

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIII, Number 332

1st Waning of Taboung 1367 ME

Tuesday, 14 March, 2006

### 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

## Religious titles conferred, alms offered to members of Sangha

YANGON, 13 March — A ceremony to confer religious titles on Sayadaws, nuns and lay persons took place at Maha Pasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hill this afternoon in conjunction with alms offering ceremony.

Present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, member of the State

Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of Yangon Division PDC and their wives, the ministers and their wives, the Chief-Justice, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Chairman of Civil Serv-



The Magway Sayadaw administers the Five Precepts to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and congregation. — MNA



ice Selection and Training Board, the Yangon mayor, the deputy ministers, the director general of the SPDC office, departmental heads, guests, ambassadors and diplomats of embassies in Yangon, chairmen of District PDCs in Yangon Division, members of boards of trustees of famous pagodas in the division, members of religious associations, wellwishers and personnel of the Ministry of Religious Affairs.

Before the ceremony, religious songs were sung. Next, officials ushered State Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadaws, Tipidakadara Tipidakakovidaya Sayadaws, three Sayadaws who would be conferred Abhidaja Maha Rattha Guru titles, five Sayadaws who would be

(See page 16)

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

**PERSPECTIVES**

Tuesday, 14 March, 2006

**Endeavour to accomplish seven-step Road Map**

Myanmar is a union home to diverse national races who have resided together from time immemorial through empathy, mutual understanding, attachment, friendship and cohesion. The independent and sovereign nation, inherited by the ancestors, is protected and safeguarded through the unity of national races and firm Union Spirit.

So, all the national people are to relay the national duty of safeguarding and preservation of that heritage to new generations.

The Union Solidarity and Development Association, a strong national force, fully equipped with nationalistic fervour and Union Spirit is playing an active role in the process of building a modern developed nation. In particular, it has paid a serious attention to fulfilling the major requirements of the State, shaping a brighter future of the nation, and grappling with attempts to undermine peace and stability of the nation.

Therefore, the government is taking all possible measures to nurture new generation youth members to become human resources with correct concepts and convictions. It is conducting a wide range of courses and seminars to hone the abilities and enhance convictions and concepts of the members.

The conclusion of the Myanma Affairs and International Studies Course No 11 of the USDA took place at the training centre of the association in Hmawby Township on 8 March.

Member of the Central Panel of Patrons of the USDA Prime Minister General Soe Win delivered an address to the ceremony, saying that every citizen was duty-bound to contribute towards the successful completion of the State's seven-step Road Map and National Convention. He also exhorted the entire national people to imbue themselves with Union Spirit and to participate wholeheartedly in the drive.

Member trainees of the USDA have studied the national and international developments to an extent at the courses and seminars. So, they are to continue to strive for becoming good organizers capable of serving as a bridge between the government and the people.

It is believed that hand in hand with the people, the USDA members will continue to arm themselves with Union Spirit and to enthusiastically take part in the drive for success of the seven-step Road Map and National Convention.



Tan Chee Keons and Tan Chee Hool, Tan Lay Hoon and Tan Lay Beng of Malaysia donate US\$ 100 for the Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Joint Treasurer U Maung Maung Gyi of the home recently. — H

**People's Desire**

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

**Commander attends nurturing of physic nut saplings in Mongpyin**

YANGON, 12 March — Organized by Mongpyin Township Union Solidarity and Development Association, the physic nut plant growing ceremony was held at the nursery of the Township USDA on 7 March morning.

It was attended by Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, local authorities, departmental personnel, social organization members and local people.

The commander explained benefits of growing physic nut plants. Next, the demonstration on running of generators and machines with the use of physic nut oil followed. The commander presented physic nut seeds and grafts to those present.

At Mongpyin Station, the commander attended the ceremony to grow 30,000 physic nut saplings. Tatmadawmen participated in the physic nut saplings growing ceremony. In Mongpyin Township, 123 acres of land has been put under physic nut plants, and 231,200 saplings are being nurtured.

The commander met with departmental officials and local people at the hall of Mongpyin. He presented sports gear to Township PDC Chairman U Thein Win. — MNA

**Appointment of Ambassador agreed on**

YANGON, 14 March— The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Pehin Datu Inderasugara Brigadier General (B) Dato Paduka Haji Mohd Yusof bin Abu Bakar as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brunei Darussalam to the Union of Myanmar.

Pehin Datu Inderasugara Brigadier General (B) Dato Paduka Haji Mohd Yusof bin Abu Bakar was born on 16 October, 1950 in Brunei Darussalam. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering Science in 1975 and became a Chartered Mechanical Engineer in 1992. He was commissioned as a Lieutenant in 1976 and served in various capacities and ranks in the Brunei Armed Forces. From 1 April 2000 up to his retirement on 16 October 2005, he was Commander of Royal Brunei Service Forces. During that period he was promoted to a Brigadier General in May 2003. He attended the Army Staff College in United Kingdom in 1984 and also attended Australian College of Defence and Strategic Studies in 1997.

Pehin Datu Inderasugara Brigadier General (B) Dato Paduka Haji Mohd Yusof bin Abu Bakar is married and has four children. — MNA

**Minister inspects construction tasks**

YANGON, 13 March— Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, accompanied by officials of the Public Works, on 11 March, inspected road building tasks along Hlinethaya-Kanbe-Twantay road and arrived at the site for construction of Twantay Bridge.

Officials reported to the minister on work done and future plans. The minister gave instructions to

officials saying that construction tasks are to be carried out simultaneously.

With the total length of 3570 feet, Twantay bridge is a steel frame suspension type. It shoulders 28 feet wide motor road and 4 feet wide pedestrian lane on both sides. It can withstand 60 tons of loads.—MNA

**North Point, Ocean Super Shopping Centre opened**

YANGON, 13 March— Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor of Yangon Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Managing Director Daw Win Win Tint of City Mart Holding Co.Ltd this morning opened North Point, Ocean Super Shopping Centre at Thiri Yeiktha Building in Mayangon Township, here.

After the opening ceremony, the Mayor, the Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism and guests viewed the shops opened at the centre.

MNA



Mayor of Yangon Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin views shops opened at North Point, Ocean Super Shopping Centre. — CITY NEWS

**Special sale of Industry-1 Ministry to be held in Monywa**

YANGON, 13 March— As a gesture of honouring the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day, a special sale of the Ministry of Indus-

try-1 will be held at the Division Sports Ground in Monywa, Sagaing Division starting from 17 March from 8 am to 8 pm

daily. Numerous items produced by the ministry will be sold at a reasonable price, it is learnt.

MNA

**Don't Smoke**

## Thai Foreign Ministry criticizes US human rights report

BANGKOK, 12 March—Thailand has criticized the United States over its annual human rights report, in which Thailand was accused of human rights violations, saying it was improper for one country to use its own standards to judge the record of another country.

A Foreign Ministry statement faxed to *Xinhua* late Friday said that the accusations in the report was far from the truth. Every country had its own situation and characteristics which could not be scaled by another country's standards.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Sihesak Phuangketkeow said on Friday the recent US report on human rights violations was unconstructive and did not reflect the real situation in Thailand.

In the past, the Thai Foreign Ministry had discussed the situation with US authorities and supplied them information.—*MNA/Xinhua*



### Miss Tourism Model of the World

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 11 March—Mao Yuanyuan (C), a contestant from China, displays her national costume during the 2006 pageant of the Miss Tourism Model of the World in Dar Es Salaam, capital of Tanzania, on 11 March, 2006. Mao was crowned Miss Tourism Model of Asia on Saturday. A total of 77 contestants from 55 countries and regions took part in the event.—INTERNET

## ထုတ်တုန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ခြင်း



Spectators walk along the embankment of the river Ems to take a view of the new cruiser 'Pride of Hawaii' which makes its way down the river from the shipyard Meyer in Papenburg, northern Germany, towards the North-Sea, on 12 March, 2006. The cruiser of shipping company Norwegian Cruise Line, NCL, is over 294 meters long and over 32 meters wide.—INTERNET

## Police say forty die in Baghdad car bombings

BAGHDAD, 12 March—At least 40 people were killed and 95 wounded in three apparently coordinated car bombs at two

markets in Baghdad's Shi'ite district of Sadr City on Sunday, police said. It was one of the worst days of violence in the

capital in recent months. Two car bombs exploded in one market while a third blew up almost simultaneously at another. Police said they had discovered a fourth car bomb at another market and defused it.

Sadr city is a stronghold of radical Shi'ite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, who commands the Mehdi Army militia force.

The district in eastern Baghdad has been relatively free of violence in the last couple of years. Ten people were killed in a series of mortar blasts and roadside bombings in Baghdad earlier on Sunday as the trial of Saddam Hussein and seven co-accused on charges of crimes against humanity resumed after a 10-day break.—Internet

## Colombia captures submarine suspected of hauling drug

BOGOTA, 12 March—Colombia's Navy seized a submarine that may have been used by drug traffickers to haul over four tons of cocaine for transshipment to the United States.

The 18-metre-long vessel, made of fiberglass, was discovered at sea on Thursday some 45 kilometres from the Pacific Coast port of Buenaventura, said Admiral Guillermo Barrera, the Navy's chief of operations.

Three people were arrested and two speedboats seized in the operation, but no drug was found.

Admiral Barrera said the submarine brought drug shipments to the middle of the Pacific Ocean, where they would be received by speedboats bound for Central America, and then dispatched to the US by land.

