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Tuesday, 21 March, 2006

Unity, solidarity, high morale can be called entire nation's political strength

YANGON, 20 March — Prime Minister General Soe Win met members of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council and departmental officials at the town hall in Lashio on 18 March.

Present on the occasion were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North East Command Maj-Gen

Myint Hlaing, the ministers, the deputy ministers, departmental officials, local national race leaders, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, social organizations, townsenders and busi-

nessmen.

At the meeting the commander said Shan State (North) is a state where all national races live in unity and it possesses the essence of the Union. The government successfully carried out the tasks for eradication the poppy cultivation, an evil legacy of the colonialists, in the east regions of Thanlwin River. Continued efforts are to be made for total eradication of narcotic drugs that harm the human beings, he said.

(See page 8)



Prime Minister General Soe Win meets local authorities and departmental officials at the town hall in Lashio. — MNA

With political strength all will have to strive for perpetuation of the Union and sovereignty, economic development, and region-wise economic progress, without expecting or relying on outside assistance, but with the national strength.



Prime Minister General Soe Win attends collective growing of physic nut plants to hail 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day

YANGON, 20 March — Prime Minister General Soe Win, accompanied by Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, the ministers, the deputy ministers, the deputy commander of North-East Command, departmental heads attended a collective growing of physic nut plants in Lashio to hail the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day on 18th March morning.

Upon arrival at 100-acre perennial and seasonal crop seed garden of North-East Command, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing explained Hsinshweli soy bean and sunflower samples to the Prime Minister and party. At the same time the Prime Minister inspected plantation of 13,500-physic nut

plant research plot, mixed cropping of 50,000 pine apples and 10,000 lychees and 608 honey oranges. Next, the Prime Minister looked into cultivation of physic nut grafts and physic nut saplings and the use of direct seeding methods as well as 45-day-old physic nut plants at the research plot. Moreover he oversaw bio fuel produced from physic nut, lantern and stove with the use of bio fuel.

At the briefing hall of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing reported to the Prime Minister on efforts for implementation of the Head of State's guidance on regional rice security and production of bio fuel necessary for the heavy machinery. Arrangements would be made for growing of 500,000 acres of physic nut in the state which has 800,000 acres of fallow and vacant lands to produce bio fuel for the

heavy machinery within three years. Over 16,700 acres of physic nut plants had so far been cultivated. The remaining physic nut grafts and saplings would be grown in the state, districts and townships. Afterwards, Lt-Col Tin Win of Local Battalion reported to the Prime Minister on production process of bio fuel.

In connection with the reports, the Prime Minister gave instructions on growing of physic nut plants with harmonious efforts in all parts of the country.

More physic nut plants were being cultivated widely in Shan State, Magway, Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions. Strenuous efforts would be made for growing of physic nut plants as there were favourable conditions to produce bio fuel on commercial scale and

(See page 9)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 21 March, 2006

In the best interest of the people through banking services

The government with the participation of the people is making all-out efforts for the nation to keep abreast of the world. At the same time, it has laid down and is implementing the seven-step Road Map for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Regarding this, priority is being given to development of mechanized farming, private industries and the already-set up industrial zones.

In an effort to build up the nation into a modern and developed one, banking services play a pivotal role.

With the aim of contributing to the development of agricultural, industrial and trade sectors, of stabilizing Myanmar currencies and of ensuring cooperation among banks in the nation, the Myanmar Banks Association was formed on 1 April 1999.

A ceremony to open a new building for MBA was held at the facility on No 2 New Sibin street, Yankin Township on 19 March morning, attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

To keep pace with changes and developments, the courses on banking services are being conducted for the qualitative and quantitative development of bank employees, while steps are being taken to ensure cooperation among the banks and to inculcate the people with the habit of relying upon the banks.

In the best interest of the State and the people, the banks are to abide by the relevant laws and bylaws and procedures on banking and currency promulgated by the State. Meanwhile, fair competitions are to be encouraged among banks in satisfying the needs of the people. Therefore, members of MBA are to abide by rules and regulations and procedures on international banking.

The role of banking will be greater in the very near future when special industrial zones, special economic zones and exports production zones fully develop.

This being so, it is incumbent upon the banks that are serving the interest of the people to take part in nation-building endeavours, while trying their utmost in accordance with the MBA's objectives for the success of banking services.



Maha Saddhama Jotikadhaja Thiha Thudhammani Jotadhara U Kyaw Khin Myint and family offer soon to a Sayadaw at the soon offering ceremony held at Maha Nayaka building on Kaba Aye Hill at 10:30 am on 20-3-2006. — 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

Sayadaws, lay persons honoured

YANGON, 19 March — A ceremony to mark the eightieth birthday of Presiding Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Rathasara of Mingalayama Pali University Monastery in Botahtaung Township in conjunction with a ceremony to honour the members of the Sangha of the monastery and lay persons who had received the religious titles took place at the monastery this morning.

The congregation took the Five Precepts first. The officials and wellwishers then offered alms to the Sayadaw and members of Sangha, and the sharing of merits gained followed.—MNA



Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Manizawtadara U Kyaw Min offers certificate of honour to a sayadaw. — H

224 drug cases exposed in February

YANGON, 20 March — A combined team comprising the Tatmadaw (Armed Forces), Myanmar Police Force and the Customs Department exposed 224 drug cases in February.

43.3815 kilos of opium in 44 cases, 2.0767 kilos of heroin in 85 cases, 22.8 kilos of morphine in two cases, 0.0246 kilo of opium oil in five cases, 5495.7814 kilos of low-grade opium

in nine cases, 6.5002 kilos of marijuana in 18 cases, 970,298 stimulant tablets in 42 cases, 0.07 kilo of stimulant powder, 24.73 kilos of speciosa in nine cases, 0.03 litre of syrup, 656 litres of chemical liquid, 570.5 kilos of chemical powder, five cases for failure to register and other 5 cases.

Action was taken against 366 persons — 282 male and 84 female — in 224 drug-related cases in February.

MNA

Fire breaks out in Tamway

YANGON, 20 March — A fire that broke out at a house in Tamway Township this morning was put out quickly.

The incident occurred at the house of U Ye Thura of No 90, 155th Steet, A/8 Ward, Tamway Township at 11.25 am.

It took only 12 minutes to put the fire under control and the house suffered only slight damage, it is learnt.

MNA

Doctor of Tripitaka conferred on Alodawpyai Sayadaw

YANGON, 20 March — Doctor of Tripitaka (Tripitaka Mahapandita) degree was conferred on Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhama Jotikadhaja Alodawpyai Sayadaw Bhaddanta Ariya Vamsa by the Supreme Buddhist Samgha Council-SBSC of the United Buddhist Sangha Council of India on 9 March.

Sayadaw Bhad-

danta Ariya Vamsa, Chancellor of Dhammacariya University, is the first in Myanmar and the fourth of the SBSC to receive the degree. CBSC conferred the doctorate degree on the Sayadaw for his outstanding works for propagation of Buddha Sasana at home and abroad. CBSC was established in 1983 in Kolkata, India.

MNA

Talks on State's policy and developments given

YANGON, 20 March — CEC member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein gave talks on the State's policy and developments to the trainee officers who attended E-government course at the training school of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs on 16 March.

Similarly, the deputy minister also gave the same talks to a number of 155 trainees of the various courses at Central Training School of the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs on 17 March, and a number of 100 trainees of Basic Organization Course-20 organized by USDA at Kyaikwaing Youth Training School this morning. — MNA

Tentatively Selected Team-B beat Tentatively Selected Team-A 2-0

YANGON, 20 March — Tentatively Selected Team-B beat Tentatively Selected Team-A 2-0 in the series of the Second Trials at Aung San Stadium this evening.

Both teams had made the see-saw attacks to score in today's match but the Selected Team-B grabbed the win through Win Zaw Aung and Kyaw Kyaw Khaing. The match could not draw the audience's attention.

MNA



Goal keeper Kyaw Khin saves the ball.— NLM

Anti-war protesters mark Iraq war anniversary in Hollywood

LOS ANGELES, 19 March—Thousands of anti-war activists marched through Hollywood Saturday to mark the third anniversary of the Iraq war and to call for an end to the fighting.

Groups from other rallies and marches converged on Hollywood, where a star-studded cast addressed the crowd, which reportedly had several thousand people.

Academy Award-winning screenwriter Paul Haggis, who penned and directed this year's Oscar best picture winner "Crash", and actor Martin Sheen were among the speechmakers.

"We want to put an end to this insane war and

to spend money where it is needed, for example on the people hurt by Hurricane Katrina," said Marcial Guerra of Act Now to Stop War and End Racism, which organized the rally.

"Fund people's needs, not the war machine. That's one of our main slogans," Guerra said.

Activists marched to the rally from across Los Angeles and some travelled in caravans from surrounding areas like Long Beach, Riverside and Ventura,

according to Guerra. People involved in "The California March for Peace" attended the rally as a stop on their 677-kilometre march from Tijuana, Mexico to San

Francisco. The march aims to "ensure that the Latino voice of opposition to the war (in Iraq) is heard loud and clear," according to organizers.

MNA/Xinhua



Thousands turn out to participate in an anti-war march and rally in Hollywood, on 18 March, 2006.—INTERNET

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Bush's approval rating dips to new low

WASHINGTON, 19 March—Amid rising public anger over Iraq and homeland security, President George W Bush's approval rating dipped to a new low with most of the Americans wanting Democrats to take control of Congress in November mid-term elections, according to a poll.

Bush's approval rating of 36 per cent matched the low point in his presidency recorded last November, the poll conducted by Newsweek magazine showed.

Less than half of those surveyed (44 per cent) approved the way Bush was handling terrorism and homeland security.

Despite a series of presidential speeches meant to bolster support for the war in Iraq, only 29 per cent of the people approved Bush's handling of the situation in Iraq while 65 per cent disapproved, the poll revealed.

