Me NEW LIGHT OF MYANM

Volume XIV, Number 42

2nd Waxing of Nayon 1368 ME

Sunday, 28 May, 2006

Four political objectives

- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and
- 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
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San attend ceremony to honour 73 Sasana Arzanis of Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination

members of the Sangha who passed the oral and writing Pasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hill, here, this morning. sessions of the 58th Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination conducted by the Ministry of Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

Yangon, 27 May — A ceremony to honour 73 | Religious Affairs was held on a grand scale at Maha

Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development

Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San attended the ceremony. Also present on the occasion were Chairman of the

State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara and member Sayadaws, Ovadaçariya Sayadaws of Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination, Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Sayadaws, examination supervisor Sayadaws, Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Mvint Oo of the Ministry of Defence, members of the SPDC and their wives, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commanderin-Chief (Air), senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon Mayor and their wives, deputy ministers, the director-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office, authorities concerned, officials of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, disciples, wellwishers and guests.

Successful candidates in the examination were two Digha Nikayakovida monks, one Vinayakovida, seven Ubhato Vibhangakovida, two Mula Arbhidhammika, one Dighabhanaka, 18 Vinayadhara and 42 Ubhato Vibhangadhara, totalling 73.

(See page 16)



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San and party taking Five Precepts from Mawlamyine Webyan Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vijayabhivamsa. — MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 28 May, 2006

Prevent DHF with enhanced health awareness

Everyone is required to stay healthy and fit. In an effort to carry out health care services, prevention of diseases is imperative.

Nowadays, with the advent of rainy season, the outbreak of Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever, diarrhoea, dysentery, cold and other illnesses can be possible any time. This being so, necessary preventive measures including the eating habits and living style are to be taken seriously. In this regard, mass activities on prevention against DHF are being launched township-wise.

Man can be infected with DHF after being bitten by mosquitoes that breed in clean water. In order to stop breeding of larvae in the environs of the house and protect children being bitten by mosquitoes, it is necessary to properly cover tanks and water pots, change water in water pots daily, filter larvae out of tanks and water pots, keep the environs of the house clean, open windows at day time and keep children sleep in mosquito nets are with health awareness.

In the meantine, the people are to engage in sanitation works such as ensuring proper drainage, clearing of bushes so that flies and mosquitoes cannot cling on and chlorinating wells and lakes are to be carried out with a sense of duty.

Moreover, the entire national people are to follow the reminders on health and educative mottoes of the Ministry of Health. In taking disease prevention measures, the active participation of the people is vital. With enhanced health awareness of the people coupled with proper preventive measure they will be able to enjoy health, fitness and longevity.

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ

လစဉ် လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)နှင့် နောက်ဆုံး ပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည့်ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ် များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ့ ဖြစ်သည်။

> ၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်မေလအတွက် နောက်ဆုံးပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) (၂၈–၅–၂၀၀၆)ရက်နေ့

၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်၊ ဇွန်လအတွက် (၁၁–၆–၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့ (၂၅–၆–၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့

People's Desire

- 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

Commander meets trainees of Yangon **Division for UDNR**



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win speaking at the meeting with trainees to UDNR.

YANGON, 27 May — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win met with trainees of Yangon Division who will attend the course No 41 of University for Development National Races, at the hall of Yangon Division PDC on Bank Road in Kyauktada Township yester- Hlaing spoke words of thanks. — MNA

day morning.

The MC introduced the trainees to the commander. The commander gave necessary instructions, and presented K 300,000 for 15 trainees through trainee Daw Ohn May.

On behalf of the trainees, trainee Ma Sabei

Construction, agricultural projects inspected in Lashio Township

Nay Pyı Taw, 26 May — Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Brig-Gen Aung Than Htut on 24 May visited Goktwin bridge project being undertaken by Asia World Co Ltd in Nawnghkio Township, Kyaukme District.

Project engineer U Chit Tun reported on the building of the 190-foot-long reinforced concrete facility. The commander gave instructions on the project and inspected the construction site.

He also inspected Mandalay-Lashio Union Highway Project and attended to the needs.

He attended the collective growing of physic nut plants on the 100-acre model farm at Nar Aik Khant Village in Kyaukme Township. The commander and officials planted physic nut saplings in the designated places. He encouraged the growing of physic nut saplings by local people and observed the operation of machinery with the use of physic nut oil.

Next, he inspected the physic nut nurseries and model farm of Kyaukme District PDC and Kyaukme Station.

He held a meeting with senior military officers of Kyaukme Station, officers and other ranks and families, and service personnel in Kyaukme Township. Afterwards, he inspected the 10-acre model field of Hsinshweli high-yield hybrid paddy in Kyaukme Station. He visited the Bawgyo Mokhtaw Pagoda in Hsipaw and donated K 100,000 to the trust funds of the pagoda. He also visited Yantaing Aung Pagoda being built in Lashio.

He inspected the 100-acre model physic nut farm of the command headquarters, perennial crop plantations, and physic nut farm in Lashio. - MNA

Myanmar delegation back from Qatar

YANGON, 27 May — A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint arrived back here by air this evening after attending the Fifth Asia Cooperation Dialogue Ministerial Meeting held in Doha, Qatar, on 23 and 24 May

The Myanmar delegation was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by directors-general and responsible officials of the Ministry of Foreign

Out of nineteen areas identified for cooperation, under the ACD framework, the Meeting, among others, focused on matters relating to energy security, financial stability in Asia, agriculture, tourism, eeducation, environmental education, information technology, natural disasters, poverty reduction, HRD and SMEs. While in Doha, Deputy Minister U Maung Myint called on His Highness Sheikh Tamin Bin Hamad Al Thani, Hier Apparent of the State of Qatar at his palace in the morning of 23 May 2006. — MNA



In memory of late U Sein Nyo, U Khin Aung Kyi-Daw Mya Mya Than and family of Mayangon Township recently donated K 100,000 to funds of Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Joint-Treasurer U Maung Maung Gyi. — н

Chavez welcomes MERCOSUR membership

CARACAS, 26 May — Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez welcomed on Wednesday his country's formal joining of the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR).



Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez

Achieving membership of MERCOSUR was "a fundamental step which we have worked for with dedication", Chavez told reporters here after Venezuela's acceptance was agreed upon in Buenos Aires, Argentina on Tuesday.

Venezuela was naturally suited to MERCOSUR "geographically, politically, economically and socially," he said, adding that Venezuela's membership helped create a new MERCOSUR which clearly had a leftist neo-liberal ideology. The timetable agreed upon at the Buenos Aires meeting required Venezuela to adopt the common rules of the bloc over four years, respect free trade within the group and to enforce common tariffs.

MERCOSUR — a trade bloc made up of Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Paraguay — indicated its support for Venezuela's membership at the end of last year.

The timetable has to be ratified by MERCOSUR'S presidents at a July summit. Argentina is now the bloc's acting leader, a role which rotates every six months.

Venezuela announced in April its withdrawal from another regional trade bloc, the Community of Andean Nations (CAN), citing its opposition to free trade agreements signed with the United States by members Peru and Colombia.

Venezuela has also decided to quit the Group of Three (G-3), which Venezuela had belonged to along with Mexico and Colombia since 1995. - MNA/Xinhua

In April, Egypt's

Parliament agreed a two-

year extension of an

emergency law, in force

since 1981, giving the

government power to detain

without charge and

MNA/Reuters

restricting civil liberties.

ထုတ်ကုန်နှစ်ဆ တိုး

China tightens controls on civil explosives

Beijing, 26 May — The Chinese Government on Wednesday issued stricter new controls and regulations on the civil use and storage of explosives after a series of accidental explosions in recent years.

The new Safety Control Regulations Regarding Civil Explosives, passed by the State Council, will come into effect on 1 September.

The new regulations are based on the 1984 regulations but comprehensively revised and amended so as to eliminate possible risks, said a State

The new regulations require:

- a government licence to produce, sell, purchase and transport explosives;
- bank transactions for the sale and purchase of explosives, with a ban on cash and barter transactions:
- storage in designated warehouses where smoking and combustible materials are banned, as are sleeping and other activities unrelated to its purpose.
- immediate police notification if the explosives are lost or stolen.

The government will also establish a database to monitor all transactions and movements of

All manufacturers, vendors and users are to establish a registration system that ensures timely recording the quantities and types of explosives and transfer of the information to the government database. - MNA/Xinhua

Egypt reckons US too needy to add bite to bark

CAIRO, 26 May - Egypt's rulers are ignoring US criticism of their crackdown on political opposition because they calculate that the Bush Administration desperately needs friends in the Middle East, critics and observers say.

The US Department has publicly criticized Egypt three times this month over its human rights record, its crushing of political dissent and a lack of reform.

