

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Monday, 15 May, 2006

### Four political objectives

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

### Four economic objectives

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

### Four social objectives

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

## Government not in favour of war that it is taking security measures

As KNU has been time and again jeopardizing and harming the lives and property of the people, the Government has to take security measures KNU drove out the people to prevent them from contacting Tatmadaw and to displace them

Large number of rural people lose lives and limbs due to booby traps of KNU



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan makes clarification during the study tour of journalists in Bago Division. — MNA

YANGON, 14 May — *The following is the full text of the clarifications made by Chairman of the Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan on the study tour of journalists at Thabyenyunt village in Thandaung Township, Southern Command area of Bago Division on 13 May:*

Today's study tour is for you journalists to witness measures taken for ensuring security and the rule of law and all-round developments in Southern Command area of Bago Division as well as troubles of local people caused by racism, power struggle and bullies among KNU insurgents and terrorist acts such as massacres, setting of fire and planting of mines by KNU.

The present commander of KNU brigade-2 which is now moving about in some far flung areas of Southern Command is Ah Si, son of KNU

vice-chairman Tamalar Baw. Previously, the KNU brigade-2 commander was Baw Ni who died of malaria in February 1992. After his death, KNU brigade-2 followers wished Baw Ni's elder son KNU brigade-2 battalion-6 commanding officer Steel Bar to become the brigade-2 commander. Likewise, Gayba / Bwe Kayin nationals residing in the area wished Steel Bar to become brigade-2 commander as he is also a native.

However, in view of strengthening and expanding his power, KNU vice-chairman Tamalar Baw appointed his son Ah Si as brigade-2 commander. Moreover, Ah Si, out of racism, always favoured Paku Kayin nationals. Thus, local Gayba / Bwe Kayin nationals were not satisfied with it. Since then, power struggles, forming cliques, tortures, bullying, finding faults and killings took place within the brigade-2.

(See page 8)



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

# PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 15 May, 2006

## Towards ICT development in Myanmar

Now is the time when the world is experiencing the rapid advancement of Information Technology. Hence, services of IT have hit highest level. To keep pace with the advancement of IT, Myanmar is making relentless efforts in all aspects.

For the development of IT in Myanmar, it is required to impart knowledge on IT to the people. The workshops on IT have been held constantly in the nation for the youths to be able to apply IT effectively in the practical field.

At present, coverage of information from one country to another or from one region to another has undergone a great change. The growth of digital technology and its impact on multimedia and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) have led to changes in our daily life.

As the use, application and integration of ICT is imperative, the government in cooperation with computer scientists, computer industrialists and foreign experts is taking every possible step for the nation to keep abreast of global nations.

A group of technicians was formed to introduce the system of Myanmar character in computer and thanks to the efforts of these persons, the Myanmar character system using Unicode system has emerged and Myanmar consonants, vowels, numbers and special symbols can be used in digital form on various computer systems.

The ICT is being used in the education sector for development of human resources capable of serving the national interest most. Accordingly, multimedia classrooms, e-Education centres, data broadcasting system and Internet are being applied extensively at the basic education high schools.

In the meantime, the international level Silicon Valley plan that can be termed "Cyber City" has been laid down in Yadanabon Myothit.

At a time when the world is seeing the expeditious development of ICT in all sectors, it is incumbent upon e-National Task Force, Myanmar Info-Tech Corporation, Myanmar Computer Federation and their congenial organizations to try their best for development of ICT in Myanmar.

## TFM President's Cup Tennis Tournament 22-28

YANGON, 14 May — The Tennis Federation of Myanmar President's Cup Tennis Tournament, to be organized by Myanmar Tennis Federation, will be held at Theinbyu Tennis Court, here, from 22 to 28 May.

The tournament will be categorized as the men's singles open class and doubles class, the team event, the U-10, the U-12, and the U-14 boys' and girls' events.

Myanmar Tennis Federation will accommodate clubs and youth players from the districts.

Those wishing to take part in the tournament may enlist at the federation, Tel: 372360, not later than 10 am on 21 May. At 1 pm on that day, officials from each team are to attend the ceremony to draw fixtures of the matches at the office of the federation.

MNA

**Oppose those...**

- \* 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

## Deputy Information Minister inspects departmental tasks in Myitkyina



Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein meets with service personnel of IPRD in Myitkyina. — MNA

YANGON, 14 May — Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, accompanied by Director U Maung Pe of Information and Public Relations Department, arrived at Myitkyina on 8 May.

Together with Secretary of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Maung Myo and Lt-Col Kyaw Soe Oo of the command headquarters, the deputy minister inspected Kachin State/District IPRDs, MRTV Re-transmission Station, Sub-print-

ing House and the branch of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise.

At Kachin State Library, the minister met staff and gave necessary instructions. He stressed the need to maintain self-reliant village libraries for their durability. Staff are to seek ways to organize the rural readers for the libraries. He urged them to submit requirements in their tasks to the local authorities.

MNA

## Chinese delegation arrives

YANGON, 14 May — At the invitation of Attorney-General U Aye Maung, a Chinese delegation led by Deputy Attorney-General Mr Hengyang of Henan Province of the People's Republic of China arrived here by air this afternoon.

The Chinese delegation was welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin, Chinese embassy staff, Deputy Director-General's U Tin Myint of the Attorney-General's Office, the Yangon Division Law Officer and officials of the Attorney-General's Office.

Accompanied by officials of the Attorney-General's Office, the Chinese delegation visited Myanmar Gems Mart and its salesroom in the evening.

MNA



Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin welcomes Chinese delegation members. — MNA

## NPE Managing Director leaves for Indonesia

YANGON, 14 May — Managing Director U Soe Win of News and Periodicals Enterprise together with Deputy Director U Tin Kyi of Press Scrutinizing and Registration Division of Printing and Publishing Enterprise left here by air this morning to attend the Workshop on Enhancing ASEAN-China Cooperation through Information and Media to be held in Indonesia from 16 to 19 May.

The Managing Director and party was seen off at Yangon Interna-



Managing Director U Soe Win of NPE seen together with officials before departure for Indonesia. — MNA

tional Airport by Chief Editor U Thet Swe of Myanmar News Agency (Internal), Chief Editor U

Ye Myint Pe of Myanmar Alin Daily, Chief Editor U Myint Swe of Kyemon Daily, Deputy Director

(News) U Khin Maung Kyaw Din, officials and family members.

MNA



# Iranian President downplays possible US attacks



Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

JAKARTA, 13 May — Visiting Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said here on Friday that the threat of possible US military attacks for alleged nuclear weapon development would not terrify his country. The President responded to a question from an audience during a

visit at the headquarters of Indonesia's largest Muslim Group Nahdlatul Ulama.

"They launch propaganda with glum looks on their faces and noisy voice to terrify our country. But I can tell you that Iran is not afraid," he said, adding that if the United States and its allies materialized their military campaign, the Iranian people reserve the right to defend their homeland.

Ahmadinejad arrived in Indonesia on Wednesday for a state visit and to attend the summit of eight Muslim countries on Bali Island this weekend.

The eight countries grouping in the D-8 include Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey. — MNA/Xinhua

## 2,400-year-old salt filter unearthed in north China

SHIJIAZHUANG, 13 May — Archaeologists have discovered a 2,400-year-old filter that was used to extract salt from seawater in North China.

Ancient Chinese in coastal areas used to extract salt from seawater, by using a filter that would be placed under a caldron containing

seawater blended with plant ash, said Wang Lingfeng, director of the office for protection of cultural relics in Haixing County,

Cangzhou City of Hebei Province.

The filter is believed to be from the Spring and Autumn Period (770 BC-476 BC) and was in good condition when it was found in Haixing County, Wang said. The helmet-shaped filter is 22 centimetre tall with the inside diameter of 13.7 centimetre and the outside diameter of 19.5 centimetre. Winding gullies were found inside the filter.

Along with the filter, a drain, fragments of pottery, metal ware, plant ash and a brine well were unearthed.

MNA/Xinhua

## Moderate quake jolts Indonesia, no casualties

JAKARTA, 13 May — An earthquake measuring 5.9 rocked the southern tip of Indonesia's Sumatra Island on Friday, but there were no reports of casualties or damage, the Bureau of Meteorology and Geophysics said.

Residents in the capital, Jakarta, also felt the quake, whose epicentre lay in the Sunda Straits about 30 kilometres (20 miles) south of Bandar Lampung City. The straits separate Sumatra and the main Java Island, and Bandar Lampung City lies 175 kilometres (110 miles) west of Jakarta. — MNA/Reuters

## Mothers protest Iraq war at White House

WASHINGTON, 14 May — A group of mothers led by prominent war opponent Cindy Sheehan, who lost her soldier son in Iraq, started a 24-hour vigil outside the White House to protest the war in Iraq.

Actress Susan Sarandon was also expected to attend part of the demonstration Sunday, on Mother's Day. The protesters are calling for an end to the Iraq war and to express opposition to a

military attack against Iran.

"I don't want any more moms to grieve for a child lost in this unjust, unnecessary war in Iraq," said Sheehan, who has become a leading war protesters since her 24-

year-old son was killed in Iraq.

"This Mother's Day we'll be outside the White House all day and all night demanding that our children come home from Iraq and not be sent to another



## The Secretary General Message on the International Day of Families

YANGON, 15 May — The following is the message sent by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the occasion of International Day of Families, which falls on today.

The theme for this year's International Day of Families, "Changing Families: Challenges and Opportunities", highlights the profound transformations which this basic unit of society has been undergoing in recent years. The average family size has decreased all over the world; young people are getting married at later age; the average age of mothers at first birth has increased; infant mortality rates have declined; and couples are having fewer children. The traditional, extended family is being replaced by the nuclear family, even as grandparents are living longer and several family generations are living side by side. Alternative forms of

union have grown more common, such as unmarried cohabitation, or marriages of migrant workers not living in the same city or country as their spouses. Divorce has increased, accompanied by remarriage, with more and more children living in a family with a step-parent. Significant numbers of both single-parent families and single-person households have emerged, including a rising number of older persons living alone. And the HIV/AIDS pandemic is wreaking havoc on families, often depriving children of their parents, leaving grandparents to care for children.

Many of these transformations call into questions the structure of society as we know it. They require us to work together to adapt, to shape public policy in a way that addresses the needs of families, to ensure that basic services such as education and health are

provided to all citizens—especially children—irrespective of their family situation.

Some of the changes in family structure have also brought new opportunities, such as new and wider options for girls and women. They have provided impetus for Governments to develop new policies in collaboration with civil society. And as countries work to integrate a family perspective into national policy-making, the United Nations system is striving to reflect this perspective in the global intergovernmental process.

During this time of ongoing change, we need to build an environment that sustains and support families, while reinforcing the opportunities for fulfilment that a positive family life provides. On this International Day, let us rededicate ourselves to that mission.—UNIC

## Four Nile cruise ships catch fire

CAIRO, 13 May — Four vacant cruise ships anchoring next to one another caught fire on

Friday in a pier in Egypt's famed tourist city of Luxor, some 680 kilometres south of Cairo, the official MENA news agency reported.

Police and firefighters rushed to the wharf and stamped out the fire, said the report, adding that no tourist was on board of any of the four ships when the fire broke out.

The accident was under investigation, it said. Travelling on cruise ship for several days and nights up and down the Nile, the world's longest river, is popular with foreign tourists, who go to the Upper Egypt largely to get a glimpse of Egypt's ancient civilization.

