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The Union of Myanmar The State Peace and Development Council The Law Amending the Myanmar Gemstone Law (The State Peace and Development Council Law No. 8/2003) The 2nd Waning Day of Nayon, 1365 M.E. (16th June, 2003)

The State Peace and Development Council hereby enacts the following Law:-

1. This Law shall be called the Law Amending the Myanmar Gemstone Law.

2. After section 15 of the Myanmar Gemstone Law, section 15-A, section 15-B and section 15-C shall be inserted as follows:-

"15-A. The Ministry of Mines may designate the place for disposal of the loose soil for public use within a gemstone tract in carrying out gemstone production by the company, society or person holding a permit for gemstone production.

15-B. If the company or society holding a permit to carry out work on gemstone block or a person holding a permit to carry out work on discovered block is desirous of using any work-place to build temporary buildings, warehouses, huts and barracks, or to keep vehicles, machineries, raw gemstone and gemstone bearing soil, or to wash the loose soil, break the rock and dispose of the loose soil, inside or outside his block in the gemstone tract, application shall be made to the Ministry of Mines to obtain permission.

15-C. The Ministry of Mines -

(a) may, after scrutinizing the application submitted under section 15-B, grant permission stipulating terms and conditions.

(b) shall, when granting permission under sub-section (a), stipulate the tenure of permission and land use premium for any work-place outside the permitted block.

(c) may extend the tenure when the tenure of permission stipulated under sub-section (b) expires."

3. Sub-section (b) of section 34 of the Myanmar Gemstone Law shall be substituted as follows:-

"(b) tendering advice to the Ministry of Mines regarding designation of gemstone tract, determination of gemstone block and floor price, determination of discovered block, designation of place for disposal of the loose soil for public use under section 15-A, granting of permission for workplace contained in section 15-B and stipulation of land use premium."

4. In section 36, sub-section (a) of the Myanmar Gemstone Law; -

(a) the expression "permit or licence" shall be substituted by the expression "permission, licence or permit."

(b) the expression "holders of the permit or licence" shall be substituted by the expression "holders of the permission, licence or permit."

5. In section 38 of the Myanmar Gemstone Law; -

(a) the expression "fails to comply with any order or directive issued under this law" shall be substituted by the expression "fails to comply with any rules, procedures, orders and directives issued under this law."

(b) the expression "permit or licence" shall be substituted by the expression "permission, licence or permit."

(See page 8)

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

Secretary-1 receives Australian Ambassador

YANGON, 16 June — On behalf of the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt received Ambassador of Australia to the Union of Myanmar Mr Trevor David Wilson, who had completed his tour of duty, at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmynthta, at 8.30 am today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department.— MNA

Outstanding agricultural production awards presented to winners

YANGON, 16 June — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin attended the ceremony to present best agriculture award, quality strain production award, the best outstanding award and other prizes to the respective winners for 2002-2003 financial year of the Myanmar Agriculture Service of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, at the head office of MAS on Payay Road this morning.

Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin delivered an address. Then, Managing Director U San Myint of MAS reported

on targets of the MAS and accomplishments.

Then, the minister presented prizes to the winners.

Next, officials presented prizes to the winners.

Also present on the occasion were President U Tin Hlaing of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forest, Livestock and Fishery Science and members, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises, farm managers and factory managers of States and Divisions.

MNA



On behalf of the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt receives Australian Ambassador Mr Trevor David Wilson.— MNA

Agricultural census collected in Htantabin

YANGON, 16 June — Under the supervision of the officials of Yangon Division Settlement and Land Records Department, altogether 39 trainees of the Agricultural Census Collection Course, co-organized by Settlement and Land Records Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, went to Pandaing Village in Htantabin Township this morning.

The trainees collected the agricultural census for 2003 in the village. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 17 June, 2003

Yangon-Mandalay Union Highway—key to national development

The Government is striving for the Union of Myanmar to be on a par with the international community. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, on one occasion, gave guidance that transportation plays an important role in national development and that only when there is easy transport will there be improvement of socio-economic life of the people. He also said that roads and bridges are being built with a view to narrowing the development gap between one region and another and forging friendship among the national brethren. In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, efforts are being made for development of the transport sector after designating 80 new highways across the country. Many more motor roads and railroads are being built the length and breadth of the nation to link one region and another.

Nowadays, Yangon-Mandalay Union Highway is being upgraded into a modern one. The highway contributes much towards the economic, trade and social development of the State. Private companies are taking part in the tasks of upgrading the highway. The Central Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport held a meeting at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthar on 14 June, attended by Chairman of the Central Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt. Giving instructions to officials, the General said that construction tasks are to continue to meet the target without losing sight of it. He also urged the entrepreneurs to thoroughly implement the plans to reach Mandalay from Yangon within 10 hours, to prevent damage of road sections in the rainy season and to accelerate the construction works after the rainy season. In upgrading the highway, a number of private companies are undertaking the task section wise.

Moreover, upgrading work for Pyinmana-Yamethin road section, Yamethin-Meikhtila road section and Meikhtila-Mandalay road section are being undertaken by Asia World Company, Yuzana Company and Hong Pang Company respectively. The upgrading tasks include renovation of old roads and construction of new ones and building of bridges.

The companies engaged in the construction tasks of the Union Highway are urged to exert efforts for the emergence of Yangon-Mandalay modern highway as soon as possible.

မှန်တိုင်းမိုးကြောင့် သီးနှံစိုက်ပျိုးရေးပျက်ဆီးဆုံးရှုံးမှုမရှိစေရန် နှိုးဆော်ချက်

ယခုရက်ပိုင်းအတွင်း ဘက်လားပင်လယ်အော် အနောက်တောင်ပိုင်းနှင့်ဆက်စပ်လျက်ရှိသော ဘက်လားပင်လယ်အော် အနောက်အလယ်ပိုင်းတွင် ဆိုင်ကလုန်မှန်တိုင်းကြောင့် မိုးများရွာနေပေါ်နိုင်ကြောင်း မိုးလေဝသနှင့် ဇာလဗေဒဌာနကြီးမှ ဦးစီးဌာနမှ မှန်တိုင်းသတင်းထုတ်ပြန်လျက်ရှိပါသည်။

သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ ဒေသအလိုက် နေရာကွက်ပြီး မိုးကြိုနိုင်ပါသဖြင့် မိုးကြိုနှင့် မိုးဦးကာလ သီးနှံစိုက်ပျိုးထုတ်လုပ်မှု လုပ်ငန်းများတွင် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါရန် သတိပေး နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

- (၁) ရိတ်သိမ်းဆဲနေစပါးများ လေလွင့်ဆုံးရှုံးမှုမရှိအောင် အောက်ပါအချက်များကို ဂရုပြုဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
 - က- မျိုးရိပ်စ မှန်ကန်မှုရှိပြီး ပိုးမွှားရောဂါကင်းစင်သည့် စပါးခေါင်နှံများကို နှံကောက်စနစ်ဖြင့် ရွေးချယ်ရိတ်သိမ်း၍ မျိုးအဖြစ်ရယူပါ။
 - ခ- တလင်းပျောက်စနစ်ဖြင့် ရိတ်သိမ်းခြေလှေ့စက် အသုံးပြုပြီး ချက်ချင်းခြေလှေ့အခြောက်စပါးပါ။
 - ဂ- အကယ်၍ ချက်ချင်းမဆောင်ရွက်နိုင်ပါက ရိတ်ပြီးကောက်လှိုင်းများကို လယ်ကွက်ထဲတွင် ဖြန့်မထားပါနှင့် ကောက်လှိုင်းစီးပြီးအနုအပေါ်ထောင်၍ တစ်ဖက်ရပ်ပုံပါ။
 - ဃ- စပါးစေ့တွင်အစိုဓါတ် (၁၄) ရာခိုင်နှုန်းရှိအောင် နေရောင်ခြည်သုံး ပလပ်စတစ်အမိုးအကတ်များဖြင့် အခြောက်စပါးပါ။
 - င- လေဝင်လေထွက်ကောင်း၍ ခြောက်သွေ့သော နေရာတွင် စပါးစေ့များကို ပါးပါး ဖြန့်လှမ်းပါ။
 - (၂) မိုးစပါးကို အစိုဓါတ်ရရှိချိန် အတန်လိုက်တိုက်ရိုက်မျိုးစေ့ချ စိုက်ပျိုးပါ။
 - က- အထွက်ကောင်းစပါး မျိုးကောင်းမျိုးသန့် အဆင့်မြင့် စပါးများ ရွေးချယ်စိုက်ပျိုးပါ။
 - ခ- အချိန်မီ သီတစ်စိုက်ပျိုးရေးအတွက် အထွက်ကောင်း သက်တမ်းစပါးမျိုး (HYV) မျိုးများ အချိန်မီစောစော စိုက်ပျိုးပါ။
 - ဂ- ဆည်ရေသောက်နှင့် ဖြစ်ရောင်ဒေသများတွင် မိုးစပါးအခြေခံ တစ်နှစ်သုံး သီးနှံပုံစံရရှိအောင် ပထမတစ်သီး မိုးစပါးကို စောစောစိုက်ပျိုးပါ။
 - (၃) မတ်လအတွင်းစိုက်ပျိုးခဲ့သော အစေ့ထုတ်ပြောင်းစိုက်ခင်းများ ရေမဝပုံအောင်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
 - (၄) အစိုဓါတ်ရရှိချိန် မိုးမြေပဲ၊ မိုးနှမ်း၊ မိုးနေကြာ၊ အစေ့ထုတ်ပြောင်းတို့ကို မြေယာမြေပြင်စတင်စိုက်ပျိုးပါ။
 - (၅) မိုးကြိုရေသွင်း နှမ်းစိုက်ခင်းများရေမဝပုံအောင် ပတ်မြောင်း၊ စိမ့်မြောင်းများမှရေထုတ်ပါ။
 - (၆) မိုးကြိုချည်မျှင်ရှည်ဝါစိုက်ခင်းများ ရေမဝပုံအောင်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။ မှန်တိုင်းမိုးရွာပြီးပါက ပိုးမွှားရောဂါ ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်နိုင်ရန်ပါ။
 - မိုးစိုက်ပါးစင်းများ အချိန်မီစိုက်ပျိုးရန်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
 - (၇) နည်းပညာနှင့်လိုအပ်သည့် အကူအညီများကို သက်ဆိုင်ရာဌာနများသို့ အချိန်မီလျှောက်ဆက်သွယ် ရယူကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

လယ်ယာစိုက်ပျိုးရေးနှင့်ဆည်မြောင်းဝန်ကြီးဌာန



Minister Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe addressing the opening of the Financial Management Course-II. — COOP

Financial Management Course-II opens

YANGON, 16 June — Minister for Cooperatives Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe delivered an address at the opening ceremony of Financial Management Course-II, jointly conducted by the diploma course (branch) of Yangon Co-operative College under the Ministry of Co-operatives and the Japan Overseas Development Cooperation, on the third floor of Cooperative Trade Centre (Saya San Plaza) at the corner of University Avenue and Saya San Road in Bahan Town-

ship this morning.

Minister Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe said that it was the second course jointly conducted by the diploma course (branch) of Yangon Co-operative College under the Ministry of Co-operatives and the JODC. The trainees who had completed the first course will attend the second course to pursue higher education. Arrangements are being made for enabling the trainees to know about works, collection of investment, financial information,

management of circular money, drawing of financial plan, financial analysis and international accountancy systems. In conclusion, the minister urged the trainees to strive for further flourishing of co-operative works applying technology and methods conducted by the course. Then, Senior Manager Mr M Adachi of JODC and Financial Expert Mr K Takeuchi gave speeches. Also present were the director-general, the deputy director-general of Cooperative Department and

officials. The course being attended by 30 trainees will last up to 11 July.