Drug trafficking by sea has been rampant recent years, as a wide application of radar system has made it hard to smuggle drug by land and air.—*MNA/Xinhua*



A snake hunter uses a snake stick to grab a snake as it comes out of its den in Sweetwater, Texas, on 11 March, 2006. Sweetwater is home to the world's largest Rattlesnake Round-up which started as a way for ranchers to rid the abundance of snakes that were threatening their livestock.—INTERNET

## US investigates possible new case of mad cow disease

WASHINGTON, 12 March—The US Agriculture Department is investigating a possible new case of mad cow disease, the agency chief veterinarian said on Saturday. John Clifford said in a statement that "last night we received an inconclusive test result on a rapid test from an animal sampled as part our enhanced BSE (bovine spongiform encephalopathy) surveillance programme". He said that as a normal

component of most screening tests, the "inconclusive" result could possibly be positive and did not mean a new case of mad cow disease found in the animal. The cow did not enter the human food chain or the animal feed chain, Clifford added.

The result is undergoing further tests and will be available in four to seven days, he said. News of the possible new case comes as the United States tries to

convince Japan, traditionally the No 1 market for US beef, to buy its beef again.

There have been two confirmed cases of mad cow disease in the United States. The first was reported in December 2003. The Agriculture Department raised its testing level in response to the disease. As of Friday, more than 600,000 of the country's estimated 95 million heads of cattle had been tested. *MNA/Xinhua*

## Kia Motors to set up first plant in US

SEOUL, 12 March—Kia Motors Corp, South Korea's second-largest automaker, announced on Monday it will set up an auto factory in the state of Georgia that will begin production in 2009 and employ 2,500 workers.

Kia said the \$1.2 billion facility will be its first manufacturing plant in the United States. Georgia Gov Sonny Perdue and President and CEO Euisun Chung made the announcement at a ceremony in Seoul.

Locations in Mississippi and Tennessee had also contended for the plant.

The facility is expected to produce 300,000 vehicles per year at

maximum capacity, Kia said. Kia also said that five to six auto suppliers are expected to set up nearby, resulting in the creation of an additional 2,000 jobs.—Internet



A sign showing the corporate logo for Kia Motor Co. Kia Motors Corp, South Korea's second-largest automaker, is to build a 1.2-billion-dollar plant in the US state of Georgia, company officials said.—INTERNET

# NZ steel company buys way into Chinese market

WELLINGTON, 12 March — New Zealand stainless steel equipment-maker NDA Engineering is paying millions of dollars to buy and expand a company in Shanghai, a big step to China's vast market.

NDA said the decision was a direct result of clients' urge to develop a manufacturing capability in China.

"The objective is to grow revenue by supplying customers' needs not currently supplied by the group," said NDA.

The move by NDA, which has Fonterra, New Zealand dairy giant, as a major client, follows its recent decision to invest 153 million NZ dollars (107 million US dollars) to purchase 43 per cent of Chinese dairy company Sanlu.

NDA leader Mollard said Fonterra was not one of the firms pushing for NDA to set up in China but "now that Fonterra are there, we're keen to be

able to help them with their objectives in China".

NDA, with annual revenues of around 50 million NZ dollars (35 million US dollars) and 320 staff in plants and joint ventures in Australia, already supplies Fonterra with a wide range of equipment.

The company said it would invest further in China by moving the

factory later in the year to an 8,000-square-metre facility in Shanghai, doubling its existing floor space.

The Chinese operation being bought by NDA has 75 staff, which will increase in the new factory.

The company already supplies many multinationals in China.

MNA/Xinhua

## Three-storey building blast leaves nine dead, four injured in south China

NANNING, 12 March — Nine people were confirmed dead and four others injured in a blast that flattened a three-storey residential building in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region early

Saturday, local police said on Sunday.

The four injured were being treated in a local hospital, police said.

The blast occurred at 1:15 am in a three-storey building in the Sanle residential zone of Tongle Township in Leye County. Seven people were killed on the spot and two others succumbed to injuries in hospital.

Owner of the building, who only gave his surname as Wang, was not inside the building when the accident took place. Wang said that some rooms in the building were rented by nine lodgers, but did not provide further details.

MNA/Xinhua



Pakistani police look at a broken kite during Basant festival in Lahore, on 12 March, 2006. —INTERNET

# ဝက်ပစ္စည်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား

## New credit card minimums may hurt banks

NEW YORK, 12 March — Making the minimum payment on your credit card bill might not be as easy as it used to be — and two of the nation's largest banks say their own finances might suffer as a result.



Attorney Melvin James Kaplan, who runs a consumer bankruptcy practice, holds some of the credit cards clients seeking bankruptcy help have left with him at his office in Chicago. INTERNET

The new requirements imposed by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency — which regulates banks and some credit card companies — are designed to help customers avoid getting deeper into debt.

However, a new spate of defaults as customers adjust to the new minimums could hurt profit at the nation's card issuers — especially those that cater to borrowers with weaker credit.

"Banks will not only have increased losses, but reduced revenue as well," said Lehman Brothers analyst Jason Goldberg.

Internet

Both Citigroup Inc. and JPMorgan Chase & Co said in recent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission that delinquencies and charge-offs might spike in the second half of the year.

That's when the banks believe new federal guidelines that require significantly increased monthly minimum payments will begin to hurt customers already struggling to pay bills.



A girl flies a kite in the field of cole at Yinzhai village in Guiding County, southwest China's Guizhou Province, on 11 March, 2006. —INTERNET

## Bomb kills four US soldiers in Afghanistan

KABUL, 12 March — Four US soldiers were killed on Sunday after a blast ripped through their armoured vehicle in Afghanistan, the US military said.

The soldiers were killed during a patrol in the eastern province of Kunar, which lies close to the border with Pakistan, in an attack claimed by Taliban armed groups.

"The extremists that initiated this senseless attack create a significant danger and threat to the Afghan people," said Major General Benjamin C Freakely for the US-led forces in Afghanistan.

The attack marked the US military's single biggest loss in a day in the country for several months and brought to 10 the number of US soldiers killed in Afghanistan this year.

A Taleban commander, Mullah Abdul Manan, said the attack was carried out through a remote controlled device by Taleban guerrillas who are mostly active in southern and eastern areas of Afghanistan close to the border with Pakistan.

The attack comes amid rising violence by ousted Islamic Taleban militants who have recently stepped

up their attacks against foreign forces based in Afghanistan and President Hamid Karzai's government.

INTERNET



A soldier of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) inspects a damaged car at the site of a suicide car bombing in Kabul. —INTERNET

## One more kid dies of HFM in eastern Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 March — A 14-month-old kid, infected with the hand, food and mouth (HFM) disease in Malaysia's eastern state of Sarawak, died in hospital, bringing the total number of fatalities to six since the disease broke out at the beginning of this year in the state.

George Chan, Deputy Chief Minister of the state, told reporters at Kuching, capital of the state, that the child died in hospital after being sent there for treatment.

All of the deceased were children aged below five, he said, adding that currently there were 82 children hospitalized in the state for HFM, including 33 admitted in as of Saturday noon.

As of Saturday noon, the total number of HFM cases in the state has risen to 3,984, including 213 new ones reported in the day, Chan said.

Local media reported that the current HFM situation in Sarawak was the worst since 1997.

MNA/Xinhua

# 17 statues of ancient war goddess unearthed in Egypt

CAIRO, 12 March—An Egyptian-German archa-eological team has unearthed 17 statues of the ancient Egyptian war goddess Sekhmet in southern ancient city of Luxor after the team found six statues last week, Egyptian Culture Minister Farouq Hosni said on Sunday.

The life-sized statues of the goddess, who has the head of a lioness and the body of a woman, were found when the team was doing restoration work on the temple of Amenhotep III, on the west river bank of Luxor, Hosni said in a statement from the Supreme Council of

Antiquities (SCA). The black granite statues measure between 1.7 metres and 1.8 metres

and show Sekhmet sitting on a throne holding the Ankh, a hieroglyphic sign that represented life for

the ancient Egyptians, said Zahi Hawas, head of the SCA. Hawas added that Amenhotep III's different names and titles were delicately engraved on both sides of the statues' thrones, reflecting the advanced arts of the 18th Dynasty (1551-1305 BC).

Last week, the Egyptian and German archa-eologists found six statues Sekhmet near the courtyard of the same temple. The goddess Sekhmet, associated with war and retribution, represented the destructive force of the sun, according to ancient Egyptian mythology.

Internet



An Egyptian antiquities worker cleans a newly discovered 3,400-year-old statue in Luxor, Egypt, on 12 March, 2006.

INTERNET



Henri van Schalkvok from South Africa waves to audience after winning the 2006 pageant of the Miss Tourism Model of the World in Dar es Salaam, capital of Tanzania, on 11 March, 2006. A total of 77 contestants from 55 countries and regions took part in the event on Saturday.—INTERNET

## Zimbabwe inflation soars to all-time high

HARARE, 12 March—Yearly inflation soared to an all-time high of 782 percent in Zimbabwe, the former breadbasket of southern Africa whose economy collapsed from years of drought and the government-backed seizure of thousands of white-owned commercial farms.

Prices rose 27.5 percent during the month of February alone, and the average family of five needed about \$90 just to meet basic food needs, far above average earnings, state radio said on Saturday.

Trade unions say those

still formally employed—about 20 percent of the work force—earn about \$55 a month. Workers on formerly white-owned commercial farms, by contrast, earn as little as \$3 a month from their employers, many of them beneficiaries of President Robert Mugabe's "fast track" land redistribution.

