

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIV, Number 34

9th Waning of Kason 1368 ME

Saturday, 20 May, 2006

Senior General Than Shwe sends congratulations to President of Republic of Italy

YANGON, 20 May — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to Mr Giorgio Napolitano, who has been elected as President of the Republic of Italy. — MNA

Preparations for Special Jade Sales-2006 inspected



YANGON, 19 May — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thien Lin inspected dredging of Thamaing creek along Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township, Yangon West District, this morning.

Later, the commander and the mayor also inspected repaving of Mindhamma Road with asphalt, measures for paving the Myanmar Convention Centre's compound, preparations for the Special Jade Sales for 2006 at the compound and repaving of the entrance road to University of West Yangon with asphalt, and they left instructions to officials concerned.

MNA



Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thien Lin inspect jade lots displayed for the June-July-2006 Special Sales at Myanmar Convention Centre.

MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 20 May, 2006

Conserve biodiversity for balanced environment

Many parts of the world are under the threat of various forms of environmental degradation such as deforestation, desertification, soil erosion, and decreasing of water resources. In addition, many countries are facing climatic changes that cause deforestation alongside decreasing and extinction of biological diversity.

Myanmar formed the National Commission for Environmental Conservation in 1990. The commission has been collaborating with congenial ministries in its drive for environmental conservation. The Myanmar Environmental Conservation and 21st Century Action Plan has been implemented since 1997, some programmes of which are designed to conserve forests and a wide diversity of flora and fauna.

Biodiversity means the existence of a large number of different kinds of animals and plants such as tropical forests, hilly forests, Indaing forests and mangrove forests which make a balanced environment. Over 7,000 species of plants grow in Myanmar. There are more than 9,000 species of birds in the world, and about 1,000 of them can be seen in Myanmar.

The government mobilizes participation of local residents in an endeavour to protect and conserve watershed forests, a wide range of rare species of animals and trees and flowery plants that are in danger of extinction, for environmental conservation. All necessary measures are being taken effectively for conservation of Myanmar biodiversity in the Minsontaung Wildlife Sanctuary in Natogyi Township and the Shwettaw Wildlife Sanctuary in Minbu Township.

It is encouraging to witness Myanmar's stepping up tasks for protection and conservation of local flora and fauna, while the world has been paying a serious attention to the environmental conservation in the long-term interests of the global people.

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၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ် ရွေးကောက်ပွဲ

- * 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

Regional development tasks in Hpa-an Township inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 19 May — Kayin State Peace and Development Council Chairman Col Khin Kyu together with departmental officials inspected tasks of the rice mill at Tawgyitun Village in Hpa-an Township on 8 May.

Next, Col Khin Kyu gave instructions on planting flowery and shade trees and growing physic nut plants on both sides of Strand Road at Barkat GCC. Afterwards, Col Khin Kyu inspected plantation of 24,000 physic nut plants at the river water pumping station, and gave necessary instructions. — MNA

Promotion of Myanmar hockey discussed



Director U Hla Myint of Pedrollo presents hockey balls to MHF President Brig-Gen Myo Myint (Retd). — MHF

YANGON, 19 May — Myanmar Hockey Federation held the special meeting at Theinbyu Hockey Pitch, here, yesterday.

President of Myanmar Hockey Federation Brig-Gen Myo Myint (Retd) gave a speech. Vice-President U Kyaw Naing and executives gave suggestions on enhancement of Myanmar hockey standard.

President Brig-Gen Myo Myint (Retd) accepted hockey balls for students of North Okkalapa BEHS No 1 donated by Shwe Thanlwin Co Chairman U Kyaw Win through MHF Vice-President U Kyaw Naing; and hockey balls for Hlegu BEHS by Director U Hla Myint of Pedrollo Water Pump Co. Myanmar Hockey Federation is making arrangements to invite hockey teams abroad and to hold the tune-up

C-in-C (Navy)'s Shield Football Championship concludes

YANGON, 19 May — A ceremony to present prizes to winners in the Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s Shield Football Championship 2006 was held at the sports ground in Thanlyin Station this afternoon.

Among the spectators at the final match were senior naval officers, Tatmadawmen and family members of Yangon Station and Thanlyin Station.

After the final match, officials presented the best player award and player awards for respective places to the winners.

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), Captain Aye Pe of Ayeyawady Naval Region Command awarded championship trophy to the winning team. — MNA

Deputy Commander inspects physic nut plantations in Lashio

NAY PYI TAW, 19 May — Deputy Commander of North-East Command Brig-Gen Hla Myint, accompanied by staff officers of the command, inspected 120,000 saplings at the physic nut nursery of the command headquarters in Lashio on 13 May.

The deputy commander and party also inspected thriving 100 acres of quality physic nut plantation of the command, and left instructions.

At the briefing hall of 1,000 acres of physic nut plantation being undertaken by Hnin Hnin Khaing Co Ltd, the deputy commander heard reports on the plantation and attended to the needs.

Later, the deputy commander proceeded to 100 acres plantation of physic nut at No 1 highland zone and gave necessary instructions to the officials. — MNA



UMFCCI President U Win Myint receives Japanese Chambers of Commerce and Industry Chairman Mr Toshinao Muto. — UMFCCI

UMFCCI President meets JCCY Chairman

YANGON, 19 May — Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry President U Win Myint received Japanese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Yangon (JCCY) Chairman Mr Toshinao Muto at the

UMFCCI Office on 17 May afternoon. They cordially discussed cooperation of the entrepreneurs of the two associations, jointly holding of the meetings of Japan-Myanmar CCI Business Cooperation Committee and exchange of business information. It was also attended by Former JCCY Chairman Mr Yasuo Okuda, General Secretary Mr Tomohiro Ando and Director Mr Murayama Taichi. — MNA

Russia-China ties reaching “unprecedented high”

BEIJING, 18 May— Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Viktorovich Lavrov said Tuesday that Russia-China ties have reached an unprecedented high. “Russia-China cooperation has reached an unprecedented level and the two countries are competent to address all issues between them,” Lavrov told a Press

conference Tuesday afternoon. The meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Hu Jintao in March upgraded the bilateral ties to a new level, Lavrov said, adding that a series of meetings will further spur the Russia-China cooperation in energy, machinery, high tech and

transportation. Moreover, he called for the stronger energy cooperation among the member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), a six-member regional cooperation organization. “A major task of SCO is to step up the economic and trade cooperation in the region,” Lavrov ac-

knowledgeled. SCO still gives priority to tackling new challenges and threats and cracking down on three forces of terrorism, separatism and extremism, he said. Lavrov held talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing Tuesday morning after he attended the SCO foreign ministers’ meeting in Shanghai Monday. The two foreign ministers signed several agreements and discussed issues concerning the border demarcation, environmental protection, cooperation at time of emergency and other issues of common concern.

MNA/Xinhua



Visitors view the Mercedes Benz racing car SLR McLaren during the Seventh Hangzhou International Automobile Exhibition in Hangzhou, capital of east China’s Zhejiang Province, on 18 May, 2006.—INTERNET

Venezuela accuses US of trying to spoil its stability

CARACAS, 18 May — Venezuela on Tuesday accused the United States of promoting a “pointless” destabilization campaign against it, saying that it was not interested in buying weapons from Washington.

The accusation came one day after the United States decided to impose an arms embargo on Venezuela because of alleged lack of support for counterterrorism efforts.

using the excuse of anti-terror war to ban arms sales to the Venezuelan Government led by President Hugo Chavez, and intended to make Venezuela incapable of defending itself, the

Venezuelan Foreign Ministry said in a statement. It accused the United States again of preparing to attack and isolate the democratically-elected government in Venezuela.

Venezuelan Vice-President Jose Vicente Rangel also said in a statement that his country had little intention to buy US arms as it could purchase them from any other nations.

MNA/Xinhua



French actresses Ludivine Sagnier (L-R), Juliette Binoche, and Aïssa Maïga arrive for the screening of ‘Paris Je T’aime’ which opens the ‘Un Certain Regard’ competition at the 59th Cannes Film Festival, on 18 May, 2006.—INTERNET

Laos finds first bird flu case since 2004

BANGKOK, 18 May— The H5N1 bird flu strain has been found in a duck in Laos, but there is no sign that the virus is spreading, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said on Wednesday.

The isolated case in a backyard farm 20 kilometres (12 miles) south of Vientiane is the first since the Southeast Asian nation reported an outbreak among poultry in early 2004.

MNA/Reuters

Friend left as deposit at gas station

BERLING, 18 May— A German woman left her friend as a deposit at a gas station because she did not have enough cash to pay for her petrol, police said on Wednesday.

“She didn’t have enough money to pay the bill, so her friend stayed behind as a human deposit while she went to withdraw cash,” said a spokesman for police in the southern town of Muenchberg. “Unfortunately, the woman did not return.”

Two hours after the 20-year-old driver left, the gas station called the police, who interrogated the stranded “deposit” before releasing her. Police are investigating the driver on suspicion of fraud. —Internet



A Bolivian employee at a Petrobras gas station pumps gas in the Bolivian city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, on 18 May, 2006. The president of Bolivia’s state oil company YPFB Jorge Alvarado said on Wednesday that a string of foreign firms want to invest in the South American country’s energy sector despite the leftist government’s sweeping nationalization. —INTERNET



Anti-war activist Cindy Sheehan greets an anti-war rally outside the White House in Washington, on 18 May, 2006. —INTERNET

Four US troops killed as Iraqis wrangle on govt

BAGHDAD, 18 May—A roadside bomb near Baghdad killed four US soldiers on Thursday and Iraq’s leaders fought last-minute battles for jobs in a much delayed national unity government before a parliament vote scheduled for Saturday.

An Iraqi interpreter also died in the blast northwest of the capital in the type of violence Washington hopes a grand coalition of Shi’ites, Sunnis and Kurds will start to tackle after five months of stalemate.

