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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Dagon Myothit (East) Township Hospital (16-bed) inaugurated honouring 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence formally unveils the bronze plaque of the 16-bed hospital in Dagon Myothit (East) Township.—MNA

YANGON, 26 March — As a gesture of honouring the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day, Dagon Myothit (East) Township was facilitated with a 16-bed township hospital on Minye Kyawswa Road of the township yesterday morning.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of De-

fence formally unveiled the bronze plaque of the hospital.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win, Director-General of Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development U Aung

Win, Director Dr Tin Nyunt of Health Department opened the new hospital.

To mark the opening ceremony, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander and departmental heads grew physic nut plants.

At the opening ceremony, the commander delivered an address.

Deputy Director-General U Khin Maung of DHSHD handed over the documents related to the building to Director Dr Tin Nyunt of Health Department.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander and officials accepted K 6,240,000 and medicines and medical equipment worth K 1,930,000 from 54 wellwishers.

After the cash donation ceremony, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander and party inspected facilities of the hospital.

DHSHD spent K 174.8164 million on construction of the township hospital measuring 128 feet by 104 feet.

Afterwards, they attended the physic nut plant growing ceremony of Dagon Myothit (East) Township in the com-

pound of the hospital.

The commander opened the ceremony to grow physic nut plants, and made a speech.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe presented physic nut seeds to Rector U Kyaw Myint Oo of Dagon University, Medical Superintendent Dr Zaw Sein Lwin of Yangon Mental Health Care Hospital and Chairman of Dagon (East) Industrial Zone U Nay Win Swe.

The commander and wife also gave physic nut seeds to departmental officials and social

organization members.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party sowed physic nut seeds into the small plastic bags.

Yangon East District had nurtured 1.8 million physic nut saplings and put 21.855 acres of land under physic nut plantation.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party proceeded to the site of Shwenatha orchid garden project near Shwenatha Village in Mingaladon Township, and gave necessary instruction to officials.

MNA

Consolation prizes awarded to winners of Yangon Command

YANGON, 26 March — A ceremony to award consolation prizes to the winners of Yangon Command in the literary and arts contests hailing the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day was held at No 2 BEHS Aung San Thuriya Hla Thuang, attended by

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

Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win awarded the prizes to the winners from Yangon Command area who won

consolation prizes in poem, short story, novel, article, essay, painting, sculpture, photo and song contests, MRTV quiz and computer art contest to mark the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day and the ceremony ended.

MNA

**WITH
ARMED FORCES DAY
SPECIAL
SUPPLEMENT**

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 27 March, 2006

Tatmadaw in perpetual service of the State and the people

Today 27 March 2006 is the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day of the Union of Myanmar. In other words, it is the Tatmadaw Day that highlights national fervour of the entire national people and it is to be put on record.

On 27 March 1945, the Tatmadaw, joining hands with the people, fought the fascists. The Tatmadaw and the entire people became one and indivisible during the time of anti-fascist movement. The Tatmadaw members had been able to drive out fascists that were much superior to them in terms of strength and weapons.

The Tatmadaw came into existence during the period of independence struggle and was formed with the offspring of the people equipped with nationalism.

During the independence struggle, the Tatmadaw was called BIA (Burma Independence Army), BDA (Burma Defence Army), Burma Army and Patriotic Burma Army. Being the Tatmadaw representing the mass of national people it had to intervene whenever the country was confronted with crises. Moreover, it had to confront and repulse the insurgents who launched attacks to coincide with the crises.

The bravery, military capability and patriotism of the Tatmadaw coupled with national solidarity enabled Myanmar to win her independence back on 4 January 1948.

At present, the Tatmadaw is giving priority to peace and stability of the State and national solidarity. As a result, peace has prevailed nationwide.

Nowadays, the State, the people and the Tatmadaw are making concerted efforts for national development and improvement of socio-economic life of the people. With this, the nation has been on the right track of development.

The Tatmadaw that has safeguarded the nation in successive eras is at present not only discharging the national defence duty but also engaged in nation-building endeavours. Together with the people, it has been crushing any danger posed to independence and sovereignty.

Therefore, we firmly believe that the Tatmadaw that is constantly safeguarding independence and sovereignty will continue to serve the interest of the State and the people, while striving together with the people for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

မော်တော်ဆိုင်ကယ်စီးနင်းသူများလိုက်နာရန်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာ နယ်နိမိတ်အတွင်း အစိုးရ ဌာနဆိုင်ရာပိုင် မော်တော်ဆိုင်ကယ်များကိုသာ လုပ်ငန်းလိုအပ်ချက် အရ စီးနင်းခွင့်ပြုခဲ့ပြီး ဌာနဆိုင်ရာ မော်တော်ဆိုင်ကယ်များတွင်လည်း ဌာနတစ်ဆိုင်ရပါမည်။ ဆိုင်ကယ်စီးနင်းသူများအနေဖြင့် မော်တော်ဆိုင်ကယ်စီး ဦးထုပ်ဆောင်းလျက် မေးခွန်းကြီးကို သေချာစွာ တပ်ဆင်ချည်နှောင် စီးနင်းကြရန်နှင့် ဆိုင်ကယ်စီးနင်းထုပ် မဆောင်းဘဲစီးနင်းခြင်း၊ နှစ်ယောက်နှင့်အထက် တင်ဆောင်စီးနင်း ခြင်းများကို စစ်ဆေးတွေ့ရှိပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူ ဆောင်ရွက် သွားမည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ထို့အပြင် လိုင်စင်ပုံ မော်တော်ဆိုင်ကယ်များ၊ နယ်ကျော်စီးနင်းသည့် မော်တော်ဆိုင်ကယ်များအား စစ်ဆေး တွေ့ရှိပါက အဆိုပါ မော်တော်ဆိုင်ကယ်များအား နိုင်ငံပိုင်အဖြစ် သိမ်းဆည်းပြီး စီးနင်းသူကိုလည်း ထိရောက်စွာအရေးယူ ဆောင်ရွက် သွားမည်ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စည်ကမ်းစီးနင်းသိမ်းဆေးရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုဌာနမှ

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

Ensuring smooth transport coordinated

YANGON, 26 March—The Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth Transport held a meeting at Yangon Command Headquarters on 24 March.

Chairman of the Supervisory Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win elaborated on traffic rules enforcement tasks to be carried out by Supervisory Committee for Traffic Rules Enforcement so that auto-

mobiles running in Yangon City would abide by traffic rules and regulations.

Heads of department and registrars of universities and colleges in Yangon Division, officials, members of the supervisory committee and chairmen of private bus lines reported on school ferries, traffic rules, secure and smooth transport and converting the motor vehicles into CNG ones.

The commander delivered concluding remarks. *MNA*

JICA donates bird flu preventive materials, educative posters and wall magazines, vehicle

YANGON, 26 March — Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) donated bird flu preventive materials, educative posters and wall magazines to the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and a Toyota Hilux vehicle to Fisheries Department at Thiri Annawa Hall on Bayintnaung Road in Insein Township on 24 March.

First, Country Representative of JICA Mr Takahiro Sasaki and party together with Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Nobutake Odano called

on Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein at Myanma Fisheries Federation Office, here. Next, the donation ceremony was held and the Country Representative of JICA handed over the documents of Toyota Hilux automobile to Director-General of Fisheries Department U Than Tun and the bird flu preventive materials, educative posters and wall magazines to Director-General of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department U Maung Maung Nyunt. — *MNA*

Commerce cruise up into quarterfinal

YANGON, 26 March — Commerce, one of the powerhouses in the Myanmar League teams, defeated Rail Transportation 3-0 in the Myanmar League Closing Cup Knockout Football Tournament at Aung San Stadium, here, this afternoon.

Commerce strikers Zaw Zin Win and Mar La penetrated the opponent team with their superb skills, and netted one goal each for their team. Furthermore, another goal of

Commerce came through Zaw Lin Lin who shot one penalty kick. Rail Transportation did not have any chance to score equalizer goals.

Commerce sailed up into the quarterfinal. On 4 April, Commerce is playing a quarterfinal match against Energy that had blanked out Finance and Revenue with a 2-0 result on 25 March.

Fixture on 28 March: Defence vs Forestry.

NLM



Aung Ye Htut of Commerce (L) fights for the ball with goalkeeper Ye Lin Aung of Rail Transportation.—*NLM*

Shwe Gabar General Economic Cooperative Ltd set up

YANGON, 25 March — A ceremony to set up Shwe Gabar General Economic Cooperative Ltd with the participation of

officers and staff of the Cooperative Export and Import Enterprise under the Ministry of Cooperatives was held at the of-

fice of the Director-General of Cooperative Department in Kyauktada Township yesterday.

It was attended by

Managing Director Col Hla Moe (Retd) of CEIE, the deputy director-general, officials and staff, totalling 75.

Deputy Director of Yangon Division Cooperative Department U Sein Win gave a speech. Next, those present took part in the functions of setting up the cooperative limited.

Afterwards, nine members of the Board of Directors and two auditors chaired by U Saw Oo took oaths.

Later, Chairman of the Cooperative Ltd U Saw Oo extended greetings to all. — *MNA*



Chairman of Yangon Division Cooperative Societies Organizing Committee U Sein Win gives a speech. — *COOPERATIVE*

Libya says feels "cheated" over US terrorism list

WASHINGTON, 25 March — Libya feels "cheated" that it will remain on the US State Department's list of state sponsors of terrorism this year even though it has made security concessions, the North African country's top envoy to Washington said on Friday.

Libya will remain on the list in the annual Patterns of Global Terrorism report published next month, Henry Crumpton, the State Department's coordinator for counterterrorism, told

Reuters on Thursday during a visit to Colombia.

Ali Aujali, chief of the Libyan Liaison Office in Washington, blamed US domestic politics and compared it to the furor in Congress over an attempt

by state-owned Dubai Ports World to manage terminals at several US ports.

"I'm sorry to say but it looks like we have been cheated," Aujali told the US-Libya Business Association.

