

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIII, Number 320

4th Waxing of Taboung 1367 ME

Thursday, 2 March, 2006

## State, private sectors cooperating harmoniously in manufacturing farm machinery to transform conventional farming into mechanized farming

Due to access to high-yield strains of crops and advanced cultivation methods, peasants have enjoyed fruitful results of an increase in cultivable capacity and boosting per acre yields of crops

YANGON, 2 March—The following is a translation of the message sent by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe on the occasion of the Peasants Day:

### Esteemed peasants,

The 2nd of March is designated as “the Peasants Day” in Myanmar as a gesture of recognizing the gratitude of the peasantry. On such an auspicious occasion I wish all the peasants mental and physical well-being and success in the agricultural work.

In the Union of Myanmar, an economic objective — development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well — is being implemented for the national economic development. The agriculture is the most fundamental productive sector that ensures food security of national people and boosts

the State economy. Moreover, the agricultural sector can promote the social economic life of rural people including the peasantry and contribute towards the rural development.

Therefore, the economic objectives and national economic plans are being put into action for the economic development of the State. In the drive, based on agriculture, necessary measures are being taken for all-round development of the industrial, livestock and fishery, forestry, mining, energy, electric power and trade sectors.

Now, the government is paying special attention to exploitation of the nation’s terrestrial and aquatic

resources at full capacity, ensuring modern cultivation methods and improvement of industrialized agriculture.

Pouring a huge amount of investment for irrigation water, a major factor for the agricultural sector, the government has been constructing dams, sluice gates and river water pumping stations and implementing underground water tapping projects throughout the nation.

From 1988 to date, the government has spent more than K 120,600 million on the construction of 183 irrigation facilities that benefit over

(See page 8)

## Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing welcome Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Madame Kristiani Herrawati on State visit

YANGON, 1 March — At the invitation of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing, President of the Republic of Indonesia Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Madame Kristiani Herrawati arrived at Yangon International Airport by special aircraft this afternoon to pay a State visit to the Union of Myanmar.

The Indonesian goodwill delegation led by President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Madame Kristiani Herrawati were welcomed at the airport by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development

(See page 16)



Senior General Than Shwe greets Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Madame Kristiani Herrawati at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

## HONOURING THE PEASANTS DAY

## PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 2 March, 2006

### Work for agricultural development and strong national economy

Today, 2 March, 2006, is a day Peasants Day designated in honour of the peasantry in Myanmar. Having terrestrial, aquatic and favourable climatic conditions suitable for agriculture, Myanmar is trying to make the best use of natural resources for agricultural development. Agriculture is the main source that can ensure a decent living for the people and strong national economy. This being the case, national economic plans are being implemented for development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well.

Agriculture is the main industry of peasants who constitute the majority of the population of Myanmar. Therefore, the government is providing all the necessary assistance, including modern technologies, to peasants for agricultural development. Now, due to double and mixed cropping, reclamation of virgin and vacant land and wetlands and the use of quality strains and modern cultivation methods, sown acreage and per-acre yield have increased.

Sufficient supply of water is a fundamental requirement for agriculture. Therefore, dams, sluice gates and river water pumping stations are being built wherever feasible all over the nation, spending substantial amount of money. Up to now, there have been 183 dams and 293 river water pumping stations across the nation. These irrigation facilities are benefiting more than 2.4 million acres of farmland.

Now is the time when the government, hand in hand with the people, is building the nation in such a way that it can keep pace with the development of other sectors. For national economic development, all-out efforts are being made for development of the livestock breeding and fisheries, forestry, mining, energy, electric power, trade and industrial sectors.

On this auspicious day, we would like to call on the entire peasantry to actively work in concert with the government for agricultural development and strong national economy.



U Khin Maung Wai and Daw Hla Hla Myint of No 23/25, Sangyoung Street, Yangon, donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently to mark the silver jubilee of their marriage. Prof Dr Daw May Win Aung Khin, member of the administrative board of the home for the aged accepted the donation. — 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

### Transport Minister inspects MV Mandalay at 12,000-ton-capacity Dry Dock



Transport Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe inspects MV Mandalay being repaired at Dry Dock of Myanma Shipyards. — TRANSPORT

YANGON, 1 March — The 12,000-ton-capacity dry dock under Myanma Shipyards is located on Bayintnaung Road, here.

This morning, the Minister for Transport, Maj-Gen Thein Swe arrived at the dry dock, and heard reports by Managing Director U Kyi Soe of Myanma Shipyards and Managing Director U Maung Maung Nyein of Myanma Five Star Line on matters related to the dry dock, functions of machines at the sluice gate control room, and docking services being given to MV Mandalay of Myanma Five Star Line. Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe instructed officials to complete the repairing tasks in time, ensure worksite safety, and meet the set standard.

The minister inspected repairing of MV Mandalay. Managing Director U Kyi Soe and Managing Director U Maung Maung Nyein conducted the

minister round the docking functions.

MV Mandalay, 149 metres in length, 22.4 metres in width and 8 metres draught, that will be the 13,000 tons at full load capacity, is being docked in the 12,000-ton-capacity dry dock. It is the first service of the dry dock.

From now onward, the dry dock will accept the offer of works to provide docking services to 26 ocean-going vessels of Myanma Five Star Line so as to save foreign exchange and earn foreign currency by servicing vessels from abroad.

MNA

### Tiger Myanmar Amateur Open 2006



YANGON, 1 March— The Tiger Myanmar Open, the premier amateur golf event in the country is scheduled to be played at the scene and challenging Yangon Golf Club from March 7-10, 2006.

The event, which attracts the top amateurs players in Myanmar, has

a rich historical background dating back to the early 40s and is a very keenly contested affair.

Attractive prizes awaits the winners and the champion aside from the historical trophy will receive an automatic berth in the national team training squad.

Those wishing to take part in the Tiger Myanmar Amateur Open 2006 may contact phone numbers 09-99 72554 and 542989 not later than 5th March at 4 pm.

MNA

### Prizes of Radio Quiz awarded

YANGON 1 March — MRTV is broadcasting about the salient points of ASEAN through radio programmes at 9.45 am on Saturdays for implementing ASEAN in Action Project.

The radio quiz for February, 2006 was held this morning and enthusiasts took part in it.

Maung Thein Htike Aung of Magway Division won first prize, Maung Kyaw Zayya of Mandalay Division, second, Maung Di Di Sai Aung of Shan State (North), third and Maung Myo Min Htike, consolation prize in the quiz. Prizes were awarded to winners by officials.

Those wishing to participate in the radio quiz being monthly held, may enlist at MRTV on Pyay Road regardless of age and qualification.

MNA

### Commerce Journal in circulation

YANGON, 1 March — No 5, Volume 6 of the Commerce Journal comes out today.

The issue highlighted beans and pulses market this year, Myanma flowers' penetration of market in Singapore and watermelon's and cucumber's penetration in China.

According to an article in it, import and export licences are issued in Pinyinman and on-line import and export licence applications will be available in the future. — MNA

### Funeral Service Association opened in Kayan

YANGON 1 March — The Funeral Service Association was opened at No 3 Ward in Kayan on 18 February.

Patron of FSA State Central Working Committee of the Sangha Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Kesara Bhivamsa opened the signboard of the association and member of panel of patrons of FSA Township Peace and Development Council Secretary U Tint Lwin, Township USDA Joint Secretary U Kyaw Myint Aung and Chairman of the association U Kyaw Swe made speeches. Next, wellwishers donated cash to the association.

MNA

ထုတ်တုန့်နှင်းဆဲ တိုးမြှင့်ကြ

# Mubarak ends two-day Gulf tour, leaves Riyadh

RIYADH, 28 Feb— Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak wrapped up his hours-long visit to Saudi Arabia and left here late Monday. Saudi Arabia is the last leg of Mubarak's two-day Gulf tour which also took him to the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain, Qatar and Kuwait. While in Riyadh,

Mubarak held talks with Saudi King Abdullah bin Abdel-Aziz and senior officials on the Middle East peace process, in addition to topics tabled on the agenda of the upcoming Arab Summit due in March in Sudan's capital Khartoum.

The situation in Iraq, Lebanese-Syrian relations, the recent developments on the Palestinian arena also figured high at the talks.

During his two-day

Gulf tour, Mubarak has also repeated the same topics with leaders of other Gulf nations. The Egyptian President has been accompanied by Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul-Gheit, Trade and Industry Minister Rashid Mohamed Rashid, Information Minister Anas el-Fiqi, chief of the presidential staff Zakariya Azmi, Minister Omar Sulaiman and presidential spokesman Sulaiman Awwad. — MNA/Xinhua



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

## Cambodia-India Entrepreneurship Development Centre launched

PHNOM PENH, 28 Feb—Cambodia-India Entrepreneurship Development Centre (CIEDC) was launched on Monday as part of India's support to the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI).

The EDC is expected to spearhead the entrepreneurship development movement in Cambodia and become a centre of excellence to facilitate and create viable and competitive new enterprises.

The EDC will help existing enterprises to face new challenges of competition.

This centre will train

and develop the next generation of Cambodian entrepreneurs, and increase the number of SMEs (small and medium enterprises). It will create more jobs and opportunities, according to Pich Sophoan, secretary of state of the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training.

"We hope this centre will help build self confidence and necessary skills that will accelerate the growth of our economy as envisioned in the Rectangular Strategy," he added.

MNA/Xinhua



Vienna Philharmonics gold coins are arranged in the shape of a cake at a jewellery shop in Tokyo on 28 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

## Amkor Technology builds wafer bumping plant in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 28 Feb—Amkor Technology, an American semiconductor testing and packaging company, is building a wafer bumping plant in Singapore with an investment of 50 million US dollars.

