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Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt speaks words of thanks at the sixth cash donation ceremony for water supply programme for rural regions being implemented by the Ministry of PBANRDA. — MNA

Secretary-1 attends sixth cash donations ceremony for rural areas

YANGON, 25 June — The sixth cash donations ceremony for supply of clean water to rural areas being implemented by the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs took place at the Development Affairs Department (Head Office) in Thanlyetsun, Botahtaung Township, this afternoon, attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt.

Also present were Member of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the mayor of Yangon, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of the departments under the ministry, officials, wellwishers and guests.

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt delivered an address. In his address, he said that Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance on the five rural development tasks for ensuring equitable development and bridging the development gap between urban and rural areas in implementing the national goal — emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. He added that rural water supply projects could not be implemented effectively in the past and it could start implementation of the projects in 1997.

In April 1999, Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on supply of potable water to all villages in the three arid divisions where water is scarce through the 10-year project. According to the data collection in the three arid divisions — Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Divisions, there are 8,042 villages facing difficulties in obtaining clean water and there are also 15,813 similar villages in the remaining States and Divisions.

From 2000-2001 fiscal year, the first year of the project, to date, tasks for water supply have been carried out in 8,042 villages in the three divisions. The Development Affairs Committee has spent K 321.61 million on the project in 2001-2002 fiscal year and K 561.78 million in 2002-2003, and will spend K 650.32 million in 2003-2004 fiscal year.

Thanks to the active co-operation of wellwishers, implementation of the rural water supply is in full swing. At the same time, various international organizations are contributing towards the project.

The JICA has contributed towards the sinking of 250 tube-wells in Shan State (North) through the five-year project. So far, 60 tube-wells have been sunk. Under the major project for water supply to arid zones, the test sinking of 22 test-tube-wells has been carried out in 11 townships. The Bridge Asia Japan (BAJ) has sunk 37 four-or-six inches-diameter tube-wells in Bagan NyaungU and Kyaukpadaung Townships beginning 2001-2002. The UNICEF also contributed towards 282 water supply projects in the three arid divisions in 2001-2002 and 2002-2003. Up to the fifth cash donations presenting

ceremony, 652 wellwishers donated K 513.3758 million and US\$ 58,254, which covered 964 tube-wells in States and Divisions.

In conclusion, he pledged, in response to the goodwill of the wellwishers, to maintain the tube-wells for their durability in cooperation with the rural people.

Then, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented K 1 million each donated by the Ministry of Defence and Myanmar War Veterans Organization, K 2.5 million by the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, K 75 million by Sabin Thayayay Bank Ltd and K 2 million by staff of the Ministry of Industry-1; Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa and wife and family, K 500,000; and Minister for

(See page 8)



Drilling vehicles invented by the Development Affairs Department of the Ministry of PBANRDA. — MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 26 June, 2003

To establish national economic life through modernized agriculture

Climatic and topographical conditions of Myanmar offer excellent potential for agricultural development and so it is natural that the majority of the population have engaged in agriculture from time immemorial and the agricultural sector has become the key to robust economic growth of the nation.

This being so, encouraging the agricultural sector will surely contribute not only to the improvement in the living standard of the peasants but also to the advancement of the national economic life as a whole.

For the development of the agricultural sector, the Government has been building one dam after another the length and breadth of the nation. The Yan Aung Myin Dam in Lewe Township, Yamethin District, Mandalay Division, was opened on 24 June and Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt himself attended the opening ceremony.

In his address on the occasion, the Secretary-1 said that, if the newly-built dam, though not a big one, could fulfil the immediate needs of local farmers but also serve the interests of posterity, it was worth building.

The Government intends to establish the national economic life based on agriculture. Therefore, it has been taking all the necessary steps to develop agricultural sector by shifting from traditional cultivation methods to modernized ones. Measures have also been taken to explore land and water resources, to grow 10 major crops including rice, groundnut, sesame, cotton and sugarcane and beans and pulses, to boost harvest by using quality strains, organic and inorganic fertilizers and employing modern cultivational methods.

Water resources are the most essential requirement for agriculture and therefore the Government has been building dams and river-water pumping stations wherever necessary. With the newly-opened Yan Aung Myin Dam, the total number of dams that have been constructed up to now stands at 148. The Government has spent a total of K 62,600 million on all these dams, which are now benefiting nearly 3 million acres of farmland.

At a time when the State has been trying to provide all the necessary assistance and fulfil the requirements with the aim of establishing the national economic life based on agriculture, we would like to call on the peasants and all those responsible to work as hard as they can for the realization of the aim of the State.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and guests watch the skill demonstration presented by the National Symphony Orchestra at Myanmar Radio and Television.

MNA

Repairs of Kawthoung-Bokpyin Union Highway inspected

YANGON, 25 June — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Coastal Region Command Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and departmental officials, inspected the repairs of Kawthoung-Bokpyin Union Highway on 20 June morning and gave instructions.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party looked into the gravel works being undertaken along the motor road leading to Aungbar village with the assistance of the Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department and viewed oil palm trees grown by the command. At the briefing hall, Lt-Gen Maung Bo heard reports on cultivation of oil palm. Then, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and the commander gave instructions on making oil palm trees thriving. Arrangements are under way to grow oil palm trees on 5,000 acres of land.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the commander and party oversaw the construction of bridges on Mathay Creek on Kawthoung-Bokpyin road and Aungzinna bridge.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo also inspected Yuzana oil palm

farm and the construction site of oil mill owned by South Dagon oil palm farm. The oil mill is being built by the Cottage Industries Department of the Ministry of Cooperatives without foreign assistance. The factory can produce 1.5 tons of oil per hour.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the commander and party arrived at Chaungtashet village, where they visited Zabu Thiri monastery and offered provisions to Sayadaw Dhammosara. Lt-Gen Maung Bo also met with local populace from nearby villages and social organizations, and gave instructions on harmonious participation in regional development work. In the morning of 21 June, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party went to Lainyar-Mandaing bridge construction site, where they heard reports on progress of the construction of the bridge.

After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions and attended to the requirements.

Later, Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected the construction work being carried out in Mandaing town, giving instructions on regional development works and fulfilling the requirements.

MNA

Beware...

(from page 16)

She continued that Myanmar women have been decent in their mode of dress for ages, so foreign nations have to praise the dignity of Myanmar women. Some Myanmar women thinking highly of alien cultures now come to wear unsightly skirts in various designs. It is necessary to correct the misconceptions of some young girls that wearing exposing dresses is fashionable, she said.

The MNCWA has now taken effective measures to stop violence against women and to provide assistance to rehabilitation activities. Human traffickers are being exposed and action is being taken against them. A relief camp is being kept open in Myawady for those who got into troubles while working illegally in the other nation. After undergoing medical treatment, they are sent back to their parents. While improving the women sector for life security of virgins, especially of young girls, the eight tasks are being implemented to raise the living standard of women, she said.



The family-type discussion session between the MNCWA and the local populace in Paungde Township.

The Government is undertaking nation-building tasks in order to establish the new, modern, developed country. As roads, bridges, dams, schools, universities and hospitals are being upgraded, the mass of women should participate in these nation-building endeavours, she said. Second Leader of the excursion team Prof Dr Daw May May Yi said that Myanmar women should value and respect Myanmar men; that the MNCWA has been receiving letters sent by those who were in troubles because of their marriage to foreigners; that it was heart-rending to hear

Myanmar women with foreign consorts were drowning in the sea of mishaps abroad; that it was necessary to retain the marriage of own race and tradition, based on the patriotic spirit and the nationalistic spirit; and that it was very important for Myanmar women not to think too highly of alien fellows for life security and everlasting happiness of women.

The MNCWA gives special priority to the women's affairs, and also handles the disputes between husband and wife. Action is also taken against those who bully and torture the women

unfairly. Special care has been taken of the women in giving priority to the development of such sectors as rehabilitation, health, economy, culture, environmental protection, communication and information. Human traffickers are being exposed everywhere, and action is being taken against them. The cooperation of the entire people with the authorities concerned is vital in countering the secret operations of human traffickers. Vulnerable to the persuasions of human traffickers are those women who are lacking general knowledge, eager to support their parents, and desirous of good looks and wealth. Everyone who loves and cherishes his own country and race should extend himself for all-round development of the women sector, in cooperation with the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs. (Translation:AMS+KTY)

National Symphony Orchestra entertains

YANGON, 25 June — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan watched the performance of National Symphony Orchestra at the Studio-A of Myanmar Radio and Television on Pyay Road this evening.

Also among the audiences were Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe

Thein, Deputy Ministers for Information U Thein Sein and Brig-Gen Aung Thein, directors-general and managing directors of the departments and enterprises, officials of the Fine Arts Department, University of Culture (Yangon), Myanmar Music Asiayon and Myanmar Motion Pic-

ture Asiayon.

At the concert, the master of ceremonies explained the formation of the orchestra and its practices. The conductor and Music Director Mr Mitch Markowitz extended greetings. Then, the orchestra entertained those present with four songs. — MNA



CIA chief to stand by Iraq WMD report at hearing

WASHINGTON, 25 June — CIA Director George Tenet is expected to stand by a classified report that said Iraq had weapons of mass destruction, amid questions about whether prewar intelligence was exaggerated to make a stronger case for going to war, US sources said on Monday.

Tenet was scheduled to testify on Thursday at a closed-door hearing before the Senate Intelligence Committee, the latest in a round of congressional hearings that started last week on Iraq's biological, chemical and nuclear weapons programmes.

He was expected to stand by the classified October National Intelligence Estimate which assessed the threat from Iraq's banned weapons programmes, sources said on condition of anonymity.

US intelligence analysts who testified about that report last week before the House of Representatives and Senate intelligence committees also stayed with the bottom line that they believed Iraq had weapons of mass destruction,

attendees said. In a statement last month about intelligence on Iraq, Tenet said, "The integrity of our process was maintained throughout and any suggestion to the contrary is simply wrong."

Critics have said President George W Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair made a stronger case about the threat posed by Iraq than the intelligence supported.

No chemical or biological weapons have been found since US-led forces toppled former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in April.

In London, officials said Blair's top aide Alastair Campbell will testify to a parliamentary committee over claims the British Government made about Iraqi biological and chemical weap-

ons, a decision that represented a major U-turn.

Members of a group of 1,400 US, British and Australian experts, called the Iraq Survey Group, continued arriving in Iraq, and teams went out every day to hunt for WMD, a US official said.

"They're finding a lot of documents. They've got warehouses full of documents that they're rapidly going through and translating and entering into a data base, but nothing that would say 'here it is, go find it,'" the official told Reuters on condition of anonymity.

"It's still going to take time to assimilate all of the information and do cross references and put it all together," the official said. — MNA/Reuters

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Oil prices hold gains on Iraqi pipeline blasts

LONDON, 25 June — World oil prices held gains on Monday as two Iraqi pipeline explosions in three days raised questions about Baghdad's ability to supply oil to world markets.

Saboteurs blasted a gas pipeline northwest of Baghdad on Saturday, and an explosion hit a stalled oil export pipeline to Syria on Monday. International benchmark Brent crude oil fell two cents to 27.00 US dollars per barrel, having jumped 73 cents on Friday. US crude futures edged 10 cents lower to 29.38 US dollars.

"People are questioning if Iraq can sustain exports in the foreseeable future unless the security situation improves dramatically," said Steve Turner of investment bank Commerzbank. "The explosions illustrate the problems of maintaining security on very long pipelines," he added.

Iraq resumed oil exports, for the first time since the war on Sunday, using crude already languishing in storage tanks, but also pushed back production targets. De facto Iraqi oil minister Thamir Ghadhban said it would take 18 months to restore Iraq's prewar oil production capacity of three million barrels per day (BPD), longer than previously thought.

He said Iraq's war-torn oilfields were set to pump two million bpd by December, from a current level of 800,000 bpd. — MNA/Reuters

Vietnam to use first self-manufactured train

HANOI, 25 June — The state-run Vietnam Railways Corporation will put into service a domestically-manufactured train, the first of its kind, on the route from Hanoi to northern mountainous Lao Cai Province next month.

The train will have two locomotives, 12 passenger compartments and a electricity-generating and service compartment, according to Vietnam News Agency on Monday.

Except its trailing locomotive equipped with engine imported from a US heavy machinery producer, the train has a localization rate of 70 per cent. In addition, the corporation has since early this year stepped up the upgrade of three rail bridges, worked out a feasibility study on rail route and moved to reduce the current travel time of 30 hours to 28 hours on the trans-national route.

The corporation has widely applied cutting-edge information technology in its services. In the reviewed period, the railways sector transported nearly 3.84 million tons of cargo and 5.5 million passengers, grossing a total revenue of about 51 million US dollars. — MNA/Xinhua



Iraqis gather at the place where two Iraqis were killed and four injured at the checkpoint in Ramadi, 110 km (70 miles) west of Baghdad, Iraq on 24 June, 2003. The US forces have been the target of guerilla-style attacks despite an intense new crackdown. — INTERNET

US special forces target fleeing Iraqi convoy

WASHINGTON, 25 June— US forces attacked suspected "regime figures" from Saddam Hussein's toppled government in western Iraq in an operation in which Syrian border guards were wounded, but there was no indication Saddam or his sons were killed, US officials said on Monday.

US forces attacked a convoy of vehicles driving in western Iraq near the Syrian border, but investigators have not yet determined the identities of those killed, the US officials said on Monday.

The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said an unspecified number of Syrian border guards also were wounded in last Wednesday's operation near the Iraqi city of Qaim involving US special operations troops and aircraft.

"There's no conclusive evidence as to who was in there. And then, of course, you would need DNA evidence to actually identify anyone," a defence official said. The officials did not say whether US forces crossed into Syrian territory, and were vague about how the Syrian border guards be-

came involved.

"It happened in a fairly remote area and some Syrian (border) guards were injured in the incident," a US official said. "It's not clear how they were injured, whether they were caught in a cross-fire or what. But we are, I believe, still treating three of them."

Three officials said they were unaware of any DNA testing that has taken place to ascertain the identities of those killed in the attack.

