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Sunday, 26 February, 2006

Development facilities inspected in Lwemway

YANGON, 25 Feb — Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing heard reports on thriving apple, damson, pear and tea plantations at the farm

of Myanma Agriculture Service (Lwemway) on 21 February.

The commander visited the farm.

While in Lwemway, the commander paid homage to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kosalla at Lwemway Monastery,

and made donations. He inspected construction of buildings in the precinct of the monastery. Next, the commander paid obeisance to Çaturattha Sumingala Pagoda.

At the local battalion, the commander oversaw 128,000 tea saplings,

5,000 pine saplings and 16,000 physic nut saplings in its nursery.

On arrival at Lwemway Dhamma Yeiktha, Chairman of Kengtung District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Min and departmental officials reported on development tasks being undertaken in Lwemway region. The commander attended to the needs.

The commander went to Border Area National Youth Development Training School (Lwemway), and Lwemway Station Hospital (16-bed), and inspected respective functions.

MNA

Eighth teachership diploma presentation held in Pathein Education College

YANGON, 23 Feb — Pathein Education College conferred teachership diplomas on 733 trainees at the eighth diploma presentation at the college on 20 February.

Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung delivered a speech on the occasion.

The opening of basic fish and prawn processing course jointly

organized by Ayeyawady Division Fisheries Department, Myanmar Fisheries Federation and Exporters Association (Yangon) was held at E-ya Shwewa Hall in Pathein. The commander, Deputy Director-General of Fisheries Department U Khin Ko Lay and Chairman of Exporters Association (Yangon) U Soe Tun Shein spoke.

The commander and party observed packaging of fish and prawn for export, equipment used in

processing and educative booklets.

The course is being attended by 53 trainees from private enterprises and departments.—MNA

22 acres of physic nut grown near Mawlamyine airport

YANGON, 23 Feb — Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing inspected the site of Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) on 20

February.

Senior Engineers U Tint Lwin and U Myo Min reported on construction of the approach railroad. The commander inspected progress of work on Mottama and Mawlamyine banks and gave instructions.

The commander went to physic nut plantation near Mawlamyine Airport where Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Soe Thein reported on cultivation of physic nut.

Altogether 22 acres of physic nut have been grown near the airport and there are 430,963 saplings in the township.—MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing inspects Warpa Dam. — MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

INSIDE

“You should not take any kinds of purgative regularly. Otherwise, it will destroy micro vallei on the walls of your bowels and you will suffer constipation often. If so, you can take two tea spoons of magnesium sulphate with a glass of boiled water, and after defecating two times in six hours and you can empty your bowels.”

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 26 February, 2006

For factories and mills to run in full capacity

Myanmar is an agro-based country. Based on the agricultural sector, efforts are being made for development of the national economy. Likewise, priority is being given to the development of the industrial sector in building a modern and developed nation.

Nowadays, the government is building more factories and mills to accelerate the industrial development, while establishing the industrial zones wherever possible.

Of the industrial zones established with the aid of the government, Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi Ayethaya industrial zones are now in the process of producing spare parts for machinery.

In the same way, industries contributing to development of the agricultural sector, those producing automobiles, plastic industries and those producing spare parts for machinery are making progress.

At present, efforts are being exerted not only for development of the State-run industries but also for development of the industries that are based on agriculture.

The pulp factory in Thabaung, Ayeyawady Division and the paper mill in Maubin are not only satisfying the domestic demand but also creating jobs for local people. Moreover, the emergence of those factories has led to enabling the people to possess technological skills.

In the meantime, Pakokku Textile Factory, Shwedaung Textile and Finishing Factory, Paleik Textile and Finishing Factory, Sagaing Textile Factory, Pwintbyu Textile Factory, Salingyi Textile Factory are also contributing their shares in satisfying the domestic demand.

The extended construction of factories and mills has created jobs for local people, thereby contributing to development of the State-run industries.

Thanks to concerted efforts of the State and the private sector, factories and mills have been able to use high technologies and modern equipment.

It is incumbent upon the factories and mills to run in full capacity in producing quality spare parts for machinery and import-substitute machinery.

Therefore, at a time when efforts are being made for development of the industrial sector, officials of factories and mills and staff are to try their best for producing equipment and items of high quality.

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 Maj-Gen Ohn Myint attends growing physic nut plants and ceremony to honour victorious weightlifters

YANGON, 25 Feb — A fun fair of Myitkyina Pre-primary School Station organized by Kachin State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee took place at the Station Hall of Northern Command Headquarters on 13 February, attended by Kachin State Peace and Development Council Chairman Northern Command Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and wife, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen San Tun and officials.

After the fun fair programmes of children from pre-primary schools, officials presented gifts to children. On 14 February, the commander attended the coordination meeting for growing physic nut plants and gave necessary instructions.

Afterwards, the commander attended the ceremony to honour the weightlifters of Northern Command who stood first and third in the Commander-in-Chief Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Men's and Women's Weightlifting Championship 2005-2006.

Next, the commander who gave away gifts of the winners handed over their trophies honour to prize-winning weightlifters.

MNA

Shan State (North) WAO holds Annual meeting

YANGON, 25 Feb — The annual meeting of Shan State (North) Women's Affairs Organization took place at its office on 18 February with an address by Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Chairman North-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing.

First, patron of Shan State (North) WAO Daw Khin Thant Zin explained functions of WAO, and the commander presented 30,000 ballpoint pens to the students who will sit in the matriculation examination through District WAOs.

Later, Shan State (North) PDC donated K 500,000 and state Police Forces K 500,000 to Shan State (North) WAO. Tang Way Co Ltd offered K 2.5 million each to WAO and MCWA Supervisory Committee.

The commander attended ceremony of growing physic nut plants to honour the annual meeting and planted physic nut saplings together with those present. He viewed thriving saplings of physic nut.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and party observed test-run of physic nut oil-used Leyar-16 power-tillers.—MNA

Knowledge Bank Paper-reading Session of MWJA held



Resource person ambassador (Rtd) U Thet Tun reads out paper on Angkor Wat Journey.—MNA

YANGON, 25 Feb — The Knowledge Bank Paperreading Session organized by Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association was held at Sarpay Beikman Building on Merchant Street at noon today. U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) extended greetings, and resource persons Ambassador (Rtd) U Thet Tun read out the paper on Angkor Wat Journey and answered the questions raised by those present.

Next, MWJA Vice-Chairman-I U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha) expressed thanks.

MNA

To mark the 46th Wedding Anniversary, family of U Khin Maung Than-Dr Daw Aye Aye Kyi of 54 (D), Inya Road, Kamayut Township, recently donates K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Treasurer U Aung Than —H



**နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင်
မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေ့**

လစဉ် လ၏ဒုတိယပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန်လိုအပ်သည့်ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ့ဖြစ်သည်။

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All this needs to be known

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

Greenpeace lists China as one of world's most important countries

BEIJING, 24 Feb— China has made great progress in its environmental protection thanks to the joint efforts of the government and the public, Gerd Leipold, the global executive director of Greenpeace, was quoted by Friday's *China Daily* as saying.

But he also urged that the Chinese Government should take a more serious view on climate changes by promoting the use of renewable energy.

Leipold has been in Beijing this week to attend a forum about corporate social responsibility. "Currently China has a much stronger environmental awareness among politicians, academic people, journalists, young people, students and the general public," Leipold was quoted as saying.

"The government is excellent when it comes to environmental protection. For example, the response to the chemical spill in the Songhua River last year was very impressive.

"China's environmental legislation, compared with that of other countries, is

quite good, and the enforcement is also good."

Greenpeace, one of the most influential environmental non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the world, lists China as one of the most strategically

important countries in the world. "It is not only because of China's fast growth," Leipold said, but also because it is a test case of whether another model of development could succeed. "If China follows

the old Western model of first getting rich by exploiting its environment and then using the wealth to make up for the damage, it will have disastrous consequences."

MNA/Xinhua

85 dead in Bangladesh blast

CHITTAGONG, 24 Feb — Police said Friday that the death toll in an explosion at a textile mill in Bangladesh had risen to 85.

Officials at Chittagong Medical College Hospital said at least 150 people at been injured. The incident began late Thursday when an electric generator exploded at the Bangladeshi-owned KTS Textile Mill, 135 miles southeast of the capital, Dhaka. The generator explosion, in turn, set off an explosion in a boiler, police said. Around 1,000 workers employed by the plant, most of them women, were inside at the time of the explosion.—INTERNET



Workers clean an empty poultry farm at Navapur, in the western Indian state of Maharashtra, on 24 Feb, 2006. Workers disinfected farms and chicken coops Friday in a small western town hit by India's first outbreak of bird flu, a day after the slaughter of all birds in the sprawling poultry farming region was completed.—INTERNET

Car bomb explodes near police patrol in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 24 Feb — A car bomb went off near a police patrol close to a hospital in western Baghdad on Thursday, wounding a policeman, a police source told *Xinhua*. The blast occurred at about 3:40 p.m. (1240 GMT) as an explosive-laden car parking by roadside near the Yeramuk Hospital detonated when a police patrol was passing by, said the source. One policeman was wounded and a police vehicle as well as two civilian cars nearby were damaged in the blast, the source added.

Guerillas frequently use car bombs to target Iraqi Army troops and police, accusing them of collaborating with the US-led occupation forces.—MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

ထုတ်တုန့်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ကြ



David Toms of the US hits from behind a tree on the first hole during his second round match against Jose Maria Olazabal of Spain at the WGC Accenture Match Play Championship golf tournament in Carlsbad, California on 23 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

At least six Palestinians killed in Israeli raid on Nablus

RAMALLAH, 24 Feb — At least six Palestinians were shot dead by Israeli troops during confrontations in a refugee camp near the West Bank city of Nablus on Thursday, Palestinian sources said.

Palestinian witnesses and security sources said that the Israeli Army killed three more Palestinians and retained their bodies on Thursday afternoon, adding that the soldiers also fired upon ambulances and paramedics.

"Israeli soldiers opened fire at any ambulance or paramedic that tried to reach the area where the bodies of the three Palestinians were," said a local Palestinian resident.