The value of the Zimbabwean dollar has been in a freefall since February 2000, when Mugabe ordered the seizure of 5,000 white-owned farms.

In 2001, \$1 was equal to 55 Zimbabwean dollars.

In 2003, \$1 equalled 700 Zimbabwean dollars, and in 2005 \$1 equalled 15,000.

Today, \$1 is equal to 99,000 Zimbabwean dollars. The seizure of the farms for redistribution to black Zimbabweans, combined with years of drought, have crippled Zimbabwe's agriculture-based economy.

United Nations agencies say 25 percent of Zimbabwe's 12 million people are now dependent on international food relief, even though the country was for years a major food exporter to the region.—Internet



A couple pulls a child on a sledge as they stroll on the snow-covered mudflats of a national park on Germany's North Sea coast near St Peter-Ording, on 12 March, 2006.—INTERNET

## Ariane-5 rocket lifts two satellites into orbit

KOUROU, 12 March—An Ariane-5 rocket launched two European telecommunications satellites into orbit from



Ariane 5 ECA is launched from the European Space Station in Kourou, French Guiana, in this 11 March, 2006 picture made available by the European Spaceport.—INTERNET

French Guiana late Saturday, space officials said.

The heavy-lift rocket, which is capable of launching payloads of up to 10 tons, took off from the launch pad of European Space Agency (ESA) in Kourou on the northeast coast of South America at 7:32 pm (2232 GMT).

Twenty-seven minutes later, the rocket released into a preliminary orbit the 3.7-ton US-built SPAINSAT, the first military satellite for secure government communications of Spain's Defence Ministry, and the 4.1-ton HOT BIRD 7A, a TV and radio relay satellite for the Paris-based consortium Eutelsat.

"With SPAINSAT in orbit, space will be able to triple its secure (military) communications on Spanish territory and in international operations," said Miguel-Angel Garcia Primo, SPAINSAT mission director.

Internet

## Gunmen kill senior editor from Iraq state TV

BAGHDAD, 12 March—Gunmen killed a senior editor from Iraqi state television, shooting him dead in his car as he was being driven to work on Saturday in Baghdad, police and the channel said.

He was the second Iraqi television journalist to be killed in a week.

Iraqiya television and police sources said that Amjad Hameed had just left his house in central Baghdad when a car blocked his way and gunmen shot him in the head and seriously wounded his driver.

Hameed, married with three children, began working at the channel more than a year ago. Iraqiya, whose editorial line is close to that of the

Shiite Islamist parties leading the interim government, broke into its programmes and aired verses from the Koran in a sign of mourning. Munsuf Abdallah al-

Khaldi, a presenter on the Baghdad Television channel run by the main Sunni Arab political party, was shot dead on Tuesday in his car.

MNA/Reuters

## Makeshift bombs damage 26 French cars in Athens

ATHENS, 12 March—Unknown assailants using makeshift bombs burned 26 French-made cars in showrooms and parking lots around Athens on Saturday, authorities said.

Scores of fire fighters were dispatched to five different locations in and near the Greek capital in the early morning, the fire department said. No one was hurt in the bombings, which mainly destroyed cars at Renault and Citroen showrooms. Police said the attackers had most likely used home-made gas canister bombs, a trademark of self-described anarchist groups which have long targeted Greek and foreign businesses and cars in Greece.—MNA/Reuters

## Media presence aids transparency of NPC session

**BEIJING, 12 March** — This year's National People's Congress (NPC) session is "the most open and transparent" meeting in its history, according to an official with the NPC Standing Committee.

Most of the delegations to the NPC have opened their meetings to domestic and overseas reporters since the annual session started on 5 March and journalists have been to listen carefully to deputies airing their opinions on state affairs. "It's not the first time the meetings of the NPC delegations have been open to the media, but it's the most open and transparent session," said the NPC official.

During the first five

days of the session, more than 30 delegations have opened their meetings to reporters at least once, he added. Through media reports, the Chinese and overseas public have a clearer idea of the work of the NPC deputies and have a better communication with the deputies, said the official.

The NPC deputies are under the supervision of all walks of life thanks to the journalists' coverage of the meetings, and the quality

of the deputies has been improved as a result, said the official. In addition, TV media are allowed to do more live broadcasts on the plenary sessions of the NPC this year. China Central Television, China National Radio and China Radio International for the first time telecast and broadcast live the work report of the NPC Standing Committee, delivered by Wu Bangguo, chairman of the NPC Standing Committee, on Thursday. — MNA/Xinhua



*Cars run with lights on against a sand storm on a street in the town of Kuqa in Kuqa County, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on 12 March, 2006. —INTERNET*

## Poll shows education top concern for most New Yorkers

**NEW YORK, 12 March** — Education is the issue that matters most to the majority of New Yorkers, according to a poll released on Friday.

The poll, jointly conducted by local TV New York Channel 1 and local paper *Newsday*,

found 22 per cent of the respondents said education was their number one issue. Number two on the list is the economy, with 19 per cent, followed by health care, with 17 per cent.

In general, New York State registered voters think that education, the economy and jobs, and health care should be given the highest priority.

Some 44 per cent of all 18-29 year-olds, 36 per cent of the Latinos and 35 per cent of African-Americans are most concerned with education. While men, 21 per cent, are most concerned with

the economy and jobs, women are most concerned with education, (26 per cent).

Health care is of greater concern to those with no college education, (23 per cent) than to those with a college degree or more (13 per cent). Those with a college degree or greater are most concerned with education (25 per cent) and the economy and jobs (20 per cent).

This telephone poll of a random sample of 1,885 New York State residents has a margin of error between 3 and 5 per cent. — MNA/Xinhua



*Plaza Hotel brass door knobs are shown during a Christies auction media preview on 10 March, 2006 in New York City. The sale is featuring over 350 lots with estimations in value from \$50 - \$18,000. —INTERENT*

## WHO confirms two other deaths of bird flu in Indonesia

**JAKARTA, 12 March** — The World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed on Friday a three-year-old boy and a 12-year-old girl died of bird flu in Indonesia, an official with Indonesian Health Ministry told *Xinhua*.

The confirmation put the total cases of bird flu in Indonesia to 30, of whom 22 have died.

"We received a confirmation from WHO laboratory in Atlanta CDC (Centres for Disease Control and Prevention) this morning that the blood of the boy was positive, and this

afternoon we also get confirmation from WHO laboratory in Hong Kong that the girl's blood test was also positive on bird flu," said Hariadi Wibisono, director-general of control of animal-borne disease at the Health Ministry.

MNA/Xinhua

## Azerbaijani dies suspected bird flu

**Moscow, 12 March** — An Azerbaijani young man suspected of contracting avian influenza died in hospital on Friday, the Health Ministry in the Caspian Sea nation said.

The boy, 16, who was admitted to hospital several days ago for possible infection with the bird flu virus, died of bilateral pneumonia and pulmonary insufficiency, but his final diagnosis will be established after testing of samples sent to a laboratory in Britain, the ministry said, Russian

news agencies reported. The young man is the country's fourth resident to have died of suspected bird flu over the past two weeks in the Salyan District, 130 kilometres south of the capital Baku. Previously, two 17-year-old girls and a 20-year-old woman had died.

MNA/Xinhua



*Colombian singer Shakira arrives on the red carpet for the "Echo Music Awards" ceremony in Berlin, on 12 March, 2006. The German Phonographic Academy honours artists from all over the world in 22 categories. —INTERNET*

## Injured HK policeman wins 1.45 m HK dollars in damage

**HONG KONG, 12 March** — Hong Kong Police Inspector Chan Sze-ki, who has been suffering brain damage and a complete loss of his sense of smell after being injured in a police raid 14 years ago, won 1.45 million HK dollars (about 187,000 US dollars) in damage.

According to Saturday's *Standard*, the Court of Appeal on Friday overturned a lower ruling, awarding Chan 1.45 million HK dollars, saying high-ranking officers were negligent in sending out Chan's team "hopelessly outmatched" — without sufficient equipment for facing with a gang of robbers armed with assault rifles.

The court also praised 42-year-old Chan for his courageous efforts of rescuing his fellow policemen.

Chan told reporters that "today is a very sunny day for me" after he received court ruling that described his acts as "heroic".

He said he felt excited about the judgement which gave back his innocence.

The English daily said

Chan, on 24 April, 1992, led two police teams launching a raid on a gang of car thieves in an apartment building in Kowloon.

The thieves fired at the police with assault rifles, chasing the retreating officers outside an iron gate surrounding the building.

Chan, fearing that some of his partners were trapped inside, tried to pry open the gate — a decision appeal judge Peter Cheung described as "a classic rescue situation".

Then he was shot in his head, leaving a bullet in his brain. Chan received emergency rescue, four months of hospitalization, and three major operations between 1992 and 2001.

MNA/Xinhua

# Ayeyawady Division on road to further progress

*Moe Htet Myint (Delta Region)*

Nadi Lwin, the double-decker left Pathein Jetty and it was soon on its way along the Ngawun River to Mawtinsun, in the south of Myanmar. She passed through Ngapudaw Township in Pathein District.

Upon arrival at Mawtinsun, I saw the Naygayay (cape) beach blended with the coral reefs with the Andaman Sea and the bluish sky in the background.

The Buddha Pujaniya of the Mawtinsun Pagoda is held on a grand scale for 15 days in Ngapudaw Township, Pathein District, Ayeyawady Division, from the First Waxing until Full Moon Day of Taboung yearly.

