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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Assistance to be rendered to private gems companies to manufacture and sell polished jade and gems through technology sharing and market research

YANGON, 26 May — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye arrived at June-July Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales 2006 at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township this morning.

After leaving necessary instructions to officials, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye viewed display of jade lots.

Accompanied by Prime Minister General Soe Win, Secretary-1 of



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects display of jade lots in the compound of Myanmar Convention Centre. — MNA



the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General and officials, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye arrived at Myanmar Convention Centre at 10.30 am. They were welcomed by the Minister for Mines, the Yangon Mayor and officials.

At the hall, Patron of the Myanmar Gems Emporium Central Committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint reported that the Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales will be held in June-July

(See page 16)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 27 May, 2006

Twantay Bridge emerges over Twantay Canal

Secure and smooth transport is an important factor in the regional development and brings prospects for higher socio-economic life of local people. So, the government has been building a network of river-spanning bridges and roads that covers the entire nation.

The Twantay Bridge across Twantay Canal in Twantay Township, Yangon South District, was inaugurated the other day. The main bridge of the steel cable suspension type facility is 840 feet long and it has a 28-foot-wide motorway on it.

In the past, local people in Dalla, Twantay and Kungyangon townships had to rely on Z-crafts and motorboats to get to Yangon.

Thanks to the newly-opened bridge, local residents in Dalla, Twantay and Kungyangon townships can enjoy a direct access to Yangon by car. In addition, they can conveniently travel to Ayeyawady Division via Dalla-Twantay-Hlinethaya Road, thereby making commodity flows swifter between the two regions.

So far, Yangon Division has been served with 26 large bridges including the Twantay Bridge. And Thanlyin Bridge No 2, Kamarkyi Bridge across Ngamoeyek Creek, and Kayanchaung Bridge across Kayan Creek are under construction.

Due to the emergence of Hline River-crossing bridges in Yangon such as Bayintnaung, Aungzeya and Shwepyitha, the townships and rural areas on the other bank have directly linked with Yangon, and that has added momentum to the development of Hlinthaya Industrial Zone.

These are not all. People can travel conveniently between Dalla, Twantay, Kawhmu and Kungyangon townships in Yangon Division and Dedaye, Pyapon, Kyaiklat and Bogale townships in Ayeyawady Division. Ayeyawady Division can transport its regional goods such as rice, beans and pulses and marine products to Yangon in a short time.

The government is pouring huge investments, using manpower and heavy machinery and applying advanced technologies in the road and bridge projects. As a result, the entire nation has witnessed 215 180-foot-and-above bridges so far. Owing to these fine transport facilities, the entire people will be able to lead a more prosperous and rewarding life in the economic, education, health and social sectors.

Oppose Those Relying on External Elements

- * 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

MINISTER MEETS GUESTS:
China National Technical Import & Export Corporation (CNTIC) Vice-President Mr Liu Debing and party called on Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung at his office on Friday. The photo shows the minister receiving the Chinese guests.
INDUSTRY-1



Coord meeting of Customs Department held

YANGON, 26 May — The Customs Department held the coordination meeting for 2005-06 financial year at its training school, here, this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Director-General U Khin Maung Lin of the Customs Department, officers and staff.

Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun delivered an address.

After the meeting, the minister inspected Bo Aung Kyaw Container Yard and Asia World Container Yard. The minister heard reports on inspection of import and export containers and collection of tax by the director-general and officials.

MNA



Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun speaking at coordination meeting for 2005-2006 financial year of Customs Department. — MNA

UMFCCI Vice-President meets Indian delegation

YANGON, 25 May — A five-member delegation led by Secretary Mr Valalhuma of Trade and Commerce Department of Mizoram State, India, called on Vice-President U Win Aung and the CEC member and executives of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at its office on 24 May. They held discussions on increasing trade between two countries, smooth border trade and banking services, and agreed to hold a discussion between entrepreneurs from both sides at the designated place. — MNA

Chinese Deputy Public Security Minister arrives

YANGON, 26 May — At the invitation of Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, a Chinese delegation led by Deputy Minister for Public Security and Deputy Commissioner for National Drug Abuse Control Commission of the People's Republic of China Mr Zhang Xinfeng arrived here this morning.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, Chinese Ambassador Mr Guan Mu and officials.

In the afternoon, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Phone Swe served them with a luncheon at Sedona Hotel.

Next, the Chinese delegation visited Myanmar Gems Museum, and also paid homage to Shwedagon Pagoda.

MNA

**နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင်
မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရမည်**

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All this needs to be known

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

China opposes US annual report on its military power

BEIJING, 25 May — China was strongly resentful of and firmly opposed to a US annual report on its military power, said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao here on Wednesday.

The 2006 China Military Power Report, issued by the US Defence Ministry recently, has continued to spread "China's threat" and severely violated the principles governing international relations, said Liu when responding to Press.

He said the report, still with the "Cold War" mentality, has exaggerated China's military power and military expenditure with ulterior motives and wantonly interfere in China's internal affairs.

"China is a peace-loving nation and has insisted on a way of peaceful development, with a national defence policy that is defensive in nature. The international community has generally acknowledged that China is an important force of promoting peace in the Asia-Pacific Region and the world at large," said Liu. He said it is natural for China, a sovereign state, to develop its national defense construction which is aimed at defending national security and safeguarding territorial

integrity.

"Taiwan is an inseparable part of China's territories. The Chinese Government sticks to the policy of 'peaceful reunification and one country, two systems'," said Liu.

He said the Chinese Government will exert its utmost effort and show all sincerity to strive for the prospect of peaceful reunification of the motherland. However, Liu said, China will never tolerate "Taiwan independence" and will never allow anyone to separate Taiwan from China in any way.

Liu said China has urged the US side to stick to its commitments of adhering to the one-China policy, abiding by the three communiques between China and the US and opposing to "Taiwan independence", stop selling weapons to Taiwan and not to send any wrong signal to the splittist forces of "Taiwan independence". —MNA/Xinhua

ထုတ်တူနိဗခ ဝိုးမွဲဉ်က



Festival goers carry portable shrines, marching through the courtyard of a temple during the annual Sanja Festival, at Tokyo's Asakusa Sensoji Temple on 20 May, 2006. The Sanja festival is one of the major festivals in Tokyo, Japan.

INTERNET

Kuwait values ties with China

KUWAIT CITY, 25 May — Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and Prime Minister Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammed Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah met separately with visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing on Tuesday, saying that Kuwait values its ties with China.

During the meetings, the emir and the prime minister said that the peoples of the two countries enjoy a long history of friendly exchanges, and the two countries are sincere friends.

They said that Kuwait spoke highly of China's important role in upholding justice and promoting world peace in international affairs and thanked China for its valuable support in a variety of areas.

They said that Kuwait and China, both developing countries, have shared interests in a number of areas, stressing that Kuwait is fully prepared to advance

ties with China and expand bilateral cooperation.

Kuwait will observe the one-China policy, they said.

For his part, Li said that Kuwait was the first Gulf Arab country to forge diplomatic ties with China. "We cherish a sincere friendship between the peoples of the two countries."

He said that the two countries have supported each other and bilateral ties have developed steadily since the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries in 1971.

Bilateral cooperation has been fruitful, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Chavez says Bush bad for world peace

CARACAS, 25 May — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez complained on Tuesday that the United States is making peace in the world impossible, a comment he said was a response to recent criticism from President George W Bush.

"We are very worried because your imperialist and warlike government is dangerously eroding the possibility of peace and life in the world," said Chavez, a fiery critic of the Iraq war. Bush said on Monday he was concerned about what he called the erosion of democracy in Venezuela and fellow Andean country Bolivia.

The exchange was the latest salvo in a war of words between Washington and Caracas. The United States charges that the populist Chavez is trying to destabilize Latin America and the Venezuelan leader accuses the White House of planning to topple him to

snatch the country's vast oil reserves.

"The United States is now a country against its own people and against the people of the world. It is anti-democratic," Chavez told a rally of cheering supporters.

"They called the 20th Century the 'American Century'. Fine. The 21st

Century will be called the century that saw the end of the North American empire," he declared.

Bolivian President Evo Morales nationalized the country's energy industry on 1 May, upsetting international investors. He and Chavez are close allies and, with Cuban President Fidel

Castro, have formed an alliance that aims to stifle what they say is US hegemony in the region.

The United States announced this month it would no longer sell arms to Venezuela, insisting the country had failed to cooperate in global efforts to fight terrorism.

MNA/Reuters

Three hurt in cargo area fire at Istanbul airport

ISTANBUL, 25 May — A large fire broke out in a cargo area of Istanbul's main Ataturk Airport on Wednesday, injuring three people but not causing any air traffic delays, officials said.

Fire engines and ambulances rushed to the scene of the fire where huge plumes of black

smoke billowed up from the airport which serves Turkey's largest city. Planes normally used for

water bombing forest fires swooped down to douse the flames.

"There are no delays in air traffic, takeoffs and landings are continuing. Planes are being pulled away from the area. Work on putting out the fire is continuing," airport director Irfan Balta told CNN Turk.

Istanbul Deputy Governor Fikret Kasapoglu told Turkish NTV television news channel that three people had been hurt. NTV also reported the Transport Ministry as saying the fire had been brought under control. The fire broke out around 3:30 pm (1230 GMT) in the cargo section of Terminal C, which is used by smaller airlines.

MNA/Reuters

Qatari pays \$2.75m for mobile phone number

DOHA, 25 May — The tiny Gulf state of Qatar, famed mainly for having the Arab world's largest reserves of natural gas, added another record to its name on Tuesday — one of the world's most expensive telephone numbers.

At a charity event in the capital of Doha, a Qatari bidder paid 2.75 million US dollars for the mobile phone number 666-6666.

The winner, who made the highest bid 10 minutes into the auction, declined request for interviews. Eight people took part in the auction, organized by Qatar

Telecom to help raise funds for charity, paying 3,000 Qatari riyals 824.60 US dollars per ticket.

Funds from the ticket sales were given to a local charity, while the 10 million riyals from the sale of the number will be used to expand medical services.

