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Thursday, 25 May, 2006

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Argentine President

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to the Right Honorable Mr Nestor Carlos Kirchner, President of the Republic of Argentina, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Argentina which falls on 25th May 2006.

MNA

Yangon Airport eyes int'l standard

YANGON, 24 May — The runway of the Yangon International Airport is being upgraded and the extended building of the airport is under construction in an effort to upgrade the airport to meet the international standard.

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe and Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung yesterday went to the Airport and inspected the extended construction of the runway and the building.

Upon completion, the runway, 11,200 ft long

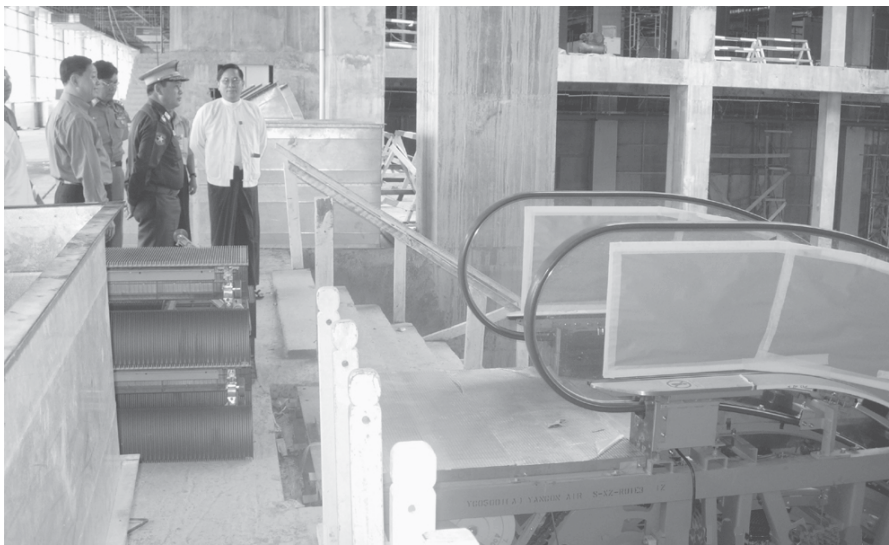
and 200 ft wide, will be able to handle Boeing 747-400 jets.

During the tour of inspection, the minister and the deputy minister assisted in the construction works.

Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe called for timely completion of the building meeting the international standard and fulfilled the requirements.

The building is being constructed by Asia World Company.

MNA



Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe inspects extended construction tasks at Yangon International Airport. — 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

Weather Forecast for (25-5-2006)

Nay Pyi Taw & neighbouring areas

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

Yangon & neighbouring areas

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

Mandalay and neighbouring areas

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

INSIDE

- * A sprayer needs to know the harmful effects of the pesticide residue as it contains poisonous substances and contaminated matters. But even the maximum content of residue in a pesticide is not high enough to kill a man instantly.
- * It takes a lot of time to meet the amount of toxic that is enough to kill a man. But drinking of pesticide strong solution may cause human death. Sprayed vegetables harvested and sold before the end of prescribed time limit may contain the residue.

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KO YE (AGRICULTURE)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 25 May, 2006

Boost the sales of precious stones

Myanmar is rich in aquatic and terrestrial resources. Gold, silver, pearl and such precious stones as jade, ruby and sapphire of Myanmar are world-famous because of their fine quality. Myanma Gems Enterprise under the Ministry of Mines used to hold gems emporiums two or three times a year previously to boost the sales of gems and earn more foreign exchange.

But now the Ministry of Mines holds the gems emporiums based on the amount of production without setting a fixed timetable. Arrangements are being made to hold the June-July special sales of jade (2006) at the Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township in Yangon.

Nowadays, the world jade and gems market is developing and so neighbouring countries of Myanmar and those in other parts of the world have become more interested in gems emporiums of Myanmar. Myanmar is also taking measures to keep harmony between the production and the sales.

Gems industry calls for huge investment and hard work. This being the case, the government is taking steps for speedy sales and for the gems to fetch deserving prices.

In the past, gems exploration and extraction industry was handled only by the government. But now, both the government and private companies owned by national entrepreneurs are engaged in this industry on a wider scale for mutual benefits.

Expansion of gems industry can increase the national income. Therefore, we would like to call on all those concerned to boost the sales of gems in the interests of the nation and private companies.

**နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင်
မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ**

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

- ၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်မေလအတွက်
နောက်ဆုံးပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)
(၂၈-၅-၂၀၀၆)ရက်နေ့
- ၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်၊ ဇွန်လအတွက်
(၁၁-၆-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့
နှင့်
(၂၅-၆-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့

မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရ

- * 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

2,750-ton-shipment of palm oil arrives

YANGON, 24 May — MT-Yanee with 2,750 tons of palm oil aboard arrived today at Asia World Port here.

To distribute palm oil to the public at a reasonable price, palm oil has been imported from Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore.

It is expected that 2,900-ton-shipment of the edible oil will arrive on 28 May and 2,700-ton-shipment on 30 May. — MNA



Arrival of MT-Yanee carrying 2,750 tons of edible palm oil at Asia World Port. — MNA

52nd National Cycling Championship continues

YANGON, 24 May — The Myanmar Cycling Federation President's Cup 52nd National Cycling Championship 2006 continued at Youth Training Centre (Thuwanna) this morning.

In the women's 4,800-m singles event, Khine Mar Oo (A&I) stood first, Khin Soe Htay (YCDC), second, and Aye Aye Thin (L&F), third. The men's and women's 4,000-m singles semifinal events continued today.

The 4,000-m, 800-m and 10,000-m singles final events continue tomorrow. — NLM



Win Naing Tar (A&I) who stood first in men's 1,600-m singles event seen on racecourse on Wednesday. — NLM

Foreign Minister sends felicitations to Argentina

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May — U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to the Honorable Mr Jorge Taiana, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Argentina, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Argentina which falls on 25th May 2006.

MNA

Myanmar delegation leaves for Laos



General Secretary U Win Khine and Central Committee member U Ohn Myint of Myanmar Engineering Society seen at the airport. — MNA

YANGON, 24 May — Myanmar delegation members General Secretary of Myanmar Engineering Society U Win Khine and Central Committee member Director of Myanma Industrial Construction Service U Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Industry-2 left for Laos by air yesterday to attend the 10th Meeting of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Sub-Sector Network (EE-CSSN) to be held in Vientiane, Laos, on 25 and 26 May.

The Myanmar delegation members will continue to attend the 4th Meeting of Board of Judges for ASEAN Renewable Energy Project Competition to be held in Brunei, and they were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of MES U Than Myint and Joint General Secretary U Ko Ko. — MNA

Rights abuses rise due to US-led war on terrorism

LONDON, 23 May—The US-led war against terrorism has sparked a rise in human rights abuses as countries turn a blind eye to violations by their allies, Amnesty International said on Tuesday.

Accusing countries such as the United States of double standards, the group

said in its annual report for 2006 that their credibility had been weakened by reports of prisoner torture in third countries and other rights abuses. Rights groups have often accused governments backing the war against terrorism of being reluctant to criticize allies that have a poor human

rights records to avoid losing the support of those countries.

Amnesty said the war on terrorism had damaged ordinary people's lives and some governments had 'sacrificed principles' and turned a blind eye to rights violations in its pursuit. "The increasing brutality of such incidents throughout the world last year is a further bitter reminder that the 'war on terror' is failing and will continue to fail until human rights ... are given precedence over narrow national security interests," Amnesty chief Irene Khan said.

MNA/Reuters



According to the United States Department of Agriculture, Cucurbita maxima, a plant, takes 105 days. It produces good yields of 30" long banana shaped pinkish colour squash. This unique squash has delicious yellow-orange flesh. Can grow up to 50 lbs. Impress your neighbours and grow a huge squash. A winter squash variety. —INTERNET



Repairs to the 400-foot high Glasgow Tower, which is Scotland's tallest building, finally got under way this week as engineers raised it by 19mm to examine the faulty bearing which had caused the tower to close in March. The 50cm ball bearing supports the 95-tonne, 400-foot high rotating structure and it had moved by 15mm. The slim tower has no cables or other supports and is the only tower in the world which revolves 360 degrees along its entire height.

INTERNET

Lineup of Nepal's new Cabinet

KATHMANDU, 23 May —Nepali King Gyanendra Monday reshuffled the Council of Ministers, or Cabinet, by appointing new ministers under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala.

The following is a list of some of the new Cabinet members:

Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala was assigned the portfolios of Defence, Royal Palace, Health and Population and Industry, Commerce and Supply

Deputy Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli was assigned for Foreign Affairs

Minister for Home: Krishna Sitaula

Minister for Finance: Ram Saran Mahat

Minister for Agriculture and Cooperatives: Mahanta Thakur.

MNA/Xinhua

Two Italian "F16" jets collide, pilots safe

ROME, 24 May — Two Italian Air Force F16 jets collided off the island of Sardinia, but the two pilots managed to eject to safety, Italian news agency ANSA reported on Tuesday.

The Italian Defence Ministry was quoted as saying that the mid-air collision took place on Monday evening, and the two aircraft fell into the Mediterranean sea some 16 kilometres off the coast of Sardinia.

The incident occurred during Operation Spring Flag, the most important Air Force military exercise of the year. It began on 8 May and is set to conclude on Saturday, involving more than 1,000 personnel from Italy and other countries of the European Air Group.

The F16 is considered a transition fighter jet between the old F104 and the new Eurofighter, the first of which are being delivered. — MNA/Xinhua

Most Americans do not get preventive healthcare

NEW YORK, 23 May —Many Americans are failing to get the preventive medical care that could help them live longer, healthier lives, according to a new study. Preventive measures, like a daily dose of aspirin, colon cancer screening and smoking-cessation therapy, are all effective ways to save lives and healthcare dollars, but fewer than half of Americans who need these services are getting them, the study found.

The findings, published online by the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, are based on an analysis of more than 8,000 previously published studies. Researchers with the non-profit groups Partnership for

Prevention and Health Partners Research Foundation ranked 25 recommended preventive services according to their potential health benefits and medical-cost savings. Besides aspirin therapy, colon cancer screening and smoking cessation, the most effective preventive services include childhood vaccinations, blood pressure screening, Chlamydia screening for young women, and immunizing adults against the flu and pneumonia, the researchers conclude.