His approval ratings for the handling of energy policy (28 per cent) and health care (28 per cent) were at new lows, while approval on economy (36 per cent) mirrored his overall rating. — Internet

Across US, rising doubts

WASHINGTON, 19 March.— Three years on, the American public is surprised and dismayed about the length of the war in Iraq, and increasingly uncertain about its outcome.

But as Iraq has edged closer to civil war, attitudes have turned sharply negative, to the point where even administration supporters see more darkness, not light, at the end of the tunnel. Since the turn of this year, that slide has tilted more sharply downward.

In January, 46 percent of those surveyed thought things were going well in Iraq, while 53 percent said they were going badly, according to Gallup/CNN/USA Today.

Last week, the same poll showed only 38 percent of respondents saying that things are going well, compared with 60 percent judging that things are going badly.

This slide has occurred all across the country, in both men and women, and among all age groups.

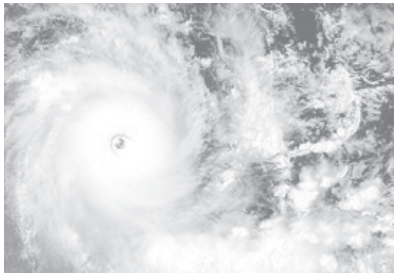
Internet

Iraq casualties

Civilians up to 16.3.06	37795
Police	1914
US troops up to 19.3.06	2318
Br troops	103
Coalition troops	104

Tropical cyclone rips northeast Australia

SYDNEY, 17 March— Australia — A powerful tropical cyclone ripped the roofs off buildings and uprooted trees in northeastern Australia, tearing across the region on Monday with devastating winds that kept emergency workers inside despite pleas from terrified residents.



This satellite image released by the Bureau of Meteorology shows Cyclone Larry on 19 March, 2006. Powerful tropical cyclone Larry packing winds of up to 290 kph (180 mph) ripped the roofs off buildings and destroyed houses as he smashed into the coastal community of Innisfail, about 100 kilometres south of Cairns on Monday.—INTERNET

With winds up to 180 mph, Tropical Cyclone Larry smashed into the coastal community of Innisfail, about 60 miles south of Cairns, a popular jumping-off point for the Great Barrier Reef, sending hundreds of tourists and residents fleeing for higher ground.

Des Hensler, an Innisfail resident, sheltered alone in a church, up to his ankles in water. "I don't get scared much, but this is something to make any man tremble in his boots,"

he told the Seven television network. "There's a gray sheet of water, horizontal to the ground, and just taking everything in its path." A Queensland state police spokeswoman at Innisfail said three people had so far been reported injured, including a woman struck by flying glass.

The spokeswoman, who spoke on a condition of anonymity citing agency policy, said residents had been calling the department all morning as gale force winds destroyed houses around them. Police had not yet been able to venture out because the winds were still too strong, she said.—Internet

Indian Air Force plane crashes, killing two pilots

NEW DELHI, 19 March—A plane of the Indian Air Force crashed in Karnatak, India, Saturday morning, killing two pilots aboard, according to New Delhi TV. The MK II plane crashed into a paddy field in Bidar Town in north Karnatak when it was on training exercise.

The pilots were identified as squadron commander Shailendra Singh and wing commander D Bhatia. Bhatia was an experienced pilot while Singh joined the force two months ago.

The Indian Air Force has begun investigation of the accident, said the TV. MNA/Xinhua

Fashion designer Oleg Cassini dies at 92

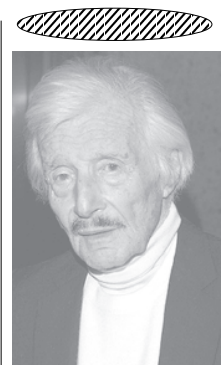
NEW YORK, 19 March — Oleg Cassini, who created a fashion powerhouse and helped make Jacqueline Kennedy America's most glamorous first lady, died on Friday, his family said. He was 92. Cassini's wife, Marianne, said the designer suffered a broken blood vessel in his head and died in a Long Island hospital.

Born in Paris in April 1913 to an Italian countess and a Russian diplomat, Cassini was raised in Italy and began his career in Europe,

operating a fashion boutique in Rome. He moved to the United States in 1936.

"He arrived with a tennis racket, a tuxedo and talent and he made it into an empire," said Marianne Cassini, a former model and now president of Oleg Cassini Inc.

Cassini began designing costumes for Paramount Studios, taking advantage of a social contact he made at a tennis tournament, his wife said. MNA/Reuters



Fashion designer Oleg Cassini. INTERNET



Iraqi soldiers secure the scene of a mortar attack in Kerbala, 110 km (70 miles) south of Baghdad on 19 March, 2006.—INTERNET

Canadians join global protests against Iraq war

OTTAWA, 19 March — Hundreds of people took to the streets of Toronto on Saturday as part of international protests against the US-led war in Iraq and Canada's military involvement in Afghanistan.

Carrying signs that said "Troops out of Iraq," hundreds of people gathered in front of the US Consulate in Toronto at 1 pm local time, reports reaching here said.

"We're here in Toronto and Canada to put Stephen Harper on notice that it's time for our troops out of Iraq and Afghanistan," organizer Dylan Penner said.

Sid Lacombe, a member of the Canadian Peace Alliance (CPA), said he expected

demonstrations to take place across Canada altogether in 36 different cities and towns on the third anniversary of the Iraq war.

The CPA has taken part in demonstrations on the previous two anniversaries of the invasion, but the situation is more dire now than ever before, Lacombe said.

"Quite clearly, we see there is no end to the violence in Iraq," Lacombe said. "We also see that it is in fact the

occupation itself that is causing an awful lot of the problems that are there.

The occupation forces and the violence that they have brought upon Iraq is a significant reason as to why the violence continues."

Earlier on Saturday, thousands of protesters in Australia, Turkey, and across a number of Asian countries were marching through cities and demanding that coalition troops pull out of the war-torn nation.—MNA/Xinhua

Egypt reports first human H5N1 bird flu case

CAIRO, 19 March— Egypt confirmed on Saturday that a woman had died of H5N1 bird flu virus, the first human case of the lethal disease in the country, state television reported.

The woman from Nawa Village in the governorate of Qalyubiya, some 40 kilometres north of Cairo, was admitted to a hospital in Cairo nearly two weeks ago with fever symptom. Samples of the victim has been sent to Britain for further tests, it added. Security forces have sealed off the woman's village, and health officials are taking samples from people who may have come into contact with her or her poultry. —MNA/Xinhua



Global protests held on anniversary of Iraq war: Protesters spread a banner during an anti-war demonstration in Helsinki, Finland, on 18 March, 2006.

INTERNET

ခက်ခဲစွမ်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား



Indonesia President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, second right, accompanied by his wife Kristiani, right, shakes hands with his Singaporean counterpart Sellopan Rama Nathan, second left, as they and Nathan's wife Urmila Nandey, left, pose for photographers prior to their meeting at palace in Jakarta, Indonesia, on Monday, 20 March, 2006. —INTERNET

Three killed in train crash in northern Greece

ATHENS, 19 March — Three people were killed on Friday when an intercity train collided with a passenger vehicle in northern Greece, railroad officials said.

The accident took place between the northern Greek towns of Edessa and Thessaloniki when three young men were killed

trying to cross the tracks in their vehicle.

There were no other injuries. "There were no other damages to the train or to the rails, all of the damage was sustained by the vehicle and the line is now open again," an official with the Greek Railroad Organization (OSE) told Reuters.

This is the second time in a month that a train has collided with a passenger vehicle in the country.

In mid-February, a driver near the northern town of Serres tried to cross the tracks ahead of an oncoming train causing a derailment that killed two and injured 19.

MNA/Reuters

KinderStart sues Google over lower page ranking

SAN FRANCISCO, 18 March—A parental advice Internet site has sued Google Inc, charging it unfairly deprived the company of customers by downgrading its search-result ranking without reason or warning.

The civil lawsuit filed in US District Court in San Jose, California, on Friday by KinderStart.com seeks financial damages along with information on how Google ranks Internet sites when users conduct a Web-based search.

Google could not

immediately be reached for comment but the company aggressively defends the secrecy of its patented search ranking system and asserts its right to adapt it to give customers what it determines to be the best results.

KinderStart charges

that Google without warning in March 2005 penalized the site in its search rankings, sparking a "cataclysmic" 70 percent fall in its audience—and a resulting 80 percent decline in revenue.

At its height, KinderStart counted 10 million page views per month, the lawsuit said. Web site page views are a basic way of measuring audience and are used to set advertising rates.

"Google does not generally inform Web sites that they have been penalized nor does it explain in detail why the Web site was penalized," the lawsuit said.

While an entire sub-industry exists to help Web sites feature prominently in Google results, the company is known to punish those who try to trick the system into boosting their search rankings.—Internet

GM shares fall on rise in loss for 2005

DETROIT, 17 March—General Motors Corp's disclosures that it lost \$2 billion more last year than previously reported and needs more time to sort out accounting errors in the finance business it wants to sell gave investors fresh reasons to worry about the world's biggest automaker.

They sent GM's shares price down nearly 5 percent on Friday, shaving more than a half-billion dollars off its market value.

Despite the market's reaction, one analyst saw a silver lining, saying the hefty new charges GM is taking related to a bailout of Delphi Corp, its former auto parts subsidiary,

suggested the companies were getting close to a deal with the United Auto Workers union.

"That increase to me suggests that the three-way negotiations among the autoworkers union, Delphi and GM are progressing," said David Healy, who follows the auto industry for Burnham Securities. GM said after the

market closed on Thursday that it now estimates it lost about \$10.6 billion in 2005 compared with its preliminary report of a loss of \$8.6 billion.

