

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Monday, 20 February, 2006

## Prime Minister General Soe Win calls on President Mr Hu Jintao



*Prime Minister General Soe Win shakes hands with Chinese President Mr Hu Jintao at Fujian Hall of the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.*

MNA

YANGON, 19 Feb — Prime Minister General Soe Win called on President of the People's Republic of China Mr Hu Jintao at Fujian hall of the Great Hall of the People on 15 February.

Present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Hotels and Tourism and Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Myanmar Ambassador to the PRC U Thein Lwin, Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet, Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw of the

Ministry of Defence, Director-General of Political Department U Nyan Lin and officials.

President Mr Hu Jintao was accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Li Zhaoxing, Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Cui Tian Kai, Secretary of the President's Office Mr Chen Shi Ju, Director-General of Asian Affairs Department Mr Hu Zheing Yue, Chinese Ambassador Mr Guan Mu and senior officials.

At the meeting, President Mr Hu Jintao said he warmly welcomed the official visit to China by Prime Minister General Soe Win. During the visit as the Prime Minister, agreements on bilateral cooperation were signed and the visit was successful.

Prime Minister General Soe Win said he was proud of being given

warm welcome by the President. He discussed cooperation of common interest with the Chinese Premier and eight agree-

ments and MoUs were signed. He thanked the President and Chinese leaders for successful visit.

He said the Head of State Senior General Than Shwe conveyed warmest greetings to the President and wished the continued progress of China and his well-being.

During their meeting in Jakarta last April, the President said China would provide more assistance to Myanmar and the Head of

State expressed thanks for it.

Myanmar is very pleased to see that the People's Republic of China has developed with greater momentum and the entire people are participating in development tasks in unity under his leadership.

Today Myanmar government is striving for raising of living standard of the people, emergence of a modern developed democratic nation, stabil-

ity of the State and gaining better economic foundations and higher intellect of the people.

The Prime Minister said Myanmar thanked China, being a true friend, for its stance and political, economic and social assistance. He also reviewed economic development in China and measures on developing countries undertaken by China.

(See page 8)

**Today Myanmar government is striving for raising of living standard of the people, emergence of a modern developed democratic nation, stability of the State and gaining better economic foundations and higher intellect of the people.**

**Prime Minister General Soe Win**

**China always pays attention to ensuring peace and stability and prosperity of neighbouring countries and respects security, independence and sovereignty of Myanmar.**

**President Mr Hu Jintao**



*Prime Minister General Soe Win calls on Chinese President Mr Hu Jintao at Fujian Hall of the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. — MNA*

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 20 February, 2006

### Promote mutual interests between Myanmar and PRC

At the invitation of Premier of the People's Republic of China Mr Wen Jiabao, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe and party paid a goodwill visit to the People's Republic of China from 14 to 18 February.

The Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China share a common border stretching about 1,370 miles. The establishment of diplomatic relations between the two nations has turned 56 years.

The two countries maintained the good neighbourly relations based on the five principles of peaceful co-existence during these years.

Myanmar and the PRC have been further strengthening Paukphaw friendship fostered by the far-sighted leaders of the two nations.

Premier of the People's Republic of China Mr Wen Jiabao held a ceremony to welcome Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe at the north hall of the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 14 February.

After the ceremony, they held a discussion at the east hall of the Great Hall of the People. Prime Minister General Soe Win said that Myanmar wishes to promote bilateral cooperation in such sectors as political, economic, social and science and technological sectors, and thanked China for its firm support as a true friend on the issues that directly concerned with the interest of Myanmar.

In his discussion, Premier Mr Wen Jiabao said that China wants to be a partner of Myanmar in the regional economic cooperation. Particularly, China will give a helping hand to the development of ASEAN+1, ASEAN+3 and Mekong Basin. It will also implement the already-agreed projects till their completion in cooperation with Myanmar, added the Premier.

After the meeting, the ceremony to sign MoUs and agreements between the two countries was held, and officials concerned signed eight MoUs and agreements.

Myanmar and the PRC have been exchanging visits between the leaders of the two countries since time immemorial. The two countries maintained friendly ties up to date. Myanmar has been supporting the One China Policy and she permanently accepted that Taiwan is an inseparable part of China.

Therefore, we firmly believe that the goodwill visit of Prime Minister General Soe Win to the PRC will further strengthen the already-forged friendship and promote mutual interests between Myanmar and the PRC.



In memory of parents U Maung Gyi-Daw Thay Thay, Daw Than Khin and siblings of No 31, Thandata Street in Sangyoung Township recently donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through U Chit Myaing, 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

### Commander attends physic nut plantation ceremonies in Yangon Command

YANGON, 19 Feb — A ceremony to grow physic nut plants was held in Hmawby Station of Yangon Command in Hmawby Township this morning. It was attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai.

At the ceremony, the commander delivered an address on extensive cultivation of physic nut plants and constant conservation of the plants. Next, Hmawby Station Commander Lt-Col Tin Oo explained the purpose of the ceremony. Myanma Agriculture Service Yangon Division Manager U Aung Hsan dealt with agricultural technologies concerning cultivation of physic nut plants.

Afterwards, the commander and wife and officials concerned observed 37,800 physic nut plants and 25,000 cuttings in the station.

Next, the commander and party proceeded to attend the physic nut plantation ceremony in

Taikkyi Station this morning and they oversaw 122,990 physic nut seeds and 8,900 cutting. The commander and party inspected Hsinthwelat paddy strains and model plots in Kyunchaung Village of Taikkyi Township.

After giving instructions, the commander made arrangements to fulfill the needs.

MNA

*Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai pour water on physic nut plants.*

MNA



### Myanmar Pearl Auction-2006 concludes



Gem merchants observe lots of pearl at Myanmar Pearl Auction 2006.—MNA

YANGON, 19 Feb — Myanmar Pearl Auction-2006 of Myanma Pearl Enterprise that started on 17 February at Dusit Inya Lake Hotel, here, concluded this evening.

A total of 35 gem merchants of 20 companies from six countries attended the auction, and purchased lots of pearl through tender system.

The Pearl Auction was being held to earn more foreign exchanges and to develop Myanma pearl market. The gem merchants purchased 210 lots of pearl in total through tender system in three days. — MNA

### Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

YANGON, 20 Feb— The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Dr Andras Balogh as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Hungary to the Union of Myanmar.

Dr Andras Balogh was born in 1944 in Budapest. He earned PhD in Development Studies in 1976 and DSc in History from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 1995. From 1968 to 1976, he served as Assistant Lecturer in Eotvos Lorand University. From 1976 to 1983, he served as Foreign Political Advisor at the Hungarian Socialist Party and from 1983 to 1988, he served as Professor at the College of Political Science in Budapest. From 1988 to 1993, he served as Hungarian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of India. Later from 2000 to 2005, he served as Vice-President at the Hungarian Foreign Political Society.

Dr Andras Balogh is currently serving as Hungarian Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand. He will be concurrently accredited to the Union of Myanmar with residence in Bangkok, Thailand.

He is married and has two children.—MNA

### Measures taken for hockey development

YANGON, 19 Feb— A team led by Vice-President of Myanmar Hockey Federation and member of Hockey Development Committee of International Hockey Federation U Kyaw Naing arrived Mawlamyine on 11 February and discussed matters on hockey development with Mawlamyine Sub-committee Chairman Lt-Col Hla Myint.

After the meeting, Director U Hla Myint of Pedrollo Water Pump Co donated suits for Mawlamyine Hockey team. Arrangements are also being made to donate sports gear to be presented by Pakistan.

KEYMON



Lt-Col Hla Myint accepts suits for Mawlamyine Hockey team.—H



## Gref sees US as stumbling block to Russia WTO entry

Moscow, 18 Feb — Economy Minister German Gref expressed frustration with the United States on Friday over Russia's WTO entry talks saying the absence of a deal with Washington blocked Moscow's 13-year bid to join the trade body.

Gref said he still hoped Russia would join the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2006 "but of course that will depend on the political will of our partner countries".

Russian officials have long predicted that the talks — which have stumbled over issues ranging from energy pricing to farm tariffs — would be over soon.

But along with violations of intellectual property rights, access to financial markets remains

a key sticking point. President Vladimir Putin alarmed financial markets last December when he said the activity of branches of foreign banks working in Russia must be banned, a remark seen by the

business community as threatening to foreign operators in Russia.

Gref said Russia had difficulty understanding the US side at times and had exhausted its potential for compromises.

MNA/Reuters



This double-decker Airbus A380 has arrived recently in Singapore from France in the colours of Singapore Airlines (SIA), the first carrier to fly the world's biggest commercial airliner.—INTERNET

## Iran calls on British troops to pull out of Basra

BEIRUT, 18 Feb — Iran's Foreign Minister called on Britain on Friday to pull its troops out of the

southern Iraqi city of Basra, saying their presence was destabilizing the city.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran demands the immediate withdrawal of British forces from Basra," Manouchehr Mottaki told reporters through an interpreter during a visit to Lebanon.

"We believe that the presence of the British military forces in Basra has led to the destabilization of the security

situation in the city," he said, adding that the British presence had also negatively affected the security situation in southern Iran itself.

Mottaki was apparently referring to a spate of recent bomb attacks in southern Iran.

Teheran has accused the British military in Iraq of cooperating with the bombers who killed eight people in attacks in January.

MNA/Reuters

## Italy opens probe into deaths of aid workers in Kabul

ROME, 18 Feb — The Rome prosecutor's office has opened an investigation into the

mysterious deaths of two Italian aid workers in Kabul, Italian news agency ANSA reported on Friday.

The prosecutor's office here is responsible for all incidents which take place abroad and it has already contacted military authorities in Afghanistan for information on the deaths.

Iendi Iannelli and Stefano Siringo were found dead in their beds in the guesthouse of the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) the Rome-based aid organization for which Iannelli worked. Siringo was an Italian Foreign Ministry employee.

Their bodies showed no signs of violence and at first investigators thought they might have died of carbon monoxide poisoning from a faulty heater. —MNA/Xinhua

## NY woman shot by police after fight over cat

NEW YORK, 18 Feb — A 65-year-old New York woman who had stabbed a neighbour in a dispute over her cat was shot and killed by police, authorities said on Friday.

Stephanie Lindboe was shot by officers res-

ponding to a call that she had assaulted a neighbour with a knife on Thursday morning in the borough of Staten Island, a New York Police Department spokesman said.

Police said the woman refused several orders

by the police to drop the knife, which had a 7-inch (18-centimetre) blade.

