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Sunday, 5 February, 2006

## 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

## Head of State has given guidance to carry out work for cultivation of physic nut plants as rural development task

### Secretary-1 inspects physic nut plantation in Mandalay

YANGON, 4 Feb — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, accompanied by SPDC member Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, ministers and deputy ministers and officials of the SPDC office, arrived in Mandalay yesterday evening. The Secretary-1 and party were welcomed at Mandalay International Airport by Mandalay Division PDC Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, senior military officers and divisional departmental officials.

Next, they went to the guest house of Mandalay Nanmyo. This morning, the Secretary-1 and party visited the pig breeding farm of Mandalay City Development Committee where 140 large white pigs are being raised. They proceeded to the physic nut plantation of MCDC agriculture and livestock breeding farm No 1 and

inspected growing of 48,000 physic nut plants on 40 acres of land. The mayor reported on growing of 150,000 physic nut plants and acreage of land where the plants can be grown. The Secretary-1 and party looked into running of bulldozers, rollers and excavators with cent-per-cent use of physic nut oil. D4H type bulldozer with 96 HP consumes four gallons of physic nut oil per hour.

A roller with 120 HP consumes one gallon of physic nut oil per hour. An excavator with 140 HP consumes five gallons of physic nut oil per hour.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party viewed Jiangoong engines manufactured by Kyaw Padetha Co of Mandalay Sein Pan Industrial Zone that can be run with physic nut oil, machine parts for pro-

duction of physic nut oil and production process of the oil. One basket of physic nut seeds can produce one gallon of oil. In

the afternoon, the Secretary-1 and party attended a physic nut planting ceremony held in Shwepyithar village, Singu township,

Mandalay Division. Division Agricultural Service Manager U Aung Kyin reported on plans to  
(See page 8)

**Physic nut plants have been growing in many parts of the country as they are compatible with Myanmar geographical conditions. It is a perennial crop that can be cultivated with cost-effectiveness.**



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects physic nut saplings of Mandalay City Development Committee. — MNA

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

**PERSPECTIVES**

Sunday, 5 February, 2006

**Strive for full acquisition of potable water**

The State Peace and Development Council, upholding Our Three Main National Causes, has laid down and is implementing the 12 political, economic and social objectives for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. In the meantime, it is putting into motion projects for development of border areas and national races, the 24 special development zones projects and the five rural development tasks to bring about equitable development across the nation.

Better transport and acquisition of potable water in rural regions play a pivotal role in enhancing the living standard of rural people that constitute 70 per cent of the Myanmar's population.

The 11th cash donation ceremony for potable water supply in rural areas, organized by the Ministry for Progress of Borders and National Races and Development Affairs was held at the Development Affairs Department in Thanhyetsoon in Botahtaung Township on 28 January with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

In his address, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said that although the amount of donations made by well-wishers could be mentioned in figure, their generosity was so immense that was beyond expression; that he, on behalf of the State, thanked the well-wishers for their contributions towards the national development.

Altogether 1,515 well-wishers donated K 1,173.924 million, US\$ 74,252, euro 770 and FEC 10,012 from the first to 10th cash donations. Likewise, well-wishers donated over K 132 million and US\$ 2,500 at the 11th cash donation ceremony.

The Development Affairs Department started implementing the ten-year project for acquisition of potable water in rural regions in 2000-2001 fiscal year with the assistance of the government, well-wishers, the Union Solidarity and Development Associations, and social organizations at home and abroad.

Thanks to the contributions, of the 8,042 villages in three arid divisions—Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay—7,467 villages or about 8 million rural people now enjoy the fruits of the project by the end of December in 2005-2006 fiscal year.

In other states and divisions where potable water is scarce, the DAD ensures clean water supply to 7,868 villages out of 15,183.

Therefore, the DAD is to sink more tube-wells to ensure acquisition of potable water in rural regions and to try its hardest for maintaining those tube-wells for durability.



In memory of Parents U Myint-Daw Tin Mya, Teacher Daw Aye Aye Khant recently donated K 100,000 to the Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Trustee U Aung Than of the Home. — 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

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**Fifth Anniversary Buddha Pujaniya Festival of Laba Muni Buddha Image to be held**

YANGON, 4 Feb — The fifth Anniversary Buddha Puzaniya Festival of Lawka Chantha Abhaya Laba Muni Buddha Image on Mindhamma Hill will be held on a grand scale starting 11 February.

Before the festival, traditional Chinlon demonstration will take place on 1 to 10 February, Htamene contests of eight townships in Yangon North District on 10 February and the fifth Bali Natsa Festival from 7 to 9 February. At 7 pm from 12 to 14 February, sermons will be delivered by three Sayadaws for the success of the festival. On 11 February morning, the ceremony to offer rice and alms to the 108 members of Sangha will be held. Those wishing to donate cash and kind are to contact the festival organizing central committee and the office of Mindhamma Hill Board of Trustees. — MNA

**Pro-golfer Zaw Zaw Latt still leads in Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour**



YANGON, 4 Feb — Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon) enlarged its leading role in the professional division by firing a five-under-par 139 after the second round of the Sixth Leg of Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour at Kawthoung Golf Club in Kawthoung.

Zaw Zin Win (Srixon), Myint Thuang (KM Golf Centre) and Yi Aung Latt (Taunggyi) tied at 144 strokes. Nanda Kyaw (Srixon) scored 145 in the professional division.

Ngwe Tun stood in the first position in the amateur division by



The opening ceremony of Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour 2005-2006 in progress. — MNA

shooting 147 strokes, followed by Bo Bo with 152. Sixth Leg of Air Bagan Myanmar Golf 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, Lon-

don, Viking Marine Product Trading Co Ltd. Han Event Management organizes the functions of the golf tour. The third round of the tour continues tomorrow at the same venue. — MNA

**Antibiotic medicines for hospitals donated**

YANGON, 4 Feb — A ceremony to donate antibiotic medicines to be used at the hospitals under the Ministry of Health took place at the Health Department (Head Office) on Theinbyu Road this morning.

Vice-Chairperson Daw Khin Myint Myint of AA Medical Product Ltd explained the purpose of donating medicines and AA Medical Product Ltd Chairman U Myat Thin Aung-Daw Khin Myint and family donated four kinds of antibiotic medicines worth 20 million

through Director-General of Health Department Dr Tin Win Maung.

Next, the director-general presented certificate of honour to the

donor and expressed thanks. — MNA



Mr K M Awais presents hockey stick and sports-wear for hockey goalkeeper to Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint at Sports and Physical Education Institute (Yangon). (News Reported) — MNA

# Pakistan welcomes PM's comments on India-Pakistan ties

ISLAMABAD, 3 Feb — Pakistan described as "positive" Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's remarks that his government was committed to a "pragmatic and practical" solution to all outstanding issues, including Jammu and Kashmir, and said that the Indian leader had shown some flexibility.

"Naturally it is a positive statement. We want both the sides to show sincerity, flexibility and courage for the solution of Kashmir dispute," Pakistan Foreign Office spokesperson

Tasneem Aslam told the state-run PTV.

Aslam said that judging from the media reports of Singh's comments he has shown some flexibility.

Pakistan has

repeatedly expressed desire for peaceful solution of bilateral issues, including Kashmir, she said.

Aslam said Pakistan wanted an atmosphere of cooperation in the region

as being witnessed in other parts of the world so that the people could get opportunities for economic development.

The Prime Minister's comments on the Indo-Pak ties made in a press conference in New Delhi wednesday were prominently reported in the media here.

MNA/PTI

## ထုတ်ကုန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ကြ

### Robberies increase on international trains in Hungary

BUDAPEST, 3 Feb — Passenger robberies have increased on international trains passing through Hungary, said the Hungarian local media on Wednesday.

Frequent reports of robberies on the Dacia and Beograd express trains led the Austrian and Romanian railway companies to contact their Hungarian counterpart, MAV,

several times late last year, spokesman for the railway company Imre Kavalecz told local media.

In one case, the valuables and cash of all the passengers in a Dacia Express sleeping car were stolen while they were asleep. The next morning passengers complained of headaches and suspicious looking train attendants.

In an online chatroom, a victim claimed that sleeping gas had been pumped into the train's ventilation system.

Similar incidents had been reported on the Avala and Corona trains, Kavalecz confirmed.

MNA/Xinhua

### Five killed in Philippine farm robbery

MANILA, 3 Feb — Five people were shot dead on Wednesday night in a village farm of Central Luzon, local police said on Thursday.

A businessman, his son and three farm workers were shot and killed by armed robbers in a farm in San Idefonso, Bulacan Province, Philippine Daily Inquirer online quoted police as saying.

Two others are missing following the fatal robbery, police said.

Local police chief said that at least 12 men barged into the house of businessman Ricardo Valmocina, 61, around 9 pm Wednesday, looking for guns supposedly kept by the family.

When the suspects

failed to find any firearm, they rummaged through the family's belongings. Valmocina and his son, Roel Joseph tried to stop them when the suspects shot them. The suspects took 100,000 pesos (1,866 US dollars) worth of jewellery, cash, and four cellular phones from the family, police said.

MNA/Xinhua

### Guerillas launch new attack on Iraqi oil exports

BAGHDAD, 3 Feb — Guerillas have blown up an Iraqi crude oil pumping station feeding one of two export pipelines from northern fields to Turkey, an oil official said on Thursday.

Exports from the northern city of Kirkuk to the Ceyhan terminal in Turkey were already on hold after guerillas blew

up two pipelines last week, just a week after exports resumed.

"They have attacked the new process plant near the west of Kirkuk which feeds the second export pipeline to Turkey," the official said.

"The pipeline was damaged in the first attack, workers were working on repairing it but now the feeding plant has been blown up so we don't know how long will it take now," he added.

Earlier this week, workers from Iraq's Northern Oil Company, seeking to restore exports to Turkey, had started repairing the pipelines under heavy guard.

Keeping the oil flowing to Ceyhan terminal in Turkey is always a challenge for the Oil Ministry, which is trying to increase exports to revive Iraq's battered economy.

Exports hit their lowest in December at 1.1 million barrels per day because of attacks and bad weather.

MNA/Reuters



Demonstrators protest in front of the White House about conditions in Sudan, on 2 Feb, 2006, in Washington.—INTERNET

## Latest British Iraq death brings toll to 101

LONDON, 3 Jan — A British soldier has been killed in a road traffic accident in Iraq — the third to die there within a week.

The soldier, from the 9th/12th Lancers (Prince of Wales's), was killed at 11:17pm local time on Thursday night on the outskirts of Basra.

Another man was injured in the accident but is expected to be released from hospital shortly, a spokeswoman for the Ministry of Defence said.

