violence, followed by suicide and illnesses associated with smoking.

Depression, anxiety, and chronic pain are also among the many health problems faced by women exposed to violence, according to the study, which the paper said is the first of its kind in the world.

MNA/Xinhua

Kuwait Interior Ministry bans smoking in all its buildings

KUWAIT CITY, 17 June— Kuwaiti First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah issued an order Tuesday, banning smoking in all buildings and administrative offices of the ministry.

A Press release was quoted by *Kuwait News Agency* as saying that the ministerial order came in accordance with the

Cabinet's decree and Law No 15 for 1995 on com-bating smoking.

The order stipulates that smoking is banned in all buildings, authorities, administrative offices, vehicles, ships and vessels of the ministry, as well as all other security sites for all employees.

Secluded areas in the buildings will be designated for smoking, it added.

MNA/Xinhua

Nissan lines up eight new models for GCC

ABU DHABI, 17 June— Japanese carmaker Nissan expects to achieve its sales target of 100,000 vehicles per year in the Gulf countries by September 2005 by launching a string of new models and increasing investment, a local web site reported Tuesday.

Eight new models are lined up for launch this year, excluding the two already launched.

The turnouts of the 10 new models will increase and the company is also promoting aggressively the brand in the Gulf region.

Nissan also increased investment in staff, showrooms and other retail

outlets, according to Shigeru Tsubaki, managing director of the company's Middle East unit.

Speaking after the launch of the new Nissan Altima on Monday, Tsubaki was upbeat about prospects for the new car in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and across the region.

UAE is one of the largest vehicle importers in the Middle East, and 118,212 vehicles were imported in 2003. These included 62,770 passenger cars, 31,596 four-wheel drives, 16,485 light commercial vehicles, 5,364 heavy commercial vehicles, and 1,997 MPVs.

MNA/Xinhua

အိမ်တိုင်းမှာသစ်ပင်

ရွာစဉ်မှာတောတန်း

တစ်တောင်တစ်တောင်တက်

မြို့တက်မယ့်လမ်း။

Malaysians to play more effective role to curb crimes

KUALA LUMPUR, 17 June— The Malaysian government would introduce a law to allow the citizens to play a more effective role in efforts to curb crimes including snatch thefts, Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Wednesday.

"I'm looking into how to beef up the legal provisions to authorize the citizens to a certain degree to encourage them to extend their assistance to the police to curb crimes," the Prime Minister said in his comments on the reported cases of snatch thefts which are becoming rampant.

Recently several women died after they were attacked by snatch thefts in some parts of the country. The incidents have triggered off an uproar in the country.

The Prime Minister told *Bernama*, local news agency, that he would discuss the matter more specifically with the Cabinet and would ask the Attorney-General's Chambers to draft the proposed law to be tabled in Parliament as soon as possible.

Abdullah said that the incident where a snatch

theft suspect was assaulted by several people in Klang last Saturday after the alleged offense showed that public anger was at its height.

He said that it reflected the awareness of the responsibility of the public in helping to reduce the incidence of crime.

However, the public, in tackling crimes like snatch thefts, should not take the law into their own hands, he said when commenting on the assault of the snatch theft suspect who died in hospital Tuesday after falling in a coma following the incident.

"It reflected the reaction and anger of the people against the offense of snatch theft but they should not resort to actions that will eventually cause other problems and be the ones to face the consequences," he said.

"Public awareness in curbing crime is a positive development but it must be pursued within the scope of the law. They can hand over the snatch theft suspects to the police in accordance with the process of the law in the country," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Nissan satisfied with cooperation with Chinese partner

SAN FRANCISCO, 17 June— Nissan, one of the world's major automakers, expressed satisfaction on Tuesday over its cooperation with China's third largest automaker, the Dongfeng Motor Co Ltd.

"We have a strong cooperation (with our Chinese partner). The joint venture is very successful," Toshiyuki Shiga, senior vice-president of Nissan, told reporters ahead of the joint venture's first anniversary.

Despite holding a 50-per-cent stake, Shiga noted, Nissan has sent only 100 Japanese to take part in the daily management of the joint venture in China. He believed that such a moderate presence of Japanese personnel in the joint venture is a sign of strong cooperation.

Shiga, who is here to attend a Nissan-sponsored media programme, also voiced support for some adjustments recently made by the Chinese Government in economy. He said some macro-control measures, especially those designed to prevent the economy from overheating, could help make China's economic growth sustainable and ensure a more favourable environment for foreign investment.

Nissan, striving to seek a foothold in the fast-growing Chinese auto market, entered a 50-50 joint venture with Dongfeng in July 2003. The move has created the largest international automotive partnership in China with a total joint investment of 16.7 billion Chi-

nese yuan (about two billion US dollars).

As a result, Nissan sold about 300,000 cars in China in 2003, including commercial vehicles produced by Dongfeng. The number represented a 35-per-cent increase over the previous year, statistics showed.

Under an ambitious mid-term business plan, Nissan plans to double the joint venture's sales of passenger and commercial vehicles to 620,000 units by 2007. The company also plans to double its revenue and achieve a double-digit operating profit by 2007.

