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State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Croatia

YANGON, 25 June — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Stjepan Mesic, President of the Republic of Croatia, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Croatia which falls on 25 June, 2003. — MNA

Farmers urged to create fair, beneficial rice market helping develop, stabilize, strengthen national economy in long run

Secretary-1 addresses opening of Yan Aung Myin Dam

YANGON, 24 June — State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, ministers, the Chief of Staff (Navy), deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads and officials, left here by air this morning and arrived at Toungoo Airport at 8.15 am.

The Secretary-1 and party were welcomed there by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander Brig-Gen Ko Ko, Brig-Gen Thura Myint Thein of Toungoo Station, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Thura Maung Ni and military and civilian officers. Next, the Secretary-1 and party went to Yan Aung Myin Dam in Lewe Township, Yamethin District, Mandalay Division, where they were welcomed by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint and officials.

The opening ceremony of Yan Aung Myin Dam built by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation was held at the pandal near the dam at 9 am. The Secretary-1 addressed the ceremony.

Present on the occasion were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Chair-

man of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander Brig-Gen Ko Ko, ministers, the Chief of Staff (Navy), deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, local authorities, service personnel, the director-general of the Irrigation Department, staff of Construction-5 of the department, members of social organizations, teachers, students, drum troupe, band troupe, pom pom troupe, farmers from townships of Pyinmana and

tional economic life and to uplift the quality of life of the national people.

In efforts to develop the nation, the government is implementing the national-level major development project that is beneficial to the entire people and development programmes that will bring practical benefits to local people, he said. Based on regional requirements, the dam was built. The government is striving for narrowing the development gap between one region and another and priority is being given to equal

ing emphasis on harmonious development of agriculture, the basic economy of the State, and industrial sector needed for national development. Arrangements are being made for producing international level human resources in the region and for the people to possess health and fitness, he said.

Agriculture is the most basic, promising and the strongest economic pillar. Myanmar soil and climate create better foundations for cultivation and the majority of the people have been undertaking the agriculture as



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt delivers a speech at the inauguration of Yan Aung Myin Dam in Lewe Township, Mandalay Division. — MNA

Lewe and local people totalling over 5,000.

Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt addressed the ceremony. He said although Yan Aung Myin Dam is not a big one, it is a basic foundation that will now benefit local farmers as well as their future generations. Construction of the dam benefits the farmers, he said.

He said the government has been making efforts in all sectors to enable the Union of Myanmar to keep abreast with the nations of the world, to strengthen na-

and harmonious development of all parts of the Union, he added.

After studying the requirements and development prospects, the government is building development infrastructure such as roads and bridges and communication system, economic infrastructure such as dams and reservoirs and factories and social infrastructure such as universities, colleges and hospitals the length and breadth of the nation.

At the same time, he said, the government is lay-

the main business. Therefore, promotion of agriculture means uplift of national economic life and it also contributes towards the development of economic and social foundations practically. With this concept, the government is making efforts for establishing national economic life based on agriculture as a national objective. This is why arrangements are being for development of agriculture through modern techniques, he said.

(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



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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 25 June, 2003

Towards successful holding of 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

The Government of the Union of Myanmar is striving for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation through the implementation of 12 political, economic and social objectives. One of the four social objectives is "uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character".

In accordance with that social objective, Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions have been held every year since 1993. The first coordination meeting of the Leading Committee for the Holding of the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions was held at the meeting hall of the National Museum on 23 June.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, aslo Chairman of the Leading Committee, attended the meeting and delivered an address on the occasion. The commander said that the object of holding Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions was for the new generation to develop the spirit of cherishing the national characteristics and to be able to preserve the traditional cultures.

The success of the previous competitions was due to whole-hearted support of the entrie people and cooperation between maestros, the leading committee, comittees and sub-committees. The State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office on 10 June formed the panel of patrons and the leading committee with the aim of holding this year's competitions more successfully than the previous ones. At the first coordination meeting, the objective, the levels and categories and the dates of the competitions and the prizes to be offered were discussed.

We would like to urge all those concerned to work in concert to make the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions a complete success.

Agricultural and regional development tasks inspected in Thanlyin, Thongwa Townships

YANGON, 24 June — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, accompanied by Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Tint and members and departmental officials, inspected agricultural and regional development tasks in Thanlyin and Thongwa Townships, Yangon South District, this morning.

The commander and party first attended the collective ploughing and paddy cultivating ceremony at the plot No 691 near Sitpinkwin Village, Thanlyin Township. Officials reported on steps being taken to produce 100 baskets of paddy per acre. The commander gave instructions to officials on enabling the farmers to systematically apply agricultural methods. The commander viewed the power tillers displayed by the Agricultural Mechanization Department. Officials reported on arrangements made for selling

the farm machinery to the farmers in instalments for their convenience. The commander left necessary instructions.

They then inspected breeding and using azolla which contributes to boosting paddy production at the agricultural farming camp near Thaiktukan Village, Thongwa Township. At the camp, the commander met with departmental heads and farmers from Thanlyin, Kyauktan and Thongwa townships and dealt with endeavours being made for cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy, cold season crops and other crops for ensuring all-year round greening of the 30-mile perimeter of Yangon International Airport, water supply, digging canals for multiple cropping. He called on local farmers to make concerted efforts in order to boost production in response to the assistance provided by the government. Officials reported on arrangements for providing agricultural methods by Myanmar Agriculture

Service to local farmers. Then, the farmers reported on their requirements. The commander attended to the needs and gave instructions.

The commander inspected Nyaunglangon Village (Alagon) Station Hospital in Thongwa Township and left necessary instructions and fulfilled the requirements. The cash donations ceremony for the hospital took place at the hospital. The chairman of Township Peace and Development Council presented K 920,000 donated by wellwishers and Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, K 100,000 to respective officials. The commander urged departmental officials to join hands with local people in carrying out the five rural development tasks for ensuring the development of the villages in Yangon Division.

Afterwards, the commander and party inspected the basic education high school in Phayagyi Village, Thongwa Township.

The commander visited Poppayon Monastery in the

village. He presented Waso robes to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Panñasiha and supplicated on regional development tasks. At the monastery, the commander met with local farmers and discussed matters on cultivation of crops for all-year round greening the 30-mile perimeter of Yangon International Airport, construction of sluice gates and digging of canals for irrigation water for ensuring triple cropping in Thanlyin, Kyauktan, Kayan and Thongwa townships. He dealt with strenuous efforts made by the government for equitable development of all parts of the nation after designating the 24 development regions. He spoke of the needs for the farmers to make concerted efforts and to use high-yield paddy strain for regional development and raising their living standard, and attended to the needs. Then, the commander and party inspected the poultry farm of U Ohn Myint in Phayagyi Village and gave instructions and fulfilled the requirements. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung addresses meeting of committee for holding Myanmar traditional musical instruments exhibition. — MNA

Myanmar traditional musical instruments exhibition committee meets

YANGON, 24 June — The committee for the holding of Myanmar traditional musical instruments exhibition to be organized by the Ministry of Culture held its first work coordination meeting at the National Museum on Pyay Road here this afternoon.

It was attended by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Deputy Minister U Soe Nyunt, directors-general of departments, rectors of universities, local authorities, the chairman of the Myanmar Music Asiayon, musicians, and officials. Maj-Gen Kyi

Aung spoke on the occasion.

Deputy Minister U Soe Nyunt also made a speech concerning the holding of the exhibition.

Then, Director of the National Museum Daw Nu Mra Zan reported on the arrangements to hold the ex-

hibition. A general round of discussions followed, and those present at the meeting took part in the discussions.

Myanmar traditional musical instruments exhibition 2003 will be held in Yangon for two weeks during August 2003. — MNA

ကူးစက်မြန်မြန်ထိန်းသိမ်းရေး (အဆုတ်ရောင်) ရောဂါ ကာကွယ်ရေး သတိပေးချက်

၁။ ယခုအခါ ကမ္ဘာ့နိုင်ငံအချို့တွင် ကူးစက်မြန်မြန်ထိန်းသိမ်းရေး (အဆုတ်ရောင်) ရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားလျက်ရှိပါသည်။ ဤရောဂါသည် ကိုရိုနာ (Corona) အုပ်စုဝင် ဗိုင်းရပ်(စ်)ရိုးကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အဆိုပါရိုးသည် လူနာချောင်းဆိုးခြင်း၊ နှာချောင်း၊ နှာရည်၊ ရွှံ့သလိပ်များမှတဆင့်ဆက်သွယ်ကြောင်း၊ လူနာအသုံးအဆောင် ပစ္စည်း၊ တဆင့်သော်လည်းကောင်း၊ အသက်ရှူလမ်းကြောင်းမှ ခန္ဓာကိုယ်အတွင်းသို့ ဝင်ရောက်၍ ရောဂါဖြစ်ပေါ်ပါသည်။

၂။ ကူးစက်မြန်မြန်ထိန်းသိမ်းရေး (အဆုတ်ရောင်) ရောဂါ၏ လက္ခဏာများမှာ-

- (က) ကိုယ်အပူချိန် (38°C) သို့မဟုတ် (100.5°F) ထက်ပို၍မြင့်ထွန်းစွာများခြင်းနှင့်
- (ခ) အသက်ရှူလမ်းကြောင်းဆိုင်ရာ ရောဂါလက္ခဏာများ ဖြစ်သည် - ချောင်းဆိုးခြင်း၊
- အသက်ရှူမဝခြင်း၊
- အသက်ရှူရှုခတ်ခြင်းနှင့်
- (ဂ) အောက်ပါအကြောင်းတစ်ခုခုရှိခြင်း - ကူးစက်မြန်မြန်ထိန်းသိမ်းရေး (အဆုတ်ရောင်) ရောဂါရှိသူလူနာ (သို့မဟုတ်) လူနာနှင့် အနီးကပ်

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

၃။ ဤရောဂါသည် အသက်အရွယ်မရွေး ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်သည်။ သို့ရာတွင် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါသူများတွင် ရောဂါ ပိုမိုဖြစ်ပွားလွယ်သည်။

- (က) ကလေးငယ်များနှင့် သက်ကြီးရွယ်အိုများ
- (ခ) ဆီးချိုရောဂါရှိသူများ
- (ဂ) နှာတရည်အဆုတ်နှင့် အသက်ရှူလမ်းကြောင်းဆိုင်ရာ ရောဂါရှိသူများ
- (ဃ) ကိုယ်ခန္ဓာအားကျစေသည့် ဆေးဝါး၊ နှိပ်သောက်သုံးနေသူများ (ဥပမာ-ကော်တီဆိုး ပါဝင်သည့်ဆေးများ၊ ကင်ဆာရောဂါများစသည့်ခြင်း)
- ၄။ အသက်ရှူလမ်းကြောင်းမှ ကူးစက်သော ရောဂါဖြစ်သဖြင့် ကူးစက်မြန်မြန်ထိန်းသိမ်းရေး (အဆုတ်ရောင်) ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားမှုမှ ကာကွယ်ရန် အောက်ပါအချက်များကို လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (က) တစ်ကိုယ်ရေသန့်ရှင်းမှုကို ဂရုပြုဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း
- (ခ) အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသည့်အစားအစာများစားသုံးခြင်း

- (ဂ) ကောင်းမွန်စွာအိပ်စက်အနားယူခြင်း
- (ဃ) ကိုယ်လက်လွှပ်ရာမှ မှန်မှန်ပြုလုပ်ခြင်း
- (င) နှာချောင်းချောင်းဆိုးလျှင်လက်ကိုင်ပုလိပ်ဆိုးခြင်း
- (စ) ကူးစက်မြန်မြန်ထိန်းသိမ်းရေး (အဆုတ်ရောင်) ရောဂါ လက္ခဏာရှိသူများအား ခွဲတံခန်းသုံးမျက်နှာစုံ (surgical mask) ဝတ်ရုံ (gown) ပလပ်စတစ်ရှေ့ဖုံးခါးစည်း (apron)နှင့် ပလပ်စတစ်လက်အိတ် (gloves) အသုံးပြုကာ လူနာနှင့်ထိတွေ့ခြင်း၊ လူနာအသုံးအဆောင် ပစ္စည်းများ ကိုင်တွယ်ခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ခြင်း
- (ဆ) ကူးစက်ရောဂါများကို ထိရောက်စွာ ကာကွယ်ရန်အတွက် လက်ကို ဆပ်ပြာနှင့် စင်ကြယ်စွာ ဆေးကြောခြင်း
- (ဇ) လူထုထိသောနေရာများနှင့် ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားနေသော နိုင်ငံများသို့ ခရီးသွားလာခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ခြင်း
- ၅။ ကိုယ်အပူချိန်မြင့်ထွန်းခြင်း၊ ကိုယ်လက်ကိုင်ခံနိုင်ခြင်း၊ ခေါင်းကိုက်ခြင်း၊ ချောင်းဆိုးခြင်း၊ လည်ချောင်းနာခြင်း၊ နှာပန်းခြင်း၊ အသက်ရှူကြပ်ခြင်း၊ ရင်ဘတ်အောင့်ခြင်းစသည့်လက္ခဏာများဖြစ်ပွားပါကနီးစပ်ရာကျန်းမာရေးဌာန/ဆေးရုံ/ဆေးပေးခန်းများတွင်ပြသ၍ ဆေးကုသမှုခံယူရန် သတိပေးချက်ဆောင်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Campbell agrees to give evidence to MPs on Iraq dossier

LONDON, 24 June — Downing Street yesterday cut its losses in the running battle with MPs over the Iraq intelligence controversy and reversed its refusal to allow Alastair Campbell, Tony Blair's communications director, to give evidence to the Commons select committee investigating the affair. He will appear tomorrow.

The prime minister and the foreign secretary, Jack Straw, performed what Tory MPs dubbed a climbdown after weekend reports repeated claims suggesting a link between the government's "dodgy dossier" on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and Mr Campbell.

The dossier, published in February, contained data later found to have been taken from a PhD thesis about Iraq on the internet. On Sunday it was attributed, not for the first time, to four officials, three of whom work for Mr Campbell.

That claim has frequently been denied, prompting scepticism among reporters when it was cited as an important "factual inaccuracy" yesterday. But No 10 and Mr Straw, who wrote to the chairman of the foreign affairs select committee, Labour's Don Anderson, insisted that Mr Campbell had been eager to "rebut serious allegations" in public, amid growing signs that the Tory tabloids have decided that they want the scalp of the former Daily

Mirror journalist.