Then, the minister and party attended the Seminar on Cooperative Export Promotion at the ministry this morning. The minister gave a speech. Also present were directors-general of Cooperative Department and Cottage Industries Department, the managing director of Cooperative Export and Import Enterprise and officials. The meeting will last up to 19 June. — MNA

ကူးစက်မြန်ပြင်းထန် နှစ်နှစ်သား (အဆုတ်ရောင်) ရောဂါ ကာကွယ်ရေး သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

၁။ ယခုအခါ ကမ္ဘာ့နိုင်ငံအချို့တွင် ကူးစက်မြန်ပြင်းထန် နှစ်နှစ်သား (အဆုတ်ရောင်) ရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားလျက်ရှိပါသည်။ ဤရောဂါသည် ကိုရိုနာ (Corona) အုပ်စုဝင် ခွင်းရပ်(စ်)ပိုးကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အဆိုပါပိုးသည် လူနာချောင်းဆိုးခြင်း၊ နှာချောင်း၊ နှာရည်၊ ခွံသလိပ်များမှတစ်ဆင့်သော်လည်းကောင်း၊ လူနာအသုံးအဆောင် ပစ္စည်းမှ တစ်ဆင့်သော်လည်းကောင်း အသက်ရှူလမ်းကြောင်းမှ ခန္ဓာကိုယ်အတွင်းသို့ ဝင်ရောက်၍ ရောဂါဖြစ်ပေါ်ပါသည်။

၂။ ကူးစက်မြန်ပြင်းထန်နှစ်နှစ်သား (အဆုတ်ရောင်) ရောဂါ၏ လက္ခဏာများမှာ—

- (က) ကိုယ်အပူချိန် (38°C) သို့မဟုတ် (100.5°F) ထက်ပို၍ပြင်းထန်စွာများခြင်းနှင့်
- (ခ) အသက်ရှူလမ်းကြောင်းဆိုင်ရာ ရောဂါလက္ခဏာများ ဖြစ်သည့်—
 - ချောင်းဆိုးခြင်း
 - အသက်ရှူမဝခြင်း
 - အသက်ရှူရခက်ခဲခြင်းနှင့်
- (ဂ) အောက်ပါအကြောင်းတစ်ခုခုရှိခြင်း—
 - ကူးစက်မြန်ပြင်းထန်နှစ်နှစ်သား (အဆုတ်ရောင်) ရောဂါရှိသူလူနာ (သို့မဟုတ်) လူနာနှင့် အနီးကပ်

ထိတွေ့သူများနှင့် ထိတွေ့မှုရှိခြင်း—
- ကူးစက်မြန်ပြင်းထန်နှစ်နှစ်သား (အဆုတ်ရောင်) ရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားနေသည့် နိုင်ငံများမှ လွန်ခဲ့သည့် နှစ်ပတ်အတွင်း ပြန်လည် ရောက်ရှိခြင်း တို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

၃။ ဤရောဂါသည် အသက်အရွယ်မရွေး ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်ပါသည်။ သို့ရာတွင် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါသူများတွင် ရောဂါ ပိုမိုဖြစ်ပွားလွယ်ပါသည်။

- (က) ကလေးငယ်များနှင့် သက်ကြီးရွယ်အိုများ
- (ခ) ဆီးချိုရောဂါရှိသူများ
- (ဂ) နာတာရှည်အဆုတ်နှင့် အသက်ရှူလမ်းကြောင်းဆိုင်ရာ ရောဂါရှိသူများ
- (ဃ) ကိုယ်ခန္ဓာအားကျစေသည့် ဆေးဝါး ဖြစ်သောကုသမှုများ (ဥပမာ—ကော်တီဆိုး ပါဝင်သည့်ဆေးများ၊ ကင်ဆာရောဂါများစသည့်ခြင်း)

၄။ အသက်ရှူလမ်းကြောင်းမှ ကူးစက်သော ရောဂါဖြစ်သဖြင့် ကူးစက်မြန်ပြင်းထန် နှစ်နှစ်သား (အဆုတ်ရောင်) ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားမှုမှ ကာကွယ်ရန် အောက်ပါအချက်များကို လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။

- (က) တစ်ကိုယ်ရေသန့်ရှင်းမှုကို ဂရုပြုဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း
- (ခ) အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသည့်အစားအစာများစားသုံးခြင်း

- (ဂ) ကောင်းမွန်စွာအိပ်စက်အနားယူခြင်း
- (ဃ) ကိုယ်လက်လျှပ်ကူးမှုမှန်မှန်ပြုလုပ်ခြင်း
- (င) နှာချောင်း၊ ချောင်းဆိုးလျှင်လက်ကိုးပုပ်ဖြင့်ဖုံးအုပ်ခြင်း
- (စ) ကူးစက်မြန် ပြင်းထန် နှစ်နှစ်သား (အဆုတ်ရောင်) ရောဂါ လက္ခဏာရှိသူများအား ခွဲစိတ်ခန်းသုံးမျက်နှာဖုံး (surgical mask) ဝတ်ရုံ (gown)၊ ပလပ်စတစ်ရှေ့ဖုံးခါးစည်း (apron)နှင့် ပလပ်စတစ်လက်အိတ် (gloves) အသုံးပြုကာ လူနာနှင့်ထိတွေ့ခြင်း၊ လူနာအသုံးအဆောင် ပစ္စည်းများ ကိုင်တွယ်ခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ခြင်း
- (ဆ) ကူးစက်ရောဂါများကို ထိရောက်စွာ ကာကွယ်ရန်အတွက် လက်ကို ဆပ်ပြာနှင့် စင်ကြယ်စွာ ဆေးကြောခြင်း
- (ဇ) လူထုထပ်သောနေရာများ နှင့် ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားနေသော နိုင်ငံများသို့ ခရီးသွားလာခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ခြင်း
- ၅။ ကိုယ်အပူချိန်ပြင်းထန်ခြင်း၊ ကိုယ်လက်ကိုက်ခဲခြင်း၊ ခေါင်းကိုက်ခြင်း၊ ချောင်းဆိုးခြင်း၊ လည်ချောင်းနာခြင်း၊ နှာခေါင်းနာခြင်း၊ အသက်ရှူကြပ်ခြင်း၊ ရင်ဘတ်အောင့်ခြင်းစသည့်လက္ခဏာများဖြစ်ပွားပါက နီးစပ်ရာကျန်းမာရေးဌာန/ဆေးရုံ/ဆေးပေးခန်းများတွင်သွား၍ ဆေးကုသမှုခံယူရန် သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

US anti-guerilla campaign draws Iraqi ire

FALLUJAH, 16 June — The US military conducted a massive weapons raid in residential neighbourhoods in this city west of Baghdad, part of a new campaign to cut down on the frequent guerilla attacks on United States troops and to start the long process of rebuilding.

But there are signs that operations such as this one, code-named "Spartan Scorpion," may be creating as many problems as it solves. Here in Fallujah, lately the hub of anti-US resistance, locals say they are seeing far too few signs of promised reconstruction - and far too many of an outright occupation.

"The US army has changed from being a liberator to an offensive occupier," says Fawzi Shafi, editor of a new weekly newspaper here, *Sot il-Hurriye*, or the *Voice of Freedom*. Mr. Shafi says that two months ago, he welcomed the US troops; he was no fan of Saddam Hussein. Now, brusque house searches by US troops is earning the US new opponents every day — including Mr Shafi — and may be feeding a nascent resistance movement.

"Last Friday, they came into my house with about 25 troops. They searched during breakfast and scared the children," he says. "They insulted us by putting us [face-down] on the floor in front of our women."

Moreover, members of an ad-hoc "city congress" contend, the US is relying on the same tribal hierarchy that Saddam Hussein used to control the country — vastly

different from the democracy they expected.

The weapons crackdown, code-named "Spartan Scorpion," comes on the heels of "Operation Peninsula Strike," a three-day operation that ended Saturday. The two-pronged offensive is aimed capturing or killing pro-Baathist guerillas and "terrorists who try to hinder rebuilding efforts," according to a statement released by the US Central Command. The US-led coalition forces declared a two-week long weapons amnesty programme that came to an end this weekend. Only a small number of arms were actually turned in: about 700 guns.

Far more Iraqis, it seems, including Shafi's family, put their weapons into hiding.

"Everyone who feels disappointed by the Americans is coming here. The people who want to make trouble come to Fallujah to disrupt things in the city," says Mayor Taha Bidawi Hamid. Moreover, he is already dealing with his third rotation of US forces in the city, he says. "Each time a new group comes in, we lose focus because they don't know how to deal with things."

Internet

ထုတ်တုန်နှစ်သ တိုးမြှင့်ခြင်း

Poll shows Iraqi war worsens image of Spain

MADRID, 16 June — About 59 per cent of the Spaniards believe that the image of the country worsened with the country's support for the US-led war in Iraq, according to an opinion poll released recently.

The poll, made by the Elcano Institute of International and Strategic Studies in May, revealed that most Spaniards are of the view that the war in Iraq tarnished the image of Spain in the world, but increased its political power.

Ten per cent of those polled think that Spanish power has increased by 4.3 per cent and 4.9 per cent with the Iraq war and will keep on growing if the country continues to seek greater aspirations.

For 77 per cent of the Spaniards polled, it was illegitimate that the international community imposed democracy on a country and that it would be better to proceed with a change through peaceful means.

Most of those polled maintain that it is illegitimate that a country attacks another just because the former feels threatened.

Britain and Spain were the United States' firmest allies in its war against Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi motorists disembark from their vehicle at a checkpoint prior to being frisked by US troops near Fallujah, 80 kms west of Baghdad on 15 June, 2003. Hundreds of US troops backed by tanks and helicopters raided the restive town of Fallujah and neighbouring places arresting suspected militia leaders and seizing illegal weapons in a major operation. —INTERNET

Senate panel to review weapons data

WASHINGTON, 16 June — Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Pat Roberts said yesterday his panel will hold closed hearings and probably will produce a report on what US intelligence agencies knew about weapons of mass destruction in Iraq before the war and whether the Bush administration conveyed that information accurately to the public.

He said that intelligence agencies have delivered "voluminous" material to the committee and that he has encouraged all members to read it before they begin questioning analysts or policymakers. Hearings, he said, will take place behind closed doors but could conclude with a public hearing if members think one is warranted.

Roberts, appearing on CBS's "Face the Nation," pledged to move on a bipartisan basis to examine the issue outside a "political context." He said he thinks the committee "will probably have a classified report and a public report."

Sen Carl M Levin (D-Mich.), ranking member of the Armed Services Committee, complained during the same programme that Senate Republicans are not doing enough to ensure there is a thorough bipartisan review of whether the information about Iraq's development of weapons of mass destruction was hyped to build support for the war, a question he said "goes to the heart of our intelligence."

Roberts (R-Kan) said he plans to inter-

view administration officials. He reiterated his "open invitation" to anyone in the intelligence community "who thinks that their analytical product was skewed in any way, or if they were intimidated, or if they were coerced." He said the committee has already heard from one person who would want to share such concerns, he said.

The CIA has previously said that one of its employees complained to the agency ombudsman late last year that information was being distorted to support going to war, but that the complaint was ill-founded. An official has denied that three such complaints have been filed with the CIA ombudsman, as *The Washington Post* reported May 31.

CIA Director George J. Tenet and senior foreign policy officials in the Bush administration have sought to rebut criticism that the agency's intelligence on Iraq's possession of chemical and biological weapons was exaggerated. The search for such weapons in Iraq continues.

Internet

Poll shows economy hurts New York mayor's approval rating

NEW YORK, 16 June — A *New York Times* poll released Friday showed New York mayor Michael Bloomberg's approval rating had reached an all-time low of 24 per cent as a result of job losses, tax hikes and service cut.

Only 24 per cent of those polled said they approved of the job he was doing, the lowest approval rating for any mayor since the paper began taking polls on mayor's performance in 1978.

It seems the negative outlook has a lot to do with the city's fiscal problems. Almost three-quarters of those surveyed said the economy is bad, and 60 per cent thought life in the city had gotten worse in the past year.

The findings represent a sharp turnaround over the last two years in how New Yorkers view their city and their own life within its boundaries. For example, less than a month after the September 11 terror attack in 2001, 54 per cent thought that the city would be a better place to live in 10 to 15 years. Whereas among those polled over the last week, only 30 per cent said they believed that New York City would be a better place to live in 10 to 15 years.