Seeking a greater share of the highly competitive auto market in China, Nissan has also planned to introduce six new models to the Chinese market in the next few years, including the Nissan Sunny which has already been launched.

During the ongoing Beijing Motor Show, Nissan unveiled its latest luxury sedan for the Chinese market, the 3.5-litre V6 Teana, or Tian Lai in Chinese, which means "the beautiful sound of nature".

The new sedan, with its elegant styling, luxurious interior and refined driving performance, is designed for successful and sophisticated customers and could be a strong competitor to its peers such as the popular Audi V6.

The Teana will be built by Dongfeng at its Xiangfan plant in Hubei Province and go on sale across China in fall through Dongfeng's passenger vehicle dealer network. — MNA/Xinhua

Lula calls for establishment of global anti-hunger fund

SÃO PAULO (Brazil), 17 June — Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said here on Tuesday that a global fund should be established as soon as possible to counter prevailing hunger in developing nations, particularly in the least developed countries (LDCs).

Lula said he made the proposal on Monday during a meeting with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, who was here to attend the 11th ministerial session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

Although anti-hunger efforts were enshrined in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) at the Millennium Summit, developing nations have not seen concrete measures in the follow-up actions, Lula told a Press conference.

The advanced industrialized countries only paid lip services to MDGs and about 800 million worldwide are still suffering starvation, he said. The combat against hunger has become a central

issue to mankind today and the international community must build a harmonized and effective approach to tackle the problem, the President noted. He added that the global anti-hunger fund should be used to provide not only food aid, but also agricultural technologies to poor countries. Talking about the stalled Doha Round of the World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations, Lula said the current international trading system is largely in favour of rich nations and new WTO rules must take into account poor countries' wishes.

In face of developed nations' reluctance to make concessions in WTO talks, developing countries in South America have forged closer trade links with their Asian and African counterparts, he said, adding that only when trade among developing countries is intensified, could their positions in WTO talks be improved and a fairer international trading system established.

MNA/Xinhua

သတိပေးနိုးဆော်ချက်

ခရီးသည်တင်မော်တော်ယာဉ်များအား မြို့တွင်းသို့ နေ့/ည ခရီးသည်ပို့ဆောင်နိုင်ရေးအတွက် သတ်မှတ်ခေါက်ရေနံအညီ စက်သုံးဆီတင်ပေးထားပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ယာဉ်စီးခများအားလည်း သတ်မှတ်နှုန်းထားများအတိုင်းတောင်းခံရန် ညွှန်ကြားထားရှိပါသည်။ သို့ရာတွင် အချို့ယာဉ်လိုင်းများမှ ယာဉ်မောင်းနှင့် ယာဉ်နောက်လိုက်တို့သည် ယာဉ်စီးခများကို ညပိုင်းတွင် ပိုမိုတောင်းယူနေကြောင်း သိရပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ပိုမိုတောင်းခံပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူနိုင်ရန် အောက်ပါနိပါတ်များသို့ တိုင်ကြားနိုင်ပါသည်။

(၁) မြန်မာနိုင်ငံရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့၊ ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း (ဖုန်း ၁၉၉)

(၂) ကြို့မဲကြေးနန်းနှင့်ယာဉ်ထိန်းတပ်ဖွဲ့ချုပ် (ဖုန်း ၂၅၁၅၅/၂၅၁၅၄)

(၃) မော်တော်ယာဉ်လုပ်ငန်းပေါင်းစုထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကော်မတီ (ဖုန်း ၅၄၁၉၀၅/၅၄၁၉၀၄)

ယာဉ်စဉ်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည့်ရောဂါများ

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

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်တတ်သော စိတ်ရောဂါများမှာ -

၁။ ကယောင်ကတမ်းဖြစ်ခြင်း (Delirium Tremors) ကြောင့် လန့်ခြင်း၊ အချိန်၊ နာရီ၊ နေရာ၊ လူ ခန့်မှန်းနိုင်စွမ်း မရှိခြင်း၊ ကြောက်စရာလန့်စရာများမြင်ရခြင်း၊ အသံလေးများ ကြားရခြင်း၊ ပိုမိုများများနွေးကိုယ်ပေါ် စွဲစွဲလွဲလွဲသွားသလိုခံစားရခြင်း၊ လက်တုန့်ရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း။

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

၃။ အတက်ကြွရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Rum Fits) (ဝက်ရုမြန်ရောဂါကဲ့သို့တတ်ခြင်း)။

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 ရာဇဝတ်မှုကျူးလွန်သည့်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်ခြင်း။

အထက်ပါဆိုကျိုးများကို မခံစားရစေရန် အရက်သောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ အထူးသဖြင့် အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ အရက်ကို စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းတို့မှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ရန် တိုက်တွန်းအပ်ပါသည်။ အရက်စွဲရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားပါက စိတ်ကျန်းမာရေးဆေးရုံနှင့် ကုသရေးဌာနများတွင် စနစ်တကျကုသမှုခံယူရန် အသိပေးနိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Wellwishers invited for sinking tube-wells

YANGON, 17 June— The Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs are making concerted efforts in sinking tube-wells in order to get sufficient fresh water in rural areas in states and divisions where water is scarce.