According to *Channel NewsAsia* report on Monday night, the new facility will house Amkor's first research and development centre outside the United States and manufacture some 8,000 wafers every month in the initial phase. Expected to be completed in the second half of this year, the plant will add to Amkor's existing facility in the city state, which offers high-end test services, and bring its investment here to 100 million US dollars. Wafer bumping is part of the process of manufacturing the protective casing for chips used in many consumer electronic devices.

MNA/Xinhua

## Colombian Army destroys 5.5 tons of coca leaves

BOGOTA, 28 Feb— The Colombian Army announced on Monday they had dismantled a laboratory used to manufacture cocaine and destroyed 5.5 tons of coca leaves in the southeast of the country.

The soldiers seized the lab in Miraflores in the southeastern department of Guaviare, 400 kilometres off the capital Bogota.

The lab belonged to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, the largest rebel group that has been fighting the Colombian Government since the mid-1960s, the Army said.

It was the 66th facility of its kind that has been destroyed by the Army this year.

MNA/Xinhua

## 2,294 US troops killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb—As of Tuesday, 28 Feb, 2006, at least 2,294 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count. The figure includes seven military civilians. At least 1,800 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The AP count is four lower than the Defence Department's tally, last updated Tuesday at 10 am EST. The British military has reported 103 deaths; Italy, 27; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, two each; Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, one death each.

Since the start of US military operations in Iraq, 16,906 US service members have been wounded, according to a Defence Department tally on Tuesday.—Internet

## Mortar attack kills four in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 28 Feb—Four people were killed and 13 others wounded in a mortar round attack northwest of Baghdad on Monday, a police source told *Xinhua*.

"The mortar rounds landed in the Jawdeen District after midday," the source said.

Earlier, the source said 17 people were wounded, but later the number was corrected to 13.

MNA/Xinhua

## Croc-wrestling granny wins bravery award

SYDNEY, 28 Feb— An Australian grandmother who saved a friend from the jaws of a crocodile by jumping on the giant reptile's back has been awarded Australia's highest civilian bravery award. Alicia Sorohan was awarded the Star of

Courage after risking her life to save a friend who was dragged from his tent by the crocodile during a camping trip in the remote far north of tropical Queensland state in October 2004.

Then 60, Sorohan jumped on the 4.2 m (14

feet) crocodile's back as it dragged him from a tent while the man's horrified wife tried to both pull him free and protect their baby.

The crocodile then turned on Sorohan and almost tore off her arm before her son shot and killed it.—Internet



An Iraqi resident runs away from the scene of a bomb attack at a shopping district in Baghdad, on 28 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

# Ship spills heavy fuel in Suez Canal

CAIRO, 28 Feb—A vessel spilled 3,000 tons of heavy fuel into the Suez Canal on Monday after running aground and hitting the western bank of the waterway, the Suez Canal Authority said.

The ship, named by the authority as the *Grigoroussa 1*, spread the fuel over a distance of 12 miles towards the southern end of the canal while passing through from north to south.

The authority has sent out boats with booms to contain large patches and

to treat them with foam, officials said.

Tugs have towed the vessel to the port of Suez, at the southern end of the canal, and impounded it for pollution, the authority said in a statement.

A marine biologist said the oil would probably move south-

wards into the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea but not necessarily as far as the sensitive coral reefs at the southern tip of the Sinai Peninsula.

“The canal and the northern end of the Gulf of Suez are already quite polluted but it could affect some fisheries,” added the biologist, who asked not to be named.

Another expert said it would be easier to contain the oil in a narrow waterway such as the Suez Canal than in the open sea.—MNA/Reuters



A Chinese man dusts snow off a lion sculpture on the street of Beijing, China, on 28 Feb, 2006. Temperature plunged in the Chinese capital as a late snow fall blankets the city.—INTERNET

## ဝတ်မှုမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား



The new DMC-L1 Digital SLR Camera sits in a glass case while on display at the Panasonic booth at the Photo Marketing Association International Convention and Trade Show in Orlando, on 28 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

# APEC to jointly combat bird flu

HANOI, 28 Feb — Members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) will take concrete measures to combat bird flu outbreaks among poultry as well as humans, a health official told *Xinhua* here on Monday.

Under complex progress of bird flu outbreaks in many countries and regions, APEC is embarking on a joint plan on pandemic influenza response and preparedness with the future organization of a symposium in China and a workshop in Vietnam, Ian Shugart, chairman of

APEC's Health Task Force (HTF), said on the sidelines of the HTF's meeting in Hanoi on Monday.

“We plan to hold a symposium on emerging infectious diseases, including avian influenza, in Beijing in early May, and a risk communications workshop in Hanoi in late

April. Their main objectives are to update avian influenza situations in the region, define steps to be taken to respond to potential pandemics, and share technical expertise and information to curb the spread of health crisis,” Shugart said. During the symposium, delegates will

touch upon such technical issues as the nature of bird flu viruses, their transmission paths, and laboratory assessment. The H5N1 bird flu virus has not mutated to a degree which allows human-to-human transmission so far, although the possibility can be ruled out, the official said.—MNA/Xinhua

## Mexico City officials try to close hotel

MEXICO CITY, 28 Feb—City officials moved Tuesday to shut down a US-owned hotel that angered many Mexicans when it kicked out a Cuban delegation under pressure from Washington.

Virginia Jaramillo Flores, head of the city borough where the upscale Sheraton Maria Isabel Hotel is located, said authorities notified the hotel staff that it would be closed because it is in violation of building codes.

Jaramillo said the hotel could reopen when it had corrected the violations and paid a \$15,000 fine. Borough officials posted signs at the front entrance saying, “Due to infringement of local law, the

Sheraton Hotel activities have been suspended.”

It was not immediately clear if guests or employees would have to leave or if the hotel would be able to legally block the closure.

Laura Canepa, a representative for hotel owner Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide Inc, said company officials were consulting with their lawyers about the implications of the measure.—Internet

## Romanian man tests negative for bird flu virus

BUCHAREST, 28 Feb—A Romanian man who was suspected of having contracted bird flu has tested negative for the human form of the disease, doctors said on Monday.

The man, 21, who lives in the southwest village of Cetate where the deadly H5N1 virus was detected in birds, was hospitalized on Sunday in Bucharest after showing flu symptoms.

But preliminary tests showed the man does not have bird flu. Doctors said the man would remain in hospital until he was cured. Further tests will be performed on Monday at a Bucharest national laboratory.

This is the 11th suspected case of human bird flu in Romania, but so far none have been confirmed.

The deadly H5N1 strain was first

detected in Romania in October after infecting domestic fowl in the Danube Delta, a large natural reserve visited by hundreds of thousands of migratory birds. So far, bird flu has been detected in 34 villages across Romania.

Scientists fear the virus could mutate into a form that is easily transmitted between humans, sparking a pandemic.

A total of 170 human cases of bird flu involving 92 deaths have been reported to the World Health Organization (WHO) by 20 February.—MNA/Xinhua



A bee pollinates a blossom in a fruit orchard on 28 Feb, 2006, in Navelencia, California. The orchard is part of the 90-mile blossom trail through peach, plum, apple, orange and nut orchards showing off the picturesque side of the San Joaquin Valley's staple industry which is agriculture.—INTERNET

## One dead, 50 missing in Bangladesh ferry mishap

DHAKA, 28 Feb — One man was killed and nearly 50 people were missing after a ferry with about 150 aboard sank on Monday in a river in southern Bangladesh, police said.

A body of an old man was found floating near the site of the accident, but the ferry was yet to be traced, an official of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority said.

“The mishap occurred

when the overloaded boat capsized on the Kirtankhola River in fair weather,” said a police officer at Barisal Town, 190 miles south of the capital, Dhaka.

The single-decker ferry

listed to one side and sank quickly, the officer said. Some 100 people travelling on the roof swam to safety, but the fate of about 50 others sitting on the deck was not immediately known.—MNA/Reuters



Visitors look at art during a preview at Whitney Biennial in New York on 28 Feb, 2006. The biennial which surveys contemporary American art, featuring more than 100 artists this year, will open to the public on 2 March, 2006. —INTERNET

## East Asian, LatAm nations meet on security cooperation

**BOGOTA, 28 Feb**— The fight against terrorism and drug trafficking topped the agenda of the two-day conference of the East Asia-Latin America Cooperation Forum that started here on Monday.

In the communique issued on the first day of the gathering, Colombia and Singapore, the cochairmen of the conference, said that solidarity and shared responsibility should be the two guiding principles in fighting international crimes.

The 32 nations present at the meeting will also promote exchanges for journalists and academic

activities and the creation of a network of academic centres studying Latin America.

Carlos Ospina, who is in charge of Asian affairs at Colombia's Foreign Ministry, said the forum's projects have strengthened trust, cooperation and relations among the countries.

Ospina said the five-year old forum has helped strengthen political, cultural and educational links.

The forum groups Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei, Cambodia, Colombia, South Korea, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, China, Ecuador, El Salvador, the Philippines, Guatemala, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, Nicaragua, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Vietnam.

MNA/Xinhua

## Cocoa consumers have lower risk of disease in study

**CHICAGO, 28 Feb** — Men who consumed the most cocoa had a 50-per-cent lower risk of dying from disease compared to those who did not eat cocoa, Dutch researchers said on Monday.

Cocoa is known to lower blood pressure, though previous studies have disagreed about whether it staves off heart disease over the long-term particularly since it is contained in foods high in fat, sugar and calories.