People appeared to link their opinion of the mayor to their own financial problems. For example, among the 59 per cent of the respondents who said that it is harder to make ends meet than a year ago, 74 per cent

disapproved of Bloomberg's performance. Among the 59 per cent who said the proposed budget cuts would hurt them personally, 74 per cent also disapproved of the job the mayor was doing.

Follow-up interviews with people surveyed indicated that respondents seemed turned off by the measures. Bloomberg has taken to balance the city's budget and by his personal style, generally considered non-confrontational and enigmatic. His reputation as an outsider, by birth or by his income bracket, appeared to persist. "He's not a New Yorker, and he's not a fighter. You have to be crazy to run this town because we're a bunch of crazy people," Stephanie Wilson, 50, of Bronx said, adding that Bloomberg does not have "the gusto to really deal with issues in an aggressive manner".

Although Bloomberg has tried to forge close ties with minority New Yorkers, the poll did not show that his efforts were paying off. For instance, his approval rating among Whites is 31 per cent, but only 15 per cent among Black respondents and 19 per cent among Hispanic residents. — MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi police inspect a 50-caliber anti-aircraft gun and bullets turned over by an unidentified Iraqi resident a day after the deadline for the weapons amnesty campaign by the US forces have elapsed on 15 June, 2003 in al-Sulaigh Police Station in Baghdad, Iraq. Few Iraqis turned in their weapons during the first week of a 14-day amnesty programme for illegal guns, US Central Command said Sunday. —INTERNET

US troops ambushed amid drive to extinguish resistance

BAGHDAD, 16 June — Guerilla fighters ambushed an American convoy in a hostile region north of Baghdad yesterday, wounding several soldiers, as the US army stepped up search-and-destroy operations against fighters loyal to Saddam Hussein.

The convoy was ambushed as the US military launched Operation Desert Scorpion, a mission intended to root out Saddam loyalists, including suspected foreign fighters, after a spate of attacks that have killed more than 40 American soldiers since major combat was declared over on 1 May.

On the road south of the town of Balad a crippled American lorry was left smouldering after the ambush. Apache helicopters buzzed overhead, searching for the attackers while tanks and armoured vehicles surrounded the lorry. Soldiers said several casualties had been rescued. The attack happened as the convoy travelled from Baghdad to Balad, about 60 miles to the north.

It came under attack about 12 miles south of its destination.

As the US army continued its sweep through central Iraq yesterday, sand-coloured tanks and armoured vehicles crowded the roads north of Baghdad, in an attempt to stamp out Iraqi resistance. But the effort to disarm the Iraqis, who traditionally own weapons, is proving less than successful with only 700 guns out of an estimated five million in the country being handed in under an amnesty that has just ended.

The lumbering American armoured columns, supported by helicopters, seem out of all proportion to the threat of attack. At one moment yesterday the army was

claiming to have detained 74 suspected members of al-Qa'ida south of Kirkuk, but later decided they had no connection with the organisation.

Arrests are often made on vague or tainted information. In Baquba, a fruit-growing town 30 miles north-west of Baghdad, two queues had formed yesterday at the local police station. One consisted of informers denouncing members of the former regime and the other of relatives of detainees trying to find out where they were being held.

"The problem is that anybody can tell the Americans that a man is an Ali Baba — a looter — just because they have some money," complained Salman Shamar, who

is vainly trying to find two of his cousins at the 4th Infantry Division's base inside an old Iraqi air base near the town.

He was not having much success. American soldiers said he should inquire at the police station for his relatives. He said he had just been there and had been told to go to the base. "We don't know what those idiots are doing over there at the police station. We don't have a list of detainees here," said an exasperated US soldier at the entrance to the base.

Internet

စက်မှုရေးရာ: ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

France not to accept any deal on agriculture reform

PARIS, 16 June — France "will not accept whatever accord" on reforms of the European Union's disputed common agricultural policy (CAP), French President Jacques Chirac said on Friday.

Chirac expressed France's tough stance on the issue while speaking at the World Congress of Young Farmers in Paris.

In terms of the current tough negotiations to strike a deal on the reform of CAP by agricultural ministers from the member states of the Union, Chirac said "the CAP is an asset" and "the essence of our position in the current debate". "For that reason we will accept the agreement in Brussels," the President said, noting that France will "reject all risks of paying the bill twice, once in June at the occasion of an accord (at the EU level), another time at Cancun".

Cancun is a Mexican city where the World Trade Organization (WTO) will gather in September to kick off the stalled Doha round of trade liberalization talks.

The European Union is trying to cut farm subsidies for CAP has been criticized that it encourages massive overproduction dumped into poorer countries' markets. *MNA/Xinhua*

Iran, Saudi Arabia to strengthen cooperation on regional issues

TEHERAN, 16 June — Iran and Saudi Arabia have stressed the need for Teheran and Riyadh to adopt joint strategies in order to tackle regional crises, given the ongoing "sensitive situation of the region".

In a meeting with Saudi Foreign Minister Saud al-Faisal Saturday night before the latter ends his one-day visit to Teheran, Iran's Expediency Council Chairman and former President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani hailed common stances of the two countries on regional and world issues, including Iraq, Palestine and anti-terrorism, saying they were the results of "deep-rooted" ties.

For his part, al-Faisal said, "Riyadh and Teheran have common concerns with respect to regional situation and fighting terrorism and we have achieved the highest degree of mutual trust and cooperation."

Referring to Iraq, Rafsanjani said the US invasion of Iraq in the face of widespread international opposition indicated that American rulers did not attach any importance to international laws.

"America, by occupying Iraq and violating the rights of the defenceless Iraqi people, revealed its true face to the world and now the world's public opinion knows that fighting terrorism and weapons of mass

destruction are only pretexts for America," he said.

Al-Faisal said Iran and Saudi Arabia are now working to resolve the Iraq crisis. "We hope Iraq will see a government, trusted by all Iraqis, come to work."

Rafsanjani also denounced recent "terrorist steps" of the Zionist regime, he cited the Israeli regime and American support for Israel as "the most important" obstacles to establishing peace and security in the Middle East.

"It is impossible to resolve a crisis by creating more crises and there is no other way than putting a halt to the massacre of the oppressed Palestinian people and restoring their rights in order to finally resolve the Middle East crisis."

Rafsanjani implicitly rejected the US-backed roadmap for peace between the Palestinians and Israelis, saying, "any plan, shy of guaranteeing the interests of the Palestinian people, is doomed to fail".

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi police inspect bomb-making materials turned over by an unidentified Iraqi resident a day after the deadline for the weapons amnesty campaign by the US forces has elapsed on 15 June, 2003 in al-Sulaigh Police Station in Baghdad, Iraq. Few Iraqis turned in their weapons during the first week of a 14-day amnesty programme for illegal guns, US Central Command said Sunday. —INTERNET

Congress debates US intelligence on Iraq weapons

WASHINGTON, 16 June — Lawmakers wrestled with the awkward failure of US-led forces to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, as Congress began reviewing the intelligence used to justify the war that ousted Saddam Hussein.

Leading members of Congress told Sunday talk shows that they had received voluminous classified materials from US intelligence agencies, which will be reviewed behind closed doors.

"If these weapons are never discovered, it will raise enormous questions about how we put together and act on the intelligence we gather in this country," said Representative Jane Harman, the top Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee.

"And that will make it much harder going forward for this administration or any other administration to claim we should preempt action by some head of a country based on our intelligence," she told "Fox News Sunday". US-led forces have yet to locate conclusive evidence backing the US leader's central case for war: that Saddam possessed chemical and biological weapons, pursued nuclear arms, and might one day have armed terrorists with them.

Democrats have pushed for a formal investigation into the intelligence that led the United States to invade Iraq, but President George W Bush's Republican party has proceedings that would include public hearings.

Senator Pat Roberts, who heads the Select

Committee on Intelligence, said he still believes that Saddam possessed banned weapons. "The real bottom line is what has happened to them, from the standpoint of national security," he told CBS's "Face the Nation."

In an opinion piece Sunday in *The Washington Post*, Senator John McCain said he was also surprised that US-led forces had not yet uncovered a chemical or nuclear weapons arsenal in Iraq.

"But I find it impossible to credit as serious the suggestion that this war shouldn't have been fought because, lacking better intelligence, we ought to have assumed Hussein's good faith," McCain wrote.

Democrats warned that the review of the intelligence on Iraq could have far-reaching consequences if conclusions about Iraqi weapons programmes are not borne out.

"This is not a routine inquiry. This goes to the heart of our intelligence. Is it objective, or has it been shaded — has it been stretched by the intelligence community to reach some conclusion?" questioned Senator Carl Levin, the top Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee. "The dangers to our future are great if we cannot rely on the intelligence community to give us objective, credible evidence," he told CBS. —*Internet*



Women carry empty gas canisters to a gas factory in Baghdad, Iraq, on 15 June, 2003. —INTERNET

Saddam's daughter says ex-Iraqi leader lives

LONDON, 16 June — A daughter of deposed Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein told a British newspaper she believes he is still alive, even though she has not seen him since before the US-led invasion.

"The last time I spoke to my father was five days before the war," Raghad Hussein was quoted as saying by the *Sunday Times*. "He was in good spirits."

"I know he survived the war."

But once Baghdad fell, it was all so quick, all the family went our own ways. I am not in touch with any

of them. But I believe they are still alive."

The newspaper said one of its Baghdad-based reporters spoke to Raghad by telephone Saturday.

Raghad, 35, was quoted as saying she now lives with her sister Rana and their children in a "simple house" in Baghdad. She denied reports that she and her sister planned to seek asylum in England, where a cousin lives.

"I like England. I have been there before, and it's nice, quiet and very cold. But politically, it is impossible," she said. Saddam, whose government was toppled in April, has three sons and three daughters by two wives.

Two of the sons, Odai and Qusai, were prominent in their father's regime. The other children kept a low profile.

Raghad and Rana were married to brothers, Lt-Gen Hussein Kamel and Saddam Kamel.

Internet



This is a 1990 picture of Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, centre seated, with his family. At the back row, from left, are Hussein Kamel, Saddam Kamel, his wife and Saddam Hussein's daughter, Rana, Hussein's oldest son Odai, Hussein Kamel's wife and Saddam Hussein's oldest daughter, Raghad. In her arms is her son Ali, the President's first grandson. Others in the photo are unidentified. Raghad has not seen her father since before the US-led war, but believes he is still alive, the British newspaper *The Sunday Times* reported on 15 June, 2003. —Internet



An Iraqi man takes pipes from the bombed Olympic sports building in Baghdad, Iraq, on 15 June, 2003.

INTERNET

Pakistani Lower House adopts resolution to support Musharraf

ISLAMABAD, 16 June — Pakistani National Assembly on Saturday "unanimously" adopted a resolution to express its complete confidence in the leadership of President Pervez Musharraf prior to his visit to the United States, Germany, France and Britain.

The ruling Pakistan Muslim League (Q) moved a resolution in the National Assembly to support Musharraf, who they said has pursued successful policies for the revival of the country's economy, according to the *Associated Press of Pakistan*.

The ruling party's leader Shujaat Hussain, who presented the resolution with the absence of the opposition members, said that as a result of these policies, Musharraf has received special invitations to visit those countries in the coming week.

He said the Lower House gives prime importance to the President's landmark visit to

those countries and assured full support and cooperation in this regard.

The National Assembly supports all the policies made by Musharraf, which have put Pakistan on the road to economic recovery and prosperity, Hussain stressed, adding these policies are paving the way for enhancing the image of Pakistan.

The Lower House also viewed that the leadership of Prime Minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali is the guarantee for the continuation of these policies for better national interests, Hussain said.

The National Assembly wants to point out some elements engaged in

weakening the country's democracy and defaming the country at this critical juncture, said Hussain.

He said these elements during the recent ongoing dialogue initiated by the government for strengthening democracy had created hurdles to fail the efforts.

