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Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Sri Lanka

YANGON, 4 Feb— On the occasion of the 58th Anniversary of the Independence Day of Sri Lanka which falls on 4 February 2006, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Mahinda Rajapaksa, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. —MNA

Prime Minister felicitates Sri Lankan counterpart

YANGON, 4 Feb— On the occasion of the 58th Anniversary of the Independence Day of Sri Lanka which falls on 4 February 2006, General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Ratnasiri Wickramanayake, Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Work coordination meeting for ensuring smooth and secure transport held

YANGON, 3 Feb — Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport held a work coordination meeting at the meeting hall of Yangon Command this evening, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win.

First, the commander made a speech on safety

for the people in travelling and arrangements for enabling people to abide by traffic rules and regulations systematically. Afterwards, heads and registrars of departments of colleges, institutes and universities, members of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport, chairmen of bus lines and departmental officials reported on measures being taken for running ferry conveniently, ensuring smooth and secure transport,

reducing traffic accidents, enabling the people to observe by the traffic rules, safety and smooth transport for the people and conversion of diesel and petrol vehicles into CNG ones.

Regarding the reports, the commander coordinated matters reported by the officials and attended to the needs. Next, the meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the commander.

MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win speaking at the meeting of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 4 February, 2006

Strive for producing qualified human resources

Now is the time when the government is making all-out efforts for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and democratic nation that the entire national people long for. It is important for the people to have knowledge of democracy at a time when the discipline-flourishing democratic nation is taking shape.

The government is making efforts for the people to be able to distinguish good from bad or right from wrong. With this end in view, the education sector will have to strive for the nation to become educated one.

A ceremony to open the new building of Basic Education High School was held at No 1 War Veterans Model Village (Laydaunkan), Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon Division on 28 January morning with an address by Chairman of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Organizing Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

In his address, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said that intellectuals and intelligentsia play a vital role in carrying out development tasks of the nation; that hence, the national education promotion programmes are being implemented systematically; and that for producing qualified human resources, steps are being taken for standardizing curricula, ensuring uplift of teachers' efficiency and providing modern teaching aids to the schools.

Nowadays, there are over 40,000 basic education high schools, middle schools, post-primary schools and primary schools in over 60,000 villages throughout the nation. The ratio of villages to schools stands at 3:2. Over 250,000 teachers have been appointed at the schools at different levels.

While constantly learning education for uplift of self-efficiency, teachers are to nurture the students to become outstanding youths. Furthermore, teachers are to train their pupils to become ones with the practice of abiding by not only laws, rules and regulations of the nation but also school discipline.

In the meantime, teachers are to inculcate their pupils with Union Spirit that is the lifeblood for perpetual existence of the Union of Myanmar.

Therefore, it is incumbent upon teachers to try their utmost through the education sector for producing qualified human resources as intellectuals and intelligentsia play a vital role in carrying out development tasks of the nation.



Dr U Ohn Han of 12, Hsimwin Road in Ahlon Township recently donates K 100,000 to mark his birthday to Hnünzigon Home for the Aged through Administrative Board Joint-Treasurer U Maung Maung Gyi.—H

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

Buddha Pujaniya of Maha Vijaya Pagoda 11-13 Feb

YANGON, 3 Feb—The 21st Buddha Pujaniya of the Maha Vijaya Pagoda will be held along with devotional offering to Three Gems and Htamane preparation contest from 11 to 13 February.

On 12 February morning, flowers, fruits and snacks will be offered to the pagoda, and Sayadaws will consecrate the pagoda. Five thousand lights each will be offered to the pagoda every night from 11 to 13 February.

During the period, eminent Sayadaws will deliver sermons every night, and religious associations will recite Parittas and Buddha Desana.

On 12 and 13 February morning, alms food will be offered to member Sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and Ovadacariya Committee. At 7 am on 3 February, provisions will be donated to the Buddha images and members of the Sangha.

The opening of the Htamane preparation contest will be launched at 4 pm on 11 February. A total of 37 teams from townships and private bus lines will contend for the prizes.

MNA

Yangon Division Shwegyin Nikaya Vinaya Examination 7-9 February

YANGON, 3 Feb — Under the aegis of Shwegyin Nikaya Sasana-baung Waso Sayadaw and Joint Sasanabaing Thirimanta Sankyaung Monastery Sayadaw, the 86th Yangon Division Shwegyin Nikaya Vinaya Examination, organized by Sayadaws of Shwegyin Nikaya, will be taken place at Shwegyin Nikaya Sasana Lankara Maha Dhamma Beikman in the precinct of Kyaungdawya Shwegyin Monastery in Bahan Township from 7 to 9 February.

take the exam will go alms round in Bahan and Pabedan Townships at 8 am on 7 and 8 February, and Latha Township on 9 February.

MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa presents certificate of honour to Mr Jimbo and wife who gave training to students from Youth Training School.

SWD

Foreign Minister felicitates Sri Lankan counterpart

YANGON, 4 Feb— On the occasion of the 58th Anniversary of the Independence Day of Sri Lanka which falls on 4 February 2006, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Mangala Samaraweera, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.—MNA

Victorious disabled athletes, contributor, wellwishers honoured

YANGON, 3 Feb — A ceremony to honour the victorious athletes in the Third ASEAN Para Sports Meets and service personnel, who fetched Excellent Performance in Social Field Awards presented by the State Peace and Development Council, was held at the meeting hall of Social Welfare Department on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Mayangon Township this afternoon, with an address by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa.

Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa accepted K 300,000 by U Maung Maung + U Maung Maung Sein and brothers (Great Wall Traditional Medicine); K 100,000 by U Aung Khaing and Daw Khin Kyu Kyu Than (Mandaing Diesel and Nozzle Pump Trading); K 50,000 by U Myo Aung and Daw Khin Yi Mon (Sun Myanmar International Inpx); K 30,000 each by U Kyi Thein (Fudark) and U Mya Soe-Daw Tin Tin Myint (Doh Shwe Pyi Construction).

Next, the minister presented certificates of honour to U Mya Khaing (Social Welfare Department) who snatched two gold and one bronze medals in the swimming event of the ASEAN Para Sports Meets, gold medallist winner Ma Htet Htet Aye (Kyimyindine School for the Blind) in the discus event, gold medallist Ma Theint Thu Thu Linn (School for the Disabled Children) in the shot put event, silver medallist winner Maung Myo Aung of Kyimyindine School for the Blind in the long jump event, Maung Aung Kyaw Naing, Maung Aung Ko Oo and Maung Aik Kyauk from Youth Training School who won prizes in the International Tennis Federation 14 & Under Asian Championships (Tournament-2), and Mr Jimbo and wife of Ko Ko Ro Volunteer Group who contributed to the training of students from Youth Training School.

Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Aung and Director-General U Sit Myaing of SWD presented prizes and cash reward to two awards winners for Excellent Performance in Social Field.—MNA



China says IAEA should settle Iran issue

BEIJING, 2 Feb— Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing said the Iranian nuclear issue should be settled within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and hoped a long-term diplomatic solution can be found, the official *Xinhua* news agency reported.

Li, who met his Iranian counterpart Manouchehr Mottaki on Tuesday while in London

for an international conference on Afghanistan, said while Iran's right to the peaceful use of nuclear energy should be respected, the country should also meet its obligations, *Xinhua* reported.

Ministers from the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and Germany agreed in London that Thursday's emergency meeting of the UN's

nuclear watchdog agency should report Iran's nuclear dossier to the Council.

Xinhua quoted Li as saying that Beijing hopes that Iran and the European Union will continue to try to work out a long-term solution through diplomatic negotiations.

Mottaki said it is quite helpful for Iran and China to keep consultations on Iran's nuclear issue, said *Xinhua*.—MNA/Reuters

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US' energy forecasting agency says Bush's goal impossible

WASHINGTON, 2 Feb—President George W Bush called on Tuesday for slashing US oil imports from the Middle East by more than 75 per cent by 2025, a goal the government's top energy forecasting agency suggests will be almost impossible to meet.

In his annual State of the Union speech to Congress, Bush said the United States should reduce its reliance on foreign oil by developing alternative energy

sources, such as ethanol-blended gasoline and hydrogen fuel cells to run pollution-free vehicles.

However, the federal Energy Information Administration forecasts

that one out of every four barrels of oil produced globally in 2025 will come from the Middle East, making it difficult for the United States to avoid suppliers there.

Bush also said he would ask next week for a 22-per-cent increase in funding for clean-energy research in his 2007 budget, to develop solar and wind energy, cleaner-burning coal, nuclear energy and gasoline-electric hybrid vehicles that can be recharged in ordinary home outlets.

Many of Bush's energy goals and promises were not new and in some form were part of energy legislation that he signed into law last August.

Noticeably absent from the speech was a short-term plan to ease high gasoline and natural-gas prices, or to sharply raise government fuel standards for cars and trucks—which environmentalists say is the only way to significantly reduce gasoline use and oil imports. "Only one measure has ever stopped the growth of foreign oil imports and helped the Big Three automakers stave off foreign competition: increased fuel efficiency standards for American-made cars," Philip Clapp, President of the National Environmental Trust, said in response to Bush's speech.—MNA/Reuters



Filipino construction workers work on a residential condominium building in Manila's Makati financial district, Philippines on 2 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

Five US troops killed across Iraq

BAGHDAD, 3 Feb — Five US troops were killed in three separate rebel attacks across Iraq, the US military announced.

Three soldiers died when their vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb in southern Baghdad, while another soldier succumbed to wounds suffered when his unit came under small-arms fire in the southwest of the capital, it said.

A marine died from wounds near the former rebel bastion town of Fallujah west of Baghdad after he was attacked during combat operations, the military added.

The latest fatalities take the death toll of US military personnel in Iraq since the March 2003 invasion to 2,247, according to an AFP count based on Pentagon figures.

Internet

Egyptian Govt vows to help injured Hong Kong tourists

HURGHADA, 2 Feb— Egyptian Tourism Minister Zuheir Garana said on Wednesday that his government would do whatever it can to help the Hong Kong tourists injured in a deadly bus

crash in southeastern Egypt on Tuesday.

The accident, which occurred on the highway from Egyptian Red Sea resort of Hurghada to the main southern tour city of Luxor, claimed the lives

of 14 tourists from Hong Kong, leaving 29 others and the Egyptian driver injured.

"The most important thing for the Tourism Ministry at the moment is that we will keep a close watch on the conditions of the injured and do whatever we can to help them until they recover and leave the hospital," Garana told reporters while inspecting the injured in Hurghada General Hospital.

MNA/Xinhua

US airstrike kills Baghdad woman, Iraqi police

BAGHDAD, 3 Feb— A woman was killed when a US helicopter fired rockets at a house in Baghdad's Sadr City District during a raid by US forces to snatch a wanted militant early on Thursday.

A US military spokesman, Major Tim Keefe, said the helicopter had been shot at by a man

standing on a rooftop and had returned fire with rockets and machineguns.

He had no information on any casualties, but Iraqi police and residents said an elderly woman was killed and five other people were wounded in the air strike.

Iraqi police said the raid took place at about 1:00 am (2200 GMT)

with US soldiers sliding down ropes from helicopters hovering above.

Keefe said US soldiers raided the area to "capture a known terrorist from Ansar-al-Sunna", a Sunni militant group fighting against US forces and the Shiite-led Iraqi Government.

Two men were detained during the raid, he said, although it was not immediately clear whether the target was among them. The helicopter came under fire as it was leaving the area.

Sadr City is a predominantly Shiite area, where the firebrand Muslim cleric Moqtada al-Sadr and his Mehdi Army militia command a huge following.