Mr Blair will be keen to prevent that, and it took a weekend discussion involving himself, Mr Straw and the cabinet secretary, Sir Andrew Turnbull, to execute the u-turn.

Mr Straw will answer the committee's questions on policy, starting today. The controversy has proved damaging to Mr Blair's perceived trustworthiness among voters.

MPs on both sides claimed the climbdown as a victory for backbench power. "This is very good news - good news for parliament and good news for the committee," said Labour MP Andrew Mackinlay. "It took two bites of the cherry to get consent but I am not going to knock them for stalling. I am applauding them for agreeing."

John Maples, a Tory committee member, said: "Without the presence of Alastair Campbell, it was going to be extremely difficult to get to the bottom of several of these allegations. His fingerprints have been all over the so-

called dodgy dossier for some time and we were given evidence that the people who prepared it actually worked for him. So we need to get to the bottom of that."

But Charles Kennedy, the Liberal Democrat leader, went further and urged Mr Blair to follow Mr Campbell in giving evidence.

In his letter to Mr Anderson, Mr Straw explained he had been reading the evidence given to the committee so far - and had seen that MPs were concerned about the February "dodgy dossier" as much as the first one published on Iraqi WMD last September.

Mr Straw wrote. "There have been reports specifically claiming that the second dossier placed in the library of the house on February 3 had been produced for Mr Campbell by four individuals, three of whom worked for Mr Campbell. He will want to tell the committee that this was not the case and would like to explain the background."

Internet

ဗုဒ္ဓကုန်းသစ် ဝိုးမြို့မြို့

US criticized for finding no WMD

NEW YORK, 24 June—The longer the United States and Britain occupy Iraq without finding weapons of mass destruction, the more conceivable it is that Baghdad destroyed them after the first Gulf War in 1991, chief UN weapons inspector Hans Blix said on Monday.

Blix, to retire next week after heading inspections before the US-led war on Iraq began in March, also spoke critically at a think tank meeting of one of Washington's key arguments for overthrowing Iraq President Saddam Hussein.

"It is sort of fascinating that you can have 100 percent certainty about weapons of mass destruction and zero certainty of about where they are," Blix said at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York. Two months after the fall of Baghdad in a war launched after the United States and Britain accusing Saddam of illegally harbouring nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, their troops still have not found any such weapons.

"I'm simply saying that the longer we are in this situation without finding anything, the more we have to ask ourselves is it conceivable that they did destroy in '91," Blix told Reuters Television after the event.—Internet

Syrian troops shot in border clash

BAGHDAD, 24 June — US forces hunting for Saddam Hussein and his followers clashed with a Syrian border patrol, seriously injuring at least four guards, officials said yesterday.

The clash on Iraq's western border occurred last Wednesday when US special forces bombed a three-car convoy. But confusion surrounded the objective and outcome of the attack yesterday. Defence officials refused to say whether Saddam had been the target or whether US forces engaged the Syrians from inside Iraq's borders.—Internet

Arroyo signs anti-smoking law

MANILA, 24 June — Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo signed on Monday Republic Act 9211 or the Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003, which bans smoking in public places like hospitals, clinics and enclosed public places.

Senator Juan Flavio and Manila Representative Harry Angping, proponents of the law in their respective chambers, witnessed the signing ceremony.

The law states that starting 2007, all cigarette advertisements will be shelved, and an absolute ban on all tobacco products will commence the year after. Tobacco companies will be obligated to provide health warnings on their product packages as of 2006.

Flavio, a physician before he became a senator, said he waited seven years before the legislative measure bore fruit. Anti-tobacco lobbyists in the Philippines said the law is a major breakthrough in the campaign against smoking and related diseases.

Currently, there are estimated 17 million smokers in the Philippines who consume some four billion packages of cigarettes every year. Over 100 Filipinos in the country with a population of 82 million die from smoking-caused diseases every day.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi police officer checks a car at a checkpoint in Baghdad, Iraq, on 22 June, 2003. Police got new uniforms, weapons and responsibilities on Monday, and the US-led central authority said it will recruit a national army-parallel moves meant to give Iraqis a sense of empowerment and help coalition forces with the huge task of securing Iraq. — INTERNET

India, China line up pacts ahead of summit talks

BEIJING, 24 June — Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee and Chinese leaders discuss ways of improving ties between the world's two most populous nations on Monday by focusing on trade and easier travel.

Vajpayee, kicking off the first trip to China by an Indian Prime Minister in a decade, was also expected to discuss a decades-old border dispute during his talks with Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and other Chinese leaders.

"India and China are engaged in the full spectrum of relations. We are in a process of engagement on issues that divide us as well as those that unite us," said India's ambassador to China, Shivshankar Menon.

The two countries claim vast swathes of each other's territories along a 2,175-mile undemarcated Himalayan border.

Vajpayee, who embarked on the six-day visit to China saying there was "compelling geographical, political and economic logic" for closer ties, was due to hold talks with Wen at Beijing's Great Hall of the People.

Among the agreements lined up for sign-

ing are easier visa rules, cooperation in agriculture and a declaration affirming closer contacts.

Vajpayee, who came to China in 1979 as foreign minister, was also due to deliver a speech at Beijing University that is expected to lay out his vision of relations.

Indian officials said the two countries would be looking for ways to move forward on long running negotiations to settle the border in this week's talks.

Diplomats and military officials have held several rounds of talks since 1998 to agree on where exactly the mountain border should lie, but have made little headway.

"I don't believe summits such as this can produce instant results," said former Indian diplomat G Parthasarthy. "They can help build the climate. You will see incremental steps." — MNA/Reuters



Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and visiting Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee sign a declaration on principles for relations and comprehensive cooperation between China and India on 23 June, 2003 in Beijing. — XINHUA PHOTO

Insurgents target troops as Iraq begins shipping oil

RAMADI, 24 June—US-led civil administrators announced the creation of a new Iraqi army today and said recruitment will begin next week, hoping to contain Iraqi anger over desperate unemployment and to curb a rash of attacks against US forces.

The insurgents' latest attacks included rocket propelled grenades fired at US Army patrols in the western towns of Khaldiyah and Habaniyah, and an ambush in Ramadi that involved a 12-year-old girl, the military said today. No one was injured.

In Baghdad, the first US Senate delegation to visit Iraq cautioned that Americans should expect their forces to remain in Iraq for as long as five years.

"I don't think the American people fully appreciate just how long we are going to be committed here and what the overall cost will be," said Chuck Hagel, R-Neb., after meeting the head of the civil administration, L Paul Bremer.

"I predict as much as five years," added Richard Lugar, R-Ind., the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del, the ranking Democrat on the committee, said: "We can't afford to fail the Iraqi people or

ourselves." Whatever happens in Iraq will have an impact on the entire region, he said.

On Sunday, Iraq made its first foray back into the international oil market since the war, with the loading of 1 million barrels of crude onto a Turkish tanker at the Mediterranean port of Ceyhan.

But sabotage and looting of the 600-mile pipeline from the northern Iraqi town of Kirkuk to Ceyhan delayed the flow of freshly pumped oil — the key to reconstructing an economy devastated by sanctions and war. Pumping was supposed to have begun Sunday.

Sabotage was blamed for a massive fire in a gas pipeline about 94 miles west of Baghdad on Saturday, and the al-Jazeera satellite television station reported another pipeline explosion near the Syrian border on Sunday. That report could not immediately be confirmed, and it was not clear if the second fire was the result of sabotage. — *Internet*

DEAD SEA (Jordan), 24 June—The head of the UN nuclear watchdog agency said on Sunday that his inspectors had tracked down most of the uranium missing from a looted storage plant at Iraq's main nuclear site.

"The initial report is that most of the material is accounted for, but I still have to wait for the final report," Mohammed ElBaradei, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), told *Reuters* in an interview at a World Economic Forum meeting in Jordan.

Looters attacked the Tuwaitha compound, 12 miles south of Baghdad, and sold off some of the material after the US-led invasion of Iraq.

A report on the Web site of US magazine *Science* on Friday quoted an IAEA official as saying nearly all the missing uranium had been recovered, but the IAEA had declined to comment on it until now.

ElBaradei said IAEA inspectors, who have spent the past two weeks assessing the damage from wartime looting at Tuwaitha, would report their findings to the Vienna-based IAEA next week.

"We have a team there right now — they will come back some time next week," he said. "So next week I will be in a better position to give a report on the status of the nuclear material." — *MNA/Reuters*

IAEA finds missing uranium from Iraq plant



Wang Fengjuan (3rd R), mother of the quins, has a photo taken with her five babies in nurses' arms at a mother and baby care centre in Beijing on 21 June, 2003. After they were born on Friday in Beijing Maternity Hospital, the quins were taken to the centre to receive a series of services for feed and care free of charge. — XINHUA PHOTO

LONDON, 24 June — Scotland Yard has apologized to Britain's Royal Family for an "appalling" breach of security after an intruder gatecrashed a fancy dress party attended by Queen Elizabeth and her immediate heirs. Self-styled "comedy terrorist" Aaron Barschak by-passed security at the Windsor Castle party on Saturday by climbing a wall and then duping a policeman inside, said Scotland Yard's Assistant Commissioner David Veness.

"The Commissioner has tendered apologies to the Royal Family for the appalling breach of security at Windsor Castle on Saturday evening," Veness added in a statement on Monday.

The Home Office has demanded an immediate inquiry into how Barschak, wearing a false beard, turban and pink dress, managed to sneak into the 21st birthday party for the Queen's grandson, Prince William.

Barschak, 36, was even able to climb on stage with the Prince at the Africa-themed party before the alarm was raised, according to newspaper

reports. Describing how Barschak got in, Veness said: "It now appears that the intruder gained access to the Castle precincts by scaling an embankment, climbing a tree, jumping onto a wall and then reaching a terrace."

"He was challenged by a contractor and escorted to a police point."

"He gave what appeared to be a credible story and was allowed into the area of the castle where the party was taking place," Veness said.

"This seems to have been an operational failure, which should not have happened whatever the

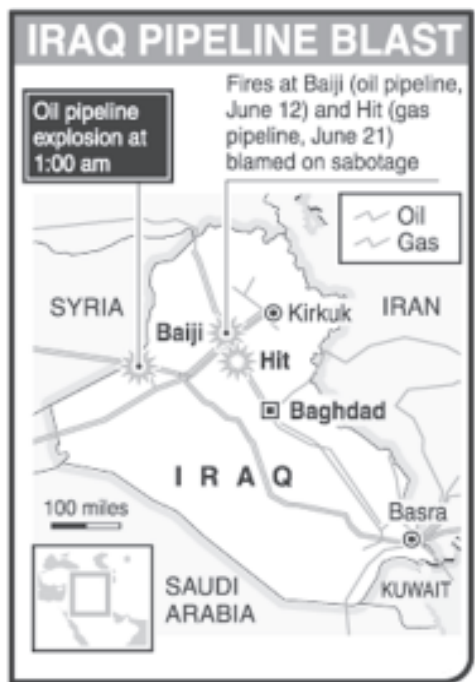
circumstances," he added.

The breach was slammed by senior politicians and security officials on Monday, as newspapers said the intruder could have "wiped out" the Royal Family if he had been an armed attacker instead of a mere publicity-seeker.

Opposition home affairs spokesman Oliver Letwin called it a "very serious lapse".

"If we're in a state of heightened alert, you'd have thought the first place where the heightening would have gone on is in the royal palaces," he told BBC radio. — *MNA/Reuters*

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An explosion hit a stalled Iraq oil pipeline on the Syrian border on 23 June, 2003 and fire-fighters put out a blaze at a gas pipeline damaged in an earlier blast.

INTERNET

Iraqi oil exports restart despite pipeline woes

ANKARA, 24 June—Iraq took its first steps back into the world oil markets since the US-led war when one million barrels of crude oil were loaded onto a tanker at the Turkish port of Ceyhan on Sunday.

Post-war looting and sabotage at oil facilities have delayed the resumption of Iraq's oil exports, crucial to the country's recovery after a decade of economic sanctions, and an explosion on a pipeline on Saturday was the latest blow. The blast near the town of Hit northwest of Baghdad was blamed on sabotage.

The oil loaded onto a Turkish tanker on Sunday had been in storage at the port since before the war and markets are still waiting for oil to start flowing through a pipeline from Kirkuk in northern Iraq to Ceyhan.

"The revenue will be used for the well-being of the people," said Phillip Carroll, the top US adviser on oil in Iraq, at a ceremony attended by Iraqi, Turkish and US officials.

The 600-mile pipeline from Kirkuk to Ceyhan was recently damaged by a fire and explosions but an Iraqi Oil Ministry official said this week it was back in working order.

MNA/Reuters

British police apologize for "appalling" security lapse

New Yorkers protest against Bush's Iraq policy

NEW YORK, 24 June — Hundreds of demonstrators took to the streets on Monday in downtown Manhattan to protest against US President George W Bush's obsession with war on Iraq and occupation of the country to the neglect of domestic issues such as education, health care and employment.

The protest, organized by the New York Civil Liberties Union, Act Now To Stop War & End Racism and other civil rights groups, came as Bush made a brief tour of the city for a fund-raising function of the Republican 2004 election campaign.

Demonstrators gathered outside the Sheraton Hotel, where the convention was being held. They chanted slogans against Bush and his policy on Iraq and carried posters such as "Stop Bush," "Bush and Congress lie about WMD (weapons of mass destruction)," "Elect a mad man, you get madness."

Some demonstrators took turns to make speeches. One speaker said Bush has gone to war in the name of freedom, liberty and democracy, but he is undermining freedom, liberty and democracy around the world.

At least seven demonstrators were arrested on disorderly conduct charges, police said.

Bush and Vice-President Dick Cheney collected nearly 6 million dollars to their 2004 reelection campaign chest, bringing the total for their first week's fund-raising to 11.9 million dollars.

Bush shared the stage

with New York state governor George Pataki and former mayor Rudolph Giuliani as mayor Michael Bloomberg left earlier to throw the first pitch at a Brooklyn Cyclones game.

Bush opened his address by saying: "We have captured or killed many key leaders of al-Qaeda, and the rest of them know we're hot on their trail."