It is reported that the opposition parties, whose parliamentary members boycotted the present National Assembly sessions, want to launch a one-day nationwide strike during Musharraf's visit abroad to protest his controversial constitutional amendments named the Legal Framework Order.

MNA/Xinhua

Blast rocks Baghdad road tunnel, at least 2 hurt

BAGHDAD, 16 June — An explosion rocked a road tunnel in central Baghdad on Monday as a passenger car was driving through it, injuring at least two Iraqis, a Reuters witness said.

Correspondent Michael Georgy said US troops arrived on the scene after the explosion, as two Iraqis came staggering out of the tunnel covered in blood and soot. One man had a finger blown off and injuries to his face and leg.

It was not immediately clear what caused the blast.

"We were driving in the car and there was a blast beneath us," said Ali Mohsen, one of five people in the car.

Staff Sergeant Kenneth Raynor, a US soldier at the scene, said American convoys drove through the tunnel several times every day. — Internet

Senator says open hearings on WMD possible

WASHINGTON, 16 June — The chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee held out the possibility Sunday of open hearings in the panel's examination of the quality of prewar intelligence on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and how it was used by the Bush administration.

But Senator Pat Roberts, R-Kan, would go no further than promising eventual public hearings "if we think that is warranted".

Senate Democrats have demanded open hearings and a public report to be issued after the committee ends its review. He also said on CBS' *Face the Nation* that the committee would publish a secret report of its findings, but a public report probably would be released as well, another possible concession to Democrats.

The closed hearings of Roberts' committee will begin this week, handling the question of the information President Bush used to build a case for war against Iraq as routine

oversight of the nation's intelligence services.

The format overrules Democratic members' demands for a more formal investigation with extensive questioning of witnesses about why weapons of mass destruction have not been found in Iraq and accusations that some evidence cited by the administration has proved false or misleading.

Last week, the GOP suggested that such a probe could become politicized or harm national security and said it instead favored the routine oversight formula for hearings by the intelligence and armed services committees. — Internet

Malaysia, Turkey to boost bilateral trade

KUALA LUMPUR, 16 June — Banking on the visit of Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan to Malaysia, Turkey aims to increase bilateral trade between the two countries to one billion US dollars a year.

Erdogan said Turkey was seriously looking at ways to increase bilateral trade with Malaysia, which now hovers around 270 million dollars.

"Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir, at our meeting yesterday, said that he would like to see trade between the two countries reach the one billion-US-dollar mark, and

we fully welcome this. We would like to see trade increase at the very first opportunity," he told a Press conference here.

He said the primary goal, as far as business was concerned, was to boost trade between the two countries, and "if we follow this goal and work on it we would achieve it."

MNA/Xinhua

Iraq-Turkey oil pipeline operational on Monday

BAGHDAD, 16 June — The main oil pipeline from Iraq to Turkey is expected to be back in working condition within 48 hours after it was hit by fire and explosions caused by a gas leak, a US military spokesman said on Saturday.

"We hope the facility will be back up if not today then tomorrow," the spokesman said.

The de facto Oil Minister Thamer Ghadhban, appointed by the US Administration in Iraq, said earlier that Thursday's blasts on the pipeline could hamstring Iraq's ability to export crude.

The 600-mile pipeline from the Kirkuk oilfields to the Turkish Mediterranean port of Ceyhan had a capacity of 1.1 million barrels per day before the US-led war that ousted Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein. It has not yet resumed pumping oil since the US attack on Baghdad.

"It will affect export capability. It is a pipeline and any incident in a pipeline would affect exports, but it can be repaired," Ghadhban told *Reuters* in an interview.

He did not give an assessment of the impact of the fire and explosions.

US officials say sabotage to the pipeline is not suspected.

"There's no indication that anything was intentional. It appears for now it was an accident," the US spokesman said.

"It's another example of infrastructure that has gone without any capital investment by the former regime."

Iraq had hoped to restore normal exports in July after it completes sales from storage at the end of this month.

"We expect the first shipment (of oil sales) will be around 20th of June from Ceyhan," Ghadhban said, referring to the sales from storage.

Postwar looting and sabotage at oil facilities have delayed the resumption of Iraq's oil exports and will keep shipments well below prewar levels for several months.

MNA/Reuters

Vietnam sets GDP growth target of 7.5% for 2004

HANOI, 16 June — Vietnam has set 2004's gross domestic product (GDP) growth target of at least 7.5 per cent, according to a report of *Vietnam News Agency* on Friday.

Prime Minister Phan Van Khai said the country's industrial and construction sector would grow by 10-10.5 per cent, services by 7.2-7.5 per cent and agriculture-forestry and aquaculture by 3.9-4.2 per cent.

In an instruction released on Thursday, he called for an appropriate policy to increase domestic saving, mobilize 35 per cent of GDP for investment. Total state budget revenues accounting for 20-21 per cent of GDP, increasing spending on education, health care, science and technology and poverty reduction, improving banking services and reducing bad debts will be the other main tasks. — MNA/Xinhua

Young superspy wins Britain's 2003 Children's Book Award

LONDON, 16 June — "Skeleton Key," a thriller about the adventures of a 14-year-old superspy, won Britain's 2003 Children's Book Award, sponsor Red House book club announced Saturday.

The book, the third of a series of thriller fictions written by London author Anthony Horowitz, has already sold more than 250,000 copies, according to local reports.

British children also voted a humorous guide to underwear, titled "Pants", by illus-

trator Nick Sharratt and cartoonist Giles Andreae, this year's best book for younger children. Books entered for the award were initially reviewed by 25,000 children from all over Britain. The children then voted again via the Internet to choose the book

of the year among the ten most favourite books.

Among previous winners, Roald Dahl, one of the world's leading children's authors, and JK Rowling, creator of boy wizard Harry Potter, are worldwide well-known big stars. — MNA/Xinhua



Women cry as US troops raid their house at Khaldiya, 70 kms (40 miles) west of Baghdad, Iraq on 16 June, 2003. Hundreds of US troops backed by tanks and helicopters raided several cities and villages on the second day of 'Operation Desert Scorpion', arresting suspected militia leaders and seizing illegal weapons. —INTERNET

မြို့ခြံရွာတာ ထိန်းပါလေလွင့်၊ ထုတ်တုန်မြင့်

Iraq's Olympic programme to be discussed

DENVER, 16 June — A delegation of officials from the US Olympic Committee, the IOC and US State Department will meet in Kuwait next week to discuss plans for rebuilding Iraq's Olympic programme after it was decimated by war and years of neglect. The meeting, Monday and Tuesday in Kuwait City, also will include officials from the Kuwait-based Olympic Council of Asia and the United Nations Development Programme.

The group will discuss plans for providing training opportunities for elite Iraqi athletes, rebuilding the country's sports infrastructure — particularly at the youth level — and creating exchanges of athletes and coaches to share training information.

"Sports has the power to create hope and opportunity, and we think it is very important to be part of an effort to rebuild the sports programme in Iraq," USOC spokesman Darryl Seibel said. "This is an effort that will draw upon the resources of many different groups. This meeting represents the first step in what will be a long-term process."

USOC officials already have discussed plans to bring Iraqi athletes over to train at US training centres, and they also are looking to send sporting goods equipment to Iraq to support the country's youth sports programmes.

In recent weeks, USA Wrestling officials have talked to the USOC about bringing Iraqi wrestlers over to train in the United States

prior to the Freestyle Wrestling World Championships this September in New York. There also have been discussions about allowing Iraqi archers to train here before that sport's world championships next month in New York.

"We think that it's a neat thing what they're doing and we would definitely like to be a part of it," USA wrestling spokesman Gary Abbott said.

The meeting in Kuwait will include USOC vice president Paul George and international affairs managing director Greg Harney; Pere Miro, the IOC's director of National Olympic Committee Relations; and Nina Bishop of the US State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

President Sheik Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah and director general Abdul Mutaleb Ahmad will represent the OCA, the regional Olympic authority for Asia and the Middle East. Francis Dubois, director of the United Nations Development Programme in Baghdad, also will attend. —Internet



Iraqi protesters gather around a British tank during a rally in the southern Iraqi city of Basra. Some 12,000 Iraqi Shiite Muslims marched in Basra to demand the withdrawal of British occupation forces from Iraq's main southern city. — INTERNET

APEC Investment Mart attracts high level of interest

BANGKOK, 16 June — Both exhibitors and potential visitors have displayed a high level of interest in the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) Investment Mart due to be held in October in Bangkok.

The Board of Investment (BOI) secretary-general, Somphong Wannapha, said that a large number of both domestic and foreign private sector companies in five core industrial sectors had said that they would exhibit in the event, which will be hosted by Thailand on

October 16-21.

To date 70 per cent of the total exhibition area of 30,000 square metres have been booked by leading companies, making for over 400 exhibition booths, according to a report of the *Thai News Agency* Friday.

The five targeted industrial sectors are automobiles and automobile parts, fashion, agriculture and food, and IC. Companies which have already said they will join include Toyota Motors Asia, Honda Motors, Thai Summit, Sony (Thailand),

Samsung (Thailand) and Toshiba (Thailand).

APEC members have also displayed a pleasing level of interest in the event, with teams of high-ranking public and private sector executives due to join the event from countries, including Japan, Mexico, China and Chile.

He expressed hope that this would help companies create international brand images, and lead to the eventual creation of global marketing bases.

MNA/Xinhua

Myers says US must "go after" Saddam

WASHINGTON, 16 June — Former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein is probably alive and the United States has to go after him, General Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told *Fox News Channel* on Saturday.

Myers also said there are at least five groups operating against US and British forces in Iraq, that weapons of mass destruction will be found in time, and there was no attempt by the White House to falsify the existence of those weapons.

"I think, probably the majority opinion is that he (Saddam) is alive and it's something that has to be dealt with...." Myers told *Fox* anchor Rita Cosby. "You know we're gathering a lot of his senior aides and folks that he worked closely with. We've got to go after Saddam as well, and we are."

Asked about recent attacks on US soldiers, Myers replied: "... There are about five different groups in there that are fighting; they're the

ones that are still loyal to the Baath party, and they think that maybe it will come back.

"There's this Ansar al-Islam group that's been in there since before we went in; they've been in there for years; other Jihadists had just come in to fight," he said.

"There was a lot of money in Iraq," Myers said when asked who was funding the fighters. "We know that there are groups inside Iraq that are sponsored by Iran. We know that some groups probably flow in from Syria, at least they have in the past. The borders on both sides are pretty porous."

Citing the assumption that Iraq had dual-use production facilities for weapons of mass destruction,

chemical and biological weapons, Myers said, "It's not a question of whether they had or not. Obviously they had the capability. I think we just need to be patient. And this is going to take time. We've been there 90 days."

Myers denied that there was pressure from the White House to emphasize weapons of mass destruction in Iraq — the primary cause the Bush Administration cited for going to war.

"No, absolutely no pressure ever put on me and I don't know of any pressure. The intelligence community I think, called it as they saw it and I see most of it; I talk to a lot of them. I've never detected that."

MNA/Reuters

KNOC says international oil prices fall as output increases

SEOUL, 16 June — International oil prices fell as Iraq, Russia and other non-Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) producers increased output, the Korea National Oil Corp. said Saturday.

The state oil corporation said the price of Dubai spot crude fell Friday to US\$25.44 per barrel, down \$0.53 from the previous day. It was the second straight day that prices fell.

More ringtones! North Sea Brent fetched \$27.11 or \$0.88 lower than Thursday, while West Texas Intermediate fell by \$0.84 to \$30.63 during the same period.

An expert at the state oil corporation said prices began to head south after a report showed the commercial stockpiles of oil held by members of the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development reached 2.43 billion barrels as of April, up 79 million barrels from one month earlier.

"The restarting of earnest production by the Iraqi fields and particularly the output by Russia are causing prices to fall, and we expect this trend to continue in the near future," he added.

Internet

British Minister rejects single EU foreign policy

LONDON, 16 June — A single European foreign policy is unfeasible, Britain's minister for the European Union said in remarks published on Monday, countering calls by some European policy makers for more centralized EU decision-making.