Although Sadr has gained the respect of Sunni groups by leading

two uprisings against US troops, he is not known to have ties with radical groups such as Ansar al-Sunna based mostly in the Sunni heartland of Anbar Province in western Iraq.

MNA/Reuters

Boeing unveils carbon brake solution to reduce costs

KUALA LUMPUR, 2 Feb—Boeing Co has unveiled a new carbon brake solution to reduce airframe weight and operating costs for next-generation 737 operators worldwide.

The solution could reduce up to 300 kilos in airplane weight and increase the wear life twice at maximum, thus lower maintenance and operating costs, Mike Delaney, a 737 chief project engineer, said here on Wednesday. Carbon brakes with less weight offer the same stopping performance as steel brakes, which ultimately increases fuel efficiency," said Delaney.

The carbon brakes will be available for deliveries starting in early 2008. —MNA/Xinhua

Residents gather at the scene of a US military helicopter attack on homes on early Thursday, 2 Feb, 2006 in the Sadr City area of Baghdad, Iraq. INTERNET



Singapore, India ink MoU to strengthen educational cooperation

SINGAPORE, 2Feb— The National University of Singapore (NUS) and the Indian Institute of Science signed here on Wednesday a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to strengthen educational cooperation between the two countries.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by India's President APJ Abdul Kalam, who is on a two-day state visit to Singapore, according to the Channel NewsAsia reports on Wednesday night.

Under the deal, NUS post-graduate students will spend about a year as interns at technology-based start-ups while attending the prestigious Indian Institute of Science part-time, taking entrepreneurship and discipline-based courses.

The NUS College in Bangalore, known as the information and

technology capital of India, is the first NUS Overseas College for graduates, and the first batch of 10 students is expected to leave for Bangalore by the end of the year.

In recent years, economic ties between the two countries have been further strengthened with the signing of the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) and the launch of the Singapore-India Partnership Foundation.

On Wednesday, Indian President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam said that the two-

way trade between Singapore and India will increase from the current seven billion US dollars to nearly 15 billion US dollars in three years, and India's trade with the whole of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to 30 billion US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua



China's textile sales hit 3.3 trillion yuan in 2005

BEIJING, 2 Feb — China's textile sales reached 3.3 trillion yuan (408 billion US dollars) in 2005, surging 115.7 per cent from 2001, said the National Development and Reform Commission report.

The textile industry has become an important industry with fairly tangible competitiveness in the international market, due to industrial restructuring and upgrading," the report said, adding that

apparel exports reached 116 billion US dollars in 2005, up 118.9 per cent from five years ago.

Major textile enterprises posted 485.6 billion yuan (60.7 billion US dollars) in added value

in 2005, up 119.1 per cent.

These enterprises also reported doubled profits in the 2001-2005 period despite increasing trade disputes, oil price hikes and RMB revaluation.

MNA/Xinhua

Romania criticizes US verdict in rock star death

BUCHAREST, 2 Feb— Romania on Wednesday criticized a not guilty verdict returned by a US military court against a Marine charged with negligent homicide over the car-crash death of a rock star in 2004.

The Romanian Foreign Ministry said it was seeking ways to

challenge the court ruling while President Traian Basescu called the verdict "inadmissible".

The Marine, a guard at the US Embassy in Bucharest, was whisked out of Romania soon after the crash in December 2004 which killed bass guitarist Teo Peter.

Staff Sergeant Christopher Van Goethem was flown back to the United States where he was charged with negligent homicide.

"After a week of testimony, the defendant was found guilty of obstructing justice and making a false official statement. He was found not guilty of negligent homicide", the US Embassy said in a statement. The incident prompted outrage in the Black Sea country which has been a staunch ally of Washington's.

The Romanian

Foreign Ministry said the government was "deeply concerned", and summoned the US ambassador.

"The US ambassador was informed about the Romanian side's efforts to identify ways to ask the American side for a reassessment of the

context which led to the military court's decision," the ministry said in a statement.

Romanian police said the Marine crashed a three-tonne off-road vehicle into a taxi, killing Peter, who was a passenger.

MNA/Reuters



A woman from Hong Kong (R), who was treated for injuries from the tourist bus crash, leaves a hospital while accompanied by a relative in Cairo on 2 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

EU, India aim for better trade ties, Doha success

LONDON, 2 Feb— The European Union and India agreed on Wednesday to work for better bilateral trade ties, but not at the expense of a drive for a new global trade deal at the World Trade Organization (WTO).

EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson and Indian Commerce and Industry Minister Kamal Nath, two key players in the attempt to hammer out a new WTO round, met in London to try to take the troubled global trade talks forward.

They said in a joint statement that they would agree on a basis for bilateral negotiations aimed at closer economic cooperation by October, when an EU-India summit takes place, but added that reaching a global trade deal was their top priority.

"We have both said our priority is the Doha Development Agenda and that will be especially true in the coming months," Mandelson told reporters after the meeting. He said the EU's ability and determination to build the bilateral relationship was not designed to exclude other relationships with WTO members.

India's fast-growing economy is a key market for European firms making

high-value goods such as cars and chemicals. But the Indian Government has so far been reluctant to offer a lot more access to its markets at the WTO negotiations.

India, like the EU, hopes the Doha round will bring down barriers to trade in services that could benefit its booming services industry, including call centres and the outsourcing of activities such as payroll processing and insurance claims.

Nath said India wanted to work more closely with the EU, its biggest trading partner, both to boost investment and to enlarge the volume and range of trade. The 25-nation bloc accounts for about 20 per cent of India's global trade.

Both men said the talks were at an early stage. "We are looking at what the road blocks are between us because it makes negotiations easier when we understand each other's sensitivities more," said Nath. — MNA/Reuters

Chinese Mainland condoles on death of Hong Kong tourists in Egypt

BEIJING, 2 Feb— A spokesman of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council, or China's Cabinet, on Wednesday expressed condolence over the death of 14 Hong Kong tourists, who died in a bus accident in Egypt.

A tour bus overturned on a highway in southern Egypt early Tuesday, killing the 14 tourists and injuring 30 others, some seriously, Egyptian officials said earlier.

The bus was on the outskirts of the Red Sea resort of Hurghada, heading toward the ancient historic city of Luxor to the southwest, when it rolled over while speeding around a bend in the highway, according to Egyptian official news agency MENA.

"Chinese leaders are very much concerned about the event and had ordered the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to devote every effort to help all the Hong Kong people involved in the accident," said the spokesman.

"Every compatriot from Hong Kong is a member of the great family of China," he said. — MNA/Xinhua



US Marines and Iraqi soldiers searching for weapons caches and guerillas in the city of Hit in Iraq's western Anbar Province recently. —INTERNET

Putin defends Russia's role as G-8 member

Moscow, 2 Feb— President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday defended Russia's role in the Group of Eight industrialized democracies, saying the club should not become a forum for "fat cats".

"I know the mood of the leaders of the G-8. No one is against our active participation in this club. No one wants the G-8 to turn into a gathering of fat cats," he told a Kremlin news conference.

Russia took over the rotating G-8 chair at the start of this year and leaders of the elite club that also includes Germany, France, Britain, Italy, the United States,

Canada and Japan, will hold a summit in Putin's home town of St Petersburg in July.

But some critics have questioned whether the Kremlin is sufficiently committed to democracy and human rights to justify its place in the club.

Its debut at the helm was also marred by its decision to cut gas supplies to Ukraine over a price dispute, with the knock-on

effect of reducing deliveries to Europe—at a time when Moscow wanted to stress its reliability as an energy supplier.

Putin added that Russia's status as a major nuclear power meant it needed to be involved in G-8 discussions about global security — a clear reference to international concern about Iran's nuclear programme.

He also said his country was better placed to relate to the world's have-nots because of its high level of poverty.

"We cannot boast at the moment that we have a rich population... So as a country that is developing socially, we understand the problems of developing nations better than anyone else in the G-8."

He said the debate about Russia's place in the G8 would continue, but people who opposed it were stuck in the last century: "The dog barks, the caravan passes."

Chinese kids receive books instead of money as New Year's gift

SHENYANG, 2 Feb— Fifth-gradeschoolboy Xiaochen in Shenyang, capital of northeast China's Liaoning Province, had begun expecting the "red envelope" with cash in it long before the Spring Festival, or the Chinese Lunar New Year that fell on Sunday.

For centuries, the "red envelope" enclosed with money has been the most common and popular gift for the younger generations, particularly those who have not started making money themselves, from the older generations. It is almost a must for the parents to give such "cash gift" to their kids. But to the great surprise of Xiaochen, what his mother gave him on the Lunar New Year's eve this year was not the usual "red envelope," but a set of fairy tale books of Danish master Hans Christian Andersen. And the mother told Xiaochen that the new practice would be followed on every Lunar New Year's

eve to come.

To give books instead of money as the new year's gift has become more and more popular in Shenyang, as well as many other Chinese cities.

MNA/Xinhua

Britons promised "good news" on Iraq withdrawal

LONDON, 2 Feb — Foreign Minister Jack Straw told Britons on Wednesday to expect "good news" in the coming year regarding the withdrawal of British troops from Iraq.

The day after the 100th British soldier died in Iraq, he said Britain was actively looking at ways to get its soldiers home.

"(We are in) active discussions about how we draw down our troops on a province-by-province basis as we and the Iraqi government are

convinced that it is safe for them and for us to do so," Straw told BBC Radio.

"I think we'll see, over the next 12 months, some good news in that respect."

Britain has about 8,000 troops in Iraq, based in and around the southern port of Basra.



Vietnamese performers take part in a traditional spring festival in the Dong Da district of Hanoi on 2 Feb, 2006. The festivals are celebrated throughout northern Vietnam after the Lunar New Year and brings a respite from the dreary winter months.—INTERNET

German FM says hostages' situation serious

BERLIN, 2 Feb— German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said here on Wednesday that the situation of the two German engineers abducted last week in Iraq became serious.

"According to our assessment, too, the situation has become serious", said Steinmeier after meeting with his ministry's crisis team handling the matter and the Cabinet.

He said he could not comment on the ultimatum and repeated Chancellor Angela Merkel's appeal to the

kidnappers to release Rene Braeunlich and Thomas Nitzschke, who were abducted on 24 January near the Baiji oil refinery compound by armed men in military uniform.

Earlier Wednesday, the crisis team met to analyse a video in which a 72-hour execution ultimatum was given to the German Government

concerning the two Germans.

In the video, which was aired on al-Jazeera on Tuesday night, the kidnappers threatened to kill the two German men within 72 hours unless Germany closes its embassy in Baghdad and withdraws all companies from the country.

The Foreign Ministry did not disclose when the ultimatum will run out, but as the video was dated on 29 January, Wednesday could be the deadline.

The video, the second aired after the abduction, showed that Braeunlich and Nitzschke were crouching on the ground, flanked by masked kidnappers. Both men are engineers working for Leipzig company Cryotec and were sent to Iraq to help install machines for a detergents making plant.

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Xinhua



A family friend holds a young girl wounded from a US military helicopter attack on a home on early Thursday, 2 Feb, 2006, in the Sadr City area of Baghdad, Iraq.

INTERNET

Cabinet approves Delhi, Mumbai airport revamp plan

Mumbai airport revamp plan

NEW DELHI, 2 Feb — The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the selection of GMR-Fraport and GVK-South African Airports consortia for the modernization of Delhi and Mumbai airports.

"The Cabinet has accorded its approval to the report of empowered Group of Ministers on Delhi and Mumbai modernization and restructuring plan," Civil Aviation Minister Praful Patel told reporters after the Cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

The eGoM, headed by Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee, had Tuesday cleared the financial bids of GMR-Fraport and GVK-South African Airports consortia for the 54-billion-rupee metro airport modernization projects. "The final approval has been given. The process will now move on," Patel said. — MNA/PTI

Anger over the British mission in Iraq was reignited this week with the 100th death.

