The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Four political objectives

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

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- 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

Monday, 20 March, 2006

- 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

Prime Minister General Soe Win attends ceremony to hoist Shwehtidaw atop Yantaingaung Pagoda, consecration ceremony in Lashio

YANGON, 19 March — A ceremony to hoist Shwehtidaw (golden umbrella) atop Yantaingaung Hsutaungpyay MyoU Pagoda and consecration ceremony was held at the pagoda on Wizayabumi Maha Aungmye Mingalar Hill in Lashio this morning. do the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife Daw San San Yi, Chairman of Shan State opment Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and wife, ministers, the Judge Ad-

The ceremony was attended by Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Magway Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Kumara and Ovadaçariya State Sayadaws, members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, members of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha and members of the Sangha, Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Member

Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife Daw San San Yi, Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and wife, ministers, the Judge Advocate-General, senior military officers, deputy ministers, departmental heads of the State Peace and Development Council Office and the Prime Minister's Office, local authorities, departmental officials, local national race leaders, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, social organization and religious associations, wellwishers and local people. Prime Minister Gen-

eral Soe Win and wife and party took the Nine Precepts from the Chairman Sayadaw. Members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

Next, Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe offered Seinbudaw (diamond bud) donated by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and family and eight requisites to the Chairman Sayadaw.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife Daw San San Yi presented Sein-ohdaw (diamond pot) donated by Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and family and eight requisites to the Sayadaw.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and wife Daw Khin Thant Zin offered Hnget-myatnadaw



(pennant-shaped vane) donated by 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 and family and eight requisites to the Sayadaw.

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein donated tiers of the Htidaw, Sasana Flag, the guarantee document of the plot, Shwekyar Thingan, eight requisites and provisions to the Sayadaw.

The ministers, the deputy ministers and officials also participated in the donation ceremony.

Secretary of SSMNC Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Nyaungdon Sayadaw Bhaddanta Osadhabhivamsa delivered a sermon, and the congregation shared merits gained.

(See page 8)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 20 March, 2006

Collectively expedite anti-drug campaigns

Drug abuse, production and trafficking pose a grave threat to the entire mankind today. Therefore, every country and region the length and breadth of the world is steadfastly mounting the fight against the menace of narcotic drugs and Myanmar is no exception.

The government has been implementing the 15-year Drug Elimination Plan phase by phase since 1999, and the success of the first five-year phase can be attributed to the commitment of the government and the participation of regional authorities and local national races in the fight against drugs. Meanwhile, the New Destiny Project is being implemented. Regarding this, UNODC has acknowledged that poppy cultivation, production of opium and drug trafficking in Myanmar have been decreased significantly.

In Myanmar, tasks for elimination of narcotic drugs are being carried out extensively under the 15-year Drug Elimination Plan with the active participation of local people.

As part of the 15-year plan, the seizure of drugs, the arrest of drug traffickers and the punishment of drug abusers are being carried out. At the same time, poppy substitute crops were grown and livestock breeding was done in regions where poppy used to be grown in the past to enhance the socio-economic life of local people.

The Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control hand in hand with the people is making all-out efforts in the fight against drugs in the second five-year phase. Learning from the success and challenges encountered during the first five-year phase, the entire national people are to do their bit with nationalistic spirit for successful realization of the second five-year phase.

At a time when the government is making relentless efforts for the elimination of narcotic drugs, departmental officials and mediamen are to convince the people of the danger of drugs. Accordingly, means and ways are to be sought to prevent the youths from taking drugs including stimulants.

Therefore, the entire national people under the leadership of the government are to try their utmost in stamping out the drug problem, the evil legacy of the colonialists.

61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Commemorative Exhibition 26 March-4 April

YANGON, 19 March — Booths of ministries, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s Office, the Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Office, the Office of the Chief of Armed Forces Training, directorates of the Ministry of Defence, military commands, the 12 State Objectives, public welfare tasks of ministries, Yangon City Development Committee, Mandalay City Development Committee, and Tatmadaw History of Defence Services Museum and Historical Research Institute will be put on display at the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Commemorative Exhibition at the Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda Road, here.

The exhibition will be kept open from 26 March to 4 April for public observation. - MNA

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

Meeting on smooth and secure transport held

YANGON, 18 March — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win attended the Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport at the hall of Yangon Command Headquarters vesterday evening.

The commander explained arrangements for convenient travelling of students from universities

Timber extraction inspected

YANGON, 19 March— Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, on 17 March, inspected timber extraction at the block-17 of Nancho reserved forest in Pvinmana (North) timber extraction region in Mandalay Division. Regional Manager U Saw James Kalowah and General Manager U Aye Win reported to the minister on timber extraction and building of roads. The minister gave instructions to officials on extraction of timber in accord

51 gem lots sold at 43rd Myanma Gems Emporium

YANGON, 19 March — Chairman of the Myanma Gems Emporium Central Committee Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein viewed sales of gem lots through tender and competitive bidding system at the 43rd Myanma Gems Emporium at Myanma Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, today.

From 9 am to 3.45 pm today, a total of 51 gem lots were sold.

A total of 1,457 gem merchants from 416 companies of 15 countries and 870 from 352 local companies, totalling 2,327 had arrived here till today. They checked jade lots from 9 am to 5 pm today.

After inspecting the jade lots, local and foreign merchants are to put tender proposals into the tender boxes on 20 March. - MNA

YANGON,

Yangon West District

Peace and Development

Council Lt-Col Kyaw

Kyimyidine Township Peace and Development Council U Aung Kyaw Oo, MD U Khin Maung



The opening ceremony of Hotel Glory in progress. - MNA

and colleges and the students who are taking the matriculation examination, and future tasks.

Heads of department, registrars, officials and members of the supervisory committee, departmental officials and chairmen of bus lines reported on matters related to school buses, traffic rules, smooth transportation and conversion of vehicles into natural gas-used vehicles. The commander fulfilled the requirements. - MNA

with the rules and regulations of Forest Department

and preparations to be made for the next year. The minister also inspected Kawma timber yard in Pyinmana Township.-MNA



Gem merchants examine jade lots at Gems Empo. — MNA

tions of the hotel. Those

present, next, viewed

MNA

round the hotel.

People Style Competition-2006 held

YANGON, 19 March — Altogether 37 damsels aged between 15 and 25 participated in the first People Style Competition-2006 organized by People magazine at Traders Hotel yesterday.

Aye Myat Thu (Fashion Designer Thwin Thu Aye) emerged as Miss Style and M Khara (Fashion Designer N Ban Nan) as Miss People. Zin Sanda Tun fetched Miss Charming prize and Su Su Aung won Best Stylist award. Director Aung Ko Latt, Vocalist Sai Sai Kham Hlaing and Academy Eindra Kyaw Zin and Yarzar Nay Win presented awards to the winners. — MNA

Hotel Glory opened Pyone and Director Daw

19 Tint, officials, Managing Director of the hotel U March— The opening of Hla Hla Ave formally Hotel Glory was held this Khin Maung Pyone, Diopened the hotel and the rector Daw Hla Hla Aye morning at No 574 chairman of the Yangon Lower Kyimyindine and invited guests. West District PDC un-Road. The ceremony was Chairman of veiled the stone inscripattended by Chairman of

Nepali King says China is Nepal's reliable friend

KATHMANDU, 18 March — Nepali King Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev said here on Friday that China is a reliable friend of Nepal.

"Nepal firmly supports the one-China policy of your government and will never allow any anti-China activities in Nepal's territory," King Gyanendra told visiting Chinese State Councillor Tang Jiaxuan, who arrived here on Thursday for a three-day official visit to Nepal.

The King expressed appreciation for China's long-standing support on safeguarding Nepal's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

Nepal appreciates and supports the important role that China has been playing in the international affairs, Gyanendra added, while receiving Tang in audience at the Narayanhiti Royal Palace. For his part, Tang Jiaxuan said the Chinese Government will continue to pursue a policy of friendship towards Nepal and attach great importance to developing comprehensive and friendly relations with Nepal.

"China will never change its friendly policy towards Nepal irrespective of changes, internationally," Tang noted.

"We highly respect the mode of development chosen by the Nepali people, have never interfered with the internal affairs of Nepal. We consistently support Nepal in its effort to safeguard sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity," Tang added.

Thousands in Europe protest Iraq war

New YORK, 19 March — Tens of thousands of people in Europe and the Americas protested the war in Iraq on the eve of its third anniversary, with demonstrations in Europe drawing far greater crowds than those in the United States.

Events in Washington, | troops in Iraq.

New York and Los Angeles drew approximately 1,000 people each, *AFP* reporters and police said. At a rally near New York's Times Square, speaker after speaker denounced the Bush administration and US The group Troops Out Now called for immediate, complete, unconditional US military withdrawal.