The new study in *Archives of Internal Medicine* concluded that it was not lower blood pressure that corresponded to the finding of a lower overall risk of death — although the biggest cocoa

consumers did have lower blood pressure and fewer cases of fatal heart disease than non-cocoa eaters.

Instead, the report credited antioxidants and flavanols found in cocoa with boosting the functioning of cells that line blood vessels and for lessening the risks from cholesterol and other chemicals that can cause heart attacks, cancer and lung diseases. Flavanols are a class of healthy flavonoids that are found in many

vegetables, green tea and red wine.

The 15-year study of 470 elderly men aged 65 to 84 in Zutphen, the Netherlands, found one-third did not eat any cocoa, while the median intake was 4.2 grammes per day among the third who consumed the most cocoa. From 1985 to 2000, 314 of the men died, and the biggest cocoa eaters were at half the risk of dying compared to men who did not eat it.

The report's author, Brian Buijsse of the National Institute for Pub-

lic Health and the Environment in Bilthoven, said drawing conclusions for the broader population would require more study of cocoa's impact on health.

"Before we can say cocoa can save your life, a larger study would need to be done," agreed Dr Nieca Goldberg, a cardiologist at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York who did not participate in the research.

"This study is not generalizable to the public because it was done in men over the age of 65 years."

MNA/Reuters



Tibetan children play amid heavy snow at a local ethnic school in Hefei, the capital of China's Anhui Province, during Tibetan New Year Day on 28 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

## Policeman injured in blast in northern Spain

**MADRID, 28 Feb**— A bomb exploded late on Monday near a courthouse in Spain's Basque region, injuring one policeman and toppling part of the courthouse's roof, state-run news agency Efe reported.

A device blew up in the town of Mungia, near the port city of Bilbao, Efe reported. The policeman was reportedly taken to Cruces hospital and his condition was not immediately known. It was not clear if there was any claim of responsibility. But the armed separatist group Basque Homeland and Freedom (ETA) has been blamed for a series of explosions in recent days, the latest on Sunday. —MNA/Xinhua

## Ukraine confirms H5-infected bird deaths in Odessa zoo

**KIEV, 28 Feb**— Suspected bird deaths in Ukraine's southern city of Odessa were caused by the H5 strain of bird flu virus, the first such cases outside the Crimea Peninsula, the city's top veterinarian said on Monday.

Head of the city's veterinary bureau said test results from Ukraine's central lab showed that the dead birds found in a zoo in Odessa were killed by H5 strain virus. Preventive measures were already adopted in the zoo which was now under quarantine.

Local authorities ordered the zoo to cull pheasants and parrots potentially exposed to the flu, disinfect the whole bird exhibition section, close pet market nearby and strengthen surveillance on health conditions of both human beings and animals within the quarantine zone. Ukraine detected its first cases of H5 strain of bird flu in the Crimea Peninsula on 3 December, 2005 and no case of human infection has been reported yet.

MNA/Xinhua

## Russian stunt pilots to fly through cave in China

**BELING, 28 Feb**— A team of Russian pilots will reportedly fly fighter jets through a narrow cave in central China in a tourist stunt that will cost people up to 840 dollars to watch.

The Russian air force jets, including advanced Sukhoi Su-30s and Su-27s, will fly through the famed Tianmen Cave in central Hunan Province on 17-18 March, the *Hunan Daily* said.

The cave, which resembles a rock archway, is

only 57 metres (188 feet) wide at its widest point and 28 metres wide at its narrowest, it said.

The cave is about 280 metres long and 130 metres high, and according to the *China Daily*, "is the highest

water-eroded cave in the world".

Local officials are hoping to reap huge profits from the March event with 20,000 tickets on sale for up to 6,800 yuan (840 dollars) each, the *China Daily* said. —Internet



Chinese villagers work at the construction site for a new bridge in China's rural Danzhai County, Guizhou Province on 28 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

## Ten injured in three-train collision in Buenos Aires

**BUENOS AIRES, 28 Feb**— Two commuter trains and a cargo train collided in Buenos Aires on Monday, injuring 10 people, according to a spokesman for the rail company.

The driver of one of the passenger trains was seriously injured after being trapped in the twisted metal, said Gustavo Gago, a spokesman for the TBA train company.

There were no deaths reported.

A *Reuters* witness said two thunderous crashes were heard in the upscale district of Palermo when the trains hit each other.

Dozens of passenger walked away dazed from the scene, tending to bloody noses or cuts.

MNA/Reuters



A Vietnamese man works on his boat as sun sets in Vung Tau, about 100 km (62 miles) southeast of Vietnam's southern city of Ho Chi Minh on 28 Feb, 2006.—INTERNET

## Bio-diesel car rental opens in Los Angeles

**LOS ANGELES, 1 March** — A company offering rental cars powered entirely by bio-diesel set up shop in Los Angeles on Tuesday, hoping to bring the aroma of popcorn and doughnuts to the city's smoggy freeways.

Just one snag — there is only one place in town to fill up.

Bio-Beetle Eco Rental Cars, which started out on the Hawaiian island of Maui three years ago, opened for business near Los Angeles International Airport with four cars fueled by filtered vegetable oil.

"I've always wanted to come to Los Angeles," said founder Shaun Stenshol.

"California is known as an environmentally friendly state and LA is the car capital of the world. What better place to do bio-diesel than Los Angeles?"

"As far as bio-diesel rental cars, I don't know of anyone else doing it in the world," said Stenshol, a former Greenpeace worker and environmental activist.

Bio-diesel costs 3.45 US dollars a gallon — about one US dollar more than

regular gas — but the cars get between 400 and 800 miles per tank. There is only one place where customers can fill up but Stenshol said he hoped to help set up other refueling stations in the Los Angeles metro area.

"There are people who say it smells like popcorn, or french fries or doughnuts. But to me it is just a pleasant tang," said Stenshol. —MNA/Reuters

## Treatment of early prostate cancer can wait

**NEW YORK, 1 March** — Surgical treatment of early prostate cancers can be delayed for more than two years without reducing the chances of curing the disease, new research shows.

The study, which appears in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, compared curability rates for 38 men who had delayed surgery and 150 who were treated with immediate surgery. Men in the former group underwent surgery around 26 months after diagnosis, while those in the latter group waited only about three months. Samples from the removed tumour were analyzed to determine whether the cancer was curable or not. A slightly higher rate of curable cancer was noted in the immediate surgery group, but, from a statistical standpoint, it was not significantly different from the rate seen in the delayed surgery group, Dr H Ballentine Carter, from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore, and colleagues report.

MNA/Reuters

## ADB to aid road, water and sanitation works in Azerbaijan

**MANILA, 1 March** — The Asian Development Bank (ADB) said on Tuesday it plans to boost its operations in the road and water supply and sanitation sectors in Azerbaijan, according to an ADB Country Strategy and Programme (CSP)

update that earmarks about 179 million US dollars in loans for the central Asian nation in 2007.

The amount consists of a considerable increase over the 39 million US dollars in loans programmed for 2006 in

the previous CSP Update for Azerbaijan and reflects increased support to the Azerbaijani government's infrastructure development plans, strong debt repayment capacity and a positive economic outlook.

"With ADB's working relationship with the government maturing and Azerbaijan's improved economic outlook, our programme must respond to this changing environment," said Matthew Westfall, the ADB country director at the Resident Mission in Azerbaijan.

MNA/Xinhua

## China's output of energy, raw materials grows fast in 2005

**BELING, 1 March** — China's output of energy and raw materials grew fast in 2005, figures released by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) on Tuesday show.

According to an NBS report on China's economic and social development in 2005, China last year produced energy equivalent to 2.06 billion tons of standard coal, up 9.5 per cent year on year.

In 2005, China generated electricity of 2.4747 trillion kilowatts hour, up 12.3 per cent, produced crude coal of 2.19 billion tons, up 9.9 per cent, and produced crude oil of 181 million tons, up 2.8 per cent.

China produced

crude steel of 352 million tons, up 24.6 per cent, rolled steel of 397 million tons, up 24.1 per cent and cement of 1.06 billion tons, up 10 per cent.

In 2005, China manufactured 5.7 million cars, up 12.1 per cent. The added value of China's high-tech industry grew 19.8 per cent to 783.9 billion yuan (98 billion US dollars), NBS figures show.

MNA/Xinhua

## China's population increased 7.68 million in 2005

**BELING, 1 March** — China had a 1.30756-billion population by the end of 2005, 7.68 million more than that in the previous year, according to a report released by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) on Tuesday.

China has made persistent efforts to slow its population growth over the past 30 years and succeeded in reducing the birthrate.

The birthrate dropped

from 21.06 per thousand in 1990 to 12.40 in 2005, while the growth rate went down from 14.39 per thousand to 5.89, according to figures from the NBS.

Although the popula-

tion growth rate has been reduced, the actual increase is still huge. The country is expecting a peak in the number of elderly and migrant population amid growing imbalance in gender proportions among newborn babies.

China's urban population totalled 562.12 million by the end of 2005, accounting for 43 per cent of the total, and rural population reached 745.44 million, accounting for 57 per cent.

NBS figures show 673.75 million Chinese are male, making up 51.5 per cent, and 633.81 million are female, making up 48.5 per cent.

Some 100.55 million Chinese people are over 65 years old, accounting for 7.7 per cent of the total.

MNA/Xinhua



Pedestrians cross a street during a heavy snow storm in the centre of Geneva, Switzerland, on Wednesday, 1 March, 2006. Switzerland is experiencing the coldest winter in 21 years.

INTERNET

## Moderate quake rattles Philippines, no damage

**MANILA, 1 March** — A Moderate earthquake rattled the northern Philippines on Wednesday with a lesser tremor felt in capital Manila, but there were no immediate reports of casualties or damage, officials said.