The milestone sparked condemnation from families of some of the dead troops. Anti-war protesters held a demonstration outside Parliament on Tuesday and said they planned similar protests and vigils in 100 towns around the country.

"Soldiers in Iraq have told me they don't want to be there," said Rose Gentle, whose son Gordon was killed in June

China, Switzerland agree to enhance cooperation in various fields

BERN, 3 Feb— China and Switzerland on Thursday expressed satisfaction with their bilateral relations and agreed to further enhance exchanges and cooperation in various fields.

“Great achievements have been made in political, economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries,” said Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing in a meeting with Swiss President Moritz Leuenberger.

Li, who is on a one-day visit to the Alpine country, said China attaches importance to its relations with Switzerland.

To keep the momentum of their cooperative relationship, the two countries should continue exchanges at various levels and in various fields, he said, adding that the two countries should also in-

crease coordination and communication in international affairs.

Li also called for Swiss companies to involve more actively in China’s economic development.

Leuenberger, for his part, hailed the close ties between the two countries.

Many Swiss Cabinet ministers have visited China, and the two peoples have come closer through their exchanges in various fields, the President said. He expressed hope that the two governments will make a comprehensive strategy about their future relationship so as to uplift their coopera-

tion to a new level.

Li also held a meeting with his Swiss counterpart Micheline Calmy-Rey later in the day.

The two ministers agreed to increase coordination in international and regional issues as well as

to continue their dialogue on such issues as human rights and the protection of intellectual property rights.

Calmy-Rey also reiterated that Switzerland sticks to one-China policy.—*MNA/Xinhua*



A Vietnamese teenager fixes her makeup prior to taking part in a traditional spring festival in the Dong Da district of Hanoi on 2 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

Two killed by DIL in Malaysia

KUALALUMPUR, 3 Feb— The acute neurological syndrome (DIL) has killed two people in northern Malaysia and another person was infected with the Japanese Encephalitis (JE) virus, local media reported on Thursday.

Local health experts, worried that DIL has the potential to become an epidemic in the Kelantan State, and conveyed the message to the state government during recent briefings to state executive councillors, State Public Health Committee Chairman Takiyuddin Hassan was quoted as saying by *The Star*.

There is also concern for the re-emergence of the deadly JE virus, carried by the culex tritaeniorhynchus mosquito, since there are similarities between JE and DIL, said the report.

Two 13-year-old girls, Siti Mardiana Mohd Romli

and Nasnira Akmar Hussin, died recently from DIL.—*MNA/Xinhua*

IAEA chief says Iran’s atom issue at critical phase

VIENNA, 3 Feb— UN nuclear watchdog chief Mohamed ElBaradei said on Thursday the standoff over Iran’s nuclear work was at a “critical phase” but it was not a crisis and Teheran still had a chance to regain international trust.

ElBaradei was speaking as the International Atomic Energy Agency’s 35-nation governing board met to weigh reporting Teheran to the UN Security Council over concerns it is trying to build atomic bombs under cover of a civilian nuclear energy programme.

He told reporters the

IAEA meeting was about pressing Iran to resolve doubts about its nuclear intentions before a conclusive report he is to make to a regular March 6 board.

“We are reaching a critical phase but it is not a crisis situation. It’s about confidence-building and it is not about an imminent threat,” he said,

“All who have spoken on the issue, even those who are supporting Security Council reporting, are making it very clear that the Security Council is not asked at this stage to take any action (that could lead to sanctions), definitely not before I submit my report in March. All of them are saying that this is simply a continuation of diplomacy,” ElBaradei said.

“I think what the board is trying to do is to send a very clear message to Iran but also provide a window of opportunity. The clear message: that Iran needs to take more confidence-building measures.”

But he said Iran should also understand that its move last month to resume limited enrichment of uranium, a key fuel for nuclear power reactors or bombs, “is not conducive” to restoring international trust in its atomic ambitions.

Two WWII bombs found in downtown Manila

MANILA, 3 Feb— Two resting bombs of the World War II left underground were found here on Thursday morning, local radio reported.

The first bomb, an 80-millimetre mortar, was found by a construction worker on Juaning Street in Sampaloc District, according to DZMM radio.

The second bomb, a 105 projectile, was dug up inside the Araullo High School near the Manila Police District headquarters on the United Nations Avenue. The bombs were brought to the bomb disposal unit of the Manila Police.

Being a major battlefield of Pacific War in the World War II, Manila suffered one of the deadliest bombing destruction throughout the world, second worst only to Warsaw, Poland.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Floods kill thirteen, bring misery to Bolivia

LAPAZ (Bolivia), 3 Feb — Devastating floods have killed at least 13 people in Bolivia and brought misery to more than 12,000 families following heavy seasonal rainfall in recent weeks, government officials said on Wednesday.

President Evo Morales declared a state of emergency across the impoverished country and has led rescue operations, which have been concentrated in the eastern lowlands. General Gustavo Gandarillas, civil defence director, said more than 12,000 families had lost homes and crops due to the floods and that thousands more had been affected by the above-average rainfall that is forecast to continue.

MNA/Reuters

Eight killed in Peru heavy rains

LIMA, 3 Feb— Torrential rain has killed eight people in Peru and displaced 1,400 families, Juan Podesta, head of the country’s national civil defence agency, told Lima reporters on Wednesday.

“From December to January we have had eight dead, 14 injured, around 1,400 families displaced, and around 3,800 affected,” Podesta said.

Torrential rain has affected Andean departments of Huancavelica, Arequipa, Cusco and Puno. Mudslides have blocked roads, interrupted transport, and rising rivers threaten to flood cultivated land.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Three killed in helicopter crash in Australia

CANBERRA, 3 Feb — Three people were killed when a helicopter carrying them crashed in Australia’s southeastern state of New South Wales Thursday. The chopper went down east of Parkes, about 300 kilometres west of Sydney, and exploded into flames.

Parkes Shire Council said in a statement that “three bodies have been located in the wreckage, two of whom are believed to be council employees”.

The two council employees were carrying out airborne inspections of inaccessible areas of noxious weeds, according to the statement.

MNA/Xinhua

Iraqi police find 14 bodies, bound and blindfolded

BAGHDAD, 3 Feb— Police discovered 14 bodies showing signs of torture in Baghdad on Thursday, an Interior Ministry source said.

The corpses were blindfolded, with hands tied behind their backs, he said.

Some of the victims had been beheaded or repeatedly stabbed, said the source.

Many bodies showing signs of abuse have been found in Iraq in recent months as sectarian tensions have risen against the backdrop of a Sunni Arab insurgency that has killed thousands of people.

MNA/Reuters



Firemen try to extinguish a fire at a gas station after a bomb attack in Baghdad, on 2 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

MNA/Reuters

World Cancer Day 2006

Dr Thida San

The World Cancer Day (WCD) that falls on 4 February 2006 marks the anniversary of the first World Summit Against Cancer held in Paris on 4 February 2000 where the Millennium Charter of Paris 2000 was launched. The *Charter of Paris Against Cancer* is a global call to action against cancer. Its purpose is to foster improved cancer treatment and research worldwide.

The *Charter of Paris Against Cancer*

Each of the 10 articles of the *Charter of Paris Against Cancer* focuses on a particular element of cancer prevention, treatment or care including protecting patient rights; increasing the commitment to basic and clinical research; improving access to clinical trials, prevention and screening initiatives; and improving cancer patients' quality of life.

It was in this Charter that 4 February was proclaimed World Cancer Day in perpetuity. Since the Paris Summit, cancer organizations worldwide have been using World Cancer Day as the platform to highlight the plight of people affected by cancer and to put cancer on the agendas of governments, policy makers, the media and communities around the world.

- Objectives of the World Cancer Campaign and World Cancer Day**
- Raise awareness on the profound and universal impact of cancer on human life and human suffering;
 - **Increase understanding of the solutions that exist.** The challenge is to deliver a key set of evidence-based cancer prevention measures to the community at large and curative and palliative interventions to people with cancer and their caregivers;
 - **Translate knowledge into action.** The next few years should see a wide array of choices from which to find remedies and solutions to fight cancer;
 - **Generate a movement that stimulates collective responsibility and action.** Families, community-based groups, professional societies, national governments and the international community all need to support the delivery of programmes and services to everyone affected by cancer, as well as fight for better access to basic health services.

Cancer is a public health problem worldwide. It affects all people: young and old, the rich and poor; men, women and children. By the same token cancer is also potentially the most preventable and curable of all the major life-threatening diseases.

Globally more than 10 million people are diagnosed with cancer every year and it is estimated that there will be 15 million new cases every year by 2020. Cancer causes 6 million deaths every year - that is — 12% of deaths worldwide.

Cancer claims twice as many lives worldwide as AIDS. That's more than AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria put together. In industrialized countries, cancer is the leading cause of premature mortality, and evidence points to the emergence of the same trend in developing countries.

Prevention and early detection are the most powerful weapons in the fight against cancer. During WCD 2005, the focus was on education and health promotion to prevent unnecessary suffering and death from cancer. Many people have little or no knowledge of this disease and often seek medical intervention when their cancer is in an advanced stage.

Cancer is largely preventable and the most curable of major life-threatening diseases today. By applying existing evidence-based knowledge it is possible to prevent at least one-third of the estimated 11 million cancer cases that occur globally each year and with early detection and treatment, it is possible to cure at least another third of cancer cases. However, in spite of the unprecedented understanding of the root causes of cancer, the gap between what is

scientifically feasible and what is being applied continues to widen.

Knowledge about the prevention and treatment of cancer has significantly increased, but the numbers of people diagnosed with cancer each year and those who eventually die from it are growing dramatically. Worldwide cancer control can only be effective if it is given priority at the highest decision-making levels. Complacency and inaction on the part of the international community will effectively contribute to more than 10 million deaths annually by the year 2020.

In developing countries, 80 to 90 percent of cancer patients already suffer from advanced and incurable clinical complications at the time of diagnosis. Transfer of knowledge must actively be promoted between peoples of industrialized economies and those who live in resource-limited settings. Best practices and lessons learned on cancer-control strategies need to have a regular forum. Clever science in tandem with sound policies based on evidence can lead to a reduc-

Treating childhood cancer doesn't have to be expensive. By developing treatment regimes that take account of a country's medical facilities and providing proper training and advice to local doctors, we can make great progress on relatively limited funds.

tion in the global cancer burden.

This year marks the launch of the **UICC World Cancer Campaign** focused on childhood cancer. The World Cancer Campaign calls for an invincible alliance between researchers, healthcare professionals, patients, government, industry and media, to fight cancer and its greatest allies which are fear, ignorance and complacency. The World Cancer Campaign theme for 2006 will be **"My Child Matters"**. Focused on the international impact of childhood cancer, the campaign consists of three main components: support for research initiatives to reduce childhood cancer mortality and morbidity in developing countries; a comprehensive state-of-the-art report on childhood cancers which will be made available to the general public on **World Cancer Day, 4 February 2006**; and a worldwide mobilization and awareness campaign, to highlight the effects of childhood cancers on children and their families.

While statistics show that over 160,000 children worldwide are newly diagnosed with cancer each year, the exact number of new cases each year is not known as cancer registers do not exist in many countries. Significant advances have been made in diagnosis and therapy during the past four decades and the good news is that childhood cancer can largely be cured if detected sufficiently early. Yet children with cancer who live in developing countries have less than a 50 per cent survival rate, as opposed to 80 percent for children living in developed countries.