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

Those wishing to donate cash for the tube-well

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

MNA

Drive safely

တိဘီရောဂါ ကာကွယ်နိုင်နည်းရေး

(က) ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားမှုစက်ပုံ

ဤရောဂါသည်တိဘီရောဂါကြောင့်ဖြစ်သော ကူးစက်ရောဂါဖြစ်သည်။ ဝေဒနာရှင် ရောင်ဆိုးခြင်း၊ နှာချေခြင်း၊ သလိပ်တဖွဲ့မှတစ်ဆင့် ရောဂါပိုးများ လေထဲတွင် ပျံ့နှံ့၍ ကူးစက်သည်။

- အသက်အရွယ်မရွေး လူတိုင်းတွင် ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်သည်။
- အဆုတ်တွင်အများဆုံးဖြစ်ပွားပြီး ကိုယ်ခန္ဓာအနှံ့အပြားတွင်လည်း ဖြစ်နိုင်သည်။
- ဆီးချိုရောဂါ၊ ခုခံအားကျဆင်းမှုကူးစက်ရောဂါနှင့် အာဟာရ ချို့တဲ့မှုရှိသူများတွင် အဖြစ်များသည်။

(ခ) ရောဂါလက္ခဏာများ

- ရက်ရှည်ရောင်ဆိုးခြင်း (ရက်သတ္တပတ် (၃) ပတ်နှင့်အထက်)။
- ရောင်ဆိုးသွေးပါခြင်း။
- သလိပ်တွင် သွေးပါခြင်း။
- အဖျားတာရှည်ခြင်း။
- ခံတွင်းပျက်ခြင်း၊ မောပန်းလွယ်ခြင်း။
- ကိုယ်အလေးချိန်လျော့နည်း ပိန်ချခြင်း။
- ကျောရင်အောင့်ခြင်း။

(ဂ) ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်ခြင်း

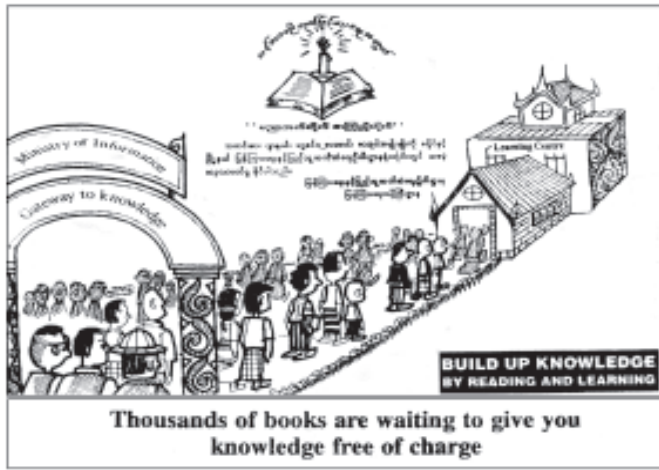
- ရင်သွေးငယ်များအား ကာကွယ်ဆေး(ဘီစီဂျီ) ကို မပျက်မကွက်ထိုးပေးပါ။
- အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသော အစားအစာများကို စားသုံးပါ။
- သင့်တင့်လျောက်ပတ်သောကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုပြုလုပ်ပါ။
- ရောင်ဆိုးခြင်း၊ နှာချေလျှင် လက်ကိုင်ဝတ်စုံကို အသုံးပြုပါ။
- သလိပ်နှင့်တကွ ကိုစည်းကမ်းမဲ့ထွေခြင်းမှရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- ဆေးလိပ်သောက်ခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

(ဃ) ကုသမှုခံယူခြင်း

- တိုက်ရိုက်ကြည့်ရှုအချိန်တိုနှင့်ကုန်သဖြင့် ရောဂါကင်းသည့်အထိ ကုသမှု ခံယူပါ။
- ကုသမှုခံယူခြင်းသည်အခြားသူများသို့ ကူးစက်စေခြင်းမှ အကောင်အထူးကာကွယ်ခြင်း ဖြစ်သည်။

တိဘီရောဂါသံသယရှိလျှင် နီးစပ်ရာကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတွင် စစ်ဆေး၍ တိဘီရောဂါရှိပါက အစွမ်းထက်သော တိဘီဆေးဝါးများဖြင့် အခမဲ့ကုသမှုခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



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* ကော်ဖီစိုက်ပျိုး ဝင်ငွေတိုး

* ကော်ဖီစိုက်လျှင် အရိပ်ပင်

* ယှဉ်တွဲစိုက်ပျိုး ဒေသဖွံ့ဖြိုး။

လယ်ယာစိုက်ပျိုးရေးနှင့်ဆိုင်ရာဌာန

Syrian media hails Sino-Syrian relations

DAMASCUS, 16 June — Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's forthcoming visit to China shows that the Sino-Syrian relations are "always very strong" and the two peoples have been "quite active" in strengthening their cooperations, the official Damascus Radio said Tuesday.

