

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIII, Number 319

3rd Waxing of Taboung 1367 ME

Wednesday, 1 March, 2006

Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law takes into consideration gender sensitivities and child friendly approaches

National Seminar on Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law held

YANOGN, 28 Feb — A ceremony to open the National Seminar on the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law sponsored by the Ministry of Home Affairs and UNIAP was held at the Sedona Hotel on Kaba Aye Pagoda road here this morning with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win, min-

isters, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, deputy ministers and members of the Central Committee for Prevention against Trafficking in Persons, presidents of Myanmar Women Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and members, diplomats of foreign missions led by Dean of Diplomatic Corps Philippine Ambassador Mme Phoebe A Gomez, resident representatives of UN agencies led by UN Coordinator Mr Charles James Petric, officials of

the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of department, officials of social organizations at home and abroad and the respective sub-committees, resource persons and guests.

In his address, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein said: I will not hesitate to express my full satisfaction by the measures, our country has taken over the past several years in our consistent and persistent efforts to fight the crime of human trafficking both within our country and in the region. Today, indeed, is a day that Myanmar can be proud of, for the efforts we have put in, to create an enabling legal environment to fight the crime of human trafficking both within the country and with other States.

(See page 8)

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein addresses National Seminar on the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law. — MNA

Curriculum Vitae of His Excellency Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia



Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono

Madame Kristiani Herrawati

Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono was born on 9 September 1949 at Pacitan, East Java, Indonesia. He graduated from Infantry Military Academy of Indonesia in 1973 and from 1982 to 1983 he attended the Infantry Officers Advanced Course in USA. He was at the School of Infantry Military Command from 1988 to 1989 and from 1990 to 1991 he attended the Command and General Staff College in USA. Also from 1990 to 1991, he studied a postgraduate course leading to a Master of Arts degree in Management at Webster University, USA. Then from 2001 to 2004, he attended a postgraduate course leading to a Doctorate in Agricultural Economics at Bogor Institute of Agriculture, Bogor, West Java, Indonesia.

He was commissioned as Second Lieutenant (Infantry) in 1973. From then he had 27 years of service in the military, combined with service in governmental institutions, trainings, visitations, and assignments in 28 countries including USA, Russia, Germany, UK, Panama, Belgium, and Australia. He served in various posts as Commander of Infantry, Staff Officer, Territorial Commander, Trainer and Lecturer in Operational Zones, Bases, and Oversea Posts. In 2000, he was promoted to a General in the Indonesian Armed Forces (TNI).

He had also served as Minister of Mining and Energy, Coordinating Minister for Political, Social and Security Affairs in the National Union Cabinet, and Coordinating Minister for Political and Security Affairs in the Gotong Royong Cabinet. In the country's first direct presidential election in 2004, he was elected as President of the Republic of Indonesia for the 2004-2009 period.

Dr Susilo is married to Madame Kristiani Herrawati and they have two children.—MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 1 March, 2006

Actively take part in national sanitation work

It would not be wrong to say that health plays the most fundamental role in the development of a society. As good health contributes to higher intelligence, it is essential that we should keep ourselves fit. The government is implementing the national health projects in order that people can live long and healthily.

Nowadays, the government is building new hospitals and clinics and upgrading the old ones the length and breadth of the nation, fully staffing and equipping them and providing wider public health care by forming health committees at all levels.

Both prevention and cure are given first priority in carrying out public health care service. And it is necessary for the people to give full cooperation to Health Department for the uplift of health and fitness of the entire nation.

A ceremony to launch the 9th National Sanitation Week (2006) jointly organized by the Ministry of Health and UNICEF was opened at the International Business Centre in Yangon on 27 February and it was attended by Chairman of the National Health Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

On the occasion, the Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council said that related organizations such as Yangon City Development Committee, Mandalay City Development Committee and Development Affairs Department should urge the systematic disposal of garbage and sanitation of toilets at markets and the use of fly-proof toilets and supply of clean water at schools.

Myanmar has held National Sanitation Week every year since 1998 to accelerate the national sanitation work. As a result, outbreak of contagious diseases related with unclean water and environment has dropped to a considerable extent.

Health work is a public concern and therefore people themselves are required to take part in sanitation work to make sure that food and water for public consumption are hygienic.

We would like to call on the entire people to constantly participate in the national sanitation work while the Ministry of Health is providing wider health care in order that people can live long and healthily.



Under the aegis of Father U Thaug Nyunt, family members of No-50, 130th Street, Mingalar Taungnyunt Township recently donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged in memory of their mother Daw Khin Nu.— H

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Information Minister receives guests



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives Managing Director of Ntegrator Pte Ltd of Singapore Mr Jimmy Chang and Deputy General Manager Mr Jason Leong. —MNA

YANGON, 28 Feb — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan this afternoon received Managing Director of Ntegrator Pte Ltd of Singapore Mr Jimmy Chang and Deputy General Man-

ager Mr Jason Leong at Myanma Radio and Television here.

Also present at the call were departmental officials of the Ministry of Information. — MNA

Country Coordination Mechanism Meeting held

YANGON, 28 Feb — Country Coordination Mechanism Meeting on anti-AIDS, TB and malaria was held at the Traders Hotel here today, with an address by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

Resident Representative of UNDP Mr Charles Petrie explained the different stages of the project of the global anti-AIDS, TB and malaria body, the sponsor of the meeting. A total of US\$ 11.8 million Myanmar received in aid will be shared among the

Health Ministry and local and foreign NGOs to launch the anti-AIDS, TB and malaria campaign.

Assistant Resident Representative U Tin Maung Cho explained the method of sharing the aid among the respective bodies, accomplishments and future programmes.

Officials of the Ministry of Health and NGOs took part in the discussions.

MNA

Myanmar PGA & MGF President Cup Golf continues



YANGON, 28 Feb — Aung Win (Srixon and Yangon City Development Committee) took the lead with total strokes 216 at an 18-hole event (professional level) for the third day of Myanmar PGA and Myanmar Golf Federation President Cup Golf 2006 at Hanthawady Golf and Country Club in Bago today.

He was followed by Aung San Win (Srixon) with 218 strokes and Myint Thaug (Bridgestone), Nay Linn Tun and Soe Kyaw Naing with 219 strokes each.

Bo Bo and Naing Naing Linn led the men's amateur level with 223 strokes each ahead of Aung Win (Forestry) and Htay Aung Htay with 225 strokes each.

KBZ Bank Ltd, KM Golf Centre, Imperial Jade Purified Drinking Water, Grand Royal Special Reserve, Myanmar Brewery Ltd, Eden Group Co Ltd, Hanthawady Golf and Country Club provide assistance to holding the tournament. Hole-in-One sponsor of the tournament is Taunggyi Gem Master Enterprises Ltd.

The tournament will continue tomorrow.

MNA

Road upgrading work inspected

YANGON, 28 Feb — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected measures being taken by Engineers Department (Road & Bridge) of YCDC for proper drainage and smooth transport in the city this morning.

The mayor inspected widening of ditches and tarmacking of the road at the corner of U Chit Maung Street and Kyaung Street in Bahan Township, widening of Myayagon Street between Bo Min Yaung Street and Theinbyu Road and repaving of the road in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, and tarmacking of Bogyoke Aung San Street in front of Yangon General Hospital in Latha Township, Anawrahta Street in Lanmadaw Township and Strand Road between Kyaung Street and Theingyi Street in Kyimyindine Township.

During his inspections, the mayor gave instructions to officials on performance of their tasks with goodwill and meeting the set standard in implementing the projects.

MNA

All this needs to be known

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

Iranian First Vice-President terms visit to Syria as useful

TEHERAN, 27 Feb— Iranian First Vice-President Parviz Davoudi described his three-day official visit to Syria as “useful and valuable” on Saturday as he returned from Damascus, the official IRNA news agency reported.

Davoudi attended the Iran-Syria Joint High Committee session, during which the two sides

discussed expansion of cooperation and signed eight documents.

Davoudi also said that he met with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, Vice-President Farouq Shara and Prime Minister Muhammad Naji Ottri, adding that the two sides “agreed to adopt common stances on economic and political issues taking into account

the current sensitive situation in the region”.

Iran and Syria have maintained close ties since the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war, during which Syria sided with Teheran against Iraq under the former Saddam Hussein’s regime.

The two states are both under US economic sanctions for sponsoring terrorism.

Last month, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad paid an official visit to Syria and met with his Syrian counterpart Bashar al-Assad. — MNA/Xinhua

Two boys shot dead while playing football in Iraq’s Baquba

BAQUBA (Iraq), 27 Feb— Gunmen opened fire at a crowd of teenage boys in a football game on Sunday in Baquba, some 65 kilometres northeast of Baghdad, killing two and injuring six others, police said.

“Unknown armed men in a car opened fire at about 5:30 pm (1430 GMT) on a crowd of boys playing football in the al-Mafraqa area in Baquba,” the Joint Coordination Centre of Diyala said in a statement obtained by Xinhua.

MNA/Xinhua

Death toll of building collapse rises to 18 in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 27 Feb — Rescuers have pulled 18 bodies from the debris of a collapsed building in Dhaka and the death toll is expected to rise as rescue operations resumed on Sunday morning.

Private television channel ATN Bangla said on Sunday that over 50 wounded workers have been rescued so far during the operations.

The building collapsed around 11 am (0500 GMT) Saturday when tiles and sanitary workers, masons and electricians were working inside. It housed the factory of Phoenix Fabrics a year ago and was being converted into a 500-bed hospital.

A rescue team chief told reporters that 20 per cent of the total rescue work of the five-storey building was completed late Saturday. It would take at least four or five days to complete the whole job, he said.

MNA/Xinhua



Bangladeshi soldiers help rescue operations at the site of a six-storey building collapse in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 27 Feb, 2006.