She added that there was no suggestion that the soldier died as a result of "hostile involvement". It was not clear whether the accident was caused by a collision with another

vehicle. The announcement of another death brings the number of British armed forces personnel who have died since the start of hostilities in Iraq to 101.

On Tuesday, Corporal Gordon Alexander Pritchard, 31, from Edinburgh, became the 100th soldier to be killed there - in Um Qasr, in the southern province of Basra.

Of the 101 military victims, 77 are classed as killed in action. The latest death brings the number who have died from illness,

non-combat injuries, accident or unknown cause to 24. —Internet



A US soldier stands guard near the wreckage of cars as his compatriots secure the scene of Thursday's bomb attack in Baghdad on 3 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

### Thirty rescued in South African river

JOHANNESBURG, 3 Feb — Thirty people were rescued on Thursday after being spotted floating on the Vaal River using tyres, Johannesburg emergency services said.

Spokesman Malcolm Midgley said a team was attending a river rescue course at about 9 a.m. when they spotted the group of local residents, both children and adults, on the river.

"The current was quite strong. A tube one girl was using to float burst and she hit her head against a rock," Midgley said.

She was treated on the scene, he said. — MNA/Xinhua

### Provincial office of Nigerian Central Bank gutted by fire

LAGOS, 3 Feb — A section of the Central Bank of Nigeria office in the southwestern city of Ibadan was gutted by fire on Wednesday, state media reported. The fire, which began from the engine room of a lift at about 8.30 am (0730 GMT), left the entire seventh floor of the bank's seven storey complex in ruins.

The official News Agency of Nigeria quoted the bank branch controller Jerry Okafor as saying that although most of the records in the administrative section were destroyed, no money was lost as "we do not keep money there". — MNA/Xinhua

## India, Singapore to study scope for cooperation in defence

SINGAPORE, 4 Feb — India Thursday proposed joint development, production and marketing of passenger jets with Singapore as the two countries agreed to study scope for cooperation in defence research and technology and discussed maritime security.

The two countries also agreed to examine the idea of collaborating in developing the Buddhist religious tourism circuit as Buddhism is a key cultural link between India and ASEAN, and reviving a multi-disciplinary university in Nalanda, one of the greatest centres of Buddhist scholars.

Addressing Nanyang Technological University, a prestigious centre of excellence here, visiting President A P J Abdul Kalam said Aeronautical Development Agency and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited of India and Singapore Technologies can move forward with a joint venture for designing, development, production and marketing of ASEAN Passenger Jets.

"They can also work out joint programmes for aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul to

cope with the growing requirements of international aviation industry", he said.

On the penultimate day of Kalam's three-day visit here, Singapore said it was promoting India as an attractive investment destination not only to investors from the city state but also Japan. The joint collaboration in defence sector came up for discussion when Singapore Defence Minister Teo Chee Hean called on President Kalam.

Kalam also had talks with Commerce and Industry Minister Lim Hng Kiang and Foreign Minister George Yeo, wrapping up his talks with Singapore leaders.

Secretary (East) in External Affairs Ministry Rajiv Sikri told reporters here that Kalam and the Singapore Defence Minister felt perhaps there

is scope for cooperation in defence research and technology. Asked if any concrete project was discussed, Sikri replied in negative and said it would take some time for a joint defence project to concretise.

The two leaders also discussed maritime security and expressed concern over the situation in Malacca Straits, which serves as energy lane connecting Persian Gulf and large consuming countries in East Asia, and is often buffeted by piracy and gun running.

MNA/PTI



A South Korean protester shouts a slogan during an anti-US rally in front of US Embassy in Seoul, on 3 Feb, 2006. The Korean read 'We oppose the US President Bush.' —INTERNET

## Gunmen kidnap two Iraqi TV correspondents

BAGHDAD, 3 Feb — Gunmen kidnapped two Iraqi correspondents working for an independent satellite television channel, police and station officials said on Thursday.

Reem Zaid, 23, and her colleague Marwan Khaza'al, 25, were returning to the offices of Sumariya TV in Baghdad

on Wednesday after attending a Press conference when they were kidnapped, said a station official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"They were in a car with two cameramen and their driver when another car blocked them.

The five gunmen took the correspondents and their car and left the two cameramen," the official said.

Sunni militants frequently target journalists working for

US-backed or other foreign news outlets in Iraq.

As a result many have quit their work or take great precautions not to be identified with their employers.

Many Iraqi media outlets are also controlled by various political factions inside and outside the government.

But the Sumariya official stressed the station was privately owned by Iraqis and had no links to any political group.

"We are a neutral channel, we are not linked to the government," she said.

In New York, the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) said it was alarmed by the report of the abductions.

"We condemn the continued targeting of all innocent civilians, including journalists, and appeal to those holding them to free them at once," CPJ executive director Ann Cooper said in a statement.

She said armed groups had kidnapped at least 37 other journalists in Iraq since April 2004; most had been freed but six had been killed.

American reporter Jill Carroll, who was abducted by gunmen in Baghdad on 7 January, is still being held hostage.

Her kidnappers have threatened to kill her unless women detainees held by US forces and the Iraqi Interior Ministry are freed.

Internet

MNA/Reuters

## Colliery blast kills 23 in north China

TAIYUAN, 3 Feb — Twenty-three miners were confirmed dead and 53 others sickened in a colliery gas blast on Wednesday in north China's Shanxi Province, the local mine safety authorities said on Thursday.

Altogether 697 miners were working down the pit when the blast went off at around 7:00 pm at Sihe Coal Mine under the state-owned Jincheng Mining Group, said an official with the provincial coal mine safety supervision bureau on condition of anonymity.

The official said search and rescue work had ended at the site by 7:00 am on Thursday and the sickened miners had been hospitalized.

Most of them suffered no fatal injury except for one miner who was

seriously poisoned by carbon monoxide, he said quoting hospital sources.

The bureau plans to set up an investigation team on Thursday to see into the accident, he said.

A preliminary investigation shows the explosion occurred at an airtight area in the pit.

Sihe Coal Mine, one of the largest collieries in the coal-rich Shanxi Province, currently produces 10.8 million tons a year.

MNA/Xinhua

## WHO confirms Iraq bird flu death

LONDON, 3 Feb—The World Health Organization has confirmed that a teenage girl died of the H5N1 strain of bird flu in northern Iraq last month.

Initial tests found the virus had not been the cause of Shanjin Abdel Qader's death, but tests carried out in a UK laboratory have now proved otherwise.

Specimens from the girl's 39-year-old uncle, who died last week, and a sick 54-year-old woman are now being tested.

The WHO has sent experts in infection control and epidemiology to the region.

But the team will not arrive in northern city of Sulaimaniya until early next week, because of the security situation.

"Health officials, with

support from WHO staff, have set up an emergency operations room to respond to the outbreak, investigate rumours, and address public concerns," a statement posted on the WHO website said.

Internet

MNA/Reuters

## Disasters in S Africa worsened by wetland loss

JOHANNESBURG, 3 Feb— The destruction of the world's wetlands is exacerbating global disasters such as floods and famines and is a potential source of conflict in volatile regions, environmentalists said on Thursday. "By a conservative estimate, about 50 per cent of the wetlands worldwide are gone. These include rivers, swamps, marshes, small ponds, and mangrove systems," said Jane Madgwick, the chief executive officer of conservation group Wetlands International.

MNA/Reuters



A US soldier sits aboard a tank as his compatriots secure the scene of Thursday's bomb attack in Baghdad on 3 Feb, 2006. Two car bombs killed at least 16 people and wounded 65 others in Baghdad on Thursday, police sources said. —INTERNET

## Indonesian President, Annan discuss Iranian nuclear issue

JAKARTA, 3 Feb— Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono had a discussion via telephone from his office in Jakarta with United Nations' Secretary-General Kofi Annan on the Iranian nuclear programme on Thursday, Presidential Spokesman Dino Patti Djalal said.

"During his phone talks with the UN Secretary-General, the President reiterated the need to maximize efforts through diplomatic channels to solve the problem of the Iranian nuclear programme," Antara news agency on Friday quoted the spokesman as saying.

The spokesman disclosed the news in Batam, in Riau Province on Thursday, said the report. Dino also said that

the President also stressed the importance of efforts to avoid the outbreak of open conflict that could harm the people.

Yudhoyono emphasized the need for Iran to abide by all provisions set by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and for the world to listen to IAEA director general's report on 6 March, 2006.

"We are waiting for the IAEA director general's report. We also hope that

Iran would soon make a final decision on the Russian offer for the enrichment of its uranium," Dino said.

Yudhoyono, according to Dino, stressed the need to prevent an open conflict because it would affect world oil prices, hoping that no action would be taken against Iran before the IAEA makes its report on March 6.

Dino said Indonesia had a clear position in regard to the Iranian nuclear issue, namely that Iran should have a right to utilize its nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, and that Iran's nuclear programme should remain in the corridor of peace.

MNA/Xinhua



Iran's girls attend in a rally to support Iran's nuclear programme in Teheran on 3 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

## UN says more cash needed for southern Africa food aid

JOHANNESBURG, 3 Feb— The United Nations said on Thursday it needed an extra 63 million US dollars in donations to help six southern African countries cope with food shortages in the coming months.

Although more abundant rains had raised hopes for bigger crop yields, the UN World Food Programme expected to feed up to 10 million people

in Zimbabwe, Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Lesotho and Swaziland up to and shortly after the April harvest.

The WFP also planned

to distribute food to about 111,000 people in Namibia, most of whom were orphans and children affected by the AIDS pandemic.

"We still have needs of 63 million US dollars to buy some additional food to complete our work to June," James Morris, executive director of the WFP and a special UN humanitarian envoy to the region, said in a news conference in Johannesburg.

Morris, who is on a five-day visit to Mozambique, Malawi and South Africa, said he hoped the agency's existing donors, the largest of which are the United States and the European Union, would help to make up the food relief shortfall.

MNA/Reuters

## HK Disneyland reopens to waiting visitors

HONG KONG, 3 Feb— Hong Kong Disneyland reopened on Thursday afternoon to tourists with tickets, who were rejected of entry earlier into the park, which is full with vacationers.

Around 200 tourists holding tickets gathered in front of the park gate asking for entrance on Thursday morning, and some of them tried to climb over the iron-barred gate, according to the local News Channel.

An angry tourist from Taiwan told the TV station that he visited Disneyland in California, the United States, and Tokyo of Japan, and had never been locked out of the park.

The park closed its gate at 10:00 am Thursday, the eighth sold-out day in almost five months' operation. Hundreds of visitors with tickets were refused to enter the park when it was full at 11:30 am on Wednesday.

The park started selling tickets without a specific date but valid in sixth months on 3 January.