"We can't find really a good response to my country why (there has been) this delay. The only explanation is that this is the US domestic politics," Aujali said.

Presence on the terrorism list bars a country from getting US arms, controls sales of items with military and civilian applications, limits US aid and requires Washington to vote against loans from international financial institutions.

The United States has taken steps toward restoring commercial relations with OPEC member Libya since the former pariah state announced its intention in December 2003 to give up weapons of mass destruction.

MNA/Reuters



The first fuselage of the helicopter M430, assembled by the Harbin Aviation Industry Group, on commitment to deliver up to the Bell Helicopter Canadian Co Ltd, is unveiled at Harbin, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 24 March, 2006.—INTERNET

ထုတ်ကုန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ကြ

India offers Treaty of Peace, Security, Friendship to Pakistan

NEW DELHI, 25 March — Taking another important step to normalize ties, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday offered a "Treaty of Peace, Security and Friendship" to Pakistan as a culmination of the ongoing peace process.

"I have a vision that the peace making process must ultimately culminate in our two countries entering into a Treaty of Peace, Security and Friendship to give meaning and substance to our quest for shared goals", Press Trust of India quoted Singh as saying.

"I make this offer to the people of Pakistan on this historic occasion. I am sure the leadership of Pakistan will reciprocate," he said.

The Prime Minister said the time had come to leave behind the animosities and misgivings of the past and to think the unthinkable. — MNA/Xinhua

Fire destroys 1,500 homes in southern Philippines

MANILA, 25 March — A huge blaze destroyed about 1,500 shacks in a slum in the southern Philippine island of Mindanao overnight but there were no reports of any deaths or injuries, city

and fire officials said on Friday.

Nearly 5,000 people were left homeless after the seven-hour fire, sparked at about 6:30 pm (1030 GMT) by an unattended candle, ripped through the shanty town's narrow streets in the port of Zamboanga City.

"It was an inferno," Zamboanga City mayor Celso Lobregat told reporters, saying blocked streets and low water pressure failed to contain the flames from spreading quickly to houses made of light materials. The slum's residents were evacuated and temporarily sheltered in state-run school buildings and public halls as the mayor appealed for food, clothes and relief materials for victims of the city's worst calamity.

MNA/Reuters

Thief stuck in bank's chimney rescued

GRANGER, 26 March — A man found stuck in a Washington bank chimney didn't try to cover up his intent. "We asked him what he was doing down there and he said, 'What do you think? I'm trying to rob the bank,'" said Police Chief Robert Perales.

Firefighters threw down a rope and pulled out a soot-covered 26-year-old man, who was arrested on the spot. He was booked into the municipal jail in nearby Wapato.

Police in this lower Yakima Valley town had been summoned on Thursday morning to the US Bank because of an apparent break-in attempt. They discovered the stuck suspect after finding the top had been removed from the ventilation shaft for the furnace.—Internet



Anti-globalization activists attend the inauguration of The World Social Forum (WSF) in Karachi, Pakistan, on 24 March, 2006. Thousands of anti-globalization activists condemned US policies which they said were responsible for the suffering of millions of people, as the World Social Forum opened.—INTERNET

Daimler to halt four-door Smart car

FRANKFURT, 26 March — DaimlerChrysler (DCXGn DE) plans to scrap its four-seat Smart car and focus solely on the two-seat model in another overhaul of the minicar unit that will cost some 1 billion euros (\$1.20 billion) and 300 jobs, it said.

The move announced by the world's fifth-biggest carmaker on Saturday is subject to negotiations with Japan's Mitsubishi Motors Corp (7211 T), which makes the ForFour model at a plant in the Netherlands, and approval by Daimler's supervisory board.

"DaimlerChrysler AG is planning to focus on the Smart fortwo to ensure the long-term sustainability of its Smart brand.

Thus, the profitability of Smart will be confirmed, with positive

results expected from 2007 onward," a statement said.

A new version of the snub-nosed two-seater with which Smart made

its debut in October 1998 comes out next year.

Smart, which has lost money ever since it was launched, will be completely integrated into the Mercedes organization, ending a parallel structure that proved too costly for a brand that sold only 143,000 units last year.

Sales of the four-seater alone fell by a quarter last year to just 43,700 units in a fiercely competitive market segment.

Internet



Handout photo shows Smart car. DaimlerChrysler plans to halt production of its four-door Smart car and focus solely on the loss-making minicar business's two-seat version, it said in a statement on Saturday.—INTERNET



British model Lily Cole poses at a traffic intersection on Orchard Road in Singapore, on 26 March, 2006. Cole is in Singapore as the face of Singapore Fashion Festival, which runs until 2 April, and to present collections at several shows.—INTERNET

More ASEAN students pursue studies in China

KUNMING, 25 March— On the playground of a vocational college in Southwest China's Yunnan Province, a group of Laotians are happily playing sepaktakraw, a popular ball game in Southeast Asian countries.

Centre of attention is a youthful figure who has come up with the Chinese name of Dongling Yang.

Yang, 23, has been in China for six years, majoring in international trade with the Xishuangbanna Vocational School after having finished his three-year senior middle course in the Dai Autonomous Prefecture of Xishuangbanna in southern Yunnan.

Yang is just one of the 103 Laotian students who are now studying at the Xishuangbanna Vocational School.

Laos is a member of Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) which comprises Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in South China shares a border with Vietnam, while Yunnan

shares its border with Laos, Vietnam and Myanmar.

Yunnan and Guangxi have been making good use of their geographic advantage of sharing borders with members of

the ASEAN and have made progress in educational cooperation and exchange with these countries, especially in higher education, in recent years.

MNA/Xinhua



Firemen douse a helicopter that crashed in street in the residential zone of Lomas de Chapultepec in Mexico City, on 25 March, 2006. Argentine soccer great Jorge Valdano was injured along with seven others in a helicopter crash in Mexico City on Saturday, police said. Valdano, 50, for many a soccer legend, was part of the Argentine team that won the 1986 World Cup in Mexico. He later went on to coach Real Madrid and eventually became the club's sporting director in 2000.—INTERNET

China confirms woman's bird flu death

BEIJING, 25 March— A woman who died in Shanghai tested positive for the H5N1 strain of bird flu, China announced on Saturday. Indonesia awaited confirmation of tests showing that a dead 1-year-old girl in Jakarta had the virus.

In Hong Kong, the government said a dead peregrine falcon found in a housing complex tested positive for the H5N1 strain. The woman who died in Shanghai was the Chinese mainland's 11th human death from bird flu and the first in Shanghai, the country's biggest city, according to the World Health Organization.

The migrant worker, identified only by the common surname Li, died

on Tuesday after being hospitalized with fever and cold symptoms.

Blood tests by China's national Centre for Disease Control confirmed Li had bird flu, the Health Ministry said in a statement carried by the official Xinhua News Agency. It said the tests were conducted in line with WHO standards and results were reported to the agency.

Authorities haven't said

how the woman might have contracted the virus. No bird flu outbreaks in poultry have been reported in Shanghai since 2004.

People who had close contact with Li were placed under observation but none has shown disease symptoms, Xinhua said.

Worldwide, the virus has killed more than 100 people in eight countries, mostly in Asia, according to WHO.—Internet



စက်မှုပစ္စည်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား

Chavez says no plan to suspend US oil shipments

CARACAS (Venezuela), 25 March— Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said on Friday his government had no plan to suspend oil supplies to United States but would

prefer to give priority to energy deals with Latin American neighbours.

Speaking to regional central bank representatives, Chavez took a softer line after earlier harsh rhetoric and threats to cut off US petroleum supplies should Washington "cross the line" in their heated diplomatic dispute.

Venezuela, the world's fifth-largest oil exporter and a key US crude supplier, has signed energy pacts with Latin

American neighbours, China and India as Chavez seeks to break his nation's traditional economic reliance on the United States.

"It's not that we have a plan to suspend shipments of oil to the United States or anywhere else," he said. "We send to China too and if Europe needs it, we've told their leaders, too. It's just that we want to give priority to Latin America and the Caribbean."

MNA/Reuters

Cambodia confirms 5th human case of bird flu

PHNOM PENH, 25 March— Cambodian Ministry of Health confirmed on Friday that a 3-year-old girl died of bird flu.

The girl from Kampong Speu Province, about 45 kilometres west of the capital, was infected with avian influenza and died on Tuesday, said a joint statement of Health Ministry and the World

Health Organization (WHO) released on Friday.

The girl is the first case detected in Cambodia in 2006, and brings the total number of avian influenza cases in Cambodia to five, with four cases reported during 2005. The girl became ill with a fever on 14 March and her condition deteriorated rapidly on 20 March when she was taken to the hospital in Phnom Penh, where she died on Tuesday, according to the statement.

Samples from the girl tested positive for influenza A/H5N1 virus at the Pasteur Institute in Phnom Penh, it announced.

MNA/Xinhua

Germany to export "Leopard 2" tanks to Chile

BERLIN, 25 March— Germany is to export 118 Leopard 2 main battle tanks to Chile, a German Defence Ministry spokesman said on Thursday.

According to the agreement signed by the two countries on 10 February, Germany will also supply the South American country with related ammunition, extra alternative parts and technical support.

The spokesman said the German Army was now undergoing size reduction and structural adjustment, and the sale of the tanks could spare the military a considerable sum of maintenance expenditure.

But the value of the deal has not been unveiled.

It is reported that to date Germany has exported 300 and 330 Leopard 2 tanks to Turkey and Greece respectively. Greece has spent 2,700 million euros on the

battlefield vehicles.

Leopard 2 tanks, equipped with the MTU MB 873 diesel engine, provide 1,100-kilowatt power, capable of propelling the machine to a maximum speed of more than 70 kilometres per hour.—MNA/Xinhua



ABN Amro one, center, The Black Pearl, left and Brasil 1 start the fourth in-port race of the Volvo Ocean Race 2005-06 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 25 March, 2006.—INTERNET

An Iraqi soldier views a convoy of trucks destroyed by guerillas near the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, on 25 March, 2006.—INTERNET

Hu Jintao meets Brazilian Vice-President

BEIJING, 25 March — Chinese President Hu Jintao met Brazilian Vice-President Jose Alencar on Friday, vowing to enhance bilateral relations and make them an example of unity between developing countries.