INTERNET

ဝက်မုဆိုးအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား



Chinese armed policemen climb a snow-covered mountain during a cold-endurance training in Taiyuan, north China's Shanxi Province on 27 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

Scientists claim to find lost civilization

NARRAGANSETT, 27 Feb—Scientists have found what they believe are traces of the lost Indonesian civilization of Tambora, which was wiped out in 1815 by the biggest volcanic eruption in recorded history.

Mount Tambora’s cataclysmic eruption on 10 April, 1815, buried the inhabitants of Sumbawa Island under searing ash, gas and rock and is blamed for an estimated 88,000 deaths. The eruption was at least four times more powerful than Mount Krakatoa’s in 1883.

Guided by ground-

penetrating radar, US and Indonesian researchers recently dug in a gully where locals had found ceramics and bones. They unearthed the remains of a thatch house, pottery, bronze and the carbonized bones of two people, all in a layer of sediment dating to the eruption.

University of Rhode Island volcanologist

Haraldur Sigurdsson, the leader of the expedition, estimated that 10,000 people lived in the town when the volcano erupted in a blast that dwarfed the one that buried the Roman town of Pompeii.

The eruption shot 400 million tons of sulfuric gases into the atmosphere, causing global cooling and creating what historians

call “The Year Without a Summer.” Farms in Maine suffered crop-killing frosts in June, July and August. In France and Germany, grape and corn crops died, or the harvests were delayed.

The civilization on Sumbawa Island has intrigued researchers ever since Dutch and British explorers visited in the early 1800s and were surprised to hear a language that did not sound like any other spoken in Indonesia, Sigurdsson said. Some scholars believe the language more closely resembled those spoken in Indochina. But not long after Westerners first encountered Tambora, the society was destroyed.

Internet



Scientists have found what they believe are traces from the lost Indonesian civilization of Tambora, which was wiped out in 1815 by the largest volcanic eruption in recorded history.

INTERNET

Egypt announces discovery of Ramses II statues

CAIRO, 27 Feb — Statues weighing up to five tonnes and thought to be of one of ancient Egypt’s greatest pharaohs, Ramses II, have been found northeast of Cairo, Egypt’s Supreme Antiquities Council said in a statement on Sunday.

Ramses II ruled Egypt from 1304 to 1237 BC, and presided over an era of great military expansion, erecting statues and temples to himself all over Egypt. He is traditionally believed to be the pharaoh mentioned in the biblical story of Moses.

“Many parts of red granite statues were found, the most important of which had features close to Ramses II... The statue needs some restoration and weighs between four and five tonnes”, the statement quoted the Council’s Zahi Hawass as

saying. A royal head weighing two to three tons and a seated 5.1 metre (16.7 foot) statue were also found, with cartouches, or royal name signs, of Ramses II on the side of the seated statue.

MNA/Reuters

3,000-year-old cliff painting found in S-W China

KUNMING, 27 Feb— Chinese archaeologists have discovered a cliff painting dating back 3,000 years along the Jinsha River in southwestern Yunnan Province, an expert has confirmed.

A team of three discovered the painting on the cliff along the Jinsha River in Yongren County under the guidance of local people, said Ji Xueping, associate professor with the Yunnan Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology and a member of the team. — MNA/Xinhua

Mountain lion turns up in Los Angeles suburb



A mountain lion is seen in an undated photo. A mountain lion was found wandering through a Los Angeles suburb on Monday.—INTERNET

LOS ANGELES 27 Feb — Guess what Zachary Bovinette found in his yard early on Monday morning? A mountain lion.

Bovinette said he was looking out of his kitchen window in a Los Angeles suburb when he saw his cat on a roof outside looking "most eager to get back in."

About 15 feet (4.5 metre) behind him was the 65-pound (29-kilogramme) mountain lion.

Later, the big cat snoozed away unfazed by a gathering crowd of onlookers in the Los Angeles suburb of Altadena.

A nearby school was closed as a precaution.

Lt Marty Wall of the California Department of Fish and Game walked to within six feet of the animal and tranquillised it. The mountain lion tried to run away but changed its mind when it saw men standing ready to prevent its escape. It retreated behind a row of trash cans in the front yard.

"He was such a well behaved cat. He did not move and just fell asleep," Bovinette said.—Internet

ထုတ်ကုန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ကြ

Bad weather affects air traffic at Cairo Airport

CAIRO, 27 Feb — A sandstorm shrouding Cairo since Saturday had affected air traffic at the Cairo International Airport, forcing some flights to divert and others to delay take-off, the official MENA news agency reported on Sunday.

At least six incoming flights operated

by EgyptAir, the largest national carrier in Egypt, were diverted to other airports in the country, including three to the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, according to the report.

Another nine incoming international and domestic flights were delayed while four outgoing international

flights had to wait longer than usual to take off, said MENA.

Many passengers have been stranded at the airport.

Visibility was reduced to less than 200 metres on Sunday and weather forecasters expect no change for the next 48 hours.

MNA/Xinhua

Tourists ride camels through a dust storm at the site of the great pyramids, seen background, after sand storms hit Cairo, Egypt on recently. INTERNET



Quake-zone landslide in Pakistan kills at least 15

ISLAMABAD, 27 Feb — At least 15 people were killed after their coach was swept off by a landslide triggered by heavy rain in Pakistan's North West frontier Province on Sunday, a senior police officer said.

The coach was going from the quake-devastated city of Balakot in North West frontier province to Mansehra, a major town in the region, when hit by the landslide at Kharian locality, some 140 kilometres northeast of Islamabad, District Police Officer Yameen Khan said.

The coach fell down in a river and local people joined the police to pull out bodies from the river.

A total of 19 people were travelling in the vehicle. Four others were injured in the accident.

Many parts of the 8 October quake-hit zone had been receiving heavy rains for the last two days, causing landslide in the hilly areas.

The earthquake has also badly damaged roads and several are still covered by earth and rock from earlier landslides.

Bulldozers are still working to clear roads in

different parts of the quake-zone. Sunday's accident illustrated the continued threat to earthquake survivors, more than two million of whom have been living in tents or in simple shelters since the 8 October disaster, that killed more than 75,000 people.

MNA/Xinhua

Collective food poisoning in Vietnam rises

HANOI, 27 Feb — Vietnam faced 26 cases of collective food poisoning in 2005, up from 20 in 2004, local media on Monday quoted a Health Ministry report.

The 26 cases affected nearly 2,200 people, mostly workers, but none of them died, newspaper Youth said. In southern Ho Chi Minh City alone, there were 16 cases with 1,217 affected people.

MNA/Xinhua

Black cat credited with saving owner

McKENZIE, 26 Feb — Bernice McDowall says she never thought black cats were unlucky. Now her own black cat, Joey, is her hero. McDowall, 87, said she was taking a nap when Joey woke her up early Friday afternoon and probably saved her life.

"He was having a fit, running around the bedroom," she said.

Then she saw smoke in the bedroom, got up and saw smoke coming from the basement.

She and Joey got out safely.

Joey had found a home with the McDowalls after he was dumped off at a

nearby mailbox awhile back. On Friday, he "really came in and sent the alarm," Bernice said.

Later, the black cat was rolling and romping in the yard near smoldering mattresses that firefighters had dragged up from the basement while his owner stayed in the warmth of a vehicle.

Sterling Fire Chief Dwayne Frederick said firefighters contained the blaze to the basement, but there was smoke damage throughout the ranch-style home. He said the cause likely was electrical.

Internet

15 killed, 45 wounded when mortars hit Baghdad residential area

BAGHDAD, 27 Feb — Death toll rose to 15 when some eight mortar rounds struck a residential area in southern Baghdad on Sunday, an Interior Ministry source said. "Several mortar rounds landed on the Abu Dshier neighbourhood at about 5:30 pm (1430 GMT), now the death toll rose to 15 with 45 others wounded," the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Reports earlier said six Iraqis were killed and 38 others wounded. The attack probably were targeting a US military base close to the neighbourhood, the source said. —MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi policemen inspect a damaged vehicle in Basra, 550 kilometres (340 miles) southeast of Baghdad, Iraq, on 27 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

Japanese researchers develop chemical-compound Tamiflu

TOKYO, 27 Feb—A Japanese research team has succeeded in producing Tamiflu, an antiviral drug considered the best defence against bird flu, from a chemical compound instead of the botanical ingredient used by the Swiss manufacturer F Hoffmann-La Roche Lt, Japanese media reported on Saturday.

The team, led by Professor Masakatsu

Shibasaki from University of Tokyo, used 1,4-cyclohexadiene to make the drug through the so-called asymmetrical catalysis, thus producing a better way to stabilize the Tamiflu supply because chemicals are less affected by climate conditions than botanical ingredients, researchers said. The university has applied for a patent on the method and the research

team has expressed its willingness to cooperate with Roche for commercialization of their study fruit.

For fear of a pandemic sparked by bird flu, many countries have been trying recently to stockpile Tamiflu, currently made from shikimic acid, which is found in a fruit named star anise often used as a spice in Chinese cuisine.—MNA/Xinhua



Bulgarian children rotate fireballs during celebrations of 'Mesni Zagovezni' in the village of Lozen near the capital Sofia on 26 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET



An Iraqi woman walks near a destroyed vehicle after a mortar attack in Baghdad on 27 Feb, 2006. INTERNET

Russia to maintain contacts with Iran over nuclear crisis

MOSCOW, 27 Feb—Russia will maintain contacts with Iran over its nuclear issue until a planned meeting of the UN's nuclear watchdog in early March, Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Sunday.

"On Saturday, consultations were held in Teheran on all aspects of bilateral trade, economic, scientific and technical cooperation," Lavrov said, quoted by the ITAR-TASS news agency.

Sergei Kiriyenko, head of Russia's atomic energy agency Rosatom, is in Iran for talks with Iranian officials. ITAR-TASS quoted him as saying in Teheran that he was satisfied the progress of the talks, including negotiations on Moscow's proposal to create a joint venture to enrich Iran's uranium on Russian territory.