"That is something that's available to us where appropriate for site exploration," said the US official, refusing to say whether or not such DNA samples were being taken.

US intelligence agencies previously collected DNA samples to use to identify Saddam.

The defence official said

intelligence indicated that high-profile fugitives might be in the convoy that apparently was attempting to escape Iraq into Syria.

The US official said US forces acted on "time-sensitive" information relating to the whereabouts of "regime figures". — MNA/Reuters

Malaysia to transform agricultural sector

KUALA LUMPUR, 25 June— The Malaysian agricultural sector will be transformed in three years through projects by the Ministry of Agriculture, its Minister Effendi Norwawi said on Monday.

"So the plan is to upgrade the delivery system to traditional farming communities and to the private sector," he told reporters after

Golden monkeys found in western Yunnan

KUNMING, 25 June — Chinese scientists have confirmed that a group of unidentified monkeys in western Yunnan Province are Yunnan golden monkeys, a rare species under top government protection.

There are currently three species of golden monkey in southwest China's Guizhou, Sichuan and Yunnan provinces respectively.

During a nine-day survey, a dozen scientists engaging in life science research in Yunnan saw the group of monkeys on three occasions, watching their actions from as close as 30 metres.

They estimated the number of monkeys in the group at about 80. Judging from their observations and information provided by local farmers, scientists suspected the monkeys were Yunnan golden monkeys.

MNA/Xinhua



US soldier checks an Iraqi man at the check point at Ramadi 110 km (70 miles) west of Baghdad city, Iraq on 24 June, 2003. US forces have been the target of guerilla-style attacks despite a new crackdown. — INTERNET

Fund for Iraq proposed outside of US control

UNITED NATIONS, 25 June— Wary of US control of Iraqi development monies, several European donors proposed on Tuesday an international fund for reconstruction during a 52-nation conference on measures to rebuild Iraq.

But the proposal for a separate fund was one of the few signs of discomfort with the US-led occupiers at the first UN-sponsored meeting among US and British occupation authorities, Iraqi delegates and international agencies.

"A number of delegates wanted this to be seen as a moment of unity," said Mark Malloch Brown, head of the UN Development Programme, which initiated the conference, referring to the bitterness over the US-led invasion of Iraq.

"What it does show is that the membership is united around the issue of building as quickly as possible an Iraq which is back on its own feet," he told a news conference.

At the conclusion of the two-day meeting, the United Nations, the World Bank, the European Union, Japan, the United Arab Emirates as well as the United States agreed to organize a donors conference in October to address reconstruction.

Malloch Brown said "there was strong support" for a separate fund, adding: "Not every donor will necessarily use it. But we were asked to go away and develop the options so at the time of the full conference

donors could decide how they wanted such a fund structured."

The new fund would be parallel to the Development Fund for Iraq set up by the United States and Britain to spend Iraqi oil monies on emergency needs and rebuilding the war-shattered country. Participants in the conference said France and several other large donors said they wanted multinational control over monies they might donate.

And their assistance will be needed. "There was general agreement that petroleum income will not be sufficient to cover Iraq's reconstruction needs over the next few years, making donor assistance essential," a closing statement said. The US-led Coalition Provisional Authority, which includes Iraqi members, was pressed by UN officials and donor nations to put it on paper and devise a budget as soon as possible or the donor conference would flounder.

"The basic message out of the meeting is that the CPA should, and in fact is, preparing a preliminary budget for the rest of this year to 2004," said Alan Larson, US undersecretary of State for agricultural and economic affairs. — *Internet*



An Iraqi man walks past a diesel generator on the sidewalk that is used by the Al-Mesa Bakery in Baghdad, which has been without power for two days. The US is now faced with setting up a free-market economy in Iraq with very few historical lessons to use as guidance.—INTERNET

UK's Straw embarrassed over Iraq report

LONDON, 25 June — A British dossier on Iraqi weapons of mass destruction which included material lifted from a graduate thesis on the Internet was an embarrassment for the government, Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said Tuesday.

But, testifying before a House of Commons Committee, Straw defended another government dossier which claimed that some weapons of mass destruction were poised for deployment on 45 minutes notice.

"I don't happen to regard the 45-minute statement as having the significance which has been attached to it. And neither does anybody else," Straw told the Foreign Affairs Select Committee.

The two British dossiers, published in September and January, were intended to buttress Blair's case that Saddam Hussein's programmes for developing

chemical, biological and nuclear weapons posed a danger to Britain.

Blair has come under growing pressure as coalition forces in Iraq have so far failed to find evidence of such weapons. The second dossier, the one Straw described as an embarrassment, contained material from a US researcher's 12-year-old thesis which had been copied, with a few alternations, from the Internet.

"Of course it has been an embarrassment for the Government and lessons have been learned."

Straw said it was a "very substantial error that the

sources of the document were not properly attributed."

The first dossier included the claim that some chemical or biological weapons could be deployed within 45 minutes. The British Broadcasting Corporation recently quoted unidentified intelligence sources as saying they had not believed that claim, but that it was included at the insistence of Blair's communications chief, Alastair Campbell. Blair has said the claim was accepted by the government's Joint Intelligence Committee. Campbell has agreed to testify before the committee on Wednesday. — *Internet*

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US contractor sees growing hostility in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 25 June — A US contractor helping to rebuild Iraq's school system said on Tuesday his staff faced increased hostility on the ground and they feared becoming "soft targets" by Iraqis angry at US occupation.

"There is aggressive behaviour toward us. In one instance we had car windows removed and smashed by pupils after we had checked out a school," said Frank Dall of Creative Associates International a Washington-based company awarded a \$62.6 million contract to help rebuild Iraq's education system.

Dall, who has extensive experience in Iraq, told *Reuters* several of their vehicles were stoned in recent weeks by angry Iraqis and he feared the "stones will soon turn to bullets" and contractors and aid groups could become "soft targets."

Speaking at a public briefing on education in Iraq by the US Agency for International Development, Dall and others said the fluid security situation and the postwar looting and violence were the major headaches in trying to rebuild Iraq.

"It is an ad hoc security situation which is extremely dangerous... We don't want to bring our people back in body bags," said Dall.

The US military has also faced growing hostility in recent weeks, with at least 19 soldiers killed since President Bush declared major combat over on 1 May.

Dall said he suspected members of top-level leader Saddam Hussein's party were regrouping with the plan of a low-intensity

guerrilla war against the US occupation.

"You have to empower Iraqis to feel that they own their own system again and they are in command and not just being occupied. Occupation is the name of the game," said Dall.

Private contractors are being hired by USAID to do much of the reconstruction work in Iraq, including education, water and sanitation, health and getting power up and running.

USAID deputy reconstruction advisor Dana Peterson said security was under constant discussion with contractors. "It's on a case by case basis depending on the region," she told *Reuters*.

Frank Method from Research Triangle International, another USAID contractor involved in education and local governance issues, said his teams always traveled in convoys.

USAID's goal is to get Iraq's children back at school by October, the beginning of the school year. Under the previous government, primary school enrollment was only about 76 percent and 35 percent of all schools had double or triple shifts.

Some 8,000 schools are in need of renovation and a further 5,000 new schools need to be built. — *Internet*

China to legislate on informing public of radiation pollution

BEIJING, 25 June — China is working on a draft law on the prevention of radiation pollution, which proposes that the public has a right to be well informed of radiation pollution and its prevention measures.

The draft law submitted Monday to China's top legislature, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), says that governments above county level are obligated to teach people about radiation pollution and prevention measures.

"People are entitled to know things relating to their own health," said Huang Jianchu, a law expert from the Commission of Legislative Affairs of the NPC Standing Committee. "Such stipulations in the draft law show respect for people's rights."

Huang said many people were worried about nuclear issues because they lacked knowledge.

"As a matter of fact, nuclear energy is very safe and clean, on the condition that necessary accident prevention measures are in place."

"To enforce public education on radiation pollution will help alleviate people's fear of nuclear energy and thus facilitate its development and utility," he said.

Under the draft law, the work of preventing radia-

tion pollution should also be included in local as well as central government environmental protection programmes.

China began developing its nuclear technology in the 1950s. The draft, which was based on suc-

cessful experience at home and abroad of radiation prevention, aims to ensure that the country's environment and public health are protected while it is developing and using nuclear technology.

MNA/Xinhua



New Iraqi police officers escort a blindfolded man suspected of robbery and murder after he was arrested on 24 June, 2003 in Baghdad, Iraq. Widespread looting, more organized criminal activity, including increased attacks on American troops, unemployment and other problems are hampering efforts to rebuild Iraq.—INTERNET

Six British troops killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 25 June—Six British soldiers have been killed and eight injured in two separate incidents in southern Iraq. The six were killed near al-Amarah, 200 kilometres north of the southern city of Basra, in the first known fatal incident involving British troops since the end of the Iraq war on 1 May.

British Defence Secretary Geoff Hoon has told the House of Commons all were members of the Royal Military Police and were engaged in training the local Iraqi police.

"Initial information suggests they may have been involved in an incident at a police station in Al Majar Al Kabir," near al-Amarah, where their bodies were found around midday local time, he said. He says an investigation has been launched.

A spokesman for Prime Minister Tony Blair says in the second incident, troops from the 1st Battalion of the Parachute Regiment, patrolling south of al-Amarah, came under fire and one soldier was wounded.

"In response to the incident, an RAF Chinook helicopter carrying a quick response force came under fire as it landed," he said.

"Seven personnel on board the helicopter were wounded, three of them seriously. All were extracted by helicopter and are receiving treatment." Britain's Defence ministry is investigating whether the two incidents are linked.

Bernard Jenkin, defence spokesman for the opposition Conservative Party, said the two incidents "may have been co-ordinated".

"If so, I want to know which organization is behind these attacks and what the government is going to do to deal with the threat of further attacks," he said.

"We have the best trained and equipped troops to deal with these threats, but if we require more troops in Iraq to operate safely, then the government must send more troops." British forces were assigned control of southern Iraq, notably Basra and the port of Umm Qasr, following the US-led invasion on March 20 that overthrew Saddam Hussein. US troops in the centre and north of Iraq have come under frequent attack by guerrilla groups since the fall of Baghdad, but British forces had been less affected up to now.

In the latest attack on US forces assailants have launched gun and grenade raids in the town of Fallujah, about 70 kilometres west of Baghdad, hitting a power supply facility.

Witnesses say one Iraqi man was killed when the soldiers returned fire, but it is still not clear if he was one of the attackers.—*Internet*



British troops guard a hospital in Basra, 600 kilometres south of Baghdad, Iraq, on 24 June, 2003. Attackers fired on British forces in neighbouring Amarah, killing six troopers and wounding eight others in the deadliest confrontation for coalition forces since the fall of Saddam Hussein.—INTERNET

China's "IT" giant aims to raise international profile

BELING, 25 June—China's biggest computer manufacturer, Legend, has re-branded itself under the name Lenovo in a bid to raise its profile in the international market.

Lenovo, which means innovation and creation, follows the concept of a company devoted to pioneer IT development.

Experts said the Lenovo brand marked a new milestone for the company in its drive for international recognition.

The original name of Legend had accomplished its historical mission in launching the company, while Lenovo would advance the company's ideals and image.

Liu Chuanzhi, founder of Legend Group Limited, said the core of the Legend brand rested with honesty and credibility, which would help the company with its international exposure.

Yang Yuanqing, president of Legend Group Limited, said an English brand that was accepted and

favoured by the public was key to breaking into the international market.

He believed the new brand would inject vitality into the company.

Since the beginning of 2001, Legend has adopted a business strategy focusing on high technology, service, and global marketing, and diversification of products and services.

By the end of 2002, Legend had become the premier brand name in China's IT sector.

Bai Huimin, vice-president of Legend (Lenovo), said the company and its staff donated about 10 million yuan (about 1.21 million US dollars) to help fight severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in China.

Yang Yuanqing said Lenovo would develop a bright future.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Vajpayee says Sino-Indian ties "transformed"

BELING, 25 June—India's relationship with China, long bedevilled by mutual suspicion and border has been transformed by a determination to cooperate and deal with problems, Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee said on Tuesday.

"I must say, with great satisfaction, that my meetings with the leadership of China have been excellent," he said as the two countries prepared to issue a declaration expected to give a push to resolving territorial disputes. "They have confirmed the desire to build stable, enduring and forward-looking ties of friendships shared by the highest political levels in both countries," he said after talks with ex-President Jiang Zemin, who commands China's vast military. "Our present course of developing all-round bilateral cooperation while simultaneously addressing our differences has transformed the quality of our relationship," Vajpayee said.

MNA/Reuters

Eleven missing after ship capsizes east of China

HANGZHOU, 25 June—Eleven crewmen are missing after their freighter overturned at about 2.00 am on Sunday off Wenzhou City, east China's Zhejiang Province.

The local maritime safety administration said the *Shengxin 658* capsized at 27.17 degrees north and 120.46 degrees east off the coast of Wenzhou, during severe storms and large waves.

Only the captain and a seaman have been rescued so far. The local maritime rescue centre dispatched five salvage ships to the site right after receiving the warning, and 48 fishing boats are also involved in the rescue work.

The cause of the accident is still under investigation.

MNA/Xinhua

Japan to make security a goal of aid

TOKYO, 25 June—Japan, the world's number-two aid donor, plans to make national security a key criterion for allocating funds, *Kyodo News* agency said on Tuesday, citing a draft of the first revision to Tokyo's aid policy in a more than a decade.

Japan has been forced in recent years to cut its budget for official development assistance (ODA), a pillar of its postwar diplomacy, to help rein in its massive government debt.

Calls for a new overseas aid policy have also increased due to wariness about the growing economic and military might of China, long a major recipient of Japanese aid.

"In order to ensure the country's security and prosperity and to boost the interests of its citizens, it is becoming increasingly important (for Japan) to contribute to the stability and development of developing countries through ODA," *Kyodo* quoted the draft

as saying.