According to neighbours in the apartment building, Lindboe stabbed Linda Padula in the neck after claiming that Padula had stabbed her cat. Neighbours said the two had a history of arguing over the cat, which was pictured in local newspapers with a bloody wound over its left eye.

Padula was taken to Staten Island University Hospital, the same hospital where Lindboe died after the shooting, the police spokesman said.

MNA/Reuters

Internet

## Philippine rescue crews hope for miracle

GUINSAUGON, 19 Feb — Hoping for a miracle, rescue workers in the Philippines continued searching for survivors Sunday in an elementary school swamped by a landslide that buried this town and killed some 1,800 people.

No survivors have been found since Friday, however, and reports that students and teachers sent cell phone text messages from inside went unconfirmed, leaving the search effort dispirited and empty-handed.

Teams on Sunday were also digging around the site of the village hall, where about 300 people had been attending a women's conference when the slide buried Guinsaugon. Fearing more landslides, 11 villages were evacuated as US military ships steamed to the scene. A team of up to 30 US Marines based in Okinawa, Japan, was already at the site.

Police dogs arrived in the sunshine on Sunday after days of constant rain that raised fears of more

landslides and hampered efforts to rescue any survivors. Still, low clouds and thin mist suggested that rain could return.



An aerial view shows on 18 Feb, 2006 the extent of the landslide that buried the whole village of Guinsaugon in southern Leyte Province in central Philippines. —INTERNET



A French Puma helicopter based in Djibouti and coalition forces on the water are seen performing search and rescue operations off the coast near the crash site of two US Marine Corps CH53 Sea Stallion helicopters on 18 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

## US helicopters crash off Djibouti

DJIBOUTI, 18 Feb — Two American military helicopters carrying a total of 12 people have crashed off the coast of Djibouti in East Africa. Two crew members have been rescued, but the remaining 10 are still missing. There is no indication that the aircraft were brought down by hostile fire, a US defence spokesman said. The cause of the crash is not yet known.

The CH53 marine transport helicopters were based on Camp Lemonier, a French military base in Djibouti.

The facility serves as headquarters for a US military operation aimed at stopping militant groups infiltrating the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea. An investigation into the crash is under way. —Internet

# Chavez threatens to cut off oil to US

CARACAS, 19 Feb — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has warned he could cut off oil exports to the United States if Washington goes "over the line" in what he has said are attempts to destabilize his government.



Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez

Chavez made his threat Friday, a day after US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said the Venezuelan government posed "one of the biggest problems" in the region and that its ties to Cuba were "particularly dangerous" to democracy in Latin

America.

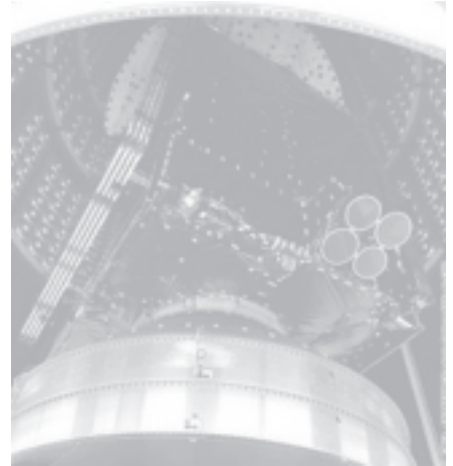
"The government of the United States should know that if they go over the line, they are not going to have Venezuelan oil," Chavez said.

"I have already taken measures regarding this. I'm not going to say what because they think that I can't take these measures because we would not have any place to send the oil," Chavez said.

Chavez has threatened to halt oil exports to US ports before, but Friday was the first time the former paratroop commander mentioned having made contacts with other crude buyers as part of a contingency plan.

"Many countries ask us for more oil and we have had to tell many countries we can't send them more" because Venezuela, the world's fifth largest oil exporter, ships 1.5 million barrels of oil a day to the United States, he told supporters at the presidential palace.—*Internet*

## စက်မှုပစ္စည်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား



The Spainsat begins to disappear as the Ariane 5 payload is lowered over the satellite in French Guiana. The Spainsat and Hot Bird 7a satellites are set to be launched on 21 Feb by the European Space Agency.—INTERNET

## US handling of UN reform angers developing nations

UNITED NATIONS, 18 Feb — US Ambassador John Bolton's drive to crack down on UN fraud and abuse is triggering a backlash from developing nations who fear Washington is trying to wrest control from UN members.

The simmering conflict between Washington and the developing nations that make up a majority of UN members boiled to the surface this week when two US congressmen said non-aligned states had "worked feverishly in New York to block the efforts ... to clean up the institution".

"We and our colleagues in the House of Representatives have followed, and will continue to follow, your

actions very closely, and we intend to hold you accountable for them," Republican Henry Hyde of Illinois and Democrat Tom Lantos of California wrote South African Ambassador Dumisani Kumalo in a letter circulated at the United Nations on Friday.

Kumalo, the current chairman of the Group of 77, a bloc of 132 developing nations and China, said the group had been "very, very upset"

by the letter but had decided at a hastily called emergency meeting not to respond to it.

"They are just one of 191 parliaments," Kumalo said. "They were upset. We were upset. You can play that game endlessly."

"The mistake being made by Washington is to assume management reform matters only to Washington. It matters to all of us," he told *Reuters*.

Hyde is chairman of the US House International Relations Committee and Lantos its top Democrat. They wrote after Kumalo complained to UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan that an internal audit of UN procurement fraud had been leaked to the media before the General Assembly, where each of the 191 UN member-nations has a seat and no one has a veto.

MNA/Reuters

## Vietnam bans alcohol in karaoke bars

HANOI, 19 Feb — Karaoke bars in Vietnam will no longer be allowed to sell or have alcohol on their premises as part of the country's continued campaign against so-called 'social evils,' a government official said Friday.

Under a decree that took effect Thursday, karaoke bars, along with discotheques, will also be required to close down at midnight, said Le Anh Tuyen, director of the Legal Department at the Ministry of Culture and Information. "The decree will definitely help reduce negative activities in karaoke bars and discotheques," he said. Karaoke establishments and discos frequently facilitate prostitution and drug usage.

Friday's Thanh Nien (Young People)

newspaper quoted Phan An Sa, chief inspector at the Ministry of Culture and Information as saying authorities have discovered 600 people using the drug ecstasy and 60 women offering striptease dances to customers at karaoke bars and discos over the past nine months.

Karaoke was introduced into Vietnam in the late 1980s and mushroomed in the late 1990s, with more than 10,000 establishments licensed to operate in the country, Tuyen said.—*Internet*

## Super fat cat's "waist" measures 77cm

The photo taken on 16 Feb, 1 2006 shows a super fat cat at Xu Jirong's home in Qingdao, a coastal city in east China's Shandong Province. Xu said his nine-year-old pet weighs 15 kilogrammes and that its "waist" measures around 77 centimetres, longer than a girl's. The cat likes meat but does not eat fish. It eats one steamed bread and half a bowl of chicken heart and some pork every day.—*Internet*



A view of the Great Wall of China. For about 120 dollars, visitors to the Chinese landmark can now leave their mark on a fake wall built recently in the name of preventing graffiti on the genuine structure. — INTERNET

## Relief officials say heavy rains kill five in Lesotho

MASERU, 18 Feb — The heaviest rains in nearly two decades have killed five people in the small mountainous kingdom of Lesotho and forced thousands of others to flee their homes, relief officials said on Friday.

Bridges, houses and fields of crops were also swept away or buried in rock slides. The Lesotho Disaster Management Authority estimated the property damage to be in the millions of dollars.

In the southern district of Quthing, rains were recorded at 500 mm (20 inches), double the previous highest rate of 251 mm (10 inches) recorded in 1988, Lesotho Meteorological Services official Mabafokeng Mahahabisa told *Reuters*.

MNA/Reuters

## Panama police seize over 1.6 tons of cocaine, arrest 10

PANAMA CITY, 18 Feb — Panama's Technical Judicial Police (PTJ) and Narcotic Prosecution Service said on Friday they had seized over 1.6 tons of cocaine and arrested six Colombians and four Panamanians suspected of smuggling the drug. The seizure is part of a year-long joint operation with US and Mexican authorities, Jaime Jacome, PTJ director, and Patricio Candanedo, head prosecutor, told a Press conference. Alongside Friday's drug haul, the officers seized 293,000 US dollars in cash, seven cars, five farms and five firearms. A little more than 1.3 tons of the drugs were seized in the Congo River Farm in the La Chorrera District of Panama, while some 325 kilos was seized in a vehicle stopped at a police checkpoint on its way to the property.—*MNA/Xinhua*





Huge waves crash onto Zumaia's seafront in northern Spain on 18 Feb, 2006. The combination of a full moon, a squall over the Cantabrian Sea and heavy wind gusts reaching speeds of 110 kilometres (68 miles) per hour contributed to sea tides reaching levels not seen in the area for the past three years, with waves as high as 10 metres (33 feet). —INTERNET

## Venezuela tells US to stop meddling in affairs

CARACAS (Venezuela), 18 Feb — Venezuela on Friday demanded the United States stop meddling in its affairs after US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Washington wanted to curb President Hugo Chavez' influence by lobbying allies.

The latest exchange between the United States and top oil supplier Venezuela came two weeks after left-winger Chavez expelled a US naval attache accused of spying and Washington sent home a Venezuelan diplomat in an escalating dispute.

"With respect, but

with firmness, we demand they stop the meddling and the interfering in Venezuela's affairs," said Deputy Foreign Minister Mari Pili Hernandez, who met on Friday with visiting officials from the US State Department.

Hernandez said the Foreign Ministry had asked for a formal explanation of Rice's comments and joined lawmakers in accusing the United States of trying

to foment instability in Venezuela through transport strikes and protests.

Rice said on Thursday Washington would try to curb Chavez' anti-American influence by reaching out to allies to expose any anti-democratic policies in what she termed an "inoculation" strategy to counter Chavez, who is allied to US foe Cuba.

MNA/Reuters

## Newly appointed Malaysian ministers sworn in

KUALA LUMPUR, 18 Feb — Newly appointed ministers and deputy ministers of the Malaysian Government took their oath of office on Friday.

At the ceremony televised live here, ministers and deputy ministers in the reshuffled Cabinet received letters of appointment from the Supreme Head of State Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin.

Information Minister Zainuddin Maidin was the first to be sworn in, followed by Federal Territories Minister

Zulhasnan Rafique, Tourism Minister Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor and Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Mohamad Effendi Norwawi.

Six deputy ministers also taking oath of office Friday were from the Ministry of Internal Security, Ministry of Federal Territories,

Ministry of Rural and Regional Development, Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Ministry of Youth and Sports and Prime Minister's Department.

Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on Tuesday announced the reshuffle of the Cabinet. Although there are several changes

in the line-up, most senior ministers have maintained positions in their respective key ministries.

In the revamped Cabinet, two deputy ministers were promoted to ministerial posts, three ministers changed portfolios, two former ministers were reappointed and four ministers dropped out. —MNA/Xinhua

## French Govt faces cost headache over "toxic" ship

PARIS, 18 Feb — French Government faces new embarrassment over the multi-million euro cost of recalling an asbestos-laden warship, a day after ordering it to return to France from its journey towards an Indian scrapyard.

A trade union in the western French port of Brest said on Thursday it would cost 4 million euros (4.74 million US dollars), four times the sum estimated by the Defence Ministry.

"Since 2 January, it has been costing 45,000 euros a day to charter the tug Sumatra," said Jean-Paul Hellequin, a representative of the CGT union for sailors in Brest.

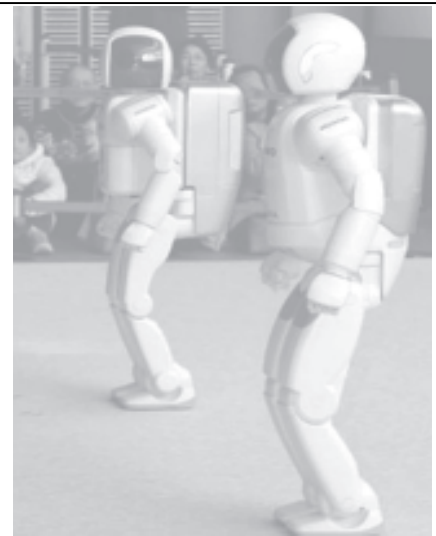
The Defence Ministry said the tug would cost the state 15,000 euros a day to total around 1 million euros.

The bungled journey of the retired aircraft carrier *Clemenceau* has embarrassed the government just days before a visit to New Delhi by President Jacques Chirac.

He ordered it back to France on Wednesday after an Indian court blocked its journey to the scrapyard pending a final decision on

how to dispose of the 27,000-ton ship. The court is investigating whether the asbestos represents a health hazard to Indian scrapyard workers. Chirac demanded a fresh audit of the amo

MNA/Reuters



Honda Motor's first generation humanoid robot Asimo (L) looks at the second generation Asimo (R) at a Tokyo science museum on 18 Feb, 2006. The new version of Asimo, announced last December, runs at a speed of six kilometres (3.7 miles) per hour. —INTERNET

## Two Macedonian contractors kidnapped in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 19 Feb — The British military confirmed on Saturday that two Macedonians working for a cleaning company have been abducted in southern Iraq. A ransom has been demanded for

their release.

Maj Peter Cripps said the two men were abducted on Thursday morning in Basra, 340 miles southeast of Baghdad, while driving with a Macedonian woman who worked for the same

company, called Ecolog.

"They were in a vehicle travelling between two locations and during that route they were somehow abducted," Cripps told *The Associated Press*.

Internet



Wind blown ice forms on a decorative light house along Lake Erie in Hamburg, NY, on 17 Feb, 2006. Winds gusting up to 77 mph knocked out power to at least 1,000 homes and closed schools from Buffalo to Rochester. —INTERNET

## Iraq, US teams look for missing German plane

SULAIMANIYA, 18 Feb — Iraqi rescue teams waded through the snow-covered mountains of northern Iraq on Saturday, searching for a small plane that crashed two days ago with six people aboard.

"We are still looking for it. There is snow everywhere and we are talking about wild areas that are difficult to enter and search," said Kameran Ahmad, the director of

Sulaimaniya airport. "We are heading now to search areas but conditions are difficult."

The plane, which was carrying three German businessmen, an Iraqi and two pilots whose nationalities have not been identified, went missing on Thursday while en route to the northeastern Iraqi city of Sulaimaniya from Azerbaijan.

Internet



Hong Kong movie star Jackie Chan, dressing as a firefighter, is mobbed by a dancer, left, and a Portuguese firefighter, second right, during the opening ceremony of the World Firefighters Games in Hong Kong on 18 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

## US-led war in Iraq condemned

**PORTO ALEGRE (Brazil), 19 Feb** — The US Conference for the World Council of Churches condemned the US-led war in Iraq on Saturday for "raining down terror" on helpless Iraqis, and criticized Washington's policies on the environment and poverty.

"We lament with special anguish the war in Iraq, launched in deception and violating global norms of justice and human rights," the Conference said in an emotional letter released during the World Council of Churches Assembly in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

The World Council of Churches represents Protestant, Anglican, Orthodox and other Christian churches in more than 100 countries.

The statement from the US group accused the Bush Administration of "raining down terror on the truly vulnerable among our global neighbours," saying the United States "has done much in these years to endanger the human family".

It said the US Government turned a deaf ear to the voice of the church in the country and

in the world, using God's name instead "in national agendas that are nothing short of idolatrous".

"We confess that we have failed to raise a prophetic voice loud enough and persistent enough to deter our leaders from this path of

preemptive war. Lord, have mercy," the letters said.

It also sharply criticized the US Government for rejecting multilateral agreements aimed at reversing "disastrous trends" in the environment, particularly global warming.

Pointing out that the United States enjoyed enormous wealth, the conference said Washington was clinging to its possessions rather than sharing its wealth with the vast majority of people who live in utter poverty.

MNA/Reuters



In this photo released by China's Xinhua news agency, giant pandas and their adopters are seen at the Wolong Giant Panda Research Centre in southwest China's Sichuan Province on 17 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET



Venus shines at a magnitude of C4.6 this morning, its greatest brilliancy for the year on 17 Feb, 2006. The second planet from the sun is currently more than 18 times as bright as the brightest star, Sirius, or the Dog Star. — INTERNET

### Nine injured in fire at Alang shipyard in west India

**NEW DELHI, 19 Feb** — Nine people were injured in a major fire in a ship at the Alang ship-breaking yard in Gujarat in west India Friday, according to Indo-Asian News Service.

The nine workers sustained minor injuries due to a sudden fire in a passenger ship that was anchored at Soshiya for over a month, local officials said.

The fire did not spread to other ships or buildings and its cause was yet to be ascertained.

Two fire tenders of Alang fire station were used to combat the flames.

MNA/Xinhua

### Police say Portugal makes biggest cocaine bust

**LISBON, 19 Feb** — Portuguese police made their biggest cocaine bust on Friday, seizing more than eight tons of the drug, authorities said.

Seven foreigners, believed to belong to an international gang, were arrested in raids in the Algarve tourist region of southern Portugal, a police statement said.

"This is the biggest cocaine bust ever. More than eight tons have been seized," a police spokesman told Reuters. Lusa news agency said the seizure was worth 280 million euros (332.2 million US dollars), citing police calculations. — MNA/Reuters

### Uzbekistan helicopter crash kills five

**TASHKENT, 19 Feb** — A civilian helicopter crashed in Central Asian Uzbekistan on Saturday killing all five people on board, an official with the mining company that chartered the aircraft told Reuters.

The Russian-made Mi-2 helicopter crashed at 9:10 am (0410 GMT) near the town of Zerafshan, about 500 kilometres (310 miles) west of the Uzbek capital, Tashkent, said the official with the Navoi Metallurgical Combine.

The dead were two crew and three employees of the combine, Uzbekistan's only uranium miner and its biggest gold producer. One of the three was

the combine's chief engineer, said the official, who did not want to be identified.

MNA/Reuters

### Strong earthquake jolts southern Iran

**TEHERAN, 19 Feb** — A strong earthquake measuring 5.3 on the Richter Scale hit the southeastern Iranian province of Kerman on Saturday afternoon, causing no casualties, the official IRNA news agency said. IRNA, citing the seismological survey of the Geophysics Institute of Teheran University, reported that the earthquake occurred at 14:22 local time (10:52 GMT) in Rafsanjan, a city some 750 kilometres southeast of the capital Teheran.

There have been no reports of casualties or damages to property caused by the quake, IRNA added. Kerman Province has witnessed two major earthquakes for the past two years. — MNA/Xinhua

### Another WWII bomb discovered in Budapest

**BUDAPEST, 19 Feb** — An unexploded 500-kg World War II bomb was unearthed at a construction site in Budapest's District 11, local media reported on Friday. Nearby buildings have been vacated until the bomb can be exploded under controlled conditions. Lagymanyosi Bridge and the South Budapest Railway Bridge have temporarily been closed, which in turn will delay three scheduled trains on the Budapest-Gyor-Hegyeshalom line, MAV railways spokesman Imre Kavalecz said.

On 3 February, Hungarian road workers also discovered an unexploded WWII bomb under the pavement on a busy road in Budapest.

MNA/Xinhua

### Blast hits eastern Turkey, causing no casualties

**ANKARA, 19 Feb** — A blast hit a business centre in Turkey's eastern province of Erzincan, causing no casualties, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported on Friday.

The blast took place near the offices of the Independent Turkish Party (BTP) and a business centre on Fevzipasa Avenue, causing extensive property damage, said the report. Police said the blast was caused by a hand-made bomb and investigations were underway. — MNA/Xinhua

### Roadside bomb kills US soldier in Baghdad

**BAGHDAD, 19 Feb** — A roadside bomb detonated near a US patrol in eastern Baghdad on Saturday, killing a US soldier and wounding another, a police source told Xinhua.

"A roadside bomb went off at about 8:30 am (0530 GMT) when a US patrol was passing by near the Shaab Stadium, destroying a Hamvee," Captain Ahmed Abdullah said. Police at the scene said they saw a US soldier killed and another wounded before the US troops cordoned off the area, Abdullah said. — MNA/Xinhua



People run from huge waves crashing onto San Sebastian's seafont, northeast of Spain on 17 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET



# Enjoying beauty of Mon State from awestruck Bridge

*Sein Hlaing Bo*

The Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) linking Mottama and Mawlamyine is also known as Einmet Bridge (awestruck bridge). It was widely said in the past that it was impossible to build a bridge on the confluence of the Thanlwin, Attayan and Gyaing rivers because the current is very swift there. However, in the pragmatic world, a river-crossing bridge has emerged on that confluence. The bridge with 11,575 feet in length is the longest as well as the largest facility of its kind in Myanmar. At the inauguration ceremony held on 5 February 2005, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe formally opened the facility. Some writers have expressed their joys and pleasures in articles about the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) based on their experiences. So, I write this article to honour the fine transport facility.