"I would not say the talks have been simple and easy, but interest is unmistakably felt," Kiriyenko said.

Iranian Vice-President Gholamreza Aghazadeh, who is also the country's nuclear chief, said on Sunday Iran and Russia have agreed in principle on setting up a uranium enrichment joint venture and negotiations on the issue will continue.

The Russian plan, backed by Western countries, is seen as a crucial attempt to resolve the dispute over Iran's nuclear programme before the March 6 meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which reports say could start a process leading to UN punishment against Iran. A delegation of the State Duma, Russia's Lower House of Parliament, is due to leave for Teheran on Sunday for more talks on Iran's nuclear dossier.—MNA/Xinhua

Bomb kills four at Baghdad bus station

HILLA (Iraq), 27 Feb—A minibus exploded in a large bus station south of Baghdad on Sunday killing at least four people and wounding six, police said.

They said the minibus blew up in the crowded station in the centre of Hilla, part of a cluster of towns in an area south of the capital where guerillas are active.

MNA/Reuters

Singapore, Aceh hospitals sign MoU on training

SINGAPORE, 27 Feb—Three Singapore hospitals and 14 hospitals in Indonesia's Aceh have signed the memorandum of understanding (MoU) on the Aceh-Singapore Technical Assistance Programme, Channel NewsAsia reported on Sunday.

The MoU is said to be the first of its kind between Singapore and Aceh since the great tsunami occurred in the Indian Ocean on 26 December, 2004, which claimed nearly 300,000 lives. The Indonesian state of Aceh was one of the worst devastated places in the disaster. Under the MoU, Singapore General Hospital, KK Women's and Children's Hospital and Alexandra Hospital will provide short-term training to a minimum of 200 medical workers from Aceh while training centres is built in Bandar Aceh, Aceh's capital.

MNA/Xinhua

Yemeni, Palestinian presidents meet in Sanaa

SANAA, 27 Feb—Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and his visiting Palestinian counterpart Mahmoud Abbas met here on Sunday on enhancing bilateral ties along with latest developments on the Palestinian arena.

During the meeting, Abbas, who arrived here on Saturday night for a two-day visit, briefed Saleh on current developments on the

Palestinian arena in light of Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas)'s landslide victory in the 25 January legislative election.

The two sides also examined Yemeni-Palestinian ties, developments in the region and Arab issues.

Earlier on Sunday, Abbas met with Yemeni Foreign Minister Abu Bakr al-Qirbi, Deputy Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Yahia al-Rai and leaders of the Parliament blocs.

Abbas underlined the

necessity of continued Arab support to the Palestinian cause and highlighted the importance to maintain the Middle East peace process with a view to establishing an independent state of Palestine with al-Quds (Jerusalem) as its capital.

He also expounded at the meetings the recent developments on the Palestinian arena with emphasis on the current state of affairs after Hamas' winning of the 25 January parliamentary election.—MNA/Xinhua

Nanoelectronics centres to be set up at India's IIT and IISc

MUMBAI, 27 Feb—India's two vanguard scientific bodies, the Indian Institute of Technology here and the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore, will collaborate to set up a centre of excellence in nanoelectronics research.

The government-

financed project at a cost of nearly a billion rupees will be spread over five years and the funds will be shared equally by the two institutes, Chief Investigator Prof Ramgopal Rao said.

"Though both the centres will have some areas in common, the team at IISc will focus more on the materials aspects of nanoelectronics devices, and the team at IIT Mumbai will focus more on the devices and circuits aspects of nanoelectronics," Rao said. This project also represents first collaborative effort between two leading academic institutes in the country, to carry out a joint programme in an emerging area. Over 20 faculty members from six different departments/schools are involved in the execution of this project at IIT here, he said.—MNA/PTI



'Lesley' the Andean Condor flies toward keeper Matt Kettle (L) during flying lessons at Clifton Gardens in Sydney on 28 Feb, 2006. The two-year-old bird of prey is taking flying lessons for 15 weeks from Taronga Zoo's bird handlers ahead of a scheduled appearance at the zoo's Free Flight Bird Show.—INTERNET

World's biggest airline company to fly into China

BEIJING, 28 Feb—American Airlines, the world's largest airline company, will begin from early April this year to launch daily nonstop service to China, one of the world's fastest growing aviation markets.

The first flight, AA289, will depart Chicago O'Hare International Airport at 11:05 am on 2 April and arrive at Shanghai Pudong International Airport at 2:15 pm on April 3. The return flight of this route, AA288, will depart Shanghai at 4:25 pm on April 3 and arrive in Chicago at 5:00 pm on the same date.

In 2004, the governments of the United States and the People's Republic of China signed an expanded air services

agreement that doubled the number of airlines that can fly between the two countries. American Airlines is one of two that have been authorized to fly to China since then and will become the fourth US passenger carrier to fly to China. Shanghai will be the 23rd international destination served by the American company from its Chicago hub. The new international service to the Asia Pacific Region will complement American's

seven routes between the United States and Asian cities. "We have been anticipating the opportunity to participate in the growing China market for five years," said Athar Khan, managing director for Asia Pacific Region of American Airlines.

Chicago will become a primary gateway to Asia for American Airlines. More than 300,000 companies are based in the Chicago area, including 34 Fortune 500 companies.

MNA/Xinhua

Road accident kills five in Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA, 28 Feb—Five persons were instantly killed on Sunday when a heavy-duty truck, heading from the north-eastern city Harar to the capital Addis Ababa, was overturned at a rural town in south Ethiopia's Oromia State, police said.

Aschalew Alemu, police public relations officer, said in a statement that the road accident has also destroyed property worth about 400,000 birr (46,082 US dollars).

MNA/Xinhua



A Chow Chow exercises on a treadmill while a passer-by looking at its meter on a side road in Nanjing, China's Jiangsu Province on 27 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

Two-thirds of Katrina donations disbursed

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb—Six months after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast, two-thirds of the 3 billion US dollars raised by charities to aid storm victims has already been disbursed, *The Washington Post* reported on Monday.

According to a survey by the newspaper, more than 2 billion US dollars of the record sums raised

by private nonprofit organizations went to help Katrina victims with immediate needs, such as cash, food, temporary shelter and medical care.

That leaves less than 1 billion US dollars to help hundreds of thousands of storm victims cover long-term needs ranging from rebuilding homes, job training and mental health counseling, the newspaper said.—MNA/Reuters

Russia, Turkey stage military manoeuvres in Black Sea

Moscow, 28 Feb—Russian naval ships, including a missile cruiser, started a joint military exercise with Turkish ships on Monday in the Black Sea, the *ITAR-TASS* news agency reported.

The missile cruiser *Moskva*, a landing ship and

a support ship of Russia's Black Sea Fleet left the Turkish port of Istanbul for the manoeuvres after concluding their visit on Monday. Two frigates and two missile motor boats from Turkey will take part in the exercise.

MNA/Xinhua

Democracy will be secure only when the rule of law is upheld Nepalese King sends message to Nepalese people

YANGON, 28 Feb—*The following are excerpts from the message to the Nepalese people from His Majesty King Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev on the occasion of National Democracy Day which falls on 19, February 2006.*

Peace and Democracy are the aspiration of all. The nation, therefore, seeks solidarity amongst all who have faith in multiparty democracy.

This solidarity must be achieved at the earliest so as to formulate a mechanism which ensures that peace and democracy are never again jeopardised.

We are committed to upholding and safeguarding the Constitution in the greater interest and progress of the Nepalese people. It will do well to remember that democracy will be secure only when the rule of law is upheld and the Constitution alone forms the basis of rule of law. The Nepalese are well aware of the fact that character without any moral foundation, politics indifferent to national pride and a form of governance bereft of the people's confidence will neither benefit the nation nor the people.

They also know that politics will not have the strength to inspire the people and overcome challenges if it is tainted.

Nepal's foreign policy is now clear and stable. Our foreign policy and relations are solely guided by

how best to serve and protect our national interest in a rapidly changing world. This has restored Nepal's prestige and credibility in the international arena.

Nepal desires friendship with all and is always ready to cooperate for mutual benefit. Nepal has malice towards none and is ever alert in ensuring that her territory is not used against any friendly country. Nepal is ever ready to have mutually beneficial fruitful relations with both her neighbours.

This policy remained unchanged. To act as a catalyst in enhancing economic ties between her two neighbours, Nepal is preparing to be the transit point between them. Nepal's role as a transit point will contribute to the welfare of Nepal, India, China and the region as a whole.

The Nepalese are determined to see a peaceful, prosperous and democratic Nepal in tune with the 21st century.

The essence of Nepal's glorious history is the fact that the Nepalese people themselves determine Nepal's national agenda in the interest of the country and their own.

Patriotism is the only means of creating a democratic society. We, therefore, call upon all Nepalese to consign mutual recrimination to the bitter past and build a secure and prosperous future for the nation and people, while upholding democratic norms.

Gansu Province to invest \$620m in treating Yellow River pollution

LANZHOU, 28 Feb—Northwest China's Gansu Province has planned to invest nearly 5 billion yuan (620 million US dollars) by 2010 to treat water pollution of the Yellow River's section in the province.

The province has mapped out a five-year plan for water pollution prevention and treatment, said a source with the provincial environment bureau.

From 2006 to 2010, the province will carry out 199 projects with a total investment of 4.97 billion yuan, involving treatment of industrial and domestic sewage, and the enhancement of environmental monitoring, the plan said.

Statistics from the bureau show that 237 million tons of waste water, including both industrial and domestic sewage, flows into the

river in Gansu every year.

MNA/Xinhua

Explosion in Spain's Basque region injures two

MADRID, 28 Feb—An explosion occurred on Saturday night in the doorway of a bank in Spain's Basque County, injuring two passers-by, local media reported on Sunday.