The 5.0 magnitude earthquake struck the northern island of Luzon just after 7 pm (1100 GMT).

"There were no immediate reports of any damage caused by the earthquake," a spokesman for the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said.

Earthquakes occur frequently in the Philippines, which lies on a seismically active stretch of the Pacific basin. In 1990, an earthquake measuring 7.8 on the Richter Scale killed 1,600 in Lozon.

MNA/Reuters



Basque policeman examine the damage after a bomb exploded outside a Labour Ministry building in the coastal town of Mutriku, in Spain's Basque country, on 28 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

## Chinese V-P urges local govts to improve services for elderly

BEIJING, 1 March — Chinese Vice-Premier Hui Liangyu on Tuesday urged various departments of local governments at all levels to have good co-operation in coping with China's aging society.

Hui called for local governmental departments at a national conference held on Tuesday to attach great importance to establishing an old-age service system in their working agenda.

"The establishment and improvement of the social old-age service system should be a key element in the work," he said at the conference.

The number of people

above 60 years old has reached 143 million in China.

Hui, also head of the national work committee on aging, said the existing public health system and community services could not meet the full needs of country's senior citizens.

Hui called for quickening the establishment of the old-age service system, solving the difficulties of senior citizens, protecting their legal rights and interests and mobilizing the whole society to carry forward the traditional virtues of respecting senior citizens.

Efforts by all social

circles including governments at all levels should be mobilized in providing better services to senior citizens, Hui said.

According to a report recently released by the committee, the aging population in China is growing by 3.02 million annually and China's elderly population is expected to hit 437 million by 2051, when three out of 10 Chinese people will be over 60.

MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese official stands in the Qianlong Garden inside the Forbidden City which has been off limits to the public, in China's capital Beijing on 1 March, 2006. World Monuments Fund is currently collaborating with the Palace Museum to restore the Lodge of Retirement which is slated to be completed by the 2008 Olympics. —INTERNET

## France says 20 nations curb its poultry due to bird flu

PARIS, 1 March — French Trade Minister Christine Lagarde said on

Monday that so far 20 countries had imposed curbs on imports of French poultry due to the outbreak of bird flu at a turkey farm.

Officials said the 20 countries, including Morocco, Egypt, Thailand and South Korea, represented just five percent of French poultry exports.

Japan and Hong Kong have already announced bans. France's total poultry exports outside the European Union were worth 400 million euros (473.8 million US dollars) a year, the officials said.

Some of the bans were on all poultry products but others were only partial curbs, Lagarde said.

"We regret the moves.

It's an emotional response of national protection. This doesn't rule out other countries taking similar measures," Lagarde told journalists at the Paris farm show. France's main export markets is in Saudi Arabia.

France has confirmed an outbreak of H5N1 bird flu at a turkey farm in the east of the country. It is the first European Union country to report a case of the deadly virus at a farm.

In response to a question on the legality of the trade moves, Lagarde said that under WTO (World Trade Organization) rules, each country had the free-

dom to do as they wished.

Under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the WTO's basic rule book, it is left open for any member country to impose restriction on imports from others that it fears could spread disease among humans or animals. Japan's move to ban French poultry prompted Europe's Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson at the weekend to urge its trading partners not to over-react.

"Whilst I understand their decision to take precautionary measures, any action must be proportionate," Mandelson said.

MNA/Reuters



A stuffed rabbit holding a sign is reflected in mirrors as a piece of art by Josephine Meckseper during a preview at Whitney Biennial in New York on 28 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

## Cable & Wireless to cut up to 3,000 British jobs

LONDON, 1 March — British telecoms company Cable & Wireless Plc will cut up to 3,000 jobs over the next five years as part of a restructuring of its British business that will see it reduce its customer base by 90 per cent to 3,000.

C&W said on Tuesday that by concentrating on "fewer, larger customers and reducing complexity in its products, systems and processes, it can set new standards for customers' service experience while, at the same time, reducing costs".

On 31 January, C&W issued a profit warning for 2006/07 at its British business and unveiled plans to split into two business units as a result of which chief executive Francesco Caio will leave at the end of March.

John Pluthero, chairman of C&W Britain, said in a statement on Tues-

day, "I am confident that we can execute our plans successfully and achieve the objective of about 2 billion pounds (3.5 billion US dollars) revenue and EBITDA of about 400 million pounds, sufficient to deliver a double-digit operating margin."

C&W said annualized cost savings from its acquisition last year of rival Energis, led by Pluthero, would be above 40 million pounds by end-March.

C&W bought Energis last August for 674 million pounds to help battle industry price pressures and step up its challenge to market leader BT Group Plc.

C&W, which resumed buybacks last November after a hiatus following the Energis acquisition, has already shed hundreds of jobs to fight falling prices and fierce competition.

Its shares closed at

108.5 pence on Monday to value the business at 2.6 billion pounds.

MNA/Reuters



Diego Maradona plays with a ball during carnival at the Sambodrome in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on Monday, 27 Feb, 2006. —INTERNET

## Indonesian President visits Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 1 March — Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono arrived here on Tuesday afternoon to

pay a two-day state visit at the invitation of Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni. Susilo was warmly welcomed at the Phnom Penh International Airport by the King. It is Susilo's first visit to Cambodia since he was sworn in as President in October 2004.

During his stay, Susilo will pay a courtesy call to

King Norodom Sihamoni and have talks on bilateral issues with Prime Minister Hun Sen and other government leaders.

Cambodia is Susilo's second trip of his three-nation visit in Southeast Asia. He had spent two days in Brunei and will continue his trip to Myanmar on Wednesday. —MNA/Xinhua

## Six ships blocked from Suez Canal due to oil spill

ISMALIA (Egypt), 1 March — Egyptian authorities blocked six big ships from entering the Suez Canal on Tuesday because of an oil spill in the waterway, a Suez Canal Authority official said. The ships were told not to enter the canal because they had heavy and highly flammable cargoes, the official said.

Small and medium-sized boats were allowed into the canal, which is the fastest shipping route from Europe to Asia. Some 3,000 tons of oil was spilt into the canal on Monday when a vessel named by the Suez Canal Authority as *Grigoroussa 1* ran aground and hit the western bank of the canal.

Clean up operations were still under way and foam had been used to stop the oil from moving, the official said. —MNA/Reuters

## State, private sectors cooperating ...

(from page 1)

2.4 million acres of farmland. In a bid to supply irrigation water to farmland, the government is building river water pumping stations wherever possible. As a result, the nation has witnessed 293 river water pumping stations that benefit about 400,000 acres of farmland.

Due to supply of irrigation water, multiple cropping and mixed cropping patterns can be conducted. Vacant and virgin lands, wetland and low-lying areas have been extensively reclaimed into farmland. And due to the access to high-yield strains of crops and advanced cultivation methods, peasants have enjoyed fruitful results of an increase in cultivable capacity and boosting per acre yields of crops.

In order to further enhance the State economy after expediting the already-achieved development momentum in the agricultural sector, the State and private sectors are cooperating harmoniously in manufacturing farm machinery and implements to transform conventional farming into the mechanized farming.

In the energy sector that plays an important

role in the drive, bio-diesel can be obtained from physic nut that grows naturally in abundance in Myanmar. So, the government is urging extensive growing of physic nut across the nation. In this regard, I would like to exhort you peasants to cultivate physic nut, which is easy to grow and beneficial as an import-substitute crop, on a commercial scale with lofty aims for transforming conventional farming into the mechanized farming, fulfilling conventional farming the requirements of rural electricity and energy, and rural development.

### Esteemed peasants,

The State Peace and Development Council has been putting into action the political, economic and social objectives in various sectors to enable the motherland to catch up with the world nations, to raise the social life of the entire national people, and to build a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Here, steps are to be taken for strong economy of the State and for fostering national consolidation to achieve the national goals.

Firmly adhering to the national policy — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty — the State Peace and Development Council has been taking steps for ensuring peace and stability and prevalence of law and order and cementing the

national unity all the more.

Furthermore, the government is holding the National Convention, the first as well as the most important stage of the State's seven-step Road Map, for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline in accordance with the aspirations of the people. Now, the National Convention is making a good headway. It is very heartening to witness the delegates of peasants shouldering national duties in the National Convention.

At such a time, neo-colonialists are conspiring all means in collusion with national axe-handle traitorous groups to disrupt peace and stability, and economic development of the nation, and tarnish the image of the National Convention. So, the peasantry are to remain vigilant at all times against such destructive acts.

In conclusion, I would like to exhort the peasantry to take an active role hand in hand with the government as national duty in the tasks

- for the development of the agricultural sector, the major economic pillar of the State,
- for crushing internal and external destructive elements who are disturbing peace, tranquility, and progress of the State, and
- for success of the State's seven-step Road Map to ensure peace and stability and development of the nation. —MNA



Senior General Than Shwe and Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono take the salute of the Guard of Honour. — MNA |

the Director-General of the Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to the Union of Myanmar Mr Wyoso Prodjowarsito and wife, staff and family members of the Indonesian Embassy. When the special aircraft carrying the Indonesian goodwill delegation led by Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Madame Kristiani Herrawati landed at Yangon International Airport at 12.40 pm, Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign

(See page 9)

## Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing welcome Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Madame...