The company also said it was delaying filing its annual report with the Securities and Exchange Commission for up to two weeks after uncovering accounting problems.—Internet



Delphi Corp in Dayton, Ohio is seen on 17 March, 2006. General Motors Corp shares sank more than 2 percent on Friday after the world's largest automaker increased its previously-reported loss for 2005 by \$2 billion to reflect fresh estimates of the costs of bailing out its former parts-making unit and revamping its loss-riddled North American operations. —INTERNET

China Southern Airlines signs \$600m deal with Rolls-Royce

BEIJING, 18 March — China Southern Airlines has signed a 600-million-US-dollar deal with Rolls-Royce on purchasing engines for its 10 Airbus A330 passenger planes, the *China Business News* reported on Friday.

The two sides also signed a 10-year maintenance contract for the airplanes, which were bought by the Guangdong-based Southern Airlines last September.

The 10 planes, due to be delivered to the airline over the next two years, will be put into operation on the airline's main

domestic and regional air routes.

Rolls-Royce did not reveal the value of the 10-year maintenance contract.

The move follows the airline's 600-million-US-dollar deal last December to assemble five Airbus A380 passenger planes, the report said.

An official of the airline said the company will fund the deals through loans.

Rolls-Royce CEO John Rose disclosed in an earlier interview with the newspaper that half of the company's sales income will come from offering after sale services.

Currently, the airline operates four Airbus A330 planes powered by engines provided by Rolls-Royce. *MNA/Xinhua*



A crew of antiquities experts excavate an ancient tomb near a tea plantation at Mei Villiage in Xishanqiao, in Nanjing, in east China's Jiangsu Province, on 19 March, 2006. —INTERNET

Belarus opposition leader demands vote be annulled

MINSK, 19 March — Belarus opposition presidential candidate Alexander Milinkevich demanded the election be annulled, calling an exit poll that shows President Alexander Lukashenko winning reelection a "lie."

"We will demand that this election be recognized as invalid, including by international organizations," Milinkevich told more than 10,000 people who defied threats by the authorities to crush post-election protests and gathered in a central Minsk square.

He denounced as a "lie" the exit poll conducted by a group called the committee of youth organization, considered close to government, which gave Lukashenko 81.1 percent of all votes at the close of polling.

The central election commission later announced that with just over 17 percent of ballots counted Lukashenko was in the lead with 89 percent, followed by Milinkevich with 3.8 percent. Voter turnout exceeded 92 percent.

According to opposition exit polls quoted by Milinkevich's electoral headquarters chief, Sergei Kalyakin, Milinkevich won some 30 percent of the vote, while Lukashenko failed to pass the 50-percent threshold necessary to win in the first round.

Internet



Anti-war demonstrators protest on the third anniversary of the invasion of Iraq in San Francisco, California, on 18 March, 2006. Anti-war protesters marched through cities across the world on Sunday, three years after the invasion of Iraq, calling for US and British troops to pull out.

INTERNET

'V for Vendetta' nets \$26.1m at box office

LOS ANGELES, 19 March — Audiences were in a rebellious mood, lifting the action tale "V for Vendetta" to the top spot at the weekend box office with a \$26.1 million debut.

The Warner Bros film, which stars Natalie Portman and Hugo Weaving in a story of revolution against a totalitarian British government, bumped off the previous weekend's box-office leaders.

Paramount's romantic comedy "Failure to Launch" which debuted at No 1, slipped to second place with \$15.8 million, raising its 10-day domestic total to \$48.5 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Disney's family remake "The Shaggy Dog," which premiered at No 2, fell to third with \$13.6 million, lifting its 10-day total to \$35.9 million.

This weekend's other new wide release, Paramount's "She's the Man," opened in fourth with \$11 million. The romance stars Amanda Bynes as a teen disguising herself as a male to play on a boys' soccer team in a modern update of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night."

Overall box office revenue continued a monthlong decline, with the top-12 movies taking in \$93.8 million, down 11 percent from the same weekend last year, when "The Ring Two" opened with \$35.1 million.

"Here we have a movie about a guy who wears a mask the whole picture, with controversial subjects, some hot-button issues. Not the standard-fare movie, and we did a strong opening and attracted a huge amount of people," producer Silver said.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at US and Canadian theatres, according to Exhibitor Relations Co Inc Final figures will be released on

Monday.

1. "V for Vendetta," \$26.1 million.
2. "Failure to Launch," \$15.8 million.
3. "The Shaggy Dog," \$13.6 million.
4. "She's the Man," \$11 million.
5. "The Hills Have Eyes," \$8.1 million.
6. "16 Blocks," \$4.7 million.
7. "Eight Below," \$4.2 million.
8. "Tyler Perry's Madea's Family Reunion," \$3 million.
9. "The Pink Panther," \$2.5 million.
10. "Aquamarine," \$2 million.

Internet



Natalie Portman sports a new hairdo in 'V for Vendetta,' opening on 17 March, 2006. Her character is imprisoned and has her long locks shorn in a scene disturbingly reminiscent of images from the Holocaust. —INTERNET

Strange disease kills two in northern Uganda

KAMPALA, 18 March — A strange disease has killed two people in northern Uganda, local media reported on Friday. The disease, an abdominal infection with symptoms similar to those of cholera, claimed two people's lives and left 13 others in critical conditions in Maduga Village, south of Moyo District, a remote district bordering southern Sudan. The first victim died on 11 March while the second died on Wednesday this week, showing signs of the disease include vomiting, watery diarrhoea and rapid dehydration. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Two Norwegian soldiers killed in accident during mily exercise

STOCKHOLM, 18 March — Two Norwegian soldiers lost their life when their tank broke through the ice and sank on a lake west of Bjerkvik in Nordland late Thursday evening, during a military exercise, Norwegian Broadcasting (NRK) reported on Friday. The Norwegian Leopard-2 tank broke through the ice on a frozen bog and sank within seconds. One soldier died on the scene, the second was critically injured and taken to hospital in Tromsø, where he died on Friday. *MNA/Xinhua*

Paraguayan Army seize 1.5 tons of marijuana

BUENOS AIRES, 18 March — The Paraguayan Army had seized 1.5 tons of marijuana after a shootout in Salto de Guaira near the Parana River, according to reports from Asuncion, the Paraguayan capital. Paraguayan police said on Friday that a Coast Guard team patrolling the Parana River found the smugglers on Thursday morning, who were waiting for a boat to carry the shipment to Brazil.

The drug-traffickers opened fire on the patrol, and the officers returned fire. The smugglers finally abandoned their stash and fled. At the smugglers' shelter, patrol officers found 32 burlap sacks filled with more than 1,200 bags of pressed marijuana weighing around 1.5 tons in total. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Roadside bomb hits US mily vehicle in western Iraq

RAMADI (Iraq), 18 March — A roadside bomb struck on Friday a US military vehicle in Iraq's western restive city of Ramadi, some 110 kilometres west of Baghdad, witnesses told *Xinhua*.

"A roadside bomb went off near a US patrol while passing through central Ramadi, destroying a Humvee," witnesses said on condition of anonymity.

It was not clear if any casualties were caused.

MNA/Xinhua

“Human rights” or sugar-coated US poison (3)

Tekkatho Myat Thu

World nations have reviewed the US as a nation that violates human rights most in the world. (I will present the situations of human rights in the US in forthcoming articles.) The 16-3-2006 issues of the Kyemon daily, the Myanmar Alin daily and the New Light of Myanmar daily carried a press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar categorically rejecting the US State Department's Report on Human Rights Practices for 2005 dated 9 March, 2006. It says:

“The US State Department's Report on Human Rights Practices, 2005 dated 9 March, 2006 represents nothing more than a highly intrusive politically motivated document interfering in the domestic affairs of Myanmar.

“With the coming into the legal fold of the majority of the various armed groups, peace and stability in Myanmar have been achieved throughout the length and breadth of the country for the first time since its independence. The Government is working hand-in-hand with these groups for the all round development of the remote border regions where they reside uplifting their living standards which have hitherto been neglected due to the insurgency.

“The National Convention held two sessions in 2005 achieving substantial progress in defining and adopting the principles to be embodied in the new Constitution. It was attended by over one thousand delegates representing the national races, political parties, armed groups, government personnel, intelligentsia amongst others.

“The Government has been exerting all-out efforts in order to raise the living standard of the entire people with improvements in the social services sector including health and education.

“No foreign states can claim to have greater interest in the well-being of citizens of Myanmar than the Government and people of Myanmar. The report of the US State Department can only be regarded as a politically motivated attempt to maintain pressure on Myanmar and to interfere in the domestic affairs of the country. It has conveniently ignored the positive achievements scored by the Myanmar Government in the political, social and economic spheres of the country.

“The Ministry of Foreign Affairs categorically and totally rejects the US State Department's annual report on human rights in Myanmar”.

In March 2006, all the nations that had been accused of committing human rights violations by the US turned down the Human Rights Report of the US State Department.