Childhood cancer is more than twice, as curable as all adult cancers. To save thousands of children's lives each year it is vitally important that childhood cancer is detected early and that access to treatment is improved in developing countries. Currently only 20 per cent of children with cancer living in developing countries receive the treatment they need.

**Childhood cancer can be cured if detected early
Childhood cancer responds well to prompt and effective treatment**

- Improved survival rates are largely due to better treatment and improved quality of care. Chemotherapy was introduced for the treatment of childhood leukaemia in the 1940s and has been incorporated into treatment regimes that previously relied on surgery or radiotherapy for other common

childhood cancers. 80% of children with cancer live in developing countries. They are often diagnosed too late or not diagnosed at all.

- Without access to life-saving treatment, more than one in two of these children diagnosed with cancer will die.
- Treating childhood cancer doesn't have to be expensive. By developing treatment regimes that take account of a country's medical facilities and providing proper training and advice to local doctors, we can make great progress on relatively limited funds.
- The international community needs to recognise the plight of children with cancer as a priority.
- A coordinated strategy by the global cancer control community — one that combines innovative science and sound public health policies — can save a large proportion of the 90,000 young lives lost every year.

Importance of knowing the signs and symptoms of childhood cancers

Knowing the signs can save a child's life. The types of cancer that occur in children differ greatly from those found in adults, as do the treatments and survival rates. Frequency of many common cancer types differs between populations. For example, leukaemia represents almost a third of all childhood cancers in Europe, America and East Asia, where it is the most common childhood cancer. Other tumour types are more frequent in developing countries, such as lymphomas, Kaposi's sarcoma or retinoblastoma.

Although there are different types of cancer, at least 85 per cent of all childhood cancers have similar signs and symptoms. These include continued, unexplained weight loss and fever; pallor; headaches - often with early morning vomiting; unusual swelling and abdominal mass; swollen head; development of excessive bruising or bleeding; white glow in the eye; and sudden changes in balance or behaviour. Since most of the symptoms of cancer can be interpreted as common child ailments, parents should insist, where possible, that physicians carry out tests to rule out cancer. Cancer in children develops rapidly and early diagnosis and treatment greatly improve the chances that the child will survive and live an active and productive life.

Cancer knows no boundaries, and individual countries cannot address the challenges of cancer in isolation. It not only affects the quality of life of the person living with the disease but also adversely impacts the psychosocial welfare of entire families. Its effects can be wide-ranging and a downward spiral can result with huge economic implications. Cancer is capable of inflicting a massive and often irreversible shock on the most vulnerable: young children, adolescents as well as persons whose families depend on them for basic survival.

World Cancer Day aims to bring together advocacy groups, patient survivor support networks, voluntary cancer societies, public health authorities and research and treatment centres for a collaborative approach to research, advocacy and treatment including caring support.

Bridging the gap

World Cancer Day not only aims to stimulate collective responsibility and action among families, community-based groups and the medical profession, but also to look for solutions to expand access to treatment in developing countries.

Forty years ago, childhood cancer in developed countries was almost uniformly fatal. Vigorous action has changed that picture dramatically, so that today, most children live. In developing countries this is not the case, and the majority of children with cancer are still dying. Across the globe, we need to make surviving cancer the rule, not the exception.

The time to act is now, so that together we can help save children's lives.

* * *

Mon State seeks agro-development means

YANGON, 3 Feb — Officials sought ways to develop agriculture in Mon State at a meeting held in Mawlamyine yesterday.

Speaking at the meeting, Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing explained plans to extend paddy

cultivation for local food sufficiency, apply innovative means for raising per acre yield, grow physic nut according to target, and disseminate public knowledge on physic nut.

The participants including Secretary of Mon State PDC Lt-Col Soe Myint Aung, officials, local authorities presented discussions and sugges-

tions on increasing sown acreage of crops township-wise, and means to develop the agricultural sector.

The commander made arrangements to implement the task of further developing the agricultural sector of the state, saying harmonious efforts are required to reach the goal.

MNA

Cultivation of physic nut, other perennial crops in Lashio Township inspected

YANGON, 3 Feb — Chairman of the Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, accompanied by Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint and officials, inspected physic nut and pine apple plantations on No 1 Konmyinthta at the exist of Lashio on 1 February.

Next, they went to

No 3 Konmyinthta 1000-acre model plantation of physic nut where they inspected progress in cultivation of 100 acres of physic nut and land reclamation. The commander and party also inspected thriving plantations of Hsin Shweli honey orange and pine apple on Nalyan region No 4 Konmyinthta owned by Hnin Khine Co, 100-acre plantation of physic nut and pine apple owned by

Myanmar Police Force, Hsin Shweli sunflower plantation owned by MPF near AT Bridge at the exit of Lashio, 10-acre plantation of Hsin Shweli high-yield monsoon paddy owned by the township Peace and Development and 20-acre plantation of monsoon paddy owned by MPF. Later, the commander gave necessary instructions to officials and fulfilled the needs.

MNA

Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries holds coord meeting

YANGON, 3 Feb — Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein delivered an address at the coordination meeting of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries for 2005-06 fiscal year at the Fisheries Department on Hsinmin Road in Ahlon Township this morning.

Director-General U Kyaw Lwin of Directorate of Livestock and Fisheries reported on tasks being carried out.

Director-General U Maung Maung Nyunt of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, Director-General U Than Tun of Fisheries Department, Director-General U Myint Shwe of Apiculture Department, Managing Director U Khin Maung Aye of Livestock, Feedstuff and



Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein gives instructions to officials at coordination meeting of Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries. — L&F

Dairy Enterprise, and Rector of University of Veterinary Science Dr Myint Thein submitted reports on production of new vaccines for animals, meat, milk and egg,

prevention against avian flu, putting of fish into dams, rivers and creeks, progress of fish and prawn export, distribution of bee and honey products, pollution, manufacturing of

feedstuff and medicines and academic matters.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein.

MNA

Special appeal cases heard

YANGON, 3 Feb — The Special Appellate Bench comprising Deputy Chief Justice of Supreme Court (Yangon) U Thein Soe, Supreme Court Judges Dr Tin Aung Aye and U Chit Lwin sitting at court room No 1 this morning delivered judgments of three special civil appeal cases and heard three special criminal appeal cases under Section 7 of the judiciary law, 2000.

MNA

Sixth leg of Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour commences



YANGON, 3 Feb — A ceremony to open the sixth leg of Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour, organized by Myanmar PGA and Myanmar Golf Federation was held at Kawthoung Golf Club in Kawthoung this morning.

Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, MPGA and MGF President Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd), Air Bagan Ltd Chairman U Teza and Tactical Operations Commander Col Myint Tun of Coastal Region Command teed off to open the golf tour.

After the first round, Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon) led the professional division by shooting a three-under-par 69. Yin Aung Latt (Taunggyi) put his position behind the

leader with a two-under-par 70. Zaw Zin Win (Srixon) and Myint Thauang (KN Golf Centre) stood in the third position, tying at a one-under-par 71. Soe Kyaw Naing (Srixon) was a back-up player behind four golfers, scoring 72 strokes in the fourth position.

In the amateur division, Ngwe Tun fired a two-under-par 70, followed by Aung Win (Monywa) 73, Bo Bo 75 and Yan Naing Phyo 76.

The tour is being sponsored by Air Bagan Ltd together with co-sponsors KBZ Bank, Myanmar Brewery Ltd, Myanmar Treasure Resort Hotel, Aureum Palace Hotel Resort, Kawthoung Golf Club, Srixon, Kachin Golfers Group, Jade Land Myanmar Co Ltd, Max Myanmar Co Ltd, London, Viking Marine Product Trading Co Ltd. Han Event Management organizes the functions of the golf tour.

The second round of the tour continues tomorrow at the same venue.

MNA

Hockey coach training course opened

YANGON, 3 Feb — A training course for hockey coach jointly organized by Federation of International Hockey-FIH and Myanmar Hockey Federation was opened today at Sports and Physical Education Institute (Yangon) here.

Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint made an opening address and accepted cash and sportswear donated by wellwishers.

Mr K M Awais, coach of FIH, presented hockey stick and sports-

wear for hockey goalkeeper to Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint.

Managing Director of Danar Management Co Ltd donated K 250,000 to be spent in the training and MTM Co and Pedrollo Co 30 sets of sportswear through the minister. MNA

Market festival continues

YANGON, 3 Feb — The market festival of the Industry-1 Ministry continued in the ministry compound today. A total of 333 kinds of goods are sold in retail and wholesale at the festival. The goods include textiles, foodstuff, medicines, cosmetics,

household goods, ceramics, glassware, paper and chemicals, sewing machines, bicycles, leatherware, rubber and so on. Entertainment programmes are also staged at the festival open daily from 6 am to 8 pm. There are also restaurants. — MNA

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“My Child Matters”

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Basic Diplomatic Skills Course concludes

YANGON, 3 Feb — The Graduation Ceremony of the Certificate Course in Basic Diplomatic Skills (BDS 14/2005) conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was held today at Wunzin Minyazar Hall of the Ministry with an address delivered by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win.

Also present on the occasion were directors-general of the depart-

ments under the ministry, departmental officials, Myanmar Ambassadors, senior diplomats, a rector and professors of universities and institutes concerned and trainees.

Altogether 160 trainees interested in international affairs, businessmen dealing with foreign firms, management official of companies, service personnel attended the 12-week course.

MNA



Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win delivers an address at the ceremony to conclude Basic Diplomatic Skills Course No 14/2005. — MNA

Ministry of PBANRDA opens training courses

YANGON, 3 Feb — Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt attended the ceremony to open the management course No 26, the basic domestic science course No 1, the staff training courses No 40 and No 41 at the central training school of Education and Training Department in Ward 51,

Dagon Myothit (North) Township, this morning.

Minister Col Thein Nyunt explained the aims of the training courses, functions for progress of urban and rural areas, tasks to implement 24 special development region plan and rural development plan, and matters related to laws, rules and regulations, and financial rules.

A total of 155

trainees are attending the training courses. All the courses will be conducted for nine weeks. Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for PBANRDA Brig-Gen Than Tun, directors-general, deputy directors-general and guests.

After the opening ceremony, the minister inspected hostels for women's trainees, the mess hall, beautifying

tasks at the school, staff quarters, warehouses of heavy machinery, and attended to the needs.

MNA

Tachilek District to put 129.8 acres under physic nut in the rainy season

YANGON, 3 Feb — Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing held a meeting with service personnel, members of social organizations and local people in Tachilek Township on 31 January

morning.

On the occasion, the commander elaborated on tasks for the development of Tachilek, extended cultivation of rice for food sufficiency, extended growing of rubber and physic nut, and use of physic nut oil as bio-diesel, calling for harmonious participation of government employees and local people in the regional development un-

dertakings.

The commander also inspected physic nut nurseries of the Customs Department and the Forest Department in Tachilek Township.

Now, plans are under way to put 129.8 acres under physic nut in Tachilek District in the rainy season.

Next, he viewed physic nut plantations of local regiments and units.

MNA

Work programmes on maternal and child welfare briefed

YANGON, 3 Feb — The Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee conducted a brief of its work programmes at Kanaung Hall of Shwepyitha Industrial Zone in Shwepyitha Township, Yangon North District, this morning.

Chairperson of the committee Daw Mar Mar Wai delivered a speech.

Secretary of the committee Dr Hla Myint submitted future plans, Joint Secretary Dr Daw Nwe Ni Ohn, the report on work progress of the year 2005, and Yangon North District MCW Supervisory Committee Chairperson Daw Saw Shwe, progress of work done in 2005.