Earlier, medics at Rafidya Hospital in Nablus said that three Palestinians were killed, among them two teenagers and a 24-year-old Palestinian man.

Six other Palestinians were also injured in the clashes with Israeli soldiers in the Balata refugee camp, said the medics.

Israeli forces have been conducting a military operation for several days in some parts of Nablus to hunt wanted militants.

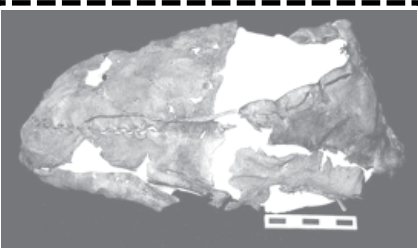
MNA/Xinhua

China produced 224 tons of gold in 2005

BEIJING, 24 Feb— China produced 224 tons of gold in 2005, an increase of 5.51 per cent on the previous year, *China Business News* reported.

Quoting the website of the China Gold Association, the report said Wednesday that China's gold production enterprises achieved a record 4.03 billion yuan in profits last year, an increase of 32.7 per cent year on year.

MNA/Xinhua



Oldest shoe discovered in Canada

The photo from Yukon Government shows a shoe made of deerskin found in the glacier region in Canada in 2003. It is reported that researchers first took the 1,400-year old shoe as a hunter's bag, but after cleaning they recognized it was a shoe. It is believed to be the oldest shoe discovered in Canada so far.—INTERNET

Police says cash found in UK heist van

MAIDSTONE (England), 24 Feb — Police have searched for clues in a white van containing cash after what is believed to be the largest cash robbery in British history, police say.

In the armed robbery Wednesday at a security depot in the county of Kent, about 30 miles southeast of London, thieves made off with at least 25 million pounds (\$44 million), and possibly as much as 50 million pounds (\$88 million), authorities said.

The robbers first abducted the depot manager, his wife and their 9-year-old son, releasing

them after the manager had been forced to let them into the facility, authorities said. (Watch as police investigate the crime — 2:04)

Police had said a white truck was used to cart off much of the cash. On Friday, a white Ford transit van was found at the Ashford International Hotel, police said.

"We can confirm a quantity of cash has been found in the vehicle, but it is too early to speculate on how much," Kent police said in a written statement.

"We are linking this to Wednesday's robbery at the

Securitas depot in Tonbridge, but we cannot say yet how significant the find is."

Assistant Chief Constable Adrian Leppard

said it could take "many hours," and potentially the entire day Saturday, to "establish what exactly is in that van."

Internet



A white Ford transit van.—INTERNET

FBI warns US mily of aggressive interrogation at Guantanamo

WASHINGTON, 24 Feb — FBI officials have repeatedly warned the US military of the aggressive interrogation methods used in the prison at the US naval base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, according to FBI memos released Thursday.

The memos said those aggressive methods were legally risky and also likely to be ineffective.

One memo also said a senior officer at the prison for interrogating terror suspects have misled his superiors at the Pentagon that the FBI had endorsed the aggressive and controversial interrogation plan for one detainee.

The memos, 54 pieces altogether, were released by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), a New York-based human rights group. As the memos showed, FBI agents on temporary assignment at Guantanamo brought their concerns to the prison's commander, Major-General Geoffrey Miller, and laid them out in detailed messages to top officials at FBI Headquarters in Washington.

One memo dated in May 2003 described tensions between the FBI agents and their military counterparts at Gu-

antanamo over "aggressive interrogation tactics which are of questionable effectiveness and subject to uncertain interpretation based on law and regulation".

A military investigation into FBI reports of prisoner abuse at Guantanamo recommended that Miller be reprimanded for failing to oversee the interrogation of a high-value detainee, which was found to have been

abusive.

But a top US general rejected the recommendation and Miller recently requested early retirement. Some 490 detainees are being jailed at Guantanamo, most of whom were captured in the US-led war in Afghanistan in 2001 and were being held indefinitely without a trial.

MNA/Xinhua

ဂက်ဂူဗွမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား



German musician Jeanne-Christee plays a Stradivari violin known as "The Hammer" at Christie's auction house in London, on 24 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

TV journalists killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 25 Feb—Gunmen have kidnapped and killed three journalists in Iraq.

The bodies of Atwar Bahjat, a reporter for al-Arabiya television, and two of her crew were discovered on the outskirts of Samarra, north of Baghdad.

The three were kidnapped after travelling to the city to cover the bombing of a major Shi'ite shrine, suspected to have been the work of al-Qaida. Reporters Sans Frontieres expressed its "outrage" over the killings, which it

described as an "appalling act". "We will never stop repeating that journalists are neutral and vital observers," said a spokesman for the press freedom organisation. "They are neither combatants nor targets to be shot down." A well-known correspondent for al-Arabiya television, the body of Atwar Bahjat was found along with engineer Adnan Khairullah and cameraman Khalid Mahmoud.—Internet



An Iraqi policeman stands next to the bullet riddled satellite news-gathering van of the Al Arabiya television in Samarra, 100 km (62 miles) north of Baghdad on 23 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

Early beaver-like mammal swam with the dinosaurs

WASHINGTON, 24 Feb — A creature that looked like a beaver, right down to its flat paddle-like tail and webbed feet, lived 164 million years ago alongside dinosaurs, US and Chinese researchers reported on

Thursday.

It might not have gnawed trees as modern beavers do — its teeth suggest it ate fish — but the little animal had fur and even the inner ear structure of a mammal, they report in Friday's issue of the journal Science.

Thomas Martin of the

Forschungsinstitut Senckenberg in Frankfurt, Germany, said the finding showed mammals had conquered the water 100 million years earlier than anyone thought.

The fossil was found in the Middle Jurassic Jiulongshan Formation in China, a deposit rich in the fossils of dinosaurs, early insects and other creatures. It dates to 164 million years ago. Qiang Ji and colleagues at Nanjing University in China and the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh said the animal, which they named *Castorocauda lustrasimilis*, would have weighed just 500 grams (18 ounces).

"It is the most primitive taxon in the mammalian lineage known to have fur and has a broad, flattened, partly scaly tail analogous to that of modern beavers," they wrote.—Internet



An artistic reconstruction of *Castorocauda lustrasimilis* shows a creature that looked like a beaver. —INTERNET

Man indicted for showing how to make firebomb

SAN DIEGO, 25 Feb — A radical environmental activist has been indicted by a federal grand jury for demonstrating how to build a firebomb in a speech just 15 hours after a fire that his group claimed responsibility for destroyed a large apartment complex built nearby.

Rodney Adam Coronado, a 39-year-old member of the Earth

Liberation Front, was indicted on a charge of giving instructions on

how to build a destructive device, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in federal prison. The indictment was unsealed on Wednesday.

The law under which he was charged has been used just four other times since it was enacted in 1997, according to Assistant US Attorney Shane Harrigan. The law makes it illegal to tell others how to build destructive devices with the intent of having them commit crimes.

"In the speech, Coronado mentioned the fire that had just occurred," Harrigan said. "We have to prove his intent was to have others go out and commit arson."—Internet

Secret information of Japan's MSDF leaked via Internet

TOKYO, 24 Feb — Confidential information at Japan's Maritime Self-Defence Force (MSDF) has been leaked onto the Internet via peer-to-peer file-sharing software from a private computer of an MSDF officer, *Japan Times* reported Friday.

The leaked data include call letters for MSDF vessels, cipher-related documents related to combat exercises and personal data on dozens of MSDF members, the MSDF said on Thursday.

The information was leaked from a personal computer of a chief petty officer in charge of communications on the destroyer *Asayuki*, which

is deployed at the MSDF's Sasebo base in Nagasaki Prefecture, said the English-language newspaper.

The MSDF is investigating why and how the officer, who was not authorized to make copies of the data, inputted the data into his personal computer, which he took onboard the destroyer without permission.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister to visit Iran

BEIJING, 25 Feb — Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Lu Guozeng will pay a working visit to Iran for political consultations from February 24 to 26, Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao announced here Thursday.

The two sides are expected to exchange views on bilateral relations, Iran nuclear standoff and other issues of common concern.

During the visit, he said, the two sides will discuss how to ease the crisis under the current circumstances and what measures to take to avoid intensification of the issue so as to finally resolve the issue through negotiations and dialogues.

The Chinese side hopes that the parties concerned would keep restraint and patience, and create conditions for the resumption of talks given that there is still room for solving the issue within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the spokesman said.

MNA/Xinhua

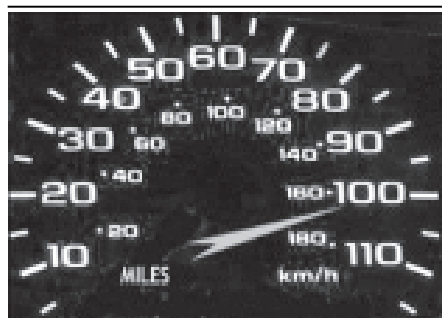
Military dogs in active service reaches 7,000 in China

BEIJING, 25 Feb — There are 7,000 dogs in active service for the People's Liberation Army (PLA), sources with the military dog breeding centre said here Thursday.

After training, qualified military dogs can assist the military forces in various fields including mine detecting, telecommunications and scouting, Yu Bin a trainer at the centre said.

In the past five years, over 100 criminal cases were broken with the help of military dogs, the sources said.

MNA/Xinhua



Swiss police reported that a young Swiss man who had just obtained his driving license lost it hours later after he was caught speeding at more than 170 kilometres per hour (105 miles per hour)—INTERNET

8-storey building collapses in N-W Turkey

ANKARA, 24 Feb — An eight-storey building collapsed in the northwestern Turkish city of Bursa on Thursday, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported.

There are no immediate reports on whether any casualties were caused or if there were people trapped under the rubble, said an official statement, cited by *Anatolia*.

The statement, issued by the Turkish Prime Ministry Emergency Administration Directorate General, also said that the two eight-storey office building, located on Cekirge Street in Bursa, collapsed at 4 pm (1400 GMT). The building was

evacuated after a landslide destroyed a wall on 15 February, according to the report.