China and Brazil have witnessed great developments in bilateral ties and fruitful cooperation in all fields since diplomatic relations were established 32 years ago, Hu said.

In recent years, the two countries have launched a high-level coordination and cooperation mechanism, expanded cooperative fields and carried out sound cooperation on some major projects and on regional, international affairs, Hu said.

China and Brazil are the largest developing countries respectively in

the eastern and western hemisphere. China attaches importance to Sino-Brazilian ties and regards Brazil as "a sincere friend and partner", he noted.

"We will keep deepening our strategic consensus, push forward substantial cooperation in all fields and try to make bilateral relations an example of unity, cooperation and common development between developing countries," Hu said. Alencar hailed China's social and economic development in recent years. He said that to constantly promote the

strategic partnership with China is the aspiration of both President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and the Brazilian Government.

MNA/Xinhua



A sales clerk stands beside rows of cars for sale at a Beijing car market on 25 March, 2006.

INTERNET

Iran denounces US accusation over nuke programme

TEHERAN, 25 March — A top Iranian cleric on Friday denounced the US accusation over Iran's nuclear programme as a lie to undermine the world of Islam, saying that the Iranians will never "keep silent", the official IRNA news agency reported.

"This lie has now become clear and obvious, and the Iranian nation will not keep silent ... and people from different walks of life in Iran are unanimously stressing

country's access to the nuclear technology," Substitute Friday Prayers Leader of Teheran, Mohammad Emami Kashani, was quoted as saying in a sermon.

Kashani said the United States is actually intended to "undermine the world of Islam and to make the Islamic establishment exhausted" by picking up the accusation over Iran's nuclear programme, stressing that the (Iranian)

"nation avoids any hesitation and is stressing its right".

Kashani's comments came as a statement on the Iranian nuclear issue drafted by Britain and France is being discussed among the five permanent members of the UN Security Council — the United States, Britain, France, Russia and China.

The statement sets a two-week deadline for Iran to suspend all activities for building nuclear fuel

reactor and to fully cooperate with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), but Russia and China fear that tough rhetoric of the statement would radicalize the tension.

MNA/Xinhua

Poland confirms new case of H5N1

WARSAW, 25 March — Poland detected the third case of H5N1 virus in Lubuskie Province on Friday in a hawk found dead near the city of Kostrzyn, close to the Odra River and to the place where other two dead wild swans infected with H5N1 had been found.

According to the Polish Press Agency, tests on a flock of hawks found dead in Lubuskie Province showed that one of the birds had been killed by the highly pathogenic H5N1 strain of the virus, the province veterinary authorities said in a statement.

MNA/Xinhua

Most French back total ban on smoking in public places

PARIS, 25 March — Most French people support the idea of a total ban on smoking in public places, a government poll showed on Friday.

According to the Ifop poll, carried out last month at the government's request and published by the French daily *Le Figaro*, 78 per cent of respondents support such a ban, with a majority in all age groups in agreement.

Retirees were the group most in favour of the measure (89 per cent) with youngsters aged 15-24 slightly more reticent (66 per cent).

When the pollsters split the preferences in terms of venue, there was most overall support for a ban in offices (78 per cent), in restaurants (74 per cent), and in discos and cafes (57 per cent). — MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua



A Cambodian health worker sprays disinfectant in the backyard of a home where a family lost a 3-year-old daughter to the deadly H5N1 bird flu virus, at Tuol Prik Village, Kampong Speu Province, on 24 March, 2006. —INTERNET

Two ships collide in Malacca Straits, one sinks

KUALA LUMPUR, 25 March — Two ships collided in the Malacca Straits early Friday, and one sank. But no people died in the accident.

The Panama-registered ship *MV California* sank after it collided in the early morning with *MV Sinokor Seoul*, a ship registered in South Korea, at around

1:30 am (1730 GMT Thursday), Malaysian maritime officials said.

The accident occurred 10.5 nautical miles southwest of Undan Island in

the state of Malacca, but all of the 24 crew members of the *MV California* were rescued, the Malaysian Marine Department said in a statement earlier Friday.

The statement, issued through Malaysia's national news agency *Bernama*, did not identify the nationalities of the 24 crew members as well as the types of the two ships.

Bernama said that the captain of the *MV California* was a Ukrainian national.

The Malaysian authorities had sent vessels to the area to investigate the accident and monitor and control any sea pollution there.

MNA/Xinhua

Two injured in explosion in central Turkey

ANKARA, 25 March — Two people were injured in an explosion caused by a fire at an armoury building in central Turkey on Thursday, semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported.

According to the report, the explosion occurred when the fire, broke out in the private armoury in Kirikkale Province due to an unknown reason, spread to other parts of the factory where pistols are manufactured.

The explosion caused major damage to the factory and the two injured workers were hospitalized, said the report. The fire was extinguished by fire-fighting teams and an investigation is underway, it added.

MNA/Xinhua



Local residents view the remains of a vehicle after a suicide car bomber attacked a US military convoy in Falluja, 50 kms (30 miles) west of Baghdad, on 24 March, 2006. —INTERNET

Honouring the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day:

Fine national political traditions of Tatmadaw

Kaytu Nilar

The Tatmadaw has stood magnificently as a strong national force since its birth. In reality, the Tatmadaw's leadership role in the national politics as a strong national force is not like something looted from others nor one created, but was bestowed to it according to the historical requirement of the State. The history of Myanmar has proved that a hero does not create the history, but the history gave birth to the hero.

The Tatmadaw is endowed with fine and significant traditions in the political sphere. It preserves such good traditions at risk to life. The Tatmadaw was born in the period of anti-colonialist struggles, anti-fascist resistance and independence struggles and has come of age and developed, safeguarding and protecting the motherland from all forms of dangers and harms in order not to lose her independence and sovereignty again.

To be brief, the Tatmadaw-

- (1) helped the nation regain independence and sovereignty,
- (2) has protected the territory and sovereignty of the nation,
- (3) has saved the nation several times from falling into collapse,
- (4) gives priority to national unity,
- (5) protects lives and property of the people and has made constructive efforts at every opportune time to initiate national reconsolidation,
- (6) is always loyal to the State and the people,
- (7) lays down and implements national policies in accordance with the prevailing conditions of the nation,

(8) grapples with hardships of the nation as national duty in times of emergency after the nation has regained independence,

(9) has decisively discharged national political duties without bias towards any party, organization or individual in the interests of the nation and the people.

Here, it is required to study Tatmadaw's national political traditions that have gone down in the annals of the history. National patriotic youths who had showed unyielding spirits, nationalistic fervour, great aims and sustained perseverance throughout the period of independence struggles were organized into the Tatmadaw. At that time, the Tatmadaw's national objective was independence, which was one and only objective.

The Tatmadaw helped bring about the historic tradition that the Tatmadaw and the people have been always harmonious by discharging duties in the independence struggles whatever role it may be hand in hand with the people in the anti-colonialist struggles, anti-fascist resistance and independence struggles.

Myanmar became independent Union of Myanmar on 4 January 1948. At that time, the AFPFL Government played a leading role in Myanmar that had just regained independence and sovereignty. The government made arrangements and endeavours to carry out national reconstruction tasks and nation-building tasks in the post-independence period.

Nevertheless, owing to the wedge driven by British colonialists, racism, suspicions among national races, dogmatism of leftist Burma Community Party (BCP) and Red Flag Communist Party (Community Party-Burma) gave birth to armed conflicts in the

period of three months after independence was regained.

Then, armed insurgency reigned supreme throughout the nation. The authority of the AFPFL Government took effect in the area of 50-mile radius of Yangon. Therefore, foreign newspapers branded the nation as Yangon government.

Meanwhile, some politicians suggested through the newspapers that the Tatmadaw mount a coup. In an interview, journalists made a suggestion that the Tatmadaw stage a coup. However, instead of thinking of seizing State power, the Tatmadaw exhorted them to ensure national reconsolidation.

With whatever strength of its members and arms power it had, the Tatmadaw managed to put an end to internal strife raging the length and breadth of the country. It gave the top priority to community peace and tranquillity, and prevalence of law and order. In 1950-51, it declared that peace and stability had been restored in 85 per cent of the area of the nation. It managed to ensure community peace and stability and prevalence of law and order at district, township, village and ward levels. A large number of people who lost their property and were helpless and homeless could lead a peaceful life again in earning their livings. The insurgents could not come close to cities but they were active in far-flung areas. So, there emerged a conviction that the people could place ultimate reliance and trust on no organizations but on the Tatmadaw. This indicated that the Tatmadaw could uphold the national political tradition that the Tatmadaw and the people always remained united.

In addition to internal armed insurgents, the Tatmadaw had to crush the dangers of Kuomintang nationalist Chinese who intruded into Myanmar beginning 1950-51. At that time, localized wars were taking place in many parts of the world due to the cold war in which the East bloc led by Soviet Russia and the West bloc led by the US vied each other for superiority. In particular, the Korean war was raging at the time. If Myanmar could not repulse the invasion of the Kuomintang nationalist Chinese, there would be grave danger to the territory, independence and sovereignty of the nation. Later, the Tatmadaw exposed the mastermind of Kuomintang nationalist Chinese's invasion. So, it reported on the case to the UN through its government. At the same time, the Tatmadaw managed to quell the Kuomintang nationalist Chinese whose arms and manpower was superior to that of the former. The operations including the Operation "Yan Gyi Aung" and the "Operation Bayintnaung" launched to crush the invaders made history of the nation.