About 1,200 attended the 2,000-dollar-a-head fundraiser.

New York City, a traditionally Democratic stronghold, was not among Bush's favourite money-raising towns when he first ran for president in 2000. Bush started his reelection fundraising efforts last Tuesday in Washington. His aim is supposedly to raise 170 million dollars for the primary campaign, in which he is unopposed.

MNA/Xinhua

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Hundreds of demonstrators took to the streets on 23 June, 2003 in downtown Manhattan to protest against US President George W Bush's obsession with war on Iraq and occupation of the country to the neglect of domestic issues such as education, health care and employment. —XINHUA PHOTO

UN seeking more aid for postwar Iraq

UNITED NATIONS, 24 June— The United Nations warned Monday that lack of security and a credible government are hampering efforts to rebuild Iraq as it appealed for an additional \$259 million to meet humanitarian needs through the end of the year.

But in good news the UN aid chiefs said that a large scale refugee crisis that had been feared before the war never happened and food rations, on which 60

percent of the 27 million Iraqis depend, have resumed nationwide.

Ramiro Lopez da Silva, the UN humanitarian coordinator for Iraq,



Ramiro Lopez da Silva, the UN humanitarian coordinator for Iraq answers questions during a news conference on Iraq at the United Nations headquarters on 23 June, 2003. Silva said that major problems are keeping Iraq in an emergency situation, including an increase in attacks on American troops, continued looting, unemployment and lack of electricity.

INTERNET

said, however, that major problems are keeping the country in an emergency situation, including an increase in attacks on American troops, continued looting, unemployment and lack of electricity. He also said the oil infrastructure in Iraq, which has the world's second-largest proven reserves, was hit as hard as other sectors by years of UN sanctions, the US-led war, and continued looting.

"The bottom line is you do not have today not even the capacity to pump and export the same levels that Iraq was pumping and exporting prior to the conflict," Lopez da Silva told reporters. "The quantities of oil being exported at this stage are much lower and it's going to take awhile for that sector to be rehabilitated." —Internet

Putin says relations with Blair "open, friendly"

LONDON, 24 June— Russian President Vladimir Putin said in an interview broadcast Sunday that Russia's opposition to the war in Iraq had not damaged ties with Britain, emphasizing that his relationship with British Prime Minister Tony Blair was open and friendly.

We believed it was possible to tell each other what we actually think rather than what our diplomats advise us to say, Putin said in an exclusive interview with the BBC One's Breakfast with Frost, days before his state visit to Britain from Tuesday to Friday.

Claiming that relations between Russia and Britain

has been raised to a new level, Putin underscored the importance of political and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Putin would meet with Blair, the staunchest US ally on Iraq, for lunch at 10 Downing Street, and the two would jointly open a conference on Russia's energy industry. —MNA/Xinhua

Russia ready to continue efforts for Mideast settlement

Moscow, 24 June— Russia on Sunday expressed readiness to keep working for a comprehensive and just settlement in the Middle East, an arrangement under which Palestine would be an independent state, *Interfax* reported.

"Russia is ready to continue active efforts for a comprehensive and just settlement in the Middle East, a settlement within whose framework two independent states — Israel and Palestine — will live side by side in peace and security," Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov said in a statement published on the ministry's website Sunday.

Ivanov noted that under the settlement, all the countries and peoples of the region will acquire an oppor-

tunity for development in an environment of reliable stability and good-neighbourliness.

"We intend to act in close coordination with our Quartet partners and other interested parties to attain this goal," reads the statement, which was released after a Quartet ministerial meeting held in Jordan among the United Nations, the European Union, the United States and Russia on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

MNA/Xinhua

More Americans call the level of casualties in Iraq 'unacceptable'

WASHINGTON, 24 June— The number of Americans who say the United States is sustaining an "unacceptable" level of military casualties in Iraq has grown sharply, a trend that could signal limited patience for a long and violent occupation.

While 51 percent of Americans in a new ABCNEWS/Washington Post poll call the current level of US casualties "acceptable," that's down from 66 percent in early April, when Baghdad fell with little organized resistance. And the number calling casualties "unacceptable" has jumped by 16 points, to 44 percent.

While a yellow flag for policy-makers, rising concern about casualties hasn't greatly altered basic support for administration policy. Considering its costs vs. benefits, 64 percent say the war was worth fighting, down modestly from 70 percent at the end of April. And President Bush gets 67 percent approval for handling

Iraq down from 75 percent when the main fighting ended, but still a sizable majority.

Bush's overall job approval rating stands at 68

percent, compared to 71 percent in late April. That, too, remains very high, particularly in a time of economic discomfort. It reflects huge and long-running approval of

Bush's response to terrorism: In the seven months up to Sept. 11, 2001, he averaged 58 percent approval. In the 21 months since, he's averaged 73 percent. —Internet

Beijing to upgrade emergency response system

BEIJING, 24 June— China's capital city of Beijing will soon establish a more effective emergency response system, *China Daily* reported Monday.

Drawing lessons from the fight against the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), the Beijing municipal government is working towards the new network to coordinate the response to emergencies with those of grassroots authorities, the newspaper said.

A draft report on the system was released on the municipal government's web site over the weekend for public comment.

The system is expected to involve 17 commissions, offices and bureaux of the

municipal government, with Acting Mayor Wang Qishan as head.

The report said that the capital's current system for responding to emergencies needs to be upgraded because it does not meet the needs of the city now.

According to the newspaper, quick response to emergency events in the fields of public health, counter-terrorism, fire control, traffic safety and disaster relief will be given priority.

MNA/Xinhua

Plans for new Iraqi army to be unveiled

BAGHDAD, 24 June — Iraq's US-led administration lays out plans on Monday to create a new Iraqi Army and pay off disgruntled members of Saddam Hussein's dissolved Armed Forces.

Anger among unpaid soldiers boiled into violence last week when US troops shot dead two protesters in a crowd that was stoning a military convoy as it drove into the administration's headquarters in Saddam's former palace compound in Baghdad.

US administrator Paul Bremer disbanded the Armed Forces, security agencies and ministries of defence and information last month, laying off an estimated 400,000 people, as part of a drive to rid Iraq of Saddam's Baath Party legacy.

"Within two weeks we will start inducting soldiers into a new Iraqi Army, which in time will secure Iraq's borders," Bremer told a business conference in Jordan on Sunday.

A US official, Walter Slocumb, was due to give details of the new Army and payoffs to soldiers in the old one at a midday (0800 GMT) news conference in Baghdad. Offi-

cials have previously spoken of creating an Army corps numbering about 40,000.

Former Iraqi soldiers are furious at being sacked, and say promised redundancy payments are inadequate or have failed to materialize.

They have staged several protests outside the palace compound, though last Wednesday's was the first in which US troops at the gates had fired on demonstrators in Baghdad. The fatalities have prompted US combat forces to train with unfamiliar non-lethal riot control equipment.

A score of American soldiers with visors, protective leg pads, plastic shields and wooden batons went through their paces outside the palace compound on Sunday evening. A truck with what looked like a water cannon on top was parked nearby.

MNA/Reuters

Burned Iraqi children turned away

BAGHDAD, 24 June — On a scorching afternoon, while on duty at an Army airfield, Sgt David J Borell was approached by an Iraqi who pleaded for help for his three children, burned when they set fire to a bag containing explosive powder left over from war in Iraq.

Borell immediately called for assistance. But the two Army doctors who arrived about an hour later refused to help the children because their injuries were not life-threatening and had not been inflicted by US troops.

Now the two girls and a boy are covered with scabs and the boy cannot use his right leg. And Borell is shattered. "I have never seen in almost 14 years of Army experience anything that callous," said Borell, who recounted the 13 June incident to *The Associated Press*. A US military spokesman said the children's condition did not fall into a category that requires Army physicians to treat them — and that there was no inappropriate response on the part of the doctors.

The incident comes at a time when US troops are trying to win the confidence of Iraqis, an undertaking that has been overwhelmed by the need to protect themselves against attacks. Boosting security has led to suspicion in encounters between Iraqis and Americans. There are increased pat-downs, raids on homes and arrests in which US troops force people to the ground at gunpoint — measures the Iraqis believe are meant to humiliate them. In addition, Iraqis maintain the Americans have not lived up to their promises to improve security and living conditions, and incidents like the turning away of the children only reinforce the belief that Americans are in Iraq only for their own interests. For Borell, who

has been in Iraq since 17 April, what happened with the injured children has made him question what it means to be an American soldier.

"What would it have cost us to treat these children? A few dollars perhaps. Some investment of time and resources," said Borell, 30, of Toledo, Ohio. "I cannot imagine the heartlessness required to look into the eyes of a child in horrid pain and suffering and, with medical resources only a brief trip up the road, ignore their plight as though they are insignificant," he added. —*Internet*

China, India cooperate in ocean science, technology

BELING, 24 June — The governments of China and India on Monday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for cooperation in the arena of ocean science and technology.

The signing of the MoU would push forward Sino-Indian technological cooperation in the fields of integrated coastal zone management, sea-bed resources exploration, polar science, ocean energy, gas hydrate exploration, marine resource assessment, seaweed production and processing, and satellite oceanography, announced China's State Ocean Administration (CSOA), China's marine affairs administrator.

The two governments "considered that the coopera-

tion in the field of ocean science and technology can promote well-being and prosperity and strengthen friendly relations between the two countries, and wished to establish closer cooperation and foster friendly relationships between scientific and technological institutions and personnel", said the MoU cover, highlighting the historic significance of the two major nations' first ever cooperation on marine affairs.

MNA/Xinhua

Bangladesh fails to deal with dumping foreign goods

DHAKA, 24 June — Bangladesh fails to deal with dumping foreign goods in the local market due to the failure of businessmen to support their claims with evidences.

The Bangladeshi Tariff Commission received numerous complaints from the local industries about incidences of dumping and advised them to come up with documented evidences for actions, the *Financial Express* reported Sunday.

However, not a single action could be taken against such practices despite having basis of such complaints as the businessmen failed to substantiate their claims with proper documents, such as papers on prices of the products in the home market and

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UN says looting leaves Iraq in greater need of aid

UNITED NATIONS, 23 June — Widespread looting has spurred demand for more humanitarian aid to Iraq while making the job of distributing it more difficult, the United Nations said on Monday, urging governments to kick in nearly \$260 million in additional aid.

While many dire assumptions made in planning the UN response to post-war needs did not materialize, "the conflict and its aftermath resulted in a wide range of urgent humanitarian needs," Deputy Secretary-General Louise Frechette said in appealing for an extra \$259 million in relief money.

"In particular, widespread looting and destruction of hundreds of public facilities has given rise to a range of humanitarian needs as well as constraining humanitarian activities," Frechette told a gathering of donor governments.

The UN appeal marked the opening phase of a two-day conference set up to offer opportunities to the international community to pitch in and help rebuild Iraq.

Frechette said UN-led humanitarian assistance to Iraq had played a crucial role but would gradually be phased out by the end of the year as Baghdad began meeting its own needs.

At the same time, international aid to Iraq recovery and reconstruction would steadily increase, she said.

Featured in the reconstruction hearings were what

diplomats called the "Iraqi face of the US-led coalition" which included about a dozen middle-ranking government officials.

The Iraqis, brought to New York by the United States and Britain, called themselves "technocrats" working to keep as many services going as possible.

Fakhridin Rashan, a trade ministry official, said his offices were looted and then burned.

He said he was working with UN and US officials to restart food deliveries.

MNA/Reuters

China committed to push forward Asian cooperation

CHIANG MAI (Thailand), 24 June — Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs Li Zhaoxing stressed Sunday that China will push ahead with the cooperation among Asian countries.

He made the remarks at the close-door formal opening of the Second Ministerial Meeting of Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD).

The minister noted that since its establishment one year ago as an official cooperation and dialogue mechanism, the ACD not only launched the Asia-wide cooperation and but also enhanced the Asian countries'

sense of cooperation.

As the prime mover of the ACD's agricultural cooperation, China would like to share experience in agricultural development with Asian countries in an effort to advance regional agricultural development, Li Zhaoxing said. On the future development of the ACD, Li said the mechanism of ACD, based on mutual understand-

ing and trust, should focus on economic cooperation and coordination with other regional cooperative mechanisms so as to enhance cooperation and dialogues among Asian nations.

Being a member of the ACD, China is committed to push forward cooperation among Asian countries and will host the third ACD ministerial meeting in June 2004, Li said. —*MNA/Xinhua*



A woman walks through a submerged residential area near Daka on 23 June. Continued heavy rains have caused casualties and brought great losses to property. —XINHUA PHOTO

MNA/Xinhua

US troops have hard time in Iraq

WORLD IN PERSPECTIVE by Omar Zeidane

US troops in occupied Iraq have launched an offensive to drive out the last elements of loyal Baath party supporters. Harassed by guerrilla attacks, the Americans are now fighting a different kind of battle than when they invaded. It could mean that the occupation of Iraq will be long, and there will be even more casualties.

Although President George W. Bush signalled on May 1 that the major offensive was over, since then some 40 American soldiers have been killed as the Baath party refuses to give up the fight.

This sparked the US to launch a new initiative to wipe out the last pockets of resistance. The army leadership announced Operation Desert Scorpion specifically to wipe out resistance fighters who remain loyal to Saddam Hussein.

Bands of Saddam's supporters still roam around Iraq, seeking targets of opportunity with some success. The US army wants them wiped out. Unfortunately for them, the six-day Desert Scorpion mission was completed with limited success.

Of 400 people captured, only 60 real suspects were among them. It is obvious that there are far more Iraqis willing to keep the fight alive, and that this operation will not stop attacks upon US troops.

The US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld recently acknowledged that it may take months to subdue all resistance; he also said that the failure to capture Saddam

Hussein had only made the job of occupying Iraq more difficult.

Some US commanders have said that there will be no quick end to the hit-and-run attacks experienced by US soldiers, and instead they may have to stay for an additional two years before the occupation can be lifted.

To stamp out these fighters, the US is putting on a tough line, but have been heavily criticised for doing so. At least 16 civilians were killed by US troops in the town of Fallujah in two separate incidents. While in Desert Scorpion, the US has been blamed for summarily executing prisoners.

An Iraqi source quoted by AFP said that US forces killed 82 men in a training camp near the Syrian border. Some of these men were reported to have been executed by the Americans.

