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Blood of Union kinship and Union Spirit

In the Union of Myanmar where national races are residing, the culture, traditions and customs, language and social systems may appear to be different but in essence they are all based on the common blood of Union kinship and Union Spirit like a hundred fruits from a common stem.

Senior General Than Shwe
 Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
 Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
 (From the message sent to the 46th Anniversary Union Day)



Integrate public spirit and influence, and lead people to regional development

Secretary-1 meets teachers at course completion ceremony

YANGON, 6 Feb — The special refresher course No 24 for basic education teachers concluded at Yadana Hall of the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin Township this morning.

Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivered a speech.

The Secretary-1 said, the government has

laid down the plans in education sector systematically and it is now implementing the tasks to turn out intellectuals and intelligentia who have ability to make efforts for keeping abreast of develop-

ment of international community and for enabling the Union of Myanmar to stand tall as an independent, sovereign nation.

The government is also endeavouring for the people to promote their education and gain wider knowledge in every sector including the education sector in building a consolidated democratic nation.

Teachers should try to possess capabilities and to
 (See page 8)



Only when intelligence of the people is high and they have ability to differentiate between what is good and what is bad, will Myanmar society be peaceful, stable and free from injustice and breaching of laws and regulations.



Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein addresses the conclusion of special refresher course No 24 for basic education teachers. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 7 February, 2006

Train students in order that they will become good and able citizens

The government of Myanmar, hand in hand with the people, is trying hard in order that the nations can keep pace with other developed countries. And at the same time, it is translating the seven-point Road Map into reality for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

Education is very important for the development of the nation and, therefore, new generations are being trained in accordance with the national education promotion plan. With a view to turning out highly-educated human resources needed for various regions, the government is fulfilling such requirements as schools, modern teaching aids and teachers.

A ceremony to open a new building of the basic education high school was held at No (1) War Veterans' Model Village (Laydaungkan) in Dagon Myothit (south) on 28 January and it was attended by Chairman of the Central Committee of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein. In his address on the occasion, Lt-Gen Thein Sein said that Union Spirit was the lifeblood of the nation that it was necessary to instil that spirit in the youths.

Intellectuals and intelligentsia play a vital role in national development endeavours. Therefore, steps are being taken for turning out educated human resources in accordance with the national education promotion plan. Now there are more than 40,000 high schools, middle schools, primary schools and post-primary schools in over 60,000 villages in the entire nation and more than 250,000 teachers are teaching in these schools.

We would like to call on teachers to constantly learn and hone their skills and train their students in order that the latter will become good and able citizens. It is also necessary for the teachers to instil Union Spirit and fuse with discipline in the youths. For, only with Union Spirit and discipline will it be possible for the Union of Myanmar to be able to exist in perpetuity.



In memory of her late husband U Shwe Tin, Daw Shwe Kyin and daughters recently donated K 100,000 to the Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Prof Dr May Win Aung, member of Administrative Board 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

USDA Secretary-General meets members of social organizations in Hinthada

YANGON, 6 Feb — Secretary-General of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo met with townsenders, departmental officials, members of USDA and social organizations at the city hall of Hinthada in Ayeyawady Division on 3 February.

The secretary-general clarified concerted efforts of the government, the Tatmadaw and the people for national development, practical implementation of the functions and future plans of the USDA and measures on education and health being carried out in Hinthada Township.

The secretary-general and members of the

USDA donated cash to the nursing training school in Hinthada. Members of the USDA also made cash donation for the members of the Sangha who are undergoing medical treatments in Hinthada Hospital.

The wellwishers contributed cash towards the education fund set up for the outstanding students in the township.

The minister and party inspected all-round renovation of reclining Buddha Image in Nathmaw village and donated cash to it. He then met with teachers, students and townsenders at No 1 Basic Education Primary School in the village.—MNA

Home Affairs Minister meets with officials



Maj-Gen Maung Oo meets officials of departments under Home Affairs Ministry.—HOME AFFAIRS

YANGON, 6 Feb — Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, accompanied by officials concerned arrived in Monywa on 4 February and met with officials of Myanmar Police Force under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Bureau of Special Investigation, General Administration Department and Prisons Department at City Hall. The minister called on them to follow the code of conduct and to carry out the tasks targeted by the ministry. — MNA

Cooperatives Minister inspects Mandalay Cooperative College

YANGON, 6 Feb — Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min together with officials inspected sowing of physic nut in Mandalay Cooperative College compound on 3 February.

At the meeting hall of the College, the minister met with faculty members and left instructions.

In the evening, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and the minister and the Mandalay mayor attended a ceremony to sow physic nut seeds and grafts in Cooperatives Agriculture compound. The commander and party then sowed physic nut seeds.

The minister and party proceeded to PyinOolwin Condensed Milk Factory in PyinOolwin on 4 February and inspected the factory where the officials conducted them around. The minister urged the officials to extend growing of physic nut in the rainy season.—MNA

MWEA Members leave for Malaysia

YANGON, 5 Feb — Members of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association Daw Le Le Aye and Daw Cho Thiri Maung left here by air yesterday to attend the training of Promotion and Management of Small and Medium Enterprises

(SMEs) for CLMV under the Third Country Training Programme (TCTP) & Malaysia Cooperation Programme (MICP) to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 5 February to 25 March. They were seen off at the airport by executives of MWEA. — MNA



Daw Le Le Aye and Daw Cho Thiri Maung of MWEA seen at Yangon International Airport before departure for Malaysia.—MWEA

Annan to receive award for environment in Dubai

UNITED NATIONS, 5 Feb—UN Secretary-General will leave for Dubai this weekend where he will attend a ceremony to receive the 2005 Zayed International Prize for Global Leadership for the Environment, UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric announced on Friday.

While in Dubai, the Secretary-General is also expected to hold a bilateral meeting with His Highness Sheikh Mohamed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the spokesman added.

The Zayed Prize International Jury announced the prize in December, 2005.

Previous Global Leadership winners have been Jimmy Carter, the former president of the United States, and the British Broadcasting Corporation for their global media commitment to environment and sustainable development issues.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia allows Qantas to buy stake in local airline

JAKARTA, 5 Feb—The Indonesian Government said Saturday it would allow Australia's Qantas Airways Ltd to buy a stake in local budget carrier PT Adam Sky-Connection Airlines but warned against majority ownership.

"We welcome the cooperation between national airlines with their (foreign) strategic partners as long as they abide by the law," Minister of Transportation Hatta Radjasa told reporters here.

He was commenting on the planned purchase of a stake in Adam Air, the popular name of the Jakarta-based company, by Qantas. "But they (Qantas) cannot hold majority ownership. They can buy 49 per cent at the maximum," Hatta said before joining a Cabinet meeting on economic issues.

"We welcome them. Strategic partnership is all about business, the government can only play its regulatory role," he said. —MNA/Xinhua

Taleban's fresh attacks leave two dead

KABUL, 5 Feb—Taleban's new offensive on government interests in the militancy-plagued Helmand Province in south Afghanistan left two dead including a district chief and a police officer on Friday night, deputy governor of the province Mullah Amir Akhundzada said on Saturday.

The Taleban-linked militants in their latest attacks carried out last night in the districts of Musa Qala and Nawzad murdered the district chief of Musa Qala and a police officer in Nawzad besides wounding three other policemen," he told Xinhua via telephone.

During the counter attacks and exchange of fire three Taleban militias were also killed on the spot. Militias loyal to the former Taleban regime in a string of coordinated attacks targeted government interests including police in the volatile Helmand Province on early Friday had left some 23 dead and about 30 injured, with majority of them according to officials were rebels. Taleban-led insurgency, which claimed over 1,500 lives in 2005, has left over 40 dead and some 60 wounded since the beginning of this year.

The ousted regime's elusive leader Mullah Mohammad Omar who has escaped the US-led coalition troops manhunt in the region has frequently called on his followers to continue Jihad or holy war till the eviction of foreign forces from Afghanistan.

MNA/Xinhua

Iran calls on world to avoid double standards on nuke activity

MUNICH, 5 Feb—Iranian representative Abbas Araghchi appealed here Saturday to the international community to avoid

double standards on its nuclear activity.

Speaking at the 42nd Munich Conference on Security Policy, Araghchi, Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs, said Iran's nuclear facilities are open to international inspectors and every step of his country's nuclear programme is clear.

He expressed his bewilderedness that a small scale of nuclear activity in Iran was considered a threat and hit headlines, while "other country (referring to Israel) in our region with more than 200 nuclear warheads and violates the human rights of the Palestinians by

occupying their land" was exempt of such accusation.

MNA/Xinhua

worth of 7.1 million US dollars.

Hong Kong is the first successful overseas market for dairy products from North China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, which has secured the largest market share in the domestic market. The producers are eyeing further overseas market exploration in Macao and then the United States and Singapore in the next stage.

Inner Mongolia, China's largest grassland pasturing region, has a strong stockbreeding industry. As the country's largest milk-cow breeding base, the region has over 2.1 million cows in stock with an annual milk production over 7,000,000 tons.—MNA/Xinhua

Tourists look at an illuminated snow sculpture of the Golden Pavilion of Horyuji temple at Odori Park, the venue of the 57th Sapporo Snow Festival, on the eve of the opening of the winter festival in Sapporo, northern Japan on 5 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

Inner Mongolia's dairy products make swift sales in Hong Kong

HOHhot, 5 Feb—Dairy products from China's northern grassland have secured a strong market share in the international metropolitan of Hong Kong.

