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Saturday, 13 May, 2006

True patriotism

- * It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.



Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko accepts cash for self-reliant village libraries donated by a wellwisher. — MNA

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

All villages in Bago Division facilitated with self-reliant libraries

YANGON, 12 May — A ceremony to mark the completion of setting up self-reliant village libraries in Bago Division was held in conjunction with the cash, TV and radio sets, and books donation ceremony at Khabaung Hall in Toungoo yesterday morning, with speeches by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko and Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

On the occasion, the commander said that all the people need to possess theoretical knowledge and achieve technological advances in a constant learning society to be able to build a modern and developed nation. As today is the knowledge age, all human beings have to learn lessons from every stage of life. In Myanmar, the Government is implementing the 30-year national education promotion plan.

The Government has been opening the self-reliant village libraries to contribute toward ensuring peace and stability, and development of the nation.

Hence, officials are to undertake the tasks to improve functions of library and disseminate knowledge on beneficial use of library to rural people.

Next, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivered an address. He said that the present ceremony marked the completion of the establish-

ment of self-reliant libraries in all villages in Bago Division. So, today's occasion is a victory of the nation, Bago Division and all the people of rural areas. He expressed gratitude to the wellwishers for their contributions to open the libraries.

(See page 8)



A wellwisher presents cash donation for self-reliant village libraries to Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan. — MNA

Myanmar can be proud to be the first-ever nation in the world where each village has a library.

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 13 May, 2006

Extended reclamation of land for seasonal crops

The agricultural sector plays an important role in strengthening national economy, enhancing the socio-economic life of rural people including farmers and bringing about rural development.

Therefore, the government is engaged in extended reclamation of virgin and fallow land, boosting the per acre yield, increasing the production of crops, and minimizing loss and wastage.

The agriculture contributes not only to ensuring self-sufficiency in food but also to enhancing the socio-economic life of the region and improvement of the living standard of rural people. Such being so, the onus is on farmers to extensively engage in agricultural tasks making the most of favourable conditions created by the government.

Bago Division has favourable land and weather conditions for agriculture. Hence, noticeable progress has been made in the agricultural sector, and as a result the division is seeing economic development and surplus of food.

In 2005-2006, Bago Division put 2.8 million acres under monsoon paddy. In 2006-2007, work is well under way for the division to put 3 million acres under monsoon paddy.

Efforts are to be made for extended cultivation of edible oil crops such as pulses and beans, groundnuts, sesame, sunflower and sugarcane, maize and chilli that suit the region and weather of the division. Furthermore, extended reclamation of virgin and fallow land is to be carried out in the division for cultivation of seasonal and perennial crops capable of boosting the income of the farmers.

The farmers as well as the Tatmadawmen of regiments and units in the division are engaged in extended reclamation of virgin and fallow land. Southern Command is reclaiming over 2,000 acres of virgin and fallow land in the area between Kyungon Village-tract and Do-in Village-tract in Toungoo Township for Ketumadi Farm. Sugarcane was cultivated on 900 acres and paddy on 400 acres of the plantation.

The Tatmadawmen, departmental personnel and local people are now actively participating in the drive for extensive cultivation of physic nut plants in the division.

All in all, we would like to call on the farmers and local authorities to actively take part in extended reclamation of virgin and fallow land for cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy as well as seasonal crops that suit the region and physic nut plants.

**နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင်
မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ**

လစဉ် လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည့်ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ ဖြစ်သည်။

၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်၊ မေလအတွက်
(၁၄-၅-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့
နှင့်
(၂၈-၅-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့

၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်၊ မေလ (၁၃) ရက်

- * 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

Talks on national policy and State's progress given

YANGON, 12 May — USDA CEC Member Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein gave a talk on the national policy and the State's development to 100 trainees of the No 18 Basic Organizing Course being conducted at Botahtaung Township USDA Office this morning. — MNA

MYANMAR GAZETTE

YANGON, 12 May — The State Peace and Development Council has appointed Deputy Director-General U Tun Lwin of Meteorology and Hydrology Department as Director-General of the same department on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties. — MNA

Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin fixes a Seimbudaw (a diamond bud) atop Maggin Dhamma Stupa in the precinct of Botahtaung Pagoda. (News reported)—MNA



Deputy Minister for Industry-1 inspects progress of factories, projects

YANGON 11 May — Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Thein Tun inspected installation of machinery at the production belt of Maize Product Factory (Yanpei) of Myanma Foodstuff Industries near Paratkyei Village of Taungdwingyi Township on 5 May morning.

The deputy minister also oversaw the Sheep and Horse Breeding Project (Yanpei) of Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries.

On 6 May, he heard reports on production of industrial-crop cotton for 2006-07 at the briefing hall of Cotton Cultivation Project (Lema-Thazi) of Myanma Textile Industries. In the afternoon, the deputy minister arrived at No 2 Cement Plant of Myanma Ceramics Industries. Managing Director U Soe Yee and officials reported on prevention against floods at the main building of the plant.

On 7 May afternoon, Brig-Gen Thein Tun inspected growing of physic nut plants and renovation of Glass Factory (Pathein).

While in Thabaung, the deputy minister inspected production and progress of Paper and Pulp Factory (Thabaung), and the construction site of Advanced Paper Factory Project.

On 9 May, the deputy minister inspected production process of Thayet Cement Plant. — MNA

Membership applications presented to social organizations

YANGON, 11 May — A ceremony to present membership applications to Union Solidarity and Development Association, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Women's Affairs Organization, and Red Cross Brigade was held at Thauingyin Hall in Myawady on 26 April.

Chairman of the District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myint Oo and Deputy Commissioner of District General Administration Department U Aung Swe Nyunt gave speeches. Next, officials accepted the applications and presented certificates of honour to wellwishers who donated K 3.1 million to District Child Rights Committee.

On the occasion, 200 membership applications for USDA, 426 for WAO, 347 for MCWA and 53 for Red Cross Brigade were handed over to officials. — MNA

Fire breaks out in Hispaw

YANGON, 12 May — A fire broke out in Region 10 of Yetsu Ward of Hispaw, Shan State (North), yesterday. The fire started from U Shi Pan's house of the region, and four houses were destroyed by the fire. — MNA

ကမ္ဘာ့သွေးတိုးရောဂါကာကွယ်ထိန်းသိမ်းရေးနေ့

- ၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်၊ မေလ (၁၃) ရက်
- သွေးတိုးရောဂါ ကာကွယ်ထိန်းသိမ်းပါ**
- ၁။ ကိုယ်အလေးချိန် ပုံမှန်ဖြစ်ရန်ထိန်းသိမ်း၍ အဝလွန်အောင် နေထိုင်စားသောက်ပါ။
 - ၂။ ပုံမှန်ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုပြုလုပ်ပါ။ နေ့စဉ် နာရီဝက်၊ တစ်နာရီ ခန့် ဝင်သွက်သွက် လမ်းလျှောက်ခြင်းကဲ့သို့သော ကိုယ်လက် လှုပ်ရှားမှု ပြုလုပ်ပါ။
 - ၃။ ဟင်းသီးဟင်းရွက်၊ အသီးအနှံ များများစားသုံးပါ။
 - ၄။ စိတ်ဖိစီးမှုနည်းပါးအောင် နေထိုင်ပါ။
 - ၅။ အငန်ဓာတ်ပါသော ငါးစီး၊ ငါးခြောက်၊ ဟင်းချိုမှုန့် စသည့် အစားအစာများကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
 - ၆။ အဆီကို လွန်ကဲစွာ စားသုံးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
 - ၇။ အရက်ကို အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သုံးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
 - ၈။ ဆေးလိပ်သောက်ခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
 - ၉။ သွေးတိုးရောဂါရှိပါက သွေးပေါင်ပုံမှန်ဖန်တီး၍ စနစ်တကျ ဆေးကုသမှုခံယူပါ။
- ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Donate blood

UN's Arbour says Rights Body marks new beginning

GENEVA, 11 May — UN human rights chief Louise Arbour on Wednesday said the election of members to the organization's new rights watchdog marked a new beginning in the fight for fundamental freedoms.

The 47-member state Human Rights Council, whose members were chosen on Tuesday for the first time by a ballot of the UN General Assembly, replaces the Commission on Human Rights which had become largely discredited by political infighting.

"The signs from the election of the 47 members of the council yesterday are very encouraging. The polls were not 'business as usual'," the High Commissioner for Human Rights said in a statement.

Human rights groups, including Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International, have generally applauded the

council, saying it has a better chance of providing protection for victims of rights' abuse than its predecessor. Arbour, a former Canadian Supreme Court judge, said the fact that the council's members had faced an open election and that they had given pledges to promote human rights was positive.

"There is good reason to believe that we are putting aside some of the difficulties we saw with

the Commission on Human Rights," she said.

Critics, including Arbour and UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, said the commission became increasingly hobbled because states whose rights' records were questionable had sought and won seats in order to shield themselves.

One of the biggest differences with the commission is that members of the council themselves

will have to submit to a review of their records.

However, the United States declined to take part in the council elections because it said that it was still too easy for states with a history of abuse to get elected.

The council, due to meet three times a year, not once like its predecessor, will open its first session in Geneva on 19 June.