Yet, with the exception of childhood vaccinations, the majority of Americans may be missing out on at least one of these services, according to the report.

"If these services were more consistently offered to the American people, fewer people would die and fewer people would suffer from diseases that are preventable," study co-author Ashley Coffield, an analyst with the Washington, DC-based Partnership for Prevention, said in a statement.

For example, low-dose aspirin therapy has been shown to be a cheap, effective way of lowering the risk of heart disease and stroke.

If doctors discussed aspirin therapy with all at-risk patients, the study authors conclude, it could save 80,000 lives annually.

Similar benefits could be seen if doctors asked all patients about

their smoking habits, then offered smokers on brief counselling and recommendations for cessation therapies, according to the researchers—MNA/Reuters

Foreign mountaineers die while descending Mt Everest

LHASA, 23 May— Three mountaineers from Russia, France and Brazil died while descending the world's highest peak Mount Everest, a source with the China Tibet Mountaineering Association said Monday.

The Russian climber, Plyushkin Igor, 54, felt extremely uncomfortable at an altitude of 7,800 metres on his way back from 8,600 metres, and died on Monday, said Zhang Mingxing, secretary-general of the association.— MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier secures a car bomb site in Kabul, Afghanistan on 21 May, 2006. A car bomb in the Afghan capital killed three people on Sunday, Afghan security officials said.—INTERNET



Young performers dressed as angels take part in the 'Procession in Honour of the Holy Cross and Our Lady of Fatima' at the island of Cheung Chau in Hong Kong on 21 May, 2006. —INTERNET

တပ်မှူးများ အား ခေတ်တော်လွှား

US-led forces strike Taliban, up to 50 dead

KABUL, 23 May — Aircraft from a US-led force in Afghanistan attacked Taliban strongholds on Monday and may have killed up to 50 of the guerrillas, a military spokesman said.

Residents of the area said up to 35 civilians were killed. The attack was launched in the Panjwai District of

Kandahar Province where heavy fighting erupted last week between Taliban and Afghan and foreign troops.

"There was a coalition air strike — as part of a co-ordinated operation against known Taliban strongholds," said the spokesman for the multi-national force, Major Scott Lundy.

"We believe up to 50 Taliban may have been killed," he said.

Lundy said there were

unconfirmed reports of civilian casualties, which were being investigated.

Violence has surged in Afghanistan since last Wednesday, most of it in the south and east.

Not including Monday's casualties, about 150 people, most of them militants, were killed.

The dead included four foreign soldiers — two French, an American and a Canadian.

MNA/Reuters

Personal data on millions of US veterans stolen

WASHINGTON, 23 May — Personal information on 26.5 million US veterans was stolen from an employee of the Department of Veterans Affairs who took the data home without authorization, exposing them to possible identity theft, the department said on Monday.

The computer records included names, Social Security numbers and dates of birth for the military veterans and some spouses, the department said. The electronic data related to everyone discharged from the military since 1975, Veterans Affairs Secretary Jim Nicholson said.

Lawmakers and veterans' advocates expressed alarm that the government failed to safeguard the data, which could be used in credit card fraud and other crimes.

MNA/Reuters

Condoleezza Rice faces silent protest in Boston

BOSTON, 23 May — Dozens of faculty and students turned their backs and waved protest signs when US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice received an honorary degree from Boston College on Monday.

But the protest against Rice, a central player in President George W Bush's Iraq policy, was smaller than had been expected and those among the 25,000 crowd who gave her a standing ovation outnumbered

those who sat in silence.

Rice's selection as commencement speaker had stirred controversy at the Jesuit school, where many oppose the war and say it contradicts Catholic teaching.

"We've spent the last four years learning how to appreciate and work for social harmony, and to have a woman who is part of an administration that has launched a very unjust war, it's just outrageous," said Emily Jendzejec, 22, one of about 60 students

who turned their backs on Rice.

Like dozens of students, Jendzejec wore a protest armband and sticker on her graduating robe reading "Not in my name."

At one point, a propeller plane flew overhead dragging a sign saying: "Your war brings dishonour". About 100 protesters outside chanted "Stop the Lies. Troops out now" and waved placards including one reading "No degrees for terrorism."

MNA/Reuters



The Republic of Korea (ROKAF) selected the F-15K advanced derivative of the F-15E Strike Eagle for its Next Generation Fighter Programme in 2002. Under a \$3.6 billion contract, Boeing will deliver 40 aircraft to the ROKAF beginning this year and ending in August 2008. —INTERNET



Kwon Sang-woo to help earthquake victims in Japan

HUKUOKA (JAPAN)—Actor Kwon Sang-woo, one of the Korean stars leading the Korean Wave throughout Asia, will hold a live talk show in Hukuoka, Japan in July to help earthquake victims there.

The talk show was planned as Kwon had expressed the hope of doing something to encourage victims after hearing about the earthquake in Hukuoka in March last year. He will donate part of the proceeds from the show to help in the restoration of the region.

Earlier in February, Kwon held an auction in Japan where he sold costumes he wore in the movie 'Running Wild' to help those in need. He donated the proceeds from the auction to Make A Wish, the non-profit organization for children with incurable diseases.

Internet

Seven-year-old swimmer 'escapes' from Alcatraz

SAN FRANCISCO, 23 May — A 7-year-old boy swam from Alcatraz Island to the San Francisco shore in less than an hour on Monday, becoming one of the youngest ever to successfully cross the cold, choppy waters.

Braxton Bilbrey of Arizona, was accompanied by his coach and two other adults on the 1.4-mile (2.25-kilometre) swim in San

Francisco Bay, where the water temperature is about 55 degrees Fahrenheit (12.8 degrees Celsius).

Once a maximum security prison, Alcatraz is famous for housing Chicago mobster Al Capone and Robert Stroud, the "Birdman of Alcatraz".

The prison was shut down in 1963 and is now a popular tourist site.

Several prisoners

tried to escape from Alcatraz by swimming across the bay but none of them are known to have made it.

Bilbrey — who trained for two hours a day, four days a week for the crossing — said he was inspired by a magazine story about 9-year-old Johnny Wilson, who completed the swim last October in under two hours.

MNA/Reuters



Villagers carry a newly built dragon boat to a river in the suburbs of Guangzhou, capital of China's southern Guangdong Province on 21 May, 2006. The boats are prepared for the Dragon Boat Festival which is celebrated with boat races to represent the attempted rescue of poet Chu Yuan. Chu Yuan drowned on the fifth day of the fifth lunar month in 277 BC. This year's Dragon Boat Festival falls on 31 May. —INTERNET

Iraqi prisoner abuse trial begins for US soldier

FORT MEADE (Md), 23 May —A US Army sergeant went on trial on Monday on charges of abusing Iraqi inmates with his dog in the military's latest prosecution of low-ranking soldiers in the Abu Ghraib prison scandal.

The court martial of Sergeant Santos Cardona, 32, could be more significant than those of the 10 American soldiers previously convicted of abuse of Iraqi prisoners because testimony is expected from Major-General Geoffrey Miller, who helped shape policies at Abu Ghraib.

Miller would be the highest ranking officer to testify in the case and was a commander at

Guantanamo Bay Prison, where captives from Afghanistan and Iraq are held. Cardona is accused of maltreatment of prisoners, dereliction of duty and assault while allowing his unmuzzled dog to intimidate detainees in 2003 and 2004. If convicted on all charges, he could be sentenced to 16 1/2 years in prison.

Cardona and another dog handler, Sergeant Michael Smith, who was convicted on similar charges in March and sentenced to 179 days in prison, allegedly played a "game" in which they tried to scare prisoners so badly they urinated and defecated on themselves.

The morning and early

afternoon sessions of the trial were spent selecting a panel to hear the charges. Two potential members were excused after expressing strong opinions about the notorious photographs of prisoner abuse that leaked out of Abu Ghraib. They said the photos, which showed sometimes—nude prisoners being humiliated by Army personnel, inspired hatred among Iraqis and increased the risk for US soldiers.—MNA/Reuters



KDDI Corp's new Walkman brand music phone, made by Sony Ericsson, is displayed at an unveiling in Tokyo on 22 May, 2006. —INTERNET

International boat show wraps up in Beirut

BEIRUT, 23 May —An international boat show has wrapped up in the Lebanese capital of Beirut following a five-day showcase of various boats and yachts, local media reported on Monday.

The 5th International Boat and Super Yacht Show, which opened at Joseph Khoury Marina docks in northern Beirut on Wednesday, exhibited a variety of moored boats, sailboats, yachts and super yachts from various dealers and manufacturers, said organizers.

The event was not just a floating show of the world's luxury boats and yachts brands, it also featured on-land display of marine products, such as maritime equipment and instruments, engines, boat and yacht accessories. Organized by Lebanese International Fairs and Promotions Group (IFP), the fair attracted about 100 exhibitors from Germany, Britain, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Bahrain and Lebanon.

Within the context of the expo, an international conference on developing the sea front in the Middle East was held in parallel with the five-day ex-hibition.

MNA/Xinhua

One test-tube baby born in Uganda every month

KAMPALA, 23 May —At least 22 test-tube babies have been born in Kampala in nearly two years, meaning that an average of one is born per month.

"We have had 22 successful births since September 2004 and we currently have 24 pregnant patients," said Tamale Ssali, the owner of the Kampala Fertility and Gynecology Centre.

Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni opened the centre in September last year when 12 test-tube children had been born.

Museveni also ordered Uganda Revenue Authority to stop taxing the materials used by the

clinic, but Ssali complained they still suffer delays at the airport.

Museveni, who has encouraged Ugandans to make as many babies over the years so as to create a big internal and regional market, approved of the procedure as an answer to infertility.

Test-tube babies are born through an In-Vitro Fertilization or IVF process when an egg from the ovary of a potential mother is fertilized with sperm drawn from the father in a special glass bowl.

The fertilized egg is then kept in a test tube for two to three days for it to develop into an embryo before it is introduced in the woman's womb to allow for a pregnancy.

The minimum cost of having a test-tube baby at the clinic is four million Ugandan shillings (2,200 US dollars), with a success rate of 40 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua



King penguins swim over visitors as they walk through a 360-degree water tank at Asahiyama Zoo in Asahikawa, northern Japan on 22 May, 2006. — INTERNET

Singapore's PM reshuffles Cabinet

SINGAPORE, 23 May —Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong reshuffled the Cabinet with immediate effect on Monday after leading the People's Action Party to win the country's 10th general election on 6 May.