MNA/Reuters



A formation of US Navy Blue Angels fly by skyscrapers of Manhattan in New York, the United States, on 25 May, 2006. US Navy Blue Angels performed for the fleet week which opened on Wednesday. —INTERNET



A fire engine sprays water over a fire during a drill on the emergency accident of chemical plants in Shaoxing, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 25 May, 2006. —INTERNET

Kuwait, Russia seek peaceful means to solve Iran's nuclear issue

KUWAIT CITY, 25 May — Kuwait's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammad Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah said on Tuesday that Kuwait supported Russia's efforts to find political and diplomatic means to solve Iran's nuclear issue.

Both Kuwait and Russia called on the international community to make joint efforts to resolve the crisis and urged Iran to cooperate with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the minister told a joint news conference with Russia's Foreign Minister

Sergei Lavrov. Sheikh Mohammad said it was very important for Iran's nuclear issue to be resolved in a peaceful, political and diplomatic manner. The visiting Russian Foreign Minister said "we both thought that Iran's nuclear issue should be

solved through peaceful means and we supported the desire of Kuwait and most countries in the region to solve the crisis through peaceful and diplomatic means." Lavrov said that Russia did not believe that the use of force in international relations was a means of resolving crises.

Fiji flight skids off runway, no damage

WELLINGTON, 25 May — Air Fiji launched an investigation Wednesday to determine how one of its aircraft carrying ten passengers veered off an airport runway and ploughed into

a coconut plantation. According to local news service *The Fijilive*, Air Fiji spokesman Richard Broadbridge confirmed that the incident took place at around 4 pm local time Wednesday as the plane landed at an airstrip.

that there was no mechanical fault involved in the mishap. The matter has been reported to the Civil Aviation Authority of Fiji, said *The Fijilive*. MNA/Xinhua

"What is important — is that Iran takes a positive stance and we hope Teheran accepts the negotiated initiatives and that it accepts total cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency," Lavrov said. — MNA/Xinhua

Chocolate may boost brain power

NEW YORK, 25 May — Chocolate lovers rejoice. A new study hints that eating milk chocolate may boost brain function.

"Chocolate contains many substances that act as stimulants, such as theobromine, phenethylamine, and caffeine," Dr Bryan Raudenbush from Wheeling Jesuit University in West Virginia noted in comments to *Reuters Health*.

"These substances by themselves have previously been found to increase alertness and attention and what we have found is that by consuming chocolate you can get the stimulating effects, which then lead to increased mental

performance." To study the effects of various chocolate types on brain power, Raudenbush and colleagues had a group of volunteers consume, on four separate occasions, 85 grammes of milk chocolate; 85 grammes of dark chocolate; 85 grammes of carob; and nothing (the control condition).

After a 15-minute digestive period, participants completed a variety of computer-based neuropsychological tests designed to assess cognitive performance including memory, attention span, reaction

time, and problem solving. "Composite scores for verbal and visual memory were significantly higher for milk chocolate than the other conditions," Raudenbush told *Reuters Health*.

And consumption of milk and dark chocolate was associated with improved impulse control and reaction time. Previous research has shown that some nutrients in food aid in glucose release and increased blood flow, which may augment cognitive performance.

MNA/Reuters

About 60 Taliban reported dead in Afghan clash

KABUL, 25 May — About 60 Taliban fighters and four Afghan Government soldiers were killed in a battle in the southern province of Uruzgan, an Afghan news agency reported on Wednesday. More than 300 people

have been reported killed in a series of battles, ambushes and bombings since last Wednesday, according to the US military and Afghan officials. It is the worst spell of violence since US and Afghan opposition forces ousted the Taliban in late 2001 after they refused to hand over Osama bin Laden.

Most of the dead were militants but dozens of Afghan police, soldiers and civilians have also been killed, along with four foreign soldiers.

The commander of Afghan forces in the south, General Rahmatullah Raufi, told reporters the bodies of about 60 militants had been found after the battle on Tuesday night, according to the Pakistan-based *Afghan Islamic Press*. — MNA/Reuters

British plane catches fire in Afghanistan

KABUL, 25 May — A British military aircraft caught on fire after landing in the southern Afghan province of Helmand on Wednesday, a spokesman of British troops confirmed.

"It was a *Hercules C-130* aircraft which had an accident but there was no casualty," Lieutenant David Douunie told *Xinhua*. Commenting on the cause of the incident, he said the case would be investigated.

The eyewitness said that the ill-fated *Hercules C-130* was on fire after landing at an airbase close to Lashkargah, capital of Helmand Province.

Helmand in the south Afghanistan, where hundreds of the British troops have been stationed, has been the scene of increasing Taliban-linked insurgency over the past one week during which dozens of people have lost their lives.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam may test bird flu vaccines on human in August

HANOI, 25 May — Vietnam is likely to test vaccines against bird flu virus strain H5N1 on human in August, after successful tests on animals, local newspaper *Young People* reported on

Wednesday. The National Institute for Hygiene and Epidemiology has submitted its proposal on the issue to the Scientific Council of the Ministry of Science and Environment and the

Health Ministry, and the tests will be conducted in August if it gets the council's approval, the paper reported, quoting sources from the Vietnamese Health Ministry. The institute will conduct clinical trials on 20-30 local volunteers first, and then on some 300 ones.

The trials are expected to succeed in making human-use vaccines against H5N1 in its laboratory. It will start manufacturing the vaccines late this year with initial annual capacity of 2-3 million doses, an official from the institute told *Xinhua* recently. MNA/Xinhua

Bomb goes off in car wash near Tel Aviv

JERUSALEM, 25 May — A small bomb went off at noon Wednesday near a car wash owned by an underworld kingpin at an exchange near Israel's commercial city of Tel Aviv, no injuries were reported.

Israeli best-selling daily *Yediot Ahronot* said on its website that the blast occurred at 12:10 pm near the car wash on Dov Friedman Street, where the Diamond Exchange complex is located.

The kingpin was at the scene when the blast went off, but his attorney said later the kingpin was not hurt.

"The explosion took place in an old structure—a shed. Part of the roof was completely blown off. It was a very loud blast," one eyewitness said. —MNA/Xinhua



A worker covers a piece of ink slab with glass at the Zhongshan Park in Beijing, capital of China, on 25 May, 2006, to prepare for the coming Chinese Famous Ink slab and Stone Exhibition scheduled on 26 May. —INTERNET

Belarussian President favours relations with Russia, China

Moscow, 25 May— Union with Russia was a historic choice of Belarus and China a foreign policy priority, Belarussian President Alexander Lukashenko said in his annual address to the Parliament and the nation in Minsk on Tuesday.

“The advantages of union with Russia are undoubted,” Lukashenko was quoted by the *ITAR-TASS* news agency as saying, “this is our historic choice”.

Lukashenko said joint efforts of the two countries “are concentrated on the quest of the optimum model of relations in the framework of the Union State”. “It is characteristic that we have passed on from dealing exclusively with organizational and legal matters to specific work in the areas of social

security, education, the health services, the tax policy and free travel,” he said. “China, which shares and supports many of our political steps, is a key priority of Belarussian foreign policy,” Lukashenko said. Belarus favours full-scale cooperation with the United States and the European Union, he said. And Belarus is for preserving the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and for continuing cooperation in the framework of that organization.

“We will continue cooperation in the framework of the CIS,” Lukashenko said. “We have common interests, so any form of integration is useful. We must develop more actively in the framework

of the CIS the transit component, social and humanitarian cooperation.”

“At the same time there’s no denying that the Commonwealth is in need of a reform, mainly in order to enhance the effectiveness of the decisions taken and responsibility of each state for fulfilling the obligations assumed,” the President said.

MNA/Xinhua



A man introduces a portrait displayed during the exhibition held by auction house Sotheby's Hong Kong, in Hong Kong, China, on 25 May, 2006.

INTERNET

China pushes for more energy-efficient buildings

BEIJING, 25 May— China has launched ambitious plans to make its residential and office buildings more energy-efficient. In the first five months of the year, industrial standard makers

announced three sets of new national standards: namely, regulations on energy saving for civil buildings, standards for residential buildings and standards for technical evaluations of residential

buildings.

Another new guideline regarding the assessment of green buildings will take effect on 1 June. Though not a compulsory standard, it asks for even higher standards in energy consumption and other environment-related indices. According to Wang Guangtao, the Minister of Construction, these standards have formed a basic framework of industrial standards regarding energy-efficiency of buildings.

Chinese legislators are also actively involved in the process. Both the Law on Energy Saving and the Law on Architecture are being revised to accommodate the new standards. A new decree on energy-saving for buildings is also high on the agenda of the State Council, Minister Wang said recently.

China's efforts to improve the energy-efficiency of its buildings is important for itself, but it also affects the rest of the world.

MNA/Xinhua

Experts gather in Cuba to discuss fighting disease-carrying insects

HAVANA, 25 May — Experts from 29 countries gathered in Cuba on Tuesday to attend the third International Symposium for Fighting Vectors, a Pan-American conference which analyzes the control of disease-carrying insects. Specialists from Cuba's

National Hygiene and Epidemiology Agency, and the National Workers Health Institute will give details of Cuba's progress in fighting these disease carriers.

The meeting was designed to fight *Aedes Aegypti* and other malaria- and dengue-fever carrying mosquitoes. The

two diseases strike more than one million people each year.

The meeting, which is being held in the city of Varadero, 134 kilometres east of Havana, is being attended by the Cuban Public Health Minister, representatives of the Pedro Kouri Institute and the Pan-American Health

Organization.

The meeting includes exhibitions, debates and conferences, the president of the organizing committee, Juan Ramon Vazquez said.

MNA/Xinhua

US Embassy in Japan warns of possible threat

TOKYO, 25 May — The United States Embassy said on Wednesday it had received a possible threat against US facilities in Japan and urged US citizens to exercise

caution.

“The US Embassy has learned of a possible threat against American facilities in Japan, the credibility of which has yet to be determined,” the US Embassy in Tokyo

said in a statement.

“Given the upcoming Memorial Day holiday, we advise American citizens to exercise caution and report any suspicious activities to authorities.”