Kazuo Sumi, a professor of International Law at Niigata University and an expert on Japan's ODA, said the new guideline reflects the government's growing need to justify foreign aid.

"Japan's fiscal hardships mean wasteful spending can't be allowed and I think the government is feeling the heat," Sumi said, adding other motives were probably also at work.

"I think it may mean that ODA will be used to protect the interests of firms or to pursue the type of diplomatic strategies or international order that conservative members of the

(ruling) Liberal Democratic Party have in mind," Sumi said.

The draft guidelines also say Japan will also try to contribute to peace-building in areas of conflict through its overseas aid, *Kyodo* said.

Japan slashed its ODA budget for fiscal 2003/04 to next March by 5.8 per cent to 857.8 billion yen (7.28 billion US dollars), following a 10.3-per cent reduction in 2002/03.

Japan, which was overtaken by the United States as the world's largest aid donor in 2001, slashed its yen loans to China by 25 per cent last fiscal year for the second straight year.

MNA/Reuters

Canada, US to reduce smog along border

OTTAWA, 25 June—Canada and the United States launched three projects Monday designed to reduce smog along their border, particularly in Canada's western province of British Columbia and the eastern province of Ontario.

According to a report by the Canadian Television, two projects will study the effects of pollution on health and encourage large industries, smaller businesses and communities to find ways to cut smog near the Great Lakes and lower Fraser Valley.

The third is a joint study on possible emissions trading of nitrogen oxide and sulphur dioxide — two big factors in smog and acid rain — between the two countries. Canada is spending 40 million Canadian dollars (about 30 million US dollars) on the initiatives, which include improving daily air quality reports and forecasting.

"This cooperation is essential because air pollution does not respect international borders," said Canadian Environment Minister David Anderson.

"The benefits from cleaner air will only come from cooperation and action among governments, business and individuals," he said.

It is estimated that about half of the smog in southern

Canadian cities, including Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver, comes from the US. Coal-fired plants in the US are a major source of smog in eastern Canada.

New vehicles and fuels will dramatically help reduce smog, said Anderson, who expects the southern British Columbia air pollution to drop by 40 per cent by 2020.

The US is particularly interested in the potential for emissions trading, a way of finding the least-cost method of reducing pollutants among companies with differing abilities to cut emissions.

The US Environmental Protection Agency released a draft report on the US environment Monday that found air pollution has declined by 25 per cent over the past 30 years. But almost half of the population still lives in areas with sometimes unhealthy air quality.

Canada and the US have worked together for years on reducing acid rain and announced in January that they would strengthen cooperation on air quality issues.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Mayor's office attacked in Iraqi city

FALLUJAH, 25 June— Iraqi insurgents fired a rocket-propelled grenade at the mayor's office in this restive city west of Baghdad, the latest in a series of attacks against people thought to be cooperating with US occupation forces.

Meanwhile, US officials said that Syrian border guards detained during a firefight last week during an operation to hunt down suspected members of Iraq's ousted regime were still in US custody.

US troops shot and killed one of the assailants in the attack on the mayor's office late Monday in Fallujah, a town 35 miles west of Baghdad, US reports said. But local residents at the scene said the man killed was not involved in the attack and was caught in the crossfire.

Insurgents last week began targeting Iraqi civilians thought to be too close to Americans a new tactic in their campaign to disrupt the US-led occupation.

A US Army Military Police officer was slightly wounded late Monday in Khaldiya, about 35 miles west of Baghdad, when in-

surgents fired a rocket-propelled grenade which struck a Humvee, said Lt Charles Mulcahey, a platoon leader with the 115th Military Police company. An infantry platoon found no suspects or weapons after combing the thick palm scrub alongside highway 10, where the ambush took place.

Insurgents fired two more rocket-propelled grenades at US troops in Habaniyah, about three miles west of Fallujah, but they exploded without causing injuries, reports said.

Details continued to emerge Tuesday on a previously undisclosed operation last week around the Iraqi town of Qaim, near the border with Syria. US special forces shot and captured several Syrian border guards during a firefight that broke out as the Americans attacked a convoy of suspected

high-level fugitives linked to Saddam Hussein's government. They were apparently trying to cross into Syria.

An undisclosed number of people were killed and wounded in the incident, and American troops captured about 20 people, most of whom have since been released, a senior defense official said Monday. U.S. investigators will conduct DNA testing to identify the remains of those killed, defense officials said.

Three U.S. senators, in the first visit by elected American officials to Iraq, predicted Monday that a U.S. presence may be required 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 Senator Joseph Biden, the ranking Demo-

crat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

US officials announced Monday that the defeated and dissolved Iraqi army will be re-established within a year. To start, the new army will consist of a token force of one brigade of 12,000 men. It will grow to 40,000 in three years, a tenth of the size of the Saddam Hussein-era military.

The US-led occupation administration will pay a \$50 to \$150 monthly stipend to as many as 250,000 former Iraqi soldiers. Officers of the rank of colonel or higher and senior members of the Baath party would receive nothing, said Walter Slocombe, a senior adviser on security and defense for the governing authority. Former soldiers from the disbanded army have been mounting increasingly vehement protests, demanding pay.— *Internet*

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Thailand negotiating to send military engineers to Iraq

BANGKOK, 25 June— Thailand was currently negotiating to send military engineers to help rebuild Iraq, Thai Army Commander in Chief Somtat Uttanan revealed.

Somtat said that engineers would be sent from the special engineering task force, which brought together military engineers from the Royal Thai Army, Navy and Air Force, according to a report of *Thai News Agency* Tuesday.

Thailand would also send a medical team, a team of Army dogs and a security team from the special war command unit to Baghdad.

The engineers would be required to repair buildings and facilities, he said, adding that detailed negotiations were now taking place with the US to determine the exact role and capabilities of the Thai troops.

"We will discuss expenses, as it's not yet been clear whether the Thai troops will go in the name of the UN or the US," Somtat was quoted as saying.

MNA/Xinhua



Kalil Ismael visits his cousin Ahmed Kalaf, 35, who was injured during an incident at the checkpoint at Ramadi some 68 miles west of Baghdad, Iraq on 24 June, 2003. Kalaf allegedly was shot after ignoring a US forces checkpoint in Al-Ramadi. The US forces have been the target of guerilla-style attacks despite an intense new crackdown.

INTERNET

UN vows strong role in Iraq's future

BAGHDAD, 25 June—The United Nations will play a strong role in shaping Iraq's political future and remain in the country long after US troops leave, the UN's chief envoy to Iraq said on Tuesday.

Sergio Vieira de Mello also said Iraqis were growing impatient with the slow transition from US rule to a transitional Iraqi authority, and that decision on any future war crimes tribunals must wait for an elected Iraqi government to be installed.

"We are here for the long haul and will be here long after the coalition has left," Vieira de Mello told a news conference, his first in Iraq since arriving in the country three weeks go.

"We have a political role. We have a role in the rehabilitation of this country... I think we have done enough

humanitarian work in Iraq. Iraqis are entitled to more than handouts," the UN's special representative said.

US President George W. Bush has not said how long the US-led occupation forces might remain in Iraq, although US senators visiting Baghdad on Monday said it could be five years or

more.

The ubiquitous US presence, from guarding important buildings with tanks to searching Iraqis for weapons, has divided Iraqis, some of whom have attacked the troops, killing 19 Americans since major combat was declared over on 1 May.

MNA/Reuters

The fifth Harry Potter book breaks sale record

LONDON, 25 June— The fifth book about the wizard boy Harry Potter, which went on sale Saturday midnight, flew off the shelves at a record rate. More than one million copies of *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* are estimated to have been sold in Britain over the weekend, the *Guardian* newspaper reported on Monday.

An average of 220 copies were bought every minute at Tesco supermarkets with 317,400 copies sold by the chain in the first 24 hours after the book went on sale.

WH Smith, Britain's largest bookseller, said the book was the fastest selling book ever.

The novel is expected to be 10 times more popular than its predecessor, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* which was the previous fastest seller.

Amazon, the on-line retailer, said the novel had broken Internet sales records with more than 1.3 million advance orders worldwide, including more than 420,000 in Britain.

The delivery of the book

is the largest distribution of any single item in e-commerce history.

Scenes of Potter fever swept across the world. The book also went on sale at the *Xinhua* book store in Beijing, in which shop officials said was China's first participa-

tion in a global book launch.

Among the various Asian language editions that will be published, the Thai and Chinese versions are due by December.

The latest book came nearly three years after *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*.

Publisher Bloomsbury has said that the unprecedented demand would drive profits to a new high.

The first four *Harry Potter* books have sold 195 million copies in almost 200 countries.

MNA/Xinhua

Thailand to destroy illegal drugs

BANGKOK, 25 June— Thai Government will burn six tons of illegal drugs with an estimated street value of 14.6 billion baht (347.6 million US dollars), the *Bangkok Post* reported Tuesday.

Thai Public Health Minister Sudarat Keyuraphan said the second destruction of illegal drugs this year would be held on June 26. Another 4,165 kilos of seized drugs were destroyed on February 12.

Illegal drugs to be destroyed this time include 61 million tablets of methamphetamine, 114,070 tablets of ecstasy, 321 kilos of heroin, 6.12 kilos of cocaine,

16.75 kilos of codeine, 217 kilos of opium and 46 kilos of marijuana.

Another 37.73 kilos of precursor chemicals and substances that affect the nervous system and which are sometimes used for medicinal purposes would also be destroyed in a pyrolytic incinerator, which carbonizes the substances very quickly and did not cause pollution, the report said.— *MNA/Xinhua*



Greenpeace activists check the radiation level next to a 'yellow cake' canister, of low-enriched uranium peroxide powder used as raw material for radioactive fuel, found abandoned near the Tuwaita Nuclear Research Center near Baghdad, on 24 June, 2003. Environmentalists presented US forces in Iraq with what they said was a looted radioactive canister on Tuesday and slammed the occupiers for leaving more radioactive material at large. — INTERNET

Message from Chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing on International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (26 June 2003)

YANGON, 26 June—The following is the Message from the Chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing on the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking today:

Today being the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, countries around the world will be holding commemorative events to mark this day against narcotic drugs. Likewise, I am confident that similar events are being held far and wide throughout all States and Divisions within the Union.

In order to tackle drug related problems, the United Nations proclaimed "Let's talk about drugs" as the theme for 2003 and accordingly, has urged to openly and frankly discuss the problems and join hands in solving them without hesitation.

The problem of narcotic drugs is a dire legacy sown by a colonial power. During their reign in Myanmar, the divide and rule policies they administered disrupted national unity and generated distrust among different national races. At the same time, allowing poppy cultivation in highland regions led this harmful practice to take root here in Myanmar. The cultivation of poppy and abuse of opiate derivatives there from not only diminished nationalism and patriotism of the entire race but also weakened our nation's human resources and the colonial power used narcotic drugs as a destructive weapon.

Since the time of independence up to this day, subsequent Myanmar Governments have promulgated appropriate laws and regulations to prevent, control and fight narcotic drugs.

To end distrust among different national races, strengthen blood ties and to foster unionism and nationalism, the Government of Myanmar, from 1988 onwards, managed to secure peace with armed forces of various ethnic groups. Since 1989, this endeavour led peace to reign in border areas where it was never known before. The onset of peace further allowed implementation of strategies and tactics to eradicate poppy cultivation, develop basic infrastructures and to promote standard of living for national races residing in the border areas.

Efforts to develop border areas and to eradicate narcotic drugs were exerted in such union that Mongla, Special Region (4) in eastern Shan State, was declared an opium free zone in 1997. Similarly, Kokang Special Region (1) stopped poppy cultivation in 2003 and Wa Special Region (2) promised to follow suit in the year 2005.

For Myanmar to be completely void of narcotics by the year 2014, a 15-year drugs eradication programme was launched in 1999 and its first 5-year cycle ended this year. To complement this 15-year programme, New Destiny Project was initiated in April 2002 and through it, perennial seeds to substitute poppy were distributed to farmers free of charge before the cultivation season began and educational campaigns to plant cash crops, breed livestock animals and to develop home based industries were also launched and secured. One of the major achievements of this project is the voluntary surrendering of dried poppy pods and seeds stored by poppy growers for cultivation in the coming season. These were subsequently burnt and destroyed through ten different occasions in these regions and because of it, there is a marked decline in poppy cultivation and opium production in Myanmar.

Since 1997, there has been a decline in poppy cultivated areas and opium produced there from. Opium yield surveys undertaken in cooperation with the United States Government during 2002 reported an estimate of 77,700 hectares of poppy cultivation with a potential of producing 630 tons of opium and this was 26 percent less than the previous year. Recent surveys indicate that there will be further decline in the year 2003.

Ground surveys undertaken jointly by CCDAC and UNODC through its programme to monitor illicit cultivation of poppy plants revealed a total of 105,000 hectares of illicitly cultivated poppies producing 1,097 tons of opium during the year 2001. The surveyed figures for 2002 stood at 81,400 hectares of poppy cultivation producing 828 tons of opium verifying that in Myanmar, there is a marked decrease in poppy cultivation and opium production in the year 2002. This decrease is also reflected an recorded in the 2002 annual report of the International Narcotic Control Board.

Not only that the programmes to reduce and eventually to eradicate poppy cultivation are being implemented but supply and demand reduction measures were also undertaken in close conjunction. Within the overall narcotic drugs prevention and control context, there is a definite decline in the number of opium and heroin seizures but the problem of psychotropic substances and chemically induced drugs are found to be on the rise. As these problems need to be handled in cooperation with countries that are producing precursor chemicals within the region, Myanmar, with technical assistance from the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime, have joined hands with China, India and Thailand for solving it.

As part of the Myanmar's endeavour in reducing demand for drugs, the consequences of HIV transmission through injecting drug use is also being addressed in cooperation with UN Agencies and Non-Governmental Organizations. This is not only to curb HIV prevalence rates but also to reduce harm associated with this undesirable habit.