Dairy products from China's two biggest dairy producers based in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, Yili and Mengniu have entered over 1,500 retailing shops and supermarkets in Hong Kong, with total monthly sales hitting 850,000 kilograms, according to the companies' sources.

Dairy trade between Inner Mongolia and Hong Kong has been undergoing a robust development since 2003, propelling more and more Inner

Mongolia's dairy products to swarm onto Hong Kong's store shelves.

With fine taste, competitive prices, Inner Mongolia's dairy products, which boast "coming from grassland, far from pollution", have won over the preference of HK residents.

Liu Xingfan, director of the entry-exit inspection and quarantine bureau in Inner Mongolia said that his department quarantined 10,118 tons of dairy products to HK in 2005,

At least one dead, 27 injured in Pakistani train derailment

ISLAMABAD, 5 Feb—At least one was killed and 27 others injured on Saturday morning when a passenger train derailed in southwestern Pakistan.

Local Press reports quoted police and railway officials as saying that the Karakoram Express, going to the eastern Pakistani city of Lahore from the southern city of Karachi, derailed early Saturday near the Samasatta Town.

They said that the train went off the tracks at 3:15 am local time near Samasatta, about 105 kilometres south of the central city of Multan. The injured were shifted to Bahawal Victoria Hospital through Edhi ambulances and private vehicles.

According to railway control room, cause of the accident was yet to be ascertained. The accident suspended rail traffic and four different trains were stopped at different stations.—MNA/Xinhua



American soldiers detain a man during a raid in Ramadi, 115 kilometres (70 miles) west of Baghdad, Iraq, on 4 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

Survey shows education key to reducing crime by migrant teenagers

BEIJING, 5 Feb— Criminal activities by migrant teenagers have been increasing in South China's Guangdong Province due to a lack of proper education within families and schools, according to a recent survey.

The survey, conducted by the Guangdong Provincial Prevention and Control of Juvenile Crime Organization, found that migrant teenage criminal cases accounted for nearly 52 per cent of the province's juvenile crime last year, *China Daily* reported on Saturday.

The survey was carried out across 10 major cities and over 20 counties in the province last year, including Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Dongguan, which have seen hundreds of thousands of migrant workers moving in over the last decade.

Guangdong currently

has the largest number of migrant workers, accounting for nearly one third of the nation's total. Officials and experts blamed the lack of proper education and protection by families and schools for the increase in migrant juvenile criminal activity.

"Most migrant youngsters quit school after they move to the province, and then begin roaming the streets," said Ou Hui, deputy director of the Guangdong Provincial Committee of Caring for the Next Generation.

"Protection of legal

rights in terms of education and work is key to preventing migrant youngsters from committing crimes," Ou said.

Prefectural-level cities that still do not have drop-in centres for homeless kids have been urged to establish them in 2006, so as to protect children's interests and cut the number of teenage criminals.

MNA/Xinhua

Fire breaks out in oil refinery in Japan

TOKYO, 6 Feb— A fire broke out in a refinery in Hokkaido of northern Japan on Sunday afternoon, *Kyodo News* reported. There is no immediate report of casualties. However, firefighters said that black smoke as high as 200 metres could be seen above the refinery, which belongs to Nippon Oil Corp in Muroan, Hokkaido.—MNA/Xinhua

Guangdong Province reports double digit rise in retail sales

GUANGZHOU, 5 Feb — Guangdong Province, South China, made 788.26 billion yuan (about 97.2 billion US dollars) in retail sales of consumer commodities last year, a year-on-year rise of 15 per cent.

Information from the provincial statistical bureau said the growth range was 1.4 percentage points more than that in 2004 or 2.1 percentage points more than the national average for 2005.

By late 2005, nine out of 100 households had private motor vehicles, a rise of 47.7 per cent over a year earlier. And the per capita floor space of housing was 25.71 square metres, and 18 per cent of the families in the province own more than one apartment.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi soldiers search random vehicles at a checkpoint on 5 Feb, 2006, Baghdad, Iraq. —INTERNET

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Handicraft trade fair to be held in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 5 Feb — A five-day handicraft trade fair is going to be held in Kathmandu on 23-27 February with the objective of encouraging the handicraft industry and promoting internal and international markets for Nepal's handicraft products.

More than 50 per cent goods exported from the country consist of handicraft products, and handicraft industry has provided employment to a large part of the society, Nepal

Handicraft Industries Association, the organizing body of the trade fair said here on Saturday.

According to the association, more than 40 different kinds of

handicraft goods are exported to about 70 countries around the world.

Handicraft products worth 2.849 billion Nepali rupees (40.7 million US dollars) in total were exported in the fiscal year 2004/05.

The major handicraft goods exported from Nepal comprise Pashmina, woolen clothes, silver jewellery, Nepali hand-made paper, wooden carvings, paintings and leather goods. The goods are exported in larger quantity to the United States of America, Germany, Japan, Italy, Britain, France, Canada, India, the Netherlands, Spain and Australia.

Around 120 stalls will be kept at the fair for displaying the handicraft products, the organizer said in a statement.

MNA/Xinhua



Stampede survivor Filipina Florilla Millaris walks past flowers as she visits the site where at least 74 people were killed during a stampede in Pasig, east of Manila, Philippines on 5 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

Alpine ice man may have been childless outcast

MILAN, 5 Feb— A Stone Age man found frozen in the Alps some 5,300 years after he was murdered under mysterious circumstances may have been a childless social outcast, a new study showed.

Italian anthropologist Franco Rollo studied fragments of the DNA belonging to Oetzi, as the mummy has come to be known, and found two typical mutations common among men with reduced sperm mobility,

the museum that stores the "iceman" said.

A high percentage of men with such a condition are sterile.

"Insofar as the 'iceman' was found to possess both mutations, the possibility that he was unable to father

offspring cannot be eliminated," the South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology in the Alpine town of Bolzano said in a statement.

"This not improbable hypothesis raises new questions concerning his social rank within his society," it added, arguing that the new evidence supported a theory that viewed the man as a social outcast.

Hikers discovered Oetzi in the mountains between Italy and Austria in 1991.

In 2001, scientists found an arrowhead in the

iceman's shoulder blade, and tests revealed blood from four different people on his clothes and a cut in his hand, possibly from a fight.

Medicine in the man's pockets and sophisticated weapons seemed to

indicate that he was a shaman or a chieftain, and one theory says Oetzi was the victim of a power struggle in his own tribe.

A rival theory proposes the opposite — that he was a reject.

MNA/Reuters

Fear of floods in Iraq

TIKRIT, 5 Feb—The governor of Iraq's Salaheddin province has issued a warning that floods could sweep certain areas of the province along the Tigris river.

Governor Hamad Hammoud al-Chakti issued a call to evacuate people from dwelling along the edge of the river in towns of Baiji, Buajil, Shurqat and Buaji after persistent rains in the last two days threatening to flood 5,000 hectares (more than 12,000 acres) of land.

Some 25 dwellings were already under water in Samara, near Tikrit. The US military said that Iraqi and US soldiers had rescued nearly 100 people southeast of Mosul on Saturday after powerful storms swept through northern Iraq, causing flooding along a tributary of the Tigris. The soldiers used small boats to rescue the groups of people stranded on small islands in the river. In the Kurdish city of Arbil, water invaded three central districts on Friday, damaging or destroying buildings including some belonging to the education ministry.—Internet

India seeks to calm Iran after nuclear vote

MUMBAI, 5 Feb—India said on Saturday it voted to report Iran to the UN Security Council over its nuclear programme but sought to calm its old ally saying the move would allow for more negotiations.

"Our vote in favour of the resolution should not be interpreted as in any way detracting from the traditionally close and friendly relations we enjoy with Iran," an Indian Foreign Office statement said. The UN nuclear watchdog, International Atomic Energy Agency

(IAEA), voted in Vienna to report Iran to the Security Council over suspicions it plans to build atomic weapons.

"The resolution has won a period of six weeks, before the March IAEA Board Meeting, for diplomatic efforts to continue and to get

negotiations between the EU-3 and Iran back on track."

The Security Council is not due to take action on the IAEA vote until after its Director-General Mohamed ElBaradei delivers a report on Iran's nuclear programme on 6 March.

MNA/Reuters



A participant holds a Sukhoi-30 model of during an aero model flying show in the Indian northeastern city of Siliguri on 5 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

Journalists invited to cover upcoming NPC, CPPCC sessions

BEIJING, 5 Feb—Chinese and foreign journalists were invited Saturday to cover the upcoming annual sessions of the National People's Congress (NPC) and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) in Beijing.

The Fourth Session of the 10th NPC will open on 5 March, and the Fourth Session of the 10th National Committee of the CPPCC will begin on 3 March, according to the general offices of the NPC Standing Committee and the CPPCC National Committee.

The NPC is the top legislative body in China, while the CPPCC is a broad-based national advisory organization consisting of experts and citizens from all walks of life.

The CPPCC plays a supervisory role and accepts suggestions and criticisms which relate to major state affairs and policies and other important issues.

A Press centre will be set up at the Xizhimen Hotel, No 172 Xizhimennei Street, Beijing. It will be responsible for the arrangement of Chinese and foreign correspon-

dents to cover the two meetings. Chinese correspondents from Beijing-based state media who want to cover the meetings are required to send their applications to the Press centre. Local correspondents who want to come to Beijing to cover the meetings should send their applications to their local delegations who will deliver those applications to the Press centre.

Applications from Hong Kong and Macao correspondents should be sent to the liaison offices of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong and Macao special administrative regions, respectively.

Taiwan reporters who temporarily come to cover the meetings should send their applications to the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council.