Cuba categorically rejected the US Human Rights Report. It reacted accusing the United States of plotting to reject the establishment of the proposed UN Human Rights Council out of its “own imperialist interests”. It added that the US Government was planning to vote against a proposal presented by UN General Assembly President Jan Eliasson to replace the current Human Rights Commission. The commission had been discredited due to the “manipulation of the United States and its European Union allies”. The United States insisted on a Council whose membership was subject to conditions that excluded anyone opposing “the aggressive and hegemonic actions of global imperialism”. The US Government was promoting a Council that had power to punish and sanction countries of the South, which would allow Washington to continue its tradition of manipulating developing countries, it said. (page 5, 4-3-2006 issue of The Kyemon daily)

President Hugo Chavez strongly rejected a US State Department report that said Venezuela had violated human rights. In response to the accusations

of the director of the US CIA, President Hugo Chavez said that the director was a swindler. Venezuelan Vice-President Jose Vicente Rangel said that the director got involved in the violation of human rights and narcotic drugs smuggling in Honduras. (page 5, 5-3-2006 issue of The Kyemon daily)

Russia said that the US State Department criticism of Russia's handling of situations of human rights harmed friendly ties between the two countries. In the annual report on human rights, the US State Department pointed out Russia's violation of human rights. The Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry said that points described in the report were different from real situations, and it practised double standards. In such reports, the US policy was biased and it just fueled anti-Russia sentiment, the ministry added. (11-3-2006 VOA news)

A Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokesman on 9 March said that Vietnam totally rejected erroneous and prejudiced comments on its human rights record in the 2005 Human Rights Report of the US State Department. Spokesman Le Dung said the report cited “unilateral and distorted information that failed to reflect the reality in Vietnam”. Vietnam bestowed its entire citizens rights to earn their livelihood and freedom like other countries, said Le Dung, adding that as a result of difference in political systems, development levels, history and culture, there existed different views and approach toward human rights among countries. (page 4, 12-3-2006 issue of The Myanmar Alin daily)

The Philippine Government on 10 March rejected a report by the United States criticizing human

rights situation in the Philippines, saying its portrayal of human rights violations in the Philippines was vague and unfair. Presidential spokesman Ignacio Bunye said, “The country's democracy has been as healthy as ever, with our public institutions operating within transparent, lawful bounds”. (page 4, 13-3-2006 issue of The Kyemon daily)

member Association of South East Asian Nations, calling for removal of member nations which it disapproved of. But, ASEAN ignored its intervention, and then it started to resort to a variety of means to break up the association. It used media to incite mass demonstrations in the ASEAN countries to create regional unrest. This year, the number of ASEAN countries included in its report increased, and the accused countries categorically refuted its accusations.

The UN's Universal Human Rights Declaration issued in 1948 was aimed at enabling all the world peoples and nations to be free from servitude. So, the US and its European allies opposed and violated it.

Since 1990s, the US and its European allies have injected its lackeys in the UN agencies. At the same time, it raised the role of opposition party members, armed insurgents and renegades from the targeted nations as democracy activists so that their lackeys would be entitled to attend the conferences and meetings of the UN agencies with the help of their supporters.

After their lackeys had been popular in the UN agencies such as UN Human Rights Commission and ILO, the US started to accuse its targeted countries of violation of human rights and forced labour, thereby tarnishing subsequently the image of the UN Human Rights Commission.

According to the common desire of the majority of the UN member countries, UN General Assembly President Jan Eliasson submitted a proposal to

According to the common desire of the majority of the UN member countries, UN General Assembly President Jan Eliasson submitted a proposal to substitute the UN Human Rights Commission and to set up UN Human Rights Council. The US strongly objected to the proposal, and preferred the UN Human Rights Commission that is under its influence. It was known to all that in previous years, every time the US submitted a proposal to the UN Human Rights Commission to pass a resolution to denounce China for violation of human rights, the commission passed the resolutions. And this year it is said that the US has not submitted a proposal yet to take action against China, and the commission has put aside the case of Chinese human rights.

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The VOA on 16 March broadcast a news story that the proposal to establish a UN Human Rights Council was approved by 170 to 4 votes with three abstentions. The four nations that voted against the proposal were the US, Israel, Marshall Islands and Palau. The three abstentions were Belarus, Iran and Venezuela. The US was always in opposition whenever Cuba and Libya were included in the list of commission members elected by the majority in the present Human Rights Commission. In truth, the US government is planning to influence the UN's human rights activities with its hegemonic policy.

(To be continued)
Translation: MS
Myanma Alin: 20-3-2006

Not scared though whirlwind disturbs

* While people of our land, our community
Cordially and in solidarity
Cheerfully hold discussions
Weighing what is good, in progress
The whirlwind arrives and conceives
Bereft of truth, a report is made
On the so-called human rights

* Don't take Myanmar today, as was century ago
Bereft of pride, fell under colonial yoke
Don't think of us, as once-enslaved.

* As Myanmar is long independent
Can surmise which man from where
What kind of words from which heart
One can discern from hearing it

* Purposely concocted, whirlwind of words
Play havoc as you please
We're unperturbed
We shall march to the land ahead
With hands held, steadfast
Watch us proceed

Byan Hlwar (Trs)

Commander visits Myanmar Gems Emporium

YANGON, 20 March —Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win today went to Myanmar Gems Emporium here and inspected the sales of gems and jade lots.

The commander arrived at the emporium at 2.30 pm and viewed gold jewellery and mosaic displayed at the private shops. Secretary of the Myanmar Gems Emporium Central Committee Managing Director of the Myanmar Gems Enterprise U Thein Swe and officials



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win views jewellery shops at 43rd Myanmar Gems Emporium.—MNA

conducted Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win around the emporium.

Local and foreign gems merchants are examining the jade lots and

will purchase them through the tender system.—MNA

Winners of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day contests to contact MRTV

YANGON, 20 March — The first, second and third prize winners of the following contests out of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day contests had been announced.

The first, second and third prize winners of novel contest are Tin Aung Soe (Panmyodaw), Soe Paing Tun and Ye Ye Tun (Hinthada), the first, second and third winners of short story contest Maun Cho Wai, Nwe Htat Hlaing and Moe Myint San, the winners of articles contest Ma Mya Win (Aung Nan/ East), Sukha Phone Myint and Ma Than Ei (Pale Pyu) and the winners of Extempory contest (Central Level) Maung Kyaw Maung Maung Sein, Maung Htet Aung Hein and Maung

Kyaw Khaing Phyo.

In TV quiz, the winners of Higher Education Level are Maung Win Kyaw Thu, Maung Eever Kyaw and Maung Tin Htoo Naing, the winners of Basic Education Level Maung Htat Paing Kyaw, Maung Salai Sam Sat Myat Tun and Maung Thaw Zin Htut.

In colour photo contest, the winners are Nyaung U Pho Cho, Shwe Inntha Khin Maung Win and the winners of novice division Htin Aung (Insein), Ko Oo and Takkatho Han Min Oo (Best Photo).

In colour photo contest, the winners are Shwe Inntha Khin Maung Win, Kyaw Tha (High Chin) and Wai Kyi Moe (Yangon University) and the winners

of novice division Takkatho Han Min Oo (Best Photo), Ko Sein Htay and Pyi Soe Tun (Pan Chi Kawthaung).

In military song contest, the winners are Diga Oo, Win Tun (Myawady) and Lay Min Naing (Myawady), the winners of military song level-1 contest Takkatho Aye Ko, Tun Tun Min and Khin Mya That Hnin and the winners of military song level-2 contest Pwint Thit Oo (Kalaywa), Ma Aye Myat Thu (Yuki) and Saw Hla Tun.

Those winners are to contact U Ko Ko Htwe, Director of MRTV on Pyay Road on 23 March 2006 so that they are to attend the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day prize-distribution ceremony.—MNA

Minister opens civil engineering course

YANGON, 20 March —Junior Engineering Course (Civil) organized by Public Works was opened today at the central training school of the

ministry here with an opening address by Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun.

A total of 47 trainees are doing the course

which will last 12 weeks. Principal of the training school, course lecturers and trainees also attended the opening ceremony of the course.—MNA

Education Minister inspects exam centres in Mandalay

YANGON, 20 March —Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein today inspected matriculation examination centres in Mandalay. The minister went to Basic Education High School No 7 in Chanmyathazi Town-

ship, BEHS No 13 in Maha Aungmyay Township, BEHS No 8 in Aungmyaythazan Township, and BEHS No 2 and BEHS No 14 in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay Division. During his inspection

tour, Minister Dr Chan Nyein went to the examination halls where students are sitting for the exam. He also urged supervisors to do their duties in accordance with rules and regulations for examination.—MNA

Chinese journalist delegation departs for home

YANGON, 20 March —The Chinese journalist delegation led by Chairman Mr Shao Huaze of China Journalist Association departed here by air for home this morning.

The delegation was seen off at Yangon Inter-

national Airport by Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Managing Director U Soe Win of News and Periodicals Enterprise, Acting Managing Director U Thein Tun Aung of Myanmar Motion

Picture Enterprise, Chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) and officials, Chinese Ambassador Mr Guan Mu and embassy staff.

MNA



Myanmar delegation led by Chief Editor U The Swe of Myanmar News Agency (Internal), NPE, seen prior to departure for India on 20.3.2006.—MNA

(၆၁)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့ပြပွဲ
တပ်မတော်စစ်သမိုင်းပြတိုက်
(ရွှေတိဂုံဘုရားလမ်း)

(၂၆-၃-၂၀၀၆ မှ ၄-၄-၂၀၀၆)

(မည်သူမဆို အခမဲ့ ဝင်ရောက်ကြည့်ရှုနိုင်ပါသည်။)

Unity, solidarity, high morale can be called entire...

(from page 1)

He also reported on the area of the state, population, security in the region, prevalence of law and order, developments in the state, land use, sufficiency of rice in the region and cultivation of physic nut plants.

Manager of Shan State Myanmar Agriculture Service U Hla Gyi reported on cultivation of crops including rice, soy bean and maize, additional head of Shan State Health Department Dr Aung Win on hospitals and dispensaries, health care services to the people and funds for the hospitals, Shan State additional education officer U Myat Htut on better of learning opportunities in basic and higher education and conditions of basic education and higher institutions and Superintending Engineer of Shan State Public Works U Kyaw Min Thein on measures undertaken for upgrading of roads and bridges.

Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein

At the same time, the government built mutual understanding and confidence. Therefore, armed groups gave up their armed struggle line and returned to the legal fold and cooperated with the government for over ten years, he added.

With the peace and security in the region development tasks can be undertaken widely. In other words, community peace and tranquillity, cooperation with national races, mutual understanding and assistance unity are key factors for success of all tasks, he stressed.

The country is almost free from armed insurgencies under the national reconsolidation policy and the government is now implementing the development tasks for narrowing the gap among the national races and rapid development as soon as possible spending a great deal of money.