According to the new ticket selling mechanism, guests can book their tickets on-line and pick up the tickets when visiting the park on any day in the sixth months. However, guests holding tickets without specific dates are not guaranteed admission.

In a bid to relieve the situation, the park issued a statement at 9:00 am Thursday, announcing it was full and would receive no more visitors in the day.

The statement was published at all entrance of the railway leading to the park. "In order to preserve the guest experience, the park cannot permit further entries," said a Hong Kong Disneyland statement on Thursday, suggesting "guests holding tickets may visit on another day".

MNA/Xinhua

## Earthquake shakes Fiji, no damage report

WELLINGTON, 3 Feb— A strong earthquake shook deeply underneath the South Pacific near Fiji on Friday, but there were no immediate reports of injury or damage, according to local media.

Hawaii-based Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre said the magnitude-6.6 quake hit 370 miles below the earth's surface, and the earthquake occurred at about 1 am Fiji time and was centred about 215

miles east of the Fijian capital, Suva.

Earthquake are frequent around Fiji under the sea, mostly causing no damage to the islands in the area.

MNA/Xinhua

## Dozens still missing from sunken Indonesian ferry

JAKARTA, 3 Feb— Two days after a ferry sank in heavy seas in Indonesia's east, nearly 40 people were still missing, a rescue official said on Thursday, although estimates of the number of people on the ship have varied widely.

The Indonesian Navy has rescued more than 100 people after the ferry, travelling from Kupang on Indonesia's side of Timor island to nearby Rote Island, ran into trouble on Tuesday night.

"We have found another three people stranded on an island nearby. One

died," search and rescue operation chief Colonel Agus Susilo told Reuters by telephone on Thursday.

That would bring the number known to have survived to 115, and the known dead to two.

Asked about the number missing, Susilo said: "Around 37. That is according to the briefing we had half an hour ago. That is the latest figure."

He said the estimates of the missing were based on survivor reports on how many people they believed to be aboard.

Officials had earlier given higher figures for the number of missing and different officials have given different figures for the number of passengers and crew on the ferry manifest, but agree it listed less than 100.

However, it is common for Indonesian ferries to carry considerably more passengers than are listed. Some might have boarded

without tickets, officials said, noting a frequent practice across the world's largest archipelago.

MNA/Reuters

## China honours 99 environment-friendly towns

BEDING, 4 Feb— A total of 99 towns across China have now been honoured as "environment-friendly" for their effective protection of the environment and the provision of a quality life to local residents.

The towns nominated in 2005 are scattered in 19 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions, according to a bullet in by the State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) announcing the honours.

East China's Jiangsu, Zhejiang and Shandong provinces are at the top of the list, with each having 37, 14 and 13 towns winning the awards, respectively.

In the bulletin, the SEPA calls on the towns to cherish their honour, continue to pursue sustainable development and provide quality air, water and food to local residents.

China began honouring environment-friendly towns in 2002, and by 2004, 79 towns nationwide had been granted the title.

China has also launched a series of similar policies at provincial, city and county levels to boost the country's efforts of building an energy-conserving and environment-friendly society.

MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier stands guard near a damaged oil pipeline complex in Khabaza village near Kirkuk, about 250 km (150 miles) north of Baghdad on 2 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

## Poor nations need billions to fight climate change

NEW DELHI, 4 Feb — A top British environmentalist said on Friday the developing world needed to spend at least 40 billion US dollars more every year to fight climate change.

Last year was the warmest on record across the globe and it was unusually hot in the Arctic, US space agency NASA said last month. Five of the hottest years since modern record-keeping began in the 1890s occurred in the past decade.

"If the developing world is to have extra resources necessary to modify their investments to make them carbon clean or reduce it significantly, they need extra finance of over 40 billion US dollars each year," Sir Nicholas Stern, adviser to the British Government on climate change, told Reuters.

Scientists say the earth's atmosphere is warming as ever-greater amounts of carbon dioxide are pumped into the air by the burning of fossil fuels to feed coal-fired power plants, smoke-stack industries and transport.

Carbon dioxide levels are now at their highest levels than at any time in the past 650,000 years, Antarctic ice core studies show and concentrations of methane, another powerful greenhouse gas, are rising as well because of agriculture, melting Arctic permafrost and destruction of peat bogs.

Scientists say global warming threatens to create greater extremes of droughts and floods, more intense storms, rising seas and melting glaciers and ice caps.

Stern, who was speaking on the sidelines of a conference of world environmentalists, scientists and policymakers to discuss sustainable development, said the 40 billion US dollars was less than developing governments are already spending on energy.

Major developing nations such as India, China,

Mexico and Indonesia, rely heavily on fossil fuels to power their rapidly growing economies, while Brazil is losing large areas of rainforest each year that can soak up carbon dioxide.

"If you look at it in

relation to the energy and electricity bills which the developing world is already running, it would be far cheaper if they invest in cleaner technologies," he said.

MNA/Reuters



Afghans look at the wreckage of a car that was bombed in the southeastern province of Khost, Afghanistan on 2 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

## "La Nina" climate phenomenon causes drought across S America

BUENOS AIRES, 4 Feb— Most South American nations have suffered serious drought in 2005 and the early period of 2006, severely damaging harvests, the Buenos Aires Cereals Exchange said in a report published on Thursday.

The cooling of sea waters around the southern cone of the American continent has

reduced rain in most of the area. Brazil and Uruguay are currently suffering drought, which has reduced rainfall by between 25 and 50 percent, with Brazil's Amazon region being the worst-hit.

In southern Bolivia, Paraguay and in the Argentine regions of Chaco, northern Mesopotamia and Pampea, droughts have also hit agricultural production.

Central Argentina narrowly avoided a serious agricultural catastrophe because of a burst of rain last week which irrigated its main growing region. But local meteorologists said that the late January rains will be short lived. They are caused by a temporary weakening in La Nina, which coincided with a warm air current in Brazil, an atypical combination which loosened up rain production mechanisms.

La Nina has strengthened again and the Brazil air current has retreated northward, reducing the chance of new rains. The meteorologists predicted serious problems for the next growing season if the drought extends into fall, as a new agricultural cycle would begin without enough reservoir water for the second season in a row.

MNA/Xinhua

## 1.5 tons of marijuana seized in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, 4 Feb— The Argentine authorities have seized 1.5 tons of marijuana and arrested four people who were transporting the drugs in a truck, said the police Thursday. Police discovered the drugs at a toll on the Panamerica Highway, in Garin in the province of Buenos Aires, 30 kilometres from Argentine capital Buenos Aires.

One of the four arrested was a former member of Argentina's paramilitary police, who was discharged around a year ago for mental health reasons. — MNA/Xinhua

## Experts call for more investment in China's high-tech industry

BEIJING, 4 Feb — Leading officials in the Chinese computing industry have called for more investment in domestic high technologies.

"We must develop our indigenous technologies in superservers, central processing units and optical and electronic units because developed countries prohibit the export of these technologies to China," Li Guojie, director of the Institute of Computing Technology (ICT) under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), said in an interview with Xinhua on Friday.

A decade ago,

Chinese-made servers attracted few domestic or overseas buyers. To date, the most powerful Chinese superserver was listed by the US Department of Energy as the world's tenth fastest superserver.

Suma 4000A, developed by the ICT, has the highest computing speed of 11 trillion times per second and eight trillion times per second according to the Linpack Benchmark, which measures server performance.

Li and his team own

31 invention patents with Suma 4000A, which has never been seen in any Chinese-made servers.

China started research on its own superserver in the early 1980s and successfully developed the Milky Way I in 1983, with the highest computing performance of 100 million times per second. Financial allocation and personnel deployment to develop superservers reflected China's commitment to promoting indigenous high technologies.

MNA/Xinhua

## Three Afghan soldiers killed in suicide attack

KHOST (Afghanistan), 4 Feb — Suicide bomber detonated a car packed with explosives in Afghanistan, killing three government soldiers and wounding three others, police said on Thursday.

The attack occurred at a checkpoint in the southeastern province of Khost on Wednesday when Afghan soldiers and US troops were checking vehicles, a police official said.

"Apart from the suicide bomber, three national Army soldiers were killed," senior provincial police official Mohammad Zaman told reporters.

Taliban guerillas were believed to be responsible for the attack, he said. There were no casualties among the US troops. — MNA/Reuters

## Mothers plead for lives of German hostages in Iraq

BERLIN, 4 Feb — The mothers of two German engineers kidnapped in Iraq pleaded for their sons' lives on Thursday as their government said it was still trying to make contact with the captors.

The mothers of Rene Braeunlich and Thomas Nitzschke were filmed by ARD television making an appeal which was due to be shown later by Arab broadcaster Al Jazeera.

"We have seen our sons on television. We are very afraid for their lives," said one of the women, whose names and location were not given.

"Thomas and Rene travelled to Iraq with no political motive. They never intended to harm your country. We appeal to your charity and mercy and ask you with all our hearts to spare our innocent sons. Please, let Thomas and Rene go free," said the other mother, her voice almost breaking.

The two engineers were abducted on 24 January outside their workplace in the Iraqi industrial town of Baiji, 110 miles north of Baghdad. — MNA/Reuters



British soldiers patrol a street in Basra, 550 Km, (341 miles) south of Baghdad on 3 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

## Fifty years journey to achieve leprosy elimination

Dr Kyaw Myint (Programme Manager)

In accordance with the health policy of Myanmar, putting in a nutshell has two objectives: - health and longevity of the people and freed from diseases, implementation of health care services are carried out as national task, at all levels.

MOH (Ministry of Health) is doing its best under the guidance of the National Health Committee and with cooperation and collaboration of related ministries, allied associations and international non-governmental organizations.

Leprosy control programme of Myanmar has been one of the health care services. Leprosy is no more a public health problem as it has been eliminated since January 2003.

So as to gain such a victory, the programme has planned long-term scheme, lasted for 50 years (1952 - 2002). There were 122 countries in the world that had fought against leprosy as a public health problem since 1980s and Myanmar was one of them.

Leprosy had been an ancient evil disease that had caused multiple problems to human beings, such as medical problem without curative medicine, public health problem without any measures for prevention against the spread of disease among people and human problem with social disability because of disfigurement and deformity caused by the disease.

The causative germ called *Mycobacterium leprae* was found in 1873 by Dr. Hansen from Norway. In spite of discovering of causative agent no curative medications had been found. Therefore, it was unanimously announced that leprosy was an incurable disease at the first conference held at Berlin, Germany in 1897. At that time, isolation of the patient from the community was adopted as an old and rooted practice among the people. Even in Europe especially in thirteenth century when there were high incidence of the disease, community tried to stay away from the lepers.