Resident foreign correspondents in China

who want to cover the meetings are required to send their applications to the Press centre, and foreign correspondents who come to China for the events should send their applications to the Chinese embassies or consulates in

their countries, or to the commissioner's offices of the Chinese Foreign Ministry in Hong Kong and Macao.

The Press center's deadline for receiving applications is 5 March.

MNA/Xinhua

N China province consumer price up 1.8% in 2005

SHIJIAZHUANG, 5 Feb—The consumer price index of North China's Hebei Province edged up by 1.8 per cent last year over the previous year, according to government statistics.

The growth rate was 2.5 percentage points lower than that for the previous year, according to the provincial statistics bureau.

The prices for food, entertainment and stationery, and services rose by 2.4 per cent, five per cent and 5.5 per cent respectively year-on-year.

The prices of cigarettes, apparels and household equipment decreased by 0.1 per cent, 1.2 per cent and 1.6 per cent respectively year-on-year. The prices for medicines and healthcare products also went down by similar degrees.

The factory price for industrial products grew by 4.4 per cent and the price for farm produce rose by 2.5 per cent year-on-year. —MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi detainee sits with his head covered by a sand bag while an American soldier covers another detainee's eyes with tape during a raid in Ramadi, 115 kilometres (70 miles) west of Baghdad, Iraq, on 4 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

HK Disneyland apologizes to guests with unpleasant experiences

HONG KONG, 5 Feb—Hong Kong Disneyland on Friday once again apologized to guests who had unpleasant experiences in the past few days.

Bill Ernest, executive vice-president and managing director of Hong Kong Disneyland made the apology in a written statement to the Press on Friday.

He said, "Once again, we apologize to any guests who were inconvenienced and we appreciate their continued support."

This is HK Disneyland's first year of operations during Lunar New Year and the staff members were extremely busy, he said.

Ernest admitted that "frankly, we are experiencing an unprecedented demand at the park. In particular, the influx of visitors from the Chinese Mainland has been enormous". He emphasized that "this has been a true learning experience for us".

He said the park always anticipated the fluctuations during the key periods, "but this has been extraordinary in determining the designated special days". He said really is that visit to Hong Kong fell short of predictions during the Lunar New Year or the current "golden week". The park will review the need for more designated special days in the future, he added.

Tickets to Hong Kong Disneyland have been sold out for five consecutive days from 30 January and quite a number of passengers with tickets valid for 180 days were refused for entry into the park in the past two days.

The park opened at 8:30 on Friday and its usual opening hour is at 10:00. The park has temporarily suspended the Internet selling of tickets in order to control the daily passenger flow. —MNA/Xinhua

Two UN teams in Iraq to check bird flu

ARBIL, 5 Feb—Two teams from the World Health Organization are in Iraq to help fight off the spread of bird flu in Kurdistan which has claimed its first victim in the region, officials said.

One eight-member WHO team flew into the region's main city of Arbil and was set to meet later Sunday with Jamal Abdul Hameed, health minister in its autonomous administration.

Another two-member team of WHO veterinarians arrived in Baghdad on Saturday and will head Monday to Arbil to assist their colleagues from the other team. "At the moment this is an agricultural emergency," said Sam Yingst, a member of the team in Baghdad.

"But we believe that there is a possibility that it may become a human public emergency though it will require a significant change in the nature of the virus."

A massive cull of poultry has been underway in the northern Kurdistan region after an outbreak of the H5N1 strain of the avian influenza virus among birds. The disease, which struck after hitting neighbouring Turkey last month, has claimed at least one human life in Iraq and a handful of other cases are under investigation. Iraq confirmed that a 15-year-old girl in Kurdistan had died from the H5N1 virus in January. —Internet

Hailing the 59th Anniversary Union Day:**Beauty and essence of the Union***Kyi Win Nyunt***Hundred fruits
from a common
stem—Our Union**

Myanmar is like a garden where a large variety of species of flowers are in full bloom. Very high and silvery snow-capped mountain ranges in the northern part of Myanmar are still and serene. The rivers and creeks that rise in these mountain ranges meet in Kachin State to form the Ayeyawady River flowing right down to the delta region, then to the ocean in the south of the nation.

The Taninthayi Coastal region comprising Myeik, Dawei and Kawthoung in the southern part of Myanmar is located between mountain ranges and the sea. So, one can enjoy natural scenic beauties of the forests, mountain ranges and the sea at the same time. The islets in the Myanmar waters look like huge jade stones floating here and there in the sea.

Many regions close to the Ayeyawady River are covered with valuable forests, and the regions in the delta, with mixed and multi-cropping.

From time immemorial, national races such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Bamar, Mon, Rakhine and Shan have been living in amity and harmony in the Union of Myanmar sharing joys and sorrows.

The history of the nation has indicated that national races have different customs according to the locations they live in. But, in truth they are all national brethren living in the same land and belonging to the same background history, traditions and culture.

Their cultures, customs, languages and ways of life seem to be diverse in form, but are based on Union Spirit. So, national races are national brethren in essence.

Dating back to the history of the Union of Myanmar, the spirit of national solidarity, Union Spirit, and the anti-colonialist spirit to repulse alien intrusion have rooted deeply in the hearts of national races. Such fine spirits and traditions are indeed the nationalistic vigor of national people that has enabled the Union of Myanmar to stand tall among the nations of the world.

Since yore, Myanmar has stood tall with its own monarchs as a sovereign nation with independent people. Unfortunately, national races disintegrated owing to the wedge driven among them by the devious colonialists, and fell under alien subjugation for more than one hundred years.

However, national patriots with nationalistic fervour who resented living under the rule of the colonialists fought the invaders at risk of their lives, and the nation thus regained independence. In trying to regain independence, Myanmar had to overcome a lot of difficulties and hardships and to build the foundation of the spirit of cherishing the motherland and its own lineage, and Union Spirit.

During the time of servitude, the entire national people rose against the colonialists through political, military and economic means. The intruders employed the divide-and-rule policy to prolong their rule on Myanmar. When they had no other choice except to grant independence to Myanmar, the colonialists sowed doubts and suspicions among the national races.

In the independence struggles, Myanmar had to grapple with the colonialists so that hilly regions and plains could gain independence in tandem. Entire national people expressed their unanimous stance on independence. Panglong Conference was therefore convened to prove the unanimous consent of the entire people. The conference of representatives of various national races held in Panglong, Loilem District, Shan State (South), was called Panglong Conference as a gesture of hailing national solidarity.

The Panglong Conference comprised two sessions. The first session was held from 1 to 12 March 1946 with leaders of Shan, Kachin, Chin and Kayah national races, AFPFL leaders, and other political leaders. At the first session, all those present had built friendship, mutual understanding and trust, and an agreement was reached to seek brighter future of the nation through broader discussions in the following year.

The second session of the Panglong Conference was held on 3 February 1947. National race leaders signed the Panglong Agreement on 12 February.

The British Commissioner for hilly regions and the secretary for colonies of British Government also attended the conference to observe and study the attitude of national leaders. During the period of the conference, they lured national leaders from hilly regions to remain as dominions instead of regaining independence together with the mainland.

Union Spirit

- * We ourselves are...
Brethren born, of the same nation
We argue, as we talk
But it lasts, not long
So, flames of wrath, aren't big
We crush and smother, with metta water
Look far out, we look for peace
Respect and believe, and build
Because we're Union citizens.
- * We ourselves are...
Do not forget the past, suppressed and insulted
By foreigners, those of a different race
Not giving in, sought freedom
For Myanmar nation, to be magnificent
Build together, hands joined
Because we're Union citizens.
- * O,
"Union Citizen"
"Union Strength"
Glorious, hands firmly joined
Honour of the nation, we shall build
So we don't fall, under foreigners
Not to be mired, enslaved
Just as true patriots, with red blood
Our Spirit, that of our Union.
We shall raise, honour of the race
Bright as the Sun and the Moon.
- Myinmu Maung Naing Moe (Trs)

Even though the wicked drove a wedge among the national races during the period of the conference to break up national unity, national race leaders who loved independence unanimously signed the Panglong Agreement on 12 February 1947. It was the day on which the new chapter of consolidated unity of national races of the Union was opened. In other words, it was the day the Union and Union Spirit were conceived and the heritage of the Union was handed down.

The colonialists were amazed and shocked by the achievement of the Panglong Conference and absolute unity of national races. They had been bent on sowing discord and hatred among the national races for more than one hundred years, but in the end they conceded in despair to the Panglong resolution to build the Union of Myanmar.

In retrospect, Myanmar faced various adversities and dangers at a time when it lost national cohesion, and sometimes disunity of national races served as an invitation to alien instigation and intervention. So, the nation once lost its independence. However, it is a noteworthy point that when the nation restored national solidarity, it could regain its sovereignty and independence.

The 12th of February that depicted Panglong Spirit, Union Spirit, and the spirit of national solidarity was thus designated as Union Day. Now, national solidarity has been restored for 59 years. The Union Day is an auspicious day for all the national races as it gave birth to the sovereign and independent Union of Myanmar.

So, the essence of the Union Day is to be enhanced and handed down to the posterity.

(See page 7)

So far, the government has built many infrastructures including 211 bridges with the length 180 feet or longer, 182 irrigation facilities, 6778 basic education schools, 124 universities and colleges, and 193 hospitals, showing genuine goodwill to the people.



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence inspects Union Day Exhibition. (News on page 16) —MNA

59th Anniversary Union Day objectives

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

Functions of Yangon Division MCWSC clarified

YANGON, 6 Feb — A ceremony to clarify the functions of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee took place at Sangyoung Township No 2 Basic Education High School this morning with an address by Chairperson of the committee Daw Mar Mar Wai.