"Public opinion is now overwhelmingly on our side as it becomes clearer every day that this occupation itself is the source of the violence in Iraq," said organizer Dustin Langley. In Washington, a thousand protested outside Vice -President Dick Cheney's home. "This racist war has to go," they chanted, some carrying signs reading "Bush step down", "Impeachment now" and

r "Hands off Iran". n In Hollywood, 1,200 d protested the war, police - said. Among them were s Paul Haggis, the Canadian director of "Crash", this year's Oscar winner for g best picture, and actors ', Martin Sheen, Laura Dern d and Maria Bello. Sixty-five percent of

Americans answering a Newsweek magazine poll said Bush has not handled the war properly matching European feelings about the war. But protests on in Europe were far better attended.

Rome set the pace, with tens of thousands in the streets, carrying signs "Stop the war in Iraq" and "No to the war for oil." In London, police said 15,000 showed up for the anti-war march, still a far cry from the 2003 demonstration that mobilized one million protesters.—*Internet*



Demonstrators gather in Rome, on 18 March 2006, to protest against the US-led war in Iraq.—INTERNET

2,314 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 18 March—As of Saturday, 18 March, 2006, at least 2,314 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 1,811 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The *AP* count is one more than the Defence Department's tally, last updated Friday 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; and Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, one death each.





Kelly Osbourne arrives at the 2 B Free fashion show of the fall 2006 collection at the Regent Beverly Wilshire hotel in Beverly Hills, on 17 March, 2006. Los Angeles Fashion Week for the fall of 2006 begins on Sunday.—INTERNET



Demonstrators chant anti-US slogans as they hold banners reading "Peace" and "US go back home" at Kadikoy Square in Istanbul, to protest the Iraq war on 18 March, 2006. Demonstrations marking the third anniversary of the US-led invasion of Iraq drew thousands of people in cities around Europe, as polls show most Europeans remain opposed to the war. — INTERNET

US commits crimes by massacring Iraqis daily

OTTAWA, 18 March — A Canadian senator recently strongly criticized the US Government's foreign policy and accused it of committing true crimes through "the daily massacre of innocent people in Iraq", local media reported on Friday.

In responding to an American family's protest against seal hunt in Canada, Liberal Senator Celine Hervieux-Payette said Canada's annual seal hunt pales in comparison to the slaughter of innocent Iraqis at the hands of the US, Canadian Television reported.

The McLellan family of US Minnesota sent a letter to all Canadian senators, describing the seal hunt as "horrible" and "inhumane". Hervieux-Payette penned a terse response, saying the Americans should be more concerned about their own government's treatment of Iraqis.

She pointed out that the true crimes being committed in the world are "the daily massacre of innocent people in Iraq, the execution of prisoners — mainly Blacks in American prisons, the massive sale of handguns to Americans, the destabilization of the entire world by the American Government's aggressive foreign policy,etc".

MNA/Xinhua

Gastroenteritis outbreak kills two in west India

NEW DELHI, 18 March — An outbreak of gastroenteritis in West Indian city of Mumbai in Maharashtra has killed two people and 100 others have been sent to hospital with symptoms, New Delhi Television (NDTV) reported here on Thursday.

Patients have blamed contaminated water and authorities said they would probe the cause.

A majority of the patients admitted to a state-run hospital show symptoms of vomitting and stomach pain, both common signs of the disease.

Maharashtra Health Minister Vimal Mundada has urged patients not to panic. "All facilities for emergency treatment and for those in the intensive care unit are being made and the situation will be brought under control," NDTV quoted Mundana as saying.

Currently, doctors are advising people to take precautions such as washing their hands before eating, not eating food from the road-side, eating freshly cooked or well heated food and drinking only boiled water. —*MNA/Xinhua*

"Russian Knights" start aerobatic show in China

ZHANGJIAJIE (Hunan), 18 March— The Russian aerobatic team "Russian Knights" launched its first aerobatic show in Zhangjiajie, central-south China's Hunan Province on Friday afternoon.

took off at 2:55 pm, followed by four SU-27 fighter jets. The performance lasted for about half an hour.

The five SU-27 fighter jets roared over the airfield in various formations and performed stunts including swooping down, flying head to head, mid-air rolling or flying backwards.

The display was planned to last for about one hour, but was cut by half due to cloudy weather and low visibility. Many highly difficult manoeuvres were also cancelled.

The five SU-27 fighter flew at 800 to 900 kilometres per hour and about 60 to 150 metres above the ground.

An SU-30 fighter jet arrived at Zhangjiajie at 8,000-kilometre and eight-hour flight from Moscow. An IL-76 aircraft used for transportation had arrived at Zhangjiajie and will mainly be used for ground shows. Three other aircraft were on their way

An SU-27 fighter jet | Friday noon after an | to Zhangjiajie on Friday | of their homes. afternoon The display attracted

about 20,000 aviation enthusiasts at the airfield thousands of and spectators at a nearby park. Many locals also tried to get glimpses of the aircraft from the roof

Set up in 1991, the "Russian Knights" team

is the only aerial stunt team in the world using heavy aircraft with high performance. The planes are decorated in white, red and blue.

MNA/Xinhua



A Russian IL-78 (top) refuels a SU-30 during an aerobatics show at Zhangjiajie National Forest Park in central China's Hunan Province, on 18 March, 2006. INTERNET

pressure. "Iran's nuclear activities are merely a pretext for the West, since even in the absence of it, too, there would be other dossiers? Larijani was quoted by the official IRNA news agency

Iran vows not to give in under western pressure TEHERAN, 18 March -

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militia troops and professors. Larijani also denounced US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's recent allegation that Iran is the central bank for international terrorism as another pretext parallel to the nuclear issue.

"US Secretary of State Rice says that Iran is the central bank for international terrorism What does that have to do with our nuclear pro-gramme? They have pursued parallel projects against us," Larijani said.

close to the Dutch border,

guests now have to step

onto the scales before

moving into their rooms

and fork out half a euro (35

pence) per kilogram (2.2

lbs)."I had many guests

who were really huge and I told them to slim down,"

said Juergen Heckrodt, owner of the three-starestablishment. "When they

came back the year after

and had lost a lot of weight

they asked me what are

you gonna do forme now?"

his initiative would inspire

Germans to become leaner

longer and can come

back more often."Larger

customers may be reassured

that the hotel turns no one

away who refuses to step

on the scales and charges

no guest more than 39 euros.

the normal single room

and healthier.

Heckrodt said he hoped

"Healthy guests live

MNA/Xinhua

German hotel charges guests by the kilo

BERLIN, 17 March—A hotel in northern Germany has started charging its guests by the kilo for an overnight stay. In the town of Norden,

as saying in a speech to

Iran's chief nuclear

negotiator Ali Larijani said

on Friday that Iranian

nuclear programme and

terrorist sponsorship were

just pretexts taken by

Western countries to

pressurize Iran, vowing

never to give in under



South Koreans gather to watch a television broadcast of the semi-final World Baseball Classic game between South Korea and Japan in San Diego, in front of the Seoul City Hall, 19 March, 2006. --INTERNET

Food companies a target in obesity fight

WASHINGTON, 17 March-It's tempting to blame big food companies for America's big obesity problem. After all, they're the folks who supervized our fries, family-portioned our potato chips and Big Gulped our sodas. There's also the billions they've spent keeping their products ever on our minds and in our mouths.

Likened by some to the way tobacco companies seduced smokers, such practices have made the food industry the target of lawsuits and legislation seeking to yank junk food from schools and curb advertising to children. But some experts say neither the problem nor the solution is nearly so simple.

You don't have the collusion or the cover-up you had in smoking," says James Tillotson, a business and food policy professor at Tufts' Friedman School of Nutrition. "We want to blame somebody, but the thing is, we're all a part of it."Sure, companies set the stage with cheap, calorie-dense foods.-Internet

Russian building collapse kills one, injures eightp

Moscow, 18 March | others were injured | city when parts of an office At least one person was killed and eight | building in the Siberian

India building motorcycle plant in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 18 March-Indian firm TVS Motor Company is building a motorcycle plant worth of 43 million US dollars in Karawang of Indonesia. an executive said on Friday.

"The construction of our motorcycle plant in Karawang aims to fill the growing demand of local market," TVS director BLP Simha said.

Occupying an area of 40 hectares in western Java town, the plant targets initial production of 120,000 units in August from the installed capacity of 300 000 units

The plant will produce moped motorcycle of 100cc to 125cc and sports model of 150cc to 250cc. which enjoy high demand here.

In order to win market share on the crowded market, the company will establish partnership with leading financing firms in



Limited is a subsidiary of TVS Group, India's third largest motorcycle manufacturer with assets of 2.2 billion dollars. MNA/Xinhua



Protesters dressed as US President George Bush (R) and US Vice-President Dick Cheney, carry banners and shout slogans against the war in Iraq on the way to a protest in New York's Times Square, on 18 March, 2006.—INTERNET

of Tyumen collapsed after a gas explosion, Russian news agencies reported on Friday.