"The federalist vision of a single EU foreign policy, implemented by a central bureaucracy without the consent of all the governments, is neither realistic nor desirable," the *Financial Times* quoted the minister, Dennis MacShane, as saying. The EU, soon to span 25 countries from the Atlantic to Russia's borders, on Friday adopted the first draft constitution for an enlarged union. An EU foreign minister was among its proposals. — MNA/Reuters



The remains of a US army truck is seen near Balad 40 kilometres, (25 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 16 June, 2003. The truck was attacked in an ambush on 15 June with a number of soldiers injured. —INTERNET

ASEAN appreciates China's position on N-weapons treaty

PHNOM PENH, 16 June — ASEAN Sunday expressed its appreciation on China's position on the accession to the Protocol to the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty.

In its Annual Report released here on the eve of a series of meetings, ASEAN recalled that during the China-ASEAN summit last year, China expressed its willingness to work with the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) towards early signing of the protocol by all the world's five nuclear powers.

The Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty is ASEAN's concrete contribution to the world, it said. The treaty contributes to general and complete disarmament of nuclear weapons in the region, thus

greatly promote international peace and security, it added.

Moreover, the treaty is consistent with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty which recognizes the right of any group of states to conclude regional treaties in order to assume the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories.

China's position and all the measures it takes provide frameworks for the promotion of mutual confidence among nations and substantially benefit peace and stability of the region, it emphasized. —MNA/Xinhua



Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, centre, presides over the opening session of ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting on 16 June, 2003, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

INTERNET

France weighs peacekeeping offer for Mideast

PARIS, 16 June — France said on Sunday it would discuss with European Union colleagues the possibility of sending peacekeeping forces to the Middle East if they could help to halt Israeli-Palestinian bloodshed.

Speaking after a week of violence that threatens a US-backed "road map" for peace, French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin said peacekeepers would only be sent with the backing of the international community.

"Let's see what such a force could contribute on the ground," Villepin told French radio station Radio J.

"If it appears that all the parties want it and that a peacekeeping force would halt movements of terrorists or act in such a way as to avoid raising the stakes, then let's do it."

Villepin, who is due to meet fellow European Union foreign ministers on Monday, said he would ask

EU countries to start looking at the feasibility of sending a peacekeeping force.

Last week UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan told an Israeli newspaper he thought dispatching an armed peacekeeping force to the Middle East would help calm the troubled region, but US Secretary of State Colin Powell ruled out sending peacekeepers.

The idea, first put forward by Annan more than three years ago, was again embraced by the Palestinians and rejected by Israel.

Villepin's proposal appeared to echo French concerns that the peace process risks being monopolized by the United States.

MNA/Reuters

Building starts on east China's largest car market

JINAN, 16 June — Construction on the largest automobile market in east China, which combines car sales, maintenance, refitting, spare parts supply with car-centred recreations, started Thursday at Huaiyin District of Jinan, capital of Shandong Province.

The automobile market comprises zones for car sales, truck sales and spare parts sales as well as a racing ground, drive-in cinema, and holiday villas. Li Shengli, head of the Huaiyin District, predicted that the annual car sales of the market would soar to 50 billion yuan (six billion US dollars) by 2007. Jinan has 37 motor vehicle markets with total annual sales of 6.98 billion yuan and 30-odd maintenance plants with combined earnings of 410 million yuan.

Bank savings for urban and rural residents in the province climbed to 600 billion yuan (72 billion US dollars), indicating huge potential purchasing power, said Sun Qiang, general manager of the Runhua Group, the district's largest car sales group which will be represented at the market. —MNA/Xinhua



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt formally unveils the stone inscription to mark the opening ceremony of Shwewahyaung road section-4 linking Bilin and Kyaikto townships in Mon State. (News reported on 15-6-2003)— MNA

The Union of Myanmar The State Peace and...

(from page 1)

6. In section 43 of Myanmar Gemstone Law the expression "fails to comply with the rules, procedures, orders and directives of section 16 sub-section (f)" shall be substituted by the expression "fails to comply with the rules and orders issued under this Law."

(Sd) Than Shwe
Senior General
Chairman

The State Peace and Development Council

Minister inspects construction of roads and bridges

YANGON, 16 June — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, accompanied by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein and officials, yesterday inspected Myitnge Bridge construction in Mandalay Division. At the briefing hall, officials concerned reported on tasks being carried out, progress of work and requirements.

The minister gave necessary instructions and urged officials to complete work in time. Then, the minister and party also inspected Myitnge-Sagaing Road.

They then went to Ayeyawady (Yadanabon) Bridge construction site on Sagaing Bank. Responsible engineers reported on tasks being carried out and progress on both banks. The minister then urged officials to carry out the tasks systematically and gave instructions on timely completion of work and approach road construction. — MNA



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt supplicates religious affairs to Sayadaws at the ceremony to hoist Shwehtidaw atop Kyaikhtisaung Pagoda in Bilin Township. (News reported on 15-6-2003)— MNA

Information Sub-Committee for Organizing Fourth World Buddhist Summit holds coord meeting

YANGON, 16 June—The Information Sub-Committee for Organizing the Fourth World Buddhist Summit held the first work coordination meeting at the meeting hall of Myanmar Radio and Television on Pyay Road here this afternoon with an address by Chairman of the Sub-committee Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein.

First, Chairman of the Sub-committee Deputy Minister for Information

Brig-Gen Aung Thein made a speech. Then, Secretary of the Sub-Committee Director-General of MRTV U Khin Maung Htay reported on the information matters.

Next, Director-General of the Religious Affairs Department Dr Myo Myint and members of the Sub-Committee dealt with the information matters. The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the Chairman of the Sub-Committee.—MNA



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt attending while Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and Minister for PBANRDA Col Thein Nyunt formally open Shwewahyaung road section-4. (News reported on 15-6-2003)— MNA

UMFCCI officials leave for Thailand

YANGON, 16 June— Accountant Daw Phyu Phyu Than, Assistant Administrative Officer U Tun Shwe and Senior Clerk Daw Thi Thi Win left here by air today for

Thailand to attend the Attracting Foreign Investment to the GMS to be held at Mekong Institute Khon Kaen University, Thailand, from 16 to 27 June, 2003.—MNA

SARS prevention

- * There is no outbreak of SARS in Myanmar.
- * Preventive measures are being taken against the spread of SARS from other countries.
- * The people are urged to participate in the project.



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt attends the opening ceremony of Cheinchaung Bridge in Zokthok Village and the bridge in Anaingpon Village in Bilin Township. (News reported)— MNA



Myanmar soccer fans enjoy the first semi-final match between Myanmar and Vietnamese youths. (News on page 16)— NLM

Entries invited to National Motto, Literary and Photo Competitions

YANGON, 16 June — The National Motto, Literary and Photo Competitions Organizing Committee has announced to hold the 14th Colour Photo Competition for the year 2003.

For the Colour Photo Competition, the title given is "Own National Culture". Those wishing to compete in the contest may send four printed entries which do not

smaller than 10" by 12" size ones.

The entries must be own creations and they have not won prizes in the local and international photo contests. The entries must be submitted together with two passport size photos and brief biography. The contest will not accept the entries shot by Digital Camera.

The entries must be sent

to Director U Tun Min of the Information and Public Relations Department, 22-24, Pansodan Street, not later than 15 October, 2003.

The prize winner list of the contest will be announced at the beginning of November, 2003. Hand-some prizes will be presented to the winners.

MNA

Supreme Court Justice leaves for Bangkok

YANGON, 16 June — A Myanmar delegation led by Supreme Court Justice Dr Tin Aung Aye this morning left here to attend Sub-Regional Needs-Assessment and Planning Meeting of Chief Justices of Mekong

Countries to be held in Bangkok, Thailand from 17 to 18 June.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Deputy Chief Justice U Than Oo, Director-General U Soe Nyunt, directors, of-

ficials of Supreme Court and relatives.

Supreme Court Justice Dr Tin Aung Aye was accompanied by Additional Division Justice of Yangon Division Court U Htin Zaw.

MNA



Supreme Court Justice Dr Tin Aung Aye being seen off at the airport.— MNA



An official of Kanbawza Bank Ltd presents K 5 million to Myanmar youth team. MNA

Japanese Ambassador calls on Information Minister

YANGON, 16 June — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Mr Yuji Miyamoto, Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar, at his office here this morning.

Also present at the call were Information Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Director-General of Myanmar Radio and Television U Khin Maung Htay, Director-General of the Information and Public Relations Department U Chit Naing, Managing Director of the Printing and Publishing Enterprise U Myint Thein, Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise U Tin Kha, Managing Director of Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise U Bo Kyi and Chief Editor of The New Light of Myanmar Daily U Maung Maung Aye.— MNA



Myanmar and Vietnamese youth players tussle the ball in the first semi-final match. (News on page 16)— NLM

Shan State (North) MCWASC Patron supplicates on SARS to Sayadaws

YANGON, 16 June — Daw Khin Thant Zin, Patron of Shan State (North)

Supervisory Committee for Maternal and Child Welfare Association wife of the Commander of North-East Command, accompanied by members of the Supervisory Committee, paid homage to presiding Sayadaws and members of the Sangha at Sunlun, Seikta Thukha and Zeya Mingalatapon monasteries in Lashio on 13 June afternoon.

Then, Daw Khin Thant Zin and surgeons supplicated on facts about Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and prevention matters to the Sayadaws.

They then donated provisions to the Sayadaws.

MNA



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives Japanese Ambassador Mr Yuji Miyamoto.

MNA

No man is above the law

U Pyay Kyaw

(Continued from yesterday)

The Secretary-1 pointed out the importance of nationalist spirit and national force as follows:

"Taking advantage of the wealth difference and technological superiority, attempts to dominate among the sovereign nations and putting pressure on those nations are being made widely. Under such circumstances, the power of high, strong morale is an invaluable national strength for a developing country like Myanmar. National Spirit is the prime strength in struggling to keep ourselves free from the influence of some big nations with wealth power technological superiority."

"Minions of the external powers who are afraid of the impact of nationalist spirit, are launching propaganda that nowadays the nationalist spirit is out of date and that only the way of life of some big western nations is the proper and correct international standards. The Union of Myanmar assumes that the national policy— Non-disintegration of the Union; Non-disintegration of national solidarity and Perpetuation of independence and sovereignty—is essential for all the developing countries. It is the ethics to be firmly adhered by all the citizens who are patriotic and have love for the nation and the people."

Nowadays, we come across the ones who are saying that the nationalist spirit is out of date and that only the life style of some big western nations is the proper and correct international standards. I believe that they are the ones who ignore the nationalist spirit which have flourished throughout successive eras for ensuring independence, security, peace, tranquillity and prosperity of the entire nation and the ones who want to show their nature of being minions.

Once, I heard them say that there were none of neo- or old colonialists in the world. According to them, it can be vividly seen that they are defending the old and neo-colonialists since they are colluding with the colonialists. Today, some colonialist countries interfere in the affairs of independent countries with the use of force and the whole world abhor their acts. At such a time, people begin to denounce the ones who say that nationalist spirit is out of date and there are no colonialists and the ones who copy the life style of western countries.

At a time when the entire nation is witnessing the prevalence of peace and tranquillity across the country and emergence of new roads and bridges, dams and reservoirs and schools and hospitals which are the results of nation-building endeavours, people will not tolerate unrest like the one that broke out in 1988 when there reigned anarchy. People will never forget the incidents that occurred in 1988 unrest in which innocent people were killed, factories, warehouses were destroyed and five warships of a certain western country entered Myanmar waters and the nation was on the verge of disintegration. People will not accept unrest just for the sake of democracy.