Daw Mar Mar Wai made a speech and accepted membership applications presented by Daw Ni Ni Sein, chairperson of Yangon West District MCWSC.

Secretary of the committee Dr Hla Myint clarified future plans to

be carried out in 2006 and Joint Secretary Dr Nwe Ni Ohn a review of

measures undertaken in 2005. The ceremony ended. — MNA



Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai views documentary photos on activities of Yangon West District MCWSC and township MCWA.—MNA

More Union Day delegates, cultural troupes arrive

YANGON, 6 Feb — The delegates and cultural troupes from States and Divisions to attend the

59th Anniversary Union Day Celebration arrived here by air and train today. The delegates from

Sagaing Division, Shan State (North), Kayah State, Rakhine State were welcomed by Secretary Lt-

Col Tin Kyaing of Union Day Welcoming and Accommodation Subcommittee and officials. — MNA

၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်၊ (၅၉) နှစ်မြောက်
ပြည်ထောင်စုနေ့ပြည့်

နေ့ရက် - ၈-၂-၂၀၀၆ မှ ၁၆-၂-၂၀၀၆

အချိန် - နံနက် ၈ နာရီမှ ညနေ ၁၇:၀၀ နာရီ

နေရာ - တပ်မတော်ခန်းမ၊ ဦးစိစာရလမ်း၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့။

(မည်သူမဆို အခမဲ့လားကုတ်ကြည့်ရှုနိုင်ပါသည်။)

Beauty and essence of the Union ...

(from page 6)

All the national races also have to restore the sheer unity among themselves. With the decrease in narrow-minded racism, the evil legacy of the colonialists, independence and sovereignty of the nation will exist in perpetuity, and the entire national people can achieve fruitful results of peace and stability all the more.

Myanmar is rich in natural resources plus impressive geographical features and favorable climate. Myanmar nationals possess fine national characters such as patriotic spirit, cultural heritage, and national prestige and integrity.

At a time when science and technology is im-

proving rapidly all over the world, national people are to make efforts to promote the interests of the nation and the people.

The entire national people are now shouldering responsibilities under the correct leadership of the government to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation. So, the nation is now on the correct path towards development.

The government has been implementing projects in earnest and building economic, social, education and health foundations for the development of respective regions, then national development in the interests of all the national races. So far, the government has built numerous infrastructures including 211 bridges with the length of 180 feet or longer, 182 irrigation facilities, 6778 basic education schools, 124 universities and colleges, and 193 hospitals during the 17-year period, showing genuine goodwill to the people.

As a result, the entire nation has witnessed stability, peace and national solidarity along with bright prospects for national development. Now, the State's

seven-point Road Map is being implemented stage by stage for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. The government is convening the National Convention that represents the entire national people, for the emergence of an enduring State Constitution.

The Union of Myanmar is in fact a pleasant and beautiful land with tranquillity and peace where more than 100 national races have been residing together. National races cherish and value essential characteristics of unity, harmony, amity, mutual help, and mutual reliance.

Therefore, I write this article to hail the 59th Anniversary of the Union Day, exhorting all the national brethren to preserve and hand down the heritage of the Union, Union Spirit, and essence of the Union to the posterity in accordance with the fine tradition of living in harmony for a very long period for enabling the mother country to exist as long as the world does.

Translation: MS

Only when each and every step of the Road Map is carried out to meet complete success in accord with the set objectives, will the Union have its brighter future

(from page 1)

serve State and educational duties with sense of cherishing the nation and active spirit to observe the ethics of good teachers.

The Union of Myanmar is making concerted efforts for prosperity of the nation and its people on self-reliance basis. In order to realize the objectives, the government has built better foundations of stability based on national solidarity of the entire people, better economic foundations based on national economic enterprises and educational foundations that can produce human resources which can maintain national development.

Teachers, the major forces in the education sector, should promote already-achieved development foundations, keeping abreast of advanced science and technology. The teachers are to strive for improvement of political, economic and social foundations through the education sector in accord with the national objectives.

He said in order to face the challenges of the present arrangements are to be made for development of both science and arts harmoniously. With the emergence of intellectuals the citizens can differentiate between what is right and what is wrong. Only when intel-

ligence of the people is high and they have ability to differentiate between what is good and what is bad, will Myanmar society be peaceful, stable and free from injustice and breaching of laws and regulations.

Similarly, only when there are qualified technicians, will the country and its people prosper with the utilization of own national strength. It is necessary for technicians to have the spirit to make endeavours for prosperity through their proficiency in the respective fields without losing sight of the interest of the nation and the people in any circumstances.

The teachers in the education sector are to train their pupils to inculcate with patriotism and the Union spirit in their mind.

The implementation of the education sector according to the aim is

Teachers' duty is to work for the success of all education promotion projects with a vision for continuous emergence of qualified intellectuals and intelligentsia and flourishing of arts and technological subjects.

The education promotion projects involve the work of nurturing students to cherish and preserve traditions and culture and human values in addition to giving youths the knowledge they need to overcome any challenge the nation is facing at present and will face in future also.

Teachers should foster Union Spirit and patriotism in the minds of youths to cherish traditions and culture and human values and strive for development of the whole Union.

The nation at present is witnessing sound progress in every part thanks to the all-round development projects the

Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein awards U Aung Phone Zaw, a teacher of Pwintbyu township BEPS in Magway Division.
MNA



Students in various parts of the nation can receive lectures through the multi-media centres thanks to the government's endeavours to provide equal education opportunities for rural and urban areas.

through systematic integration of the basic and higher education sectors after laying down education promotion projects, the special four-year education project and the 30-year education development project.

government has been laying down and implementing for harmonious advancement of the entire Union. The result is the emergence of infrastructures including highways, bridges, dams, airports, power projects schools,

universities and hospitals and much more. The government has provided required infrastructures even for the remote regions and rural areas as

The unprecedented degree of progress and peace and stability the whole nation is enjoying at present is due to the government's policy of developing border areas and narrowing the urban and rural development gap. Up to date, the government has opened 30,408 primary schools, 5,545 post-primary schools, 2,605 middle schools and 1,967 high schools totalling 40,525 for youths to get access to all levels of basic education.

Students in various parts of the nation can receive lectures through the multi-media centres thanks to the government's endeavours to provide equal education opportunities for rural and urban areas. The aim of the endeavours is for harmonious progress of all the regions. Teachers on their part are to make energetic efforts to realize the aim.

Whatever region they are assigned to, their work is to organize youths and the public to increase the literacy rate till the illiteracy rate falls to zero and enable all children of school going age to attend classes till completing high school education.

Knowledge dissemination for kids and local adults and assistance for

improved farming according to the advancing time are what teachers will have to render for developing public livelihood.

They will have to lead in changing the rural lifestyle while helping narrow the rich and poor gap between the rural and the urban areas.

As teachers are influential figures in local communities, they should integrate their public spirit and influence to educate and organize locals to take part in the task of developing their own regions.

Union Spirit plays a decisive role in a Union like Myanmar. Only Union Spirit can ensure peace and stability, development and perpetuation of the nation. The time has arrived for all to work with Union Spirit for national development and perpetuation.

On the other hand, the saboteurs who oppose national development, are trying to destroy national unity and peace and stability. They are systematically hatching plots to revive racism, and ideological and sectarian differences. Teachers will have to organize the people to clearly see the perpetration of the saboteurs and to ward it off with Union Spirit.

(See page 9)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially greets trainee teachers. — MNA

Only when each and every step of the Road Map...

(from page 8)

The government, enlisting the entire national people, is striving its utmost for averting racism, sectarianism, ideology and personal attachments that are ill legacies of history and for ensuring perpetual existence of the Union by laying down the seven-point Road Map of the State.

Building a peaceful, modern and developed nation and ensuring the perpetuity of the Union play the most important role in the successful implementation of the Road Map. Now the National Convention is in session to write an enduring constitution that will guarantee national unity, equality and balanced progress of all the regions in the country. As a result, a sector of the convention has been successfully laid down again.

Only when each and every step of the Road Map is carried out to meet complete success in accord with the set objectives, will the Union have its brighter future. That is why I urge you to participate in successful implementation of the State Road Map by doing your bit as a national duty. To catch up with the advancing international community, the country needs educated persons who know the knowledge of arts and science subjects of international standard. Moreover, the citizens can defend their nation only if they are equipped with high education and good knowledge.

You as teachers are to train and nurture your students to become educated so as to defend and develop their nation on their own. At the same time, when it comes to discharging your duties in whatever region you are assigned, you are urged to or-

ganize the people of that region including the students to cultivate the sense of national unity, equality and patriotism and Union Spirit.

All in all, I urge you to strive for ensuring community peace and tranquility, regional development, progress of socio-economy and development of human resources while implementing the national education promotion plans of the nation. I urge you to organize the national people to cultivate the sense of national solidarity and Union Spirit in order to ensure the perpetuity of the Union. I urge you to play your active part with Union Spirit in successful implementation of the seven-step political Road Map of the State for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline.

Next, the Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein at the awards ceremony presented prizes to outstanding trainees, primary assistant teacher U Aung Phone Zaw of Pwintbyu township BEPS in Magway Divi-

Union Spirit plays a decisive role in a Union like Myanmar. Only Union Spirit can ensure peace and stability, development and perpetuation of the nation. Time has arrived for all to work with Union Spirit for national development and perpetuation.

sion, junior assistant teacher Daw Sanda Myint of Phankhasan BEMS (Branch) in Natmauk township, Magway Division, Headmaster U Thet Tun of Natmyaung village BEPS in Pyawbwe township, Mandalay Division, JAT Daw Khin Than Nwe of Kinpuntaung BEPS in Taungdwingyi township, Mandalay Division and Headmistress Daw Aye Aye Myint of Masoeyin village BEPS in YeU township, Sagaing Division. He also presented other prizes and completion certificates for the trainees to the training course leaders.