The building was comprised of two adjacent blocks, said *Anatolia*, adding that there were several shops in the basement. Ambulances, fire-fighters and rescue teams have rushed to the scene as police cordoned off the area, urging people living in nearby buildings to evacuate, said the report.

MNA/Xinhua

New kind of space blast seen not far from earth

WASHINGTON, 24 Feb — A new kind of cosmic explosion has been spotted in Earth's celestial neighbourhood, and amateur astronomers in the Northern Hemisphere might be able to see it next week, scientists reported on Thursday.

The blast seemed a lot like a gamma-ray burst, the most distant and powerful type of explosion known to astronomers.

But when scientists first detected it with NASA's *Swift* satellite on February 18, the explosion was about 25 times closer and lasted 100 times longer than a typical gamma-ray burst.

"This is totally new, totally unexpected," said Neil Gehrels, *Swift*'s principal investigator. "This is the type of unscripted event in our nearby universe that we hoped *Swift* could catch."

The explosion originated in a star-forming galaxy about 440 million light-years away towards the constellation Aries (The Ram). A light-year is

about 6 trillion miles (10 trillion kilometres), the distance light travels in a year.

This would be the second-closest gamma-ray burst ever detected, if indeed it is one.

The burst lasted for nearly 2,000 seconds, or about 33 minutes, astronomers said in a statement. Most bursts last a few milliseconds to tens of seconds. It also was

surprisingly dim.

Scientists at Italy's National Institute for Astrophysics found hints of a budding supernova — an exploding star — when they saw the afterglow from the original explosion grow brighter in optical light.

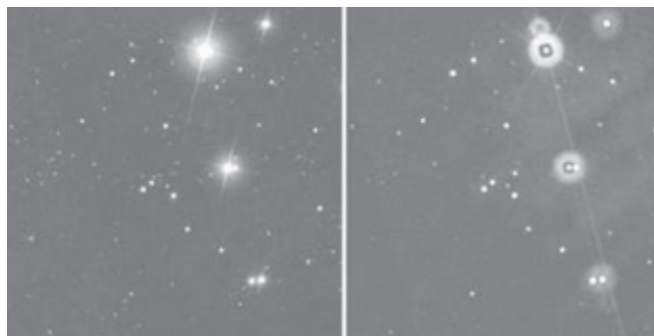
If it is a supernova, scientists will have an unprecedented view of one from start to finish.

Scientists will attempt

observations with the *Hubble Space Telescope* and *Chandra X-ray Observatory*. Amateur astronomers in dark skies might be able to see the explosion with a 16-inch (40-cm) telescope.

More information and images are available online at http://www.nasa.gov/missionpages/swift/bursts/oddball_burst.html.

MNA/Reuters



Scientists are studying a strange explosion that appeared on 18 Feb, 2006, about 440 million light years away in the constellation Aries.

INTERNET

Bus falls into valley killing 23 in S-W China

BEIJING, 25 Feb — A bus fell into a valley in mountainous southwest China before dawn on Friday, killing 23 people and injuring more than 20, state media said.

The accident happened in impoverished Guizhou Province when the bus left the road and tumbled 30 metres (100 feet), *Xinhua* news agency said, citing local police. It

did not give details. China has the highest annual road death toll in the world, with accidents killing almost 100,000 people last year, or 270 a day.

In November, a truck ploughed into a group of children and teachers on their way to school in northwest China, killing at least 20.

MNA/Xinhua

Rescue crew try to rescue the injured from a coach that fell into a river in Guiyang, capital of southwest China's Guizhou Province, on 24 Feb, 2006.

INTERNET



Nine earthquakes recorded in Mayon Volcano

MANILA, 24 Feb — Nine volcanic earthquakes were recorded on Thursday in Mayon Volcano in Albay, 330 kilometres southeast to Manila, according to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS). PHIVOLCS director Renato Solidum said in an interview that the agency recorded two minor explosions in the area Thursday morning and observed some small lava

flows from Mayon's crater. Alert level 2 has been declared Tuesday by the agency to make sure nobody enters the six-kilometre danger zone around the Mayon Volcano.

Although PHIVOLCS has not increased the warning to level 3, Solidum said the agency is closely monitoring the volcano.

Solidum said the tests have yet to ascertain if the Mayon would erupt again.

The Mayon is the most active volcano in the country, having erupted around 50 times for the past 400 years. Its last eruption was in July 2001.

MNA/Xinhua

Over 137 Zambians die of cholera

LUSAKA, 24 Feb — At least 137 Zambian people have been killed by cholera since the outbreak of the disease in August 2005, reported English-language newspaper *Times of Zambia* Thursday, quoting Health Minister Sylvia Masebo.

MNA/Xinhua

Guyana reiterates adherence to one-China policy

CARACAS, 24 Feb — Guyanese Parliament Speaker Ralph Ramkarran reiterated his country's adherence to the one-China policy while meeting with a visiting delegation of the Communist Party of China (CPC) in Georgetown on Wednesday.

In his meeting with the CPC delegation headed by Ma Wenpu, Ramkarran spoke highly of the remarkable achievements China has made in its economic construction. He expressed gratitude to China for building a new conference centre in Georgetown for the

Guyanese Government.

The speaker hoped that the two countries would strengthen further friendly cooperation in various fields. Though Guyana's two main parties have different ideas on domestic policies, they hold identical views on the country's policy toward

China, the top legislator said. Ma, who is also deputy head of the International Department of the CPC Central Committee, said parliamentary communication and exchanges are an important part of international relations, the parliaments of China and

Guyana have many similarities and can learn from each other in legislation, administrative supervision and judicial work. The Chinese delegation arrived in Guyana on Monday after visiting Trinidad and Tobago.

MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese vendor walks in front of shoes on display in her shop at the Xiangyang market, also known as the fake goods market, in Shanghai on 23 Feb, 2006.

INTERNET

Survey in Shanghai reveals "essence" of happy marriage

BEIJING, 24 Feb — A survey made in Shanghai shows that men with lower academic degrees than their wives are happier than those with higher or similar degrees. And the happiest marriage is achieved when both spouses draw a similar income.

The survey conducted by the Shanghai Women's Federation questioned 769 married people between the ages of 27 and 37 with bachelor degrees or above, *China Daily* reported Friday.

As in other cities, Shanghai has got more and more career women who find it difficult to seek a suitable partner. Highly educated women with high social positions in their 30s are among the most difficult groups in seeking the right match in our agency, said a staff member surnamed Yu at the Jinguoyuan Matchmaking Agency, one of the largest of its kind in Shanghai.

The problem does not

just lie with men, who still tend to look for a young and not-so-ambitious

bride. Many women remain shy of marrying anybody younger, shorter

and less successful than themselves, he said.

MNA/Xinhua



A stray dog looks on from a dog shelter in Bucharest on 23 Feb, 2006. A Romanian dog protection charity sued the city hall for wanting to put down a stray dog suspected of having bitten to death a Japanese man in Romania's capital last month, saying there are people who want to adopt the dog to take it off the streets.

INTERNET

Brazilian police breaks up drug-trafficking gang in Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO, 24 Feb — Brazil's Federal Police said on Thursday it had broken up one of the country's biggest drug gangs and arrested at least 35 suspects. Thirty-three suspects were nabbed in Rio de Janeiro and two more in neighbouring Sao Paulo, where the gang's drugs were seized, the police said in a statement.

About 100 police forces took part in the operation targeting 36 members of a gang, which earned 700,000 US dollars last year by selling cocaine in the cities of Volta Redonda, Pinheiral, Barra Mansa and Japeri.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi Army soldiers question a man before searching his house during a "cordon and knock" operation near the northern Iraqi city of Baiji on 23 Feb, 2006.

INTERNET

Luhrmann says Crowe, Kidman set for outback epic

SYDNEY, 24 Feb — Oscar winners Russell Crowe and Nicole Kidman have signed up for an Australian historical epic to be directed by Baz Luhrmann, Luhrmann's publicist said on Thursday. Publicist Maria Farmer confirmed media reports that the new movie, to be filmed in Australia's harsh but beautiful outback, would begin production in August. Luhrmann, director of the hit musical *Moulin Rouge*, told Australian newspapers that he would direct the film and co-write it with Australian screenwriter Stuart Beattie.

Luhrmann described the movie as a sweeping romance in the same vein as "Gone With the Wind" and on the scale of David Lean's "Lawrence of Arabia". "We have some of the most extraordinary landscape on the planet and we want to get two of the most extraordinary actors in the world and put them... in that landscape," Luhrmann told *The Australian* newspaper.

He said the film would be set in Australia from the mid-1930s leading up to the Japanese bombing of the tropical northern city of Darwin in World War II.

Crowe and Kidman were to have starred in another Australian movie, based on the novel "Eucalyptus", but the project collapsed last year because of difficulties with the script.

MNA/Reuters

Farnacio said.

Because of the wet conditions which is changing the terrain at the landslide site, another earth collapse was expected to happen anytime in the area where the school was buried, the spokesman said.

Although rescue workers kept digging on Thursday for survivors, some officials from the local government units and the military said it was almost the time to call off the search as hopes faded of finding anyone alive and the remaining work was only to retrieve bodies of victims.

The confirmed death toll in Friday's landslide that buried Village Guinsaugon in St Bernard Town, Southern Leyte, central Philippines rose to 122 on Thursday, according to the update from emergency officials.

MNA/Xinhua

Slovakia finds first cases of H5N1 flu virus

BRATISLAVA, 24 Feb — Initial tests in Slovakia showed the H5N1 strain of bird flu in a wild falcon and a grebe, the first two cases of the virus found in the country, Agriculture Minister Zsolt Simon said on Thursday.

The samples will now be tested in EU's reference laboratory in Weybridge, Britain, for confirmation of the initial results from the Slovak National Reference Laboratory.

"I expect that the samples will be delivered sometime today," Simon told reporters. He said the H5N1 strain of bird

flu, which is deadly to humans, was discovered in birds found dead on Tuesday. "The (initial) tests showed H5N1 type of virus," Simon said.

The dead grebe was found near the Danube River outside the capital Bratislava, on land owned by oil refiner Slovnaft.