America's Memorial Day holiday is on Monday, 29 May.

Japan's top government spokesman, Shinzo Abe, said he had no information that suggested there would be an attack in Japan.

“We do not have any concrete information that a terrorist attack will be carried out in Japan,” he told reporters. Since the 11 September, 2001, attacks on the United States, security has been tight around the US Embassy and other facilities related to the United States in Japan.

MNA/Reuters

French hotel group seeking expansion in China's PRD region

HONG KONG, 25 May — French hotel group Accor announced on Tuesday that it plans to double its hotel presence in Pan-Pearl River Delta (PRD) region including Hong Kong, Macao and Guangdong Province. Michael Issenberg,

Accor Asia Pacific's managing director, said at a Press conference that Accor operated seven hotels in Hong Kong, Shenzhen and Dongguan by early 2006. The number is likely to increase to at least 12 in the two places by 2008.

He said, Accor's expansion in Hong Kong and Guangdong is part of the company's rapid development in China that will see the company grow its network from current 34 hotels to over 50 hotels in the next two years.— MNA/Xinhua

China reports new bird flu outbreak among migratory birds

BEIJING, 25 May—China confirmed a new outbreak of H5N1 bird flu among migratory birds in western Qinghai Province and Tibet Autonomous Region; the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) said Wednesday.

The outbreak in Tibet's Nagqu Prefecture and Qinghai's Golog Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture occurred on the same migratory route where another outbreak in Yushu of Qinghai was reported early this month.

A total of 399 wild have been found dead in the two areas, the ministry said, noting that all were in the wild areas where few people live and no poultry are raised.

Local governments have disinfected the areas where the dead birds were found, and no domestic poultry have been affected.—MNA/Xinhua



Artists from a South African dancing troupe perform in Lusaka, Zambia 25 May 2006. —INTERNET

Thai Monarch calls for rapid rescue of flood victims

BANGKOK, 25 May — Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej on Wednesday called for all parties concerned to offer rescue efforts for flood-trapped people in the north and ordered the help from the military in combating the grave national disaster.

In an announcement issued by the Office of His Majesty's Principal Private Secretary, the King and the Queen are greatly concerned about their subjects who are suffering the consequences of heavy flash floods and mudslides which have caused a great human and property loss to people in the five northern provinces of Uttaradit, Sukhothai, Phrae, Lampang, and Nan. The King also instructed the country's Army, Navy and Air Force to conduct joint efforts in cooperation with other agencies in order to carry out urgent relief operations for those affected by the natural disaster.

In response to the royal instruction, the Armed Forces pledged immediate action to provide emergency assistance for those affected.

In Sokhothai, helicopter airlifted many victims, seriously injured in the floods and subsequent landslide, to local hospital.

Government officials on Wednesday confirmed

that at least 30 persons have died and more than 100 were confirmed missing as rescue teams battling to penetrate into isolated areas of the flood-stricken north.

MNA/Xinhua

World water giant sets foot in China

BEIJING, 25 May — With its water supply and waste management business in China soon expected to be worth a billion US dollars a year, the world's largest environmental service provider, Veolia Environment, is taking steps into China's energy and transport market.

Henri Proglio, Chairman and CEO of Veolia Environment, said in Beijing on Tuesday that China's increasing demand for energy-savings and transport management have

lead his company to expand.

According to Proglio, Veolia Energy was recently awarded its first contract in China, to operate the air conditioning system at Guangzhou University in south China. Meanwhile, Veolia Transport has just opened up a representative office in Shanghai, said Proglio. As one of the 29 special business advisers to Beijing's mayor, Proglio is visiting Beijing for the 7th Meeting of International Business Leaders Advisory Council for the Mayor of Beijing.

MNA/Xinhua

Colombia seizes smuggled goods

BOGOTA, 25 May — Colombian Navy seized smuggled goods worth more than 3 million Colombian pesos (1.2 million US dollars) and six million dollars in cash on Tuesday, said Alfonso Diaz, commander of Colombia's Caribbean naval forces on Tuesday.

During the operation, the naval forces also arrested nine people, who were later transferred to the Cartagena prosecutors office and the National Tax and Customs Administration.

The *Don Dinier* boat, with 80 tons of goods aboard, was stopped in the Gulf of Urugba, between the departments of Antioquia and Choco when it was entering Colombian waters from Panama.

The naval forces searched the boat at the port of Cartagena and captured the goods and the cash.

MNA/Xinhua



Almost 300 Vietnamese fishermen remain missing and 28 have been reported dead, three days after Typhoon Chanchu sank at least 11 ships in the South China Sea.—INTERNET



New Yorkers take cover from the rain recently. Northeast of New York, a four-day deluge has hit New England.—INTERNET

Annan calls for decisive action to protect the planet

UNITED NATIONS, 25 May — With the economic cost of environmental degradation rising to 42 billion dollars per year, the United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan has called for "decisive" action to protect the planet.

In a message on the occasion of International Day for Biological Diversity, he said the degradation of drylands—which constitute 40 per cent of the planet's land surface — is having dramatic effects.

These consequences are especially troubling because they are borne

disproportionately by the world's poorest and most vulnerable people, he said.

Drylands host eight of the 10 least developed countries in the world, and developing nations are home to the overwhelming majority of the 2 billion people who rely on dryland ecosystems.

"As a result, their

decline has far-reaching implications for our efforts to fight poverty, hunger and disease," Annan said.

"Indeed, significant steps to preserve drylands will help determine whether we will achieve the Millennium Development Goals," he added, referring to the targets set by the UN Millennium Summit of 2000 to eliminate or significantly reduce a host of the world's ills.

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

MNA/PTI

Russia to set anti-missile post in neighbouring countries

Moscow, 25 May — Russia intends to create anti-missile posts in neighbouring countries in response to US plans for a similar base in Eastern Europe.

The development will form part of Russia's military building plans for 2006-2010, Vice-Premier and Defence Minister Sergei Ivanov said on Wednesday.

"We know about plans to create an anti-missile post in Poland. These plans very seriously worry us. We take them into consideration in the

military building plans for the next five years," Ivanov was quoted by the *ITAR-TASS* news agency as saying.

Ivanov's statement follows reports about the Pentagon's plans to deploy an interceptor missile base in one of the Eastern European countries as part of a missile defence system programme.

Budgets for development and upkeep of the Armed Forces will reach a 50-to 50-per-cent ratio by 2010, Ivanov told reporters.

Ivanov said that "at present, 60 per cent of the budget is spent on keeping the Army and the fleet, and 40 per cent on their development".

This ratio was 70 to 30 per cent five years ago.

Ivanov called "an optimal variant" achieving a 50-50 balance by 2010.

"These figures have been confirmed by a plan of military building for the next five years, during the implementation of which

the Russian Army will receive modern weapons," Ivanov said.

MNA/Xinhua

Wartime bombs killing more and more Cambodians

PHNOM PENH, 25 May — More than 30 years since the end of the Vietnam War, more and more people in impoverished Cambodia are being killed trying to cut up unexploded bombs and shells for scrap metal, a report said on Wednesday.

According to the latest update from the Cambodian Mine Action Centre, the country's main mine-clearing agency, there were 506 casualties from unexploded ordnance (UXO) in 2005, compared to 391 in 2000.

Despite public education campaigns telling farmers and children in particular not to go near — let alone cut up — any bombs, most of which were dropped by the US Air Force during the Vietnam War, the message does not appear to be sinking in.

"Almost all the UXO victims are poor villagers who break the bombs apart because they need the metal to sell," action centre spokesman Leng Sochea said. One kilo of scrap sells for about 0.25 US dollars, but with more than a third of the country's 13 million people living on one US dollar a day or less, many are forced to play a deadly game of Russian roulette in order to survive.

The trend is such that in the past five years, unexploded wartime bombs and shells have killed or injured more people than landmines in what is regarded as one of the most heavily mined nations on earth.

MNA/Reuters

Salient points on pesticides — 2

Ko Ye (Agriculture)

Pesticides and insecticides are used in two sectors — health and agriculture. As for the health sector, insecticides with long-lasting effects are manufactured for killing disease-carrying insects such as flies and mosquitoes. On the other hand, agricultural-used pesticides die fast. Durability may be good from the economic point of view, but residues of agriculture-used agents are harmful to all living beings and the environment.

To be short-lived and harmless to the environment are requirements the Intentional Convention has prescribed for farm-used pesticides. And the prescription stands as the main difference between the farm-used pest killers and insecticides for health purpose.

All pest killers have their own instructions

every user must follow strictly. In the instructions states the period between the last spraying and the harvesting for producing residue-free crops.

Consumption of agricultural produce containing the residue may not cause instant death, but its accumulation in the body can have ill effects on nervous system, liver, reproductive organs and the embryo, while inviting diseases such as skin disorder and cancer.

Causes behind the content of residue exceeding the limit fixed by the experts of WHO and FAO include wrongful choosing of the type of pesticide in spraying the fields for infestation of a particular pest species; mixing of pesticide agent in the solution more than the required amount; unnecessary use of pesticides; harvesting of sprayed crops before the

prescribed time; mechanical failure and faulty nozzle that make sprayer force out more pesticide than necessary; use of sub-standard pesticides; incorrect mixing ratio; unsystematic use of pesticides; and improper dumping of unused pesticides and used pesticide containers.

Myanmar permits registration and sale of only the less-harmful pesticides. WHO categorises the level of the toxicity in pest killer agents into four different types. Myanmar prohibits the use of substances with high levels of toxicity.

An international conference was organized in the Swedish capital of Stockholm for the world to get rid of highly toxic pest killers with the aim of saving the environment from pollution and living beings from dying. It approved to end production and distribution of 12 chemicals — nine farm-used chemicals and three industrial-used chemicals. Except the DTT that can still be used for malaria eradication under strict supervision of the experts, the other three well-known insecticides have already been forbidden totally in Myanmar.

In 1980, World Environmental Conservation Organization and the FAO initiated a programme to exchange information on the import and use of chemicals. International codes of conduct concerning chemicals were prescribed in 1985. Myanmar has been strictly adhering to the codes. She has already enacted the law prohibiting the harmful pesticides. Systematic use of the permitted pest killers will not harm the environment and the living beings.