It was a frightful disease with disfiguration which could destroy skin and nerves unless early treatment was initiated. Leprosy patients were treated as disgusting and detestable persons and there were segregation even in family members that had made huge obstacles in fighting the disease.

However, in 1941 Dapsone therapy appeared as the treatment of leprosy, creating the dawn of expectations for the patients. Even then Dapsone monotherapy had to be taken for at least five years to life-long, thus causing the development of Dapsone resistance and facing curative difficulties during 1970s.

In 1982, currently using Multi Drug Therapy (MDT) was introduced and found out that the curability could be obtained with 6 months to 1 year

regimen. WHO recommended and approved MDT for leprosy since that time.

The prevalence of leprosy remarkably declined during 10 years after discovering MDT due to multiple factors including short duration of treatment, acceptance by patients and high potency of the MDT regimen. That was why WHO had set the goal in 1991 that leprosy be eliminated as a public health problem by the year 2000.

Anti-leprosy campaign has been implemented in Myanmar since 1952. Dapsone monotherapy was provided to all patients in the villages. After emergence of Dapsone resistance, WHO recommended Multi Drug Therapy was introduced in 1986. In 1988, it covered all the patients from hyperendemic areas such as lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawaddy divisions and it contributed 85 percent of

**Looking in retrospective on leprosy situation in Myanmar, the prevalence declined gradually from 86.20 /10,000 population in 1977, 53.40 /10,000 population in 1987, 2.90 /10,000 population in 1997 and finally to 0.44 /10,000 population in 2005.**

all patients throughout the country. In 1991, MDT service was integrated into Basic Health Services to gain more area and population coverage. Finally, both patients and area were achieved 100 percent coverage for the whole country including the border areas in 1995 and the later in 1996 respectively.

In order to achieve the leprosy elimination activities successfully, Ministry of Health and Department of Health had played a key role for guidance and management and World Health Organization and International Federation of Anti-leprosy Associations had also provided necessary support.

Not only related departments under the Ministry of Health but also Non Governmental Associations such as Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Medical Association, Myanmar Movies Association, Media personnel, News and Periodicals etc, had actively participated in Leprosy elimination activities.

The Leprosy Control Programme of Myanmar has organized "National Task Force Committee for Leprosy Elimination" consisting representatives from various organizations mentioned above, including

delegates from private sectors and has implemented to achieve the elimination goal.

Following this, Myanmar was declared as one of the member countries reaching leprosy elimination goal (prevalence below one pre ten thousands population) on the 6th of February 2003 in Third Global Alliance for Elimination Leprosy (GAEL) meeting, held at Sedona Hotel in Yangon. Now, one of the public health problems could be successfully solved with 50 years lasting efforts (1952-2002).

Looking in retrospective on leprosy situation in Myanmar, the prevalence declined gradually from 86.20 /10,000 population in 1977, 53.40 /10,000 population in 1987, 2.90 /10,000 population in 1997 and finally to 0.44 /10,000 population in 2005.

The result of 50-year efforts finally documented in history of health as one of the countries that has been eliminated from leprosy. Yet, we still have more rooms to fulfill.

Our future activities for leprosy control include

1. Sustainability of current leprosy elimination status.
2. Rehabilitation programs for Persons Affected by Leprosy who are at a loss of physical, mental and social well-being.

Although we reached leprosy elimination target, following patients still can be missed.

1. Those from the areas which remain out of leprosy elimination activities. (e.g, urban population)
2. Those from inaccessible areas due to various reasons
3. Those who are hidden because of social stigma and fear.
4. Incident cases

The basic information that needs to spread among the community is that a person who has any white or red patch or patch with numbness on his/her body needs to consult at the nearest health center as soon as possible for early diagnosis and treatment.

Over 260,000 cases were treated and cured from 1988 to 2005 so that there will be no more transmission from these people, yet disability due to nerve destruction in leprosy tolls 30 to 35 percent of persons affected by Leprosy. In fact the families and the persons affected by leprosy themselves need to be rehabilitated physically, mentally, socially and economically. Thus, it will be in line with one of the social objectives laid down by the Government of the Union of Myanmar.

With 50 years service-investment and zealous efforts carried throughout the country, we will be able to commemorate the 6th anniversary of leprosy elimination that falls on 6th February 2006.

## Malaysian virologists sent to study suspected JE cases

**KUALA LUMPUR, 4 Feb —** The Malaysian Health Ministry has sent two virologists to the northern state of Kelantan to investigate the death of two teenage girls who were feared to be killed by Japanese Encephalitis (JE), local authorities said Thursday.

The study of the two experts from the Institute of Medical Research and National Public Health Laboratory would help the Health Ministry to work out strategies to control the virus, Deputy Director-General of Health Shafie Ouyub was quoted as saying by the *Bernama* news agency.

Shafie made the remarks in Kelantan before being briefed on the JE situation by Kelantan Health Director Ahmad Razin Ahmad Maher.

According to local reports, the county of Tanah Merah has reported one confirmed JE case and four suspicious cases. Norhayati Awang, 27, has been confirmed to be infected with JE virus. She is now warded at a local hospital.

Last Thursday and this Tuesday, two 13-year-old students, Siti Mardiana Mohd Romli and Hasnira Akmal Hussin, died after showing JE symptoms. — *MNA/Xinhua*

## Beijing has least blue-sky days in January

**BELING, 4 Feb —** Beijingers could only enjoy blue sky for 11 days in January, due to increasing pollutants in the air.

The figure is the least for the same period over the last six years, according to the Municipal Bureau of Environmental Protection.

This has made it more difficult for the Chinese capital to reach its goal of having 238 "blue sky" days this year, eight more than that in 2005.

Experts said the capital is faced with quite a number of difficulties to achieve the goal because of the ever increasing autos, energy consumption and construction sites.

The number of motor vehicles in

Beijing is growing by 10 per cent year-on-year, and coal remains the major source of energy. Each year, the city sees more than 100 million square metres of construction sites to start or re-start.

Beijing launched the campaign of "Defending the Blue Sky" in 1998, which saw only 100 days of blue sky.

It has removed 4,000 old polluting buses and 30,000 cabs from service this year and replaced them with vehicles meeting newly promulgated, more rigid state standards for pollution control.

*MNA/Xinhua*

**Local people urged to grow more physic nut plants that can generate more incomes and contribute to regional development**



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects demonstration of operating a bean thresher with the use of physic nut oil in Shwepyithar Village, Singu Township, Mandalay Division. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein grows a physic nut plant in Shwepyithar Village, Singu Township. MNA

operation of trawler-Gs and other farm machinery with physic nut oil. After the ceremony, the Secretary-1 cordially greeted those present. Later, he inspected growing of 120,000 physic nut plants on the 100-acre plantation by MAS in Singu Township and two-acre plantation of physic nut owned by the Forest Department and left necessary instructions. MNA

(from page 1)  
cultivate physic nut on 500,000 acres of land from 2006-2007 to 2008-2009, collecting of physic nut seeds, plans to grow 480,000 physic nut plants on 400 acres of land at the ceremony. After inspecting the physic nut seeds and plants, the Secretary-1 gave instructions saying that physic nut plants have been growing in many parts of the country as they are compatible with Myanmar geographical conditions. It is a perennial crop that can be cultivated with cost-effectiveness. The Head of State has given guidance to carry out

work for cultivation of physic nut as a rural development task. This is why local people are urged to grow more physic nut plants as targeted that can generate more incomes and contribute to regional development, said the Secretary-1.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party together with those present at the ceremony totalling over 5,000 grew physic nut plants. The Secretary-1 presented physic nut grafts to local authorities, townsenders and officials of social organizations. He then inspected cultivation of the plants and



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein views physic nut plants of Myanmar Agriculture Service in Singu Township, Mandalay Division. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents physic nut grafts to members of social organizations. — MNA

**One basket of physic nut seeds can produce one gallon of oil.**



## Cancer preventable and curable World Cancer Day observed

YANGON, 4 Feb—The Health Department under the Ministry of Health and the World Health Organization marked the World Cancer Day at the Institute of Nursing (Yangon) on Bogyoke Aung San Street here this morning.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint in his speech said that today, the 4th of February, is the anniversary of the first World Summit Against Cancer held in Paris on 4 February 2000. 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 is prevent-

able and curable. With early detection and treatment, it is possible to cure cancer cases. The focus is to be on education and health promotion in this regard. The World Cancer Campaign theme is "My Child Matters". Children with cancer who live in developing countries have less than a 50 per cent survival rate, as opposed to 80 per cent for children living in developed countries. Cancer has come to be a public health problem around the world. The holding of commemorative ceremonies will help disseminate knowledge about cancer among the people and it is aimed to reduce cancer burden on the nation.

In conclusion, he called for collaborative efforts to save the lives of the children with cancer.

The minister and guests observed the pavilions around the commemorative exhibition.

Cancer Specialist Dr Soe Aung, Professor Dr Thida San, and Professor Dr Aye Maung Han gave educative talks on cancer.

Also present were officials of the departments under the ministry, medical superintendents, WHO Resident Representative Professor Adik Wibowo, representatives of UN agencies, representatives from the associations at home and abroad, and health staff.

MNA

## Religious objects enshrined



Sayadaw Bhaddanta Dr Ashin Nanissara, Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung plant a Sal plant. — MNA

YANGON, 4 Feb—Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung attended the opening of Dagaung Archaeological Zone in Dagaung on 1 February morning.

Officials formally

opened the archway.

The minister unveiled the inscription of the archway.

Later that morning, the minister attended the cash donations presentation ceremony for the Laymyethna Pagoda in Dagaung and accepted the donations.

On the morning of 2 February, a ceremony to enshrine religious objects into the upper reliquary, hoist Htidaw (tired and ornamented finial) atop the pagoda, and consecrate the pagoda took place.

Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Minister Maj-

Gen Kyi Aung supplicated on religious affairs to the Sayadaws.

The commander, the minister and lay persons presented Seinbudaw (Diamond orb), tiers of Shwehtidaw, and religious object and offered alms to members of the Sangha.

Next, the religious object were enshrined into the reliquary, and Htidaw was hoisted atop the pagoda.

Yesterday morning, the minister attended the hoisting of Htidaw atop the Naungdawgyi Pagoda in Wayongon Village, Thabeikkyin Township. He also inspected cultural tasks of the ministry in Mandalay.

MNA



Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint addresses the ceremony to mark World Cancer Day. — MNA

## 12,000-ton capacity dry dock launched by repairing MV Mandalay

YANGON, 4 Feb — MV Mandalay which is 149 metres in length, 22.4 metres in width and 8 metres draught, a multi-purpose cargo ship of Myanma Five Star Line, was docked at the dry dock in Thilawa, Thanlyin Township on 3 February, under the supervision of Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than. It was the first docking service of the 12,000-ton-capacity dry dock. In the past, ocean-going ships of Myanma Five Star Line were docked at shipyards abroad.