MNA/Xinhua



Anti-war protesters form the words "Mom says no war" on the Ellipse near the White House (background) in Washington, as part of the CodePink Women for Peace 24-hour Mother's Day peace vigil. —INTERNET



Keiko the killer whale swims in the Skaalvik Fjord, some 400 km (250 miles) northwest of the Norwegian capital Oslo, in this file photo. Governments in rich nations sometimes write virtual blank cheques to protect exotic animals — even as thousands of less glamorous creatures and plants slide silently into oblivion. In one of the most costly examples, animal lovers paid \$20 million to retrain Keiko, star of the "Free Willy" movies, for life in the wild. Keiko died of pneumonia in a Norwegian fjord in 2003, 18 months after he was freed. —INTERNET

# Questions and Answers

YANGON, 14 May—In their tour around the Southern Command in Bago Division, on arrival at Htantabin Township on the eastern bank of the Sittoung River and Thabyenyunt Village in Thandaung Township, Kayin State, local and foreign journalists raised questions on a wide range of subjects including tortures and murders of innocent people, torching villages, threats and bullying committed by KNU. Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, officials, local residents and those who have returned to the legal fold replied to the queries. Their questions and answers are as follows.

**U Myat Khaing (Great Journal and Good News Journal)**

I would like to put some questions. Which arrangements does the government make for insurgents to return to the legal fold, and how do they make contacts with the government? I have learnt that the government has set up a model village in Thabyenyunt Village, but the model village has been destroyed twice. I would



**U Myat Soe Hlaing.**  
MNA

like to know how the government is making arrangements for protecting the village from such danger. There exploded a time bomb in Penwegon yesterday leaving a person dead. I would like to know whether it was correct or not. Lastly, some foreign broadcasting stations are making counter accusations that the bomb blasts are responsible for the government and the military intelligence. Make clarification to that

point, please.

**Saw Lay (battalion (5) of KNU brigade (2))**

I returned to the legal fold in April last year. The reasons why I did so are that all the acts of KNU leaders are unjust. KNU leaders of same position are hostile to each other. And they always try to cheat one another. I am not satisfied with these points. They designate status such as Paku, Bwe and Gaybar. Major Ar Si of Brigade (2) is of Paku status. We subordinates of battalion (5) are of Bwe status. Supposing a cash assistance of 10,000 kyats for subordinates like us has been received by Major Ar Si, we receive about 2,000 kyats only. They are angry with each other regarding that problem. Such acts were completely intolerable and we decided to return to the legal fold. I wanted to lead a peaceful life and so I returned to Thabyenyunt Village. But, to my dismay, KNU members had already torched the houses of my village, and my house was also destroyed. They also killed a friend of mine. The torching of villages is totally unacceptable to me. Some friends of mine were among those who were killed by KNU.



**U Myat Khaing.**—MNA

They abducted two of my friends. I am not sure as to whether they are still alive or not. Major Ar Si variously plotted schemes against battalion (6) commander Steel Bar. Major Ar Si also accused Jiji of having gone with a nurse. So, Jiji was punished. I did not know how the central body took action regarding that

case. The commander of battalion (6) was planning to return to the legal fold. But, Major Ar Si noticed that and they sent Steel Bar to the central body. Major Ar Si killed five villagers of Hsidawpho Village. Indeed, the villagers were innocent. **Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan,**

Regarding the first question, the Tatmadaw's military camps have been stationed in various regions for many years to receive insurgents who

**Secretary of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Thein Lwin.**  
MNA



wanted to return to the legal fold. Military columns do security work and military operations in respective regions. Those insurgents who want to return to the legal fold can contact these military camps or columns. Residents of respective villages have been informed that such insurgents can return to the legal fold by doing so. There have been so many insurgents who have



**U Wai Phy.**—MNA

returned to the legal fold through respective villages.

Regarding the second question, we Tatmadaw members have to crush their enemies. But, when an insurgent informed a military camp that he

fold, then they have to welcome such an insurgent.

The government makes arrangements to provide necessary assistance for such insurgents. For instance, for those in Thabyenyunt Village, the government built low-cost houses, gave a yoke of oxen and a cart, and reclaimed lands. These arrangements are for individuals. The government has taken necessary measures for the insurgents who

**Tactical Operations Commander of Southern Command Col Khin Maung Oo.**  
MNA



bombs were blasted, we managed to expose the majority of the culprits. And they committed these acts under arrangements, of KNU. We and the KNU member we had arrested already explained at the previous press conference that KNU masterminded the bomb blast that took place in Toungoo. Similarly, respective culprits had already confessed to the bomb explosions in the places such as Penwegon and Pyu they committed under the cash offers and coercion of KNU. So, it is apparent that KNU and accomplices are committing such destructive acts.

**U Aung Thu Myaing (Jiji Press News Agency)**

How far is Thabyenyunt Village from Toungoo? Is Thabyenyunt Village located in Kayin State or in Bago Division? What is the village's population? What are the populations of Kayins and Bamars there? And when was it established?

**Bago Division PDC**



**Dr Tin Tun Oo.**—MNA

**Secretary Lt-Col Thein Lwin,**

The village is located in Thandaung Township,

Kayin State, and is about 30 miles far from Toungoo. It is situated at the borders of three townships — Htantabin, Kyaikykyi, and Thandaung. **Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan,**

Thabyenyunt Village is made up of more than 300 houses with a population of over 2,000 people. Among them, some are Pa-O nationalities and some are Kayin nationalities. There are other national races in the village. Naturally, there is no village in Myanmar in which people of a single national race live. And every village and township is like a small Union. Similarly, Thabyenyunt Village is made up of Kayin and Pa-O national people and people of other national races.

**U Hein Latt (Popular Journal)**

I have learnt that KNU insurgents attacked, robbed and torched Thabyenyunt Village and surrounding villages. Why did they do so? Is there anyone who experienced that?

**U Myint Zaw (villager), Thabyenyunt Region (See page 5)**



**Dr Zaw Than.**—MNA



## Questions and Answers

(from page 4)

is blessed with favourable conditions. It is a model village with a basic education high school. So, some people from nearby villages moved to our village. Our village is located at the foot of a mountain. So, some villagers panned for gold. Our village drew the interest of some nearby villages. We villagers built low-cost houses with the help of the government. Round about 10 days after we had built houses, insurgents torched our village at night. They first fired twice at the houses. Then, they fired heavy weapons, and a shell hit my house. But fortunately I was in Toungoo at that time. I was scared and I dared not go back home. In the morning when I arrived home, I found that they had robbed four houses including mine. They shot a villager in his chest at close range. I did not know why they did so. But later, I heard that there was a scheme they plotted. Our village is a model one and it has developed to an extent. But, they were displeased with that. Residents of Bomati and Kyaukkipauk villagers are very interested in our



**U Myo Myint of Bomate Village.** — MNA

village. Our village has been facilitated with a branch of high school, along with a high school, and a station hospital. Near our village, there is a place people pan for gold. Our village is doing well in business, and people from nearby villages moved to ours. But, the insurgents destroyed our village. So, most people are afraid to live and earn their living there. What was worst was that they burnt down four houses.

A villager was admitted to a township hospital for medical treatment. And he added we want to live in peace and are not the enemy of the KNU. I feel disappointed at their acts. They want us to lack access

to the developments in these areas so that they can extort money from the villages in the areas. If there emerges developments in the areas, they will lose their interests. In the past, there were a lot of people who had panned for gold from the gold mines. We bought the gold from them and sold the items at Taungoo. But, there are now fewer people who pan for gold because the people are fearful of an attack by the KNU insurgents.

The two children have been detained.

Q: You know their names and age?

A: One is Saw Ne Htoo, 17 and the other is Saw Htoo Wai, 16.

Q: Are they Kayin nationals?

A: Yes, they are.

Q: When did the case occur? A: It occurred on 23 October 2005.

Their parents are plain and simple. I do not know where their sons are. He added there have been peaceful in Thabyenyunt village as well as Thandaunggyi, Bawgali, Yado. Later, the KNU insurgents had committed acts of terrorism such as planting of landmines and blasting of bombs along Thandaunggyi motor road. So, the locals are fearful of attacks by the KNU. It is true that Thabyenyunt village was set on fire.

**U Myat Soe Hlaing (Leyarsitpwaye News Journal and Myo Myanmar Journal):** I would like to know how KNU members had joined KNU and why they had returned to the legal fold and what kind of assistance the Government had rendered to them up to now. I knew that the Government had built low-cost housing units for them. How much do they cost? Who was shot in chest and dead? Four houses were set to fire and how did they feel? The Government is taking measures for security. How about the economy of the village? The Government arranged accommodation for them. They were making living of their own means. Did the Government arrange the places they wanted to live? Were there villages for those who returned to the legal fold? Let me know if similar incidents had taken place.

**Saw Lay Htoo (KNU Brigade-2)**

I am Saw Lay Htoo. When I was in the fifth standard, I was arrested by KNU.

Q: Where did you attend when you were in the fifth standard?

A: In Thandaunggyi. After being arrested, KNU gave me military training and duties were assigned to me at KNU Brigade. The reason I returned to the legal fold was due to perfect assistance rendered by the Government. The Government offered us land, plot, farm, carts etc.

Q: What is the kind of low-cost house?

A: The low-cost house is made of wood and brick.

Q: How much does it cost?

A: It cost about K 1 million. Q: Does it cost K 500,000 or K 600,000 and K 1 million?

A: It cost about K 1 million. Q: Did you pay for it or did you get it free of charge?

A: I got it free of charge.

Q: Why did you enter into the legal fold?

A: KNU's fought for power among them and they oppressed us. For these reasons, I could not stand any longer under them and I ran away for wanting to escape the clutches of them.

Q: Was your house set to fire?

A: Yes, of course.



**U Aung Thu Myaing of Jiji News Agency.**

MNA

Q: How did you feel when your house was set to fire?

A: I felt very distressed.

Q: Who was shot in chest and dead?

A: My friend called Athay Lay. He was shot dead when they set to fire my house.

Q: How old was he?

A: He was 17 or 18.

Q: What was his original name?

A: It was Ye Htet Naing. **Col Khin Maung Oo (Tactical Commander of Southern Command):** The villages like Thabyenyunt that were set to fire are Yokmei, Moneyei, Myayaw and Kyaungpyar. These two villages were offered those who entered into the legal fold to make for living in April of 2005. The designated villages for them are Pyarsakhan, Leiktho, Yado and some along Yado route. These villages were destroyed by KNU insurgents.

**Dr Tin Tun Oo of Pyi Myanmar Journal** asked if the KNU had set fire to

the villages and there is anything else; why the villagers are keeping away from their homes, and whether it is true that about 10,000 villagers living in Kayin villages are left homeless because of the attack of Tatmadaw.

**U Myo Myint of Bonmatee village** replied that the village is located in Htantabin Township in Taungoo District. Due to the attack of the KNU insurgents, our village has been beset with different kinds of difficulties and in addition, there are a lot of disabled persons suffering



**U Myat Soe Hlaing of Myo Myanmar Journal.** — MNA

from landmines planted by the KNU insurgents in our village. And last year a KNU insurgent group came to our village and extorted money from the villagers. At the present time, we have easy access to our living thanks to the Tatmadawmen discharging their duties in our village. As far as I know, the KNU insurgents have been sending their hard-core family members to the neighbouring country. He added four villagers were shot dead in Bonmatee village on 3 March 2003 and all have known how cruel the KNU insurgents are.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that the KNU has already exercised the strategy that many of villagers are left homeless owing to the attack of the Tatmadaw; that they have stayed in the refugee camps at the border area and are beset with difficulties.

It was an old tactics employed by KNU in its history. They are still employing that tactics. Regarding their tactics, I would like to explain it. Whenever the Tatmadaw combed the areas where the KNU hid, the KNU drove out the villagers to prevent them from meeting the Tatmadaw columns. The KNU did this in case the villagers provide information and assistance to the Tatmadaw. Wives, sons and daughters of KNU members and their relatives were taken to so-called refugee camps in the other country. They tried to get monetary assistance from abroad. They also said that many national races fled and they were ill-treated and killed. That was why they demanded that the nations of the world would put pressure on the government. That was their old tactics. They always exaggerated the number of people than it really was. It was reported that some 10,000 ethnic people deserted their homes and thousands of people reached the refugee camps. The newsmen could consider that if it was true or not. Another reason was that it was difficult for the people to earn their living and there was transport difficulty in those areas. There was no one there long ago. Most of the Karen nationals live in the areas where they can earn their living and there is security. They do not live in inner parts of the regions. All of us can think logically that if over 10,000 people could be in the other country.

