

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XII, Number 280

12th Waxing of Pyatho 1366 ME

Friday, 21 January 2005

Foreign Heads of State send felicitations to Senior General Than Shwe

YANGON, 20 Jan— *The following are messages of felicitations from Foreign Heads of State to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, on the occasion of the 57th Anniversary Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar:*

From Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Putra Jamalullail, Yang di-Pertuan Agong XII of Malaysia
Your Excellency,

On the auspicious occasion of the 57th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar, the Raja Permaisuri Agong joins us in conveying to Your Excellency, our greetings and best wishes.

We are confident that the existing close and cordial relations between our two countries will be further strengthened and enhanced in the future.

It is our fervent hope that the Union of Myanmar will continue to be blessed with progress and prosperity in the years to come.

From Mr Fidel Castro Ruz, President of the Councils of State and of the Government of the Republic of Cuba

On the occasion of the National Day of the Union of Myanmar, it gives me pleasure to convey to Your Excellency and to your people, on behalf of the Cuban people and government, our cordial congratulations and to renew our interest in continuing to enhance relations between our countries.

I renew to Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

From His Majesty Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa, King of Bahrain

In the name of myself and on behalf of people of Kingdom of Bahrain, I have the felicity of conveying to Your Excellency and the people of Myanmar our heartfelt congratulations and best greetings as you celebrate Independence Day. Please accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest regards and sincere wishes for your personal good health and happiness, as well as for continued progress and prosperity to the people of your country.

(See page 2)

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

A & I Minister visits Kunchaung-2 Dam Project

YANGON, 20 Jan—Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo on 16 January inspected the Kunchaung-2 Dam Project being implemented in Kyangin Township, Ayeyawady Division.

Director U Tin Maung Ohn of the Construction (2) of the Irrigation Department reported on progress of construction of the main embankment, conduit, spillway, irrigation system and canals, and cultivation of summer paddy. Director-General U Kyaw San Win of the ID gave a supplementary report on the project.

In response, the minister dealt with the task to complete the construction of the canals earlier than

scheduled, timely cultivation of summer paddy, and minimizing loss and wastage.

Next, the minister looked into finishing touches of the main embankment, construction tasks, progress of building the spillway, irrigation, cultivation of summer paddy, and generation of electricity. He held a meeting with local farmers and staff of the Myanmar Agriculture Service and discussed matters on efficient use of irrigation water, maintenance of the irrigation facilities, use of high-yield short-term paddy strain, and measures for increasing income of the farmers.

He observed generation of electricity with the use of water power of the main canal near Thitseintkaing village.

In addition, the minister viewed irrigation of the crops near Pathein-Monywa Road in Kyangin Township. — MNA

INSIDE

The glory Myanmar had enjoyed as a sovereign nation for over 2,000 years within the territorial boundary, and the independently flourishing traditions and culture, human values and art deeply rooted in the thoughts and visions of our ancestors, sprang from family spirit and patriotism, the mental strength of the people that bound the Union together.

(Page 7) MOE HTET MYINT (DELTA REGION)



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects Kyunchaung-2 Dam Project in Kyangin Township on 16-1-2005.— A&I

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 21 January, 2005

Work hard with nationalism to bring fruitful results to the new State

The Union of Myanmar is home to a diversity of ethnic groups living in unity and amity. Now is the time when steps are being taken for turning the country into a peaceful, modern, developed and democratic nation.

Having been laid down, the seven-point Road Map, which is a must in shaping the future of the country, is now being implemented.

Since its assumption of the State responsibility, the Tatmadaw government first restored national solidarity, which is imperative for the development of the country, and then stability and security.

It is the life-long duty of national people to further vitalize national unity hand in hand with the government and safeguard it in the interest of the country and their own.

All the national people are to instill in themselves Union Spirit and exert combined efforts on the tasks ranging from the vitalization of national unity to the safeguarding of stability, to the establishment of the socio-economic life of the country and people and the retention of development momentum, and then to the successful realization of the Road Map.

The time has come for action to deter the subversion of internal and external destructive elements as the efforts to build national unity, tranquility and all-round development, which are considered essential for the making of a democracy, are gaining velocity.

The strength of national unity plays a larger part in maintaining the interest of the entire national people as well as that of the future nation.