Later, the trainees of the special refresher course No 24 for basic education teachers donated K 50,000 for funds of Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image and the Tooth Relic Pagoda (Mandalay), for renovation of Bagan ancient pagodas and for the Union Solidarity and Development Association, the National Convention and Zeebigyi village BEHS (Branch) in PyinOoLwin Township. The Secretary-1 accepted the donations and cordially greeted the trainees.

Present on the occasion were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, the ministers, the chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the deputy ministers, the Mandalay mayor, members of CSSTB, the deputy chief justice of Supreme Court of Upper Myanmar, the deputy attorney-general, senior military officers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, local authorities, the rector of CICS (Upper Myanmar), pro-rectors, faculty members and trainee teachers.—MNA

Secretary-1 participates in SPDC ...

(from page 16)

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw awarded the winner golfers at the prize presentation ceremony held at the golf resort yesterday evening.

In the individual handicap event, U Myint Lwin of Ministry of Home Affairs stood at the first place by 123 strokes; Maj Tet Lwin Tun of the Ministry of Defence the second by 124 strokes and Lt-Col Min Zaw of the Ministry of Defence the third by 128 strokes.

In the individual scratch event, a golfer representing the Ministry of Defence won the first prize by 156 strokes and golfers of the Ministry of Home Affairs bagged the



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence tees off in SPDC Chairman's Trophy Golf Tournament.—MNA

second and third prizes by 158 strokes and 159 strokes respectively. MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein tees off to open SPDC Chairman's Trophy Golf Tournament.—MNA

South-East Command grows physic nut plants

YANGON, 6 Feb—The South-East Command grew physic nut plants at the physic nut plants planting ceremony at Mawlamyine Station yesterday, at-

tended by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Deputy Commander

Col Zaw Min and military officers, departmental officials, officers and other ranks of Mawlamyine Station and others.

(See page 10)



Industry-1 Minister U Aung Thuang opens SPDC Chairman's Trophy Golf Tournament with a tee off.—MNA



Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw tees off at SPDC Chairman's Trophy Golf Tournament.—MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing inspects physic nut seeds and saplings.—MNA

Third Leprosy Elimination Day marked

YANGON, 6 Feb—The Third Leprosy Elimination Day was marked by the Ministry of Health and the International Medical Centre of Japan (IMCJ) at a ceremony held at the International Business Centre on Pyay Road here this morning with an address by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

In his address, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint said that concerted efforts of local authorities, social organizations like Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and the entire national people under the leadership of the National Health Committee coupled with technological assistance of the Nippon Foundation, Sasakawa Memorial Health Foundation, International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Association (ILEP), Novartis Foundation and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and International Medical Centre of Japan (IMCJ) have given impetus to the success of the leprosy elimination tasks in Myanmar.

The contributions of organizations at home and abroad and devoted

the Yangon Declaration issued by the Third Global Alliance for Elimination Leprosy (GAEL) meeting, it praised Myanmar for its effective measures in implementing global strategies

This being so, future tasks for leprosy elimination are as follows.

Continued diagnosis and treatment of new leprosy patients is to be conducted so as to maintain the success of leprosy

medical treatment; and preventing leprosy patients from disfiguration and those with disfiguration from worsening, and rehabilitation.

In conclusion, the minister thanked depart-

Continued diagnosis and treatment of new leprosy patients is to be conducted so as to maintain the success of leprosy elimination goal; continued health educative activities are to be carried out for leprosy patients to have earlier access to medical treatment; and preventing leprosy patients from disfiguration and those with disfiguration from worsening, and rehabilitation.



Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint addresses the Third Leprosy Elimination Day.—MNA

through cost-effectiveness.

The active partici-



Dr Mitsuyoshi Moeda of IMCJ presents prize to a winner in essay contest. — MNA



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint presents prize to an essay competition winner. — MNA

perseverance of health staff engaged in leprosy elimination drive are key to success of the project.

In the Section-6 of

participation of health staff and the people under the leadership of the government has resulted in elimination of leprosy and polio.

elimination goal; continued health educative activities are to be carried out for leprosy patients to have earlier access to

ments related to health departments, UN agencies and those from social or-

South-East Command grows...

(from page 9)

At the ceremony, Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing and senior military officers planted physic nut saplings at the designated places and those present planted physic nut plants and grafts.

Next, the commander explained grow-

ing of physic nut plants while officials of Myanmar Agriculture Service reported on techniques of growing of physic nut plants and advantages.

Those present viewed seeds, saplings and grafts of physic nut plants, production of physic nut oil, and run-

ning of power tillers with the use of physic nut oil.

At the ceremony, a total of 180,000 grafts of physic nut plants were cultivated on 15 acres. Efforts are being made to put physic nut plants under 100,000 acres in ten townships in Mon State.

MNA

Mr Shingo Takahashi of JICA giving talks on fish hatching. NLF



Industry-1 Minister on inspection tour of Mandalay Division

YANGON, 6 Feb — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang inspected Soap Factory (Mandalay) of Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industries in Aungmyaythazan Township in Mandalay yesterday.

The minister met with the officials of the factory and gave instructions. On arrival at Myanmar Umbrella Factory of Myanmar General and Maintenance Industries in Chanayethazan Township, the minister inspected production process of the factory.

The minister oversaw textile mill of Myanmar Textile Industries in Paleik in Singaigang Township this morning and observed spare parts developed from the mill where the officials conducted the minister around. The minister urged them to boost production of the mill.—MNA

Hatching methods disseminated in rural areas

YANGON, 6 Feb — Training course for fish hatching was opened on

30 January at a model fish hatchery at Thabaung Village in Kangyidaunk Township.

ganizations at home and abroad for the active participation in leprosy elimination drive.

Also present on the occasion were directors-general of departments under the Ministry of Health, deputy directors-general, rectors, directors, medical superintendents, representatives from social organizations, members of WHO, resident representatives of UN agencies, those from IMCJ and others.

MNA

As part of an effort for improvement of socio-economy of people in rural areas, Japanese International Cooperation Agency-JICA set up the fish hatchery in cooperation with Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries to disseminate methods for fish hatching.

A total of 42 residents are attending the course.

MNA

Singapore, Malaysia to continue talks on building border bridge

SINGAPORE, 6 Feb— Singapore and neighbouring Malaysia on Saturday agreed to continue their talks on the building of a full bridge to replace the current Causeway linking both countries.

The agreement came following an informal meeting between the foreign ministers of both countries in Singapore later Saturday, according to the Channel NewsAsia reports.

Senior officials from the foreign ministries of both sides will meet soon to discuss the bridge issue before a final decision is made.

Currently, Singapore's Foreign Ministry is hosting a Malaysian Foreign Ministry team who is in the city state for the annual MFA-Wisma Putra Games. Reaffirming the city state's position on the full bridge, Singapore's Foreign Minister George Yeo said

that it costs lots of money, and that if there is a balance of benefits, then Singapore will be happy to go along. This is the basis on which both sides are conducting negotiations, he added.

"Singapore's position is this, we fully respect Malaysian sovereignty. But if there are major works in the straits that affect both sides, then under its laws, Singapore will ask for consultation. There are reports that if the half bridge is built, the Causeway will be demolished. On the Malaysian side, if that were to happen, Singapore will study very carefully the legal and environmental

implications," Yeo said.

On his part, visiting Malaysian Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar said that he thinks both sides must mutually benefit from whatever the outcome of the discussions or negotiations they are going to have.

"Overall we have been discussing the subject in a frank, candid manner, and that's the atmosphere I want to maintain," he added.

MNA/Xinhua



Winter swimmers wearing ballet costumes of swans from 'Swan Lake' plunge into a hole in the ice, St Petersburg, Russia, on 5 Feb, 2006. The temperature in St Petersburg fell on Sunday to -24 C (-11 F). —INTERNET

India, Philippines ink defence cooperation accord

MANILA, 6 Feb— Opening a new vista in bilateral ties, India and the Philippines, both subjected to terrorist attacks, on Saturday signed an agreement for defence cooperation and security dialogue and three other accords for collaboration in agriculture, tourism and access to this country of quality Indian medicines at affordable prices.

The defence cooperation agreement, signed by India's Rural Development Minister Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and Philippines Defence Secretary Avelino J Cruz, Jr, provides for exchange of military aircraft and warships, military training and instructors, as well as defence technology cooperation.

In the field of defence technology, the agreement seeks to promote interaction and dialogue

between concerned agencies and research institutes of the two countries. The accord marked culmination of efforts by the two countries for the last two years to enhance defence cooperation and security dialogue and formalization of sustained contacts in the area between India and the Philippines since 2002.

The signing of the defence cooperation agreement had been

delayed by more than a year following change of guard in India in May 2004. In fact, the then Philippines Defence Secretary Eduardo R Ermita had invited former defence minister George Fernandes to sign the accord two years ago.

The MoU on tourism envisages simplification of visa procedures for tourists from India and the Philippines visiting each other's countries, joint marketing and

promotion of tourism activities — one country will sell the other's tourism destinations in international markets — and formation of a Joint Working Group, including officials and private stakeholders in tourism sector. The agreement on agriculture cooperation is aimed at promoting exchange of agriculture scientists between the two countries as also agricultural materials.