The people's desire is emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation which will guarantee national unity, perpetuation of the Union and its sovereignty. Myanmar will be able to enjoy the fruitful result of independence after realizing these goals. In other words, Myanmar people will be able to enjoy the result of development after practising genuine democracy. Myanmar assume that emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation is the taste of independence and fruits of democracy. The rule of law plays a key role in practising genuine democracy and safeguarding the property and lives of the people. Everyone needs to abide by the law. Then, peace and tranquillity and the basic human rights of people will be under the protection of the law. No nation in the world accept the breaching of law as practising democracy. Whatever country it may be— developed or underdeveloped, leftist country or rightist country— there is the law. Police stations, courts and prisons are for the ones who breach the law. A democratic country without police stations, courts and prisons have not emerged in the world to date. (But it is likely that a country of anarchists may not have police stations, courts, prisons and law.)

It is a must for every citizen to abide by the law. I have a goose-flesh whenever I noticed the list of crimes and prisoners of the so-called democratic countries. In their countries anyone who breaches the law is arrested. Even under the rights of democracy, if people in a small group stage a demonstration in a short period of time, it is OK with the authorities and the latter turn a blind eye to the former. But, if there are a lot of people with high demands in a demonstration and they hurt the policy of the State, there will be arrests and shootings. They usually say that no man is above the law. But, in a country where they want to take control and dominate, they make their lackeys breach the law. And if action is taken against them for breaching the law they demand to release them immediately. Therefore, I feel disappointed with their behaviour.

Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt said "There are rules and laws and regulations to be observed everywhere. Everyone needs to abide by the rules and regulations. Each and everyone has the right to profess the faith of his choice under the basic human rights. But it is to be noted that the basic human rights would not protect those who violate the existing law. The Government is the most responsible institution to protect the people who would like to live in peace and guard against anything harmful to them." I believe the unrest caused by the acts of NLD Daw Suu Kyi and group on 30 May near Dabayin was just breaching the law. The entire world accepts the saying "No man is above the law."

(Concluded)

(Translation:BG)
Kyemon: 15-6-2003

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

Efficient use of electricity

- * Use daylight as the main source of light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
- * Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp every day by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

Efficient use of fuel

- * Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
- * Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US\$ 5.5 million in a year
- * The amount, US \$ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

သတိပေးနိုးဆော်ချက်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တွင် (၆) မြို့နယ် (လမ်းမတော်၊ လသာ၊ ဝန်၊ ဘဲတန်း၊ ကျောက်တံတား၊ ဗိုလ်တမောင်၊ ပုဇွန်တောင်) အတွင်း ဟွန်းသံကင်းမဲ့အဖြစ် (၁-၆-၂၀၀၃) ရက်မှစတင်သတ်မှတ်သွားမည်ဖြစ်ရာ မော်တော်ယာဉ်မောင်းသူများအားလုံးမှ ယင်းဧရိယာအတွင်း မည်သည့်အကြောင်းနှင့်မျှ ဟွန်းမတီးကြရန်နှင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုမဖြစ်စေရန် အတွက်လည်း သတိပြု မောင်းနှင်ကြရန် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အနေအထား များမှာလည်း စည်ကမ်းတကျ သွားလာကြရန်နှင့် ကန့်သတ်ထားသည့် ဧရိယာအတွင်း ဝင်ရောက်စီးနင်းခြင်းမပြုကြရန်၊ ထို့အပြင် လမ်းအသွယ် ပြုသွားမှာလည်း လူသွား စကြာနံရံသွား၊ လူကြရန်နှင့် လူကု မျဉ်းကျားများ၊ လူကု ခုံကျော်တံတားတို့မှသာလမ်းဖြတ် ကူးကြပါရန်၊ လိုက်နာခြင်းမရှိပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူဆောင်ရွက်သွားမည်ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးနိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေး ကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

သတိပေးနိုးဆော်ချက်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်အတွင်း အချို့မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမှာ ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်း လမ်းစည်းကမ်း ချိုးဖောက်မှုများကြောင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုများ ဖြစ်ပွားခဲ့သဖြင့် ဒဏ်ရာရသူသေဆုံးသူများ များပြားလာသည်ကို တွေ့ရှိရပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုများ ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ကြေအေးသည့်ဖြစ်စေ မကြေအေးသည့်ဖြစ်စေ ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်း လမ်းစည်းကမ်းမှာ ယွင်းသော ယာဉ်မောင်းသူများအား တည်ဆဲဥပဒေအရ ထိထိရောက်ရောက် အရေးယူဆောင်ရွက်သွားမည် ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးနိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေး ကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

တိုက်ရိုက်ကြည့်ရှု အချိန်တိုနှင့်ကု

ပျောက်မှာသေချာ တီဘီရောဂါ

- * ရက်သတ္တပတ် (၃)ပတ်ကျော် ချောင်းဆိုးလျှင် နို့စပ်ရာ ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတွင် စစ်ဆေးပါ။
- * တီဘီလူနာများအား အစွမ်းထက်မြက်သော တီဘီဆေးဝါးများဖြင့် အခမဲ့ကုသပေးနေပါသည်။
- * တိုက်ရိုက်ကြည့်ရှု အချိန်တိုနှင့် ကုနည်းဖြင့် ကုသလျှင် တီဘီရောဂါ ပျောက်ကင်းပါသည်။

အိမ်တိုင်းမှာသစ်ပင် ရွာစဉ်မှာတောတန်း

တစ်တောဝင်တစ်တောင်တက်

မြို့တက်မယ့်လမ်း။

အေအိုင်ဒီအက်(စ်)(AIDS)

ခုခံအားကျဆင်းမှုကူးစက်ရောဂါ

- အေအိုင်ဒီအက်(စ်)ရောဂါသည် အိပ်(ချိ)အိုင်စီဗီ(HIV) ပိုးကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည်။
- အိပ်(ချိ)အိုင်စီဗီပိုးကူးစက်နေသူကို သာမန်လူနှင့် ခွဲခြား၍မရပါ။
- အေအိုင်ဒီအက်(စ်)ရောဂါဖြစ်လာပါက ပျောက်ကင်းအောင် ကုသ၍မရပါ။

အေအိုင်ဒီအက်(စ်)ရောဂါကူးစက်မှုမှ

ကာကွယ်တားဆီးရန်

- လိင်အပျော်အပါးလိုက်စားခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။ အကာအကွယ်ပစ္စည်းကို သုံးပါ။
- မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးသုံးစွဲခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

ဝမ်းရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားမှုမရှိစေရန်

- * ရေကိုကျိုချက်၍ သောက်ပါ။
- * ယင်နာစာများ မစားပါနှင့်။
- * ယင်လုံအိမ်သာ အသုံးပြုပါ။
- * အစာမစားမီနှင့်အိမ်သာမှအဆင်းတွင် လက်နှစ်ဘက်ကို ဆပ်ပြာဖြင့် စင်ကြယ်စွာဆေးကြောပါ။
- * အမှိုက်သရိုက်များကို စနစ်တကျစွန့်ပစ်ပါ။
- * ဝမ်းလျှောလျှင် ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနသို့ပြပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

ပျားရည်နှင့် အစွမ်းသတ္တိ

- ပျားရည်သည် အင်အားဖြည့်တင်းပေးရာတွင် အသန့်စင်ဆုံး အဟာရဓာတ်မျိုး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်တွင် သတ္တုဓာတ်၊ အင်ဇိုင်းနှင့် အဟာရဓာတ် အများအပြားပါဝင်ပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်သည် သစ်သီး၊ သကြားဓာတ် အဓိကပါဝင်သော သကြားဓာတ်ပေါင်း တစ်မျိုးဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်တွင် ဘက်တီးရီးယားပိုး များသန့်စင်ပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်တွင် ပဋိဇီဝစွမ်းရည်သတ္တိပါရှိသဖြင့် အနာဒဏ်ရာများ အနာကျက် မြန်စေပြီး လျှင်မြန်စွာပျောက်ကင်းစေပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်စားသုံးပြီး မိနစ်ပိုင်းအတွင်း စွမ်းအားတိုးတက်လာစေနိုင်ပါသည်။

မညာရေးနှင့် ဆက်သွယ်ရေးတိုးတက်လာ နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဆဲ

Beijing's SARS patients to drop to less than 60 in July

BEIJING, 16 June — The number of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) patients in Beijing hospitals is expected to drop to about 60 around July 10.

The forecast was based on a report made by a research group led by Fang Zhaoben, a professor at the Chinese University of Science and Technology in Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui Province.

Fang's group has been engaged in statistical analysis of figures released worldwide on SARS patients, sus-

pected SARS patients and SARS fatalities.

The group made a preliminary forecast on the decreasing trend of hospitalized SARS patients in Beijing, the worst-hit area in the world, with a method called chromatography non-linear trend.

Researchers estimated the number of SARS patients in

hospital in Beijing at 100 around July 5 and less than 60 around July 10, a number low enough for the World Health Organization to lift its travel advisory.

The next month was a critical period, Fang said, urging people in Beijing to remain vigilant in the fight against SARS.

MNA/Xinhua



A worker constructs a building next to a banner of World Health Organization Global Conference on SARS on display at a construction site in Kuala Lumpur on 16 June, 2003. Scientists and health officials are gathering in Malaysia for a conference to assess the global response to SARS and consider ways to minimize deaths from future outbreaks. —INTERNET

Treaty regulating GMO trade to start in September

NAIROBI, 16 June — The tiny Pacific nation of Palau has become the 50th country to ratify an international treaty regulating trade on genetically modified organisms, triggering the launch of the tighter rules in September.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) announced the development on Saturday, saying the treaty was not meant to block GMOs, which have become the focus of a fierce row between their main promoter, the United States, and a sceptical Europe.

"Palau has become the 50th country to ratify the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, starting a 90-day countdown to the agreement's entry into force," the Nairobi-based agency said.

UNEP chief Klaus Toepfer said the protocol, designed to be realized within three months of the

50th country signing up, was intended to inject more transparency into the trade of GMOs.

Under the new rules, countries exporting GMOs will have to provide detailed information, including descriptions of the organism, to recipient countries in advance of any shipment to help them decide whether or not to accept it.

A country may reject GMO imports or donations — even without scientific proof — if it fears they pose a danger to its traditional crops, undermine local cultures or reduce the value of biodiversity to indigenous communities.

"It is not a protocol to block GMOs, it is a protocol to make the use of these products safer," Toepfer told reporters. "We have to slow down the importation of GMOs without the full knowledge of the importing countries."

MNA/Reuters

Cameroon seeks Nigeria withdrawal from peninsula

ABUJA, 16 June — Cameroon has proposed a timetable for Nigeria to withdraw from a oil-rich border territory which the World Court awarded to Cameroon last October, after another round of talks ended without any concrete agreements.

The two neighbours met for three days this week in the Nigerian capital Abuja under the auspices of the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission in a further bid to resolve the long-running and bitter dispute over the Bakassi Peninsula. It was the commission's fourth meeting since the International Court of Justice awarded the Nigerian-controlled peninsula, whose off-shore waters are rich in oil and fish, to Cameroon.

The Commission said in a communique issued late on Thursday that Cameroon had proposed a timetable for Nigeria to withdraw troops and administrative personnel from Bakassi and that Nigeria would respond by 15 July. —MNA/Reuters

Under-river gas pipeline completed in Tianjin

TIANJIN, 16 June — The laying of a 1,672-metre gas pipeline with a diameter of 610 millimetres beneath the Haihe River in the northern China port city of Tianjin, was completed on Saturday.

It was the world's longest high-pressure gas pipeline passing beneath a river, said an official of the China Petroleum Pipeline Company. The cross-river laying of the pipeline was considered the toughest task in the second phase of the gas transmission project in Binhai District, one of the key projects listed by the Tianjin Municipal Government.

Its completion enabled the smooth completion of the 350-kilometre pipeline in October.

MNA/Xinhua

Floods in Bangladesh leave thousands homeless

DHAKA, 16 June — About 3,000 families in northeast Bangladesh have been left homeless by flash floods triggered by heavy rain and water gushing across the border from neighbouring India, officials said on Saturday.

Some families have moved to higher ground while others sought refuge with relatives and friends, said an official in Moulvibazar, one of the areas worst hit by three days of floods.