An Emergenies Ministry spokeswoman was quoted by ITAR-TASS news agency as saying the rubble had fallen onto a sports hall and more people could be trapped.

The injured, including six children, were taken to hospital, ministry officials said. MNA/Reuters



Models display cartoon wedding dresses in Shenyang, capital of northeast China's Liaoniang Province, on 18 March, 2006, the opening day of the Sixth Wedding Exposition, in this photo released by China's Xinhua news agency.-INTERNET

Indonesia rejects US request for proliferation security initiative

JAKARTA, 18 March — Indonesia has rejected a request by the United States which asked it participate in the proliferation security initiative (PSI), according to the Indonesian Foreign Ministry on Friday.

The request was delivered by the visiting US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice during a meeting with her Indonesian counterpart Hassan Wirajuda here Tuesday, said

spokesman of Indonesian Foreign Ministry Destra Percaya. "US Secretary of State Rice explicitly asked Indonesia to participate in the proliferation security initiative, but Foreign

People attend a demonstration to demand the withdrawal of US troops from Iraq and Japan in central Tokyo, on 18 March, 2006. —INTERNET

Wannabe British serial killer gets life in jail

LONDON, 18 March — A British horror film fan who wanted to be a famous serial killer was told on Friday he will spend the rest of his life in prison for the murders of four strangers during a rampage through southern England.

who was found guilty on Thursday of the 2004 killing spree which he likened to murders in the film "Halloween", was jailed with no prospect of release. To applause and shouts of "bye" and "enjoy" from relatives of his victims, judge Anne Goddard told him: "In my view this is a case where life should mean life."

London's Old Bailey court had heard how Gonzalez had set out on

Daniel Gonzalez, 25, mission to kill as many people as possible, later telling doctors he went on the rampage because he was bored.

> The court heard he said he had wanted to know what it would be like to be "Freddy Krueger for the day"- referring to the crazed killer from the "A Nightmare on Elm Street" movie. Gonzalez, who also said he wanted to carry out a massacre similar to the 1999 killings at Columbine High School in the United

States, began his murders on 15 September, 2004.

In the next three days he stabbed to death Marie Harding, 73, as she was out walking in a secluded area, 46-year-old Kevin Molloy who had been out drinking in a pub and Derek Robinson, 75, and his wife Jean, 60, at their London home.

He also tried to cut the throat of a man out walking his dog and attacked another victim in his home, but they both managed to fight him off.-MNA/Reuters

Cambodia's new anti-trafficking law ready for approval

PHNOM PENH, 18 March — A draft law establishing a new system to halt human trafficking and child sexual exploitation is ready for Cambodian National Assembly's approval, local media reported on Friday.

police more power to investigate and arrest suspected traffickers and pimps, The Cambodia Press Review reported. Prum Sokha, Secret-

ary of State for the Ministry of Interior, said that over 1,000 police officers will be trained in downloading and filing

The draft law will give | sexually exploitative | human trafficking. material for evidence purposes and a further 10 anti-trafficking and child protection units will be established this year.

> Prime Deputy Minister and Interior Minister Sar Kheng stated recently that the two main dangers facing Cambodian youth were drugs and

National Police Commissioner Hok Lundy said at Wednesday's seminarthat, since the 1990s, there has been a remarkable increase in the incidence of sexual abuse of children. including trafficking children from countryside to cities or across borders. MNA/Xinhua



Customers line up for fuel as locals prepare for the oncoming Cyclone Larry,

Spain busts Romanian Mafia ring, 297 arrested

MADRID, 18 March— Spanish police have arrested a Mafia ring of nearly 300 Romanians in one of their biggest operations against foreign criminals.

The network was organized by one leader, known as Iorgu I or Talanu, with several lieutenants, and operated in eight of Spain's 17 regions, the Interior Ministry said on Friday.

Minister Hassan Wirajuda

firmly said that Indonesia

could not receive the offer.

because PSI will disturb and

endanger the sovereignty of

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia," said Destra.

"The crimes for which these Mafia groups are accused include violent robbery, forgery and fraudulent use of credit cards, drug trafficking, falsifying documents, illegal possession of weapons, prostitution and offences against worker rights,"

Interior Minister Jose | arrested 283 people and Antonio Alonso told a news conference. Spanish police

Romanian authorities detained another 14.

on 19 March. 2006 in Townsville, Australia. Cyclone Larry, a category 3 cyclone, which is defined as bringing ``verv destructive winds" with gusts of up to 224 kilometers an hour, is expected to cross the coast in the early hours of Monday Morning.

INTERNET

Tanzania building collapses, one dead, others trapped

MNA/Reuter:

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 18 March - A four-storey building collapsed on the outskirts of Tanzania's commercial capital on Friday, killing at least one person and trapping others, witnesses and rescue workers said.

The half-built block in Dar-es-Salaam containing a hotel, offices and a bar crumbled to its first floor in the latest of a string of such accidents round the region raising concern about shoddy construction work and safety standards in Africa.

A construction worker who jumped off the building as it fell said 10 people were caught behind in the bar.

"I jumped as the building was falling behind me. The dust blocked my eyes. I was confused and crawled away when I landed,' Victor Sahota, 30, told Reuters. "There at the



back, there were more |Uganda collapsed killing 26 worshippers



Peoples Defence Forces (TPDF) stand on what remains of a collapsed four storey building in Tanzania's capital Dar-es-Salaam, on 18 March, 2006. The four-storey building collapsed on the outskirts of Tanzania's commercial capital on Friday, killing at least one person and trapping others, witnesses and rescue workers said. INTERNET

Hegemony of US exploiting human rights

The daily newspapers dated 16 March carried a press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar rejecting the US State Department's report on human rights practices in Myanmar for 2005 dated 9 March 2006.

The press release said that the US State Department's Report on Human Rights Practices, 2005 represented nothing more than a highly intrusive politically motivated document interfering in the domestic affairs of Myanmar. It also said that **no** foreign states could claim to have greater interest in the well-being of citizens of Myanmar than the Government and people of Myanmar; that the report of the US State Department could only be regarded as a politically motivated attempt to maintain pressure on Myanmar and interfere in the domestic affairs of the country; and that it had conveniently ignored the positive achievements scored by the Myanmar Government in the political, social and economic spheres of the country.

The US government is showing total disregard for progress of the countries it cannot stand for and stirring up problems. It is known to all world nations that the misdeeds of the US hurt itself and it always faces many problems due to its practice of hegemony.

Every US analyst knows well that violations of human rights the US government has committed within and without the country are so many that if they are to be compiled they will be even more than facts described in a treatise. In reality, human rights enumerated in the US State Constitution do not meet international standard.

For instance, after the September 11 attacks, President Bush authorized the National Security Agency to tap telephone lines and e-mails without seeking approval of the Supreme Court. So, he still has to face scandals due to the taps. And there were widespread criticisms that wiretapping deprived US citizens of freedom and violates the State Constitution of the US.

A recent event has indicated that democracy of the US, that is attempting to imprudently inculcate world countries with its democracy norms, is just profit-oriented democracy. The incident was wellknown as Abramov scandal. Canvasser Jack Abramov of Republican Party recently confessed that he got involved in a political bribe. He boasted himself to be a close associate of President Bush. He said he has friendly relationship with Carl Ruf, adviser to President Bush. The photo of President Bush and him was stated on the media. Moreover, there was a call for investigation to be conducted by the Congress into the allegation that Republican Hitha Wilson committed malpractice in the elections.

A report of FBI said that the murder rate of the whole US increased by two per cent from January to June in 2005; that the number of murders increased by 13 per cent in cities of the US and by 2.3 per cent in major cities, and by 4.9 per cent in central west, by 2.2 per cent in southern, by 1.9 per cent in the northeast, and by 0.2 per cent in the west of the US.

Racial discrimination is still rooted in the US. Nearly 80 per cent of victims to murder cases of Maryland State were Blacks and the criminal cases of the state were interrelated with apartheid and racial discrimination. In an article, a criminologist who analysed more than 1,300 legal cases of death penalties sentenced from 1978 to 1999 in Maryland State said that the judgments were connected with geo-

graphical differences and racial discrimination; that the rate of death penalties for White victims to murder cases was twice that for Black victims; that the rate of death penalties in murder cases in which a White killed another White was two and a half times that in murder cases in which a Black killed a White; and that it could be deduced that a life of a White was considered to be more valuable than that of a Black.

The US government is very notorious in the world media for its acts to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries under the pretext of democracy and human rights. US President Bush one-sidedly invaded Iraq based on wrong intelligence information in support of those willing to use force. That led Iraq to a battlefield, thereby increasing bloody terrorist attacks all over the world.