But the rebukes lack teeth because they come with no threat of economic consequences, despite calls in the US Congress to reconsider the nearly two billion US dollars a year given to Egypt, more than to any other Arab country except Iraq.

Washington has made clear it does not want to cut aid, which might undercut

Egypt's role as an intermediary in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as a bulwark against radical Islam and as a friend in a hostile region.

The Egyptian authorities do not take seriously threats by Congress, which approves foreign aid, because it has made similar noises before without acting, analysts say. "The US is in deep trouble in places like Iraq, and potentially Iran... Not even its closest allies have time for it any more, and people are just biding time till the next Admini-

stration," political science professor Walid Kazziha

"There's an exchange of interest. The Egyptians need the Americans and the Americans need the Egyptians and the Egyptians realize this, so they're raising the price," he added.

In recent weeks Egyptian police have taken a much tougher approach street protests. Plainclothes security men have beaten, clubbed and detained people demonstrating in support of judges demanding independence from the executive.



A car moves in a street covered with water in Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui Province, on 25 May, 2006. A rainstorm hit Hefei on Thursday as well as some areas in North and South China.—XINHUA

Malaysia increases electricity prices first time in 9 years

Malaysia Wednesday announced an average increase of 12 per cent in electricity tariff, the first time since the year 1997. The Cabinet approved the price hike at a meeting Wednesday morning, said Energy, Water and Communications Minister Lim Keng Yaik, adding the new tariff will be effective as of June 1 in Peninsular Malaysia.

This move is in line with the government's policy on efficient utilization of energy resources, Lim told reporters in the administrative centre of Putrajaya.

Also, with the new tariff structure, the national energy company, Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB), will see its annual revenue increase by 1.5 billion ringgit (416.66 million US

Kuala $\vec{L}_{\text{UMPUR}}, 26 \, \text{May} \mid \text{dollars}), \text{ thus in a better}$ position to re-invest its existing infrastructure, said Lim. The TNB will take measures to improve reliability and quality of

supply in core areas such as generation, transmission and distribution during the 2006-2010 period, said Lim at a news conference. MNA/Xinhua

A farmer plants rice seedlings in a field at the outskirts of Amritsar, a city of India's northwest Punjab State, on 23 May, 2006. Annual summer monsoon rains — crucial for hundreds of millions of farmers— are expected on time around mid-June in northern India.—XINHUA

Death toll rises nearly 3,000 in Indonesia's earthquake

JAKARTA, 28 May — The death toll has reached nearly 3,000 in Saturday morning's powerful earthquake in Yogyakarta province and parts of Central Java, Indonesia, local police said. "According to data registered by Yogyakarta police, there were 1,240 people killed in Bantul, south of Yogyakarta and one of the most serious area. Besides, there were 101 people killed in Poltabes area, 55 people killed in Polres Sleman and 21 people in Polres Gunungkidul," a police spokesman Bambang Sampurna Jati was quoted by Antara news agency as saying. Sampurna said, at the movement the police is imposing Yogyakarta as warning status I and calling on the society to help each other to overcome the disaster. Yogyakarta, Indonesia's ancient royal capital and one of its biggest cities is about $440\,\mathrm{kilometres}$ south-east of the capital Jakarta. MNA/Xinhua

Iran says US cannot afford to start new crisis

ISLAMABAD, 26 May — Iran's Foreign Minister on Wednesday shrugged off mounting international pressure on his country to halt uranium enrichment work, saying the United States cannot afford to trigger "a new crisis" in the region.

Iranian Minister Manouchehr Mottaki, speaking to staterun Pakistan Television, said everybody wanted to avoid a new crisis in the volatile region.

"At the same time we believe that (the) United States is not in a position to impose a new crisis on smokescreen

Foreign taxpayers in the United developing States," he said, referring to the costly involvement of US forces in conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

> Iran is embroiled in a standoff with the West over its nuclear programme which Washington says is a

defends Mt Everest dilemma WELLINGTON, 26 May | a place known as the

NZ double amputee climber

New Zealand double amputee climber Mark Inglis defended Thursday himself on criticism from the world's most famous mountaineer, saving "nothing we could do for a dying climber" at Mount Everest. According to New Zealand media, Inglis is wary about returning to a storm of controversy in his country Thursday after a famous climber criticized climbers for failing to stop to help ill-equipped mountaineer David Sharp on their way to the summit.

Sir Edmund Hillary said Wednesday during an interview that Inglis "was wrong to leave British climber David Sharp to die" on the world's highest mountain last week.

Inglis became the first double amputee to conquer the world's highest mountain but on the way to the 8.848-metre summit, the team found British climber Sharp, 34, near death in a cave 300 metres below the summit,

"Death Zone". But Inglis said it "certainly wasn't a decision that I made" to leave Sharp 300 metres below the summit in a place as the "Death Zone.""Far more qualified people from our own team gave assistance ... to no avai-MNA/Xinhua

nuclear weapons.

Iran denies the charge and says its nuclear programme is aimed at generating nuclear power to meet its energy needs. Mottaki who arrived in Islamabad early on Wednesday for talks aimed at boosting trade ties with Pakistan, praised Pakistan for supporting a "logical approach" to resolve the row over Iran's nuclear programme.

"We have the common position to resolve this issue through negotiations in the framework of IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) and in a diplomatic way," he said after talks with Pakistani Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz. -MNA/Reuters

စက်မှုစွမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား



Wu Bangguo, Chairman of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress, shakes hands with the state governor of Volgograd of Russia at the airpot in Volgogard, Russia, on 26 May 2006.—INTERNET

Illegal FM radio stations banned in N-W Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 26 May Pakistan has banned 87 illegal frequency modulation radio stations in the country's North West

Frontier Province, authorities said Wednesday.

Spokesman for Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory

Muhammad Saleem said the stations were closed down in different parts of the province in the past three months.

Many of the banned FM stations were established by religious clerics in mosques and seminaries and were being used for preaching, according to authorities

They said that speeches through the illegal FM radios had been creating tension in several areas, and some rival religious clerics used the radio stations against each other, generating clannish clashes.

MNA/Xinhua

Cheney could be witness in CIA leak case

WASHINGTON, 26 May — Vice-President Dick Cheney could be called to testify in the CIA leak case involving his former chief of staff, a US prosecutor said in a pre-trial filing made on Wednesday.

Special Counsel Patrick Fitzgerald told a federal court that Cheney's handwritten notes on a newspaper article referring to Valerie Plame shortly before she was exposed as a CIA operative were uniquely relevant to the issues in the case.

Fitzgerald was referring to a 6 July, 2003, article written by Plame's husband, Bush Administration critic and former US ambassador Joseph

Shortly after the article appeared, the identity of Plame as a covert CIA operative was leaked to journalists. Fitzgerald is investigating who blew her cover.

"At the time, the Vice-President, rather than other potential witnesses, was upset that his personal credibility had been attacked unfairly in his view," Fitzgerald said.

Cheney's former aide, Lewis "Scooter" Libby was charged with obstruction of justice and lying to FBI agents and a grand jury during the investigation. He has pleaded not guilty to the charges and is scheduled to go to trial in

January.

In the court filing, Fitzgerald said Libby has acknowledged that the Vice-President directed him "to get out to the public all the facts" in response to the article.

"Therefore, the state of mind of the Vice-President as communicated to defendant is directly

relevant to the issue of whether defendant knowingly made false statements to federal agents and the grand jury regarding when and how he learned about Ms Wilson's employment and what he said to reporters regarding this issue," Fitzgerald said in the court filing.— MNA/Reuters

Power outage stops Washington-New York trains New York, 26 May $\,$ — A power $\,$ between New York and Washington

outage shut down train service between New York and Washington at rush hour on Thursday, stranding passengers in tunnels and forcing evacuations on some of the country's most travelled lines.

Power was partially restored along the corridor around 90 minutes after the outage began around 8 am national rail company Amtrak said in a statement.

Full trains running on electric lines went dark and came to a halt, passengers

"It just stopped," said public relations executive Liz Anklow, stuck on a New Jersey Transit train for two hours. "It started to get very hot in there" before railroad workers opened doors for ventilation.

There was no indication what caused the outage that affected Amtrak and several commuter rail operators.

Elwood King, a road foreman for Amtrak in Philadelphia, told Reuters power was back on for most of the line

except for a gap between Philadelphia a point near Trenton, New Jersey.

Five trains had been stuck in tunnels in New York and Baltimore, Amtrak said in a statement. Diesel locomotives removed four of them, and another diesel engine was on its way to rescue a train stuck in the Hudson River Tunnel, it said. A company spokesman declined to say how many passengers and trains were affected.