MNA/Reuters

To be able to enjoy longevity

Dr Lwin Ko

"Doctor, I drop in your home to listen to a valuable speech from you for my good health on your return from Yangon".

"Of course, Uncle Chaw. Recently, I paid a visit to my teacher to ask after him. He told me an aphorism 'Money is the bottomless sea in which honour, sincerity, prestige and your principle can be drawn' and said there were so many instances in which persons with too much money could sustain negative effects. He also advised me to refrain from making a lot of money at the expense of others. He added that even the fairly-earned money should be used beneficially like donations the way you take care of the balance between the input and output in your body".

"What a noteworthy fact, Doctor. Recently, I was sick for three days with fever and pain. So, I had boiled rice and chicken soup during that time. Now, I have recovered from my illness, but I am now constipated with a queasy feeling in my stomach. What should I do, Doctor?"

"Constipation is common among elderly persons. To be free from constipation, firstly you should take care of your diet. Taking grape, fig, papaya, mango and banana helps digest the food you have consumed. And taking greens such as water cress, Chinese kale, tomato, beans and pulses,

flour and honey also helps your digestive system. Consuming fibre on the segment of orange and apple particularly prevents constipation. Eating white bread, cake, biscuit, yogurt, different types of meat, sugar and well-boiled eggs causes constipation.

"Secondly, you should cultivate a habit of going to the toilet after getting up in the morning. If you fail to answer the nature's call at the right time, this will cause constipation. Over-cooking of food reduces nutritious value and causes constipation. It is also important to drink water. You should not drink water just after you have your meal, but you should drink water a lot between the intervals of eating foods.

"Thirdly, you should take exercises of the stomach muscles to prevent constipation. You should go for a walk about a mile a day. Or else, you should take exercises of the stomach muscles on the bed taking deep breathing. Taking cold sit bath makes muscles on the lower part of your stomach strong. If you do not take this type of exercise, you should dip a two or three inches thick cloth in cold water and put it on your stomach till it is dry. In a different way, you can gently massage your abdomen with your hands along the route of the digestive track".

"Supposing I will have to take purgative be-

cause of constipation, what do you suggest, Doctor?"

"You should not take any kinds of purgative regularly. Otherwise, it will destroy micro vallei on the walls of your bowels and you will suffer constipation often. If so, you can take two tea spoons of magnesium sulphate with a glass of boiled water, and after defecating two times in six hours then you can empty your bowels".

"Having a lot of vegetables and fruits with bitter taste helps relieve the bowel, doesn't it, Doctor?"

"Of course, Uncle. In general, having foods with bitter taste can cure constipation, as well as the complaints like having much phlegm, numbness, diabetes and paralytic stroke. According to the Myanmar traditional medicine practitioners, the element of air makes the blood along the veins flow and cells move. The foods with bitter taste support the element of air in the body. The foods with bitter taste can be divided into two groups, cold foods with bitter taste and spicy foods with bitter taste. Having cold foods with bitter taste helps waste material move easily and having spicy foods with bitter taste makes the consumer suffer stiffness in the neck".

"Cold foods with bitter taste comprise Indian nightshade, aubergine, Mezali bud, bitter roselle, Mokkha, cactus, Eikarit, bitter cactus, creeper, Thabut, bitter gourd, Ponlon leaf and fruit and Lebatu. Spicy foods with bitter taste comprise neem, bitter lemon leaf, climber, Thetyingyi leaf, Kyeikhman leaf, papaya leaf, bitter creeper, Pyindawthein, pickled edible herb, and moonseed vine. If one consumes spicy foods with bitter taste, one will be constipated a little and feel stiffness in the neck".

"Thank you, Doctor".

Translation: MS

Secondly, you should cultivate a habit of going to the toilet after getting up in the morning. If you fail to answer the nature's call at the right time, this will cause constipation. Over-cooking of food reduces nutritious value and causes constipation. It is also important to drink water. You should not drink water just after you have your meal, but you should drink water a lot between the intervals of eating foods.

Tibet railway offers lap of luxury travel to snow capped mountains

LHASA, 25 Feb— Travelling overland through snow-capped mountains and high-land meadows to visit mysterious Tibetan Buddhist shrines on the world's highest plateau will soon no longer require the grit and resolve of an adventurous backpacker.

This July the first train of the new Qinghai-Tibet railway will whisk passengers from Beijing to Lhasa in 48 scenery-filled hours. Tourists venturing to the capital of the Tibet Autonomous Region from China's national capital can now get there by land in the lap of luxury. Special tourist trains will feature hotel-like services and special

viewing cars for the journey to the "roof of the world".

Railway officials say they have tried to think of everything to allure the suit-case traveller who might previously eschewed the arduous travel required to get to the world's "third pole".

Huang Difū, who is in charge of the Qinghai-Tibet railway construction

project says, "The trains will offer suites and hotel-like services. There will be oxygen bars to help travellers adjust to the higher altitude."

The completion of the new rail line, which snakes through rugged mountain regions and a flower-filled idyllic countryside, has been a source of great national pride.

MNA/Xinhua

World lawmakers set up global warming monitor group

LONDON, 25 Feb— Lawmakers and business leaders from around the world launched a campaign on Friday to push recalitrant governments to take action on climate change. Accusing rich and poor alike of talking a good fight against but doing little, the parliamentarians from the Group of Eight rich nations and five major developing countries said their three-year goal was to force the pace.

"Climate change is both a national and a global

problem and an issue that transcends political affiliations," Joan Ruddock, British parliamentarian and co-chair of the new Climate Change Dialogue initiative, told a news conference.

Canadian lawmaker Bryon Wilfert, saying his country now had the toughest global warming policies of any G-8 nation, said governments had been lazy in tackling the crisis that threatened millions of lives across the world through droughts and floods.

"There is an urgency

that not all players grasp or share," he said in a thinly veiled reference to the United States' refusal to ratify the Kyoto Protocol on cutting emissions of greenhouse gasses from burning fossil fuels.

In a written message of support to the inaugural meeting, British Prime Minister Tony Blair who put climate change at the top of the agenda for his 2005 presidency of the G-8, said it was the biggest threat facing the planet.

MNA/Reuters

Arrangements being made to conduct Dhamma doctorate course for turning out PhD holders



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung supplicates on religious affairs at meeting 1/2006 of Central Administrative Board of State Pariyatti Sasana Universities. — MNA

YANGON, 25 Feb — The Central Administrative Board of State Pariyatti Sasana Universities held its meeting 1/2006 at the hall of the rector's office of State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) on Kaba Aye Hill, here, this afternoon.

Chairman of the CAB Vice-Chairman Sayadaw of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Agga Maha Kammathanaçariya Bhaddanta Kesara, other vice-chairmen Sayadaws and member Sayadaws attended the meeting.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kesara delivered an opening Ovadakatha.

Next, member of the Central Administrative Board Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung supplicated on religious affairs. He said that the Central Administrative Board of State Pariyatti Sasana Universities has been serving the interest of the Sasana since 1986 when the Sasana universities were opened.

State Pariyatti Sasana Universities both in Yangon and Mandalay had conferred BA Buddhism degree on 883 monks and MA Buddhism degree on 182 monks.

Furthermore, 511 members of the Sangha from the universities had completed their missionary duties in border areas and hill regions for two years, and 135 members of the Sangha are taking up a two-year term of missionary duties.

Today is the global village age. Hence, teaching methods of the Sasana universities in Myanmar should keep abreast of those from the world.

With a view to applying proper methods of teaching, the Workshop on Upgrading of State Pariyatti Sasana Universities was held at International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University in Yangon on 7 and 8 October 2005. In addition, arrangements are being made to conduct the Dhamma doctorate course for turning out PhD holders.

Due to concerted efforts of the Government and Sayadaws from respective committees, new generation members of the Sangha have emerged to perform missionary tasks.

Therefore, members of the Sangha and disciples are to join hands in their functions for enhancement of the Sasana universities in the long run.

Director-General Dr Myo Myint of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana sought the approval for the minutes of the previous meeting 2/2005.

The committee members discussed reports of University Administrative Boards (Yangon) and (Mandalay).

Next, Director-General Dr Myo Myint supplicated on duties to be assigned to a scholar.

Later, the Central Administrative Board Chairman Sayadaw gave the concluding remarks. MNA

Annual general meeting of Hninzigon Home for the Aged held

YANGON, 25 Feb — The annual general meeting 2005 of Hninzigon Home for the Aged took place at Thiri Yadana Hall of the Home this morning with a speech by Management Committee of the Home Chairman U Maung Tin.

Afterwards, the report and financial statement of 2005 Management committee were read out and approved.

Next, new members were elected and assigned duties. Later, the meeting ended with conclusion remarks by the meeting chairman. — MNA



Meeting Chairman U Maung Tin gives a speech at AGM of Hninzigon Home for the Aged. — MNA

UMFCCI President receives Malaysian guests



UMFCCI President U Win Myint receives Malaysian guests. — MNA

YANGON, 25 Feb — President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint and General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing received Director of Tan Chong Trading (Malaysia) SDNBHD Dato' Cheah Sam Kip and

General Manager Mr Gan Chin Yow at the UMFCCI office this morning and cordially discussed the economic access to production and trading of vehicles and motorcycles and arrangement for sale of vehicle spare parts.

MNA

Commander oversees progress of...

(from page 16)
 arrived at Thanlyin Township Hospital in Thanlyin and viewed sanitation tasks being carried out by members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Township Women's Affairs Organization, MCWA and employees of Thanlyin Township Development Affairs Committee, Red Cross and Auxiliary Fire Brigade members including local people.

Next, the commander and party attended the ceremony to hoist Shwehtidaw atop Kyaiksawnaung Pagoda in Kyauktan Township, and hoisted Shwehtidaw, Hngemyatnadaw and Seinbudaw atop the pagoda.

They also attended the opening ceremony of Kyauktan Home for the Aged in Kyauktan Township. Chairman of Kyauktan Township Peace and Development Council U Maung Maung Khin, wellwisher Dr Win Myint and U Thaug Myint Zaw formally opened the home.