**U Ohn Maung (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe):** I have learnt a piece of news recently. The food security conference on Asia and the Pacific Region, FAO conference and conference on eradication of poverty will be held in Jakarta, Indonesia from 15 to 19 May.

It is learnt that the NLD would present a report



**U Ohn Maung (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe)** — MNA

on food problem in Myanmar. I would like to know that if there is food problem in the country.

**Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan:** The NLD and some anti-government organizations make accusations that there is food problem. I would like to explain all the facts as it is. You journalists arrived at Thabyenyunt Village through villages in Toungoo and Swa. As a saying "Seeing is Believing" goes, there are plenty of summer paddy fields along the road. There is no skinny citizen in the country due to lack of food. There is no human death in the country because of starvation. There is no demand for food assistance from the UN and other nations. It is obvious that there is no food problem in the country. As far as I know, in some countries almost all family members have to work. In our country the head of the household or he and his son need to work for living. On the way to Thabyenyunt, we went past villages and we saw the living standard of rural people. Almost every house has motor-cycles, bullock-carts, satellite dishes, TV sets. We saw a herd of cattle, fish, coconuts, bananas, fowls and paddy. It is obvious that they are making false accusations.

I invite those who speak ill of others from abroad to come to the country.

(See page 7)

## Two mines explode, two men wounded in Mone of Kyaukkyi Township

YANGON, 14 May — In league with terrorists, insurgents are disturbing peace and stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order, and inflicting death and injury to innocent people by using various ways and means.

A man was killed in a mine explosion on the lane, two miles east from Mone at 7.30 am on 10 May.

U Than Lwin, aged 45, of Ward 4, Mone, Kyaukkyi Township, Bago Division, who left his home for picking

out vegetables, stepped on a mine. The explosion blew off his left foot into pieces.

At 7.30 am on 13 May, a similar explosion occurred near Kalawmyaung Village of Kyaukkyi Township. While picking out vegetables, U Kyaw Min Oo, aged 35, from Ward 4 of Mone stepped on a mine. Due to the explosion, his right ankle was cut off and left knee was injured.

Officials are providing medical treatment to U Than Lwin and U Kyaw Min Oo. Security officials and locals are in hot pursuit of the terrorists. — MNA

## Like those of Mone region, others from rural areas where KNU insurgents are active subject to atrocities Government cleared up the areas for security purpose and protecting lives and property of the people

YANGON, 14 May — Medical Superintendent Dr Maung Maung Khin of Mone Station Hospital clarified sabotage acts of KNU to harm the lives of the people by planting land mines in busy places and disable the people, and medical treatments being provided by the Government, to local and foreign journalists on their arrival at Mone region of Kyaukkyi Township in Bago Division.

The local people individually recounted their troubles caused by atrocities and terrorist acts such as massacres, killing, threatening, torching, destruction of oxen and carts, and planting of mines by KNUs, and difficulties to carry out their works in the fields. They replied to the questions of the journalists. Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan gave a supplementary clarification.

The following is the clarification, replies and answers and supplementary clarification.

**Dr Maung Maung Khin (Medical Superintendent of Mone Station Hospital):** I have been discharging duties at Mone Station Hospital for 11 months only from June 2005 to date. During the period of my term, common complaints at the hospital were patients of malaria, maternity, snake bite and explosions of land mine. In compiling the data on patients of land mine explosions for three years, there were 16 patients in 2004, 14 in 2005 and 18 in 2006 from January to date. Hence, the patient numbers this year is at the highest level. In 2005, one patient lost life due to mine explosion. At present, a total of 15 patients are being treated at the hospital. Of them, nine were patients of mine explosions. One of them was warded at the hospital at 9.15 am today. He was resuscitated before



*Dr  
Maung  
Maung  
Khin of  
Mone  
Station  
Hospital  
makes  
clarifi-  
cation.*

MNA

the surgical operation. In studying the mine blasts in Mone region from 1980 to 2006, there was no person who lost life in mine blasts; and there were no person who lost big toe, thumb and hand hit in the explosions. In collecting data of those who lost one leg and both legs in 26 years up to 2006, a total of 81 disabled persons are residing in the villages.

With the assistance of International Red Cross Societies, they were provided with artificial limbs. So far, the International Red Cross Societies had provided artificial limbs for 52 patients in addition to two patients with wheel-chairs. The remaining three patients do not fit the artificial limbs of their own accord. Other patients should not be fitted with artificial limbs because of their present condition. Though the patients in 2006 are ready to be fitted with artificial limbs, they cannot.

**U Myat Kyaw (Mwaydaw Village):** I have been residing in Mwaydaw Village about four years. In 2005-06, all the people in eastern part of Mone region, Mwaydaw region and hill region were in trouble. In January and February this year, we could not sleep at home, but had to hide at the hilly region.



*Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Philippines Ambassador Madame Phoebe A Gomez encourages fourth standard student Ma Wah Wah Soe wounded by a mine planted by KNU. —MNA*

We cannot leave the region for various reasons. In 2005-06, people lost their lives in mine blasts and acts of insurgents. I did not know where they discriminate as Myanmar Buddhist or not. We felt sadness that the terrorists arrested Buddhist monks to carry bucket of alcohol and beat them. It was a sacrilege. They took cattle. And, we were subject to their atrocities.

**U Tun Naing (Mone):** I live in Ward 4 of Mone. Local people suffered the evil consequences of mine blasts and battles every year. I myself was arrested by KNU on 19 January 2006 while going fishing, southeast of Mone region. On 16 February, we were released. They made us work there. They supplied us food with salt and chillies. We experienced the worst troubles committed by KNU. People in our region had to suffer most. In conclusion, he requested the guests on the occasion to give a helping hand to the people of the region.

**U Htay (Kyaungpya Village):** I am a villager of Kyaungpya Village, Mepauk Village-tract of Kyaukkyi Township. At 1 am on 1 May 2005, we heard gunfire from Mwaydaw. Later, we heard gunfire again at southern part of Kyaungpya. We together with offspring fled to the safety. The insurgents destroyed the village and opened fire. After that, they torched Kyaungpya Village. They took our property and set the house on fire. In the incident, Du Al Moe, a Kayin older woman, from Kyaungpya was shot along with two cows.

We had to hide at a distance from a place where our houses were set on fire and when we returned to the village, all the houses were destroyed. As a result, we were in trouble and there was no house to live in and no rice to eat up to now and so, we had to rely on our relatives. We did not get back anything and had to run with the only clothes on body. Up to now, we could not settle as before. Altogether 19 houses were set on fire. That was all I would like to recall.

**U Myint Kyaw (Kyaungpya Village):** My name is Ko Myint Kyaw and I am from Kyaungpya village, Mepote village tract in Kyaukkyi Township, I would like to say about the matter on setting fire to 22 houses and the two-storey monastery in Mwedaw village and the death of two people in the fire. At the night of 30 April 2005, villagers including me went to the monastery to watch football match through satellite

and came back at 1 am on 1 May. At that time, KNU insurgents opened fire at the monastery. A young man was shot dead and a villager was arrested. At the same time, 22 houses were set on fire. The one killed was Maung Kyaw of Zayagy Village who came to the village for marketing and the one arrested was Japlo from Phyu. The following morning he was found dead after being tied with ropes near Yepyin Creek of Mwedaw Village. Moreover, his neck was stabbed repeatedly. That was why, setting the houses on fire, killing and torture were common in the area. Besides, the monastery was set on fire and we felt sorry for that. Thus, I presented it to the officials, journalists and those present.

I do not wish to experience those sufferings any longer. We are leading hand-to-mouth life and we dare not go out far and there were also four mine victims. During these five years while I was in Mwedaw village, I had to send 18 patients to hospitals in Kyaukkyi and Mone after helping them with the first aid. From my point of view, I concluded presenting to look after us as much as possible.

**U Maung Chit (Khongyi Village):** I would like to say the previous incident. My name is Maung Chit and I live in Khongyi village, Taungle Daine village tract, Mone region, Kyaukgyi Township. On 18 April, I went to the jungle with 5 carts for collecting firewood. On the way, I came across 5 KNU insurgents and they asked us to stop.

(See page 7)

*U Htay of  
Kyaungpya  
village  
recalls  
his  
experience.*

MNA





## Like those of Mone region, others from rural areas...

(from page 6)

Later, they asked some questions and said to keep on going and they threatened that they would kill if we did not listen to them. Then, I drove away after taking advice from the young men of the front carts. At last, we left carts and ran away from KNU insurgents. Later, when we returned to our carts, we met a Kayin lady on the way and she said that all carts were chopped off and set on fire and the other one came out pulling a cow. When we got to our carts, we put out fire with the water from water canteens. Next, though we tried to look for our carts, we found nothing and returned to Kawtpyin village. Totalling 16 cows were carried and that was all I would like to say.

**U Wai Phyo of Weekly Eleven News Journal:** I have learned that many people in Mone region were hit by land mines. Were all the mines planted by KNU members or not?

**U Khin Thein (Chairman, Mone village-tract):** As far as I know, in the region, there were no mines planted by the Tatmadaw and they were planted by only KNU insurgents.

**U Wai Phyo:** How did you know exactly that the mines were planted by KNU?



*U Myint  
Zaw of  
Thaby-  
nyunt  
village  
replies  
to the  
queries  
raised by  
journalists.*

MNA

**U Khin Thein:** Because we found bamboo mines, bottle mines and fragments of glass bottles in the hospital and that proves the acts of KNU.

**U Myat Soe (Myo Myanmar Journal):** In the region there are more and more cases of bomb explosions and local people are facing the danger of bomb explosions. So, we would like to know how the local people are living in fear? Is there anyone from the region who can explain to us?

**U Ohn Kyaing of Mone village-tract:** I'll explain how atrocities of KNU affect socioeconomic life of local people. A boy of Ward-4 in Mone is now undergoing treatment at Mone Station Hospital after he had been hit



*Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan comforts a mine victim who is undergoing treatment at Mone Station Hospital. —MNA*

by a mine as he was out of the village in search of some greens. Although some local people are well off, some have to live from hand to mouth. So, you all, journalists, can know the present situation in which the local people have to live in fear of KNU insurgents. It was the spine-chilling incident that happened within only one mile from the village. What's more, they (KNU insurgents) threw a hand grenade into the compound of Malar Myaing Monastery in Mone village-tract on the night of 19-3-2006 after a novitiation ceremony had been held. It also coincided with the time when the matriculation examination was taking place in the village BEHS. Moreover, those insurgents are in the habit of grabbing the cattle of local people while collecting firewood and greens in the jungle. Sometimes, the people had to leave their cattle behind in order to run for their lives. KNU's land mines are indeed a threat to the local people. Now the people dare not go into the jungle for fear of land mines although the rainy season is setting in. Besides, according to nature of their work, they will have to get out of the village for their farm work. But they dare not.

**Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Information:** To be honest, I believe you all have realized the real situation because the village people have explained how they had to suffer because of KNU's atrocities. Like those of this Mone region, others from rural areas where KNU insurgents are active are now suffering a lot. We took the journalists to Mone region to let them know the actual facts as there is easier transport. Rural people in nearby areas in Bago and Toungoo regions as well as those in Phapun and Thandaung witness these experiences like the ones in Mone region. The government protects those

people as much as it can. We Tatmadaw members have no position to protect them as the region is very wide and there are mountain and forest barriers. The Tatmadaw launched offensive in order to protect the rural people in those regions beginning January 2006. The government combed the areas for security purpose and protected lives and property of the people. It is true that people in the adjacent areas are suffering atrocities of KNU.