Prime Minister-designate Nuri al-Maliki is juggling with a host of

names put forward by the various political parties for the posts already broadly allocated to them, negotiators said. Factional fighting within Maliki’s own Shi’ite Alliance bloc and others was complicating the task of appointing ministers to be confirmed

in Saturday’s expected parliamentary vote. Hundreds of people are killed every month in Baghdad alone, their bodies turning up often handcuffed and mutilated. Tens of thousands of people have also fled their homes in fear. Internet

Russian FM says negotiation only way to solve Iran N-issue

Moscow, 18 May—Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Wednesday that negotiation was the only way to solve Iran's nuclear issue and expected the Central Asian state to respond "constructively" to a new offer that the key European Union (EU) nations will present.

It is necessary to involve Iran in dialogue, and the sides "agreed to continue mutually advantageous talks," Lavrov said, referring to a meeting of foreign ministers from six major countries in New York on

8 May, the *ITAR-TASS* news agency reported.

The EU is set to offer a cooperation deal in its latest bid to find a diplomatic solution to Iran's nuclear issue. Three major European powers — Britain, France and Germany — are considering supplying Iran with a light-water nuclear reactor as part of the deal to persuade Teheran to give up its controversial nuclear programme, diplomats in Vienna said on Tuesday.

"Such proposals are being prepared. We hope that Iran will respond

constructively. This is the only way to settle the situation," Lavrov said after talks with his Sudanese counterpart Lam Akol.

"I'm pleased that certain states whose policy was aimed at isolating Iran and imposing sanctions have agreed to enter direct talks with Iran over its nuclear programme," he said.

The EU wants to convince Teheran to abandon its uranium enrichment activities and curb its heavy-water nuclear reactor programme.—*MNA/Xinhua*

ဝက်မုၢ်မိးအား ဒေတ်ကျော်ဖွား



Yellow Tang and Blue Palett Surgeon fish pick fishbait packed ball, looking like playing soccer on a football field shaped fishtank at the Hakkeijima Sea Paradise aquarium in Yokohama, suburban Tokyo, on 18 May, 2006. If the forecasts are to be believed, Japan's players in next month's World Cup are small fish in a big pond.—INTERNET



View of Venezuela's Amuay oil refinery at daybreak in Punto Fijo, 545km (340 miles) west of Caracas, on 18 May, 2006.—INTERNET

US to monitor behaviour at more airports

WASHINGTON, 18 May—The US Transportation Security Administration will soon use more behavioural profiling at American airports to detect suspicious activity, a top official said on Thursday.

TSA Director Kip Hawley said the agency would expand a pilot programme that has trained officers to observe passengers' behaviour currently at about a dozen airports. He said it will be expanded after the summer travel rush.

"We are looking at expanding ... as another layer of security," Hawley said. "We have been very pleased with its effectiveness. We expect it to be an important part of our security going forward."

TSA officials would not identify which "highest risk" airports will be included in the expanded program.

The programme



Richard Godin (C), a San Francisco International Airport security guard, takes a lighter from an airline passenger at a security checkpoint in San Francisco, recently.—INTERNET

began at Boston's Logan International Airport — the departure point for the two hijacked airplanes that were crashed into the World Trade Center on 11 September. It is also being implemented in Miami among other airports.

George Naccara, the federal security director at Logan, said the TSA programme is modeled on behaviour detection systems used in Israel and some other countries.

Officers are taught to look for abnormal behaviour in passengers,

such as people wearing coats when it's warm in order to disguise bombs, or people acting fidgety or nervous.

Naccara said they look for signs of "stress, fear and deception." "We associate that with people who are doing something wrong — some kind of criminal or terrorist intent," he said.

The officers must be able to differentiate between nervous travellers and those having something to hide, he added.—*Internet*

US researchers find 18th century British warships

NEWPORT (Rhode Island), 18 May —Four ships from a British fleet used during the US Revolutionary War have been found off Rhode Island, and one may be

the vessel 18th century explorer Captain James Cook sailed on his epic voyage to Australia, archaeologists said on Tuesday.

Researchers with the

Rhode Island Marine Archaeology Project said they believe the four ships, and two others previously discovered, are part of a 13-vessel transport fleet intentionally sunk by the British in Newport Harbour in 1778 to keep French ships from landing to aid the Americans' drive for independence.

Using historical materials and sonar, the archaeologists discovered the ships in Narragansett Bay, within a mile (kilometres) of Newport, Rhode Island's shoreline.

Divers found ballast piles about 30 feet (9 to 11 metres) underwater, with the ship's keel and other parts embedded in the sea floor. They also found at least one cannon, an anchor with a 16-foot (4.9-metre) shank and a cream-coloured fragment of an 18th-century British ceramic teapot.

MNA/Reuters



Singapore Refining Company personnel work at Jurong Island in Singapore, on 18 May, 2006. Oil ebbed to a five-week low just above \$68 a barrel on Thursday on signs that high energy costs were firing inflation and dampening demand in top consumer the United States.—INTERNET

Vietnam says 99 fishermen missing in typhoon

HANOI, 18 May — Vietnam has been seeking 99 fishermen missing in Typhoon Chanchu, the strongest on record in the South China Sea this month which killed 37 people in the Philippines, state-run radio said on

Thursday.

The National Search and Rescue Centre's alert carried by the Voice of Vietnam station said the fishermen aboard 11 ships last made radio contact on Wednesday morning as they were some 300

kilometres (160 nautical miles) south of Hainan Island on the typhoon path.

Vietnam has alerted all ships in the nearby areas to search for the fishermen, the state-run radio said.

MNA/Reuters



Apple store employees try out new MacBook computers at the new Apple retail store on Fifth Avenue in New York, on 18 May, 2006. —INTERNET

Bolivia unveils plan to distribute land to poor

LAPAZ (Bolivia), 18 May — Bolivia's leftist government on Tuesday outlined its plan to redistribute idle land to poor peasants, ruling out mass expropriations and proposing instead the distribution of state-owned property.

The announcement came two weeks after President Evo Morales nationalized the country's energy industry, surprising neighbouring states and foreign oil companies that had expected to be consulted before Bolivia took action.

Land reform is another pillar of Morales' policy

to increase the state's role in managing natural resources, but the government sought to soothe landowners' fears of arbitrary expropriations by ruling out seizures of productive lands.

"As long as the land fulfills its economic and social function, the state will respect it. But if it doesn't fulfil that role, the state will act with the necessary force," Vice-President Alvaro Garcia said.

He urged Bolivians to discuss the proposal and said rumours about expropriations or government-backed squatting stemmed from blackmail

by those opposed to the "agrarian revolution".

The first step of the proposal involves distributing up to 5 million hectares (12.36 million acres) of state-owned property to indigenous groups and then identify unproductive private land for possible redistribution.

Wealthy landowners concentrated in eastern parts of Bolivia have expressed concern over the reform plans, which fit into Morales' wider agenda to champion the rights of the poor, indigenous majority from where he draws his support.

MNA/Reuters

Iranian President says Iran to reject European deal

TEHERAN, 18 May — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said on Wednesday that Iran would reject a deal with the European Union which plans to offer incentives in exchange for Iran's halting uranium enrichment.

"They (EU countries)

say that they want to give us incentives. They think that they can take away our gold and give us some nuts and chocolate in exchange," said Ahmadinejad.

"We don't need incentives. There is no need to give us incentives. Just don't try to wrong

us," he stressed.

The hardline president also said that Iran would categorically reject international demands for Tehran to return to a suspension of sensitive uranium enrichment work.

Ahmadinejad made the remarks at a rally in Arak, the capital city of Markazi Province, southwest of Teheran. His speech was broadcast live on state television.

Meanwhile, Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said on Tuesday that Iran was open to any proposal to resolve the nuclear issue as long as its "legal and inalienable rights" to pursue nuclear energy under the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) were recognized, the official IRNA news agency reported on Wednesday.

MNA/Xinhua

Gas pipeline blown up in Pakistan, three killed

QUETTA (Pakistan), 18 May — Tribal militants fighting for more autonomy blew up a natural gas pipeline in Pakistan's troubled southwest on Wednesday, killing a girl and wounding her mother and another relative, officials said.

The girl died when the 16-inch (40-centimetre) diameter pipeline passing near her house in Dera Bugti Town in Baluchistan Province blew up, Abdul Samad Lasi, a senior government official in the area, said.

In another incident, militants attacked a police station near Dera Bugti and killed two policemen.

Another policeman was seriously injured in a landmine explosion in the town of Kohlu.

Baluchistan, Pakistan's largest but poorest of four provinces, is home to the country's largest gas and oil reserves.

Baluch militants resent local resources being used to benefit other regions and regularly blow up gas pipelines, rail links and power pylons, and launch rocket attacks on government buildings and Army bases in the province. Six police commandoes were killed in a series of landmine explosions at a training school on the outskirts of the provincial capital Quetta last week.

MNA/Reuters

Violin fetches record \$3.5m at US auction

NEW YORK, 18 May — An anonymous bidder paid 3.54 million US dollars for a Stradivarius

violin made in 1707 at auction house Christie's on Tuesday, making it the most expensive musical instrument ever sold at auction, Christie's said.

The violin, known as the Hammer, was made by Antonio Stradivari in Cremona, Italy, during his "golden period", when he is believed to have crafted his finest instruments.

Before the sale, Christie's had estimated the Hammer's value at 1.5 million US dollars to 2.5 million US dollars.

The previous record belonged to the Lady Tennant, a 1699 Stradivarius that sold for 2.03 million US dollars at Christie's in April last year. Private sales have exceeded that price.

MNA/Reuters



Park visitors walk near a pink tent in Hyde Park in London, on 18 May, 2006. The world's largest travelling tent has been erected for a breast cancer marathon that will take place on 22 May. —INTERNET

Typhoon "Chanchu" disrupts HK traffic

HONG KONG, 18 May — Typhoon Chanchu battered Hong Kong on Wednesday causing halt of air, sea and land traffic.