In many reports, the majority of world people said that the US-led invasion of Iraq was followed by an increase in terrorist attacks and threats throughout the call represented just an encouragement to the monopolization and exploitation of the US economic enterprises.

A Reader

In a bid to wield its influence as a super power in order to realize its strategy, the US has secured the protection of the UN and other organizations. However, the US is ready to do what it likes even if such organizations have decided to oppose it. The country used the UN in isolating Iraq. When the UN did not support the US policy, it openly refused to carry out its responsibilities over the UN. In disregard of the world body, the US used other organizations to serve its purpose.

The US government violates the agreements it has already pledged to observe by shirking numerous responsibilities designed to serve the interest of the global peoples. Hence, the peoples of Europe and the world over have staged demonstrations in protest at the American hegemony. Still, the Bush

The US government is showing total disregard for progress of the countries it cannot stand for and stirring up problems. It is known to all world nations that the misdeeds of the US hurt itself and it always faces many problems due to its practice of hegemony.

the world and lives and property of world people were in a serious condition. In consequence of the US war, there occurred growing number of human rights violations. World people learnt inhumane tortures in Afghanistan andAbhu Garib and Guatanamo war prison camps in 2004. The report dated on 6 March 2006 of the Amnesty International Organization said that the torture and various means of unfair treatments to the prisoners that tarnish human dignity continued in Abhu Garib war prison camp in Baghdad; and that the situations of human rights of Iraqi citizens were still serious.

The news stories that the US opened illegal CIA prison camps in other nations for investigation on the pretext of anti-terrorist war and the US with no respect to the sovereignty of some European countries used the airports of those countries to transport the prisoners brought misery to world people.

The UN Human Rights Commission issued a report calling for investigation into the cases of tortures on the detainees in Guatanamo prison camps in Cuba. The US angrily rejected the report of suggestion that Guatanamo prison camp be closed. But, UN Secretary General Kofi A Annan said that the US had to close the prison camp sooner or later. The report also said that the US authorities should charge the prisoners in the prison camp in accordance with the laws or it should release without any delay those who should be set free.

Despite being under widespread criticism from world countries over its bullying behaviours, the US continues to commit such acts at will. In the Cold War period, it exploited the remaining world nations. In 1995, the World Trade Organization emerged and it called for freer trade machinery. But, it was said that adminstration refused to extend the limitation and destruction of the inter-continental balistic missiles agreement signed with the Soviet Union in 1977 after leaving the international court of justice.

Although the US government is exploiting the so-called human rights report to promote its image, it is not actively involved in the international humanitarian activities. Regarding the relief measures in the aftermath of the Tsunami and hurricane natural disasters and in the fight against hunger in Africa, its contribution amounted to as little as 0.14 per cent of its GDP. Although the US and its allies are shouting for human rights, they have failed to sufficiently extend humanitarian assistance. Hence, thousands of people die daily in nations like Congo.

The US foreign policy is therefore seen by the global nations and peoples as the hegemony raising its head again. Tony Blair, the British Prime Minister, said to be a close friend of US President Bush, is not a person to be consulted by the US President before taking any sort of action; he has become a person to be duly informed in advance of what action the US is going to take. The successive US governments, after the Cold War, have acted as if the world nations are to do whatever they like in handling the international problems. They are doing so based on their superiority in the military and economic spheres thereby going against the law of nature.

Former External Affairs Commissioner of the European Union Crick Patton pointed out that the US acted as in the case of an empire and its subject nations in dealing with its European allies, let alone developing countries.

> Translation: MS + AK (Kyemon: 18-3-2006)

49th Buddha Pujaniya of Shwephonepwint Pagoda concludes

YANGON, 19 March — The 49th Buddha Pujaniya and rice offering ceremony of Shwephonepwint Pagoda in Pazundaung Township was held at the Dhammayon of the pagoda this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Ovadaçariya Sayadaws of the pagoda.

Chairman of the Pagoda Board of Trustees U Tint Lwin supplicated on the purpose of organizing the 49th Buddha Pujaniya and rice offering ceremony.

Shwephonepwint Shwebontha Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vayama administered the Eight Precepts. Members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

A total of 155 members of the Sangha together with 45 nuns went in procession to U Shwe Gun Road, Leikkan Road, Yegyaw Road, Bogyoke Aung San Street, Eingyi Road and Thazin Road.

Local wellwishers offered rice and alms to members of the Sangha and nuns.

The Buddha Pujaniya was held on a grand scale from 15 to 19 March. Dhammakathika Sayadaws administered Desanas at night from 15 to 18 March. This morning, the consecration ceremony in conjunction with the ceremony to offer 'soon' to the Buddha Image was held at the pagoda.

MNA



People offer rice to a Sayadaw at Buddha Pujaniya of Shwephonepwint Pagoda. — MNA

NPE Managing Director receives Chinese Journalist delegation

YANGON, 19 March — Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information U Soe Win received the Chinese journalist delegation led by China Journalists Association Chairman Mr Shao Huaze at the New Light of Myanmar Daily at 10 am today.

Also present at the call were Director of NPE

Editors and officials. After the call, Managing Director of NPE U

Soe Win presented gifts to Chinese delegation. MNA

(News) U Win Tin, Chief-



Managing Director U Soe Win presents gift to Chairman Mr Shao Huaze of China Journalists Association.— MNA

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.

Chinese journalists tour downtown Yangon



Chinese journalist delegation leader Mr Shao Huaze presents cash donations to the fund of Shwedagon Pagoda through an official. — MNA

YANGON, 19 March — The Chinese journalist delegation led by Chairman of China Journalists Association Mr Shao Huaze paid homage to Shwedagon Pagoda this morning. They offered flowers and lights to the pagoda.

The chairman of the association signed the visitors' book and made cash donations to the fund of the pagoda. They visited the

Myanma Gems Mart

where the 43rd Myanma Gems Emporium is being held, on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road. They observed sales of gems lots through tender.

The Chinese guests also visited Union National Races Village in Thakayta Township. Deputy Director U Tun Oo of the Village explained matters concerning the village and traditional costumes of the national races. Mr Shao Huaze and Deputy Director U Tun Oo of the Village exchanged souvenirs. Next, they viewed round the village by car. The leader of the delegation signed the visitors' book at the Kachin traditional house.

Yesterday afternoon, the Chinese guests visited the National Museum on Pyay Road and viewed booths of the museum. Officials conducted them round the museum.

MNA

MWJA Chairman hosts dinner in honour of Chinese journalist delegation



Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein extends greetings at the dinner hosted in honour of the Chinese journalists delegation. — MNA

YANGON, 19 March — Chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association UHla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) hosted a dinner to the Chinese journalists delegation led by China Journalists Association Chairman Mr Shao Huaze at Panda Hotel on Wadan Road here yesterday evening. Also present at the dinner were Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Managing Director U Soe Win of News and Periodicals Enterprise, departmental officials, CEC members of MWJA, the Cultural Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy and officials.

Deputy Minister

Brig-Gen Aung Thein extended greetings.

Chairman of MWJA UHla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) and Chairman of China Journalists Association Mr Shao Huaze gave speeches.

After the dinner, U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) and Mr Shao Huaze exchanged souvenirs.—*MNA* 8 THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Monday, 20 March, 2006



Prime Minister General Soe Win offers Shwekyar Thingan (robe) to Padamya Myetshin Bronze Buddha Image. — MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win hoists Hngetmyatnadaw and Seinbudaw atop Yantaingaung Pagoda. — MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win attends ceremony to hoist Shwehtidaw atop Yantaingaung Pagoda, consecration ceremony in Lashio



Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe present Seinbudaw (diamond bud) donated by Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Commander conveyed Seinbudaw going round the pagoda. Daw Than Than Nwe and Daw Khin Thant Zin conveyed the Pankalap (flower stand) Lt-Gen Kyaw Win carried the Sein-oh-daw, and Daw San San Yi the Pankalap.

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, and Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min conveyed tiers of the Htidaw (Golden Umbrella) and Hngetmyatnadaw.

Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Judge Advocate-General Maj-Gen Soe Maung, the deputy ministers and departmental heads conveyed sets of Shwekyar Thingan and small bells.

Prime Minister General Soe Win and party put the tiers of the Htidaw into the decorated carriage of Mya Layyin Htidaw Hoisting Team, and sprinkled scented water on them.

Meanwhile, the master of ceremonies read out the Maha Mingalar Mawgun.

Next, the Prime Minister and wife and party conveyed tiers of the Htidaw atop the pagoda by the decorated carriage. Officials fixed the Htidaw atop

(from page 1)

Next, the Prime Minister presented certificates of honour to Chairman of the Supervisory Committee for Construction of the Pagoda Member (2) of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of Shan State (North) Police Force Police Col Win Naing, and in-charge of the construction Asia World Co Ltd Managing Director U Tun Myint Naing.