The Union of Myanmar being a union in which over 100 national races reside, its perpetual existence rests mainly on national unity.

National unity weakened due to the colonialists, leaving the country behind the others in terms of development. At such a time like today, all the national people are to keep a round-the-clock vigil for the neo-colonialists and their lackeys trying to plant the seeds of dissension and breaking up the unity in the consolidated Union of Myanmar.

By drawing lessons from what had happened in the past, national unity is to be further welded for the future of the country.

All in all, continued efforts are to be made with the strength of national unity to bring to a new state about to emerge in the future the fruitful results stemming from peace as well as the achievements gained in all spheres.



Myanmar ICT Week, 2005

Organized by
Myanmar ICT Development
Corporation
21-27 January 2005
MICT Park
Yangon, Myanmar.

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

Foreign Heads of State send felicitations...

(from page 1)

From Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates

On the occasion of Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar, we are pleased to extend our heartily congratulation and best wishes hoping that your people will attain progress and prosperity and more flourishing development for the distinguished relations existing between our two countries.

From Saad Alabdullah Al Salim Al Sabah, The Crown Prince of the State of Kuwait

I have pleasure in extending to Your Excellency my warm felicitations on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.

I would like to take this opportunity to convey best wishes for your personal good-health and for the continued prosperity and progress of the friendly people of Myanmar

From Mr Stjepan Mesić, President of the Republic of Croatia

Excellency,

On the occasion of the Independence Day of

POEM

In unison

- * To attend the Convention in unison
The day has been declared
- * The nation's cause, our cause
We shall discuss
- * Open and free
For perpetuity of the State
- * Based on good nature
Will deliberate sector-wise
Because this occasion
To write history in equity
Our kin, let us convene.

Myo Tha Khin (Trs)

the Union of Myanmar, I am pleased to extend to you my most cordial congratulations and those of the citizens of the Republic of Croatia, as well as best wishes for the prosperity of your country and its citizens.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.— MNA

Winners in Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award Contest announced

YANGON, 20 Jan — The Government has been presenting prizes to winners in the manuscript contest spending the interest of the literary fund donated by wellwisher U Ohn Pe of Pakokku since 1993. The winners list of the 12th Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award Contest was announced today.

In the selected poem genre, Aung Tha Hsan (Thandwe) stood first, Maung Ohn Thaug (Magway) second and Maung Kyi Nwe (Pinlebu) third.

In the novel genre, Thwe Htar Nyo (Thakkala) won the first prize, Nanda Khin (Thakkalamyay) second and Thein Than Win (Mahlaing) third.

In the selected short stories genre, Shwenyatha Myat Min secured the second prize and Twingyithar Tin Win Oo the third.

In the treatise genre, Maung Moe Yan bagged the first prize, U Than Htut (Professor-Retd) second and Thazin Oo third.

In the research literature genre, the work of

Ma Sein Sein (Green) was the first, that of Tekkatho Ko Latt second and that of Maung Yin Hlaing (Pynmamyang) third.

The Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award Scrutinizing Committee selected writer U Kyi Aye (Hsinbyukun Aung Thein) and writer Daw Kyan (Ma Kyan) as winners of Pakokku U Ohn Pe Life-long Literary Award 2004. The lists of Pakokku U Ohn Pe Scholarship Award and winners of University of Culture will be announced soon.

The prize presentation ceremony will be held at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street, here, at 2 pm on 5 February on 2005 and the rehearsal ceremony at 1 pm on 3 February. Winners from the districts are to arrive here, not later than the evening of 2 February.

The winners are to contact the Chief Editor, Sarpay Beikman, 529/531, Merchant Street, Tel: 252560, 240048 and 381449, as soon as possible.

MNA

First Air Bagan Open Golf Championship opened



YANGON, 20 Jan — With the sponsorship of Air Bagan Ltd, the First Air Bagan Open Golf Championship, co-organized by Myanmar Professional Golfers Association and Myanmar Golf Federation, was opened at Bagan Golf Course in NyaungU Township this morning.