According to Channel NewsAsia report, Education Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam will concurrently serve as the Second Minister for Finance.

Raymond Lim will relinquish his positions as Second Minister for Finance and Minister in the Prime Minister's Office to replace Yeo Cheow Tong, who is retiring, as the Minister for Transport. Lim will remain to be the Second Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Vivian Balakrishnan, who will continue to be the Minister for Community Development, Youth and Sports, has been appointed Second Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts (MICA) to replace his former position as the Second Minister for Trade and Industry. Balaji Sadasivan has been appointed Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs while retaining his post as the Senior Minister of State in MICA. —MNA/Xinhua

Nottingham the "most dangerous city in England"

LONDON, 23 May — Nottingham is the most dangerous city in England and Wales with a crime rate four times greater than the safest towns such as Southend and Poole, according to a study released on Tuesday.

According to the public services think tank Reform, Nottingham had 115 crimes per 1,000 people in 2005 compared to just 30 in Southend, Essex and 32 in Poole, Dorset. Nottingham also had a far higher crime level than areas of similar size such as Wolverhampton (49 crimes per 1,000 people) and Reading (43 per 1000). Reform said its findings were based on a comparison of seven types of offences — murder, robbery, rape, burglary, vehicle crime, gun crime and assault — in urban areas with populations over 100,000.

It called for local police to be made more accountable, saying "dramatic" differences in urban crime levels were often masked by official national figures, which have shown

the overall number of offences falling in the last decade.

"The government's key message that crime has been falling masks a huge variation between the safest and most dangerous urban areas," said Blair Gibbs, the report's co-author. Nottingham has seen a spate of gun crime

in recent years, blamed mainly on drugs, including the high-profile shooting of female police officer Rachael Bown in February and the fatal gunning down of Danielle Beccan, 14, in October 2004.

MNA/Reuters

Pakistani girl Maryam Akhtar, 8, performs acrobatics during a rally against child hunger in Islamabad. Some three hundred people participated in a walk which was organized by the United Nations' World Food Programme (WFP) to raise awareness against child hunger. —INTERNET





A US soldier in front of a military vehicle keeps watch near a car bomb site in Kabul, Afghanistan on 21 May, 2006. A car bomb in the Afghan capital killed three people on Sunday, Afghan security officials said. —INTERNET

Southeast Asian cyber attacks still way off

KUALA LUMPUR, 24 May — Southeast Asian extremist groups have turned to the Internet to recruit people and raise funds but they have not yet been able to mount cyber attacks, a security expert said on Monday.

Rohan Gunaratna, head of the political violence and terrorism centre at Singapore's Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, said regional militant network Jemaah Islamiah (JI) used Internet extensively to spread its propaganda.

"It will take a very long time for Southeast Asian groups to develop the capability to attack the Internet," he said. "Instead of attacking the Internet, they are using the Internet."

He was in Malaysia to address Southeast Asian security officials on US-backed training on counter-terrorism, including cyber-terrorism and suicide bombing.

A Malaysian counter-terrorism official told the meeting that the threat from cyber attacks in the region was real but offered no information of any specific threat. —MNA/Xinhua

US airstrike kills 80 Taliban, 16 civilians in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 23 May — The US-led Coalition force's air raid in the Afghan southern province of Kandahar left up to 80 Taliban militants and 16 civilians killed, authorities said on Monday.

The operation launched early Monday morning in the Kandahar Region near the village of Azizi resulted in the unconfirmed deaths of possibly up to 80 Taliban members, the Coalition said in its latest statement, raising the death toll from 50.

Initial assessments have confirmed 20 Taliban militants killed with an unconfirmed 60 additional Taliban casualties, it said. Five Taliban militants have also been detained. — MNA/Xinhua

Five people killed in Louisiana shooting

WASHINGTON, 23 May — Five people were killed on Sunday morning in a shooting incident in the southern US state of Louisiana, local media reported.

A man shot at a church in Baton Rouge, the state capital, fatally wounding four people and then fled after abducting his wife and their infant child.

The man, Anthony Bell, later shot his wife to death at another place, but their child was not hurt.

Bell was captured at an apartment complex near the church, and the couple's two other children were staying at home when the shooting occurred.

The motive for the shooting was not immediately known. — MNA/Xinhua

Three missing after boat overturns on Canada's Rice Lake

OTTAWA, 23 May — Four people were rescued while three others still missing after their boat overturned in stormy conditions on a lake in eastern Canada's Ontario Province on Sunday afternoon, local police said.

The pleasure craft was carrying seven people when it overturned at around 4:30 pm local time on Rice Lake, about 100 kilometres from Toronto, provincial capital and the country's largest city, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) reported citing local police.

The boat has been found, upside down and partially submerged, in an area that had reported wind gusts of up to 75 kilometres per hour and heavy waves.

The search and rescue team assisted by helicopters are still trying to locate the missing people, according to the police. — MNA/Xinhua

Two earthquakes hit Zimbabwe

HARARE, 23 May — Two moderate earthquakes measuring about 4.0 on the Richter Scale hit Zimbabwe's Mashonaland East Province at around midnight on Sunday, the Meteorological Department said on Monday.

"The epicentres of these earthquakes were in Wedza area, near Nyamudzi River," said Hector Chikowore, acting director of the Meteorological Department.

He said the first earthquake, measuring 3.9 on the Richter Scale, occurred at 23:55 on Sunday and the second one, measuring about 4.0, hit at 00:27 on Monday morning. — MNA/Xinhua

Two more bird flu deaths confirmed in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 24 May — Local tests have confirmed two more people have died of bird flu in Indonesia, a senior Health Ministry official said on Monday.

One of the victims belonged to a Sumatran family at the centre of fears of human-to-human transmission after six members of the family died this month of bird flu.

"One man from the same Sumatra cluster died this morning. He is the father of the child who died on May 13. He ran away after

he received Tamiflu," said I Nyoman Kandun, director-general of communicable disease control at the Health Ministry. "He was found in the village later but refused treatment." Kandun told reporters. Local results on bird flu cases are not considered definite and need confirmation from the World Health Organization.

WHO confirmed last week that six family members from Kubu Simbelang Village in North

Sumatra Province were infected with the H5N1 avian influenza virus.

MNA/Reuters

Cold weather leaves five dead in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 23 May — At least five people have died as a result of freezing temperatures in South African Eastern Cape Province, local SABC news reported on Monday.

Snow and freezing temperatures hit the province and other parts of the country at the weekend.

Two mountain passes were closed because of snow in the Karoo and many towns experienced power cuts as strong winds

damaged infrastructure.

The South African Weather Services issued a warning that icy weather experienced over the country was set to continue until about Thursday.

The Weather Service predicted that Johannesburg's lowest temperature was set to be minus 1 in Celsius on Monday. The warmest temperature that can be expected will be upper 10 in Celsius.

MNA/Xinhua



Actress Deborah Gibson arrives for the 51st Annual Drama Desk Awards which honours excellence in theatre, on 25 May 2006, in New York. INTERNET

Digital lighthouses guide vessels safely away from "Chanchu"

SHANGHAI, 24 May — China's new digital lighthouse system passed

its first major test with tropical storm Chanchu last week, guiding all vessels in Chinese waters to safety.

Chanchu, the first tropical storm of the year in the South China Sea, sank at least 10 vessels off Vietnam and left dozens of seamen dead or missing.

No casualties were reported in Chinese waters primarily due to the automatic identification system (AIS) adopted by China's Maritime Safety Administration (MSA), said Liu Gongchen, MSA executive director-general, on Monday. He told the ongoing 16th Conference of the International Association of Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) that the AIS had given advance warning to all vessels at sea in the path of Chanchu.

MNA/Xinhua



Vietnam's state-owned shipbuilding giant Vinashin will launch a 53,000 ton-capacity vessel, the largest ever built in Vietnam, in northern coastal Quang Ninh Province. —INTERNET

Salient points on pesticides-1

Ko Ye (Agriculture)

Pesticides have to be used inevitably when harmful insects infest crops. However, for the safety of consumers, systematic use of pest killers is required, especially in vegetables farms.

Directions for the use of pesticides usually state the period, after which the sprayed vegetables can be harvested for marketing. In Myanmar, all the pesticides, insecticides and herbicides must be registered in accord with the law for distribution. The law stipulates the type of insect killer agents, the size of containers as well as the directions that are to be written in Myanmar language.

Following the rules and directions ensures safety, but ignoring them invites dangers. Pesticides

are effective if used systematicalls, but their wrongful use will be harmful.

The user must know in advance the mixing ratio of agent and water, the method of spraying, safety measures and the choice of the wind direction.

Nowadays, more and more consumers are turning to organic products that fetch higher market prices. People even usually choose vegetables with pest-bitten marks thinking that they are safer because pesticides have not been used.

Pesticides are used for agricultural purpose and for health care. Pesticides for agricultural purpose are produced designed to keep their potency for a limited duration and with less risk to the environment.

A sprayer needs to know the harmful effects of the pesticide residue as it contains poisonous substances and contaminated matters. But even the maximum content of residue in a pesticide is not high enough to kill a man instantly. It takes alot of time to meet the amount of toxic that is enough to kill a man. But drinking of pesticide strong solution may cause human death. Sprayed vegetables harvested and sold before the end of prescribed time limit may contain the residue.

People should wash the vegetables thoroughly before cooking them. But harmful agents in the pesticides containing oily substance cannot be eliminated easily.

On the other hand, eating residue-contaminated vegetables cannot cause immediate risk. For instance, harmful amount of consuming contaminated cabbage is at about 150 tons.

Instead of bringing instant death, the residue if it accumulates in the body may cause hepatitis, nervous system disorders, cancer, uncommon growth of tissues and skin diseases, and may also harm reproductive organs or even the embryo.

To see that all the farm products are free from residue, agricultural producers should give special care in using all kinds of pesticides according to the directions.

(Translation: TMT)

Instead of bringing instant death, the residue if it accumulates in the body may cause hepatitis, nervous system disorders, cancer, uncommon growth of tissues and skin diseases, and may also harm reproductive organs or even the embryo.

Asia Cooperation Dialogue Conference opens in Doha

DOHA, 24 May — The fifth ministerial meeting of the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) opened here on Tuesday as Qatar's Crown Prince called for "gradual economic integration" of the continent. .