The imminent visit is part of the President's efforts to boost Syria's role on the international arena and to strengthen its relations with other countries to win their support to the Arab right, the radio said.

China has always supported the Arab issues and insisted on implementing relevant UN resolutions to realize a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, it stressed. "China has defended Syria at the United Nations whenever it was under hostile campaigns," the radio said, referring to China's supportive positions to the Syrian initiatives of freeing the Middle East from weapons of mass destruction.

Syria's stance of defending China's rights and unity is, at the same time, appreciated by Beijing, the radio pointed out. Syria's permanent UN representative in 1971 was one of those who strongly supported the resolution of restoring China's right at the United Nations as a legitimate representative of the Chinese people, it said.—MNA/Xinhua

ပြည်တွင်းပြင်ပအသံ

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Dated: 18 June, 2004.

EU mulls new scientific publishing system for research

BRUSSELS, 16 June — The European Commission (EC) launched a study Tuesday on the economic and technical evolution of the scientific publication markets in Europe, the results of which will be available in 2005.

It is aimed at determining the conditions required for optimum operation of the sector and assessing the extent to which the EC can help to meet those conditions.

The study will deal with the main topics of the current public debate, such as the future of printed scientific reviews, the risks associated with increases in the price of publications in terms of access to information for researchers and open access to research findings for all, according to a Press release issued by the executive body of the 25-member European Union (EU).

"The way in which the scientific publishing market is organized has implications. Scientific publications not only serve to disseminate research results, they also constitute a tool for evaluating the quality of research teams," Philippe Busquin, European commissioner for research, was quoted as saying.

The future of scientific publishing has been at the centre of EU discussions for several years, leading to the adoption in October 2003 of the Berlin Declaration calling for open access to knowledge.—MNA/Xinhua

Indonesian energy firm gets majority stake in Australia's Novus

JAKARTA, 16 June — Indonesian energy firm PT Medco Energi Internasional has secured a controlling stake in Australia's Novus Petroleum Ltd after a majority of its shareholders agreed to its 350 million Australian dollar bid. Medco said 60.2 per cent of Novus shareholders

had thus far accepted its 1.90 Australian dollars per share offer to buy the Sydney-based company.

Shareholders who accepted the offer included Novus' largest single entity shareholder, Japan-based Mitsui & Co., which owns 13 per cent of Novus.

The bid offered by Medco was higher than its rival bidder, the Australian-based Sunov Petroleum Ltd., which raised its bid on April 22 to 1.85 Australian dollars per share from 1.77 dollars, or to 341 million dollars from 326 million dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

China forwards proposal to address distortions in int'l trade

SAO PAULO (Brazil), 16 June — Various distortions in the existing international trading system are hampering the development of most developing countries, Chinese Assistant Minister of Commerce Yi Xiaozhun said here on Tuesday.

"It is the shared aspiration and responsibility of the international community to take full advantage of the opportunities and to cope effectively with the challenges brought about by globalization," said

Yi, who is also the head of the Chinese delegation to the 11th session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

Yi, on behalf of the Chinese Government, proposed the following four points to address the problems in the multilateral trading system:

Firstly, in the process of

globalization, diversified national conditions of each country must be respected, and developing countries should be assisted to benefit from the growth of the world economy and to participate actively in the decision-making and rule-setting in the global economic affairs.

MNA/Xinhua

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မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



A lady racegoer wears a large brimmed pink hat at Royal Ascot in Berkshire, southern England, on 16 June, 2004. The five-day society and sporting event is a highlight on the British social calendar, with Britain's Queen Elizabeth attending most days. — INTERNET

Medical journals may force disclosure of bad trials

WASHINGTON, 16 June — Editors of the leading medical journals are considering a proposal that would make drug companies disclose trials that shed unfavourable light on their products, *The New York Times* reported on Tuesday.

The leading US doctors' group, the American Medical Association, also called for disclosing all medical studies to the public.

Editors at the journals, including the *Lancet* and the *New England Journal of Medicine*, declined to discuss the *New York Times* report but confirmed it was accurate.

"There is nothing false in the story," said a spokeswoman for the influential *New England Journal*.

Most medical news comes out of the journals, which usually seek to weed

out weak research by subjecting reports to a battery of questions from experts under a process called peer review.

Many medical groups also sponsor conferences for sharing research.

But researchers are often part of a web of links to the drug industry. Research is expensive and often the only way to fund it is with a drug company's help.

Then the question arises of whether a company is in a position to influence either the results, or at least which results get pub-

lished.

According to the *Times* report, the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors is considering a proposal that would require drug makers to register clinical trials in a public database when they are started.

That way, publishers and the public can check to see if results are submitted on schedule, or look for a pattern of companies quietly dropping trials that do not have the hoped-for outcome.

MNA/Reuters

Lebanese woman could be world's oldest

SHAITIYA, 16 June — A Lebanese woman who has documents saying she was born in 1877 — making her at least 126 years old — could be the oldest person in the world.