MNA



*Director-General U Chit Naing of Information and Public Relations Department presents 300 books donated by Ministry of Information for Thabyenyunt village library through a local. —MNA*

## Questions and Answers

(from page 5)

We have food in plenty. If they have sincere goodwill, they can come and provide assistance on education, health, transport and social affairs as the country needs progress. They say in words only. But they never provide any assistance to the country. They interfere in our internal affairs. According to the report of the NLD, the issue may be discussed at the conference. You journalists can think that whether the special statement or announcement of the NLD which reports there is food problem or difficulty in the country is true or not.

**Dr Zaw Than (Sankei Shimbun):** I heard that foreign news agencies broadcast that thousands of Kayin nationals had fled to the refugee camps in border areas due to the Tatmadaw's offensive. The US government would allow the refugees to enter its country by waiving its immigration law. What is the attitude of the government regarding this?

**Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan:** The KNU started committing destructive acts and detonating bombs in Bago and Toungoo regions as well as along the railway section between Bago and Toungoo in the beginning of 2006. As the time coincided with that of which peace is being discussed with the KNU, we informed personnel of KNU that such events ought not to happen at a time when peace is being negotiated. However, the KNU intensified a series of atrocities and inhuman

acts. They planted mines with powerful explosives on the railways. If the security members are unable to expose those bombs, a number of people will suffer death and casualties as a consequence. To protect lives and property of the people, the government had to take security measures in Bago and Toungoo areas, along the railways and adjacent areas. The security personnel combed the areas where KNU could take refuge. In this connection, the KNU and its cohorts in collusion with some western broadcasting stations manufactured rumours to the effect that a large number of villagers in the region had to flee their houses and property due to the attacks of the Tatmadaw and reached refugee camps in the border, where they were in trouble and poverty. And pressure should be put on the government. In the course of history, the refugee camp was used by the KNU as a tactic. For the time being also, when the government had to unavoidably protect lives and property of the people like that, the KNU applied the tactic to the effect that the Tatmadaw drove out of the villagers from the region to the border and the latter reached the refugee camps. In the past, there were KNU camps along the border. As all the KNU camps were under the Tatmadaw's control, KNU had to hide in the refugee camps in the border. Such being so, the refugee campshave actually proved to be the KNU camps. There were no more KNU camps in the border and they took refuge in the other country. The KNU in the name of refugee camps, stepped up its under-ground and above-ground attacks on the government. Based on the current

event, the KNU aired rumours that the attacks of the Tatmadaw posed a threat to the stability of neighbouring countries and the region and called for the world community to impose pressure on the government and lodge a complaint to UN Security Council. The minister said another point was the matters in which the US with a legal loophole of its immigration law made arrangements to take those under the name of refugees to their nation. Those under the name of refugees are just only KNU and their families and relatives. If the US do so, the ones who are taken to the US will be just the KNU and their families and relatives. In the past, there was an event. That event was the Bay of Pigs Invasion. The present President of Cuba Fidel Castro and members of revolutionary forces were able to throw the Cuban government led by Batista in 1959. That made Batista and his some followers to flee Cuba. Those Cuban expatriates were mobilized and given accommodation and foods by the US. And they were also given military training and armed. In 1961, they were ordered to attack Cuba through the Bay of Pigs. But, the armed forces of Fidel Castro were able to drive them out of the country. Now, the legal loophole of US immigration law does not cover the refugees of other nations but those under the name of refugees in the border. Hence, the present acts of the US have turned out to be those to be considered seriously. Although the US is shouting at the top of its voice that a certain nation does not practise democracy and has no human rights, it is obvious that the US itself is discriminating the refugees.—MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan replies to the questions raised by local and foreign journalists. —MNA

**Government is not in favour of war that it is taking...**

(from page 1)

Using power, intimidation and coercion, Ah Si made efforts to bolster his power. He plotted to get rid of Baw Ni's sons and followers. First, he accused Baw Ni's younger son Jiji who was performing duties as office head at brigade-2 for having an affair with a nurse, dismissed him and put him under detention.

Moreover, Ah Si threatened and coerced those villagers who were assumed as followers and relatives of Baw Ni family not to live in the area. For example, Ah Si killed five Kayin nationals of Sidawkho village, Htantabin Township in order to suppress the people of the village. Hence, the local people fled to safe places and towns and villages where their relatives resided. Furthermore, Ah Si misappropriated a large sum of extortion money as well as funds and aids provided by NGOs. Although the KNU (central)

For revealing the misdeeds of Ah Si and ignorance of KNU (central), the late brigade-2 commander Baw Ni's wife Daw Naw Hilda lodged a complaint at the KNU (central). Then, the KNU (central) could no longer remain indifferent and recalled Ah Si to the central in January 2005 temporarily to settle the case. In the absence of Ah Si, KNU brigade-2 battalion-6 commanding officer Steel Bar rescued his younger brother Jiji from detention. When Ah Si returned from the central, he tried to take action against Steel Bar. Then, Steel Bar and Jiji made arrangements to return to the legal fold on one hand and to fight back Ah Si on the other. However, Ah Si knew the plot and pursued to kill Steel Bar and Jiji who fled to KNU (central). District secretary Phado Taw Ni who helped Steel Bar and Jiji to flee to KNU (central) was afraid of Ah Si's fury. Thus,

circumstances, many KNU members got divided and demoralised and they attempted to surrender and escape. To prevent followers from returning to legal fold, Ah Si sent families of KNU mem-

this way, he tried to take political advantage and obtain foreign aids and funds.

Now, Steel Bar and Jiji could no longer stay with KNU brigade-2 and they are taking

This Thabyay Nyunt village was set up for those KNU members who have returned to the legal fold and the Kayin nationals who have fled. The village is facilitated well in accordance with

it was where the former KNUs who surrendered or deserted reside, where the Kayin villagers who defied and fled reside. The damages and scars inflicted by the KNU atrocities on this village



Dean of Diplomatic Corps Philippine Ambassador to Myanmar Madame Phoebe A Gomez and journalists seen during the study tour of journalists in Bago Division.—MNA

bers to the border and kept them as refugees. In this way, he had been able to prevent KNU members from returning to the legal fold. On the other hand, he shouted at the top of his voice that

refuge at other KNU units, it is learnt. Relying on arms and his father, Ah Si bullied others. Thus, he was not given administrative and military duties. He was given only military duty and Lt-col Saw Naw was given administrative duty. However, Saw Naw was just nominal and Ah Si manipulated the affairs. Hence, Saw Naw left for KNU (central) since April this year on the ground of receiving medical treatment.

Hence, there were many insurgents from KNU brigade-2 who surrendered and some were absent without leave and fled. Some KNU members dare not surrender or flee as their families are kept at refugee camp as hostages. Likewise, the national people of those villages fled to safe urban areas and villages along the railroad and motor road where their relatives reside.

the five rural development tasks. The village has a high school (branch) and rural dispensaries. In addition, low-cost housing project is implemented for the convenience of those who have surrendered.

A r a b l e lands, cattle and farm implements are also provided for the villagers to undertake agriculture. Hence, KNU brigade-2 set the village on fire twice with the belief that

can yet be seen now. In addition, KNUs set fire to Mwaydaw and Kyaungpya villages in the surrounding areas. Here are those villagers who fled from torture and bullies of Ah Si and KNU brigade-2 insurgents, those former KNUs who surrendered due to racial discrimination, control of family members of KNUs as hostages and terrorist acts of Ah Si, as well as the See page (9)



Mr Dirk Augustin of German Embassy, assistant resident representative of UNHCR Mr Si Canka Dhanapapa, Mr Jean Benoit Manhez of UNICEF and attendance seen during the study tour of journalists in Bago Division. —MNA

knew the malpractices of Ah Si, it ignored his misdeeds due to the influence of Tamalar Baw.

Phado Taw Ni brought along his family and fled to KNU (central). Under these cir-

the people fled to the border refugee camp from the danger of Tatmadaw's attacks. In



Saw Lay Htoo(KNU brigade-2) who enters into the legal fold. MNA



## Government not in favour of war that it is taking...

(from page 8)

people from surrounding villages who had time and again suffered KNU atrocities such as planting of mines, massacres, setting of fire, etc. You journalists can interview them.

Ah Si is opposed to peace talk and negotiation between the Government and KNU. He is always in favour of war and he has been collecting extortion money, bullying the people, misappropriating funds and seeking his own interest by taking advantage of the regional instability. As Ah Si does not wish peace he is in favour of war, he committed terrorist acts in succession in Bago, Nyaunglebin, Toungoo and surrounding areas to harm the stability. Some of his terrorist acts were the explosion in the Penwegon market on 2-11-2005; the explosion in front of No 1 State High School in Bogo on 3-1-2006; the blowing up of power grid-254 on 12-1-2006; the explosion on the north of Toungoo station on 15-1-2006; the bomb explosion in Pyu market on 30-1-2006; the planting of mines to blow up railroad between Ka-nyut-kwin and Taw-kywe-inn stations on 7-2-2006; the planting of mines to blow up railroad between Yedashe and Kyungon stations on 16-2-2006; the bomb explosion in front of No 1 State High School in Toungoo on 2-3-2006; and the planting of SOC front-blowing mine on railroad at 176/22 milepost near Kyungon on 19-3-2006. Such atrocities of KNU have been clarified at the previous press conference No.3/2006.

The Government has the duty to protect the lives and property of the people. Hence, with a view to preventing KNU atrocities and sabotage acts and ensuring the public safety, the Government has to clear



Those attending the news briefing at the hall in Mone of Kyaukkyi Township. MNA

As mentioned above, Ah Si has been launching sabotage acts for harming the lives and property of the people, destabilizing the political situations and for destroying peace negotiation with KNU. In addition, he launched sabotage acts such as planting of mines along Bago-Toungoo railroad and in the surrounding areas of East Yoma mountain range in order to harm the residential people and making those villagers who did not obey their forceful displacement to be unable to earn livelihood peacefully.

Hence, a large number of local people have lost their lives or become amputees by stepping on mines

drove out the people to prevent from contacting with the Tatmadaw and to displace them. To prevent its followers from surrendering or fleeing, KNU moved families of its members to the border forcefully. It is the KNU that plant mines to harm the local people in order to threaten them not to work or earn livelihood freely under the protection of the Tatmadaw. Large number of rural people lost lives and limbs due to booby traps of KNU.

Actually, it is only a plotted scheme by foreign masters and KNU insurgents in synchronization of underground attack and internal and external above-ground attack. By taking advantage of the Government's efforts for secure peace, the KNU sent sabotage teams to inner regions. By planting mines on railroads and motor roads and in urban areas again and again, they assumed that the Government had to take security measures. Then, they intended to instigate and preach the international community that the villages were displaced by the Tatmadaw offensive. And the villagers had to flee as refugees. By giving the limelight to the fabricated stories of refugees, they intended to make accusation that Myanmar, in the eyes of international community, has become a threat to the region and finally the UN Security Council would be prompted to take action against Myanmar.

Like a thief shouting "thief, thief!", they are launching propaganda campaign to the effect that about 10,000 Kayin villagers fled and some 1800 reached the border. The Kayin Women Organization (KWO) formed by KNU and some NGOs which are minions of the colonialists are shouting at the top of their voice in collusion with BBC, VOA, RFA, DVB broadcasting stations. Consequently, the USA took a step by waiving its immigration law to receive the so-called Kayin refugees. Actually, the majority of the so-called refugees are KNU terrorists, their families, relatives and hardcores as well as those families of KNU members who were forced to become as hostages.