MNA/PTI

Floods leave over 900 homeless in Tanzania

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 6 Feb— Local authorities have sheltered 938 people whose homes were ruined by floods in the wake of 14-hour non-stop rains in western Tanzania.

One person lost his life when the walls of his house caved in during the heavy rains, according to reports reaching here on Saturday.

As many as 234 houses collapsed during the rains in the Igunga District of the Tabora Region in westernmost Tanzania.

Three villages were most adversely affected by the floods. Two hundred and twenty-seven people lost their homes at the Lokomeo Village alone, according to the reports.

Local government officials have so far provided one ton of relief food to the displaced people

apart from housing them in a makeshift camp.

More than 100 villagers are still surrounded by floods at the Kanyawa Village, according to Samuel Mashindike, secretary of the Igunga District rescue committee.

The secretary said that 454 million Tanzanian shillings (390,000 US dollars) would be needed to help these people to reconstruct their houses.

The flooding in Tabora happened when many places in Tanzania have been suffering from prolonged and persistent drought. — MNA/Xinhua

Vaccine against children diarrhea wins FDA approval

WASHINGTON, 6 Feb — A vaccine protecting young children against a virus that causes severe diarrhea received the approval of the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently.

The new vaccine, Rotateq, is an oral liquid intended to prevent infection of a microbe called rotavirus that affects almost all children under 5.

Rotavirus kills about 500,000 children a year, mostly in developing countries, with severe diarrhea. The biggest risks are for children ages 6-24 months.

An earlier oral rotavirus vaccine, sold by Wyeth, was withdrawn from the market in 1999 after it was linked to intussusception, a rare, life-threatening blockage or twisting of the intestine.

MNA/Xinhua

Direct charter flight service across Taiwan Straits reaches new peak

BEIJING, 6 Feb— The direct charter flight service across the Taiwan Straits reached its peak as of Saturday, the last day of the seven-day Spring Festival holiday that began on 29 January.

There are altogether 27 return charter flights between chosen Chinese Mainland cities and cities in Taiwan on Saturday and Sunday.

Saturday's charter flight service, with 15 return charter flights in all, was done by nine airlines, including four from the Chinese Mainland, as the cross-Straits direct charter flight service was resumed on Friday after the Spring Festival holiday closed in Taiwan on Thursday.

Twelve return charter flights on Sunday will be operated by six Chinese Mainland air companies and three

airways of Taiwan. Four more return charter flights across the Taiwan Straits are slated for Monday and Tuesday, with the last return Spring Festival charter flight being flown by the Xiamen Airlines.

According to an agreement reached between civil aviation associations of both sides, the direct charter flights are scheduled to be available from 20 January to 13 February, one day after the Lantern Festival. Six Mainland airlines and six Taiwan-based airlines are approved to fly the charter flights.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi soldiers stand guard at the entrance of a building on 5 Feb, 2006, Baghdad, Iraq. —INTERNET

ADVERTISEMENTS

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV INTAN V VOY NO (01/06)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV INTAN V VOY NO (01/06) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 4.2.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S KM INTER TRANS CO
LTD, BANGKOK**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV JIE YUN-19 VOY NO (0618)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JIE YUN-19 VOY NO (0618) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 6.2.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ONWARD OCEAN LINE
LTD, CHINA**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

NZ, NATO agree to exchange classified information

WELLINGTON, 5 Feb— New Zealand and NATO have reached agreement on exchanging classified information on a regular basis, which will help facilitate peacekeeping operations where both are involved.

A government Press release said Saturday the Exchange of Letters took place Friday in Brussels when New Zealand Defence Minister Phil Goff met with NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer.

Goff said New Zealand has worked with NATO in Bosnia and currently operates alongside NATO forces in Afghanistan. This agreement will provide for the exchange of classified information on a regular basis, rather than on an ad hoc basis as has been the practice to date.

New Zealand and NATO have also agreed on the Code of Conduct, which should apply when New Zealand officials and military personnel are on NATO property.

MNA/Xinhua

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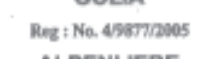
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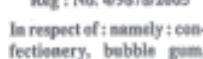
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In respect of: namely: confectionery, bubble gum, chewing gum, chocolate, coffee, cocoa, chew candies, candies, mints confectionery, drops, gumdrops, ice-creams, jellies (confectionery), lollipops, pastry, sugar, sweets, toffee, liquorice, pastilles, bakery products. Fraudulent imitation or un-authorized use of the said Trademarks shall be dealt with according to law. U Myint Lwin, Advocate I.L.B., DBL Dip in Marine Affairs (UK) Yangon.

**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, Bogie production plant and hot 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(IE)/ 2005-2006 | Automatic Levelling Lining & Tamping Machine | 15.2.06 | 19.4.2006 | US\$ 100 |
| 10 | 10 /MR/INDIA(IE)/ 2005-2006 | Rail Gang Car with Crane / without Crane | 15.2.06 | 19.4.2006 | US\$ 100 |
| 11 | 11 /MR/INDIA(IE)/ 2005-2006 | Mild Steel Section for Steel Girder | 15.2.06 | 19.4.2006 | US\$ 50 |
| 12 | 12 /MR/INDIA(IE)/ 2005-2006 | Machinery for Point & Crossing Production | 15.2.06 | 20.4.2006 | US\$ 50 |
| 13 | 13 /MR/INDIA(IE)/ 2005-2006 | Concrete Sleeper Plant (600 sleeper/day) | 15.2.06 | 20.4.2006 | US\$ 100 |
| 14 | 14 /MR/INDIA(IE)/ 2005-2006 | Wheel Loader | 15.2.06 | 20.4.2006 | US\$ 50 |
| 15 | 15 /MR/INDIA(IE)/ 2005-2006 | Thermal Welding Set and Portable Welding Generator Set | 15.2.06 | 21.4.2006 | US\$ 50 |
| 16 | 16 /MR/INDIA(IE)/ 2005-2006 | Hand Tie Tamper for Railway track maintenance | 15.2.06 | 21.4.2006 | US\$ 50 |
| 17 | 17 /MR/INDIA(IE)/ 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. (Those 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

Two foreigners kidnapped in Gaza

GAZA, 5 Feb— Two foreigners were kidnapped by unknown gunmen in the Gaza Strip on Saturday, Palestinian security sources said.

Militants abducted a Polish couple as they were driving in one of the main streets in Gaza City and took them to an unknown place, the sources said.

The sources identified the two as Walid Kanan, a

Palestinian with Polish citizenship and his wife Barbra, a Polish woman that works for a Gaza mental health programme.

No one claimed responsibility for the abduction.

The kidnapping came amid a worldwide Muslim protest over publications of cartoons depicting Prophet Mohammad, which was originally printed in a Danish newspaper in September

last year and reprinted by other European newspapers. Palestinian militants threatened on Thursday to kidnap Europeans in protest against publishing the cartoons. —MNA/Xinhua

စည်သူရေးမြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြုတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
MYANMA RAILWAYS
INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER

1. Sealed Tender is invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the following Stores which will be purchased in Free (F.E)-

| Sr.No. | Tender No. | Description | Quantity |
|--------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| 1. | 3/MR/Rail Bus(M) 2005-2006 | IN-SERVICE RAIL BUSES | 10-Nos |

Closing Date. - 9.3.2006 (Thursday) (12:00) Hours.

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from 9.2.2006 during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 291982,291985, 201555(Ext-602,605,612)
Deputy General Manager
Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botataung Yangon

TRADEMARK CAUTION
Owl International Pte Ltd. of 37, Chin Bee Crescent, Jurong Town, Singapore 619933 is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademarks -

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YE YE

(Reg. No. M/5003/2001)



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used in respect of - "Coffee, tea, cocoa, sugar, rice, tapioca, sago, artificial coffee, flour and preparations made from cereals, breads, pastry and confectionery, loaves, honey, treacle, yeast, baking powder, salt, mustard, vinegar, sauces (condiments), spices and so."

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use or other infringement whatsoever of these trademarks will be dealt with according to law.

Hain Lin Co (LLB) Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpip@mpmail.net.mm
Tel: 254037 G.P.O. Box: 686
Yangon. 7 February 2006



Russians ski during the Ski-Run Russia cross-country skiing contest outside Moscow on 5 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

TRADE MARK CAUTION NOTICE
Societe des Produits Nestle S.A., a company organized under the laws of Switzerland, carrying on business as Manufacturers and having its principal office at Vevey, Switzerland is the owner and sole proprietor of the following Trademark:-



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Tea and tea extracts; tea-based preparations and beverages; iced tea. Fruit-flavoured and fruit-based beverages, fruit juices, nectars, lemonades, sodas and other non-alcoholic beverages; syrups, extracts and essences and other preparations for making non-alcoholic beverages (except essential oils).
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Tin Ohnmar Tun
B.A(LAW) LL.B, LL.M (UK)
P.O.Box 109,
Ph: 248108/723043
(For. Domnern, Songiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand)
Dated. 7 February 2006

TRADE MARK CAUTION
AJINOMOTO PHARMA CO., LTD., a company organized and existing under the laws of Japan, of 7-2, Yaesu 2-chome, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-

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Wia Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for AJINOMOTO PHARMA CO., LTD.
P. O. Box 69, Yangon
Dated: 7 February, 2006

Moon mission "Chandrayan I" planned for next year

MALAPPURAM, 6 Feb— India's moon mission Chandrayan-I would become a reality next year, ISRO Chairman G. Madhavan Nair said here on Saturday.