At the opening ceremony, Chairman of NyaungU District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Teza, Executive of MPGA and MGF U Ko Ko Lay, Joint-Sec-

retary of MGFU Rae Htet

Do and Director of Air Bagan Ltd U Min Thein tee off golf ball to open the tournament. After the first round event, Aung Zaw Moe (Wilson) was standing in the first position with 71 strokes in the professional golfers division. Min Naing (Srixon), Aye Lwin (Wilson) and Hla Myo (KM Golf Centre) tied in the second position with 73 each.

Thein Zaw Myint was

leading the men's amateur golfers division after firing 71 strokes, followed by Zaw Zin Win with 72 in the second position. The official hotel for the players is Myanmar Treasure Resort Hotel. The championship is organized by Han Event management.

The championship continues tomorrow.

MNA



Director of Air Bagan Ltd U Min Thein tees off the golf ball at the opening of Air Bagan Open Golf C'ship.— MGF

India, US sign major agreement to boost aviation ties

WASHINGTON, 19 Jan— Giving a major boost to their aviation ties, India and the United States have decided to have an open-skies policy that could lead to more direct and cheaper flights as also an “exponential growth” in air services in passenger, cargo and mail sectors.

The Air Transport Agreement (ATA) was initialled on Sunday after two days of talks between US Transportation Secretary Norman Y Mineta and India’s Civil Aviation Minister Praful Patel.

“Following the conclusion of the Air Transport Agreement (ATA), the air services between the two countries are expected to see an exponential growth, giving a greater fillip and thrust to the existing passenger, air cargo and mail services between the two countries,” the Indian Embassy said in a release on Sunday. The ATA would enable the Indian carriers to operate additional flights to different destinations in the US and also offers more opportunities to explore the US market in passenger, airfreight

and mail services, the release said.

It will become official after the two countries sign the agreement formally when Mineta visits New Delhi in February. The ATA will replace the existing 1956 Agreement, to meet the growing requirements for air services and rising demand for travel facilities between the two countries.

Secretary Mineta, who was the first to announce the agreement, said the ATA means that the two countries “will be closer than ever before” and begins “a new era where American and Indian consumers, airlines and economies can reap the rewards of cheaper flights, more choices and faster air service”.

MNA/PTI



Dealers at a Tokyo foreign exchange brokerage on 19 Jan, 2005.

INTERNET

TA soldier quits over ‘immoral’ war in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 20 Jan—A Territorial Army soldier announced his resignation publicly yesterday to highlight discontent about Iraq in the ranks.

Lance Corporal George Solomou believes as many as half of TA soldiers do not agree with, or are uncomfortable about, the conflict. He said he would rather face imprisonment than be forced to serve in a war he described as “bank-rupt, unjust and immoral”. A quarter of the Army is TA soldiers and 11,000 have served in Iraq since February 2003, making up a sixth of the force.

L/Cpl Solomou, 38, who is in the Royal Army Medical Corps attached to the London Irish Rifles, made his statement at a Military Families Against the War Conference.

He said many of his comrades felt uneasy. “The majority resign in the traditional way,” he said. “They go quietly, saying they have got family problems. I want to act as a beacon, a rallying point for other soldiers. We don’t have to go quietly. This war is wrong. I call upon other soldiers to conscientiously object to this war.”

The emergency services worker, who has been what is often referred to as a weekend warrior for five years, says as many as a quarter of his comrades disagree with the conflict. “Twenty to 25 per cent are on the line. They don’t believe in it but they are not going to do anything about it. They just hope they don’t get called up.”—Internet

China to expand trials on agricultural insurance

CHANGCHUN, 19 Jan— China will further expand its trials of agricultural insurance in 2005 and encourage more companies to offer the service, said an official with the China Insurance Regulatory Commission.

Liu Jingsheng, director of the property insurance department of the commission, said the government is also considering providing subsidies for agricultural insurance. Liu said the commission is also doing research on ways to set up re-insurance mechanism on agricultural insurance and to divert the high risks of the business.

China’s 900 million farmers are the major

victims of the catastrophes. Even if they have property insurance, farmers have to wait for the limited relief found from the government after a natural disaster.

Statistics from the meteorological department show that from 1985-1995 period, natural disasters, such as droughts and floods, annually affect 50 million hectares of crops, or 32 per cent of total crops growing in the country. But

few insurance companies want to enter the business because of high risk and little profit. Statistics from the commission show that in 2003, the income from agricultural insurance in China was 460 million yuan (55 million US dollars), only accounting for 0.5 per cent of the country’s total premium from property insurance.