The foreign masters trying to interfere in Myanmar's internal affairs are ignoring the terrorist acts causing losses of lives and limbs of the people, massacres, planting of mines at railroads and motor roads, bomb blasts, etc. by KNU.

I have clarified points on power struggle within KNU brigade-2; driving out and displacement of residential people intentionally; and massacres, robberies and setting villages on fire, planting of mines by KNU. In conclusion, I would like to say that you journalists can ask questions and interview the residential people who had suffered the troubles.—MNA



Local people who suffered trouble due to atrocities of KNU insurgents seen at the hall in Mone of Kyaukkyi Township. — MNA

up the surrounding areas and those areas where KNUs and hardcores could take refuge. In response to this, KNU sent family members and hardcores from that region to the border area. Likewise, the Kayin nationals in the region were also driven out to the border area forcefully so that they would be in no position to make contact with and give information to the Tatmadaw. The so-called refugees as harangued harmoniously by the anti-government groups within and without the country are, in fact, the KNU families and hardcores who had been dislodged by the KNU to the border area intentionally. Few of them are those villagers who were forcefully driven out by KNU with the intention of cutting off contacts with the Tatmadaw.

planted by KNU. The local people had to suffer great troubles in earning livelihood. Arrangements have been made for you journalists to interview those in Mone town whose relatives lost lives by KNU mines, those who were severely wounded by KNU mines, those whose cattle, carts and farm implements were robbed by KNU, those who were forced by KNU to work in farms and those who fled from their natives.

In fact, the Government is not in favour of war that it is taking security measures. As KNU has been time and again jeopardizing and harming the lives and property of the people, the Government has to take security measures. The national people dare not live in their native villages due to power struggle, massacres, bullies and coercion of KNU. Actually, KNU



U Ohn Kyaing of Mone Village-tract. MNA



Chairman U Khin Thein of Mone Village-tract PDC. — MNA



U Myint Kyaw of Kyaungpya Village. MNA



U Myat Kyaw of Mwaydaw Village. MNA



U Tun Naing of Mone. MNA



U Maung Chit of Khongyi Village. MNA

## Local and foreign journalists study development ...

(from page 16)  
and planting of mines by KNU.

Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of the Republic of Philippines Madame Phoebe A Gomez, Charge d' Affaires ai of the German Embassy Dr Dirk Augustin and members, Assistant Resident Representative Si Canka Dhanapala of UNHCR Office, Project Officer Jean Benoit Manhez and party of UNICEF, member correspondents of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club and editorial staff of local and foreign magazines and journals were in the study group.

The journalists left Taungoo in the morning. After viewing rural development of Htantabin Township, they arrived in Thabyenyunt Village of Thandaung Township at 8.30 am.

At the hall of Basic Education High School (Branch) in Thabyenyunt Village, the first session of the second-day study tour in Bago Division of Southern Command area was

setting of fire and planting of mines by KNU.

(The clarifications of the minister are reported separately.)

Journalists raised questions on bullying and terrorist acts such as massacres, setting of fire and planting of mines committed by KNU insurgents. Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, officials, local people and members of KNU Brigad-2 who returned to the legal fold replied to the questions.

Next, the group of excursion tour members visited and viewed progress of Thabyenyunt Village.

Afterwards, the minister and party proceeded to Mone of Kyaukkyi Township, Bago Division, in the afternoon.

At the hall in Mone, the second session of the briefing followed. It was attended by townsenders, members of social organizations and the local people who suffered from destructive acts caused by KNU.



Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan comforts a mine victim who is undergoing treatment at Mone Station Hospital.— MNA

Later, officials answered the queries raised by local and foreign journalists. Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan gave a supplementary clarification.

The minister, the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and members and journalists arrived at Mone Station Hospital.

Medical Superintendent Dr Maung Maung Khin and health staff welcomed them.

They comforted those,



Dr Maung Maung Khin of Mone Station Hospital accepts cash donations for the mine victims.— MNA

held. Also present on the occasion were the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and diplomats, officials of UN agencies, senior military officers of Southern Command Headquarters, those who returned to the legal fold from KNU Brigade-2, local people subject to bullying and to rture of KNU insurgents, townsenders and local national people.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan explained measures being taken for ensuring security and the rule of law and all-round developments in Southern Command as well as troubles of residential people caused by racism, power struggles and bullying among KNU insurgents and terrorist acts such as massacres,

Medical Superintendent Dr Maung Maung Khin of Mone Station Hospital explained sabotage acts of KNU to harm the lives of the people by planting land mines in busy places, disabled the people, and providing medical treatments and social assistance of the Government.

Next, U Myat Kyaw of Mwaydaw Village, U Tun Naing of Ward 4 of Mone, U Htay and U Myint Kyaw of Kyaungpya Village and U Maung Chit of Khongyi Village explained difficulties of local people in their region due to massacres, planting of mines, setting of fire and atrocities of KNU, those who fled their homes due to dangers of KNU, and losses of lives and limbs of the people.

who lost their limbs due to mine blasts of KNU, under medical treatment. The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Philippine Ambassador also comforted the patients individually. The journalists met the mine-victims and studied their injuries.

The minister, the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Philippine Ambassador, the Charge d' Affaires ai of the Germany Ambassador and party, officials of UNHCR and UNICEF, journalists and media personnel presented their cash donations amounting to K 101,300 to Medical Superintendent Dr Maung Maung Khin.

They left the hospital and arrived back here in the evening.

MNA

## Atrocities committed by KNU in Southern Command area

1. An explosion occurred at Shop No 1-2 of Sibir Market in Pyidawtha Ward, Penwegon, at 5.30 pm on 2-11-2005. The culprit, Saw Tin Win (a) Saw Lay Wa, 36, of KNU Brigade-3 was arrested.
  2. An explosion occurred at the left side of the gate of Bago BEHS No 1 at about 7 pm on 3-1-2006. And another explosion occurred at about 8 pm near the pavement on Shwemawdaw Pagoda Road in front of the house of the headmistress of BEHS No 1. A packet of gun powder together with a detonator was found in the conduit pipe of the pavement, about 20 feet from the scene of the second explosion.
  3. The base of No 254 pylon was damaged as it was blasted by a planted bomb at about 4 am on 12-1-2006. A TE truck carrying some workers, who repaired the pylon, on its way back was torched and destroyed by KNU insurgents on Leiktho-Yado Road on 14-1-2006.
  4. At about 4.30 am on 15-1-2006, a bomb exploded under the rail track, about 200 yards from the north of Taungoo Station causing a little damage to the rail track and a one-and-a-half-square-foot hole. Conducting a thorough search also led to the finding of a mine under the rail track, about 300 yards to the south of the station.
  5. Acting on information provided by the duty-conscious people on 30-1-2006, authorities seized a time bomb from a pile of dried fish at a grocery shop of Sibir Thaya Market in Pyu. The bomb exploded but caused no damage as it was moved to a safe place in time where bags of sand and rice were kept. In cooperation with the public, authorities managed to expose and arrest the KNU bomber and its hardcores.
  6. At about 2 am on 7-2-2006, authorities managed to defuse two mines planted on Yangon-Mandalay railway between mile post Nos (120/12) and (121/13). According to the investigation, it was found that the two mines contained seven and a half pounds of TNT. If the case could not be exposed in time, the rail track could be seriously damaged and railway carriages could derail and causing many deaths of passengers.
  7. Clearing the surrounding area of the mines, authorities found a 3.5-inch grenade shell in a field, about 400 yards from the scene. It was KNU insurgents that attempted to blow up the rail track and launch the bomb at the passenger train.
  8. A home-made bomb planted on an earth road leading to the site of Thaukyekhat Hydro-electric power project was also exposed at 5.30 pm on 15-2-2006.
  9. On the morning of 23-2-2006 acting on a tip-off, members of a security force managed to defuse in time a high-explosive land mine planted by KNU insurgents under the rail track near mile post No (176/28) on Yangon-Mandalay railway between Yedashe Station and Kyungon Station.
  10. A bomb went off in front of Taungoo BEHS No1 on the morning of 2-3-2006. Two hours later an explosion also occurred at a transformer near Panyoma women's hostel in Ward-20, Taungoo. Authorities in cooperation with local people rushed to the scene and nabbed Saw Gay The Mu (a) Nay La, 27, an operative of KNU Brigade-5 and his accomplices together with explosive devices.
  11. Acting on a tip-off from a local person, authorities exposed a mine planted 800 yards from the rail track between Yedashe and Kyungon Stations on 19-3-2006. The mine was kind of SOC used by KNU members. It was speculated that the mine was left behind before going off after KNU members had fled the scene as they failed their attempt at an inopportune time.
  12. A person lost his left ankle as he stepped on a land mine planted by KNU, five yards from Yangon-Mandalay Road between mile post Nos (119/3) and (119/4) in Khingyi Village, Penwegon, Kyaukdaga Township, at about 7 am on 22-4-2006. Conducting a thorough search led to the finding of a time bomb made with four pounds of TNT.
  13. An explosion occurred at a transformer near a branch road leading to Penwegon-Kyaukkyi in Kyaukdaga township at about 8 pm on 4-5-2006.
- (The above-mentioned cases have been exposed, and eight KNU members who were involved in the cases have been arrested in cooperation with the public.)

MNA



# Chinese Vice-President meets Lee Kuan Yew

BEIJING, 13 May — Chinese Vice-President Zeng Qinghong met here Friday with Singapore Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew.

Zeng reviewed the development of the China-Singapore ties over the past 16 years, saying the two countries had increased political trust and their cooperation had been fruitful.

He expressed China's appreciation to Singapore for its adherence to the one-China policy.

Zeng praised Lee as "a founder" of China-Singapore relations, and

for his long-term efforts and contribution to the improvement of bilateral friendship and cooperation.

He also briefed Lee on the development of Hong Kong and the Chinese Government's basic policy on Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Lee said Singapore was delighted with China's achievement in its economic and social development and the

growing momentum that Hong Kong had shown in its development under the policy of "one country, two systems".

He also reiterated that Singapore would abide by the one-China policy and oppose "Taiwan independence". Lee arrived in Beijing on Wednesday morning on an eight-day visit at the invitation of the Chinese Government.

MNA/Xinhua



Television and electronics shops display their products on a street in Hanoi on 14 May, 2006. Vietnam has reached an agreement with the United States that paves the way for the communist country to join the World Trade Organization, US and Vietnamese officials said on Sunday.—INTERNET



Tokyo Fire Department fireboats spray coloured water into the air during a fire drill pageant on water, as part of the Tokyo Minato Matsuri or Port Festival, in Tokyo Port, on 14 May, 2006. More than 400 firefighters participated in the annual event.—INTERNET

## Minutemen, protesters square off at US Capitol

WASHINGTON, 13 May—Illegal immigration protesters wrapped up a cross-country caravan on Friday with a rally in the shadow of the US Capitol, as immigrant-rights activists chanted for them to "go away".

Members of the Minuteman Project and other border-patrol groups warned the United States was in danger of being overrun by Mexicans if the Senate passes a bill that would give millions of illegal immigrants a chance to earn citizenship.

"They should be

rounded up and deported, every single one of them," John Clark of the American Immigration Control Foundation said to a cheering crowd of about two dozen. "Leave them here and in 10 years this will not be the United States of America."

Fifty yards away a

similar number of counter-protesters chanted "Minutemen go away, immigrants are here to stay" behind a line of police.

Millions of Latinos have taken to the streets in massive protests to demand greater civil rights in recent weeks. Minutemen founder Jim Gilchrist said such protests underlined the growing threat posed by the estimated 11.5 to 12 million illegal immigrants now in the country. "They are not assembling to protect their rights. They are assembling to strip us of our rights," Gilchrist said.

MNA/Reuters

## German mountaineer falls to death in Tibet

LHASA, 13 May — A German mountaineer fell to his death while descending Mount Cho Oyu in Tibet on Tuesday, a source with the China Tibet Mountaineering Association said Friday.