Myanma Shipyards of the Ministry of Transport repaired 1,700-ton vessels in its dockyards. In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, a 12,000-ton-capacity dry dock measuring 168 metres long, 28 metres wide and 9 metres deep was built to accept offers of docking 12,000-ton ves-

sels. The construction of the dry dock was completed in January 2005. After completion, seven ships including two 3,300-ton vessels of MFSL were repaired in the dock in 2005-06 fiscal year. MFSL spent US\$ 500,000 on repair of a vessel in the dock

abroad. Now, the repair works will be carried out at home. Hence, MFSL can save 60 per cent expense in foreign currency in docking its vessels at home. Myanma Shipyards took offers of work from Singapore, the People's Republic of China and Indonesia to build 22

vessels under the inspection of Lloyd's Register of Shipping and American Bureau of Shipping.

The Deputy Minister urged officials of Myanma Shipyards to extend repair and building of ships at home and abroad including vessels of MFSL. — MNA



Multi-purpose MV Mandalay of Myanma Five Star Line being docked at 12,000-ton-capacity Dry Dock. — TRANSPORT

## Market festival extended to 7 February

YANGON, 4 Feb — The market festival of the Ministry of Industry-1, opened to hail the 59th Anniversary Union Day, continued for the fourth day in the compound of the Ministry-1 today.

At the festival, a total of 333 kinds of goods are on sale in retail and wholesale at special prices.

From 6 to 8 pm, entertainment programmes are being staged and the restaurants are also kept open there. The festival will be extended up to 7 February and the goods are available from 10 am to 8 pm daily during those days.

MNA

## Paper reading session of MEA held

YANGON, 4 Feb — A paper reading session of Myanmar Engineer Association took place at Myanmar Info-Tech Building on Hline Campus in Hline Township this morning. It was attended by the patrons of the association, chairman and CEC members, resource persons and others.

Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw extended greetings.

Chairman U Than Myint of the association made a speech. After that, a total number of 39 resource persons read out 39 papers ranging from engineering to business.

The paper reading session ended in the evening and continues tomorrow.

MNA

# Police Sub-Inspector Course No 54 concludes

YANGON, 4 Feb — Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo delivered an address at the concluding ceremony of SIP Course No 54 at Myanmar Police Force Central Training Depot in Zeebingyi of Pyin-OoLwin Township yesterday morning.

The minister inspected the trainee company and took the salute of the trainee company.

The minister presented outstanding awards to the respective trainees.

Speaking on the occasion, the minister said that the trainees are to uphold Our Three Main National Causes as national policy, to serve the interest of the people, to cooperate with the people in carrying out border area development tasks, tasks of 24 special development regions and development of the rural regions, to put on standby to join hands with the Tatmadaw for discharging State defence duties if necessary, and to be loyal to the State

and the people forever. A total of 206 trainees attended the course.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Director-General of MPF Police Brig-Gen Zaw Win, Police Adjutant-General Police Brig-Gen Soe Win Myint, Principle of the Training School Police Brig-Gen Khin Maung, Director of Administration and Training Department of MPF Headquarters Police Col Win Khaung and officials. — MNA



**MINISTER ATTENDS RECEPTION:** The Sri Lankan Embassy held the celebration to mark the Independence Day at its embassy on 4 February. Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife being welcomed by Ambassador of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to the Union of Myanmar Mr DMM Ranaraja. — MNA



Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo speaking at the concluding ceremony of Police Sub-Inspector Course No 54. — HOME AFFAIRS

## Siththway magazine introduced

YANGON, 4 Feb — Siththway magazine issued for December 2005 was introduced at Sakura Tower at the corner of Sule Pagoda Road and Bogyoke Aung San Street this morning. It was attended by journalists and writers.

Editor-in-Chief Thaug Wai Oo of the magazine explained that it was issued in December 2005 and it's No 3 came out this month. It would be a monthly one.

Interested persons may contact the following address— ground floor of 38th Street Plaza on Upper Seikkantha Street in Kyauktada Township, Tel: 379773. — MNA

## 17th annual meeting of MFCC held

YANGON, 4 Feb — The 17th annual meeting of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club took place at Summit Parkview Hotel this evening. Patron of the club U Hla Htway made an opening speech. President U Sao Kai Hpa read out annual report and financial statement.

The new executive members for 2006-2007 were selected.

After the meeting, a dinner was hosted to Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, MRTV Director-General U Khin Maung Htay, IPRD Director-General U Chit Naing and NPE Managing-Director U Soe Win, officials and those present.—MNA

Chief Editor Thaug Wai Oo explains publication of Siththway Magazine to journalists. MNA



Chairman U Myat Thin Aung of AA Medical Products Ltd-Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Daw Khin Myint Myint and family donate four kinds of anti-biotic medicines worth K 20 million to Director-General Dr Tin Win Maung of Health Department. (News on page 2)— HEALTH

The 17th anniversary meeting of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club in progress at Summit Parkview Hotel. MNA





Workers clean the snow from the run of the 140 meters ski jumping hill of Pragelato, northern Italy, in sub-zero temperatures on 3 Feb, 2006. Pragelato will see all Olympic ski jumping events. The Turin 2006 Winter Olympic Games open on 10 Feb.—INTERNET

### WWF says climate change makes Russian bears aggressive

MOSCOW, 4 Feb — Russians have had to shoot three unusually aggressive polar bears so far this year, in what environmental group WWF said was a sign the bears' feeding patterns were being disrupted by global warming.

The group said bears used to come ashore in winter along the sea ice to forage for food, but that the ice had retreated unusually far from the coast leaving predators with a long swim.

"This makes them particularly vulnerable since animals in search of food lose their sense of danger, they enter villages and often attack people," the WWF said in a statement.

In an unusual attack, a polar bear had killed a 15-year-old girl in the remote Arctic Peninsula of Chukotka, which faces Alaska across the Bering Straits, the group said. —MNA/Reuters

## Scientists find evidence of ice on comet

LOS ANGELES, 4 Feb— US scientists reported on Thursday that exposed deposits contain water ice on the surface of comet Tempel 1, the target of NASA's Deep Impact experiment last year.

The first direct evidence of ice on the surface of a comet comes from images and spectra taken by the Deep Impact spacecraft, which launched a copper-tipped probe to collide with the comet on July 4 this year. The impact created a flamboyant fireworks display in space.

Imaging the comet nucleus with cameras on board the Deep Impact spacecraft, scientists found several patches to be bluer than the rest of the cometary surface.

Absorption features in infrared spectra further confirmed the presence of ice in these spots, and suggested the ice is in large grains — probably aggregates — tens of microns in size, the researchers reported in the 2 February online edition of the journal Science.

"We have known for a long time that water ice exists in comets, but this is the first evidence of water ice on comets," said Jessica Sunshine, the lead author of the Science paper.

The discovery offers important insight into the composition of comets, the small, Sun-orbiting space travellers that are believed to be leftovers from the

formation of the solar system, according to Sunshine.

She also indicated that water, and even life on the Earth may have linked with comet.

"Understanding a comet's water cycle and supply is critical to understanding these bodies as a system and as a possible source that delivered water to Earth," she said in a statement.

"Add the large organic component in comets and you have two of the key ingredients for life," she added.

According to their paper, the surface area of Tempel 1 is roughly 120 square kilometres, but the ice covers roughly 0.5 square kilometre. And only 6 per cent of that area consists of pure water ice.

The deposits are too small in area to be the main source of outgassing water vapour from the comet nucleus, implying most of the water in the comet lies beneath the surface, the researchers said.

"While they may be associated with natural outbursts, the water ice deposits detected on the surface of Tempel 1 reported here are not the dominant sources of outgassing," they wrote in the paper. —MNA/Xinhua

### Report says more Japanese overweight, exercising less

TOKYO, 4 Feb — More Japanese are overweight and are exercising less, putting them further away from government targets aiming for a health-conscious nation by 2010.

Some 29 per cent of men aged 20-60 are overweight, a Health Ministry report revealed, compared with 24 per cent when it started a "Health Japan 21" campaign in 2000.

The target is to bring the figure below 15 per cent by 2010. A ministry official said on Friday the gov-

ernment would review the campaign by April, although it had no plans to ease targets such as on the percentage of people who overdrink, those under stress and the amount of vegetables consumed per day. The report showed Japanese are exercising less, with men on average walking 7,575 steps a day compared with the target of 9,200 and women walking 6,821 steps against a targeted 8,300. "We live in a country abundant with food. There isn't anything you want to eat you can't get, even things not grown in Japan," the official said.

MNA/Reuters

### Kelantan State in Malaysia to use ducks to fight snails

KUALA LUMPUR, 4 Feb — The Kelantan State in northern Malaysia can use ducks widely to ward off attacks of golden apple snails in paddy fields, a senior official said Thursday.

Farmers' experience shows ducks of certain species turn out effective in dealing with those snails which can cause damage to the crop during the early stage of planting, Agriculture and Agro-Based Industries Minister Muhyiddin Mohamad Yassin said.

He made the remarks to reporters after presenting ducks under a farming aid scheme to paddy farmers in Kelantan.

Muhyiddin also asked the local agricultural de-

partment to expand the duck aid scheme by establishing a duck breeding centre.

Meanwhile, he admitted that though the ducks were capable of reducing the attack, it was not a long-term solution to the problem.

Noting that there were many areas affected by the snail attack, he urged the local agricultural department to carry out more research work to find ways to overcome the problem. —MNA/Xinhua

## NASA's Inspector-General under investigation

WASHINGTON, 4 Feb— A federal watchdog agency is investigating multiple complaints against NASA Inspector-General Robert Cobb, including accusations he failed to investigate safety violations and retaliated against whistle-blowers, The Washington Post reported on Thursday.

Most of the complaints were filed by current and former employees of his own office, the newspaper reported.

Written complaints and supporting documents from at least 16 people allege Cobb suppressed investigations of wrongdoing within NASA and abused and penalized his own investigators when they persisted in raising concerns, the newspaper reported.

The complaints were being reviewed by the FBI-led Integrity Committee of the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency, the article said.

In documents obtained by The Washington Post and in interviews, current and former NASA employees said Cobb's actions had contributed to a lack of attention to safety problems at the space agency, the newspaper said.

In an interview with the Post, Dennis Coldren, retired manager of

NASA space station and space shuttle audits, was one of several associates to describe Cobb as a "bully".

Coldren also alleged that, just weeks before the February 2003 Columbia space shuttle disaster, Cobb quashed efforts to inquire into cancelled funding to upgrade deteriorating gantries, launch pads and other shuttle infrastructure.