(Translation: TMT)

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Vocational course on horticulture, tailoring, bakery opens

YANGON, 26 May — Organized by Yangon East District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory



Chairperson of Yangon Division MCWSC Daw Mar Mar Wai presents financial assistance to Township MCWAs. — MNA

Committee, a ceremony to open vocational course on horticulture, tailoring and bakery in conjunction with the ceremony to provide financial assistance to Township Maternal and Child Welfare Associations was held at Yankin Education College in Yankin Township, Yangon East District yesterday.

Chairperson of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Mar Mar Wai made an opening speech on the occasion.

Later, Chairman of Yangon East District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Maung Maung Shein presented the financial assistance to township MCWAs in the district.

Secretary Dr Daw Sanda of Yangon East District MCWSC explained facts about the course.

Altogether 70 female trainees are attending the one-month course.

Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai also attended school enrolling ceremony in South Okkalapa Township. At the ceremony, the chairperson presented stationery and school equipment to the students.

MNA

Entries invited to article and colour photo contests

YANGON, 25 May — With a view to disseminating lofty aims and activities of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation to the people, the MWAFF will organize the article and colour photo contests to mark the Myanmar Women's Day which falls on 3 July 2006.

The entry for the article contest must be the one which has never been printed and it must be between 3,000 and 5,000 words. The contestant is to send two copies of manuscripts together with two licence size photos and a brief biography. The entry must be own creation.

The contestant may participate in the colour photo contest with his works measuring 10" by 14", together with two licence size photos and brief biography.

The articles are to be sent, not later than 4 pm on 10 June and the photos, at 4 pm on 20 June, to Secretary of the Organizing Committee U Aye Kywe, Deputy Chief Editor, Information and Public Relations Department, 22/24, Pansodan Street, Tel: 371340 and 371342. — MNA

Ministries concerned are to strive for exhibiting...

(from page 16)

Myanma Gems Emporiums and efforts being made for selling more jade lots at the June-July special sales and earning more foreign exchange.

After hearing the reports, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that the Ministry of Mines is to make arrangements for enabling private companies that was allotted jade and gems blocks and all companies that are undertaking joint venture tasks with the State, to participate in the Jade and Gems Special Sales. The companies that cannot

take part in the sales are to review their tasks and they need to carry out necessary preparedness.

He stressed the need to render necessary assistance to private gems companies to manufacture and sell jade and gems finished goods similar to value-added wood products by sharing technologies and seeking the market. Ministries concerned are to strive for exhibiting value-added wood products and jade and gem products at the international trade fairs. On their return from the sales



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gives instructions to officials on the Jade and Gems Special Sales.—MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects display of jade lots.—MNA

abroad, the companies are to make arrangements for promotion of sales by reviewing the demands of the products.

He noted that various sorts of jade, gems and pearl lots are to be put on display. In conclusion, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that departments concerned are to perform their respective tasks for convenience of gem merchants abroad, transport of the materials purchased and security measures.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected display of jade lots at the reception hall and in the compound of the centre and left necessary instruction. In the afternoon, they left the Myanmar Convention Centre.

MNA

Year-round greening of 30-mile radius of Yangon City discussed

YANGON, 26 May — The Supervisory Committee for Greening 30-mile Radius of Yangon City all the year round held the coordination meeting at the hall of Yangon Command Headquarters this afternoon, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win.

The commander explained water supply for cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy, sugarcane, pulses and beans, edible oil crops and others to implement the project of Greening 30-mile

Radius of Yangon City all the year round.

Secretary of the Supervisory Committee U Kyi Win reported on growing of edible oil crops, pulses and beans, sugarcane and other crops including paddy in the division for 2005-06, cultivation target for 2006-07, water supply tasks, greening tasks along the landing route of airplane and future tasks.

Officials submitted their respective reports. Later, the commander gave necessary instructions.

MNA



175 tourists onboard chartered flight arrive

YANGON, 26 May — Korean Air launched its chartered flight between Yangon and Seoul of the Republic of Korea on 24 May.

Airbus A 300-600R carrying 175 tourists left Seoul on 24 May and arrived at Yangon International Airport in the evening.

The tourists were welcomed by Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung and officials of Department of Civil Aviation and Myanma Airways.

The chartered flight will fly Seoul-Yangon-Seoul route twice a week. In May, the flight will arrive Yangon at 7 pm every Wednesday and Sunday, and leave Yangon at 8.30 pm the same day.

MNA

Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win addresses the meeting on Year-round greening of 30-mile radius Yangon City.

MNA

Agricultural, forestry and livestock...

(from page 16)

Medical Science, Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science and Myanmar Academy of Technology Science and invited guests.

In his opening speech, the Secretary-1 said it is heartening to see academics and researchers from agricultural, fish and meat and forestry sectors attending the annual general meeting and the research conference. And it will help realize the State's objectives for national development through the strength of academicians. Nowadays, in building a modern, developed nation, it is necessary to have high technology as well as peace and stability, strong economy, national unity, patriotism and Union Spirit. In particular, only through high technology will a nation catch up with others, said the Secretary-1.

So, the government has been practising a policy on nurturing

intellectuals and intelligentsia in order to promote the technological sectors such as modern electronics and information technology. As technicians and academics play an important part in developing respective technological sectors, academicians are being formed in accordance with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe. As a result, respective technological sectors have seen a significant progress, he added.

On behalf of the government, the Secretary-1 said, he appreciated the efforts of the academies including Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences.

All academicians are urged to continue their participation in their respective sectors to promote science and technology of the State in order to catch up with international community

and to protect national interest. Like other development sectors, agricultural, forestry and livestock and fishery sectors need a high technology to realize the State's objectives. Besides, these sectors concern the development of national economy, production of hygienic food, forest and environmental conservation and protection of biodiversity and eco system. That is why it is required to have high technologies to promote the sectors.

The Secretary-1 said the participation and technological leadership of MAAFLFS play a crucial role in the drive to achieve the goal. For the sake of national interest, the State can make full use of its invaluable resources such as agriculture, fish and meat and forests only through the application of modern high technologies.

Today, the world has seen biotechnology making a rapid progress.

It is required to apply biotechnology in an effective way. And now steps are being taken for boosting production through biotechnology.

Myanmar has a wide range of biodiversity. So, it is to pay serious attention to the applying of biotechnology systematically without compromising biodiversity as well as to conserve biodiversity and to protect wildlife and flora harmoniously.

He called on academicians and researchers to exert increased efforts in doing research subject-wise to catch up with international level and to take innovative measures without infringing the conservation of flora and fauna.

In carrying out research, systematic paces are to be taken for the development of human resources and upgrading of technologies. And self-reliant efforts are to be made to keep abreast of international community in the field. In particular, it is needed to harmonize human resources with the jobs.

In the agricultural sector, modern technologies are to be applied and research work to be carried out harmoniously in order to effectively

exploit the natural resources, raise cultivation capacity, boost crop production, extend use of heavy machinery, and to apply modern agricultural methods and high-yield crop strains.

The government is pursuing its goal of covering the entire nation with lush and green forests. Now, the central Myanmar and arid zones have become green. Moreover, with the motto that only with the development of wards and villages, will mountains and forests be covered with green and lush trees, the government is implementing rural development work programmes for rural development.

He also urged the academicians to take a leading role to achieve the objectives on forestry the government has laid down — to extract timber efficiently for environmental conservation and ensuring temperate climate, production of value-added goods, nurturing and greening of forests, and balanced existence of biodiversity and eco system.

More or less Myanmar people already have a certain degree of fundamental knowledge in farming and fisheries as it is their ancestral

business. Integration of their inherent knowledge and advanced techniques will lead to significant progress of the business and market stability. Instead of relying on foreign poultry strains, entrepreneurs should try to develop the local strains, while applying means suitable to the nation's climatic and geographic conditions for all-round progress of farming. Academics of the field should carry out research and development projects to produce and distribute quality strains, protect and conserve Myanmar waters and aquatic creatures, and prevent depletion of fish stocks.

In conclusion, he urged the academics to effectively utilize their knowledge and experience for long-term development of agricultural, forestry, farming and fisheries sectors; to introduce means for sustainable use of the invaluable land and water resources; and to strive for using advanced technologies to the most effective degree and nurture new generation of intellectuals and intelligentsia.

The Secretary-1 and party posed for a photo together with members of the academy.

MNA

Instead of relying on foreign poultry strains, entrepreneurs should try to develop the local strains, while applying means suitable to the nation's climatic and geographic conditions for all-round progress of farming.

Entrepreneurs urged to boost cultivation



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo addresses the meeting on boosting agricultural products. — A & I

YANGON, 26 May — A coordination meeting on rising cultivation and boosting production was held at the hall of Myanma Cotton and Sericulture Enterprise on Thiri Mingala Yeiktha Street in Kaba Aye yesterday afternoon.

Private entrepreneurs are to cooperate with the Government in the tasks to rise cultivation and boost production, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo said at the meeting.

He continued to say that the ministry will provide high yield crop strains and materials for boosting production to the farmers. Managing Director U Ohn Than of MCSE reported on distribution of high yield crop strains to the farmers in a short time and opportunity for the departments and private entrepreneurs to participate in the tasks.

The private entrepreneurs took part in the discussions. After the meeting, they viewed agricultural equipment manufactured by Agricultural

Mechanization Department. Director-General of the department U Win Maw explained matters related to the equipment. — MNA

Charity fair to raise funds for monastic education school

YANGON, 26 May — With the sponsorship of Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon and Korean Myanmar Friendship Interchange Association, a charity fair to raise funds for the monastic education school in Hlinethaya Township to be built by Ven Mok Tak-Hye Eun of Republic of Korea will be held at the Ottara Hall of Karaweik Palace on 2 June 2006.

The fair will sell a wide range of Korean products such as handbags, garments, clothes, shoes, backpacks, consumer goods and others at reasonable prices. Artists of MMPA will present entertainment to those present at the fair. — MNA

Indian military delegation visits Shwedagon Pagoda, King Zafar Shah's tomb

YANGON, 26 May — The visiting delegation of National Defence College Course of Republic of India led by Rear-Admiral Venkat Shanker, VSM Senior Directing Staff (Navy) together with Military Attaché Colonel Jasvinder Singh Chopra of India to the Union of Myanmar and officials visited the Shwedagon Pagoda this morning.