The Hong Kong Airport Authority said that 52 incoming and outgoing flights have been cancelled and eight were delayed so far due to the weather condition. Most of them were on routes of the Chinese Mainland cities.

Collapsed scaffolds, trees and fallen objects found in various districts have led to disruption of road traffic. Some ferry services going to outlying islands and the

Mainland were suspended.

The strong wind signal, No 3 is in force, according to the Hong Kong Observatory, which means that winds with mean speeds of 41 to 62 kilometres per hour are expected.

The centre of the typhoon was estimated to be about 240 kilometres East-southeast of Hong Kong and is forecast to move North-northeast at about 22 kilometres per hour

towards the coast of Southeastern China, the observatory said.

Members of the public were asked to take precautions of the strong wind. Kindergartens and schools for the handicapped were ordered by the authorities to close on Wednesday.

Typhoon Chanchu killed at least 32 people in the Philippines and leaving thousands homeless last weekend.

MNA/Xinhua



Air China Boeing and Airbus aircraft are seen at Beijing airport shown in this 20 Sept, 2005 file photo. Despite increased revenue, China's airlines posted a combined first quarter loss of 2.14 billion yuan (US\$270 million) (211 million) due to higher oil prices, an official newspaper said on Friday, 19 May, 2006. —INTERNET

China, ASEAN sign declaration on people-to-people cooperation

BEIJING, 18 May— Non-governmental organizations of China and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) on Wednesday signed a declaration vowing to step up people-to-people cooperation. "The declaration manifests the common aspiration of these organizations and enhances their friendship," said Gu Xiulian, vice-chairwoman of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress.

The declaration says non-governmental organi-

zations will step up contacts and exchanges, hold culture promotion activities and enhance trade and investment cooperation between China and the ASEAN nations. The declaration was signed after the one-day meeting between the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and ten non-government ASEAN organizations.

The meeting discussed how to play positive roles in promoting political trust, trade, culture and local cooperation of China-

ASEAN partnership. "Non-governmental organizations serve as an important platform to develop China-ASEAN ties and play an irreplaceable role in promoting all-round cooperation," Gu said.

"We would like to step up people exchanges through non-governmental organizations and enhance social, economic and cultural cooperation, which will lay a solid foundation for China-ASEAN strategic partnership," Gu said.

MNA/Xinhua



Uruguayan Army cadets stand in formation during Army day celebrations in Montevideo, Uruguay, on 18 May, 2006. —INTERNET

China to tighten Internet security

BEIJING, 18 May— China will improve a supervision system over its Internet security by developing and adopting new technologies, Xi Guohua, Vice Minister of Information Industry, said Wednesday at a conference marking the 38th World Telecommunications Day.

China faces severe security problems in Internet information, and the country will enhance its protection system of

information security and build backup information copies in case of emergency and disaster.

The theme for the World Telecommunications Day is "Promoting Global Cybersecurity". Computer virus, harmful information and online crimes have made it crucial for IT people to enhance Internet security.

In China, the Internet has security loopholes and vulgar contents are common.

Supervising depart-

ments are obliged to enhance their ability of tackling security accidents, said Xi. The ministry, along with other departments, will put emphasis on the development of key technologies relating to Internet security, he said.

Statistics from the ministry show that the number of netizens in the country exceeded 110 million, only next to the United States.

MNA/Xinhua

WHO confirms six bird flu cases in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 18 May — The World Health Organization confirmed six more human cases of bird flu infections in Indonesia on Wednesday, including five members of a family whose case has triggered fears of human-to-human transmission.

"There are six confirmations. One from Surabaya and five from Medan. One from Medan

is still alive," said Sari Setiogi, the WHO's Indonesia spokeswoman.

Separately, Indonesia's Health Ministry said a 12-year-old boy died of bird flu four days ago in Jakarta's eastern suburb of Bekasi, according to local tests.

Blood samples have been sent to a WHO-affiliated laboratory in Hong Kong for

confirmation, ministry spokeswoman Lily Sulistyowati said. Local tests are not considered definitive.

An outbreak of H5N1 bird flu involving about seven members of a family at Medan in North Sumatra Province has worried health agencies around the world but a Health Ministry official said on Wednesday it was not a case of human-to-human transmission.

"The spread was through risk factors from poultry or other animals. There is no proof of human to human," Nyoman Kandun, director-general of disease control, told Reuters. —MNA/Reuters

A Filipino transvestite swallows fire during a rehearsal for an upcoming town fiesta in Baclaran, suburban Manila, on 18 May, 2006. This annual town fiesta is common across the archipelago, featuring parlour games, music and beauty competitions.

INTERNET



Nepali woman sets new record atop Mt Everest for 6th time

KATHMANDU, 18 May—The first Nepali woman with a record number of climbs, Lakpa Sherpa, again conquered the world's highest peak Mt Everest for the sixth time, Nepal Mountaineering Association said here on Wednesday.

According to Ang Tshering Sherpa, president of the Nepal Mountaineering Association, Lakpa Sherpa climbed the peak on 11 May from the North brae, China's Tibetan side along with her husband George Dijmarescu as part of the International Mt Everest

Expedition team.

She broke her earlier record of climbing the world's highest peak five times, the president said.

She climbed Mt Everest for the first time in 2000. Then after, she climbed the peak in 2001, 2003, 2004 and 2005.

MNA/Xinhua

Canadian female soldier killed in Afghanistan

OTTAWA, 19 May— A female captain with the Canadian Forces has been killed serving in Afghanistan, Canada's Prime Minister said on Wednesday.

Details about the soldier's death are sketchy. There is no word on how the woman died and her name has not yet been released. The news came as Canadian parliamentarians are to debate and vote late Wednesday on whether to extend the country's mission in Afghanistan by two more years.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia sets up counselling body to help foreign workers

KUALA LUMPUR, 18 May—The Malaysian Human Resource Ministry is setting up a counselling unit to help foreign employees and employers overcome their problems, a senior official said on Wednesday.

The establishment of the unit came after Malaysia and Indonesia signed a memorandum of understanding on the employment of house maids last Saturday, Malaysian Human Resource Minister Fong Chan Onn said. The unit will not only assist house maids but also other foreign workers, he told reporters at Putrajaya, the administrative centre of the country, after the ministry's post-Cabinet meeting.

Foreign workers who have problems can lodge reports to the unit, he added.

The terms of the memo reportedly have taken effect for newly-employed maids, but did not set the maximum wage for maids.

Fong said that his ministry was also looking into the possibility of requiring insurance companies to offer an insurance coverage for employers against cases like maids' running away. —MNA/Xinhua



Chinese paramilitary policemen clean a road after heavy rain in Xiamen, east China's Fujian Province, on 18 May, 2006. —INTERNET

Medicinal onion

Dr Lwin Ko

After we left the airport, Professor Dr Kyaw Hla and I went to our childhood friend, who was an engineer-cum-writer. At his house, our friend and wife treated us with Myanmar traditional food. We were having a good conversation about native fruits, flowers and leaves with medical potency.

“Onion is a common food. If we peel off the layers of an onion one by one and then put them into a glass of water and cover it with a lid in the evening, you can have a herbal drink with no scent the next morning. You need not worry about any side effect. You drink it every day for one or two months, and it will help gradually reduce the size of the gall-stone in the bladder (if you have one). I assume that physicians will believe only if they see the process with their own eyes through the ultra sound results.”

“Doctors too believe in the medicinal values of onion. The only thing is that we cannot find out more about its potency. We accept the fact that all common foods have medicinal properties. But we cannot say exactly the degree of potencies they have in particular case.”

Those are some excerpts from our discussions.

I gained some knowledge about the onion from our discussions. So, I surfed the Internet to

know more about the medicinal values of onion together with its potencies to cure illnesses.

I valued onion more after reading about it in the Internet. We can even call it the kitchen doctor. Noticeable lines in the story were “An onion a day keeps the doctor away.” “Onions are highly recommended for people trying to prevent cardiovascular diseases, cancer and infections.”

For over 4000 years, onion has been used for medical purposes. The esteemed Greek physician Hippocrates prescribed onion as a diuretic, wound healer and pneumonia fighter.

During World War II, Russian soldiers used onion to clean wounds as an antiseptic. Its smell can fight cold as parents in the West usually wear their children onion chain in the neck.

And throughout the ages, there have been countless folk remedies that have ascribed their curative powers to onions, such as putting a sliced onion under your pillow to fight off insomnia.

As Americans search for low-fat, low-salt, but tasty meals, they're eating more onions during the last ten years - almost 18 pounds per person per year.

Because onion contains 25 active compounds that appear to inhibit the growth of cancerous cells,

help combat heart disease, inhibit strokes, lower blood pressure and cholesterol, and improve the immune system. Alliums are also antibacterial and anti-fungal, so they can help ward off colds, and relieve stomach upset and other gastrointestinal disorders.

Of some 25 healthy compounds contained in onion, two stand out: sulphur and quercetin - both being strong antioxidants.

Like garlic, onion helps prevent thrombosis and reduce hypertension, according to the American Heart Association.

Based on the above-mentioned facts, I would like to urge families to use onion as a disease prevention agent.

Smelling onion or eating sliced onion can kill cold and headaches. Onion can be held in the neck for medical purpose.

Onion squash is good for warding off ear pain. Eating a lot of onion can cure pneumonia and coughs.

Onion boiled with sugar can cure child wind colic. Onion in the gravy can also be used for the same purpose. Raw onion is good for tonsil disorders. Onion can be applied as a pain killer ointment. Eating raw onion can cure any kind of fever.

In addition to having various kinds of medicinal potencies, onion is free from harmful agents or side effects. Hence eating onion can keep people away from clinics and dispensaries. Because of its benefits, people may wish to grow a patch of onion at the backyard.

Onion can grow on every soil. But it thrives more on soft ground. Its scientific name is *Allium cepa*. It can also be called family doctor or kitchen doctor.