One respected Iraqi statesman, Adnan Pachachi added his voice to the criticism of the US. He objected to the increasingly aggressive operations in Iraq, saying, "It would be much better if we didn't have these operations."

"These incidents will not help pacify the country," he said. "For now the quieter is the better."

Despite the large number of US troops in Iraq, and their technical superiority, Baath loyalists have shown that they are not so easily defeated. It is likely that they will continue their fight, making the occupation last longer.

The article is reproduced from the Haveeru Daily (Maldives) of 16-6-2003 issue. —Ed



Protestor John O'Neill protests against US President George W. Bush outside a fundraising event in New York on 23 June, 2003. Thousands showed up to rally against the war in Iraq, for women's rights and against tax cuts for the rich. —INTERNET

Arab firms seek bigger share of Iraq rebuilding

DEAD SEA (Jordan), 24 June — Arab businessmen eyeing lucrative work in postwar Iraq have begun seeking orders for reconstruction projects, hoping to pick up business from US firms set to win the lion's share of deals.

Regional businessmen at a World Economic Forum meeting in Jordan said they expected a fraction of sub-contracts from Bechtel, the US company awarded an initial \$680 million contract to start rebuilding Iraq's infrastructure.

But business sources said conglomerates such as Saudi Arabia's Al-Zamil Group and Kuwait's Kharafi had already made preliminary

contact with established Iraqi contractors to explore joint ventures.

Bechtel has said it plans to subcontract 90 per cent of the work it has been hired for — rebuilding ports, power networks, airports, schools, roads and other facilities — and that it hopes to give plenty of business to Iraqi firms. The United States has allocated 2.4 billion US dollars for Iraqi reconstruction

over the next two years, according to the US Agency for International Development. — MNA/Reuters



In a play on former president John F. Kennedy's famous comment when he visited Berlin in 1963, a protestor displays a sign saying "Bush you are no Berliner" during a trip to the city by President George W. Bush in May as US-German relations deteriorated sharply over differences over the Iraq war. —INTERNET

Asia Cooperation Dialogue launches \$1b Asian Bond Fund

CHIANG MAI (Thailand), 24 June — The Asia Cooperation Dialogue produced its first concrete result on Sunday when 11 members of a new one-billion-US-dollar Asian Bond Fund drawn from their huge central bank reserves pledged to speed development of a regional bond market.

Founding countries of the Thai initiative say it will act as a catalyst for more efficient bond markets to woo back some Asian assets invested outside the area. Economists say it will harness only a tiny portion of Asia's 1.3 trillion US dollars of foreign reserves.

"The creation of the Asian Bond Fund and the Asian Bond Market represents the new architecture of the world of differences," said Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra at the close of the meeting.

"It is a powerful instrument, which will enable surplus capital from one Asian

country to create wealth in another." While the fund may still be small, given that Asia holds about two-thirds of global foreign reserves, the agreement by 11 of the 18 ACD members may be a sign it is achieving its goal of bringing those countries closer. The amount could double. India, which has record foreign exchange reserves of around 75 billion US dollars, said it was interested in putting in one billion US dollars after conducting a study, Thai Foreign Minister Surakiart Sathirathai told a news conference. Bahrain and Qatar are also interested.

MNA/Reuters

Radiation sickness fear in Iraq

TUWAITHA (Iraq), 24 June — Doctors in Iraq are becoming increasingly concerned about the extent of radiation sickness among people living near the country's largest nuclear facility, south of Baghdad.

It is thought they were contaminated when barrels used to store uranium at Tuwaitha were looted in April.

The uranium was tipped out, and the barrels were used to store water and wash clothes.

New cases of suspected radiation sickness are being reported every day, at a hospital close to Tuwaitha.

Doctors say about 20 people a day, many of them children are coming into hospital with bloody diarrhoea.

Some have fallen sick because of parasites in the local water supply, but tests prove that others, as many as five a day, have no infection.

The doctors believe they have been poisoned by radiation. Barrels containing low enriched uranium, also known as "yellow cake" were taken from the Tuwaitha facility in April and washed in a local river.

Their contents were dumped on the ground.

Now the number of people falling ill is steadily rising.

A few patients known to have had close contact with looted materials show signs of acute radiation sickness: skin rashes, nose bleeds and vomiting.

A team of UN experts has been at Tuwaitha trying to account for the missing nuclear material, but the United States as the occupying power is not allowing them to carry out any medical examinations on local people. Doctors say tens of thousands of Iraqis live in the area which may have been contaminated.

Internet

Blair's closest aide to face grilling over Iraq

LONDON, 24 June — British Prime Minister Tony Blair's top aide will be questioned by lawmakers over the claims that the public was misled in the run-up to the war in Iraq, the Downing Street announced on Monday.

Alastair Campbell, Blair's director of communications and strategy, will appear before the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee, which is investigating British Government's claims about Iraqi alleged weapons of mass destruction, the Downing Street said.

"We have agreed that Mr Campbell should exceptionally give evidence to your committee," British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said in a letter to Donald Anderson, the chairman of the parliamentary committee.

The appearance of Campbell before the inquiry marks a U-turn by the British Government, which has been accused of doctoring intelligence on Saddam Hussein's banned weapons to make a stronger case for the US-led war against Iraq.

Blair's office earlier refused an initial approach, insisting that such a move would break with precedent, and turned down a second request from the committee on last Friday.

MNA/Xinhua



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt formally unveils the stone inscription of Yan Aung Myin Dam in Lewe Township, Mandalay Division. — MNA



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt and party inspect Yan Aung Myin Dam in Lewe Township, Mandalay Division. — MNA

Farmers urged to create fair...

(from page 1)

He said quality strain of paddy, fertilizers and modern cultivation techniques are used for increasing the crop yield and promotion of quality and cultivation of ten crops besides paddy all year round. The Secretary-1 call for implementation of projects on availability of water in the whole country.

He said there are 148 new dams including Yan Aung Myin Dam under the present government. The government spent over K 62,600 million on construction of these dams which benefited nearly three million acres of farmlands.

He said the present one is the 36th dam in Mandalay Division.

These dams benefiting over 300,000 acres of farmlands were constructed at a cost of over K 7,400 million. Development of agriculture will surely narrow the gap between urban and rural areas.

He said there are 10 dam and reservoir projects



U Hla Than expresses thanks at the opening ceremony. — MNA

in Mandalay Division including Paunglaung Dam in Pyinmana Township and Sedawgyi Dam in Madaya Township. Paunglaung and Sedawgyi Dam projects which will benefit 50,000 acres of farmlands and 120,000 acres of farmland respectively include hydel power stations.

He said Chaungmange dam which will benefit 8,000 acres of farmland and Thebyu Reservoir which will benefit 1,200 acres of farmland are under construction in Lewe Township. He said arrangements are made for implementation of eight projects including construction of dams in Meiktila, Yamethin and Tatkon Townships.

He said the government is building a lot of dams and reservoirs spending a large sum of money. The government spent much on construction of medium and small dams but it got less advantage in economic point of view. Economic and social standards of farmers who use water from the dams will surely improve.

The Secretary-1 said the local farmers will have to strive to effectively use the water from the dam to cultivate crops to the full.

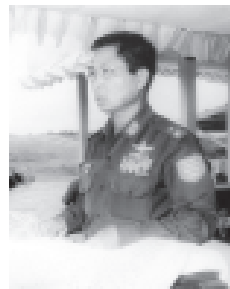
Of the ten major crops of the nation, the farmers are required to cultivate crops that grow well in the respective regions the whole year round and to use quality strains and advanced methods to increase per acre

yield of the crops.

The government at present is making all-round efforts for progress of the agricultural sector.

Bearing in mind the fact that development of agriculture will lead to raising the income and living standard of the entire people and strengthening the national economy that will serve the interest of the entire people, the farmers should make extra efforts to achieve extra success.

The government has already announced to permit free rice trade. Seeing with the sympathy that selling their fixed quota of paddy to the government would be a burden for farmers, the



Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin speaks at the opening ceremony. — MNA

government has issued the announcement. It is a new policy laid down by the government with noble aim of serving the interest of the farmers. In addition, the policy will help much improve the socio-economic life of farmers.

The issuance of the announcement does not mean to ignore the life of the

farmers. The government will continue to build irrigation facilities in the interest of farmers and implement rural development undertakings with added momentum.

The farmers will have to make efforts for development of agriculture with the aim of creating a fair and beneficial rice market that is helping develop, stabilize and strengthen the national economy in the long run.

The ultimate aim of the national development endeavours is to further raise the economy and social life of the people and to build a peaceful society.

The government is using the funds it has received through hand work to realize the aim on self-reliant basis. In this regard, the people need to understand the true goodwill of the government.

The government has been building and upgrading roads, constructing bridges, extending railroads, and building and upgrading airports to ensure a convenient transport for trade and other purposes.

Including the Yan Aung Myin Dam, the government is opening irrigation facilities one after another. Thanks to the efforts to build institutions of higher learning and schools, human resources development programmes are starting to gain momentum.

New hospitals are being built and the existing ones upgraded, and more dispensaries and health care cen-

tres are being built, and the health gap between the rural and urban areas has been narrowed.

More industries are being set up to generate job opportunities, and to reduce unemployment. Due to government's continuous services for public interest, a large number of infrastruc-



Lt-Gen Ye Myint speaks at the opening ceremony. — MNA

tures including economic and social infrastructures are emerging in all the directions in the nation. People are required to safeguard the facilities against the attempts of the internal and external destructive elements to destroy them.

Thus, the people are urged to strive in unity under the State's leadership to develop the communities, regions, agriculture and animal husbandry and aquatic culture, economic and social standard.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 urged farmers to help each other to effectively use water from the dam to develop agriculture and to equally share the benefits among themselves; to strive for emergence of a

stable and firm rice market serving the interest of the farmers and the entire nation; and to safeguard and maintain the infrastructures built by the government for the posterity to enjoy the fruits.

Then, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin made a report. He said the State, under the guidance of the Head of State, has been implementing irrigation tasks and water supply tasks for development of irrigation system all over the country with a view to boosting agricultural produce as well as supplying drinking water and greening tasks. In this respect, Yan Aung Myin dam is the agro-based infrastructure in Lewe Township, Mandalay Division.

He continued to say that it is a reliable infrastructure for the farmers who play a crucial role in the State's major business and a development task for the region provided by the State for progress of regional socio-economy.

Priority is being given to development of transportation infrastructure for the rural areas to develop and to keep in touch with urban areas. At the same time, irrigation projects which play a leading role in the agriculture sector have been implemented.

This is the result of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe who has strong desire for the country to develop.

(See page 9)

**Secretary-1
General
Khin Nyunt
views
documentary
film on Naga
national race**



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt poses for documentary photo together with those present at the ceremony. — MNA



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt attends the documentary film showing ceremony and Mr Martin Pun extends greetings. — MNA

Farmers urged to create fair,...

(from page 8)

Myanmar has good foundations and is a promising one in the region. The agriculture sector is the backbone for the State's development. So, favourable conditions for local food sufficiency and export of agricultural produce can be created. The greater the success of the crops production enterprise of the agriculture sector, the more success will be gained from it, he added.

On the other hand, the agriculture sector contributes 48% to GDP and it is reliable for the country in turning itself to be an agro-based industrialized country. So, providing a facility to supply water to Mandalay Division where 10 major crops are grown and success has been achieved, will lead to gaining more success in the agriculture sector. The ministry has already set targets on boosting production.

Efforts have been made and assistance been provided for producing 100 baskets of paddy per acre; 80 baskets of maize; 50 baskets of groundnut; 20 baskets of sesame, 50 baskets of sunflower, 20 baskets of Matpe, Pedisein, 25 baskets of Pesigon, 400 viss of long-staple cotton and 30 tons of sugarcane per acre. So, farmers in this region are to strive for effectiveness in the agriculture tasks to fulfil the State's aim, he said. Regions in Mandalay Division contribute much to development of the State's economy. In agriculture production, seasonal crops are grown in 5.2 million acres of land in respective seasons and the growing capacity amounted to 158%. He urged the farmers to make efforts for achieving more success in productivity in their own interest as well as of the State.

The minister said the dam was constructed in 2001-2002 to properly utilize 8,300 acre feet of water flowing into 11 square miles of catchment area. The dam is 63 feet in height and has 4,060-feet earthen dam, spending K 2,83.61 million. thanks to the dam, crops will grow more and the farmers will gain more profits. So, all are to maintain the irrigation facility presented by the State. Next, Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint made a speech. In his address, Yan Aung Myin Dam, which is vital for socio-economic life of farmers who are the basic force of the State, was successfully opened today. The emergence of a new dam can be assumed by the farmers and local people that it was another gift of the

State for their region.

The dam is the 148th of its kind built since 1988 and the 36th of its kind in Mandalay Division and will irrigate 2500 acres of monsoon paddy as well as 500 acres of summer paddy, he noted.

Altogether 686,675 acres of farmland in Mandalay Division will be put under monsoon paddy in 2003-2004. In the process, 95 large dams and lakes and 1327 small dams and lakes are to irrigate 4,594.10 acres of the farmland accounting for 66.9 per cent of irrigated acreage.

Likewise, 198,874 acres of farmland in the division will be put under summer paddy in 2003-2004.

To ensure food sufficiency in the division extended cultivation of paddy is required. To be able to carry out extended cultivation water plays a key role. Thus, the government is making all-out efforts for ensuring water supply, building dams and reservoirs, implementing river water pumping projects and renovating the already existing dams, lake and canals, he stressed.

As a result, paddy could soon be grown on the farmland where paddy could not be grown in the past due to scanty water. Those irrigation facilities will supply water to 65,546 acres of farmland, thereby contributing to cultivation of more monsoon paddy.

The agricultural sector constitutes 42.2 per cent in production and services of Mandalay Division and it is the greatest among the sectors. Therefore, the emergence of Yan Aung Myin Dam will further contribute to development of the agricultural sector in the division, he said. Water resources such as dams, reservoirs, diversion weirs and river water pumping projects have been implemented in the division to ensure water supply for agriculture, drinking water and regional greening. This being so, he said that he would like to thank the government and the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation on behalf of the local people. In conclusion, he called on the local people to preserve and safeguard dams and reservoirs in the division including Yanaungmyin Dam constructed by the farmers, the people and staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation for their durability.