Subsequent Governments of Myanmar, relying on its own resources, strived to eradicate narcotic drugs without evading the problem. In line with the United Nations theme "Let's talk about drugs", all national races need to discuss drug related issues — frankly and openly — without delay to face and solve the problem. Here I will urge all national races to also join hands with the Government in order to forge a united front to combat the menace of drugs. — MNA

Message of UN Secretary-General on International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

26 June 2003

YANGON, 26 June — The following is the message of the United Nations Secretary-General Mr Kofi A. Annan on the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking today.

The theme for this year's International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, "Let's talk about drugs", sums up the best starting point for tackling any problem: recognizing that it exists and speaking openly about it. An estimated 200 million people worldwide use illicit drugs. That translates into 4.7 per cent of the global population aged over 14. Those figures are alarming enough in themselves. But the effect of drug abuse go far beyond the individuals concerned and cause incalculable harm to society in health, social and economic terms— including the spread of HIV.

"Let's talk about drugs" underlines the need for children, families, peers, teachers and communities to talk about drug abuse, admit that it is a problem, and take responsibility for doing something about it. The support of caring and listening parents has proven to be one of the most important protective factors against drug abuse. But for the many young people around the world who do not have the advantage of supportive home environment, we all have a special responsibility.

Drug abuse is often a result of underlying problems or a symptom of a broader malaise. It is therefore important to talk about addressing the potential causes, and not just the abuse in isolation. Talking about drugs is the only way to break the silence, stigma and exclusion that surround people who are drug-dependent, and that only make the problem worse. Talking openly is also essential if we are to tackle the problem early and avoid it becoming a chronic condition.

Today's International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking is a reminder to all of us to play our part. The United Nations is here to assist you in this fight. The drug programme of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime has vast amount of useful information available at www.unodc.org to help us all talk about drugs.—MNA

Putin wants to bury differences with Britain on Iraq

LONDON, 25 June — President Vladimir Putin, on the first Russian state visit to Britain in 130 years, has signalled he wants to bury past differences on Iraq and focus on luring foreign investment into the Russian economy.

Putin moved to dispel suspicion that he still sought to score political points out of the Iraq issue at a Buckingham Palace state banquet on Tuesday night after arriving on a four-day visit to a sumptuous royal welcome.

Startling his audience by speaking in English, he extended to Queen Elizabeth II his sympathies for the deaths of six British soldiers killed in Iraq earlier in the day. It is clear to everyone that in spite of the differences that existed before, today we need to act jointly," he added.

Putin was due to travel up to Scotland for the day on Wednesday, returning to speak in the City, London's financial heart, in the evening. It is the first such visit by a Russian head of state since Tsar Alexander II sailed to Britain in 1874.

The British monarch had earlier broached the Iraq issue — potentially divisive since Russia opposed the US-led war in which British troops fought — by referring to the two countries' "significant differences" earlier this year. "Now we are able to look forward together



Russian President Vladimir Putin (R) helps Britain's Queen Elizabeth II off a horse-drawn carriage, as they enter Buckingham Palace in London, on 24 June, 2003.

INTERNET

firmly in agreement on the route we have decided in the United Nations," she said in a speech of welcome to Putin

at the banquet. Putin will meet Blair privately for only half an hour during his visit.

MNA/Reuters

US heart group says doctors should prescribe exercise

WASHINGTON, 25 June — Doctors should regularly prescribe exercise as a way to lower blood pressure and prevent heart disease and diabetes, the American Heart Association said on Monday.

Exercise often works as well as drugs, yet doctors fail to advise patients to get off their sofas and walk, cycle or run, the group said, citing data from 44 different studies.

The American Heart As-

sociation and US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, among other groups, recommend 30 minutes or more of moderate exercise such as brisk walking on most or all days of the week.— MNA/Reuters

Secretary-1 attends cash donations...

(from page 1)

Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and wife and family, K 500,000 to the Secretary-1.

Then, Myanmar Economic Corporation presented K 1.5 million; Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs, K 6.5 million; Mr Kuanpeng Ching (a) Kuan Peng Soon (Malaysian) Miss Luxana Jariyawata, US\$ 5,000; U Win Kyaing (MD) of International Group of Entrepreneurs Co Ltd, K 10 million; U Tin Htut-Daw Thin Myat Myat Win and family, K 2 million; Deputy Minister for Forestry Col Thaik Tun and wife Daw Nwe Nwe Kyi and family, K 500,000; MAG Committee, U Nay Moe-Daw Khin Thida Aung of Moe Myay Nay La Co, U Marli of Seven Stars Co, U Saw Kyaw Lin of King Metal Aluminium Trading Co, and U Win Kyaing (MD) of International Group of Entrepreneurs Co Ltd, K 1 million each; UCG Committee, K 800,000; Police Brig-Gen Tin Win and wife Daw Ni Ni and family, K 700,000; Teingya U Than Hla and party, Daw Mya Mya Shein and Daw Thu Thu Kyaw Shein, U Hla Myint Swe-Daw Swe Swe Shein and family, U Mya Naing-Daw Mya Mya Win and family, and Ko Htay Win-Ma Khin Htay Yee K 500,000 each; (U Hla Tun)-Daw Swe Swe Win and daughter Ma Hnin Le Yee, K 1 million; U Maung Maung Hmon-Daw San Hlaing, U Kyaw Thura-Daw Aye Aye Nwe and family, U Sein Kauk-Daw Tin Kyi (Yadana Tun Family), family members of U Kyaw Hoe-Daw Thin Yee of Miba Myitta Medicine Shop of Kyimyindine Nyazay, Agga Maha Thiri

Thudamma Theingi Lawyer Daw Khin Kyi; Ko Maung Sein, Ko Maung Kyan, Ko Maung Tun, Ko Aung Win, Ma Kyu Kyu and Ma Hla Hla; Daw Mi Mi Gyi and family, Daw Sein Sein and family, and Ko Kyaw Hsan Lin-Ma Myint Myint Htwe, K 500,000 each; Ma Nyo, Ma Su Hlaing Hnin and family, K 1 million; U Aung Bo and family of Yogyi Village in Kayan Township, Daw Hnin Kyi and family of Kyaukmyaung in Tamway, Daw Sein Ohn and family, Ko Thiha-Ma Khin Aye Thin of FMI City, U Aye Nyunt-Daw Than Nwe and family, U Aung Soe-Daw Swe Swe Hlaing of Hla Zabai Gold Shop in Insein Township, U Htin Moe Aung and daughter Ma Su Mon Aye, U Tha Tun and family, Daw Tin Aye and family, Daw Yee Yee Hla and family, U Ye Htut Win-Daw Aye Thida Oo and family of Htet Myet Htut Trading, U Htay Win-Daw Khin Nan Wai and family, U Myo Nyunt-Daw Khin Than Nwe, U Banny Soe Myint Aung-Daw Aye Myint Aung and family, U Aung Toe Shwe (Deputy Director-General) of Hydel-Power Department-Daw Khin Saw Win and family, Ma Yin Yin Win, U Tin Win-Daw B Kyu, U B Yee-Daw Ohn Kyi and family, Ko Min Hsan Oo-Ma Hnin Kyi and family, Palaung national race family of Special Region 7 in Mongton, Shan State (North), Daw Myint Myint (BA, BEd of Myanmar Language Commission) and family, U Maung Maung Khin of Anawrahta Tyre, U Robert and U Maung Maung Eissathaya Co, Yokohama U Maung Kyaw Win, U Kyaw Kyaw (KY Kyaw Kyaw Trading),



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt and party view the vehicle innovated by Development Affairs Department for sinking tube-wells. — MNA

U Zeya Thura Mon of Gunku Engineering and Fresh Air Conditioner Co, and (U Soe Thein)-Daw Aye Nyunt, K 500,000 each to Lt-Gen Thein Sein, the ministers, the Yangon Mayor and the deputy ministers.

Afterwards, on behalf of the wellwishers, U Nay Moe (Moe Myay Nay La Co) explained the purpose of the donation.

The Secretary-1 spoke words of thanks. He said wellwishers donated cash for pure drinking water in rural regions. They had sympathy for those who did not get sufficient water and made donations and it was a noble donation.

The Secretary-1 quoted one of the wellwishers as saying that they witnessed the scarcity of water and the will to donate cash for those who did not get sufficient water aroused. They were very pleased to see the happiness of the villagers on the day water came out from the well. When they witnessed this, nothing can be compared to the joy of the wellwishers, he said.

He said people in Up-

per Myanmar had experienced scarcity of water for hundreds of years. In colonial rule, colonialists drilled and produced petroleum for their interest instead of sinking tube-wells for drinking water, he said.

After regaining independence, the successive governments were unable to implement the tasks of getting water effectively.

He said according to the survey, there are over 8,000 villages that do not get pure drinking water. With the donations of the wellwishers, tube-wells were sunk in over 3,000 villages in three years. In the rest of the villages tube-wells can be sunk coming three or four years due to the efforts of the government and the people, he added. He said conditions of local people were not hygienic and there were frequent outbreaks diseases. They had worries and stressed for seeking water for years.

The government carried out pure drinking water projects to serve the long-term interest of the local people. Moreover, the government is implementing

the arid zone greening project for greening of environment and fairness of climate and river water pumping projects for agriculture, he said.

Due to cooperation of the people and the Head of State's guidance on the arid zone greening project and river water pumping projects, dry rural regions got pure drinking water and became green. As a result, better foundations for the green environment and fairness of climate emerged. These better foundations would benefit not only local people but also their future generations, he said.

Local people will be free from troubles and difficulties caused by scarcity of water in the future with the active cooperation of the people and leadership of the

government, he said.

He said local people can now enjoy better results such as healthy life, being free from stress and economic progress on account of the donations for pure drinking water.

The Secretary-1 thanked the wellwishers and local people and wished for them to gain prosperity.

The Secretary-1 and party observed documentary photos of vehicles of Development Affairs Department, measures undertaken for supply of water in rural and urban regions and sinking of tube-wells. The Secretary-1 and party inspected drilling vehicle of Development Affairs Department.

Altogether 209 wellwishers donated K 168,04528 million and US \$ 5,000.—MNA

Internet introduction course to be opened

YANGON, 25 June — With the aim of developing the information technology, Myanmar Computer Federation (MCF) is scheduled to conduct a course on the introduction to Internet at the Myanmar Information and Communication Technology

Park (MICT Park) for two weeks as from 30 June. At the course, application of e-mail and World Wide Web will be taught through Internet. Those wishing to attend the course may contact the office of MCF in MICT Park. — MNA

Myanmar delegation arrives back from Malaysia

YANGON, 25 June— A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa arrived back here yesterday after attending the ASEAN Ministerial Level Conference on

Management of Natural and Human Disasters held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 21 to 23 June.

The delegation was welcomed back at the airport by Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minis-

ter at the Prime Minister's Office U Pan Aung, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Hlaing Win, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Aung, Officer on Special Duty at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Thura Sein Thau, directors-general, officials and families.

Myanmar delegation together with senior officials of the ASEAN Ministerial Level Conference visited the Children Home of Social Welfare Department in Malaysia. The director-general of Social Welfare Department explained about the objectives of the home, care of the children, teaching of literature and vocational education and supple-

mentary care. Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa observed care of infants and care of children above five under cottage system.

In the afternoon, the minister and party attended the opening ceremony of the natural and man-made disasters preparedness exhibition sponsored by Ministry of National Unity and Social Development. Chairman of exhibition committee former ASEAN Secretary-General Mr Ajit Singh and Minister of National Unity and Social Development Mr Dr Hajjah Siti delivered addresses. The minister and party visited the booths.

On 23 June, the minister and party attended the conference on the natural and man-made disasters.

Chairman of exhibition committee Mr Ajit Singh and on behalf of Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia Minister Mr Dr Hajjah Siti delivered speeches. Next, the minister and party attended informal discussion of ASEAN ministers responsible for social welfare.

Ministers of ASEAN member nations including Myanmar, deputy ministers, host Malaysian Minister and senior officials were also present. ASEAN Social Welfare Ministers discussed management on disasters for promotion of ASEAN 2020 Vision and social welfare.

In his discussions Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa spoke on preparedness for natural disasters, formation of various relief and resettlement committees, tasks of relief and resettlement, co-operation of social organizations, arrangements for high efficiency, formation of Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs and committees on rights of the children and care of children, youths, women and the disabled and elderly people.

In the evening, the minister and party attended the closing ceremony of the conference. The conference ended with the concluding remark by Minister Mr Dr Hajjah Siti.

Deputy Director of Social Welfare Department U Myint Thein and Deputy Director of Relief and Resettlement U Maung Maung Khin also arrived back on the same flight.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa speaks at the informal discussion of ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Social Welfare. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than unveils ...

(from page 16)

and divisions. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also urged the teachers to make the most of teaching aids and nurture the students, regarding as their own children, so that they may become highly qualified human resources the State can rely on.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party, members of the school board of trustees, wellwishers and students posed for souvenir photos.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected cultivation of summer paddy and preparation for cultivation of monsoon paddy and forest reserve along Pyay-Mantaung-Taungup road. They arrived at the briefing hall of Mantaung-Taungup road section, 37 miles from Pyay. Bago Division (West) Deputy Superintending Engineer U Saw Ronald Win reported on repair of road, levelling the road, digging of drains and construction of concrete bridges. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than then gave instructions.

Next, Bago Division (West) Manager of Myanmar Agriculture Service reported on cultivation of coffee in the forests reserves and arrangements for cultivation of macadamia and banana. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party met coffee growers. Director of Myanmar Farms Enterprise U Thang Nyunt reported on collection of 200,000 coffee saplings on 500 acres, bank loans and conducting course on coffee cultivation techniques. Commander Brig-Gen Ko Ko and Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council (West Division) Col Tin Maung Win gave a sup-

plementary report.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said arrangements are being made for cultivation of 10 main crops, three perennial crops and three new crops. He spoke on cultivation of 100,000 acres of coffee nationwide. He said the government would provide monetary assistance, seeds and techniques to the growers.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than then cordially met the coffee growers.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected the 70,000 nurseries of coffee plants and gave instructions. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party also inspected Daw Saw's coffee plantation.