MNA



MINISTER MEETS GUEST: Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Union of Myanmar Mr Guan Mu called on Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw at his office on 3-2-2006. The photo shows the minister receives the Chinese Ambassador. — MNA

Arts exhibition to be staged

YANGON, 3 Feb — An exhibition of works by Artist Star Mya Than Arts will be staged at TMT Show Room at Pearl Condo on KabaAye Pagoda Road here on 4-12 February.

Chairman of the Supervisory Committee for Library, Museum and Exhibition Assistant Director of the Information and Public Relations De-

partment Daw Tin Tin Myint and committee members this morning inspected the exhibition and granted a permit to stage the exhibition to Artist Star Mya Than.

A total of 40 paintings reflecting Myanmar culture will be exhibited, and admission is free.

MNA



Chairperson of Library, Museum and Exhibition Supervisory Committee Assistant Director Daw Tin Tin Myint of IPRD presents permit to Artist Star Mya Than. — MNA

ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ဖို့၊
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Chairperson of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for MCWA Daw Mar Mar Wai speaking at the ceremony to clarify functions of Yangon Division MCWSC. (News on page 9) — MNA

Brain tangles linked to gait impairment in elderly

NEW YORK, 3 Feb— Brain lesions known as neurofibrillary tangles, such as those seen in Alzheimer's disease, are also associated with impaired gait in older subjects with or without dementia, according to a postmortem study.

"The more tangles an older person had in the substantia nigra" — an area of the brain associated with Parkinson's disease — "the more problems there were with gait," lead author Dr Julie A. Schneider told *Reuters Health*. Results were not altered by dementia.

"The spectrum of Alzheimer's disease is wide and poses a greater public health concern than previously recognized," Schneider said. "These data suggest that in addition to, or even instead of, problems with memory, persons with Alzheimer's disease may have problems with

walking and balance."

In the study, Schneider and colleagues, from Rush University Medical Centre in Chicago, investigated Parkinson-like signs and brain tangles in the substantia nigra in 86 deceased subjects without idiopathic Parkinson's disease. They used a modified Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale to assess signs of gait and movement disturbance, rigidity, and tremor proximate to death.

According to a report in the *Annals of Neurology*, substantia nigra tangles were present in 78 per cent of study subjects. The average

number of tangles was more than 1,500. In analyses taking into account multiple factors, the team found a strong link between the presence of these brain tangles and impaired gait.

Gait problems without an established cause, like arthritis or stroke, Schneider said, "may be a harbinger of future dementia including Alzheimer's disease. Our data suggest that these gait problems may indicate that there is already Alzheimer's disease pathology in the brain".

The investigators plan to study the functional status of the substantia nigra by measuring levels of certain brain enzymes in the substantia nigra. "If these substances are depleted it may suggest that agents

that increase them may be helpful to older persons with gait problems," Schneider offered.

MNA/Reuters

Norway closes office in West Bank after threats

OSLO, 3 Feb— Norway closed its representative office in the West Bank on Thursday after receiving threats from armed groups in the region angered by the publishing of cartoons that depicted the prophet Mohammad in a Norwegian newspaper.

"We look upon this situation as very serious and we are closing our office to the public," Foreign Ministry spokesman Rune Bjaastad said.

He did not say when

the office in Al Ram in the West Bank would reopen. Nine Norwegian diplomats and 14 local staff work in the office, he said.

Armed groups in the Palestinian territories have threatened to target Norwegians after the small Oslo-based Christian newspaper *Magazinet* republished 12 cartoons of the Prophet Mohammad last month. Muslims consider it blasphemous to depict Mohammad.

MNA/Reuters

DONATE BLOOD

British twins who killed step grandma jailed for nine years

LONDON, 3 Feb— Twin brothers who sneaked out of their 18th birthday party to steal from their step-grandmother were sentenced to nine years each for her manslaughter after the 74-year-old was killed during the robbery.

Robert and James Maskell, who were cleared of Anjelica Hallwood's murder, were also found guilty of robbery, along with their accomplice in the killing, 19-year old Dwane Johnston.

Johnston, who had been going out with Hallwood's granddaughter, was also sentenced to nine years.

"It is difficult to imagine a more despicable crime," Judge Gerald Gordon told the trio. "For reasons of pure greed and regardless of any effect upon her you sought to rob her.

"You could so easily have arranged to steal while she was out and safe but not a bit of it, even though you knew that in order to rob her she would have to be restrained to enable you to carry out your ransacking."

Hallwood's son shouted "Bye scumbags" from the well of the court as the three were led away to the cells. During their trial at London's Old Bailey last month, the jury heard how the Maskells believed Hallwood had thousands of pounds in savings and wanted the cash to spend on mobile phones. — MNA/Reuters

BBC radio staff strike to hit programmes

LONDON, 3 Feb — Around 500 BBC radio production staff will strike on two separate days this month in a dispute over job cuts, broadcasting union Bectu said on Thursday.

The staff from the publicly funded broadcaster's Radio and Music division will walk out on 15 and 23 February.

The action will hit programmes such as Radio 1's popular Chris Moyles show, Radio 2's Jeremy Vine show and Radio 4's *Midweek*.

Radio news programmes, produced by a separate BBC division, will not be affected. The dispute involves BBC workers in London, Bristol, Birmingham and Manchester.

Bectu says BBC plans to merge a number of radio production roles will reduce quality and leave around 100 staff looking for new posts elsewhere.

"The BBC is famous for making the best radio in the country and we think there will be a real impact on the quality of what's

put out," said Bectu official Luke Crawley.

The BBC said it would be "disappointed" if listeners suffered because of the dispute.

"The wider use of multi-skilled assistant producers is part of a strategy through which the BBC's Radio and Music division plans to achieve significant efficiency savings without the need for compulsory redundancies," it said in a statement. Last year, BBC staff held a one-day strike over plans to cut 4,000 jobs.

MNA/Reuters

WHO chief says bird flu still little understood

ANKARA, 3 Feb— The World Health Organization (WHO) said on Thursday the death of an Iraqi girl believed to have had bird flu showed how little was known about the disease.

Tests carried out by a British laboratory on the Iraqi teenager have confirmed she died of bird flu, the *New Scientist* magazine said on its website on Thursday.

WHO officials have declined to confirm the report but say they are working on the assumption that the H5N1 strain of bird flu was indeed the cause of her death.

"(The death) has highlighted how little is still known about the spread of the avian flu virus among poultry. Before her death, the presence of H5N1 in poultry in Iraq was

not known," WHO director-general Lee Jong-Wook told a news conference during a visit to the Turkish capital Ankara.

"Similarly here there was almost no prior warning of infection in poultry in the eastern part of Turkey," he added.

Four children have died in Turkey from bird flu over the past month. There was little evidence of the virus among birds in the affected region of eastern Turkey before the first human victim died on 1 January. The H5N1 virus has killed at least 85 people worldwide since 2003, mostly in south-east Asia and China.

Lee reiterated that there was nothing to suggest any change in the pattern of transmission of the virus.

"Our investigation has found no evidence the virus is being spread among humans. This remains a problem of (transmission from) poultry to humans and poultry to poultry," he said.

Scientists say the H5N1 virus is mutating steadily and may acquire the changes it needs to be easily transmitted from human to human. It could then sweep the world in weeks or months, killing millions, because humans lack any immunity to the virus.

"The outbreak here in Turkey was similar to outbreaks in east Asia," Lee said, adding that the most vulnerable group remained children and young adults exposed to poultry, usually in their backyards.

MNA/Reuters

Air pollution warnings issued in Belgium

BRUSSELS, 3 Feb—Various environmental agencies in Belgium on Wednesday issued warnings for high levels of fine particulate matter in the air. Air pollution levels in Belgium have sharply risen over the last few days, partly due to the migration of heavily polluted air from Eastern European countries. Due to exceptional weather conditions, the air

quality is to plummet further on both, said these agencies. All residents have been warned to avoid any strenuous activity, both outdoors and indoors. Concentration of fine particulate matter is also currently high indoors. Environmental Minister Eveline Huytbroeck has asked commuters to leave the car at home and opt for public transport. The minister has also

suggested that all Brussels' residents lower their heating levels to further reduce emissions. Environmental experts said that the situation would improve by the weekend. *MNA/Xinhua*

Japan halts imports of Dutch pork

BRUSSELS, 3 Feb—Japan has imposed a temporary ban on imports of pork from the Netherlands, Dutch Agriculture Minister Cees Veerman said Wednesday. Veerman told local Press that the ban relates to possible contamination of the meat by dioxin.

Veerman has ordered a suspension of trading by over 200 farm businesses linked to the scare about high levels of dioxin in pig fat. The Netherlands has rejected a request by Japan for the names of these businesses while the Japanese said they were not satis-

fied with a Dutch statement that the meat was safe. Japan and South Korea, which slapped a similar ban last week, are not major buyers of Dutch pork. Each of the countries takes 1.5 per cent of the total export of pork from the Netherlands. *MNA/Xinhua*

Damaged tanker sinks in Channel after collision

LONDON, 3 Feb—A chemical tanker, severely damaged in a collision with another ship in the Channel between France and Britain, has sunk but its cargo poses no pollution danger, the British Coast Guard said on Wednesday. The 8,131-ton *Ece*, carrying phosphoric acid, sank 20 miles west of the island of Guernsey. The 22 crew members had all been rescued following the collision with the bulk carrier *General Grot-Rowecki* in the early hours of Tuesday. The *Ece* sank in 70 metres of water, a Coast Guard spokesman said, and a one-mile exclusion zone had been imposed around the area. *MNA/Reuters*

Switzerland's Roche group reports record sales in 2005

GENEVA, 3 Feb—Switzerland's Roche pharmaceutical group, patent owner of the famous anti-flu drug Tamiflu, reached new records for both its sales and operating profit last year, it announced in a Press release on Wednesday.

"Group sales rose by 20 per cent to more than 35 billion Swiss francs (about 27.4 billion US dollars) in 2005," the Press release said. It further said that the group's operating profit margin was also up 2.5 percentage points to 25.4 per cent last year, while the net income stood at 6.7 billion Swiss francs (about 5.2 billion US dollars), virtually the same level as the year before. The group's drug division was the key growth driver, with its sales reaching 27.3 billion Swiss francs (about 21 billion

US dollars), 26 per cent higher than in 2004, the statement added. "The year 2005 was an excellent year for Roche. The pharmaceuticals division achieved its best result ever and diagnostics showed a solid performance leading to record sales and operating profit on a group level," Roche Chairman and CEO Franz Humer said in a statement. The anti-flu drug Tamiflu, which many governments have been stockpiling as part of their bird flu pandemic readiness programmes, also con-

tributed to the sales growth. "With the introduction of many novel diagnostics and life-saving drugs, and a great effort to increase the availability of Tamiflu we have again created sustainable value for physicians and patients," he added.

Humer later told journalists he thought Tamiflu sales would rise to at least 1 billion Swiss francs (about 769 million US dollars) this year. Roche, which was founded in 1896 in Basel, has core businesses in pharmaceuticals and diagnostics.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Avalanche kills 18 in Tajikistan

DUSHANBE, 3 Feb—An avalanche in Tajikistan killed 18 people in their sleep when it engulfed an apartment block in the mountainous Central Asian state overnight, emergency services said on Wednesday. The Emergency Situations Ministry said it had rescued 20 out of 38 people who were caught in the avalanche, which came after a week of heavy snowfall in the Jirgital region, 250 kilometres (155 miles) north-east of the capital Dushanbe. Spokesman Nazokatsho Saiorabekov said most of those rescued had been taken to hospital to be treated for frostbite. Avalanches frequently kill small groups of people during the winter and spring in Tajikistan but it was the worst death toll from a single incident in several years. *MNA/Reuters*

WHO declares Egypt, Niger free of polio

GENEVA, 3 Feb—The World Health Organization (WHO) declared on Wednesday that endemic polio has been eradicated in Egypt and Niger, and now the disease is still endemic in only four countries. "Indigenous poliovirus has not circulated in both Egypt and Niger for over 12 months, leaving Nigeria, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan as the only countries that have never stopped indigenous polio transmission," said the WHO in a Press release.