Amtrak said it had restored power between Washington and Perryville, Maryland about 40 miles (65 kilometres) north of Baltimore. It said it expected full power restored by 11:15 am.

"Trains are moving under their own power between those points, but train service on the remainder of the Northeast Corridor northward to New York remains stopped as Amtrak crews work to restore power on the remainder of the route," its statement said.

MNA/Reuters



Two men work on a pipeline recently. A proposed gas pipeline from Iran to Pakistan and India will not be affected if the United Nations imposes sanctions on Teheran over its controversial nuclear programme, an Iranian minister has said.—INTERNET

Not enough sleep associated with weight gain

NEW YORK, 26 May- Women who fail to get enough shut-eye each night risk gaining weight, a Cleveland-based researcher reported at a medical conference in San Diego today.

In a long-term study of \mid gain — 15 kilos, or 33 \mid likely to become obese middle-aged women, those who slept 5 hours or less each night were 32 per cent more likely to gain a significant amount of weight (adding 33 pounds or more) and 15 per cent more likely to become obese during 16 years of follow-up than women who slept 7 hours each

This level of weight

pounds - is "very clinically significant in terms of risk of diabetes and heart disease," Dr Sanjay Patel of Case Western Reserve University told Reuters Health.

Women who slept 6 hours nightly were 12 per cent more likely to experience major weight gain and 6 per cent more compared with those who slept 7 hours each night.

The 68,183 women in the study provided information in 1986 on their typical night's sleep and reported their weight every 2 years for 16 years. The findings were presented at the American Thoracic Society's International Conference.

Women who said they

slept for 5 hours or less each night, on average, weighed 5.4 pounds more at the beginning of the study than those sleeping 7 hours.

After accounting for the influence of age and weight at the beginning of the study, women who slept 5 hours or less each night gained about 2.3 pounds more during follow-up than those who slept 7 hours nightly. Women who got 6 hours of shut-eye each night gained 1.5 pounds more than those who slept 7 hours nightly.

The researchers analyzed the diets and physical activity levels of the women, but failed to find any differences that could explain why women who slept less weighed more. "We actually found that women who slept less, ate less," Patel said.

"In terms of exercise, we saw a small difference in that women who slept less exercised slightly less than women who slept more but it didn't explain the magnitude of our findings," Patel said.

MNA/Reuters



An Israeli chef cooks a 25-meter (82 feet) sausage in a restaurant at Herzliya near Tel Aviv on 30 April, 2006. The sausage was made with the help of 8 people during 4 hours it was made out of 20 kg (44 lbs) of meat, 3 kg (6.6 lbs) of fat and 4 kg (8.8 lbs) of spices.—Internet

Chinese scientists' code of conduct drafted to curb research fraud

A female white kangaroo with her baby in her

pouch plays in Hangzhou Wild Animals World in

Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang

Province on 24 May, 2006. —XINHUA

Beijing, 26 May—Chinese scientists have drawn up a professional code of conduct designed to prevent fraud that led to the sacking of a leading Shanghai scientist for faking research on a new computer chip earlier this month.

The code will apply to the 4 million members of the China Association of Science and Technology (CAST), which is holding its seventh national conference in Beijing.

"This code should contain the impetuous atmosphere in some academic circles," said CAST president Zhou Guangzhao at Wednesday's conference.

Zhou cited the fake Hanxin digital signal processing chip claimed to have been developed by Chen Jin, who formerly chaired the Microelectronics School at Shanghai Jiaotong University.

MNA/Xinhua

Br MoD agrees sexual harassment "widespread" in Armed Forces

London, 26 May - Britain's Ministry of Defence (MoD) agreed an urgent plan on Thursday to tackle sexual harassment in the Armed Forces after admitting it was a serious and widespread problem.

Independent research of sexualized behaviour. found that 99 per cent of servicewomen had been in situations in the previous year where "sexualized behaviour", ranging from jokes to assaults, had taken place.

"As this report sets out. there are serious issues we need to address," Defence Secretary Des Browne said in a statement.

Around 8 per cent of Britain's Armed Forces are women, with the highest proportion, 8.9 per cent, in the Royal Air Force. The survey was carried out following a deal last June with the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) which agreed in return to suspend a formal investigation into sexual harassment in the Armed Forces.

The research found 15 per cent of the 9,384 respondents said they had suffered a "particularly upsetting" experience and 67 per cent had personally been on the receiving end

More than half found the behaviour offensive.

The MoD said it had agreed to put new measures in place to deal with the problem.

It promised an improved complaints procedure, after many servicewomen said they were dissatisfied with the current one, and vowed to cut the overall number of reports of unwanted sexual behaviour.

"It is clear from the research we have conducted that we have a problem with which we must deal urgently," said Air Chief Marshal Jock Stirrup, Chief of the Defence Staff.

Acknowledging there was a problem was an important first step.

"This is not about political correctness," he said. "Our success as Armed Forces depends fundamentally on respect, trust and mutual interdependence.

"Anything that needed. weakens those bonds of trust and respect weakens us as a fighting force. Harassment does just that, so it is crucial that we deal with it."

The EOC said it would monitor the ministry's progress until June 2008 when it will decide whether further action is

"The MoD has undertaken valuable research to discover the true extent of the issues it faces, and we welcome the leadership and determination that they have shown to tackle the problem," said EOC chairman Jenny Watson.

MNA/Reuters

Malaysia to set up road safety departments in all states

KHALA LUMPUR 26 May- The Malaysian Government has agreed to establish Road Safety Departments (RSD) in all

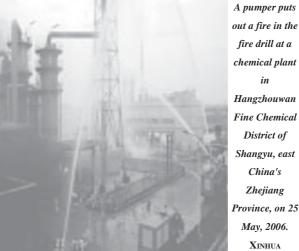
states, Transport Minister Chan Kong Choy said on Wednesday.

The establishment of state-level RSDs, which are expected to begin operations this July, aims facilitate to implementation of road safety programmes nationwide. Chan told reporters.

Chan also expressed his hope that the RSD will work closely with other related agencies such as the Road Safety Council, Transport Road Department and the police.

The federal government set up the central RSD in September 2004 in line with its commitment to improving road safety in this country. MNA/Xinhua





Thriving oil palm plantations

Kyi Tin (MPCE)

It was after the 15th Century that oil palm Elaeis guineensis started to spread from its native, Guinea in West Africa Southeast Asia, Latin America and equatorial regions.

Myanmar set up her earliest oil palm plantations in lower Myanmar and Rakhine State in 1921, but most of them vanished later, 1960. During the period from 1972 to 1983, the nation grew 18,410 acres of oil palm as an import substitute crop because the nation had to import 150,000 tons of cooking oil every year.

Local food and industrial raw material sufficiency and export promotion are the objectives Myanmar has been trying to realise as an agro-based country. except the 283 acres in | As regards the cooking 2010 when the nation's population touches the 60-million mark from the year 2000 population of 50.12 million. At production volume of edible oil which is at 200,000 tons per year, the nation will have to import palm oil between 150,000 and 200,000 tons.

A special project was laid to put 53,500 acres of land under oil palm in Taninthayi



Thriving oil palms in an oil palm farm.

import of quality seeds.

December 2000, and

Ekani seed bank in

October 2005.

entrepreneurs running small, medium and large oil palm farms.

development reinforced with the opening of an applied research centre in Shwedu, Myeik Township. Taninthayi Division, in

> In accordance with market economy, the government has been organizing more national entrepreneurs and local people for sown acreage extension and enabling them to get access to more financial and technical assistance. From 31 March 2004 to date, the government has issued loans of over K 4.4 billion to national entrepreneurs companies for their farms and factories.

Oil palm starts to bear fruit at the age of three. The Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise of Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is now running a 10-ton daily capacity palm purifying factory in Thingangyun, Yangon, and an oil factory milling

1.5 tons of oil palm fruits per hour at Ingabo in Kyaikto Township, Mon State. Yuzana Company owned by a national entrepreneur is operating a mill producing 30 tons of crude palm oil every

On both sides of the highway passing Taninthayi Division to Yangon Kawthoung, which in the past was accessible only by air and by boat, are the thriving large-scale oil palm fields almost touching the horizon. Entrepreneurs 163,048 acres of farms under oil palm in the division during the period from 2001 to May 2006.

MPCE can now produce a hybrid strain that yields fruits 12 to 13 per cent more than the local species and has greater pest-resistance. The enterprise's sevenyear hybrid farm is now yielding oil palm fruits. MPCE is distributing up to 7.5 million hybrid seeds per year at K 150 per seed. (Translation: TMT)

Myanma Alin: 27-5-2006

In accordance with market economy, the government has been organizing more national entrepreneurs and local people for sown acreage extension and enabling them to get access to more financial and technical assistance. From 31 March 2004 to date, the government has issued loans of over K 4.4 billion to national entrepreneurs and companies for their farms and factories.