It is targeted to grow coffee on 2,500 acres of land in Toungoo Township, the eastern part of Bago Division, on a five-year basis with 500 acres per year. Coffee will also be grown on another 2,500 acres of land in the western part of Bago Division. On arrival at the seedlings farm conducted by Myanmar Perennial Crops Enterprise of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected grafted saplings, two-year-old nurseries, one-year-old nurseries, and the sowing of seeds. Officials conducted Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party round the farm.

Then, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than visited the local battalion in Padaung Station, where he met with officers, other ranks, and their families, and gave instructions. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at Padaung at 3.30 pm. At the city hall, he met with departmental officials, social or-

ganizations, and townselders. Local authorities reported on cultivation of 10 major crops, 3 perennial crops and 3 newly-hybrid crops, monsoon and summer paddy.

In giving instructions on the occasion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that he often visited the western part of Bago Division and inspected regional development tasks; that the development of the State depended on the development of all the states and divisions in the country; that Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on making efforts to obtain 100 baskets of paddy yield per acre, 50 baskets of groundnut per acre yield, 20 baskets of sesame per acre yield, 50 baskets of sunflower per acre yield, 20 baskets of gram per acre yield, 20 baskets of padesein per acre yield, 25 baskets of pigeon pea per acre yield, 400 viss of cotton per acre yield, 30 tons of sugarcane per acre yield, and 80 baskets of maize per acre yield; that local authorities were responsible to strive for the realization of respective crop yields in line with the guidance of the Head of State; that it was also necessary to boost the fisheries and livestock breeding sector for the welfare of the local people; and that chicken and ducks should be raised from manageable to commercial scale. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than then also spoke of the need for local authorities and departmental officials to conduct field trips down to grassroots level for better rural transport system.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party left there for Pyay. They arrived there at 5.30 pm and stopped over there. — MNA

Myanmar youth football team honoured

YANGON, 25 June — The Banner Football Club honoured the Myanmar youth football team which won the championship in the first ASEAN U-18 Youth Football Tourney- 2003 at Kanyieiktha Restaurant yesterday evening.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Vice Chief of Military Intel-

ligence Maj-Gen Kyaw Win, Myanmar Football Federation President U Thang Htaik and officials and members of the Banner Football Club.

Officials of the football club first honoured the Myanmar youth football team and Patron of Banner Football Club Maj-Gen Kyaw Win presented gifts to the footballers. — MNA



Maj-Gen Kyaw Win hands over medical equipment to Minister Dr Kyaw Myint. — MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects multimedia classrooms of No 3 Basic Education High School in Pyay. — MNA

A&I Minister inspects irrigation projects

YANGON, 25 June — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin on 23 June met with officials of the division agriculture service in Toungoo, Bago Division and gave instructions on monsoon paddy and sugarcane cultivation and irrigation tasks. Then, the minister went to Chaungmagyi (Myohla) Dam construction project near Myohla. Officials of the Irrigation Department reported on progress of the main dam, conduit, spillway, and irrigation canals

construction. The minister attended to the needs.

The minister proceeded to Shanywa river water pumping project being implemented by the Water Resources Utilization Department in Lewe Township and inspected the pumping site and irrigation canals. He also viewed plantation of corn, groundnuts, and sesame plantations grown in irrigated areas. This project, which will irrigate a total of 5,200 acres of lands in five villages, began irrigation tasks for sum-

mer paddy this year. In his tour, Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin also met with sugarcane growers in Lewe Township and gave instruction on cultivation of the crop. Then, the minister went to Paunglaung Dam Project in Pynmana Township and inspected construction works. After hearing reports, he gave instruction on construction tasks by sector-wise and attended to the needs. The minister also inspected No 2 Sugar Mill of the Myanmar Sugarcane Enterprise there. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin inspects work site of Chaungmagyi (Myohla) Dam Construction Project being implemented near Myohla. — A & I

Medical equipment for SARS prevention donated

YANGON, 25 June — Local and foreign wellwishers are donating medical equipment to be used in the SARS control and prevention activities in Myanmar.

The Myanmar Ambassador to Australia and embassy staff, Myanmar wellwishers in Australia, the Myanmar embassy in Singapore, the Consulate General (Hong Kong) of the Union of Myanmar, overseas Myanmar wellwishers, and domestic wellwishers donated medical equipment, which were handed over to Chairman of the National Health Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt at a ceremony held at the Tatmadaw Guest House on Inya Road here this morning.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Vice-Chief of Military Intelligence Maj-Gen Kyaw Win, Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, and departmental

personnel. Minister Dr Kyaw Myint spoke words of thanks.

Donations made were 10,000 bottles each of dextrose water and dextrose saline worth K 6 million by Managing Director U Hla Shwe of Tong Sein Trading Co Ltd, and five units of minitemp portable infrared thermometer worth K 600,000 by U Tin Htut and Daw Thin Myat Myat Win of Metro Asia Myanmar Ltd. Vice-Chief of Military Intelligence Maj-Gen Kyaw Win, on behalf of Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt, received the donations, and handed them over and relevant documentaries to Dr Kyaw Myint.

The Myanmar Ambassador to Australia, the embassy staff and wellwishers in Australia collectively donated 80 units of ear digital thermometer, 20 units of goggles, 3,000 pairs of examination gloves, 2,100 units of face mask, 800 units of swabs, 22 kinds of hospital equipment, and 17 health journals and medical journals, worth totalling about K 6 million; through the Myanmar Em-

bassy in Singapore, wellwishers

U Pannabhinanda of the Vipassana Meditation Centre, two units of ear thermometer (thermo buddy) and 16 units of ear probes; TMW Int Pte, 20 units of ear thermometer (piccolo); U Zaw Win Shwe-Dr Aye Aye Maw, 20 units of ear thermometer (radiant), 30 units of disposable ear probes and 20 units of microshield hand rub, totalling K 2 million; through the Consulate General of Myanmar in Hong Kong, Myanmar Medical Association, Myanmar Overseas Chinese Association, and Ming Kee Jade Co Ltd, 960 units of N95 mask, 140 units of digital thermometer, 1,250 units of surgical mask, 1,000 pairs of glove, 288 units of splash shield, 400 units of eye shield, 1,000 units of cap, 500 units of gown, 5 units of Braun ear thermometer, and 8 units of thermo gun by You Sang Cheung Teak Wood Importers & Exporters Co, totalling K 4.8 million. The value of today's donations reached K 19.4 million. — MNA

234 drug-related cases exposed in May

YANGON, 25 June — The Tatmadawmen, members of Myanmar Police Force and Customs Department exposed 234 drug-related cases in May. Among the seizures were 70.5903 kilos of opium in 38 cases, 4.7397 kilos of heroin in 102 cases, 4.517 kilos of opium oil in 8 cases, 8.8503 kilos of low grade opium in 10 cases, 4.3406 kilos of marijuana in 8 cases, 143,239 stimulant tablets in 42 cases, 18.0022 kilos of Ephedrine, 0.01 kilo of stimulant powder, 0.002 kilo of speciosa in one case, 2 bottles of morphine in one case, 3723.988 litres of chemical liquid in three cases, 18 cases of failure to register and three other cases.

Action was taken against 273 men and 86 women totalling 359 in 234 drug-related cases in May. — MNA

Tragedy behind menace of narcotic drugs

Yuwadi Khin Sein Hlaing

It is sure that marijuana, stimulant tablets, heroin, opium, cough syrup, cigarettes, tobacco leaf and even betel leaf are all harmful to human beings. Here, I would like to present the effects or ill effects of pathadine which is to be used only when necessary for patients in hospitals.

I knew of a house surgeon. All the relatives allowed him to get his own way. He was one and only doctor in his relatives. They took much pride in him being a doctor.

Before he was posted to the region where he had to perform his duties, he ran a clinic named "Zwe". As people living in the ward were close friends to him, he had a lot of practice.

One day, a family of high social standard came to his clinic. They were a newly-wed and their parents. The couple had just been married before their relatives and friends on a grand scale. But, one problem was that the husband was addicted to pathadine. The parents seemed to be uneasy about him and his wife was also in tears. The guy told the doctor that he was willing to give up using pathadine because he got married just a week before.

He also said that he was not a weak-minded man and continued to say to the doctor to try the drug just once. He just wanted to mention that his spirit was willing but his flesh was weak. Then, the doctor tried pathadine and became addicted to the drug.

I, myself, had an injection of pathadine. Once, I suffered from the disease called lypoma on my waist. As I had to undergo operation I was admitted to the hospital. I had a sleepless night then because I would have to undergo operation the next morning. As I had never had operation I was deep in thought such as over dose of anesthetic would stop my heart beating or if I were dead who would look after my six children. From the female ward I was sent to the operation theatre by car. There were about 30 patients with various complaint who were waiting to be undergone operation.

At that time, a blue staff gave me an injection.

After five minutes the blue staff had left, I felt calm. I did not remember the smell of chloroform.

Gradually, I felt comfortable and had no worries. I smiled with satisfaction thinking the quicker the better.

It was learnt that at a time when I felt worries, the vaccine injected into my body was pathadine. The drug was given because it was necessary.

Once, I went to Bilin to give literary talks together with Sayar Kyatkalay, Linyon Maung Maung and the other one, whose name I don't want to mention.

We were welcomed in Bilin by local literati. At night, the hall was filled to capacity. When the author, whose name was withheld, took a turn, the audience gave him a big applause. He gave talks on narcotic drugs. He said that his love for his son was so great and thus he made his son to be able to pursue good education. But his son mixed with wrong people and became the prey of heroin. He stole everything that had been in the house and thus finally the author handed his son over to the police. When he was talking about the handing over of his son to the police there was a big silence among the audience.

It seemed everyone had great sympathy for him. The next day we visited somewhere in the town. It was the prison located at the entrance to Bilin.

When we were entertained with tea, coffee and plain tea, we heard a sound of footstep. We saw that there was a man in his thirties guarded by two policemen. The author introduced him to us that he was his son. They went to the corner of the room and made a chat.

We were in surprise due to the unexpected view. Talks he gave the previous night was about himself. At the talks he just mentioned a son of a friend. In reality, it was he himself who had handed over his own son to the police.

A Father like him was very rare and he was very decisive.

We all became fully aware of the situation after it had been explained by Saya Kyatkalay in whisper.

(Translation: BG)

Kyemon: 21-6-2003

Heroin and stimulant tablets seized

YANGON, 25 June — Members of Shan State (East) Special Region-4, acting on a tip-off, searched a vehicle on its way from Mongphyhan to Silu at Wamphaing Check-point in Silu Region on 7 June. The authorities arrested Chon Hua Ywin and Chon Kye Te of Sanyi Village, Lanchan District, Yunnan Province, China, Li Lauk Bar of Thanyatonho Village, Lanchan District, and Hun Ae of Mongphyhan Village together with 2.8 kilos of heroin and 50,000 stimulant tablets.

Similarly, members of the local intelligence unit,

Special Anti-drug Squad, and Myanmar Police Force, acting on information, searched the house of Sai Aung Phyu (a) Lauk Wu, son of U Sai Laik Hsar Han of Konhsa Village, Laukkai, on 8 June and arrested him together with 4.5002 Kilos of heroin, 1,440 stimulant tablets and five kinds of paraphernalia used for refining the narcotic drugs.

In connection with the case, action is being taken against the culprits under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Police Station concerned.

MNA



Sai Aung Phyu (a) Lauk Wu seen together with seized narcotic drugs and precursor chemicals on Laukkai Township on 8-6-2003. ° MNA

Heroin trafficker sentenced

YANGON, 25 June — A combined team comprising members of local intelligence unit and Bhamo Special Anti-drug Squad searched Law Kyan (a) Kyan Lon in the outskirt of Panywet Village in Bhamo Township on 25 July last year and arrested him together with 57.14 gram of heroin.

Bhamo Police Station

filed Law Kyan (a) Kyan Lon, son of U Kyan Kyin Yon of Sikyarhaw Village, Tamoeny Village-tract, Kutkai Township, under Sections 15/19 (A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Bhamo District Court handed down 20 years' imprisonment on him under Section 19 (A) on 5 May. — 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

အိတ်တိုင်းမှာသစ်ပင် ရွာစဉ်မှာတောတန်း တစ်တောင်တစ်တောင်တက် ခြို့တက်မယ့်လမ်း။



Myanmar Football Federation President Sports and Physical Education Department Director-General U Thaung Htaik presents K 100,000 and trophy to Maung Nay Win Bo Institute of Sports & Physical Education Mandalay who won first in the Under-15 Milo Youth Football Skills Competition. —NLM



Director-General U Thaung Htaik accepts packets of Milo worth K 6.5 million for Myanmar soccer team to 22nd SEA Games donated by Mr Sudhir Gandhir of Milo Co. — NLM



MMCWA President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe presents donations to U Soe Shein (Maung Soe Htaik-Thongse).MNA

Medicines and medical equipment donated

YANGON, 25 June — A ceremony to donate medicines and medical equipment by Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association to departments and organizations was held at the meeting hall of MMCWA office in South Okkalapa Township this afternoon.

Present at the ceremony were MMCWA President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and central executive committee members, Yangon Division MCWA Supervisory Committee Patron Daw Khin Thet Htay, Health Department Director-General Dr Wan Maung, medical superintendents, officials of social organizations.

First, MMCWA President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe explained the purpose of the donations.

Then Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe presented six beds for the delivery rooms of North Okkalapa Township MCWA; one stretcher, laboratory equipment, medicines, medical equipment and books on health education for the General Hospital, North Okkalapa General Hospital and National Rehabilitation Hospital; and Htet Lin traditional medicines and medicines and medical equipment for Hninsigon Home for the Aged. The donations were accepted by officials.

MNA



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt attends the ceremony and Undersecretary (Retd) Mr Friedrich Ost briefs those present on documentary film about Naga race of Myanmar on 24-6-2003. (News reported) — MNA

Documentary film on Naga race briefed

YANGON, 25 June —The documentary film about Naga race of Myanmar produced by Bruckner Film Production was shown yesterday evening at the Traders Hotel.