The Myatmawtin Pagoda is 253 miles from Yangon by waterway. The Inland Water Transport runs vessels between

Yangon and Maubin, Wakema, Pathein, Ngapudaw and Khamaukma.

In his meeting with officials at South-West Command Headquarters in Pathein on 30 January, 2006, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe said that Ayeyawady Division was a reliable region in the agricultural sector and contributed towards the economic development of the nation.

It grew more than 3.6 million acres of monsoon paddy accounting for over 25 per cent of the monsoon paddy acreage of the whole nation. So, Ayeyawady Division was to make sustained efforts to boost agricultural production.

Then, diesel-substitute bio-diesel was obtained from physic nut.

Therefore, the crop was to be grown extensively for the agricultural development and rural development. In the coming two years, multiple cropping would be carried out fully with the use of domestic bio-diesel, he said.

Moreover, efforts were to be made to fully exploit the abundant land resources of the nation, he said, calling for extended

cultivation of crops, boosting per acre yield of the crops and strengthening multiple cropping for beefing up the agricultural

production.

Ayeyawady Division is targeting to increase the acres of fish farms to 100,000 from 96,000 at present and putting 100,000 acres under rubber.

We travelled along the 65-mile long Pathein-Dahka-Einme-Myaungmya Road. When the Pammawady River crossing bridge (Myinkaseik)

under monsoon and summer paddy, more than 1.528 million acres under beans and pulses, 0.397 million acres under edible oil crops and 0.15 million acres under corn. Up to 2004-2005, the division bred fish and prawn on the farms of 166,336 acres. Furthermore, it has released fingerlings into the rivers, creeks, lakes and paddy fields to avoid the

sector. It is heartening to learn that the region is making concerted efforts to meet the target of 3.7 million acres of monsoon paddy in 2006-2007. It is extending the growing of the 10 major crops, three perennial plants and three new crops. In particular, it is striving for meeting the target of 500,000 acres of physic nut in three years that

**Ayeyawady Division is the granary of the nation as well as a reliable region in the meat and fish sector. It is heartening to learn that the region is making concerted efforts to meet the target of 3.7 million acres of monsoon paddy in 2006-2007. It is extending the growing of the 10 major crops, three perennial plants and three new crops. In particular, it is striving for meeting the target of 500,000 acres of physic nut in three years that can contribute to rural and national development.**

depletion of fish and prawn.

The all-round development of the region is due to the enthusiastic implementation of the guidance given by the Head of State, cooperation of departments, endeavours of local farmers and contributions of national entrepreneurs.

Ayeyawady Division is the granary of the nation as well as a reliable region in the meat and fish

can contribute to rural and national development.

Local farmers of Ayeyawady Division, the most reliable region of the nation in the agricultural sector and fish and meat sector, have been doing their utmost to boost agricultural production for regional and national development.

**Translation: MS**

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## Well-equipped eye specialist clinic opened

YANGON, 13 March — Neo Vision eye specialist clinic-cum-spectacle sales centre at Bargaya Condominium on Bargaya Road, Sangyoung Township, was opened today.

Vice-Mayor of Yangon City Col Maung Pa, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Mr Lee Ju Heum and Eye Specialist Dr Than Win formally opened the clinic and sales centre.

The clinic is well-equipped for treatment for cataract of the eye, and lens and spectacle frames from France, Italy, Japan and Korea are available at the clinic.

MNA

project is completed, the length of the trip will be reduced to 32 miles with the use of Pathein-Kankon-Myinkaseik-Myaungmya shortcut Road.

In 2004-2005, Ayeyawady Division contributed 50.5 per cent in the agricultural sector and 12.3 per cent in the livestock sector of the whole nation.

In 2004-2005 fiscal year, the division put more than 4.55 million acres



Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, Korean Ambassador Mr Lee Ju Heum and eye specialist Dr Than Win formally open the clinic.—MNA

## Religious titles conferred, alms offered to members of Sangha...

(from page 16)

for Transportation Col Nyan Tun Aung, Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein and Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe conferred Maha Kamahtana Cariya title, Maha Gandha Vasaka Pandita title and Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title on title recipient Sayadaws.

Afterwards, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Pe Than, Deputy Attorney-General U Myint Naing, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, Member of National Convention Convening Commission U Thauung Nyunt, Member of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Aung Myint, Justice of the Supreme Court Dr Tin Aung Aye, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win, Director-General of the Office of Pyithu Hluttaw U Myint Thein, Director-General of the Office of the Government U Thant Shin and Director-General of Myanmar Radio and Television U Khin Maung Htay conferred Maha Gandha Vasaka Pandita title, Saddhama Jotikadhaja title, Maha Dhamma Kathika Bahujana Hitadhara title, Dhamma Kathika



Prime Minister General Soe Win presents title to a lay person.—MNA

Bahujana Hitadhara title and Gandha Vasaka Pandita title on title recipient Sayadaws.

Afterwards, officials of the Ministry of Religious Affairs also conferred the religious titles on title recipient Sayadaws.

Daw Mya Mya San, Wife of Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice Senior General Maung Aye conferred Agga Maha Gandha Vasaka Pandita titles on Nun Daw Dhamma Dainna of Khemathaka Gyoung in Sagaing, Nun Daw Susari of Maha Bodhi Pagoda



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung supplicates on religious affairs.—MNA

Monastery in Taungtha, Mandalay Division, Nun Daw Oapala Wunna of Ambarama Nunnery in Shwetaung and Nun Daw Okkahta Vati of Aniga Nunnery in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay Division.

Afterwards, Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, conferred Maha Gandha Vasaka Pandita title on Nun Daw Ketuvati of Guni Gyoung, Sagaing,



General Thura Shwe Mann confers title on a lay person.—MNA

Nun Tirana Nyani of Thameikdawdaya Gyoung, Sagaing, Nun Daw Panna Sari of Sasana Vaponla Nunnery in Tangyan, Shan State (North) and Daw Einda Sari of Shwemyaing Siri Monastery in Mayangon Township, Yangon.

Afterwards, Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, conferred Maha Gandha Vasaka Pandita title on Nun Daw Poñnavati of Athuvati Nunnery in Monywa and Nun Daw Khemasari of Chanmyayanthi Nunnery in Patheingyi Township; Maha Saddhama Jotika titles on Nun Daw Anna Garika of Nepal and Nun Daw Dhamma Theingi of Buddhist Missionary School in Leshi Township, Sagaing Division.

Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of Prime Minister General Soe Win conferred Gandha Vasaka Pandita titles on Nun Daw Kalyana Sari of Sharpin Nunnery in Sagaing, Nun Daw Nandarri of Dhamma Maydani Nunnery in Monywa, Sagaing Division, Nun Daw Thuthima of Pyay and Nun Daw Assariyani of Sasana Beikman Nunnery in Sagaing.

Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, conferred titles on Nun Daw Vadaehi of Guni Gyoung in Sagaing and Nun Daw Gunawadi of Zeya Theingi Nunnery in Sagaing, Nun Daw May Sarri from Tariyadana Kyaungtaik, No 3 Patauk Street, No 4 Block in Hlaing Township and Nun Daw Kumasari, Sasanagonyi Kyaungtaik, Nanwington Block in Thingangyun Township.

Vice Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye Conferred titles on U Chu Than at No 99 F-1, Thanlwin Street, No 1 Golden Valley in Bahan Township, U Sein Tin at No 116-D, Inya Street, No 9 Block in Kamayut Township, U San Nyein at No 820, Waizayanta Street, No 9 Block in South Okkalapa Township, U Kyaw Min at NO 10/8, Myayadana Street, No 16 Block in Yankin Township and U Than Naing at No 118, Yatashe Street, Yatashe Block in Bahan Township.

Next, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann presented Thirithudhama Manijortadhaja titles to U Aung Win at No 55, Arzami Street, Kanyong Block in Dawei,



Vice-Chairman of SPDC Vice-Senior General Maung Aye confers title on a lay person.—MNA

Taninhtayi Division, U Ngwe Thein at No 80, Myoma Block, Panwegon in Bago Division, Dr Win Myint at No 3 Block, Paukpintan Street Minhla Township, Bago (West), Dr Kyaw Zaw at No 136/B, Mandalay-Lashio Street, Pyin-Oo-Lwin, Mandalay Division and U Hla Myint at No 77, Sanchaung Street, Sanchaung Township.

Afterwards, Prime Minister General Soe Win Conferred religious titles on U Than Tun at No 3-A, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Pyidawaye Yeiktha, No 7 Block in Yankin Township, U Shwe at No 37 Thayawady Street, Sayasan Block, Bahan Township, U Soe Han Lin at No 209, Bomyattun Street, No 9 Block in Botahtaung



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents title to a lay person.—MNA

Township, U Nyunt Htay at Upper Kyimyindine Street, Zagy East Block in Kyimyindine Township and U Tin Maung at No 238/240, Konzaytan Street in Pabetan Township.

Later, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented religious Thirithudhama Manijortadhaja titles to U Soe Thein, U Naing Oo, U Maung Hla, U Ngwe Shein and U Tin Maung Htwe.

Next, Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence presented Thirithudhama Manijortadhaja titles to U Khin Hla, U Than Zaw, U Aung Mon, Dr Khin Maung Nyunt U Khin Kyaw Myint and U Myint Swe.