The commander unveiled the bronze plaque of the home.

The cash donation ceremony for the home followed. Director of

ACE Construction U Khin Maung Oo and Chairman of the Home Administrative Board U Tun Hla Shwe explained construction of the home and tasks to take care of older persons. Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and officials accepted K 6.8 million donated by wellwishers including K 5.3 million by ACE Construction; K 200,000 by CP Co; and K 100,000 by Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development.

After the ceremony, the commander, wife and guests visited the Home for the Aged, and presented cash assistance to the older persons.

While in Kyauktan

Township, the commander met with departmental personnel, social organization members and local people at the Township Peace and Development Council Office.

Chairman of the Township PDC U Maung Maung Khin reported on development tasks in the township.

The commander explained prevalence of peace and stability, better transport and regional development.

Next, the commander and party paid homage to Kyaikhmawwun Yayle Pagoda and donated K 200,000 to the fund of all-round renovation tasks.

On arrival at the

200 acres of summer paddy field, the commander inspected thriving summer paddy. Yangon Division Manager U Aung San of Myanmar Agriculture Service conducted the commander round the paddy field.

The commander instructed officials to give agricultural methods to the local growers in their cultivation tasks for

exceeding the target acreage.

Afterwards, they attended the ceremony to sow physic nut seeds near Bantbwegon Dam. The commander and wife handed over physic nut seeds to service personnel, local people and members of the social organizations.

Next, the commander and wife sowed

planted grafts into the plastic bags.

They proceeded to the Thanlyin-Kyauktan Region Development Zone Project being implemented by DHSHD. Director-General U Aung Win reported on salient points of the project.

The commander gave necessary instructions and attended to the needs.

MNA

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Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win delivers a speech in meeting with departmental staff, social organizations, local people in Kyauktan township. — MNA

14th Myanma Tatmadaw Medical Conference winds up



Brig-Gen Myint Maung speaks at the conclusion of the 14th Myanma Tatmadaw Medical Conference. — MNA



Brig-Gen Myint Maung awards a person who wins the best paper. — MNA

YANGON, 25 Feb — The 14th Myanma Tatmadaw Medical Conference concluded at Defence Services Orthopaedic Hospital in Mingaladon Township this afternoon.

On behalf of the Chairman of Defence Services Medical Research and Development Committee Director of Medical Services, Commandant of No 2 Military Hospital (500-bed) Brig-Gen Myint Maung presented prizes to best resource persons.

Professor Col Daw Marlar Than presented prizes to the winners who secured best papers and best poster awards. The conference ended with the concluding remarks of Brig-Gen Myint Maung. A total of 41 research papers were submitted to the conference. In addition, one symposium, one Clinio-Pathological Conference, 11 academic talks, and one question & answer session were held. — MNA

Australian eye specialist gives free treatment to eye patients

YANGON, 25 Feb — A medical team led by eye specialist Dr Geoffrey Corn of Australia is providing free medical treatment to eye patients at Jivitadana Sangha Hospital at Popa flat topped hill in Kyaukpaduang Township in Mandalay Division from 21 February to 7 March. It is learnt.—MNA



Col Daw Marlar Than presents a prize to an award winner. — MNA

Cookery course opens in Myeik

YANGON, 23 Feb — Myeik Vocational Training School for Women in Taninthayi Division opened cookery course No 1/2006 on 20 February morning. Present at the opening ceremony were Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development

Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and wife, senior military officers, local authorities, and members of social organizations.

A total of 25 trainees are attending the six-week course. — MNA

Coord meeting on smooth and secure transport held

YANGON, 25 Feb — Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport held its coordination meeting at the hall of Yangon Command Headquarters yesterday evening.

Chairman of the Supervisory Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win delivered an address.

Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin reported on enforcement of traffic rules.

Heads of department, registrars and officials of universities and colleges, members of the supervisory committee,

and chairmen of bus lines submitted reports on matters related to school ferries, tasks being carried out for better transportation in downtown and suburban areas, declining of

traffic accidents, and conversion of vehicles into CNG ones.

The commander fulfilled the requirements and gave the concluding remarks. — MNA



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

Yangon Division and Yangon West District WAOs meet

YANGON, 25 Feb — The Patron of Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization met with CEC members of Yangon West District WAO in a discussion at the Township Peace and Development Council Office in Bahan Township yesterday afternoon.

First, the patron, the chairperson, and CEC members of Yangon West District WAO, leaders of work groups and chairpersons of Township WAOs reported on their respective tasks.

Patron of Yangon Division WAO Daw Mar

Mar Wai explained realization of the future tasks of the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation.

Next, she handed over K 250,000 of capital to be used in business to earn family income to Patron of Yangon West District WAO Daw Ni Ni Sein. — MNA



Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization Patron Daw Mar Mar Wai delivers a speech.

MNA

Sowing of physic nut seeds, opening of school building held in Monywa

YANGON, 25 Feb — A ceremony to sow physic nut seeds was held at Monywa Industrial Zone in Monywa on 20 February morning.

It was attended by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, local authorities, commanding officers of regiments and units, and social organization members.

Chairman of the Monywa Industrial Zone Management Committee U Nyein Aung reported on growing of physic nut plants in the industrial zone.

Next, the commander sowed physic nut seeds into the small plastic bags. At the ceremony, 15,000 saplings and 85,000 seeds of physic nut were

planted.

Afterwards, the commander attended the ceremony to open the new building at No 110 Basic Education Middle School (Branch) in Lezin Village of Monywa Township. The commander unveiled the signboard of the school building.

The commander handed over exercise books and school uniforms for the school, and sports equipment and newspapers and journals for the village to officials.

The two-storey school building is 130 feet long, 30 feet wide and 24 feet high. The building was constructed at a cost of K 5 million by the Government, and K 9 million contributed by the locals. — MNA

Paddy husk-powered station opened in Paukkaung Township

YANGON, 23 Feb — As a gesture hailing the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day, a paddy husk-powered station was opened in Kansu village, Paukkaung township, Bago Division, on 16 February morning.

Bago Division (West) Peace and Development Council Chairman Brig-Gen Hla Min

graced the power station opening ceremony. Paukkaung Township has provided K 1 million worth of a generator (20KVA) each for Kansu and Kyokone villages where paddy husk-pow-

ered stations have been built for power supply.

The commander and party also inspected the thriving physic nut plantations owned by Bago Division (West) Police Force. — MNA

Irrigation facilities, physic nut plantations inspected in Magway Division

YANGON, 25 Feb — Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe, accompanied by departmental officials, inspected functions of Shwe Nyinaung Automobile Industry in Pakokku Industrial Zone in Pakokku on 15 February afternoon.

Col Phone Maw Shwe also inspected irrigation facilities at Gwegyo Dam, Thinthi and Chithu River Water Pumping Projects, and thriving physic nut saplings at the villages in Yesagyo township.

On 16 February, he oversaw progress of Shwetantit river water pumping project and physic nut nurseries in Pakokku and Myaing townships.

At Myaing Township PDC Office, Col Phone Maw Shwe met with local authorities, departmental officials, and social organization members, and gave instructions on growing of physic nut plants and regional development tasks.

While in Myaing Township, Col Phone Maw Shwe oversaw irrigation facilities of Twinma and Inbat dams.

MNA

French electronics company opens new regional HQs in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 25 Feb—Thales, a French electronics company serving the global aerospace, defence, security and services markets, opened its new regional headquarters building in Singapore Thursday, aiming to further strengthen its aerospace capabilities in Asia.

Thales' aerospace business in Asia offers all customers in the Asia Pacific Region a one-stop-shop for marketing and sales, customer support, repairs and maintenance, according to a Press release by the company.

"With the entry into

service of the (Airbus) A380 in the Asia Pacific Region and the increasing number of new airline customers operating the IFE (Inflight Entertainment) TopSeries equipment, Thales is set to support these customers with a new maintenance centre which

incorporates new repair capabilities and additional work force," the Press release said.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Singapore's Minister for Transport Yeo Cheow Tong said that the Singapore Government is committed to growing

the aerospace and aviation industries and strengthening the city state's position as a global aviation hub.

In 2005, Singapore's aerospace industry generated a record output of 5.2 billion Singapore dollars (about 3.2 billion US dollars) while its Changi Airport handled 32.4 million passengers, up 17 per cent and 7 per cent respectively from 2004.

Thales is one of the 800-plus exhibitors at this year's Asian Aerospace, the world's third largest and Asia's biggest airshow opened in Singapore on Tuesday.—MNA/Xinhua



In this photo provided by NASA workers in the Payload Hazardous Servicing Facility stand by as the first half of the protective covering is moved closer to the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, right, for installation, on 25 July, 2005 at Kennedy Space Center in Florida. As it nears Mars on 10 March, 2006.—INTERNET



People look at the sculpture 'Testa', (head) on the first day of the exhibition of works of Italian painter and sculptor Amedeo Modigliani in Rome, on 24 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

Vietnam to host regional meeting on children, HIV/AIDS

HANOI, 25 Feb— An East Asia and Pacific consultation meeting on children and HIV/AIDS will take place here late next month to seek ways of curbing the disease and lessening its impacts on affected children, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) announced here on Friday.

During the meeting slated for 22-24 March, an estimated 250 delegates, mainly experts,

activists and representatives from 23 countries and regions in East Asia and the Pacific will seek

to reach a common understanding on the impact of HIV/AIDS on children, put forth initiatives that could be scaled up within their countries to protect children who are vulnerable to, infected and affected by the disease, and identify strategies for addressing major gaps in the response, UNICEF Vietnam said in a Press release.

The delegates will strive to agree on a "call to action", which outlines responsibility and details specific follow-up action by governments and civil society partners to scale up services for children.

MNA/Xinhua

Moderate quake jolts S-W Bangladesh

DHAKA, 25 Feb— A moderate earthquake jolted Bangladesh's southeastern port city Chittagong Friday morning, private news agency UNB reported Friday.

A bulletin of Met Office said the quake occurred at 2:06 am (20:06 GMT) lasting for 43 seconds.