Qatar's Crown Prince Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani launched the two-day meeting which will focus on energy and other aspects of economic cooperation.

The establishment of an ACD energy forum will be mulled among participants.

South Korea and Japanese foreign ministers agreed on the sidelines of the conference to hold another round of talks in June over the disputed maritime

border in the East Sea (Sea of Japan) on Tuesday, South Korea *Yonhap News* reported.

The agreement was reached at an one-on-one meeting between South Korea Foreign Minister Ban Ki-moon and his Japanese counterpart Taro Aso.

The bilateral meeting, which had been suspended since 2000 and will be the fifth of this kind, was set for June 12-13 in Tokyo, *Yonhap* said.

South Korea and Japan both claim sovereignty to a series of disputed islets off the eastern coastline of the Korean Peninsula, which is controlled by South Korea and called Dokdo by Korean and Takeshima by Japanese. — *MNA/Xinhua*



A garden show piece entitled the 4Head Garden of Dreams depicting a sleeping woman by designers Marney Hall and Heather Yarrow is seen on display on the preview day for the annual flower show in central London, on Monday 22, May, 2006. — INTERNET

Hamas, Fatah agree to end violence in Gaza

GAZA, 24 May — The ruling Palestinian Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) and the Fatah Movement have agreed to end violence in the Gaza Strip sparked by dispute over control of the security forces, a Palestinian source said on Tuesday.

Jamil Al-Majdalawi, a member of the politburo of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), told reporters that the agreement was reached at a Monday meeting in Gaza between Prime Minister and senior Hamas leader Ismail Haneya and Rawhi Fattouh, representative of President Mahmoud Abbas who is also Fatah chairman.

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
ကျောင်းအပ်နှံရေးသီတင်းပတ်
မေလ ၂၅ ရက်မှ ၃၁ ရက်အထိ



ကျောင်းနေအရွယ်ကလေး ကျောင်းအပ်နှံရေး
ပြည်သူ့အားလုံး ပါဝင်ဆောင်ရွက်ပေး

၂၀၀၆-၂၀၀၇ ပညာသင်နှစ်
ကျောင်းအပ်နှံရေးသီတင်းပတ်
မေလ ၂၅ ရက်မှ ၃၁ ရက် အထိ

မြို့နယ်ကျောင်းအပ်နှံရေးမှစ၍
ကျောင်းသုံးပတ်စာအုပ်များကို
ကျောင်းများတွင်ရောင်းချပေးမည်။

ပညာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Commander attends annual meeting, prize presentation ceremony of Yangon Division MCWA

YANGON, 24 May — Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Maternal and Child Welfare Association held its annual meeting and prize presentation ceremony at Myatpyinnya hall of Yankin Education College, Yankin Township, this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife, Chairperson of Yangon Division SCMCWA Daw Mar Mar Wai, chairmen of District PDCs, the secretary and executives of Yangon Division SCMCWA, chairpersons and executives of District and Township SCMCWAs, township education officers, heads of Township Health Departments and guests.

First, Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win made a speech on the occasion and Chairperson of Yangon Division SCMCWA Daw Mar Mar Wai reported to the commander on performances of the associations at



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win delivers an address at annual meeting of Yangon Division SCMCWA. — MNA



Chairperson of Yangon Division SCMCWA Daw Mar Mar Wai (R) presents a prize to an executive of an outstanding township MCWA. — MNA

different levels.

Next, Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai and Secretary Dr Hla Myint presented prizes for townships to officials concerned. Afterwards, secretaries reported on efforts made in 2005. Secretary Dr Hla Myint

reported on endeavors made in 2006.

After that, Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai made concluding remarks and she together with members viewed photos on movements launched by the associations. — MNA

Mass movement on prevention against DHF launched in Mingala Taungnyunt



Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials view spraying of insecticide in Mingala Taungnyunt Township to fight DHF. — MNA

Reminder issued for trawlers

YANGON, 24 May — The Fishery Department issued the reminder No 2/2006 that trawlers are not to carry out fishing from 1 June to 31 August 2006 for prevention against depletion of fish and prawn resources in Myanmar fishing area.

The limited areas are the fishing block A-20 in Rakhine State from north latitude 18°00' to 18°30' and from east longitude 94°00' to 94°30'; the fishing blocks B-15 and B-20, and blocks C-3 and C-4 in Ayeyawady Division from north latitude 15°30' to 17°00' and from east longitude 94°00' to 95°00'; the fishing blocks D-23 and D-28, and E-11 and E-17 in Mon State and Taninthayi Division from north latitude 13°30' to 14°30' and from east longitude 97°30' to 98°00', and from north latitude 12°00' to 13°00' and from east longitude 97°30' to 98°00'.

MNA

Follow-up news

YANGON, 24 May — Regarding the news of 23 May dailies on the ceremony to present gift of Khind Electrical & Electronics, more information for Khind products are available Tel: 38045 and Tel: 242307.

MNA

YANGON, 24 May — Jointly-organized by the Ministry of Health and Yangon City Development Committee, a mass movement on prevention against dengue haemorrhagic fever was launched in Mingalar Taungnyunt Township this morning.

CEC member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Yangon Division In-charge Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa gave encouragement to the participants who took part in the movement.

At the briefing hall of Mingala Taungnyunt Township Development Affairs Committee Office,

Acting Head of Health Department of YCDC Dr Daw Shu Kyi, Head of Township Health Department Dr Daw Ohnmar Myint and Dr Hla Myint of Yangon Division Health Department reported to the vice-mayor on measures taken for prevention against dengue fever in townships and outbreak of dengue fever in the townships with the help of charts.

Similarly, mass movement on prevention against dengue fever was launched in Dagon Myothit (North), Hline, Thakayta, Kamayut and Dawbon Townships at the same time. — MNA

Yanbye gets traditional medicine hospital

YANGON, 24 May — Ceremonies to open a traditional medicine hospital and to hoist a sacred umbrella atop Koyantaung Pagoda were held in Yanbye, Rakhine State, on 11 May.

Chairman of Kyaukpyu District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myo Tint, Yanbye Township PDC Chairman U Myo Tint and Thiha Thudamma Manijotadhaja Thiri Thudamma Manijotadhaja Agga Maha Thiri Thudamma Manijotadhaja U Than Naing and wife Thiha Thudamma Theingi Daw Kyi Kyi Swe and family of

Thamada Robes Shop in Yangon hoisted the sacred umbrella atop the pagoda by the decorated carriage.

Donor U Than Naing explained the purpose of the establishment of the hospital. Hman Cho, Htet Lin, Tun Shwe Wah and Kaythi Pan companies presented traditional medicines for the hospital.

The congregation shared the merits gained. 'Soon' was offered to 108 members of the Sangha. Traditional boat races, traditional wrestling matches and entertainment programmes were also held.

MNA

Coordination meeting for observing Myanmar Women's Day held

YANGON, 24 May — The coordination meeting of Leading Committee for Observing Myanmar Women's Day which falls on 3 July 2006 organized by Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, was held at MWAFF Office in Thanlwin Road in Bahan Township this morning with a speech by Chairman of Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe.

Also present on the occasion were Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, MWAFF President Daw Than Than Nwe, vice-presidents, the general secretary and members of the leading committee and guests.

MWAFF President Daw Than Than Nwe made a speech. Afterwards, those present reported on the activities to mark Myanmar Women's Day and officials of supporting committees reported on the tasks for the arrangement.

Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation President Daw Than Than Nwe delivers a speech.

MNA



Next, those present took part in the discussions and the meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the minister. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe addresses coordination meeting of Leading Committee for Observing Myanmar Women's Day. — MNA

World Population Day commemorative poster, essay and photo contests to be held

YANGON, 24 May — The Ministry of Immigration and Population and the United Nations Funds for Population Activities will organize poster, essay and photo contests to commemorate the World Population Day (2006).

The title set for the contests is "Young People".

The poster contest is categorized into five levels: (1) age 6-8, (2) 9-12, (3) 13-15, (4) 16-18, and (5) 19 or above.

Levels 1 to 4 will be organized by states and divisions Immigration and National Registration Departments at respective cities on 10 June, and the contestants are to use 15" x 20" drawing paper provided by IMRD.

Those wishing to participate in these levels are to apply not later than 8 June. Contestants of level 5 or open division may use any type of 18" x 24" drawing paper and are to send their entries to respective state/division IMRDs by 14 June or the Population Department (Head Office) in Yangon by 27 June. The contestants of Yangon Division are to send the entries in person to the head office by 27 June.

For levels 1 to 4, the first prize is K 100,000, the second prize, K 75,000, the third prize, 50,000, and five consolation prizes K 20,000 each. For level 5, the first prize is K 150,000, the second prize K 100,000, the third prize 50,000 and five consolation prizes K 30,000 each.

Essay entries are to be done in Myanmar. Three levels of the essay contest — university/college level, basic education high school level (8th, 9th, 10th

standards) and middle school (5th, 6th and 7th standards) — will take place in respective cities of states and divisions from 9 am to 11 am on 11 June. For university/college level, the first prize is K 50,000, the second prize, K 40,000, the third prize, K 30,000, and five consolation prizes K 20,000 each. For high and middle school levels, the first prize is K 40,000, the second prize, K 30,000, the third prize, K 20,000, and five consolation prizes K 10,000 each.

Contestants of photo contest may send 10" x 14" print entries as many as they like, and the first prize is K 200,000, the second prize, K 150,000, the third prize, K 100,000, and five consolation prizes K 50,000 each.

The entries are to be sent in person to Assistant Director U Maung Maung Myint of the Population Department at 416, Maha Bandoola Street, Yangon by 4 pm on 15 June. Entries are to be attached with a testimony that entries are own creations, are not prize-winning works at home or abroad, two passport-size photos and brief biography along with captions.

First, second and third prize winners of the contests will be awarded at the World Population Day commemorative ceremony to be held in Yangon on 11 July. Consolation prizes will be sent to the winners through respective state/division Immigration and Population Departments.

For further details, those wishing to participate in the contests may dial 382107, 385913, 385916, 385910 or 373167.

MNA

Public Works conducts three refresher courses

YANGON, 24 May — Three refresher courses for engineers of Public Works under the Ministry of Construction were opened today at the central training school of the ministry here.

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun delivered an address at the opening ceremony of the courses which will last four weeks each.

A total of 99 trainees will attend the courses.