The man stumbled at an altitude of 7,800 metres and slid about 70 metres before hitting his head on a rock. He then fell into an ice chasm, said Zhang Mingxing, secretary-general of the association.

The association had notified the German Embassy in Beijing of the accident, Zhang said. However, local police and embassy officials were not available Friday evening to identify the man's name.

He was with a seven-member German climbing team that is still on the mountain, Zhang said. His colleagues could not be contacted for comment.

Mount Cho Oyu, which rises to 8,201 metres, is located near Mount Everest at the centre of the Himalayas.—MNA/Xinhua

## Japan reports 16 people of suspected H5N2 infection

TOKYO, 13 May — Sixteen people in Ibaraki Prefecture, eastern Japan, may have been infected with the less virulent H5N2 strain of avian influenza, *Kyodo News* reported Thursday, citing test results.

The number of people having been suspected of H5N2 infections in Japan thus rose to 93. Several outbreaks of H5N2 strain occurred in poultry farms around the region last year.—MNA/Xinhua

## Ethanol demand boosts corn prices

WASHINGTON, 14 May — As demand for ethanol zooms higher, Kansas corn farmer Ken McCauley expects higher prices for his crop.

"That's kind of the story across the country," said McCauley, who grows corn and soybeans in northeast Kansas. "There's a lot more buyers out there because of these ethanol plants and other

ways to use the corn."

The amount of corn used to make ethanol should increase by 34 percent over last year's use to 2.15 billion bushels, the department said Friday in its monthly crop report.

Meanwhile, the nation's soon-to-be-harvested winter wheat crop is on track to be the smallest since 2002, analysts said. Farmers are expected to produce 1.1 billion bushels of winter wheat, down 12

percent from last year.

Drought in Texas, Oklahoma and throughout the central and southern Great Plains has dramatically reduced yields, which should average 42.2 bushels an acre, down two bushels from last year, the report said. Wheat prices should be \$3.50 to \$4.10 a bushel, up from \$3.42 last year.

For corn, demand from ethanol plants as well as from foreign countries improved the price forecast to \$2.25 to \$2.65 a bushel, compared with last year's \$1.95 to \$2.05.

Demand has risen so sharply, the amount of corn in storage is expected to drop to half of last year levels, the department said.—Internet

## Woman gets shoulder massage from Tokyo burglar

TOKYO, 13 May — How about a little relaxation with your robbery?

A burglar gave a 35-year-old woman a shoulder massage for several hours after breaking into her apartment in central Tokyo and tying her up, police were quoted as saying on Friday.

He stole 210,000 yen (1,900 US dollars) in cash and her bank cash card, though he later mailed the card to her as she requested after withdrawing 980,000 yen from her account, *Kyodo* news agency said.

It said Lee Jin-se, 29, a South Korean, admitted the burglary and told police he lingered in the woman's apartment and gave her the massage "to relax her".

MNA/Reuters



John Wilcox unloads his combine while his son Dave drives the tractor alongside while harvesting corn in Springfield, Ill., in a file photo from 29 Sept, 2003. Escalating demand for ethanol will push corn prices higher this year, the Agriculture Department said.—INTERNET

### WHO confirms first human case of H5N1 in Djibouti

GENEVA, 13 May—The World Health Organization confirmed on Thursday a baby in Djibouti has infected with the H5N1 virus, the first human case of bird flu in the country.

The two-year-old girl was still alive, WHO spokesman Dick Thompson said, but he did not give any details about her health condition.

The Djibouti Government confirmed the case in capital Djibouti, saying three chickens had also been infected with the virus. But whether it was related to the human case was not clear for the time being.

“Djibouti thus becomes the first country in the Horn of Africa to have detected a human case and bird cases of H5N1,” the Djibouti Government said on the website of the official Djiboutian Information Agency.

The country’s Health Ministry said the government would further increase surveillance of the disease.—MNA/Xinhua

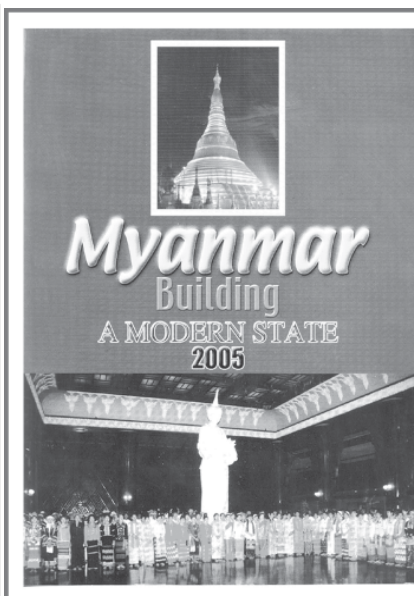
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**ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရန် ချိတ်ပိတ်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း**

စဉ်	ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအမည်	အရေအတွက်	တင်ဒါပိတ်ရက်
၁။	Cable Wire Accessories	1 Lot	၆.၆.၂၀၀၆
၂။	Vacuum Circuit Breaker	1 Lot	၆.၆.၂၀၀၆
၃။	Air Compressor For Ore Bin	1 Set	၆.၆.၂၀၀၆
၄။	Girth Gear and Accessories	1 Lot	၆.၆.၂၀၀၆
၅။	Kiln Supporting Roller With Shaft	4 Set	၆.၆.၂၀၀၆
၆။	Unit Cooler For Raw Mills	1 Unit	၆.၆.၂၀၀၆
၇။	Laboratory Apparatus & Load Cell	1 Lot	၆.၆.၂၀၀၆

အမှတ် (၁) ဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ မြန်မာ့ကြွေးမြီစာရင်းဦးစီးဌာန၊ ရောင်းဝယ်ရေးဌာန၊ အမှတ် (၁၉၂)၊ ကမ္ဘာ့အေးဘုရားလမ်း၊ ရန်ကင်းတိုင်း၊ ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ဆက်သွယ်စုံစမ်းပြီး တင်ဒါပုံစံများကို လာရောက် ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။  
တင်ဒါပုံစံတရားဝင်ဝယ်ယူမှုများအတွက် တင်ဒါကိုသာ လက်ခံပါမည်။  
(အသေးစိတ်သိလိုပါက စုံစမ်းရန်တယ်လီဖုန်း အမှတ်၊ ၅၆၆၂၉၂) မြန်မာ့ကြွေးမြီစာရင်းဦးစီးဌာန

**ကြော်ငြာများ လက်ခံပြီ**

- ဒီကျေးရွာရာနယ်သည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအရပ်ရပ်ရှိ မြို့နယ်ပေါင်း (၃၀၀) ကျော်သို့ စောင်ရေ (၁၄၀၀၀) ကျော်ဖြင့် တစ်လနစ်ကြိမ်ဖြန့်ချိလျက် ရှိပါသည်။
- လူကြီးမင်းများ၏ ကုန်ပစ္စည်းများအား ဒီကျေးရွာရာနယ်တွင် ကြော်ငြာ ဖြန့်ဖြူး ကျေးလက်ဒေသနေ ပြည်သူလူထုအထိ သိရှိအောင် ဆောင်ရွက်နိုင်ပါမည်။
- လူကြီးမင်းများ၏ ကုန်ပစ္စည်းများအား နိုင်ငံတစ်ဝန်းလုံးရှိ ပြည်သူလူထုများ သိရှိအောင် ဒီကျေးရွာရာနယ်မှ ကူညီဖော်ပြပေးလိုပါသည်။ ဆက်သွယ်ရန်-အမှတ် (၂၂)၊ ပန်းဆိုးတန်းလမ်း၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့၊ ဖုန်း-၃၃၁၃၄၀၊ ၃၃၁၃၄၂

**62 S African workers sent to hospitals after ammonia leak**

JOHANNESBURG, 13 May—Sixty-two factory workers were sent to different hospitals after an ammonia leak at an ice cream factory in Cape Town, South Africa. A chemical smell and “chemical visibility in the air” were reported by a member of the public, Cape Town’s municipal disaster management spokesman Johan Minnie told the South African Press Association (SAPA).—MNA/Xinhua

### Hungary opposes radical reform of EU agriculture

BUDAPEST, 13 May—As a largely agricultural country with an export-oriented wheat market, Hungary cannot support any radical agricultural reforms in the European Union (EU), a Hungarian Government Minister said on Thursday.

Jozsef Graf, Hungary’s Minister of Agriculture and Regional Development, told a two-day joint congress of the International Food and Agricultural Trade Policy Council and the European trade association COCERAL in Budapest, that Hungary’s agricultural sector had been export-oriented over the past 15 years.

Hungary’s annual cereal output of around 12 million tons exceeds the need for domestic consumption, which is around 8 million tons per year, he noted.

For the past two years following its EU accession, Hungary has accumulated substantial stocks of surplus cereals, partly as the result of an exceptionally good harvest last year, he said,

adding that the country’s contribution to the EU of its surplus wheat constitutes 50 per cent of the intervention stock of the 25-member bloc in the 2005-2006 fiscal year. Hungary’s maize contribution alone accounted for 82 per cent of the EU intervention stock, Graf said.

The minister said that 70 per cent of the Hungarian territory was arable land, and due to its landlocked conditions, the country’s transport costs significantly hiked up the price of its wheat.

Although the Hungarian Government is planning to enhance competitiveness in the sector, such as further promotion of animal husbandry, modernization in horticulture and better marketing, Hungary opposes radical EU reforms of agriculture, Graf said.

Hungary is not in favour of changing the Common Agricultural Policy unless in areas that are absolutely necessary, the minister said.

At the joint con-

gress, EU Agriculture Commissioner Mariann Fischer Boel warned against the size of the EU’s intervention wheat stock, which has swollen from 3 million tons in 2004 to 18 million tons at present, calling for reform of the grain market.

Key topics on the congress agenda also include agricultural negotiations at the World Trade Organization, impact of EU

enlargement and sustainability goals, including expansion in biofuels trade.—MNA/Xinhua

### Bolivia accuses foreign oil firms of operating illegally

VIENNA, 13 May—Bolivian President Evo Morales on Thursday accused foreign oil companies of having long evaded taxes and smuggled out Bolivian oil under

“unconstitutional” contracts. The President told a news conference before a three-day EU-Latin America summit in Vienna that Bolivia’s na-

tionalization of the energy sector was aimed to reclaim its national resources. Morales warned that some companies may not be compensated after the energy nationalization.

“If they have recovered their investment then there is no reason to compensate them whatsoever,” he said. Morales said foreign firms have been pillaging the resource-rich Bolivia for more than five centuries and “this has to end now”. “What we are looking for ... are partners, not bosses to exploit our natural resources,” he said. Morales said more than 70 contracts with foreign companies are “unconstitutional” ones negotiated secretly. “Any new contract, bilateral or multilateral must be ratified by Congress,” he said.—MNA/Xinhua



Marianela Nunez as the Lilac Fairy performs during a dress rehearsal for the ballet "The Sleeping Beauty" at The Royal Opera House in London, on 12 May, 2006. The first public performance of the ballet will be on 15 May, 2006.—INTERNET



ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွံ့ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

China to arrange overseas exams for certified accountants

HONG KONG, 13 May— China's Ministry of Finance will arrange overseas examinations for certified accountants, said a Chinese official here on Friday.

Wang Jun, Deputy Finance Minister said at the one-day international conference on China and Global Capital Markets that the move is to be taken to help implement the globalization strategy of the Chinese Mainland professional accountants, and foster the overseas certified accountants forces.

The conference is jointly held by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Wang, also secretary-general of China Accounting Standards Committee, said Chinese ventures' entering into the international capital market, their obtaining of overseas funding all impose practical requirements to the Chinese professional accountants.

Chinese Mainland accountants will be encouraged to obtain certifications of overseas certified accountants, he added.