Just as the express bus we were taking got on the approach structure to the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), a cool gentle breeze from the surface of the river greeted us. On the longest bridge of Myanmar, I took a deep breath. I gazed down in wonder at the wide surface of the river. The beautiful scenery brought back lots of fine memories to me. From the bridge, I paid reverence to the pagoda on

the Gaunghse Island in the river.

A day in the rainy season before the bridge emerged, I had an appointment to make the final pleading in a court in Mon State. I had never been to the Mon State court and nor did I know where it was. With a thought of inquiring about the address to reach my destination, I left for Mon State on a Yangon-Mottama express bus at night. I had learnt that there no longer needed to spend a night at the top of the Sittoung Bridge, and the express would arrive in Mottama not later than 6 or 7 o'clock in the morning.

However, when the express got to the Mottama bank, the Z-craft had already left. It was in the rush hour, and I was therefore overwhelmed by worries and anxieties. I saw some people getting on the outboard motors stationed in a row on the Mottama jetty. But, I dared not take an outboard motor to get through the river and on the other hand I was afraid I might be late for the case. In the end, I decided to get across the river by boat. When the outboard motor was in the middle of the confluence of the three rivers, a strong wind made the surface violent waves. All the passengers were completely wet with the spray of river water. The waves were getting larger and larger and the outboard motor was getting up and down

repeatedly. Overwhelmed by fears, I was out of breath. However, our boat reached the other bank in the end. Then, I had to change my dress and rush to the court. Before the past memories had not faded away completely, our outboard motor reached the Mawlamyine bank.

After having my lunch, I continued my trip to spend the night in Kyaikkhame. The Mawlamyine-Mudon-Thanbyuzayat-Kyaikkhame Road was not wide enough for two automobiles to pass through each other at the same time. Now, with the fine bridge and the Yangon-Dawei Road, the transport has been smooth in the region.

Some villages along Mudon-Thanbyuzayat road session are as large as a city but the majority of these villages are a little far from the road. The earth roads in the region have been upgraded to laterite or tarred facilities. We passed by the Setse Beach Resort. We enjoyed coconut juice, breathing the cool breeze that passed from the sea for relaxation.

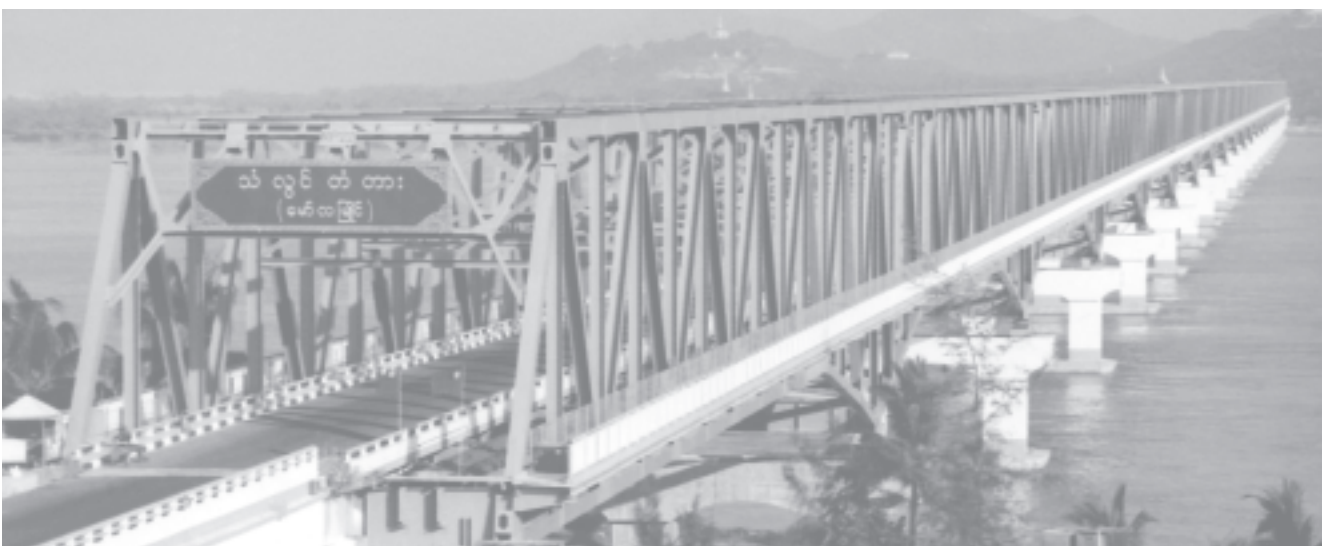
When the sun set, from afar we paid homage to the Kyaikkhame Yaile Pagoda. In the morning, we paid a visit to the Kyaikkhame Yaile Pagoda.

On my way home, I had an opportunity to visit the Kyaikmaraw Buddha Statue. When I was on an express on the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), I deeply enjoyed the beauty of Mon State, breathing the cool air from the river.

The Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) depicts the inspiring performance of the government giving the priority to the smooth transportation for the convenience of the people. Now, the entire nation has seen peace and tranquillity and smooth transport. In the near future, the entire Union of Myanmar including Mon State will be more beautiful and able to enjoy greater development.

**Translation: MS**

**Some villages along Mudon-Thanbyuzayat road session are as large as a city but the majority of these villages are a little far from the road. The earth roads in the region have been upgraded to laterite or tarred facilities. We passed by the Setse Beach Resort. We enjoyed coconut juice, breathing the cool breeze that passed from the sea for relaxation.**



*Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) across Thanlwin River in Mawlamyine Township, Mon State. The 11,575-foot-long (over two miles) bridge is a rail-cum-road facility.*

# Prime Minister General Soe Win goes on study tour of Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall in China



Prime Minister General Soe Win and party view scale model of Beijing City Plan for 2008 at Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall. — MNA

YANGON, 19 Feb — Prime Minister General Soe Win of the Union of Myanmar and members of goodwill delegation went on a study tour to Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall in the People's Republic of China on 15 February.

At the outset, Prime Minister General Soe Win and members were welcomed there by Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall In-Charge Madam Zhaoli and officials.

At the hall, Madam Zhaoli explained that Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall started to be built in September of 2003 and opened in September of 2004. One year after opening the hall, there had been more than 1 million of visitors including guests from abroad and presented a

movie reflecting condition of old Beijing and modern developed Beijing.

Next, officials conducted the Prime Minister and party around bronze-shaped scale model of

Beijing in 1949 displayed on fourth floor of the hall. At the same time, officials explained to them scale models on Beijing coming 2008, sports grounds, gymnasiums and an interna-

tional airport in Beijing to be opened in 2007.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party observed scale models on old palace in Beijing as well as economic and trade cen-

tres and advanced science and technology and scale model of future Beijing.

After that, Prime Minister General Soe Win and party and Chinese officials posed for a documen-

tary photo.

Next, Prime Minister General Soe Win signed in the visitors' book at Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall.

MNA



Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall In-Charge Madam Zhaoli explains old Beijing and developing Beijing to Prime Minister General Soe Win. — MNA

## Prime Minister General Soe Win ...

(from page 1)

President Mr Hu Jintao said China thanked Myanmar for its praise of success and China and Myanmar have been good neighbouring countries since the earliest times.

Myanmar included in those countries that first recognized the establishment of the People's Republic of China. Moreover, the PRC has been dealing with Myanmar under the five principles of peaceful co-existence and friendly ties between the two countries are making progress, he said.

He added that China thanked Myanmar for its support of one China policy. During his meeting with Head of State of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe in the Republic of Indonesia in 2005, they exchanged views and took delight on cooperation in all aspects.

He continued that the friendly relations with Myanmar is the foreign policy of China. China always pays attention to ensuring peace and stability and prosperity of neighbouring countries and respects security, independence and sovereignty of Myanmar.

He said that Myanmar people themselves are to shape their future and opposed the imposition of economic sanctions on Myanmar by foreign nations.

He expressed his belief that Myanmar under the leadership of Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe will make progress in its effort to enhance the living standard of the people.

To further strengthen friendly ties between the two nations, he invited Head of State

Senior General Than Shwe to pay a visit to the PRC whenever opportune.

Prime Minister General Soe Win said that Myanmar is a nation that first acknowledged the establishment of the People's Republic of China and constantly supports the one China policy. It always accepts that Taiwan is an inseparable part of China. He also explained about the implementation of the seven-step Road Map, progress of the National Convention that was held up to 31 January 2006 and future tasks.

He added that they will continue to implement the seven-point Road Map phase by phase.

Prime Minister General Soe Win said that it has been for a long time since the President visited Myanmar in 2000 coinciding with the 50th Anniversary of Establishing the Diplomatic ties between

## Myanmar supports right of...

(from page 16)

National Convention discussed detailed basic principles on the sharing of legislative, judicial and executive powers, connections between hluttaws and the role of the Tatmadaw. The upcoming sessions of the National Convention will discuss the remaining eight sectors. Measures will be taken step by step to write a constitution in accord with the adopted basic principles and to hold referen-

Myanmar and the PRC. He conveyed the message of Senior General Than Shwe, inviting the Premier to visit Myanmar on opportune time.

Chinese President Mr Hu Jintao responded that he heartily accepted the invitation of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe to visit Myanmar.—MNA

dum. Myanmar has always supported the 'one China policy' and accepted that Taiwan is an inseparable part of China. Myanmar also supports the right of China to safeguard national sovereignty and territorial integrity and promulgation of China Anti Secession Law.

In his speech, Mr Wu Bangguo said first of all, I would like to extend warmest greetings to Senior General Than Shwe. The leaders of the two countries have maintained and fostered the Sino-Myanmar friendship in the course of history. Friendly ties between the two nations have been furthered although there have been changes in the international situation and our domestic affairs as we have maintained the good neighborly relations based on the five principles of peaceful co-existence. China values independ-

ence, sovereignty and national character of a nation.

As regards the issue of Taiwan, it is associated with the sovereignty and national character of the PRC. We are proud and delighted to know that Myanmar supports our Anti Secession Law. China, on its parts, will always support Myanmar's efforts for safeguarding its independence, sovereignty and national character. We believe that Myanmar will be able to achieve the goal of building a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

Later, Prime Minister General Soe Win said we gain experiences and knowledge from your discussions and we will continue to try our utmost for the well-being of the State and the people. I would like to conclude that I will convey the friendship and amity of the Chinese leaders and the people to our country.

MNA



# Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe tour Xian of Shaanxi Province

YANGON, 19 Feb — Accompanied by Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Guan Mu and wife and officials, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe and Myanmar delegation members left Diao

yuantai wife. At BYD Auto Co Ltd at New Industrial Park in Xian, General Manager of the company Mr Liu Zhenyu and officials welcomed the Myanmar delegation and explained installation of the panel line at CNG vehicles. Next, the

cle. Officials explained matters related to CNG cylinder and its parts.