But in 2004 a batch of specialized insurance companies have set up,

said Liu. Latest news comes from the northeast China’s Jilin Province. On 30 December, Anhua Agricultural Insurance Co Ltd was officially established in Changchun, capital city of Jilin Province.

Approved by the China Insurance Regulatory Commission this July, the company was funded by seven companies in Jilin, with total registered capital of 200 million yuan.—MNA/Xinhua

Bomb attack at Australia’s Iraq Embassy

CANBERRA, 20 Jan—Guerillas bent on disrupting Iraq’s election have set off a bomb near the Australian mission, killing two locals and injuring two Australian soldiers.

A truck bomb outside the Australian Embassy in Baghdad has killed two

Iraqis and injured two Australian soldiers as the terrorist campaign to disrupt this month’s elections intensifies.

Guerillas also bombed a Baghdad police station, a hospital and an army base yesterday, killing at least 24 people and wounding many more.

Australian Ambassador Howard Brown said the attacks were part of an increasingly violent campaign to disrupt elections scheduled for 30 January.

An Australian Defence Force spokesman said the injuries were not life-threatening, but the soldiers were receiving medical treatment last night.

Internet

Japan provides \$146m grant to Indonesia

JAKARTA, 19 Jan — The Japanese Government has extended a 14.6 billion yen (about 146 million US dollars) grant to Indonesia for the immediate purchase of emergency relief goods for Aceh as well as rehabilitation work in the affected areas.

“This grant was pledged to President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono by Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, who visited Jakarta to attend the Special ASEAN Leaders’ Meeting held on 6 January 2005,” Japanese Ambassador to Indonesia Yutaka Imura was quoted Tuesday by The Jakarta Post newspaper as saying.

“This grant will be used effectively for the purchase of emergency relief goods and restoration work in the affected areas,” Imura said.

The money, which is going to be disbursed immediately, is part of the 500 million dollars in aid pledged by Koizumi to all the disaster-affected countries.

He said that 250 million dollars of that would be channeled through the international organizations.

“Our Prime Minister has pledged to provide assistance to the maximum extent to the Indonesian Government,” Imura reiterated.

The Japanese Government has distributed some 370,000 dollars in food and non-food items, such as generators, blankets and water purification equipment to displaced persons camps in Aceh.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqis gather at the site after an explosion outside a police station in Baghdad, on 19 Jan, 2005. —INTERNET



A model presents a creation of South Korean designer LS King during the Hong Kong Fashion Week for Fall/Winter 2005 in Hong Kong on 19 Jan, 2005. The Fashion Week will be held from 18-21 January.

INTERNET



Foreign trade robust between ASEAN, South China region

NANNING, 20 Jan— Foreign trade topped one billion US dollars between South China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and the 10-member Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in 2004, local Customs statistics show.

The figure is 21 per cent up from the previous year, including 640 million US dollars of exports, up 15.1 per cent from the previous year, and 360 million US dollars of imports, up 32.8 per cent from the previous year.

Guangxi registered four billion US dollars of foreign trade in 2004, up 34.3 per cent from the previous year.

ASEAN has been Guangxi's largest

trade partner for six years running. The region has maintained stable economic partnership with Japan and other traditional markets in 2004, while exploring new markets in Africa and Latin America.

Exports from Guangxi mainly are non-ferrous metal, textiles, fruits and vegetables.

MNA/Xinhua

China protests US sanctions against companies accused of aiding Iran

BEIJING, 20 Jan— China has protested Washington's decision to impose sanctions on eight Chinese companies it accuses of helping Iran with its missile programmes, saying there was no evidence showing any violations.

The US State Department told the Chinese companies early this month they would be prohibited from doing business in the United States. They also cannot get licences that allow them to export or obtain patents for American technologies.

"We cannot accept this and we are adamantly opposed," Foreign Ministry Spokesman Kong Quan said Tuesday during a regular news briefing. "The US Government has wantonly launched sanctions against Chinese companies without any evidence."

China has long rejected accusations that Mainland companies have violated regulations against sharing international controls on transfers of weapons technology to Iran, Pakistan and other countries.