The distance of the epicentre was 417 kilometres from Chittagong Seismic Observatory while its magnitude was 4.88 on the Richter Scale. MNA/Xinhua

At least 91 killed in textile fire in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 25 Feb— At least 91 workers, mostly women, have been killed and dozens others wounded in a blaze at a composite textile mill in southeastern Bangladesh, television channel ATN Bangla reported Friday.

Fire service officials said the fire broke out at the three-storied KTS Textiles when a boiler exploded with a bang at about 7:15 pm (1315 GMT) Thursday in Bangladesh's second largest southeastern Chittagong port city, about 262 kilometres from Dhaka.

The death toll is rising and the identities of the victims and the extent of damage to the mill are yet to be established.

Workers of neighbouring industrial units told the television that textile mills caught fire more than once in the past, but the owner of the mill did not make separate exit points in the mills.

They said many workers jumped to death from the third floor as all the gates of miller were locked and the puzzled workers could not open them.

Workers of some neighbouring factories say many workers might have

died in stampede caused by workers inside.

According to the television report, the fire was under control on Friday after 14 hours fight by 24 fire engines of fire service men.

Bangladeshi Army joined the fire fight Friday morning and recovered many bodies from inside the mill. Many wounded workers, who were taken to hospital for serious injuries also died Thursday night and Friday morning.

Workers in the neighbouring industries said many bodies were found in the stair case of the KTS Textile, which means, the workers desperately attempted to come out of the mill after the fire broke out, but all their efforts went in vain.

Bangladeshi Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will visit the blaze site later Friday to check the situation.—MNA/Xinhua

Survey shows 5.3% HK adults are millionaires

HONG KONG, 25 Feb— With per capita GDP standing high above 24,000 US dollars, the number of millionaires in Hong Kong accounts for 5.3 per cent of its adult population, according to a Citibank survey.

A total of 274,000 people in Hong Kong are millionaires each with more than one million HK dollars (129,032 US dollars) in liquid assets, newspaper *Standard Friday* quoted the survey results as saying.

The figure means that

there are 5 millionaires in every 100 Hong Kong adults, or 3.9 per cent of the city's total population of 6.97 million.

On average, each millionaire held about 4 million HK dollars (516,129 US dollars) in liquid assets last year, higher than the previous year's 3.4 million HK dollars (438,706 US dollars).

The survey showed that the millionaires' assets were shared almost equally by both genders, with female millionaires occupying 49 per cent of the pie.

The spread of the wealth, however, is less even geographically. In all, 49 per cent of the city's millionaires live on the Hong Kong Island, where most government institutions and multi-national company offices are located. This means that one out of 7 people on the island is millionaire.

In Kowloon, a peninsula facing Hong Kong Island across the Victoria Harbour, the density of millionaires drops to one in every 35 people.

MNA/Xinhua



A fire engulfs a textile factory, at the Kalurghat area of Bangladesh's port city of Chittagong.—INTERNET

China, Chile set up joint venture to mine copper

BEIJING, 24 Feb— China Minmetals Corporation and Nacional del Cobre de Chile (Codelco) signed a two-billion-US-dollar deal on Wednesday on a joint venture to mine copper resources in Chile.

The deal represents the first major copper mining project between firms from China, the world's biggest copper consumer, and Chile, the world's No 1 copper producer. According to the deal, the first-phase of investment in the project involves 550 million dollars, and the total investment will reach two billion dollars in the final phase of the cooperation.

Among those attending the signing ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in downtown Beijing were Zhou Zhongshu, president of China Minmetals, Juan Villarzu, president of Codelco, and Chen Yuan, president of the China Development Bank.

Codelco, the world's largest copper producer, will provide, through the joint venture, 836,250 tons of copper to China Minmetals Non-ferrous Metals Co., which is controlled by China Minmetals, in the coming 15 years.

Accordingly, China Minmetals has the right to

buy, in around 2009, a 25-per-cent stake in GABY, a copper mine newly exploited by Codelco.

The joint venture, known as Copper Partners Investment Co. (CuPIC), will be split down the middle. — *MNA/Xinhua*

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ဦးခင်မောင်ရွှေ၏ သမီး အထက (၁) ဒဂုံ IX F မှ မမေ သင်ရိုင်းအား မမေသင်ရိုင်း ဟု အမည်ပြောင်းလဲခေါ်ပါရန်။

Turkey expects to host 26 m tourists in 2006

ANKARA, 24 Feb— Turkey expects to host 26 million tourists in 2006, Tourism and Culture Ministry Undersecretary Mustafa Isen told *Anatolia news agency* on Thursday.

"We should admit that there is stagnation in reservations for Turkey from abroad, however, it is not a serious stagnation that may cause panic in our tourism sector," said Isen. Isen said tour operators try to cut prices in this season each year, calling on tour agencies to consider the long-term benefits rather than

monthly incomes.

The official said Turkey's tourism grew 26 per cent in 2004 and 22 per cent in 2005.

The World Tourism Organization predicted that Turkey would host 17 million tourists in 2010, but the figure reached 17.5 million in 2004 and 22 million at the end of 2005.

— *MNA/Xinhua*

Soured noodles blamed for school food poisoning in S China

HAIKOU, 24 Feb— Soured noodles were to blame for the nitrite food poisoning accident which happened a week ago at a primary school in Haikou, capital of South China's Island province of Hainan, a local official said on Thursday.

One pupil is still in hospital receiving further treatment but all the other 28 diagnosed with food poisoning have been discharged, Huang Xingguang, mayor of Haikou, said at a Press conference.

The children, aged from 6 to 10, are from Changmao Primary School in Haikou, and they fell sick at around 2 pm on 16 February after having noodles for lunch at the school canteen.

About 600 children had lunch at the canteen and later some of them showed symptoms of vomiting, abdominal distension, stomach pain and dizziness. A total of 35 pupils were sent to hospital for fears of food poisoning.

Tests showed that the children were poisoned by nitrite, which is usually found in pickled food. However, the school canteen workers denied they provided pickled food for lunch.

— *MNA/Xinhua*



A blindfolded man is transferred on a police vehicle in Baghdad, on 23 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

Japan probes Internet leak of sensitive Navy data

TOKYO, 24 Feb— Japan's Defence Ministry is probing a suspected leak onto the Internet of Navy data, including some confidential information, a ministry spokesman said on Thursday.

The incident came to light a week ago when a Navy inspection team spotted a message on an Internet bulletin board that suggested internal Navy documents had been leaked, the spokesman said. After a subsequent

investigation, the ministry has determined that various documents, including some related to communications and training, may have been leaked, the spokesman said.

He could not confirm

whether such documents in their entirety had been posted on the Internet.

"It is believed that documents that qualify as secrets were leaked," the spokesman said, adding that an investigation was ongoing. — *MNA/Reuters*

Senate Democrat chastises Bush on al-Qaeda speech

WASHINGTON, 24 Feb— President George W Bush's disclosure of detailed intelligence about a thwarted al-Qaeda plot to attack Los Angeles could prove damaging for US national security, the top Democrat on the Senate intelligence committee said in a letter released on Thursday.

In a February 17 letter to US intelligence chief John Negroponte, Senator John Rockefeller of West Virginia echoed a warning from CIA Director Porter Goss that revelations about intelligence successes or failures against al-Qaeda can aid America's militant enemies.

"Why then did the President and the assistant to the president for homeland security and counterterrorism describe in great detail the information about this plot contained in a highly classified October 2004

CIA document?" Rockefeller wrote.

White House officials were not immediately available for comment.

The Senate Democrat was referring to a 9 February presidential speech in

which Bush disclosed new details of a 2002 al-Qaeda plot to use shoe bombs to hijack a plane and fly it into the 1,017-foot (310-metre) high US Bank Tower in Los Angeles.

— *MNA/Reuters*

China builds 22 new state-level nature reserves

BEIJING, 24 Feb— China announced Thursday a list of 22 new nature reserves under state protection, bringing the total number of such reserves nationwide to 265, covering 9.6 per cent of the country's land territory.

In a statement, the State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) said that the 22 new reserves are located in 17 provinces and autonomous regions and fall into the categories of forest, wetland, desert ecosystem, wild animals and remains of ancient organisms. "The nature reserves are unique, representative and typical of the biodiversity of

China," said the statement.

For instance, the Wulushan nature reserve in northern Shanxi Province is home to an endangered species of pheasant, while the fresh water dolphin nature reserve in Tongling City of eastern Anhui Province covers the section of the Yangtze River mostly frequented by the endangered white-flag dolphins. — *MNA/Xinhua*

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ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်သစ်ပညာရေးတိုးတက်ရေး နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ခုံ

Carving of oaths prohibited on "love wall" at foot of Great Wall

BEIJING, 24 Feb — Project leaders behind a "wall of love" at the foot of the Great Wall in Beijing have been ordered to halt operations after nine day's trial.

The project, which has come under wide dispute, is a violation of cultural heritage protection regulations, said Hao Rongchen, an official from the Beijing Municipal Administration of Cultural Heritage, according to China Daily's report on Friday.

On Valentine's Day, the management office of Juyongguan, one major pass of the Great Wall, erected a marble stone wall over 88 metres wide and 7.5 metres high near the Badaling section of Great Wall in Beijing's Changping District.

Couples can pay 999 yuan (123 US dollars) to carve love oaths into the "wall of love".

Juyongguan Pass is located in Changping, more than 50 kilometres

from the city. It is one of the three great passes of the Great Wall, along with Jiayuguan and Shanhaiguan.

With 9,999 stones available, the wall could

help the office earn 9.9 million yuan (1.2 million US dollars). Four couples have so far purchased and written inscriptions on stones.

MNA/Xinhua

EU unveils plans for ambitious technology institute

BRUSSELS, 24 Feb — The European Union (EU) on Wednesday unveiled plans to set up a top-level European research institute to stimulate innovation and improve the bloc's economic competitiveness.

European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said the body would be based on two levels: a small central core would set priorities and hand out degrees while numerous "knowledge communities" at universities all over Europe

would pull together Europe-wide research teams.

"This is not just about creating a new body. It is about creating an institution that will serve as a bench mark to upgrade the status of institutions across Europe," Barroso said.