(from page 16)

Yangon Command the ministers and their wives, Ambassador of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Indonesia U Khin Zaw Win and wife,



Senior General Than Shwe and Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono inspect the Guard of Honour. — MNA



**Senior General  
Than Shwe and wife  
Daw Kyaing Kyaing  
welcome Indonesian  
President Dr Susilo  
Bambang Yudhoyono  
and Madame  
Kristiani Herrawati  
on State visit**



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye welcomes Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono at the airport. — MNA*



*General Thura Shwe Mann welcomes Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono at the airport. — MNA*

*(from page 8)*

Affairs and Indonesian Ambassador Mr Wyoso Prodjowarsito boarded the aircraft and welcomed the President and Madame.

Next, President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Madame Kristiani Herrawati disembarked from the aircraft, and he was accorded a 21-gun salute.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing firstly greeted President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Madame Kristiani Herrawati at the ramp. Schoolgirls also greeted the Indonesian goodwill delegation by waving miniature flags of Indonesia and Myanmar and also shouting slogans wishing the long-lasting friendship between the two countries.

Senior General Than Shwe introduced



*Prime Minister General Soe Win welcomes Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono at the airport. — MNA*



*Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein welcomes Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. — MNA*

Myanmar dignitaries awaiting on the tarmac to the Indonesian President and Madame.

Afterwards, Senior General Than Shwe and party, and the Indonesian President and delegation members proceeded to the special lounge of the airport. While Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Senior General Than Shwe took the salute of the Guard of Honour, the State Band played national anthems of the Republic of Indonesia, and the Union of Myanmar.

The Indonesian President and the Senior General inspected the Guard of Honour.

Next, Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono introduced his senior members of the delegation to the Senior General. The Indonesian President cordially greeted Senior General Than Shwe and party.

Afterwards, the Indonesian President and

Madame and party left for the Sedona Hotel in a motorcade. Along with the Indonesian President and Madame, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia Dr N Hassan Wirajuda and other high-ranking officers were among the delegations.

To welcome the Indonesian delegation led by the Indonesian President and Madame, welcoming banners and arches bearing "Warm welcome to President of the Republic of Indonesia Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Madame Kristiani Herrawati" were built at the entrance to the airport and at the junction of the airport road and Pyay Road displaying both in Myanmar and English languages. The national flags of both countries were also flown on either side of the roads leading to the airport and also at the People's Square, U Htaung Bo Roundabout, and the Sedona Hotel. — MNA

## Senior General Than Shwe meets Indonesian...

(from page 16)

President of the Republic of Indonesia Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono was accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia Dr N Hassan Wirajuda, other senior officials and Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to the Union of Myanmar Mr Wyoso Prodjowarsito.

Senior General Than Shwe and visiting

President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono attended a ceremony to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the Pyithu Hluttaw building.

On behalf of the government of the Union of Myanmar Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia Dr N Hassan Wirajuda signed the Memorandum of Understanding be-

tween the Government of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia on the Establishment of a Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation and exchanged the documents. — MNA

*Senior General Than Shwe shakes hands with Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono at Pyithu Hluttaw.*

MNA



Senior General Than Shwe, Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono pose for a documentary photo at Pyithu Hluttaw together with Indonesian delegation members. — MNA

## Madame Kristiani Herrawati and party visit Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanma Gems Mart

YANGON, 1 March — At the invitation of Chairman of State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing, Madame Kristiani Herrawati, wife of Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono who was on a goodwill visit to Myanmar and party, accompanied by Daw Mya Theingi, wife of Transport Minister Maj-Gen

Thein Swe, Daw Thwe Thwe Myint, wife of Myanmar Ambassador to Indonesia U Khin Zaw Win and officials arrived at Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation on Thanlwin Street this evening.

They were welcomed by President of MWF Daw Than Than Nwe and members and personnel concerned.

First, General Secretary of MWF Prof Dr Daw Khin Mar Tun ex-

plained to Madame Kristiani Herrawati and party about matters related to MWF.

Next, Madame Kristiani Herrawati signed in the visitors' book of MWF. Madame Kristiani Herrawati and party as well as officials posed for a documentary photo.

Afterwards, Madame Kristiani Herrawati and party viewed documentary photos on MWF's movements on



Madame Kristiani Herrawati and her entourage view documentary photos of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and state/division Women's Affairs Organizations. — MNA



Madame Kristiani Herrawati meeting with President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Than Than Nwe. — MNA

display at the hall and they encouraged MWF's members who were making fruits decoration, beautifying flowers and knitting.

Upon arrival at Myanma Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Managing Director of Myanma Gems Enterprise U Thein Swe, Deputy Director U Kyaw

Win and departmental officials welcomed Madame Kristiani Herrawati and party.

Next, Madame Kristiani Herrawati and party viewed varieties of gems on display at the mart where they were conducted by Deputy Director U Kyaw Win and officials.

MNA

## Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing host dinner in honour of Indonesian President and Madame



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing host a dinner in honour of Indonesian goodwill delegation led by Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Madame Kristiani Herrawati. — MNA

YANGON, 1 March — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing hosted a dinner in honour of the Indonesian goodwill delegation led by President of the Republic of Indonesia Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Madame Kristiani Herrawati at the reception hall of Pyithu Hluttaw Building, here, at 7 pm today.

Also present at the dinner were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of

Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and their wives, ministers and their wives, the Indonesian Ambassador and wife, the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in Myanmar the Philippines Ambassador and ambassadors of foreign missions in Yangon, the Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office, and departmental heads.

The visiting Indonesian President and Madame were accompanied by the Indonesian Minister for

Foreign Affairs, other high-ranking officers, the Indonesian Ambassador and wife.

First, the State Band played national anthems of Indonesia and Myanmar.

Before and during the dinner, vocalists entertained the guests with songs to the accompaniment of Myanmar Athan modern music troupe.

After the dinner, artistes of Fine Arts Department under the Ministry of Culture presented variety of cultural dances to the guests at Thabin Hall.

After the concert, President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Madame Kristiani Herrawati presented gifts to the artistes. — MNA

## National Seminar on Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law concludes successfully

YANGON, 1 March — The National Seminar on Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law, co-organized by the Ministry of Home Affairs and UNIAP, continued at Sedona Hotel on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, this morning.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Deputy Minister 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 social organizations and UNIAP and resource

persons.

Deputy Minister for SWRR Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint presided over the paper-reading session.

Director U Maung Myint of Social Welfare Department read out the paper on reception, organization and rehabilitation for trafficking victims; General Secretary of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Prof Dr Khin Mar Tun on the role of NGOs; endeavours of MWF in taking measures of anti-trafficking in persons; Deputy Director Daw Aye Aye Oo of General Administration Department on tasks of GAD in realizing Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law; Di-

YANGON, 1 March — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and officials, oversaw progress in construction of Tarnaw Dam Project site on east bank of Sittoung River in Kyaikto Township on 25 February.

Tarnaw Dam Project is being implemented for supplying 9.5 million gallons of water daily to No 1 Paper Mill (Sittoung).

Director-General U Win Mra of International Organizations and Economic Department on the role of MOFA in taking

At Winkan Village in Kyaikto Township, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected the site for construction of the bridge crossing Kyonmaku Creek to link Kyaikto and Shwegyin Townships. Chairman of Kyaikto Township PDC U Myint Oo reported to Lt-Gen Maung Bo on extension of Kyarpan-Winkan rural development earth road and construction of bridges. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met with local people and cordially conversed with them.

While in Winkan Village, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and the commander presented soap and medicines to villagers and exercise books to students. He looked into the site for building the Basic Education Primary School.

They oversaw construction of Kazaing-Kinpun Sakhan road section in Kyaikto Township.

On arrival at Karawayseik Village in Bilin Township, Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected the site for construction of Thebyu Creek Bridge. He explained development plans being implemented

by the Government for enhancement of socio-economy of the rural people.

At Kazaing BEMS, they viewed the annex of the school being built with the contributions of Max Myanmar Co and local wellwishers. After giving necessary instructions, Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented soap to the local people and exercise books to students.

While in Kazaing Village, Lt-Gen Maung Bo provided medicines to Kazaing Village Health Care Unit. — MNA

with international community in implementing Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law, and answered the queries raised by those present.

At the fourth session of the seminar presided over by Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin, Deputy Director-General U Kyaw Sein of the Attorney General's Office, Police Chief of Staff Police Brig-Gen Win Myaing and Mr David Savage, Manager of Myanmar Country Programme, read out the papers on the facts to be

taken into account for effective implementation of the Anti-trafficking in Persons Law, suggestions for the anti-trafficking project and matters related to anti-trafficking in persons.

Meeting Chairman Dr Tun Shin and participants discussed the future tasks for implementation of the objectives of the seminar.

The seminar ended with concluding remarks by Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo.

MNA



The National Seminar on Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law is in progress at Sedona Hotel. — MNA

**ADVERTISEMENTS**

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (399)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (399) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.3.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S EAGLE SHIPPING CORPORATION**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**TRADE MARK CAUTION**  
3M COMPANY, a Delaware Corporation, of 3M Center, 2501 Hudson Road, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55144 U.S.A., is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:

**SCOTCH**

Reg. No. 9297/2005 in respect of "Class 16: Adhesive tapes for household and stationery use; adhesive tape dispensers for household or stationery use; bookbinding tapes; paper tapes; food bag and food container marking tape for freezer use; drafting tape for use with paper drawings; hair setting tape for use in styling hair; glue for household use; glue sticks for household and stationery use; and shipping labels. Class 17: Adhesive tapes and adhesive tape dispensers for industrial or commercial use; duct tapes; electrical tapes; masking tapes; mounting tapes and adhesive squares for use in affixing signs, posters, pictures, and objects to most surfaces; strapping tapes; carpet seam tape; plastic and metal tapes for making repairs; photographic slicing and repair tape; and reflective tapes for use in the safety and automotive fields."