(Translation: TMT)

During World War II, Russian soldiers used onion to clean wounds as an antiseptic. Its smell can fight cold as parents in the West usually wear their children onion chain in the neck.

ဝမ်းလျှော့ဝမ်းပျက်ရောဂါကာကွယ်ကုသပါ

၁။ ဝမ်းလျှော့ဝမ်းပျက်ရောဂါသည် ကူးစက်ရောဂါဖြစ်သည်။ ရောဂါ ပိုးများသည် ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားနေသူ၏ ဝမ်းရင် အန်ဖတ်များတွင် ပါရှိသည်။ ရောဂါပိုးများပါဝင်သည့် ရေနှင့် အစားအစာများကို စားသောက်ခြင်းကြောင့် ရောဂါကူးစက်ပြန့်ပွားသည်။

၂။ အစားအသောက်များသည် အောက်ပါအကြောင်း အချက်များကြောင့် ရောဂါပိုးများကူးစက်ဝင်ရောက်နိုင်သည်။

- * အစားအသောက်များပေါ်သို့ ယင်အံ့ယင်နားခြင်း
- * အစားအသောက်ထည့်သည့် အိုးခွက်ပန်းကန်များကို မသန့်ရှင်းသည်ဖြင့် ဆေးကြောအသုံးပြုခြင်း
- * မသန့်ရှင်းသည့် လက်ဖြင့် အစားအသောက်များကို ကိုင်တွယ် ချက်ပြုတ် ပြင်ဆင်ခြင်း
- * မသန့်ရှင်းသည့် အိုးခွက်ပန်းကန်ဖြင့် ချက်ပြုတ်ပြင်ဆင်သိမ်းဆည်းခြင်း

၃။ သောက်သုံးရေများသည် အောက်ပါအကြောင်းများကြောင့် ညစ်ညမ်း၍ ရောဂါပိုးများကူးစက်ဝင်ရောက်နိုင်သည်။

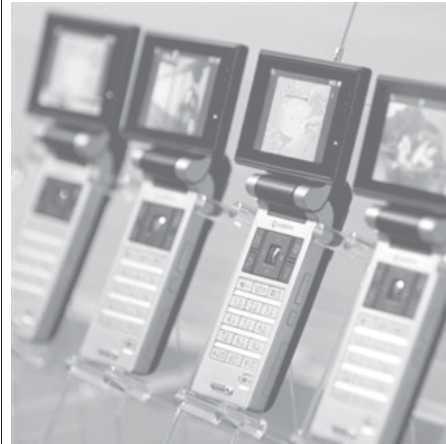
- * သောက်သုံးရေအဖြစ် အသုံးပြုသည့် ရေတွင်း ရေကန်များ အတွင်းသို့ ပြင်ပမှညစ်ညမ်းသည့်ရေများ စီးဝင်ခြင်း
- * ရေတွင်းရေကန်များထဲသို့ မသန့်ရှင်းသည့်ရေခွက်၊ ရေပုံးများဖြင့် ခပ်ယူခြင်း
- * သောက်သုံးရေတွင်းရေကန်များအနီးတွင် ရေချိုးခြင်း၊ အဝတ်လျှော်ခြင်း
- * သောက်သုံးရေတွင်း၊ ရေကန်များသည် အိမ်သာ၊ အညစ်အကြေးစွန့်ရာ နေရာစသည်တို့နှင့် နီးကပ်စွာတည်ရှိခြင်း၊ ပို၍နိမ့်နိမ့်နေရာတွင်ရှိခြင်း
- * သောက်သုံးရေတွင်းရေကန်များ အနီးသို့ ကျွဲနွား၊ ခွေးစသည် တိရစ္ဆာန်များ ဝင်ရောက်ခြင်း

၄။ ဝမ်းလျှော့ဝမ်းပျက်ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားခြင်းမှကာကွယ်ရန်

- * သောက်သုံးရေတွင်းရေကန်များအနီးနှင့် မြင့်သောနေရာတွင် အိမ်သာဆောက်ခြင်း၊ မစင်စွန့်ခြင်းတို့မှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- * သောက်သုံးရေတွင်းရေကန်များအနီးတွင် ရေချိုးခြင်း၊ အဝတ်လျှော်ခြင်းမပြုပါနှင့်။
- * ရေတွင်းရေကန်များထဲသို့ တစ်ဦးချင်းသယ်ဆောင်လာသည့် ရေပုံး၊ ရေခွက်များနှင့်မခပ်ပါနှင့်။ ရေခပ်ယူရန်လိုအပ်ပါက ရေတွင်းရေကန် အနီးတွင် သန့်ရှင်းသောရေခွက်ရေပုံး သီးသန့်ထားရပါ။
- * ရေကိုကျိုချက်၍သောက်ပါ။
- * သန့်ရှင်းလတ်ဆတ်သည့် အစားအစာများကိုစားပါ။
- * အစားအစာများကို ယင်မနားအောင်ပုံးအုပ်ထားပါ။ ယင်နားစာများ မစားပါနှင့်။
- * အစားအစာများကို မကိုင်တွယ်မီ လက်ကိုရေနှင့် ဆပ်ပြာသုံး၍ စင်ကြယ်အောင်ဆေးကြောပါ။
- * အစားအစာထည့်သည့် အိုးခွက်၊ ပန်းကန်များကို သန့်ရှင်းသည့် ရေနှင့် ဆပ်ပြာသုံး၍ စင်ကြယ်အောင်ဆေးကြောပါ။
- * ယင်လုံအိမ်သာအသုံးပြုပါ။
- * အိမ်သာဆင်းတိုင်းနှင့် မစင်၊ အန်ဖတ်စသည်တို့ကိုထိတွေ့ ကိုင်တွယ်ပြီးတိုင်း လက်ကိုရေနှင့်ဆပ်ပြာသုံး၍ စင်ကြယ်အောင်ဆေးကြောပါ။

၅။ အကယ်၍ဝမ်းလျှော့ဝမ်းပျက်ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားပါက ဓာတ်ဆားရေကို အညွှန်းအတိုင်းတိကျစွာဖျော်၍ သောက်ပြီး နီးရာဆေးရုံ ဆေးခန်းတွင် ဆေးဝါးစွဲစွဲပြာပြာကုသမှုခံယူပါ။ မိမိမှတစ်ဆင့် အခြားသူများသို့ ရောဂါ မကူးစက်ရန် သတိပြုကာကွယ်ပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



Vodafone's new 905SH mobile phones were displayed at a news conference in Tokyo 18 May, 2006. —INTERNET

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased

Matters on smooth and secure road transport coordinated



YANGON, 19 May — Yangon Division Smooth and Secure Road Transport Supervisory Committee held a coordination meeting at Yangon Command this evening, attended by Supervisory Committee Chairman Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander

Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win speaking at the meeting of Yangon Division Smooth and Secure Road Transport Supervisory Committee.

MNA

Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win. Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win gave instructions to the officials on the arrangement for speedy conversion into CNG buses.

Next, officials of universities and colleges in Yangon Division, supervisory committee members, departmental heads, chairmen of bus-lines reported on the matters on ferries for the universities, traffic rules, smooth transport and safety of people and the completion of conversion into CNG buses.

Regarding the reports, the commander attended to the needs, and the meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the commander.

MNA

Industry-2 holds work coordination meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 19 May — Ministry of Industry-2 held its work coordination meeting today at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw and Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin and Deputy Minister Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw and senior officials of the ministry participated in the meeting.

At the meeting, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin urged officials concerned to step up the ministry's production to meet its target of 2006-2007 fiscal year. The ministry reached its production target in 2005-2006 fiscal year, said Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin at the meeting. He also called for minimizing wastage and for thrifty in the production of the ministry and for an increase in the ministry's income. Director-General of the Directorate of Myanma Industrial Planning U Khin Maung reported on the requirements for production in 2006-2007 fiscal year and manging directors of the ministry on tasks to be taken for the production target for the coming fiscal year.

After the meeting, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin and Deputy Minister Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw presented cash assistance for offspring of the employees of the ministry for 2006-2007 academic year and directors-general and managing directors of the industries and services under the ministry accepted the cash assistance. — MNA

Myanmar to take part in Asian club volleyball championship

YANGON, 19 May — A Myanmar volleyball team will take part in the Asian men's club volleyball competition in Hanoi, Vietnam, where the matches will be held from 21 to 29 May.

Comprising 11 players, Asia World (Myanmar) Volleyball Club team left Yangon for Hanoi this morning.

Together with the players, the leader, Vice-President of Myanmar Volleyball Federation U Thein Win, coach U Nyi Nyi Lwin of Ministry of Immigration and Population, assistant coach WO Ye Myint and umpire Sgt Myint Htay left Yangon on the same flight.

The team was seen off at Yangon International Airport by officials.

MNA



Those attending the meeting of Yangon Division Smooth and Secure Road Transport Supervisory Committee. — MNA

Progress of Langkho, Dahseik River Water Pumping Project inspected

YANGON, 19 May — Chairman of Langkho District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Aung Maung inspected completion of the culvert on Langkho Bypass built by Township Public Works and Township Development Affairs Committee in Langkho on 10 May.

Lt-Col Aung Maung heard reports on construction of the culvert reported by Chairman of Township PDC U Tin Soe and engineers.

Next, the Chairman of the District PDC

inspected dredging of drains.

At Dahseik River Pumping Project site, he viewed water pumping tasks of the project and supply of water to 15 acres of summer paddy of local farmers of Dahseik Village.

The river pumping station irrigates 15 acres of summer paddy and 250 acres of summer sesame and groundnut plantations at Thanaung Village of Dahseik Village-tract. In the past, the station supplied water to the farmlands by using power of diesel engines. Thanks to supply of power from Kengtawng Hydel Power Plant, the station irrigates 3,400 acres of farmland all the year round for ensuring economic growth of local farmers.