The Prime Minister expressed gratitude and presented gifts to the general manager.

In the afternoon, General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe and



Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe view the forefinger of Lord Buddha at Fa Men Si Temple. — MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe being welcomed by Secretary-General of Shaanxi Province Mr Zhuang Chang and officials. — MNA

State Guesthouse by car at 8.15 am on 16 February for Beijing International Airport to continue their goodwill visit to Xian of Shaanxi Province.

The Prime Minister and wife greeted Chinese officials and staff and family members of the Myanmar Embassy and the Military Attaché's Office.

Next, they left Beijing by special flight of China Eastern Airlines and arrived Xian at 10-15 am. Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe were welcomed at Xianyang International Airport in Xian by Secretary-General of the Shaanxi Province Government Mr Zhuang Chang and officials.

Two Chinese girls presented the bouquet to the Prime Minister and



Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe observe Qin Massed Terra-Cotta Warriors and Horses Museum in Xian. — MNA

officials conducted the delegation members round fitting of car parts and production process of CNG vehicles.

The Prime Minister observed functions of engines and machines at the vehicles that can be run with both petroleum and CNG, and installation of CNG cylinder at the vehi-

party proceeded to Fa Men Si Temple, 140 kilometres from Xian by car.

They paid homage to the ancient pagoda and the Buddha image in the precinct of Fa Men Si Temple. Sayadaw Ven Xue Cheng and members of the Sangha recited Dhamma Desanas and presented Dhamma gifts to them.

years old. In renovating the pagoda in 1987, the forefinger of the Lord Buddha was discovered. The stone inscriptions concerning the forefinger were also found.

Next, the Prime Minister and wife and party paid homage to Buddha images at the Dhammayon and posed for documen-

signed in the visitors' book of the museum.

The curator presented a souvenir to the Prime Minister. Next, the Prime Minister, wife and party viewed round documents related to the forefinger, royal regalia of kings of Tang dynasty, ancient glassware, ironware and ceramicware.

cotta warriors and horses and ancient bricks. Officials explained rankings of terra-cotta warriors.

Next, they observed further excavation of terra-cotta warriors, uniforms of the archer and the colonel level person and royal regalia.

Officials of the museum explained bronze cavalry soldier statue, arms of soldiers, the coach with four horses, bronze goose statues, and other artifacts. Next, the Prime Minister and wife and party had a documentary photo taken.

Prime Minister General Soe Win signed in the visitors' book and presented gifts to the curator.

The terra-cotta warriors and horses were unearthed in 1976, and further excavation are being undertaken.



Prime Minister General Soe Win and party viewing production of CNG vehicles of BYD Auto Co Ltd at New Industrial Park in Xian. — MNA

## Vice Governor of Shaanxi Province calls on Prime Minister General Soe Win

YANGON, 19 Feb — Vice Governor Mr Zhao Zheng Yong of Shaanxi Province of the People's Republic of China called on Prime Minister General Soe Win of the Union of Myanmar at Shangri-La Golden Flower Hotel in Xian of Shaanxi Province at 6.45 pm on 16 February.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and departmental heads.

Vice Governor Mr Zhao Zheng Yong was accompanied by Farmers & Workers' Democratic Party of Shaanxi Province Chairman Ms Zhu Jingzhi and officials of the province.

At the call, Vice Governor Mr Zhao Zheng Yong said that Shaanxi Province warmly welcomes the Myanmar goodwill delegation. He believes the goodwill visit will contribute much toward the friendship between China and Myanmar. He said that Shaanxi Province is located in the western part of the People's Republic of China. A majority of kings established the Chinese dynasty in the Shaanxi Province. And the province is rich in cultural heritage.

He added that the Government had laid down and has been implementing the western region development policy since 1999, and the province meets development. The local authority had laid and is implementing a five-year plan for development of the province.

He continued to say that Shaanxi Province has natural resources such as oil, natural gas and coal.



*Vice Governor Mr Zhao Zheng Yong of Shaanxi Province greets Prime Minister General Soe Win at Shangri-La Golden Flower Hotel in Xian. — MNA*

Advanced technologies are being applied to production of finished goods as well as those in industrial and agricultural sectors. Furthermore, progress has been made in the tourism industry that attracts over 1 million of tourists from abroad and 4.6 home-grown visitors annually. He said that Shaanxi Province has a wish to cooperate with Myanmar in the agricultural sector.

In his speech, the Prime Minister said that he had heard the news of progress in many sectors of

Shaanxi Province, particularly in the tourism industry. The province is wealthy of ancient cultural heritage as ancient kings established their dynasty in the province. It can see that ancient cultural heritages is being maintained systematically. He said that he take a pride in his tour of the province.

He noted that two peoples in Myanmar and China enjoy a special traditional "Paukphaw" (fraternal) friendship. Hence, friendship between the two countries has always been cemented for many years. Today, both countries are undertaking cooperation in the economic sector.

He said that he knew the Chinese leaders have a wish to further strengthen friendly relations between the two countries and to promote cooperation in the economic sector. Likewise, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe and officials want to enhance cooperation in economic sector with China.

He asserted that they had decided to implement wishes of the leaders of the both countries. At present, the plans had been laid down and utmost efforts are being made for development of Myanmar. Now, Myanmar is practising the market-oriented economic system. Permissions has been given to private entrepreneurs. The Government is striving for growth of the State economy, based on agricultural sector. In addition, tasks of industrial development are being implemented.

The Prime Minister said that Myanmar is rich in water and land resources. The nation has many places where land can be reclaimed as large farmlands. Offshore of the nation brings a great wealth of natural gas. The Government had built basic infrastructures that will contribute to economic development.

He added that Government had decided to perform development of the nation and to build a modern nation. At present, those from abroad invest in businesses in Myanmar.

Special Industrial Park (Thilawa) Project site is located near Yangon City. He invited entrepreneurs from Shaanxi Province to invest in interested regions including the special industrial park. Today is time to enhance economic cooperation between the two countries.

After the call, Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe and Myanmar delegation members were hosted a dinner by Vice Governor Mr Zhao Zheng Yong of Shaanxi Province at Shangri-La Golden Flower Hotel. — MNA

**Shaanxi Province has a wish to cooperate with Myanmar in the agricultural sector.**

**Vice Governor Mr Zhao Zheng Yong**

**Government had decided to perform development of the nation and to build a modern nation.**

**Prime Minister General Soe Win**



*Vice Governor Mr Zhao Zheng Yong of Shaanxi Province hosts a dinner in honour of Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe at Shangri-La Golden Flower Hotel in Xian. — MNA*



## Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspects growing of physic nut in Eastern Command

YANGON, 19 Feb — Member of State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint together with local authorities arrived at the briefing hall of Kyauk Ni multi-purpose farm of the command on 17 February.

Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint reported on livestock breeding tasks in the farms, construction of Kyauk Ni (Byaing Chaung) dam and growing of physic nut of regiments and units under the command, and Shan and Kayah States to Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party.

The commander gave a supplementary report on sowing of physic nut.

Later, Lt-Gen Aung

Htwe called them on growing of physic nut to meet targeted acres in Shan State and attended to the needs.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party inspected sowing of physic nut seeds and nurturing of grafts in Kyauk Ni multi-purpose farm and Kyauk Ni (Byaing Chaung) dam.

Kyauk Ni multi-purpose farm is nurturing a total number of 738,000 physic nut plants.

## Transport defeat Banner 1-0 in Myanmar League

YANGON, 19 Feb — Myanmar League Football Tournament for 2005-2006 football season continued at Aung San Stadium and Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) this afternoon.

### Aung San Stadium

Transport team: 1

The Banner: 0

The Transport has put pressure on Commerce team that stood at the second place of the league standings after sinking the Banner team in today's match. Besides, the Transport team could keep the third place itself with 24 points.

A 17th minute winning goal was scored by Pyi Phy Oo for the Transport team. Despite making brilliant efforts to take an equalizer,

Banner did not penetrate defensive line of the Transport. While Banner placed at the fifth position with 20 points, Transport held its position at the third place of the standings.

### YTC (Thuwunna)

MAPT: 2

Forestry: 1

Due to a win over Forestry in today's

match, the MAPT that stayed at the 14th place has an opportunity to leave relegation zone. The Forestry was at the eighth place with 13 points.

Fixtures on 20-2-2006:

Aung San Stadium

Energy Vs Commerce

YTC (Thuwunna)

Home Affairs Vs Sun Ye.—NLM



Ko Ko Aung, Goalkeeper of Banner Team, fights for the ball against strikers of Transport Team. — NLM

## Cash donation for all-round renovation of Maha Thakya Muni Buddha Image at Kyaunggyi Monastery in Kyimyindine held



Lt-Gen Myint Swe accepts K 10 million presented by Managing Director U Zaw Weik of FISCA Enterprise and wife Daw Su Su Aye. — MNA

YANGON, 19 Feb — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the cash donation ceremony for all-round renovation of Maha Thakya Muni Buddha Image being kept at Kyaunggyi Monastery in Kyimyindine Township in conjunction with the merit-sharing ceremony at the monastery this afternoon.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Magway Withutayama Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Boddanta Kumara and member Sayadaws, Division and Township Sangha Nayaka Commit-

tee member Sayadaws, the Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of the monastery, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win, local authorities, officials and wellwishers.

Chairman Sayadaw Boddanta Kumara administered the Five Precepts.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and officials donated alms to members of the Sangha.

At the cash donation ceremony, Lt-Gen Myint Swe accepted K 32.2 million donated by U Tint Hsan-Dr Daw Htay Htay

Myint of ACE Construction Co; K 10 million by FISCA Enterprise Managing Director U Zaw Weik-Daw Su Su Aye; K 10 million by Best Supporting Services Managing Director U Zaw Win and wife; and K 4.8 million by wellwishers. Likewise, the commander accepted cash donations from wellwishers. Today's cash donation amounted to K 60,385,000.

The Chairman Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party viewed the second Htamane making contest.

MNA

## 203 drug-related cases exposed in January

YANGON, 19 Feb — Tatmadaw, Myanmar Police Force and the Customs Department exposed 203 drug-related cases in January 2006.

They were: 26.0604 kilos of opium in 20 cases, 31.9548 kilos of heroin in 79 cases, 1,000 kilos of morphine, 0.284 kilo of opium oil in five cases, 0.1439 kilo of low-grade opium in five cases, 0.183 kilo of marijuana in eight cases, 12,043,734 stimulant tablets in 68 cases, 72.8081 kilos of stimulant powder, 9.7396 kilos of opium speciosa in six cases, two ecstasy tablets in one case, one kilo of cocaine in one case, 54 ampoules of morphine injection, 228.92 litres of chemical liquid, 2,197.8305 kilos of chemical powder in one case, four cases in failure to register and other four cases.