Afterwards, Daw Mya Mya San presented Agga Maha Thirithudhama Theingi titles to Daw Than Htay, Dr Daw Khin Khin Saint, Maha Upathika Bon Koutsitipaul, Daw Than Than Nwe and Daw Tin Sein.

(See page 9)





*Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, offers provisions to a Sayadaw.—MNA*



*Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, confers title on a nun.—MNA*



*Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, offers provisions to a Sayadaw.  
MNA*



*Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, confers title on a nun.—MNA*

## Religious titles conferred, alms offered to members of Sangha

(from page 8)

After that, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, Daw Khin Than Nwe presented Sasana Nuggaha titles to Daw Khin Hla, Daw Aye Aye Maw (a) Daw Aye Aye Mon, Daw Mya Yin, Daw Khin Nan Mon and Daw Khin San Kyi (a) Daw Aye Aye Khant.

Next, wife of General Thura Shwe Man Daw Khin Lay Thet presented Thirithudhama Theingi titles to Daw Aye Aye Than, Daw Hla Hla Nwe, Daw MiMi Sein, Daw Nan Lost Hsaing and Daw Aye Myint.

Afterwards, wife of Prime Minister General

Soe Win presented Thirithudhama Theingi titles to Daw Myat Myat Soe, Daw Thuzar Min, Daw Hsat Hsat Htay, Daw Phyu Phyu Win and Daw Kyu Kyu Thin.

After that, wife of Lt-Gen Thein Sein Daw Khin Khin Win presented Thihathudhama Theingi titles to Daw Than Than Sein, Daw Mya Shwe, Daw Nu Nu Nga, Daw Aye Yi, Daw Jack Kok, Daw Tin Tin Sein and Daw Khin Hla Tin.

Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung said members of the Sangha of successive periods have

been trying to propagate Pariyatti Sasana, safeguarding the corpus of Buddha's teachings by holding the Buddhist synod six times and teaching younger generation of members of the Sangha Pariyatti literature. This is why Theravada Buddhism has flourished in the country.

It is encouraging to note that members of the Sangha are learning Pariyatti literature at the State Pariyatti Sasana Universities and Sarthintaiks. Moreover, missionary centres from home and abroad, meditation centres and border



*Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of General Thura Shwe Mann, confers title on a nun.—MNA*



*Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of Prime Minister General Soe Win, confers title on a nun.—MNA*



*Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, confers title on a nun.—MNA*

and hilly region missionary monasteries including the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University are discharging religious duties.

He said the State Peace

and Development Council conferred religious titles on 329 Sayadaws, laymen and nuns.

Secretary Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw of Ponnamayama

Monastery in Nyaungdon Township Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Osadhabhivamsa delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.

(See page 10)



Religious titles offering ceremony in progress.—MNA



General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet offer provisions to a Sayadaw.—MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe offer alms to a Sayadaw.—MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win offer alms to a Sayadaw.—MNA

### Religious titles conferred, alms offered to members of Sangha

(from page 9)

Families of the Ministry of Defence, the Prime Minister's Office, the State Peace and Development Council Office, Adjutant-General's Office, Quartermaster-General's Office, Tatmadaw (Navy and Air), Yangon Command, the ministries, Supreme Court, Attorney-General's Office, Auditor-General's Office, Yangon Division PDC, YCDC, district and township PDCs, religious and social organizations and wellwishers offered provisions to the members of the Sangha.

Daw Mya Mya San, Daw Khin Than Nwe, General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, Lt-Gen Tin Aye, the commander-in-chief (Navy), the commander-in-chief (Air) and their wives, the commander of Yangon Command and wife, the ministers, high-ranking officials and wellwishers donated provisions worth K 130,559,727 to the members of the Sangha.

MNA

Daw Khin Khin Win (R), wife of Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents title to a lay woman.—MNA



Daw Mya Mya San (R), wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents title to a lay woman.—MNA



Daw Khin Than Nwe (R), wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo confers title on a lay woman.—MNA



Daw Khin Lay Thet (R), wife of General Thura Shwe Mann confers title on a lay woman.—MNA



Daw Than Than Nwe (R), wife of Prime Minister General Soe Win presents title to a lay woman.—MNA



## 4,000-year-old settlement unearthed in Bangladesh

**DHAKA, 13 March** — Archaeologists have discovered artefacts in central Bangladesh that resembles traits of the Chalcolithic culture, which is around 4,000 years old, and believe the finds are the earliest signs of settlement in the region. *The Daily Star* reported Sunday.

The excavators, led by Sufi Mostafizur Rahman, Chairman of the Department of Archaeology at Jahangirnagar University, traced a pit-dwelling, one of the primary means of living, at Wari-Bateswar in Central Narsingdi District, some 70 kilometres from the capital.

This is the first discovery of the Chalcolithic occurrence in the country.

The Chalcolithic Age, also known as the Aeneolithic or Copper Age, is a phase in the development of human culture in which the use of early metal tools

appeared alongside the use of stone tools.

Artefacts of the pit-dwelling era in the Indian subcontinent have been found at places including Burzahom at Swat Valley in Pakistan, which is around 5,000 years old, and Inamgaon in South India, which dated back to around 1400BC-700BC.

The excavators found a water reservoir, a hearth, a storage pit and some household accessories inside the pit-dwelling. They also unearthed an earlier dug-out road, leading to what seems to be a fortified town.— *MNA/Xinhua*



Indian men perform a traditional dance, in front of their elephants, during celebrations for Basanta Utsav or Spring Festival in Gourama National Park, 100 km (62 miles) from the northeastern Indian city of Siliguri on 13 March, 2006.—INTERNET

## Corsican official shot in front of airport passengers

**AJACCIO (France), 13 March** — Corsican police were hunting an attacker on Saturday who shot dead a local elected official at Ajaccio Airport in front of passengers arriving from Paris.

Robert Feliciaggi, 63, a businessman with casino interests in Africa and a member of Corsica's regional assembly, was sprayed with several bullets in the attack late on Friday and died shortly after reaching hospital, police said. His hooded attacker fled in a vehicle driven by an accomplice, according to witnesses.

It was not immediately clear whether the killing was motivated by personal matters or related to Corsica's frequent history of political tension with the French Government. Police said several of his friends had been assassinated in or around the port city of Ajaccio in recent months.

Feliciaggi, who represented France's ruling UMP conservative party, entered politics in the 1980s.

He split his time between the Mediterranean Island, Africa — where he managed casinos in the Republic of Congo and Gabon — and mainland France where he held interests on the French Riviera.

*MNA/Reuters*

## Explosives found in crowded Indian rail station

**MUMBAI, 13 March** — Police recovered several powerful explosives from a crowded railway station in India's financial capital on Saturday. The explosives were hidden in the toilet of the Byculla Station in southern Mumbai, used by hundreds of thousands of commuters every day and close to the heart of the city.

An official at the bomb squad control room said crowds of people were cleared from a nearby beach where the

explosives were destroyed with a controlled blast. Mumbai police chief AN. Roy said police were on high alert after Tuesday's blasts in the holy city of Varanasi that killed 15.

"Besides the explosives, we also found bomb-making material," Roy said.

Mumbai, a metropolis of more than 17 million, has been hit by a series of bomb blasts in the past decade-and-a-half.

*MNA/Reuters*

## Heavy snow, winds hit Scotland

**LONDON, 13 March** — The Met office issued a severe weather warning on Sunday after heavy snow and strong winds caused dangerous driving conditions in Scotland and northern England.

Blizzards during Saturday night forced the closure of airports in Edinburgh and Glasgow but both have since reopened.

However a spokesman for BAA which runs the airports said both sites were experiencing extensive delays and urged travellers to check the status of their flights before leaving for the airport.

*MNA/Reuters*

## New cases of H5 bird flu detected in Poland

**WARSAW, 13 March** — Several new centres of H5 bird flu have been uncovered in Poland where emergency measures have been put into effect, officials said on Saturday.

The H5 bird flu virus was diagnosed in a dead swan found near a water-pumping station in the town of Kostrzyn on Odra, Krzysztof Jazdzewski, Poland's chief veterinary officer told a news conference.

A dead merganser (sea goose) infected with the H5 virus was later found in Poland's westernmost port of Swinoujscie, some 155 kilometres (nearly 100 miles) upstream from Kostrzyn, where the Odra empties into the Baltic, provincial spokesman Agnieszka Muchla said.

A further centre of avian influenza virus has been detected in a dead swan found in Bydgoszcz, 50 kilometres (30 miles) northwest of the northern city of Torun, where the first outbreak occurred a week ago.

The chief vet on Saturday said the a specialist laboratory in England had confirmed that the swans found a week earlier in Torun had been infected with the deadly H5N1 virus. Standing emergency procedures are put into effect, wherever the bird flu virus is found, he added. — *MNA/Reuters*

## Britain develops secret nuclear warhead

**LONDON, 13 March** — Britain has been secretly designing a new nuclear warhead with the United States, triggering off a legal row over the proliferation of nuclear weapons, the *Sunday Times* reported.

According to the report, the government has been pushing ahead with the programme while claiming that no decision has been made on a follow-up to Britain's Trident nuclear deterrent, estimated to have cost nearly 10 billion pounds (some 17.4 billion US dollars).

Scientists at the Atomic Weapons Establishment at Aldermaston in South Britain have been working on a new weapon since British Prime Minister

Tony Blair was re-elected last May, and is now said to be ahead of similar US research, the report claimed.