The Chairman of the District PDC viewed thriving physic nut plantations at Dahseik Basic Education Primary School, 15 acres of summer paddy at Pintanaung Village and broadcasting of fertilizers at the plantations.

At the site for construction of Chaungchawk Creek that will link Bogyoke Aung San Road and the bypass to Dahseik River Water Pumping Project site, Lt-Col Aung Maung instructed officials to build the bridge. On completion, the bridge will contribute towards better transport for the local people.

MNA

Refresher Course for Auxiliary Fire Brigade concludes

YANGON, 19 May — The Fire Services Department of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement held the Refresher Course for Auxiliary Fire Brigade No 6/2006 at Kyansitha Hall of FSD this morning, attended by Director-General of FSD U Myint Tun.

Altogether 51 trainees attended 4-week refresher course.

MNA

Myanmar women's football team sets sights on ASEAN Women's Championship 2006

Myanmar Women's Football Team is undergoing training to take part in the ASEAN Women's Championship 2006 to be organized in Ho Chin Minh City of Vietnam from 29 May to 2 June.

Myanmar Women's Football Team has secured champion trophy in the ASEAN Women's Championship 2004. At that time, Myanmar clinched the championship trophy by winning over host

qualifier match. Now, there are only four teams — Myanmar, Vietnam, Thailand and invited China (Taipei) that were qualified for the Asian Women's Championship 2006 —permitted to take part in the ASEAN Women's Championship 2006.

To achieve victory in the competitions, Myanmar women's football team formed with 20 players is undergoing training of Chief Coach U Aye Kyu Gyi, Assistant



Tentatively-selected Myanmar women's soccer team.



Zin Mar One aiming the target.

Vietnamese women's team on penalty decision in the final match.

After completion of the ASEAN Women's Championship, Myanmar women's team will continue its participation in the Asian Women's Championship 2006 to be hosted by Australia. Myanmar is in the same group together with two football powerhouse teams Defending Champion of the Asian Championship North Korea and South Korea in addition to host Australia and Thailand. In 2005, Myanmar women's team was qualified for the championship by beating Uzbekistan in the

Coach U Tin Myo Aung and Goalkeeper Coach U Myo Chit. After holding the quadripartite trials in the last week of March, 25 women's players were selected for the Tentatively Selected Myanmar Women's Team. Afterwards, the number of players was reduced to 20. The 18-player team will be formed soon.

In an interview, Team Manager Daw Myat Myat Oo said that the present Myanmar Women's Team is better than the one that participated in the Philippines SEA Games. The players are practising keenly. Myanmar is to pay attention to the matches

with Vietnamese Team. However, Myanmar will also place emphasis on the matches with Thai and Chinese (Taipei) Teams. By taking lessons from weak and strong points in the matches, Myanmar Team will try hard to achieve success in the competitions.

She added that necessary assistance will be provided for Myanmar Women's Team. After the ASEAN Women's Championship, the Asian Women's Championship will follow in July. As Myanmar will have the opportunity to compete with ASEAN powerhouse teams Vietnam and Thailand and China (Taipei) prior to the Asian

Article: Nyi Nyi Soe Nyunt Photos: Soe Nyunt (Kyemon)

Women's Championship, the competitions will contribute much toward enhancement of Myanmar women's football skills. Precious experiences in the competitions at ASEAN and Asian levels will benefit Myanmar Women's Team for gaining achievements in the Thai SEA Games.

Chief Coach U Aye Kyu Gyi said that he handles the women's team beginning 4 April. The team was set up with experienced players together with four new comers. He said that

Vietnamese players have good football skills and speed individually. And, Thai Team will be a new generation. He pledged that he will deploy the Myanmar Women's Team to meet the success by using the best football techniques as much as possible.

Dr Pandora Aung Gyi will lead the Myanmar Women's Football Team together with Team Manager Daw Myat Myat Oo, Secretary Daw Mi Mi Maw, Nurse Daw Myint Myint Sein, Chief Coach U Aye Kyu Gyi,

Assistant Coach U Tin Myo Aung and Goalkeeper Coach U Myo Chit.

The team is formed with 20 tentatively selected players —Goalkeeper May Khin Yamin, Nyein Su Zaw, Aye Aye Than, Defenders San San Maw, San San Thein, Thida Oo, Nayza Lin Lin Aung, May Thu Win, Hninzi Myint, Moe Moe Htwe, Moe Moe Wah, Su Su Wai, Mid-fielders Thuza Htwe, Aye Nanda Hlaing, Than Than Htwe, Nan Kyay Mon, Forwards Mai Nilar Htwe, Zin Mar One, San Yu Naing and Khin Marlar Tun.

Translation: TTA
(Kyemon: 18-5-2006)



Aye Nandar Hlaing under training.



Team Captain San San Maw.

Ministry of Construction holds coordination meeting

YANGON, 19 May — The Ministry of Construction held the first four-monthly coordination meeting at its meeting hall on 11 May morning.

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun delivered an opening address. Superintending Engineers of States and Divisions submitted reports on their works.

On 18 May morning, the coordination meeting continued at the ministry. Officials of roads and bridge projects reported on progress of their tasks.

Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein briefed the minister on matters related to construction of roads and bridges, and Deputy Minister U Tint Swe on spending of funds and use of heavy machinery and construction materials.

In giving concluding remarks, the minister called on officials to build roads and bridges meeting the set standard, supervise construction tasks and practise thrifty in their construction tasks.

MNA

Fire breaks out in Taunggyi

YANGON, 19 May—The front of a white Hilux car with a number plates D/3482 which belongs to Ko Myint Lwin, of Pyigy Yanlon Ward, Mandalay Division, caught fire due to wire shock this morning, causing damage worth about K 30,000. A fire broke out at the shop of U Yon Kyi of Mingala U Ward, Taunggyi, Shan State this morning. The fire which started from a candle light was put under control by 85 members of the auxiliary fire brigade. Some property worth over K 1.7 million were destroyed.—MNA

China cracking down on commercial bribery

BEIJING, 19 May — The CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection on Wednesday announced that since the beginning of this year, relevant departments have severely penalized public servants who accepted bribes in commercial activities.

Prosecuting organs all over the country have received or discovered more than 9,000 clues on commercial corruption. As a result, 4,367 commercial corruption cases have been put on file and are being probed, and 674 cases have been taken to the courts.

In north China's Hebei Province, medical staff in six hospitals have been punished for accepting backhanders from commercial partners.

In south China's Guangdong Province, an official, surnamed Li, working in the government procurement centre

under the Guangdong Provincial Government, has been penalized for accepting bribes from business people.

The State Food and Drug Administration has aroused drug and medical machine enterprises to jointly build an environment of fair competition.

Meanwhile, China has strived to clamp down on commercial corruption by legislative means. Its top legislature, or the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), is examining the draft anti-money laundering law.

MNA/Xinhua



The world's largest passenger plane, the Airbus A380, is seen on the tarmac after it landed at Heathrow airport near London, on 18 May, 2006. The double-decker superjumbo, designed to carry 555 passengers but with room for more than 800, flew from Berlin to Heathrow for its first visit to Britain.—INTERNET

Afghan officers undergo training in Singapore for illicit drug control

SINGAPORE, 19 May — A group of 15 law enforcement officers from Afghanistan began their training in illicit drug control in Singapore on Wednesday.

The training programme on the "Total Approach for Illicit Drug Control" is organized by the city state's Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) and sponsored by the Min-

istry of Foreign Affairs under the Singapore Cooperation Programme.

CNB officials will share knowledge and experience with their Afghan counterparts on the Singapore Government's comprehensive multi-pronged approach for drug control, which has been adopted for the past decade.

The approach consists of tough legislation, rigor-

ous anti-drug enforcement, high-profile preventive drug education, a compulsory treatment and rehabilitation regime for drug abusers, as well as continued aftercare for ex-drug

abusers to reintegrate into society, according to Senior Minister of State for Law and Home Affairs Ho Peng Kee, who spoke at the opening ceremony.

MNA/Xinhua

70-year-old Japanese climber scales Mt Everest

KATHMANDU, 19 May — A 70-year-old Japanese climber scaled Mt Everest on Wednesday, making him the oldest person in the world to achieve the feat, Nepal's English newspaper, *The Himalayan Times*, reported on Thursday.

According to the paper, a five-member team including Takao Arayama, who is aged 70 years reached the summit of the 8,848-metre mountain on Wednesday morning, the organizer, Tokyo-based Adventure Guides said.

Arayama was just three days older than the Japanese man whose record he surpassed, Yuichiro Miura, a professional skier who made it to the top of Mt Everest in May 2003.

Arayama, a corporate management consultant from Kamakura, south of

Tokyo, started climbing mountains in his 40s and has also scaled 6,194-metre Mt McKinley — the highest peak in North America.

According to Nepal Ministry of Culture, Tour-

ism and Civil Aviation, four Europeans, four Nepali citizens and an Asian have successfully scaled the World's highest peak Mt Everest on Wednesday.

MNA/Xinhua



Teruel Paleontologic foundation workers are working on the dinosaur bone found in Barriohonda de Roviera a village close to Teruel, in Spain, in February 2004. Fossil-hunters have uncovered the first dinosaur remains in Lebanon, adding precious evidence to the theory that millions of years ago, the Middle East was covered with lush forests where giant reptiles roamed.—INTERNET

Hun Sen tells UN rights chief that Cambodia is no hell

PHNOM PENH, 19 May — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen told the UN's top human rights official on Thursday that rights groups consistently misrepresented his country and government, writing it off as "hell", his spokesman said.

"What the govern-

ment wants is for the human rights groups to tell the truth about the work the government is doing, to show the facts and avoid just viewing Cambodia as hell," Eang Sophalleth quoted Hun Sen as saying.

Louise Arbour, the UN's High Commissioner for Human Rights, was not available for comment after the meeting held six weeks after Hun Sen dismissed her organization as a bunch of "long-term tourists" who did not know what they were talking about.