MNA

Commerce Minister to attend int'l trade exhibition of PRC

YANGON, 24 May — A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein left for the People's Republic of China today to attend the 7th international trade exhibition of the western part of China.

The Myanmar delegation includes Head of the Office of the Ministry of Commerce U Aung Naing



Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein and party seen off at the airport. — MNA

Oo, Deputy General Manager of Myanma Sugarcane Enterprise U Aung Myint, Director of the Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration U Htay Chun and President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, departmental heads, Ambassador of PRC to Myanmar Mr Guan Mu and officials. — MNA

Myanma Insurance holds work coord meeting

YANGON, 24 May — Myanma Insurance held its coordination meeting at state, division and township levels during 2006-2007 fiscal year at the meeting hall of the enterprise this morning.

Present on the occasion were officials concerned of Myanma Insurance, officers at state, division and township levels and heads of department.

First, Managing Director of Myanma Insurance U Thein Lwin made a speech on the occasion. Next, officers read out reports on work procedures while heads of departments gave supplementary reports.

The work coordination meeting continues tomorrow. — MNA

ကမ္ဘာ့ဆေးလိပ်မသောက်ရေးနေ့
 (၃၁-၅-၂၀၀၆)
World No-Tobacco Day
 (31-5-2006)
 “ဆေးလိပ်ဆေးရွက်ဆွဲဆောင်အား
 အသက်အန္တရာယ်သတိထား
 တွန်းလှန်နိုင်ဖို့ ချီကြိုးစား”
Tobacco: deadly in any form or disguise
 ကျွန်ုပ်တို့အားလုံးအတွက်



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan addresses the work coordination meeting of Committee for Printing and Distributing Textbooks. — MNA

Minister stresses need for textbooks to ...

(from page 16)
 Printing jobs are to be shared among government presses in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay for meeting the demands of the Ministry of Education.
 He continued to say that the printing of textbooks for 2007-08 academic year must be completed in mid-March 2007 and the products are to be sent to the distribution points at the end of April. In conclusion, he

stressed the need for all officials to cooperate with ministries concerned for ensuring smooth completion of the tasks.
 Secretary of the Committee Managing Director U Aung Nyein of Printing and Publishing Enterprise reported on the minutes of the previous meeting held in October 2005. Chairman of the

Chairman of the Distribution Sub-committee Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min briefed the minister on progress of printing and distributing the textbooks being carried out by the respective sub-committees for 2006-07 academic year.
 Next, members of the sub-committees sub-

Talks on cigarette and tobacco held in Ahlon Township

YANGON, 24 May — The Health Sub-Working Group, under the Social and Cultural Working Department of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, and Yangon West District Women's Affairs Organization held the talks on cigarette and tobacco in commemoration of the World No Tobacco Day which falls on 31 May 2006 at the town hall in Ahlon Township this afternoon. Secretary of Ahlon Township WAO Daw Mi Mi Maw extended greetings.
 Member of Yangon West District WAO Dr Yi Yi Myint gave lectures on dangers of cigarette and tobacco, cigarette and



Dr Yi Yi Myint gives educative talks on dangers of tobacco.

health, diseases caused by cigarette, danger of cigarette and facts about expectant mothers. A total of 50 women answered the questions related to dangers of cigarette and tobacco. — MNA

HEALTH

Special Certificate in Education Technology (SCET) ...

(from page 16)
 After the course, they can serve in any parts of the country for at least five years.
 Those who passed the course will be appointed in basic education schools as senior assistant teachers.

They will also be allowed to continue to take the B.Ed course according to their service.
 Application forms are available at the offices of State and Division Education Officer and they are to be submitted to the re-

spective offices of State and Division Education Officer not later than 9 June with the testimonials of the respective ward/village peace and development councils and police stations.
 Written examination

will be held at 9 am on 14 June and personal interview on 17 June.
 The venue of the examination will be announced at the respective offices of education officers.
 MNA

Philippines to allow journalists carry firearms

MANILA, 24 May — The Philippine Government favours allowing journalists to carry firearms even outside their homes in wake of the rising of killing cases against them in the country, Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez said on Tuesday.
 Such a proposal was discussed at a Cabinet meeting, Gonzalez told reporters at a Press briefing, following the killing of another Filipino journalist on Monday, the fifth in this year. All of the victims were shot dead by secret gunmen. "We will allow them to carry firearms to protect themselves," the Secretary said, referring to the local media that have to face the danger of murder.
 However, Gonzalez said members of the media would have to undergo thorough "screening" by the authorities to make sure that illegitimate reporters would not be able to arm themselves.
 MNA/Xinhua

Annan says China key to resolving nuclear crises

BEIJING, 24 May — China is crucial to the success of talks on reining in North Korea's nuclear programmes, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said on Tuesday.
 In a speech to students at Beijing University, Annan said he spent "a good deal of time" talking with Chinese leaders about the nuclear crises in Iran and North Korea and the importance of nuclear non-proliferation.
 "As host of the six-party talks on the nuclear issue in the Korean Peninsula, China has played a crucial role," he said.
 "China's ongoing leadership will be essential to ensure that multilateral diplomatic efforts result in a peninsula free from nuclear weapons. We cannot allow the current stalemate to continue."
 Christopher Hill, the top US negotiator to the talks that also group the two Koreas, Japan and Russia, is due in Beijing on Wednesday in a renewed push to

Sub-committee for Printing and Distributing School Textbooks Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein and



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein speaks at the work coordination meeting. — MNA

mitted reports on their respective sectors. The meeting ended with necessary instructions given by the minister. — MNA

“ယာဉ်မောင်းသူများလိုက်နာရန် သတိပေး နှိုးဆော်ချက်”

- (က) မိုးရွာစဉ် ယာဉ်မောင်းလျှင် အောက်ပါ အချက်အလက်များ သတိပြုပါ။
 - (ခ) လမ်းပေါ်တွင် စက်ဆီ၊ ချောဆီများ ဖိတ်စင်နေလျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
 - (ဂ) မော်တော်ယာဉ်ဘီးများ ပန်းမရှိလျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
 - (ဃ) မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ လေပေါင်ချိန်များလွန်းလျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
 - (င) လမ်းပေါ်တွင် ရွှံ့နှံ့များရှိလျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
 - (စ) အရှိန်ပြင်းစွာ မမောင်းပါနှင့်။
 - (ဆ) ဘရိတ်ကို ရုတ်တရက် မနှိပ်ပါနှင့်။
 - (ဇ) ကုန်တင်ယာဉ်များ ဟန်ချက်ညီမျှရန် ဂရုပြုပါ။
 - (ဈ) ရေသုတ်တံပါရှိရမည်။ ကောင်းမွန်ရမည်။
 - (ည) မိုးသည်းထန်စွာ ရွာသွန်း၍ မြင်ကွင်းမကောင်းလျှင် ရှေ့မီးကြီးကို ဖွင့်မောင်းပါ။
 - (ဋ) ခြေသယ်ယာဉ်၊ အုတ်၊ သဲ၊ ကျောက် သယ်ယာဉ်များ ဖိတ်စင်မှု မရှိစေရန် လုံခြုံစွာ တင်ဆောင်ပါ။
 - (ဌ) အထက်ပါ စည်းကမ်းချက်များကို မလိုက်နာ၍ ယာဉ်တိုက်မှု၊ ယာဉ်တိမ်းမှောက်မှုများ ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူခြင်းခံရမည်။
- ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

restart the negotiations.
 The delegations agreed in principle in September that Pyongyang would dismantle its nuclear programmes in exchange for aid, security assurances and improved diplomatic ties.
 But the last session in November ended without progress and North Korea has refused to take part since then.—MNA/Reuters

Nearly 100,000 women trafficked annually in South Asia

KATHMANDU, 24 May — Experts of South Asia Region (SAR) said that about 100,000 people are trafficked annually in SAR, state-run Radio Nepal reported here on Tuesday.

“Majority of the trafficked are young women and girls and many of them are trafficked for the purpose of exploitation and prostitution,” speakers said at the three-day Regional High Level Meeting on Human Trafficked and HIV: Sharing of Good Practices, Stock-taking and Moving Forward that kicked off here on Monday.

“Human trafficking in SAR has taken many forms and occur for a variety of purpose like organ transplant, bonded labour, domestic servitude, sex trade, hazardous labour, marriage, illegal adoption and pornography,” the radio quoted the speakers as saying.

The meeting was jointly organized by the United Nations Development Programme Regional Centre in Colombo and United Nations Development Fund for Women.

The meeting has been organized with the aim to provide platform for dialogue between policy/decision makers and victims of human trafficking building upon gender sensitive and rights based approach.

The meeting also aimed at providing platform for inter-regional dialogue and collaboration amongst regional and sub-regional institutions for information sharing and for exploration of a

collaborative action on human trafficking and HIV/AIDS within the context of gender and human rights and development.

Civil society partners,

government and United Nations officials from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Pakistan and Nepal have been participating the meeting.—MNA/Xinhua

Bangladeshi PM makes official visit to UAE

DHAKA, 24 May — Bangladeshi Prime Minister Khaleda Zia left here on Tuesday for Abu Dhabi on a two-day official visit to United Arab Emirates (UAE) during which she will hold talks with UAE President on manpower and commodity imports from Bangladesh.

Zia will also seek purchase of petroleum products from the Gulf state at a concessional price and on credit as the country is suffering from foreign currency shortage for the last few months.

This is the first visit of Zia to UAE during her first tenure. Earlier Zia visited UAE in 1993 during her first tenure. UAE is the first Gulf state to recognize Bangladesh since independence in 1971.

“This is a goodwill visit aiming to boost relations between the two countries. This will create an opportunity for the two heads of state to meet and discuss the entire range of bilateral relations freely and frankly to further strengthen bilateral ties,” said Foreign Secretary Hemayetuddin. — MNA/Xinhua



FLOODING TRAPS 57 IN CHINA MINE: Rescuers outside the mine have brought pumping equipment to the scene. Rescuers in China say they now believe that an estimated 57 coalminers are trapped underground in a flooded mine in the northern province of Shanxi.

INTERNET

Amnesty says doublespeak undermines war on terrorism

LONDON, 24 May — Doublespeak by nations like the United States and Britain has undermined their own war on terrorism and increased human rights violations from Colombia to North Korea, Amnesty International said on Tuesday.

Accusations that the United States — with the complicity of some European nations — while

banning torture at home had been flying prisoners around the world for interrogation by countries with no such qualms had dented their moral authority, it said.