"Excellence needs flagships: that is why Europe must have a strong European Institute of Technology, bringing together the best brains and companies and disseminating the results throughout Europe," he said.

He said the main areas of research will be energy and the environment, IT and nanotechnology.

MNA/Xinhua



Chilean and Japanese youth paint pro peace mural painting at Concepcion Hill in Valparaiso, Chile, on 24 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

Japanese Crown Prince happy about imperial pregnancy

TOKYO, 24 Feb — Japanese Crown Prince Naruhito said Wednesday that he hopes everything goes well for his sister-in-law Princess Kiko, who is expected to give birth to an imperial grandchild in autumn.

The Crown Prince, who turns 46 Thursday, told reporters at a news conference prior to his

birthday that he and his wife Crown Princess Masako had received a call from Prince Akishino about the pregnancy, and they are happy at the news, Kyodo News reported. When being asked for opinions on the government proposal of a revision of the imperial law, by which his only child Princess Aiko could become the second in line to ascend the throne, the Crown Prince said, "As her parent, I have various thoughts but I would like to refrain from commenting further." Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi said earlier in the month that his government had decided to back off from a bill to allow female monarchs during the current Diet session.

MNA/Xinhua



A model and staff of a wedding photo studio displays a 20-meter-long wedding dress on the street in Huaian, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 25 Feb, 2006. INTERNET

Moderate quake jolts Taiwan, no reports of damage

TAIBEI, 24 Feb — An earthquake measuring 5.3 on the Richter Scale rattled eastern Taiwan on Friday, but there were no immediate reports of casualties or damage, officials said.

The epicentre of the quake, which struck at 9.55 am (0155 GMT) was 39 kilometres (24 miles) east of Ilan on the northeast coast, at a depth of 9 kilometres, the Central Weather Bureau said in a statement.

MNA/Reuters

UNSG's former spokesman enters teaching profession in China

HANGZHOU, 24 Feb — Frederic Eckhard, former spokesman of the United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, has been hired as a visiting professor by Zhejiang University based in Hangzhou, a picturesque city in east China.

Donning a badge of Zhejiang University, Eckhard gave a public speech after having been presented a certificate of his teaching status at the university on a specially organized ceremony on Monday afternoon.

Eckhard, 64, was born in a small town in New Jersey, the United States. He graduated from Boston University in 1965 and obtained a master's degree from the university two years later.

Beginning from 1983, Eckhard worked with the United States' office of the United

Nations and later joined the UN. He started to serve as the spokesman of UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in 1997.

On a trip to accompany Annan to Hangzhou, popularly known as "heaven on earth", in 2002, Eckhard visited Zhejiang University. He was impressed so much by the trip and the beautiful scenery of Hangzhou that he envisioned to do teaching in this east China city upon his retirement.

Eckhard retired in June 2005. At a special function thrown before his

retirement, he told a Xinhua resident correspondent in New York of his wish. The Xinhua correspondent wrote down Eckhard's wish in his news article which aroused great interest of many Chinese colleges of higher learning after being picked up by other media organizations in China.

Zhejiang University lost no time by sending over their representatives to discuss details with Eckhard and signed a contract for hiring him as a visiting teaching staff. His wife also acted as a voluntary oral English teacher on campus.

MNA/Xinhua



Soldiers works to spray the mosquito population in St-Suzanne, near St-Denis, the main city of the French Indian Ocean island of Reunion, on 25 Feb, 2006.

INTERNET

SPORTS

Late goals put Anderlecht clear at top in Belgium

BRUSSELS, 25 Feb— Anderlecht moved three points clear at the top of the Belgian First Division on Friday after late goals gave them a 2-0 win at Roeselare.

They snatched the points in the last five minutes thanks to Swedish winger Christian Wilhelmsson and Argentine striker Nicolas Frutos, who scored his sixth goal in six games.

Anderlecht will stay above their nearest rivals, Club Bruges and Standard Liege, at least until Sunday when those clubs face each other looking for a win to put them level at the top.

Anderlecht have 49 points from 24 games while champions Bruges and Liege are level on 46 points from 23 matches. Fourth-placed Zulte Waregem, who visit lowly Excelsior Mouscron on Saturday, are six points further back.—MNA/Reuters

Bulgaria call up Topuzakov for injured Petkov

SOFIA, 25 Feb— Bulgaria coach Hristo Stoichkov called up Levski Sofia defender Elin Topuzakov on Friday to replace the injured Iordan Petkov in his 18-man squad for the friendly against Macedonia in Skopje on 1 March.

Slavia Sofia's Petkov suffered a twisted knee at a training session.

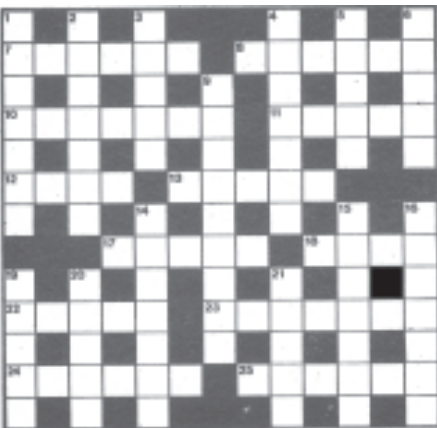
The 29-year-old Levski captain Topuzakov will join his teammates Georgi Petkov and Emil Angelov in the squad.

Bulgaria visit the Former Yugoslav Republic in what will be the new Macedonian coach Srecko Katanec's debut.

Macedonia and Bulgaria will use the friendly as the start of their preparation for the qualifiers for the Euro 2008 finals in Austria and Switzerland.

Macedonia have been drawn in Group E with England, Croatia, Russia, Israel, Estonia and Andorra while Bulgaria are in Group G with Netherlands, Romania, Slovenia, Albania, Belarus and Luxembourg.—MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 7 Heaviness
- 8 For some time
- 10 Increase
- 11 Darkness
- 12 Level
- 13 Traded
- 17 Positive pole
- 18 Health
- 22 Banter
- 23 Jumpy
- 24 Small wave
- 25 Scanty

DOWN

- 1 Heavy jersey
- 2 Curly lock
- 3 Impudence
- 4 Sparkle
- 5 Drab
- 6 Trivial
- 9 Servant
- 14 Jointed bit
- 15 Hues
- 16 Kitchen sideboard
- 19 Muffler
- 20 Pleased
- 21 Underground chapel

Saha looking for final deliverance against Wigan

MANCHESTER (England), 25 Feb— France striker Louis Saha is hoping to end his trophy drought with Manchester United when they face Wigan Athletic in Sunday's League Cup final.

Like most players signing for United, Saha thought was he was joining an automatic conveyor belt to success.

After all, when the Frenchman moved from Fulham to Old Trafford in a near 13 million pounds (\$22.81 million) deal in January 2004, United were Premier League champions and heading for a

record-breaking 11th FA Cup triumph.

Unfortunately, Saha was cup-tied and could not play in the final against Millwall, which United won 3-0.

With the Old Trafford side drawing a rare trophy blank last season — Saha missed the FA Cup final defeat on penalties to Arsenal through injury — the

wait for honours went on.

The League Cup showdown with underdogs Wigan finally offers the 27-year-old a chance to earn his first piece of silverware as a United player.

"I thought it would be easy coming to United and winning medals. You might not play well but you'd get a medal anyway. But it hasn't happened," Saha told reporters.

"It has been a very frustrating time but this is something to savour.

"It is not just about me though. Everyone is looking to win something because we have missed a chance to establish ourselves in the Champions League.

"The Carling (League) Cup was not a priority but it is something we can win,

so let's do it."

Saha has done more than most to ensure United make up for early Champions League and FA Cup exits and their failure to make an impression on Chelsea's lead at the top of the league.

The former Metz forward is the top scorer in this season's League Cup, which accounts for five of his 10 goals in what has been another injury-hit season.

At Cardiff's Millennium Stadium, he will be looking to complete a record of scoring in every round. Beating Wigan would provide a fitting reward for a player who has re-emerged as a key member of United's attack following a seemingly constant battle with fitness problems.—MNA/Reuters



Japan's national team midfielder Shinji Ono of Urawa Reds (18) and Gamba Osaka's defender Sidiclei of Brazil fight for the ball during the Xerox Super Cup soccer match in Tokyo, on 25 Feb, 2006. The Emperor's Cup winner Reds defeated the defending Japan League (J-League) champion Gamba 3-1.—INTERNET

Wigan skipper De Zeeuw has no time for Cup dreams

WIGAN (England), 25 Feb — Wigan Athletic's no-nonsense captain Arjan De Zeeuw will not waste time dreaming about lifting the League Cup ahead of Sunday's final against Manchester United at the Millennium Stadium.

The 35-year-old Dutchman has yet to enjoy a glamour occasion in his career as a reliable defender for unfashionable clubs like Barnsley, Wigan and Portsmouth. But even in a season when he has returned to Wigan for a second spell in their first top flight campaign and guided them to a chance of UEFA Cup football, he refuses to get excited. "I don't want to dream about lifting the trophy. I don't like daydreaming. I just want to do it," he said this week when asked about winning the League Cup.

"This is my first cup final, so it is a big occasion. I might not get an-

other shot at it, so I definitely want to make the most of it. But it's difficult to put into words how I feel about this Sunday. "I'm quite level-headed and cool about things generally. It takes quite a bit for me to get excited. So I tend to go at things quite relaxed and quite open and take things in my stride."

MNA/Reuters

Spain pays tribute to record-breaking Zarra

MADRID, 25 Feb— Spanish football has paid tribute to the country's most prolific striker Telmo Zarra who died of a heart attack on Thursday at the age of 85.

Zarra holds the record for scoring in the Primera Liga, notching up 251 goals in 277 games in a 15-year career at Basque club Athletic Bilbao during the 1940s and 1950s.

"Football fans everywhere will remember him, he was one of the best forwards I've ever seen," said Real Madrid great Alfredo Di Stefano who himself has recently recovered from a heart attack.

"He was one of the legends of Spanish football," said Spanish Foot-

ball Federation Angel Maria Villar.

Mexican striker Hugo Sanchez said that Zarra's goal-scoring records had been an example to him when he played for Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid.