His outburst was sparked by criticism by the UN's special human rights envoy to Cambodia, Yash Ghai, during a visit in March.

Ghai accused Hun Sen of violating the independence of the impoverished nation's judiciary.

Hun Sen, who has refused to meet Ghai on several occasions, told Arbour such comments were unacceptable, as were any attempts to curb his executive authority, his spokesman said.

MNA/Reuters

Nepal issues prohibitory order in capital city

KATHMANDU, 19 May — The District Administration Office (DAO), Kathmandu, issued a prohibitory order Wednesday in parts of downtown Kathmandu City effect from Thursday, state-run Radio Nepal reported here on Thursday.

"The DAO, the local government office, has issued an order prohibiting any meeting, procession, sit-in protest, strike and the like in some public places of Kathmandu Municipality so as to maintain law and order in the capital city," DAO said in a Press statement.

The order comes into effect from Thursday and would not apply to festivals observed at the national level and pure cultural programmes, the radio quoted the statement as saying..

The prohibited areas include Hattisar, Jaya Nepal Theatre, Naagpokhari areas and all the road sections that encircle the Narayanhity Royal Palace.

Likewise, the areas around Singha Durbar, where most of Nepali ministries including Prime Minister's Office and House of Representatives, state-run Radio Nepal and Nepal Television are located, are also declared as prohibited zones.

"The prohibition was applied as per the rights provided by the Local Administration Act of Nepal," the statement said.

MNA/Xinhua



A monkey sits on a roof of the Defence Ministry building in New Delhi, in October 2004. A monkey rescued from the illegal pet trade in Singapore was repatriated to India for rehabilitation.—INTERNET



The son of a demonstrator holds a placard against bullfighting in front of Lisbon's Campo Pequeno Bullring on 18 May, 2006. The placard reads "I (the bull) do not want to suffer."—INTERNET

Annan calls for enhancement of global security in cyberspace

UNITED NATIONS, 19 May — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan called on the world community on Wednesday to enhance global security in cyberspace so as to realize the full potential of information and communication technologies (ICT) and accelerate the pace of development.

In a message marking the first World Infor-

mation Society Day, Annan said that "in an increasingly interconnected and networked world, it has become critically important to safeguard our vital systems and infrastructures against attack by cybercriminals, while instilling confidence in online transactions in order to promote trade, commerce, banking, telemedicine, e-government and a host of other e-applications."

He added that as this depends on the security practices of each and every networked country, business and citizen, people need to develop a global culture of cyber-security.

The Secretary-General called on all member states and stakeholders to help increase global

awareness of cyber-security, and to develop an international network of initiatives and ICT-based countermeasures to enhance security and build trust in the use of information and communication technologies.

"This is essential for the continued growth and development of our economies, and especially important for developing countries," he said.

The World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva in 2003 and Tunis in 2005, decided to mark the day in recognition of the International Telecommunication Union, the world's oldest international organization, which was founded on 17 May, 1865 and is now a UN specialized agency.

MNA/Xinhua

Multilateral meeting on Iran package to be held next week

WASHINGTON, 19 May — Political directors of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and Germany will delay a scheduled meeting on Friday to next week to discuss a package on Iran's nuclear issue, the State Department said on Wednesday.

"I would expect the political directors probably will now get together

next week, as opposed to on Friday," State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said at a briefing.

McCormack said the reason for the delay is that the United States is trying to discuss with other countries both the incentive side as well as the disincentive side in the package, trying to talk through not just step one, but also other steps in the process.

The spokesman admitted that the process is time-consuming and complicated. According to a report by the *New York Times* on Wednesday, the European Union nations are preparing to offer Iran new assistance in building a light-water reactor

for civilian use in return for Iran's ending activities suspected of being a cover for nuclear weapons programme.

However, American and European diplomats have said they are not sure that Iran will accept the offer. — MNA/Xinhua

Caffeine helps premature babies' breathing

NEW YORK, 19 May — Caffeine therapy for the first few days of life helps resolve breathing difficulties in babies born prematurely, according to a report in this week's *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Caffeine belongs to a class of compounds called methylxanthines, which are known to improve respiration. However, it was unclear if such therapy would help very preterm infants, whose lungs are too immature to work properly.

Dr Barbara Schmidt, from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and colleagues assessed the outcomes of 2006 very low birth weight infants who were randomly assigned to get in-

travenous infusions of caffeine or inactive placebo for the first 10 days of life, until breathing difficulties improved.

Caffeine therapy was associated with a 37-per cent reduction in the need for supplemental oxygen. In addition, caffeine infusions allowed positive airway pressure ventilation to be discontinued one week earlier.

While encouraging, the results represent only short-term outcomes, which are inadequate to assess the overall risks and benefits of neonatal intervention, the researchers warn. — MNA/Reuters

Pentagon 9/11 video released for first time

WASHINGTON, 19 May — Video tapes showing a plane crashing into the Pentagon on 11 September, 2001, was released for the first time Tuesday, CNN television reported.

The Pentagon released tapes showing American Airlines Flight 77 striking its headquarters outside Washington to Judicial Watch, a public interest group that requested the video.

The video is now available on the group's website.

The Pentagon attack killed 184 people, includ-

ing 53 passengers and six crew members on board American Airlines Flight 77, and 125 military and civilian personnel inside the building.

Judicial Watch said the video will dispel the so-called "conspiracy theory" which claims that the aircraft was shot down in flight, and that the Pentagon was struck by a missile.

The crash came shortly after two other hijacked airlines were flown into the twin towers at the World Trade Center in New York.

MNA/Xinhua



Doses of the influenza vaccine wait to be administered at a flu shot clinic at a pharmacy in Boston, Massachusetts on 13 December, 2003. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is preparing its broadest and most ambitious vaccination effort yet for the coming influenza season, experts said on Thursday.—INTERNET

Former Bush campaign official sentenced to prison

CONCORD (New Hampshire), 19 May — A senior official in US President George W Bush's reelection campaign was sentenced to 10 months in prison on Wednesday for his role in suppressing votes in a key US Senate race, a scandal that Democrats charge may involve the White House.

James Tobin, 45, one of three Republican cam-

paign operatives convicted in a phone-jamming scheme designed to keep New Hampshire Democrats from voting in a 2002 election, was convicted in December of two telephone harassment charges.

Prosecutors had asked for a two-year sentence. US District Judge Steven Auliffe described the crime as "extremely

serious" and a threat to the US political tradition of free and fair elections.

"People in your position need to know they cannot do these things and if they do the consequences are very, very serious," he said in handing down a sentence harsher than the six months home detention and community service sought by Tobin's lawyer. — MNA/Reuters



Chinese tourists from Jilin brave the wind and rain to take photos on Shanghai's historic Bund area. Typhoon Chanchu slammed into China's southeastern coast, killing 16 people and forcing the evacuation of more than one million residents, as torrential rains and winds caused landslides and flooding.—INTERNET

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ရန်ကုန်စီးပွားရေးတက္ကသိုလ်

ကြေညာချက်

လူ့စွမ်းအားအရင်းအမြစ်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးမှုဌာန၊ ရန်ကုန်စီးပွားရေးတက္ကသိုလ်မှ အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ သင်တန်းအသီးသီးအောင်မြင်ထားကြသော ကျောင်းသား/ကျောင်းသူများကို Certificate နှင့် Diploma များအပ်နှံခြင်းဖြင့် မည်ဖြစ်ပါ၍ လျှောက်လွှာများ တင်သွင်းနိုင်ကြောင်း ဖော်ပြအပ်ပါသည်။

- DMAC, DFac, DBS (စွန့် ၂၀၀၅အောင်နှင့် ဧပြီ ၂၀၀၆အောင်)
- DSM (ဒီဇင်ဘာ ၂၀၀၅အောင်)
- CBS, CABS (စွန့် ၂၀၀၅အောင်၊ ဩဂုတ် ၂၀၀၅အောင်နှင့် အောက်တိုဘာ ၂၀၀၅အောင်)
- CAA, CBK (မေ ၂၀၀၅အောင်နှင့် အောက်တိုဘာ ၂၀၀၅အောင်)
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ကျင်းပမည့်ရက်/နေ့ ။ ။ ၂၀၀၆ခုနှစ်၊ ဇွန်လ (၂၅)ရက်၊ (စနေ)နေ့
ကျင်းပမည့်နေရာ ။ ။ ဘွဲ့နှင်းသင်တန်းခန်းမ (ရန်ကုန်တက္ကသိုလ်နယ်မြေ) တက်ရောက်ဘွဲ့နှင်းသင်တန်းခန်းမ - ကျပ် ၁၅၀၀/- (ကျပ်တစ်ထောင်ငါးရာ တိတိ)

အဝေးရောက်ဘွဲ့နှင်းသင်တန်းခန်းမ - ကျပ် ၁၀၀၀/- (ကျပ်တစ်ထောင်တိတိ)
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- လျှောက်လွှာပို့တံ့ရက် - ၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်၊ ဇွန်လ (၁၅)ရက်
- * မှတ်ချက် ။ - သတ်မှတ်လျှောက်လွှာပို့ရန်နှင့် လျှောက်ထားရမည့် - နှစ်ပေါင်းမှအောင်မြင်ထားသော ကျောင်းသား/ကျောင်းသူများသည် အဝေးရောက်သော လျှောက်ထားရမည်။
- တစ်လအတွင်း မြန်မာတစ်နိုင်ငံလုံးရှိ ရက်ကူးထားသော (2" x 1.5") ခေါတ်(၂)ဖြင့် လျှောက်ထားရမည်။
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- အောင်လက်မှတ်များကို အဝေးရောက် (သို့မဟုတ်) တက်ရောက်ဘွဲ့ တင်သွင်းပြီးမှသာ ထုတ်ပေးမည်။
- အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို ရန်ကုန်စီးပွားရေးတက္ကသိုလ် (ပင်မ)တွင် စုံစမ်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ဖော်ပြချက်အရင်းအမြစ် (၁) ရန်ကုန်စီးပွားရေးတက္ကသိုလ်

29 injured in road mishap in mid-western Nepal

KATHMANDU, 18 May — At least 29 persons were wounded on Wednesday in a bus accident in mid-western Nepal, District Police Office (DPO) said here Thursday.