MNA/Reuters



Health service workers protest against job cuts in central London, on 11 May, 2006.
INTERNET

NTT DoCoMo's new FOMA SO902iWP+ mobile phone is displayed in a water tank during an unveiling in Tokyo, on 11 May, 2006.
INTERNET



Death toll from Iraq Tal Afar bombing rises to 24

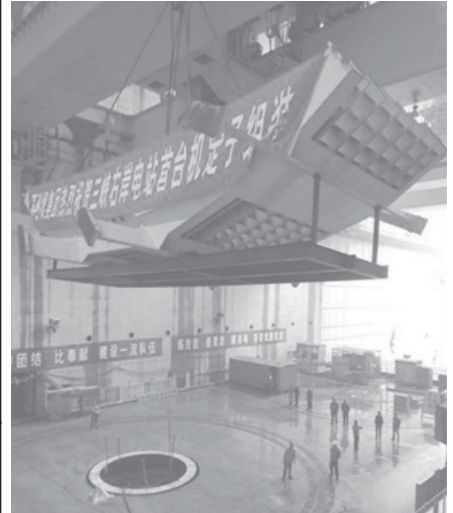
TAL AFAR (Iraq), 11 May — The death toll from Tuesday's suicide bombing in the northern Iraqi city of Tal Afar has risen to 24 from 17, police said on Wednesday.

An Iraqi police official said 35 people were also wounded in the blast. A hospital source said the casualties included civilians as well as Iraqi police and troops.

The US military earlier said the bombing killed at least 16 civilians and wounded 134 others, adding that US troops treated more than 60 of the victims and that 24 of them were in a critical condition.

MNA/Reuters

လုပ်ကိုင်နေသော တိုင်းပြည်



Workers observe on the first day of the assembling of the number 26 generator on the right bank of the Yangtze River on 11 May, 2006 in Yichang of central China's Hubei Province.—INTERNET

20 Nepali women rescued from India

KATHMANDU, 11 May — The Maiti Nepal (MN) has rescued 20 Nepali women trafficked to different cities of India, chairman of MN said here on Thursday.

"The MN, a non-

governmental organization working for women rights, has also helped to arrest four brokers involved in the trafficking of Nepali women to India," Anuradha Koirala, chairman of MN, told reporters in a Press conference.

The MN has rescued hundreds of sold girls so far. MN had been providing various sorts of employment-oriented training to about 100 rescued girls at present, Koirala revealed. "There is the need of effective implementation of the laws toward controlling the women's trafficking," she said.

MNA/Xinhua

Tornado hits N Philippines

MANILA, 11 May — Strong tornado on Wednesday night struck a village in Pampanga Province, about 100 kilometres north of Manila, destroying at least 70 houses and injuring a boy, local media reported on Thursday.

Most of the residents were still awake watching television when the tornado walloped through the village at around 8:45 pm, according to *Inquirer News*.

A seven-year-old boy was wounded in the leg when the winds flung a metal sheet in his direction, according to reports. On Thursday morning, residents started to rebuild their homes, rummaging what they could from the debris. — MNA/Xinhua

Bolivia, Brazil create gas commission

LA PAZ, 11 May — Bolivia and Brazil will form a commission to discuss the implementation of Bolivia's decision to nationalize its natural gas industry, a move that raised tensions between the South American neighbours. Energy officials from the countries met Wednesday night to discuss Bolivia's decision last week to set gas prices and transfer majority control of all energy operations to its state energy company.

In a statement after the meeting, officials from both countries said the Brazilian government "reiterates its absolute respect for the sovereign decisions taken by the

government and people of Bolivia" in the nationalization decree.

They also agreed to create a high-level commission and three sub-commissions to determine the operating conditions for Brazil's state-run petroleum company, Petrobras, in Bolivia within 180 days.

Bolivia has given foreign companies six months to negotiate their contracts or leave the country. Meanwhile, the government of President Evo Morales is seeking to raise the price of gas it sells to Brazil, which gets half of its natural gas supply from Bolivia.

Gas prices would be reviewed by the commission, which will include government and business

officials from both countries.

On 1 May, Morales ordered the takeover of his country's 53 foreign-owned natural gas installations, sending white-helmeted military police with semiautomatic rifles to guard the continent's second-

largest gas reserves.

The takeover shocked Argentina and Brazil, Bolivia's biggest gas customers, raising concerns of future energy shortages and price hikes that might damage their economies.—Internet



Bolivian oil minister Andres Soliz, left, smiles as his Brazilian counterpart Silas Rondeau wave to journalists prior entering a meeting to discuss the gas nationalization process in La Paz, Bolivia on 10 May, 2006.—INTERNET

Putin offers Russian mothers cash for more babies

Moscow, 11 May— President Vladimir Putin said on Wednesday that Russia's population was shrinking so fast the state would pay women to have more children.

"Let's talk about the most acute problem facing Russia — demography," the Kremlin leader said in his annual state-of-the-nation address. "The number of our citizens shrinks by an average of 700,000 people each year."

To rapturous applause from his Russian establishment audience, Putin said the government would include special finance to boost the birth rate in next year's budget.

He proposed more than doubling monthly payouts

to families for the first baby to 1,500 roubles (55 US dollars), and giving twice that for a second child. Average wages are below 100 US dollars a week.

"But the problem of low birth rates cannot be resolved without a general change in the attitude of our society towards the issue of family and family values," Putin said.

More than 200,000 children lived in orphanages across Russia, he said, adding: "It looks like foreigners are already

adopting more (Russian) children than we are ourselves."

Putin has set an ambitious target of doubling the oil-rich nation's gross domestic product in a decade, but some economists say it may be thwarted by the rapid decline in the population. According to official data, Russia's population fell from around 148 million at the end of the communist era in 1991 to 145 million in 2003 and 143 million now.

MNA/Reuters

ဝတ်မှုမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား



Vietnamese Buddhists gather around a Buddha's statue during Buddha's birthday anniversary at the Vietnam Buddhism Academy in Hanoi, on 12 May, 2006. Vesak Day commemorates the birth of Buddha, his attaining of Enlightenment and his passing away into Nirvana.—INTERNET

Colombian police train rats to sniff out landmines

SIBATE, 11 May—Her name is Lola and she's at the top of her class of risk-running rodents being trained to sniff out landmines in Colombia, home to the world's highest number of mine-related deaths and injuries last year.

The smartest rat among the first six that the government is teaching to locate explosive devices planted by leftist rebels, she has a 90 percent success rate in locating explosive material in her laboratory training maze.

Police animal trainers, tired of seeing their explosive-sniffing dogs blown up by stepping on mines, hope the white-furred, pink-eyed creature will lead her classmates through upcoming open field tests and then into the Andean country's live mine fields before the end of the year.

At about 7.8 ounces

(220 grams) Lola is too light to detonate landmines that guerillas set to protect crops used to make cocaine, which they sell to fund their four-decade-old revolution. It takes about 14 ounces (400 grams) of pressure to detonate a mine.

"The dogs are heavy enough to set off the explosion, sometimes killing officers nearby," said Police Col Javier Cifuentes, head of the programme at the National Police base in Sibate, near the capital city of Bogota.

"The rats can stand on a mine without anything

happening."

More than 1,075 Colombians were killed or maimed by stepping on mines in 2005, the government says, a higher number than in any other heavily mined country such as Cambodia or Afghanistan. More than 375 deaths and injuries

have been recorded so far this year.

The guerillas say they are fighting for social justice in a country with deep divisions between rich and poor. But even mainstream leftist politicians say the rebels have scant popular support.—Internet



Gold bangles sit in a display case at a jewellery shop in Singapore, on 10 May, 2006.—INTERNET



Runcho walks on the hand of a police animal trainer at a police school in Sibate, Colombia, on 3 May, 2006.—INTERNET

Iran says no military purpose in nuclear programme

JAKARTA, 11 May— Iran's nuclear programme is peaceful and has no military purpose, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said on Thursday, adding he was ready to engage in dialogue with anybody.

"It has nothing to do with nuclear weapons, or military purposes," he said during a visit to Indonesia in an interview broadcast live on Metro television.

He also said it was "ridiculous" for countries with nuclear arsenals of their own to be pressing Iran to curb its effort to develop nuclear energy.

He said Iran had "capabilities" to defend its interests.

Washington and its European allies are

seeking a UN Security Council resolution that would oblige Iran to halt all uranium enrichment work or face possible sanctions. Teheran says it only wants to produce low-grade enriched uranium to use in atomic

power reactors, not the highly enriched uranium needed to make bombs.

Iran is "ready to engage in dialogue with anybody", Ahmadinejad said in the interview, in response to a question about a letter he wrote to

US President George W Bush this week. Bush said the lengthy letter from Ahmadinejad failed to answer international demands that Iran stop work which could be used to make nuclear arms.

MNA/Reuters



China selects top ten archaeological discoveries in 2005

BEIJING, 11 May— The discovery of a 7,000-year-old altar and the

unearthing of an entire village buried 2,000 years ago are among China's top 10 archaeological finds in 2005.

The altar, the earliest sacrificial site in China, was discovered at the Gaomiao site in central China's Hunan Province.

And the village was excavated in Henan Province in the old course of the Yellow River, the second longest waterway in China.

MNA/Xinhua

A clerk grabs a pack of cigarettes for a customer. More than 80 million American adults are smokers, obese or both and face an increased risk of poor health and an early death, researchers said on 11 May, 2006.—INTERNET

Indonesia stresses mutually beneficial trade with China

JAKARTA, 11 May — The Indonesian Government said it is ready to enhance trade and investment cooperation with China to implement the strategic partnership signed last year, stressing that the cooperation must be mutually beneficial.

Trade Minister Mari Elka Pangestu said the time has come for both

countries to substantiate the strategic partnership in trade and investment into concrete actions.

"I think we are now at the stage that we must start implementing (the strategic partnership). On the trade fronts, we have been given a target by our leaders," she said in a seminar on Sino-Indonesian relations here.

"The strategic trade target is to triple trade at the level of 2005 to 30 billion US dollars by 2010 and of course from our perspective, given what happened in 2005, we really would like to see it mutually beneficial," said the minister.

Last year, Indonesia for the first time ever saw a deficit in its non-oil trade with China, although it remained to enjoy a surplus in overall trade.