The visiting delegation donated cash and paid homage to the pagoda. Later, they went to King Zafar Shah's tomb on Ziwaka Street in Dagon Township and paid tribute. — MNA



Child specialists conduct medical check-ups on students of the pre-primary school of Early Childhood Development Department of Maternal and Child Welfare Association on 25 and 26 May. — MCWA

Ministry of Information holds coordination meeting

NAY PYI TAW—26 May—The Ministry of Information held its coordination meeting at the meeting hall of the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw this morning with an address by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry and officials.

In his address, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that departments and enterprises under the ministry are to make concerted efforts in accord with the instructions for the five-year project of the third short-term plan which call for boosting production, improving the industrial sector, increasing power generation, developing the en-



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan speaking at coordination meeting of Ministry of Information for 2006. — MNA

ergy sector and trade, and practising thrifty. He also stressed the need for every department to focus on doubling the targeted amount of earnings in 2006-2007, to thriftily use funds by spending 15 per cent less than the amount of target, to review measures that call for capital expenditure, to

strive to earn more income while spending less. The minister also called for improvement of media both in form and essence.

In conclusion, the minister urged departmental personnel under the ministry to make efforts for successful realization of the resolutions

of the meeting. Afterwards, directors-general and managing directors under the ministry reported on measures being taken and work to be carried out.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

MNA

YCDC steps up efforts for good drainage system, transportation



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspects repaving of road in Bahan Township. — YCDC

YANGON, 26 May —Engineering Department of YCDC is stepping up its efforts for the proper flow of drains and smooth transportation in Yangon and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin this morning inspected tasks for proper flow of drains in Kamayut and Mingala Taungnyunt townships.

During his tour of inspection, Mayor Brig-Gen

Aung Thein Lin also inspected the paving of asphalt in Bahan Township.

After hearing reports, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin attended to the needs for the tasks.

MNA

Educative talks given in Hsintaung Village

YANGON, 26 May — Chairperson of Thazi Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Nu and members, members of Township Women's Affairs Organization, officials from Township Health Department and Traditional Medicine Department met with national races in Hsintaung village yesterday.

The chairperson gave educative talks about MCWA and Dos and Don'ts for expectant mother and Secretary Daw Kyi Kyi San, on protecting women against violence. The chairperson provided iron tablets and other medicines for young women through an official.

U Win Zaw of Traditional Medicine Department and Dr Lwin Htay of Yinmarbin Station Hospital provided health care services and medicines for national race people.

MNA

Training courses of Ministry of Industry-1 conclude

YANGON, 26 May — On-job training course No 1/2006 and Advanced Computer Course No 2/2006 concluded at the hall of Directorate of Industries at the corner of Kaba Aye Pagoda Road and Sethmu-1 Road, here, this morning.

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang delivered a speech and awarded prizes to outstanding trainees of both courses. A total of 93 trainees attended the training courses that lasted four weeks each.

Member of Secretariat of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister U Aung Thuang met secretaries, executives and organizers of Tamway, Bahan and Pabedan Township USDAs at the hall of the department.

Tamway Township USDA Secretary Daw Le Le Win Swe, Bahan Township USDA Secretary U Ye Thu Shwe and Pabedan Township USDA Secretary U Aung Naing reported on participation of USDA members in public welfare tasks, and future tasks.

The Secretariat Member gave necessary instructions.

MNA

Refresher Course for English, Mathematics and Physics Teachers winds up

YANGON, 26 May — The Refresher Course for English, Mathematics and Physics Teachers at Basic Education High School Level concluded at the hall of Yangon Institute of Education this afternoon, with an address by Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein.

In his address, the minister said that Refresher Courses for English, Mathematics and Physics Teachers at Basic Education High School Level were opened at 30 universities and colleges in accord with the guidance of the Head of State for enhancement of the teachers' efficiency. The minister urged the teachers to work their utmost for nurturing students who will become reliable human resources of the State.

Rector of the YIE Dr Khin Zaw reported on conducting the refresher course.

The minister awarded prizes to the outstanding trainee teachers, and presented certificates of honour to instructors.

Later, the rector gave completion certificates to the trainees. — MNA

NLD brass's ignorance of members' wish deviates from democracy

NLD dancing to alien masters' tune, demanding economic sanctions on nation

Seven resign from Kalaw NLD as they lose interest in party

YANGON, 26 May — Seven members including two vice-chairmen of Kalaw Township National League for Democracy in southern Shan State, resigned from the party of their own volition.

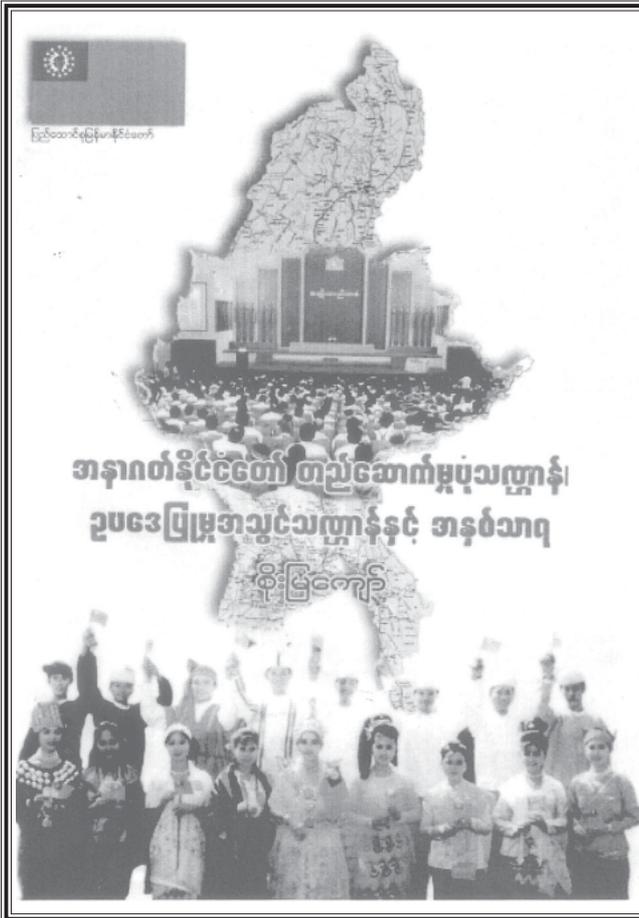
Vice-chairman 1 U Kan Shwin, vice-chairman 2 U Kyaw Tun, secretary U Myo Win, joint secretary U Ye Ko Ko Lwin, treasurer U Kyaw Win, social staff U Nyan and women's affairs leader Daw Khin Khin Aye sent the signed letters of resignation to the NLD headquarters and the respective local authorities.

In the letters, the seven stated that they

joined the NLD with the aim of taking part in clean politics and serving local people's interest.

However, the NLD brass are deviating from the cause of democracy, walking out from the National Convention in accord with its policy of confronting the government, while ignoring the members' wish. The NLD instead of taking into account the internal strength, is dancing to the tune of alien masters, demanding foreign nations to impose economic sanctions on Myanmar. As they have lost interest in the NLD, they said that of own volition they quit the party and the party duties.

MNA



- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကို ကျင်းပကာ နိုင်ငံတော်ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံ အခြေခံဥပဒေ ရေးဆွဲရေးအတွက် အခြေခံရမည့်မူများနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အခြေခံရမည့်မူများကို အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကိုယ်စားလှယ်များက ညှိနှိုင်းဆွေးနွေး အတည်ပြုချက် ချမှတ်ပေးလျက်ရှိသည်။
- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံသတင်းများကို လေ့လာကြည့်သောအခါ အနာဂတ် နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ပုံဖော်မှန်းမှော် ကြည့်ရှုရလာပြီ ဖြစ်သည်။
- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တွင် ပေါ်ပေါက်လာမည့် ဥပဒေပြုမှုနှင့်စပ်လျဉ်းသည့် အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ထင်လင်းစွာ ပုံဖော်လာရေးအတွက် စာရေး သူ၏တွေ့ရှိချက်များကို တိုင်းရင်းသားပြည်သူများအား အကိုးအထောက် မှန်ကန်စွာဖြင့် လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းဝေငှထားသည့် -

စိုးမြကျော် ၏

အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန် ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ

- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော် တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အခန်း (၁) ခန်းနှင့် အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်၏ ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အပိုင်း (၁၃) ပိုင်းပါရှိသည်။
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ထွက်ပြီ

- စာပေဗိမာန် စာအုပ်ဆိုင် ၅၂၉-၅၃၁၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
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- သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ ၂၁၂၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
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Hydel power projects in Bago Division inspected



Minister Col Zaw Min inspects Khabaung hydro-electric power project.

MINISTRY OF ELECTRIC POWER-1

YANGON, 26 May — Minister for Electric Power No-1 Col Zaw Min together with Deputy Minister U Myo Myint on 24 May heard reports on implementation of Khabaung Hydel Power Project, 15 miles from Ottwin presented by No 3 Construction Group Director U Tint Lwin and officials.

The deputy minister gave a supplementary report.

The minister inspected construction of the power plant, the water tunnel, the sluice gate and earth embankment.

Two 15-megawatt

generators will produce 120 million kwh yearly.

At Pyu Creek Hydel Power Project in Pyu, Director U Tint Lwin and officials reported on progress of the project.

The minister inspected construction tasks and gave instructions.

The project will generate 121 million kwh yearly from two 20-megawatt generators.

The minister also inspected Kun Creek Hydel Project. The project will generate 190 million kwh yearly from three 20-megawatt generators.

MNA

Winners of World Environment Day commemorative essay competition announced

YANGON, 26 May—The winners of the open essay competition to mark the World Environment Day 2006 sponsored by the National Commission for Environmental Affairs were announced today.