The aim is to produce a simpler device using proven components to avoid breaching the ban on nuclear testing. Known as the Reliable Replacement Warhead, it is being designed so that it can be tested in a laboratory rather than by detonation.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Thailand, Chile agree to conduct free-trade pact study

**BANGKOK, 13 March** — Thailand and Chile have agreed to carry out a feasibility study this year to pave the way for the signing of a bilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA), local Press reported on Sunday.

During a meeting between newly-elected Chilean President Michelle Bachelet and visiting Foreign Minister Kantathi Suphamongkhon in Santiago Friday, Kantathi praised Chile for its economic success and spoke highly of the country's free trade policies, which have boosted the competitiveness of its private sector.

Both sides saw it necessary to strengthen economic and other ties and emphasized the need to complete a feasibility study on a Thailand-Chile FTA this year.

Kantathi urged the es-

tablishment of partnerships between Thai small and medium enterprises and Chilean companies in the field of biotechnology, reported *Bangkok Post* newspaper.

Other areas of potential cooperation between the two countries include hotel and restaurant indus-

tries and tourism.

Thailand considers Chile as a gateway to more trade and investment in Latin America, and Chile views Thailand as a breakthrough for the enhancement of trade and investment ties with South East Asia.

During a visit to

Colombia, Kantathi and the Vice-President Francisco Santos explored the possibility to develop the FTA. In Bolivia, Kantathi met with his counterpart David Choquehuanca Cespedes and discussed ways to promote economic development.

*MNA/Xinhua*



Two children play in the road of Dale's Trailer Court after a strong storm swept through the park damaging several homes on 12 March, 2006, in Lawrence, Kan. No one was injured during the storm but emergency management officials declared Douglas County a disaster after the storm hit Lawrence around 8 am.—INTERNET

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Dated. 14 March 2006



Delegates attend the closing session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference at the Great Hall of the People in China's capital Beijing on 13 March, 2006. — INTERNET

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## Zambian Airways launches low price flight to Johannesburg

**LUSAKA, 12 March —** **Zambian Airways on Friday launched its long-awaited flight to South Africa's largest city Johannesburg with fare at only 100 US dollars one-way in a bid to cater for the travelling need of cross-border traders as well as tourists in the region.**

The fare is even lower than the general bus fare from Lusaka to Johannesburg which is normally at 370,000 kwacha (120 dollars), according to Zambian Airways managing director Don McDonald.

Moreover, McDonald said, it would be a better choice for travellers to fly in comfort with a 118-seat Boeing 737 within two hours instead of sitting on a bus for 24 hours.

In order to secure its customers, Zambian Airways has earlier entered into an agreement with the country's Cross Border Traders Association (CBTA) to provide traders up to 50 seats on each flight at the lowest price.

MNA/Xinhua

## Nepal Electricity Authority to make load shedding plan

**KATHMANDU, 12 March —** **Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) agreed to constitute a task force to work out the load shedding plan with Federation of Nepali Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) on Saturday.**

The understanding was reached in a meeting held between some of the high-ranking officials of NEA and senior representatives of various leading industries.

During the meeting, the industry representatives said the existing load shedding was heavily affecting the industries, limiting their production capacity and maximizing their cost of production.

Second Vice-President of FNCCI Kush Kumar Joshi said that industries that need to run for long hours were affected immensely due to load shedding for five hours a day.—MNA/Xinhua

## Anthrax victim in New York suffers health setback

**NEW YORK, 12 March —** **Doctors at the Pennsylvania hospital where Manhattan resident Vado Diomande is being treated for inhalation anthrax said that the drummer was listed Friday from fair to serious condition.**

Health officials believe Diomande contracted anthrax while working with untreated animal skins he uses to make traditional African drums. Anthrax naturally occurs in untreated animal hides.

Meanwhile, the Environmental Protection Agency said crews have cleaned all but one of the six floors in the warehouse where Diomande worked with the animal skins. When they are done, another round of testing will take place to make sure the facility is clear of the potentially deadly bio-toxin.

MNA/Xinhua

## Mozambique to introduce indigenous languages in schools

**LUANDA, 12 March —** **The Mozambican Government has decided to introduce indigenous languages as a means of instruction in the country's schools, according to a report reaching here on Friday.**

Mozambican Minister of Education and Culture Aires Aly told an international conference on bilingual education in Maputo on Thursday that almost half of Mozambique's children speak one of the country's more than 16 indigenous languages.

The current monopoly of Portuguese in classrooms represented an obstacle to effective learning, the minister told the conference.

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်သစ်ပညာရေးတိုးတက်ရေး နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖွဲ့

**Political adviser urges teaching farmers surfing Internet**

**BEIJING, 12 March** — A member of China's top advisory body on Saturday called for nationwide efforts to help farmers glean information from the web so as to narrow the "information divide" between cities and the countryside.

Huang Yin-hui, a member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), said farmers are eager for information but due to poor economic and cultural conditions, they are not capable of obtaining information from the Internet to benefit their production and life.

"Government departments should, free of charge, create conditions to teach farmers surfing the Internet so as to expand their knowledge," said Huang, who also called for people from all walks of life, especially the telecommunications sector, to offer their support.

Enhancing information infrastructure is a major job for building a new countryside which the country is striving for, said Huang, adding that among China's more than 100 million Internet subscribers, those from the sectors of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry and fishery account for only 2.2 per cent.

"This 'information divide' between urban and rural areas exerts a negative impact on the coordinated development of cities and the countryside," said the CPPCC member.

In fact, it is not difficult to teach farmers to learn operating computers and surfing the Internet, Huang said, citing the "teaching

farmers to surf the Internet" programme on a trial basis in Jiangsu Province, where Huang came for the CPPCC annual session.

"The farmers there became familiar with operating computers and searching for agriculture-related information on the web after five days of training," said Huang.

MNA/Xinhua



The initial joint project of stowing coals onto the exclusive coal-freight ship of Yonglongjiu is well underway, at the newly-built No 5 dock in Qinhuangdao port, north China's Hebei Province, on 11 March, 2006. The very first combined loading project marks the completion of the fifth phase construction project of the Qinhuangdao port for coal transport, a national key project with the designed annual transport capacity up to 50 million tons, poised to be put into full swing.—INTERNET

**Israeli mango scions grafted in Ethiopia to improve production**

**ADDIS ABABA, 12 March** — An Israeli expert recently brought to Ethiopia 5,000 scions of mango, and conducted a special grafting project in south Ethiopia, according to a Press release from the Israeli Embassy on Saturday.

The Israeli expert, Itzhak Regev, assisted in the grafting of 3,000 of the total 5,000 scions in Arba Minch and the rest in Butajira. Arba Minch and

Butajira are the two small towns in south Ethiopia.

Known as "Tommy Atkins" and "Kent", the two different varieties of mango scions are

internationally recognized for their capacity of resisting diseases and pests as well as immense productivity potentials, the Press release said.

Grafted trees will begin to produce in the third year after establishment, and mature trees will be capable of producing three to five loads.

Aimed at improving the quality and enabling Ethiopian mango to enter the ever growing international market, these two varieties were brought to Ethiopia and grafted after an assessment of the climate for the production of such varieties, according to the Israeli Embassy.

MNA/Xinhua

**Nuclear plant can help enhance power generation in Bangladesh**

**DHAKA, 12 March** — An additional 1,200 megawatts of power could be generated through a nuclear power plant in Bangladesh to ease the shortage of electricity in the country, atomic energy experts said.

Officials at the Nuclear Power and Energy Division of Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) said here Saturday that the country could produce 1,200 MW of power from a nuclear power plant within four to five years if a nuclear power generation project is undertaken.

They said the country can set up a nuclear reactor with the 600 MW electricity generation capacity that is estimated at a cost of about one billion dollars in the pre-located site at western Pabna District.

In April 2005, China and Bangladesh signed an agreement on nuclear cooperation.—MNA/Xinhua

**Animal-borne diseases challenge China's health system**

**BEIJING, 13 March** — With pig-borne disease and bird flu occurring one after another, China's disease control network is facing new challenges after the outbreak of the disease of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS).

"China's disease pattern is undergoing fast changes with the frequent emergence of new infectious diseases

transmitted from animals to the humans, which pose big challenges to the country's disease prevention and control work," Chinese Minister of Public Health Gao Qiang said at the on-going session of the 10th National People's Congress.

These diseases are not new to the human beings and nearly 200 of them have been found to be passed from animals to humans. Some of the better-known examples include anthrax, plague and haemorrhaging fever.

In June 2005, a type of pig-borne disease called swine streptococosis occurred in China's southwestern province of Sichuan, infecting more than 200 people and killing 38 others.—MNA/Xinhua



A three-month-old Southern Tamandua, also known as an anteater, rides on the back of its mother "Tae" during a press preview at the Sunshine International Aquarium in Tokyo, on 13 March, 2006. The baby Southern Tamandua was born last November, the first time an anteater has been borne and raised at an aquarium or a zoo in the country, an aquarium official said.—INTERNET



Iraqis gather at the scene of Sunday's bombing in Baghdad's Sad'r City, on 13 March, 2006. —INTERNET

**NASA spacecraft enters Mars Orbit successfully**

**LOS ANGELES, 12 March** — The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter of US space agency NASA successfully inserted itself into the Mars orbit Friday afternoon.

The spacecraft manoeuvred for about 25 minutes, fired its onboard rockets, slowed its speed relative to the red planet, and then let itself be captured by Martian gravity.