There have been no deaths reported so far. Agriculture officials reported some damage to rice crops but could

Pakistan seizes 3.7 tons of Afghan drugs

QUETTA (Pakistan), 16 June — Pakistani border guards and anti-narcotics officers seized around 3.7 tons of drugs smuggled from Afghanistan into the southwestern province of Baluchistan, an official said on Saturday.

"The drugs, brought from Afghanistan, were found dumped in the desert," said a senior officer of Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) in Baluchistan, bordering Iran and Afghanistan.

He said the ANF launched an operation late on Friday in Kharan Desert, some 340 miles south of provincial capital Quetta and seized three tons of hashish and 700 kilos of

opium.

"We used a helicopter to raid the area on a tip off," he added.

The smugglers escaped, he said.

Pakistani narcotics officials say the country is the transit route for about a quarter of the 3,400 tons of heroin produced in Afghanistan.

MNA/Reuters

Thailand, Malaysia to cooperate in public health

BANGKOK, 16 June — Thailand and Malaysia decided to cooperate in some areas of public health during their joint public health meeting, according to a report of Thai News Agency on Sunday.

The meeting, which was held from Thursday to Saturday in Thailand's southern city of Phuket, proposed the creation of a joint network to survey and conduct research into major communicable diseases, in particular dengue fever.

Public Health Minister Sudarat Keyuraphan and her Malaysian counterpart Datuk Chua Jui Meng hailed the Third Thai-Malaysian Public Health Collaborative Development Meeting as a success in a joint statement on Saturday.

Sudarat said that the three-day meeting would lead to cooperation in solving public health problems and developing new health service systems. —MNA/Xinhua

The Government of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of Forestry Myanma Timber Enterprise

Date 10-6-2003

Myanma Timber Enterprise will hold the sealed tender sale as follows:

SEALED TENDER SALE (STC-03/2003-2004)

Commodity	: Teak scantlings.
Quality	: Third & up quality.
Location	: Yangon sawmills
Sales Basis	: FOB Yangon in US dollars.
Earnest money	: For overseas companies-US \$ 10000
	: For Myanmar companies -US \$ 5000
Payment	: By PAA LC (TTR)
Closing date	: 25-6-2003 (Wednesday)
	: 12:00 noon

Bids in sealed envelopes are to be dropped into the box marked "Sealed tender sale for teak conversions" which is kept at Marketing Unit (1) of the Export Marketing and Milling Department of the Myanma Timber Enterprise. Please contact the above unit if further information is required.

Secretary
Export Committee (MTE)

Argentina not expecting easy ride in World Cup qualifiers

BUENOS AIRES, 16 June—Argentina coach Marcelo Bielsa, whose team breezed through the qualifiers for the 2002 World Cup, is not expecting such an easy ride this time.

"I don't think the next qualifiers will be as easy for Argentina as the last ones," he said on Friday.

Bielsa controversially kept his job despite his team's shock first round elimination in South Korea and Japan last year. He told reporters at Buenos Aires airport that he was happy with his team's performances in the Far East after they beat Japan 4-1 and South Korea 1-0 earlier this month.

"It was a positive tour because we had ten days' work and contact with the players, about whom I had a preconceived idea which I was able to amplify," he said.

"The target between now and September is to consolidate the team for the qualifiers." Bielsa said Argentina showed flashes of good football but need to perform more consistently. "We have to try and make the moments of good football last longer, it's an aspect we have to correct," he said.

Bielsa added that he had expected a better performance from Japan, who are coached by former Brazil forward Zico, and suggested the Koreans had been overcautious. —MNA

S P O R T S

France preparing for life without Zidane

CLAEFONTAINE (France), 16 June — France must learn to live without Zinedine Zidane as the inspirational playmaker misses this month's Confederations Cup to help his club Real Madrid try to win the Spanish league title. France coach Jacques Santini wisely decided to let Zidane miss the controversial tournament, avoiding the risk his key player may get injured as he did in a warm-up game for last year's World Cup.

If the Santini's decision can only be praised, it has raised many eye-brows and triggered the same questions

about Zidane.

France did win the Confederations Cup in Japan two years ago without their injured number 10, and they did not look like they needed him when crushing Serbia and Montenegro 3-0 in a friendly last November.

The presence of Zidane in the final World Cup first round match last year did not stop the team losing 2-0 to Denmark, confirming their exit from the tournament. "Zidane is not here. So what can we do?" said Santini on Saturday. "But he is not the only one missing. Patrick Vieira, Emmanuel Petit and David Trezeguet are not with us."

"I don't want to play down the influence of Zidane on and off the pitch but it's not going to be the first time we will have to spare him."

If Santini truly admires the world's most expensive player, he is smart enough to avoid repeating the mistake of his predecessor Roger Lemerre by basing the team's strategy only on "Zizou".

To the 4-2-3-1 line-up preferred by Lemerre, Santini prefers a solid 4-4-2 in which the team plays as a whole rather than like an orchestra led by a conductor.

Santini is fully aware that Zidane is 30 years old and

that one day France will have to do without him.

"When Zidane is here we play a 4-4-2 with him on the left wing and Sylvain Wiltord on the right. When he is absent, we still play a 4-4-2, now. So where is the difference?" said Arsenal midfielder Robert Pires.

In a way, Santini has dodged many problems by not picking Zidane.

First he has improved his relations with Real Madrid as many European clubs had blamed FIFA for scheduling the Confederations Cup so long after the end of most European domestic leagues.

It also gives him the opportunity to bring in several young players like Monaco's Jerome Rothen and Sochaux's Benoit Pedretti.

They all need to gain some experience, and the tournament is the perfect opportunity to do so.

Another reason for Santini's decision was that France will have to play a match every two days and even if Zidane had been called up he would not have been able to start every game. "Obviously, we will have to field the B team in one of the three matches of the first round," said Santini. "There is too little time between each of them." —MNA/Reuters

Russian swimmer breaks world 200m breaststroke record

BARCELONA, 16 June—Russia's Dmitry Komornikov set a world record in the 200 metres breaststroke with a time of 2:09.52 on Saturday.

Komornikov's swim at the Mare Nostrum event in Barcelona beat the old mark of 2:09.97, set by Kosuke Kitajima of Japan in the Asian Games in Pusan in October 2002.

"I went fast in the first 100 metres and as I was feeling good I decided to maintain the rhythm," Komornikov said. "I wasn't thinking about breaking the world record, though."

It was the first world record set at the Sant Andreu pool in Barcelona, organizers said.

Barcelona hosts the World Swimming Championships next month but the swimming will be held at a specially constructed pool in the Palau Sant Jordi.

MNA/Reuters



Russia's Dmitry Komornikov.
INTERNET

Harrington, Pride, Rose make early moves

OLYMPIA FIELDS (Illinois), 16 June—Padraig Harrington birdied three of the first five holes to make an early charge in the US Open third round on Saturday as co-leaders Vijay Singh and Jim Furyk prepared for late starts.

The 31-year-old Irishman, following opening scores of 69 and 72, picked up shots at the second, fourth and fifth holes to move to two under overall on a third successive day of calm weather at Olympia Fields Country Club.

But world number seven Harrington then faltered with bogeys at the 555-yard sixth and the par-four eighth to slip back to one under for the day, and level for the tournament.

Other players making an early impression included American Dicky Pride, who reeled off three consecutive birdies from the third to move to three under, and Briton Justin Rose, who picked up shots at one, five and six to get to two under.

Pacesetters Singh and Furyk were scheduled to tee off at 1500 CDT (2000 GMT) with defending champion Tiger Woods set to launch his third round with Argentina's Eduardo Romero at 1430 (1930).

With virtually no wind and the greens still reasonably soft following rain earlier in the week, there was every chance the record scoring of the second round would continue.

MNA/Reuters

Suarez beats Sprem in Vienna final

VIENNA, 16 June—Sixth-seeded Argentine Paola Suarez overcame Croatia's Karolina Sprem to win the Vienna Grand Prix 7-6, 2-6, 6-4 on Saturday.

Despite entering as a qualifier, Sprem beat defending champion Israeli Anna Pistolesi, seventh-seeded Denisa Chladkova and French Open quarterfinalist Vera Zvonareva en route to the final.

But the 18-year-old Sprem, who also reached the title match in Strasbourg last month, finally ran out of steam against the more experienced Suarez.

"I am very happy about this week. I came here to do well and to try and regain some points after the French Open," said Suarez, whose ranking dropped from 31 to 51 after Roland Garros.

"The first set was key for me. I knew she could not close it and I sensed she was very nervous...and I managed to save eight set points. "Physically I felt really good the whole week. I wasn't tired and the heat did not bother me. I like it actually as I'm used to it at home (in Argentina)."

Despite the loss, Sprem was happy to have made progress over the last couple of months.

"I'll rest a few days and start practising on grass for Wimbledon," said Sprem.

"I am very excited because I'll be playing my first Grand Slam and I won't have to play qualifiers, I am in the main draw. I never played on grass before and there are no grass courts at home. Maybe I'll put a net on a soccer field!" —MNA/Reuters

Laporta wins Barcelona election, can he lure Beckham?

BARCELONA, 16 June — Joan Laporta became president of Barcelona Sunday after winning over fans of the Catalan club with a pledge to buy England captain David Beckham.



Joan Laporta

The 40-year-old lawyer won the election by a landslide, according to provisional results released by the club. But there is still a major doubt over whether he can make good on his "deal" to sign Beckham, English soccer's most famous player.

"I'm very happy to win the election," Laporta told Reuters. "Today I am celebrating, we will talk about Beckham later."

Laporta's main opponent was Lluís Bassat, a 61-year-old publicist, who was the overwhelming favorite before United announced Tuesday they were ready to sell Beckham to Laporta.

The deal was conditional on Laporta winning the election and Barcelona agreeing personal terms with midfielder Beckham.

Beckham, who has yet to speak publicly about his future, was said by his agents Tuesday to be "surprised and disappointed" by United's willingness to sell him. They said the midfielder had no plans to meet Laporta or his representatives. Six men were running for the top job at Barcelona, one of the biggest and most successful sporting clubs in the world. Laporta polled 52.57 percent. Bassat polled 31.80 percent. More than 51,600 of the 94,339 Barcelona club members voted.

Real Madrid, Barcelona's great rivals, are widely tipped to make a bid for Beckham once the Spanish league season ends next weekend. Real are favorites to win the league title with one game to play and are the only club side who can rival the luster of United, the English champions. Barcelona have no chance of playing in the Champions League next season. The newly-elected Barcelona president has promised to sign a total of five players with a net investment of 50 million euros (\$58.74 million).

That is despite Barcelona being at least 100 million euros in debt, with some of the candidates estimating the true figure to be more like 200 million. Barcelona last won the Spanish title in 1999 while Real Madrid, with players like Zinedine Zidane and Luis Figo, won the Champions League in 2000 and 2002. World Player of the Year Ronaldo joined this season after winning the World Cup with Brazil. —MNA/Reuters

MRTV-3

17-6-2003* (Tuesday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)

- 9:00 Signature Tune
 Greetings
 Coming up
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar
 Beauty & Scenic
 Sights "Myanmar
 Panorama &
 Myanma Sentiment"
- 9:06 How to make
 Chinlone
- 9:10 **Headline News**
- 9:12 Myanmar Cuisine
 "Roasted Rice
 Powder with Fish"
- 9:15 **National News**
- 9:20 Myanmar Pearls
- 9:25 Smart Beautiful Cart
- 9:30 **National News**
- 9:35 Songs on Screen
 "A Diamond-studded
 Song"
- 9:40 Toddy Palm Arts
- 9:45 **National News**
- 9:50 Travelling on the
 Chin Mountain
 Ranges
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar
 Beauty & Scenic
 Sights "Come and
 See Myanmar"
- 10:00 Close Down



Chairman of Myanmar Engineering Society Professor Dr Sein Myint addresses opening ceremony of Junior Engineer Orientation Course No 1, organized by Human Resource Development Committee of MES, at MICT Park on 16-6-2003.—NLM

Junior Engineer Orientation Course opened

YANGON, 16 June — The opening ceremony of the Junior Engineer Orientation Course No 1 conducted by the Human Resource Development Committee of the Myanmar Engineering Society took place in Room-205, Myanmar In-

formation and Communication Technology Park (MICT Park), here this afternoon.