Wang said that in the Chinese Mainland exams for certified accountants, English will be a must-exam in the near future.

He said the ministry will strengthen ties with the international accounting organizations to launch more training programmes for Mainland accountants.

Wang said to improve the competitiveness of big

accounting firms is another task for the ministry.

The effective management of the listed companies is the foundation for the capital market and the good service of the accounting firms for the listed ventures is closely linked to the sound development of the capital market.

MNA/Xinhua

Udo Jost of the International Tracing Service (ITS) is seen in the ITS archive in central German town of Bad Arolsen, on 10 May, 2006. Picture taken on 10 May, 2006.—INTERNET



Alligator kills Florida jogger near canal

MIAMI, 13 May— An alligator grabbed and killed a Florida woman who disappeared while jogging near a canal, a medical examiner determined on Thursday.

Construction workers found the woman's dismembered body floating on Wednesday in a canal in Sunrise, a northwest suburb of Fort Lauderdale. An autopsy showed she died of bleeding and shock from alligator bites.

"The alligator attacked her and basically amputated her arms, bit her on the leg and back and pulled her into the water," said Dr Joshua Perper, the Broward County medical examiner, who performed the autopsy. "She died extremely fast. By the time she was pulled into the water, she was already dead." —MNA/Reuters



Grammy winning singer songwriter Melissa Etheridge applauds graduates of the Class of 2006 at the Berklee College of Music commencement in Boston, Massachusetts, on 13 May, 2006. Etheridge was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Music degree from Berklee College of Music.—INTERNET

French aircraft manufacturer to expand Chinese market

BEIJING, 13 May— The France-based regional aircraft manufacturer ATR announced here Thursday plans to expand further into the Chinese aircraft market with a representative office in Beijing.

Avions de Transport Regional, the world leader in the 50 to 70-seater turboprop aircraft, planned to strengthen its cooperation with Chinese airlines, said Filippo Bagnato, chief executive officer, in Beijing.

"We should further strengthen ties with Chinese industry, grow market opportunities in the region, and have a permanent presence in this important market," Bagnato said.

Since 1998, China Southern Airlines Xinjiang Company has been operating five ATR 72-500s, the only turboprop regional aircraft in China.

China, with a population of 1.3 billion, have a total

of 784 passenger aircraft, including 76 regional aircraft. The United States, with a population of less than 300 million, has 8,650 operational passenger aircraft, including 3,200 regional aircraft. The US has 1,534 turboprop regional aircraft.

"In the coming 15 years, the commercial aviation market will expand significantly in China," Bagnato said. "ATR will supply state-of-the-art aircraft with jet-like comfort." The revival of the turboprop was due to the soaring price of crude oil, to the growth in regional air traffic, and to pressure on airlines to reduce costs.

MNA/Xinhua

MTV to expand into Internet, mobile value-added services in China

BEIJING, 13 May— Global broadcaster MTV Networks will expand into Internet and mobile value-added services in China, China Daily reported on Friday.

"I am not discouraged, but encouraged by what is happening in China," William Roedy, vice-chairman of MTV Networks and president of MTV Networks International, was quoted by the

newspaper as saying.

There are more than 340 million families with access to TV broadcasting, over 400 million mobile phone users and 111 million Internet users in China.

These figures are

expected to continue growing in coming years with more demand for value-added services, the newspaper said.

Although China has allowed foreign broadcasters to establish joint

ventures relating to content production, broadcasting is still forbidden.

MTV, the entertainment channel that is owned by media giant Viacom, is aired in the Pearl River Delta in South China and a number of luxury residences and hotels in other parts of the country.

MNA/Xinhua



Indonesia's Merapi volcano releases a huge cloud of hot gas on 14 May, 2006 as seen from Pekam village on the outskirts of Yogyakarta, the provincial capital of Central Java province, Indonesia. Villages on Mount Merapi were left virtually empty, although some residents returned to its slopes Sunday to tend their animals and crops after officials raised the alert status of the Merapi volcano to the highest level, meaning that an eruption is imminent.—INTERNET

Scientists identify "routes" of sandstorms in China

HONHOT, 13 May— Chinese meteorologists claim to have identified the "routes" used by winds that cause sandstorms in China.

A ten-year research project found that sandstorms affecting China were closely related to the cold front from Siberia, said Kang Ling, deputy head of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Regional Meteorological Station. The front swirls through large desert areas, including the Gobi Desert, often combining with cyclones in Mongolia and bringing sandstorms to China, said Kang. Kang said

the front arrived in China via three routes.

On the east, the front runs southward through central and eastern Mongolia, affecting northeast China, central and eastern Inner Mongolia, Shanxi and Hebei Provinces and areas to the south of these regions.

The central route goes southward through central and western Mongolia, affecting central and western Inner Mongolia

and eastern areas of northwest China, central and southern parts of north China and regions to the south of these areas.

To the west, the front blows southward through western Mongolia and northeast Kazakhstan, affecting northeastern part of Xinjiang, the westernmost region of China, north China and areas to the south of these regions.—MNA/Xinhua



# SPORTS



Racing Santander player Jonathan Valle, centre, tries to get past Villarreal players Quique Alvarez, left, and Alessio Tachinardi of Italy, right, during their Spanish league soccer match at Madrigal Stadium in Villarreal, Spain, on 13 May, 2006.—INTERNET

## Espanyol escape relegation, Sevilla beat Barca

MADRID, 14 May— King's Cup winners Espanyol escaped relegation by the skin of their teeth on Saturday after a dramatic stoppage time goal from midfielder Ferran Corominas earned them a 1-0 win at home to Real Sociedad. Fellow strugglers Alaves looked as if they were the team that would avoid the drop after they took a 1-0 lead against Deportivo Coruna, but Corominas' late strike destroyed their hopes of survival and sent the Basque team down. Dimitry Piterman's side will join Malaga and Cadiz in the Second Division next season. UEFA Cup winners Sevilla continued a week of celebrations and boosted their hopes of earning a place in the Champions League when they beat a second string Barcelona 3-2. Barca, resting eight first choice players for Wednesday's Champions League final against Arsenal, fought back from two goals down to level at 2-2, but a late strike from Sevilla striker Kepa earned the home side a vital win. —MNA/Reuters

## Scott slips back into tie for Byron Nelson lead

HOUSTON, 14 May — Australia's Adam Scott lost momentum after a fast start to drop back into a tie for the lead at the Byron Nelson Championship in Irving, Texas on Saturday.

The 25-year-old from Adelaide bogeyed three of the last seven holes on the TPC at Las Colinas for a one-under-par 69, ending the third round at 11-under 199.

Level with Scott was South African Trevor Immelman, who charged into contention with a flawless 64 in bright sunshine to match Jeff Sluman for the best score of the day. American Brett Wetterich, co-leader with Scott overnight, returned a 70 to sit third at 10 under with compatriots Joe Ogilvie (69), Charley Hoffman (65), Omar Uresti (69) and Chad Campbell (65) a further two strokes back in a tie for fourth.

"It was a little disappointing not to keep it going after playing so well over the front nine," world number nine Scott told reporters.

"I got caught out a couple of times with the wind direction and found myself in a bit of bother out there.

"But I'm still in the same position as when I teed off and I'm looking forward to playing with Trevor tomorrow," added the Australian, who is chasing his fourth PGA Tour title.

"I know I'm swinging well. I've just got to do it again tomorrow. Hopefully I'll also make a few putts."

Producing superb form with his pitching wedge, Scott birdied four of the first eight holes to forge four strokes clear of the chasing pack at 14 under.

He struck approach shots to four feet at the second, eight feet at the fourth, three feet at the seventh and to within 10 feet of the flag at the eighth to stay on track for his fourth PGA Tour title. —MNA/Reuters

## Reina the hero as Liverpool win final shootout

CARDIFF, 14 May — Liverpool won the FA Cup for the seventh time on Saturday beating West Ham United 3-1 on penalties after the teams drew an epic final 3-3 after extra time.

Liverpool keeper Jose Reina saved three of the four West Ham penalties he faced, becoming their hero after handing West Ham two goals with errors earlier in the match.

One of the greatest of all the 125 FA Cup finals was taken into extra time by a stunning last-minute 30-metre shot by Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard, equalizing for the second time in the match.

West Ham had gone ahead when Jamie Carragher turned a low cross into his own goal after 20 minutes and went 2-0 up eight minutes later when Dean Ashton pounced after Reina

spilled a Matthew Etherington shot.

Djibril Cisse pulled one back with a neat volley

after 32 minutes and Gerrard, whose pinpoint pass led to that goal, levelled with a thunderous

shot in the 54th as both teams poured everything into attack.

Just when it appeared that West Ham had lost their impetus as well as their lead, they suddenly regained it from an unexpected source in the 64th minute. —MNA/Reuters



Liverpool's Peter Crouch attempts an overhead kick against West Ham United during the FA Cup final soccer match at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, Wales, on 13 May, 2006.—INTERNET

## Bremen beat Hamburg, snatch 2nd place in finale

BERLIN, 14 May— Werder Bremen snatched second place and direct qualification into the Champions League with a thrilling 2-1 victory at Hamburg SV on the final day of the Bundesliga season.

Miroslav Klose scored the winner 18 minutes from time which lifted Bremen up from third at the expense of Hamburg, who now enter the third qualifying round for the Champions League.

"It's hard to find words for this, the disappointment is so great," said

Hamburg coach Thomas Doll. "It really hurts."

Hamburg had been second most of the season but lost two of their final three matches, while Bremen's win gave them 17 points in their last seven games.

Bayern Munich, who clinched their 20th German championship a week

ago, drew 3-3 at home against Borussia Dortmund to finish the season with 75 points, ahead of Bremen on 70 and Hamburg 68.

At the bottom of the table, VfL Wolfsburg secured 15th place with a 2-2 draw against Kaiserslautern, who finished one point behind them and were relegated along with Cologne and MSV Duisburg.

Klose, the Bundesliga's top scorer with 25 goals ahead of Bayer Leverkusen's Dimitar Berbatov with 21, found an opening between two defenders on the left to tap in a cross 12 minutes after Sergej Barbarez had equalized with a fine header.



Germany's IBF middleweight champion Arthur Abraham, right, and his challenger Kofi Jantuah bout from Ghana fight during their world title boxing bout in Zwickau, eastern Germany, on Saturday night, 13 May, 2006. Abraham won by decision.—INTERNET

MNA/Reuters

## Lille clinch last Champions League ticket

PARIS, 14 May— Lille claimed a Champions League third qualifying round spot after a 2-2 draw at Stade Rennes in a nail-biting last round of matches in Ligue 1 on Saturday.

The northerners finished third in the standings with 62 points, two more than arch-rivals RC Lens, who beat Nantes 3-1.

Lens finished fourth and qualified for the UEFA Cup.

Olympique Marseille, who had still hoped to qualify for the Champions League, ended almost empty-handed.

The Provence side, who were reduced to 10 men after defender Abdoulaye

Meite was sent off for a second bookable offence on 70 minutes, were held 1-1 at second-placed Girondins Bordeaux.

Franck Ribery, who hopes to be included in France's 23-man squad for the World Cup on Sunday, missed a penalty in the 27th minute. Marseille finished fifth and will play in the Intertoto Cup.

MNA/Reuters

## Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

1	A	2	M	3	A	4	A	5	L	6	D			
7	B	R	I	D	G	E	8	A	S	S	I	Z	E	
	R	N	L		9	A	P	N	C					
10	A	B	S	C	O	N	D	11	H	Y	E	N	A	
	H	T	W		M	A	N	Y						
12	A	P	E	X		13	W	I	E	L	D			
	M	R		14	A	R	T	15	A	16	S			
				17	D	R	E	A	D	18	B	L	O	C
19	A	H		20	S		L	21	S	C	U			
22	D	R	O	N	E		23	T	A	K	E	O	F	F
	A	I	N		Y		A	H	F					
24	G	O	S	S	I	P		25	S	T	R	O	L	L
	E	T	C					E	L	E				

## Doctor says Rooney making good progress

LONDON, 14 May— Injured England forward Wayne Rooney is taking very positive steps in his bid to be fit for the World Cup finals, England doctor Leif Sward said.