The Prime Minister also gave cash rewards to



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and wife offer Hngetmyatnadaw donated by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San to a Sayadaw. — MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win, wife Daw Than Than Nwe and party conveying Seinbudaw and Hngetmyatnadaw round Yantaingaung Pagoda. — MNA

Htidaw Hoisting Committee Leader Lt-Col Khin | the pagoda.

Maung Win and Adviser Dr Hla Than. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented cash rewards to those who participated in the construction of the pagoda.

Prime Minister General Soe Win and the

Afterwards, the Hngetmyatnadaw was sprinkled with scented water and conveyed atop the pagoda. The Prime Minister put Seinbudaw onto the decorated carriage and sprinkled scented water on *(See page 9)*



Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe and party share merits gained at the Htidaw hoisting ceremony and consecration ceremony of Yantaingaung Pagoda in Lashio. - MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win attends ceremony to hoist Shwehtidaw atop Yantaingaung Pagoda, consecration ceremony in Lashio

(from page 8) them. The Prime Minister, wife and party conveyed the Sasana Flag and Shwekyar Thingan atop the pagoda.

Next, the Prime Minister and party conveyed Hngetmyatnadaw and Seinbudaw atop the pagoda.

Later, they hoisted the Sasana Flag atop the pagoda.

The ceremony ended by performing the rituals of golden and silver showers.

Prime Minister General Soe Win, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung offered Shwekyar Thingan, 'soon', fruits, lights, water and flowers to the Padamva

Bronze Buddha Image in the Gandakuti Building.

The Prime Minister and wife also donated Shwekyar Thingan and an emerald alms bowl to a Buddha image.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife Daw San San Yi, and party also offered sets of Shwekyar Thingan (robe) and emerald alms bowls to bronze Buddha images.

The Chairman Sayadaw and members of the Sangha consecrated the bronze Buddha images in Gandakuti Building of the pagoda.

Staff Officer U San Maung of Religious Affairs Department shared merits gained.

After that, the Prime Minister and wife and party paid homage to Myetshin Buddha images in the



Prime Minister General Soe Win, wife Daw Than Than Nwe and party visit Gandakuti Building of Yantaingaung Pagoda. — MNA

fered

Gandakuti building.

At the north-east corner of the platform, they fertilized and poured water the Bo tree.

The Prime Minister and party went round Yantaingaung Pagoda

which is 135 feet high. Savadaws at Yantaing-Afterwards, they ofaung Dhamma-yon 'soon' to the

MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win fertilizes Bo tree at north-east corner of Yantaingaung Pagoda. — MNA





Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife offer Seinbudaw donated by Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing to a Sayadaw. -- MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein attends opening ceremony of new building...

(from page 16) regulations so as to curb problems of non-performing loans (NPLs).

Members of the Myanmar Banks Association should observe rules and regulations of the international banking services and join them.

The role of the banking services will be important in the future when the special economic zones, the export items production zone and the special industrial zones would be set up. Hence, private banks are to strive for improvement of their performance in the banking services.

In conclusion, the minister said that the banks are to make concerted efforts for achieving success in the banking sector of the nation.

Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar Banks Association Chairman of the Construction Committee

for the Building Chairman of Tun Foundation Bank U Thein Tun explained the purpose of construction of the new building

Governor of the CBM U Kyaw Kyaw Maung presented souvenirs to the Secretary-1 and party.

Later, the Secretary-1 and party visited the newly-opened building of the Myanmar Banks Association. - MNA



Newly opened building of Myanmar Banks Association. MNA

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs leaves for Egypt

YANGON, 19 March - At the invitation of His Excellency Mr Aly Houssam El-Din El-Hefny, Assistant Minister for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar U Kyaw Thu left here by air for Egypt this morning to port by officials of the

attend the Singing Ceremony of the MoU between the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs and the First Bilateral Consultation Meeting between the two countries, to be held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Cairo.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu was seen off at Yangon International AirMinistry of Foreign Affairs and Egyptian Ambassador Mr Mohamed Mohamed Minessy.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu was accompanied by Director U Win Myint and Assistant Director U Kyaw Soe of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

MWAF donates cash to Thanlyin Township Hospital

YANGON, 19 March - Hailing the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation organized a ceremony to carry out beautifying tasks of Thanlyin Township Hospital in conjunction with a ceremony to donate cash to the fund of the hospital at the hospital in Thanlyin Township, Yangon South District this morning. It was attended by

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay

Union Solidarity and Development Association Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin.

Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Htay of MWAF, Head of Organizing Department Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo, Head of Administration Department Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe and heads of the departments, leaders of working groups, patron of Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization Daw Mar Mar Wai and executives, Medical Superintendent of the hospital

Win, CEC member of 1 Dr Zaw Win and staff, members of township WAOs and MCWA and townselders carried out sanitary and beautifying tasks in the hospital compound. A total of 63 wellwishers donated K 8.649 million to the fund of the hospital.

Next, the Commander and party grew physic nut plants together with those present.

MWAF had carried out the similar tasks in hospitals in Yangon Division and will do the same in the remaining hospitals in the division. MNA



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and MWAF Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Htay inspect sanitation tasks at Thanlyin Township Hospital. - YCDC



Secretary-1

Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin cut the ribbon to open the building of Myanmar Banks Association. MNA



The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department The notification on Avian Influenza (bird flu) to the public (13-3-2006)

1. Incidences of Avian Influenza

Avian Influenza (bird flu) is of zoonotic nature, (transmissible to human beings) that has occurred since December 2003 and spreads to 14 countries in Asia and 30 countries in other parts of the world totaling 44 countries. As of the end of February it caused 96 numbers of human death.

2 Situation in Myanmar

Starting from the 1st week of February to the early part of March, the outbreaks of chicken disease, suspected Avian Influenza occurred in Shwebo Township, Kantbalu and KhinOo Townships in Sagaing Division and Pyigyidagun Township in Mandalay Division. The cause of disease may be due to migratory birds that fly across the country or illegal importation of hatching eggs and day-old-chicks. If the dead bird had been vaccinated with Avian Influenza vaccine, it causes complication in disease diagnosis and identification.

The measures currently taken 3

The above said townships in the southern part of Sagaing Division and Mandalay Division are confined as restricted zones and the movement control, temporary close down of markets and disease investigation in the poultry farms are undertaken under the guidance of local authorities. Field investigation and disease surveillance are carried out continuously.

4. Signs and Symptoms

- (a) Sudden death and high mortality, drop in egg production
- Dull, decreased feed intake and excessive drinking (b)
- Difficult in breathing, eye and nasal discharges. (c)

- (d) Oedema in head and face
- (e) Oedema in comb and wattles
- (f) Haemorrhages and red spots in legs and knee joints
- 100% mortality if it is severe (g)

Disease control measures to be taken

- (a) To notify promptly the local authorities or Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (LBVD) if the disease suspected of Avian Influenza is noticed.
- If chickens are affected with any kind of disease, not to sell out (b) to the market or any other region.
- To protect the domestic birds from contact with wild and migra-(c) tory birds.
- (d) Not to convey the birds from other farms to the own farm and not to practice mixed farming of different species.
- Not to allow the entry of people including young children from (e) outside into own poultry farm
- (f)Whenever enter the farm, use boots, overcoat, head wear, glove and mask for protection.
- (g) To keep the farm hygienic and apply disinfectants and lime regularly on the farm.
- (h) Not to allow farm workers to poultry markets and to change clothes and shoes before entering the farm if happens to do.
- (i) To cook well poultry meat and eggs to prevent transmission to humans.

6. The Animal Health and Development Law has been promulgated for the control of animal infectious diseases. The stakeholders involved in poultry farming and trading are notified to coordinate and cooperate in contributing effectively to the control of Avian Influenza.