The shuttle disintegrated upon reentry, killing all seven astronauts aboard, and the shuttle fleet was grounded, except for one flight to the International Space Station last summer.

The petitioners said Cobb had disregarded the inspector-general's mandate to root out "waste, fraud and abuse" and caused dozens of longtime NASA employees to leave the IG's 200-person office, the newspaper reported. —MNA/Reuters

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- ပူခြင်း၊ အေးခြင်း၊ နာခြင်း၊ ထိခြင်းကို မသိခြင်း
- အရေပြား၏ မည်သည့်နေရာတွင်မဆိုဖြစ်ပေါ်နိုင်သည်။

အသက်အရွယ်၊ ကျား၊မ မရွေး၊ အတန်းအစားမရွေး၊ နေရာအသေမရွေး ဖြစ်နိုင်သည်။

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

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

# ADVERTISEMENTS

## INVITATION TO TENDER MYANMA RAILWAYS

Sealed Tenders are invited by Myanma Railways, Ministry of Rail Transportation, Union of Myanmar, from reputed manufacturers or their bona fide agents from the Republic of India for the supply and delivery of the followings:-

Sr No	Tender No	Description	Tender Issuing Date	Tender Closing Date & Tender Opening Date	Tender Document Fee (per set)
1	1 /MR/INDIA/(M)/ 2005-2006	Machine Tools	15.2.06	19.4.2006	US\$ 100
2	2 /MR/INDIA/(M)/ 2005-2006	Machine Tools	15.2.06	19.4.2006	US\$ 50
3	3 /MR/INDIA/(M)/ 2005-2006	Machine Tools	15.2.06	20.4.2006	US\$ 50
4	4 /MR/INDIA/(M)/ 2005-2006	Machine Tools	15.2.06	20.4.2006	US\$ 50
5	5 /MR/INDIA/(M)/ 2005-2006	25 Ton Overhead Crane and 6 Ton Mobile Crane	15.2.06	20.4.2006	US\$ 50
6	6 /MR/INDIA/(M)/ 2005-2006	Flow detector, Universal testing machine test bench, oil analysis laboratory	15.2.06	21.4.2006	US\$ 50
7	7 /MR/INDIA/(M)/ 2005-2006	Heat treatment, Bogle production plant and shot blast equipment	15.2.06	21.4.2006	US\$ 100
8	8 /MR/INDIA/(M)/ 2005-2006	60 Ton Diesel Rail Crane	15.2.06	21.4.2006	US\$ 100
9	9 /MR/INDIA/(E)/ 2005-2006	Automatic Levelling Lining & Tamping Machine	15.2.06	19.4.2006	US\$ 100
10	10 /MR/INDIA/(E)/ 2005-2006	Rail Gang Car with Crane / without Crane	15.2.06	19.4.2006	US\$ 100
11	11 /MR/INDIA/(E)/ 2005-2006	Mild Steel Section for Steel Gider	15.2.06	19.4.2006	US\$ 50
12	12 /MR/INDIA/(E)/ 2005-2006	Machinery for Point & Crossing Production	15.2.06	20.4.2006	US\$ 50
13	13 /MR/INDIA/(E)/ 2005-2006	Concrete Sleeper Plant (600 sleeper/day)	15.2.06	20.4.2006	US\$ 100
14	14 /MR/INDIA/(E)/ 2005-2006	Wheel Loader	15.2.06	20.4.2006	US\$ 50
15	15 /MR/INDIA/(E)/ 2005-2006	Thermit Welding Set and Portable Welding Generator Set	15.2.06	21.4.2006	US\$ 50
16	16 /MR/INDIA/(E)/ 2005-2006	Hand Tie Tamper for Railway track maintenance	15.2.06	21.4.2006	US\$ 50
17	17 /MR/INDIA/(E)/ 2005-2006	Small Track Machines & Other Equipments for Track mechanized maintenance	15.2.06	21.4.2006	US\$ 50
18	18 /MR/INDIA/(S&T)/ 2005-2006	Signalling and Telecommunication Equipments and Accessories	15.2.06	19.4.2006	US\$ 100

Tender Documents are available at the Office of the Managing Director, Myanma Railways, No.357/361, Merchant Street, Botataung Township, Yangon Union of Myanmar during office hours on payment of non refundable fee as stated above. Tender Documents can be also available at the Embassy of the Union of Myanmar, New Delhi, India. Further enquiries about tender can be made to Managing Director, Myanma Railways (Fax No.951-298580,951-298582) by fax or by phone to 95-1-298589, 95-1-298636,95-1-298587, 95-1-291982, during office hours.

Bids are to reach the office of the Managing Director, Myanma Railways, No.357/361, Merchant Street Botataung Township, Yangon, Myanmar on or before the Closing Date and Time. The Bids will be opened publicly at 14:00 hour on the Closing Date at the above address.

All bids not accompanied by earnest money (Bid Bond) will not(not) be considered. No Telegraphic / Telex Fax / e-mail proposal will be considered or accepted.

Myanma Railways reserves the right to reject any or all Tenders without furnishing reasons. Tender will be accepted only from Bidder who has purchased Tender Documents officially (These tender documents purchased through Embassy must declare for whom they are purchased.)

The above Goods are to be purchased by the proceeds of the loan from the Government of the Republic of India.

Managing Director, Myanma Railways, Ministry of Rail Transportation, Yangon, Myanmar

## INVITATION TO TENDER

Sealed Tenders are invited by the Department of Health, Central Medical Stores Depot for the supply of pharmaceuticals, dental materials, laboratory apparatus and chemicals.

Tender documents are available during office hours at the office of the Deputy Director (Medical Stores), Central Medical Stores Depot, No-57, Sakawa Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, commencing from (7.2.2006).

Sealed bids are to be submitted to the office of the Deputy Director (Medical Stores), Central Medical Stores Depot, not later than (21.2.2006) 14:00 hour, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraphic/telex proposal will be accepted.

For detail information please contact the Deputy Director (Medical Stores) Phone No. 371284, 371969.

Central Medical Stores Depot  
Department of Health

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## EU Parliament backs truck, bus driving limits

BRUSSELS, 3 Feb — The European Parliament on Thursday backed rules that limit the amount of time bus and truck drivers across Europe can spend on the road, despite opposition from representatives of the transport industry.

The lawmakers approved a deal sealed in December with European Union member states and the executive European Commission that will cut drivers' hours, mandate longer rest periods and close some gaps among a patchwork of different standards across the 25-nation bloc.

The rules require that digital tachographs be installed on trucks and buses from May of this year to monitor the number of hours a given vehicle spends on the road.

MNA/Xinhua

## Greenspan signs up as UK Treasury adviser

LONDON, 3 Feb — Alan Greenspan, who this week stepped down as chairman of the US Federal Reserve, will turn up as an adviser to the UK Treasury, the UK Treasury said on Wednesday.

Greenspan has agreed to become an honorary adviser to the UK Treasury, Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown said.

Brown said his new adviser would help the Treasury develop its thinking in areas related to global economic change.

MNA/Xinhua

## Ben Bernanke sworn in as 14th FED chairman

WASHINGTON, 3 Feb — Ben Bernanke was sworn in to be the 14th Chairman of the Board of Governor of the Federal Reserve System on Wednesday, succeeding Alan

Greenspan. At the same time, Bernanke, 52, became the Chairman of the Federal Open Market Committee, which is the central bank's policy-making arm.

The oath of office was administered in the Board Room at 9:00 am by Vice-Chairman Roger W Ferguson, according to a brief statement released by the Federal Reserve.

Bernanke's four-year term as Fed chairman ends 31 January, 2010, and his fourteen-year term as a member of the board ends 31 January, 2020.

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ပြစနစ်တစ်ခုသာ နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့



Malaysian villagers bath a two-month-old female baby elephant in Sungai Siput, in Malaysia's northern state of Perak, on 2 Feb, 2006. The 200 kg (441 lbs) baby elephant was captured by oil palm planters when it was found roaming near their plantations. —INTERNET

### Shabby rail stations a poor advert for Britain

LONDON, 3 Feb — Britain's shabby railway stations are a poor advertisement for the country, a committee of parliamentarians said on Thursday.

Many smaller stations are threatening, poorly-lit places with vandalized facilities, graffiti-covered platforms and a shortage of staff, the Committee of Public Accounts said in a report.

"Railway passengers up and down the country will be familiar with the stark contrast between the modern new trains now in service and the deplorable state of many of the railway stations they serve,"

the committee's chairman, Edward Leigh, said.

The committee also said Network Rail, which owns most railway stations, was a barrier to improvement because of its complicated and inflexible procedures. Network Rail took control of Britain's rail tracks and stations in 2002, inheriting a network with a troubled history of accidents, escalating costs and train delays. Since privatization in 1996 private sector investment had been discouraged by the large number of bodies involved, "all at loggerheads about who is responsible for what", Leigh said.

Among the committee's findings were:

— A third of the larger stations in England and Wales have no waiting rooms and there are no toilets at about 15 per cent.

— More than half of stations are not fully accessible to the disabled and parents with young children.

— Few train operating companies have joined national crime reduction schemes despite research showing this can increase passenger numbers by up to 11 per cent.

— The number of bodies involved in maintaining and improving stations has led to a fragmented approach, lacking overall leadership and strategic focus.

MNA/Reuters

### Credit cards still mislead consumers

LONDON, 3 Feb — Credit card providers disguise their charges to such an extent that consumers find it impossible to work out which card is the cheapest, consumer body Which? said on Thursday.

Which? said its own research showed cards with higher annual percentage rates (APRs) could be cheaper than those with more competitive rates depending on how many days' interest they applied.

While many cards applied interest from the date of purchase, others waited a few days and only started applying the interest from the date the card provider actually paid the retailer.

Which? said, in this way, Cahoot's card, which charged 11.8 per cent APR could work out more expensive than HSBC's card that charged 13.9 per cent.

"It's ludicrous that a card with a lower interest rate can cost more than

one with a higher rate," Which? editor Malcolm Coles said in a statement. "We want the credit card industry to use one standard way to charge interest so consumers really can choose the cheapest card."

The Card Payment Association, APACS, said consumers were able to compare the true cost of their credit by looking at the summary box, which all providers were now obliged to publish. Summary boxes were not only on marketing literature but should also be available as Internet links from financial comparison websites.

APACS spokeswoman Sandra Quinn said if providers standardized the number of days where

interest charges were applied, that would affect the length of an interest-free period as the two were inextricably linked.

"Most card users — 56 per cent — always pay off their balance in full each month and the vast majority of the rest do so most of the time. What's important to them is the length of the interest-free period," Quinn said.