Then, on behalf of local people, U Hla Than of Lewé spoke words of thanks to the government for construction of Yan Aung Myin Dam. Then, the Secretary-1 presented gifts to the employees of the Irrigation Department who contributed towards the project through respective officials.

Afterwards, the opening of the dam followed at the pandal at the top of the dam. The Secretary-1 formally unveiled the stone inscription of the dam. Then, Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint and Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin formally opened the dam. The Secretary-1 and party posed for a documentary photo in front of the pandal together with local residents and students. The Secretary-1 cordially greeted the local people and then inspected the main embankment and the control tower.

At the briefing hall, Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin reported on salient points about Yan Aung Myin Dam, rainfall in the region, water storage capacity of the dam, and supply of water from Ngalaik Dam to the irrigated areas; and Director-General of ID U Kyaw San Win, on facts about Yan Aung Myin Dam, construction tasks carried out, irrigated areas and arrangements for water supply. The Secretary-1 said that thanks to construction of the dam, local farmers can cultivate crops including monsoon and summer paddy, beans and pulses, groundnut and sesamum. Besides, there will emerge gardens. The two dams will contribute towards cultivation of crops in all the farmlands in the region.

The Secretary-1 and party proceeded to Chaungmagyi (Pinyinman) Dam Construction Project site in Pinyinman Township, Mandalay Division. At the briefing hall, Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin reported on facts about the project, annual rainfall in the region, water storage capacity of the dam, and supply of water to the irrigated areas of Ngalaik Dam; and Director-General U Kyaw San Win, on construction of the main embankment, spillway and conduits. The Secretary-1 inspected construction of the main embankment and the spillway.

The Secretary-1 went to the construction site of the Medical Research Department (Upper Myanmar) being undertaken by the Ministry of Health in Kyetpyay Region, Pinyinman Township. Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint reported on arrangements for the project; Acting Director-General Lt-Col Tun Naing Oo, on location and area of the project, layout of buildings, strength of the staff, conducting efficiency courses for staff, collecting research equipment, supply of water, electricity and communication, research works being carried out, and preparations for doing research in cooperation with international organizations including WHO; Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Myo Myint, on the supply of electricity;

(See page 15)

New Destiny Project to eradicate narcotic drugs

Lwan Htaik Aung (Pinlaung)

(Continued from yesterday)

At a time when Myanmar has come to gain success in bringing the problems of opium-based narcotic drugs under control, there appeared ATS problems in 1996. Not only are the tasks for prevention and control of narcotics and educational campaigns conducted in the country, but efforts are also made to strengthen cooperation with regional countries as well as the neighbouring countries. Owing to the growing spread of the danger of stimulant tablets in the region, the transnational drugs control cooperation programme (1999-2003) (AD/RAS/99/D91) is being implemented with the cooperation of UNDCP in six countries — China, Thailand, Lao, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Myanmar. As the first step, cooperation campaign on narcotic drug control is being launched along Myanmar-China-Lao-Vietnam border.

The problem of stimulant tablets was unheard of in Myanmar as late as 1996. Only after that year, stimulant tablets found its ways to Myanmar from the other country. Systematic measures have been taken in Myanmar since then. The years 1999 and 2000 were the highest scores in seizures of narcotics. One stimulant tablets-manufacturing machine was seized in Tachilek on 23 January 1999. A drug elimination museum was opened in Laukkai, Kokang region, with the aim of arousing wider public awareness about the giving up of production of narcotic drugs.

The ASEAN member countries have made a vow to make themselves as drug free ASEAN countries by 2015. As for Myanmar, she has now launched a campaign for the realization of the fifteen-year plan for eradication of narcotic drugs. The Drug Elimination Museum opened on 26 June 2001, the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, keeps revealing the true facts about activities done by Myanmar for total elimination of narcotic drugs and achievements, against the groundless accusations on narcotic drugs.

There are found to be fruitful results the New Destiny Project implemented in 2002 produced. The Government spent K 117.28 million on the project — K 42.5 million for northern Shan State, K 15 million for Panhse region, K 10 million for southern Shan State, K 7.48 million for eastern Shan State, K 9.5 million for Kachin State, K 10 million for the Special Region 1 of Kachin State, K 2.8 million for Kayah State, K 5 million for the Tachilek Anti-drug Association and Rehabilitation Camp, K 12.5 million for livestock breeding industries, and K 1.854 million for the construction of Shwepyithar Pigsty, including provision of 500 bags of rice to farmers,

whose poppy fields were destroyed in Northern Shan State.

After drawing up a pioneer project on control of poppy cultivation, the CCDAC is implementing it in southern, northern and eastern Shan State, Kayah State and Kachin State. This pioneer project is being carried out through the distribution of methods on control of poppy cultivation and seeds of poppy-substitute crops, and the control of poppy seeds. In carrying out the drugs eradication activities, Myanmar is working in harness with the international community by signing agreements with neighbouring countries as well as hosting meetings on anti-narcotic movements. Success in organizing the poppy growers is one of the obvious achievements gained in the course of Myanmar's anti-narcotic struggle.

Organized by the responsible personnel, poppy growers were well aware of the danger posed by narcotic drugs and handed over a total of 78,836 pyis (128,739 kilos) of poppy seeds to the government, abandoning the cultivation of poppy. These poppy seeds were incinerated in Lashio, Laukkai, Pinlaung, Kengtung, and Loikaw. Therefore, 78,836.19 acres of poppy fields that can produce 34.169 tons of heroin was prevented from growing.

As Myanmar could reduce cultivation of poppy, amount of narcotic drugs seized by her decreased. Though there were progress in elimination of poppy, seizure of stimulant tablets that replaced heroin and opium increased. However, Myanmar do not produce chemicals that are used in production of stimulant tablets. Drug traffickers produced stimulants with chemicals smuggled into the country by various means from the neighbouring countries and distributed them in the country and abroad.

As regards elimination of stimulant tablets, the Ministry of Health of the Union of Myanmar issued Notification No 1/2002 on 5 June 2002 and 25 kinds of chemicals were declared as controlled chemicals. Myanmar, with her own resources, has been endeavouring to eliminate narcotic drugs by implementing a 15-year drug elimination project covering from 1999 to 2014. The project has been implemented starting April 2002.

Well aware of the danger posed by narcotic drugs and its consequences, the entire national people of Myanmar, relying on their own resources, pledge to make earnest efforts for eradication of narcotic drugs. Anti-narcotic drive of Myanmar will surely meet with success.

(Concluded)

(Translation: KTY + MWT)

(Kyemon: 11-6-2003)



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives Mr Frank Buchs and Mr Kurt Nass. — MNA

Information Minister receives guests

YANGON, 24 June — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Executive Producer of Polyphon German Film Production Mr Frank Buchs and Southeast Region Commerce and Industry Consultant Mr Kurt Nass at his office on Bo Aung Kyaw Street here this morning.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein and departmental heads of departments and enterprises under the ministry. —MNA

MWJA CEC meets

YANGON, 24 June — The Central Executive Committee of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association held its meeting No 6/2003 at the association office on Second Floor of Sarpay Beikman on Merchant Street here this afternoon. It was attended by MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), Vice-Chairmen U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha), U Than Maung (Than Maung) and U Myint Thein (Myint Thein Aung), Secretary U Hla Tun (Hla Tun-Twantay), Joint-Secretaries and CEC members. Joint-Secretary U Khin Swe (Shwe Sun Nyo) acted as master of ceremonies.

The chairman delivered a speech on the occasion. The secretary reported on the resolutions passed at the previous meeting and work progress. Then, a general round of discussions followed. The chairman made concluding remarks. — MNA

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

သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တွင် (၆) ဇွန်လ (လမ်းမတော်၊ လသာ၊ ပန်းဘဲတန်း၊ ကျောက်တံတား၊ ဗိုလ်တထောင်၊ ပုဇွန်တောင်) အတွင်း ဟွန်းသံကင်း ခဲ့အဖြစ် ၁-၆-၂၀၀၃ ရက်မှစတင်သတ်မှတ် သွားမည် ဖြစ်ရာ မော်တော်ယာဉ်မောင်းသူများအား လုံးမှ ယင်းဧရိယာအတွင်း မည်သည့်အကြောင်းနှင့်မျှ ဟွန်းသံကင်း ဖြစ်ရန်နှင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုမဖြစ်စေရန် အတွက်လည်း သတိပြု မောင်းနှင်ကြရန် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အနီးယာဉ်များမှာလည်း စည်းကမ်းတကျ သွားလာကြရန်နှင့် ကန့်သတ်ထားသည့် ဧရိယာအတွင်း ဝင်ရောက်စီးနင်းခြင်း မပြုကြရန်၊ ထိုအပြင် လမ်းအသုံးပြုသူများမှာလည်း လူသွားစကြရန်မှ သွားလာကြရန် နှင့် လူကူးမျှ ကျားများ၊ လူကူးစူးကျော်တံတားတို့မှသာ လမ်းဖြတ်ကူး ကြပါရန်၊ လိုက်နာခြင်းမရှိပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူဆောင်ရွက် သွားမည်ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေး ကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်အတွင်း အချို့မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမှာ ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်း လမ်းစည်းကမ်း ချိုးဖောက်မှုများကြောင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုများ ဖြစ်ပွားခဲ့သဖြင့် ဒဏ်ရာရသူသေဆုံးသူများ များပြားလာသည်ကို တွေ့ရှိရပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုများ ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ကြေအေးသည်ဖြစ်စေ မကြေအေးသည်ဖြစ်စေ ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်း လမ်းစည်းကမ်းများ ယဉ်ကျေးသော ယာဉ်မောင်းသူများအား တည်ဆဲဥပဒေအရ ထိထိရောက်ရောက် အရေးယူဆောင်ရွက်သွားမည် ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေး ကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ



The 2003 Monsoon Basketball Championships ended at Aung San Gymnasium in Yangon on 24-6-2003. Myanmar Chinese Sports Association Chairman U Maung Maung Chin presents the championship trophy to Dawn team which stood first in the open division. — MBF

အိမ်တိုင်းမှာသစ်ပင် ရွာစဉ်မှာတောတန်း တစ်တောင်တစ်တောင်တက် မြို့တက်မယ့်လမ်း။

Mom's meaningful advice

Maung Tha Aye

A son finds the most peaceful and the safest place in the embrace of a mother. Despite the many resources she has used for her son, a mother never expects any gain. She never discards, but always loves her children with all her heart, however naughty they are. At the family gatherings, she is a mentor teaching her children the moral precepts.

As I was about to travel to Yangon, I went to my mom's house to pay respects to her before saying goodbye and ask her if she had anything she wanted so that I could buy for her from the city. At my mom's house, I also met my elder brother's family, including my niece and nephew, who were university students. Mother is always happy when all her family members are around. She would be wearing a bright smile.

"I am going to Yangon. Anything I can buy for you?" I asked mother. But she didn't ask anything, except reading a passage from the book "Discourses of the Buddha" about the Discourse the Buddha had taught Baddiya.

The Buddha told Baddiya not to believe anything that he had just heard from others; and not to confirm anything that was just handed down throughout the successive eras in accord with the tradition, that had just occurred in the past, that was just said to be in conformity with the Pitaka literature, that was only a concept, that could just be adapted, that had just been perceived in mind, that was just in line with the already accepted ideas, that was just worthy of attention, and that was just the words of an honourable person.

What did she mean, reading the passage? Mother had already heard the exaggerations and lies broadcast by the radio stations, BBC and VOA, concerning the news reports on the incident that was occurred in Dabayin Township, Shwebo District, on 29 and 30 May.

What she actually meant was to believe and accept what was said or heard as right or wrong after considering it with one's own intellectual power, as the message the passage had given was not to believe what was just said or heard.

Placing in the fore only their selfish outlook, the destructive elements are committing harmful acts in accord with the wish of some neo-colonialist countries. They

are trying to destroy peace, stability and tranquillity of the nation in accord with their wicked plots.

The internal traitors and the external destructive elements are acting in harmony, while the former are trying to obstruct the national development endeavours and destroy peace and stability on one hand, the latter are exaggerating the incident to broadcast false stories on the other. Mother was telling me to know and keep vigil against these conspiracies. In addition, she told me, "Son, please buy me a radio that does not produce the voices of the BBC and VOA."

What mother asked me was meaningful. Her words came out from her heart. She is innocent by nature. She loves to lead a peaceful life. She never tells lies.

But, she never yields to injustice. She hates fabrication, and she never forgives and forgets the fabricator. She does not want to hear BBC and VOA anymore. She dubbed a fabricator "BBC" or "VOA".

She hates deceit and deception so much. She was born and brought up in a village far from the town. Sincerity can be always found on her face, but not the excessive pride. Her heart is gentle and pure, and her face always wearing an innocent and sincere smile. But her voice was also strong and powerful. I could feel the strength of every word she uttered.

She often told me, "You do not need to give me tonics. I automatically gain strength unless I hear the programmes of the BBC and VOA."

Although mother is now over 70, she does not have poor eyesight and is not hard of hearing without a stoop. She loves the truth and she is worthy of high respect. She is not much learned person nor far-sighted one. But she gained a lot of experience. The sound of gun was heard along the journey she passed. She passed among the bombs. She realized that many villages were destroyed due to internal insurgency. She had bitter experience because of war. In her life tiredness, worries and scars were left.

While efforts were being made for development of the nation, she heard accusations, slandering and fighting continuously as if liquid of hot iron was poured into her ears. The voices are sometimes louder, sometimes low. They

came from the west and went along with the west wind.

She wants to listen to the recitation of verses of the Buddha and the Dhamma. What she hears is just skyful of lies. She usually reads newspaper every day and watches TV every night. She takes interest in nation-building tasks. Whenever she sees a new bridge, her heart usually leaps up with delight. She smiles with pleasure when she sees upgrading of old roads. In her mind she praises those who tell the truth do what is right.

She is pleased to see dams and reservoirs at full brim. She grimaces at the people who create disturbances in the streets. After she had passed the last disturbance, her mind became clearer. She cherishes the land of forefathers more and more. She set up fences in her land and farm. She never intruded the lands of others even an inch.

She said her race was not the slaves but the masters. As her race was the masters, there was no reason to become slaves and she never thought of being a slave.