First, TMMr Friedrich Ost (Former Head of the Press and Information Office of the Federal German Government and Chairman of the Bundestag Economic Committee) briefed on the purpose of the film production. He said:

Your Excellencies and all very distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen!

The Chinese have handed down the following proverb: **“A picture says more than a thousand words!”**

This applies today more than ever.

For this reason, I have travelled from Germany to the Union of Myanmar to be here with you in Yangon. Of course, in preparation for this trip, I have read and listened to far more than a thousand words. But I would like to form my own impression of this country here on the spot. For everybody knows that it is much easier to destroy an atom than it is to crush prejudices that usually result from ignorance.

In the same way, I as a politician have always adhered to two principles:

1. It is always better to talk with each other than to talk about each other.

2. Cooperation must have priority over confrontation.

It would certainly be desirable if all those with political responsibility in the world—both in the USA and in Europe — were to use dialogue and cooperation as the most important instruments.

Those who recognise and extol the sovereignty of other states in formal speeches should be extremely careful when it comes to making menacing gestures and bringing pressure to bear, and imposing boycotts, bans and other such measures.

In Germany there is a saying that goes: “Catch a few of the smaller ones and let the big ones go!”

We could also say that many large nations bring extreme pressure to bear on smaller nations, whilst generously turning a blind eye to much that go on in the bigger countries. Such double standards or narrow mindedness—

“This is not the kind of approach with which strong bridges can be built”

In sport, we would describe this as unfair behaviour. I believe, however, that Myanmar deserves to be treated fairly by the international community. Only an objective analysis of the developments, as well as the problems, can lead to a fair assessment, can open up a positive dialogue and pave the way for a new phase in the cooperation.

The colonial era, the time when the former colonial rulers from London, Paris, Madrid or wherever dictated what had to be done in the occupied territories. Is over once and for all. Today's international community attaches great importance to the principle of non-intervention in national affairs. Every sensible politician has learned from history.

“Evolution is better than revolution — above all when human rights are at stake”

These principles by no means exclude the possibility of constructive dialogue. Above all, however, this should not out of pure populism be conducted on the public market-places, but in the first instance amicably and cooperatively behind closed doors. For the building of trust cannot take place via public media, through demonstrations in public places, nor through journalistic threats of sanctions or attacks. Rather, what it takes is confidentiality, mutual respect and a candid exchange of opinions, as well as searching together to find solutions to problems. When friends pull together—so the saying rightly goes—they can move mountains.

A brief glance at the history of Myanmar reveals an exceptionally colourful picture - with wars, occupations and the building up of new structures.

Only a few people in Europe are aware of the size of Myanmar with its more than 50 million inhabitants, this country covers twice the area of Germany, which has 80

million inhabitants. Hardly anybody in Europe knows that here in **Myanmar there are around 135 different ethnic groups**, a fact which necessitates particular integration efforts.

Everyone must pay tribute to the responsible politicians for succeeding in concluding ceasefire agreements with 17 armed insurgent organisations. That was almost certainly one of the most important steps along the road to internal peace within the country.

“Maintaining this is a permanent task”

Few Europeans and Americans, who at best obtain their knowledge about Myanmar from the headlines of some of the media, can really estimate the importance of these realities. A peaceful evolution of the country is, however, only possible if the way of “controlled democracy” can be patiently and prudently continued for the most part undisturbed.

Anyone who pressures for a big bang of total democracy is overlooking the fact that this neither happened in European countries nor in the US, which this does not exist in Russia or in the people's Republic of China or in many other countries in the world. Secondly, this easy recommendation from faraway regions could lead to new chaos, bloody conflicts and ultimately to the opposite of what sensible people in Myanmar, and indeed also in the foreign bastions of democracy want.

Only a few people in Europe are familiar with the geostrategic location of Myanmar. Of the 6,100 km of national borders, almost 2,300 km are shared with the People's Republic of China and more than 1,300 km with India. Almost 2,300 km are coastline. This on the one hand necessitates special efforts in the relations to the country's larger and smaller neighbours. In this context, it is encouraging that Myanmar has been an ASEAN member since 1997 and maintains close contacts to the other new members Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, as well as to Malaysia and Thailand.

The geostrategic position offers good future prospects for the regional initiative of the “Greater Mekong Sub region” — above all for overcoming regional disparities, as well as for reinforcing growth and stability.

Myanmar stands to benefit if the strategy agreed at the GMS minister conference in November 2001 is realised by 2011. This foresees expanding the infrastructure, promoting trade, investments and tourism, integrating the private economy in GMS projects and improving competitiveness, protecting the environment and natural resources, as well as improving education and social standards. Better transport routes across the borders, developing an electricity supply grid and establishing a backbone telecommunications network are also included.

In the globalised world, these are signals that in this part of Asia the future is being shaped. All experts agree that in the decades to come, the world economy will above all be conducted between three major centres: between America, Europe and Asia. Here, too, there is no room for conflict, because then everyone would stand to lose.

Rather, through partnership-based cooperation, we must achieve win-win developments for all-with optimum conditions for free world trade, with open markets, with a liberal movement of capital, with the protection and guarantee of foreign investors.

Especially those countries that were economically underdeveloped in the past should benefit from globalisation, since the old adage still applies that trade is better than aid.

It will only be possible to achieve political stabilisation in the developing countries on a longterm basis if this is accompanied by economic stabilisation, if the people in the developing countries tangibly participate in an economic upward trend.

At the beginning of the 90s, Myanmar started out on a free-market course. If we take an objective look at the development, we will indeed be able to note successes in this field. Above all up to 1997, considerable interest was shown by companies from the region, from Singapore, Malaysia,

Thailand, Hong Kong, Indonesia and above all the People's Republic of China—as well as from overseas.

Many projects were realised - in industry, in the building and construction, trade and in the hotel sector.

The big Asia crisis in the middle of the 90s led here as in other states—above all also in Japan, for example—to a setback. The political impacts from the US, the UK and other states— with threats of sanctions, visa restrictions and other limitations, without a doubt triggered additional negative effects. The extensive drying up of funds from international institutions was anything but helpful.

That this makes internal stability more difficult to maintain is a fact no-one should overlook. This, incidentally, also applies to a far-reaching programme through which it is intended to fight against the cultivation of opium and finance genuine alternatives.

Those who let the bells of democracy toll from far away should bear in mind that there can be no progress if a country is more or less driven into isolation. Indeed, isolation is certain not to bring the political and economic stabilisation needed to further democracy.

Far more beneficial would be to intensify the dialogue, becoming mutually acquainted and constructive co existence

Threats and one-sided gestures of power are not the way to go about achieving this. Extremely important to my mind are mutual trust-building measures to enable us to shape key tasks for the future together and to this end build bridges over the one or the other shallows.

After my talks with the high-ranking political personalities here in Yangon. I will willingly attempt to be a mediator or go-between and gain the support of political friends in Germany as well as at EU level for dialogue and cooperation. You know that the federal German government has time and again made efforts to sustain the thread of discussions—with definite positive success in the EU.

It is important to remember: nobody is perfect!

“On the other hand, it is simply wrong only to see the problems. It is more important to look at what positive results have been achieved here in Myanmar in the past”

The trend towards separatism has been stopped internally. The infrastructure has been improved; bridges, roads and railway lines have been built in the course of the past decade—considerably more than in the 28 years of socialist self-isolation. Economic successes have been achieved; in the last ten years, economic growth was on average around 6% per year.

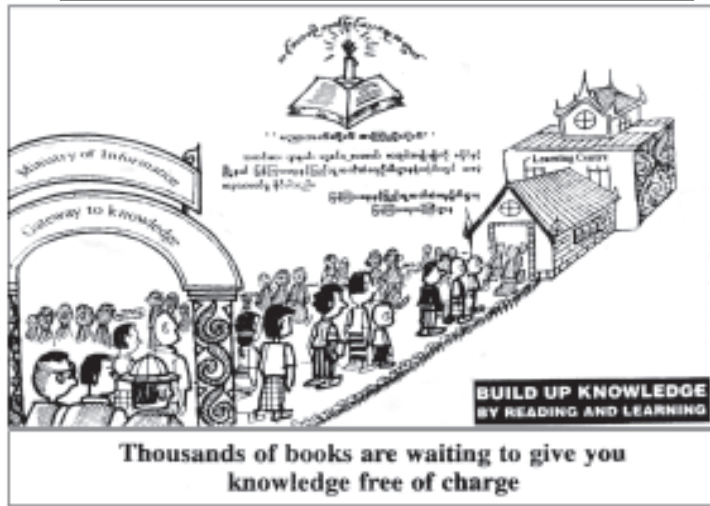
Myanmar by all means has good resources for future development: 52 million inhabitants with a very high percentage of young people, vast mineral resources—oil, gas, silver, tin and zinc as well as rubies and sapphires and much more besides, a promising agriculture and forestry sector, its ASEAN position, the proximity to the two most populous nations in the world.

All efforts, then, must be directed towards moving the country forward—above all securing internal stabilisation, avoiding civil war and eliminating secessionist tendencies. Those who really want to accompany Myanmar along this road to internal reparation and reconciliation in a positive way should move towards the government without threatening gestures and exaggerated demands—also without bringing pressure to bear from the outside and without dictating conditions.

“There will be no progress if we insist on pursuing an ‘all or nothing’ principle”

The nation and its people will only have a good future if all those responsible at home and abroad pull in the same direction. More peace, more freedom and more prosperity will not be achieved through confrontation, but only through cooperation.

“Myanmar today is standing at a crossroads: I wish the nation and its people a better future, internal peace and a good international partnership” — MNA



ADVERTISEMENTS

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

ဘုရားစကားလိုက်နာပွားစွာနှင့် အခြားကဗျာများ



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China to tighten rules for operators of investment funds

BEIJING, 25 June — China's legislature is considering tighter limits on the activities of financial operators of securities investment funds.

A report by the National People's Congress (NPC) Law Committee to the Standing Committee said pending legislation would set a narrower scope on investment fund operators than formerly proposed.

The legislation is likely to clearly define the role of fund management companies and qualified commercial banks as managers or trustees of securities invest-

ment funds.

The third session of the Tenth NPC Standing Committee heard the Law Committee report on the drafting of the securities investment fund law Monday afternoon.

The report said that in a bid to enhance the integrity of investment fund operators, the draft law should set stricter requirements for the qualification and proficiency of fund management companies and their senior executives.

The report also said the draft law would stipulate specific liabilities of both managers and trustees of se-

curities investment funds in separate items. In order to ensure that investors promptly receive all their money when selling their shares back to investment funds, the new law would require fund managers to retain an adequate amount of cash or treasury bonds on account, the report said.

The draft law on securities investment funds was tabled for review at a previous NPC Standing Committee session in July 2002. The draft law will be reviewed again at this session which began Monday.

MNA/Xinhua

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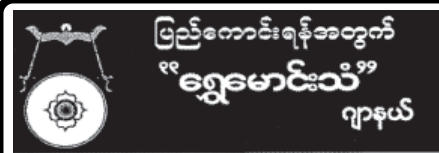
သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း

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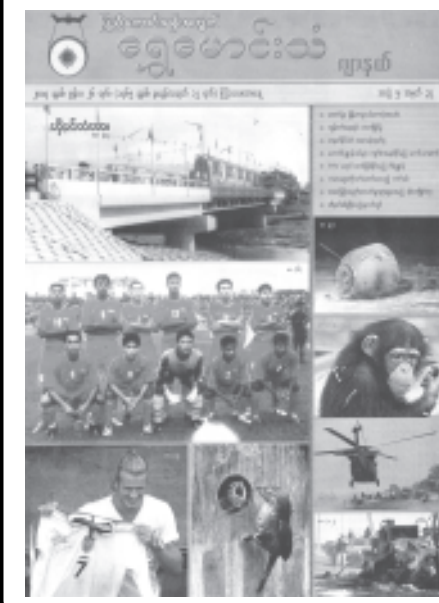
စာအုပ်ဆိုင်

- ဘုရားစကား လိုက်နာပွားစွာနှင့် အခြားကဗျာများ
- မှန်နန်းမဟာရာဇဝင်တော်ကြီး (ပ+ဒ+တ)
- သမိုင်းတွင် သမိုင်းတင်မည့် ချစ်ကြည်ရေးခရီးမှတ်တမ်းများ (မြန်မာ-အင်္ဂလိပ်)
- တပ်မတော်သမိုင်း (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
- အင်္ဂလိပ်ကျ ဘာသာစကားပုံများ
- အီရတ်စစ်မြေပြင်နှင့် စာပေကောင်းမျိုးစုံကို တစ်စုတစ်စည်းတည်း ဝယ်ယူရရှိနိုင်ပါပြီ။ (အမြန်ဝယ်ထားမှ စိတ်ချရမည်ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတင်းကောင်းပေးဖို့လိုက်ပါသည်။)

သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း
စာအုပ်ဆိုင် (ဝန်ကြီးများရုံးရှေ့)
ဖုန်း - ၂၉၄၃၀၆



အတွဲ (၅) အမှတ် (၃၃) ထွက်ပြီ



Jiang Zemin meets Indian PM

BEIJING, 25 June — Jiang Zemin, chairman of China's Central Military Commission, met with visiting Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee here Tuesday.

Jiang said he was pleased with the signing of a number of documents between China and India Monday, following the Prime Minister's talks with Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao.

Jiang called Vajpayee an "old friend," whom he met at the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA) held in Kazakhstan last year.

Vajpayee said he had good talks Monday with Wen.

MNA/Xinhua

Restaurant fire injures 19 in New York

NEW YORK, 25 June — Nineteen people were injured and more than 100 residents were evacuated when a fire swept through an apartment building in Greenwich Village near downtown New York early Tuesday.

The blaze started at around 2:30 am (0730 GMT) in the kitchen of La Margarita restaurant. Fire marshals believe it was sparked by a lit cigarette tossed into a garbage can, and spread to the apartments above.