Public awareness poster for the village level

ADUERTISEMENT

ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော် ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

ရက်စ္စဲ၊ ၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ် မတ်လ ၉ ရက် ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာခေါ် ယူခြင်း ပာရေးကော်မတီ၏ လုပ်ငန်းသုံးအတွက် ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သ

အောက်ဖေါ်ပြပါပစ္စည်းများကို ဌာနအရောက် ကျပ်ငွေဖြင့် (သို့မဟုတ်) CIF (Yangon) US\$ စနစ်ဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူရန် ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာများ ဖိတ်ခေါ်အပ်ပါသည်။

စဉ် ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအမည်

(က) အခွန်အခပေါင်းစည်းပြေစာနှင့် Damand စာရွက်ပုံနှိပ်ပုံစံများ ရွက်ရေ(၂၂)သိန်း (ခ) ကွန်ပြူတာပရင်တာသုံး Ribbon များ (ရ၀) ခု

ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာပိတ်ရက်မှာ (၂၉–၃–၂၀၀၆)ရက်နေ့ (၁၆း၀၀)နာရီ ဖြစ်ပြီး ဈေးနှုန်းတင်သွင်းလွှာပုံစံတစ်စုံလျှင် ကျပ် ၁၀၀၀/– (ကျပ်တစ်ထောင် တိတိ)နှုန်းဖြင့် ဘတ်ဂျက်နှင့် ငွေစာရင်းဌာန၊ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေး ဌာနစုတွင် ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။ အသေးစိတ် အချက်အလက်များကို ဖုန်းအမှတ်– ၃၈၈၅၃၂ သို့ ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ဆက်သွယ်မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

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Dated 20 March 2006 New Orleans' population to rise

Los Angeles, 18

March- New Orleans'

population will likely

reach by September 2008

about 56 per cent of the

485,000 residents the city

had before Hurricane

Katrina struck last

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National Capital Region 122002 India 20 March 2006

NAIROBI, 18 March-The Kenvan Government is set to import electricity from Zambia to offset a shortage in power occasioned by insuf- the East African nation

272,000 by Sept '08

August, according to a

study released here

Thursday by the RAND

the southern US city's

current population at

155,000, and forecast it

The report estimated

Corp.

Energy Minister Henry Obwocha was quoted by Friday's local media as saying

MNA/Xinhua

using abusive language

"We want to deal with this issue as soon as possible to end the frequent blackouts," Obwocha said during a workshop organized by the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), which discussed infrastructural projects in East

MYANMAR **Building A Modern State** 2005

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"Happy Birthday to Prof Dr Nai Pan Hla" On your auspicious 83rd Birthday-20th Mar. 2006, we cordially wish you all the best for your health and your continued success in your distinguished academic career forever Beloved wife - Mi Thein Nwe, Golden Valley Avenue, Yangon. Beloved daughter - Mi Khin Khin Hla-Dr M Soe Myint, Pyi Road, Yangon.

- Min Aye Chan- Mi Tin Tin Sein, Min May Chan- Mi Thit Thit. Min Hlaing Htaw- Mi Kyi Kyi San, Min Aye Cho- Mi Hnin Si, Min Hlaing Soon.

Beloved grandchildren - Min Kun Htaw- Mi Hnin Phyu Pyar Han, Mi May Soe Mon (BSc. (Hons.)- Physics), Min Hla Htaw (B.C.Sc-Hons), Min Htaw Mon (Gran' Bird Co., Ltd'- Tokyo), Mi May Hlaing Kyi (London Vocational & Management Training Business School, UK), Min Bannya Htaw (Deck Cadet, Five Star Line), Mi Ohnmar Chan (Final Year-Yangon Cooperative Degree College), Mi Ei Mon Chan (First Year-English for Professional Purposes), Min Tin Oo Cho (First Year- MP GTC, Thanlyin). Beloved great grandchild -Mi Sukha Sran Htaw

Pakistan bans two Afghan TV channels

ISLAMABAD, 18 March— Pakistan on Thursday put a ban on two Afghan private TV channels and asked cable operators in the southwestern Baluchistan Province to stop the channels from telecasting their programmes as they were involved in anti-Pakistan propaganda.

Abdul Jalal Khan, an blamed Pakistani security forces for trying to kill former Afghan President Sibghatullah Mujaddadi, the official said

Mujaddadi survived a suicide attack in Kabul on 12 March, which killed four people including two attackers. Taleban have claimed responsibility for

airing programmes of the two stations on Thursday. Cable operators in the

programmes.

northern city of Peshawar also air Afghan TV channels but the decision has not yet been extended there MNA/Xinhua

acquire atomic weapons

technology in violation of

German arms and export

laws, an official at the state

prosecutors office told

Reuters. Prosecutors say

Lerch was a key figure in a

black market run by the

disgraced father of

against Pakistan in their

Cable operators in

Quetta said they stopped

German man faces trial over

Libya atomic arms aid BERLIN, 18 March— A German man went to trial on Friday on charges he equipped Libya with atom bomb technology - the first trial of a

suspected member of the "Khan network" which also supplied nuclear technology to Iran and North Korea. Gotthard Lerch, a 63-Abdul Qadeer Khan, which year-old engineer, is helped Libya, North Korea accused of helping Libya

and Iran skirt international sanctions in their quest for nuclear technology. German federal

prosecutors in Karlsruhe had originally sought to charge Lerch with treason. but that idea was scrapped to ensure his extradition from Switzerland, where he was living .- MNA/Reuters

project.

will rise to 198,000 by this September and 272,000 by September Only a few thousand people were living in New Africa. Orleans last September.

MNA/Xinhua Pakistan's atom bomb.

trade areas New Delhi, 18 March-India and Russia are

focusing on new areas of trade like auto-components, information technology, agro and food processing, telecom, biotechnology and management education to achieve 10-billion-US-dolar bilateral trade by 2010, Minister of Commerce and Industry Kamal Nath said here on Thursday.

India, Russia

focusing on new

While speaking at a business dinner meeting with visiting Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Fradkov, he said this would mean a five-fold jump from the present 2 billion US dollars.

"A decline in traditional items of Indian export to Russia like tea, tobacco, readymade garments require attention if we are to leapfrog in bridging the deficiencies in our trade," Kamal Nath said.

MNA/Xinhua

capital of Baluchistan, that the two Afghan stations were involved in baseless propaganda against PEMRA Pakistan. regulates functions of private TV and radio the attack. channels.

Mvanmar

. MODERN STATE

2005

The private Tolo TV

Kenya set to import power from Zambia

official of the Pakistan

Media Regulatory Au-

thority (PEMRA), said in

Quetta, the provincial

2008.

and Ariana TV channels ficient rains.

Jalal Khan said the Afghan TV channels were



Visitors gather around a mummy during the "Treasures of World Civilization"

exhibition at the Capital Museum of Beijing, on 18 March, 2006. A total of 272

exhibits from the collection of the British Museum are on show to the public in

However, levels of leptin

from Southern Illinois

University School of

Medicine in Springfield, and

colleagues decided to see if

it held true in adults as well.

previous

Because

Leptin linked to

asthma in women

NEW YORK, 18 March — High levels of leptin, an

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Latest US space shuttle mishap prompts warning

CAPE CANVERAL (Flolrida), 19 March — Space shuttle Discovery's robotic arm was set to return to its Canadian manufacturer for repairs on Friday after the latest in a spate of accidents that prompted a stern call for caution at the Kennedy Space Centre.

The 4 March mishap at the Florida spaceport, which left a crack in the robotic crane, triggered US space agency NASA's first official investigation into the recent incidents, said NASA spokeswoman Jessica Rye.

The accidents led to a two-hour work stoppage on Thursday to allow the entire 14,000-member space centre work force to view safety videos and listen to a taped briefing by centre director Jim Kennedy

"The American people have entrusted us with significant assets." Kennedy said in the telecast.

"We understand that incidents may occur, but a major mishap could result | a work light.

in losing the confidence of the American people to execute our mission and derail NASA's plans to complete the International Space Station and begin exploration of the moon, Mars and beyond," he said.

The accident is unrelated to NASA's decision announced on Tuesday, to delay Discovery's launch from May to July, said shuttle programme manager Wayne Hale.

Discovery's robotic crane was hit by a bucketshaped work platform employees were using to clean up areas of the shuttle's payload bay. The cleanup was ordered after another accident on March 3. when a technician broke

Prince Charles wins Hong Kong journal suit

LONDON, 18 March — The Prince of Wales partially won a legal suit guarding his private journals on Friday when London's High Court ruled that his diaries covering a Hong Kong trip could not be published.

Charles brought the case to the court after a newspaper, Mail on Sunday, published parts of his journals, including descriptions of high-profile people at the handover of Hong Kong to China in 1997, Sky news reported

The judge has backed Prince Charles' claim that the Hong Kong journal was his copyright and confidential.

However, seven other unpublished journals still await a court decision at a full trial. The office of Prince Charles has said there was no prospect of the Prince having to give evidence at the trial.

Inspections showed a small crack in the lower portion of the shuttle's carbon composite robotic arm

A 20-foot (6-metre) section of the arm will be replaced by Spar Aerospace, which built the robotic crane for the Canadian Space Agency in partnership with NASA.



Firefighters perform a rescue operation after a fire broke out at a 7-storey hotel in Yanji, Northeast China's Jilin Province, on 18 March, 2006. INTERNET

Beijing to hold 9th China Grain Market Forum in April

BEIJING, 18 March -The 9th China Grain Market Forum will be held in Beijing on 8 and 9 April, focusing on the domestic macroeconomic situation and grain market reforms. The forum is jointly

MNA/Xinhua sponsored by China

National Association of Grain Sector, China Grain Reserves Corporation, Agricultural Development Bank of China, China Zhengzhou Grain Wholesale Market and Zhengzhou Commodity Exchange.