Up to now, the government has spent nearly K 75,000 million for development of border areas. Shan State covered by special 24-zone development project, border areas development project and rural development project is on the correct path to progress. It is the duty

important for all to work in harmony and unison as some powers trying to dominate and manipulate Myanmar as a puppet, without understanding her real situation, are imposing sanctions on the country.

Since yore, the national brethren of Myanmar have lived in unity and amity in all the places of the Union, while enjoying equality. And since then, the national races living in weal and woe have the spirit to protect the race. As the mutual loving kindness, compassion and loyalty have been rooted in the hearts of the people they all are equipped with Union Spirit. Hence, Union Spirit can be defined as the inherent spirit of the people.

The Tatmadaw government has overcome all the doubts and disunity resulting from the colonialist instigation. It has restored unity with sincerity. It is the historic duty of all to collectively build a new nation based on restored peace and stability and unity. Unity, solidarity and high morale can be called the political strength of the entire nation.

And with this political strength all will have to strive for perpetuation of the Union and sovereignty, economic development, region-wise economic progress, without expecting or relying on outside assistance, but with the national strength.

A study shows that Shan State (North) has bright future prospects thanks to cross-border trade, rapid progress of the agricultural sector, transport improvement, regional peace and stability, and innovative efforts.

Based on the sound prospects, harmonious efforts should be made for extending annual and perennial crops, opium alternative crops and animal and fish farming and raising crop per acre yield. Moreover, physic nut cultivation should be extended as a rural development task for producing biodiesel. Only then will Shan State (North) be able to catch up with the rapid development and changes of the nation.

Thanks to good leadership, policies, and hard work, the nation is enjoying rapid progress in all sectors. The nation is enjoying high economic development rate as export volume and trade surplus are increasing, budget deficit is decreasing, and production is growing. The nation now has almost all the needed infrastructures in all sectors.

Taking the strength of the sound foundations, political steps have been laid down and implemented for democracy transition.

In other words, it is implementing the third and the fourth political objectives. Although the nation precised parliamentary democracy after regaining independence, the system failed due to instability, lack of socio-economic progress and low education standard.

Peace, stability and progress are the basic factors for flourishing of democracy. Hence all will have to strengthen, maintain and safeguard the existing national unity, State stability, and the rule of law. All will have to be aware of and ward off the saboteurs trying to destroy the efforts for the people to enjoy high standard of living and peace and stability.

The Prime Minister cordially conversed with those present at the meeting.

MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win chats with departmental personnel. — MNA

Peace, stability and progress are the basic factors for flourishing of democracy

reported on increased volume of export and import, surplus earnings and condition of border trade in Muse and Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein on meat and fish consumption, progress in livestock breeding, conditions of the recent outbreak of avian flu, preventive measures and arrangements for participation in the tasks.

Prime Minister General Soe Win said in the Union of Myanmar Shan State is the largest state and has a population of over five million. It is a mini union where more than 40 national races are living in.

He said there was lack of development of Shan State because those responsible did not implement the tasks for development of various national races, raising of their education and health standard, improving transport and promoting of close relations among them from colonial period to the successive governments. The people of Shan State had bitter experiences of internal strife that erupted soon after the country regained her independence and the invasion of Kuomintang forces.

That was why Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said in the past Shan State lagged far behind development in education, health and economy as there were a lot of insurgents and there was no peace, tranquillity and stability in his guidance during his inspection tour in Shan State in 2002. Efforts were made to restore peace under the Tatmadaw government and arrangements are being made for speedy development of the region, he pointed out.

The Prime Minister said Taunggyi region, Lashio region, Kengtung region and Panlong region were designated as development zone for development of the entire Shan State. In practice, Shan State (North), (East) and (South) have been developed under the close supervision of the respective commanders, he said.

of all Union people who cherish the nation to safeguard and maintain peace, stability, unity and progress in the state.

The government is always assessing the situation of the whole nation for equitable development of all states and divisions including Shan State. Thus all the states and divisions, plains or hill regions, are gaining progress.

All-round national development cannot be achieved in a single day. It is a result of the harmonious efforts of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw. It is



Prime Minister General Soe Win cordially converses with ladies who attend the meeting. — MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win meets Tatmadaw members and their families at North-East Command. — MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win attends collective growing of physic nut plants to hail...

(from page 1)

physic nut oil could be used in generators, water pumps and trailers. The Prime Minister and party later attended collective growing of physic nut plants to hail the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day in 100-acre physic nut model plot.

First, the Prime Minister cordially greeted local regional race leaders and distributed physic nut

erators, physic nut grafts and saplings and rollers as well as 5,000 mixed cropping physic nut plant research plot.

The Prime Minister and party later visited 705 acres of Hsinshweli summer paddy model plot where they were welcomed by national races and departmental heads. At the briefing hall, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint reported to

Lashio. Shan State Myanma Agriculture Service Manager U Hla Gyi reported to the Prime Minister and party on methods for cultivation of Hsinshweli paddy strains to yield 200 baskets in one acre. Next the commander gave supplementary reports.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party looked into 705-acre of summer paddy model plot.

North-East Command, the commander, deputy commander and officials reported to the Prime Minister on project data, cultivation of physic nut plants, orange, sugar cane, pine apple and sunflower and sugar cane samples. Next, the Prime Minister and party viewed 30-acre sugar

cane model plot and fish ponds. Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party went to Lashio Government Technological College where Project Director of System Engineering Co, Ltd U Maung Maung Hsan Oo reported to them on progress in construct-

ing three-storey building. Afterwards, Principal Dr Swe Swe Maw reported to them on learning of students, course periods and degrees, strength of lecturers. Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Kyaw Soe gave supplementary reports.

(See page 10)



Prime Minister General Soe Win observes physic nut oil-used generator and oil mills.—MNA

plants to them. Next, the Prime Minister and party grew physic nut plants and gave encouragement to members of Union Solidarity and Development Association and social organizations, nurses and local people who were growing physic nut plants. Afterwards, they inspected gen-

the Prime Minister and party on efforts for boosting per acre yield in Shan State (North), cultivation of paddy in Namhkam Township during 2004-2005 and test on cultivation of 705 acres of summer paddy to yield 200 baskets in one acre in Humon irrigated area of

The commander and officials reported to the Prime Minister on thriving of summer paddy and water supply tasks from Human dam. The Prime Minister and party inspected agricultural booths of MAS.

Upon arrival at 1000-acre model plot of high land farming-1 of



Prime Minister General Soe Win inspects quality research plantation.—MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win presents physic nut saplings to national race leaders.—MNA



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan inspects Lashio sub-printing house.—MNA



The three-storey main building of Government Technical College (Lashio).—MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win attends collective growing of physic nut plants to hail...

(from page 9)

Regarding the reports, the Prime Minister fulfilled the requirements and inspected progress in building of the college. At the briefing hall of high land farming-3, Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min and Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein and officials reported to the Prime Minister on thriving perennial and seasonal crops and reclamation of farmlands. The Prime Minister visited a pig farm of the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and

Fisheries where he looked into breeding of 500 pigs. Minister for Livestock Breeding and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Thein and officials reported to the Prime Minister on breeding tasks. 1500 Hsinshweli DYL pigs were being raised in the farm.

The following day the Prime Minister met with officers and their families at the hall of North-East Command. Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan who accompanied the Prime

Minister inspected Lashio TV retransmission station and sub-printing house and gave necessary instructions to officials concerned. Similarly, Joint-General Secretary of USDA Minister Col Zaw Min and CEC members Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein and Rail Transportation Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min met with secretaries, executives and members of state, district and township associations in Lashio on 18th March.

MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win inspects an agricultural booth of Myanmar Agriculture Service.—MNA

Innovative methods required to run...

(from page 16)

electric motor and auto-used electrical apparatus

stry should strive for mass production of farm machinery and trucks.

gence and misconduct and introduced innovative methods to run the minis-

officials.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspected the mechanical works to convert diesel engine to physic nut oil engine, tyres produced by Myanmar

cal Industries U Kyaw Win, Managing Director of Myanmar Industrial Construction Services U Aung Kyi and Vice President of Angelique International Limited in India Mr

tory. The factory is expected to manufacture 10,000 starter motors and 10,000 alternators for tractors, trucks and jeeps, 5,000 pieces of ignition coil and 5,000 pieces of



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein views Electric Motor Factory. MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects spare parts developed by the Ministry of Industry-2.—MNA

factory.

In response to the reports, the Secretary-1 said that adequate amount of investment and technology is required in setting up industries for national development.

The country is in the process of developing the various economic sectors with agriculture as the base. Hence farm machines are required to reach the goal and for farm mechanization. The mini-

The ministry needs advanced machines and qualified technicians. Thus, it should conduct training programmes for the staff. The machines manufactured by the ministry should meet the required standard and moreover, the ministry should make efforts to run the factories at full capacity. The ministry staff should make constant supervision to minimize loss and wastage due to negli-

ty-manufactured machines with biodiesel extracted from physic nut they have cultivated. Research should be made to properly run the machines with biodiesel.

On arrival at the industrial zone, the Secretary-1 and party were welcomed by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko, the minister and

Tyre and Rubber Industries, test-run of engines, tractors run on physic nut oil and agricultural machinery.

Next, the opening ceremony of the Motor Factory of Myanmar Machine Tool and Electrical Industries was held at the factory and Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein unveiled the signboard of the factory.

Afterwards, Managing Director of Myanmar Machine Tool and Electri-

Pradeep Kumar Arya formally opened the factory. The factory is expected to produce 30,000 single phase electric motors and 10,000 three phase electric motors in a year.

Afterwards, the electrical equipment factory of the Myanmar Machine Tool and Electrical Industries was formally opened. Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein unveiled the signboard of the factory and inspected the production process of the fac-

electronic fuel pump for petrol cars. Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party went to the aluminium wires factory and inspected its production process. The factory can produce 1,600 tons of wires a year.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party proceeded to Tractor Engine Factory and inspected the machinery parts and engines run on physic nut oil produced by the factory. — MNA



Officials formally open auto-used electrical appliance factory in honour of 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day.—MNA

Winners of article, essay contests announced

YANGON, 20 March—The winners of open level article contest and Basic Education High School level essay contest to mark World Meteorology Day, Which falls on 23 March 2006 were announced today.