They are first prize winner Ma Aye Myint

Myat Soe, second prize winner Ma Sein Sein (Green) and third prize winner U Soe Myint-Phoyaza (Thazi). And the consolation prize winners are Ma Hninn Oo Yi and Maung Lin Aung.

Prizes will be presented at the ceremony to mark World Environment

Day to be held in Mandalay on 5 June 2006. The prize winners are to contact the office of the National Commission for Environmental Affairs in the compound of Forest Department Head Office in Gyogon, Yangon (Tel 681921) not later than 1 June 2006.—MNA

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ပညာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

ADVERTISEMENTS

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ZHE HAI 316 VOYNO (063)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ZHE HAI 316 VOYNO (063) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.5.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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Win Mu Tin

M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L., for Shiseido Company Ltd. P. O. Box 60, Yangon.

Dated: 27 May 2006

Wen Jiabao highlights science role in socio-economic development

BEIJING, 25 May— Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said science and technology are playing the "supporting and the leading" role in China's socio-economic development.

At the seventh national congress of China Association for Science and Technology (CAST), Wen said scientific development and innovation could solve a series prominent problems occurring in China's development.

MNA/Xinhua

President says Iran "will give historic slap" to any attacker

TEHERAN, 25 May — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said on Wednesday that the Islamic Republic had mastered the entire nuclear fuel cycle and that it would give an "historic slap" to any attacker. "Today, Iran has mastered the entire nuclear fuel cycle, from start to finish, thanks to young Iranian scientists," state television quoted the President as saying.

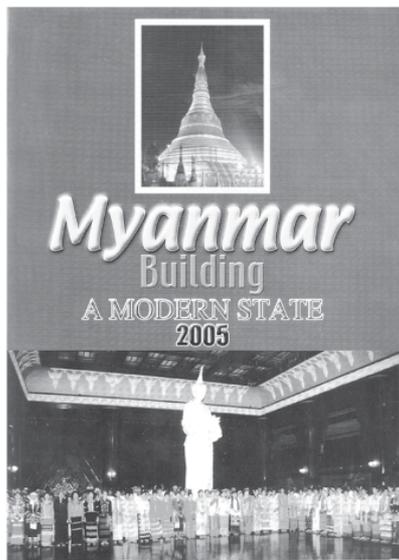
The hardline President made the remarks at a ceremony at Khorramshahr, a port town in southwestern Iran, commemorating the recapture of the town from Iraqi forces in 1982, one of the bloodiest battles during the eight-year long Iran-Iraq war.

"The enemies are looking to plot and want to create differences among

Iranians to stop us getting our rights," Ahmadinejad said. "But if they do the slightest damage to the Iranian people, if they commit the slightest aggression, they will receive a historic slap."

Ahmadinejad's remarks came as five permanent members of the UN Security Council — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — plus Germany set to meet in London for new efforts to defuse the crisis over Iran's nuclear issue.

In an effort to persuade Tehran to give up its sensitive uranium enrichment, the EU trio — Britain, France and Germany — are preparing to offer a package of incentives in trade, technology and security to Iran. — MNA/Xinhua



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Malaysia, China to jointly set up petroleum refinery

KUALA LUMPUR, 25 May — A Malaysian company has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with a China-based consortium on the establishment of a petroleum refinery in northern Malaysia, local media reported on Wednesday.

With an investment of six billion US dollars, the joint venture, to be based in Perak State, will

involve the construction of storage facilities for liquefied petroleum gas, a petrochemical plant, a condensate refinery, crude oil refinery and a jetty, the local English newspaper *New Straits Times* reported.

The MoU was signed between the Malaysian China Petroleum Corporation (MCPC) and a consortium comprising China International New

Energy Petroleum Group Co Limited and Empire Global Corporation.

The two-month feasibility study will identify a suitable area of between 600 hectares and 800 hectares in Manjung, near Lumut, for the project, MCPC spokesman Abdul Rahman Abdullah was quoted as saying.

Lumut has been chosen for its deep sea and long coastline,

offering a natural harbour which will allow huge petroleum containers and tanks to dock at the jetty, said Abdul Rahman.

The project will be implemented in three phases over five years, with 20 per cent of its crude oil supplied by the Malaysian national oil company Petronas and the remainder from Indonesia and the Middle East, said Abdul Rahman.

MNA/Xinhua

India lags behind among Asian countries in tourism

NEW DELHI, 25 May — Despite registering a growth in the number of foreign tourists, India continues to lag behind other countries in the neighbourhood, including China, Indonesia, Thailand and Hong Kong, in terms of tourist arrivals.

While the number of foreign tourists who visited India in 2003 stood at 2.73 million, the figure rose to 3.46 million in 2004 and further to 3.92 million in 2005, Union Minister for Tourism and Culture Ambika Soni told Rajya Sabha (Upper House of Parliament) in response to

a question.

However, in comparison to the 3.92 million tourists who visited India in 2005, China received 47.11 million visitors, Hong Kong 23.40 million, Thailand 11 million and Indonesia 4.85 million.

But India was better off than neighbouring countries Sri Lanka and Nepal which received 0.57 million and 0.35 million tourists respectively in 2005.

While figures for Pakistan were not available for 2005, the neighbouring country

received 0.50 million tourists in 2003 and 0.65 million visitors in 2004.

Soni said while the government has not fixed targets for foreign tourist arrivals, it has taken a number of steps to attract more visitors, such as launch of the "Incredible India" campaign, direct cooperative marketing with the airlines, tour operators and wholesalers overseas, greater focus on emerging markets particularly in the region of China, Northeast Asia and Southeast Asia and use of Internet and web marketing.

MNA/PTI

China says to stop criminals fleeing abroad

BEIJING, 25 May — Chinese authorities vowed on Tuesday to stop suspected economic criminals of fleeing abroad.

Gao Feng, an official at the Ministry of Public Security, said about 800 suspected economic criminals had escaped China in recent years and more than 300 of them had been repatriated in cases involving more than 70 billion yuan (8.73 billion US dollars).

"The Ministry of Public Security has intensified cooperation with the Audit Commission, People's Bank of China and the State Administration of Taxation ... to prevent suspects from transferring money and running away," Gao told a news conference.

MNA/Reuters

Pakistan produces 32 bln litres of milk annually

ISLAMABAD, 25 May — Pakistan is the fifth largest milk producing country in the world as it produces 32 billion litres of milk annually, Pakistan's state-run news agency APP reported on Tuesday.

According to official sources, the dairy sector

represents 10.8 per cent of the GDP and 48.6 per cent of the country's agricultural GDP.

The sources further said that whereas Pakistan was ranked the fifth largest milk producing country, only a small proportion of the total

production of the milk was marketed and just 2 per cent of the total milk produced in the country was processed at the dairy plants in the country.

MNA/Xinhua

DONATE BLOOD

ဝညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြုတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



The ribs of an elk clearly show through its coat as it glances up while grazing in the Mount St Helens State Wildlife Area, which hugs the valley along the north fork of the Toutle River, east of the volcano, on 10 May, 2006. —INTERNET

Salt air helps patients with asthma

NEW YORK, 25 May — Breathing salt dust in a chamber coated with salt for 40 minutes a day seems to improve the airway tightening experienced by people with asthma, according to a report in the journal *Allergy*. Natural salt caves and salt mines have been used for years as complementary medicine for treating asthmatic patients in various parts of Europe and Asia, the authors explain, but data are still lacking regarding the benefits of salt chamber treatment for chronic asthma. To investigate, Dr J Hedman from South Karelia Central Hospital,

Lappeenranta, Finland and colleagues constructed a "halo chamber" to simulate the microclimate of salt mines. Its surfaces were covered with rock salt, and pulverized salt was blown into the chamber during active treatment at a rate of 3 grammes every 4 minutes. The researchers evaluated the effects of salt chamber treatment in 32 patients with persistent asthma. They were randomly assigned to two

weeks of treatment in the salt chamber — daily 40-minute sessions for 5 days per week — with the salt generator either blowing salt dust into the chamber or running but without salt being fed in. The patients treated with the salt chamber showed less airway tightening than did comparison subjects. However, use of the chamber did not improve asthma symptoms or reduce the need for asthma medications.

"The idea that salt chamber treatment could serve as a complementary therapy to conventional medication cannot be ruled out," the authors conclude. "Salt chamber treatment is, however, neither simple nor cost-free," they say. "In future studies, the cost benefit should be compared with other treatment modalities, including the improvement of existing drug treatment." MNA/Reuters

Google plans to debut video ad service

LOS ANGELES, 25 May — Google Inc, the Internet search giant, will introduce a system for running TV-style commercials as it tries to capitalize on a fast-growing segment of online advertising.

The commercials may lessen the firm's reliance on search-related advertising and attract a new type of marketer, such as those that advertise on television, according to a report on the Los Angeles Times website.

Google made the move after online advertising soared 30 per cent to 12.5 billion US dollars last year as advertisers shifted strategies.

The video ads will not appear alongside Google's search results, just on the content websites of partners such as blogs and newspapers, said the report.

It said Google's system is also auction-based, similar to its method for matching targeted ads with search results, news stories or blog postings.

The commercials will appear as static Web ads, but with a small video player. Clicking the play button will start the

video playing in the ad box. An advertiser will not pay for the ad unless the viewer clicks through to its website. If consumers fail to click on the ad, Google's system will replace it with another, more relevant ad.

Web publishers that use Google's AdSense service will start seeing the video ads on their sites sometime this week, said Gokul Rajaram, a Google product management director. He said he expected TV advertisers to test different cuts of a commercial through the Google system to decide which to air.

Entertainment companies such as 20th Century Fox and Paramount Classics have been testing the service with trailers for TV show DVDs and film releases.

MNA/Xinhua

First rebuilt WTC skyscraper officially opens for business

NEW YORK, 25 May — In a sign of progress in World Trade Centre site reconstruction, the first rebuilt skyscraper that was destroyed in 11 September terror attacks on Tuesday officially opened for business.

Developer Larry Silverstein and the head of the Port Authority, the owner of the WTC site, helped cut the ribbon at 7 World Trade Centre.

Hundreds of people came out to celebrate the new 52-storey building. The festivities included a concert featuring Suzanne Vega and Lou Reed.