Industry insiders plan to discuss grain market policy changes, influence brought by world market changes, competition faced by grain and oil firms and reform of grain distribution systems MNA/Xinhua

Using data from 5.876 participants in the Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, the researchers found that elevated leptin levels did in fact correlate with doctor-diagnosed asthma in adults. This association was stronger in women than in men and stronger in premenopausal than women in postmenopausal women.

Consistent with earlier reports, body mass index (BMI) -- a measure of weight in relation to height -- was directly linked to asthma risk. Taking leptin levels into account had very little effect on this association, according to the team's report in the medical journal Thorax. MNA/Reuters



A man walks past a bundle of steel girders at a construction site in Beijing on 19 March, 2006. China, the world's biggest steel producer, is complaining that its steelmakers can't afford soaring prices for imported iron ore and has alarmed suppliers by suggesting it might take measures to control costs. —INTERNET

Diabetes research breakthrough expected to end insulin injections

OTTAWA, 18 March — Bioengineers at the University of Calgary in Canada have successfully grown insulin producing cells in a lab, marking a major breakthrough in diabetes research.

Scientists hope to | hormone. eventually transplant labgrown, insulin producing cells directly into the bodies of patients with Type 1 diabetes and free them from injections, Canadian Television reported on Thursday.

Type 1 diabetes makes the body unable to produce enough insulin, requiring those suffering from the disease to inject themselves with the

In theory, the transplant would eliminate the need for daily insulin injections by patients who suffer from the disease.

"This transplant procedure, developed in Edmonton, is the best thing to come in 20 years to treat type one diabetes," said Dr Leo Behie, the professor of chemical engineering in charge of the research project.

Although there are still many steps to be taken including clinical trials, the tests that Behie and his team have done in his lab so far are very encouraging.

In many cases people are now off insulin and they have good sugar controls in their blood with no constrains in terms of eating. "That is a big deal," said Behie.



Bjoern Kircheisen of Germany soars into the air during the ski jumping portion of the 20th World Cup Nordic Combined Mass Start race in Sapporo, northern Japan, on 19 March, 2006.-INTERNE

points

Olympique Marseille on Sunday.

after grabbing their fifth consecutive win with

Reading stretch lead at the

Depor recover from Cup disappointment to beat Getafe

MADRID, 19 March- Deportivo Coruna recovered from their midweek King's Cup semifinal defeat to Espanyol to beat Getafe 2-1 away in the Primera Liga on Saturday.

Depor took the lead against the run of play through midfielder Victor in the 30th minute but Getafe continued to press and striker Sergio Pachon levelled in the 58th

Getafe were reduced to 10 men when Jaime Gavilan was sent off in the 72nd minute and substitute Xisco headed the winner for Depor a minute later.

The Galicians climb to eighth in the table.- MNA/Reuters

Wiltord double helps Lyon move 11 points clear

PARIS, 19 March-Sylvain Wiltord struck twice as Olympique Lyon thrashed struggling Sochaux 4-0 to open an 11-point gap at the top of Ligue 1 on Saturday.

Four-times champions Lyon now have | a 1-0 victory at bottom side Metz thanks to a 68 points from 30 matches while secondfirst-half Yohann Gourcuff goal.

placed Girondins Bordeaux, who were held to a 1-1 draw at promoted Troyes, have 57 on the top four as they shared the points in a 1-1 draw at Toulouse. Third-placed Lille will try to cut the Aqui-

Fode Mansare opened the scoring for the hosts after 28 minutes but Pierre-Alain Frau taine side's lead to three points by beating levelled in the 67th just one minute after coming Stade Rennes moved up two places to sixth off the bench.

MNA/Reuters



vals Tottenham Hotspur, who responded with a 2-0 victory at Birmingham City in the late game to reclaim fourth place. With Chelsea striding relent-

lessly towards a second successive title, the scrap to qualify for Europe's glittering club competition has grabbed the spotlight.

Blackburn Rovers and Bolton Wanderers maintained their hopes of achieving it, as did Wigan Athletic. Rovers beat Middlesbrough 3-2, Bolton overpowered Sunderland 2-0 and Wigan won 1-0 at Manchester City.

Spurs have 52 points from 30 games, Arsenal are on 50 and Blackburn 49. Bolton, with two games in hand, have 48 points.

Two goals from Louis Saha, preferred in place of Ruud van Nistelrooy, gave second-placed Manchester United a 2-1 victory at West Bromwich Albion that cut Chelsea's lead to 12 points.

Third-placed Liverpool, who visit Newcastle United on Sunday, are five points behind United.

Second half goals from Aaron

Lennon, his first for Tottenham, and Robbie Keane gave Martin Jol's side the points at St. Andrews and provided the perfect response to an impressive Arsenal display at Highbury.

Lennon drove home a cross from Jermain Defoe to give Spurs the lead after 65 minutes, and 12 minutes later Keane slotted in a pinpoint low cross from Jermaine Jenas.

"We still believe we can get fourth place, but Arsenal are playing well and Blackburn are on a good run," said a relieved Jol, whose side have wobbled in recent weeks

Despite a lengthy injury list Arsenal dazzled London rivals Charlton, Pires applying the finishing touch to a flowing move after 13 minutes and Adebayor doubling the lead before halftime.

Hleb volleyed the third shortly after the break before Pires was denied a second by the woodwork. It was Arsenal's sixth clean sheet in seven matches.

"The season might end too early for us," Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger told Sky Sports. "We are on a good run now but we can't afford to drop points in the league." MNA/Reuters



Manchester United's Wayne Rooney, left, in action during the English Premier League soccer match against West Ham at The Hawthorns, West Bromwich, England, on 18 March, 2006, Manchester United won the match 2-1.—INTERNET

PSV beat NEC 1-0 to close in on 19th title

AMSTERDAM, 19 March— Striker Jefferson Farfan sealed a 1-0 home win for leaders PSV Eindhoven over NEC Nijmegen in the Dutch first division on Saturday.

champions PSV are top with 73 points, 10 more than Feyenoord, who travel to third-placed AZ Alkmaar on Sunday.

Heerenveen struck twice in the final 22 minutes to seal a 2-1 win after Dominique van Dijk had scored for RKC Waalwijk after 35 minutes.

Midway through the second half Croat Danijel Pranjic equalised and one minute before the final whistle Arnold Bruggink settled the match with a 20-metre | JC Kerkrade. ---MNA/Reuters

With five matches remaining, | free kick. Heerenveen climbed to sixth with 46 points while RKC remain 10th, seven points behind. Heracles Almelo beat second

> from bottom Willem II Tilburg 1-0, with Mika Nurmela on target after six minutes, to climb to 13th with 30 points.

Willem II finished with 10 men after Frank van der Struijk's dismissal in injury time. ADO Den Haag slipped to 16th in the 18strong league with 28 points following a 1-1 draw against Roda



Young Kim, of South Korea, reacts to her missed birdie putt on the 18th hole on 17 March, 2006 during the second round of LPGA golf during the Safeway International in Superstition Mountain, Ariz.-INTERNET

top as Sheffield United lose LONDON, 19 March-Reading edged closer to the Premier League after a home draw with Wolverhampton Wanderers while Sheffield United lost 2-1 at

Norwich City on Saturday. Reading's point in a 1-1 Second Division draw puts them 16 clear of the Sheffield club, who have 75 points from 39 games and are being caught in the race for second place

Third-placed Leeds United narrowed the gap on their Yorkshire rivals to four points with a game in hand after grabbing a vital point at Coventry City with a controversial late penalty.

Watford, who are two points behind Leeds in fourth having also played 38 games, visit Southampton on Monday

Reading took the lead against Wolves after 22 minutes through American international Bobby Convey but the visitors got back on level terms through Kenny Miller just past the hour.

Sheffield United, whose bid to secure automatic promotion by finishing second has faltered since the start of February, have taken just six points from eight games after losing again.