Township, Taninthayi Division, that are still thriving at the farm established in

Myanmar turned to oil palm again in

oil, the country is still | Division during the relying on imports to meet the domestic demand. Myanmar's annual local edible oil demand will reach

450,000 metric tons in

period from 1994 to 1999 with the participation of national entrepreneurs. Thanks to the project, the division emergence of national

An oil palm nursery seen in an oil palm farm.

Final target is to cultivate 500,000 acres of oil palm in Taninthayi Division where the crop grows best in Myanmar. Senior officials toured the division from 6 to 10 February 1999 to make arrangements for the convenience of the entrepreneurs engaged in the project.

In 1998, Myanmar began to produce and distribute quality oil palm seeds the research division of the Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise had discovered, ending her

Secretary-1 receives Chinese Deputy Minister for Public Security

YANGON, 27 May - Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein received a Chinese delegation led by Deputy Minister for Public Security Deputy Commissioner for National Drug Abuse Control Commission of the People's Republic of China Mr Zhang Xinfeng at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinttha, here, this evening.

Also present at the call were Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Phone Swe, Director-General Col Kyaw Kyaw Win of the SPDC's Office, Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of Protocol Department and officials.

The Chinese delegation was accompanied by Chinese Ambassador Mr Guan Mu.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein receives Deputy Minister for Public Security Deputy Commissioner for National Drug Abuse Control Commission of the People's Republic of China Mr Zhang Xinfeng. - MNA



Minister for Home Affairs receives Chinese **Deputy Minister for Public Security**

YANGON, 27 May-Visiting Deputy Minister for Public Security Deputy Commissioner for National Drug Abuse Control Commission of the PRC Mr Zhang on Chairman of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo at Drugs Elimination Museum at the corner of Hanthawady and Kyundaw Streets in Kamayut Township this evening. Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Phone Swe. Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs

departmental heads and guests

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe and Chinese Deputy Minister for Public Security Mr Zhang Xinfeng and party called Xinfeng inked the agreement on prevention of drug abuse and illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances between the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China, and an MoU on survey of poppy cultivation in northern region of Myanmar with the help of satellite photos between CCDAC and NDACC. and they exchanged the documents.

Next, the ceremony Brig-Gen Than Tun, to hand over materials

from the People's Republic of China to Myanmar Police Force followed.

This morning, the Chinese delegation led by Deputy Minister for Public Security Deputy Commissioner National Drug Abuse Control Commission of the People's Republic of China Mr Zhang Xinfeng visited Drugs Elimination Museum in Kamavut Township. Member of CCDAC Deputy Minister Secretary Police Colonel Kham Aung and officials conducted around them. The Chinese Deputy Minister signed the visitor's book. Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Phone Swe presented the brooch of the museum to the guests, and they took a documentary photo.

In the evening. Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo hosted a dinner to the visiting delegation at Karaweik Palace.

Minister inspects functions of hotels in Yangon

YANGON, 27 May— Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, accompanied by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu and officials, yesterday met with staff members of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism at the training hall of Myanma Hotels and Tourism Service on Bo Sun Pet Street here and gave necessary instructions.

Next, the minister proceeded to the Myanma

Hotels and Tourism Service (Head Office) where he met with service personnel and heard a report presented by an official on the salient points of the Strand Hotel.

During his inspection of Sedona Hotel, Mikasa Hotel and Dusit Inya Lake Hotel, the minister heard reports presented by the relevant managers on functions of those hotels and attended to the needs.

On arrival at the transport division of MHTS, Deputy General Manager U Myint Oo reported on work being carried out to the minister. Later, the minister stressed the need for safety of passengers, providing good service generating more income.—MNA

Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing meets employees of the ministry.

Hydel power projects in Bago Division under supervision

YANGON, 27 May-Minister for Electric Power No (1) Col Zaw Min and Deputy Minister U Myo Myint inspected Yenwe Hydel Power Project on the right side of Yenwe Creek, 2.5 miles west of Kyaukdaga Township in Bago Division on 25 May.

On completion, Yenwe Hydel Power Plan will be able to generate 123 million kwh yearly.

The minister also visited Shwekyin Hydel Power Project on Shwekyin Creek near Kyaukkyi Village, about six miles north-east of Shwekyin. Officials reported on work progress and future plans. The deputy minister gave a supplementary report. The commander inspected the construction site and fulfilled the

requirements. completion, the project will generate about 262 million kwh yearly.

Next, he inspected the electric power training centre under the ministry in Hlinethaya, Htantabin Township. He met with the principal. teachers and trainees. He also inspected the mess, hostel and sports ground of the centre.



၂၀၀၆–၂၀၀႖ ပညာသင်နှစ် ကျောင်းအပ်နှံရေးသီတင်းပတ် မေလ ၂၅ ရက်မှ ၃၁ ရက် အထိ

မြို့နယ်ကျောင်းအဝ်နှံရေးနေ့မှစ၍ ကျောင်းသုံးဖတ်စာအုပ်များကို ကျောင်းများတွင် ကောင်းချပေးမည်။



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San attend ceremony to honour 73 Sasana **Arzanis** of Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida **Selection Examination**



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye offers alms to a Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Title recipient Sayadaw. — MNA

(from page 16) and Sayadaws had compiled 18 volumes of Tipitaka Pali-Myanmar

are being made for completion of the remaining four volumes. At present, five groups of well-Dictionary, and efforts versed members of the

Sangha and lay persons are making preparations to translate Tipitaka Pali-Myanmar Dictionary into English version one. A



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents offertories to a Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Title recipient Sayadaw. — MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win presents offertories to a Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Title recipient Sayadaw. — MNA

total of 73 members of the Sangha passed the Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination held from

the last week of December 2005 to January 2006. Therefore, the Government and the people have the opportunities

to pay homage to the Sasana Arzani monks and to perform missionary

(See page 10)



Ceremony to honour Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Title recipient Sayadaws and confer certificates on title recipient Sayadaws in progress. — MNA

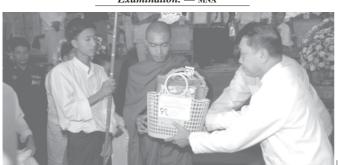
Daw Mya Mya San offers provisions to a Sayadaw who passed Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination. — MNA



Daw Khin Khin Win presents offertories to a Sayadaw who passed Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination. — MNA



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo offers donations to a monk who passed Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination. — MNA



Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint presents alms to a monk who passed Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination. — MNA



Attorney-General U Aye Maung donates offertories to a monk who passed Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San attend ceremony to honour 73 Sasana Arzanis of Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination



Daw Than Than Nwe donates alms to a Sayadaw who passed Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination. — MNA



Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe donates provisions to a monk who passed Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination. — MNA



Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung offers donations to a monk who passed Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination. — MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung presents alms to a monk who passed Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination. — MNA



Chairman Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara delivers a sermon.—MNA

certificates of Dighanikaya Kovida title to Ashin Candana of Tipitaka Maha Gandawin Monastery of Dagon Myothit (East) Township, Ashin Çakkinda and Ashin Kosalla of Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery of Momeik Hill in Mingun, Sagaing.



Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein presents offertories to a Sayadaw.

Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein offered certificates of Vinavadhara to four members of the Sangha and Ubhato Vibhangakovida title to one monk.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Maj-Gen Myint



Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein presents certificate of religious title to a monk. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San attend ceremony to honour 73 Sasana Arzanis of Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination...

(from page 8)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye offered certificates of Mula Arbhidhammika title to Ashin Silaçara of Tipitaka Monastery of Dagon Township and Ashin Sunanda of Pyinsanikaya Sasana Beikman Monastery of Yankin Township.

Prime Minister General Soe Win presented



Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing of Ministry of Defence offers alms to a Sayadaw.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein offered certificates of Vinavadhara title to four monks and certificates of Vinayakovida title to one monk

Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein persented certificates of Vinayadhara title to five members of the Sangha each.



Maj-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence offers certificate of Ubhato Vibhangadhara to a Savadaw.—MNA

Development affairs tasks coordinated

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May-A meeting to coordinate work on acceleration of development affairs tasks for 2006-2007 fiscal year took place at the ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt in his speech said that in 2005-2006 fiscal year, the ministry constructed 197 miles of urban roads, 2,084 miles of rural roads, 266 bridges in urban areas, 1,055 bridges in rural areas. In addition, in the same period, the ministry implemented 1,112 projects in 560 villages in Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay divisions, and 1,549 projects in 1,153 villages in the remaining states and divisions. He called for maintenance of tube-wells for their duration.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Tun reported on tasks for development of border areas and national races, matters on youth development centres under the Education and Training Department and vocational training centres for women, and Deputy Minister Col Tin Ngwe on requirements in the engineering sector of development affairs committees and quality control. Director-General of the Progress of Border Areas

and National Races Department U Than Swe and Director-General of the Education and Training Department U Than Win dealt with tasks for development of border areas and national races and youth training centres, and Managing Director of the Development Affairs Bank Ltd U Myo Win with banking services.