This is the first time in three years that the number of polio-endemic countries has fallen, bringing the polio eradication efforts to a new phase, the organization said. The WHO, together with the United Nations Children's Fund, the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention and Rotary International, launched a polio eradication campaign in 1988 when polio was present in more than 120 countries. Between 1988 and 2004, global eradication efforts reduced the

number of polio cases from 350,000 annually to a low of 1,189 cases. In 2005, however, the number of cases rose again to 1,831, mainly due to the outbreak in northern Nigeria and the infection in 21 previously polio-free countries.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Bomb blasts outside army barracks in Beirut

BEIRUT, 3 Feb—A bomb exploded early Thursday morning outside a Lebanese Army barracks in Beirut, destroying a car but hurting no person, said the police. The explosion occurred at around 2 am (0000 GMT) outside the Fakhreddine Barracks in Ramlet al-Baida District

of the capital, shattering windows in nearby buildings. One TV report said a soldier was slightly injured by flying glass. Ambulances and fire engines rushed to the scene while police and Army units sealed off the area and began an investigation. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Ten killed as two car bombs explode in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 3 Feb—Two car bombs killed at least 10 people and wounded 55 others in Baghdad on Thursday, police sources said. The sources said one car bomb exploded in a market and the other in a petrol station. Hospital sources said they expected the number of casualties to rise. Sunni guerillas are waging a campaign of suicide and car bombings, shootings and assassinations in a bid to topple the Shiite-led government. Iraqi and US officials have said they expect a surge in violence following the release of the results of the December 15 parliamentary election, which gave Shi'ite Islamists a near majority. *MNA/Reuters*

တတိယအကြိမ်မြောက် အနာကြီးရောဂါကင်းရေးအထိမ်းအမှတ်နေ့ (၆-၂-၂၀၀၆) "အနာကြီးရောဂါကင်းရေးဖို့ ဆွေးနွေးတိုင်ပင်ပြောကြားစဉ်။"

အနာကြီးရောဂါဟု မသင်္ကာဖွယ်ရာ ကနဦးလက္ခဏာများမှာ

- အရေပြားပေါ်တွင် အရောင်ပျော့သော ၊ နီသော ၊ ကြေးနီရောင်ပေါက်နေသော အကွက်များရှိပြီး ၎င်းတို့သည် -
- ယားယံမှုမရှိခြင်း
- နာကျင်မှုမရှိခြင်း
- ပူခြင်း ၊ အေးခြင်း ၊ နာခြင်း ၊ ထိခြင်းတို့ မသိခြင်း
- အရေပြား၏ မည်သည့်နေရာတွင်မဆိုဖြစ်ပေါ်နိုင်သည်။

အသက်အရွယ် ၊ ကျားမ မရွေး ၊ အတန်းအစားမရွေး ၊ နေရာဒေသမရွေး ဖြစ်နိုင်သည်။

- သင့်ရပ်ရွာတွင် အနာကြီးရောဂါကင်းရေးလိုပါသလား။
- အနာကြီးရောဂါအကြောင်းကို လူတိုင်းသိအောင်ပြောပြပေးပါ။
- အနာကြီးရောဂါသည်ဟု မသင်္ကာသူတိုင်းကို ရှာဖွေပေးပါ။
- ဆေးကုသမှုခံယူနိုင်အောင် စည်းရုံးပေးပါ။
- MDT (အမ်ဒီတီ)ဆေးကိုကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတိုင်းတွင်အလွယ်တကူနှင့်အခမဲ့ရရှိနိုင်ပါသည်။

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ADVERTISEMENTS

INVITATION TO TENDER

Sealed Tenders are invited by Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Ministry of Energy for sand filling of the following Plant Site.

Tender No. 1 - SF/MPE/2005-2006.

Closing Date/Time - 17-2-2006/Noon.

- (1) The Plant Site for 500 MTPD Fertilizer Plant at Myaungtanga, Hmawbi Township, Yangon Division.
- (2) The Plant Site for 500 MTPD Fertilizer Plant at Kyon Pyaw Township, Ayeyawady Division.

Detailed Tender document are available to the Department of Finance, No. 23, Min Ye Kyaw Zwa Road, Yangon, during office hours on payment of 50,000/- Kyats per set.

Only Bid from Tenderer who has purchased Tender Documents officially will be accepted and to be reached the Office of Director (Planning) on or before closing date.

Managing Director
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ZHE HAI 315 VOYNO (047)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ZHE HAI 315 VOYNO (047) are hereby notified that the vessel will arrive on 5.2.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm upto Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV XIANG FENG VOYNO (600SW)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG FENG VOYNO (600SW) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.2.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm upto Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S CONTAINER SERVICES
AND SHIPPING AGENCY CO, LTD.

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Pacific Plan meeting seeks cooperation

WELLINGTON, 2 Feb—Representatives of Pacific Islands Forum countries meet in Suva, Fiji this week to discuss the implementation of the Pacific Plan, a framework for regional cooperation and integration, endorsed by Forum Leaders last October, according to Secretariat of the Forum. "The Pacific Plan outlines the development goals of members, and the discussion will focus on the most effective ways of reaching those goals," said Forum Secretary General, Greg Urwin on Tuesday.

The first meeting of the Pacific Plan Action

Committee (PPAC) on Tuesday discussed national policies on regionalism, the value of partnerships and wide consultation, and a process to monitor and evaluate the ongoing work on the Plan. "The success of the Pacific Plan will depend on the support and commitment of member countries and a wide range of stakeholders such as development partners," said Urwin. At the regional level, implementation of the Plan in the first instance will be supported mainly by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. This is consistent with the

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LICKIN' GOOD
Reg. No. 105/1995



Reg. No. 104/1995

COLONEL'S
TENDERROAST
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and 42".

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unauthorised use of the said
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Dated: 4 February 2006

India's economy inching towards 8-10% growth, power reforms needed

NEW DELHI, 2 Feb—Optimistic of India's double digit growth in the coming years, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Wednesday outlined the need to carry out reforms in power sector, increase credit to farm sector and cut government's fiscal deficit.

"The economy has recorded 7-7.5 per cent growth in the last three years and we are inching towards 8-10 per cent," he told a Press conference here.

"All our macro-economic indicators are robust and point to another year of over 7 per cent growth," he said, referring to his government's commitment to sustain 7-8 per cent growth.

The economy had logged over 8.1 per cent in the first half of 2005-

06 after clocking 7.5 per cent last fiscal.

"India today is the fastest growing nation... At the World Economic Forum, India was the star attraction," he said.

While presenting a rosy picture of the economy, Singh said there was considerable improvement in the last 20 months of the government but admitted that "there was some problems that the government will tackle with determination".

However, he said

government has to strengthen the mechanism to improve the fiscal situation. "I have reasons to believe that if we accelerate the pace of economic growth, there will be significant improvement in fiscal situation."

On state finances, he said: "If you look at the cash position, some states are flush with cash." Their financial position was better than ever before, he said.

With higher growth in the economy, Singh outlined the need to increase the savings rate in the next few years from the present 29 per cent.

A hike in savings rate by 4-5 per cent on account of employment of younger generation will add up 1 per cent to the overall growth in GDP, Singh said.

Increased efficiency because of competition will add another 0.5-1 per cent to the economic growth, he said, justifying the optimism for high 8-10 per cent growth.

The Prime Minister outlined the need for power reforms for which he will convene a meeting with state chief ministers in two weeks.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/PTI

South Africa to host progressive governance summit

JOHANNESBURG, 2 Feb—South Africa said on Wednesday that it will host a progressive governance summit in the country later this month.

Mameopa Ronnie, spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs, told Xinhua that he yet could not confirm that British Prime Minister Tony Blair and former US president Bill Clinton are to be among 15 leaders who will take part in the summit.

The progressive governance network set up in 1999 to promote centre-left policies will be holding its seventh summit on 11 and 12 February in a luxury game lodge in Hammanskraal, north of Pretoria. It marks the first time that the gathering will be held in the developing world, following on the heels of summits of left-leaning leaders held in Hungary, Florence, Berlin, Stockholm, London and New York.

Diplomatic sources said that New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark, her Swedish counterpart Goeran Person along with World Trade Organization Director General Pascal Lamy are also scheduled to take part in the gathering.

Singapore companies optimistic in first half of 2006

SINGAPORE, 2 Feb—Companies in Singapore have showed optimism about business conditions in the first half of this year, according to the results of surveys released by the Singapore Government on Wednesday.

The companies attributed this to the momentum of last year's stronger-than-expected economic growth, the survey carried out by the Economic Development Board (EDB) between December and January showed.

A weighted 20 per cent of companies in the country's manufacturing sector foresee an improved outlook while a weighted 5 per cent predict a deterioration.

A net weighted 53 per cent of companies in the marine and offshore sector see improved business

conditions, with none predicting a deterioration.

The electronics sector is cautiously optimistic with a net weighted balance of 9 per cent of manufacturers expecting business conditions to improve in the next six months.

In the biomedical manufacturing cluster, a weighted 92 per cent of manufacturers expect the general business conditions in the sector to remain the same in the first six months of this year.

Meanwhile, a separate survey by Singapore's Department of Statistics

released on Wednesday also showed overall optimism among companies in the services sector.

Among the most optimistic companies are real estate companies, hoteliers and financial services firms such as banks, stocks, share and bond brokerage firms, and fund management and insurance businesses.

Last year, Singapore's economy enjoyed a 6-per cent growth, better than expected, and it is expected to grow at 3-5 per cent this year.

MNA/Xinhua

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Cholesterol drug inhibits cancer cells in lab

NEW YORK (Reuters Health), 2 Feb—Atorvastatin, the widely prescribed cholesterol-lowering "statin" drug, sold under the trade name Lipitor, shows significant action against human bladder cancer cells in laboratory experiments, researchers report in the medical journal *Urology*.

Although the findings suggest that atorvastatin is active against bladder cancer cells, clinical trials are still needed to confirm these results in patients, lead investigator Dr Ashish M Kamat told *Reuters Health*.

Kamat and D Gina M Nelkin of the University of Texas, M D Anderson Cancer Centre in Houston, note that some research has suggested that statin use might increase the risk of cancer-related deaths.

To further investigate the effects of atorvastatin, the researchers examined the activity of this cholesterol-lowering drug on two types of cultured human bladder cancer cells. At concentrations comparable to those achievable with oral administration, atorvastatin

inhibited cell growth and DNA synthesis in both bladder cancer cell types.

This led to significant cell toxicity, which was demonstrated by DNA fragmentation and induction of cell death. Destruction of up to 70

per cent of bladder cancer cells was observed.

The safety of this drug has already been established Dr Kamat pointed out. Based on these new observations, he recommends that studies be

done to evaluate the cancer prevention capabilities of atorvastatin.

"At the least, it might offer patients, who are often older and smokers, protection against cardiac events."

MNA/Reuters



Japan's Matsushita Electric Industrial Co Ltd official presents its world's largest 103-inch plasma display panel in Tokyo, on 2 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

Indoor NO₂ exposure worsens kids asthma

NEW YORK, 2 Feb—Indoor exposure to nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) from gas-fueled stoves, even at levels well below the Environmental Protection Agency outdoor standard, may cause respiratory symptoms in asthmatic children living in multi-family housing units, new research suggests.