Action was taken against 321 persons — 261 men and 60 women — in 203 drug-related cases in January.

MNA

## Myanmar produces bio-diesel from physic nut

### Physic nut contributes to rural development

In his inspection tour of Ngwehsaung in Patheingyi Township, Ayeyawady Division, on 27 January 2006, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, regarding extensive growing of physic nut, gave guidance on placing emphasis on growing physic nut, from which bio-diesel can be obtained, as part of the drive for rural development.

Physic nut plays an important role in implementing the rural development, and it will significantly raise the social life and economy of rural regions. Physic

nut oil can be used effectively in the agricultural tasks, transport services and supply of electricity to villages.

### Physic nut can be used in cultivating crops

In the past, farmers had to buy diesel to drive agricultural machinery to cultivate summer rice. Now, farmers can use the physic nut oil, they produce by themselves, in place of diesel in the engines of the farm implements and machinery. So, it will save the costs on cultivation of crops.

### Physic nut helps rural areas bright

With the use of physic nut oil, trawler-

Gs can be driven for transporting goods. Bio-diesel can be used to run dynamo engines for generation of electricity. Oil lamps can be lit with the use of physic nut oil.

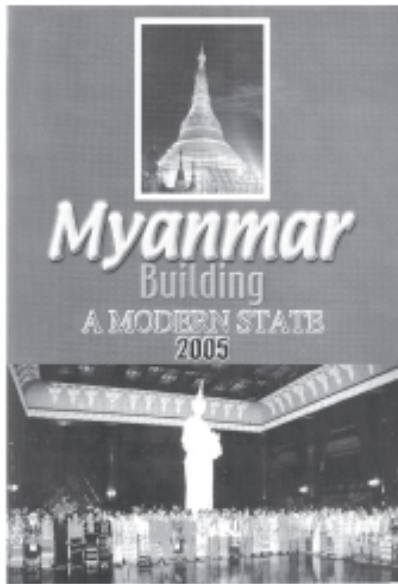
Farmers can grow physic nut, can produce physic nut oil and can use physic nut on their own. So, growing physic nut contributes towards rural development.

Lamps can be lighted with physic nut oil in rural areas.



### All this needs to be known

- \* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- \* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- \* Do not be softened whenever appeased



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**ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်  
ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ  
ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့**

ရက်စွဲ: ၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ် ဖေဖော်ဝါရီလ ၁၆ ရက်

**ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း**

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီမြို့တော်ခေါက်ကွင်းတွင် အသုံးပြုသည့်ဘာဝီယာဥ်များအတွက် လိုအပ်သော 8 Volt Battery (၂၂၀)လုံးအား ဌာနအရောက် ကျပ်ငွေဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူရန် ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာများ ဖိတ်ခေါ်ပါသည်။

ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာပိတ်ရက်မှာ (၃-၃-၂၀၀၆)နေ့ (၁၆:၀၀)နာရီ ဖြစ်ပြီး ဈေးနှုန်းတင်သွင်းလွှာပုံစံတစ်စုံလျှင် ကျပ် ၁၀၀၀/- (ကျပ်တစ်ထောင်တိတိ)နှုန်းဖြင့် ဘတ်ဂျက်နှင့် ငွေစာရင်းဌာန၊ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးဌာနတွင် ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။ အသေးစိတ် အချက်အလက်များကို ဖုန်းအမှတ်-၃၈၈၇၃၂ သို့ ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ဆက်သွယ်မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

## Cambodia to build two more special economic zones

PHNOM PENH, 18 Feb— Two more special economic zones will be built in Phnom Penh and Takeo Province, local media reported on Thursday.

The Attwood import-export company plans to invest 60 million US dollars in a special economic zone on 353 hectares of land in the outskirts of Phnom Penh. The zone will house garment, footwear and electric appliance producers, *The Cambodian Press Review* reported.

The Doung Chhiv Development Company will implement a 70-million-dollar project to construct a zone on 57 hectares of land in Takeo's Kirivong District, which plans to attract factories processing agriculture products such as fish and wine. The company will make an initial investment of 28 million dollars.

The two firms will start their commercial activities by the end of this year, according to government

spokesman Khieu Kanharith. Prime Minister Hun Sen said on Wednesday that he had approved two economic zones. He also called on all relevant government officials to help ease procedures for the companies to bring their plans into fruition.

The latest economic zone-related government approval brings the number of Cambodia's economic zones to nine, some of them located in Sihanoukville, Koh Kong, Svay Rieng

and Banteay Meanchey Province.

Government services are available on site in special economic zones, into which no tax is imposed on imported raw materials. And all paperwork would be approved there so then they do not need to come to the relevant ministries.—*MNA/Xinhua*

## Two more Romanian villages detect bird flu

BUCHAREST, 18 Feb— Preliminary tests have indicated that several dead birds found in two villages in Romania had been infected with bird flu, local authorities said on Thursday.

So far the virus has been found in 31 villages in the country since it was first detected in the Danube Delta last October. However, no human cases have been reported in the country.

The dead birds were

found in the eastern villages of Vlahi and Ostrov, according to Grigore Mertoiu, who heads the local animal health agency.

Mertoiu said the virus was likely to have been carried to the villages by migrating birds from Danube wetlands.

The authorities said thousands of wild fowl would be culled in the two villages to prevent the further spread of the virus.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Emirates Airlines to open Beijing-Dubai flights next half year

SHANGHAI, 18 Feb— The United Arab Emirates Airlines will launch daily non-stop flights between Beijing and Dubai in the next half year, the company's regional manager has said.

The company hopes that more Chinese travellers will turn to Emirates Airlines in the future, according to Edwin Lau, Regional Manager for Greater China and North East Asia for the Dubai-based airlines.

Lau made the remarks at a recent news conference in Shanghai, at which he announced that Emirates Airlines will sponsor the 2006 BMW Asian Open that is to be held in Shanghai between 20 and 23 April.

Emirates Airlines first launched a weekly cargo flight between Dubai and Shanghai on 15 September, 2002. Now, the number of cargo flights have reached six a week. — *MNA/Xinhua*

## Japan pledges to donate \$60m to Africa

ADDIS ABABA, 18 Feb— Japan pledged Thursday to donate 60 million US dollars to Africa by the end of next month.

At an opening ceremony of a conference on African development in Ethiopia, Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Yasuhisa Shiozaki said the donation will be used to support security, governance, political transitions and reconstruction in conflict-hit African countries.

"As we believe there will not be stability in the world in the 21st century unless the issues in Africa are resolved, Japan is committed to African develop-

ment, with peace consolidation being one of the fundamental bases," he told delegates from some 100 countries and international groups at the meeting. The two-day conference is co-chaired by Japan, the United Nations, the World Bank and the Washington-based Global Coalition for Africa.

It is part of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), a Japanese initiative set up in 1993 to drum up international support for Africa.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Iraq contractor pleads guilty to fraud

CHICAGO, 18 Feb— An executive has pleaded guilty to adding 1 million US dollars in fraudulent "war risk" surcharges for flying cargo into Baghdad under a US military contract with a Halliburton Inc subsidiary, authorities said on Friday.

Christopher Cahill, 41, formerly a Dubai-based executive of logistics company EGL Inc. of Houston, may implicate others as part of a plea

agreement reached on Thursday with federal prosecutors in Rock Island, Illinois, court papers showed.

Cahill, 41, could face up to 10 years in prison and a 5-million-US-dollar fine at a May 26 sentencing.

According to court papers, Cahill hatched his plan to add a 50-per-cent kilogramme surcharge on freight into Baghdad after the plane of competitor

DHL Worldwide Express was hit by a missile and landed in flames.

Cahill had heard DHL was seeking war risk insurance and arranged to have EGL's subcontractor write a phony letter declaring it was adding the surcharge.

The extra charges appeared on invoices from Halliburton subsidiary Kellogg Brown & Root and paid by the Army.

*MNA/Reuters*



A flying instructor from Indian airline Jet Airways demonstrates a Full Flight Simulator (FFS) for Boeing 737-800 aircraft in Mumbai, in November 2005. Alteon Training, a subsidiary of US aircraft manufacturer Boeing, says it will open its fifth regional training centre for pilots and flight attendants in Singapore this coming October. — INTERNET



ပညာရေးနှင့် ဓာတ်သိပ္ပံ ဦးတိုးတတ်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Study shows bone marrow transplant disease predictable

WASHINGTON, 18 Feb — Researchers can predict which bone marrow transplant patients will likely develop a deadly complication a week after the procedure and well before any symptoms occur, according to a study released on Friday.

Researchers at the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Centre found that elevated levels of a protein called tumour necrosis factor, or TNF, measured a week after patients received bone marrow transplants, were found among those who later developed the deadly complication

called graft vs host disease.

“This suggests we could target patients to prevent graft vs host disease based on their post-transplant level of TNF. If we can develop a test that can reliably predict this complication, we can then look at treating it

before symptoms develop,” said the study’s author, John Levine.

While bone marrow transplants offer hope for people with certain cancers that no longer respond to conventional treatment, as many as half of the patients who undergo the procedure develop graft vs host

disease, with about 30 per cent of transplant patients dying from it.

It is a deadly condition in which transplanted immune cells attack the patient’s skin, liver and gastrointestinal cells and ultimately can trigger a massive inflammatory reaction that can kill the patient.

The study, presented at the American Society for Blood and Marrow Transplant’s annual meeting in Honolulu, looked at 170 patients, 94 of whom went on to develop graft vs host disease. Those 94 patients had elevated levels of the tumour necrosis factor protein a week after their transplants.

Researchers also found that patients whose TNF level was elevated at seven days had a 20 point lower survival rate: 62 per cent were alive after a year, compared with 85 per cent of those patients with a lower TNF level.

MNA/Reuters



Performers from the China Disabled People's Arts Troupe perform the dance 'Avalokitesvara' in Shanghai, on 18 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET



A woman stands in front of a blue illuminated display in the Ueberseemuseum (Overseas museum) in Bremen, northern Germany, on 17 Feb, 2006. The instalation is seen in the new Asian section which will be inaugurated on 18 Feb. —INTERNET

Bangkok showcases international films

BANGKOK, 18 Feb — The Fourth Bangkok International Film Festival (BKIFF) opened on Friday night at Bangkok’s Siam Paragon Theatre. The event, which lasts till next Monday, will feature about 160 movies from 60 countries and regions, including Oscar-nominated Hollywood films and Asian productions.