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised 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 3M COMPANY  
P. O. Box 60, Yangon  
Dated: 2 March 2006

**France starts poultry vaccination against bird flu**

PARIS, 28 Feb—France has begun vaccinating more than 300,000 geese and ducks against bird flu in a southwest region of the country believed to be at risk from the virus from migratory birds, the farm ministry said on Monday.

"The vaccination campaign is taking place in the department of the Landes," a Farm Ministry spokesman told Reuters.

France has permission from the European Commission to vaccinate geese and ducks in three departments but two of them — Loire Atlantique and the Vendee — have opted for the confinement of fowl rather than vaccination.

MNA/Reuters

**Zambia to launch food fortification programme**

LUSAKA, 28 Feb—Zambia will kick off a food fortification programme under the assistance of Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) to reduce iron and Vitamin A deficiency faced by millions of Zambians, women and children in particular, a senior official of GAIN said here Monday.

"This project is more than a technical one. It is about saving lives, improving health and contributing to the productivity and learning abilities of all the people of Zambia," said GAIN executive director Marc Ameringen.

MNA/Xinhua

**Indian economy projected to grow at 8.1%**

NEW DELHI, 28 Feb—India's economy, after growing at 8.5 per cent and 7.5 per cent in the past two years, is projected to grow at 8.1 per cent in the current financial year 2005-2006, according to

the Economic Survey presented to Parliament by Indian Finance Minister P Chidambaram here on Monday.

The initial momentum to the growth trend for the last three years was generated by agriculture. However, later, the industry and services sectors acted as "twin engines propelling the overall growth of the economy", the survey said.

Industrial growth is driven by robust performances from manufacturing and construction sectors. Also, pick-up in investment strengthened the industrial performance and reinforced growth outlook.

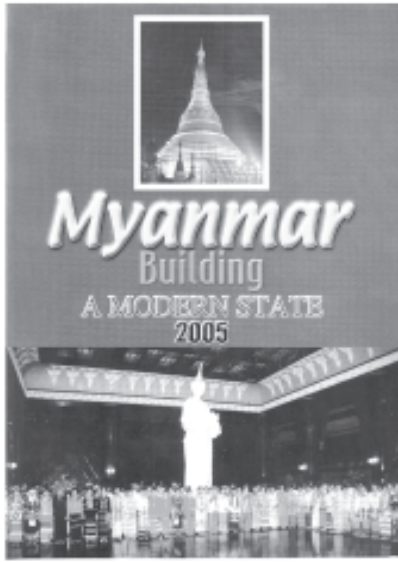
MNA/Xinhua

**Chinese vehicles for legislators to be equipped with GPS**

BEIJING, 28 Feb—Buses and cars to carry legislators at the looming "two annual sessions," in China's capital are to be equipped with global positioning systems (GPS), an official with Shouqi Firm, the ace tourist bus company based here, was quoted by the local Beijing News as saying on Monday. "Two annual sessions" have become popular political

term in China for the annual sessions of China's top legislature, or the National People's Congress, and of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), the top political advisory body of the nation.

The 3-14 March period, when annual NPC and CPPCC sessions are held, is seen as China's "political season". — MNA/Xinhua



**MYANMAR**  
Building A Modern State  
2005

☐ This facts studied book provides a reliable and valuable reference for scholars, researchers and the public for general reading.  
☐ Illustrated with colourful photographs.  
☐ Published by the Ministry of Information presenting five chapters: The Bountiful Land, Economy, Infrastructure, Social Setting, International Cooperation.

**On sale US\$ 5.00 per copy**

Available at  
☐ Sarpyu Bookman Book Shop, No. 529-531, Merchant Street, Yangon ☎ 381448, 249031  
☐ News and Periodicals Enterprise Book Shop, No. 212, Tharygyu Street, Yangon ☎ 294386  
☐ Hotels, Shopping Malls and other Book Shops in Yangon

**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 ထုပ်
  - (9) Stitching Wire (23 Gauge) ၁၀၀၀ ကျိုင်
  - (10) Stitching Wire (24 Gauge) ၆၀၀ ကျိုင်
- (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 ဖူ
  - (6) P/S Developer ၃၀၀ လီတာ
  - (7) Developing Laquer (1 Litre/Box) ၂၀၀ သွား
  - (8) Ortho film (Agfa) (24" x 200") ၅၀ လီပ်
  - (9) Agfa Developer (10 Ltrs/PKT) ၅၀ သွား
  - (10) Hilihodol Developer (10 Ltrs/Pkt) ၃၀ သွား
  - (11) Fixer (5 Ltrs/Box) ၆၀ သွား
  - (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 သွား
  - (16) Duplicating Ink Tube ၇၀၀ သွား
  - (17) A3 Toner ၆၀ သွား
  - (18) Gum Arabic (20 Litres/ Bot) ၄၅ ပုလင်း

၂။ တင်ဒါပေးသွင်းမှုကို (၁၅-၃-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့ (၁၆:၃၀) နာရီတွင် ပိတ်ပါမည်။

၃။ တင်ဒါပုံစံနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို အောက်ပါလိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက်စုံစမ်းဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်—  
ပြည်တွင်း/ပြည်ပစုစည်းများ ဝယ်ယူရေးနှင့်ထုတ်ဝေရေးဌာန၊ ချေးကော်မတီ

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန  
ပြန်စာအသံနှင့် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား  
ပြည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့။  
ဖုန်း - ၅၃၇၆၀၅

**Donate blood**

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်သစ်ပညာရေးတိုးတက်ရေး နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖွဲ့

### Ethiopian Govt takes measure to prevent avian flu

**ADDIS ABABA, 28 Feb**—Ethiopian official said on Sunday the country has set up an information exchange system around its Rift Valley lakes, aimed at preventing and controlling the deadly H5N1 bird flu virus.

Hailu Wondimu, a senior veterinary officer, told journalists that the system was installed in a bid to prevent possible outbreak of the virus around Abiyata, Shala, Chamo and Awassa lakes as well as the Bale forests and humid areas.

Experts believe that the Rift Valley lakes in Ethiopia are at high risk for avian flu outbreaks because millions of migratory birds fly south to warmer climates during the European winter.

Hailu said a committee, in charge of gathering information for the prevention and control of the virus, was set up jointly with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Oromia State's Agricultural Develop-

ment Bureau. However, he added, no avian flu outbreak has so far been detected in the areas. Hailu said the country's veterinary laboratory has checked dead bodies of birds recently found in the areas and found the chickens were not infected with the bird flu virus.

MNA/Xinhua



The Proton-M booster rocket equipped with an additional Briz-M upper stage blasts off from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan late on 28 Feb, 2006, carrying an Arabsat 4A telecommunications satellite owned by the Saudi ARABSAT company. —INTERNET

ARABSAT company. —INTERNET

### Nearly 150 hurt in Bangladeshi factory stampede

**CHITTAGONG (Bangladesh), 28 Feb**— Nearly 150 workers were injured, 40 of them seriously, in a stampede triggered by a false fire alarm in the Bangladeshi city of Chittagong on Monday, police said.

The fire alarm at a 12-storey building went off after an electric transformer exploded near the building that houses many garment factories.

Trampling caused most of the injuries as many of some 10,000 workers rushed down a single staircase, witnesses said. At least 74 Bangladeshi workers were killed in two factory accidents last week. As many were killed in April after another multi-storey clothing factory collapsed. — MNA/Reuters



The Triton Traction unit designed to help spinal rehabilitation on patients with cervical and lumbar spine conditions is examined by judges Park Hee-Myeon, left, Paul Huxtable, back right, and Steve Martinuzzo during the 2006 Australian Design awards in Sydney, on 1 March, 2006. —INTERNET

### Counter terrorism conference opens in Jakarta

**JAKARTA, 28 Feb** — An international conference on counter-terrorism opened here Monday for the exchange of views among experts, security officers and top government officials.

Opened by President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, the conference will hear speeches from Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer and experts from over 30 countries. Also present in the conference were Indonesian Police Chief Santono and his Australian counterpart Mick Keelty. Downer said earlier he would underscore "Australia's firm commitment to working with Indonesia

and our other neighbours to combat terrorism" during the conference.

"The 2002 Bali attacks highlighted the threat that suicide bombings pose to our region. The critical importance of addressing this threat was again reinforced by the 2004 Australian Embassy bombing and the October 2005 Bali attacks," he said prior to his visit.

MNA/Xinhua

### Venezuelan Govt announces anti-bird flu plan

**CARACAS, 28 Feb**—The Venezuelan Government on Monday announced a national plan to battle possible outbreaks of bird flu.

The plan was drawn up by the Health Ministry in line with World Health Organization's guidelines, Colonel Antonio Rivero, director of civil protection department said.

According to the plan, Venezuela has prepared for two scenarios: one involving outbreaks only among birds, and the other when humans are also hit by the disease. The measures include surveillance of poultry farms, farm workers, domestic and wild birds, and identification of high-risk areas like zoos and stopping points of migratory birds.

been set up under the plan, Rivero told Venezuela's television channel Globovision.

Venezuela is now ready to face any possible outbreak of bird flu, he added. — MNA/Xinhua

Intensified restriction on poultry imports and strict inspection at ports and airports may be applied if necessary. A network for hospitals to report respiratory illnesses and controls to prevent panic buying of anti-flu drugs has already

### Optimists 'have less heart risk'

**LONDON, 28 Feb**—Optimists seem less likely to die of heart disease or stroke than pessimistic people, a Dutch study says.

The Delfland Institute of Mental Health study of 545 men found the most optimistic were about half as likely to die from

cardiovascular disease.