"The initial stages of the programme are in final stages of completion. Chandrayan will become a reality next year," he said delivering the key-note address at the inauguration of the Panchayat Resources Information Centre developed with the technical expertise of ISRO at Thirurangadi near here.—MNA/PTI

Eastern Africa submarine cable project delayed

KAMPALA, 5 Feb— A 200 million-US-dollar eastern Africa undersea cable project will only go live by the end of next year, a year later than expected, local Press reported on Saturday.

John Sihra, the project coordinator, was quoted by *The New Vision* newspaper as saying that "the cable is already behind schedule, and will probably not be active until late 2007".

The Eastern Africa Submarine Cable System (EASSy), which promises a massive improvement in the quality and cost of African telecommunications, will run from

Mtunzini in South Africa to Port Sudan with "landing" points in several countries.

Currently at least 27 companies, including state-owned telecommunications companies from all over Africa, as well as British Telcom and France Telcom have made commitments to invest in the project. The over 8,000 kilometres EASSy will help more



Ahmadinejad orders end to snap UN nuclear inspections

TEHERAN, 5 Feb— Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad ordered an end to snap inspection on its nuclear facilities from Sunday in reaction to the UN nuclear watchdog's decision to report Iran to the UN Security Council, state television announced late Saturday.

In a letter to chief of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization Gholamreza Aghazadeh, Ahmadinejad ordered an end to the implementation of the additional protocol of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) as of Sunday, the report said.

"As of Sunday, the voluntary implementation of the additional protocol and other cooperative measures beyond the NPT must be suspended according to the law," Ahmadinejad

was quoted as saying. Ahmadinejad's order was issued shortly after an emergency meeting of IAEA board of governors adopted a resolution to report Iran's nuclear issue to the UN Security Council.

The additional protocol, signed by the Iranian Government in December 2003 but never ratified by the Iranian Majlis (Parliament), allows snap inspections of nuclear sites by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

MNA/Xinhua

Hebei provides gynaecological checkup for 9.8m married women

SHIJIAZHANG, 5 Feb— North China's Hebei Province provided free gynaecological checkup for 9.83 million married women at childbearing age in rural areas last year, according to the provincial commission of family planning.

It means that 85.1 per cent of married women at childbearing age in rural areas of the province have received free gynaecological checkup.

Statistics show that about 40 per cent of married women at childbearing age in rural

areas of the province are plagued by gynaecological diseases and mastopathy and 10 per cent are not able to work due to the diseases.

Hebei Province started to provide free gynaecological checkup since 2005 for rural married women under the

age of 49.

The province invested 54.1 million yuan (6.76 million US dollars) to purchase related equipment and mobilized 80,000 family planning workers for the checkup in the year of 2005.

MNA/Xinhua

Bird flu death in Indonesia up to 16

JAKARTA, 6 Feb — Bird flu deaths in Indonesia have reached 16, as two people were confirmed by the World Health Organization on Saturday, an official of

Indonesian Health Ministry said.

A director at the Health Ministry Haryadi Wibisono told *Xinhua* by telephone that a World Health Organization-sanctioned laboratory in

Hong Kong has confirmed a 22-year-old man, Yasinda, and a 15-year-old man, Yedi, died of bird flu.

They died one week ago, he added.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS



Tottenham Hotspur's goalkeeper Paul Robinson, right, defends with his teammate Tom Huddlestone, center, as Charlton Athletic's Marcus Bent goes for a header during their English Premier League soccer match at White Hart Lane stadium in London, on 5 Feb, 2006. Tottenham won 3-1.—INTERNET

Gladbach suffer second successive defeat

FRANKFURT, 6 Feb — Borussia Moenchengladbach's hopes of playing in Europe next season suffered a blow when they were beaten 2-0 away to VfL Wolfsburg on Sunday.

Wolfsburg took the lead at the end of the first half with an emphatic finish from Diego Klimowicz and German international Mike Hanke grabbed the second in the 64th minute.

Gladbach, who could have gone up to fifth with a win, drop to eighth place with 25 points after a second successive Bundesliga defeat.

Bayern Munich stayed on course for a successful title defence with a 1-0 win at home to Bayer Leverkusen on Saturday.

With 19 games played, Bayern lead the standings with 50 points. Werder Bremen are second on 42 points after winning 4-2 against Mainz on Saturday. Hamburg SV are third a point further back following a 2-1 win over Arminia Bielefeld.

MNA/Reuters

Dani's hat-trick in vain for Betis

MADRID, 6 Feb — Real Betis striker Dani scored a hat-trick but ended up on the losing side when his team went down 4-3 at Real Zaragoza on Sunday.

Real Zaragoza, who knocked league leaders Barcelona out of the Cup on Wednesday, stormed into a 4-0 lead inside the first 22 minutes at La Romareda, Argentine striker Diego Milito weighing in with a neat double.

Dani began the fightback when he turned in from close range immediately after the restart.

The pint-sized striker grabbed two more early in the second half to make it 4-3, but although Zaragoza had defender Chus Herreros sent off nine minutes from time the visitors were unable to complete an unlikely comeback.

Betis were also reduced to 10 men when defender Fernando Varela was sent off for a second booking in injury time.

The win pushed Zaragoza up into ninth place and will provide them with a valuable boost before next week's King's Cup semifinal against Real Madrid. Betis are hovering three points above the relegation zone.

Chile striker Mark Gonzalez, who signed from Liverpool last week, scored the winner on his debut for Real Sociedad six minutes from time to secure a 2-1 victory at home to Real Mallorca.

Defeat pushed Hector Cuper's side bottom of the table while Sociedad moved six points clear of the danger zone in 12th.—MNA/Reuters

Lyon held to draw in top-of-table clash

PARIS, 6 Feb — Olympique Lyon were held to a goalless draw at home by second-placed Girondins Bordeaux in a tactical Ligue 1 match with few highlights on Sunday.

The result left Lyon nine points clear of their closest rivals with a game in hand and still ideally placed to win a record fifth successive title.

Bordeaux, who boast the league's most miserly defence, underlined their claim to finish runners-up. They are now four points ahead of third-placed AJ Auxerre, who lost 1-0 at Ajaccio on Saturday.

Olympique Marseille kept alive their hopes of playing in Europe next season with a 1-0 win at lowly Troyes earlier on Sunday.

An early goal from Sabri Lamouchi gave Marseille the points and lifted them up to fifth, 16 points off the pace.

MNA/Reuters



Elena Dementieva of Russia leaps for joy after winning the final match against Martina Hingis of Switzerland at the Pan Pacific Open women's tennis tournament in Tokyo on 5 Feb, 2006. Dementieva defeated Hingis 6-2, 6-0.

INTERNET

PAOK go 4th with Thessaloniki derby victory

ATHENS, 6 Feb — PAOK Salonika moved up to fourth place in the Greek First Division on Sunday when they beat Iraklis 1-0 in the big Thessaloniki derby.

PAOK, who leaptfrogged Iraklis in the process, now have 30 points after 18 rounds of the championship.

Olympiakos Piraeus, who host Kallithea on Monday, remain top on 45 points with AEK Athens, 2-0 winners over Egaleo, three points back in second.

The only goal of the game at the Toumba Stadium in Thessaloniki came in the 23rd minute when Polish striker Marcin Miecziel pounced on a defensive error.

AEK needed two goals in the last six minutes to secure their victory over Egaleo while third-placed Panathinaikos scored twice in the first half to secure a 2-0 home win over Levadiakos on Saturday to remain in the hunt for the second Champions League spot. Xanthi, who led the standings after eight matches, continued their freefall as they went down 2-1 away at Apollon Kalamaria.

MNA/Reuters



Chelsea's William Gallas, left, looks on as his shot goes past the Liverpool defense and into the net for the opening goal during their English Premier League soccer match at the Stamford Bridge Stadium, London, on 5 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

Chelsea return to winning ways against Liverpool

LONDON, 6 Feb — Chelsea emerged from a spate of draws to grind out a 2-0 victory over third-placed Liverpool and re-open their 15-point lead in the Premier League on Sunday.

After three successive 1-1 draws for the champions, two in the league and one in the FA Cup, goals in each half by William Gallas and Hernan Crespo all but extinguished Liverpool's remote chance of overhauling them in the league.

Liverpool have been a thorn in the side of Jose Mourinho's team in their Champions League tussles but after a bright opening half hour, they faded badly at Stamford Bridge. The European champions' frustration boiled over eight minutes from time when Spanish goalkeeper Pepe Reina was sent off for putting his hand in the face of Arjen Robben.

Earlier on Sunday Tottenham Hotspur consolidated fourth place with a comprehensive 3-1 home victory against Charlton Athletic — Jermain Defoe twice on target.

Chelsea now have 66 points from 25 matches, Manchester United are second with 51 and Liverpool have 45 with two games in hand. Tottenham have 44.

United's 4-2 victory over Fulham on Saturday trimmed Chelsea's lead to 12 points and a victory for Liverpool would have raised the prospect of a revival of the title race.—MNA/Reuters

Del Piero rescues Juve against 10-man Udinese

ROME, 6 Feb — An Alessandro Del Piero goal gave Serie A leaders Juventus a laboured 1-0 win over 10-man Udinese on Sunday.

The result put Juve on 62 points from 23 matches, eight ahead of Inter Milan who beat Chievo Verona 1-0.

AC Milan, third on 47 points, take on Lazio later (kickoff 1930 GMT).

Elsewhere, Fiorentina striker Luca Toni grabbed his 22nd goal in 23 matches

to give his side a 1-0 win over Lecce and consolidate fourth place, also on 47 points.