"I talked to the doctors in Manchester and the report they gave me was very, very positive," Sward was quoted as saying by British media on Saturday. "I can say they have done a tremendous job with Wayne."

Rooney was photographed riding a bicycle at Manchester United's Carrington training ground on Friday as he battles to recover from a broken foot ahead of the World Cup finals. —MNA/Reuters



French soccer Ligue 1 champion Olympique Lyon's team celebrate their fifth running title in the Gerland Stadium in Lyon on 13 May, 2006.—INTERNET



# Massive anti-US candle-lit vigil in Seoul

SEOUL, 14 May — Thousands of South Korean students, labour union members and residents gathered on Saturday near the US Embassy in downtown Seoul on a candle-lit vigil to protest a plan of US military base expansion in the country.

The protesters, from more than 100 civic groups, called for the release of the protesters arrested during a bloody conflict with police on 4 May in Pyongtaek, where the government is planning to build the largest

US military base in South Korea.

The gathering is part of a plan to stop the expansion of the US Camp Humphreys in Pyongtaek, 65 kilometres south of Seoul. The protesters will move to a university campus in Seoul at about 10 pm local time (1300 GMT) and march to Pyongtaek on Sunday morning. Hundreds of protesters held rallies near the US Embassy and the Defence Ministry earlier on the day.

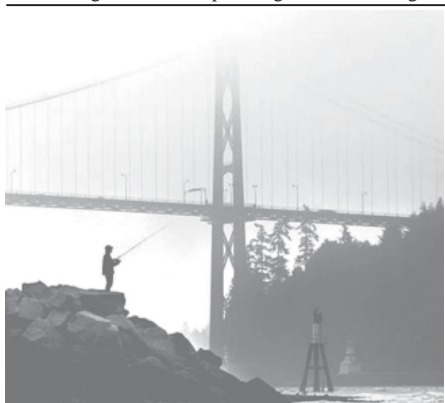
The organizer of the vigil said in a statement that they would hold rallies "as scheduled in a peaceful and popular manner, with people from all walks of life participating".

More than 6,000 riot police were deployed around the US Embassy in case of violent clashes.

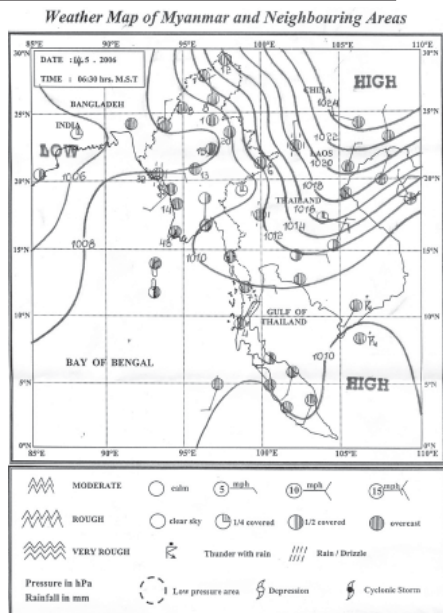
The traffic near the US Embassy is almost paralyzed, but no physical conflict between protesters and police were reported.

The *Yonhap News* reported that more than 8,000 riot police and 3,000 troops had already been dispatched to Pyongtaek and will block the way from Seoul to the US military base.

On 4 May, more than 120 people, including both protesters and police, were injured during bloody clashes when police tried to evict protesters from a building in the compound of the US Camp Humphreys. More than 400 others were arrested by the police during the clashes.— *MNA/Xinhua*



Canada's emissions of greenhouse gases are now 35 per cent above the level it promised to reach under the Kyoto climate change accord and the country would have to ground every train, plane and car to meet its target, Environment Minister Rona Ambrose said on Wednesday. In this file photo a sport fisherman stands on rocks at the mouth of the Capilano River in North Vancouver, British Columbia, as the early morning fog covers the Lions Gate Bridge.—INTERNET



## WEATHER

Sunday, 14 May, 2006

### Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:

During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah, Kayin and Mon States and rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Magway Division, scattered in Chin and Rakhine States, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan State and upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (4°C) above normal in Kayin State, (6°C) about normal in Taninthayi Division, (3°C) below normal in Shan State, and Bago Division. (7°C) to (8°C) below normal in Kachin State and Sagaing Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Minbu (40°C) and Magway (39°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfalls recorded were Gwa (2.72) inches, Heho (2.24) inches, Kengtung (2.05) inches, Patheingyi (1.97) inches. Katha (1.57) inches, Hsipaw (1.53) inches and Mogoke (1.50) inches.

Maximum temperature on 13-5-2006 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 14-5-2006 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 14-5-2006 was (79%). Total sunshine hours on 13-5-2006 was (6.7) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 14-5-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and (0.04) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (7.01) inches at Mingaladon, (8.39) inches at Kaba-Aye and (7.13) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (12:30) hours MST on 13-5-2006.

**Bay inference:** Weather is partly cloudy in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 15-5-2006:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Shan, Rakhine, Mon, Kayin States and Taninthayi Division, scattered in Kachin State, Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady, Sagaing, and Mandalay Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of increase of thundery conditions in the Southern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 15-5-2006:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 15-5-2006:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 15-5-2006:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).



Monday, 15 May  
View on today

- 7:00 am
  1. ရွေးကောက်ပွဲ မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံယ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာပာဌဂုဗ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာပာဌဒုဗ္ဗဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:15 am
  2. တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသိရိဗ္ဗဘိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်)၊ ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တီပါဠိတော်
- 7:25 am
  3. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
  4. Morning news
- 7:40 am
  5. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am
  6. Song of national races
- 8:00 am
  7. အတီးဖြိုင်ပွဲ

- 8:05 am
  8. Cute little dancers
- 8:10 am
  9. အရေဖြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:20 am
  10. ဟင်းရှက်ရေလှောင်တစ်
- 8:30 am
  11. International news
- 8:45 am
  12. Grammar Made Easy
- 4:00 pm
  1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
  2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
  3. Practice in Reading
- 4:45 pm
  4. Musical programme
- 4:55 pm
  5. အဆေးတက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (ပထဝီဝင်အထူးပြု) (ရုက္ခဗေဒ)
- 5:10 pm
  6. Dance of variety
- 5:20 pm
  7. အတီးဖြိုင်ပွဲ
- 5:25 pm
  8. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 5:35 pm
  9. Song and dance of national races

- 5:40 pm
  10. "သတိနဲ့ယှဉ် အသိနဲ့ပြင်" (ဝါးခေမရဲမောင်၊ ဘုန်းလှနု၊ မြတ်ကောင်းအောင်၊ ရတနာအင်း၊ ဟန်နီထွန်း၊ ပြည့်ဖူးစိုင်း၊ နိနီရွှေရည်၊ ဆောင်းနင်းဆေး၊ ငြိမ်းစိုင်းသိန်း၊ ခိုင်စန်းလှိုင်၊ (ဒေါ်ရီက်တာ-မင်းအုပ်စိုး)
- 5:50 pm
  11. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)
- 6:00 pm
  12. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
  13. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
  14. Industrial achievement
- 6:45 pm
  15. Musical programme
- 7:00 pm
  16. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "မေတ္တာနုနု" (အပိုင်း-၁၁)
- 8:00 pm
  17. News
- 8:30 pm
  18. International news
- 8:45 pm
  19. Weather report
- 9:00 pm
  20. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "အိပ်မက်ကမ္ဘာ" (အပိုင်း-၁၃)
- 9:15 pm
  21. The next day's programme



Monday, 15 May  
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music:
  - Love rendezvous...
  - No People
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music:
  - Don't turn around ...Ace of Base
- 8:50 am National news / Slogan
- 9:00 am Music:
  - White Horse... Jocy Johnson
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: Venus ...Mareen
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40pm Lunch time music
  - Radio Heart ... Charly McCLain
  - Anywhere for you...BSB
- 9:00pm -Indian Sitar Recital
- 9:15 pm Article
- 9:25 pm Vocal Gems
  - Love'll turn around...Kennny Rogers
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

## Local and foreign journalists study development of Southern Command area in Bago Division, troubles of local people caused by racism, power struggles and bullying of KNU insurgents, terrorist acts such as massacres, torching and mine blasts committed by KNU

YANGON, 14 May — Chairman of the Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, together with journalists, on 13 May went on study tour to witness measures taken for ensuring security and the rule of law and all-round developments in Htatabin Township and Thabyenyunt Village on eastern side of Sittoung River and Mone region of Kyaukkyi Township in Bago Division of Southern Command as well as troubles of residential people caused by racism, power struggle and bullying among KNU insurgents and terrorist acts such as massacres, setting of fire  
(See page 10)



Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Dean of Diplomatic Corp and members, local and foreign journalists ask after the patients lost parts of body due to mine blast committed by KNU insurgents. —MNA

## NLD not serving interests of locals becoming group of good-for-nothing Tarnishing image of the nation in collusion with terrorist groups 28 members resign from Mogaung Township NLD

YANGON 14 May — Twenty eight members of Mogaung Township National League for Democracy including Township executives U Sein Aung and U Z Kham Guam of Mogaung Township National League for Democracy, Monyin District, Kachin State, resigned from the National League for Democracy signing their resignation letters of their own accord and sending the copies of resignation to NLD headquarters and local authorities. At a ceremony held at the Mogaung Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-Commission Office, on 7 May, the 28 NLD members submitted their resignation letters.

Present on the occasion were the chairman of Mogaung Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-Commission, the township law officer, the township justice, the township education officer, the head of township Immigration and National Registration Department, the executive officer of township Development Affairs Committee, head of township revenue department, head of township forestry department and the 28 NLD members. Member of Mogaung Township NLD U Hla Aung acted as masters of ceremonies.

On behalf of the 28 NLD members, U Z Kham Guam explained the cause of their resignation from NLD saying that NLD did not serve the interests of locals but instead becoming a group of good-for-nothing and thus they should not join hands with the self-

seekers who were concentrating on grabbing power. He continued to say that NLD was in no position to take a leadership role in the region and they failed to show a good example in carrying out the tasks of national unity. Moreover, there was division among party members as all party members stuck to personality cult and sectarianism. The activities of NLD did not contribute to regional and national development but posed danger to regional stability. Although the entire people have witnessed development of the State, NLD, with negative views and in collusion with external terrorist groups, was tarnishing the image of the nation. Moreover, according to the decision of the so-called party leader, NLD walked out of the National Convention which is designed to shape a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Deviating from the original goals, NLD relied on external elements and thus party members no longer had trust in the party. Turning a blind eye to the national development, NLD stayed aloof from the people and became a separate class. In conclusion, he said that they resigned from NLD of their own volition as they want to truly serve the interests of the nation and the people.

Next, on behalf of the 28 NLD members, Mogaung Township NLD party member U Tin Ngwe presented the resignation letters and materials they used when they were membership to the NLD, to the chairman of the sub-commission.—MNA

### INSIDE

*At a time when the world is seeing the expeditious development of ICT in all sectors, it is incumbent upon e-National Task Force, Myanmar Info-Tech Corporation, Myanmar Computer Federation and their congenial organizations to try their best for development of ICT in Myanmar.*

PAGE 2

PERSPECTIVES

### Weather Forecast for 15-5-2006

#### Nay Pyi Taw & neighbouring areas

Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers.

Degree of certainty is (60%).

#### Yangon & neighbouring areas

One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of

certainty is (80%).

#### Mandalay & neighbouring areas

Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers.

Degree of certainty is (60%).