In achieving the tripling of bilateral trade volume, Pangestu said Indonesia prefers to have a balanced outcome.

"I mean it would not be a good outcome if it was 20 billion dollars Chinese import and 10 billion Indonesian export, for instance," she said. But Pangestu underlined that her government would maintain cooperative ways in enhancing trade and investment cooperation with China.

MNA/Xinhua



A dog plays a chute board at Electronic Entertainment Expo (E3) opened in Los Angeles, on 10 May, 2006.—INTERNET

FM says India, Thailand at heart of Belgian Asia policy

BRUSSELS, 11 May—India and Thailand have been put at the heart of Belgium's foreign policy in Asia, according to a policy document of Foreign Minister Karel De Gucht.

De Gucht's document on Asia has received the backing of the federal government, reported VRT news on Tuesday. The new policy document will bring with it a more structured approach to Belgium's dealing with two of its increasingly important trading partners, said VRT news. The Foreign Minister expects that "diversified and intelligent policies" will not only make it easier for Belgian business to invest in Asia but also attract Asian investors to Belgium.

De Gucht intends to invest in both the Belgian diplomatic presence in Asia and promoting Belgium in the continent's emerging economies.

Marketing Belgium as a visible brand in Asia is of the essence of his policy, De Gucht was quoted as saying.

He said more efforts

need to be made to offer financial support to Belgian exporters, as well as to help Asian firms find strategic partners in Belgium.

Belgian universities will be called on to attract more Asian students, while Belgian students will also be encouraged to take a greater interest in Asia, said VRT news.

MNA/Xinhua

Napolitano elected Italy's new president

ROME, 11 May — Giorgio Napolitano, an Italian Senator, was elected as Italy's 11th postwar president on Wednesday.

The 80-year-old senator won 543 votes, well above the minimum 505-vote mark, during the fourth round by more than 1,000 voters. The centre-left president-elect is to succeed President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, 85, whose seven-year mandate expires on 18 May. Napolitano, a former

interior minister and House speaker, is the second-oldest president to take office after Sandro Pertini, who was elected in 1978 at the age of 82. The first three rounds of voting had failed, in which a two-thirds majority was required to decide the winner. Italy's outgoing premier Silvio Berlusconi refused to give his backing for Napolitano, arguing that his past as a member of the Italian Communist

Party (PCI) made him an "unacceptable" candidate.

Berlusconi raised the same objection to the centre-left's first candidate, the former premier and chairman of the Democratic Left party Massimo D'Alema.

The Democratic Left, of which Napolitano is also a member, is the largest party in Premier-elect Romano Prodi's coalition and the main heir to the PCI. — MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

Film crew criticized for harming environment

BEIJING, 11 May—The crew of China's most expensive movie, "The Promise" by Oscar-nominated director Chen Kaige, has been criticized for damaging the environment in a beautiful county called Shangri-la while filming.

The official China Daily, Xinhua news agency and other Chinese newspapers carried reports or editorials on Thursday criticizing the crew for leaving rubbish around the Bigu Lake in the southwestern province of Yunnan.

"There is no doubt that film crews are to blame

for their irresponsible actions," the English-language China Daily said in an editorial.

"The big names of film stars or directors should never be an excuse for showing no regard for relevant rules that protect the environment or for taking no responsibility for what they do," the newspaper said.

But producer and director Chen Kaige's wife, Chen Hong, rejected the charges, saying the crew had left "enough money" for the local government to deal with the aftermath, the Beijing Morning News said.

Earlier this week, Vice-Minister of Construction Qiu Baoxing was quoted as telling a forum that the film crew had abandoned a reinforced concrete structure on the lake's shore.—Internet

A chimp sips cooling beverage in an air-conditioned room at a wild animal park in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province on 10 May, 2006. As temperatures soar, zoo keepers endeavour to keep the animals cool. INTERNET



Locals perform during the test show of "Impression Lijiang" at the foot of the Jade Dragon Mountain in Lijiang, an ancient town in southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 10 May, 2006.—INTERNET

Ancient city ruins, tombs found on Sino-N Korean border

CHANGCHUN, 11 May — Chinese archaeologists have discovered ruins of an ancient city that are believed to date back to the Han Dynasty (202 BC-AD 220) and legions of tombs of the ancient Koguryo kingdom in a major reservoir on the border shared by China and North Korea.

The ruins were spotted during repair work on the Yunfeng Reservoir

situated in the outlying mountainous regions near the Sino-North Korea border, said Zhang Fuyou, Chairman of the Mount Changbai Cultural Society of Jilin Province in northeast China.

As a leader of a three-member research team, Zhang has just concluded a month-long inspection tour of the reservoir, also a tributary of the Yalu

River flowing along the Sino-North Korea border and built in the 1950s. The water level in the reservoir was lowered by a depth of 41.13 metres to facilitate the repairing efforts.

The ancient city ruins, now covered by thick mud, are in a square formation and have a city wall 1.5 metres tall and four metres wide. There is also evidence of a moat around the city wall.

The 180-metre-long western side and a six-metre-wide gate on the western side are still visible, along with the 220-metre-long northern side. The eastern side was buried by housing foundations built in later years and the southern side was destroyed by water from a local river.

A dozen tombs were also found inside the city ruins and in an area to the north.

MNA/Xinhua

Putin says WTO entry must be in Russia's interest

Moscow, 11 May — President Vladimir Putin, commenting on Russia's stalled bid to become a WTO member, said on Wednesday that his country should join the global trade body only if it protects Russian economic interests.

Putin, who said in March that US negotiators were creating artificial obstacles to Russian entry, said his country's entry talks "must not become the instrument of trade on questions which have nothing to do with this organization".

Russia should join the World Trade Organization "only on the conditions that take into account the economic interests of Russia", Putin said at his annual keynote address to the nation.

Russia, a major energy producer that has seen its

trade weight boom amid soaring world oil prices, is the biggest power still outside the currently 149-member WTO, which acts as a forum for international negotiations and a trade watchdog.

Moscow has been negotiating membership for over a decade.

Striking a trade deal with the United States is key to Russia's entry but talks with Washington have been stalled for months over violations of intellectual property rights and access to Russian financial markets.

While Putin said Russia must fight video, music and software piracy, he made no reference to opening up financial markets.

Putin alarmed financial markets last December when he said the activity of branches of foreign banks working in Russia must be banned, a remark seen by the business community as hostile.

"A necessary condition for developing new technology is more reliable protection of intellectual property. We must defend copyright inside the country. That is our

obligation to our foreign partners," Putin said.

"We must also ensure protection of intellectual property rights of our own producers."

Putin has said it is one of his top economic priorities to bring Russia into the Geneva-based body, a move that would ensure its exports would not face barriers in key markets.

MNA/Reuters

Indonesia bans purchase of "Boeing 737-200s"

JAKARTA, 11 May — The Indonesian Government said Wednesday it banned local airlines from purchasing passenger plane Boeing 737-200s due to many serious accidents involving the type of aircraft.

"The government no longer permits airlines to import that kind of plane, and all kinds of planes whose flight cycles have reached 50,000 or have attained the age of 32 years," Transportation Minister Hatta Radjasa was quoted by the Detikcom news website as saying.

The ministers said he has ordered thorough investigation on all Boeing 737-200s operated by local airlines. The latest accident involving a Boeing 737-200s occurred last year when the Mandala Airline plane crashed only minutes after taking-off from the Polonia Airport in North Sumatra. The accident killed at least 110 passengers and some people on the ground. — MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia, Iran to build \$3b oil refinery

JAKARTA, 11 May — Indonesia's state-run oil firm Pertamina and the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) will build a 3-billion-US dollars oil refinery with production capacity of 300,000 barrels per day, an executive said Wednesday.

"We have been looking for the best location. It will probably

be in the eastern coast of Java," Pertamina President Ari Soemarno told reporters here.

He made the remarks after witnessing the signing of the memorandum of understanding on energy cooperation between Indonesia and Iran at the state palace, in the presence of Indonesian President Susilo Bambang

Yudhoyono and his Iranian counterpart Mahmoud Ahmedinejad, who is in Jakarta for a four-day visit.

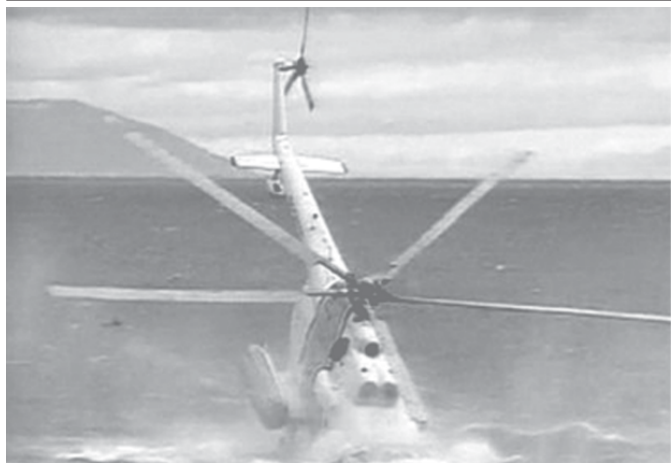
The refinery will exclusively produce fuel from crude oil imported from Iran, he said.

Ari said he hoped Indonesia would be given a wider access to manage Iran's oil blocks.

MNA/Xinhua

Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez uses a laser light to point at a map during a speech at the Institute for Peace in Vienna, on 11 May, 2006. Chavez is in Vienna to participate in the European Union, Latin American and Caribbean Summit.