Firefighters evacuated the building and put out the blaze in about two hours. Twelve firefighters and seven other people were injured, not seriously—MNA/Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTAMUTIARA VOY NO (013)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTAMUTIARA Voy No (013) which arrived on 25-6-03 are hereby notified that their cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P TERMINAL 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: ADVANCE CONTAINER LINE
Phone : 256914/256908/256924

The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago.

The second best time is now.

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲများတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Study finds education helps ward off Alzheimer's

WASHINGTON, 25 June —Playing games and solving puzzles may help prevent Alzheimer's disease, but getting a good education may help your brain overcome its effects, US researchers said on Monday.

Higher learning may help the brain become more elastic — either giving a person a reserve of brain cells to call on when Alzheimer's strikes, or perhaps helping the brain re-wire itself to bypass the rotted-out parts, they said.

The study of 130 nuns, priests and monks with Alzheimer's showed large differences in real-world functioning of those who had more education. Each volunteer took a test of cognitive function — awareness, reasoning and judgement — about eight months on average before dying.

After death, their brains were examined and analyzed.

Those who had more education seemed to have been affected less by the plaques — the characteristic blobs of dead brain cells — that are a hallmark of Alzheimer's, the

scientists report in Tuesday's issue of the journal *Neurology*.

Usually, the more plaques a person with Alzheimer's has, the less well he or she functions.

But education offset this effect, Dr David Bennett of Rush Presbyterian-St Luke's Medical Centre in Chicago and colleagues there and at the University of Pennsylvania found.

Education "may make the brain more adaptable and flexible, similar to what we have seen demonstrated in experimental animals," Bennett said in a statement.

Neil Buckholtz, dementia expert at the National Institute on Aging, said education may help the brain build up a savings account of extra brain power. "This idea of cognitive reserve is something that has been around

for a while," Buckholtz said in a telephone interview.

"It suggests that what is happening is through education, somehow ... more connections are formed in the brain or something else happens that gives us this ability to fight against the effects of these plaques."

Buckholtz said the findings were especially surprising because the Catholic clergy who took part in the study nearly all had some level of higher education.

He said more studies may show whether people who lack high school diplomas, for example, suffer greater effects from Alzheimer's. Several recent studies have supported the old saying that the brain is a "muscle" that benefits from being used.

MNA/Reuters



A US soldier checks a 'yellow cake' canister returned by Greenpeace to the Tuwaitha nuclear complex on 24 June, 2003. Environmentalists presented US forces in Iraq with what they said was a looted radioactive canister and slammed the occupiers for leaving more radioactive material at large. — INTERNET

SARS scandal holds back breeding of civet cats

SHIJIAZHUANG, 25 June — Since Chinese scientists traced the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) virus to a similar virus found in several species of wildlife, including the civet cat, civet cat breeders have been dealt a heavy blow.

To eliminate the alleged source of the epidemic, authorities quickly closed down breeding farms across China. No transport or consumption of these animals was allowed.

Beginning in early May, the State Administration for Industry and Commerce, along with forestry authorities, have urged relevant government departments at all levels to suspend the processing of business licence applications for business transactions involving the civet cat, said Wu Minglu, forestry official in north China's Hebei Province.

In late May, Hebei officials confiscated 135 civet cats, and a total of 20,000 were placed in isolation in some 13 provinces nationwide.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam expects full recovery of tourism in September

HANOI, 25 June — Vietnamese experts forecast Monday that the country's tourist market will fully rebound by September after being hard hit by severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in the last few months.

The forecast was based on statistics released by the Vietnam Administration of Tourism that the number of tourists in June increased by more than 20 per cent over May though it was still on a reduction year on year.

In order to further promote the development of the tourism industry, Vietnam has carried out many concrete activities with an aim to attract foreign tourists.

The Hanoi Club of Travel Agencies has announced its project of offering free tours

of the capital city Hanoi and its neighbouring provinces for journalists from Thailand, Japan and South Korea. The club expected the efforts would be helpful in promoting Vietnam's tourism in those major markets through the media.

Local travel agencies also said they accepted loss-making operations at this time to lure more and more tourists.

In addition to a fillip given to holiday-makers, Hanoi has opened training courses for 500 tourist guides and hotel receptionists in an effort to satisfy foreign tourists.

The number of foreign arrivals in Vietnam declined in May to 99,900 from 155,000 in April.

MNA/Xinhua

ADB drafts emergency policy to help conflict-affected countries

MANILA, 25 June —The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is drafting a comprehensive emergency policy to assist conflict-affected countries and strengthen links between postconflict operations and its overarching goal of poverty reduction.

This was announced Tuesday by ADB in its Annual Report 2002 with a special theme chapter on "Rehabilitation and Reconstruction: ADB's Role in Afghanistan and the Region."

ADB has provided assistance for postconflict reconstruction of its developing members to reduce poverty that has been worsened by war and to avert the resumption of conflict.

"Postconflict reconstruction is about growth and poverty reduction to accelerate the transition from re-

construction to development, and to minimize the risk of resumed conflict," it added.

"Achieving these goals requires developing income-generating activities, providing safety nets, and improving governance and institutional capacity as well as human and social capital," the report said.

Afghanistan received assistance totalling 337 million US dollars for 2002 and 2003. In 2002, ADB provided 187 million dollars for the Postconflict Multisector Programme, the first since lending was suspended in 1979, two technical assistance grants for 15.1 million dollars and three other grants for 22 million dollars funded by the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction.

MNA/Xinhua

Dengue fever cases rise sharply in Vietnam

HANOI, 25 June — Vietnam reported 9,300 dengue fever infected people and 22 deaths from the disease in the first six months of this year.

The figures represent year-on-year increases of 2.5 times in term of infected cases and 5.5 times in term of death number, according to a report of Vietnamese Ministry of Health on Tuesday.

Only in June, dengue fever epidemic occurred across 61 cities and provinces of the country, causing 1,258 cases and three deaths.

Localities with high number of infected people include Ho Chi Minh City, and southern provinces of Tien Giang, Dong Thap and Ben Tre. — MNA/Xinhua



The photo taken on 21 June, 2003 shows four eggs of gulls with black neb in the Shuangtai Bayou State Natural Reserve Area in Panjin, northeast China's Liaoning Province. The gull with black neb, like other bird species in the world, is on the verge of extinction. By the concerted efforts of local government and a protective association, the bayou of Shaungtai River has become the largest breeding area in the world. It has a habitat of about 5,000 gulls.

XINHUA PHOTO

SPORTS

Brazil bow out to Turkey in Confederations Cup

ST ETIENNE (France), 24 June— Turkey lined up a Confederations Cup semifinal with holders France after knocking world champions Brazil out of the tournament in a thrilling 2-2 draw on Monday.

Brazil, who needed a win to go through, took a fully-deserved first-half lead through Adriano, but were rocked by Gokdeniz Karadeniz's equalizer in the 53rd minute and pole-axed by an 81st minute strike by substitute Okan Yilmaz.

Brazil substitute Alex fired in an equalizer in the third minute of stoppage time but it was not enough to deny Turkey their revenge, having been beaten by Brazil at both the group stage and the semifinals of the 2002 World Cup.

Both sides finished with four points and the same goal difference but Senol Gunes' team went through on goals scored — four to Brazil's three.

To add to Brazil's disappointment, Ronaldinho was sent off for a second bookable offence in a fracas following Alex's equalizer.

Group B winners Cameroon, who drew 0-0 with the United States in Monday's other match, will play Colombia in the other semifinal, with both games being played on Thursday. — MNA/Reuters



Tamarine Tanasugarn, seeded 32, went out after losing her all-Asia battle with Japan's Akiko Morigami 6-4, 6-3 at Wimbledon on 24 June. — INTERNET

Iraqis beat US 11-0 on return to national stadium

BAGHDAD, 25 June — Iraqi footballers celebrated their return to the national soccer stadium on Tuesday by thrashing a US military side 11-0. US forces have been using top sports venues as military bases since entering Baghdad nearly three months ago.

Tuesday's match was the most prominent of four events this week to hand the stadiums back to civilian use—though due to still shaky security, there were no Iraqi spectators to watch.

"We feel safety and freedom now, playing here," striker Omar Kadhim Waleed, 18,

said after scoring three goals for the youth side of Baghdad club Zawra as they drubbed the military select of a country where soccer is only a minority sport.

US officials hailed the stadium handover as a sign normal, civilian life was taking root in Iraq, despite the ban on having a local audience. A couple of hundred US soldiers in desert camouflage fatigues watched from the main stand and rigged up a cardboard scoreboard as their makeshift side in running shoes proved no match for the skilful and better equipped Iraqis. — MNA/Reuters

Brazil to send Under-23 team to Gold Cup tournament

RIO DE JANEIRO, 25 June 25 — Brazil confirmed on Tuesday that they will send an Under-23 team and not the senior side to the CONCACAF Gold Cup in the United States and Mexico.

The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) said Under-23 coach Ricardo Gomes would include two foreign-based and 16 home-based in the squad for the tournament, which will take place from July 12-27.

The CBF said on its website that Gomes, who played for Brazil at the 1990 World Cup, had named Barcelona's Thiago Motta and Borussia Dortmund's Ewerthon as the foreign-based players.

The home-based, who could include Santos teenagers Diego and Robinho, will

be announced next week.

Brazil have been invited to take part along with fellow South Americans Colombia and will face Mexico and Honduras in their first-round group, based in Mexico City. Mexico have also announced an under-strength squad for the tournament.

Gomes' main target is to win a gold medal at next year's Olympics in Athens. Brazil, five times World Cup winners, have never won the Olympic tournament.

MNA/Reuters

Real to replace coach del Bosque, captain Hierro

MADRID, 24 June— Real Madrid instituted a major shake-up at the club on Monday by deciding to replace coach Vicente del Bosque and also release captain Fernando Hierro just a day after clinching their 29th league championship.

The decisions not to renew the two men's contracts, taken less than a week after the signing of David Beckham from Manchester United, were accompanied by media reports that Real were targeting United's assistant manager Carlos Queiroz to succeed del Bosque.

"The board of directors made a unanimous decision not to renew Vicente del Bosque's contract as the first team coach of Real Madrid," club spokesman Enrique Sanchez told a news conference at the Bernabeu on Monday.

"They considered that the team needs a change in its sporting planning and criteria in accordance with more modern methods."

Real's sporting director Jorge Valdano then announced that the 35-year-old Hierro would be leaving the club after 14 years during which he won three European Cups and six league titles.

"Hierro is nearing the top age limit and we believe it's the right moment to break our relationship, with all the love and respect he is due."

Valdano added: "It hasn't been an easy day. Two people who have been standard bearers for the club have gone. But we

believed that it was time for a change in direction before things stagnate at the club.

It had been widely predicted that the club would offer to renew Hierro's contract for at least a season.

Sanchez added that the search for a new coach, led by Valdano, had already begun.

One of the first names mentioned by the Spanish media was Queiroz, the Portuguese coach who is credited with discovering Real forward Luis Figo.

Queiroz knows Beckham well from his time at Manchester United and would help the England captain Beckham settle in at the club.

Valdano justified the decision to replace del Bosque as a way of ensuring his reign would not reach a "decadent" end.

Del Bosque in turn accused Real of a lack of straight talking.

"A lot of abstract words have been used to explain my dismissal," del Bosque told Spanish radio Cadena Ser.

"It's been called the end of a cycle at the club but they're just empty words." Del Bosque took charge of Real Madrid after the sacking of John Toshack in November 1999.

MNA/Reuters

Top seed Hewitt loses opener

LONDON, 25 June—Top seed Lleyton Hewitt of Australia became the first champion to lose his first rounder at Wimbledon when he was defeated by Croatian qualifier Ivo Karlovic here on Monday.

Hewitt lost his opener 1-6, 7-6, 6-3 and 6-4 in two hours and 24 minutes, becoming the first men's champion to pack up his luggage at the grasscourt Grand Slams since tennis turned professional in 1968.

In the 126-year history of the tournament, it was only once that a champion lost in the opening round when Manuel Santana was defeated by Charlie Pasarell in 1967.

For the 2.08-metre Karlovic, it was only his first-ever Grand Slam match.

MNA/Xinhua

Modest del Bosque gives Real players all the credit

MADRID, 24 June— Real Madrid coach Vicente del Bosque heaped praise on his team but was typically modest about his own contribution after a 3-1 win over Athletic Bilbao gave them a 29th league title on Sunday.

"The team has made an extraordinary effort throughout this season and we're delighted at winning a 29th title," del Bosque told radio station Onda Cero.

"What with the Champions League, the (King's) Cup and international matches it has been a very long and a very hard season.

"I'm just glad to have done my little bit, but the people who should get the real praise are the players." Real clinched the title thanks to a well-taken double from World and European Player of the Year

Ronaldo and a thunderous free kick from Roberto Carlos.

"The early goal gave us a great start," del Bosque said at a news conference. "But Bilbao then began to gain the upper hand and it was only after Roberto Carlos' goal at the very end of the half that we began to relax a little."

The victory was another triumph for the unassuming 52-year-old, who has now guided his team to two league titles and two European Cups since he took charge in November 1999.