Managing Director U Myo Myint presented the report on development affairs tasks. Directors of respective state and division development affairs departments on work progress.

In the afternoon session, directors and deputy superintending engineers reported on work done by respective state and division development affairs departments and staff officers of township development affairs departments on accomplishment of tasks township-wise. Deputy directors-general of development affairs departments assessed the reports and discussed the requirements.

The minister delivered closing remarks.

MNA

Hlaing and Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung and Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung presented certificates of Ubhato Vibangadhara title to six members of the Sangha each.

Secretary of the SSMNC Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Nyaungdon Sayadaw Bhaddanta Osadhabhivamsa delivered a sermon, and Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San and party shared merits gained. Next, the ceremony ended with three-time recitation of Buddha Sasanam Ciram Titthatu.

After the ceremony, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San together with the congregation offered alms and provisions to the Savadaws. -MNA



Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung supplicates on religious affairs.

Myanmar Women Football team leaves for Vietnam

YANGON, 27 May — Myanmar women football team led by Dr Pandora Aung Gyi this morning left here by air for Vietnam to take part in Women Football Championship 2006 of ASEAN Football Federation to be held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam from 29 May to

There are 25 team members including Daw Myat Myat Oo, executive of Myanmar Football Fed-

The team was seen off at Yangon International Airport by President U Zaw Zaw of MFF and officials.

PPE aims to develop literary and printing works

Cash assistance, exercise books provided to children of staff of Information Ministry

Nay Pyi Taw, 27 May — The 34th Anniversary of Printing and Publishing Enterprise was held in conjunction with the ceremony to provide exercise books and cash assistance to children of staff for 2006-07 academic year at the hall of the Ministry of Information in Nav Pvi Taw this morning.

On behalf of the Minister for Information, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein delivered an address. He said that today's ceremony was the anniversary of Printing and Publishing Enterprise as well as the ceremony to provide cash assistance and exercise books to children of staff from departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Information. As PPE's aim is to develop literary and printing works, it is necessary to increase income of the State through printing works. PPE had performed the tasks to ensure uplift of Myanmar literature by selecting and presenting Life-long National Literary Award, National Literary Award, Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award and Pakokku U Ohn Pe Life-long Literary Award to the winners. Furthermore, the enterprise organized the paper-reading sessions and the book fairs. Likewise, the PPE carried out printing tasks in observing the ceremonies to mark the significant days such as the Independence Day, the Union Day, the Armed Forces



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein presents prize to an outstanding employee. — MNA



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein addresses the ceremony to mark 34th Anniversary of Printing and Publishing Enterprise. — MNA

Day, and the Anniversary of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, and at the National Convention and offices of the government.

The deputy minister continued to say that the Upper Myanmar Government Press was opened in Mandalay in 2004, and tasks are being undertaken. In 2005, Press Scrutiny and Registration Division was handed over to the Ministry of Information and then,



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein presents cash assistance for children of staff. - MNA

Printing and Publishing Enterprise was extended its works by controlling the PSRD.

He praised officials for their performance in carrying out tasks of PPE in accordance with the instructions and directives. He urged outstanding factories and employees to exert utmost efforts for gaining more achievements in coming years. In addition, he called on all to practise thrifty and earn double income compared with last year. In conclusion, the deputy minister urged them to discharge respective duties conscientiously for enhancing the prestige of the Ministry of Information and PPE.

Next, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein presented Public Service Medal to the employee and exercise books and cash assistance to children of staff from the PPE, the Ministry of Information, Myanma Radio and Television, Information and Public Relations Department and News and Periodicals Enterprise, uniforms to the employees of PPE and prizes to outstanding factories of the enterprise.

Managing Director U Aung Nyein of PPE, Managing Director U Soe Win of NPE and Director-General U Chit Naing of IPRD gave prizes to outstanding trainees of the training courses and outstanding

Also present on the occasion were directorsgeneral and managing directors of departments and enterprises, deputy directors-general, advisers and of-

Lucky draw winners of Miss Shampoo chosen

Yangon, 27 May — The choosing of lucky draw winners of Miss Shampoo took place at Traders Hotel vesterday.

After the entertainment of artistes, officials chose the lucky draw winners and two GSM winners and vocalist Sai Sai Kham Hlaing chose the Suzuki pick-up winner and Ma Than Than Sint of Mandalay

All winners of Miss Shampoo will be announced in dailies and weekly journals. -MNA



Ceremony to select lucky draw winners of Miss Shampoo in progress at Traders Hotel. — MNA

Myanma Railways redoubles efforts for convenience of passengers

YANGON, 27 May-Myanma Railways under the Ministry of Rail Transportation launched a Nay Pyi Taw - Pyay - Nay Pyi Taw coach trip on 25 May 2006 so that government employees at Nay Pyi Taw and local residents who live in the west of Bago Mountain Range can enjoy smooth transport.

Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin and officials greeted the people who would take the Nav Pyi Taw - Pyay - Nay Pyi Taw express and presented gifts to them at Pyinmana station.

Later, the express train left there at 6 a.m.

The deputy minister met with the officials of Mvanma Railways and called upon them to redouble their efforts for the convenience of people.

The No 109 Nay Pyi Taw- Pyay- Nay Pyi Taw express train leaves Nay-Pyi-Taw at 6 am daily and arrives at Pyay station at

The No 110 Pyay-Nay Pyi Taw express leaves Pyay station at 5 am and arrives at Nay Pyi Taw at 5

The Nay Pyi Taw -Pyay-Nay Pyi Taw express stops Lewe, Thitpotpin, Minpyin, Satthwa, Chaung Kauk-Toepin, Hlewin Wun, Aung Lan.

Htaukkyant Taing, Pyalo, Duringabo, Titut, Shwedaga, Hmawza conjunction.

Tickets are available in advance at Nay Pyi Taw station, Yangon station and Pyay station at a price of K

Similarly, as of 18 May, No 101 Nay Pyi Taw-Kyaukpadaung-Nay Pyi Taw mail up train and No

102 mail down train are in operation every day.

The No 107 Nay Pyi Taw-Bagan up train and No 108 Bagan-Nay Pyi Taw down train are running every day.

Thanks to the running of respective trains, local residents and passengers are now enjoying smooth transport.



Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin cordially greets passengers who will catch Express Train. — MNA

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Forest fire rages in N-E **China**, 146 evacuated

HARBIN, 26 May—Two forest fires raging for four days have forced the evacuation of 146 people in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, local forestry sources said on Thursday.

Nearly 6,000 firemen and forest rangers are fighting against the fires that broke out last Sunday at Galashan Forest Farm of Heihe City and at Kanduhe Forest Farm at the Greater Hinggan Mountains.

One hundred and twenty residents in Beijiang Town of Huma County and 26 more on Galashan Forest Farm were evacuated on Wednesday night, but no injuries were reported.

The fires have already spread due to strong wind and dry weather, but there is till now no statistics on the exact acreage of the forest engulfed by fires, said the provincial headquarters for forest fire control.

Local government are busy evacuating more residents threatened by the raging forest fires.

Zhang Zuoji, governor of Heilongjiang Province, ordered local authorities to quickly put the fires under control, go all out to prevent new fires and ensure the safety of the local residents.

MNA/Xinhua

Kazakhstan oil piped into China

ALATAW (Xinjiang), 26 May-Crude oil from Kazakhstan poured into China on Thursday morning through a newly completed petroleum pipeline linking the two countries.

Brownish oil sprang into a petroleum hub in Alataw Pass, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, at 3:10 am Thursday, about 30 hours after Kazakhstan started to pump oil into the pipeline, Customs officers at the Alataw Pass told Xinhua

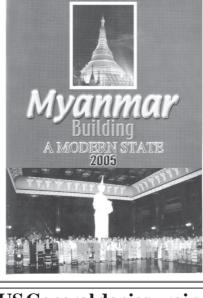
Technicians with the Sino-Kazakh Oil Pipeline Co Ltd opened the valve on the China-Kazakhstan border at 7:32 pm Tuesday after instructions were received from their Kazak counterparts in Atasu, who started pumping oil into the pipeline at 8:22 pm the same day.