INTERNET



A Russian Mi-14 helicopter crashes into the Sea of Okhotsk during rescue exercises near the Russian island of Sakhalin, Far East, on 11 May, 2006 in this photo made from television. INTERNET

Venezuelan Ambassador says ties with Italy strengthening

CARACAS, 11 May — Venezuela's relations with Italy has strengthened in various fields, especially in trade, Venezuela's Ambassador to Italy said on Tuesday.

Speaking to the official Bolivarian News Agency, Rodrigo Chavez said trade volume between the two countries now stood at 700 to 900 million US dollars a year, up from around 300 million dollars in 2002. — MNA/Xinhua

Belgium's second largest seaport expanded

BRUSSELS, 11 May — A new terminal has been put into service in the out port of Zeebrugge, Belgium's second largest seaport. A first container ship docked at the terminal on Tuesday, VRT news reported.

The new terminal is crucial for the growth of the port of Zeebrugge, just north of Brugge. The President of the Zeebrugge Port Authority, Joachim Coens, says that more is needed to ensure that Zeebrugge can expand further.

"Better road, rail and inland waterway links are urgently needed," Coens was quoted as saying. The harbour will soon process 1 million extra containers each year. In 2005, 1.2 million containers passed through the port of Zeebrugge. The new terminal in the out port should allow this figure to grow by a further 1 million in the next three years. — MNA/Xinhua

Israel thwarts attempt to smuggle explosives into Gaza

JERUSALEM, 11 May — The Israel Navy has recently foiled a Palestinian attempt to smuggle at least 550 kilos of explosives into the Gaza Strip, the Ha'aretz daily reported on Tuesday.

Citing military information which was just released on Tuesday, the report said that the attempt was thwarted on 3 May,

Israel's Independence Day.

Patrolling naval troops south of Ashdod found three suspicious Palestinian fishing boats, which fled after throwing a number of bags into the sea. In an inspection of the area on Sunday, Navy divers brought 11 bags from the water, which contained 550 kilos of

standard explosive devices.

Navy sources believe that the explosives were smuggled in from Egypt.

"The cargo was thrown into the sea," a military spokesman was quoted as saying, "Israeli naval divers searched and retrieved 550 kilos of military grade TNT."

MNA/Xinhua



Uruguayan environmentalist Richard Tesore washes a penguin with fresh water and soap to remove oil from its feathers in Piriapolis, near the seaside resort of Punta del Este on 11 May, 2006. At least 150 penguins were found on several Uruguayan beaches covered with oil. Tesore has been taking care of 35 of them but 10 of those 35 have died in the last number of days. — INTERNET

World Hypertension Day, 2006

Professor Dr Daw Khin May San

Today, Saturday, the 13th of May, 2006, is World Hypertension Day which is a special day designated by the World Hypertension League which was formed in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1984. Hypertension is by far the largest risk factor for heart disease, stroke and kidney diseases. The objective of celebrating the World Hypertension Day is to communicate to the public the importance of hypertension and its serious medical complications and to provide information on prevention, detection and treatment. Approximately, 1.5 billion (one fourth of the adults) of the world's population, is hypertensive. Only half of them know they have hypertension and again, only half of these hypertensives are adequately treated. Over 50% of the population above 50 years of age, have high blood pressure. In Myanmar, according to nationwide surveys, the prevalence of hypertension is approximately 20% and it affects men and women in all socio-economic groups. There is no difference in prevalence among the urban and rural population.

WHD is celebrated once a year all over the world. This day is being celebrated for the second time in Myanmar this year. The special message to the public for the year 2006, is to identify hypertensive individuals and "to treat to goal".

Hypertension, if untreated, can affect the "target organs" and lead to complications like stroke, heart attack and kidney failure and sudden death. Importantly, there may not be any warning symptoms, hence the term "silent killer". Hypertension may occur without any detectable underlying cause (primary) or may be (secondary) to an underlying disease condition (secondary). The majority of the patients have primary hypertension and only 10-15% has a secondary cause which in Myanmar, is mostly due to kidney disease (diabetic nephropathy, glomerulonephritis). The relationship between hypertension and the kidneys can be vice versa.

It is very important to know whether you have hypertension or not.

Firstly, you need to know your "blood pressure goal". According to the many guidelines of renowned cardiac societies, a BP of less than or equal to 120/80 mmHg is very good. You may have high blood

pressure if it is more than

- * 140/90 (when measured in a clinic)
- * 135/85 (when measured at home)
- * 130/80 (if you have diabetes or kidney disease)

Secondly, you need to know your own blood pressure. Therefore have it checked by at least once a year by a doctor or a health professional, especially if you are 40 years in age or above.

Thirdly, if you have been diagnosed to be hypertensive, follow these instructions.

Follow a healthy lifestyle to lower high blood pressure.

- Be physically active. Try walking, biking or swimming for 30 to 60 minutes on most days. Inactive individuals can lower their blood pressure and lose weight by increasing their physical activity.
- Eat a lot of fresh fruits and vegetables, low fat dairy and foods low in fat. Avoid fastfoods.
- Eat less salt in your diet. If you are over 50 years of age, high blood pressure may be caused or worsened by excessive salt in the diet. Reducing sodium intake will usually reduce blood pressure in persons who have hypertension. Avoid salty foods and do not add salt to food at the table. Significant decrease in BP by 5-10 mmHg can be achieved by decreasing sodium in the diet.
- If you drink, do not have more than two alcoholic drinks each day. One drink is the equivalent of 12 oz of 5% beer, 5 oz of 12% wine or 1 oz of 40% spirits. Excessive intake of alcohol both increases blood pressure and causes hypertension. Women are more sensitive to the adverse effects of alcohol. A reduction in alcohol consumption can also assist with weight reduction.
- Keep your body weight within a healthy range. Losing 4.5 kg can lower your blood pressure, even without the help of medications.
- Quit smoking. Smoking does not increase your blood pressure but markedly increases the risk of heart disease in hypertensives and can reduce the effectiveness of blood pressure lowering medication.
- Avoid stressful situations. You may be able to reduce your blood pressure.

Lifestyle change can be as effective as drugs in some cases.

- * You should also get checked for diabetes and high cholesterol. Most people who have high blood pressure also have these other risks for heart disease and stroke.
- * Ask your doctor to test your kidney function through a blood and urine test. Kidney problems can cause high blood pressure.
- * Control your high blood pressure by following a healthy lifestyle, take medications regularly as instructed by your physician. Medicines will not work if you do not take them regularly.
- * Every drug can have side effects and you need to report them to your doctor.
- * Monitor your blood pressure regularly.
- * Sudden increases in BP, termed as hypertensive urgencies and emergencies, may arise in a patient with hypertension. These conditions can cause serious complications to develop suddenly and therefore they need to be diagnosed and treated immediately. Do not delay to see your doctor when you become suddenly unwell.

Medications can help. Many drugs that lower blood pressure also prevent heart attacks and strokes. Lowering the blood pressure by 1 mmHg can result in 1% decrease in stroke.

The drugs known to prevent heart attacks and strokes include:

- * Diuretics (water pills)
- * Beta blockers
- * Angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (ACE inhibitors)
- * Angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs)
- * Calcium channel blockers

On average all of these medications reduce blood pressure and are shown to improve the quality of life, but some people have better results with one drug than another and some need more than one drug. The drugs have different costs and different side effects and treatment should be individualized and therefore, you should seek professional advice to control high blood pressure.

There are other important cardiovascular risk factors which are commonly found together with high blood pressure. These are smoking, high cholesterol, diabetes, being overweight and physical inactivity. In Myanmar, the prevalence of smoking is approximately 20% (CVD Project), with no difference between the urban and rural areas but with a high male preponderance. High cholesterol levels are detected in about 26% (Diabetes Project); 8-12% of the adult population is diabetic (CVD & Diabetes Project); 18% is overweight (CVD Project). In order to prevent cardiovascular diseases, all the above risk factors need to be controlled simultaneously.

In summary, since hypertension can be prevented and controlled, let us detect hypertension in its early stage and "treat to goal".

On average all of the medications reduce blood pressure and are shown to improve the quality of life, but some people have better results with one drug than another and some need more than one drug. The drugs have different costs and different side effects and treatment should be individualized and therefore, you should seek professional advice to control high blood pressure.



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivers an address at a ceremony to mark the completion of the establishment of self-reliant libraries in Bago Division. — MNA

All villages in Bago Division facilitated with self-reliant libraries

(from page 1)

As today is knowledge age, he said, all the people use technologies in production, education and health sectors. If Myanmar cannot stand shoulder to shoulder with other nations in the knowledge age, it will suffer losses and miss opportunities. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe had given guidance that Myanmar must be a constant learning society. At present, youth in the nation have access to education at international level. However, rural people, 70 per cent of the nation's population have the least opportunity to gain knowledge. Therefore, the plan was laid down to open self-reliant village libraries. Up to 18 April, self-reliant libraries have been opened in 53,554 villages out of 61,949 villages in the entire nation. In Bago Division, all the 6,602 villages have been equipped with self-reliant libraries. Thus, Myanmar can be proud to be the first-ever nation in the world

where each village has a library. Therefore, all are to take pride in discharging the national duty with the strengths of the State, local people and wellwishers. So far, wellwishers had donated various kinds of books worth K 2 million, 1,220 sets of TVs and radio, K 71.3 million at 13 book donation ceremonies.

The minister urged all to maintain the libraries for their durability, organize rural people to use the library and nurture skilled librarians. In conclusion, the minister called on local authorities, library committees, USDA members and staff of the Ministry of Information to develop the libraries.

Afterwards, the commander accepted K 1 million donated by Southern Command Headquarters; K 1.4 million by wellwishers from Toungoo District; K 3.1 million by people of Bago District; and K 1.4 million by people from Pyay District.