Hamida Musulmani, frail and wrinkled but still working on her family's farm in south Lebanon, showed *Reuters* this week a document from Lebanon's 1932 census which lists her birth year as 1877.

She feels well, she said, but complained of failing sight.

Local officials said her papers were authentic, although they date from a year when she would already have turned 55.

If the census papers are accurate, Musulmani would now be four years older than the oldest person officially documented — a Frenchwoman who died seven years ago at the age of 122.

Musulmani comes from a Shi'ite Muslim farming family. Documents show her husband Ali was born in 1890, which would have made him 13 years younger than his wife. He died in 1960.

Musulmani said she had stopped eating meat many years ago. Though her family grows and dries tobacco, she does not smoke. "I only eat what I grow," she said. "I am fine, it is only my eyes that cannot see properly." She says she has about 100 descendants, the youngest of whom is 10 months old.

MNA/Reuters

Experts urge to establish law on world heritage protection

BEIJING, 17 June — Chinese experts have urged accelerating legislation on world heritage protection, seeing more damage done to historic sites during the country's pursuit of economic growth and its urbanization trend.

Zhang Tinghao, a deputy to the National People's Congress (NPC), attributed the frequent damage to the lack of laws.

Since 1982, China has classified 99 cities as "historic cities", but most of them are losing their distinctive ancient features in dynamic urban reconstruction and real estate development. Ruins and ancient streets still risk being demolished at any moment.

"China has no law on historic cities, and their protection still relies on relevant laws for city planning and cultural relics, which actually have little to do with historic cities and are especially short of contents on protecting ancient residential houses," said Zhang Xinjian, an official with the Ministry of Culture.

C. Stephen Hsu, professor with the China University of Political Science and Law, considered it imperative for China to establish a clear and efficient management mecha-

nism, which includes a professional, united organ acquainted with international conventions and other countries' experience, under the framework of a special world heritage protection law.

Currently, the heritage protection still involves many sectors in China. The State Administration of Cultural Heritage has a world heritage department, the Ministry of Construction owns an office in charge of landscape and scenic spots, and the Ministry of Education also sets up a national commission for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), whose functions overlap with each other.

"The lack of special laws and decentralized administration often delay the settlement of many problems due to complicated procedures and slow feedback," Hsu said.

MNA/Xinhua

Lizard-smuggling foreigners heavily fined in S Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 17 June — One Indonesian and two Japanese were fined 320,000 rand (49,000 US dollars) by a South African court Tuesday for trying to smuggle 37 endangered lizards.

The three were arrested with live Armadillo girdled lizards at the Cape Town International Airport on May 14, two days after they arrived in the country as tourists, the *South African Press Association* reported.

MNA/Xinhua

HKSAR provides fund for research on infectious diseases

HONG KONG, 17 June — The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government on Tuesday granted 25 million Hong Kong dollars (3.2 million US dollars) to the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) for carrying out a portfolio of clinical trial and public health research in emerging infectious diseases such as SARS.

The 25-million-Hong Kong-dollar grant to CUHK will support a portfolio of research spanning five years that is expected to produce results from a minimum of 30 research projects.

The Research Fund for the Control of Infectious Diseases (RFCID) had so far committed a total of 135 million Hong Kong dollars (17.3 million US dollars) for various research studies in Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland.

Speaking at a contract signing ceremony for the commissioned projects on Tuesday, Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food, Yeoh Eng-king reiterated the government's commitment to promote research on infectious diseases and to strengthen the research base in policy making and in developing and implementing measures to prevent and combat infectious diseases.

He said, "the CUHK is

internationally recognized for its leadership in synthesizing knowledge during the initial phase of the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) outbreak using bed-sides observations, clinical algorithms and pragmatic trial approaches, its outstanding research in hepatitis and related diseases, and the solid track record and international profile of many of its investigators."

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam to promote exports in 2nd half of this year

HANOI, 17 June — Vietnam will promote its exports in the last six months of this year, focusing on products with large export turnovers and those with high export growth rates.

The items include seafood, textiles, garments, footwear, woodwork, bicycles, and electric wires and cables, and their major destinations are the European Union, Japan and the United States, according to the Ministry of Trade on Wednesday.

The goods are either produced by labour-intensive enterprises or face no obstacles in foreign markets regarding strict quotas, high tariffs, and technical barriers, it said.

Vietnam, which is expected to ship abroad products worth of 11.55 billion US dollars in the first half this year, a year-on-year increase of 16.9 per cent, aims to achieve export turnovers of 21.85 billion dollars in 2004, up from 19.8 billion dollars in 2003.

MNA/Xinhua

Big heroin trafficking ring detected in Vietnam

HANOI, 17 June — Vietnamese police have recently cracked down on a trans-provincial heroin trafficking ring which supplied half of the drug consumed in the country's Ho Chi Minh City.