According to the radio station Cadena Ser, police found a camping gas bottle near the bank and believed that it had been the source of the midnight blast.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi Special Police Commandos from the 2nd Battalion 2nd Brigade, also widely known as the "Wolf Brigade", maintain security around a house while it is searched by other commandos from the unit, in the restive city of Ramadi, west of Baghdad. —INTERNET

Developing Shan State (North)

Ahtet Minhla Nyunt Aung

Myanmar is an agro-based nation. Agriculture plays a pivotal role in economic development of the State. In the agricultural sector, conventional farming has changed into mechanized one, thereby contributing to development of national economy.

This being so, one of the four economic objectives—development of agriculture as

the economic objectives of the State. In the process, they extend growing of paddy, maize, common millet, buckwheat, groundnut, sesame, sunflower, mustard, Thitseint, rubber, beans and pulses, chili, potato, sugarcane, tea, coffee, banana, coconut, toddy palm, and betel nut wherever opportune.

In the 2004-2005 summer paddy cultivation season, they put 1,228

Namkham, 241.37 baskets in Muse, 218.90 baskets in Kutkai, 206.01 baskets in Kyaukme, 205.43 baskets in Lashio and 204.50 baskets in Nawngkhio.

In Shan State (North), 25,000 acres were put under Hsinshweli special high yield paddy in 2002-2003 monsoon paddy cultivation season, and altogether 3,386,107 baskets of paddy were pro-

duced, 1,1618 acres under paddy, and a total of 14,392,968 baskets of paddy were produced.

In 2005-2006 monsoon paddy cultivation season, 120,659 acres were put under Hsinshweli paddy, exceeding the target of 109,728 acres.

With a view to enjoying self-sufficiency in rice, Shan State (North) cultivated 13,679 acres of Hsinyadana paddy in 2005-2006 monsoon paddy cultivation season. Shan State (North) is taking systematic measures for cultivating 300,000 acres of monsoon paddy in its effort to successfully implement the economic objectives of the State.

In this regard, the extended cultivation of paddy was launched, and altogether 457,609 acres were put under monsoon paddy in 2006 as poppy fields in the region have been transformed into paddy fields. It is hearten-

Lashio District, 72,867 acres in Muse District, 160,534 acres in Kyaukme District, 28,864 acres in Kunlong District and 15,996 acres in Laukkai District had been put under paddy cultivation against the targeted acreage of monsoon paddy in 2005-2006. As paddy cultivation plays a vital role in the State economy, monsoon as well as summer paddy is being cultivated. In 2004-2005, total acreage of summer paddy reached 17,746 — 5,822 acres in Lashio District, 6,604 acres in Muse District, 4,728 acres in Kyaukme District, 5,84 acres in Kunlong District and eight acres in Laukkai District. Moreover, 7,390 acres of coffee, 123,779 acres of tea and 21 acres of pepper have been cultivated in 2005-2006.

Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise has cultivated 12,997 acres of rubber for the year 2005-

geted to grow poppy—substitute cold season crops such as wheat, buckwheat, soy bean, beans and pulses, sunflower and potato on 96,426 acres of land. A total of 53831 acres of land have been put under perennial crops like tea, coffee, mango, lemon, lime, grape fruit, orange, honey orange, pineapple, lychee, pear, damson and others.

In order to do highland farming, 2,992 acres were reclaimed in 2004-2005 and arrangements are being made for reclamation of 5000 acres of land in 2005-2006. Agricultural tasks are being carried out with great difficulty owing to geographical conditions of Shan State (North) with mountains and cliffs in abundance.

However, under the leadership of officials from Shan State (North) Peace and De-



A thriving Hsinshweli paddy plantation in Kyugok (Pangsai) with a yield of 200 baskets per acre. — Photo Maung Maung Than (Kawhmu)

the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well—has been laid down and is being implemented.

Local people from Shan State (North) are engaged in agricultural tasks in accordance with

acres under Hsinshweli special high yield paddy. According to the confirmation of scholars from the Myanma Agriculture Service (Head Office) and Agricultural Research Department (Yezin), the per care yield of the paddy is 243.88 baskets in

duced. And 9,330 acres were put under paddy in 2002-2003 summer paddy cultivation season, and altogether 1,032,831 baskets of paddy were produced. In 2004-2005 monsoon, 104,080 acres were put under paddy, and in 2004-2005 sum-

With a view to enjoying self-sufficiency in rice, Shan State (North) cultivated 13,679 acres of Hsinyadana paddy in 2005-2006 monsoon paddy cultivation season. Shan State (North) is taking systematic measures for cultivating 300,000 acres of monsoon paddy in its effort to successfully implement the economic objectives of the State.



A Hsinshweli honey orange plantation owned by North East Command in Naungmon village in Lashio Township. — Photo Maung Maung Than (Kawhmu)

ing to see steps being taken to transform farmland into paddy land with machinery and manpower including the strength of the Tatmadawmen in order that agricultural work in Shan State (North) can be expanded.

Up to 31 August 2005, 119,332 acres in

2006. In addition, opium—substitute crops such as paddy, maize, corn, buckwheat, soy bean, groundnut, sesame, sunflower, pepper and vegetables have been cultivated in the regions where the five-year narcotic drug elimination project is being implemented. It has been tar-

velopment Council and departments concerned, local people are striving to develop their region as well as to boost their economy through agriculture.

(Translation: TS+ST)

Myanma Alin:

28-2-2006

Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law takes into consideration...

(from page 1)

Before I go any further, let me **congratulate the law review and drafting team** on a job well done! I am aware of the numerous meetings, the numerous review sessions and the often animated discussions you had throughout the long process of drafting the new law. **The Ministry of Home Affairs, as the key Ministry** to combat human trafficking has indeed done a good job of taking its responsibility seriously through initiating and providing supporting services to the law review and drafting process. I am also aware that **the Attorney-General's Office**, as the key ministry responsible for drafting law, has also provided collaboration and invaluable technical advice and support to this process. Contribution from other ministries that have been involved in the whole drafting process, such as the **Ministry of Labour, Justice, Immigration and Population and National Registration, Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Foreign Affairs, National Planning as well as the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation** should also be acknowledged.

I am pleased to note that the law you have before you is the result of inter-sector involvement, which as we all know, is the only way to truly combat this unacceptable human rights abuse called trafficking.



Secretary-I Lt-Gen Thein Sein poses for photo together with resource persons, chairmen of social organizations, personnel of NGOs, diplomats at the seminar. — MNA

reviewed existing legal provisions; the Penal Code, the Criminal Law, the Civil Law, the Anti-Prostitution Act among others. Only after a thorough review, did we proceed to draft a new Anti-Traffick-

the Transnational Organized Crime and its accompanying Protocol on Trafficking in Persons.

The participatory process through which the law as drafted has been rewarding. The law, its very **much centered in the best interest of the victims and promotes a victim—centric and rights—based approach in combating trafficking**. I also see that the law **takes into consideration gender sensitivities and child friendly approaches**. It also provides for an effective protection of trafficked victims and safeguarding of their individual rights including providing medical support and medical examination **only with the consent of the victim**.

While the enactment of the law provides a **much need legal tool** to combat trafficking, as the next two days discussions on the law will reveal, the implementation of this highly comprehensive law on trafficking if not going to be an easy undertaking. **The challenge now is to successfully and effectively implement the law. The whole law enforcement sector and the criminal justice system** including everyone from all walks of life will have to cooperate and work together to ensure its effective implementation. Lessons learnt from looking at countries, who have before us, enacted anti-trafficking laws reveal that we have many challenges ahead;



Secretary-I Lt-Gen Thein Sein poses for photo together with resource persons, chairmen of social organizations, personnel of NGOs, diplomats at the seminar. — MNA

The whole law drafting process, in fact, should also be commended for the active participation and involvement by all the technically relevant ministries as well as our international partners. You may be aware that **the process of drafting this law is unprecedented in the history of Myanmar**. While still in the draft stage, the law was put up for debate, discussion and consultation that brought in internal and external experts.

The consultation workshop on the Draft Law took place more than a year ago, in September 2004 with active support from the UN Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region, the UNIAP together with UNODC and the ARCPPT. It will not be incorrect to say that the law that you have in front of you is very much a result of internal and external consultation, striving to ensure internationally recognized norms and standards. While we stand proud with the enactment of the new Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law, **I would like to throw caution to the wind**. This law has, as you all know, received favourable reviews regionally as well as internationally. These **favourable reviews have also been accompanied by skepticism** about our capacity to successfully implement this law. While we rejoice in this great step forward, we must be, as we are aware of the challenges that lie ahead.

The drafting of the law in itself has not been easy. The law you have in front of us was not drafted overnight. We took a good few years to first debate on the need for a specific anti-trafficking law. We

ing in Persons Law. We also took into account the **recommendations of the first National Seminar on Trafficking** conducted in 2003 and our regional and international commitments.

The COMMIT MoU signed by the Ministers from the six GMS countries, here in Yangon in October 2004 pledged to **adopt and enforce appropriate Legislation against trafficking** and the Vientiane of ASEAN Declaration Against Trafficking in Persons adopted by the Heads of States of the ASEAN countries in November 2004 pledged to **establish a regional focal network to prevent and combat trafficking**. The law also stands as a **testament to our commitment** to the UN Convention to

UN Coordinator Mr Charles James Petrie extends greeting at the seminar. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo delivers a speech at the seminar. — MNA

that the law is new, means the system and the personnel responsible now needs to become thoroughly familiar with the law. **Only when the essence of it is truly ingrained in the system, and when we become fully versed with the subtleties of the law, can we expect to do justice to it. The issue of human trafficking, the abuse of individuals, deserve the best, the law can give.** We have the law in our hands. Now we need to deliver it effectively.

This National Seminar is the first among many steps to ensure that this happens. We have gathered here today some of the best expertise in the country on the issue. Let there be no wavering about our commitment **to ensure justice for the victims and proportional punishment of the perpetrators** of the

(See page 9)

Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law takes into consideration...