Experts say construction of the oil pipeline is a win-win strategy for both countries as it enhances China's oil supply and proves an ideal outlet for Kazakhstan's oil export.

"It has provided a direct link between Kazakhstan's rich oil resources and China's robust oil consumer market," said Yin Juntai, deputy generalmanager of China Petroleum Exploration and Development Company.

Kairgeldy Kabyldin, president of vice Kazakhstan National Petroleum and Natural Gas Company, praised the oil pipeline as a "new paradigm of cooperation" between the two countries.

MNA/Xinhua



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US General denies urging use of dogs in interrogations

FORT MEADE (Maryland), 26 May— US Army Major-General Geoffrey Miller, the highest ranking officer to testify in the Abu Ghraib Prison scandal, said on Wednesday he never suggested using military dogs in interrogations of Iraqi prisoners.

testify as a defence witness by a military police dog handler charged with using his dog to abuse prisoners at the jail outside Baghdad, one of a number of low-ranking troops prosecuted for illtreatment of prison inmates

But Miller's testimony appeared to undercut the defence of Sergeant Santos Cardona, 32, of Fullerton, California, who argues that he was acting with the consent of superior officers. He is charged with dereliction of duty and assaulting and threatening Iraqi detainees with his Belgian shepherd.

Miller is a former commander of the Guantanamo Prison on Cuba, which houses suspects caught in President George W. Bush's declared "war on terrorism" and was sent to Baghdad in 2003 to improve intelligence gathering from prisoners there.

Miller was called to testifying in previous Abu Ghraib abuse trials but his retirement has been held up until he clears up outstanding legal matters.

In about 40 minutes of testimony Wednesday, he denied recommending the use of military dogs to threaten interrogation subjects.

"We discussed using dogs only for control not for interrogation," Miller said under crossexamination. Colonel Thomas Pappas, then the Ghraib, testified that talks with Miller about dogs were in general terms.

"It was a general discussion about military working dogs, that they were an effective tool at Guantanamo Bay because Arabs feared dogs," he said. But there was no really specific guidance in, 'Have them here, use them this way.'

"General Miller did not really direct anything. He said, 'This is how we do it

commander at Abu | at Guantanamo Bay'," Pappas said.

> Prosecutors called Cardona and his colleagues on the night shift at Abu Ghraib "corrupt cops".

Ten US soldiers have been convicted of abuse at Abu Ghraib in late 2003 and early 2004, the months after Miller was sent to try to improve information gathering as an Iraqi insurgency intensified after the March, 2003 invasion. - MNA/Reuters

Blair says Britain does not want conflict with Iran

LONDON, 26 May- Britain, which will soon have about 13,000 soldiers deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan, does not want to add to its burden by starting a conflict with Iran, Prime Minister Tony Blair has said.

"We don't want a conflict with Iran, we have got enough on our plate doing other things," Blair said in an interview with Al Jazeera Television, the transcript of which was distributed by Blair's office on Thursday.

The United States and some Western nations He had avoided believe the Islamic

Republic intends to | develop an atomic bomb although Iran, the world's fourth biggest oil producer, says it needs nuclear technology to meet its booming energy demand.

Washington says it wants to resolve the crisis diplomatically but has not ruled out military action while Britain, President George W Bush's main ally in 2003's US-led invasion of Iraq, says there is no intention to strike.

Blair insisted, however, that Iran comply with international demands to stop its sensitive nuclear work. "If Iran goes out of its way... to breach its international obligations, of course the international community through the UN Security Council has got to take up the issue," he said in the interview

Bush and Blair have

seen their popularity dive as a result of the Iraq war and its violent aftermath and there are worries in Britain that the Army is being stretched.

"Nobody is targeting Iran," Blair said. "People are simply worried because they appear to be in breach of their nuclear obligations and because they are supporting terrorism around the Middle East."

He said Teheran was making a mistake in thinking the United States and its allies were "out to get Iran".

"We are not, we just want them to stop supporting terrorism and to stop meddling in the affairs of a country that is now governed under a UN process and with a multinational force that is there with UN support."

MNA/Reuters

Iran ready to offer electricity to Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 26 May— Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said Wednesday that Iran is ready to provide 100 megawatts electricity to Pakistani southwestern port of Gwadar and to open a bank branch of its national bank in Karachi.

Speaking at the opening of the 16th Pakistan-Iran Joint Economic Commission (JEC) in Islamabad, the Iranian Foreign Minister called for enhancing trade and interbank relations, improving port, rail and road connectivity between Pakistan and Iran, a

statement said.

Mottaki said trade between the two countries can be enhanced manifold by taking various measures including avoidance of double taxation and tariff reduction besides controlling smuggling and enhancing security cooperation.

Both countries have great potential to expand their cooperation in various fields but have not yet been realized so far, said Dr Salman Shah, Adviser to Pakistani Prime Minister on Finance, who is leading Pakistani delegation at the meeting. MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဗွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Report says tropical timber is better protected, not safe

London, 26 May — Developing nations have got far better at protecting rain forests over the past two decades but are a long way short of doing enough to save the crucial global resource, a new report said on Thursday.

While the area of tropical timber under sustainable management has surged to 36 million hectares from less than one million in 1988, that represents less than 5 per cent of all tropical forests, the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) said.

Rain forest under sustainable management is roughly the size of Germany, but an area a third of that magnitude is being cleared each year for timber or crops, the ITTO said in a report that took four years to compile. "This report says much has been done but much more needs to be done. It is good news but it is very fragile," co-author Duncan Poore said. "It is a starting point. It shows where things ought to go. But there is no knowing if they will."

Poore praised Malaysia for its long-standing legal framework for managing forests in a sustainable way and said Bolivia, Peru Congo Republic, Gabon and Ghana had made good progress. But he said there was a large discrepancy between management plans and management practice that sometimes allowed illegal logging to lay waste large areas of pristine forest.

"There has been a huge increase in the amount of illegal logging - which undermines the price of

timber that is legally and sustainably logged," Poore told Reuters in an interview.

The Japan-based ITTO, theworld's maininternational agency tasked with ensuring the sustainable management. use of and trade in tropical timber, said its report was the most thorough ever undertaken. The report, Status of Tropical Forest Management 2005" called for all nations with tropical forests to table plans for sustainable management. then implement and police them.— MNA/Reuters



A worker passes the rails of the Shanghai sector of the Beijing-Shanghai electronic railway in Shanghai, east China, on 26 May, 2006. The electrization of the Beijing-Shanghai Railway will be completed soon. The 1,453kilometre long railway is expected to go into full operation from 1 July while the average speed will reach 200 kilometre per hour.—Internet

China establishes annual "Cultural Heritage Day"

Beljing, 16 May— The Chinese Government has established an national "Cultural Heritage Day" to be celebrated annually on the second Saturday of June, Culture Minister Sun Jiazheng said here Thursday.

Sun said the first "Cultural Heritage Day" would fall on 10 June, with the theme "Protecting cultural heritage and safeguarding the spiritual homeland"

"The celebration will include a series of performances and exhibitions," Sun said.

It would feature an exhibition of ancient Chinese books and a selection of the best folk art.The State Administration of Culture Heritage would undertake a nationwide review of cultural heritage protection work, while the National Library and Academy of

Social Sciences would host seminars and forums and offer advice to the public on cultural heritage.

Sun called on museums, memorial halls and relic sites at all levels to open free to public on the first "Cultural Heritage Day".

He said Chinese legislation included more than 30 laws and regulations on cultural heritage protection in which the government had invested 7.89 billion yuan (900 million US dollars) over the last five years. People from all walks of life had come to realize its importance

MNA/Xinhua

Singaporeans urged to keep vigilant against dengue

SINGAPORE, 26, May — Singapore's National Environment Agency (NEA) on Thursday reminded the public to keep vigilant against dengue, a disease which killed 19 people here last year.

The NEA said in a | leaving for vacation. statement that it will distribute household kits on dengue to all the 1.11 million families in the city state in these few weeks, aiming to urge the public to carry out the daily 10minute, 5-step check to get rid of mosquito breading spots in their

The agency also provides families which plan to travel abroad during the school holiday in June with mosquitoproofing tips such as covering the toilet bowls, gully and floor traps and clearing stagnant water in pails and vases before

A total of 171 dengue cases were reported in the first three weeks of May.

much lower than the 449 cases recorded during the same period of last year, the NEA said, but warning that the weekly number is on an upward trend.

It added that nationwide search and clearance of mosquito breeding sites will continue in the next few months when the weather is getting hot here, providing a favourable condition for the breeding of the Aedes mosquitoes which are carriers of the

MNA/Xinhua

South African Air Force armed with new fighters

JOHANNESBURG, 26 May — The South African Air Force (SAAF) received the first Hawk MK 120 fighter aircraft on Wednesday.