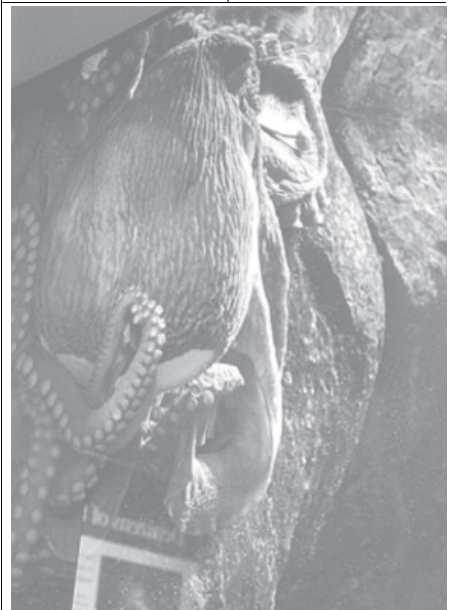
They arrested 20 people and confiscated 20.3 kilogrammes of heroin, along with one automobile, 14 motorbikes and 16 mobile phones between April and June, local newspaper *Saigon Liberation* reported Wednesday. The ring has two independent branches, one led by Tran Xuan Ha, born in 1981, and Hoang Trong Hung, born in 1972, and the other led by Tran Huy Cong, born in 1965. All of the three men are from central Nghe An Province.

They transported over 1,000 cakes of

heroin, or more than 350 kilogrammes of the drug, from Nghe An and other central bordering provinces to Ho Chi Minh City between mid-2001 and mid-2004. Wholesale prices of a cake stand at 6,700-7,300 US dollars, but retail prices can reach up to 10,000 dollars.

After the ring was uncovered, the wholesale price nearly doubled, which means that it held a heroin market share of up to 50 per cent in Ho Chi Minh City, local police said.

MNA/Xinhua



Aurora, a giant Pacific octopus, sits around her eggs, the small white specks in the photo, at the Alaska SeaLife Center in Seward, Alaska, on 16 June, 2004. The octopus began laying eggs last weekend by dribbling them down the sides of her tank. Aquarists at the center will be looking for a darkening in the eggs to indicate the development of baby octopuses. If the eggs are fertile, they could produce young in two or three months. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Agassi to pull out of Wimbledon open

WASHINGTON, 17 June — Tennis great Andre Agassi has decided on Tuesday to skip the year's third Grand Slam tournament, the Wimbledon Open, joining the two top-ranked women on the sideline.

"I have been struggling with a hip injury for the past couple of months," said the 34-year-old Agassi. "Clearly, this is a regrettable decision that I have to make. I will miss the opportunity to play in the most prestigious tournament in the world."

The eight Grand Slam titles holder, crowned at Wimbledon in 1992, dropped his last four matches, his longest losing streak in seven years.

Agassi, who has not won a tournament since April 2003, is one of five men with a career Grand Slam and was ranked No. 1 as recently as last season, the oldest man to hold the top spot. He is also the last man to win consecutive Slams, at the 1999 US Open and 2000 Australian Open.

World No. 1 Justine Henin-Hardenne, who is recovering from a viral illness, and No. 2 Kim Clijsters, from wrist surgery, will be missing from the women's field of Wimbledon which starts Monday. Other withdrawals include French Open champion Gaston Gaudio, three-time major winner Gustavo Kuerten, and Younes El Aynaoui.

MNA/Xinhua

Beckham to frame Zidane's shirt

LISBON, 17 June — David Beckham plans to frame the shirt worn by Zinedine Zidane when the French captain scored his two injury-time goals to sink England 2-1 at Euro 2004.

However, Beckham, the England captain, will wait until his Real Madrid teammate has time to sign the shirt.

Recalling the scene after Sunday's final whistle, Beckham told reporters: "We said a few things in Spanish and swapped shirts ... He had a smile to say 'that's the way it goes'."

Asked what he would do with the shirt, the England skipper said: "I'll frame it and put it in my house. You have great memories of a great player and memories are good."

"You always look back on things and sometimes it's good to have disappointing memories so you can look forward to the better ones ahead of you."

Paying tribute to Zidane's attitude to the game, Beckham said: "He loves playing and loves training, he works as hard in training as he does in matches and that's what is good to see about players like that. They don't just do it in games."

"I'm proud to be in the same team as him."

Both men faced the responsibility of taking a pe-

nalton on Sunday. Beckham's was brilliantly saved by Fabien Barthez but Zidane crashing his past David James to secure an improbable victory in the final seconds.

Unfazed by having missed a spot-kick which could have given England a match-winning 2-0 lead, Beckham said he would be happy to keep taking them — even if he kept missing.

"Nothing will defeat me. That's the way I look at things," he said. "Even if I miss the next four or five penalties, then I'd step up and take one. I'm not sure

people would want me to though."

"Maybe if I'd taken four and missed four, then I'd let someone like Frank Lampard take it instead — maybe I wouldn't have any choice."

Beckham is now focusing on Thursday's Group B game against Switzerland at Coimbra and channelling the players' fury at having let a priceless victory against the European champions slip away.