Soe Aung (Traditional Medicine) won Honorary Award. Dr Hla Pe (Mandalay) stood first,

U Thet Oo (MWD Television, second and Daw May Zaw Aung (Bahan Township) third in article contest. The first, second and third prize winners of BEHS level essay contest are Maung Thet Paing Soe of No 6 BEHS in Patheingyi, Maung Than Aung Phyoo of No 2 BEHS in Myeik and Ma Thazin Thetsu Tin of

Myoma BEMS in Kyauktan Township.

The prize-distribution ceremony will be held at Meteorology and Hydrology Department in Yangon on 23 March 2006. The winners are to contact the committee for observing World Meteorology Day on 01-665669, 660824 by 22 March.—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.

3. The measures currently taken

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
- (b) Dull, decreased feed intake and excessive drinking
- (c) Difficult in breathing, eye and nasal discharges.

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

5. 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.
- (b) If chickens are affected with any kind of disease, not to sell out to the market or any other region.
- (c) To protect the domestic birds from contact with wild and migratory birds.
- (d) Not to convey the birds from other farms to the own farm and not to practice mixed farming of different species.
- (e) Not to allow the entry of people including young children from 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.

ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါပြန့်ပွားစေရေး ဆောင်ရွက်ရန်အချက်များ

INSTRUCTION FOR THE PREVENTION & CONTROL OF HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA

ရောဂါဖြစ်အောင် ဒီလိုလုပ်ပါ။ Do as follows :-

မိမိရရှိသည့် အချက်များကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ရန်၊ တစ်လေးစားသော အထူးသတိပြုရန်နှင့် မိမိရရှိသည့် အချက်များကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ရန် (Biosecurity measures)

ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ

ရောဂါဖြစ်နိုင်သော တိရစ္ဆာန်များကို စီမံခန့်ခွဲခြင်း

- ဒိုင်းဂရပ်စ်ကို တစ်နေ့တစ်ကြိမ် ဖြစ်သော ရောဂါဖြစ်နိုင်ခြေ
- ရောဂါဖြစ်နိုင်ခြေကို ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်ရန် ဆောင်ရွက်ရန်
- ရောဂါဖြစ်နိုင်ခြေကို ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်ရန် ဆောင်ရွက်ရန်
- ခန္ဓာကိုယ် ကြံ့ခိုင်ရေးဆောင်ရွက်ရန် ဆောင်ရွက်ရန်
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ရောဂါဖြစ်အောင် ဒီလိုလုပ်ရန်။ Don't do as follows :-

ရောဂါဖြစ်သည်ဟု သံသယရှိလျှင် လူကိုယ်တိုင်အား ဒီလိုကာကွယ်ပါ။
Prevention of Avian Influenza to Human in suspected case

Public awareness poster for the village level

မွေးမြူရေးနှင့် ထိန်းသိမ်းရေးဦးစီးဌာန၊ မွေးမြူရေးနှင့် ကုသရေးဦးစီးဌာနမှ ဂျပန်အဖွဲ့သည် ပြည်ထောင်စုပေါင်းဆောင်ရွက်ရေးအဖွဲ့ဝင် (ဂျီကော) တို့ ပူးပေါင်းဆောင်ရွက်သည်။

ADVERTISEMENTS

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA MUTIARA VOYNO (287)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA MUTIARA VOYNO (287) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.3.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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Thein Aung B.Sc.R.L.D.B.L Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtplp@mptmail.net.mm
Tel:254037 G.P.O Box:666
Yangon. 21 March 2006

Fire kills one, injures 20 in central Bangladesh

DHAKA, 19 March — A crippled old woman burnt alive and 20 people sustained injuries in a devastating slum fire in Narayanganj District, 20 kilometres south of Dhaka, Saturday morning.

The fire, that broke out at Jasimer Slum at about 10 a m, also burned down 110 shanties, private news agency UNB reported.

Local sources said the fire originated from a woven at one of the houses and raged through the whole slums.

MNA/Xinhua

Two US soldiers killed in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 19 March—Two US soldiers have been killed and another wounded in indirect fire attack on a US military base northwest of Tikrit, 170 kilometres north of Baghdad, the US military said on Saturday.

"Two Task Force Band of Brothers' soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division were killed and another wounded in an indirect fire attack on Contingency Operating Base Speicher, northwest of Tikrit, on 16 March." The military said in a statement.

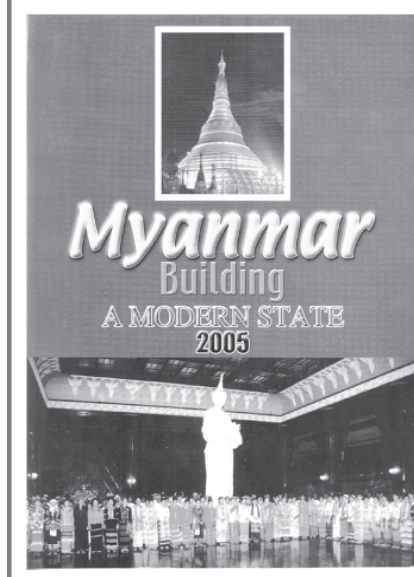
The indirect fire in the US military terminology usually refers to mortar or rockets shelling.

"The wounded soldier is being treated in a local military medical facility," it added.

Earlier, another US soldier assigned to the same division died on Friday while manning an observation post in Samarra, 120 kilometres north of Baghdad, the military said in separate statement.

Part of the 101st Airborne Division is participating in the large-scale offensive dubbed "Operation Swarmer", which began early on Thursday to crush the insurgency in the sprawling open area north of Samarra.

MNA/Xinhua



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Indian bird culling nears end, boy in observation

MUMBAI, 19 March —India has largely completed culling the entire chicken population of more than 75,000 in four villages in a western state to contain a second outbreak of avian flu in poultry, authorities said on Saturday.

The latest outbreak — in backyard poultry in Jalgaon District in Maharashtra — was the highly pathogenic H5N1 strain of bird flu, but it has not infected people so far.

However, late on Friday, health officials found one boy with fever in Jalgaon District and put him under observation.

"We have monitored 65,000 people in two rounds. We will keep checking the same population for flu-like symptoms for 10 days after the last bird is culled," TP. Doke, Maharashtra's health director, told Reuters

Maharashtra animal husbandry officials said they had culled almost all chickens in four villages spread over 1,100 square kilometres (425 square miles) in Jalgaon District identified as affected by the outbreak.

"A few more birds could be left, but we will kill them off by noon today," Bijay Kumar, animal husbandry commissioner, said.

Jalgaon is 200 kilometres (125 miles) from Navapur, where India reported its first case of the H5N1 strain in poultry last month.

After the first outbreak, India tested more than 100 people for bird flu but all proved negative. Now, one boy was under observation in Jalgaon, officials said.

MNA/Reuters

YANGON GOLF CLUB NOTICE
 NOTICE is here by given that the Annual General Meeting of the Yangon Golf Club will be held on Sunday 26th March, 2006 at Club House Premises at 10:00 hours.
Managing Member Yangon Golf Club

Taleban kill critic, attack Afghan governor

GHAZNI (Afghanistan), 19 March— Taleban gunmen killed a powerful former governor of an Afghan province and four of his guards on Saturday, and hours later tried to kill the province's current governor.

The violence in Ghazni Province, south of the capital, Kabul, came a day after nine policemen were killed in a blast as they were bringing back the bodies of four Macedonians kidnapped and killed by the Taleban and dumped in a valley.

Gunmen in a car shot Taj Mohammad, an outspoken opponent of the Taleban and a former governor of Ghazni Province, near his home, said Habibullah Khan, administrative chief of the province's Andar district.

Four of Mohammad's bodyguards were also killed. Two suspected Taleban had been arrested, he said.

Mohammad, widely known as Qari Baba, had been involved in the war against Soviet occupying forces in the 1980s and was Ghazni governor in the 1990s and again after the Taleban were ousted.

Several hours later, Taleban ambushed the province's current governor, Shair Alam Ibrahim, after a visit to an outlying area.—MNA/Reuters

Mine explosion leaves nine Afghan policemen dead, two militants detained

KABUL, 19 March —Nine policemen were killed and three others were injured as police convoy taking the hostages' bodies hit a mine in Afghan southern Kandahar Province on Friday, provincial governor confirmed Saturday.

"The incident took place yesterday afternoon when police were taking the bodies of four hostages from Miwand District to Kandahar City," Hajji Assadullah Khalid told Xinhua.

He also put the attack on Taleban and said the militants exploded the mine by remote control from their hiding place.

The bodies of four hostages including at least three Albanians abducted by Taleban militants last week from an area between Kandahar and Helmand were found on Friday.

"Two Taleban militants have been arrested from the area where the bodies found," Khalid added.

"All the police victims including the nine dead bodies and three injured men have been taken to Kandahar Hospital while the bodies of Albanians have been sent to Kabul," the governor asserted.

Kandahar the birthplace of Taleban and the neighbouring provinces of Helmand, Zabul and Uruzgan have been the

scene of increasing militancy since last year.

Taleban's chief Mullah Mohammad Omar whose regime was ousted by US military in late 2001 has warned to intensify militancy including suicide attacks in the coming spring when the weather gets warm in the mountainous country.

MNA/Xinhua

Drive safely

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Nepal holds chicken festival

KATHMANDU, 19 March — Chicken Entrepreneurs Group of Nepal organized “Chicken and Egg Festival” here on Friday to make people aware that fear of spread of the bird flu virus, which has put the domestic poultry industry in shambles, was baseless, Radio Nepal reported on Saturday.