(See page 7)

**Nation will be strong only when
Tatmadaw is strong.**



Honouring the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day:

Fine national political traditions of Tatmadaw

Kaytu Nilar

(from page 6)

With the brilliant performance of the Tatmadaw to eliminate all the internal and external enemies, the nation had witnessed peace and development in various sectors since 1952-53. At that time, the Socialist Party of the AFPFL Government split into two due to disagreements over political ideology regarding the Korean war. In consequence of the split, the ruling AFPFL Government broke into Stable AFPFL (Swe and Nyein) and Clean AFPFL (Nu and Tin). Prior to the undesirable event, the Tatmadaw made a suggestion that the two groups be reunited taking into consideration the background histories and attachments of the two groups and visualization that if the AFPFL, the strongest national force, was split into two, that would bring many miseries to the nation. That reflected the Tatmadaw's efforts to restore national solidarity.

However, because of personal animosity, dogmatism and sectarianism, the AFPFL split into two groups and turned their back to each other.

Then, the case was put to the vote in the parliament and Clean AFPFL (Nu and Tin) won by eight more votes. But, the winning party could not restore peace and stability to the nation. The disunity of the ruling government was followed by rivalry between the two groups in organizing the people. Due to the disunity of the then government, the nation was on the verge of civil war for the second time. Clean AFPFL (Nu and Tin) Government that was not in a position to control the general conditions of the nation asked the Tatmadaw for ensuring community peace and stability and prevalence of law and order and holding free and fair elections and then it handed over State power to the Tatmadaw through the Pyithu Hluttaw (legislative body). The Caretaker Government the Tatmadaw formed on 28 September 1958 had to expose illegal weapons across the nation for ensuring community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order. It also had to crush the kidnapping gangs and dacoit gangs in Yangon and Insein and its surrounding areas, and to disband the pocket armies formed by the ruling AFPFL Government.

Simultaneously, the Tatmadaw persuaded the internal armed insurgents to realize the true situations of the nation and extended a warm welcome to those who returned to the legal fold. The Tatmadaw also launched a campaign to eradicate the evil legacy of feudalism left by British colonialists. On 21 April 1959, Sawbwas (chieftains) signed the agreement to relinquish their power. Furthermore, the Tatmadaw could sign the agreement on delineation of China-Myanmar border on 28 January 1960.

The Caretaker Government led by the Tatmadaw could pay a serious attention to the drive for stability in the political, economic and social sectors, community peace and prevalence of law and order. After it had put its plans into reality, it held free and fair elections for Pyithu Hluttaw on 6 February and the elections for the Chamber of Nationalities on 29 February 1960. And it handed over State power to the winning party Clean AFPFL (Pa Hta Sa) on 4 April 1960.

Thanks to the efforts the Tatmadaw Caretaker Government made in 18 months (1958-60) to regenerate the conditions of the nation, the problems, the political parties could not address for a decade after independence was regained and national affairs ignored, could be solved in such a short time. At the same time, the Tatmadaw managed to restore community peace and stability, law and order, and to revitalize the essence of State Constitution and democracy. The above-mentioned facts were part of the national political chapter in which the Tatmadaw discharged national political duties fully as the Caretaker Government.

The Pha Hta Sa Government that took over State power from the Tatmadaw was not able to grapple with the prevailing problems such as mass rallies held to decide as to whether the states should be given the rights to secede from the Union, the case in which Sawbwas who did not want to relinquish power, and the federal policy for which political parties with racism collectively demanded. To make matters worse, disunity between U-Bo (civilians and ex-servicemen) group and Thakhin (politicians) group brought political and organizing adversities to the Pt Hta Sa Government.

The Pha Hta Sa Government was not in a position to restore peace and stability to the State and to prevent politically and organizationally the Union from breaking up and from losing independence and sovereignty again.

The Tatmadaw thus had to form the Revolutionary Council and took over State power in 1962. Although the Revolutionary Council strove for co-operation of the leaders of the political parties in the political objective of building up a socialist nation, it did not achieve success owing to negative attitude and wrong acts of the politicians and armed insurgents.

From 1962 to 1974, the council took measures for regaining national unity and building a new nation based on peace. It promulgated the 1974 Constitution through a referendum. It handed over State power in accordance with the Constitution to the Myanma Socialist Programme Party on 2 March 1974. The Tatmadaw discharged national defence duties and security duties entrusted to it in line with the Constitution.

The Myanma Socialist Programme Party did not achieve success in its drive for transforming the nation into a socialist one, and the nation faced economic crises. Consequently, the trust and support of the people for the party dwindled, and the people got fed up with the one-party system.

The instigation and agitation stirred up by leftist and rightist political groups who were anxious to seize State power by exploiting the desire and correct attitude of the people who were longing for political changes, instigation of intervention of certain foreign countries, and the plundering and looting of State-owned and private-owned property by anarchists culminated in 1988 unrest.

The 1988 unrest posed grave dangers to independence and sovereignty of the State, perpetuation of the Union, and national cohesion. Therefore, the Tatmadaw again had to assume State duties on 18 September 1988.

The Tatmadaw Government placed emphasis on restoration of community peace and stability and prevalence of law and order, smooth transport and swift commodity flow. It also gave effective encouragement to cooperative societies and private enterprises for public well-being. On 27 May 1990, it held multi-party democracy elections. Since 1989, it has made peace with many armed groups including 17 major national race armed groups, and it has been implementing projects for the development of border areas and national races. That has showed a fine tradition of the Tatmadaw for national solidarity.

The nation-building tasks the Tatmadaw has been shouldering in political, economic and social sectors have yielded fruitful results that are unprecedented in the nation. Now, it is implementing the seven-step Road Map as the national political policy for the accomplishment of the national goal of the State — emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline. It is convening the National Convention, the first step as well as the fundamental one of the Road Map. At the National Convention, discussions are being held on basic principles and detailed basic principles to be included in the State Constitution that is essential for the building of a future state.

In a nutshell, from the time of independence struggles to date, the Tatmadaw with genuine goodwill and correct acts has been discharging national political duties inclusive of nation-building tasks and national defence duties in conformity with its fine national political traditions in the interests of the State and the people. Therefore, the Tatmadaw will be upholding its fine traditions and will exist perpetually.

Translation: MS

Kyemon: 26-3-2006



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivers a speech at the ceremony to donate cash and books for rural libraries.—MNA

Village libraries play important...

(from page 16)
libraries have been opened up to 15 March 2006. Altogether 600 wellwishers donated 1.7

million books of various kinds worth K 113.5 million and K 53 million in cash at the eight book donation ceremonies.

He said the Head of State gave guidance on durability of the libraries. The minister called for their maintenance. He also explained that the libraries were opened with lofty ob-

jectives. The government is building a discipline-flourishing modern developed nation step by step. In retrospect the political events of the country and the world, three basic factors—peace and tranquility and prevalence of law and order, development of socio-economic life of the people and the State and enhancement of knowledge of the people—are needed for correct practice of democracy.

Continuing, he said, rural libraries also play an important role in imple-

mentation of the rural development tasks. With the participation of the people and the wellwishers the Ministry of Information is to carry out the noble tasks, he added.

Next, a person from local media spoke words of thanks.

Later, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan accepted K 1 million donated by U Soe Tint (Soe Electric Co, Yangon), K 300,000 by Eleven Media Group, K 150,000 by 7-Day News Journal, K 10,000 by 24/7 News Journal, K 300,000

by other journals, K 760,000 by local journal reporters, K 107,500 by Printing Entrepreneurs of Pyinmana, K 100,000 by Dr Paw Myint and Dr Gyo Gyo San and two TV sets.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein and Director-General U Chit Naing accepted radios and publications donated by wellwishers, and the ceremony ended. The minister then cordially greeted the wellwishers. Today's donations of cash and kind amounted to K 4,175,100.—MNA



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein accepts cash and books donated by a wellwisher.—MNA

Tatmadaw and departmental vehicles checked on dry day

YANGON, 26 March — Dry Day Inspection Supervisory Committee Chairman Yangon Station Commander Brig-Gen Myint Soe, accompanied by Inspection Supervisory Committee members, supervised the functions of dry day inspection teams at the main

points here this morning and evening. Inspection teams checked dry day pass, driver's license, wheel tax bill of Tatmadaw and departmental vehicles and wearing of the respective uniforms and breaking of traffic rules.

MNA

Development facilities mushroom in...

(from page 16)
Shwebo Township Development Affairs Committee Deputy Director U Kyaw Thu and members of the road repaving committee U Tun Ko formally cut the ribbon to open the new tarred road.

The road is 860 feet long and 12 feet wide.

Village-to-village road

In Natpadee Village of Paungde Township, Additional Commissioner of General Administration Department of Bago Division (West) U Yan Myo Aung Thein and Chairman of Pyay District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Tun Aye opened the village-to-village earth road linking Natpadee and Nyaungzin villages in Kyudawkan Village-tract of the township on 24 March.

Power supply and health care services

As part of undertaking rural development tasks, a ceremony to launch a self-reliant paddy husk-fired power station was held in conjunction with the ceremony to put a rural health care centre into service in Ywathitgyi Village in Paungde Township on 24 March.

Wellwisher Daw Ohn and family handed over the documents related to the 0.25 acre plot for the power station to Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Maung Maung Thet.

Chairman of Pyay District PDC Lt-Col Tun Aye gave a speech. Officials pressed the button to launch the power station. After that, officials opened the rural health care centre.

Blood donation

Blood donors of Htihsaung Village led by Presiding Nayaka of Theinkyaung Monastery Shwehtihsaung Sayadaw Ashin Ardiççalankara of Htihsaung Village in Myinmu Township held the 54th blood donation ceremony at Yangon General Hospital, here, this morning.

A total of 43 villagers donated blood. Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Nu Nu Tha and officials gave words of encouragement to the donors.

Three hundred blood donors led by the Sayadaw also donated blood at Theinkyaung Monastery on 12 March.

MNA



Director-General U Chit Naing accepts cash and books donated by a wellwisher.—MNA

61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Exhibition opens at DSM

YANGON, 26 March — The 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Exhibition opened at Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda road this morning. The people enthusiastically observed the booths at the exhibition.

At the State's twelve objectives

booth, the photos and charts of national goal of the State, national reconsolidation endeavours, People's Desire and Seven-step Road Map are on display.