"The anger is the good part for the players now," he said. "It's not anger where we want to go out and kick players." — MNA/Reuters

Thai manager, coach quit after North Korea defeat

BANGKOK, 17 June — Thailand manager Tawatchai Sajjakul and head coach Carlos Roberto Carvalho have quit after the team's 4-1 defeat by North Korea in a World Cup qualifier last week. "I feel sadness and regret because I love football and I have been trying to do my best, but I disappointed the Thai people. I need to be punished," Tawatchai told Reuters on Wednesday.

Brazilian Carvalho, who took over from Englishman Peter Withe last September, will return to the national Under-21 team he coached before his promotion.

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra criticized the team following last Wednesday's loss which left Thailand third in Asian zone Group Five with three points from as many games. United Arab Emirates top the group with seven points. — MNA/Reuters



Spain's Fernando Morientes (R) shoots the ball past Greece's goalkeeper Antonios Nikopolidis (top) to score, as Traianos Dellas (L) and Costas Katsouranis (on ground) watch, during their Euro 2004 Group A soccer match at the Bessa Stadium in Porto on 16 June, 2004. — INTERNET

Portugal still alive, Russia out

LISBON, 17 June — Portugal resurrected their Euro 2004 hopes and ended those of 10-man Russia with a 2-0 victory on Wednesday but will still need to beat neighbours Spain in their final group game to advance to the quarterfinals.



Portugal, playing with the fizz and freedom that was so markedly absent from their nervy opening defeat by Greece, won courtesy of a goal from midfielder Maniche after seven minutes and a late effort by substitute Rui Costa.

A poor Russian team had their goalkeeper sent off for the second successive match, though the red card for Sergei Ovchinnikov at the end of the first half for handball just outside the penalty area seemed harsh.

Russia's qualification hopes disappeared on the back of their ninth successive winless European Championship game — an unwelcome tournament record reaching back to the 1988 final.

But while the Portugal fans went off into the Lisbon night full of cheer, the head-to-head qualification system means they will have to beat Spain in their final game in the same city on June 20 to reach the last eight.

After Greece came back to draw 1-1 with Spain earlier on Wednesday both those teams have four points. Portugal have three and if they draw with Spain, Greece will go through thanks to their opening day 2-1 win — even if they lose their last game against Russia.

Wednesday's early result meant that effectively Portugal were playing knockout football from the kickoff against Russia.

Coach Luiz Felipe Scolari had reacted to their poor dis-

play against Greece by bringing in three new faces and one of them, Brazilian-born Deco, had an immediate impact.

Brought in to replace stalwart Rui Costa in midfield, he slipped a lovely pass into the feet of Maniche and the Sporting Lisbon midfielder swivelled to shoot low past Ovchinnikov.

The relief felt by the crowd and players was almost palpable after the suffering in Porto last Saturday and the home side took control from then on.

Deco sent a volley over the bar, Pauleta was inches away from connecting with a Henrik Larsson-style diving header and defender Ricardo Carvalho sent a header over the bar.

Though they dropped off the pace later in the half, the result was effectively decided in the 45th minute when Ovchinnikov raced from his line to face Pauleta as the forward chased an errant back pass.

The keeper got a fair touch with his feet but, seemingly inadvertently, touched the loose ball with his arm and was shown an immediate red card by Norwegian referee Terje Hauge.

However, Portugal still found themselves forced to defend. Goalkeeper Ricardo was happy to punch out a stinging shot by Andrei Karyaka 10 minutes after the restart and only a brilliant tackle by Carvalho denied Alexander Kerzhakov a clear path to goal.

The scares seemed to spark Portugal into life and Luis Figo thought he had scored when he finished off a superb passing move with a firm low shot only for substitute keeper Viacheslav Malafeyev to brilliantly touch it on to a post.

But Rui Costa finally made sure of the victory when he knocked the ball home after a cross from fellow substitute Cristiano Ronaldo in the 89th minute.

MNA/Reuters

Frings to join Bayern Munich from Dortmund

BERLIN, 17 June — Germany international midfielder Torsten Frings will join Bayern Munich from Borussia Dortmund.

Bayern spokesman Markus Hoerwicz was quoted by Germany's SID news agency on Wednesday confirming a report in Bild newspaper that they had agreed a deal with Dortmund for Frings, who scored for Germany in their 1-1 draw against the Netherlands at Euro 2004 on Tuesday.

No details about the transfer fee were published but Bild said the figure was 10 million euros (12.14 million US dollars) and Frings would sign a three-year contract.

The newspaper said Dortmund was selling Frings because of financial problems linked to early exits from the Champions League and UEFA Cup last season.

Dortmund finished sixth in the Bundesliga missing out on a place in next season's UEFA Cup competition.

Frings, 27, is Bayern's third major signing for next season, after Brazilian defender Lucio joined from Bayer Leverkusen and striker Vahid Hashemian arrived from VfL Bochum.