“Duplicity and doublespeak have become the hallmark of the war on terror,” the human rights watchdog’s secretary general Irene Khan told a news conference to publish its annual report.

“There is evidence of widespread torture in US detention centres,” she said. “The United States outsources torture to countries like Morocco, Jordan and Syria.”

She said that at least seven European countries had sanctioned or turned a blind eye to the use of their airspace for so-called

extraordinary rendition flights carrying prisoners for interrogation outside the United States.

“Powerful governments are playing a dangerous game with human rights,” Khan said. “The scorecard of prolonged conflicts and mounting human rights abuses is there for all to see.”

“Nothing can justify torture or ill-treatment ... You cannot extinguish a fire with petrol.” Despite international protests, the US jail at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba remained full of prisoners who had not been charged or tried, and many European governments had tried to wriggle out of their legal human rights obligations, Amnesty said.

MNA/Reuters



A raccoon sits in a tree in an undated file photo. A raccoon suffered an 11,000 volt electric shock when it scampered up a pylon in Cyprus but escaped with burns on 18 May, 2006. — INTERNET

Early Recovery Plan for Pakistani quake-hit zone launched

ISLAMABAD, 24 May — Pakistani Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA) and the United Nations have launched an Early Recovery Plan and presented it to the donor community in Islamabad, according to local media reports on Tuesday.

The plan will spearhead the donors to commit the pledged money

into concrete project proposals for the early recovery of Pakistani quake-hit areas, thus providing essential services and restoring livelihoods for the people displaced by the quake, according to the statement released by an UN humanitarian affairs body on Monday.

“UN will have a lighter footprint and scale down its presence in the affected areas in the re-

covery phase”, said Jan Vandemoortele, the United Nations Resident Coordinator of Pakistan.

The emphasis will be on training and capacity development of the human resources of the local governments in the affected areas, the UN official said.

The United Nations plans to set up 150 basic health units and 32 plus schools this year alone, and provision of seeds,

farming tools and livestock will be one of the priorities for restoring livelihoods especially of females as in the affected areas, the statement said.

ERRA is advocating an owner driven policy for the reconstruction of houses, and some 600,000 housing units are being planned with a cost of almost 3,000 US dollars for each unit, according to the statement.—MNA/Xinhua

Piranhas, A shoal of piranha fish on show at a British aquatic centre have had to be put on a diet after piling on the pounds in captivity on 18 May, 2006.

INTERNET



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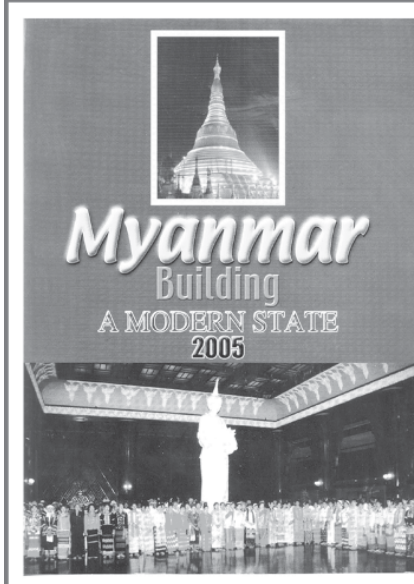
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Indonesia's "Antara" urges government to clarify status

JAKARTA, 23 May — Top executives of Indonesia's *Antara* news agency met with President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono on Monday asking the government to clarify whether it is an official state agency or a private firm. "*Antara's* legal status remains unclear until now," the agency's president Asro Kamal Rokan told reporters after his meeting with Susilo

at the Presidential Palace here.

Asro said the meeting discussed options for the future of *Antara*, whether it becomes a private company, a semi official news agency or an official news agency.

The management also reported to the President the financial conditions, in which *Antara* has suffered deficits in

budget over the last several years, Asro said without elaborating.

Meanwhile, *Antara* reported that Susilo in the closed-door meeting ordered relevant ministers to decide *Antara's* status within three months.

"I give you three months. Come again in this forum in August with decision of what *Antara* legal status is," Susilo was quoted as saying.

The meeting was attended also by among others Vice-President Jusuf Kalla, Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs Boediono, Coordinating Minister for People's Welfare Aburizal Bakrie, Minister of Communication and Information Sofyan Djalil, Minister of State-Enterprises Sugiharto and Finance Minister Sri Mulyani Indrawati.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

China, Russia seek more eco, trade cooperation

GUANGZHOU, 23 May — A China and Russia seminar here on Monday discussed how to strengthen regional cooperation in bilateral economic and trade exchanges.

The seminar was one of the eight programmes of the "Year of Russia" in China, hosted by the Chinese Foreign Ministry and the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC).

Senior officials of the Russian Federation Council (Upper House) and more than 150 entrepreneurs in such fields as light industry and high technologies attended the seminar.

Dmitry Mezentsev, vice-chairman of Russian Federation Council, said the seminar is of great significance in promoting China-Russia economic and trade cooperation.

He said the two countries have rapidly expanded regional economic and trade cooperation beyond the border areas of both countries which have so far dominated bilateral trade exchanges.

Chen Haosu, president of CPAFFC, said China and Russia have great potential for economic and trade cooperation. Bilateral import and export volume was 5.7 billion US dollars in 1999 and in 2005 the number soared to 29.1 billion dollars, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia to install third buoy for tsunami detection

KUALA LUMPUR, 23 May — Malaysia is expected to install its third buoy for the detection of tsunami in the Sulu Sea next month, a meteorological official said Monday.

The Malaysian Government is still discussing the exact location and date of installation with the Philippine Government, Director General of the Malaysian Meteorological Service Department Yap Kok Seng said.

"The Philippine

Government's response so far has been very good," Yap was quoted as saying by the *Bernama* news agency.

When a tsunami is detected in case of an earthquake, the buoy will send out information to the Malaysian Tsunami Operation Centre, and then the centre will activate steps under the tsunami early warning system, he said.

Within 15 minutes, the information will reach the public through various means including short message system

(SMS), telefax, website, siren, media broadcast and others.

The first Malaysian buoy was installed near Pulau Rondo in Sumatera, Indonesia late last year while the second in March this year near the Layang Layang Island in South China Sea.

MNA/Xinhua

ADB grants \$43m for Nigeria's education project

ABUJA, 23 May — The African Development Bank (ADB) President Donald Kaberuka on Sunday said the bank's 43-million-US-dollar grant to finance skills training and vocational education is the bank's first intervention in Nigeria's education sector.

Speaking at the signing ceremony of the loan in Abuja, the capital,

Kaberuka said "education and the social sector in general is one of the priority areas in the bank's support to its regional member countries". "We recognize it as a key ingredient in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and toward long term sustainable development," he said.

He noted that Nigeria is

undergoing deep socio-economic transformation and that productive, competent and flexible human resources are critical prerequisite which demanded for skilled workers. According to him, the loan will complement the efforts of the Nigerian Government to revitalize vocational and technical education.—MNA/Xinhua



COLOMBIA 'FRIENDLY FIRE' KILLS 11: Colombian police stand guard near the scene of the shooting. Colombia's fight against drugs involves different security forces. Colombian troops have accidentally shot dead 10 undercover police officers working on an anti-drugs operation in southern Colombia, officials say on 23 May, 2006. —INTERNET

ဝညာရူးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



Water is released from the Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze River in central China's Hubei Province, on 17 May, 2006. China completed construction on Saturday of the giant Three Gorges Dam wall, a milestone in the world's largest hydroelectricity project which is also designed to tame the flood-prone Yangtze River.—INTERNET

British animal rights protesters go naked over bearskins

LONDON, 23 May — Around 100 animal rights campaigners stripped naked in central London on Sunday to protest the use of traditional bearskin hats worn by British military guards on ceremonial parade.

Wearing nothing but bear masks and carrying placards saying "Bears Slaughtered for the Queen's Guards — Indefensible", the group gathered to call on Britain's Queen Elizabeth and the Ministry of Defence to end use of the foot-high bear pelt hat known as a busby.

"The Ministry of Defence has blood on its

hands while it allows bears to be slaughtered for ceremonial caps when beautiful synthetics are available", says PETA's Anita Singh.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence said they were looking for alternatives to the Canadian bearskin used for the hats but that it was proving very difficult.

The ministry told the BBC three years ago that skins for the hats are a by-product of bear culls by the Canadian Government.

Soldiers wearing the hats can be seen all year outside the Queen's official London residence of Buckingham Palace, where the changing of the guard is a popular tourist attraction.

MNA/Reuters

Annan calls for protection of biodiversity

UNITED NATIONS, 23 May — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Monday called for "decisive action" to protect the planet against ecological degradation.

In a message marking the International Day for Biological Diversity, Annan noted that the degradation of drylands, which constitute 40 per cent of the planet's land surface, is having dramatic effects with some 2,300 species endangered or facing extinction, significant losses in agricultural output,

and an economic cost estimated at more than 42 billion dollars a year.

"These consequences are especially troubling because they are borne disproportionately by the world's poorest and most vulnerable people," he added.

Annan stressed the need

to reverse desertification, a process not only exacerbating poverty but also partly caused by it.

"This year's biodiversity commemoration coincides with the International Year of Deserts and Desertification," he said.

"These two complementary observances illustrate the strong links between environmental issues, and highlight the need for a comprehensive and global approach to address these concerns."—MNA/Xinhua

TV commercial aimed at

discouraging suicide bombers in Iraq

LOS ANGELES, 23 May — A TV commercial being filmed here in downtown Los Angeles over the next several weeks is aimed at discouraging people from becoming suicide bombers in Iraq, a media report said on Sunday.

The 60-second commercial, which simulates the moments before, during and after a suicide attack, will be produced for a public service ad to be aired on Iraqi television, according to local news service CNS.

The production will feature 200 actors, 120 cameras and cost more than one million dollars to make.

Produced by the Los Angeles-based production company 900 Frames and Beirut-based EFX Films, the project is expected to be completed in four to six weeks.