More than 5,000 people ate various dishes of chicken and eggs at the programme in order to establish that the poultry of the country is not affected by bird flu virus and its products are safe for consumption.

Considering the huge turnout and quantity of chicken and eggs consumed during the event, it could be said that the festival was a big success, said President of Nepal Hatchery Industries Association Guna Chandra Bista.

“More than 5,000 people attended the festival and consumed around 4,000 kilogrammes of chicken and 6,000 eggs,” Bista noted. All dishes made out of chicken and eggs were distributed free of cost during the four-hour event.

The programme has managed to clear up misconception that one could contract bird flu

virus by eating cooked chicken meat and boiled eggs, according to Bista. “We believe it will deliver positive message among general consumers and resurrect poultry sales, which had dwindled in the recent days,” he added.

Ever since the report on outbreak of H5N1 bird flu in Maharashtra State

of India was made public, sales of chicken and eggs have declined dramatically in the country. Statistics reveal that chicken consumption, which used to hover at around 150,000 kilogrammes per day, and sales of eggs, which used to stand at around 1.8 million units per day, has come down by almost.

MNA/Xinhua



Gita, 9, walks on a rope to earn her living on a street of Bhopal, capital of the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh, on 19 March, 2006. —INTERNET



A whale jumps in the air. Some 50 whales have died after beaching themselves in Indonesia’s Central Sulawesi Province, police said.—INTERNET

Mars rover Spirit in trouble, wheel malfunctions

LOS ANGELES, 19 March — Mars rover Spirit has driven into trouble as one of its six wheels stopped working, US space agency NASA said on Friday.

The motor rotating that wheel stopped working this week during the 779th Martian day of Spirit’s exploring mission, according to NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), which manages the Mars rover project.

With that wheel, the solar-powered rover must reach a slope where it can catch enough sunshine to continue operating during the coming Martian winter.

The period of minimum sunshine is still more than 100 days away, but Spirit gets only enough power for about one hour per day of driving on flat ground and the supply is dropping fast, the JPL said.

Spirit’s solar panels have been generating about 350 watt-hours of electricity daily for the past week, down about 15 per cent since February and less than one-half of their output during the Martian summer.

MNA/Xinhua

Owner of sunken Egyptian ferry stripped of immunity

CAIRO, 19 March — The owner of an Egyptian ferry that sank in the Red Sea last month, killing some 1,000 people, was stripped of his parliamentary immunity, Egypt’s official MENA news agency reported on Saturday.

Mamdouh Ismail, owner of the company operating the ill-fated ferry, is a member of the Shura Council, the Upper House of Egypt’s Parliament.

The council’s Committee for Constitutional

and Legislative Affairs have agreed to lift Ismail’s immunity after a request from Minister of Justice Mahmoud Abu el-Leil, according to the report.

Al Salaam 98, carrying some 1,400 people,

including a 96-strong crew, went down in the Red Sea on 3 February on a trip from the Saudi Arabia port of Dubai to the southeastern Egyptian port of Safaga.

Officials said only 387

passengers survived the disaster. The black box of the ship, which contained vital navigation information, including weather conditions when the ship went down, was recovered on 21 February with the help of two International Maritime Organization experts from France and Britain.

The device was sent to Britain for analysis, a process that could shed some light on the tragic accident but may take several weeks.

The Egyptian Government has said that the families of the dead victims will be offered 36,000 Egyptian pounds (6,316 US dollars) each as compensation while the survivors will receive 18,000 Egyptian pounds (3,158 dollars)

MNA/Xinhua

German childbirths hit lowest level since WWII

BERLIN, 19 March — The number of children born in Germany last year fell to its lowest level since at least World War II, data showed on Friday, putting the birth rate well below that required to maintain the current population.

The Federal Statistics Office estimated that between 680,000 and 690,000 children were born in Europe’s largest economy last year, implying a birth rate of between 1.33 and 1.36 children per woman — one of the lowest rates in the European Union.

In 2004, some 706,000 children, or 1.36 per woman, were born in Germany, a rate which has only been surpassed twice since German reunification in 1990, the office added.

It noted some 2.1 births per woman were needed to keep the population steady.

Although the birth rate was as low as 1.24 in 1994, the number of children has gone down for years, because the pool of women able to give birth has been shrinking steadily.

Domestic politics is a wash with proposals to make Germany a more family-friendly place. Economists warn that unless the demographic trend improves fast, the economy will suffer and the country could be unable to meet its long-term liabilities.

MNA/Reuters



Lidiya Grigoryeva, of Russia, breaks the tape at the finish line of the Los Angeles Marathon, winning the elite women’s portion of the race with course record time of 2:25:10, Sunday, on 19 March, 2006. INTERNET

SPORTS



China's Shuang Cheng jumps to a silver medal in the women's aerial event at the 2006 FIS World Cup Finals on Sunday, 19 March, 2006 at Apex Mountain in Penticton, BC, Canada.—INTERNET

Bayern recapture winning ways with 3-0 Schalke defeat

BERLIN, 20 March— Champions Bayern Munich ended talk of a crisis with a 3-0 home win over third-placed Schalke 04 in the Bundesliga on Sunday.

Leaders Bayern made the most of their few scoring opportunities to keep second-placed Hamburg SV, who had won 1-0 at VfL Wolfsburg on Saturday, six points behind with eight games remaining.

Bosnia midfielder Hasan Salihamidzic opened the scoring by heading home a Willy Sagnol free kick three minutes into the second half.

Peru striker Claudio Pizarro doubled the advantage on 56 minutes, entering the box unchallenged to flick the ball over Schalke goalkeeper Frank Rost.

Dutch striker Roy Makaay, who came on in the second half, wrapped it up with one minute remaining. —MNA/Reuters

Shevchenko strikes twice as Milan crush Udinese

ROME, 20 March— Andriy Shevchenko struck twice in a 4-0 demolition of Udinese on Sunday to keep AC Milan in second place in Serie A.

The result gave Milan 67 points from 30 matches, 10 points behind leaders Juventus, who beat Livorno 3-1 on Saturday.

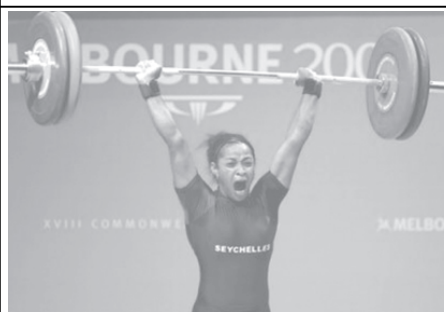
Inter Milan remained two points behind their city rivals in third after two goals by Alvaro Recoba and one by Luis Figo earned a 3-1 victory over Lazio at the San Siro Stadium.

Fiorentina (59 points) completed a clean sweep of wins for the top four when late goals by second-half substitutes Luca Toni and Giampaolo Pazzini earned a 3-1 win against 10-man Ascoli.

Milan gave no hint of the rout to come in the early stages at Udinese. Midfielder Andrea Pirlo rattled the crossbar with a free kick in the seventh minute but it was Udinese that dominated for long periods of the first half.

Milan needed a howler by home keeper Morgan De Sanctis to break the deadlock just before halftime. The Italy reserve failed to control a routine backpass and the ball rolled into the path of Ukraine striker Shevchenko, who fired home.

Having ridden their luck, Milan stamped their authority on the match with three goals in 11 minutes, starting just after the hour mark when an Alessandro Costacurta pass put striker Alberto Gilardino through to score.—MNA/Reuters



Seychelles' Janet Marie Thelermont strains to hold weights during the 2006 Commonwealth Games women's weightlifting 69 kg category in Melbourne, Australia, on Monday, 20 March, 2006. Thelermont won the bronze medal in the event.—INTERNET



Fulham's Michael Brown, left, shields the ball from Chelsea's Damien Duff during their English Premier League soccer match at the Craven Cottage Stadium, London, on Sunday, 19 March, 2006.—INTERNET

English Premier League reports

LONDON, 20 March— Brief reports of Premier League matches played on Sunday:

Fulham 1 Chelsea 0

Fulham won a full-blooded west London derby to ease their relegation fears in a pulsating game which boiled over in stoppage time.

Chelsea defender William Gallas was sent off after a touchline brawl as the leaders left Craven Cottage frustrated by a resilient Fulham side ending a run of four successive defeats.

Luis Boa Morte netted the only goal on 17 minutes when Paulo Ferreira's clearance cannoned against his knee and flew past keeper Petr Cech.

The leaders dominated after the break and had a Didier Drogba goal controversially ruled out for handling, sparing the blushes of keeper Mark Crossley who had been left stranded after racing out of his goal.

Newcastle United 1 Liverpool 3

Liverpool followed up their midweek drubbing of Fulham with another impressive display to stay in the hunt for second place.

Peter Crouch's 10th minute header from Jan Kromkamp's cross put Rafa Benitez' side on their way to a sixth away success of the season. Steven Gerrard capped a fine move to rifle in a second on 35 minutes but Shola Ameobi gave the home side some hope with a header before halftime.

United had hapless defender Jean-Alain Bounsong sent off early in the second half for bundling over Crouch, allowing Djibril Cisse to make it 3-1 from the penalty spot.—MNA/Reuters

Lille drop 2 points in Champions League battle

PARIS, 20 March— Lille wasted an opportunity to close in on an automatic Champions League spot when they were held to a 0-0 draw by Olympique Marseille in Ligue 1 on Sunday.

The northerners dominated the game but proved wasteful in front of goal as they failed to break down Marseille's defence.

AJ Auxerre missed the chance to move above Lille into third place, the Burgundy side crushed 4-1 by Paris St Germain.

Marseille almost stole victory against Lille but Senegal's Mamadou Niang had his close-range attempt stopped by compatriot and Lille goalkeeper Tony Sylva.