It was attended by Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Hlaing Win, Deputy Minister for Sci-

ence and Technology U Nyi Hla Nge, senior engineers, professors, heads of departments, lecturers, course instructors, and trainees. MES Chairman Professor Dr Sein Myint and the in-charge of the course spoke on the occasion. — MNA



CASH DONATED TO HOME FOR THE AGED: Khorramabadi title recipient Ayatolla Sharakhi of Iran and party donated K 300,000 to Hnuzigon Home for the Aged on 15 June 2003. Joint Secretary of Management Board of the Home U Thein Maung accepts the donations.— (H)



View today:

Tuesday, June 17

- 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
- 7:50 am**
 5. ကဗျာပန်းညွှန်း

- 8:05 am**
 6. Song of yesteryears
- 8:15 am**
 7. ရွှေစုရောင်းရေလှောင်တံခါး
- 8:30 am**
 8. International news
- 8:45 am**
 9. Grammar made easy
- 4:00 pm**
 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
 2. Song to uphold national
 spirit
- 4:30 pm**
 3. English For Everyday
 Use
- 4:45 pm**
 4. Musical programme
- 4:55 pm**
 5. အေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး
 ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ

- ပထမနှစ် (အထူးပြုအားလုံး)**
(ပြန်မူစာ)
- 5:10 pm**
 6. Dance of national
 races
- 5:25 pm**
 7. အတိုးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 5:40 pm**
 8. ခံစားစရာဆင်နားစာတိုဝင်
- 5:50 pm**
 9. Sing and enjoy
- 6:30 pm**
 10. Evening news
- 7:00 pm**
 11. Weather report
- 7:05 pm**
 12. အန်ကျစ်
- 7:15 pm**
 13. The mirror images of
 the musical oldies

- 7:30 pm**
 14. ကိုးကန့်တိုင်းရင်းသားတို့ရဲ့
 ဂုဏ်ဓာတ်ပုံ
- 7:40 pm**
 15. Musical programme
- 8:00 pm**
 16. News
- 17. International news**
- 18. Weather report**
- 19. ပထမအကြိမ်အားသိသောသက်(၁၈)**
 နှစ်အောက် လူငယ်ဘေးလုံခြုံမှု
 ထုတ်လွှင့်မှုအစီအစဉ်
 (ဒုတိယအကြိမ်လုံခြုံမှု)
 (မလေးရှား နှင့် ဟော်ကွ)
- 20. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းဆွဲ**
 "လွယ်တစ်ပြန်ပေဉ္စာ"
 (အနိင်း-၂၃)
- 21. The next day
 programme**



Tune in today:

Tuesday, June 17

- 8:30 am**
 Brief news
- 8:35 am**
 Music
- 8:40 am**
 Perspectives

- 8:45 am**
 Music
- 8:50 am**
 National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am**
 Music
- 9:05 am**
 International news
- 9:10 am**
 Music
- 1:30 pm**
 Brief news
- 1:35 pm**
 Music

- 1.45 pm**
 National news/Slogan
- 1:55 pm**
 Music
- 2:05 pm**
 International news
- 2:15 pm**
 Music
- 2:20 pm**
 Article/Music
- 2:35 pm**
 Aspects of Myanmar
 Magway Division

- 2.45 pm**
 Souvenirs
- 9:00 pm**
 English Lesson: 31
- 9:15 pm**
 Article/Music
- 9:25 pm**
 Weekly sports reel
- 9:35** Harmony time
- 9:45 pm**
 News/Slogan
- 10:20 pm**
 Portfolio for easy
 listening

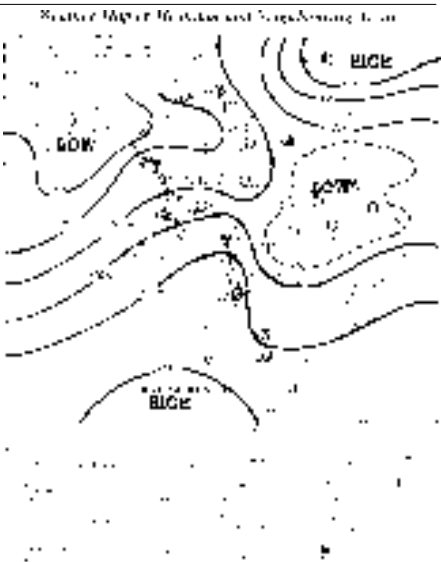
OBITUARY

Dr K.P. Shome
(95 years)

**Retired Township Medical Officer,
 Kani, Myanmar**

Dr K P Shome (Mogok), husband of Mrs Latika Shome, father of Mrs Dipika Guha (Dr. K.C Guha)-Yangon, Dr Harold Shome-London, Mr Toni Shome-USA, Mr Kalyan Shome-Kolkata, Mrs Monica Chaudhury-Kuwait, grandfather of 10, and great grandfather of 1, expired on 2nd June 2003 at 2:10 pm at Kolkata, India.

Friends and relatives please take this as only intimation.

**WEATHER**

Monday, June 16, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been cloudy in Kayah State and rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kachin State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thandwe (1.97) inches, Myeik (1.34) inches and Hmawby (1.30) inches. Significant day temperature was (40°C) in Magway.

Maximum temperature on 15-6-2003 was 34.0°C (93°F). Minimum temperature on 16-6-2003 was 22.0°C (72°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 16-6-2003 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 15-6-2003 was (5.3) hours approx. Rainfall on 16-6-2003 was 7 mm at Yangon Airport, 10 mm at Kaba-Aye and 23 mm at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 559 mm (22.01 inches) at Yangon Airport, 625 mm (24.61 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 696 mm (27.40 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 14 mph from Northwest at (17:30) hours MST on 15-6-2003.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak to moderate in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 17-6-2003: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin, Rakhine and Mon States and Taninthayi Division and scattered in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: General decrease of rain in the whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-6-2003: One or two rains or thundershowers with sunny period. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-6-2003: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Objectives of projected works coordinated in Myeik District

YANGON, 16 June — A work coordination meeting on objectives of the projects in Myeik District, Taninthayi Division, was held at the hall of Taninthayi Division General Administration Department this afternoon.

It was attended by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Com-

mander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye and council members, departmental officials and chairmen of District/Township Peace and Development Councils and officials.

At the meeting, the commander called for successful implementation of the projects, exceeding targets for agriculture, development of the fish and meat sector

and the industrial sector, extension of new export items and cooperation of officials concerned in implementing the projects.

Then, officials reported on implementation of their respective projects and future tasks. The commander then fulfilled the requirements and made concluding remarks.

MNA

Myanmar youth moves into final

YANGON, 16 June — Myanmar youth won over Vietnamese youth 2-0 in the first semi-final match in the First ASEAN Under-18 Youth Soccer Tournament at Youth Training Centre in Thuwuna at 3.30 pm today.

Among the football fans were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, officials of the Ministry of Sports, members of the Panel of Patrons of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation and guests.

Before the match, the players of both sides led by referees took positions in front of the grand stand. Meanwhile, national anthems of the two countries were played.

At 3.30 pm, Myanmar youth team and Vietnamese youth team played in the first semi-final match. Myanmar

beat Vietnam 2-0 and moved into the final.

Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint handed over K 5 million presented by Kanbawza Bank Ltd; K 6 million by Sky Link Communication; and K 2 million by Myanmar Mayflower Bank, totalling K 13 million to the Myanmar youth team.

Afterwards, the second semi-final match followed. The players of Malaysian and Singaporean youth teams took positions in front of the

grand stand. Meanwhile, national anthems of the two countries were played.

At 6pm, the second semi-final match commenced. Malaysian youth beat Singaporean youth 2-0 in the match and entered the final.

Vietnamese and Singaporean youth teams will play in the third place match at the same venue at 3 pm on 18 June. In the final match, Myanmar youth team will meet Malaysian youth team at 5.30 pm.

MNA

Tickets for U-18 3rd-place and final

YANGON, 16 June — The third-place and final matches of U-18 ASEAN Youth Soccer Tourney will take place at the Youth Training Camp (Thuwunna) at 3 pm and 5.30 pm respectively on 18 June. Tickets for both matches will be available in advance at the Aung San Grounds, Padonma Grounds, Salin Grounds, Theinbyu Tennis Court, and Kyaikkasan Sports Science from 9 am to 3 pm tomorrow.

Tickets will also be sold at the junction of Thanthuma and Waizayanta Roads, at the junction of Laydauntkan and East Race Court, at the junction of Pyithaya and Waizayanta Roads and also at Zawana junction on the match day, 18 June.

MNA



Myanmar youth team who beat Vietnamese youth 2-0 carrying State Flag on the track of Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna. — NLM



Myanmar soccer fans unanimously enjoy first semi-final match between Myanmar and Vietnamese youths in 1st ASEAN U-18 Soccer Tournament at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe addresses coordination meeting of work Committees for keeping Yangon City clean and pleasant and upgrading tasks. — CITY NEWS

Coord meeting held for modernization of Yangon City

YANGON, 16 June — A work coordination meeting of the work committees for modernization of Yangon City took place at the meeting hall-4 of Yangon City Development Committee this morning, with an address by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Present at the meeting were Chairman of YCDC Mayor U Ko Lay, deputy ministers, members of YCDC, heads of departments, directors-general, managing directors, commanders of military commands, local authorities, and officials.

In his speech, Maj-Gen Myint Swe said that in line with the guidance of the Head of State to build Yangon City into a neat, pleasant, and modern one, work committees were formed under the close supervision of State Peace and Development

Council Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt to modernize Yangon City. He also spoke of the need to speed up the tasks for extension of roads, the laying of (inter lock) tiles on platforms, construction of parking lots and overpasses for timely completion.

Mayor U Ko Lay explained the conditions of the tasks for the modernization of Yangon City, and the growing of shady trees and flowering plants.

Then, Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than explained tasks to be carried out for beautifying the Yangon Port and the Botahtaung Port and progress made in the extension of six-lane Strand Road and future tasks; Col Tin Soe of YCDC, systematic arrangements for the cloning of shops along Strand Road; U Tun Than Tun of YCDC, the construction of sewage-treatment plant; Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Pe Than, preparatory measures being taken for the construction of

Kyaukyedwin overpass and the upgrading of other overpasses in Yangon; Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, coordination with departments concerned for supply of materials necessary for modernizing the city; Deputy Minister for Transport Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, the construction of roads and houses in the surrounding areas of the Mingaladon airport; Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thauung Lwin, beautifying tasks being carried out at Insein Railway Station and the construction of a market; and U Zaw Win of YCDC, renovation and painting of buildings in Yangon.

Next, officials reported on progress in the extension of six-lane Strand Road and systematic arrangements for car parking lots.

After hearing the reports, the commander gave instructions on timely and harmonious completion of modernization works.

MNA

New school building handed over in Kalaw

YANGON, 16 June — A new two-storey school building of Heho No 1 Basic Education Primary School with a seating-capacity of 400 students in Kalaw was handed over to the Education Department on 12 June morning.

Shan State Peace and De-

velopment Council Chairman Eastern Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and wellwisher U Hoke Kyi opened the school building by cutting a ribbon.

The commander then made an address and State Education Officer U Shwe

Tha spoke words of thanks. Next, wellwisher U Hoke Kyi handed over the documents relating to the school building to the education officer and explained the purpose of the donation. Then, the vice-chairman of the school board of trustees presented documentary photos of the school and a certificate of honour to the wellwisher.

The school building with eight class rooms is 134 ft in length and 30 ft in width, and was built at a cost of K 15 million.

In the afternoon, the commander went to the project for upgrading of Meikhtila-Taunggyi-Kengtung-Tachilek Union Highway. Construction Engineer U Soe Tint reported on tasks being carried on Meikhtila-Tachilek road section with the use of charts and responsible officials on progress of work sector-wise. Next, the commander attended to the needs. — MNA