"At least 29 people were injured when a passenger bus they were travelling in met with an accident at Tribhuvannagar Town of Baraiya District, some 700 kilometres west of Kathmandu," DPO, a local police office, said in a Press statement.

All of the injured are undergoing treatment in local hospitals. Of the injured, some 12 are in critical condition, the statement said.

MNA/Xinhua

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Suicide attack on car of UN Afghan mine agency

KANDAHAR (Afghanistan), 18 May— A suicide attacker in Afghanistan rammed a car packed with explosives into a vehicle of a UN mine-clearing agency on Wednesday, killing himself and wounding the agency driver, police said.

The attack, the latest in a string of suicide and roadside bomb blasts

blamed on the Taliban, occurred on the road between the main southern town of Kandahar and its airport.

"The suicide attacker killed himself but thank God, no one else got killed," provincial police chief Abdul Malik told Reuters. "The driver was slightly wounded," he said. — MNA/Reuters

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စဉ်	ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအစား	လိုအပ်ချက်	ပေးသွင်းရမည့်နေရာ	အရေအတွက်
၁	၂	၃	၄	၅
၁။	Foreign Duplex Board (270 GSM) (31" x 43") (100 Sheets)	၃၆၄၂-ထုပ် (အထုပ်သုံးထောင်ခြောက်ရာလေးဆယ့်နှစ်တိတိ)	မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ အကူစီမံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ (ရေခါး) (မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံတွင် ပေးသွင်းရန်) အလှူကုန်ပစ္စည်းစက်ရုံ ဆပ်ပြာစက်ရုံများ (ဆပ်ပြာစက်ရုံအမှတ်(၁)တွင် ပေးသွင်းရန်)	၇၅၀-ထုပ် ၆၆၅-ထုပ်
၂။	Art Paper (85 GSM) (31"x 43") (250) Sheets	၂၂၃၂-ထုပ် (အထုပ်နှစ်ထောင်နှစ်ရာ သုံးဆယ့်နှစ်တိတိ)	မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ အကူစီမံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ (ရေခါး) (မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံတွင် ပေးသွင်းရန်) အလှူကုန်ပစ္စည်းစက်ရုံ ဆပ်ပြာစက်ရုံများ (ဆပ်ပြာစက်ရုံအမှတ်(၁)တွင် ပေးသွင်းပါရန်)	၄၀၀-ထုပ် ၂၃-ထုပ်
၃။	Sticker Paper(Japan) (21" x 30") (100-Sheets)	၂၄၄-ထုပ် (အထုပ်နှစ်ရာသုံးဆယ့်လေး တိတိ)	မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ (ရေခါး) (မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံတွင် ပေးသွင်းရန်)	၅၀-ထုပ် ၂၄၄-ထုပ်
၄။	Woodfree PrintingPaper (60) GSM (31" x 43") (500) Sheets	၂၅၉-ထုပ် (အထုပ်နှစ်ရာရှစ်ဆယ့်ကိုး တိတိ)	အကူစီမံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ (ရေခါး) (မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံတွင် ပေးသွင်းရန်) မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ	၂၅၉-ထုပ်
၅။	Glaze Transparent paper (30" x 40")	၁၀၀-ထုပ် (အထုပ်တစ်ရာတိတိ)	မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ	၁၀၀-ထုပ်

တင်ဒါပိတ်ရက် ။ (၂၅-၅-၂၀၀၆ (ကြာသပတေးနေ့) မွန်းလွဲ(၁၄:၀၀)မှာရီ
မှတ်ချက် ။ အသေးစိတ်အကြောင်းအရာများကို မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ၊ ပစ္စည်းစီမံရေးဌာနတွင် ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း စုံစမ်းနိုင်ပြီး၊ တင်ဒါပုံစံများကို ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။ (ဆက်သွယ်ရန်တယ်လီဖုန်းအမှတ်-၆၆၄၃၀၁)

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Consignees of cargo carried on MV PACIFIC EXPRESS VOY NO (261) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.5.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
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AGENT FOR: ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES (PTE) LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
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German study doubts sugarcane extract as cholesterol treatment

WASHINGTON, 18 May — A German study has found that the dietary supplement policosanol, which is made from sugarcane, works no better than dummy pills in reducing bad cholesterol.

In the 12-week trial, 143 adults with high LDL cholesterol were given up to 80 milligrammes of policosanol per day or a dummy pill, and the results showed no meaningful difference.

“Our results suggest that (policosanol) is devoid of clinically relevant lipoprotein-lowering properties,” lead author Heiner Bertold of the University of Cologne,

Germany, said in Tuesday’s *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

He didn’t rule out the possibility that policosanol might be effective in other ethnic peoples. As the new findings contradict the positive results from many previous studies, Bertold said more independent studies are needed to verify the effect of

policosanol in reducing cholesterol.

Policosanol, which was originally popular as a natural way to reduce cholesterol in Cuba and is now marketed in more than 40 countries, is a combination of alcohols usually made from the waxy coating on sugarcane. Other sources of the ingredient include wheat germ, rice, bran and beeswax. — MNA/Xinhua



Vodafone’s new 905SH mobile phones are displayed at a news conference in Tokyo, on 18 May, 2006. Japan’s Softbank Corp said on Thursday it and Vodafone Group Plc have agreed to set up a joint venture and jointly develop and procure mobile phones and content. —INTERNET

Heart disease risk factors may bring on menopause

NEW YORK, 18 May — Women with more risk factors for cardiovascular disease tend to enter menopause earlier than women without cardiovascular risk factors, according to an analysis of data from the Framingham Heart Study.

Dr Yvonne T van der Schouw, from Utrecht University in the Netherlands, and colleagues evaluated data from

the records of 695 women who were pre-menopausal at study entry in 1948 and who reached natural menopause after at least two

biennial examinations.

The women ranged in age from 34 to 55 years when they enrolled in the study, and their age at

menopause was 38 to 58 years. If the women were smokers at age 43, they began menopause an average of 1.6 years earlier than non-smokers, the investigators found. Similarly, each 20-point increase in cholesterol level before menopause was associated with a 0.14-year earlier onset of menopause, the team reports in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*.

Women with higher blood pressure also had a younger age at menopause onset. Women who either gained or lost weight during the premenopausal period had a significantly earlier age of onset.

MNA/Reuters



Staff display ‘Large Plane Trees’, a masterpiece by Vincent Van Gogh in Beijing, on 18 May, 2006. This is the first time the masterpiece by Van Gogh is shown in China. Three oil paintings by the Dutch artist will be displayed together with works by Claude Monet and Pablo Picasso, which are on loan from the Cleveland Museum of Art in the US, China Daily reported. Picture taken on 18 May, 2006. —INTERNET

Hollywood producer pleads guilty to TV scam

LOS ANGELES, 18 May — A Hollywood producer who claimed he was creating a TV show about the Department of Homeland Security pleaded guilty on Tuesday to swindling dozens of investors out of millions of dollars.

Joseph Medawar, 44, spent much of the 3.4 million US dollars he raised from about 50 people on luxury cars and a Beverly Hills mansion for himself and the woman billed as the future star of the show “DHS”, according to court papers. Medawar, who was arrested last September, pleaded guilty to federal charges of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and tax evasion in a plea bargain that involved prosecutors dropping money laundering and other charges.

He could face up to 10 years in prison when he is sentenced in August in US District Court in Los Angeles.

In print and radio interviews in 2004 and 2005, Medawar falsely claimed that “DHS” had the endorsement of

President George W. Bush and then Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge, and that he had more than two-dozen episodes in post-production.

Only one episode was ever shot and only after Medawar became aware that he was being investigated by the FBI. A supposed trailer shown to investors was only a compilation of clips from action movies, prosecutors said. Prosecutors said Medawar spent 23,000 US dollars to option a script written by California Republican Representative Dana Rohrabacher. Rohrabacher said in a statement earlier this year that he introduced Medawar to some government officials to give him an accurate picture of homeland security. — MNA/Reuters

China to set up recycling bases for electronic wastes

BEIJING, 18 May — China is planning to set up recycling bases for electronic wastes, an official with the Ministry of Information Industry said Tuesday.

Waste electric home appliances, deserted mobile phones and batteries bring heavy pollution to the environment and people’s life, said the official who asked not to be identified. China would make a plan of electronic waste recycling and set up such bases in several regions, the official said. He did not tell when the bases would be finished.

Investment in the recycling projects would be mainly from private investors, and the government would also give some financial support, the official added.

Electronic waste recycling is blank in China and the new projects would boost a new industry, said the official. As electronic products develop very fast, more and more of them are being replaced by new ones. Deserted computers, handsets and so on heavily pollute the environment. — MNA/Xinhua

Qing emperor’s 260-year-old garden restored in forbidden City

BEIJING, 18 May — A 260-year-old imperial garden, once the favourite of Emperor Qianlong of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) and ruined by a raging fire some 80 years ago, has been restored through a five-year restoration effort.

This is the first restoration project within the Forbidden City, the palace of the Ming and Qing dynasties (1368-1911), since the end of the Qing Dynasty in 1911.

The restoration of the Garden of the Palace of Established Happiness was funded by the Hong Kong-based China Heritage Fund at a cost of nearly 100 million yuan (about 12.5 million US dollars). — MNA/Xinhua



Actress Kaylee DeFer arrives at the FOX Broadcasting Company UpFront, on 18 May, 2006, in New York. —INTERNET

SPORTS

Dutch prosecutors open fraud probe

AMSTERDAM, 19 May — Dutch prosecutors said on Thursday they were investigating possible soccer fraud in the Netherlands.