Mission controllers at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, California, cheered and applauded when they re-acquired the signal of the spacecraft set to explore Mars with the most advanced technology. — MNA/Xinhua

## SPORTS



China's Zhang Na (L) fights for the ball with a player (No 8) of France in the second group game of the Algarve women's football competition in Loule, Portugal, on 11 March, 2006. China lost 0-1.—INTERNET

## Juventus tighten grip on Serie A

ROME, 13 March— Juventus moved closer to retaining their Serie A title after a goalless draw with 10-man AC Milan in a top of the table clash on Sunday.

Juventus have 74 points from 29 matches, 10 more than Milan, who have just nine matches to reel in the champions.

Milan, who came into the match following five successive league wins, created more chances to score but were forced back after midfielder Gennaro Gattuso was sent off in the 69th minute for a second bookable offence.

The showdown at Turin's Stadio delle Alpi began in lively fashion, with a one-two by strikers Zlatan Ibrahimovic and David Trezeguet forcing a diving save from Milan keeper Dida.

At the other end Juventus defender Jonathan Zebina cut out a dangerous low cross by Jaap Stam.

As the first half wore on, however, it was the visitors who began to apply the pressure.

Milan winger Serginho controlled an Andrea Pirlo long ball, cut into the area from the left and teed up for Andriy Shevchenko to blast in a shot that was saved by Gianluigi Buffon.—MNA/Reuters

## Hamburg crush Kaiserslautern to move into second

BERLIN, 13 March— Hamburg SV underlined their Champions League claims by crushing lowly Kaiserslautern 3-0 on Sunday to move into second place in the Bundesliga.

The 1983 European champions, who beat champions Bayern Munich last weekend, put on a convincing performance featuring three second-half goals.

Striker Benjamin Lauth showed them the way with a header on 55 minutes. An own goal from Kaiserslautern defender Fabian Schoenheim followed before Dutch midfielder Rafael van der Vaart wrapped it up with a late penalty.

The game in Hamburg kicked off 75 minutes late because snow threatening to fall on to the pitch had to be removed from the stadium roof.

The northerners are

now six points behind leaders Bayern, who managed only a 0-0 draw at VfL Wolfsburg on Saturday.

Bayern, on 59 points from 25 games, are followed by HSV on 53 and third-placed Schalke

04 on 51.

The top two in the Bundesliga qualify automatically for the Champions League group stage and the third-placed side enter the qualifying competition.

MNA/Reuters

## Wenger says Arsenal can catch Liverpool in League

LONDON, 13 March— Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger says his improving young side can catch Liverpool in the Premier League after they recorded a 2-1 win over the third-placed Merseysiders on Sunday.

Arsenal knocked Real Madrid out of the Champions League in midweek but have not been at their best this season in domestic competition.

Sunday's victory put the north London club in fifth position, two points behind neighbours Tottenham Hotspur and eight adrift of Liverpool.

"I think we can catch Liverpool," Wenger told reporters. "I thought if we could win the game today, we could do it."

Wenger said his team had gained extra confidence from reaching the quarterfinals of the Champions League.

MNA/Reuters

## Lille's Champions League hopes hit by 1-1 draw at Nantes

PARIS, 13 March— Lille lost two precious points in their attempt to claim a direct Champions League spot when they were held 1-1 by struggling Nantes on Sunday.

The northerners remain third with 51 points from 30 games and trail second-placed Girondins Bordeaux, who beat Toulouse 2-0 on Saturday, by five points.

Bordeaux have one game in hand over Lille and remain nine points behind leaders Olympique Lyon who thrashed lowly Metz 4-0 on Saturday.

Lille lead fourth-placed AJ Auxerre by one point. The top two gain automatic qualification to the Champions League group stage and the third-placed side enter qualifying.

MNA/Reuters



Lisa Raymond of USA reaches to return against Maria Sharapova of Russia during the second round match of Pacific Life Tennis Open in Indian Wells, Calif, on 12 March, 2006. Sharapova won, 6-4, 6-0.

INTERNET

## Rooney double eases dominant United to win

LONDON, 13 March— England striker Wayne Rooney hit a quickfire double, his first league goals of the year, to fire Manchester United to a 2-0 victory over Newcastle United at Old Trafford on Sunday. Rooney latched on to a poor backpass from defender Peter Ramage to lift the ball over Shay Given for the opening goal after eight minutes.

Some slick passing between John O'Shea, Louis Saha and Rooney ended with the striker doubling the lead four minutes later and the 20-year-old missed

a great chance for a hat-trick when he struck the post in the second half.

United's one-sided victory consolidated second

place, although they still trail Chelsea by 15 points. Later on Sunday, seventh-placed Arsenal, five points adrift of the fourth Champions League place, take on third-placed Liverpool at Highbury.

France defender William Gallas smashed home a superb stoppage-time winner to give Chelsea a 2-1 victory over Tottenham Hotspur on Saturday. United's fourth successive league win was never in doubt after Rooney's early double, but the League Cup winners should have added many more as Newcastle succumbed to their first defeat under caretaker coach Glenn Roeder.

MNA/Reuters



Manchester United's Ji-sung Park, centre, forces his way past Newcastle's Robert Elliott during their English Premier League soccer match at Old Trafford Stadium, Manchester, England, on 12 March, 2006.—INTERNET

## Benfica held by 10-man Naval

LISBON, 13 March— Benfica lost ground in the Portuguese Premier League title race on Sunday, a 0-0 home draw with 10-man Naval leaving them seven points off the pace. Leaders Porto, who won 2-0 on Friday to preserve a 23-year unbeaten record at Vitoria Setubal, have 57 points from 26 matches followed by Sporting (55), who beat Boavista 1-0 on Saturday.

Champions Benfica stayed third but could be overtaken by Braga (48) if they win at Belenenses on Monday.

Benfica applied constant pressure at Luz Stadium but were unable to make the breakthrough even though 13th-placed Naval had defender Franco sent off for handball on 56 minutes.

MNA/Reuters

## Three sent off as Alaves put brakes on Sevilla drive

MADRID, 13 March— Relegation-threatened Alaves put the brakes on sixth-placed Sevilla's drive for a Champions League berth despite having two players sent off in a 2-1 home win over the Andalucians on Sunday.

The defeat left Sevilla two points adrift of fourth-placed Osasuna in the Primera Liga and one ahead of Villarreal, who were held 1-1 at Real Mallorca. Sevilla took the lead after 10 minutes with a volley from Argentine striker Javier Saviola.

The visitors had de-

fender Aitor Ocio sent off eight minutes later for handling the ball on the line but keeper Andres Palop saved the resulting penalty from Nene.

Brazilian Nene atoned for his error when he sent an unstoppable long-range shot fizzing into the top corner midway through the first half.—MNA/Reuters



Arsenal's captain Thierry Henry, left, is challenged by Liverpool's Steve Finnan, right, and Xabi Alonso for the ball during their English Premier League soccer match at Highbury, London, on 12 March, 2006. Arsenal won 2-1.—INTERNET

# Helicopter crashes in Russia, one dead

Moscow, 13 March — A helicopter carrying 19 people crashed on Saturday in northwestern Russia, killing one and injuring 14 others on board, Russian news agencies said.

The Mi-8 helicopter was carrying 16 passengers and a crew of three when it went down in the town of Varandei in the Nenets autonomous district. One people died and the injured have been taken to hospitals for treatment.

The Emergency Situations Ministry's northwestern regional centre said all the passengers were relatives of people killed in a plane crash near Varandei a year ago and they were being flown there to attend ceremonies marking the anniversary of that crash.

An An-24 passenger turboprop crashed approaching the Varandei Airport on 16 March, 2005, killing 28 people of the 52 onboard, most of them workers of a local oil company.

MNA/Xinhua



A television correspondent does a stand up in Tiananmen square as delegates to Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference attend the conclusion of the closing session of the CPPCC where they adopted a resolution to 'resolutely oppose and check 'Taiwan independence' secessionist forces and activities,' at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, on 13 March, 2006. The 2,280-member Advisory body to China's legislature is meant to keep China's leaders in touch with what's really going on in the country's far-flung regions and various social and professional circles. Parliament is scheduled to conclude its session Tuesday.—INTERNET

# Nigerian man rescued after 24 hours atop 330 kv wire

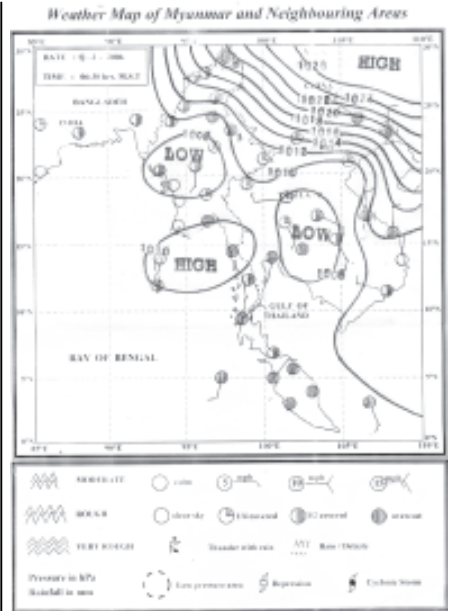
LAGOS, 13 March— A naked man believed to be aged about 21 years old was this week rescued after 24 hours atop a 330-kilo volt high tension in the west Nigerian state of Niger, Nigeria's Saturday Punch newspaper reported.

The man, simply identified as Ahmadu, was found holding tenaciously to the yellow face of the insulator strings of the transmission line at the Gusase Village by herdsmen on Wednesday afternoon, the report said.