Her words are absolutely right. As long as there are those who are inclined to fall into servitude and serve their masters, it is very dangerous to the Union. The people sacrificed lives, blood and sweat for national independence. There are many who sacrificed lives, blood and sweat while safeguarding the country in order not to lose independence.

Internal traitors in collusion with external destructive elements are attempting to break up the Union and national solidarity and lose sovereignty. Foreign broadcasting stations especially VOA and BBC broadcast fabricated news and drive a wedge among the national races to break up the Union.

Mother is fed up with VOA and BBC. She no longer listens to them. She said she would not let herself troubled by the voices of VOA and BBC. I found true mind of mother. I had seen cicada in my mother's village that died of broken heart producing high-pitched, droning sound. She thinks of BBC and VOA meeting the same fate. Her life is at peace. Mother who wants to live in peace said, "Son, buy me a radio that does not produce the voices of BBC and VOA when you are in Yangon."

(Translation: TMT+NY)

Trust the electrical problem to the professional

Maung Maung (Photo)

In our country, the traditional Thingyan Festival always comes when the heat is at its peak, with the attendant heat strokes and even fatalities in what we know as 'anyar' or upper Myanmar.

The arrival of Thingyan is followed by the arrival of the monsoon — the rainy season starting in May — the first few weeks finding the Bay of Bengal touching Bangladesh and Myanmar suffering a couple or more of storms that wreak havoc more on our neighbour than on us. For the rest of our country in general, the arrival of mango showers that lend more flavour to that delicious fruit and the decreasing heat are most welcome.

However, there are hazards that come with the arrival of the rainy season such as overturned boats, cars bumping into cars and uprooted trees or trees falling on electric power lines that can spell electrocution of the unsuspecting.

What usually happens is that in the dry season, branches of trees close to power lines touch those lines, but since they are not wet, they go unnoticed. But the danger comes when the first showers arrive.

Dry or even wet branches, branches of coconut palms which have been touching the wires unnoticed, suffer short circuit, and, depending on the intensity of the voltage, renders the short-circuit or electrical fire more intense. Downed power lines in storm-hit areas have to be cleared of branches of trees touching them. Sometimes, the power lines get tangled after they are downed, which mean they require the attention of professionals at the township offices concerned who will arrive as soon as they are notified, for they are on duty round-the-clock.

Actually, the men at these offices had gone on a

scouting mission before the rains came and removed the hazardous branches, but there are sometimes those who object to removal of branches from mango trees or other trees they treasure, like the ngu and the padauk trees, only to panic and call for help when the wind and the rain plus these branches compound into trouble. The professionals at the township offices are best equipped to attend to the removal of the hazard. Consumers are not professionals who have been trained to tackle such problems. Even if there is some minor shock due to wet walls and leaky wires posing a minor problem, it is best to call a professional in and have him solve the problem.

When we were young, we used to be warned: "Don't monkey with electricity." I guess the same holds true today. Housewives repairing electric stoves should heed this. If and when the need arises, call the township electricity people. They can best solve the problem. When you feel there is a leak in the wiring in the house, don't ignore it or try to fix it yourself because your tester tells only that there is leakage.

Call the township office nearest you or a certified electrician who is expert in internal wiring. Also keep the phone number of the township readily available.

Watch out specially when the surface you're standing on, that is, the wooden or cement floor, is wet. You are 'earthed' and a touch on the leaking wire can be fatal.

When you have electrical problems in any part of the house, check what it might be, but you have to remember it is not advisable for you as a non-professional to handle all of them by yourself. It is best left to the professional.

POEM: Won't be cowed a bit

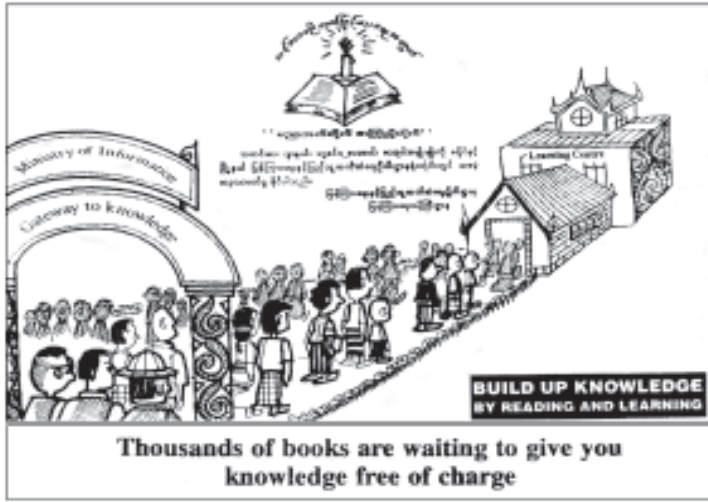
* Our nation, our system
Based on patriotism
No matter who says what
This nature we won't relent
With dirty intent
Our Myanmar is accused
Is patriotism a fault
Instilling that thought
To mislead our youths
They are striving.

* Others
We do not intend to insult
For our nation, for our people
We act simply, with lofty aims.
Their nation...
Their custom, their tradition...
In these they relish.
Our traditions, our religion
Our land, our people
We will love all the more...
To misunderstand patriotism
Though they dirtily divide
We won't be cowed a bit.

Po Wa (Trns)



RICE MARKETING COURSE OPENS: The Myanmar Rice Marketing Course (program-1), conducted by the UMFCFI was opened with ceremony at the head office in Yangon on 24-6-2003. It is being attended by 71 trainees. It will last till 4 July. UMFCFI President U Win Myint addresses the opening ceremony. — UMFCFI



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- * ပြည်တွင်းပြည်ပ ကိုယ်ကျိုးရှာအဖျက်သမားများက ပျက်စီးရာပျက်စီးကြောင်းကို ဦးတည်ပြီး မီးလောင်ရာလေပင့်ကြသည်-
- * ဤသို့အခြေအနေများကို ကဗျာဆရာရွှန်းမြအောင်က တိုတိုကျဉ်းကျဉ်းဖြင့် မီးမောင်းထိုး ခံစားဖော်ညွှန်းတင်ပြထားသည်-



သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း စာအုပ်ဆိုင်နှင့် သတင်းစာကိုယ်စားလှယ်များထံတွင် ဝယ်ယူရရှိနိုင်ပါပြီ။

ရောင်း စက္ကူဖြူချော ကျပ် ၂၀၀
သတင်းစာစက္ကူ ကျပ် ၁၅၀

ဖြန့်ချိလိုက်ပါပြီ။

သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း
ဖုန်း - ၂၉၄၃၀၆

More trash-burning power plants to be built in China

TIANJIN, 24 June — Tianjin, the largest port city in north China, will start construction of its first trash-burning power plant in early

July at a cost of 570 million yuan (about 68.68 million US dollars).

The project is listed as one of the key works Tianjin

will build in support of Beijing's Olympic Games in 2008. It is also listed by the Chinese Ministry of Construction as one of its scientific demonstration projects for 2003.

Sources from Tianjin Taida Holdings Ltd, one of the investors, said the projected trash-burning power plant would be installed with three trash-burning lines made in Japan.

The plant will have an installed capacity of 18,000 kilowatt and will be capable of generating 351,000 kilowatt hours of electricity each day. A total of 116 million kilowatt hours of electricity will be brought into the local power grid each year, which will mean 48,000 tons of coal will be saved from consumption.

MNA/Xinhua

ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV "BAGO" VOY NO BG 743/N

Consignee of cargo carried on MV "BAGO" Voy No 743/N are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived at Yangon port on 25-6-03 and will be berthing on about 26-6-03 and cargoes will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the by-laws and conditions of the port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily between 8 am to 11.30 and 12 noon to 4 pm into Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from vessel.

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

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ပြည်တွင်းဖြစ်ရပ်အားပေးပါ

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ASIA BRIDGE VOY NO (66)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIA BRIDGE Voy No (66) which will be arrived on 23-6-03 are hereby notified that their cargo will be discharged into the premises of MYANMAR PORT AUTHORITY where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: TOKO KAIUN KAISHA
LTD JAPAN

Phone : 256914/256908/256924

Japan's trade surplus rises 12.5% in May

TOKYO, 24 June—Japan's Customs-cleared trade surplus totalled 694.4 billion yen (5.83 billion US dollars) in May, up 12.5 percent from a year earlier for the second straight month of increase.

According to a preliminary report of Japan's Finance Ministry released Monday, exports rose 3.5 percent in May to 4,298.8 billion yen (36.11 billion US dollars).

MNA/Xinhua

စာပေမြတ်နိုးသူများအတွက် N E သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း N E စာအုပ်ဆိုင်

- ဘုရားစကား လိုက်နာပွားစွာနှင့် အခြားကဗျာများ
- မှန်နန်းမဟာရာဇဝင်တော်ကြီး (ပ+ဒ+တ)
- သမိုင်းတွင် သမိုင်းတင်မည့် ချစ်ကြည်ရေးခရီးမှတ်တမ်းများ (မြန်မာ-အင်္ဂလိပ်)
- တစ်မတော်သမိုင်း (အတွဲ ၁ မှ ၈ အထိ)
- ဇာတ်တော်ကြီးဆယ်ဘွဲ့ (မြန်မာ-အင်္ဂလိပ်)
- ပုဂံ-ညောင်ဦးဒေသရှိ ရှေးဟောင်းစေတီပုထိုးများ (မြန်မာ-အင်္ဂလိပ်)
- မြန်မာပြည်ရှိ ရှေးဟောင်းဘုရားစေတီပုထိုးများ (မြန်မာ-အင်္ဂလိပ်)
- ငါးရာငါးဆယ် ဇာတ်ဝတ္ထု (အကျဉ်း) (ပ+ဒ) (မြန်မာ-အင်္ဂလိပ်)
- ရခိုင်ပြည် ဝတ်လေးရပ်ရှိ ရှေးဟောင်းစေတီပုထိုးများ (မြန်မာ-အင်္ဂလိပ်)
- ဂျူနီယာလီဒါပေါင်းချုပ် (၁၂၊ ၁၃၊ ၄၊ ၅)
- သိထားရမည့် အင်္ဂလိပ်စကားလုံးတွဲများ
- အင်္ဂလိပ်ဝါကျ တည်ဆောက်ပုံများ
- အီရတ်စစ်မြေပြင်နှင့် စာပေကောင်းမျိုးစုံကို တစ်စုတစ်စည်းတည်း ဝယ်ယူရရှိနိုင်ပါပြီ။ (အမြန်ဝယ်ထားမှ စိတ်ချရမည်ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတင်းကောင်းပေးပို့လိုက်ပါသည်။)

သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း
စာအုပ်ဆိုင် (ဝန်ကြီးများရုံးရှေ့)
ဖုန်း - ၂၉၄၃၀၆

URC loses \$1m worth of materials

KAMPALA, 24 June—Rail track materials worth over one million US dollars have been stolen from the Uganda Railways Corporation's (URC) closed routes to the east, west and northern regions, reported the *Sunday Vision* newspaper.

Stolen materials include heavy-duty steel rails, sleepers, clips, bolts, fittings, fish plates, fasteners and nuts.

The URC closed down the 50-year-old lines at various times in the 1990s and withdrew its staff due to the insurgency that engulfed those regions.

URC officials were quoted as saying that they also closed the western route for failure by the passenger and goods train services to make profit. The officials said that more materials stand to be lost as the lines lie in waste, covered by the thickets, anthills and in some cases, the soil under the lines washed away by soil erosion. —MNA/Xinhua

JUNIOR LEADER



အတွဲ(၅) အမှတ် (၁၄) ဖြန့်ချိလိုက်ပါပြီ

သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ စာပေဗိမာန်စာအုပ်ဆိုင်နှင့် သတင်းစာကိုယ်စားလှယ်များထံတွင် လက်လီဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

The New Light of Myanmar

အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ တိုးတက်လိုသူတိုင်း ဂျူနီယာလီဒါကို ဖတ်ကြသည်။
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Biggest winner in Beckham move will be Eriksson, says Lineker

LONDON, 24 June— The most likely beneficiaries of David Beckham's transfer to Real Madrid will be the England team, according to former international striker Gary Lineker.

"The biggest winner is likely to be England manager Sven-Goran Eriksson," Lineker, who played in Spain for Barcelona in the 1980s, wrote in a column in the British newspaper *The Sunday Telegraph*.

"One certainty for me is that Beckham will become a much better player," he said.

"Playing alongside the likes of Zinedine Zidane, Ronaldo, Figo and Roberto Carlos, it would be impossible not to improve.

"My time at Barcelona definitely helped me develop as an overall player," he said.

"My control had to be a lot better and I enjoyed the benefits not just at club level but on the international stage," said Lineker, top scorer at the 1986 World Cup finals whose overall England tally was 48.

Lineker, now working in television, also said that he had no doubts that Beckham would be a first team regular at Real, the only doubt being in what position.

He added that Figo, considered by many to be a direct rival of Beckham's for a place

on the right of midfield, was an equally adept player on the left but that he would like to see the England captain playing in the centre.

Lineker said the secret to Beckham's success in Spain lay, however, off the field in his adaptation to a new country and that learning the language was essential, adding that "it will also help him in the dressing room".

Meanwhile, the *News of the World* quoted Beckham's father, Ted, saying his son had told him he was forced to quit Manchester United because manager Alex Ferguson no longer wanted to play him.

"David phoned me and told me Madrid had come in for him. I asked what he would do and he told me he had to go because the manager didn't want him," Beckham Senior told the paper.

"But David told me he wanted to play, he didn't want to rot in the reserves."

MNA/Reuters

Frank de Boer to leave Barcelona

AMSTERDAM, 24 June— Barcelona defender Frank de Boer is to quit the Spanish club after failing to agree a deal to extend his contract, his lawyers said on Monday.

The 33-year-old Dutch international, whose contract expired at the end of the season, warned Barcelona

last month he would listen to offers from other clubs unless the Catalans made a quick decision over extending his contract.

"In contract negotiations today in Barcelona Frank de Boer and the club were not able to reach an agreement," Amsterdam law firm

Hellingman Bunders, which represents the player, said in a statement. "After four-and-a-half years Frank de Boer is leaving the club and is looking for another club."

De Boer joined Barcelona from Ajax Amsterdam along with his twin brother Ronald in December 1998. Ronald moved to Rangers in 2000.