Chronic exposure to indoor NO₂ is a public health concern, in part, because more than half the households in the US have a source of NO₂, usually a gas-fueled cooking appliance, lead author Dr. Kathleen Belanger and colleagues, from Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, note.

To determine if indoor NO₂ exposure may incite respiratory symptoms in children with asthma, the researchers measured home levels of the gas and evaluated symptoms in 728 subjects.

After accounting for a variety of potential confounding factors, living in a multi-family home with a gas stove or elevated NO₂ levels was significantly associated with asthma symptoms, the team reports in the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*. Among subjects living in multi-family housing, gas stove exposure raised the risks of wheezing and dyspnea (difficulty breathing) more than two-fold, and chest tightness more than fourfold.

In a statement, Belanger said: "This is the largest study to examine the effects of NO₂ on children with asthma. The study population was quite diverse and included both white and non-white children living in single-family and multi-family homes, and children living in urban and suburban environments".

"The association between NO₂ and respiratory symptoms was limited to children in multi-family housing," Belanger noted.—MNA/Reuters

can Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine. Among subjects living in multi-family housing, gas stove exposure raised the risks of wheezing and dyspnea (difficulty breathing) more than two-fold, and chest tightness more than fourfold.

Study confirms newly-found planet larger than Pluto

LOS ANGELES, 2 Feb—A study released on Wednesday confirmed that a newly found planet in outlying region of our solar system is actually bigger than Pluto, bolstering the claim that a tenth planet orbits the Sun.

The planet, named 2003 UB313, was first discovered by Mike Brown, a professor of planetary science at the California Institute of Technology. Like Pluto, it is an icy body in the so-called Kuiper Belt that exists beyond Neptune. It is the most distant object ever seen in the solar system.

Announcing his finding in last July, Brown believed this planet is

larger than Pluto, which astronomers regarded as the 9th planet in our solar system.

Brown insisted the planet should be defined as the 10th planet of the Sun, but astronomers are still debating around this advice. Now, Brown has found supporters from Germany. Astronomers at the Bonn University said they determined the planet's diameter of about 3,000 kilometre by measuring its thermal emission.

Thus, 2003 UB313 is 700 kilometre larger than Pluto, and thereby becomes the largest solar system object found since the discovery of Neptune in 1846, the astronomers said in the 2 February issue of the journal *Nature*.

It is a member of a ring of some 100,000 objects on the outskirts of the solar system, beyond Neptune at distances over 4 billion kilometres from the Sun, over 30 times the distance between Earth and Sun. The objects in this "Kuiper belt" circle the Sun in stable orbits with periods of about 300 years, they reported.

Astronomers have found small planetary objects beyond the orbits of Neptune and Pluto since 1992, confirming the prediction that a belt of smaller planetary objects beyond Neptune exists. This so-called Kuiper Belt contains objects left from the formation of our planetary system some 4.5 billion years ago.

The Bonn group measured the heat radiation of the planet at a wavelength of 1.2 millimetres, where reflected sunlight is negligible and the object brightness only depends on the surface temperature and the object size.

MNA/Xinhua

Radiation cuts risk of breast cancer return

NEW YORK, 2 Feb—Use of radiation therapy reduces the risk that a breast cancer removed with breast-conserving surgery will return, according to a report in the medical journal *Cancer*. A surgical specimen with no evidence that cancer was left behind is tied to a reduced risk of recurrence as well.

The results also show that cancer recurrence is an important determinant of subsequent spread to distant sites in the body. The study involved 1,901 women with early breast cancer who were treated with breast-conserving surgery at one of 18 Japanese centres between 1986 and 1993.—MNA/Reuters

Boeing's set income increased by 37% to \$2.6b in 2005

WASHINGTON, 2 Feb—For the full year of 2005, the net income of Boeing Co. increased by 37 per cent to 2.6 billion dollars, comparing with a profit of 1.87 billion dollars in the previous year, Boeing Co. said on Wednesday.

The Boeing Co said that its net income increased to 460 million dollars in the fourth quarter of 2005, more than doubling the profit of 186 million dollars in the same quarter of 2004.

The Chicago-based Boeing Co said fourth-quarter revenue also grew by 7 per cent to 14.2 billion dollars, up from 13.3 billion dollars a year earlier but below Wall Street estimates of 14.8 billion dollars.

MNA/Xinhua



Visitors look at the nickel Aluminum and bronze made propeller of a ship at the Rolls-Royce stall during Defence Expo 2006 in New Delhi, India, on 2 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

SPORTS



Manchester United's Rio Ferdinand, centre, fouls Blackburn's Robbie Savage, right earning himself a second yellow card and a sending off during their English Premier League soccer match at Ewood Park Stadium, Blackburn, England, on 1 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

Beckenbauer unhappy with Germany's keeping situation

LONDON, 3 Feb — Franz Beckenbauer believes Germany coach Juergen Klinsmann should decide who will be his goalkeeper in the World Cup.

Klinsmann does not have one first-choice incumbent, playing Oliver Kahn of Bayern Munich and Arsenal's Jens Lehmann in alternate matches.

"I think it's not really helpful because the position of the goalkeeper and the defensive line is the most sensitive part in the team," Beckenbauer, a World Cup winner both as his country's captain and later coach, told reporters on Thursday.

"The team must know very, very soon who is the goalkeeper. Me, as a defender I knew exactly that Sepp Maier was behind me, I knew everything he was doing. But if you don't know then you are insecure."

Beckenbauer, who is on a tour of the 31 countries that will play in the World Cup with hosts Germany from June 9, compared the two rivals.

"They are two totally different goalkeepers. Lehmann is excellent, a World Cup goalkeeper no question about it. But he likes to get out, if he sees a ball he gets out to punch it.

"Kahn is different, he doesn't like to go out. He stays on the line. But as a defender you have to know and the sooner

Diouf doubt for Senegal quarterfinal

ALEXANDRIA (Egypt), 3 Feb — Senegal striker El Hadji Diouf said on Thursday that he is doubtful for Friday's African Nations Cup quarterfinal against Guinea.

The Bolton Wanderers player, who has yet to score in the tournament, is still troubled by a bruised right thigh following the 2-1 loss to Nigeria last Tuesday.

He left Thursday's training session early and said he would have to wait for the doctor's verdict.

"I'm a little bit sore and the medical staff will have a look when we get back to the hotel," the former African Footballer of the Year told reporters, adding that he was optimistic of playing.

"I'm focused on the match," he said. "Every player wants to play in a game like this."

MNA/Reuters

you know the better. But it's not my job."

Klinsmann's decision to put Kahn, who captained Germany to the 2002 World Cup final, and Lehmann on an equal footing has been criticized by West Germany's 1974 title-winning keeper Maier among others and sparked stories that the pair are involved in a personal feud.—MNA/Reuters

Ajax beat Heerenveen to reach Dutch Cup semifinals

AMSTERDAM, 3 Feb — Ajax Amsterdam cruised to 3-0 win at Heerenveen in their Dutch Cup quarterfinal on Thursday.

Argentine Mauro Rosales opened the scoring after eight minutes when he intercepted a sloppy defensive pass from Michel Breuer.

Heerenveen dominated the match but lacked power up front following the transfers of Klaas-Jan Huntelaar and Georgios Samaras during the January transfer period.

Huntelaar sealed the win one minute before time when he struck from close range for his first goal for Ajax and he set up Urby Emanuelson for the third in injury time.—MNA/Reuters



Former world number one Martina Hingis of Switzerland celebrates her win over Nathalie Dechy of France during their second round match at the Pan Pacific Open tennis tournament in Tokyo on 2 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

Arsenal's Campbell rested for Birmingham game

LONDON, 3 Feb — Arsenal's troubled England defender Sol Campbell will be rested for the Premier League match at Birmingham City on Saturday.

"Sol Campbell won't play," manager Arsene Wenger told the club's website after the defender was substituted at halftime in Wednesday's 3-2 home defeat by West Ham United.

Campbell, who has lost both form and confidence, was given a day off from training on Thursday following his mistakes that left Arsenal trailing 2-0 against West Ham at Highbury. The centre back left the stadium soon after being substituted.

Sixth-placed Arsenal are out of the League and FA Cups on top of their second straight league defeat, having lost 1-0 to Everton where Campbell was again to blame for the goal. Against Birmingham, Arsenal can call on midfielder Francesc Fabregas and forward Jose Antonio Reyes after suspension, along with new striker Emmanuel Adebayor following Togo's African Nations Cup exit.

However, their main worry is in defence with full back Kerrea Gilbert having joined the long injury list with a back problem sustained in the first half on Wednesday.

"I don't think Gilbert will be ready so there is not a lot to choose from," said Wenger on Thursday. "We don't have any defenders coming back and the Ivory Coast play on Saturday."

Emmanuel Ebou and Kolo Toure are both part of the Ivory Coast squad preparing for Saturday's quarterfinal against Cameroon at the African Nations Cup in Egypt.

Arsenal are also awaiting test results to see whether Lauren will play again this season while Ashley Cole and Gael Clichy are still sidelined with long-term injuries.

MNA/Reuters



West Ham United's Yossi Benayoun, left, from Israel, controls the ball in front of an Arsenal's player during their English Premier League soccer match at the Highbury stadium in London, on 1 Feb, 2006. West Ham won the match 3-2.

INTERNET

Cameroon out for revenge on Ivory Coast

CAIRO, 3 Feb — Ivory Coast coach Henri Michel says Cameroon will be out to settle a World Cup score with his team in Saturday's African Nations Cup quarterfinal.

Though a semifinal place in Egypt is at stake, Michel believes the trip to Germany which Ivory Coast denied Cameroon by one point in qualifying holds the key to a game that will not be for the faint-hearted.

"Cameroon are out for revenge because they didn't qualify for the World Cup and they will want to prove that they're the better side and that they deserved to go to Germany.

"So, it's going to be an extremely difficult game," Michel told a news

conference as he prepared for the clash at Cairo's Military Stadium.

"We know all about their qualities, that they will keep fighting to the very last minute, that physically they will get stuck in and we know what Samuel Eto'o brings to a team."

Along with having the Barcelona striker, the tournament's top scorer with five goals, Cameroon will also be fired up by having beaten the Ivorians home and away in that ill-starred qualifying campaign. "The results weren't good for us, which will give them a psychological advantage," said Michel, a former Cameroon coach.

"But if you just look at the games themselves, if we hadn't made the number of mistakes we did, we would certainly have won both." —MNA/Reuters

Inter beat Lazio 1-0 to reach Italian Cup semifinals

ROME, 3 Feb — Holders Inter Milan progressed to the semifinals of the Italian Cup when they beat Lazio 1-0 to complete a 2-1 win on aggregate on Thursday.

Inter dominated the first half of the match at Milan's San Siro Stadium.

Defender Marco Materazzi had a header cleared off the line and striker Adriano missed a great chance to score when he beat the offside trap to go through alone against keeper Marco Ballotta but fired wide.

Inter eventually took the lead eight minutes before the interval when Adriano ran into a wall of defenders just inside the area and the ball broke free for Dejan Stankovic to blast home from just outside the box.

Lazio, who had struggled to muster a single shot on goal before the interval, played more adventurously at the restart.—MNA/Reuters

Shearer not interested in Newcastle manager's job

LONDON, 3 Feb — Former England captain Alan Shearer says he is not ready to become manager of Newcastle United who sacked Graeme Souness on Thursday.

"Let me say here and now that I do not want to be the next manager, the time is not right for me or the club," Shearer, who plans to retire as a player at the end of the season, was quoted as saying in Friday's Sun newspaper.