The minister also accepted K 500,000 each by Division MCWA, WAO, USDA, and WVO; K 300,000 by Bago Division Fisheries Department, K 1.5 million by U Khin Thuang of Oktha Kyaw

Co of Bago; K 1.8 million by U Aung Kyi of Shwe Khayar Soft Drinks Industry; and K 100,000 by Daw Myint Myint Thuang of Shwe Myitta Rice Mill of Zigon.

Departmental officials presented TV and radio sets and batteries for the libraries to Director-General U Chit Naing of Information and Public Relations Department. Deputy Director U Than Tun of IPRD accepted furniture and books.

Director-General U Chit Naing presented first, second and third prizes to Bago, Toungoo and Thayawady Townships respectively for their performance in opening self-reliant libraries.

Head of Bago Division IPRD U Thant Zin and Head of Bago Division (West) IPRD U Sein Toe presented a commemorative pennant to Director-General U Chit Naing.

The commander, the minister and guests viewed books, materials, and documentary photos on opening of self-reliant village libraries in Bago Division.

Today's donations for self-reliant village libraries amounted to 237 TV sets, 615 radios, 442 batteries, K 6.3 million for buildings, 13,110 books and periodicals worth K 5,590,000 and K 12.4 million, totalling K 57,899,000.

Also present on the occasion were wife of the commander Chairperson of Bago Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Sao Han Khun Hsam, Deputy Commander Col Win Myint and officials.

MNA

As today is knowledge age, all the people use technologies in production, education and health sectors. If Myanmar cannot stand shoulder to shoulder with other nations in the knowledge age, it will suffer losses and miss opportunities.



Deputy Director-General Dr Tin Nyunt of Health Department reads out the message of Health Minister. — MNA

MNA marks International Day of Nurses

YANGON, 12 May — Myanmar Nurses Association celebrated the International Day of Nurses for 2006 at the Institute of Nursing here today.

Deputy Director-General of the Health Department Dr Tin Nyunt read out the message of Health Minister Dr Kyaw Myint.

At the ceremony to mark the International Day of Nurses, wellwishers also donated cash to Myanmar Nurses Association and Vice-President of MNA Dr U Min Tha Shein accepted the donation.

MNA

Notice to Mariner's announced

YANGON, 12 May — Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise and Total Myanmar Oil Company are jointly exploring GIAC (Geodynamics of India Asia Collision). A geological survey will be

conducted at Block No 1 on offshore Rakhine and Block No 2 on offshore Mottama from 15 and 30 May.

A Notice to Mariner's has been announced that no

vessels small and large will have to pass and lay at anchor in the above mentioned areas so that any delays may not be faced during the survey work.

MNA

Arrivals of Korean tourists to increase

YANGON, 12 May — Korean tourists will visit Myanmar by a chartered flight two times a week from May to October.

An official of Myanmar Global Service Co which organized the

Korean tours to Myanmar said the tour corporation planned to extend its tour operations as Koreans are more interested in Myanmar.

According to Myanmar Global Service

Co, a direct flight from the Republic of Korea to Myanmar saves six hours than a transit flight.

Among the tourist attractions in Myanmar, Bagan caught the attention of Koreans. — NLM

Organization ensures success, success strengthens organization



Bago Division USDA Patron Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko meets USDA members of Bago Division in Toungoo. — MNA

YANGON, 12 May — Two high level officials met with members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association in Toungoo, Bago Division, on 11 May.

At the meeting, member of the USDA Central Panel of Patrons Patron of Bago Division USDA Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko and USDA Secretariat member Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan focused their discussions on regional development.

In his discussions, the minister said that all the members should take pride in their association as the one serving the historic task and the national duty. With organization as the main strength, the members are duty bound to successfully serve the national interest. Organization ensures success and success

strengthens organization, a task which must be done with theoretical and practical efforts and personal relationships.

About 22 million or half the nation's population of over 54 million are USDA members, who are in the process of improving their association from quantity to quality. They will have to nurture themselves to become organizers and nation builders. Organizational task involves self motivation, camaraderie consolidation and public organization. The members will have to enhance their qualifications first and then their comrades' before developing their association and taking part in the nation-building task.

Apart from keeping in the fore Our Three Main National Causes, implementing the 12 State's objectives, and adhering to the oath and the codes of conduct, the members should give priority to the five

rural development project, rural libraries and rural power supply. Constant development of individual qualification is required for the success of association's task.

Next, the commander said that the association members should take part in the anti-terrorist campaign in addition to successfully realizing the objectives. The territory, the population, the government and the sovereignty are the requirements of a nation to stand firm as an independent state in the world. Our Three Main National Causes is a policy always to be kept in the fore as it is essential for national perpetuation. The members' tasks involve the vitalization of Union Spirit and patriotism among the people. They will have to pay attention to regional development and national security.

MNA

Prizes presented to winners in Second Mayor's Cup Tennis Tournament

YANGON, 12 May — The prize presentation ceremony of the Second Mayor's Cup Tennis Tournament, organized by Myanmar Tennis Federation, was held at Theinbyu Tennis Plaza on Theinbyu Road, here, this evening.

Officials presented prizes to winners in the U-12 and U-14 girls' single events.

MTF President U Zaw Zaw also gave prizes to winners in the U-10, U-12, and U-14 boys' single events. He also presented first and second prizes to Aik Kyauk and Tin Myo Wai in the U-14 boys' selected player event.

In the B class men's team event, Director-General U Thuang Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Departments awarded the first prize to Winner (A), the second prize to YCDC and joint-third prize to Tacco (A) and Tacco (B) teams.

MTF Patron Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin

presented prizes to Forestry (A) team that stood first in the men's A class team event and YCDC, second.

Executive of the

federation Dr Aung Kyaw Hsan donated a hand-made digital score board to President U Zaw Zaw.

MNA



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin presents championship trophy to Forestry (A) Team in Second Mayor's Cup Tennis Tournament.

MNA

Commander visits physic nut farm in Bilin

YANGON, 12 May— Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing inspected physic nut farm in Bilin Township on 7 May.

Township Chairman U Kyaw Lwin reported on progress of growing physic nut plants. The

commander elaborated on the growing of physic nut.

Next, he inspected the growing of physic nut plants by departmental officials and members of social organizations.

So far, Bilin Township has put 912.40 acres under the crop.

The commander attended the sixth

ordination ceremony of local regiment at the monastery at the foot of Kusinaron Hill in the township.

Abbot Sayadaw Bhaddanta Acinta delivered a sermon. The commander, officials and wellwishers offered alms to members of the Sangha.

MNA

Temporary closure of KV grip extended

YANGON, 12 May— The Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems today announced that the waterway of the Hlaing River between Shwehlaygyi in Hmawby and Htantabin in

Htantabin Township is due to be closed from 6 am until 6 pm daily from 8 to 12 May while the Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise is laying 230 KV grip (Htantabin).

However, the Enterprise faced delay

owing to the heavy rain and strong wind, and so the work has not been completed yet. The laying of the 230 KV grip (Htantabin) will go on and the waterway will be closed from 6 am to 6 pm daily from 13 to 15 May.—MNA

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

Cash and books donated to libraries in Waingmaw



Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint presents cash donations and publications to Khatcho Village self-reliant library in Waingmaw Township, Myitkyina. — MNA

YANGON, 12 May — The painting, cartoon, poster, computer arts and articles competitions to mark the 9th International Day for Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking took place at Government Computer College in Myitkyina on 9 May, attended by Kachin State Peace and Development Council Chairman Northern Command Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein and military officers, Kachin State PDC Secretary Lt-Col Maung Myo and members, Myitkyina district and township PDC chairmen and departmental heads.

After the competition, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein donated K 500,000 needed for Myitkyina Computer College to buy teaching aids and cordially greeted the students learning at the college.

Commander inspects physic nut cultivation in Lashio Station

NAY PYI TAW, 12 May — Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing on 8 May inspected the command's model farm of physic nut plants. Before his inspection, the commander sowed the seeds of physic nut in the farm in Lashio.

He also inspected the command's lychee, physic nut and *thitsein* plantations and attended to the needs.

Afterwards, he went to the construction of the building for the Basic Education High School in Lashio Station to assist in the construction tasks.

During his tour, he also inspected the local battalion's research paddy cultivation of Hsinshweli and Shweli-1 species of high yield. — MNA

200 feared dead in ...

(from page 16)

spokeswoman Okon Umoh said many of the bodies had fallen into the water.

The blast occurred after the pipeline ruptured and villagers flocked to the conduit to scoop up fuel that was gushing out.

Nigeria is Africa's leading oil producer, the world's seventh-biggest exporter and fifth-biggest source of US oil imports.

In September 2004, an oil pipeline exploded near Lagos as thieves tried to siphon oil from it, with up to 50 people perishing in the flames. A 1998 pipeline blast killed more than 1,000 people in southern Nigeria.

Internet

Next, the commander, the deputy minister attended the ceremony to donate books to the self-reliant Bawapiti Library held at Khatcho Village in Waingmaw Township.

Afterwards, the commander and the deputy minister made speeches. The donation ceremony continued and 1,000 books by deputy minister, K 500,000 by the commander, K 100,000 by families of Ministry of Information and Ministry of Home Affairs from Waingmaw Township, K 150,000 by Waingmaw Bus lines, K 100,000 each by Hkitmyatwon Co, Khitcho village rice millers association, fuel oil entrepreneurs and rice millers and K 20,000 by village PDC chairman, K 22,000 by local battalion commander, K 20,000 each by four wellwishers and K 10,000 each by 11 other wellwishers, altogether K 1.36 million were donated to the library through the village PDC chairman.

Afterwards, the commander, the deputy minister and party attended the books-donation ceremony held at Wah Shaung Village in Waingmaw Township and the commander and the deputy minister made speeches. Next, the deputy minister donated 300 books and the commander K 100,000 to the library.