"We've come a very long way," said Silverstein, who built the first 7 World Trade Center nearly 20 years ago and has struggled to rebuild destroyed office space at the 16-acre site for more

than four years. "What you're looking at today is just the beginning."

"We want to get this done. The governor wants it done. The mayor wants it done. The people of this city and nation want us to move forward. We're committed to doing that," said Port Authority Executive Director Kenneth Ringler.

"There will be obstacles, but we will get it done. There's no room for failure."

The original 47-storey 7 World Trade Center was the third to collapse on 11

September, 2001, after the Twin Towers. The shimmering new glass tower was redesigned by David Childs.

In an elaborate renegotiation of his 99-year lease to the towers, Silverstein agreed last month to shift control of the Freedom Tower, the 1776-foot building intended as the symbolic replacement of the Twin Towers, and another building to the Port Authority, while retaining control of three other buildings at ground zero.

MNA/Xinhua

The findings of a survey conducted by the Education Ministry and language commission were based on 900 million characters used in more than 8.9 million files chosen from newspapers, magazines, the Internet and television, the Xinhua news agency said. It did not give an

explanation for the survey results. China began simplifying its script after the Communist revolution in 1949, aiming to improve illiteracy from an estimated 80 per cent.

Written Chinese is made up of around 50,000 individual characters, whose main function is to represent meaning, not

pronunciation. The average university graduate, however, may know only about 6,000, as many characters are archaic and some found only once in the whole history of the written language, often describing the names of people, places or mythical beasts. MNA/Reuters

Fewer characters being used in written Chinese

BEIJING, 25 May — The Chinese media is using fewer characters and to understand 90 per cent of the content in publications you need only to know about 900 of the thousands of pictographs that make up the script, state media said on Tuesday.

Canada's software piracy rate down to 33%

OTTAWA, 25 May — Canada's software piracy rate dropped below the worldwide rate to place Canada among the 20 countries in the world with the lowest software piracy rates, a study released on Tuesday said.

The study by the Canadian Alliance Against Software Theft and the Business Software Alliance said Canada's software piracy rate decreased three percentage points from 36 per cent to 33 per cent in 2005, falling below the worldwide piracy rate, which remained stable at 35 per cent.

Losses to the Canadian economy due

to software piracy were 943 million Canadian dollars (848 million US dollars), down 166 million Canadian dollars from 2004, the groups said in a release.

The independent study, conducted by global market research and forecasting firm IDC, showed some improvements in a number of markets, the groups said.

However, losses from software piracy worldwide amounted to 41 billion Canadian dollars (37 US dollars) in 2005, an increase of 752 million Canadian dollars over the previous year, the study found.

MNA/Xinhua



San Marino's 250cc motorcycle rider Alex de Angelis (front) gestures on his Aprilia ahead of Hector Barbera of Spain on Aprilia during the second free practice for the 250cc motorcycle French Grand Prix at the Le Mans circuit in central France, on 19

May, 2006.

INTERNET

SPORTS

Aguirre signs one-year contract to coach Atletico Madrid

MADRID, 25 May—Atletico Madrid appointed former Osasuna boss Javier Aguirre as coach on a one-year contract on Wednesday.

"I am excited about the challenge and want to lead this club back to where they deserve to be — at the top in Spain and back in Europe," Aguirre told a news conference on Wednesday.

The 48-year-old Mexican stepped down as coach of Osasuna at the end of the season after leading the modest Navarrans into the Champions League for the first time with a fourth place finish in the Primera Liga.

Last June he took them to the final of the King's Cup where they lost 2-1 to Real Betis.

The former Mexico coach, who replaces Pepe Murcia, has been praised for his skilful management of limited resources and his ability to motivate players.

Atletico finished a disappointing 10th last season, two points behind city neighbours Getafe.

"I don't want to talk about the past and what has happened here," Aguirre said. "I want to take the pressure off the players so that they take to the pitch focused only on playing football." — MNA/Reuters

Oliveira back on song as Sao Paulo beat Palmeiras

RIO DE JANEIRO, 26 May — On-loan striker Ricardo Oliveira was in inspired form on Wednesday for Sao Paulo, who crushed local rivals Palmeiras 4-1 in the Brazilian championship.

Oliveira, who is expected to return to Spain's Real Betis in time for pre-season training in August, scored two clinical goals and forced an own-goal to push Palmeiras into the relegation zone.

Sao Paulo moved up to third spot on 15 points, one behind Cruzeiro who strengthened their lead in the championship by beating Ponte Preta 5-1.

Second-placed Fluminense had an emphatic 5-2 win at Fortaleza.

Sao Paulo have already inflicted two damaging defeats on Palmeiras this year, dumping their rivals out of South America's Libertadores Cup in the process.

Oliveira was on hand to inflict more pain and his cross-shot on five minutes forced full back Marcio Careca to head into his own goal.

Palmeiras responded positively, creating a number of chances before Marcio Careca forced home a rebound.

MNA/Reuters



British police urge World Cup fans not to visit prostitutes

SHEFFIELD (England), 26 May — British police are urging soccer fans heading for the World Cup to think twice before visiting prostitutes in Germany as many of the women may have been forced into sex slavery.

Grahame Maxwell, the head of a Britain-wide operation against people-trafficking, said police had written to soccer club magazines to warn fans the prostitutes could have been coerced or kidnapped.

His officers were sharing information with German police on sex traffickers, who they expect will try to cash in on a rise in demand for prostitutes during next month's tournament.

"We feel there might be

100,000 fans going from the UK to Germany and it's for us to raise awareness among them that there could be trafficked women there," said Maxwell, Deputy Chief Constable of South Yorkshire police.

Up to 40,000 women are at risk of enforced prostitution in Germany during the championship, media have reported. Organizers expect at least 3 million fans to attend the World Cup.

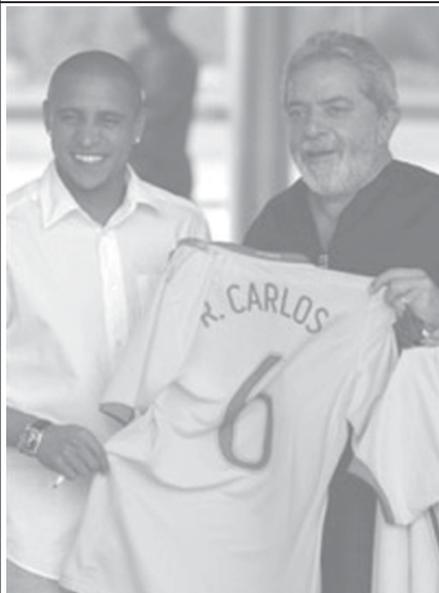
German police are worried that the huge inflow of fans — most of them young men — will increase demand for prostitution, Maxwell told Reuters.

If the supply of sex workers in Germany, where prostitution is legal, cannot meet World Cup demand, traffickers will smuggle more women

into the country to meet the shortfall, he added.

Youth television channel MTV, which has enlisted the support of Hollywood actress Angelina Jolie in its own anti-trafficking campaign, is working with British police on information leaflets to be distributed at British and German airports and hotels. Human rights and religious groups have also raised concerns about forced prostitution during the tournament.

Amnesty International has called on European countries to ratify the European convention against human trafficking, which sets out a legal framework for the prosecution of traffickers and the protection of victims. — MNA/Reuters



Real Madrid's Roberto Carlos, left, gives a Brazilian soccer team jersey to Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, during a meeting at the official presidential residence, Alvorada Palace, in Brasilia, Brazil, on 20 May, 2006. — INTERNET

Coupet storms out after Barthez dispute

TIGNES (France), 26 May — Reserve goalkeeper Gregory Coupet stormed out of France's pre-World Cup training camp after a dispute over rival Fabien Barthez, before deciding to return.

"There was indeed a problem," coach Raymond Domenech, who made Barthez his number one ahead of Coupet, told a news conference on Thursday.

"Gregory Coupet had the blues for a moment. He cracked. Such things can happen."

Domenech said Coupet left the camp in the French Alps resort of Tignes with his family and luggage on Wednesday before changing his mind and returning to the team hotel.

"He decided to come back," Domenech said. "It all lasted 30 minutes. No-

body is making a big fuss about it, we had an explanation.

"You have to understand that the France team is more important than the interests of any individual. The problem has been sorted."

A source close to the team said Coupet had argued with Domenech. The Olympique Lyon goalkeeper was apparently upset because Barthez failed to complete a hike up an Alpine glacier, saying he had a sore calf.

Barthez and Coupet took part in a training session on Thursday, hardly talking to each other.

"It's a good thing this has happened now (and not later)," France defender Lilian Thuram told reporters.

"Had it lasted, it could have got worse and damaged the atmosphere in the squad.

"Everybody can understand Greg. He is a competitor and it's normal that he finds it difficult to accept being the number two.

Domenech said when he named his 23-man squad earlier this month that Olympique Marseille's Barthez would be France's number one goalkeeper at the World Cup ahead of Coupet.

A prominent member of the Olympique Lyon side that won a record fifth successive Ligue 1 title and reached the Champions League quarterfinals last season, Coupet had said that he felt he should be the number one.

MNA/Reuters

Skoko strike gives Australia 1-0 victory

MELBOURNE, 26 May — Australia began their World Cup preparations on Thursday with a 1-0 victory over European champions Greece before a record soccer crowd at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Josip Skoko's 15th-minute volley separated the sides and the Socceroos showed enough technical ability and tactical nous to suggest they will not just be making up the numbers in their first finals appearance for 32 years next month.

"I enjoyed the goal but we've got a long way to

go," Skoko said in a televised interview.

"If you take into consideration the tough programme we've had over the last few days, we did okay. There were a few very tired boys out there. We will have to train hard from now on."

After Skoko had a 10th-minute effort blocked, the Wigan midfielder broke the deadlock five minutes later.

The ball broke loose from Marco Bresciano's corner and Mile Sterjovski's cushioned header allowed Skoko to hit a floating left-foot volley into the top corner from 20 metres.