"If 900 Frames can make a difference in the heart and mind of just one potential suicide bomber by accurately portraying the senseless results of an attack on civilians, then we will have achieved something that will spare

countless lives," said Sam Najah, a 900 Frames co-founder.—MNA/Xinhua



The Japanese daily Sankei Sports introduced young Korean actress Goh A-ra to its readers as a rising Korean star who will lead the next-generation Korean Wave. Printing a detailed interview with her in its Saturday edition, it said that Goh has just started to spread her wings to reach not only Korea and Japan but also the whole world.—INTERNET



A visitor looks at a polar bear through an acrylic capsule at Asahiyama Zoo in Asahikawa, northern Japan on 22 May, 2006. The zoo, known as its unique interactive animal viewing facilities, is one of the most popular zoos in Japan, and about 2.07 million people visited in the previous year, the zoo official said.—INTERNET

Child cancer survivors face employment troubles

WASHINGTON, 23 May — People who survived cancer as children were twice as likely to be unemployed than those without a history of childhood cancer, Dutch researchers reported on Monday.

Survivors of brain cancer or other central nervous system tumours were five times more likely to be unemployed, A.G.E.M. de Boer of the Coronel Institute for Occupational Health at Academic Medical Centre in Amsterdam and colleagues reported.

Those who survived blood-cell and bone marrow cancers like leukemia also had a slightly higher risk of being unemployed, the researchers reported in Monday's issue of the journal Cancer.

The analysis showed women and Americans were especially vulnerable.

People who survived other types of cancer in childhood had no extra risk of being unemployed, the researchers said.

Most children diagnosed with cancer now survive it—the overall survival beyond five years for pediatric cancer is more than 70 per cent.

However, children can face other health problems such as heart disease, infertility, pain and fatigue. De Boer's study added unemployment to this list.

"Interventions aimed at obtaining and maintaining employment are needed, especially for the vulnerable subgroups," the researchers wrote.

MNA/Reuters

Mexican police seize eight tons of marijuana in Nuevo Leon

MEXICO CITY, 23 May — Mexico's anti-narcotics police have seized 8.14 tons of marijuana in the northern Mexican state of Nuevo Leon, a record seizure for the state, the Federal Attorney General's Office (PGR) said on Monday.

The drug was seized in the early hours of Monday morning in a truck carrying fertilizer on the Monterrey-Allende road near Santa Catarina, a municipality within the metropolitan area of Monterrey, capital of Nuevo Leon.

The drug was hidden among the fertilizer in a bid to disguise its distinct odour.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Brazil coach says Ronaldo fit

WEGGIS (Switzerland), 24 May— Brazil striker Ronaldo has recovered from the nagging thigh injury which forced him to miss the last six weeks of the Spanish season, coach Carlos Alberto Parreira said on Tuesday. Parreira intends to field Ronaldo in Brazil's opening World Cup match against Croatia on June 13, even though the 29-year-old will only regain full match fitness during the tournament.

"It seems that Ronaldo is better, he's been working with the ball and doing exercises of medium intensity," Parreira told reporters on Tuesday.

"Ronaldo has been running and he just needs to regain match fitness. His weight is perfect."

Ronaldo was plagued by a string of minor injuries last season with Real Madrid whose fans believed he was overweight.

He last played in Real's 1-1 draw at home to Real Sociedad on April 8 when he scored before limping off after an hour with an injury to his right thigh.

Parreira said he had no intention of resting Ronaldo from Brazil's two warm-up games against a local selection on May 30 and New Zealand in Geneva on June 4.—MNA/Reuters

Phil Neville in for Reo-Coker with England

LONDON, 23 May— Midfielder Nigel Reo-Coker has withdrawn from England's World Cup stand-by list and has been replaced by Phil Neville, the Football Association said on Monday.

West Ham United's Reo-Coker has been sidelined by a back injury and his place on the list of five reserve players has now been taken by Everton utility man Neville, who will join the squad on Tuesday.

Tottenham Hotspur central defender Michael Dawson was drafted in as a stand-by on Sunday to replace Charlton Athletic full back Luke Young, who has an ankle injury.

MNA/Reuters

Manchester United sack Rooney doctor

LONDON, 24 May— Manchester United club doctor Mike Stone, who was overseeing England striker Wayne Rooney's recovery from a broken foot, has been sacked by the Premier League club, British media reported on Wednesday.

Stone, who had been with United for 10 years, was put in charge of Rooney's rehabilitation after the forward broke the fourth metatarsal on his right foot on April 29 at Chelsea.

"We can confirm that Mike Stone has left the club," a United spokesman was quoted as saying by *The Sun* newspaper.

The paper added that the doctor wrote to his former colleagues saying: "I'm leaving with immediate effect, it's been a pleasure working with you all."

Rooney, who spent his first few months at United in 2004 under the care of Stone following a metatarsal injury suffered at Euro 2004, will have a

scan on his latest injury on Thursday.

The Independent newspaper said responsibility for getting Rooney fit for the World Cup would now pass to United's assistant doctor, Tony Gill.

United manager Alex Ferguson and director Bobby Charlton have already warned that Rooney will not be allowed to play at the World Cup if he is not fully fit.

MNA/Reuters

Skipper Reyna injured as US fall to Morocco

NASHVILLE (Tennessee), 24 May— The US opened the first of three World Cup tune-up matches in six days with little to show on Tuesday as a 90th-minute strike by Mohamed Madihi gave Morocco a 1-0 victory.

The US enjoyed the majority of chances after a lacklustre first-half, and a hamstring injury to captain Claudio Reyna will have done little to temper coach Bruce Arena's mood.

The eventual winner came via a counter as Bouchaib ElMoubarki put

Madihi through on the left, catching the US defence out of position as he ran unchallenged into the area before beating Kasey Keller with a clinical finish. The US nearly grabbed a stoppage-time equalizer but a blistering free kick from Bobby Convey went inches wide of the right post.

Minus a player or two, US coach Bruce Arena fielded what is projected to be his first team for the World Cup with Keller, defenders Steve Cherundolo, Eddie Pope, Oguchi Onyewu and Cory Gibbs, along with midfielders DaMarcus Beasley, Reyna, John O'Brien and Landon Donovan with forwards Brian McBride and Josh Wolff.

Leeds United midfielder Eddie Lewis, who was rested for the game, is expected to start when the US opens against the Czech Republic on 12

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (R) watches German Chancellor Angela Merkel playing with a taiji soft ball during their visit to Changpuhe Park in Beijing on 22 May, 2006.

INTERNET



S Korea held 1-1 by Senegal in warm-up

SEOUL, 24 May— South Korea were held to a 1-1 draw by Senegal on Tuesday in the first of four warm-up matches for next month's World Cup.

South Korea's Park Chu-young coolly collected a cross on his chest to set up Kim Do-heon for a low strike in the 74th minute in the Seoul World Cup Stadium. Five minutes later the Africans shocked the home fans when Moussa Ndiaye struck a fine effort from outside the area to beat South Korea keeper Lee Woon-jae.

"I was very happy with the game because we are, as you know, in the middle of preparations for Germany," South Korea coach Dick Advocaat told a news conference.

"It was an excellent exercise for us especially on the physical side."

The home side at times struggled to quell a pacy and physical Senegal who

were missing a trio of England-based players including El Hadji Diouf.

"Defensively we still made some mistakes but we still have three weeks to find out, and we will find out, the reason," Advocaat said.

South Korea are drawn in Group G with France, Switzerland and Togo for the World Cup in Germany. Their opening game against Togo is on June 13.

"We all know we like to win, but in this period everything is related to the first game in Germany," Advocaat added.

South Korea striker and fan favourite Ahn Jung-hwan had a goal disallowed for offside just after the break and a penalty appeal turned down in a frantic last 10 minutes.—MNA/Reuters

Arsenal sign Czech midfielder Rosicky

LONDON, 24 May— Czech Republic midfielder Tomas Rosicky joined Arsenal from Borussia Dortmund on Tuesday.

The 25-year-old has signed a long-term contract for an undisclosed fee, the Arsenal website reported without giving further details. Czech media reported Rosicky's deal was for four years.

The move is a second boost to the London club following their 2-1 defeat by Barcelona in the Champions League final last Wednesday. On Friday France striker and club captain Thierry Henry decided to stay.

"I'm really happy to be here at Arsenal, it is a great day for me," said Rosicky.

The attacking midfielder was contracted to Dortmund until 2008 and is a key member of the Czech Republic's World Cup squad. He has been a long-standing Atletico Madrid target.— MNA/Reuters

Eriksson dismisses Charlton's fears for Walcott

WATFORD (England), 23 May— England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson has dismissed fears voiced by Bobby Charlton that 17-year-old Theo Walcott is too young to play at the World Cup.

Charlton, England's 1966 World Cup winner, told reporters on Monday he thought that taking Walcott to Germany was "maybe a bit too much to ask of the young player".

But Eriksson, who surprised everyone, including Walcott, when he named the teenager in his World Cup squad two weeks ago, brushed aside Charlton's comments, saying he had no regrets.

"I have not regretted it at all," the Swede told reporters near their training base. "If only you had seen the two goals

he scored in training on Friday — they were very good.

"He's a huge talent, no doubt about that, and I think he's mentally ready for it.

"I don't think anyone expects him to come on against Brazil and score three goals. But he deserves to be here and, who knows, at the next World Cup he may start." Eriksson also dismissed the notion that Walcott, who has yet to make his debut for Arsenal since joining them in January, would be worried about playing on the world's stage.—MNA/Reuters



Chelsea's manager Jose Mourinho, right, welcomes German midfielder Michael Ballack, left, after signing for Chelsea FC at Chelsea's Stamford Bridge ground in London, on 15 May, 2006. The 29-year-old midfielder joined the London club on a free transfer after his contract with German champion Bayern Munich expired on Saturday. — INTERNET

Greek, Turkish jets collide in interception moves

ATHENS, 24 May — Greek and Turkish warplanes which collided in mid-air on Tuesday were shadowing each other above the Greek Island of Karpathos in the South-eastern Aegean Sea, the Greek Defence Ministry said.

"The planes collided during interception manoeuvres above Karpathos," a Defence Ministry official said.

"We don't know what has happened to the pilots yet," he told Reuters.

The Greek plane was an F-16 but it was not clear what type of Turk-

ish plane had crashed.

The Turkish Defence Ministry was not immediately available to comment on the incident.

There were no scheduled military exercises in the area, Greek officials said.

A search and rescue operation was immediately mounted.

"Several Super Puma rescue helicopters are on their way to the area," a Greek government official told Reuters.

A frigate was also ordered to sail towards Karpathos to take part in the search and rescue operation.

Rivals Greece and Turkey regularly criticize each other for causing mock dogfights between warplanes over the Aegean sea.