Later, the commander, the deputy minister and party inspected the upgrading tasks of Waingmaw road section undertaken by Kachin Special Region-2 and Jadelin Myanmar Co and gave necessary instructions. For road construction, the commander and the deputy minister donated K 300,000 each. — MNA

Mandalay Division celebrates...

(from page 16)

of the Red Cross, donors and guests.

First, the commander spoke on the occasion. Next, the commander and wife presented cash awards to those who won medals for outstanding performance in social field. Police Col Aung Htut accepted K 200,000 donated by Mandalay Division PDC; K 100,000 by MCDC; K 670,000 by seven districts of Mandalay District; K 200,000 by U Soe Win Aung of Seinpwint Enterprise Co; K 100,000 each by U Than Htwe, U Aung Win + Dr Kyi Kyi Win, U Thein Dan and Shwepyitha Gold Mining Co totaling 1.6 million.

Mandalay Division Red Cross Supervisory Committee Chairman Dr Khin Maung Tun accepted 50 permanent membership applications each from Division Police Force, Office of Division Education Officer and Division Fire Brigade.

After the ceremony, the commander and party viewed documentary photos showing activities of Mandalay Division Red Cross Society. — MNA

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR District NEWS

Development tasks inspected in Myitkyina

MYITKYINA, 12 May — Executive Officer U Aye Swe of Myitkyina Township Development Affairs Committee and Senior Engineer U Thein Myint made inspection on completion of 5-mile long Padaukmyaing-Yuzanamyang village-to-village gravel road, one mile long Tanphare-Myitson tarred road, Shwe-aik bridge, and sinking 3.5 feet diameter and 45 feet in depth wells in 10 villages on 20 April, and attended to the needs.

KYEMON

Plan under way to grow physic nut saplings in Taungtha DAC

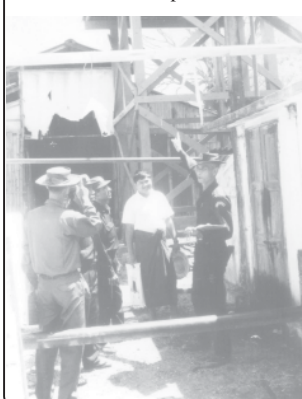
TAUNGTHA, 12 May — Taungtha Township Development Affairs Committee is nurturing 100,000 physic nut saplings at its nursery. Deputy Director U Lay Lwin of Myingyan Township Development Affairs Committee inspected thriving physic nut saplings on 27 April. Arrangements are being made to put the physic nut saplings on either side of the village road and 10 acres of land of Taungtha Township DAC in the rainy season. — KYEMON



Executive Officer U Kyin Aye of Taungtha Township Development Affairs Committee reports on growing of physic nut saplings at the nursery.

Fire prevention measures inspected

TWANTAY, 12 May — Executive Officer U Mya Lin of Twantay Township Development Affairs Committee, the Head of Twantay Township Fire Services Department and members, together with the in-charge of Twantay Myoma market and staff inspected the 1,600-gallon-capacity water tank, the 800-gallon-capacity underground water tank and water taps installed at the busy places of the Myoma market of Twantay Township Development Affairs Committee on 9 April. — KYEMON



Officials of Twantay Development Affairs Committee view prevention measures against fire at Myoma Market in Twantay.

Japan's space agency to offer free ride for private satellites

TOKYO, 12 May — Privately developed small satellites in Japan may be launched by the H-2A rocket free of charge through its space agency from fiscal 2008, local media said Thursday.

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) will launch one or more private satellites, weighing one to 50 kilograms, along with its own larger satellites at least once a year, the agency said Wednesday.

The programme is designed to "promote research activities that will lead to the expansion of the use of space and promote satellite development for the purpose of educating people studying in the field", the *Yomiuri Shimbun* newspaper reported.

The first private satellites will be

launched with JAXA's gases observing satellite (GOSAT) in fiscal 2008. JAXA starts receiving applications for the first free launches from 11 May to 31 August.

The expense to launch a one-kilogramme private satellite can run from three million yen (27,000 US dollars) to four million yen (36,000 dollars), the paper cited experts as saying.

The free ride offer is expected to encourage students in the aerospace field.

MNA/Xinhua



Workers walk past huge grain depots in Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province, on 12 May, 2006. China's domestic corn prices jumped this week due to a shortage in a northern province.

INTERNET

Nigeria draws roadmap to the moon

ABUJA, 12 May — The Nigerian Government on Wednesday announced that it had drawn up a master plan through which the first Nigerian would "land on the moon by 2030".

Giving details of the plan, which was approved at Wednesday's meeting of the Federal Executive Council (FEC), Science and Technology Minister Prof Turner Isuon said a Cabinet committee has been established for the purpose.

At a news briefing after the FEC meeting, Isuon told reporters that members of the council committee include the Ministers of Science and Technology, FCT, Education, Communications and the Minister of State for finance.

He said the committee "is to draw up the plan and budget for the actualization of the presidential initiative is also empowered to invite Nigerians in the diaspora who are specialists in space science."

The minister said within the next 25 years,

Nigeria would aspire to produce and launch a satellite in the country and also be able to help others achieve a similar goal.

He added that the most populous African country would not go solo on the search for a place in space, adding that through its National Space Research and Development Agency, the federal government hopes to go into partnerships with other nations that were ahead in space.

"As we speak, 55 young engineers are undergoing training on satellite technology in China," he said, adding that the government was planning to establish the needed institutions and infrastructure for the programme.

"There will be a year by year plan, and capacity would be developed," he said, noting that by the end of 2007, between 60 and 70 satellite engineers would have been fully trained and ready for the task ahead.--MNA/Xinhua



A salesperson displays a Swiss Ulysse Nardin wristwatch in Beijing Xidan Department Store on 11 May, 2006.—INTERNET

China releases old diplomatic files to public

BEIJING, 12 May — The Chinese Foreign Ministry on Wednesday declassified its diplomatic files from between 1956 and 1960 containing a total of 25,651 items.

The files contain records of China's major diplomatic events during the five-year period, including its forging diplomatic links with 14 Asian, African and Latin American countries, the former Soviet Union's withdrawal of its experts working in China and the Sino-US ambassadorial talks.

The files include recorded conversations, telegrams and documents signed by late Chinese leaders Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai.

The Archives Bureau is open to the public during the week from 8:00-11:30 am and 1:00-4:30 pm. People interested in the files, including Chi-

nese citizens and organizations and individuals from overseas can read the files with valid identity cards and documents.

MNA/Xinhua

2,000 passengers stranded in C Philippines

MANILA, 12 May — Coast Guard officials on Thursday barred seacraft in Bicol region and Samar provinces in central Philippines from venturing into rough waters due to tropical storm "Caloy", stranding over 2,000 passengers, local media reported.

According to the weather bureau, "Caloy" was estimated at 330 kilometres east southeast of Guiuan, Eastern Samar, at 2 am on Thursday, with maximum sustained winds of 85 kilometres per hour near the centre, and gustiness of up to 100 kilometres per hour, GMA TV reported.

State weather forecasters said the weather disturbance has gained strength, prompting them to hoist Public Storm Signal No 2 over the central Philippines of Catanduanes, Albay, Sorsogon, Ticao Island and the Samar provinces.

Signal No 1 was in effect over

Camarines Sur, Burias Island, Masbate, Leyte provinces, Biliran Island, Surigao provinces, Siargao and Dinagat Islands.

Affected provinces were warned against possible floods and landslides with the increased rainfall and strong winds, the weather bureau said.

"Caloy" would be the first storm to hit the Philippines this year.

An average of 19 tropical storms and typhoons strike Philippine soil every year, killing hundreds of people through floods, landslides and other hazards induced by strong winds and heavy rain.

MNA/Xinhua



Some 100 participants took part in an entirely new sort of "Zhajiang noodle" (noodle served with fried bean sauces) competition held in north Beijing's Zhongguancun, on 10 May, 2006.—INTERNET

Three suspected bird flu patients die in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 12 May — Three suspected bird flu patients have died in Indonesia's North Sumatra Province during the past week, all were the residents of a same village in Karo Regency, a newspaper reported Thursday.

The province's Bird Flu Prevention Team also announced three other suspected bird flu patients are currently being treated at Adam Malik Hospital in the provincial capital of Medan, said *The Jakarta Post*.

The three dead victims reportedly had eaten chicken together, and several days later they experienced breathing problems and high fever.

MNA/Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENTS

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MV ZHE HAI 316 VOYNO (061)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ZHE HAI 316 VOY NO (061) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.5.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

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

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

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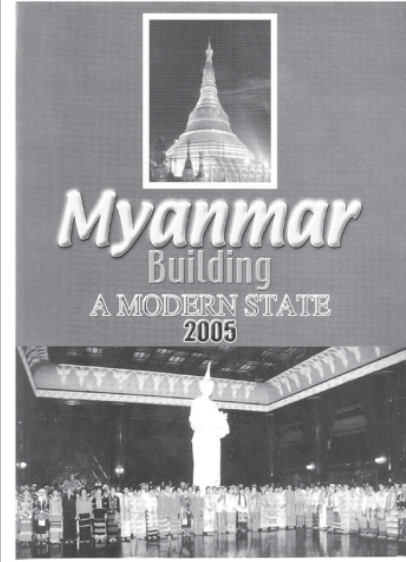
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

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ရိုက်ပိတ်တင်ဒါကြော်ငြာ
ပို့ဆောင်ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
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လုပ်ငန်းအမည် ။ Mild Steel Plates & Mild Steel Angles
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Mild Steel Plates & Mild Steel Angles များဝယ်ယူရန်
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ပြည်တွင်းရေးကြောင်းပို့ဆောင်ရေး

Lake Victoria water level rises slightly

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 11 May— The water level on Lake Victoria has risen by 30 centimetres at the South Port of Mwanza, according to reports reaching here on Tuesday. The rise of water level was reported to a fact-finding commission from the East African Legislative Assembly, the

lawmaking organ of the East African Community that consists of member countries of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Dickson Rutagemwa, chief of the Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project, attributed the rise of water level to the ongoing rainfalls in and around the lake area.