Juventus were toothless in the early stages of their match at the Stadio delle Alpi and needed two favourable calls to subdue an aggressive Udinese side.

Udinese's players were furious when midfielder Sulley Muntari received a second yellow card in the 37th minute for a non-existent foul on Pavel Nedved.

Zlatan Ibrahimovic headed against the post from the resulting free kick. Nedved also went close to scoring just before halftime with a long-range effort that Udinese keeper Morgan De Sanctis tipped over his bar at full stretch.

Juve coach Fabio Capello sent on Del Piero 10 minutes after the break and he made the breakthrough 15 minutes later, turning home Gianluca Zambrotta's cross from an offside position.

Ibrahimovic could have made it 2-0 late on when he muscled in front of his marker but fired into the side-netting.

Inter had fewer problems overcoming Chievo at the San Siro. They went ahead in the seventh minute, Julio Cruz poking in a rebound after Luis Figo had struck the post with a free kick.

MNA/Reuters



Elena Dementieva of Russia, right, and Martina Hingis of Switzerland, left, pose with the plates at the awarding ceremony of the Pan Pacific Open tennis tournament in Tokyo on 5 Feb, 2006. Dementieva defeated Hingis in the final, 6-2, 6-0.—INTERNET

CONDOLENCE

We convey our deepest sympathy to U Soe Win (Director-skills Developing Education Centre) on the sad demise of his beloved mother Hajeema Daw Rabiya Bi (78 years) on Thursday 2-2-06.

The Board of directors and the staff of SDEC. No. 50 C4 Nat Mauk Lan Thwe (1) Bahan-Yangon.

Kuwait signs contract with Philippines in oil exploration

KUWAIT CITY, 6 Feb — Kuwait Foreign Petroleum-Exploration Company (KUFPEC), Shell and South China Resources (SCR) have signed on Saturday a contract with the Philippine Energy Department on offshore oil and gas explorations in northeastern Palawan, Philippine.

Philippine Secretary of Energy Raphael Lotilla signed the contract on behalf of the Philippines, while head of operations Abdallah Baroon represented KUFPEC, reported the official *Kuwait News Agency* (KUNA).

KUFPEC announced that the contract covered an area that exceeds 10 million square kilometres, 30 per cent of which is assigned to KUFPEC, 55

per cent to Shell and the other 15 per cent to SCR, according to the report.

The contract includes exploration and drilling of three oil wells within the next seven years and if oil or natural gas is discovered there, the production contract will be extended for nearly 25 years, said *KUNA*, which did not reveal the exact value of the contract.

MNA/Xinhua

CDMA phone service starts operation in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 6 Feb — The state-owned Nepal Telecom (NT) launched wireless telephone service based on the Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) communications technology in Kathmandu Valley on Sunday.

The CDMA telephone lines will be distributed to the applicants, who are in waiting list of the Telecom, from Sundhara Exchange in the first phase, Managing Director of the Telecom Sugat Ratna Kanshakar said.

The service will be extended gradually throughout the kingdom in a phase-wise manner, he said.

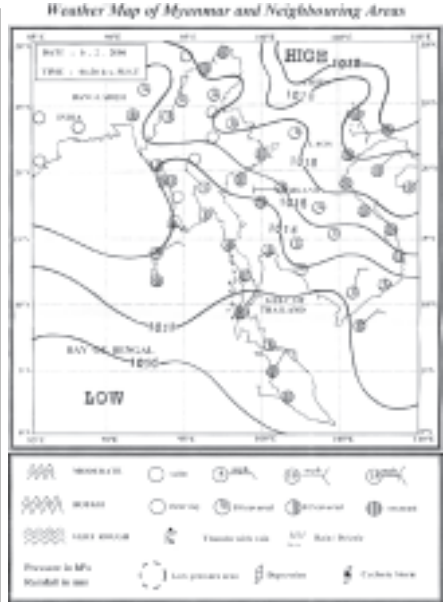
Necessary construction and installation works have been completed for distributing a total of one million CDMA telephone lines throughout the kingdom under five different phases, he said.

According to Kanshakar, around 250,000 phone lines will

be made available in the first phase across the country including Kathmandu Valley, central Narayani Zone, eastern Janakpur and Biratnagar cities, western Pokhara and Bhairahawa cities and far-western Dhangadi Town.

Around 50,000 lines will be available in the valley alone. "The total demand of phones in the valley is estimated at 100,000 while the total demand of phones across the country is around 400,000," Kanshakar revealed.

The NT plans to spend 1.83 billion Nepali rupees (26.14 million US dollars) on making available one million lines throughout the country by 2008. — MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Monday, 6 February, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Chin and Rakhine States, Yangon Division, (4°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Hakha (2°C) and Namsam (4°C).

Maximum temperature on 5-2-2006 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 6-2-2006 was 58°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 6-2-2006 was (78%). Total sunshine hours on 5-2-2006 was (7.9) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 6-2-2006 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 (8) mph from Northwest at (15:30) hours MST on 5-2-2006.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 7-2-2006: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Shan and Mon States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions 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 slight increase of night temperatures in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 7-2-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-2-2006: Fair weather.



Tuesday, 7 February
View on today

7:00 am

1. ဘေးဒူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာသဒ္ဒဋ္ဌဂုဏ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာသဒ္ဒဋ္ဌဇောတိက၊ တီပီဇကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တပိမိတ္တသာရာတိဝံသ၏ ဝရိတ်တရားတော်

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. ကရာဝန်းဥယျာဉ်

8:00 am

6. Song of yesteryear

8:05 am

7. အကဖြင့်ပွဲ

8:10 am

8. (၅၉)နှစ်ကြိမ်မြောက် ပြည်ထောင်စုနေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:25 am

9. နိက္ခရ်ဇာတိနိဂုံးတံခါး

8:30 am

10. International news

8:45 am

11. Let's go

3:00 pm

1. ၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ် (၅၁)ကြိမ်မြောက် ပြည်နယ်နှင့်တိုင်းပြည်ထောင်စုခွဲ၊ ဘာလုံးပြိုင်ပွဲတိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်မှု အစီအစဉ်(မှတ်တမ်း)ဧရာဝတီတိုင်း အသင်း ၄ ခု ရှိ ပြည်နယ် (တောင်ပိုင်း) အသင်း

4:45 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:45 am

3. (၅၉) နှစ်မြောက် ပြည်ထောင်စုနေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

5:05 pm

4. Sing and enjoy

6:00 pm

5. Evening news

6:30 pm

6. Weather report

6:35 pm

7. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရယ်ရှင်ဆော့ပြေး" ဂုဏ်ထိမ်းအားပြု (အပိုင်း-၆၂)

6:50 pm

8. ရီ နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်လောကားထစ်ထစ်များ" (အပိုင်း-၃၇)

7:45 pm

9. ပြည်ထောင်စုစိတ်ဝါတ်မပြတ် ရန်သန် နိုင်ငံမာရ်မှာ ဒိုဝန်တာ (အသီး တရာ အညာ တစ်ရ နှိုပြည်ထောင်စု)

8:00 pm

10. News

11. International news

12. Weather report

13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မျှော်ရှင်ဖွယ်ရာနေ့ကလေးများ" (အပိုင်း-၈)

21. The next day's programme



Tuesday, 7 February
Tune in today

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music: -World filled with love
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music: -Shake your bon bon
- 8.50 am National news & slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -Love don't care
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: This is not me
- 1:30 pm News & slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch Time music: -By the way (red hot chilli pepper) -Heart of the rose -It's airlight with me -Didn't have the heart
- 9.00 pm English speaking course level—III Unit
- 9.10 pm Article/Music
- 9.20 pm Weekly sports reel
- 9.35 pm Kachin State Feature
- 9.45 pm News & Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL

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

Secretary-1 participates in SPDC Chairman's Trophy Golf Tournament

Defence Ministry's golf team wins trophy

YANGON, 6 Feb—The golf team representing the Ministry of Defence secured the trophy of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Trophy Golf Tournament for 2005 which concluded yesterday at Yedagun Taung Golf Resort in Mandalay and Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented the trophy to the winning team.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Lt-Gen Ye

Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Chairman of the committee for holding the golf tournament Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung teed off to start the two-day tournament on 4 February at the Golf Resort and also took part in the tournament.

Ministry of Defence team won the first prize in both team (handicap)

event and (scratch) event by 476 strokes while Ministry of Home Affairs team won the second prize by 479 strokes and the team of Ministry of the Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs the third place by 496 strokes in individual event. A total of 33 teams took part in the 18-hole event of the tournament.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Commander (See page 9)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents a trophy to leader of the golf team of Ministry of Defence. MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party pose for a documentary photo together with winning golfers. — MNA

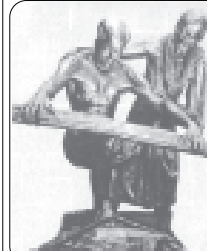
Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects Union Day Exhibition

YANGON, 6 Feb — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win, today inspected the exhibition staged at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall to mark the 59th Anniversary Union Day which falls on 12 February.

At the exhibition, Chairman of the sub-committee for information and holding of the exhibition Brig-Gen Aung Thein conducted them around the central booth of the exhibition.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe also inspected booths of the ministries, booths staging traditional customs of national races and Soft Guide Language Lab. — MNA

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Hailing the 59th Anniversary Union Day:

- * The entire national people are now shouldering responsibilities under the correct leadership of the government to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation. So, the nation is now on the correct path towards development.
- * The government has been implementing projects in earnest and building economic, social, education and health foundations for the development of regions then to national development in the interests of all the national races.