At the moment, people who buy goods on their credit cards get between 45 and 56 days to pay that amount off in full before they are charged interest. If they don't, the issuer then applies interest, dated back to when the purchase was made or when the card provider paid the merchant.

MNA/Reuters

### Zambia collects \$1.1m from hunting licences in 2005

LUSAKA, 3 Feb — Zambia collected 3.9 billion kwacha (over 1.1 million US dollars) from hunting licences in 2005, according to Times of Zambia on Thursday.

Acting Director-General of the Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) Gershon Chilukusha told the newspaper on Wednesday that the 2005 hunting season was a success and the authority realized much more revenue than the previous year, when 2.5 billion kwacha (about 700,000 dollars) was collected.

He also said ZAWA has mobilized resources for the planned national park in Shantumbu area south of Lusaka. The work to fence off the area will start immediately after the surrounding communities harvest their produce, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

### Japan's Emperor, Empress visit Japan-China calligraphy exhibition

TOKYO, 3 Feb — Japanese Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko visited an exhibition of Chinese and Japanese masterpieces of calligraphy on Wednesday afternoon in Tokyo.

The exhibition "Twin peaks: the finest of Chinese and Japanese calligraphy" shows the history of Chinese calligraphy. Around 190 pieces of masterpieces were exhibited in Tokyo National Museum, including the classic works of Wang Xizhi (Eastern Jin Dynasty) and Su Shi (Northern Song Dynasty) from China, as well as those of Kukai (Heian Period) and other masters from Japan. The exhibition has attracted many Japanese visitors, said the officials of Tokyo National Museum.

About 50 pieces of the exhibited works are national treasures. Shanghai Museum of China provided some works of art to the show, which are from the ancient Song, Yuan or Tang Dynasty.

The exhibition, co-organized by Tokyo National Museum, Asahi Shimbun, TV Asahi and Shanghai Museum of China is to last from 11 January to 19 February. These masterpieces of calligraphy from the two countries will be exhibited in Shanghai from 13 March to 23 April. — MNA/Xinhua

### EU favours diplomatic solution to Iran's nuclear

JAKARTA, 3 Feb — The European Union favoured a diplomatic solution to the nuclear crisis in Iran and expected the country not to be ambivalent in developing its nuclear energy, a top official of European Union Counter-Terrorism told Xinhua here on Thursday.

Coordinator Gijs M de Vries said that a peaceful solution could be reached if the country would like to say it would use the energy for peaceful purpose only. "We would like to see a diplomatic solution. If Iran is unambiguous, then we can make a progress," Vries said.

"If Iran does not agree (to develop the nuclear energy for peaceful purpose), we will have a real serious pro-

blem, it is extremely dangerous for the people of Iran and the people of the region," he said.

Regarding the decision of permanent member countries of the United Nations Security Council and Germany on Tuesday to bring the problem to the Council meeting in March, Vries said that it was one step in a diplomatic process. "I think we should not be focusing much on the precise words. The real question is about the intention of the Iranians. But if Iran does not want bombs, then we can find the solution."

The Iranians must choose what they should choose for their country," he said. — MNA/Xinhua



A recortador jumps over a bull during the opening ceremony of the World Bull Fair in Seville, Spain on 1 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

# SPORTS



Lazio's forward Igli Tare of Albania heads the ball during Italian Cup return leg, quarterfinal soccer match against Inter Milan at the San Siro stadium in Milan, Italy, on 2 Feb., 2006. On the right Inter goalie Francesco Toldo.—INTERNET

## Arsenal's Lauren out for season

LONDON COLNEY (England), 4 Feb—Arsenal defender Lauren has been ruled out for the rest of the season with a knee injury, manager Arsene Wenger said on Friday. "It is bad news because he is one who can play everywhere, right, left, in midfield," Wenger told a news conference. "It is a blow because we have many injuries."

Fellow defenders Pascal Cygan (hamstring), Ashley Cole (thigh), Gael Clichy (foot) and Kerrea Gilbert (back) are unavailable for Saturday's game against Birmingham City. Centre back Sol Campbell has been left out of the squad because of personal problems.

Lauren has been one of Arsene Wenger's most consistent performers this season and Wednesday's defeat by West Ham United was the first league game he had missed.—MNA/Reuters

## Benitez says we cannot catch Chelsea

LIVERPOOL (England), 4 Feb—Liverpool manager Rafael Benitez says the European champions cannot catch Chelsea in the Premier League this season and is not sure if they ever will.

Liverpool travel to Stamford Bridge on Sunday 18 points behind the title holders with two games in hand. They are three points behind second-placed Manchester United.

The last of Liverpool's record 18 league titles came in 1990 and Benitez accepts that the next might be some time in coming.

Asked at a news conference on Friday if his

side could catch Chelsea this season, he said: "No, we will just have three more points.

"It is difficult to talk about the future. At this moment we can beat anyone but in nine months different clubs have different players, so it's hard to know.

"Can we improve? Yes. Can they (Chelsea) improve? I think so. I don't know if we are one step

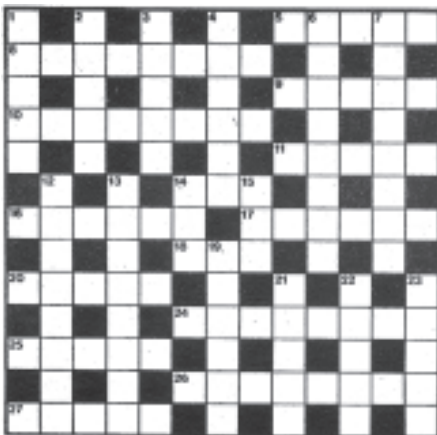
behind or two or more. "I don't analyse other teams every week, just the week we play them so I don't think about the next season, just the next game."

Benitez should not need to spend too long analysing Chelsea as he has faced them eight times in the past two seasons.

However, despite knocking them out of the Champions League last season and finishing above the Londoners in the group stages of the same competition this season, the 1-0 Champions League win at Anfield last May is Liverpool's solitary victory.

This season's league game at Anfield in October was a 4-1 win for the visitors.—MNA/Reuters

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

- 5 Begin
- 8 Blue gem
- 9 Flood
- 10 Held back
- 11 Moving
- 14 Yes
- 16 Vex
- 17 Unfruitful
- 18 Cry convulsively
- 20 Move on ice
- 24 Applause
- 25 Elegance
- 26 Uninformed
- 27 Navy

### DOWN

- 1 Apart
- 2 Malice
- 3 Seat
- 4 Gluttonous
- 6 Arras
- 7 Family servant
- 12 Fish
- 13 Minute portion
- 14 Donkey
- 15 Recede
- 19 Compel
- 21 Ghost
- 22 Ultimate
- 23 Chalcedony

## Senegal end Guinea's run with 3-2 win

ALEXANDRIA (Egypt), 4 Feb—Senegal scored three goals in the last half-hour to beat surprise package Guinea 3-2 in their African Nations Cup quarterfinal on Friday.

Guinea, who won all their group matches, produced a sparkling first 30 minutes and looked set to continue their run when Kaba Diawara pounced on an awful mistake by Senegal goalkeeper Tony Sylva open the scoring.

Senegal fought back and replied through Pape Bouba Diop in the 62nd minute and substitute Mamadou Niang with seven minutes to go.

In a dramatic finale, Henri Camara made it 3-1 with a breakaway goal in injury-time before Guinea reduced the arrears with a precise Pascal Feindouno free kick, his fourth goal of the competition.

Senegal, who qualified despite losing two of their three group games and were missing injured striker El Hadji Diouf, play Egypt or DR Congo in Tuesday's semifinal.

Guinea dominated the opening half hour with Diawara at the centre of the action.

He twice headed wide in a five-minute spell, the second a free header from six metres, and had the ball in the net in the 19th minute, only for the goal to be ruled out for offside.

In the 26th minute, he pounced on Sylva's second mistake in successive games to open the scoring.

Lamine Diatta played the ball back from the centre circle but Sylva, whose mistake allowed Nigeria to score on Tuesday, failed to control the ball with his first touch.

His attempted clearance was charged down by Diawara, who walked the ball into the empty net.

Guinea had another chance in the 37th minute when Fode Mansare beat Ferdinand Coly to the ball and broke clear, only to shoot wide from just inside the penalty area.

MNA/Reuters



Guinea's Dianbobo Balde (R) challenges Senegal's Henri Camara (L) during their African Nations Cup quarter-final soccer match at the Border Guard stadium in Alexandria, Egypt on 3 Feb, 2006. Senegal won 3-2.—INTERNET

## Egypt cruise into semifinals

CAIRO, 4 Feb—Egypt's 39-year-old captain Hossam Hassan steered the hosts to a 4-1 victory over DR Congo on Friday that booked them into an African Nations Cup semifinal against Senegal.

Midfielder Ahmed Hassan converted a 33rd minute penalty and Hossam Hassan drilled the second before teammate Zaher El Sakka scored an own goal for Congo in first-half stoppage time.

Striker Emad Moteab put the result beyond doubt in the 57th minute from close range and Ahmed Hassan added his second of the night with a free kick in the 88th minute.—MNA/Reuters

## Cristiano Ronaldo banned for one game for gesture

LONDON, 4 Feb—Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo has been banned for one match by UEFA for a gesture towards Benfica fans in a Champions League match last month. The 20-year-old Portugal winger made the one-fingered sign at the Estadio da Luz on 7 December when United were eliminated from the competition after losing the Group D match 2-1.

Ronaldo played for Sporting, Benfica's rivals, before joining United in August 2003. Because United have been eliminated from Europe this season, the ban will come into effect next season should United qualify for a European competition.—MNA/Reuters

## Milan look to resurrect title bid at Lazio

ROME, 4 Feb—AC Milan striker Andriy Shevchenko has insisted they can resurrect their challenge for the Serie A title by beating Lazio on Sunday (kickoff 1930 GMT).

Milan travel to Rome's Olympic Stadium on the back of two poor results and continuing speculation about the future of coach Carlo Ancelotti.

Last Saturday's 1-1 draw with Sampdoria at San Siro left them a distant third in the standings with 47 points, a massive 12 points behind leaders Juventus.

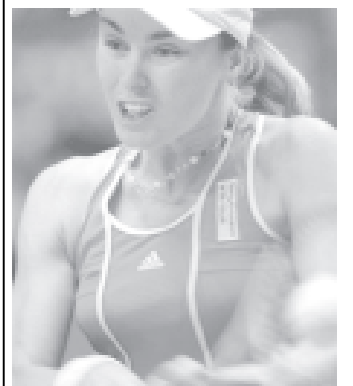
That was followed by a 3-0 Italian Cup quarterfinal, second leg defeat at Palermo on Tuesday that knocked them out of the competition 3-1 on aggregate prompting critics to suggest the Champions League is their only hope of silverware this season.