(from page 8)
crime and the prevalence of the due process of the law. I have no doubt that the two days' discussions will yield rich and fruitful discussions that will strengthen the implementation of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law that this Seminar sets out to do.

Next, Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo made a speech. He said: The Seminar on the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law was conducted for the relevant authorities to have a better understanding of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law, which was promulgated on 13 September, and to enhance the cooperation among the law enforcement agencies, social organizations, government departments INGOs and NGOs.

Nowadays, the problem of trafficking in persons has become one of the top priorities on the international agenda. Hence, the issue has to be handled by every nation of the world at all levels. In fact, the clandestine nature of the crime makes it extremely difficult to give estimates about the number of victims and according to the estimation

of researchers, 1 million to 2 millions people have been trafficked each year. It also estimates that 300000 women and children are being trafficked within the Mekong Sub-Region. If we study the statistics on trafficking, we can comprehend that the situation is most alarming. Not only the victims but also their families have to face great hardships. Myanmar, therefore, has designated combating of trafficking in persons as a national duty. The implementation of the relevant tasks have been carried out not only in the country but also in cooperation with the neighbouring countries, regional countries as well as with the international organizations.

In December 2003, the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation representing the women mass, who are more than half of the population of Myanmar, was established and tasks to ensure the development and security of the women's lives were implemented. Under the federation, the Working Committee for Prevention of Trafficking and Smuggling of Persons was formed and tasks on prevention and suppression of trafficking in persons

have been carried out with commitment. Moreover, also in December 2003, the MoU on Asia Regional Cooperation to Prevent People Trafficking-ARCPPT Project was signed by Myanmar, Cambodia, Thailand, and Laos together with Australia and in accord with the project Task Force for combating trafficking in persons have been formed and tasks are being implemented effectively.

In March 2004, Myanmar acceded to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols on combating Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants. Myanmar became a member to demonstrate its resolve on trafficking in persons and it reflects the fact that it is in cooperation with the international community.

As the Mekong Sub-Region is designated as an area where trafficking in persons is rampant, in October 2004, at the COMMIT MoU the first of its kind in the world concerning regional agreement to cooperate on the Mekong Basin Region Countries namely Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam signed together the MoU. The signatory countries pledged to the elimination of the problem and laid down future

Central committee, work committees, and State/Division, District, Township committees for anti-trafficking in persons formed

YANGON, 28 Feb—Under Sub-Section (A), Section (5) of Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law, the Government of the Union of Myanmar has formed the Central Committee for Anti-Trafficking in Persons under Notification No 2/2006 dated 11-2-2006 with the Minister for Home Affairs as chairman.

The Central Committee for Anti-Trafficking in Persons, after issuing a notification dated 27-2-2006, has formed three work committees — the work committee for anti-trafficking and protecting of victims led by the Deputy Minister for Home Affairs, the work committee for legal affairs and trial led by the Deputy Attorney-General, and the work committee for reception, organization and rehabilitation led by the Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

The Central Committee for Anti-Trafficking in Persons also formed State/Division level Committees for Anti-Trafficking in Persons, District level Committees for Anti-Trafficking in Persons, and Township level Committees for Anti-Trafficking in Persons on 27 February 2006.

Myanmar has formed such committees at all levels to accelerate the implementation of tasks for anti-trafficking in persons. — MNA

work programs which are being implemented.

As the follow-up activity the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law was promulgated in 2005 which is indeed complete and adequate.

If we study the said law, we will find the law contains provisions not only for taking of action against the offenders to be prosecuted and punished and but also includes provisions that value and respect human rights.

At this seminar, the experts on the subjects will

submit papers and hold discussions which the participants will better understand the provisions of the law and thus will be able to lay down future work programs, and also find important details that can be incorporated into the Rules which will be promulgated in the near future. This seminar, therefore, will be an important milestone in the history of Myanmar on Combating of Trafficking in Persons.

Next, UN Resident Coordinator Mr Charles Petrie extended greetings.

After the opening ceremony, Secretary-I Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo and members, members of panel of chairman of the seminar, resource persons, Presidents and members of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, diplomats led by Dean of Diplomatic Corps the Philippines Ambassador, resident representatives led by UN Coordinator pose for documentary photos. — MNA

National Seminar on Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law commences

YANGON, 28 Feb — National Seminar on the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law took place at the Sedona Hotel, this morning, which was co-organized by Ministry of Home Affairs and United Nations Inter Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-region.

It was attended by Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Deputy Attorneys General Dr Tun Shin and U Myint Naing, departmental heads, officials of local and international organizations and UNIAP.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Phone Swe chaired the first session at which papers on the background history of anti-trafficking in persons law were presented. Next, Head of Transnational Crime Department Police Col Sit Aye, UNIAP Regional Programme Manager Dr Su Su Tha Tun and Col Khin Maung Si of the Ministry of Home Affairs read out their respective papers. Next, the resource persons answered the queries raised by those present.

Then followed the second session of the seminar at which papers on enacting of Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law were presented. Deputy Attorney

General U Myint Naing presided over the seminar. Director General of the Attorney-General's Office U Mya Nyein, Directors Daw Kyin San and Daw Khin Myo Myint and Director U Htin Zaw of Supreme Court read their respective papers. Next, they replied to the questions raised by those present. The aim of the seminar is to disseminate the knowledge of anti-trafficking in persons law to the public and officials, to effectively enact the law and to bring together judicial organizations, government departments and non-governmental organizations to the seminar. The seminar continues tomorrow. — MNA



National Seminar on the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law takes place at the Sedona Hotel, — MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint waters a physic nut plant at physic nut growing ceremony in Monywa Industrial Zone. — MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Ayeyawady ...

(from page 16)
Sagaing Division sets its target of growing 500,000 physic nut plants and so far 76,162 acres have been put under physic nut plants. Moreover, residents sow physic nut seeds on 60 acres. The division is expected to meet its target of growing 500,000 physic nut plants

in 2006.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint said the government set the target of 7 million of physic nut plants across the country. The soil and weather conditions of Myanmar is favorable for growing of physic nut plants. As the physic nut oil can be used as fuel in engines, cultivation of

physic nut plants can lead to prosperity of farmers.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party planted physic nut saplings. Tatmadaw members and families planted over 100,000 physic nut plants at the ceremony. They then observed a physic nut farm in the compound of Kaunghmudaw Pagoda.



Lt-Gen Ye Myint views physic nut oil-used stoves. — MNA

Minister meets USDA members

YANGON, 28 Feb — Secretariat member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met with USDA secretaries and executives of Bahan, Tarmway and Pabedan Townships at his ministry

this afternoon.

The minister discussed in detail the management and organizational affairs of the association, training programmes to enhance the qualifications of the members and the task of serving the national inter-

est and safeguarding the national interest, while keeping in the fore Our Three Main National Causes. He also urged them to become good organizers in the best interest of the State and the people.

MNA



USDA Secretariat member Minister U Aung Thaung meets members of USAs from Bahan, Tarmway, Pabedan Townships. — MNA

Afterwards, they inspected summer paddy fields at between Myinmu and Myaung Townships.

During inspection of Kyauknaga Dam, they observed physic nut fields. Physic nut oil can

be used as biodiesel and the cake of milled physic nut can be used as natural fertilizer. — MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint views crushing of physic nut seeds. — MNA

Minister inspects bridge construction

YANGON, 28 Feb — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein yesterday went to Twantay Bridge construction in Hlinethaya Township to assist the construction of the bridge.

The 840-foot-long bridge on Hlinethaya-Twantay road is under construction. The minister inspected the work site of the bridge and fulfilled the requirements. At the meeting with officials concerned at the construction site, the minister urged them to make efforts for completion of the road works along Hlinethay-Twantay Road.

The approach bridge is 1,365 ft long. The motor road of the bridge is 28 feet wide and it is flanked by four-foot-wide pedestrian lanes. The bridge can withstand 60 tons of load. Construction Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun on 26 February also inspected maintenance of roads and bridges along Yangon-Mawlamyine Road. During his tour of inspection, the min-

ister went to Sittaung Bridge (Moppalin) on Yangon-Mawlamyine Road and gave instructions.

Sittaung Bridge is of iron reinforced type and

1,365 feet in length. Its motorway is 28 ft wide, with 6-foot-wide walkways on each side of it. The bridge can withstand 60-tons loads.

MNA

Chinese scientists make “artificial skin” from silk fibroin

HANGZHOU, 28 Feb — China, a nation with a long history of silk utilization, has recently developed a new use for the material.

Scientists from east China’s Zhejiang Province have used silk to create a new type of “artificial skin” which is expected to help treat skin defects and reduce scars.

Min Sijia, major developer of the new material and associate professor with the Animal Science Institute of the Zhejiang University based in the provincial capital of Hangzhou, has named the new technology pure silk fibroin biodressing.

Min said as a pure biological product, silk is soft and pliable, blessed with good permeability and natural affinity with human skin. She said some dermatologists even suggest that their patients should wear silk underwear, which is conducive to skin health.

Fascinated by silk’s quality and function, Min began to study the possible medical uses of the material in 1996, when she worked for her PhD in Japan.

After 10 years of research, Min succeeded in creating pure silk fibroin material with no chemical residue.

At her lab in Zhejiang University, Min showed the new material to a Xinhua journalist. She put a white, round piece of “artificial skin” on the back of her hand. Then the biodressing quickly connected with her skin in a seamless way.

“It can be made into any shape with a thickness of only half a millimetre. Its softness is similar to that of human skin, with good tenacity and absorption,” said Min.

The biodressing is easy to preserve. It can be stored in regular refrigerators and be used after thawing, she added.

Animal tests found that the “artificial skin” could enable an opening of wound with a diameter of three centimetres to heal up in less than 20 days.

It is reported that in China there are 3.2 million patients suffering from skin defects.