Burundi upgrades airport to boost tourism trade

BUJUMBURA, 11 May— Burundi has boosted security at its airport and will operate 24 hours a day in a bid to boost tourism and trade as the Central African nation tastes peace after 12 years of civil war. Most international airlines suspended flights to Burundi after war broke out in 1993. As of 19 May, the airport, located on the outskirts of the capital Bujumbura, will operate 24 hours a day, President Pierre Nkurunziza said during a tour there late on

Monday. "I saw myself that there are improvements with security equipment. This sufficiently proves that now Bujumbura's International Airport meets international standards for air transport," Nkurunziza said. The airport has added cameras and luggage screening equipment, four new fire trucks and an ambulance, at a cost of one million US dollars. Airport officials said they are continuing work to boost the number of flights

the airport can handle. "I hope that all international airlines which had stopped their flights to Bujumbura will now resume them," Nkurunziza said. Only two international airlines, Kenya Airways and state-owned Ethiopian Airlines, operate regular commercial flights to Bujumbura, in addition to some air cargo firms carrying goods. Burundi wants to boost its economy by encouraging foreign investment.

A general reduction of water feeding into the world's second largest fresh-water lake and its basin has led to a decline of water level on Lake Victoria by 2.3 metres between 1998 and 2006. Rutagemwa has attributed the decline of water level on Lake Victoria to reduced rainfalls, evaporation, power generation and irrigation. The expert said that 0.34 metres or equivalent to some 14 per cent of the 2.3-metre drop of water level on the lake could be associated with the power generation activities at Uganda's Jinja hydropower plant.

Internet info on prostate cancer may be flawed

NEW YORK, 11 May— Websites that provide information on prostate cancer often fail to provide balanced coverage of the issues involved in screening for and treatment of the disease, a new study shows. Balanced information is particularly crucial for prostate cancer patients, Drs Peter C Black of the University of Washington, Seattle and David F Penson

of the University of Southern California, Los Angeles note, because controversy surrounds a number of aspects of screening and treatment. Their survey of 39 websites, published in *The Journal of Urology*, found that only 9 sites had been updated in the past 6 months, while just 18 included a disclaimer stating that a patient should discuss any information

included on the site with a health care provider. Sites sponsored by universities and non-profit institutions tended to provide the most extensive coverage of prostate cancer, Black and Penson report. However, the best 6 sites overall were sponsored by a variety of sources including the Australian Lions Society, the US National Cancer Institute, the self-help group

US TOO and the drug company AstraZeneca. Sites with little information tended to be promoting products or addressing only specific aspects of prostate cancer.—MNA/Reuters

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ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွံ့ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Cancer risk higher in Lymphoma survivors

NEW YORK, 11 May — Survivors of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL) face a 30-per-cent increased risk of a second malignancy, a new study from the UK shows.

The study, which included 2,456 NHL patients treated between 1973 and 2000, found that most of the risk was due to leukemia or lung cancer.

There is relatively little information about the long-term risk of second cancers in NHL patients, Dr Nadejda Y Mudie of the Institute of Cancer Research in Sutton, Surrey and colleagues note.

To investigate, they looked at patients treated at centres participating in the British National Lymphoma Investigation.

All of the subjects were

younger than 60 years old at first treatment.

A total of 123 second malignancies occurred over an average of 7.7 years follow-up, for a 15-year cumulative probability of a second cancer of 11 per cent, the researchers found. The risk was greater for men, among whom the 15-year probability was 14 per cent, compared with 9 per cent for women.

Survivors had an 8.8-fold increased risk of leukemia and a 1.6-fold risk of lung cancer, according to the report in the *Journal of*

Clinical Oncology.

The older the patient was at first treatment, the higher the risk of subsequent malignancy, with 15-year incidence of 17 per cent for patients treated at age 50 or older, compared with 7 per cent for patients treated at a younger age.

Women showed a reduced risk of breast cancer compared with the general population, possibly because NHL treatment induced premature menopause, Mudie and her team note.

MNA/Reuters



Bangladeshi labourers struggle as they pull down a newly built-vessel (not in the photo) onto the river near the Capital Dhaka on 11 May, 2006. —INTERNET

Men more vulnerable than women after stroke

NEW YORK, 11 May — Among stroke sufferers, men are typically younger than women but they do not fare as well.

At the American Heart Association's 7th Scientific Forum on Quality of Care and Outcomes Research that is being held in Washington, DC, Dr Allan L Anderson presented a study of 56,417 stroke patients admitted to 166 hospitals between 1 January, 2003 and 31 December, 2004.

Anderson, of Medical City Dallas Hospital, Texas, reported that the average age at the time of stroke was 73 years in women and 67 years for men. The use of clot-busting therapy was low overall, administered to only 1.28 per cent of women and 1.70 per cent of men. Despite being younger, men were

more likely to develop pneumonia or die after a stroke, Anderson noted. However, if they survived, men were more likely to be discharged to home than were women.

The same trend regarding 'discharge home' has been seen in studies of other illnesses such as heart attacks or after various procedures, Anderson commented. "An explanation is lacking; whether fewer women are immediately discharged to home is the result of biological or socioeconomic reasons would be purely speculative."

MNA/Reuters

銘柄	前日比	銘柄	前日比
水	527 -12	日本粉	591 -14
帝石	1060 10	日清粉G	1197 -38
HD	1460 -22	明治菓	611 -13
専	490 -13	明治乳	717 -5
建	821 -24	日本ハム	1408 -6
建	745 -26	HD	663 16
組	86 -12	ヒ	1668
	56 -8	ン	1876
	018		691 -11
	730	才	850 -16
	935		1488 -3
	85		1401

A businessman looks at an electric display showing fall of the share prices in Tokyo stock market on 12 May, 2006. The Nikkei average slid to its lowest close in seven weeks on Friday, dropping 1.54 percent as exporters such as Toyota Motor Corp fell after the yen rose to an eight-month high against the dollar.

INTERNET

Study finds how grapefruit juice affects drugs

WASHINGTON, 11 May — US researchers said they have identified the compound in grapefruit juice that affects how some drugs are absorbed in the body and said on Tuesday it might be used to help lower dosages for some patients.

Grapefruit juice is known for its effects on drug metabolism and is avoided by some patients while other deliberately take their drugs with the juice.

The reason is an intestinal enzyme called CYP3A, which partially destroys drugs as they are absorbed.

Grapefruit juice, like no other fruit juice, interferes with CYP3A, so the body ends up absorbing more of the drug. Dr Paul Watkins of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and colleagues say they have identified the substance in grapefruit juice that is responsible — furanocoumarin. "It should now be possible to market the furanocoumarin-free grapefruit juice to patients who would otherwise need to avoid grapefruit," Watkins said in a statement.

MNA/Reuters

More Chinese youngsters finding romance on Internet forums

BEIJING, 11 May — A growing number of Chinese youngsters are

finding love on the Internet through an online meeting place known as Bulletin Board System, or BBS, where youngsters can voice their views on various subjects.

Li Mei met her boyfriend Liu Wei in a chatroom called "Pie Love" set up by the well-known Shuimu Tsinghua BBS (SMTH), which is run by students from prestigious Tsinghua University in Beijing, and four months later they are engaged.

"BBS is a bridge for our romance," said Li Mei, who was one of the hundreds of girls who replied to Liu Wei's dating advert.

MNA/Xinhua

India to create Ministry of Earth Sciences

NEW DELHI, 11 May — The Indian Government has re-organized the Ministry of Ocean Development as that of Earth Sciences and also decided to set up an Earth Commission on the lines of Atomic Energy and Space Commissions with a view to giving more drive to research and science studies. The Ministry of Earth Sciences would consist of two major entities — Ocean Science and Technology Department and India Meteorological Department, Science and Technology Minister Kapil Sibal told reporters here on Wednesday.

There would also be an Earth System Organization (on the lines of Indian Space Research Organization) to act as an executive mechanism under the Earth Science Ministry while a 12-member Earth Commission would be at the apex which would have administrative and financial powers.

Secretary of the Earth Sciences Ministry would be the chairman of the Earth Commission and the Earth System Organization, he said. — MNA/PTI



A Customs officer walks past seized elephant tusks in Hong Kong, on 10 May, 2006. Hong Kong Customs made the seizure of 3.9 tonnes of elephant tusks, the largest in the last 20 years, worth some HK\$8 million (\$1.03 million) on Tuesday. The tusks were found in a 40-foot container from Douala, Cameroon, enroute to Macau. —INTERNET

SPORTS

Rampant Scotland crush Bulgaria 5-1 in Kirin Cup

KOBE (Japan), 12 May — Rangers pair Kris Boyd and Chris Burke marked their Scotland debuts with two goals apiece in a 5-1 win over Bulgaria in a Kirin Cup friendly on Thursday.

The margin of Scotland's victory means hosts Japan need to beat Walter Smith's team by three goals in Saturday's deciding game in Saitama to win the three-team tournament.

World Cup-bound Japan lost 2-1 to Bulgaria in Osaka on Tuesday.

Boyd put Scotland ahead in the 12th minute with a clinical finish after latching on to a through ball from Darren Fletcher.

Bulgaria struck back in the 25th through Yordan Todarov before Boyd restored Scotland's advantage from close range three minutes before halftime.