The exhibition is kept open daily from 9 am to 5 pm and admission is free.—MNA



The 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Exhibition at Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda road packed with visitors.—MNA

Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win presents awards to a winner at the ceremony to present prizes to the consolation prize winners of literary and arts competition to mark the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day. (News on page 1).

MNA



USDA CEC member attends opening of new school building, tarred road

YANGON, 26 March — CEC member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung attended a ceremony to hoist Seinbudaw (Diamond Bud) atop Myasele Pagoda in Athat village in Yekyi Township, Aye-yawady Division on 24 March. The family of CEC member and party offered the Seinbudaw and the Hngatmyatnadaw to the Sayadaw and members of

Sangha. Later, The CEC member and Sinmin U Tin Shwe fixed the Seinbudaw and the Hngatmyatnadaw to the pagoda. They also fixed the bells to the banner post at Shin Upagutta Building. After sharing merits gained, they offered 'soon' to the Sayadaw and members of Sangha. CEC member Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung attended an opening ceremony of the Shwebonepwint tarred

road in Ingapu in honour of the 61st Anniversary of Armed Forces Day and the officials formally opened the 825 feet by 12 feet road. A new school building of KanU Basic Education Primary School in the township was opened with the addresses of the CEC member and Township Education Officer U Thein Zan. The 120 feet by 30 feet building cost K 5.5 million.

MNA



Commandant of National Defence College Maj-Gen Moe Hein presents award to Ma Phu Ngon Kyaw who won first prize at the Primary (Senior) level painting competition to mark the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day. (News reported)

MNA

Mandalay Division WAO gets new office

YANGON, 26 March — President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Than Than Nwe attended the ceremony to open the office of Mandalay Division Women's Affairs Organization in Maha Aungmye Township on 21 March morning.

It was attended by Patron of Mandalay Division WAO Daw Khin Pyone Win, the chairperson and the secretary of Mandalay Division WAO, officials and guests.

The patron and the chairperson of Mandalay Division WAO formally cut the ribbon to

open the new office. The President of MWAF unveiled the plaque of the office.

Next, the cash donation ceremony followed. President Daw Than Than Nwe accepted K 1 million each donated by Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council, Mandalay City Development Committee and Mandalay Division WAO; K 500,000 each by Mandalay Division Union Solidarity and Development Association, Mingyi Watercraft Group, and Khitlaik Construction; K 100,000 each by Mandalay Divi-

sion Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and Deputy Chief Justice (Upper Myanmar) U Khin Maung Latt and wife Daw Phyu.

The MWAF President expressed gratitude and she inspected the new office.

In the afternoon, the MWAF President viewed thriving physic nut plantations of Mandalay Division WAO in the precinct of Tooth Relic Pagoda in Amarapura Township. Afterwards, she oversaw the demonstration on driving of vehicles with the use of physic nut oil.

MNA

World TB Day observed in Yangon West and North Districts

YANGON, 26 March — Co-organized by Yangon West District Health Committee and District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, the World TB Day was held at Mya Nyilar Hall of Basic Education High School No 2 in Latha Township yesterday afternoon.

Chairperson of Yangon Division MCWSC Daw Mar Mar

Wai spoke on the occasion.

Deputy Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Than Win read out the message sent by the Minister for Health.

Daw Mar Mar Wai and officials awarded prizes to winners in the quiz in commemoration of the World TB Day, and outstanding MCWA and Red Cross members, and townships for their out-

standing performance in the TB control tasks.

A similar ceremony, jointly organized by Yangon North District Health Committee and District MCWSC, took place at Kanaung Hall in Hlinethaya Industrial Zone in Hlinethaya Township, with a speech by Yangon Division MCWSC Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai.

MNA

Rural health care centres inspected in Mon State

YANGON, 26 May — Secretary of National Health Committee Chairman of Work committee for control of avian influenza Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo inspected rural health care unit and labour room in Pangon village in Paung Township on 20 March.

The deputy minister inspected rural health care centres in Zinkyaik and hospitals in Paung, Mudon and Thanbyuzayat Townships, station hospitals in Mottama and Kyaikhami. He discussed control of bird flu with officials concerned.

On 21 March, the

deputy minister spoke at the meeting to control bird flu held at Mawlamyine General Hospital. Officials concerned reported on outbreak of bird flu in some townships in Saging and Mandalay Divisions. The deputy minister also met local authorities.

MNA

World TB Day for 2006 observed in Pyay

YANGON, 26 March — The World TB Day for 2006 was observed at Shri Keshtra Yadana City Hall in Pyay in Bago Division (West) on 24 March. It was attended by Secretary of Bago Division Peace and Development Council (West) Lt-Col Ohn Myint and officials, head of division health department Dr Aye Nyein and health staff.

Lt-Col Ohn Myint made a speech and Dr Aye Nyein read out the Health Minister's message.

The Secretary of Bago Division PDC (West) and Dr Aye Nyein presented prizes to the winners of quiz and essay contest.

MNA



Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo speaking at the meeting at Mawlamyine General Hospital. HEALTH

Noisy environment may raise heart attack risk

NEW YORK, 26 March— Living or working in noisy surroundings may raise a person's risk of suffering a heart attack, a new study suggests.

Researchers in Germany found that urban middle-aged adults who lived near high-traffic roads were 46 per cent more likely to suffer a heart attack than those who lived in more peaceful neighbourhoods.

Similarly, men whose jobs exposed them to high noise levels were about one-third more likely to have a heart attack than their peers in quieter workplaces.

The reason for these associations is not completely clear, but the stress of dealing with chronic noise may be involved, according to the researchers, led by Dr Stefan N Willich of Charite University Medical Centre in Berlin.

A number of past studies have suggested that long-term exposure to traffic noise or loud workplaces such as factory floors may

contribute to high blood pressure and heart attack risk. To the body, loud noise acts as a "warning", and the normal stress response involves hormonal changes and a spike in blood pressure and heart rate. Researchers suspect that over time, chronic noise

exposure may damage the cardiovascular system.

In the current study, published in the European Heart Journal, the researchers considered both the actual sound levels of neighbourhoods and workplaces, and study participants' perceptions of the noise.—MNA/Reuters

SpaceX private rocket flight a bust

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 26 March — The debut flight of a low-cost launcher developed and financed by Internet billionaire Elon Musk lasted about a minute before the rocket failed due to unknown technical reasons on Friday.

The 70-foot (21-metre), two-stage Falcon 1 rocket was launched at 5:29 pm (2229 GMT) from a US base on the Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific Ocean's Marshall Islands. The rocket lifted off from the launch pad but was destroyed about a minute later. It was unknown why the rocket failed.

The rocket was designed and built by privately held Space Exploration Technologies, or SpaceX, of El Segundo, California.

"Clearly this is a setback, but we're in this for the long haul," Gwynne Shotwell, SpaceX vice-president of business development, told reporters on a teleconference call.—MNA/Reuters



A Chinese man uses his eyelids to pull a vehicle carrying 7 Guangxi contestants from the Miss Tourism Queen International Pageant 2006 and a 400 kg (62 stones) pot made of stone in Xing'an County, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 18 March, 2006. He pulled 3 tons (428 stones) in total. — INTERNET

Deadly bird flu spreads to Jordan, no human

AMMAN, 26 March— The deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu has spread to Jordan but there are no human cases, Jordan's Health Minister Said Darwazeh said on Friday.

He said at least three dead turkeys at a domestic farm in Ajloun had tested positive for the disease but none of the humans tested in the area was infected.

Twenty people were given the Tamiflu vaccine and preading

further. The virus had already been detected in some of Jordan's neighbours and other countries in the region. Iraq, Turkey and Egypt have suffered human cases and infected poultry was found in

southern Israel and spread to the densely populated Gaza Strip this week.

Darwazeh told a news conference Jordan had been on high alert since bird flu was detected in Israel and that its own outbreak had been contained.

"The disease in its current form is more of an economic disease that affects poultry. It has had a very limited effect on human health," he said.

The H5N1 bird flu virus reached Jordan after rippling out from Asia to the Middle East, Europe and Africa. It can infect people who come into close contact with infected poultry and has killed about 100 people since 2003.

Experts fear the virus will mutate into a form that passes easily from person to person, sparking a pandemic in which millions could die and which could cripple the world economy.

MNA/Reuters

Two US soldiers killed in Iraq's Al-Anbar

BAGHDAD, 16 March — Two US soldiers were killed in the volatile western province of Al-Anbar of Iraq, the US military said Friday night.

The soldiers, who were members of the Pennsylvania National Guard, deployed in the provincial capital of Ramadi, were killed on Thursday.

The Ramadi region has been a centre of guerillas for a long time. The deaths brought the number of US casualties in Iraq since beginning of the war to 2,323, figures released by US Department of Defence said.

MNA/Xinhua

First case of H5N1 confirmed in Serbia

BELGRADE, 26 March — Serbia on Saturday confirmed its first case of the deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu in a rooster, agricultural officials announced.

The test results have been confirmed by the European Union reference laboratory in Weybridge, Britain, a statement made by the Serbian Agriculture Ministry said. The infected rooster was found on March 15 in an area near the Bosnian border, officials said. As a precautionary measure, more than 30 people in the affected area were under intense medical supervision. In the meantime, veterinarians are monitoring all fowl in a 10-kilometre radius.

The H5N1 strain has killed more than 100 people worldwide, according to the World Health Organization.

MNA/Xinhua



This computer generated image shows the world's tallest tower, about 600 metres tall, to be constructed at Tokyo's Sumida Ward by 2010. Japan's six broadcasting networks have finally selected a former freight shunting yard as the site of New Tokyo Tower which will become their new radio and television transmitter tower. — INTERNET



Chinook helicopters fly over Parthenon, on the ancient Acropolis hill during a parade in Athens on 25 March, 2006, to commemorate Greek Independence Day. The national holiday on 25 March marks the start of Greece's 1821 war of independence against the 400-year Ottoman rule.—INTERNET

First bird flu case detected in Berlin

BERLIN, 26 March — The lethal strain of H5N1 bird flu was confirmed Friday in a dead wild buzzard found in Berlin, making it the first case of the virus in the German capital, health authorities said.