MNA/Xinhua



Lt-Gen Maung Bo speaks at the opening of Yinnyein Sluice Gate in Paung Township, Mon State. — MNA



Lt-Gen Maung Bo, ministers, officials and local people pose for a photo at the opening of Yinnyein Sluice Gate. — MNA

Government has so far spent more than ...

(from page 16)
development. Now, the dreams of emergence of such magnificent roads, bridges and irrigation facilities the length and breadth of the nation have come true.

He cited the speech delivered by Head of State Senior General Than

two factors. In order to cover the requirements of the growing population of the nation, the nation must be transformed from an agrobased system into mechanized one. In this regard, fuel becomes fundamental to achieving the goal. He called for putting seven

season, Paung Township sees many of its fields flooded in the rainy season. Moreover, when it is in tide, the fields are flooded by sea water.

In compliance with the guidance of the Head of State, the government has made a prudent investment of more than K 1,600 million to build Yin Nyein Sluice Gate.

In response to the goodwill of the government, local farmers on their part are to carry out agricultural tasks with a



Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing. — MNA

Shwe at the opening of Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), saying that it was important to enhance the strength of national unity and to ensure community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order in the nation. Any kinds of hindrances the nation was facing could be surmounted through these

million acres all over the nation under physic nut in three years. In conclusion, he urged local people to maintain the facility for its durability.

Chairman of Mon State PDC Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing said that having an average annual rainfall of 180 to 200 inches in the rainy



Minister for A & I Maj-Gen Htay Oo. — MNA

sense of duty, he urged.

In conclusion, he called on local authoritative bodies at all levels, department personnel and local farmers to imbue themselves with Union Spirit and to make collaborative efforts for ensuring durability of the irrigation facilities in Mon State and greening of the region.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo also gave a speech.

On behalf of local people, U Ba Htauk of Thabyu Chaung Village in Yinnyein Village-tract, Paung Township, Thaton District, expressed thanks to the government for

mander Maj-Gen Soe Naing and Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo formally opened the facility.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party and guests inspected the sluice gate, and viewed the nurturing of physic nut saplings.

The minister reported on the purposes of the facility and benefits; the commander, on benefited area, pattern of monsoon and summer paddy.

The Yinnyein Sluice Gate is located near Yinnyein Creek, one and a half miles upstream Kyonhaw Village, Paung Township. The water surface area of the concrete type facility is 31.25 square miles with 40



Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo formally open Yinnyein Sluice Gate. — MNA

building the sluice gate.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo unveiled the stone plaque of the facility. Com-

16 feet x 16 feet gates, a 2,600 feet intake canal and a 2,400 feet outfall canal.

MNA

U Ba Htauk of Thabyy-chaung village expresses thanks.
MNA



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ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့**

ရက်စွဲ၊ ၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ် ဖေဖော်ဝါရီလ ၂၄ ရက်

ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ၊ ထုတ်လုပ်ရေးဌာန၊ အစာစပ်စက်ရုံအတွက် လိုအပ်သော တိရစ္ဆာန်အစာ ကုန်ကြမ်းနှင့် ပြည့်စွက်ဆေးဝါးများကို ဌာနအရောက် ကျပ်ငွေဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူရန် ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာများ စိတ်ဝင်ပါသည်။

ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာပိတ်ရက်မှာ ၁၅-၃-၂၀၀၆ နေ့ (၁၆၀၀)နာရီ ဖြစ်ပြီး ဈေးနှုန်းတင်သွင်းလွှာပုံစံတစ်စုံလျှင် ကျပ် ၁၀၀၀/- (ကျပ် တစ်ထောင်တိတိ) နှုန်းဖြင့် ဘတ်ဂျက်နှင့် ငွေစာရင်းဌာန၊ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးဌာနတွင် ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။ အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို ဖုန်းအမှတ်-၃၈၈၇၃၂ သို့ ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ဆက်သွယ်မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ

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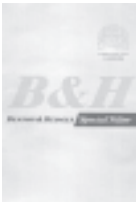
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Used in respect of: "Cigarettes, tobacco, tobacco products, tobacco substitutes and other substances used in the manufacture of tobacco products." (International Class 34)
Any unauthorized use, imitation, infringements or fraudulent intentions of the above mark will be dealt with according to law.

Tin Ohnmar Tun
B.A (LAW) LL.B, LL.M (UK)
P.O.Box 109
Ph: 248108/723043
(For: British American Tobacco Ltd U.K)
Dated: 1 March 2006

DON'T SMOKE

TRADEMARK CAUTION
MONARCH PHARMACEUTICALS IRELAND LIMITED, a Company incorporated in Ireland, of Alexandra House, The Sweepstakes, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, Ireland, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:

SYNERCID
Reg. No. 931/2000
in respect of "Pharmaceutical products".
Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for MONARCH PHARMACEUTICALS IRELAND LIMITED
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 1 March 2006

TRADE MARK CAUTION
Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha (HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.) of No. 1-1, 2-chome, Minami-oyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

THE POWER OF DREAMS
Reg. No. 4350/2000
Reg. No. 4351/2000
in respect of "Int'l Class 7: Machines and machine tools; motors and engines (except for land vehicles); machine coupling and transmission components (except for land vehicles); agricultural implements other than hand-operated; incubators for eggs, and parts and accessories for the above-mentioned goods. Int'l Class 12: Vehicles; apparatus for locomotion by land, air or water; and their parts fittings-included in this class".
Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.,
for Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
P. O. Box 60, Yangon. Dated: 1 March 2006

Pakistan to import 50,000 tons of sugar from India
LATUR (Maharashtra), 27 Feb— The Pakistan Government has requested India to supply 50,000 tons of sugar to Pakistan every two months, Union Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar said here on Sunday.
"This request by the Pakistani government

International fashion tour opens in Paris

PARIS, 27 Feb— Paris began to hold the international winter fashion shows on Sunday for eight days after Milan wrapped up its catwalk shows on Saturday.
Some 100 French and foreign fashion houses for ready-to-wear womenswear collections for 2006-07 were expected to be shown till 5 March.
Highlights will be given to new faces, besides big marks, such as Chanel, Christian Dior, Yves Saint Laurent and Christian Lacroix.— *MNA/Xinhua*

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့်စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်းနှင့် သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းတို့အတွက် စက္ကူနှင့်ပုံနှိပ်လုပ်ငန်းသုံးပစ္စည်းများဝယ်ယူရန် တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

- ၁။ ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့်စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်းနှင့် သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းတို့အတွက် အသုံးပြုရန်လိုအပ်သော အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ စက္ကူနှင့်ပုံနှိပ်လုပ်ငန်းသုံး ပစ္စည်းများကို ယှဉ်တွဲပါအရေအတွက်များအတိုင်း ဝယ်ယူလိုပါသည်—
- (က) ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့်စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်း
- (1) Newsprint Paper (48.8 Gsm) (28 1/4", 30", 34", 40") ၁၅၅၀ တန်
 - (2) Woodfree Paper (A1 Size Sheet) ၁၅ တန်
 - (3) Art Card (အထူ) (250/265 Gsm) (A1 Size) ၅ တန်
 - (4) Art Card (အပါး) (105/110 Gsm) (A1 Size) ၁၀ တန်
 - (5) Negative Developer ၄၀၀ လီတာ
 - (6) Positive Plates & Chemicals
 - (a) 635 x 745 x 0.3 mm ၁၀၀၀ ချပ်
 - (b) 1065 x 785 x 0.3 mm ၁၀၀၀ ချပ်
 - (7) Positive Developer ၆၀၀ လီတာ
 - (8) Ortho Film (50 shts/Pkt) (22" x 32") ၇၀ တွဲ
 - (9) Stitching Wire (23 Gauge) ၁၀၀၀ ကျွိုင်
 - (10) Stitching Wire (24 Gauge) ၆၀၀ ကျွိုင်
- (ခ) သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း
- (1) Newsprint Paper (48.8 Gsm) (30", 34") ၄၅၅ တန်
 - (2) Sheetfed Offset Ink (Black) ၁၀၀၀ ကီလို
 - (3) P/S Negative Plates
 - (a) 915 x 626 x 0.3 mm ၆၀၀ ချပ်
 - (b) 889 x 586 x 0.3 mm ၃၂၀၀ ချပ်
 - (4) Wipe on Aluminium Plates
 - (a) 745 x 635 x 0.24 mm ၈၀၀ ချပ်
 - (b) 650 x 550 x 0.24 mm ၂၅၀၀ ချပ်
 - (5) Coating A + B Set ၁၂၀ ဇုံ
 - (6) P/S Developer ၃၀၀ လီတာ
 - (7) Developing Laquer (1 Litre/Box) ၂၀၀ ဘူး
 - (8) Ortho film (Agfa) (24" x 200") ၅၀ လီပ်
 - (9) Agfa Developer (10 Ltrs/PKT) ၅၀ ဘူး
 - (10) Hilihthodol Developer (10 Ltrs/Pkt) ၃၀ ဘူး
 - (11) Fixer (5 Ltrs/Box) ၆၀ ဘူး
 - (12) Photographic Paper (10" x 12") ၁၀၀ ထုပ်
 - (13) Rubber Blanket With T Bar ၇၀ ချပ်
 - (14) Rubber Blanket Roll (28 m x 1075 mm x 1.95 mm) ၃ လီပ်
 - (15) Stencil Paper ၁၀၀၀ ဘူး
 - (16) Duplicating Ink Tube ၇၀၀ ဘူး
 - (17) A3 Toner ၆၀ ဘူး
 - (18) Gum Arabic (20 Litres/ Bot) ၄၅ ပုလင်း
- ၂။ တင်ဒါပေးသွင်းမှုကို (၁၅-၃-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့ (၁၆:၃၀) နာရီတွင် ပိတ်ပါမည်။
- ၃။ တင်ဒါပုံစံနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို အောက်ပါလိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက်ဖုန်းမေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။
ပြည်တွင်း/ပြည်ပစွဲစည်းများ ဝယ်ယူရေးနှင့်ထုတ်ဝေရေးရောင်းချရေးကော်မတီ
ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
ပြန်စာအသံနှင့် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား
ပြည်ထောင်စု ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
ဖုန်း: -၅၃၇၆၅၅

Drive with care

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဒြေတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့



Australia and New Zealand will jointly bid to host the cricket World Cup in 2011.—INTERNET

Mubarak kicks off Mideast tour on regional situation

CAIRO, 27 Feb — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Sunday kicked off his Middle East tour with the first stop in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to discuss with Gulf leaders on the current Arab situation and the Arab summit slated for March in Khartoum, Sudan.