Bresciano's 24th-minute free kick shaved the outside of Antonios Nikopolidis' post and Sterjovski forced a low save from the keeper three minutes later. Greece

looked a pale imitation of the side that lifted the European title in Lisbon 22 months ago, with their best effort of the half going to Angelos Charisteas who spooned over the bar after nine minutes.

Otto Rehhagel's side picked up after the break, roared on by a huge contingent from the city's Greek community who helped set a stadium attendance record for soccer of 95,103.

Charisteas went close with a header and two long-range efforts from substitute Panagiotis Lagos just missed the target. Skipper Theo Zagorakis blasted high and wide on 69 minutes moments before Sterjovski was inches away from heading Australia's second. — MNA/Reuters

Indy Racing League driver Kosuke Matsushita, of Japan, pulls into the pit area during practice for the 90th running of the Indianapolis 500 at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, on 18 May, 2006 in Indianapolis.

INTERNET

South Asian meeting on human trafficking concludes

KATHAMANDU, 26 May—The high-level meeting of South Asian Region (SAR) on human trafficking and HIV/AIDS concluded on Wednesday by expressing consensus on various topics, state-run Radio Nepal reported on Thursday.

"The meeting agreed to monitor the programmes carried out against human trafficking and HIV/AIDS which are the common problems of SAR and to formulate and implement gender-sensitive policies for that purpose," the radio reported.

The meeting suggested that those in the policy-making level should give special attention to address the burgeoning problems like poverty, vulnerability, discrimination and gender violence which are the main causes for the increasing number of HIV/AIDS infected women and children.

The three-day meeting was jointly organized by United Nations Development Programme Regional Centre in Colombo and South Asia Regional Office of United Nations Development

Fund for Women.

The meeting was participated in by the representatives of the governments, the judiciaries and police organizations of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation member countries including Nepal, Pakistan, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Afghanistan as well as the representatives of the HIV/AIDS infected persons.

Experts at the meeting said that about 100,000 people are trafficked annually in SAR.

Majority of the trafficked are young women and girls and many of them are trafficked for the purpose of exploitation and prostitution.

Human trafficking in SAR has taken many forms and occurs for a variety of purpose like organ transplant, bonded labor, domestic servitude, sex trade, hazardous labour, marriage, illegal adoption and pornography, the radio reported.

MNA/Xinhua

New AIDS inhibitor produced in Belgium

BRUSSELS, 26 May— The production of a new AIDS inhibitor has started at Janssen Pharmaceutica near Belgium's port city Antwerp, VRT News reported on Wednesday.

It is the first time that such a drug has been developed and produced in Belgium.

The latest breakthrough in the treatment of AIDS was developed by both Janssen Pharmaceutica and its sister company Tibotec.

VRT news reported that the new AIDS inhibiting drug sets itself apart from existing HIV medi-

cine by its ability to treat more resistant forms of the virus.

Existing AIDS inhibitors are currently used in conjunction with other anti-HIV drugs.

This combination therapy has proved successful in blocking the reproduction of the HIV virus in a patient's blood.

Inhibitors prevent T-cells that have been in-

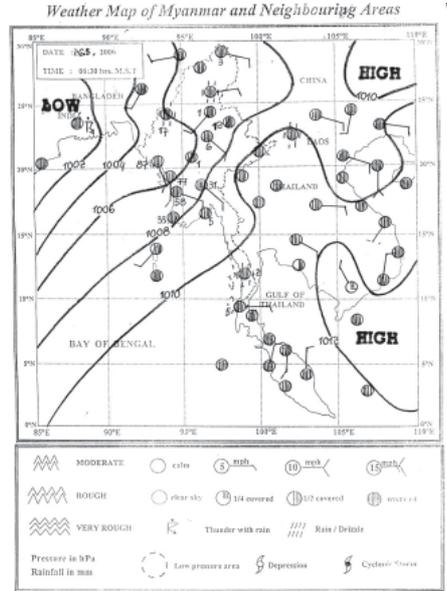
fectured with HIV from producing new copies of the virus.

Unfortunately, many patients have built up a resistance to the treatment as new strains of the virus adapt.

According to Stef Heylen from Tibotec, existing AIDS inhibitors now have little or no effect.

With this latest drug, even long term patients can be treated with success.

It was reported that distribution licence applications have already been made with both European and American authorities.—MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Friday, 26 May, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayin and Mon States, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah State and Magway Division, fairly widespread in Yangon Division and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfall in Rakhine State. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Shan and Rakhine States, Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) below normal in Sagaing Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperature was Hkamti (37°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Maungdaw (6.54) inches, Kyaukpyu (3.19) inches, Kyauktaw (2.87) inches, Tharrawady and Machan Baw (2.40) inches each, Thandwe (2.28) inches, Sittwe (1.61) inches, Aunglan and Nay Pyi Taw (0.75) inch each.

Maximum temperature on 25-5-2006 was 86°F. Minimum humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 26-5-2006 was (85%). Total sunshine hours on 25-5-2006 was (0.7) hour approx.

Rainfalls on 26-5-2006 were (0.15) inch at Mingaladon, (0.20) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.28) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (14.21) inches at Mingaladon, (17.60) inches at Kaba-Aye and (19.02) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from South at (15:30) hours MST on 25-5-2006.

Bay inference: Moonsoon is vigorous in the North and Central Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 27-5-2006: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Mon, Kayin, Kayah and Shan States, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Bago Divisions and fairly widespread to widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough sea are likely at times off and along Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) to (45) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 27-5-2006: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 27-5-2006: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 27-5-2006: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Weather outlook for first weekend of June 2006: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Yangon Division and isolated in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division.

Saturday, 27 May
View on today

7:00 am
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am
5. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:05 am
6. ဝန်းလှိုင်တံတား

8:15 am
7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am
8. International news

8:45 am
9. Happy and Educational English Summer Course MRTV

11:00 am
1. Martial songs

11:15 am
2. Musical programme

11:30 am
3. News

11:40 am
4. Games for children

12:05 pm
5. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းအဘတ်လမ်းတွဲ "Doraemon"

12:20 pm
6. ကြားမြင်သုတပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပဒေသာ

12:30 pm
7. "ရှင်ဆောင်း ကျောင်းရောက်ပြီ" (ကြည့်နိုး၊ ထူးသော ချောနုစင်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ခင်စော်-ကောသိယနီ)

12:50 pm
8. ရွှေညောင်ကန် ကရိုက်ပြောချော

1:00 pm
9. Dance of national races

1:30 pm
10. ရွှေညောင်-တောင်ကြီး-ဆိုက်ခေါင်-နန်စန်-မိုးနဲ ရထားလမ်းသစ်

1:45 pm
11. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

1:55 pm
12. "မမြင်ကွယ်ရာ" (မောင်မောင်မျိုးသန့်၊ မတူး၊ မောင်မောင်မြင့်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မိုးဟိန်း-မန်းတက္ကသိုလ်)

2:05 pm
13. ကံတော်ဘီးလင်း ရေလှောင်တစ်

2:20 pm
14. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:30 pm
15. အာရှ ဘီလီယံဂျွန်ပီယံ ပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:45 pm
16. International news

4:00 pm
1. Martial songs

4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm
3. English for everyday use

4:45 pm
4. Musical programme

4:55 pm
5. အစောဆုံးတက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -တတ်ယူနစ် (သန့်ရာအုပ်ချုပ်)

5:10 pm
6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:15 pm
7. နာဝင်ပီယံသူလက်သံ

5:20 pm
8. "ဒီဆိုတီအက်စ်" (ဖိုးဖြူ၊ ကျော်ထွေး၊ နိုင်သင်းကြည်၊ ကြွကြွလင်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သိန်းဟန်)

5:30 pm
9. Musical programme

5:40 pm
10. Games for children

6:00 pm
11. Evening news

6:30 pm
12. Weather report

6:35 pm
13. Discovery

6:50 pm
14. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

6:55 pm
15. Musical programme

7:10 pm
16. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "ကံတော်ဘီးလင်းအိပ်မက်" (အဆိုင်း-၁၇)

8:00 pm
17. News

8:10 pm
18. International news

8:20 pm
19. Weather report

8:30 pm
20. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်မိပြီဆိုရင်" (အဆိုင်း-၄၇)

8:40 pm
21. The next day's programme

Saturday, 27 May
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music:
-You ought to know

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music:
-All I ever need is you

8:50 am National news / Slogan

9:00 am Music:
-I am every woman

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music:
-Smooth operator

1:30 pm News / Slogan

1:40 pm Lunch time music:
-It's so easy

9:00 pm ASEAN news review
-Exchange news from ASEAN member countries

9:10 pm Article

9:20 pm Myanmar culture by Dr Khin Maung Nyunt Urban heritage in Yangon Part II

9:30 pm Souvenirs

9:45 pm News / Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

Ministries concerned are to strive for exhibiting value-added wood products and jade and gem products at international trade fairs

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of 2006 in accord with the guidance given by the Head of State on establishment of the jade and gems market in Yangon, mutual interests of the State and gem entrepreneurs and gems production to be in conformity with the sales of gems. He continued his reports on arrangements for organizing the Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales 2006 at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road and Myanma Gems Mart from 20 June to 4 July 2006, sales of jade, gems and pearl in foreign currency and kyats, invitations to gem merchants abroad and local entrepreneurs, preparations for displaying jade, gems and pearl lots, sales of uncut jade stones in previous sales, holding of

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Vice-Senior General Maung Aye views jade lots at the reception hall of Myanmar Convention Centre. — MNA

Agricultural, forestry and livestock and fishery sectors need high technology to realize the State's objectives

Fifth AGM, sixth Research Conference of MAAFLFS commences



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein addresses opening of Fifth Annual General Meeting and the Sixth Research Conference of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences. — MNA



YANGON, 26 May — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein addressed the opening of the Fifth Annual General Meeting and the Sixth Research Conference of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences this morning at Yangon International Business Centre.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office, departmental heads, executives and academics of the Academy, chairmen of Myanmar Academy of

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INSIDE

All pest killers have their own instructions every user must follow strictly. In the instructions state the period between the last spraying and the harvesting for producing residue-free crops.

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KO YE (AGRICULTURE)