Bayern, who finished second in the league behind Werder Bremen, are also due to sign Andreas Goerlitz from TSV 1860 subject to a medical next week. — MNA/Reuters



Russia's goalkeeper Sergey Ovchinnikov (L) challenges Portugal's Pauleta (R) for the ball on the edge of the penalty area leading to a red card for the Russian goalkeeper during their Group A Euro 2004 soccer match at the Luz Stadium in Lisbon, on 16 June, 2004. Portugal defeated Russia 2-0. — INTERNET



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects demonstration of paddy winnowing in Paungtamaw Village-tract, Pyay Township.— MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects land reclamation in Bago Division

YANGON, 17 June — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence on 15 June met with officials concerned at Pyay and gave instruction on matters relating to extended cultivation of monsoon paddy and land reclamation.

Also present were Chairman of Bago Division PDC Commander of the Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Bago Division (West) PDC Chairman Col Hla Min and departmental officials.

Head of Bago Division Land Records Department U Chit Swe reported on land reclamation and extended cultivation of monsoon paddy in Bago Division (West).

Next, Col Hla Min reported on tasks being undertaken for extended cultivation of 300,000 acres of paddy from 2004 to 2007 and land reclamation totalling 975,72 acres for monsoon paddy in the region.

Officials of the Agricultural Mechanization Department and Myanma Agriculture Service also reported on preparation to provide machinery for monsoon paddy

cultivation and future plans. Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko also gave a supplementary report.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave necessary instructions. He said that there are over 2.4 million acres monsoon paddy cultivation and over 260,000 acres of summer paddy cultivation in 2003-2004 year. It is targeted to extend 100,000 acres of monsoon paddy in 2004-2005. In this regard, departmental officials need to provide necessary assistance to farmers, he said. He also urged the officials to make efforts for extended cultivation of monsoon paddy cultivation.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at work site to dredge the Louthout Creek in Hmawzar village-tract in Pyay Township. Pyay Township Peace and Development Council Chairman U Myint Swe reported on irrigated areas and job opportunities for the locals with the use of charts. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave necessary instructions.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met local people cordially. He said while the Government is making

efforts in the interests of farmers, they on their part are to strive for realizing the plans and projects of the State in view of developing the agricultural sector. The Louthout Creek drainage is 32,500 feet long. Thanks to the drainage, 300 acres can be put under monsoon paddy. It also provides job opportunities for 32 farmers. The drainage will also benefit the socio-economic uplift of local people by enabling them to put 742 acres under cultivation in Ashay Letkhokpin, Twinbyee, Muhtaw and Hmawza villages.

Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded by car to the 100-acre model paddy field at Paungtamaw village-tract in Pyay Township. They inspected the demonstration of harvesting and winnowing of paddy with the use of machines there.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party went to the work site of constructing Pogadue embankment between Letpadan and Thayawady townships in Thayawady District. Officials concerned reported on work progress and Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave nec-

essary instructions and fulfilled requirements. He met local farmers. The Pogadue embankment is 8 miles long and it has a sluice gate. By having the embankment, farmers in Thahtaygon, Pogadue, Ngaphyu Chaung, Yaypyan and Hsinku Ywathit villages in Bilin village-tract can protect their cultivated fields from flood and undertake double and multiple cropping. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than urged them to strive for extending sown acreage and increasing output of paddy. They can now put 2,700 acres under paddy. It is very beneficial to the rural economic development.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung

Than and party proceeded by car to Myan Naing Myint Co's integrated farm in Letpadan Township, Thayawady District. At the briefing hall of the farm, Project Director U Thet Zaw of the company reported undertaking of integrated farming, land reclamation, plan targets and future work programmes. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on extending cultivation of monsoon paddy and winter crops.

Myan Naing Myint Company has extended the cultivation of paddy in 1,544 acres as targeted in fiscal 2004-2005.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party next went

to Chanthagon farmers education centre in Letpadan Township and attended the demonstration on direct seeding method and modern cultivation techniques. Divisional Manager of Bago Division Myanma Agricultural Service U San Maung explained matters on effective use of fertilizers, cultivation of quality paddy on manageable scale, modern cultivation techniques and direct seeding method. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected the farm and gave necessary instructions.

Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party left there by car and arrived back in Yangon in the afternoon. — MNA



Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung receives China Metallurgical Construction (Group) Corporation (MCC) President Mr Xianghun Xu and party.— INDUSTRY-1

Industry-1 Minister receives President of China Metallurgical Construction (Group) Corporation (MCC)

YANGON, 17 June — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung received Mr Xianghun Xu, President of China Metallurgical Construction (Group) Corporation (MCC), and party at his office at 4.30 pm today and discussed conditions on build-

ing of pulp factory which can produce 200 tons per day of Myanma Paper and Chemical Industries. Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Win and Directors-General and Managing Directors of Departments and Enterprises.—MNA

CPT Minister receives Chairman of Orascom Telecom Company of Egypt and party

YANGON, 17 June — Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw received Mr Naguib Sawiris, Chairman of Orascom Telecom

Company of Egypt and party at his office at 5.30 pm today. Also present at the call were officials of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications. — MNA



Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw receives Orascom Telecom Co Chairman Mr Naguib Sawiris and party of Egypt.

COMMUNICATION

With hands linked firm around the National Convention.