That suggestion is refuted by

Shevchenko, however.

"We're going through a bad patch but there are still plenty of matches to play—and I'm not just referring to the Champions League," the former European Footballer of the Year was quoted as saying in La Gazzetta dello Sport this week.

"So far Milan has earned two points more (in Serie A) than it did at this stage last season but the incredible performances by Juventus have made us look weaker by comparison," he added. The 29-year-old denied that his focus had already shifted to this month's Champions League tie with Bayern Munich as Milan prepare for their last 16 showdown.—MNA/Reuters



Martina Hingis of Switzerland returns the ball against Maria Kirilenko of Russia during the quarterfinal match of the Toray Pan Pacific Open Tennis in Tokyo on 3 Feb, 2006. Hingis won 6-2, 6-1. Former world No 1 Hingis will meet with top-seeded Maria Sharapova of Russia in Saturday's semifinals.—INTERNET

# Indonesia wants Japanese help in product quality

JAKARTA, 4 Feb — The Indonesian Food and Beverage Producers Association has said it will request Japan to replicate the technical assistance models it had developed in Thailand and Vietnam, a local newspaper reported on Friday.

Association chairman Thomas Dharmawan expressed a hope that Japan "could either train our companies there or send production equipment here so that we can learn how to comply with their standards," said *The Jakarta Post*.

Indonesia and Japan will hold the next round of economic partnership agreement (EPA) talks, scheduled here on 9 February to continue the preparatory work for the signing of a free trade agreement between Indonesia and Japan.

"Besides negotiating wider market access, we will also seek cooperation in reducing non-tariff trade barriers," Indonesia's chief negotiator, Soemadi DM Broto-

diningrat, said Thursday. Many Indonesian goods, especially those produced by the agricultural and fisheries sectors, including processed food, have been facing difficulties entering the Japanese market due to their failure to meet the country's quality standards.

MNA/Xinhua

## Vietnam imports more bird flu vaccines from China

HANOI, 4 Feb — Vietnam has imported additional 150 million doses of vaccines against bird flu viruses among fowls from China, local newspaper *Pioneer* reported on Friday.

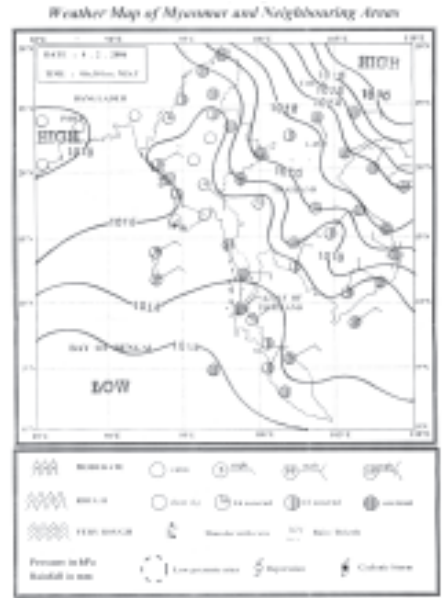
The vaccines worth 1 million US dollars will be used early this year, the paper quoted the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development as saying.

About 246 million poultry turns (each dose for a fowl being considered one turn, two doses for the same fowl regarded as two turns) have been vaccinated since August 2005. The ministry's Department of Animal Health on 1 February said 21 cities and provinces nationwide, which had been hit by bird flu since early October 2005,

detected no new outbreaks for at least three weeks, meeting criteria to declare their territory free of the disease.

In late November 2005, the department's director Bui Quang Anh told *Xinhua* that Vietnam had set aside state money of 60 billion Vietnamese dong (nearly 3.8 million US dollars) for importing vaccines. By that time, the country had purchased 340 million doses of bird flu vaccines from China, and 6 million doses from the Netherlands and France each.

MNA/Xinhua



### WEATHER

Saturday, 4 February, 2006

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

Maximum temperature on 3-2-2006 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 4-2-2006 was 59°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 4-2-2006 was (74%). Total sunshine hours on 3-2-2006 was (8.8) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 4-2-2006 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 (6) mph from Northeast at (14:00) hours MST on 3-2-2006.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 5-2-2006:** Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of isolated light rain in the extreme Southern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 5-2-2006:** Fair weather.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 5-2-2006:** Fair weather.

### Earthquake report

(Issued at 06:30 hours MST, today)

An earthquake of Moderate intensity (6.0) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (30 miles NW of Port Blair, Andaman Island, India) about (430) miles Southwest of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory, was recorded at (03) hrs (05) min (52) sec MST on 4th February 2006.



Sunday, 5 February  
View on today

7:00 am

1. နားချ: ရှင်မင်းထွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ ဗဟုကုသကအဖွဲ့အစည်းတော် ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာဟာရဌာန ၃၇၊ အဘိဓမ္မာအဖွဲ့ဟာသဒ္ဒမ္မ ဓမ္မာတံ၊ တီဗီ ၄၀၀၀၊ မွေဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တ ဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈) ပြာမဂ်လာ

8:00 am

6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am

7. ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း၊ ဝေါင်းလင်း (ငမိုးရိပ်ရေကျ) ရေလှောင်တံခံ

8:20 am

8. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Say it in English

11:00 am

1. Martial song

11:10 am

2. Musical programme

11:30 am

4. Song of National Races

11:25 am

5. "ကောင်းမြင်းပေါ်" (ထွန်းထွန်းနိုင်၊ ရန်ပိုင်နိုင်၊ ပိုင်ဆိုင်ထွန်း၊ မင်းသူ၊ မြင့်မြင့်နိုင်၊ ဝေဓိဋ္ဌိအေး၊ ရုစံစိုဦး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကိုအောင်ဦး-ဝရစ်)

12:10 pm

5. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "Doraemon"

12:35 pm

6. ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "ရေပြန်၊ တောင်ပေါ်ပင်လယ်၊ တောင်တန်း" (ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားဝန်ထမ်းများ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မျိုးအေး)

1:35 pm

7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

1:50 pm

8. ဆက်သွယ်ဆင့်ပွား ကျွန်းတောတံတား

2:00 pm

9. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:15 pm

10. "အန္တရာယ်ကင်းစင် ဘေးရှင်စေ" (လှမင်း၊ ဟန်နီထွန်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သက်တင်)

2:30 pm

11. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:45 pm

12. International news

3:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. အဆေးသင်တန်းဆိုင်ရာ သဘောပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ

-တတိယနှစ်(ရုက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရုက္ခဗေဒ)

4:45 pm

6:00 pm

5. "ကောင်းမြင်းပေါ်"

6:30 pm

8. Weather report

6:35 pm

9. Agriculture Source of Country's Development

6:45 pm

10. ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "အသံညို၊ ရဲလုံး၊ ရဲလုံး" (အပိုင်-စ)

7:50 pm

11. အနာဂတ် နိုင်ငံတော်၏ ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ (အပိုင်-၁၂)

8:00 pm

12. News

13. International news

14. Weather report

15. ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား" (အပိုင်-၂၀)

1. ဝေဓိဋ္ဌိအေးဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ ဦးဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာ မေတ္တာဘာဝနာ ပွားများခြင်းတရားတော်

17. The next day's programme



Sunday, 5 February  
Tune in today

8:30 am

Brief news

8:35 am

Music: -Sweet sweet smile

8:40 am

Perspectives

8:45 am

Music: -My kinda life

8:50 am

National news & slogan

9:00 am

Music: -One of us

9:05 am

International news

9:10 am

Cultural images of Myanmar

9:20 am

Music: -Burning love

1:30 pm

News & slogan

1:40 pm

Children's delight

-Story for children

"Let's unite"

-Songs for children

9:00 pm

Weekly news review

9:10 pm

Article

9:20 pm

Music: -Today

-When only just begun

9:45 pm

News & Slogan

10:00 pm

PEL

## Bago Station holds physic nut planting ceremony



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win presents physic nut grafts to an official.  
MNA

YANGON, 4 Feb — As Yangon Division will launch its plan in 2006 to grow 500,000 acres of physic nut plants within three years, all are to work in concert to meet the target, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win said at the physic nut planting ceremony at Bago Station of Yangon Command area this morning.

Bago Station Commander Brig-Gen Thant Swe and officials reported on the purpose of holding the

physic nut planting ceremony and dissemination of agricultural technology.

The commander and wife and party distributed physic nut cuttings and seeds to officials of the regiments and units and departments.

Next, the commander and party viewed demonstration on running of generator and power-tiller with the use of physic nut oil.

Later, they grew physic nut plants in the plot of the station, and looked into participation of

### 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.

Tatmadawmen, family members, departmental personnel, and local people in cultivation of 12,000 physic nut plants. Also present on the occasion were No 77 LID Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint and wife, Tatmadawmen and family members, departmental officials and local people.

MNA

## Factory projects in Kyaukse Township inspected

YANGON, 4 Feb — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, accompanied by Managing Director U Aye Mauk of Myanmar General and Maintenance Industries, inspected implementation of Enamel Ware and Steel Products Factory Project (Minzu) near Minzu Village of Kyaukse Township yesterday morning.

The minister inspected construction of the main building measuring 200 feet by 200 feet, installation of machines, test-running and products of the factory. The minister gave necessary instructions.

The minister oversaw cultivation of vegetable plantations and the physic nut nursery in vacant and fallow lands. Managing Director U Aye Mauk of Myanmar General and Maintenance Industries briefed the minister on progress of the factory.

The minister said that the Enamel Ware and Steel Products Factory will produce import-substitute steel waves for the rural people at reasonable price. Hence, efforts are to be made for manufacturing various items of steel products.

Enamel Ware and Steel Products Factory Project (Minzu) site is located on 26.42 acres of land.

Minister U Aung Thaung presented the fruit

basket to foreigner technicians who contributed to building the factory.

The minister inspected bicycles manufactured by Myanmar General and Maintenance Industries, and gave necessary instructions.

In Inyaung Village of Kyaukse Township, the minister inspected functions of Pharmaceutical Factory (Inyaung) of Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industries.

He instructed officials to perform tasks to install machines at the factory as soon as possible, and to grow physic nut plants in vacant lands of the factory. Later, the minister oversaw construction tasks and arrival of machines from abroad. — MNA

### INSIDE

*With 50 years service-investment and zealous efforts carried throughout the country, we will be able to commemorate the 6th anniversary of leprosy elimination that falls on 6th February 2006.*

PAGE 7 DR. KYAW MYINT (PROGRAMME MANAGER)

*Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspects machines of Enamel Ware and Steel Products Factory Project (Minzu).*

INDUSTRY-1



### Significant night temperatures

Haka	(4°C)
Pinlaung	(4°C)
Namhsam	(4°C)