SAAF Brigadier-General Philip Willcock said that a complete fleet of the 24 aircraft was expected mid-2007.

South Africa ordered the aircraft from the British company, BAE Systems, in 1999 as well as 28 Gripen fighters to equip the Air Force with a modern, flexible and cost-effective jet fleet. The Hawk aircraft are unique in their ability to have their cockpit configured to represent any modern front-line fighter.

They are an updated

version of Hawk 100 series incorporating changes to the avionics suite and associated aircraft systems originally developed by BAE Systems for the Royal Australian Air Force's Hawk.

The aircraft are fitted with powerful Royce-Royce/Turbomeca engines and are being assembled at Denel's aircraft factory in Kempton Park.

Willcock said pilots were currently undergoing training to operate the aircraft. - MNA/Xinhua

Models show car "Povos" by China FAW Group Corporation during the Seventh Hangzhou International Automobile Exhibition in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 18 May, 2006. More than 200 car enterprises took part in the exhibition, opened on 18 May.

INTERNET

Pakistani Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz and visiting Iranian First Vice-President Parviz Davoudi witnessed the signing ceremony after

Pakistan, Iran to increase eco cooperation, bilateral trade

ISLAMABAD, 26 May—Pakistan and Iran have agreed to increase economic cooperation and the level of bilateral trade.

The two countries signed | comprehensive talks. twoprotocolshere Thursday, memorandum of understanding of the 16th session of the Pakistan-Iran Joint Economic Commission andanothermemorandumof understanding to facilitate the implementation of an inter-governmental agreement on Customs coope-

The two leaders had one to one meeting for 50 minutes followed by delegation level talks covering all facets of bilateral relations and regional and international issues. Later, talking to newsmen, Aziz said that the two countries were looking for several corridors to take their multidimensional cooperation to new heights.

He said that they had already finalized the preferential trade

arrangement to promote trade. "We are also working on fast track mechanism to increase the volume of trade between the two countries," he said.

Aziz said that the two countries were now focusing on trade corridor, transportation corridor covering air, rail and road links; investment corridor and energy corridor. They have also agreed to open border markets to promote regional and bilateral trade.

MNA/Xinhua



Simon Masba (L) from Police of Uganda tries to get the ball from Mike Barasa of Ulinzi Kenya in their semi-final match at the Central and East African Club Soccer Championship in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on 26 May, 2006. Police of Uganda won 2-0.—XINHUA

Rangers sign Sweden defender Karl Svensson

GLASGOW, 27 May-Rangers have signed Sweden defender Karl Svensson from IFK Gothenburg on a three-year deal, the Scottish Premier League club said on Friday. Svensson, who is in his country's squad for the World Cup in Germany, said: "I'm delighted to join a great club like Glasgow Rangers and this is the next step for me in my career.

"I loved my time at IFK Gothenburg but this is a wonderful chance for me to improve and progress as a player." Rangers new manager Paul Le Guen added: 'Karl is a terrific talent and I'm delighted he has agreed to join me at Rangers.

"He is a strong, powerful central defender and I look forward to working with him. Before that we wish him and (Czech midfielder) Libor Sionko every success in the World Cup." Sionko, 29, was Le Guen's first big signing for Rangers when he joined on a free transfer from Austria Vienna this month. He is on standby for the Czech Republic's World Cup squad.—MNA/Reuters

the World Player of the

Year Brazil striker

Robinho jokingly threw a

Ronaldinho appeared

to take it as a joke and

even waved goodbye to

the woman as she was led

away. A security official

said that five people were

arrested and taken away

by police for questioning.

He said that one appeared

to be drunk and bit a po-

liceman. - MNA/Reuters

mattress over the pair.

South Korea beat Bosnia 2-0 in warm-up

SEOUL 27 May - South Korea, strengthened by the return of their Europe-based players, beat Bosnia 2-0 in a World Cup warmup match on Friday.

Seol Ki-hyeon opened the scoring for the home side in the 50th minute, heading in from close range after Bosnia keeper Romeo Mitrovic could only half-clear an effort by Ahn Jung-hwan.

Cho Jae-jin made certain of victory by blasting in a second from the edge of the area in the 90th minute, to the delight of most of the 64,836 spectators in the Seoul World Cup stadium

"I think it was a very effective game," South Korea coach Dick Advocaat told a news conference.

The Dutchman had brought back his European players, including England-based duo Park Ji-sung and Lee Young-pyo, after his team had struggled at times to impose themselves in their last warm-up match against Senegal.

"I am very happy that our team kept the confidence after 0-0 at halftime", he added.

Bosnia looked dangerous on the break aided by the trickery on the left of Admir Vladavic, who forced a good save from South Korea keeper Lee Woon-jae in the 24th minute, but appeared to fall off the pace a little in the second half

"We controlled the game for almost 75 minutes", Advocaat said, adding that he thought midfielder Lee Eul-yong, who plays for Turkish side Trabzonspor, was the best player on the pitch.

Lee Chun-soo also had a good match, constantly hustling the European side before being substituted by young striker Park Chu-young.

South Korea, who were held 1-1 by Senegal on Tuesday, now travel to Europe for final warm-up matches against Ghana and Norway.

"The majority of the team we know, but I can't say I know all 11 players", said Advocaat, who declined to answer a question about the possibility of a return to club football after the World Cup, apart from saying he had options.— MNA/Reuters

Woman pitch invader hugs Ronaldinho

WEGGIS (Switzerland), 27 May — A Brazilian woman ran onto the pitch and hugged striker Ronaldinho as the world champions finished a training session, watched by around 5,000 fans, on Friday.

At least four other fans has been created around doing stretching exercises peared to land a kiss on followed her onto the field, raising worries about security and underlining the concerns about the carni-

the world champions in the small Swiss village.

Brazil's players had finished an attack-versuson the ground when the incidents happened.

The blonde-haired woman jumped the fence val-like atmosphere which defence practice and were around the field and ap-

Everton bid for striker Johnson accepted by Palace

London, 27 May—Everton have reached agreement with Crystal Palace for the possible transfer of England striker Andrew Johnson, the Merseyside club said on Friday.

They have finalized a deal which could see 25year-old Johnson, considered the best English striker outside the Premier League, Everton's record signing.

British media said prolific forward. Everton had joined fellow top flight teams Wigan Athletic and Bolton Wanderers in making a bid of become 8.5 million pounds (15.89 million US dollars) for the

Johnson, who scored 15 goals in 34 league games in the Second Division last season, met Wigan manager Paul Jewell on Friday and Bolton's Sam Allardyce also wants to hold talks.

However, Johnson is thought to favour a move to Everton and Friday's agreement between the clubs on a fee means he can now formally open talks about personal terms.

Johnson, who is on England's standby list for the World Cup finals in Germany, is expected to travel to Mersevside within the next 24 hours, the Everton website said — MNA/Reuters

Egypt striker Mido returns to Roma from Tottenham London, 27 May — Egypt striker Mido is returning to Roma after an 18-

month loan period at Tottenham Hotspur, the English Premier League club said on Friday. The 23-year-old made a big impact at

Spurs with his 11 league goals in 24 games last season helping the north London club to qualify for the UEFA Cup after finishing fifth.

It was their highest league placing since 1990 and they only just missed out on a Champions League qualifying spot on the final day of the season to archrivals Arsenal

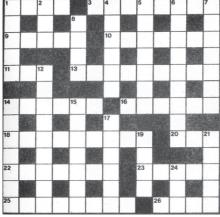
Mido, who has also played for Zamalek, Gent, Ajax Amsterdam, Celta Vigo and Olympique Marseille, hit the headlines when he was banned by Egypt in February from playing for his country for six months after a touchline row with his coach at the African Nations Cup.

Tottenham also said their Ireland full back Stephen Kelly, who was expected to leave the club, will stay after Spurs took up an option to extend his contract by a further year.

Kelly, who made his debut for Ireland against Chile on Wednesday, has made 43 first team appearances.

Spurs added that they have released central defenders Goran Bunjevcevic and Noureddine Naybet. — MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

1 Regretted

3 Abode

9 Brink

10 Republic in North

Africa 11 Allow

13 Dispersed

14 Seldom 16 Plan

18 Flirt

20 Pull

22 Living

23 Pair

25 Grieved 26 Eager

DOWN

1 Make merry

2 Sin

4 Notwithstanding

5 Outrageously foolish 6 Rebel

7 Spanish nobleman

8 Minus

12 Very frightened

14 Iterates

15 Unauthorised disclosure

17 Stick

19 Gown 21 Fresh

24 Chopper

Morientes agrees move to Valencia

Madrid, 27 May— Liverpool striker Fernando Morientes has agreed personal terms and a three-year contract with Valencia, the Primera Liga club said on their website on Friday.