MNA/Reuters



US goalkeeper Tim Howard (C) tries to catch the ball as Cameroonian defender Ngassam Falemi (L) and Cameroonian forward Joseph-Desire Job (2nd R) look on during their soccer Confederations Cup match on 23 June 2003. — INTERNET

MRTV-3
26-6-2003* (Thursday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)

- 9:00 Signature Tune
Greetings
Coming up
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma
Panorama &
Myanma Sentiment"
- 9:06 Excellent Photo
Exhibition
(Shan State)
- 9:10 **Headline News**
- 9:12 Myanmar Cuisine
"Steamed Prawn
Curry"
- 9:15 **National News**
- 9:20 Poppy Farmers Hand
Over Poppy Seeds
- 9:25 Vram Naga Harvest
Dance
- 9:30 **National News**
- 9:35 Myanmar Modern
Song "Have Sweet
Dreams"
- 9:40 Mogok, The Gems
Land
- 9:45 **National News**
- 9:50 Ayeyawady Dolphin
Expedition (Part-II)
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and
See Myanmar"
- 10:00 Close Down

26-6-2003* (Thursday)
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 "Mingalabar"
- 13:06 Power Aerobic
Let's Exercise For
Fitness & Health"
- 13:10 **Headline News**
- 13:12 Myanmar Cuisine
"Potato Pudding"
- 13:15 **National News**
- 13:20 Nipa Palm Forest
- 13:25 Htaung Yaung Nay
(Classical Dance of
the Royal Maids)
- 13:30 **National News**
- 13:35 Parabaik Writings
- 13:40 Myanmar Modern
Song "Shadow of
Love"
- 13:45 **National News**
- 13:50 The Ultimate Goal of
New Destiny Project
- 13:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and
See Myanmar"
- 14:00 Close Down

26-6-2003* (Thursday)
Regular Programmes for
Viewers from Abroad
Evening Transmission
(18:00 - 19:00)

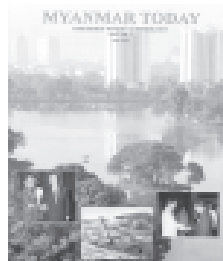
- 18:00 Signature Tune
Greetings
Coming up
- 18:02 Song of Myanmar

- Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma
Panorama &
Myanma Sentiment"
- 18:06 Excellent Photo
Exhibition
(Shan State)
- 18:10 **Headline News**
- 18:12 Myanmar Cuisine
"Steamed Prawn
Curry"
- 18:15 **National News**
- 18:20 Poppy Farmers Hand
Over Poppy Seeds
- 18:25 Vram Naga Harvest
Dance
- 18:30 **National News**
- 18:35 Myanmar Modern
Song "Have Sweet
Dreams"
- 18:40 Mogok, The Gems
Land
- 18:45 **National News**
- 18:50 Ayeyawady Dolphin
Expedition (Part-II)
- 18:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and
See Myanmar"
- 19:00 Close Down

27-6-2003* (Friday)
Regular Programmes for
Viewers from Abroad
Morning Transmission
(2:00 - 4:00)

- 2:00 Signature Tune
Greetings
Coming up
- 2:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 2:06 Excellent Photo
Exhibition
(Shan State)
- 2:10 **Headline News**
- 2:12 Myanmar Cuisine
"Steamed Prawn
Curry"

- 2:15 **National News**
- 2:20 Poppy Farmers Hand
Over Poppy Seeds
- 2:25 Vram Naga Harvest
Dance
- 2:30 **National News**
- 2:35 Myanmar Modern
Song "Have Sweet
Dreams"
- 2:40 Mogok, The Gems
Land
- 2:45 **National News**
- 2:50 Ayeyawady Dolphin
Expedition (Part-II)
- 2:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma
Panorama &
Myanma Sentiment"
- 3:00 **National News**
- 3:05 Quality Rice
Production in
Myanmar
- 3:12 Myanmar Cuisine
"Potato Pudding"
- 3:15 **National News**
- 3:20 Nipa Palm Forest
- 3:25 Htaung Yaung Nay
(Classical Dance of
the Royal Maids)
- 3:30 **National News**
- 3:35 Parabaik Writings
- 3:40 Myanmar Modern
Song "Shadow of
Love"
- 3:45 **National News**
- 3:50 The Ultimate Goal of
New Destiny Project
- 3:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and
See Myanmar"
- 4:00 Close Down

Myanmar Today comes out

YANGON, 25 June — Myanmar Today, four-monthly English magazine, featuring current developments of the nation, came out today.

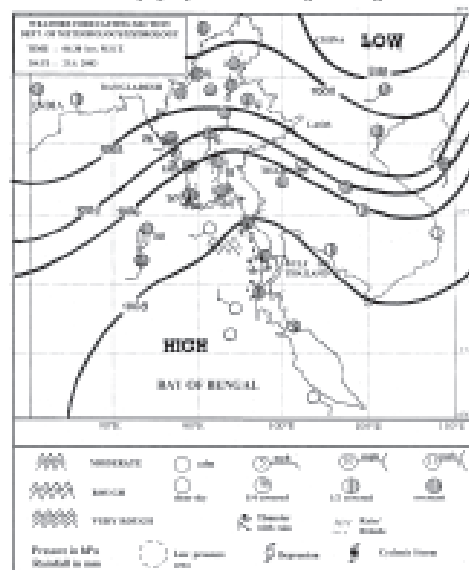
Published by the Ministry of Information and the layout design by Swiftwinds Services, the book covers the opening of Chindwin Bridge, 58th Anniversary Armed Forces

Day, third white elephant in Myanmar, and New Destiny Project.

Concerning the international relations, the book features the State visit of the Head of State to the People's Republic of China and the goodwill visits of Vice Premier Mr Li Lanqing of the PRC, Thai Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn and other foreign dignitaries to Myanmar.

Myanmar Today is available at Sarpay Beikman Book Shop on Merchant Street, News and Periodicals Enterprise Book Shop on Theinbyu Road, Information and Public Relations Department (Head Office) and district and township IPDRs. — MNA

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

**WEATHER**

Wednesday, 25 June, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing Division, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Shan and Kayah States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State and upper Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thandwe (5.67) inches and Hkamti (5.27) inches. Maximum temperature on 24-6-2003 was 30.5°C (87°F). Minimum temperature on 25-6-2003 was 21.0°C (70°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 25-6-2003 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 24-6-2003 was (1.0) hour approx. Rainfall on 25-6-2003 was 29 mm at Yangon Airport, 26 mm at Kaba-Aye and 19 mm at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 832 mm (32.76 inches) at Yangon Airport, 896 mm (35.28 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 978 mm (38.50 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 18 mph from Southwest at (12:30) hours MST on 24-6-2003. **Bay inference:** Monsoon is moderate to strong in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 26-6-2003:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin, Rakhine, Mon States, Bago, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions, scattered in Chin, Shan, Kayah States and isolated in the remaining areas. Likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Mon, Rakhine States, Yangon, Ayeyawady Divisions. Degree of certainty is (100%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be generally moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Decrease of rain in Taninthayi Division. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 26-6-2003:** Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 26-6-2003:** Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).



View today:
Thursday, June 26

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်
ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံယမဟာ
နာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်
ရွှင်အထိစေမဟာရဌဂုဏ်အဘိဓမ္မာ
အဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိကတိပိဋက
ရေဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက ဆရာတော်
ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိဇ္ဇာသာဓကဝံသ၏ပရိတ်
တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

5. Dance of national races

8:05 am

6. Dance variety
7. အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာဗုဒ္ဓယဉ်ကျေးမှု
အလှည့်ကျပြပွဲတရားမဝင်ဆုတံဆိပ်
ဝယ်ယူတိုက်ဖျက်ရေးနေ့ထူးများ

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. Say it in English

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold

National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. English for Everyday

4:45 pm

4. Musical programme

4:55 pm

5. အစားသတ်ကြွသည့်လိပ်ပြာစာရေ
ရှုပ်ပြိုင်သည့်သင်ခန်းစာ
ပထမနှစ် (အထူးပြုအားလုံး)
(အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ)

5:10 pm

6. Cute little dancers

5:25 pm

7. အတီးမြိုင်မြိုင်

5:35 pm

8. Musical programme

5:50 pm

9. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစာ

6:05 pm

10. Musical programme

6:30 pm

11. Evening news

7:00 pm

12. Weather report

7:05 pm

13. မွန်မြန်မာ့အလင်းစာအုပ်
(အရှေ့မြောက်တိုင်းစစ်ဌာနချုပ်)
14. အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာဗုဒ္ဓယဉ်ကျေးမှု
အလှည့်ကျပြပွဲတရားမဝင်ဆုတံဆိပ်
ဝယ်ယူတိုက်ဖျက်ရေးနေ့ထူးများ

7:35 pm

15. တိုင်းကျွန်းပြည်ပြည်ဆောင်ရွက်မှု

8:00 pm

16. News

17. International news

18. Weather report

19. Teleplay :

- "အလင်းကွန်ယက်"

- လွင်ဗို၊ ကျော်ရဲအောင်၊
နိုင်သင်းကြည်
ဒါရိုက်တာ-စင်စောအောင်အောင်၊
စီးပွား

21. The next day's programme



Tune in today:
Thursday, June 26

8:30 am

- Brief news

8:35 am

- Musical

8:40 am

- Perspectives

8:45 am

- Music

8:50 am

- National news/Slogan

9:00 am

- Music

9:05 am

- International news

9:10 am

- Music

1:30 pm

- Brief news

1:35 pm

- Music

1:45 pm

- National news/Slogan

1:55 pm

- Music

2:05 pm

- International news

2:15 pm

- Music

2:20 pm

- Article/Music

2:35 pm

- ASEAN news review

2:45 pm

- ASEAN functional cooperation

2:55 pm

- My kind of music

3:00 pm

- Aspects of Myanmar

9:15 pm

- Article

9:25 pm

- Topics potpourri

- Heat therapy effects in treating kidney cancer

9:35 pm

- Favourite songs chosen by music lovers

9:45 pm

- News/Slogan

10:00 pm

- Portfolio for easy listening

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than unveils two-story building, multi-media classrooms at No 3 BEHS, Pyay

YANGON, 25 June — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, together with Bago Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Southern Command Commander Brig-Gen Ko Ko, Bago Division (West) Peace and Development Council Chairman Col Tin Maung Win and departmental officials, on 22 June arrived at Pyay in Bago Division (West).

On 23 June, he addressed the opening ceremony of stone plaque of Myanmar Education Goal, new two-storey school building and multi-media classrooms held at No 3 Basic Education High School in Pyay.

The outstanding students of No 3 BEHS unveiled the plaque.

Then, Headmaster U



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than makes a speech at the opening of multi-media classrooms of No 3 BEHS in Pyay. — MNA

Thein Swe and Chairman of the school board of trustees U Ba Thaung formally opened the school building and the classrooms by cutting a ribbon.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than unveiled a signboard to mark the ceremony and viewed round the prayer hall, computer application & E-mail room, pro-

jected media room, language lab, computer aided instruction, printed media reading corner and electronic media (video system) room.

Then, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party also inspected arts and domestic science rooms.

At the arts room, students entertained them with a song and dance.

Then, the second session of the ceremony followed. Headmaster U Thein Swe briefed on construction of the school building and establishment of classrooms. Next, U Ba Thaung explained the construction of the building at a cost of K 14.4 million — K 4.2 million provided by the State — and multi-media class-

rooms.

Afterwards, wellwishers presented cash donations. On behalf of the wellwishers, member of the school board of trustees U Than Nyunt handed over a total of K 12.5 million to U Ba Thaung.

Then, U Kyaw Soe of the school board of trustees presented documents related to the construction of the school building to Deputy Director-General of No 1 Basic Education Department U Myint Swe.

The education officers of 14 townships in the division, members of social organizations, wellwishers, teachers and students also attended the ceremony.

Afterwards, Com-

mander of the Central Command Brig-Gen Ko Ko and Chairman of Bago Division (West) Peace and Development Council Col Tin Maung Win donated a computer set each and Pyay District Peace and Development Council a visual printer to Myanmar Education Committee and, on behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee General Khin Nyunt, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than accepted the donations.

In his speech, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said the students would be able to pursue education happily at the school as a new two-story building with multi-media classrooms had been completed.

The assistance of the State and the cooperative efforts of the local authorities, school board of trustees, parents, teachers and students have now resulted in the emergence of the new school building. Efforts must be made to equip the school with more advanced facilities.

To establish a modern, developed nation, the Government is implementing short- and long-term education plans to turn out intellectuals and intellectuals necessary for rapid development of the State. Therefore, more and more basic education schools and universities and colleges were being opened in all states

(See page 8)

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.



The family-type discussion session between the MNCWA and the local populace in Gyobingauk Township.



Young girls with traditional hairdo in Thayawady Township.

Beware of human traffickers and expose them

Article and Photos by Thaung Win Bo

On 19 June, the whole sky over Bago Division (West) was overcast. First, it began drizzling and then it poured with rain, flooding the streets. When we arrived at Thayawady, the scene of the whole surroundings was not clear. But, the only sight that was clear was a group of Myanmar young maidens with *sandaik* (a hairstyle of ancient Myanmar maiden) at Sayasan Hall in Thayawady Township, waiting for someone. They were waiting for Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs and Myanmar National Working Committee for Women's Affairs Excursion Team Leader Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and Women's Affairs Work Committee members. The hairstyle of the maidens attracted the excursion group.

Seeing unexpectedly the Myanmar maidens' traditional hairstyle, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe expressed her delight heartily.

The purpose of the team's visit was to preserve the traditional custom and dignity of Myanmar women, to uphold the cultural heritage and forge patriotism, to prevent human traffickers from luring Myanmar women, to uplift education, health and social sectors and to have access to information technology, to conserve the environment, to prevent violence against women and to develop the women's sector.

On 19 and 20 June, the excursion team cordially met with MNCWA members, social organizations, teachers, students,

women service personnel, and local people in Thayawady, Paungde, Pyay, and Gyobingauk in Bago Division (West) and held round-table discussions.

In every township the team visited, it presented exercise books, pencils, medicines and medical equipment, and cash for the fund to disburse small loans donated by the MNCWA to township WCWAs.

During the tour, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe discussed matters on preventing human traffickers against enticing and luring Myanmar women with the false promise of making more money, preventing the young women from being sold to other countries by human traffickers, exposing the human traffickers and taking severe actions against them, preserving and safeguarding national culture, preserving the dignity of Myanmar women and enabling Myanmar women to contribute to nation-building endeavours.

Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe also said that going abroad illegally in the hope of working there is very dangerous; that it is most likely that illegal workers are to be underpaid; that the real story of Ma Su who was tortured and burnt to death in Thailand is a real tragedy, and lessons should be taken from it; that Myanmar women should not be in trouble because of the persuasion of human traffickers; and that the excessive desire for beauty and money will lead Myanmar women astray.

(See page 2)