MNA/Reuters

Barcelona begin rebuilding with new coach

BARCELONA, 24 June — Barcelona's new board began rebuilding work at a hectic pace on Monday, appointing Frank Rijkaard as coach in place of Radomir Antic, letting centre-back Frank de Boer go and offering midfielder Philip Cocu a new deal.

New Barcelona President Joan Laporta had promised a rapid overhaul of the club and he was as good as his word on his first full day in charge. The first act of the new regime was to tell Antic the option of a one-year extension to his contract would not be taken up.

That was despite the achievement of the Serb coach in taking the side from 12th place when he took over at the end of January to sixth at the season's finale to gain entry to the UEFA Cup.

Dutchmen dominated the discussions for the rest of Monday's business, with Rijkaard, de Boer and Cocu all going in for meetings with Laporta's new team.— MNA/Reuters

S P O R T S

Cameroon clinch top spot with 0-0 draw against US

LONDON, 24 June— Cameroon clinched top spot with the United States on Monday to set up a semifinal clash with Colombia.

In the other game of the group Turkey drew 2-2 with Brazil to reach the last four and will face holders France for a place in the final. Senol Gunes' side are level on points with the world champions but scored more goals.

Cameroon, who had qualified before kickoff after they defeated the world champions and the Turks by 1-0 margins, made up for their first round exit in last year's World Cup.

Winfried Schaefer had reshuffled his team with Lucien Mettomo and Mohamadou Idrissou the only players who lined up against Turkey starting on Monday.

It resulted in the United States dominating the game but the Americans could still not clinch their only win in the eight-nation tournament.

Bruce Arena's side had two early chances when Eddie Lewis shots were cleared off the line by Ngassam Falemi and Mettomo.— MNA/Reuters

Benin, Rwanda eye African Nations Cup qualification

JOHANNESBURG, 24 June — Minnows Benin and Rwanda, ranked 121st in the world, are both one win away from a first-ever place at the African Nations Cup finals after the penultimate round of matches in the qualifying campaign.

Benin's 1-0 win at Tanzania on Sunday put them one point behind leaders Zambia, who they will host in Cotonou in their final Group Three game on 6 July.

Moussoro Kabiou scored midway through the second half to hand Benin their first away win in the group.

Rwanda, who did not play at the weekend, will qualify if they beat Ghana in their last match in Kigali on 5 July. An unimpressive Ghana scored six minutes from time through Austrian-based striker Charles Amoah to grab a 1-1 home draw with Uganda in Kumasi.

A draw in Kigali would be enough to see Ghana through on goal difference.

South Africa moved to within one point of qualifying after a 2-1 home win over the Ivory Coast in Polokwane in Group 11 with substitute Siyabonga Nomvete grabbing the 65th minute winner.

It was Nomvete's first match since the

World Cup last year. He missed the entire Serie A season for his Italian club Udinese with a knee injury.

Brazilian-born Alexandro Faria scored both goals, one a disputed penalty as Togo ended Kenya's unbeaten record in Group Five with a 2-0 win in Lome.

Kenya still lead the group by a point and will qualify if they win their last match at home to the Cape Verde Islands in Nairobi on 5 July.

Ethiopia set up a potentially thrilling finish to Group Two with their 2-0 win over Niger in Addis Ababa on Sunday. They now share the lead with Guinea, both countries on nine points, and play away in Conakry in the last qualifier on 6 July.

But Guinea, who have a better goal difference, will just need to draw that home game to qualify for the final tournament for the first time in 10 years.

MNA/Reuters

နယ်စပ်တစ်ဒေသအဖွဲ့များ:

၁။ မြန်မာစက်မှုလက်မှုဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေးကော်မတီအနေဖြင့် စက်မှုဇုန်များမှ မော်တော်ယာဉ်ထုတ်လုပ်သည့် စက်မှုလုပ်ငန်းအမျိုးအစားများအတွက် လိုအပ်သော အောက်ပါမော်တော်ယာဉ်အင်ဂျင်နာနှင့် ဆက်စပ်ပစ္စည်းများ Fully Reconditioned နှင့်အသစ်(၂)မျိုး စလုံးနှင့် Cold Rolled Sheet များကို နိုင်ငံခြားငွေ အမေရိကန် ဒေါ်လာဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူလိုကြောင်း ကြေညာအပ်ပါသည်။

အမှတ် အင်ဂျင်နာနှင့် စက်ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအစား ဝယ်ယူမည့်စဉ် ဆက်စပ်ပစ္စည်း သတ်မှတ်ချက် အရေအတွက်

(က) Engine	MITSUBISHI 4 D 32 U	500 Nos
	Engine with Air Compressor & Power Pump and Accessories, Complete with Gear Box & Transfer	
(ခ) Power Steering	MITSUBISHI, Power Steering Complete Set (Including Steering wheel, Column and Power Unit) L.H.D	500 Nos
(ဂ) Brake System	SERVO ASSISTED Hydraulic Type, 10 Tons	500 Nos
(ဃ) ရှေ့တန်းနောက်တန်း (Axle)		
(၁) Front	TOYOTA DYNA 2 TON Single wheel Type with Axle Ratio 6.16:1 (37:6)	500 Nos
(၂) Rear	(For Diesel Engine)	500 Nos
(ဆ) Cold Rolled MS Sheet		
(၁) 8' x 4' x 13 Gauge		1500 Sheets
(၂) 8' x 4' x 16 Gauge		6500 Sheets

၂။ တင်ဒါများကို ၁၆-၇-၂၀၀၃ရက်နေ့ နေ့လယ် (၁၂:၀၀)နာရီ နောက်ဆုံးထား၍ အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ လိပ်စာအတိုင်း ပေးသွင်းရန် ဖြစ်ပါသည်-

အတွင်းရေးမှူး
မြန်မာစက်မှုလက်မှုဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေးကော်မတီ
(အမှတ်(၁) စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန)
အမှတ်၊ ၁၉၂၊ ကမ္ဘာ့အေးဘုရားလမ်း၊
ဧရာဝတီမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။

၃။ သိရှိလိုသည့် အချက်များရှိပါက မြန်မာစက်မှုလက်မှုဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေးကော်မတီရှိ အဖွဲ့၊ မှုန်း-၅၆၆၀၆၃၊ ၅၆၆၂၆၉တို့သို့ ဆက်သွယ်ရန် မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာစက်မှုလက်မှုဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေးကော်မတီ



A footballer takes part in the U-15 soccer skills contest organized by Myanmar Football Federation and Milo Co in the Aung San Stadium on Tuesday.—NLM

The following is the reproduction of Island newspaper of Colombo reporting the third day events of Myanmar tennis team which reached semi-final and won the third prize with Saudi Arabia. — Editor

Davis Cup Asia - Oceania Zone Day-3

Myanmar shine after forty years of exile

by Revata S. Silva

Playing in the Davis Cup after a lapse of forty years, Burma, which changed its name to Myanmar five years ago, made a stunning performance to reach the semi-final of the Davis Cup Asia-Oceania Zone (Group-IV) on its third day at the SLTA courts, Colombo yesterday.

The unseeded Myanmar defeated the fifth seed Bangladesh 2-0 through a gritty display by their two singles players, Khin Maung Win and Maung Zaw Lati making their re-entrance into Davis Cup an impressive one. Win who has the most peculiar of service styles in the game, won the second singles against Hira Lal 6/2, 7/5 and Lati powered his way to win over Arnul Roy after losing the first set 3/6, 7/5, 6/3.

Win with his accurate double-handed serve paved the way for his country to the last four in the tournament. The Rangoon (now Yangon) based originally left-handed player plays a right-handed fore-hand stroke and a double-handed back-hand. He serves with a left arm stance using both hands to grip his racket; one of the rarer scenes in the tennis world. "He started his tennis as a youngster without a coach. He has got used to this action to add power to his serve," said the Myanmar team's Non-playing Captain Maung Maung Lay.

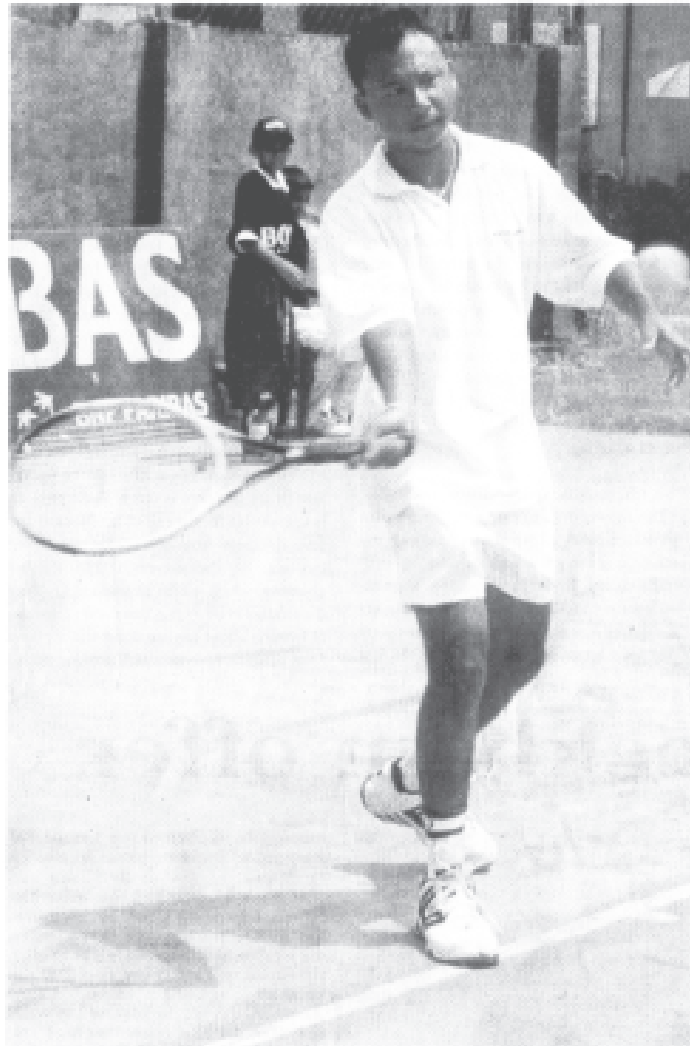
Maung praised his team saying that their feat was a historic one. "This will do a lot to build up our tennis back home," Maung added.

Four top countries found -

Out of the eight participating countries, the four semi-finalists were found yesterday. Saudi Arabia and Vietnam got through from Group A and Oman won all three of their matches in Group B to secure their place in the semis. Myanmar were assured of the last available slot when Singapore lost their tie against Oman 2-1.

Sri Lanka made a consolation win by 2-0 in their last tie against Brunei when Rajiv Rajapakse (6/1, 6/1) and Harshana Godamanne (6/0, 6/1) coasted to victory over Billy Wong and Pg Aki Ibrahim respectively.

The clash between Group A leaders, Saudi Arabia and Vietnam, was in the balance when



going to press. Two singles were won by both teams apiece and Vietnam were leading the deciding doubles.

Results -

Saudi Arabia Vs. Vietnam 1-1

Le Khanh (V) bt. Fahad Ahsad 7/6, 6/0

Omar Al-Hagib (SA) bt. Do Quan 3/6, 7/6 (5), 6/4

Bader Almuqail and Fahad Ahsad (SA) Vs. Le Khanh and Do Quan (not completed)

Oman beat Singapore 2-1

Mohammed Nabhani (O) bt. Andrew Huan 6/1, 6/2

Khalid Al-Nabhani (O) bt. Karim Ghazali 6/0, 6/4

Marc Clupe and Daniel Dewandaka (S) bt. Khalid Al-Nabhani and Mohammed Al-Nabhani 6/4, 6/2

Myanmar beat Bangladesh 2-0

(The doubles between M. Lati / K. Win (M) and H. Lal / A. Roy not completed)

Sri Lanka beat Brunei 2-0

(The doubles between Rohan de Silva / R. Rajapakse (SL) and P.A. Ibrahim / B.K. Wong not completed)

Final standings -

Saudi Arabia (seeded 4), Oman (3) and unseeded Vietnam and Myanmar entered semi-finals while Sri Lanka (1), Singapore (2), Bangladesh (5) and Brunei (6) failed to qualify. The Semi-finals will be worked off today.

The top two teams will qualify to be promoted to Davis Cup Group-III next year.

Myanmar made history in their tennis when they reached the semi-finals of the Davis Cup (Asia-Oceania Zone) by defeating Bangladesh at the SLTA courts yesterday. Myanmar's No. 2, Khin Maung Win plays a fore-hand return to Bangladesh's Hira Lal whom Win defeated 6/2, 7/5. Win uses both hands for his service which is one of the most peculiar actions seen in tennis anywhere in the world. (Pic. by Sripathi Halwala)

Beckham swerves past media, fans in Thailand

BANGKOK, 24 June — David Beckham arrived in Thailand amid much secrecy on Sunday on the second leg of an Asian tour, with only a handful of airport staff, travellers and fans noticing as he and his pop star wife flew in. The low-key arrival was in stark contrast to his landing in Japan last week, when thousands of screaming fans and a media scrum welcomed Beckham at Tokyo's Narita Airport just hours after news broke of his transfer to Real Madrid from Manchester United.

One of the four Thai fans who had been tipped off about Beckham's arrival managed to get an autograph as the England captain, dressed in a white top and blue jogging pants, walked past a dozen journalists.

"I met Beckham and this is the proof," the fan said, smiling and pointing at the signature on the chest of his replica England shirt.

Sponsors and public relations staff had kept Beckham's arrival hushed up, saying only that he would be in Bangkok on Wednesday, after visits to Malaysia and Vietnam.

But Beckham and his wife, former Spice Girl Victoria, are likely to be mobbed during their public appearances in Thailand where hero worship has even spread into the realms of religion. A Buddhist temple near Bangkok has a statuette of the footballer. The chauffeur of Beckham's limousine told *Reuters* he was going to drive the footballer to a beach resort around 125 miles south of Bangkok. Beckham's sponsors have

said he will shoot a television advertisement while in Thailand.

Beckham has apologized to his new Madrid team mates for all the media hype about his transfer.

On Sunday, they were trying to concentrate on beating Athletic Bilbao on the last day of the season to win the Spanish championship. In Thailand, one of his sponsors has issued a warning to journalists attending a Press conference on June 25, saying they will be shunned if they ask questions about his former teammates and manager, his pay or Victoria's singing career.