Lille remain third in the standings with 52 points from 31 matches, five behind second-placed Girondins Bordeaux, who drew 1-1 at Troyes on Saturday. Bordeaux trail leaders Olympique Lyon by 11 points and have a game in hand on Lille. Lyon thrashed Sochaux 4-0 on Saturday.

The top two qualify directly for the Champions League with the team finishing third playing in the competition's third qualifying round. The fourth-placed side go into the UEFA Cup.

Marseille, who like Lille were eliminated from the UEFA Cup in the week, are fifth on 48 points, two adrift of AJ Auxerre.

Ivory Coast forward Bonaventure Kalou scored twice and set up another goal to help PSG end their eight-game winless streak and climb to eighth. Auxerre remain fourth with 50 points.

Kalou met a Pedro Pauleta cross after 26 minutes to head past Fabien Cool and eight minutes before the break Czech defender Rene Bolf headed a Jerome Rothen cross into his own net to make it 2-0. Kalou set up Pauleta for his 17th goal of the season in the 55th minute and two minutes later he volleyed home a Vikash Dhorasoo cross.

Lionel Mathis volleyed a consolation goal, Auxerre's first at the Parc des Princes since 1999.

Struggling Racing Strasbourg revived their hopes of avoiding relegation with a fine 2-0 victory at St. Etienne.

—MNA/Reuters

Real, Valencia slip further behind Barcelona

MADRID, 20 March— Barcelona's grip on top spot in the Primera Liga was strengthened on Sunday when Real Madrid were held to a goalless draw at home by Real Betis and Valencia lost 2-1 away to Racing Santander.

Real coach Juan Ramon Lopez Caro left Ronaldo and David Beckham on the bench in the Bernabeu but it did little to improve his side who laboured to create chances against relegation-threatened Betis.

Barcelona, who beat Real Sociedad 2-0 away on Saturday, have 64 points with 10 games left to play, 11 ahead of second-placed Real. Valencia are third with 52 points.

Betis, who were humbled by Steaua Bucharest in the UEFA Cup during

the week, looked the hungrier side in a tight first half littered with misplaced passes, lots of nerves, and few attempts at goal.

Visiting striker Robert almost gave Betis a sec-

ond-minute lead as Iker Casillas erred coming out of his area, and Real's best chance of the first half came from the foot of Cicinho who's cross-cum-shot hit the far post in the 23rd minute.—MNA/Reuters



India's Saina Nehwal hits the shuttlecock against New Zealand's Rebecca Bellingham during women's singles match in the Commonwealth Games badminton mixed team bronze final in Melbourne, Australia, on 20 March, 2006.—INTERNET

New Yorkers join nationwide anti-war protests

NEW YORK, 20 March — Joining their counterparts around the country and the world, about 1,000 protesters rallied in Times Square on Saturday to mark the third anniversary of the US-led invasion of Iraq, demanding an immediate withdrawal of all American troops.

One by one, speakers denounced the Bush Administration and the continuing US troop presence in Iraq.

“We say enough hypocrisy, enough lies, our soldiers must come home now,” said Waleed Bader of the Arab Muslim American Federation. He addressed the crowd, gathered near a military recruiting station guarded by police vehicles and mounted officers, from the flatbed of a truck draped with anti-war messages.

“Stop the US war machine, from Iraq to Korea to the Philippines,”

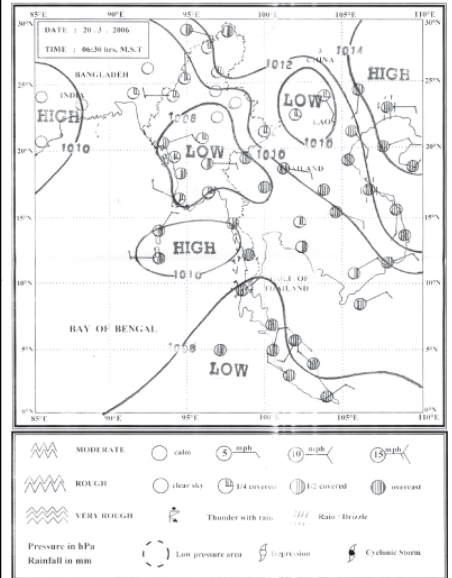
some participants chanted. “And free, free, free Palestine and end the occupation.” The demonstration, organized by the group Troops Out Now, called for an immediate, complete and unconditional US military withdrawal.

“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, criticizing politicians of both parties for refusing to end the war.

MNA/Xinhua

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Monday, 20 March, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Kayin and Mon States, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (5°C) above normal in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Pyinmana, Minbu, Pyay and Thayawady (40°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 19-3-2006 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 20-3-2006 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 20-3-2006 was (73%). Total sunshine hours on 19-3-2006 was (7.8) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 20-3-2006 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 (5) mph from West at (15:30) hours MST on 19-3-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 21-3-2006: Isolated light rain or thundershowers are likely in Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Mon and Kayin States, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. 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 rain or thundershowers in the extreme Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Pyinmana and neighbouring area for 21-3-2006: Generally fair.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 21-3-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-3-2006: Generally fair.



A traditional Mexican dancer performs Hispanic rituals in front of Mexico City's Museum of Anthropology, on 16 March, 2006 as representatives from around the world attend the start of the World Water Forum in Mexico City. — INTERNET

တန်ဖိုးရှိလှ လူငယ်ဘဝ
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မူးယစ်အန္တရာယ် လူ့ရန်စွယ်
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Tuesday, 21 March
View on today

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိကာ၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မဗေဒပညာရှင်၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိမိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

- ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်

8:10 am

- အစပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am

- ဆင်သွားတံတား

8:25 am

- (၆၁)နှစ်မြောက် တစ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Let's Go

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:15 pm

- Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

- English for Everyday Use

4:45 pm

- တစ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုတေးသီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆရာတော်များ (၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်)

5:00 pm

- အေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရူပဗေဒ)

5:15 pm

- Dance of national races

5:25 pm

- ခံစားနားဆင်တေးဇာတ်ဝင်

5:30 pm

- “အရှေ့ကြီးလိုပါ” (ခင်လှိုင်၊ ခင်နွဲ့နွဲ့၊ ခင်ရီ၊ ခင်နွဲ့နွဲ့)

5:40 pm

- Sing and Enjoy

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ရယ်ရှင်ဆော့ပြေး ပုရွက်ဆိတ်လေး” (အပိုင်း-၇၄)

6:50 pm

- အတိတ်ပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:00 pm

- The mirror images of the musical oldies

7:10 pm

- သန့်ရှင်းသစ်စုံ ဖွံ့ဖြိုးသာယာ ဖြူမန္တလာ

7:20 pm

- (၆၁)နှစ်မြောက် တစ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

7:30 pm

- ပြည်သူ့အတွက် တစ်မတော် (တစ်မတော်သည်ပြည်သူ့အတွက်)

8:00 pm

- News

- International news

- Weather report

- ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားဇာတ်လမ်း

- “သူရဲကောင်းများထွန်းကားသည်” (အပိုင်း-၂)

(ကျော်သူ၊ ရန်အောင်၊ ခွေး၊ မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊ နိုင်းနိုင်း၊ နေမျိုးအောင်၊ ဖိုင်းဖိုင်းခမ်းလှိုင်၊ မေသန်းနု၊ မေသဉ္ဇာတီ၊ ပန်းမြူ၊ ဖိုးမြတ်နုနွာ)

(ခါရိုက်တာ-ပန်းချီရီရီ)

- မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးဝိမိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာမေတ္တာဘဝနာ ဖွားဖျားခြင်းတရားတော်

23. The next day's programme



Tuesday, 21 March
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music: -Shooby Dooby Baby

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am National news & Slogan

9:00 am Music:

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music: When you come around

1:30 pm News & Slogan

1:40 pm Lunch time music -Private emotion

-We are one -Just between the lines

-Higher ground

9:00 pm Song feature (Part I)

9:10 pm Article

9:15 pm English Speaking Course, Level 3, Unit 30, Part I

9:25 pm Weekly sports reel

9:30 pm Listening pleasure

9:45 pm News & Slogan

10.00 pm PEL



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein views power tillers developed by Tractor Engine Factory.—MNA

Innovative methods required to run machines with biodiesel extracted from physic nut

Industry-2 Ministry opens motor and electrical appliance factory

YANGON, 20 March — Ministry of Industry-2 opened its motor and electrical appliance factory in Indagaw Industrial zone in Bago Township, Bago Division, today, hailing the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended the ceremony and unveiled the factory signboard.

Accompanied by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence and officials, the Secretary-1 heard a report on organizational set up of the Ministry of Industry-2, the existing heavy industries, industrial plans to produce disc wheel, water tank, bearings, inlet and aluminum cables, 18-hp diesel engines for power tillers and generators and auto parts, quality research and new projects presented by Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin.

The minister also briefed the Secretary-1 and party on the operating disc wheel and radiator factory, bearing factory, steel mill, aluminum cable factory, research and development project, and points of the (See page10)



Electrical appliance factory opened in honour of 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day.—MNA

43rd Gems Emporium attracts 2,359 merchants

YANGON, 20 March —A total of 2,359 gems merchants at home and abroad gathered here to participate in the 43rd Myanmar Gems Emporium.

They examined jade lots and gems today and put the proposals into tender boxes.

Sales of jade lots will be launched tomorrow through tender system and prices of jade lots are ranging from 100,800 euro to 1 million euro.

A total of 2,459 jade lots including five high quality raw jades are being displayed at the emporium.

Out of 2,359 merchants, 1,475 are from 419 companies in 16 foreign countries.

MNA

Two lots of jade weighing 59 kg. Its floor prize is euro 128,000.

NLM



Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

INSIDE

Since 1990s, the US and its European allies have injected its lackeys in the UN agencies. At the same time, it raised the role of opposition party members, armed insurgents and renegades from the targeted nations as democracy activists so that their lackeys would be entitled to attend the conferences and meetings of the UN agencies with the help of their supporters.