The dead bird was found on the terrace of a house in the Marzahn-Hellersdorf District on the eastern edge of the city, Berlin state thus becoming the seventh German region hit by the deadly virus.

About 4,000 dead birds had been found in Germany since the beginning of the year, the authorities said, adding that all the dead birds had been handed over to relevant departments for medical tests.

So far, about 200 cases of the bird flu virus have been found in wild birds in several German regions, most of them being in the Baltic Sea region where the first cases were discovered. — MNA/Xinhua



**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.

ပြတိုက်တိုက်တွေအပေါ်၌ ပြန့်ပွားနေသော အဆင်ပြေဆုံး အဆင်ပြေဆုံး အချက်များ
INSTRUCTION FOR THE PREVENTION & CONTROL OF HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA

ကျင့်သင့်သည့် အချက်များ Do as follows :-

- အဆင်ပြေဆုံး အချက်များကို လိုက်နာပါ။ (Biosecurity measures)
- အဆင်ပြေဆုံး အချက်များကို လိုက်နာပါ။ (Biosecurity measures)

ကျင့်သင့်သည့် အချက်များ Do as follows :-

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အဆင်ပြေဆုံး အချက်များ

Prevention of Avian Influenza to Humans in suspected case

Public awareness poster for the village level

Uganda to add two thermal plants by 2007

KAMPALA, 25 March — Uganda will begin to build two thermal plants with total capacity of 100 megawatts this year to ease the souring power shortage in the country, local media quoting official reported on Friday.

“Two more thermal plants will be constructed in Namanve and Mutundwe with each capacity of 50 megawatts.

Work will begin this year and supplying power will start in January next year,” said Frank Sebbowa, CEO of the Electricity Regulatory Authority (ERA).

He said construction of the thermal plants would mitigate load shedding before the Bujagali hydro power project, the biggest in the country, is completed.

The 250 megawatts Bujagali Project is expected to kick off this year and start generation in 2010. “Demand for power has continued to grow at 27 Mmegawatts annually without sub-

Angola registers 652 cholera cases, 22 deaths

LUANDA, 25 March — The Angolan province of Luanda has reported 652 cumulative cases and 22 deaths since the declaration of the cholera outbreak on 13 February.

According to a communique published by the office of the World Health Organization (WHO) here on Friday, in the last 24 hours, 101 new cases including four deaths have been reported in eight municipalities affected by cholera.

Up to date, the National Laboratory of Public Health had confirmed the isolation of Vibrio cholera 01 serotype INABA in 9 out of 13 samples from patients. The Angolan Ministry of Health, WHO and other partners continue to develop field activities to contain the further outbreak of cholera.—MNA/Xinhua

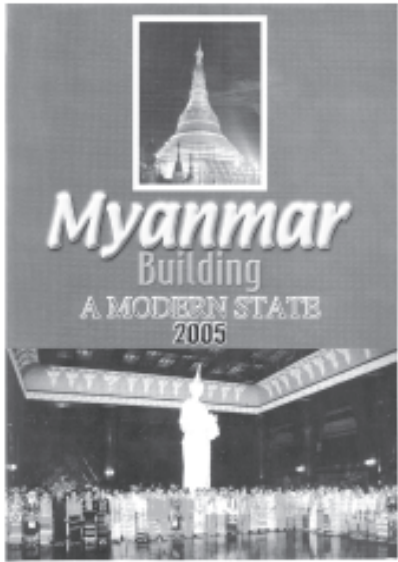
Donate blood

stantial new generation capacity.

In the short term, thermal generation in Namanve and Mutundwe will greatly reduce loadshedding,” he said.

Sebbowa said a Norwegian firm, AS Jacobsen, has won the bid to install thermal generators at Namanve after signing an agreement with the government.

MNA/Xinhua



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Oil touches seven-week high on renewed supply woes

LONDON, 25 March — Oil held above 64 US dollars a barrel after hitting a near seven-week high on Friday as renewed supply woes in Nigeria increased expectations of prolonged outages in Africa’s largest producer.

Oil in New York surged 3.5 per cent on Thursday after Italian energy firm Eni said it could not honour crude oil export commitments from its Nigerian Brass River terminal, after a pipeline attack last week.

“I’d be expecting Nigerian outages to last for another couple of months,” said Deborah White of SG CIB Commodities in Paris. “It’s not particularly that the situation has deteriorated, but it is indeed quite serious.”

US light crude for May delivery CLc1> settled 35 cents higher at 64.26 US dollars a barrel. It hit a peak of 64.75 US dollars earlier Friday, the highest since 7 February.

London Brent crude

LCOc1> settled 24 cents higher at 63.51 US dollars after a surge of 1.76 US dollars the previous day.

Eni’s Brass River terminal loads around 200,000 barrels per day (bpd). The pipeline blast shut in 75,000 bpd of Eni’s Nigerian output, but the company said on Thursday that if all went well, it could be repaired within a week.

Exports from Nigeria, a member of the Organization of the Petroleum-Exporting Countries and Africa’s largest producer, have been cut back by attacks on oil installations there.

Royal Dutch Shell and other companies already have shut down 630,000 bpd of production, 26 per cent of the capacity in the world’s eighth-largest

crude exporter.

On Wednesday, a senior global maritime analyst at the US Office of Naval Intelligence, Charles Dragonette, told a conference that Nigeria was no longer able to ensure security in the delta region where it pumps most of its crude.

Oil production from the African country will “hang precariously in the balance” for some time, he said.

Crude oil has traded in a range of 60 US dollars-64 US dollars this week as traders’ focus shifted between ample US crude inventories and concern about real or threatened supply disruptions, including tensions over Iran’s nuclear programme.

MNA/Reuters

Ethiopia, Kenya discuss power connection

ADDIS ABABA, 25 March — Ethiopia said on Friday it has wrapped up a first round discussion with neighbouring Kenya to connect the two countries with power transmission lines.

Sendeku Araya, public relations manager with the Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation (EEPCo), said the two countries signed an agreement following indepth discussions held from Wednesday to Thursday between ministers of energy, power directors and professionals of both countries on utilization of power transmission lines. Such kind of agreement will strengthen socioeconomic and political relations of Ethiopia with neighbouring countries, Sendeku said.

He added a series of discussions will also be held with Kenya in the near future.

Ethiopia is constructing a number of power projects to step up its power supply. It is desirous of selling power to neighbouring countries after meeting local demand.

Sendeku said agreements have been signed recently to sell power for Djibouti and Sudan, adding that processes are nearing completion to launch construction projects for the purpose.—MNA/Xinhua

Albania, Greece cooperate to keep bird flu under control

TIRANA, 25 March — Albania and its southern neighbour Greece will join hands in tackling the spread of bird flu, said a report carried by local media on Thursday.

The two countries have set up a special mission formed by veterinary experts from both sides.

The main task of the experts will be coordinating efforts to fend off possible outbreaks at the border area.

The Greek side, with medical advantages, will take charge of testing birds or people suspected of having the virus, whereas the Albanian experts will boost controls at border checkpoints.

Cooperation between the two countries is “a

must” at a time when bird flu has become a common threat, said an expert with the mission.

H5N1 bird flu has been discovered in Greece, in area near its northern border with Albania, while Albania reported its first bird flu case on 8 March in a village 50 kilometres from its border with Greece.

Albania on Wednesday confirmed a new H5N1 bird flu case near Tirana. There were also reports of dead poultry and wild birds in other areas in its territory.

MNA/Xinhua



Children look at a six-legged robot ‘Asterisk’, developed by researchers at Osaka University, at the Robot Fiesta 2006 in Tokyo, on 25 March, 2006. Over 10,000 people will attend the two-day event, the organizer said.—INTERNET

ပညာရေးနှင့် ဓာတ်သိပ္ပံ ဦးတိုးတတ်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Scientists find skull of human ancestor

ADDIS ABABA, 26 March— Scientists in northeastern Ethiopia said Saturday that they have discovered the skull of a small human ancestor that could be a missing link between the extinct Homo erectus and modern man.

The hominid cranium — found in two pieces and believed to be between 500,000 and 250,000 years old — “comes from a very significant period and is very close to the appearance of the anatomically modern human,” said Sileshi Semaw, director of the Gona Paleoanthropological Research Project in Ethiopia.

Archaeologists found the early human cranium five weeks ago at Gawis in Ethiopia’s northeastern Afar region, Sileshi said.

Sileshi, an Ethiopian paleoanthropologist based at Indiana University, said most fossil hominids are found in pieces but the near-complete skull — a rare find — provided a wealth of information.

“The Gawis cranium provides us with the opportunity to look at the face of one of our ancestors,” the archaeology project said in a statement. “Additionally, this

fossil links us with the past by showing a face that is recognizably different and more primitive than ours.”

Homo erectus, which many believe was an ancestor of modern Homo sapiens, is thought to have died out 100,000 to 200,000 years ago.

The cranium dates to a time about which little is known — the transition from African Homo erectus to modern humans. The fossil record from Africa for this period is sparse and most of the specimens poorly dated, project archaeologists said.

The face and cranium of the fossil are recognizably different from that of modern humans, but it bears unmistakable anatomical evidence that it belongs to the modern human’s ancestry, Sileshi said.

“The form of the face and the brain are among the best means for exploring the evolutionary path of humans and the Gawis

cranium preserves both areas,” according to the statement.

Internet



The Ethiopian fossil ‘Lucy’ is displayed at the Ethiopian National Museum, Addis Ababa. A hominid skull discovered near Gawis, Ethiopia — a city located near where ‘Lucy’ was discovered — could fill the gap in the search for the origins of the human race, a scientist said on Friday.—INTERNET

War dramas dominate Chinese TV screens in 2005

BEIJING, 25 March — War dramas dominated Chinese TV screens in 2005, according to an official in charge of China’s TV administration.

“Shining Swords,” the TV Bureau of the State telling a general’s account of his experiences in World War II, was the most popular drama in 2005 with 10.3 per cent of average audience ratings, according to the CVSC-SOFRES Media, a Beijing-based media research institute.