Researchers thought it was likely to be because optimists exercised more and were better at coping

with adversity, the Archives of Internal Medicine said.

Heart experts agreed being positive could have a significant effect.

Previous research has shown optimists tend to live longer but this is the first to find a specific link to better heart disease rates. The men who took part in the latest study, who were between 64 and 84 and were followed for up to 15 years, were asked to fill in a questionnaire to determine whether they were optimists.

Researchers found that those classed as optimists in 1985 were 55% less likely to die of heart disease or stroke by 2000 when taking major factors such as smoking and family history into account. —Internet



Revellers pose for a photograph in the French quarter of New Orleans on 27 Feb, 2006. Mardi Gras revellers crowded the sidewalks of storm-shattered New Orleans in a turnout that was lighter than years past, but large enough to line the streets, fill the bars and remind people of better days. —INTERNET

### E China province closes 71 unsafe coal mines

**JINAN, 28 Feb**— East China's Shandong Province shut down 71 unsafe coal mines, one third of its township-level collieries, in 2005, said an official at the Provincial Coal Safety Supervision Bureau.

The bureau's head Wang Ziqi said that to make further efforts to avoid accidents, the province planned to close another 20 collieries that failed to meet the safety requirements this year. There are lots of safety concerns in the coal mines with annual production capacity of no more than 90,000 tons in the province, since most of the coal there is excavated by hand, Wang said, adding such mines account for 58 per cent of the total number of coal mines in Shandong.

MNA/Xinhua

## SPORTS

## Pele urges Ronaldo to be patient with fans

SHANGHAI, 1 March—Brazilian soccer great Pele warned his compatriot Ronaldo that his impatience with club fans might undermine his soccer career.

The 29-year-old Real Madrid striker has been recently drawn into a brawl for saying he was considering leaving the Primera Liga club because he was undervalued by the fans.

"Ronaldo has proved to be a good player with all those titles, but he tends to lose his way," said Pele, who was attending a promotional event for the 2006 World Cup in Shanghai.

"He could have been a better player had he not been affected by troubles off the pitch," said Pele, adding that Ronaldo's personal success was whittled away by so many off-field affairs.

MNA/Xinhua



Colorado Avalanche right winger Marek Svatos, right, of Slovakia, turns to pick up a loose puck in front of Minnesota Wild right winger Marian Gaborik, of Slovakia, in the third period of an NHL hockey game, on 28 Feb, 2006, in Denver. Colorado won, 4-2.—INTERNET

## Yorke's goals give Trinidad win over Iceland

LONDON, 1 March—Dwight Yorke scored twice as Trinidad & Tobago began their countdown to the World Cup finals with a 2-0 win over Iceland in a friendly international at a freezing Loftus Road on Tuesday.

On a night when thousands of their countrymen began a traditional two-day carnival in the Caribbean heat, Trinidad's players tried to raise the temperature for their frozen fans in London and succeeded with a controlled all-round display.

In their first match since qualifying for their first World Cup in November, the Soca Warriors were quicker to the ball, faster on the break and more cohesive than Iceland whose first match under Eyjolfur Sveinsson saw a fifth straight defeat.

Yorke blasted his side ahead from eight metres after 10 minutes and the Trinidad skipper doubled the lead with an audacious chip from a 54th minute penalty after Stern John was pushed over in the box by Ivar Ingimarsson.

Iceland almost scored after 38 minutes when skipper Eidur Gudjohnsen was inches wide with a 20-metre free kick but Trinidad were always in control and gave scouts from World Cup opponents England, Sweden and Paraguay plenty to ponder.

MNA/Reuters



Zheng Jie of China returns the ball to Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia during their WTA Qatar Open tennis match in Doha on 28 Feb, 2006.

INTERNET

## Samaras scores winner on debut for Greece

NICOSIA, 1 March—Striker George Samaras scored the winner on his debut for Greece as the European champions beat Belarus 1-0 on the first day of the 10th International Football Tournament run by the Cyprus Football Association.

The Manchester City striker's 15th minute goal put Greece into Wednesday's Group One final against Kazakhstan, who beat Finland 3-1 on penalties after a goalless draw.

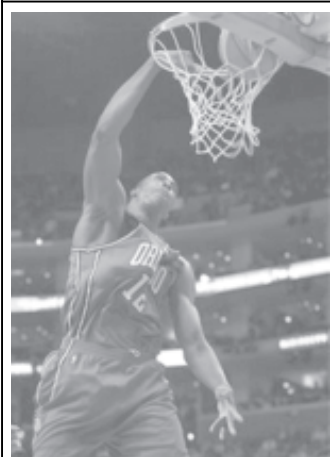
In Group Two Slovenia beat hosts Cyprus 1-0 with a late goal and will face Romania in the final after they beat Armenia 2-0 in the eight-team tournament being played across Cyprus.

Greece coach Otto Rehhagel has retained the backbone of the team that upset all the odds to triumph over the hosts at the European Championship in Portugal almost two years ago.

But it was newcomer Samaras who got on the scoresheet at the Tsirion Stadium in Limassol when his shot was deflected past wrongfooted Belarus keeper Vasily Khomutovsky by a defender. The Belarussians had a goal disallowed after 86 minutes when Viacheslav Gleb put the ball into the net from close range only to be given offside. Minutes later he was sent off after a second yellow card for pushing as he waited for a corner.

In Larnaca, Kazakhstan won the shootout after a very poor game in which the only excitement before the lottery of penalties was a red card given to a player from each team.

Kazakhstan were reduced to 10 men after 67 minutes when Andrey Kaprovich got a second yellow and 10 minutes later striker Jonatan Johansson followed after his second booking. Kazakhstan scored their first three penalties in the shootout while Finland had only managed by the time Tony Kallio took their fourth spot kick which was saved by Yuri Novikov.—MNA/Reuters



Orlando Magic's Dwight Howard dunks the ball against the Los Angeles Lakers during the first half in an NBA basketball game on Tuesday, 28 Feb, 2006, in Los Angeles.—INTERNET

## Ballack denies Chelsea deal

BERLIN, 1 March—Germany captain Michael Ballack refuted a British newspaper report on Tuesday that he has signed a four-year deal worth 25 million pounds (43 million US dollars) to join Chelsea next season.

The Bayern Munich midfielder, in Florence for Germany's World Cup warm-up against Italy on Wednesday, issued a statement through German FA spokesman Harald Stenger saying: "I have not signed anything and I was also not in London."

Earlier on Tuesday Ballack's agent Michael Becker had also denied the claim that the player had signed a deal that would make him the world's highest-paid player.

Britain's *Daily Mail* reported that Ballack, who is out of contract after four years with Bayern Munich at the end of the season, had agreed to move to the big-spending London club on a weekly wage of 121,000 pounds (210,500 US dollars).

"This is all starting to get boring and tiring," Becker told Germany's Spiegel Online: "I can only say that Michael has not signed anywhere."

In Munich, Bayern officials declined

to comment.

Chelsea's policy is not to discuss any potential transfers until a contract is signed.

The *Daily Mail* said that Ballack, who joined Bayern after helping Bayer Leverkusen reach the 2002 Champions League final against Real Madrid, met Chelsea officials, including manager Jose Mourinho, twice last month in London.

Although Mourinho generally steers away from signing superstar players, the lure of Ballack, one of the most complete midfielders in the game, could persuade him to bend that policy.

Earlier this season Ballack had an offer from Bayern for a four-year contract worth a reported total of 36 million euros (43 million US dollars). It would have been the most lucrative deal in Bundesliga history.

The club withdrew the offer in November after Ballack failed to meet their deadline.—MNA/Reuters

## Neville, Giggs say they want league title before retiring

LONDON, 1 March—Captain Gary Neville will consider the latter part of his career a failure if Manchester United fail to win another league title before he retires.

"I would be seriously disappointed if we weren't to add more league medals to our collections," Neville told the official Manchester United magazine. "I'd feel that I'd not quite achieved everything I want to in my career. If I stay here for three, four or five more years and United don't win more leagues then I'd definitely have to say that the end of my

career was a failure.

"The club has got to win trophies," the 31-year-old England right back said. Neville, who signed for United in 1993, has won six league titles, three FA Cups and one Champions League title.

Winger Ryan Giggs agreed it would be a "massive disappointment not to win the league again before I leave here".

"Hopefully, over the next three or four years we'll win another one. You know we're going to be challenging; it's just a case of taking the next step and winning it again," he told the magazine.

"We've got talent in that dressing room, as we've shown in spurts this season. Where we've won championships in the past is through consistency and

we've just not had that. United, who last won the league in 2003, are second, 15 points behind Chelsea and level on 54 points with European champions Liverpool. Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, who has recently returned from a long-term injury, said: "Two seasons now without the league makes you want the days of winning it back.—MNA/Reuters



England's Paul Robinson during an open training session at Liverpool Football Club's Melwood training ground, England, on 27 Feb, 2006. England take on Uruguay in a friendly soccer match at Anfield Stadium, Liverpool, England, on Wednesday 1 March, 2006.—INTERNET

# Poll shows Bush's approval rating falls to all-time low

WASHINGTON, 1 March — The approval rating for US President George W Bush's job performance has fallen to 34 per cent, an all-time low, from 42 per cent last month, a new poll released on Tuesday showed.

The CBS News poll found that 59 per cent of respondents said they disapproved of Bush's job performance, in the aftermath of a security debate over a port deal under which a company from the

Middle East would take over some operations of six major US ports from a British company.

Seventy per cent of Americans thought the transaction should not be allowed to go through, and

only 21 per cent sided with the White House that the deal should be allowed.