It said reporters were "encouraged" to ask Beckham about football in Asia, his World Cup experiences, his goals, ambitions, children and heroes.

MNA/Reuters

WORLD SPORTS



Real Madrid soccer fans celebrate their Spanish League victory in the central Cibeles square after Real Madrid won the Spanish League title in Madrid, Spain early on 23 June, 2003. Real Madrid defeated Athletic de Bilbao 3-1. Words on shirt read, in Spanish, 'League Champions, Again'. (News reported)—INTERNET

MRTV-3



25-6-2003*(Wednesday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)

- 9:00 Signature Tune
Greetings
Coming up
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 9:06 Usefulness of Nipa
Palm
- 9:10 **Headline News**
- 9:12 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Fried
Fermented Prawn"
- 9:15 **National News**
- 9:20 Travel & Description
(Mandalay to Lashio)
- 9:25 The Beauty and
Grace of the hands
- 9:30 **National News**
- 9:35 Fabulous Shwe Ku
Dage Daw Gyi
- 9:40 Song "Hakha"
- 9:45 **National News**
- 9:50 Ayeyawady Dolphin
Expedition (Part-I)
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and
See Myanmar"
- 10:00 Close Down

25-6-2003*(Wednesday)
Regular Programmes for
Viewers from Abroad
Afternoon Transmission
(13:00 - 14:00)

- 13:00 Signature Tune
Greetings
Coming up
- 13:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar
Panorama &
Myanmar Sentiment"
- 13:06 Power Aerobic
"Let's Exercise for
Fitness & Health"
- 13:10 **Headline News**
- 13:12 Myanmar Cuisine
"Monhinga"
- 13:15 **National News**
- 13:20 Unique Style of
Kachin Dress
- 13:25 Traditional Pao
Dance
- 13:30 **National News**
- 13:35 Songs On Screen
"The Arts Winning
Post"
- 13:40 Fishery in Kayin
State
- 13:45 **National News**
- 13:50 Myanmar Crocodiles
- 13:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and
See Myanmar"
- 14:00 Close Down

Drive
safely

Farmers urged to...

(from page 9)

Managing Director of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications U Maung Maung Tin, on conditions of telephone lines installed; and Chairman of Taw Win Family Co U Ko Ko Htwe, on construction of buildings.

Regarding the reports, the Secretary-1 gave instructions, saying that in accordance with the objectives of the State, measures are to be taken for emergence of an international level research department in Central Myanmar. He added that it is needed to effectively and broadly do research on traditional medicines based on Kyetpyay Herbal Plant Garden, and modern equipment is being provided to the project. The Secretary-1 called for the emergence of a splendid research department.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party inspected the main building, library and social research building No 2.

They then headed for Pinyinman 300-bed Hospital Construction Project of the Ministry of Health. Minister Dr Kyaw Myint and Director of the Health Department U Tin Win Maung reported on efforts being made for giving medical treatment at the hospital in Kyetpyay Region; and Managing Director of AryanU Construction Co Ltd U Zaw Win, on progress in constructing wards, the entrance road to the hospital, other roads and buildings under construction. The Secretary-1 fulfilled the requirements, saying that in an attempt to encourage the private sector, the government has made arrangements for national entrepreneurs to participate in nation-build tasks, adding that with contribution of national entrepreneurs to nation-building tasks with goodwill, the country as well as the private sector will develop. He called for construction of significant buildings and hospital possessing characteristics of an international level hospital, cleanliness and beautifying of the hospital compound. Then, the Secretary-1 and party inspected the wards and administrative building and conditions of surrounding areas of Kyetpyay Region. Then, they went to Paunglaung Multi-purpose Dam Construction Project in Pinyinman Township, Mandalay Division. At the briefing hall, Director of ID U Win Maung reported on progress in building the main embankment including earth work and quarry, and requirements; Deputy Minister U Myo Myint, on construction of diversion weirs and related buildings, power intake and power house, and installation of machines.

After giving instructions, the Secretary-1 inspected construction of stone-filled embankment. The Secretary-1 and party arrived back here in the evening. — MNA

မြန်မာ့ရေဝန်ကြီးဌာန

မြန်မာ့ရေဝန်ကြီးဌာန
မြန်မာ့ရေဝန်ကြီးဌာန
လုံခြုံရေးနှင့်
တံငါ ခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ မြန်မာ့ရေဝန်ကြီးဌာန
အသုံးပြုရန် အတွက် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ စက်ပစ္စည်းများကို
မြန်မာ့ရေဝန်ကြီးဌာန ဝယ်ယူလိုပါသည်။

- (က) Television Receiver (21")
- (ခ) TVRO & LAB
- (ဂ) Set-Top Box
- (ဃ) Laser Jet Printer A-4

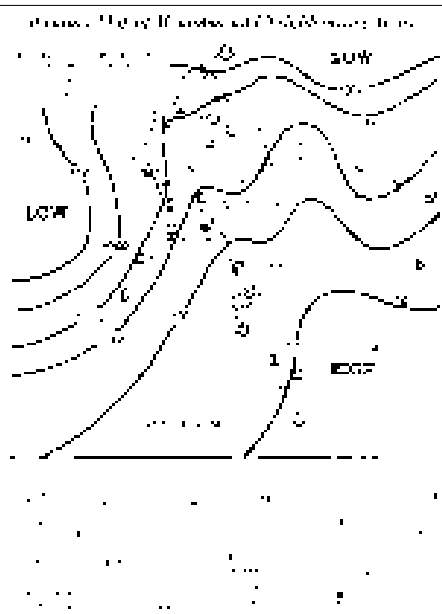
၂။ တံငါပေးသွင်းမှုကို (၂၆-၆-၂၀၀၃)ရက်မှ (၇-၇-၂၀၀၃)ရက်၊ ညနေ(၁၆:၃၀)နာရီအတွင်းပေးသွင်းရန်နှင့်
တံငါပုံစံနှင့်အသေးစိတ် အချက်အလက်များကို အောက်ပါ
လိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက်ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

ပြည်တွင်းပြည်ပ ပစ္စည်းများဝယ်ယူရေးနှင့်
ထုတ် ရောင်းချရေး ကော်မတီ၊

မြန်မာ့ရေဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊
အမှတ် ၃၆၅/၃၆၇ ဗိုလ်အောင်ကျော်လမ်း၊

ရန်ကုန်မြို့။

မှူး-၂၄၅၆၄၅၂၄၅၆၅၇။



WEATHER

Tuesday 24 June, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been cloudy in lower Sagaing Division and rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Shan, Rakhine, Kayin States, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Sittway (2.68) inches, Laisho and Ye (2.20) inches each, Thandwe (2.13) inches and Kengtung (1.89) inches. Maximum temperature on 23-6-2003 was 30.5°C. Minimum temperature on 24-6-2003 was 21.5°C. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 24-6-2003 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 23-6-2003 was (3.5) hours approx. Rainfall on 24-6-2003 was 6 mm at Yangon Airport, 16 mm at Kaba-Aye and 17 mm at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 803 mm (31.61 inches) at Yangon Airport, 870 mm (34.25 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 959 mm (37.76 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 16 mph from Southwest at (13:45) hours MST on 23-6-2003. **Bay inference:** Monsoon is moderate to strong in the Bay Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 25-6-2003:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Rakhine, Kachin, Mon, Shan States, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions, scattered in Chin, Kayin States, Taninthayi, Bago and upper Sagaing Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be generally moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Moderate monsoon. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 25-6-2003:** One or two rains or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 25-6-2003:** Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).



View today:

Wednesday, June 25

- 7:00 am
- 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်
ဘုရားကြီး နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာ
နာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊
အဘိဓမ္မာပဋိပက္ခ၊ အဘိဓမ္မ
အပ္ပမာဒသမ္ဘူတိကတိဝိသုဒ္ဓိ၊
ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိကဆရာတော်
ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိမိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏
ဝရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
- 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
- 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
- 4. Nice and sweet song



Tune in today:
Wednesday, June 25

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

- 7:55 am
- 5. မြန်မာ့မြေကြွယ်ကျေးဇူးအက
- 8:05 am
- 6. အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာဗဟိုသံဃာတော်
အလှူသုံးနှုန်းတရားမဝင်ရောင်းဝယ်မှု
တိုက်ရိုက်ရေးချေပေးမှု
- 8:30 am
- 7. International news
- 8:45 am
- 8. English for Everyday Use
- 4:00 pm
- 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
- 2. Song to uphold
National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
- 3. Practice in Reading
- 4:40 pm
- 4. Musical programme
- 5:50 pm
- 5. အစေးသင်တန်းသို့လေ့လာရေး
ရှင်မြိုင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ

- 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

- တတိယနှစ် (ရက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြု)
(ရက္ခဗေဒ)
- 5:05 pm
- 6. ငယ်မဟန်ဝန်သုအသံ
- 5:15 pm
- 7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 5:30 pm
- 8. Classical programme
- 5:45 pm
- 9. ရှုမ္မာပုံနှိပ်သင်တန်းအစီအစဉ်
- 5:55 pm
- 10. နိုင်ငံအခန်းသစ်တောစွမ်းမြင်
စိမ်းလန်းရေးမည်
- 6:05 pm
- 11. Musical programme
- 6:15 pm
- 12. Discovery
- 6:30 pm
- 13. Evening news
- 7:00 pm
- 14. Weather report

- 1:55 pm
Music
- 2:05 pm
International news
- 2:15 pm
Music
- 2:20 pm
Article/Music
- 2:35 pm
Discovery
Toddy palms in
Myanmar
- 2:45 pm
World of music
Songs from Japan,

- 7:05 pm
- 15. Musical programme
- 7:20 pm
- 16. အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာဗဟိုသံဃာတော်
အလှူသုံးနှုန်းတရားမဝင်ရောင်းဝယ်မှု
တိုက်ရိုက်ရေးချေပေးမှု
- 7:30 pm
- 17. "အမှန်မြတ်ဆုံးလက်ဆောင်"
သရုပ်ဆောင် ချစ်လင်း၊ နှင်းဥ၊
ဇော်သန်း၊ ဇော်နိုင် (ရှမ်းပြည်)
တင်တင်လှ
ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်မောင်မြင့်
- 8:00 pm
- 18. News
- 19. International news
- 20. Weather report
- 21. မြန်မာ့အမျိုးသမီးများ၏
ကြိုးပမ်းစွမ်းဆောင်မှုပြပွဲ
ချော်မြေချော်အစီအစဉ်
- 22. The next day's
programme

- Germany, the Philippines
- 9:00 pm
Variations on a tune:
Always on my mind
- 9:15 pm
Article
- 9:25 pm
Music at your request
- 9:45 pm
News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm
Portfolio for easy
listening

Secretary-1 views documentary film on Naga race

YANGON, 24 June — Chairman of the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt this afternoon watched the documentary film about Naga race produced by Bruckner Film Production of Germany at the Traders Hotel and accepted documentary video tapes.

General Khin Nyunt and officials of the State Peace and Development Council

Office arrived at the Traders Hotel at 6.45 pm. They were welcomed by President of the Tuesday Club Mr Martin Pun and members of Bruckner Film Production.

First, Mr Martin Pun extended greetings. Then, former Head of the Press and Information Office of the Federal German Government and Chairman of the Bundestag Economic Committee Mr Friedhelm Ost, Tuesday Club Committee member Capt Jerzy Wilk and Bruckner Film

Production Dr Thea Mohr briefed on the producing of the movie.

Then, the film was shown. Afterwards, Mr Friedhelm Bruckner explained the purpose of the film production and presented documentary video tapes to General Khin Nyunt. Next, they all had the documentary photo taken.

The ministers, the deputy ministers, diplomats and departmental officials were also present.

MNA



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt accepts documentary video tape from Mr Friedhelm Bruckner. — MNA

Minister inspects jetty construction, factories in Thanlyin

YANGON, 24 June — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, accompanied by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thein Tun and officials inspected raw materials necessary for Thanlyin Glass Factory and Glass Sheet Factory and construction of the jetty at Thanlyin Glass Making Factory near Thilawa Terminal this morning.

Managing Directors Col Soe Ye and U Than Shwe

of Myanmar Paper and Chemicals Enterprise reported to them on condition of the old jetty and new one with the help of charts. The minister gave necessary instructions to officials.

The minister and party inspected construction of the jetty and they again inspected furnace of Sodium Silicate Factory in the compound of Thanlyin Glass Factory and Plastic Pack-

aging Factory.

Then, the minister arrived at Oil Refinery jetty where Managing Director U Than Shwe of Myanmar Paper and Chemicals Enterprise and Project Director U Kan Hla of Pulp Factory (Thabaung) reported to him on the site chosen for building fuel tank with the help of charts. The minister gave necessary instructions to them.

MNA



State Peace and Development Council Member Lt-Gen Ye Myint and wife being welcomed by Japanese Ambassador Mr Yuji Miyamoto and wife at the reception to mark Japan Self Defence Forces Day on 24-6-2003. — 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.

MAPT opens courses

YANGON, 24 June — The concluding ceremony of the refresher course No 1/2003 for marketing managers and the maintenance and quality control course No 2/2003 conducted by the Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading of the Ministry of Commerce was held in conjunction with the opening ceremony of the basic accounting and procedure course No 1/2003 and

the crop storage and quality control course No 1/2003, at the MAPT at the corner of Pansodan Street and Bogyoke Aung San Road here today.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Director-General of the Trade Department U Nyunt Aye, Managing Director of the MAPT U Min Hla Aung, general managers,

officials and trainees.

After delivering an opening address, the minister presented first, second, and third prizes and certificates to U Soe Win of Kayin State, U Aye Swe of eastern Shan State, and U Tha Tun Sein of Rakhine State respectively.

On behalf of the trainees, U Soe Win spoke words of thanks.

MNA

Commerce Minister meets exporters

YANGON, 24 June — Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone this afternoon met with entrepreneurs, who are exporting pepper, coffee seeds and mangoes, at the meeting hall of the ministry and called for boosting production of the export items.

Also present on the occasion were directors-general, managing directors and officials of the ministry.

The minister made a speech on the occasion.

Then, those in attendance presented their requirements and the minister fulfilled the needs and made concluding remarks.

MNA



Aerial view of Yan Aung Myin Dam in Lewe Township, Mandalay Division. (News on page 1) — MNA