Mubarak is accompanied by Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul-Gheit, Minister of Information Anas el-Fiqi and Minister of Foreign Trade and Industry Rashid Mohammed Rashid. They will also visit

Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. Egyptian Ambassador to the UAE Mohamed Saad Ebeid told the Cairo-based radio the Voice of Arabs that the tour acquires its importance from challenges witnessed by the Arab

world. He said accomplishments recently achieved by the Egyptian economy will further boost economic cooperation and create new investment chances between the two countries. MNA/Xinhua

African ADB President lauds Ethiopia's eco growth

ADDIS ABABA, 27 Feb — African Development Bank (ADB) President Donald Kaberuka said here on Sunday Ethiopia is remarkably performing in the economic sector.

At a Press briefing, Kaberuka said Ethiopia ranks among the leading countries in the portfolio of the bank, as it is registering a remarkable economic growth in recent years.

Ethiopia registered an 8.9 per cent growth in gross domestic product (GDP) during the previous budget year that ended on July 7, 2005, according to official data.

He said Ethiopia is one of the major operations of the bank for many years.

He added the country is in many ways the test to evaluate the operations of the bank in attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Africa.

The MDGs, adopted in the Millennium UN Summit, include a series of concrete objectives in fighting poverty, reducing hunger, expanding primary education, and containing the spread of HIV/AIDS, among others.

The ADB has signed with the Ethiopian Government a grant agreement amounting to 62 million US dollars to co-finance a rural water supply and sanitation programme in Ethiopia, he said. The grant, which is part of the bank's Rural Water Supply Initiative, reflects the commitment of the bank and the Ethiopian Government to the attainment of the MDGs in the areas of

water and sanitation. The programme, to be carried out through the grant, will help improve access to water and sanitation for about 2.5 million Ethiopians, he said.

Kaberuka reaffirmed the commitment of the bank to continue supporting Ethiopia's economic development and poverty eradication efforts.—MNA/Xinhua



A Victor Company of Japan (JVC) showroom in Tokyo. Japanese plants and factories boosted production for a sixth straight month in January, lifting industrial output to record high levels.—INTERNET

Vietnam gains bigger export earnings in first two months

HANOI, 27 Feb — Vietnam is estimated to reap export revenues of nearly 5.6 billion US dollars in the first two months of this year, posting a year-on-year surge of 28.3 per cent, according to a local trade information

agency on Sunday. Items recording high export growths include rubber, up 81.7 per cent to 156 million dollars; textiles and garments, up 45.5 per cent to 867 million dollars; and footwear, up 30.8 per cent to 582 million dollars, said the Trade Ministry's Trade

Information Centre. In the two-month period, the country is expected to earn 157 million dollars from shipping abroad 300,000 tons of rice, slightly rise in value over the same period last year, said the centre. Vietnam, which posted

export turnovers of 32.2 billion dollars in 2005, a year-on-year increase of 21.6 per cent, is boosting exports having large revenues, diversifying markets and fostering trade promotion in an attempt to gain export growth of 16.4 per cent in 2006. —MNA/Xinhua

Inner Mongolia reports 18 HIV positive foreign entries in 5 years

HONHOU, 27 Feb — North China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region reported 18 HIV-positive cases from foreign countries from 2001 to 2005, according to the regional administration for entry-exit inspection and quarantine.

"We carried out physical examinations of 176,000 people crossing the region's borders in the past five years," said Li Hong, an official with the regional administration.

"Among the 18 cases, one is a citizen of Thailand and has been sent back to his homeland. The rest were Chinese who returned from foreign countries and they have been hospitalized," added

Li. The northern autonomous region has a 4221-kilometre frontier line with its neighbours Russia and Mongolia.

With the development of foreign exchanges, the region has imposed strict controls on AIDS prevention as more and more foreigners flood into the country.

According to Chinese law, foreign citizens who

want to study or work in China and Chinese citizens who have stayed overseas for one year or more must offer official AIDS quarantine documents on entering the country. HIV carriers from foreign countries will be sent back to their homelands and Chinese HIV carriers will be put under quarantine by state health departments.

MNA/Xinhua



Revellers of the Mangueira samba school perform on the top of a carnival float during the second night of the Carnival parade at the Sambadrome in Rio de Janeiro on 27 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Zidane says winning back World Cup is a must

PARIS, 28 Feb—France playmaker Zinedine Zidane said on Monday that winning back the World Cup this summer is an obligation for les Bleus.

"The World Cup is not an important objective, it's the greatest objective. We'll go to Germany to win the World Cup," Zidane was quoted as saying by sports daily *L'Equipe*.

His remarks came as France were gathering for Wednesday's international friendly against Slovakia. "I'm 33, I'll be 34 in Germany. When one has won the World Cup and lost it four years later, winning it back is an magnificent and imperious obligation," he said.

Zidane believed France are good enough to win the World Cup although they have to overcome a major obstacle from Brazil.—MNA/Xinhua



Real Madrid French player Zinedine Zidane, left, duels for the ball against Real Mallorca player Angelos Basinas during their Spanish league soccer match at the Son Moix Stadium in Palma de Mallorca, Spain, on Sunday, 26 Feb, 2006. Real Madrid lost 2-1.—INTERNET

Benfica's win over Porto keeps title hopes alive

LISBON, 28 Feb—Benfica kept their hopes of retaining the Portuguese title alive with a 1-0 win over leaders Porto on Sunday.

French international Laurent Robert got the winning goal with a low 35-metre free kick five minutes before halftime, his first goal since he joined the Lisbon club in December.

Porto head the table with 51 points after 24 matches followed by Sporting, who beat struggling Academica 3-0 on Saturday, with 49. Benfica are third on 46.

The match was dubbed "the 10th Dutch round". Both coaches are from the Netherlands and Benfica's win gave Ronald Koeman his eighth victory over Porto's Co Adriaanse in 10 league games with the other two matches drawm. —MNA/Reuters

Roma win derby with Lazio to set Serie A record

ROME, 28 Feb—AS Roma set a record of 11 consecutive Serie A wins when goals by Rodrigo Taddei and Alberto Aquilani secured a 2-0 triumph over city rivals Lazio on Sunday.

Roma's run of victories eclipsed the previous best of 10 in a row held jointly by Juventus (1931-32), AC Milan (1950-51) and Bologna (1963-64).

The derby win kept Roma fourth in the table with 54 points from 27 matches.

Without captain Francesco Totti, who fractured his ankle against Empoli last week, Roma lacked their usual fluency early on.

Lazio looked more dangerous and striker Tommaso Rocchi struck the post in the 13th minute.

Roma showed their ruthlessness by taking advantage of their first scoring chance in the 31st minute, Taddei rising at the near post to nod in a corner.

MNA/Reuters

Ronaldinho doubtful for Russia friendly

MADRID, 28 Feb—Barcelona forward Ronaldinho has suffered an injury recurrence, becoming doubtful for Brazil's friendly against Russia on Wednesday.

Ronaldinho had not yet returned to the Brazil squad due to the recurrence of a strain in his left ankle during Barcelona's league match against Real Zaragoza on Saturday.

"Whether or not Ronaldinho will play for the national team will depend on the result of conversations between Barcelona and the medical staff of the Brazilian Confederation," Barcelona said Monday in a statement on their website.

MNA/Xinhua

Lille sink Monaco 1-0 to move up to third

PARIS, 27 Feb—Lille upset off-form Monaco 1-0 away to move up to third in Ligue 1 on Sunday.

Substitute Peter Odemwingie scored the winner just before the hour when Lille were down to 10 men after striker Jean Makoun was sent off for a dangerous tackle on midfielder Jaroslav Plasil.

Lille are one point ahead of AJ Auxerre who beat Toulouse 2-0 on Saturday.

Lille narrowed the gap to six points on Girondins Bordeaux who were held 3-3 at home by bottom side Metz on Saturday while champions Olympique Lyon slumped 4-1 at home to Stade Rennes, only their second defeat of the season.

Despite this mishap Lyon retain the lead on 59 points from 27 matches with Bordeaux six points adrift.

In the last match of the day, Olympique Marseille overcame a tough challenge from Nice to snatch a 1-0 success on their home ground of Stade Velodrome.

Striker Toifilou Maoulida slotted home a fine pass from Mickael Pagis in the 66th minute to give his side their first league success from three outings.

Marseille who qualified for the UEFA



Monaco's Czech midfielder Jaroslav Plasil (R) vies with Lille's forward Nicolas Fauvergue (L) during their French Ligue 1 football match, at the Louis II Stadium in Monaco. Lille won 1-0.—INTERNET

Cup last 16 on Thursday moved from eighth to fifth in the table on 43 points.

They trail fourth-placed AJ Auxerre by three points. —MNA/Reuters

Coach Spalletti hails Roma's historic winning run

ROME, 28 Feb—Coach Luciano Spalletti was in jubilant mood after his AS Roma team beat city rivals Lazio 2-0 on Sunday to set a Serie A record of 11 successive wins.

"We've made history," he told reporters. "In terms of a one-off achievement I'd say it's the biggest thing I've done in my career so far.