De Telegraaf newspaper reported prosecutors were investigating possible match-fixing and the bribery of players. A prosecutors' spokeswoman declined to elaborate on details of the investigation.

"The investigation is focusing on fraud and it is still in an early stage. Giving too many details would wake up certain people," she said. She declined to say which clubs were being investigated and in which leagues they played.

De Telegraaf said the probe was initiated after prosecutors discovered that some players' spending was not in line with their income.

The director of the Dutch football federation KNVB, Henk Kesler, welcomed the investigation, saying prosecutors had already spent six weeks investigating possible embezzlement in the top two divisions, Dutch news agency ANP reported.

"The truth should come out," ANP quoted Kesler as telling reporters. Kesler did not rule out the possibility that illegal practices existed in Dutch professional football.— *MNA/Reuters*

Norwegian referee admits error in Champions League final

OSLO, 19 May — Norwegian referee Terje Hauge has admitted making a mistake by blowing too early for a foul by Arsenal goalkeeper Jens Lehmann and denying Barcelona the opening goal in Wednesday's Champions League final.

"I must admit that I was a little early out with that whistle but I was terribly focused on what was happening," Hauge told Thursday's Norwegian tabloid *Verdens Gang* after Barca were crowned European champions with a 2-1 win in Paris.

"The keeper took the man and the whistle blew without my using any time to see where the ball rolled next," he said.

Hauge blew for a foul in the 18th minute after German keeper Lehmann, who was immediately sent off, brought down Barca's Camroon striker Samuel Eto'o on the edge of the penalty area.

Forward Ludovic Giuly thought he had given Barca the lead when he put the loose ball into an

empty net but Hauge had already given a free kick before dismissing Lehmann.

"It was a bit of an unlucky situation, but I must stand for what I did. I should maybe have waited and waited, but that's how things are for a referee today," added Hauge.

He had come under fire from Arsenal captain Thierry Henry and coach Arsene Wenger after the match at the Stade de France for favouring the Spanish champions. Wenger was particularly incensed about Eto'o's equalizer, which he claimed was offside.

The day before the match Hauge's compatriot Ole Hermann Borgan was replaced as a linesman for the final after posing for a newspaper picture wearing a Barcelona shirt. His "thoughtless and stupid" gesture caused uproar in the British Press.

MNA/Reuters

Italian tax police search Juve offices, players' homes

TURIN (Italy), 19 May — Italian tax police searched the offices of soccer champions Juventus, already reeling from allegations of match-fixing, and the homes of two of their top players on Thursday.

Police entered Juve's HQ as part of an investigation into the club's dealings in the transfer market and also visited the homes of Swedish striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Italy captain Fabio Cannavaro, an investigative source told *Reuters*.

Transcripts of telephone conversations of Juventus general manager Luciano Moggi discussing the signings of the two players have been published in Italian newspapers. Neither Ibrahimovic nor Cannavaro are under investigation by authorities.

Magistrates have placed Juve's chief executive officer Antonio Giraudo and Moggi, who resigned last week, under investigation on suspicion of false accounting relating to the club's transfer dealings.

Investigative sources in Naples said the police had visited the home of Moggi's son Alessandro as part of a probe into the operations of his soccer

management company GEA World.

In a statement, Juventus confirmed the police search of their offices was taking place. The source said that police were also visiting the personal residences of Moggi. Juventus denied Giraudo's home had been visited.

Juventus shares were down 8.22 percent at 1.35 euros by 1217 GMT, against a 0.22 percent dip in the overall market.

The club, winner of the Italian league title for the second year running on Sunday, has lost more than 40 per cent of its value since May 9, before the board resigned, and is now worth about 165.7 million euros (213.7 million US dollars).

The Turin investigation is one of several to have rocked the world of

Italian football this month.

In Naples, 41 people including officials of several clubs, referees and Football Federation executives are under investigation for suspected match-fixing.

The president and vice-president of Italy's federation resigned last week and it was put under emergency administration.

Administrator Guido Rossi, the 75-year-old former head of the stock market regulator, spent 2-1/2 hours with Naples magistrates on Thursday.

Judicial sources said that the meeting had discussed how and when investigators would pass on documents to the federation.

Officials from six-times European champions AC Milan, Lazio and Fiorentina are also under investigation by magistrates.—*MNA/Reuters*



Brazilian soccer legend Pelé holds copies of his book titled 'Pel - The Autobiography' during a presentation at a central London's bookstore on 18 May, 2006. Pelé, who scored over a 1000 career goals, said he was looking forward to seeing some of the world's best strikers in this summer's World Cup finals in Germany.—INTERNET

Dutch crew member dies in Volvo Ocean Race

AMSTERDAM, 19 May — A Dutch sailor in the Volvo Ocean Race died on Thursday after being swept overboard from the yacht *ABN Amro Two*, race organizers said.

The Volvo Ocean Race said on its website that Hans Horrevoets, 32, was washed overboard early on Thursday as the boat was sailing in five-metre seas some 1,300 miles off the British coast.

The crew immediately turned the boat around, took the sails down and mounted a search-and-rescue effort. Horrevoets was located and lifted back on board.

However, despite the efforts of crew members under the direction of medical advisers to resuscitate him, Horrevoets failed to regain consciousness.

"We are all devastated by the events that took place this morning and all our thoughts are for Hans' family," said skipper Sebastien Josse. "Throughout the whole MOB (man overboard) procedure the whole crew handled themselves calmly, professionally and with the utmost maturity. It is with deep regret that we were unable to resuscitate Hans."—*MNA/Reuters*

Berbatov turned down Man Utd to join Spurs

SOFIA, 19 May — Bulgaria striker Dimitar Berbatov says he turned down an offer from Manchester United to join Tottenham Hotspur after talking to manager Martin Jol.

The 25-year-old, who has agreed a four-year deal with the Premier League club subject to a work permit, is leaving Bayer Leverkusen for a fee of 16 million euros (20.49 million US dollars).

"I can reveal now that I had an offer from Manchester United and everyone knows what it means but after talking to Martin several times I decided to choose Spurs," he said on Thursday.

"We (the player and his agent) went to see Tottenham's match against United last month and afterwards I met Martin. It was our first meeting but I realized that he's a very special man."

"I'm glad I'll have the chance to work with him... many people have told me he is a brilliant manager."

The striker, handed the number nine shirt at White Hart Lane, also told a news conference he is keen to show that he is worth the money Spurs are paying for him.— *MNA/Reuters*



Australian Socceroo fans watch members of the team during a farewell event in Sydney, Australia, on 19 May, 2006. The event was the last chance for Sydney fans to farewell their team before they go to the World Cup in Germany.—INTERNET

Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries holds coord meeting

YANGON, 19 May — A coordination meeting of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries was held at the meeting hall of the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw on 16 May evening, with an address by Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein.

Director-General U Maung Maung Nyunt of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department reported on breeding tasks of the nation, production of meat and prevention against bird flu disease, and Director-General U Than Tun of Fisheries Department on production of fish and prawn, collection of vari-



Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein addresses the coordination meeting of the ministry. — MNA

ous kinds of tax, and releasing of fish species into lakes.

Director-General U Myint Shwe of Apicul-

ture Department presented reports on manufacturing of honey and honey products and pollination tasks, General

Manager Dr Than Shwe of Livestock, Feedstuff and Dairy Enterprise on production of meet, egg and pharmaceutical ma-

terials, and Rector of University of Veterinary Science Dr Myint Thein on academic matters of the university.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein.

MNA

NLD, ignoring national interest, walked out of National Convention as its demands for wielding influence on the convention were not met

Shwegu Township NLD members resign

YANGON, 19 May — Sixty-eight members of Shwegu Township National League for Democracy in Bhamo District, Kachin State, resigned of their own accord from the party by sending their resignation letters to NLD (HQ) and local authorities concerned. On 7 May, they went to Shwegu Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-commission and handed over their resignations.

Present on the occasion were the chairman of the township Sub-commission, law officer, judge, head of Township Immigration and National Registration Department

and those who resigned from NLD.

At the ceremony U Wai Lwin, member of Saikon Ward NLD Organizing Committee, explained why they had resigned from the party. He said they had lost interest and faith in NLD as it is resorting to various ways to harming the State paying much emphasis on serving its self-interest and grabbing power. All can witness that the government alongside the people are striving day in, day out for the development of the State. He said they joined the party with the aim of doing party politics with sincerity and serving locals' interest. At first, NLD attended the National

Convention, which is the lifeblood of the State. But later, the NLD, ignoring the national interest, walked out of the National Convention as its demands to wield influence on the convention were not met. For the good of a handful of people, NLD is committing subversive acts that can jeopardize the interest of the State and the people in collusion with some foreign countries and underground and aboveground elements. With the government's adoption of 'national reconciliation policy', all parts of the country including Kachin State are now enjoying peace and stability. U Wai Lwin said they all resigned from NLD as they

no longer have faith in the party, which is much hungry for power and self-centred.

Later, U Soe Myint, member of Shwegu Township Myogon Ward NLD presented resignation letters of the 68 members and office equipment to the chairman of Shwegu Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-commission.

Sixty-seven NLD members including executives of Shwegu Township NLD submitted their resignation letters to Shwegu Township Sub-commission on 4 May and now is the second time for the NLD members in the same township to resign from the party. — MNA

Weather Forecast for (20-5-2006)

Nay Pyi Taw & neighbouring areas

Partly cloudy.

Yangon & neighbouring areas

Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Mandalay & neighbouring areas

Partly cloudy.

INSIDE

* *I valued onion more after reading about it in the Internet.*

We can even call it the kitchen doctor. Noticeable lines in the story were "An onion a day keeps the doctor away." "Onions are highly recommended for people trying to prevent cardiovascular diseases, cancer and infections."

* *For over 4,000 years, onion has been used for medical purposes. The esteemed Greek physician Hippocrates prescribed onion as a diuretic, wound healer and pneumonia fighter.*