With a Thailand-produced thriller romance “Invisible Waves” by the internationally-famed director, Pen-Ek Ratanaruang, as the opening film, the festival will offer a showcase for Thai films, which have become a thriving industry in the country in the latest years.

A number of Oscar-nominated films will be shown. On the other hand, to show support for Asia’s film-making industry, an ASEAN (the Association of South-East Asian Nations) Competition and

Asian Short Films sections will be presented.

Twelve awards will be given on the awarding ceremony on 24 February, among which a Life-time Achievement Award will be honoured to Thai screen legend Sombat Metanee, and a Career Achievement Award to French actress Catherine Deneuve.

Nearly 10 Chinese films have entered the competition. The film Perhaps Love by Peter Ho-san Chan will be shown in the Special Presentation Section of the festival. —MNA/Xinhua

China to build new nuclear power plant in Fujian

BEIJING, 18 Feb — China is set to build a new nuclear power plant in Huian City, in East China’s Fujian Province, to resolve the province’s power shortage, Thursday’s Beijing-based Economic Information Daily reported.

The China Huadian Corporation signed an agreement with the China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) on Wednesday to launch the project officially, the

newspaper reported. Located on the north bank of the Quanzhou Bay in the southeast of Fujian Province, the power generating capacity of the plant will reach about one million kilowatts.

The nuclear power plant, the first of its kind in the province, will ease the power supply tension in Fujian, one of China’s flourishing coastal provinces.

MNA/Xinhua

Royal Australia Institute of Architects launches int’l base in HK

HONG KONG, 18 Feb — The Royal Australian Institute of Architects (RAIA) announced here on Friday that it has established an international presence in Hong Kong.

RAIA International will significantly increase the networking and level of support for the RAIA’s 800-plus members working overseas, many of them in Asia.

RAIA National President Bob Nation said “this is an important step forward for the RAIA, providing overseas members with an enhanced level of service and a greater voice.”

He said, Hong Kong was chosen as the base for RAIA International because the RAIA already has over 300 members and its central to many other countries and regions in the Asia-Pacific Region in which a large number of members work.

He said “it is our joint hope that RAIA International will form a mutually beneficial

collaborative relationship with the Hong Kong Institute of Architects who currently boast more than 2,000 members.”

MNA/Xinhua

India Govt steps up efforts to open foreign markets for mangoes

NEW DELHI, 18 Feb — Buoyed by a 70-per-cent growth in agricultural exports in last five years, Indian Government on Thursday said it is intensifying efforts to obtain market access for more farm products especially mangoes in Japan and the US.

“We have succeeded in getting market access for mangoes, bitter gourd and

grapes. Similarly, Japan has recently opened its market for poultry products. Market access for Indian meat in Saudi Arabia has also been secured. Intensive efforts are underway to get market access Indian mangoes to Japan, US and Australia,” federal Commerce Minister Kamal Nath said here.

MNA/PTI



Carnival revellers dance in the streets of Cobres, northwestern Spain on 18 Feb, 2006. Carnival celebrations get underway in the Galician village of Cobres as dancers wear brightly-coloured hats and go from house to house singing and dancing and asking for donations.—INTERNET

# SPORTS

## Hewitt, Roddick cruise to semifinals at SAP Open

WASHINGTON, 19 Feb— Top-seeded Andy Roddick reached his fourth straight semifinal at the SAP Open with an easy 6-3, 6-2 victory over Germany's Bjorn Phau on Friday.

Roddick won his 13th straight match at the event.

Third-seeded Lleyton Hewitt reached his first semifinal of the year with a 7-6, (7-4), 6-2 victory over fellow Australian Wayne Arthurs.

Hewitt, the 2002 champ, will face Vincent Spadea in Saturday's semifinal.

MNA/Xinhua



Gold medalist Kati Wilhelm (C) of Germany, compatriot silver medalist Martina Glagow (L) and bronze medalist Albina Akhatova of Russia celebrate after the women's 10 km pursuit biathlon event at the Torino 2006 Winter Olympic Games in San Sicario, Italy, on 18 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

## Kahn injured as Bayern snatch 1-1 draw at Hanover 96

FRANKFURT, 19 Feb— Distracted Bayern Munich lost goalkeeper Oliver Kahn to injury but managed to snatch a 1-1 draw away to Hanover 96 on Saturday thanks to a Michael Ballack header a minute from time.

Thomas Brdaric headed Hanover into the lead in the 56th minute, shortly after Kahn had been forced off clutching his thigh.

The champions threw everything forward and snatched a point when Ballack rose to convert a Willy Sagnol cross from the right.

Werder Bremen took advantage of the slip-up to cut Bayern's lead to nine points with a 1-0 win away to Borussia Dortmund thanks to an Ivan Klasnic goal.

MNA/Reuters

## Crouch gives Liverpool FA Cup win over Man Utd

LONDON, 19 Feb— Liverpool ended their 85-year Manchester United jinx when a Peter Crouch header gave them a deserved 1-0 win over their Lancashire rivals in the fifth round of the FA Cup at Anfield on Saturday.

Liverpool had not beaten United in nine FA Cup ties spanning 85 years, including the 1996 and 1977 finals, but were always in command of a disappointing game.

The goal came in the 19th minute when England striker Crouch was left unmarked to steer in an excellent header from a Steve Finnan cross.

United, a record 11-times winners of the Cup and runners-up last season, were desperately disappointing despite fielding an attacking side and Liverpool keeper Pepe Reina was not forced to make a worthwhile save all afternoon.

Although Liverpool face Benfica in the Champions League on Tuesday coach Raphael Benitez also put out a

full-strength side.

They took control of midfield from the start and Edwin van der Sar was at full stretch to tip a Harry Kewell header round a post in the 18th minute.

From the resulting corner the ball reached Finnan whose deep cross reached an unmarked Crouch whose excellent header went in off both posts.

Finnan had the chance to double the lead in the 25th minute but, unmarked to meet a Steven Gerrard free kick, he sidefooted into the side-netting.

Having seen his side fail to make any impression in the first half, United manager Alex Ferguson added an extra striker in the shape of Louis Saha for the second.

MNA/Reuters

## Japan beats Finland 2-0 in international friendly

TOKYO, 19 Feb— Tatsuhiro Kubo and Mitsuo Ogasawara combined to

lead Japan to a 2-0 victory over Finland in an international friendly at Shizuoka

Stadium on Saturday.

Though both sides failed to break the deadlock in the first half, the home team performed better, coming close to scoring for several times. Kubo put Japan ahead in the 48th minute before Ogasawara sealed the win in the 57th minute.

Following the 2-3 loss to the United States last week, Saturday's victory was a morale boost to Japan, one of the 32 World Cup finalists in Germany.

"We played much better than last week. We're aiming to improve bit by bit and game by game in the run up to the World Cup," said Brazilian Zico.

MNA/Xinhua



Japan's midfielder Mitsuo Ogasawara (8), flanked by teammate Yuji Nakazawa, looks at goal as his shot scored the team's second goal as Finland's goalkeeper Mikko Kaven fails to stop in their international friendly match at Shizuoka stadium ECOPA in Fukuroi, central Japan on 18 Feb, 2006. Japan beat Finland 2-0. —INTERNET

## Bordeaux sink Ajaccio to keep Lyon in sight

PARIS, 19 Feb— Girondins Bordeaux won 2-0 at struggling AC Ajaccio on Saturday to keep Ligue 1 leaders Olympique Lyon in sight.

Striker Marouane Chamakh scored the first with a shot from inside the box in the first-half and Brazilian Denilson found the net with a fine lob just before the hour to seal the points.

Bordeaux extended their unbeaten run to nine matches and cut Lyon's lead back to seven points after the champions, inspired by

Brazilian midfielder Juninho, crushed Nantes 3-1 on Friday to seal their first success for over a month.

Lyon have 59 points and a game in hand on Bordeaux, who have now played 27 matches, after their outing at Monaco scheduled for 29 January was postponed because of a flooded pitch.

Bordeaux's win not only kept their title hopes alive but also put them a step closer to a Champions League berth next season.

The Girondins are eight points ahead of third-placed Lille, who upset St. Etienne 2-0 at the Geoffroy-Guichard Stadium with goals by Mathieu Debuchy and Kader Keita.

MNA/Reuters



Manchester United's Louis Saha, second left, challenges Liverpool's goalkeeper Jose Reina, front, for the ball during their English FA Cup fifth round soccer match at Anfield, Liverpool, England, on 18 Feb, 2006. Liverpool won the match 1-0. —INTERNET

## Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

A	L	L	O	W	E	D	N	O	Y	E	S	
T	I	A	E	O	E	U						
T	A	P	E	R	A	R	T	I	S	A	N	
I	8	8	8	F	R	E	T	B				
C	O	N	T	A	C	T	E	D	8	E	M	U
E	R	H										R
L	A	C	K	E	Y	8	S	W	E	D	E	N
E	E											A
Y	E	S										R
L	S	R										A
A	G	I	T	A	T	E	I	V	O	R	Y	
N	T	W										O
D	O	Y	E	N								N

## Milan close gap after Juve draw with Messina

ROME, 19 Feb— Serie A leaders Juventus were held 2-2 by Messina on Saturday, allowing second-placed AC Milan to claw back ground with a 1-0 win over Cagliari.

Juventus now have 67 points from 26 matches, 10 points ahead of Milan. Third-placed Inter Milan are a further two points back after a 0-0 draw at Livorno.

Having beaten Inter 2-1 last weekend, Juventus were not expected to be tested by Messina, who started the evening one point above the relegation zone.

The Sicilians took a surprise early lead when striker Sergio Floccari, who until last month was playing for Fourth Division Rimini, beat Juve's offside trap and slipped the ball calmly past Gianluigi Buffon.

Juve almost grabbed a quick equalizer when Mauro Camoranesi nodded Pavel Nedved's cross to Zlatan Ibrahimovic at the far post, but the Swedish international blasted the ball over.

Ibrahimovic was more accurate in the 18th minute, however, running on to Nedved's through pass to angle a shot past goalkeeper Nicolas Caglioni.

Juve pressed forward in search of a second goal and two minutes after the break Alessandro del Piero curled a shot narrowly wide.

MNA/Reuters



Amelie Mauresmo of France celebrates defeating Nadia Petrova of Russia in the semi-final of the Proximus Diamond Games tennis tournament in Antwerp, Belgium, on 18 Feb, 2006. Mauresmo won 4-6, 5-7. —INTERNET



## In memoriam

### Family shares merits gained Lt-Gen Tin Oo

In memory of benefactor Phay Phay Gyi Lt-Gen Tin Oo who suddenly left us five years ago, we family members have made donations and offered 'soon' and provisions to members of the Sangha on (19-2-2006). We family members share with you the merits gained.