"It is flattering when people even mention your name and the job as manager of Newcastle," added the 35-year-old Newcastle striker, who equalled the club's scoring record of 200 goals last month.—MNA/Reuters

Malaysia adopts new development principles for greener capital

KUALA LUMPUR, 3 Feb— The Malaysian Government has recently decided to adopt additional guidelines for housing developments in hilly and low-density areas in a bid to turn its capital city into a greener place.

The Cabinet agreed to designate 712.9 hectares of land around Kuala Lumpur as a green area at the end of the year 2005, Acting Federal Territories Minister Shahrizat Abdul Jalil was quoted as saying by local media on Thursday.

This is in addition to the 1,543.8 hectares of green area already identified and gazetted in the Federal Territory by the end of 2004.

"Kuala Lumpur City Hall must ensure that the areas are properly maintained," Shahrizat said Wednesday in a statement issued in conjunction with the National Federal Territories Celebration Day in the island of Labuan.

Among the additional guidelines for housing development, the maximum height of a bungalow should be no more than three stories from the entrance level, and the development of

hillsides with more than a 35-degree elevation is prohibited.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesian teenager dies of suspected bird flu

JAKARTA, 3 Feb — A 15-year-old boy whose results from local tests came back positive for bird flu has died at Hasan Sadikin Hospital in the Indonesian town of Bandung, local Press reports said on Thursday.

If the local lab tests are confirmed by the WHO-accredited lab in Hong Kong, it would be Indonesia's 15th human fatality from bird flu, said The Jakarta Post newspaper.

The teenager, a resident of Padalarang in Bandung Regency, some 150 kilometres south of Jakarta, was admitted to the hospital on Monday with a high fever and in

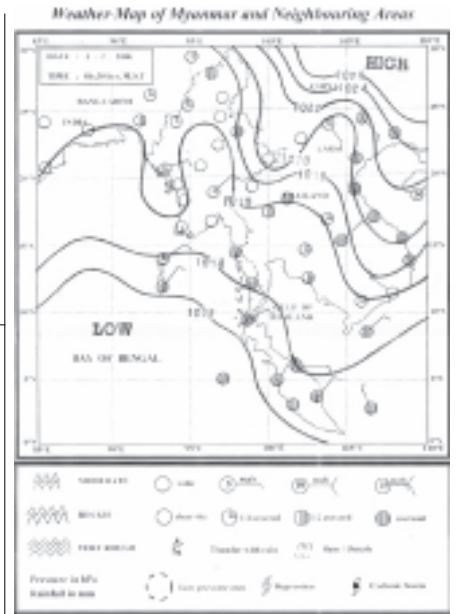
severe respiratory distress, classic bird flu symptoms. He died Wednesday morning.

The boy was the second suspected bird flu patient to have died at the hospital in a month. In mid-January, a three-year-old boy died of bird flu. The native of Indramayu was being treated at the hospital with his sister and parents, who were all re-

leased last Saturday.

According to Bandung Regency's health office, some 20 chickens reportedly died near the boy's house shortly before he became ill.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Friday, 3 February, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, except for the isolated light rain in Taninthayi Division, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) below normal in Magway Division, (4°C) above normal in Rakhine State and Ayeyarwady Division, (5°C) above normal in upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Lashio, Namsam, Pinlaung and Heho (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 2-2-2006 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 3-2-2006 was 61°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 3-2-2006 was (80%). Total sunshine hours on 2-2-2006 was (8.7) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 3-2-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Northeast at (12:30) hours MST on 2-2-2006.

Bay inference: Weather is generally fair in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 4-2-2006: Except for the possibility of isolated light rain in Taninthayi Division weather will be generally fair in the whole country. Degree of certainty is (40%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the extreme Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 4-2-2006: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 4-2-2006: Fair weather.

Weather outlook for second weekend of February 2006: During the coming weekend, weather will be fair in Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.



Saturday, 4 February

- Tune in today**
- 8.30 am** Brief news
 - 8.35 am** Music: -Love you more ... Steps
 - 8.40 am** Perspectives
 - 8.45 am** Music: -Rollercoaster ... Be-Witched
 - 8.50 am** National news+ 12 Objectives & People's Desire
 - 9:00 am** Music: -Quit playing games... BSB
 - 9:05 am** International news
 - 9:10 am** Music
 - 1:30 pm** News & slogan
 - 1:40 pm** Music at your request -A love worth waiting for ... Shakin Stevens -Hot stuff... Donna Summer -Forever & ever ... Julio & Iglesia
 - 9.00 pm** ASEAN review
 - 9.10 pm** Article
 - 9.20 pm** Myanma culture
 - 9.30 pm** Souvenirs -The sweetest round send ... Patti page -Leaving on a jet plane... Joh Denvers -The beginning of love... Paul & Paula
 - 9.55 pm** News & Slogan
 - 10.00 pm** PEL



Saturday, 4 February

- View on today**
- 7:00 am**
 - 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Oattamathara
 - 7:25 am**
 - 2. To be healthy exercise
 - 7:30 am**
 - 3. Morning news
 - 7:40 am**
 - 4. Nice and sweet song
 - 7:55 am**
 - 5. အတူပြိုင်ပွဲ
 - 8:05 am**
 - 6. အတူပြိုင်ပွဲ
 - 8:10 am**
 - 7. ကျောက်ကြီးပေါက်တံတား
 - 8:25 am**
 - 8. အတူပြိုင်ပွဲ
 - 8:30 am**
 - 9. International news
 - 8:45 am**
 - 10. Grammar made easy
 - 11:00 am**
 - 1. Martial song

- 11:15 am**
 - 2. Musical programme
- 11:30 am**
 - 3. Games for children
- 11:55 am**
 - 4. Round up of the week's TV local news
- 12:55 pm**
 - 5. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "Doraemon"
- 1:20 pm**
 - 6. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နေပြည်နွေးနွေး" (အပိုင်း-၂၈)
- 1:55 pm**
 - 7. ကြားမြင်သုတ ပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပဒေသာ
- 2:05 pm**
 - 8. "မနိုင်သောအမှူး" (ဟတ်ကတ်စင်ရယ်ကံ၊ နိုင်သင်းကြည်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်အောင်လှနွဲ့)
- 2:15 pm**
 - 9. အတူပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:25 pm**
 - 10. Dance of National Races
- 2:35 pm**
 - 11. တီရစ္ဆာနီဥယျာဉ်(ရန်ကင်းနီ) နှစ်(၁၀၀)ပြည့်ပွဲတော် (အပိုင်း-၃)
- 2:45 pm**
 - 12. International news
- 4:00 pm**
 - 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
 - 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
 - 3. အေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ညွှန်ချက် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (သင်္ချာအထူးပြု) (သင်္ချာ)
- 4:45 pm**
 - 5. အတူပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 4:55 pm**
 - 6. Musical programme
- 5:35 pm**
 - 7. "နှစ်မြို့အုတ်မိမယ်" (မင်းသူ၊ နိုးပြည့်ပြည့်အောင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်ကျော်ကျော်)
- 6:00 pm**
 - 8. Evening news
- 6:30 pm**
 - 9. Weather report
- 6:35 pm**
 - 10. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အသည်းရှလုံးနဲ့လူသား" (အပိုင်း-၇)
- 7:35 pm**
 - 11. အနဂတ် နိုင်ငံတော်၏ ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ (အပိုင်း-၁၁)
- 8:00 pm**
 - 12. News
 - 13. International news
 - 14. Weather report
 - 15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်မိပြီဆိုရင်" (အပိုင်း-၁၉)
 - 16. The next day's programme

Commander attends opening of Seed Cleaning Factory in Sittway

YANGON, 3 Feb — With the assistance of Food and Agriculture Organization, the ceremony to open the Seed Cleaning Factory under the crops distribution project was held at the research farm of Myanma Agriculture Service in Sittway on 1 February.

It was attended by Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Brig-Gen Than Tun Aung of Sittway Station, Japanese Ambassador Mr Nobutake Odano, departmental personnel, guests and local farmers.

First, the commander delivered an address. Japanese Ambassador Mr Nobutake Odano explained the purpose of building the Seed Cleaning Factory.

Project Manager Ram Chaudhary reported on progress in implementation of seed distribution project with the participation of the local farmers, construction of the factory and tasks being

carried out.

Deputy Manager U Aye Ko Ko of Rakhine State MAS briefed them on cultivation of paddy in Rakhine State and thanked for construction of the factory.

The commander and the Japanese ambassador cut the ribbon to open the factory. They viewed seed cleaning process of the factory.

The factory can clean two tons of seeds of paddy, pulses and beans and wheat per hour.

In the afternoon, the commander oversaw renovation of Danyawady Meeting Hall and Waithali Gymnasium, and fulfilled the requirements.

MNA

59th Anniversary Union Day objectives

- For all national races to safeguard the national policy — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.
- To keep the Union spirit ever alive and dynamic among the national people.
- For all national people to defend and safeguard the Union for its perpetual existence.
- To prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development.
- For all national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven-point future policy programme of the State.

Commander oversees agriculture, construction tasks in Thabaung Township

YANGON, 3 Feb — Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung heard reports on harvesting of monsoon paddy, the plan to put land under monsoon paddy, and crop production matters by officials at summer paddy field in Aungtat Village-tract in Thabaung Township yesterday.

The commander gave instructions on extension of sown acreage and rural development. He inspected irrigation facilities for summer paddy.

Thabaung Township has put 78,281 acres of land under summer paddy against the target of 113,927 acres.

The commander oversaw construction of 16-mile Thanlyetsoon-

Thabaung Road, thriving summer paddy and green gram plantations and the new building of health care service in Kungyangon Village.

While in Thabaung Township, he attended the ceremony to grow physic nut plants in Peinnegon Village. The commander put physic nut seeds and grafts into the small bags.

Thabaung Township plans to grow 28,000 acres of physic nut plantations within three years. The commander met with departmental officials and gave instructions on regional development.

He also inspected progress of 200-ton Pulp Factory (Thabaung) and gave necessary instructions to officials.

The factory is scheduled to run in early 2007.

MNA

Meeting on Ngwe Hsaung Beach Development Project (Phase-II) held



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw addresses the coordination meeting on Ngwe Hsaung Beach Development Project (Phase-II) (Hotel Project). — COMMUNICATIONS

YANGON, 3 Feb — Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw attended the coordination meeting on Ngwe Hsaung Beach Development Project (Phase-II) (Hotel Project) at the Ministry of CPT this morning.

The minister instructed those present to carry out tasks of Ngwe Hsaung Beach Development Project (Phase-I), to grow shade and flowery plants along

Ngwe Hsaung Road, to conserve environment in the hotel zone, keep the beach clean and pleasant, and to implement the project for public relaxation. He also gave instructions on undertaking functions for Ngwe Hsaung Beach Development Project (Phase-I).

Also present at the meeting were officials of the ministry, local authorities of Ngwe Hsaung region and entrepreneurs. They reported requirements in their tasks. The minister attended to their needs. — MNA

Significant night temperatures

Lashio	(4°C)
Namsam	(4°C)
Pinlaung	(4°C)
Heho	(4°C)

INSIDE

- ❑ Globally more than 10 million people are diagnosed with cancer every year and it is estimated that there will be 15 million new cases every year by 2020. Cancer causes 6 million deaths every year - that is — 12% of deaths worldwide.
- ❑ Translate knowledge into action. The next few years should see a wide array of choices from which to find remedies and solutions to fight cancer; Generate a movement that stimulates collective responsibility and action.
- ❑ Families, community-based groups, professional societies, national governments and the international community all need to support the delivery of programmes and services to everyone affected by cancer, as well as fight for better access to basic health services.