Liverpool had said on Thursday that the Spanish international had joined Valencia for an undisclosed fee, but earlier on Friday Valencia's sports director Amedeo Carboni said an agreement had not yet been reached with the player.

The 30-year-old struggled to find his feet at Liverpool after joining from Real Madrid in January 2005, scoring 12 goals in 61 games.

Valencia, who finished third in the Primera Liga in the season just ended, have made it clear they were looking for another striker to partner leading scorer David Villa for next season.— MNA/Reuters



A visitor to a shopping mall walks past a sevenfoot-high model of a soccer ball, on display to promote the upcoming World Cup Soccer 2006 in Germany, during a promotion for the event in Hong Kong recently.—INTERNET

Pakistan, Iran to set up joint investment company

ISLAMABAD, 27 May -Pakistan and Iran on Thursday decided to establish a joint investment company in Karachi with a capital of 25 million US dollars to promote trade and economic relations between the two countries, the Pakistan news agency APP reported.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Khurshid Mahmood Kasuri and his Iranian counterpart Manouchehr Mottaki took the decision during a meeting here at the foreign office.

The Iranian Foreign Minister conveyed his country's determination to join Pakistan in the expansion of the road and railway infrastructure between the two countries. He said that Iran had decided to establish a branch of Iranian Melli Bank in Karachi, the APP said.

The two foreign ministers also discussed other aspects of bilateral relations and reviewed regional developments, including the situation in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as other international issues of mutual concern.

They discussed further measures to promote regional cooperation within the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), of which both countries are founding members.

Mottaki also told Kasuri the Iranian decision to ratify the Prefer-

ential Trade Agreement (PTA), which was signed by the two countries in 2005.

The PTA will contribute to expansion of bilateral trade and enable the two countries to meet the target of one billion US dollars in annual turnover.

Kasuri reiterated that Pakistan's established position, saying that the Iranian nuclear issue should be resolved through diplomatic means alone. He added that resort to coercive methods would only endanger regional security and stability.

Kasuri underlined the need for flexibility by all sides to achieve a mutually acceptable solution to the issue. The Iranian minister is leading a delegation to attend the 16th session of the Iran-Pakistan Joint Economic Commission in Islamabad

MNA/Xinhua



A tourist looks at Buddhist statues in the Sisaket Museum in Vientiane. recently. Officials hope destinations such as the museum will lure more tourists to feed the developing of Loas.—INTERNET



Sunday, 28 May View on today

1. ကျေးစူးရှင် မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့ အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓဇမဟာရဋ္ဌ ဂုရ၊ အဘိဓေအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မ ောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဧာတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တ ဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am 4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am 5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈) ဖြာ

မင်္ဂလာ

8:05 am

6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ 8:10 am

7. လယ်ယာစီးပွား မြင့်မားစေရန် ပဒဲရေလှောင်တမံ

8:20 am 8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am 9. International news

8:45 am 10.Say it in English

11:00 am 1. Martial songs 11:10 am

2. Musical programme 11:25 am

3. Round up of the week's international news

11:40 am

4. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "Doraemon" 11:55 am

5. ဘက်စုံတိုးတက် တို့ကျေးလက် (မိုင်းသောက်စံပြကျေးရွာ) 12:10 pm

6. Myanmar video feature: 'မှန်တိုင်းထန်မြစ်" (မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊ စိုးမြတ်နန္ဒာ၊

မေသဥ္စာဦး)

(ဒါရိုက်တာ–ဝင်းထွန်းထွန်း) 1:50 pm

7. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ 2:05 pm

8. ဖြူးရောင်းတံတား 2:15 pm

9."အားဆေး (မိုးဒီ၊ ဖော်ထက်အောင်၊

ဆောင်းအိန္ဒြေထွန်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–စောစန္ဒာလှိုင်)

2:20 pm 10. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:30 pm

11. မြို့လှတပ်ကုန်း ရေလှောင်တမံ 2:45 pm

12. 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. သာယာချိုအား (၃၈)ဖြာ မင်္ဂလာတေး

4:55 pm

5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ –ပထမနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒ၊ ရူပဗေဒ၊ သတ္တဗေဒ၊ ရုက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြုများ) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)

5:10 pm

6. Dance of national races

5:20 pm 7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:30 pm 8. Sing and enjoy

6:00 pm

9.Evening news

6:30 pm

10. Weather report 6:35 pm

11. Discovery 6:45 pm

12. Agricultural Source of Myanmar Development

6:55 pm

13. Musical programme

7:05 pm 14. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတ်လမ်းတွဲ 'ကံကောင်းခြင်းအိပ်မက်" (အပိုင်း-၁၈) (ဓာတ်သိမ်းပိုင်း)

8:00 pm 15. News

16. International news

17. Weather report 18. နိုင်ငံခြားဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ ချစ်မိပြီဆိုရင်"

(အပိုင်း–၄၈) 19. The next day's programme

Sunday, 28 May Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news 8:35 am Music:

-Winning 8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music: -Ribbons of blue

8:50 am National news & Slogan

9:00 am Music: -My life

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Cultural images of

Myanmar 9:20 am Music:

-All my love 1:30 pm News & Slogan

1:40pm Children's delight -Story for children

> -"A friend in need is a friend indeed -Songs for children

9:00 pm Weekly news review

9:10 nm Article

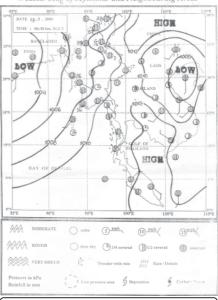
9:20 pm Music/Latest hits/ Let's improve

English through songs

-Moving up -Breaking my

heart 9:45 pm News & Slogan 10.00 pm PEL

Weather May of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Saturday, 27 May, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, the Southwest monsoon is advancing into the Northern Myanmar area. Weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah and Kavin States, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Mon State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan, Chin and Rakhine States, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Divisions and fairly widespread to widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfall in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Maungdaw (4.92) inches Kyauktaw (4.17) inches Mawlaik (2.83) inches, Hkamti (2.25) inches, Pathein (2.20) inches and Chauk (0.59) inch.

 $Maximum \, temperature \, on \, 26\text{--}5\text{--}2006 \, was \, 90^\circ F.$ Minimum temperature on 27-5-2006 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 27-5-2006 was (85%). Total sunshine hours on 26-5-2006 was (5.4) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 27-5-2006 were (Tr) at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (0.04) inch at Central Yangon, Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (14.21) inches at Mingaladon, (17.60) inches at Kaba-Aye and (19.06) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (14) mph from South at (13:35) hours MST on 26-5-2006.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong in the North and Central Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of

Forecast valid until evening of 28-5-2006: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin and Rakhine States and upper Sagaing Division, scattered in Chin and Northern Shan States and isolated in the remaining areas. 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 (35) to (45) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thundershowers in the Northern Myanmar areas

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 28-5-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 28-5-2006: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 28-5-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 22/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newlight, PO Box No. 43, Telephones: Editors 296115, Manager 296864, Circulation 297093, Advertisement 296843, Accounts 296545, Administration 296161, Production 297032 (Office) /297028 (Press).

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

(from page 1)

Before the ceremony, the State Orchestra Troupe played music while officials ushered the Sayadaws into the designated places through the passage. The congregation paid homage to the Sayadaws. The ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of Namo Tassa. A total of 108 bells were struck nine times.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San together with the congregation took the Five Precepts from Chairman of the Examination Mawlamyine Webyan Monastery Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Vijayabhivamsa.

Chairman Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara gave Saraniya Oyadakatha.

Next, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung supplicated on religious affairs. He said that the Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination has been held yearly since 1948. The examination lasts 33 days each. Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Sayadaws (See page 8)



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents Mula Arbhidhammika title to a Sayadaw.

MNA

73 members of the Sangha passed the 58th Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination held from the last week of December 2005 to January 2006



Prime
Minister
General
Soe Win
presents
Digha
Nikayakovida
title to a
Sayadaw.

Weather Forecast for (28-5-2006)

Nay Pyi Taw & neighbouring areas

Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Yangon & neighbouring areas

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

Mandalay and neighbouring areas

Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

INSIDE

In accordance with market economy, the government has been organizing more national entrepreneurs and local people for sown acreage extension and enabling them to get access to more financial and technical assistance. From 31 March 2004 to date, the government has issued loans of over K 4.4 billion to national entrepreneurs and companies for their farms and factories.

Page 7

KYI TIN (MPCE)



Secretary-1
Lt-Gen
Thein Sein
presents
Vinayakovida title
to a
Sayadaw.
MNA