Scotland took complete control after the break, Fletcher coming close and substitute James McFadden crashing a free kick against the bar after 61 minutes.

McFadden made it 3-1 in the 68th minute, the Everton striker prodding home a Gary Teale cross from point-blank range. — MNA/Reuters



Manuel Fischer of Germany (L) jumps for the ball with goalkeeper Evgeny Pomazan of Russia during their semi-final soccer match in the UEFA under 17 Championship at the Josy Barthel Stadium in Luxembourg, on 11 May, 2006. —INTERNET

Nadal wins 50th straight match on clay

ROME, 12 May — Rafael Nadal won his 50th straight match on clay Thursday and stayed on track for another final showdown with Roger Federer.

Nadal crushed British veteran Tim Henman 6-2, 6-2 to reach the quarterfinals of the Rome Masters. The second-ranked Spaniard can match Guillermo Vilas' record 53-match winning streak on clay if he successfully defends his title here.

Top-ranked Federer breezed past 14th-seeded Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic 6-1, 6-4 in 56 minutes.

Nadal has handed Federer his only two losses this year, in finals in Dubai and the Monte Carlo Masters last month.

He next faces 10th-seeded Fernando Gonzalez of Chile. Gonzalez, who booked his passage after defeating Tomas Berdych of the Czech Republic 6-2, 6-4, has won both of his previous meetings with Nadal, in 2003 and 2004.

Third-ranked David Nalbandian and No. 5 Andy Roddick also advanced.

MNA/Xinhua

Inter Milan win Italian Cup

MILAN, 12 May — Inter Milan won the Italian Cup on Thursday after a 3-1 second-leg win gave them a 4-2 aggregate win over AS Roma.

First half goals from Argentines Esteban Cambiasso and Julio Cruz gave Inter a clear advantage before Nigerian Obafemi Martins added the third in the 76th minute. Congolese forward Shabani Nonda pulled a goal back for Roma in the 80th minute.

Inter's fifth Italian Cup win follows their triumph in the competition last season and offers some compensation for another season in which they failed to mount a serious bid for the league title they have been unable to win since 1989.

"I'm glad for the lads, there have been a few disappointments in the last few months and they deserve this," said Inter coach Roberto Mancini who claimed his 10th Italian Cup as a player and coach.

Roma's consolation came in the form of the return to action of their cap-

tain Francesco Totti who had not played since he broke his ankle in a Serie A game against Empoli on 19 February.

The Roma forward, a key part of Italy coach's Marcello Lippi's World Cup squad, came on as a

53rd minute substitute but by that time Roma were already 2-0 down on the night. Roma were without Brazilian forward Rodrigo Taddei and midfielder Simone Perotta who were suspended and were also missing several players

through injury.

Cambiasso opened the scoring in spectacular fashion in the sixth minute with a thundering volley from the edge of the area after he had been picked out by compatriot Javier Zanetti.

MNA/Reuters



Inter Milan's forward Julio Ricardo Cruz of Argentina, centre, scores against AS Roma during the Italian Cup final soccer match, at the San Siro Stadium in Milan, Italy, on 11 May, 2006. On the right is AS Rome's Brazilian goalie Alexander Doni and on the left defender Leandro Cufre' of France. —INTERNET

Roddick beats Baghdatis to reach last 16 in Rome

ROME, 12 May — Andy Roddick came through a seesaw encounter with Cyprus' Marcos Baghdatis 3-6, 6-1, 6-2 to reach the last 16 of the Rome Masters on Wednesday. It was sweet revenge for the American fifth seed, who lost their only previous meeting in this year's Australian Open where Baghdatis reached the final.

Roddick made an erratic start to the match with a series of double faults and forehand errors to drop serve four times and lose the first set.

MNA/Reuters

Saudi Arabia slip-up against Belgium

SITTARD (Netherlands), 12 May — Belgium dented Saudi Arabia's World Cup preparations on Thursday with a 2-1 win over their Middle East opponents.

Goals in either half from Tom Caulwe and Anthony Vanden Borre cancelled out Bart Goor's own goal to give Belgian coach Rene Vandereycken his second win in as many games since taking over in January.

FC Utrecht's Caulwe crowned his debut with a goal after just three minutes before Goor headed in to his own net half an hour later.

But Anderlecht full back Vanden Borre fired home from the edge of the box to restore Belgium's lead in the 55th minute.

It was a sweet victory for Belgium who lost 1-0 to their opponents in their only other meeting in Washington -- a defeat which sent them home from the 1994 World Cup finals.

Belgium failed to qualify for next month's finals in Germany, the first time since 1978 they have failed to reach

football's greatest stage.

"I am delighted with the performance tonight, especially since it was really a young team with new players," Vandereycken said.

Saudi Arabia will be in Germany, for their fourth finals in succession, and open their campaign against Tunisia on 14 June in Munich.

"Belgium were good and gave us the tough game we needed," said Saudi coach Marcos Cesar Dias Castro, better known as Marcos Paqueta.

"But what really matters is that we get it right in Germany and learn from these games."

MNA/Reuters

Hingis sets up Mauresmo German Open clash

BERLIN, 12 May — Former world number one Martina Hingis brushed aside fifth seed Elena Dementieva 6-3, 6-2 at the German Open on Thursday to set up a quarterfinal clash with top seed Amelie Mauresmo.

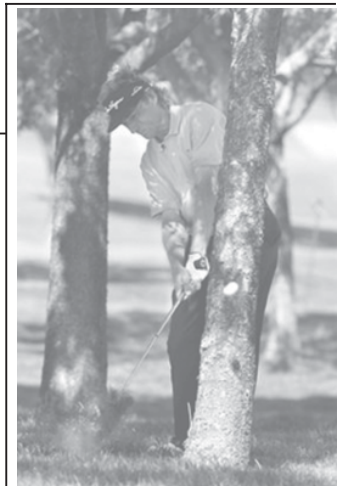
Unseeded Hingis, champion here in 1999 and a five-time Grand Slam winner, had a surprisingly easy time against the Russian.

World number eight Dementieva has won the pair's last three matches in straight sets but only one of those was since January when the 25-year-old Hingis made her return from a three-year break recovering from foot and ankle injuries.

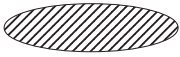
Dementieva, one of six Russians in the last 16 here, had a great chance to get back into the match in the second set with Hingis on 0-40 in the key fourth game. But the Swiss held her nerve and her serve for 3-1.

In the quarters Hingis will face world number one Mauresmo. The powerful Frenchwoman took some time to tame Russian teenager Anna Chakvetadze, losing her service in the first game of the match, but eventually won 6-4, 6-2.

MNA/Xinhua



Bernhard Langer, of Germany, hits a shot from between two trees on the 10th during the first round of play at the Byron Nelson Championship golf tournament in Irving, Texas, on 11 May, 2006. —INTERNET



The ceremony to pour water at the Bo tree in the precinct of the Shwedagon Pagoda in progress on Fullmoon Day of Kason, Buddha Day.

(News reported)

MNA



Mandalay Division celebrates World Red Cross Day

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May — Mandalay Division Red Cross Supervisory Committee organized World Red Cross Day ceremony on 8 May at the office of Mandalay Division Union Solidarity and Development Association in Chanayethazan Township.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of

Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Chairperson of Mandalay Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Khin Pyone Win, wife of the commander, and members, Chairman of Mandalay City Develop-

ment Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, Secretary Lt-Col Kyi Thein of Mandalay Division PDC and departmental officials, members of Red Cross Society from districts and townships in the division, officials of the International Committee (See page 10)

NLD, ignoring desire of the people, walked out of National Convention with decision of a handful of its leadership Remains on collision course with govt Members of Nyaungshwe Township NLD in Shan State (South) resign

YANGON, 12 May — Twelve executive members of Nyaungshwe Township National League for Democracy in Shan State (South) — U Tin Maung Wai (Chairman), U Than Nyunt (Vice-Chairman), U

Ba Oo (Vice-Chairman), U Than Aung Khaing (Secretary), U Tin Ohn (Joint-Secretary), U Maung Maung (Treasurer), U Phyto Than (Social field), U Kyaw Than (leader of youths' affairs group), U Myint Soe (Township organizer) and members of township level organizing group Daw Kyi San, Daw Hla Shwe and Daw Mya Than — resigned from the party by sending their resignation letter to NLD (HQ) and authorities concerned.

In the letter dated 6 May, they said they joined Nyaungshwe Township NLD with the aim of doing party politics with sincerity and serving locals' interest. However, the NLD, ignoring the desire of the people, walked out of the National Convention with the decision of a handful of its leadership. In addition, it has remained on collision course with the government and never directed its members to serve the interest of the local people. That was why, they said, they no longer had faith in the party and they resigned of their own volition as members of NLD and as executives of Nyaungshwe Township NLD.

MNA

200 feared dead in Nigeria oil blast



Map locates blast site near Lagos, Nigeria.

INTERNET

ILADO (Nigeria), 12 May — A ruptured gas pipeline exploded as villagers collected fuel in southwestern Nigeria Friday, killing up to 200 people and leaving charred bodies scattered around the blast site.

Rescue workers dug a ditch near the blast site in Ilado, a village about 25 miles east of Nigeria's main city of Lagos. Lagos Police Commissioner Emmanuel Adebayo said the victims would be buried in a common grave.

"Between 150 and 200 people died," Adebayo told reporters. Dozens of burned corpses were lying on the ground and plumes of black smoke rose into the air.

Firefighters were on the scene and the Red Cross said it had workers helping survivors. Red Cross

(See page 10)

INSIDE

Hypertension, if untreated, can affect the "target organs" and lead to complications like stroke, heart attack and kidney failure and sudden death. Importantly, there may not be any warning symptoms, hence the term "silent killer".