Greece's Defence Ministry says it daily scrambles several fighter jets to intercept Turkish jets that it claims have invaded its air space.

The two countries, who came close to war as recently as 1996, have considerably improved ties but have not resolved territorial disputes in the Aegean Sea and over the divided island of Cyprus.

MNA/Reuters

Pakistani movies to be screened in India

ISLAMABAD, 24 May — Five Pakistani films will be screened in India next month, marking the latest "breach" in a four-decade cinema blockade between the two countries, state-run media reported on Monday.

The five Pakistani films are Daku Rani,

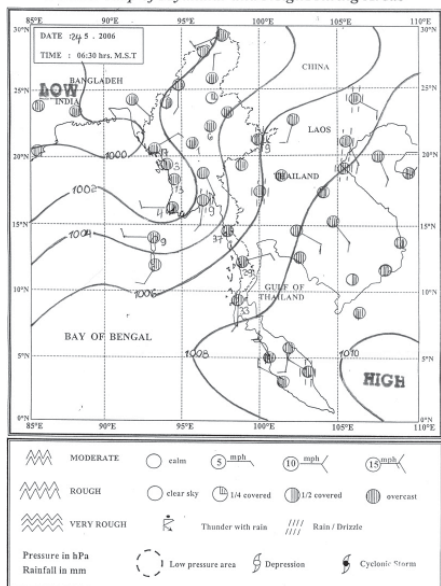
Majajan, Yeh Dil Aapka Hua, Salaakhein and Koi Tujhsa Kahan, the Associated Press of Pakistan reported, quoting an Indian website.

These films will be launched simultaneously in the Indian capital New Delhi and another major city Mumbai on 25 June in a 10-day film festival, the APP report said.

Pakistan banned Indian films in 1965, and recently it has allowed the release of two Indian films, "Mughal-e-Azam" and "Taj Mahal", in the country.

MNA/Xinhua

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Wednesday, 24 May, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, the Southwest monsoon is advancing into the Central Myanmar areas. Weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin State, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah State, scattered in Shan State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Rakhine State and widespread in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan and Rakhine States, Sagaing Division, (5°C) above normal in Kachin State, (3°C) below normal in Mon State, Yangon and Mandalay Divisions, (5°C) below normal in Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperature was Shwebo (39°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfalls recorded were Mawlamyine (2.36) inches, Kawthoung (1.97) inches, Thaton (1.81) inches, Dawei (1.49) inches, Bago (1.38) inches, Hpa-an (1.18) inches, Shwebo and Kayan (1.06) inches each and Magway (0.75) inch.

Maximum temperature on 23-5-2006 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 24-5-2006 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 24-5-2006 was (100%). Total sunshine hours on 23-5-2006 was (1.8) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 24-5-2006 were (0.36) inch at Mingaladon, (0.39) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.43) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (13.86) inches at Mingaladon, (16.89) inches at Kaba-Aye and (18.58) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (12) mph from Southeast at (14:30) hours MST on 23-5-2006.

Bay inference: Monsoon is vigorous in the Andaman Sea and East Central Bay and moderate to strong elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 25-5-2006: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Rakhine, Mon, Kayin States, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Shan, Chin, Kayah States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway and isolated in the remaining areas with isolated heavy falls in Rakhine and Mon States, Mandalay, Magway, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of thundery conditions in Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 25-5-2006: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 25-5-2006: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 25-5-2006: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).



A worker checks a sculpture by sea sand on display on the preview day for the annual flower show, in central London, on Monday, 22 May, 2006. The Chelsea Flower Show was first held in 1862, this year will be its 84th show. — INTERNET

<p>Thursday, 25 May View on today</p>	<p>8:30 am</p> <p>9. International news</p>	<p>မြတ်ကောင်းအောင်၊ ရတနာစင်၊ ဟန်နီလွန်း၊ ပြည့်ဖူးချိုင့်၊ အောင်အောင်၊ ဝိုင်းစုနိုင်သိန်း၊ နီနီဆွေရည်၊ အင်းဂစ်လေပြိုင်၊ (ဒေါ်ရိုက်တာ-မင်းအုင်နိုး)</p>
	<p>8:45 am</p> <p>10. Happy and Educational English Summer Course MRTV</p>	
	<p>4:00 pm</p> <p>1. Martial song</p>	<p>5:35 pm</p> <p>8. Musical programme</p>
	<p>4:15 pm</p> <p>2. Song to uphold National Spirit</p>	<p>5:45 pm</p> <p>9. နိုင်ငံအခန်း သစ်တောစွမ်းမြင့် စိမ်းလန်းစေရမည်</p>
	<p>4:30 pm</p> <p>3. Musical programme</p>	<p>6:00 pm</p> <p>10. Evening news</p>
	<p>4:45 pm</p> <p>4. အစားသင့်တော်သလိုပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ပထမနှစ် (သင်္ချာအထူးပြု) (သင်္ချာ)</p>	<p>6:30 pm</p> <p>11. Weather report</p>
	<p>5:05 pm</p> <p>5. Cute little dancers</p>	<p>6:35 pm</p> <p>12. မူဟန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်</p>
	<p>5:15 pm</p> <p>6. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းမေးဂီတတေး (အပိုင်း-၁)</p>	<p>7:00 pm</p> <p>13. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းဆွဲ "ဖန်ဖန်လှလှ" (အပိုင်း-၁၁)</p>
	<p>5:25 pm</p> <p>7. "သတိယှဉ်အသိနဲ့ပြင်" (အပိုင်း-၁)</p>	<p>8:00 pm</p> <p>14. News</p>
	<p>8:20 am</p> <p>8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p>	<p>8:05 am</p> <p>15. International news</p>
	<p>8:25 am</p> <p>9. Dance variety</p>	<p>8:10 am</p> <p>16. Weather report</p>
	<p>8:30 am</p> <p>10. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p>	<p>8:15 am</p> <p>17. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းဆွဲ "ရွှေနေ" (အပိုင်း-၈)</p>
<p>8:35 am</p> <p>11. Dance variety</p>	<p>8:20 am</p> <p>18. The next day's programme</p>	

Radio Myanmar

Thursday, 25 May

Tune in today

8.30 am Brief news

8.35 am Music:
- Crazy little party girl

8.40 am Perspectives

8.45 am Music:
- Last thing on my mind

8.50 am National news / Slogan

9:00 am Music:
- Here we go

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music:
- Anything is possible

1:30 pm News / Slogan

1:40pm Lunch time music:
- Should've never

9:00 pm Aspects of Myanmar

9:10 pm Article

9:20 pm Pourri

9:30 pm Favourite songs chosen by music lovers
- Even the night are better (Air Supply)

9:45 pm News / Slogan

10.00 pm PEL

Minister stresses need for textbooks to reach students in time at right price



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan addresses meeting 1/2006 of Committee for Printing and Distributing Textbooks. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May — The Committee for Printing and Distributing Textbooks held the coordination meeting 1/2006 at the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening, with an address by Committee Chairman Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

In his address, the minister explained printing and distribution of textbooks for 2006-07 academic year, and he stressed the need to work similar tasks for 2007-08 academic year.

The textbooks for 2006-07 have been sent to all distribution centres since April. Measures have been taken to distribute the textbooks to students at the beginning of new academic year. The textbooks could

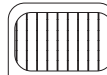
not be sent to some areas of the country on schedule last year. Therefore, all are to take care of performing their tasks this year, and the textbooks are to be distributed to students at fair prices in June.

The minister added that the distribution sub-committee is to report back progress of work to the Committee.

In doing so, all the difficulties in the distribution task are to be solved and these difficulties are to be submitted to the committee. So also, officials are to inform the students of distributing the textbooks at the school opening season.

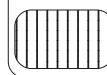
Furthermore, arrangements are to be made in accord with directives of officials concerned to send textbooks to students at fair price in time, to print the textbooks with the use of the government presses, to pass the textbooks from one student to another, and to limit the printing works by practising thrifty.

(See page 10)



Deputy
Minister
for Edu-
cation
Brig-Gen
Aung Myo
Min.

MNA



Special Certificate in Education Technology (SCET) course to be opened

YANGON, 24 May— One-month course on Special Certificate in Education Technology (SCET) will be opened at Yangon Institute of Education and Sagaing Institute of Education (Mandalay Branch).

Applicants must be a citizen of the Union of Myanmar and B.Sc or B.A (Hons) degree holders and above majoring in English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Zoology and Botany. B.A (English) graduates can also apply for the course. The applicants must be under 30 on 3 July 2006. They must not be more than 35 if they are service personnel.

(See page 10)



Cyclists trying hard to touch finishing line in men's 4800-metre individual event. (News on page 2) — NLM

NLD in collusion with some foreign nations, underground and aboveground saboteurs working against national interests but for party and few 43 from Phakant Township NLD resign as they have no more interest in the party that is crazed with self-interest for power

YANGON, 24 May — Forty-three members of Phakant Township National League for Democracy in Kachin State including vice-chairman U Maung Ko resigned from the party of their own volition.

Six executives including the vice-chairman and 37 members sent the signed letters to NLD headquarters and local authorities. The 43 persons submitted their letters of resignation to Phakant Township Multi-Party Democracy General Election Sub-Commission in person at 10.50 am on 9 May.

Executive U Chit Htwe, on behalf of the 43, explained the purpose of their resignation, saying that they are disappointed with the NLD and lost interest in it due to its destructive acts for self-interest and grabbing power at the expense of others' interest. They have witnessed harmonious efforts of the people and the government working overtime for the progress of the nation and the people. They are now interested only in the national politics rather than party politics. They joined the NLD with the aim of doing clean politics and serving locals' interest. The

NLD first took part in the National Convention, the lifeblood for the emergence of a new constitution. But it walked out of the Convention when all its demands for manipulation based on self-interest were not met. NLD did not attend the National Convention that resumed in 2004, although the government invited it. The NLD in collusion with some foreign nations and underground and aboveground saboteurs has been working against the national interest but for the good of the party and few people. The entire nation including Kachin State is enjoying peace thanks to the government's policy of national reconsolidation. They resigned from the NLD that is crazed with self-interest for power.

U Mon Lin of Ayemyathaya Ward of Phakant in Mohnyin District, on behalf of the 43, submitted the letters of resignation to the chairman of Township MPDGESC.

Chaired by U Maung Ko, the ceremony was also attended by officials and local authorities.

MNA