On Iraq, Bush's approval rating fell to as low as 30 per cent, amid recent violence in the war-ravaged country, a seven-percentage-point drop from January.

Sixty-two per cent of those surveyed said US efforts to bring stability and order to Iraq were going badly, while 36 per cent said things were going well.

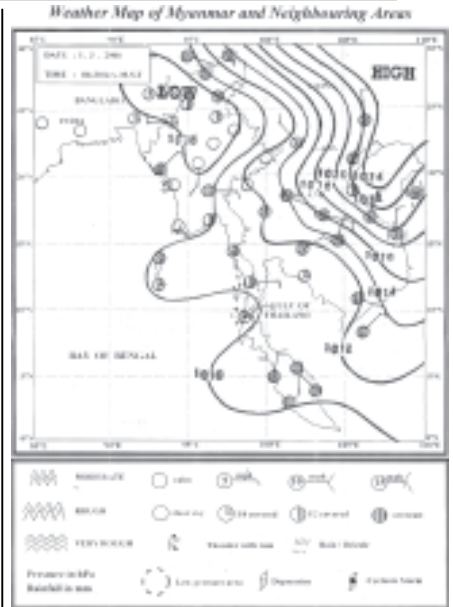
On the war on terrorism, the President's approval rating also dropped to an all-time low of 43 per cent, from last month's 52 per cent. Fifty per cent disapproved of his actions on the anti-terror war, up from 43 per cent last month.

The poll of 1,018 adults was conducted last Wednesday through Sunday, with margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points.

MNA/Xinhua



Brazilian astronaut Marcos Pontes practises the event of an emergency landing in water in a pool in Star City near Moscow on 27, Feb, 2006. —INTERNET



## WEATHER

**Wednesday, 1 March, 2006**  
**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, except for isolated light rain in Kachin State and generally fair in the whole country. Day temperatures were (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Kachin State and Magway Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Northern Shan State, Mandalay Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Myingyan, Magway, Minbu and Aunglan (40°C) each.  
 Maximum temperature on 28-2-2006 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 1-3-2006 was 64°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 1-3-2006 was (92%). Total sunshine hours on 28-2-2006 was (7.5) hours approx.  
 Rainfalls on 1-3-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southeast at (12:20) hours MST on 28-2-2006.

**Bay inference:** Weather is partly cloudy in the Southwest Bay and West Central Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.  
**Forecast valid until evening of 2-3-2006:** Possibility of isolated light rain in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and generally faire elsewhere in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).  
**State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.  
**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of slight increase of day temperatures in the Southern Myanmar areas.  
**Forecast for Pyinmana and neighbouring area for 2-3-2006:** Generally fair weather.  
**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 2-3-2006:** Partly cloudy.  
**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-3-2006:** Generally fair weather.

**“Strong wind warning”**  
 (Issued on 1st March, 2006)  
 During the hot-dry season, beginning from now to May, as day temperatures rise markedly all over the country, towering clouds are expected to form and strong winds are likely at times in the afternoon/evening over most of the areas. Surface wind speeds may reach (40) to (50) mph and it may also be accompanied by isolated heavy rain and hails in some places.

ဘုရားကျောင်း၊ ရဟန်းဒါယကာကြီး ဦးစောလွင် (၅၈) နှစ် (ကံမ) ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူးချုပ် အဆင့်မြင့်ပညာဦးစီးဌာန (အောက်မြန်မာပြည်) သရက်ခရိုင်၊ ကမမြို့နယ် (ဦးအောင်ကျော်-ဒေါ်အေးကြည်) တို့၏ သား (ဦးပေါ်ညွန့်)-ဒေါ်သန်းကျင်တို့၏ သားသမီး အမှတ်(၁၄၄) တက္ကသိုလ် ရိပ်သာလမ်း၊ ကမရွတ်မြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့နယ် ဒေါက်တာ ဒေါ်မာမာသိ (တွဲဖက်ပါမောက္ခ၊ သတ္တဗေဒဌာန၊ ရန်ကုန် အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်)၏ ချစ်လှစွာသော ခင်ပွန်း၊ မောင်ဘုန်းသော်ထက် (Grade XI) (ရန်ကုန်ပညာရေးတက္ကသိုလ် လေ့ကျင့်ရေး အထက်တန်းကျောင်း)၏ ချစ်လှစွာသော ခင်ပွန်း၊ ဒေါ်တင်ရီ၊ ဦးတင်ညွန့်-ဒေါ်ကြည်ကြည်တင်၊ ဦးတင်လတ်-ဒေါ်တင်စိန် တို့၏ မောင်/ညီ၊ ဒေါ်ခင်ဖြူစင်(ကမ) ၏ အစ်ကို၊ ဦးကျော်သူရ-ဒေါ်မြမြတို့၊ ဒေါ်စုစုတို့၏ မောင်၊ တူ၊ တွေ (၁၂)ဦးတို့၏ ဦးလေး၊ ဦးစောလွင်သည် (၁-၃-၂၀၀၆)ရက်နေ့ နံနက် (၀၉:၃၀) နာရီတွင် ကွယ်လွန်သွားပါ၍ (၃-၃-၂၀၀၆)ရက်နေ့ နံနက် (၁၀:၃၀) နာရီတွင် ရေဝေးသင်တန်း ဦးစီးဌာနမှ ဦးစီးဌာနမှ ဦးစီးဌာနမှ ဦးစီးဌာနမှ ရပ်ဝေးရပ်နံ့မှ ဆွေမျိုး မိတ်သဟာများအား သိစေအပ်ပါသည်။ (နေအိမ်မှကားများ (၃-၃-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့နံနက် (၀၉:၀၀)နာရီတွင် ထွက်ခွာပါမည်။ ကျွန်ုပ်ရပ်သူမိသားစု

**TV Myanmar**  
**Thursday, 2 March**  
**View on today**  
**7:00 am**  
 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara  
**7:25 am**  
 2. To be healthy exercise  
**7:30 am**  
 3. Morning news  
**7:40 am**  
 4. Nice and sweet song  
**7:50 am**  
 5. Dance of national races  
**8:05 am**  
 6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ  
**8:15 am**  
 7. Dance variety  
**8:25 am**  
 8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ  
**8:30 am**  
 9. International news

**8:45 am**  
 10. Let's Go  
**4:00 pm**  
 1. Martial song  
**4:15 pm**  
 2. Song to uphold National Spirit  
**4:30 pm**  
 3. တစ်မတော်နေ့ရက်ပြုတေး သီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲဆုရတေးများ  
**4:45 pm**  
 4. အေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ ပထမနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒ အထူးပြု) (ရူပဗေဒ)  
**5:00 am**  
 5. Cute little dancers  
**5:15 pm**  
 6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ  
**5:20 pm**  
 7. “သူငယ်ချင်းမရှိတဲ့ပဒေ” (မင်းစေ၊ ခင်စာပြည့်ကျော်၊ ဧကရီကျော်ကျော်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်ယဉ်ကျော်)  
**5:25 pm**  
 8. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေးဂီတတေး  
**5:30 pm**  
 9. Musical programme

**5:45 pm**  
 10. နိုင်ငံအဝန်းသစ်တောစွမ်းဖြင့် စိမ်းလန်းစေရမည်  
**6:00 pm**  
 11. Evening news  
**6:30 pm**  
 12. Weather report  
**6:35 pm**  
 13. အရေးကြီးပွဲ  
**6:45 pm**  
 14. (၆၁)နှစ်မြောက်တစ်မတော်နေ့ ရက်ပြုအစီအစဉ်  
**6:55 pm**  
 15. အာဇာနည်ကျော်မြန်မာပြည်ပတ်ညွှန် စက်ဘီးစီးတဲ့လူသားများ  
**7:05 pm**  
 16. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းကွဲ “ရောင်စဉ်မေတ္တာ” (အပိုင်း ၉)  
**8:00 pm**  
 17. News  
 18. International news  
 19. Weather report  
 20. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းကွဲ “နှင်းဆီအိမ်မက်” (အပိုင်း ၁၁)  
 22. The next day's programme

**Radio Myanmar**  
**Thursday, 2 March**  
**Tune in today**  
**8.30 am** Brief news  
**8.35 am** Music who'll be there  
**8.40 am** Perspectives  
**8.45 am** Music -Good thing  
**8.50 am** National news / Slogan  
**9:00 am** Music  
**9:05 am** International news  
**9:10 am** Music  
**1:30 pm** News/Slogan  
**1:40 pm** Lunch time music  
 -Do I love you  
 -Where do you go?  
**9.00 pm** Aspects of Myanmar  
**9.10 pm** Article  
**9.20 pm** Pouri  
**9.30 pm** Favourite songs chosen by music lovers  
 -Heart by heart  
 -When I fall in love  
**9.45 pm** News/Slogan  
**10.00 pm** PEL

**Four political objectives**

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

**Four economic objectives**

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

**Four social objectives**

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

## Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing welcome Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Madame Kristiani Herrawati...

(from page 1)

Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Daw Khin Khin Win, the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of

(See page 8)



Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Senior General Than Shwe, shakes hands with Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono on his arrival at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

## Senior General Than Shwe meets Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono

YANGON, 1 March — President of the Republic of Indonesia Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono met Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe at the Credentials Hall of the Pyithu Hluttaw building, here, this evening.

Present at the call together with Senior General

Than Shwe were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Prime Minister General Soe Win, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and

Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Myanmar Ambassador to Indonesia U Khin Zaw Win and Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet.

(See page 10)



Indonesian Foreign Affairs Minister Dr N Hassan Wirajuda (L) and Myanmar Foreign Affairs Minister U Nyan Win sign MoU in the presence of Senior General Than Shwe and Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. — MNA