"It was a great way to complete this sequence. Lazio was a very tough opponent," added Spalletti, who arrived at Roma in June having guided Udinese to fourth place last season. Rodrigo Taddei and Alberto Aquilani were on target on Sunday as Roma took their run of victories past the previous best of 10 in a row held jointly by Juventus (1931-32), AC Milan (1950-51) and Bologna (1963-64).

"They (Lazio) made us suffer a

lot before we scored the first goal, especially on the flanks," said Spalletti. "They maybe deserved more than they got tonight."

Roma broke the record without captain Francesco Totti, who watched the game from the sidelines after fracturing his ankle in last weekend's 1-0 win over Empoli.

"We've got a group of players that works. Even when they are missing their captain, these lads have shown they can fill his shoes," said Spalletti.

Roma's run has turned a team of Serie A also-rans into contenders for a Champions League place.—MNA/Reuters



Louisiana Tech guard Tasha Williams charges the baseline as Idaho guard Leilani Mitchell defends in the second quarter at the Kibby Dome in Moscow, Idaho, on 27 Feb, 2006. Louisiana Tech won 55-40.—INTERNET

Crowd violence spoils Olympiakos win over PAOK

ATHENS, 27 Feb—Crowd trouble marred Olympiakos Piraeus's 2-1 win over PAOK Salonica in Thessaloniki on Sunday.

A section of seating was set on fire by PAOK fans shortly after Michalis Konstantinou scored the winner for Olympiakos in the 77th minute.

Missiles were thrown at the firemen attempting to put out the blaze with missiles from the stands. The referee halted the game for several minutes while PAOK captain Thodoros Zagorakis pleaded on the touchline with fans, television coverage of the match showed.

When the fire was put out, the referee resumed the game briefly before blowing the whistle for time.

PAOK, playing their first game under coach Ilie Dumitrescu, had taken the lead in the fifth minute through Egyptian Mahmoud Fadlalla Shikabala but Olympiakos levelled when Yiannis Okkas scored from close range. The win, their 19th from 21 games, gave Olympiakos 57 points and kept them nine points clear of AEK Athens, who beat Ionikos 2-1.—MNA/Reuters

Maradona says Brazil to be crowned at World Cup

BRASILIA, 28 Feb—Argentine legend Diego Maradona said Sunday that Brazil would be the top favourite to win the World Cup in Germany.



Diego Maradona gestures as he watches Rio de Janeiro's carnival parade at the Sambodrome, Brazil, on Monday, 27 Feb, 2006.

INTERNET

Maradona, who is attending a Carnival parade in Rio de Janeiro, made the comments in an interview with the local media.

"Brazil is the most prepared team, it has a top coach and its players are already used to winning," the former Argentine star said.

Maradona admitted that Argentina also has the chance to win the title, but "a lot has to happen at the right moments for that to happen".

MNA/Xinhua

Saudi forces kill suspected militants after siege

RIYADH, 28 Feb — Saudi forces on Monday killed about five suspected militants believed to be linked to an al-Qaeda attack on a major oil facility, security sources said.

A firefight ensued at dawn after security forces besieged the men, who were hiding in a villa in the affluent al-Hamra District of east Riyadh where several Western residential compounds are located.

Witnesses said they heard the sound of heavy gunfire and what appeared to be mortars as security forces surrounded the area and sealed it off before dawn.

The shoot-out ended

after two hours with the deaths of all of the men inside the building, believed to number about five, the security sources said.

One source said the men were traced partly through Internet surveillance. An Internet statement was issued at the weekend claiming that al-Qaeda was behind an attack on the world's largest oil processing plant in Abqaiq on Friday.

The attempt to storm

the site in east Saudi Arabia near the Gulf coast was the first direct strike on a Saudi energy target since the militant group launched attacks aimed at toppling the US-allied monarchy in 2003.

It was also the first major attack by militants opposed to the Saudi monarchy since suicide bombers tried to storm the Interior Ministry in Riyadh in December 2004.

MNA/Reuters



A Saudi policeman directs traffic at a roadblock in the Yarmuk area of eastern Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on 27 Feb, 2006. Saudi forces on Monday killed five suspected militants during a shootout that erupted at dawn.

INTERNET

Train derails, causing no casualties in Romania

BUCHAREST, 28 Feb — A Romanian freight train carrying chemical fertilizer derailed on Sunday, causing no casualties but long delays in the northwest Transylvania region, local authorities said on Monday.

The derailment occurred between the cities of Sighisoara and Brasov, blocking railway lines, said Dorel Iosifescu, director of the Brasov branch of the National Romanian Railways.

Some 15 trains travelling between Transylvania and the capital Bucharest were rerouted Sunday and Monday due to the accident.

Workers were running against time to clear lines overnight and move boxcars that had overturned, in a bid to resume the services later Monday, according to Iosifescu.

A preliminary investigation showed the axle of one of the wheels broke, causing the train to derail.

MNA/Xinhua

WEATHER

Tuesday, 28 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 States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) below normal in Mon State, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin State and Sagaing Division, (5°C) above normal in Chin and Rakhine States, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Lashio and Namhsam (7°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 27-2-2006 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 28-2-2006 was 65°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 28-2-2006 was (80%). Total sunshine hours on 27-2-2006 was (8.2) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 28-2-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (9) mph from South at (18:15) hours MST on 27-2-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 1-3-2006: Isolated light rain are likely in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of isolated light rain are likely in extreme Northern and Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-3-2006: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-3-2006: Fair weather.

Wednesday, 1 March
View on today

<p>7:00 am</p> <p>1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara</p> <p>7:25 am</p> <p>2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am</p> <p>3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am</p> <p>4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:55 am</p> <p>5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:05 am</p> <p>6. မြန်မာ့ပြည်ထောင်စုအဖွဲ့များ</p> <p>8:15 am</p> <p>7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:20 am</p> <p>8. မင်းလှရေလှောင်တစ်</p> <p>8:30 am</p> <p>9. International news</p>	<p>8:45 am</p> <p>10. Let's Go</p> <p>4:00 pm</p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm</p> <p>2. Song to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm</p> <p>3. တစ်မတော်နေ့ရက်ပြုစားသီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲဆုရတေးများ (၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်)</p> <p>4:45 pm</p> <p>4. အေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေးရပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာတတိယနတ် (စာတုဗေဒအထူးပြု) (စာတုဗေဒ)</p> <p>5:00 am</p> <p>5. Song of national races</p> <p>5:15 pm</p> <p>6. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား</p> <p>5:30 pm</p> <p>7. Classical song</p> <p>5:45 pm</p> <p>8. "မင်းမသိသေးပါဘူးကွာ" စရာ၊ ငှက်ချောကြော်၊ ချစ်စရာ၊ ကြုံကြုံလည်း၊ အေးအေးခိုင်ခိုင်၊ ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဆွေစင်ထိုက်</p> <p>5:50 pm</p> <p>9. ဂျပန်ရလင်အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်</p>	<p>6:00 pm</p> <p>10. Evening news</p> <p>6:30 pm</p> <p>11. Weather report</p> <p>6:35 pm</p> <p>12. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေညောင်ရည်</p> <p>7:05 pm</p> <p>13. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>7:15 pm</p> <p>14. Musical programme</p> <p>7:30 pm</p> <p>15. အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်တောက်သည့် သခင်တန်ခေါက်တံတား</p> <p>7:35 pm</p> <p>16. (ဝေ) နှစ်မြောက်တစ်တော်နေ့ ရုတ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်</p> <p>7:45 pm</p> <p>17. ကြားမြင်သူတပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပဒေသာ</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>18. News</p> <p>19. International news</p> <p>20. Weather report</p> <p>21. ၂၀၀၆ခုနှစ် (၅၅)နှစ် မြောက်ပြည့်ဆောင်ရာနေ့ တိုင်းရင်းသားရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု ပဒေသာကဏ္ဍ</p> <p>22. The next day's programme</p>
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Wednesday, 1 March
Tune in today

<p>8:30 am Brief news</p> <p>8:35 am Music</p> <p>8:40 am Perspectives</p> <p>8:45 am Music</p> <p>8:50 am National news / Slogan</p> <p>9:00 am Music</p> <p>9:05 am International news</p> <p>9:10 am Music</p> <p>1:30 pm News/Slogan</p> <p>1:40 pm Lunch time music</p> <p>9:00 pm Variations on a tune</p> <p>9:15 pm Article</p> <p>9:25 pm Music at your request</p> <p>9:45 pm News/Slogan</p> <p>10:00 pm PEL</p>
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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

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) Sagaing Division to put 500,000 acres under physic nut plants



Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence inspects construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon). — MNA

YANGON, 28 Feb — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, yesterday

went to Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) in Mandalay and inspected the construction of the bridge.

After hearing reports on installation of iron beams, construction of railroad on the bridge and the approach road and overpass, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave

instructions.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint attended the physic nut seeds sowing ceremony held at Sagaing District Myanma Agricultural Service.

(See page 10)

**Government has so far spent more than K 1,200,000 m on 183 irrigation facilities across the nation
Yinnyein Sluice Gate in Paung Township, Mon State, opened**

YANGON, 28 Feb — The inauguration of the Yinnyein Sluice Gate took place at the pavilion near

the facility in Paung Township, Mon State, yesterday morning. Member of the State

Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence delivered an address

on the occasion, saying that the purpose of the sluice gate was to prevent the farmland along Yin

Nyein Creek and Kyon Htaw Creek from being flooded in the rainy season, to prevent sea water

entering the cultivated areas, to store fresh water, to extend cultivation of crops, and to boost the per acre yield.

The sluice gate, the 183rd irrigation facility of its kind in the nation, will be able to benefit some 20,000 acres of farmland. The irrigation facilities the government have built at a total cost of close to K 3,900 million in Mon State benefit around 84,000 acres. So far, the government has spent more than K 1,200,000 million on the construction of 183 irrigation facilities across the nation.

Today, states and divisions have seen parallel (See page 11)



Yinnyein Sluice Gate in Paung Township in Mon State. — MNA