"Every attempt we made to plead with him to come down from the place proved abortive. Nobody can say anything about him, where he comes from or the period he has been on top of the 330-kilo volt transmission line," said the village head, Alhaji Yahaya Waziri.

"I have seen cases of people being electrocuted in the course of trying to steal ... equipment or people being arrested in the process. But for somebody to have willingly climbed to the topmost point of the 330-kilo-volt transmission line and turned the place into a dwelling place, refusing all entreaties made for him to come down is very, very strange," he added.

MNA/Xinhua



## WEATHER

Monday, 13 March, 2006

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain have been scattered in Kachin State, isolated in Shan State and Sagaing Division and weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Chin and Kayin States, Mandalay, Magway, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, (3°C) below normal in upper Sagaing Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Aunglan (41°C), Magway and Minbu(40°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Putao and Machanbaw (0.32) inch each, Lashio (0.12) inch and Hkamti (0.08) inch.

Maximum temperature on 12-3-2006 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 13-3-2006 was 71°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 13-3-2006 was (78%). Total sunshine hours on 12-3-2006 was (8.2) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 13-3-2006 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 (7) mph from Northwest at (15:30) hours MST on 12-3-2006.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 14-3-2006:** Possibility of isolated light rain in Kachin and Northern Shan States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in Mandalay Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

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

**Forecast for Pyinmana and neighbouring area for 14-3-2006:** Partly cloudy.


**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 14-3-2006:** Fair weather.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 14-3-2006:** Partly cloudy.

## EARTHQUAKE REPORT

(Issued at 10:00 hour MST, Today)

A moderate earthquake of intensity (5.4) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (over the sea, near Anbaman Islands), about (260) miles Southwest of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory (17 miles South-Southeast of Coco Island), was recorded at (05) hrs (29) min (22) sec MST on 13th March 2006.



**Tuesday, 14 March**  
View on today

<p><b>7:00 am</b></p> <p>1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara</p> <p><b>7:15 am</b></p> <p>2. တိပိဋကဓရ မေဃဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိတာ၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတာ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တ သိရိန္ဒရာဘိဝံသ(မဟာဆရာတော်) မဟာကြား၊ တော် မူ အပိ မသာ ဥပ္ပတသန္တိ ပါဠိတော်</p> <p><b>7:25 am</b></p> <p>3. To be healthy exercise</p> <p><b>7:30 am</b></p> <p>4. Morning news</p> <p><b>7:40 am</b></p> <p>5. Nice and sweet song</p> <p><b>7:50 am</b></p> <p>6. ကျားပန်းဥယျာဉ်</p> <p><b>8:00 am</b></p> <p>7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p><b>8:05 am</b></p> <p>8. Songs of yesteryears</p>	<p><b>8:15 am</b></p> <p>9. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p><b>8:20 am</b></p> <p>10. ဂမုန်းရေလှောင်တံခံ</p> <p><b>8:25 am</b></p> <p>11. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p><b>8:30 am</b></p> <p>12. International news</p> <p><b>8:45 am</b></p> <p>13. Let's Go</p> <p><b>4:00 pm</b></p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p><b>4:15 pm</b></p> <p>2. Songs to uphold National Spirit</p> <p><b>4:30 pm</b></p> <p>3. English for Everyday Use</p> <p><b>4:40 pm</b></p> <p>4. တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုတေး သီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုရတေးများ</p> <p><b>4:50 pm</b></p> <p>5. အစေးသင်တန်းထုတ်လုပ်ပညာရေး ဂုဏ်ပြုသင်ကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (သိပ္ပံအထူးပြုအားလုံး) (ဂျပံစော)</p> <p><b>5:05 pm</b></p> <p>6. Dance of national races</p> <p><b>5:20 pm</b></p> <p>7. ခံစားနားဆင်တေးဇာတ်ဝင်</p>	<p><b>5:35 pm</b></p> <p>8. "ရောင်ခြည်ဟင်္ဂါးခြင်း" (မင်းအုတ်စိုက်၊ ကုသိုလ်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ခင်နွဲ့နွဲ့မူ)</p> <p><b>5:35 pm</b></p> <p>9. Sing and Enjoy</p> <p><b>6:00 pm</b></p> <p>10. Evening news</p> <p><b>6:30 pm</b></p> <p>11. Weather report</p> <p><b>6:35 pm</b></p> <p>12. နိုင်ငံခြား ကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရယ်ခွင်ဆော့ဇွဲး ပုရွက်ဆိတ်လေး" (အပိုင်း ၇၂)</p> <p><b>7:00 am</b></p> <p>13. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p><b>7:10 pm</b></p> <p>14. (ဝေ)နှစ်မြောက် တစ်ဆောင်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်</p> <p><b>7:25 pm</b></p> <p>15. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p><b>7:40 pm</b></p> <p>16. The mirror images of the musical oldies</p> <p><b>8:00 pm</b></p> <p>17. News</p> <p>18. International news</p> <p>19. Weather report</p> <p>20. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ပျော်ရွှင်ဖွယ် နေ့ကလေးများ" (အပိုင်း-၁၈) (ဇာတ်သိမ်းပိုင်း)</p> <p>21. The next day's programme</p>
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**Tuesday, 14 March**  
Tune in today

<p><b>8:30 am</b> Brief news</p> <p><b>8:35 am</b> Music: -Suzy</p> <p><b>8:40 am</b> Perspectives</p> <p><b>8:45 am</b> Music:</p> <p><b>8:50 am</b> National News &amp; Slogan</p> <p><b>9:00 am</b> Music:</p> <p><b>9:05 am</b> International news</p> <p><b>9:10 am</b> Music:</p> <p><b>1:30 pm</b> News &amp; Slogan</p> <p><b>1:40pm</b> Lunch time music</p> <p><b>9:00 pm</b> English speaking course level -1</p> <p><b>9:15 pm</b> Article/Music</p> <p><b>9:25 pm</b> Weekly sports reel</p> <p><b>9:35 pm</b> Music for your listening pleasure</p> <p><b>9:45 pm</b> News &amp; Slogan</p> <p><b>10.00 pm</b> PEL</p>
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# Religious titles conferred, alms offered to members of Sangha...

(from page 1)

conferred Abhidaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika titles, one Sayadaw who would be conferred Tipidakadara Dhamma Bandagarika title, 22 Sayadaws who would be conferred Agga Maha Pandita titles and 32 Sayadaws who would be conferred Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika titles to designated places in the cave.

Master of ceremonies, U San Thin Hlaing of the Ministry of Religious Affairs read out the agenda and the ceremony was opened with a three-time recitation of *Namo Tassa*.

members of Sangha, 20 nuns, 26 lay men and 27 lay women.

Next, the congregation received the Five Precepts from Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Magway Maha Wisutarama Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Kumara.

Afterwards, Presiding Sayadaw of Dhamma Rakkhita Wuntho Monastery in Myintkyina Abhidaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Silavamsa delivered a sermon. Next, religious ti-



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents a religious title to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Shwe Mann conferred Abhidaja Maha Rattha Guru title on Sayadaw Baddanta Silavamsa of Dhamma Rakita Wontho

Maha Saddhamma Jotika titles on Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kondalabhivamsa of Yangon Division and Sayadaw Bhaddanta Dhamma Siri of Shan State (East), Tipitikadhara Dhamma Bandagarika titles on Sayadaw Bhaddanta Gantamar Lankara of Sagaing.

Next, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein conferred Agga Maha Pandita titles on four recipient Sayadaws.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Tin Aye, member of the State Peace and Development Council, conferred Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja titles upon five Sayadaws.

and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win conferred Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja titles, Agga Maha Pandita title, Agga Maha Gandha

Chairman of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun and Mayor of Yangon Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin conferred Agga Maha Gandha Vasaka Pandita title, Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title, Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title, Agga Maha Gandha Vasaka Pandita title and Maha Gandha Vasaka Pandita title on title recipient Sayadaws.

Afterwards, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than



General Thura Shwe Mann presents a religious title to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Next, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko delivered a speech. He said the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar announced the conferring of religious titles on Sayadaws, members of Sangha and lay persons under notification No 1/2006 dated 4 January 2006. Religious titles would be conferred on 319

titles were conferred on members of the Sangha.

First, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye conferred Abhidaja Maha Rattha Guru titles on Sayadaw Bhaddanta Nagavamsa of Wailuwun Monastery of Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Division and Sayadaw Bhaddanta Agga Pandita of Asoka Monastery in Monywa, Sagaing Division.

General Thura

Monastery in Myitkyina, Kachin State, Abhidaja Agga Maha Rattha Saddhamma Jotika titles on Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sirindhara of Ayeyawady Division, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kosalla of Mandalay Division and Sayadaw Bhaddanta Siri Dhamma of Yangon Division.

Prime Minister General Soe Win conferred Abhidaja Agga



Prime Minister General Soe Win presents a religious title to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Minister for Agriculture

Vasaka Pandita title and Agga Maha Kamahtanacariya title on recipient Sayadaws.

Afterwards, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Maj-Gen Than Aung of the Ministry of Defence,

Htay and Deputy Minister for Labour Brig-Gen Win Sein conferred Maha Gandha Vasaka Pandita title, Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title and Maha Kamahtanacariya title on title recipient Sayadaws.

Afterwards, Advisor of the Ministry of Religious Affairs U Arnt Maung, Deputy Minister (See page 8)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents a religious title to a Sayadaw. — MNA