"He was my master, an inspiration and reference to me when I played in Spain," said Sanchez, who was five times the season's top scorer in the Primera Liga.

Zarra was top scorer in the Spanish First Division on six occasions, netting a record 38 times in the 1950-51 season when there were only 16 teams in the league and scoring 20 goals in seven games in the 1946-47 campaign.—MNA/Reuters



Led by Germany's Alexander Wolf, competitors in the Men's Biathlon 15 km Mass Start ski past a pond at the Turin 2006 Winter Olympics, on 25 Feb, 2006, in Cesana San Sicario, Italy.—INTERNET

S Korea bans sale of US-produced powdered milk

SEOUL, 25 Feb — The South Korean Government on Thursday banned the sale of a brand of powdered milk produced in the United States which was found to contain metallic substances.

Infamil LIPIL formula produced by baby foodmaker Mead Johnson & Nutritional Co was found to contain traces of various metallic sub-

stances, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry said in a news release.

Iron, chromium, manganese and nickel were found in the branded pow-

dered milk, added the release.

The National Veterinary Research Quarantine Service conducted several tests on the products after

consumers and civic groups raised the issue earlier this month, the release said. Moreover, South Korean *Yonhap* news agency quoted Park Hyun-chool, the head of the Livestock Bureau of the ministry, as saying that the trouble product was made in July 2005 and entered local market in the past two months.

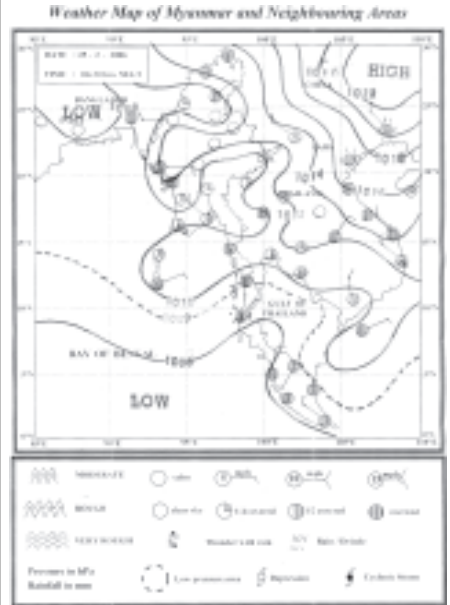
7,000 of the total 11,692 cans of the powdered milk imported from the US have already been sold, according to Park.

"The quantity found was not necessarily harmful, but local importer Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. was ordered to recall the products and destroy them," Park said.

The ministry said the importer has one month from February 22 to comply and also has to halt commercial operations for 30 days. Consumers who bought the product will be refunded.—MNA/Xinhua



An employee at Tokyo pastry chain Doughnut Plant NYC shows off Winter Olympic medal-shaped pastries in Tokyo, on 25 Feb, 2006, where sales of the special doughnuts sprinkled with gold-leaf have more than doubled since Friday. Japan's euphoria over Shizuka Arakawa's Winter Olympic gold medal performance showed no signs of abating Saturday, as doughnut stores rolled out golden, medal-shaped pastries and fans rushed to buy CDs featuring the music used in her free program win. —INTERNET



WEATHER

Saturday, 25 February, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30

hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain have been isolated in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division and weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin, Shan, Chin and Rakhine States, lower Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Mon State, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was lashio (8°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded was Putao (0.16) inch.

Maximum temperature on 24-2-2006 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 25-2-2006 was 64°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 25-2-2006 was (83%). Total sunshine hours on 24-2-2006 was (8.0) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 25-2-2006 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 (10) mph from West at (13:15) hours MST on 24-2-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 26-2-2006: Possibility of isolated rain in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Mon and Kayin States, Yangon Division and 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: Continuation of isolated light rain are possible in extreme Northern and Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 26-2-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 26-2-2006: Fair weather.



Sunday, 26 February
View on today

- 7:00 am
- 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:25 am
- 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
- 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
- 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am
- 5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈) ခြား ဝေလာ
- 8:05 am
- 6. အတီးမြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:10 am
- 7. တစ်တလ်မြို့တံတား
- 8:20 am
- 8. အဆိုမြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:30 am
- 9. International news
- 8:45 am
- 10. Grammar made easy
- 11:00 am
- 1. Martial song
- 11:15 am
- 2. Musical Programme

- 11:25 pm
- 3. Round up of the week's international news
- 11:40 pm
- 4. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "Doraemon"
- 12:05 pm
- 5. Myanmar video feature "တစ်ယောက်တည်း" (ဒေါ်ရီကတား-မောင်နန္ဒ)
- 2:00 pm
- 6. အဆိုမြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:10 pm
- 7. "အလေ့အစား" (စင်ပိုင်၊ ရွှေစင်သွန်း၊ ခင်သန်းနွယ်) (ဒေါ်ရီကတား-မောင်နန္ဒ)
- 2:25 pm
- 8. အဆိုမြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:35 pm
- 9. ဈေးဇာတ် (မြို့မ) ရေတောင်တစ် (ဝိဇ္ဇာတိုင်း)
- 2:45 pm
- 10. International news
- 4:00 pm
- 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
- 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
- 3. English for Everyday Use
- 4:40 pm
- 4. အခင်းသစ်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - တတိယနှစ် (သင်္ချာအထူးပြု) (သင်္ချာ)
- 4:55 pm
- 5. Song of national races
- 5:10 pm
- 6. အကမြိုင်ပွဲ
- 5:15 pm
- 7. Musical Programme
- 5:30 pm
- 8. Sing and enjoy
- 6:00 pm
- 9. Evening News
- 6:30 pm
- 10. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
- 11. Agricultural source of country's development
- 6:45 pm
- 12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အသည်းနှလုံးနဲ့လူသား" (အပိုင်း-၁၄) (ဇာတ်သိမ်းပိုင်း)
- 8:00 pm
- 13. News
- 14. International news
- 15. Weather report
- 16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်မိမြို့ဆိုရင်" (အပိုင်း-၂၆)
- 17. ဓင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးမိမိဉာဏ်တော်ဝိသုဒ္ဓါ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာ မေတ္တာတာဝန်များဖြင့် တရားတော်
- 18. The next day's programme



Sunday, 26 February
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -I found loving
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -You're the one
- 8:50 am National News & Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -Will it over
- 9:05 am International News
- 9:10 am Cultural images of Myanmar
- 9:20 am Music: -Story for children
- 1:30 pm News & Slogan
- 1:40 pm Children's delight -Songs for children
- 9:00 pm Weekly News Review
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Let's improve English through songs -It's so easy -That's why
- 9:45 pm News & Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

Cash donated to fund of Shwehsandaw Pagoda in Toungoo

YANGON, 25 Feb — A ceremony to present cash donations to the fund for offering gold foils to Shwehsandaw Pagoda in Toungoo was held at the ordination hall of the pagoda in Toungoo on 23 February morning, attended by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko.

First, the commander and party paid homage to Buddha images in the northern prayer hall of the pagoda.

At the cash donation ceremony, Ovadaçariya of the pagoda Kyarnigan Monastery Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Suriya administered the Five Precepts.

Next, the commander and officials offered alms to the Sayadaws.

The commander handed over K 1 million each donated by South-West Command, and Bago Division Peace and Development Council to member of the pagoda board of trustees U Tin Tun.

Afterwards, the commander accepted cash for offering gold foils to the pagoda and renovation of the eastern prayer hall donated by wellwisher Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma

Theingi Daw Ohn Khin and family; K 1 million donated by U Tin Tun and family; K 680,000 by U Sein Lin and family; and K 300,000 by U Myint Nyo and family. Certificates of honour were presented to the wellwishers.

Likewise, Brig-Gen Kyaw Aung of Toungoo Station and officials accepted cash donations from other wellwishers. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Suriya delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.

After the ceremony, the commander and the guests offered 'soon' to the Sayadaws.

Next, the commander and party went to the site of Government Technological College (Toungoo) Construction Project being built by Max Myanmar Construction Co in Ketumati, and inspected progress of the construction tasks.

At the briefing hall, Project Engineer U Htay Aung briefed the commander on matters related to construction of the college. The commander gave instructions on timely completion of the construction tasks meeting the set standard and greening and beautifying the campus of the college.

The commander viewed round the construction site and left necessary instructions to officials. — MNA

Objectives of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day

- * To work in concert with the people for emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed, discipline-flourishing democratic new nation
- * To strive for successful realization of the seven-point policy programme of the State
- * To crush every danger posed to the State hand in hand with people
- * To build a strong, capable and modern Tatmadaw to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes

Commander oversees progress of regional development in Thanlyin, Kyauktan Townships

YANGON, 25 Feb — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win made an inspection tour of agriculture and development tasks in Thanlyin and Kyauktan Townships this morning.

Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife Chairperson of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Mar Mar Wai (See page 9)



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win formally unveiling the bronze plaque of Kyauktan Township Home for the Aged. — MNA



Champions of the Under-20 Youth Closing Cup (Knockout) Football Tournament for 2005-06 football season the Finance and Revenue Youth team celebrate with trophy.

MNA

F&R Youth emerge champions in Closing Cup

YANGON, 25 Feb — Finance and Revenue Youth Team emerged champions in the Under-20 Youth Closing Cup (Knockout) Football Tournament for 2005-06 football season that took place at Aung San Stadium, here at 3 pm today.

Finance and Revenue Youth Team beat Sports Ministry 3-2 in the final match. Paing Soe, Myint Naing and Thein Soe Min shot one goal each to the net of Sports Ministry Team. And, Soe Kyaw Thu of Sports Ministry equalized twice for his team.

During this year's football season, Finance and Revenue Youth Team bagged two championship tro-

phies —one in the First U-20 Youth League Football Tournament, and another in the Closing Cup Knockout Football Tournament.

As the Under-20 Youth Closing Cup (Knockout) Football Tournament concluded, the competition of the Myanmar League Football Tournament resumed at Aung San Stadium and Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna.

Tomorrow fixtures:

Aung San Stadium

Home Affairs vs Army-A

YTC (Thuwunna)

Kanbawza vs A&I.

NLM