Other war dramas, such as “Eight Route Army,” “Little Soldier Zhang Ga” and “Historical Sky” also were very popular among Chinese viewers in 2005, the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II.

“TV dramas such as ‘Shining Swords’ combined grandiose narration and personal narration, with epic characteristics and sharp personality,” Wang Weiping, Deputy Director of

the TV Bureau of the State Administration of Radio, Film and Tele-vision (SARFT), told Xinhua on Friday.

Zhong Chengxiang, Vice-President of the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles, attributed the success of war TV dramas to their portrayal of history.

“They eulogized the persevering spirit of the Chinese nation, helped cultivate the idea of coherence and provided spiritual support to the building of the country,” he said.

Statistics from the SARFT show that China played TV dramas on 233 national and provincial-level TV channels from a total of 288 in 2005.

MNA/Xinhua



Smoke rises from the existing big crater, background, and a newly-created small one in a glen, foreground, on Mount Meakandake in Hokkaido, Japan, on 22 March, 2006.—INTERNET

Blind Chinese pianist to give concert in Beijing

BEIJING, 25 March — Blind Chinese pianist Sun Yan, 23, will give a concert on 30 March, at the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) Theatre in downtown Beijing.

Sun, a student at prestigious China Central Conservatory of Music (CCCM), was born with cataracts that caused his blindness. He started learning to play the piano when he was three years

old and immediately gained his fame as a piano genius at the age of six.

Guo Shulan, head of the CCCM, said Sun was the first blind student the school ever received in its half century history. Well known piano teacher, Yang Jun, taught Sun hand in hand and found he is greatly talented and with strong determination.

At his concert, Sun will play a dozen

masterpieces by composers such as Bach, Beethoven and Chopin.

“Common piano players may have a look at these long and difficult musical pieces while playing, but Sun would have to spend much, much longer time to fully memorize a piece of music,” Yang said. “He plays piano for at least six hours every day.”

MNA/Xinhua

Sony to offer game downloading for PlayStation 3 users

TOKYO, 25 March — Sony Computer Entertainment (SCE) Inc will launch a new online service enabling its prospective PlayStation 3 users to download game software after paying only a small contract fee, Japanese Media reported on Friday.

The new service will start in November with the debut of PS3, Sony’s next-generation video game console, an SCE executive said on Wednesday.

According to Phil Harrison, president of SCE World Wide Studios, a game development division, the service will

offer games featuring long stories like films and television dramas and is basically free.

Sony has announced

to delay the launch of PS3 from the original schedule of this spring to November.

MNA/Xinhua



Sony Computer Entertainment’s PlayStation 3 is displayed in Tokyo.—INTERNET

Poaching rampant in Tanzania’s Serengeti National Park

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 25 March — Poachers are killing every year between 20,000 and 30,000 heads of wild animals in the world famous Serengeti National Park in northern Tanzania.

The alarming figure of poaching kills was revealed by Justin Hando, chief conservator at the park that measures 14,763 square kilometres in size and is ranked among those places in the world where one must go to see in his or her lifetime.

Poachers kill mainly wildebeests, zebras, antelopes and buffaloes for their meat.

The biannual migrations of wildebeests and zebras are the breathtaking tourist attractions of Serengeti between May and June and then between October and November each year.

Hando said while briefing visiting parliamentarians on Thursday in Serengeti that though some 1,000 poachers were caught every year, yet slow judicial processes made their trials very difficult, according to reports reaching here.

Poaching of elephants for their tusks and poaching of rhinos for their horns have caused elephant and rhino population to dwindle in the 1970s.

The number of rhinos in Serengeti, for one instance, dropped from 2,000 heads in the 1970s to about 15 heads at present in the park proper.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS



Gold medalist Kimmie Meissner, centre, and bronze medalist Sasha Cohen, right, of the United States, stand beside silver medalist Fumie Suguri, left, of Japan during the medals ceremony for the ladies' free skating programme of the World Figure Skating Championships on 25 March, 2006, in Calgary, Canada.—INTERNET

Clijsters bows out in 2nd round at Miami

WASHINGTON, 26 March 26 — Defending champion Kim Clijsters was eliminated in the second round of the NASDAQ-100 Open Saturday as she was beaten by unseeded American Jill Craybas 5-7, 6-3, 5-7.

The second-seeded, deposed as world number one by Amelie Mauresmo on Monday, showed signs of rust as she played her first match since losing the Antwerp final to the Frenchwoman in February.—MNA/Xinhua

Drogba double keeps Chelsea on course

LONDON, 26 March — Champions Chelsea opened out a 14-point Premier League lead on Saturday when two Didier Drogba goals gave them a comfortable, though controversial, 2-0 home win over Manchester City.

Chelsea dominated the game and Drogba scored after 30 and 33 minutes but City were fuming about the Frenchman's second goal, which was scored with the aid of a handball. City defender Sylvain Distin earned a half-time red card for complaining about it.

Chelsea, beaten by Fulham last week, move to 78 points, 14 ahead of Liverpool.

Manchester United, third on 63 but with three games in hand on Liverpool, are at home to Birmingham City on Sunday.

Tottenham Hotspur, at home to West Bromwich Albion on Monday, are fourth on 52 but only on goal difference from Blackburn Rovers, who moved to fifth with a 1-0 win at bottom club Sunder-

land thanks to a 15th-minute Steven Reid goal.

Arsenal, whose game at Portsmouth was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch, drop to sixth.

In the day's other games a last-minute goal by Nigel Reo-Coker gave West Ham United a 2-1 win at

Wigan Athletic while Aston Villa drew 0-0 at home with Fulham.

Chelsea were deserved victors over a City side whose season lost its momentum when they were beaten by West Ham in the FA Cup quarterfinals on Monday.—MNA/Reuters



Chelsea's Frank Lampard, right, duels for the ball with Manchester City's Matthew Mills during their English Premier League soccer match at Stamford Bridge, London, on 25 March, 2006.—INTERNET

Lyon held to draw before AC Milan test

PARIS, 26 March — Olympique Lyon had to be content with a 1-1 draw at home to lowly Toulouse on Saturday in their last game before facing AC Milan in the Champions League.

The French Ligue 1 champions, who will entertain Milan in the first leg of their quarterfinal tie on Wednesday, moved 12 points clear of second-placed Girondins Bordeaux who host Nice on Sunday.

Striker Daniel Moreira put the visitors ahead against the run of play just before halftime.

Lyon, chasing a record fifth consecutive title, equalized through Norway striker John Carew four minutes into the second half.

The home side kept racing forward after that but were denied by a string of brilliant saves from Toulouse goalkeeper Nicolas Douchez.

Lyon top the standings with 69 points from 31 games, followed by Bordeaux on 57. Both sides will have seven matches left to play after the weekend.

"My players fought extremely hard in the second half and were not rewarded," said Lyon coach Gerard Houllier.

"We played really well

in that second half. However, we made mistakes tonight which we cannot afford to make against Milan."

MNA/Reuters



Lyon's midfielder Juninho (L) tangles with Toulouse's forward Bryan Bergougnoux during their French LI football match at the Gerland Stadium in Lyon. Lyon were held 1-1 at home against a spirited Toulouse side just four days before the league leaders' biggest match of the season.—INTERNET

Milan close gap as Juve held by Roma

MILAN, 26 March—Serie A leaders Juventus were held to a 1-1 draw at home by AS Roma on Saturday allowing rivals

AC Milan to cut their lead to eight points with their 3-1 victory over Fiorentina. Juve led through a 35th minute header from Brazilian midfielder Emerson but had Czech midfielder Pavel Nedved sent off on the stroke of halftime.

Down to 10 men for the second half, Juve looked to have held on but five minutes from the end Roma drew level with a header from Moroccan midfielder Houssine Kharja.

Milan came from behind to beat Fiorentina comfortably at the San Siro after Italy international Luca Toni had put the Florence side ahead in the 13th minute.

Ukrainian Andriy

Shevchenko scored the equalizer before second half goals from Brazilian Kaka and midfielder Gennaro Gattuso ensured the points for Carlo Ancelotti's team.

MNA/Reuters

Barcelona held to 0-0 draw at bottom club Malaga

MARDID, 26 March — Barcelona's steady progress towards the Primera Liga title hit a snag on Saturday as they were held to a goalless

draw at basement side Malaga.

With an eye on Tuesday's Champions League quarterfinal away to Benfica coach Frank Rijkaard sent out an experimental lineup that dominated but was never really convincing.

Barca had a goal ruled out in the first half and Samuel Eto'o hit the bar at the end, while Malaga goalkeeper Francesc Arnau made a string of impressive saves.

The draw saw leaders Barcelona move 13 points clear of second-placed Osasuna, who were playing Athletic Bilbao away later on Saturday. Malaga remain bottom with 23.

MNA/Reuters



Maria Sharapova of Russia hits a backhand shot against Li Na of China during their tennis match at the Nasdaq-100 Open tennis tournament in Key Biscayne, Florida, on 25 March, 2006.—INTERNET

Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

A	F	F	A	I	R	S	S	T	R	E	A	T
B	S	I	S	N	S	F	S	U	S	N	S	R
R	I	G	H	T	S	R	E	S	I	D	U	E
U	S	U	S	E	S	O	S	K	S	O	S	A
P	A	R	A	G	O	N	S	S	W	O	T	
T	S	E	S	E	S	T	I	P	S	S	Y	
S	O	D	E	R	S	S	S	R	A	S	H	S
P	S	S	S	S	A	G	S	O	S	P	S	T
R	A	T	S	S	S	A	C	H	I	E	V	E
O	S	A	S	L	S	T	S	I	S	C	S	N
F	U	L	S	O	M	E	S	B	A	T	O	N
I	S	O	S	V	S	D	S	I	S	R	S	I
T	E	N	S	E	S	S	T	R	E	S	S	



In memory of both parents and husband at No 13, Shwedagon Pagoda Road in Latha Township, Daw Kyin Phoe and her family recently donated K 120,000 to Hninzigone Home for the Aged through U Maung Maung Gyi, Joint-Treasurer of the Home.—H

Indonesian baby girl dies of bird flu

JAKARTA, 26 March — A one-year-old girl from west Jakarta has died of bird flu, a senior health official said on Saturday, citing the results of local tests.