MNA/Reuters

Answers to yesterday's **Crossword Puzzle**





Participants of Computer Quiz to mark 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day show their computer skills at Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda Road for fifth day. — MNA

တန်ဖိုးရှိလှ လူငယ်ဘဝ မူးယစ်ကင်းစင် ကျန်းမာမှ

မူးယစ်ကင်းစင် အလှဆင်

View on today

ပရိ**တ်တရားတော်**

be

3. Morning news

7:25 am

exercise

2. To

7:30 am

7:40 am

7:50 am

races

6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:00 am

8:10 am

8:20 am

8:30 am

8. နဂါးရေလှောင်တမံ

7:00 am

8:45 am 10.Grammar made easy 4:00 pm 1. Martial song 4:15 pm 2. Song to uphold National Spirit 4:30 pm Monday, 20 March 3. Demonstration exercises for correct pronunciation 1. ကျေးဖူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် 4:45 pm ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃ 4. တပ်မတော်နေ ဂုဏ်ပြုတေး မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် သီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုရတေးများ ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓဓမဟာရဌ (၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်) ၇ရ၊ အဘိစေအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မ 4:55 pm ဖောတ်က၊ တိပိဋကရေ၊ 5. အစေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး မွေဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ရပ်မြင်**သံ**ကြား သင်ခန်းစာ ဘဒ္ဒန္တ ိစိတ္ထသာရာဘိ**ံသ**၏ –ပထမနစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒ၊ ရူပဗေဒ) သတ္တဗေဒ၊ ရကူဗေဒအထူပြုများ) healthy (ဓာတ္ဗဗေဒ) 5:05 pm 6. Dance variety 5:25 pm 7. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား 4. Nice and sweet song 5:35 pm 8. Song and dance of 5. Song of national national race 5:40 pm 9. "ချစ်သောမြေ ချစ်သောရေ" (ရာဖာနေဝင်း၊ ခိုင်နှင်းဝေ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–ခင်နွဲ့နွဲ့မူ) 7. Cute little dancers 5:45 pm 10. Musical programme 23. The next day's (The radio Myanmar modern music troupe) 9. International news

tended by some Americans, the demonstrators 6:00 pm 11.Evening news 6:30 pm 12. Weather report 6:35 pm 13.နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းစာတ်လမ်းတွဲ ီရယ်ရွှင်ဆော့ပြေး ပုရွက်ဆိ**တ်** လေး" (အပိုင်း–၇၃) 7:00 pm 14. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ 7:10 pm 15.အတီးဖြိုင်ပွဲ 7:20 pm 16.(၆၁)နှစ်မြောက် တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ် 7:35 pm 17.**အကဖြင့်**ဖွဲ့ 7:45 pm 18. Musical programme 8:00 pm 19.News 20.International news 21.Weather report 22. ရပ်မြင်သံကြားစာတီလမ်း ီသူရဲကောင်းများထွန်းကားသည် (အမိုင်း–၁) (ကျော်သူ၊ ရန်အောင်၊ ဒွေး၊ မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊ နေမျိုးအောင်၊ စိုင်းစိုင်းခမ်းလှိုင်၊ မေသန်းန၊ မေသဥ္စာဦး၊ ပန်းဖြူ

စိုးမြတ်နန္ဒာ၊

programme

(ဒါ ရိုက်တာ–ပန်းချီစိုးမိုး)

Iraq

an anti-war demonstration and held a peace rally in the capital Rome on there. Italy currently has Saturday, to mark the third about 3,000 troops deanniversary of war on Iraq. ployed in Iraq. Prime Min-Protesters from all ister Silvio Berlusconi has over Italy marched said all the troops will be through Rome carrying taken home by the end of banners with slogans calling for peace, stopping the

ASLEEP IN JESUS Savama Baby Elizabeth (a) Phyu Phyu Win

Age 44 years

dent, Lutheran Bethlehem Church), mother of Irene (a) Sandar Win, Jan Philip (a) Zaw Tun Win (Ma-

laysia), Luke Andrew (a) Ne Aung Win (Malaysia), died in the Lord peacefully at 1:00 pm on (19-3-

thence to Yay Way Christian Cemetery of burial.

Thousands of Italians stage anti-war protest in Rome

2006).

Beloved wife of Rev. Jenson Andrews (Presi-

Her remains will be brought to the Lutheran Bethlehem Church of the Church Parish Hall, No 181/183, Theinbyu Road, Mingalar Taung Nyunt on (20-3-2006) at 2:00 pm for the Funeral Service and

Bereaved family

war and urging the pullout of foreign troops from At the end of the march which was also at-

ROME, 19 March

Thousands of Italians held

this year. -MNA/Xinhua Redio enner Monday, 20 March Tune in today 8.30 am Brief news 8.35 am Music: -We love to love (PM sampson & Double kev) 8.40 am Perspectives 8.45 am Music: -A rock & roll music (Bertie Higgins)

> Slogan 9:00 am Music: -I wanna be with you (fun factory 9:05 am International news 9:20 am Music: Itn't it strange 1:30 pm News & Slogan 1:40pm Lunch time music reach (Sclub 7) -Digging your love (MLTR) -I'll always love (Dolly vou Parton) -Cradel (Atomic Kitten) 9.00 pm Spotlight on the

8.50 am National news &

star - Jenniffer Lopez 9.15 pm Article 9.25pm Drugs Elim ination 9.35 pm - Vocal gems golden land melody -Mawlamyaing (Cho Cho Thin Gavle) 9.45 pm News & Slogan

10.00 pm PEL



WEATHER

Sunday, 19 March, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kayah, Kayin States and Mandalay Division, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperature were Minbu, Pyay and Hpa-an (40°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 18-3-2006 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 19-3-2006 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 19-3-2006 was (77%). Total sunshine hours on 18-3-2006 was (7.9) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 19-3-2006 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 Northwest at (12:30) hours MST on 18-3-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 20-3-2006: Isolated light rain are likely in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated light rain in extreme Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Pyinmana and neighbouring area for 20-3-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 20-3-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 20-3-2006: Generally fair.

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နိုင်းနိုင်း၊

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein attends opening ceremony of new building of Myanmar Banks Association

YANGON, 19 March — A ceremony to open the new building of Myanmar Banks Association was held at the building on No 2 Sipin Road in Yankin Township this morning.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein unveiled the bronze plaque of the new building.

Also present on the occasion were Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, members of the Banks Supervisory Committee, the Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar and executives, personnel of Cooperative Bank and private banks, students and guests.

Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin formally opened the building.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence unveiled the signboard of the association.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein unveiled the bronze plaque of the association and sprinkled scented water on it.

The ceremony to mark the opening of the new building was held at Zabuyit Shwesin Hall of the building.

First, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun delivered an address. He said that the stability of the financial sector is one of the important factors for booming and stabilizing the State economy.



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein sprinkles scented water on bronze plaque of the new building of Myanmar Banks Association. — MNA

Therefore, the Head of State gives close supervision and guidance. At present, emphasis is being placed on performing functions of the Banking Services Supervisory Committee of the Central Bank of Myanmar, stability of financial sector and banking regulations.

Myanmar Banks Association was established on 1 April 1999. Seven years later, the building of the association was opened. Banks Supervisory Committee and Myanmar Banks Association had organized monthly executive committee meetings for 79 times. The general banking services courses had been conducted to the staff trainees for seven times with a view to enhancing efficiency of the banking staff.

At present, banks are giving monetary services to the people. In doing so, the banks are to apply advanced banking methods in line with laws, by-laws, rules and regulations related to banking services enacted by the State. In addition, the banks are to supervise disbursement of loans in accord with the rules and *(See page 10)*

SIDE

Although the US government is exploit-

ing the so-called human rights report to promote its image, it is not actively involved in the international humanitarian activities. Regarding the relief measures in the aftermath of the

Tsunami and hurricane natural disasters and in

the fight against hunger in Africa, its contribu-

tion amounted to as little as 0.14 of its GDP.

Although the US and its allies are shouting for

human rights, they have failed to sufficiently extend humanitarian assistance. Hence, thou-

sands of people die daily in nations like Congo.

Commander inspects irrigation facilities in Thanlyin

YANGON, 19 March — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and officials inspected Kayan Sluice Gate in Thanlyin Township, Yangon South District and No 2 Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge Project in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township this morning.

The commander first arrived at Kayan Sluice Gate being built by Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation near Chaungwa village in Thanlyin Township and oversaw the sluice gate. Later. the com-

mander encouraged local people taking part in physic nut plant growing ceremony near the sluice gate's briefing hall.

At the briefing hall, Construction-6 Director U Hla Myint explained facts on the sluice gate which would prevent tide water in rainy season and hold fresh water for water

supply tasks in late monsoon.

Officials concerned gave supplementary reports on water supply tasks of the sluice gate.

After hearing the report, the commander gave instructions on the durability of sluice gate, systematic storage of irrigated water and arrange-

PAGE 6

Yangon City all the year

ments for greening the 30mile radius environs of needs.

Afterwards, the commander and party proceeded to the Project of Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge No 2 being constructed across Bago River and heard reports on construction tasks and future plan.

A READER

Next, the commander went to the worksite and progress of the tasks.

Later, the commander and party visited Botahtaung Pagoda and inspected the construction of religious buildings at the pagoda.



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win inspects storage of water at Kayan sluice gate in Thanlyin Township. -- MNA

MNA