**Wife Daw Khin Than Nwe**

**Sons and daughters -**

- Major Maung Maung Kyaw (Retd) (BSI)-Daw Cho Leh Oo
- Phyu Phyu Tin Oo
- Dr Myat Noe- Yin Mar Oo
- Zaw Tun Oo- Khin Thida
- Nay Tun Oo

**Grandchildren**

- Maung Hein Htet, Yin Mar Myat Noe, Phu Ngon Kyaw, Maung Thant Thihan Zaw (Po Thila)

## Japan launches mutli-functional satellite

TOKYO, 19 Feb— Japan launched a mutli-functional satellite for weather observation and air traffic control in southern Japan on Saturday, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) said.

The Multifunctional Transport Satellite 2

(MTSAT-2) was lifted off by a H-2A rocket at 3:27 pm local time (0627 GMT) from the Tanegashima Space Centre in Kagoshima Prefecture. It separated with the rocket at 3:55 pm local time (0655 GMT).

The MTSAT-2 will act as a backup weather

satellite for the Himawari-6, which was put into orbit in February 2005 and is scheduled to end mission in 2010. With images and data collected by MTSAT-2, sea surface temperature, cloud top temperature and cloud motion winds could be obtained.—MNA/Xinhua

## Central China steel maker reports \$506m income on export

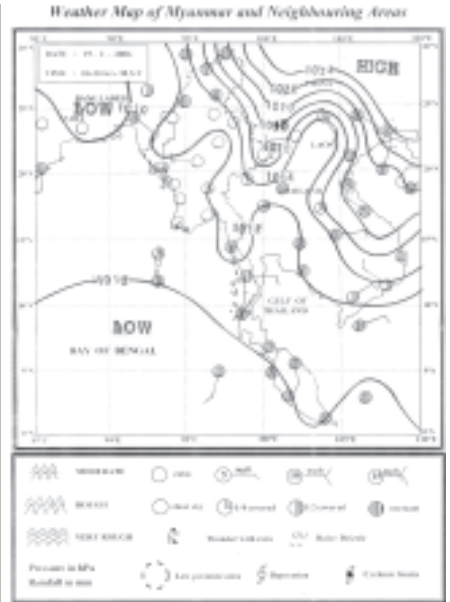
WUHAN, 19 Feb — Wuhan Iron and Steel Group, or Wugang in Hubei Province, reported 506 million US dollars of foreign currency income in 2005 with 933,000 tons of steel export.

The company therefore topped all foreign traders in the central China province over the past year, said Sun Wendong, general manager of the group's International Trade Corporation, Friday.

In 2005, Wugang further expanded its market to Canada, Belgium, Australia, Zimbabwe and Hong Kong, while cementing trade relations with old partners in Japan, the South Korea and Taiwan, said Sun.

Foreign trade is playing a bigger role in the company's business development following economic globalization, said Deng Qilin, general manager of the group.

MNA/Xinhua



## WEATHER

Sunday, 19 February, 2006

### Summary of observations recorded at 09:30

**hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, light rain has been isolated in Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (4°C) below normal in Yangon Division (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin and Rakhine States, Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka and Pinlaung (4°C) each and Heho (5°C).

Maximum temperature on 18-2-2006 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 19-2-2006 was 59°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 19-2-2006 was (83%). Total sunshine hours on 18-2-2006 was (8.4) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 19-2-2006 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 (9) mph from Northeast at (08:15) hours MST on 19-2-2006.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 20-2-2006:** Possibility of isolated light rain in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of slight increase of night temperatures in the lower Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 20-2-2006:** Fair weather.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 20-2-2006:** Fair weather.



Monday, 20 February  
View on today

**7:00 am**

1. ဂျော့ရှင်မင်းထွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တီဝိဋကဓမ္မဓမ္မဗျာဏဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

**7:25 am**

2. To be healthy exercise
3. Morning news
4. Nice and sweet song
5. Song of national races

**8:05 am**

6. အတီးဖြူပုံ
7. Cute little dancers

**8:25 am**

8. အဆိုဖြူပုံ
9. International news
- 8:45 am
10. Grammar Made Easy
- 4:00 pm
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
3. Practice in Reading
- 4:40 pm
4. Musical programme
- 4:55 pm
5. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့လှည့်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ - တတိယနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရူပဗေဒ)
- 5:10 pm
6. Dance variety
- 5:20 pm
7. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 5:30 pm
8. Song and dance of national races
- 5:40 pm
9. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar

10. Grammer Made Easy
- 4:00 pm
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
3. Practice in Reading
- 4:40 pm
4. Musical programme
- 4:55 pm
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- 5:10 pm
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- 4:00 pm
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- 4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
3. Practice in Reading
- 4:40 pm
4. Musical programme
- 4:55 pm
5. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့လှည့်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ - တတိယနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရူပဗေဒ)
- 5:10 pm
6. Dance variety
- 5:20 pm
7. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 5:30 pm
8. Song and dance of national races
- 5:40 pm
9. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar

**5:50 pm**

10. Industrial achievement
- 6:00 pm
11. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
12. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
13. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရယ်ရှင်ဆော့ဖြိုး ပုဂ္ဂလိကတော်" (အပိုင်း-၆၅)
- 6:55 pm
14. အတီးဖြူပုံ
- 7:00 pm
15. Musical programme
- 7:15 pm
16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်လှည့်ကားထစ်လေးများ" (အပိုင်း-၄၀)
- 8:00 pm
17. News
18. International news
19. Weather report
20. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဓမ္မရုပ်ရှင်ဗွယ်နေ့ကလေးများ" (အပိုင်း-၁၁)
21. မင်းထွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရုပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာမေတ္တာတာဝန်မှာများမြင်းတရားတော်
22. The next day's programme



Monday, 20 February  
Tune in today

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music: -Fame
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music:
- 8.50 am National news & slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -Strong enough
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music
- 1:30 pm News & Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch time music -You & Me -Let it be me
- 9.00 pm -Beautiful Chin State
- 9.15 pm Article
- 9.15 pm Drugs Elimination
- 9.25 pm Vocal Gems/ Golden Land's Melody
- 9.45 pm News & Slogan
- 10.30 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

**Myanmar supports right of China to safeguard national sovereignty, territorial integrity, promulgation of China Anti Secession Law**

**Prime Minister General Soe Win**

**China will always support Myanmar's efforts for safeguarding its independence, sovereignty, national character**

**Mr Wu Bangguo**

YANGON, 19 Feb — Prime Minister General Soe Win called on Mr Wu Bangguo, Chairman of the Standing Committee of National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing at 5 pm on 15 February.

Together with the Prime Minister at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Myanmar Ambassador to PRC U Thein Lwin, Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet, Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw of the Ministry of Defence and Director-General of Political Department U Nyan Lin. Together with Mr Wu Bangguo were Vice Secretary-General Mr Cao Weizhou of the Standing

Committee of National People's Congress, Chinese Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Cui Tian Kai, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Guan Mu and high-ranking officials.

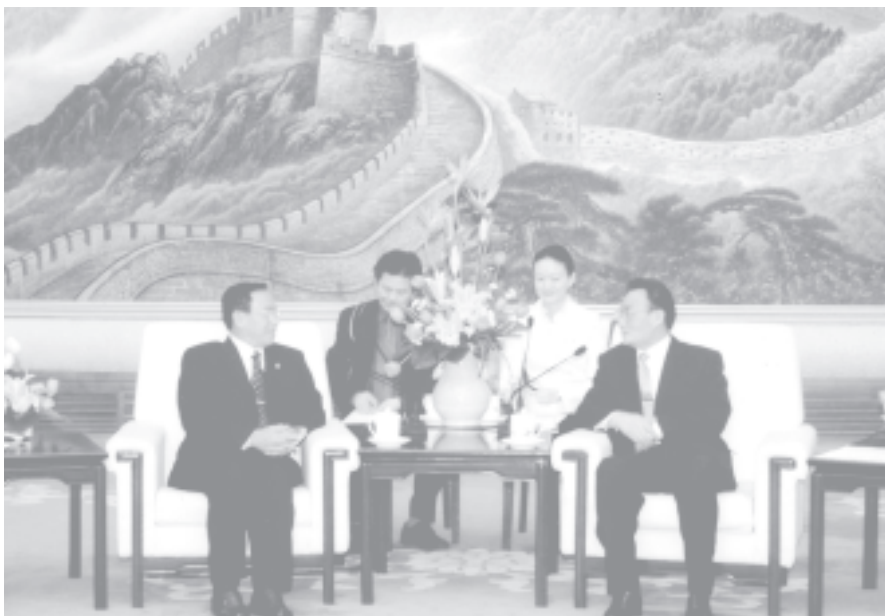
First, Mr Wu Bangguo said I believe that the visit of the Prime Minister will further strengthen the friendship between the two countries. Next, the Prime Minister said Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe and Vice-Chairman Vice-Senior General Maung Aye had conveyed the message of warm greetings to Mr Wu Bangguo, Chairman of the Standing Committee of National People's Congress.

The Prime Minister said: I would like to extend invitation to you to pay a visit to Myanmar as it has been long since you visited the country in 1997. Every time we pay a visit to the People's Republic of China we witness that your country is developing with added momentum. It is heartening to see that the National People's Congress is prescribing laws so as to catch up



*Prime Minister General Soe Win shaking hands with Mr Wu Bangguo. — MNA*

**Now the seven-step Road Map is being implemented to shape a peaceful, modern, discipline-flourishing democratic nation. The National Convention, the first and most important step of the Road Map, is now in session with the participation of diverse national races.**



*Prime Minister General Soe Win calls on Mr Wu Bangguo. — MNA*

with the development of the nation. In Myanmar also, the government is striving to ensure peace and stability of the State, national solidarity and development of economic infrastructures. Our country lagged behind in development as a result of armed insurgencies that broke out due to colonialists' instigation when they ruled the country for over 100 years.

However, our nation strove to build national consolidation and ensure peace and stability of the State. Now the seven-step Road Map is being implemented to shape a peaceful, modern, discipline-flourishing democratic nation. The National Convention, the first and most important step of the Road Map, is now in session with the participation of diverse national races. The previous sessions of the (See page 8)

**INSIDE**

*The Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) depicts the inspiring performance of the government giving priority to the smooth transportation for the convenience of the people. Now, the entire nation has seen peace and tranquillity and smooth transport. In the near future, the entire Union of Myanmar including Mon State will be more beautiful and able to enjoy greater development.*