If confirmed by a UN-recognized laboratory, the girl would be the country's 23rd death from the H5N1 virus, which is now endemic in poultry in the world's fourth most popu-

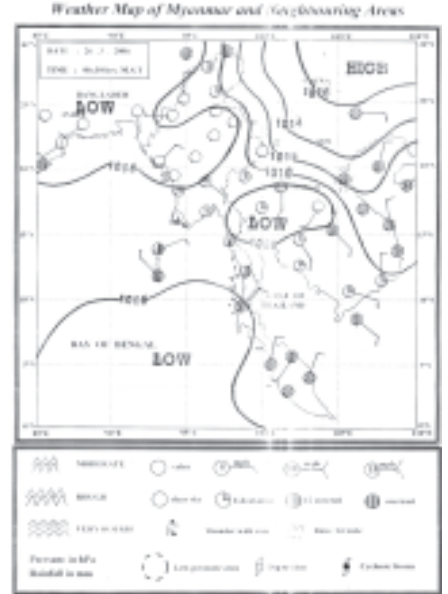
lous nation. "I just got information a local test showed positive (for H5N1) for a one-year-old girl," Hariadi Wibisono, director general of control of animal-borne diseases at the national Health Ministry, told Reuters.

She died on Thursday, shortly after coming into a Jakarta hospital emergency room, he said.

A sample of the girl's blood has been sent to a laboratory in Hong Kong recognized by the World Health Organization for confirmation, Wibisono added. It was not immediately clear whether the girl had been in contact with fowl. Contact with infected birds is the most common means of transmission of the H5N1 virus to humans.

Bird flu has killed at least 105 people globally since it re-emerged in Asia in late 2003, according to WHO. The bird toll consists of some 200 million birds which have died from the disease or been culled.

Scientists fear the virus could mutate and spread easily from person to person, triggering a pandemic. — MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Sunday, 26 March, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (5°C) above normal in Mandalay, (3°C) above normal in Mon State and Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperature was Aunglan (41°C).

Maximum temperature on 25-3-2006 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 26-3-2006 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 26-3-2006 was (73%). Total sunshine hours on 25-3-2006 was (9.5) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 26-3-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (7) mph from Southwest at (14:30) hours MST on 25-3-2006.

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 27-3-2006: Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Rakhine and Mon States and upper Sagaing Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Naypyidaw and neighbouring area for 27-3-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 27-3-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 27-3-2006: Generally fair weather.

Earthquake Report

(Issued at 08:00 hours MST on Today)

An earthquake of moderate intensity (5.2) Richter Scale with its epicentre inside Myanmar (near Haka) about (426) miles northwest of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (02) hrs (45) min (10) sec MST on 26 March, 2006.

UN says act now to stop HIV/AIDS in children

HANOI, 26 March — The United Nations called on governments on Friday to take immediate steps to better protect children from HIV/AIDS and ensure better treatment for those infected.

At the end of 2005, an estimated 30,000 children in East Asia and the Pacific were living with HIV or AIDS, nearly 11,000 of them newly infected, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) said in a statement at a conference in Hanoi.

"It is imperative that the call for action is taken seriously at the highest level of political decision making," Anupama Rao

Singh, UNICEF's Regional Director of East Asia and the Pacific, said in the statement.

Asia has the world's fastest growing HIV rates, with 50 per cent of all people infected in the region last year aged between 14 and 24.

UNICEF said about 450,000 children in the region had lost one or both parents to AIDS while millions more children and young people were at high risk of HIV infection or suffered from stigma and discrimination.

"To effectively mount our response, we need to improve our country-level analysis of the

situation of children and the impact of HIV so as to be better able to guide efforts to plan and scale up our response," Singh added.

She also called for leaders of Southeast Asian nations to endorse a UNICEF plan to help children with HIV/AIDS at their next meeting in Manila.

Experts say the true extent of the region's epidemic is probably understated. The lack of good quality and consistent data on children and young people greatly hinders the region's response to the epidemic.

MNA/Reuters



Monday, 27 March
View on today

6:00 am

1. (၆၁)နှစ်မြောက် တပ်မတော်နေ့ အခမ်းအနား ကျင်းပပွဲ တိုက်ရိုက် ထုတ်လွှင့်မှုအစီအစဉ်

8:20 am

2. (၆၁)နှစ်မြောက် တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit.

4:30 pm

3. Practice in Reading

4:40 pm

4. တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုတေး သီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုတောင်းများ (၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်)

4:55 pm

5. အခမ်းအနား ကျင်းပပွဲ တိုက်ရိုက် ထုတ်လွှင့်မှုအစီအစဉ်

5:10 pm

6. Dance variety

5:20 pm

7. မြန်မာစား၊ မြန်မာစကား

5:30 pm

8. Song and dance of national races

5:35 pm

9. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

5:45 pm

10. (၆၁)နှစ်မြောက် တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

5:50 pm

11. (၆၁)နှစ်မြောက် တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

6:00 pm

12. Evening news

6:30 pm

13. Weather report

6:35 pm

14. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရယ်လို့အားရပြီ ပုဂ္ဂိုလ်သိင်္ဃာ" (အပိုင်း-၇၅)

6:55 pm

15. (၆၁)နှစ်မြောက် တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

7:10 pm

16. Industrial achievement

7:20 pm

17. (၆၁)နှစ်မြောက် တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

7:35 pm

18. ပြည်သူ့အတွက်တပ်မတော် (ခေတ်အခက်ခက် ဓမ္မဂုဏ် တာဝန်ကျေပျော်သည့်တပ်မတော်)

8:00 pm

19. News

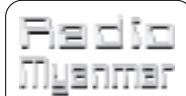
20. International news

21. Weather report

22. (၆၁)နှစ်မြောက် တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

23. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အိမ်မက်တက္က" (အပိုင်း-၁)

24. The next day's programme



Monday, 27 March
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music:

-My heart beat like a drum

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music:

8:50 am National news & Slogan

9:00 am Music:

-To be you

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music:

-Love won't work

1:30 pm News/Slogan

1:40 pm Lunch time music:

-Venus

9:00 pm Radio Play

Road makers under "formless bullets" by Dr Khin Maung Nyunt

9:15 pm Article

9:25 pm Radio Magazine/ Drugs Elimination/ Women Affairs

9:35 pm Local Gems/ Golden Land's Melody

9:45 pm News/Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

Village libraries play important role in implementation of rural development tasks

Books, cash and kind donated to rural libraries honouring 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day

YANGON, 26 March — In honour of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day, publications, cash and kind were donated to rural self-reliant libraries under the Information and Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Information at Pinyin Township Peace and Development Council Office this evening with an address by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan. Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Directors-General and Managing-Directors of Departments and Enterprises, officials and journalists.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that there have been opportunities for the development of human resources and promotion of education standard. Out of over 54

million people in the country, 70 per cent are rural people. For them books and other publications are not available easily and their reading habit has not improved. That is why self-reliant rural libraries are being set up in every village with the strength of the State, people and wellwishers. Local people participated in the tasks for establishment of the libraries.

He said there are 61,949 villages in the country and altogether 52,391 (See page 8)

*Minister
Brig-Gen
Kyaw
Hsan
accepts
cash and publica-
tions for
self-
reliant
libraries
from a
wellwisher.*
MNA



There are 61,949 villages in the country and altogether 52,391 libraries have been opened up to 15 March 2006. Altogether 600 wellwishers donated 1.7 million books of various kinds worth K 113.5 million and K 53 million in cash at the eight book donation ceremonies.

Development facilities mushroom nationwide honouring 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day

YANGON, 26 March — As a gesture of honouring the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2006, rural and urban roads were opened and other development facilities were provided in dif-

ferent parts of the country from 23 March to date.

Rural roads

A rural laterite road linking Peinzalok Village in Nyaunglebin Township and Kanyinkyo Village of

Kyaukdaga Township was put into service on 23 March afternoon.

Likewise, the rural laterite road linking Peinzalok-Kanyinkyo Road section-II and the bridges were opened in

Kanyinkyo Village.

Present on the occasions were Director-General U Myo Myint of Development Affairs Department, officials and local people. Peinzalok-Ywama-Kanyinkyo Road is four miles long. Along the road, 11 bridges were built. Township Development Affairs Committee and the Government shared K 53.928 million for the cost of the construction tasks.

New tarred road

As a development facility honouring the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the ceremony to open Kyansitha tarred road was inaugurated in Ward 6 of Shwebo Township on 23 March. Chairman of Shwebo District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Than Tun, (See page 8)



The opening of Peinzalok-Kanyinkyo laterite road in progress. — MNA

Special Sales of Ministry of Industry-1 attract people of Bago

YANGON, 26 March — As a gesture of honouring the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the special sales of the Ministry of Industry-1 was launched at Bago Division sports grounds in Bago this morning.

Managing Director U Nyunt Aung of Myanmar Paper and Chemical Industries and Secretary of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Thein Lwin formally opened the sales. Managing Director U Soe Yi of Myanmar Ceramics Industries unveiled the archway of the sports grounds where the special sales is being held. Departmental heads, local authorities and officials visited the special sales.

A total of 297 personal and household goods and machinery manufactured by the Ministry of Industry-1 are being sold there. — MNA

INSIDE

The nation-building tasks the Tatmadaw has been shouldering in political, economic and social sectors have yielded fruitful results that are unprecedented in the nation. Now, it is implementing the seven-step Road Map as the national political policy for the accomplishment of the national goal of the State — emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline.

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KAYTU NILAR

Weather Forecast for 27-3-2006

Naypyidaw & neighbouring areas

Partly cloudy.

Yangon & neighbouring areas

Partly cloudy.

Mandalay & neighbouring areas

Generally fair weather.