It has also objected to US sanctions, saying that it would enforce its own laws if such violations are found.

"China stands firmly against proliferation of weapons of mass destruction," Kong said. "What the

Chinese Government says, it does."

The US Government has not detailed what the Chinese companies are alleged to have done but instead has focused on its concern over Iran's longer-range ballistic missiles and its alleged pursuit of nuclear weapons.

One of the companies receiving sanctions was Norinco, China's biggest state-owned weapons maker, the *New York Times* reported. In May 2003, Washington sanctioned Norinco after accusing it of aiding Iran's long-range missile programme. The company denied the accusation.

Other firms identified by the newspaper as among the eight were the China Great Wall Industry Corp and the China Aero-Technology Import and Export Corp.

The State Department placed a notice in the Federal Register early this month listing the Chinese companies affected.

MNA/AP

Cambodia's tourist arrivals in 2004 increase sharply

PHNOM PENH, 20 Jan— Cambodia's tourist arrivals in 2004 increased sharply compared with last year, according to the figures of the Ministry of Tourism Tuesday.

The figures show that 1,055,202 foreigners visited Cambodia, up 50.53 per cent compared with 701,014 last year.

"We reached our estimation for 2004," said Marady Mey, director of Statistics and Tourism Information Department of the Tourism Ministry.

The biggest market to Cambodia in 2004 was South Korea, as the whole year arrivals were 128,423, up 106.23 per cent in comparison with 2003. The second was Japan with 118,157 visitors and the United States was third with 94,951 visitors.

Tourist arrivals in the total year of 2003 were only 701,000, affected by diseases such as severe acute respiratory syndrome and bird flu as well as the war in Iraq.

Marady Mey said that, by 2010, international visitor arrivals in Cambodia will be 3.12 million.

The World Bank also predicted that Cambodia's tourism sector is expected to grow by 15 per cent in 2005, in spite of the fact that the GDP growth will decrease from 4.3 per cent in 2004 to around 2.4 per cent in 2005. Cambodia has already set up a five-year plan, focusing mainly on capacity building, marketing and research, education and data collection, all in an effort to bring Cambodia's burgeoning tourism industry up to international standards and reduce poverty.

MNA/Xinhua

Dhaka to emerge as world's second largest city of population by 2015

DHAKA, 20 Jan— Dhaka will be the second largest city in the world by 2015, next to Tokyo, with a growth of urban population at a rate of 3.1 per cent per year, reported the daily *New Age* on Wednesday.

This was revealed in a report of the United Nations Population Division on agglomeration in the world cities. Dhaka's position in terms of population in 2001 was eighth among ten most densely populated cities and it will be the second with projected popula-

tion of some 21.1 million in 2015.

Dhaka will surpass Sao Paulo, Mumbai, New York, Mexico City, Kolkata in 2015 with inclusion of two more Asian cities Jakarta and Karachi in the list and exit of Los Angeles and Shanghai, said the UN report. In 1950s, Dhaka's total population was 417,000 and with 6.6 per cent growth rate the number jumped to about 2.17 million in the next 25 years.

MNA/Xinhua

Japanese engineer abducted in central Iraq; British and Iraqi security workers killed

TIKRIT, 20 Jan— Gunmen kidnapped a Japanese engineer in a highway ambush in central Iraq on Wednesday, police said. A British security worker and an Iraqi colleague were killed in an attack in the same area, the US military said.

It was not immediately clear if the two attacks were connected, but they were the latest in increasing violence in the days ahead of January 30 elections.

The engineer, who worked at a power station in the city of Beiji, was travelling with two Iraqi policemen when gunmen stopped their car, killed the two officers and abducted the Japanese, said Iraqi police Lt Shaalan Allawi.

The engineer was not identified by name and no further details were immediately available.

The British security worker and an Iraqi colleague were killed in an ambush

near the Beiji power station complex, which they were helping protect, said Major Neal O'Brien, a spokesman for US-led Coalition forces based in the Iraqi town of Tikrit.

A third man, another foreign national, is still missing, O'Brien said, without specifying the nationality.

The two men, who were not identified, worked for the London-based Janusian Security Risk Management.

"We are investigating the matter and are working with the local authorities in their efforts to locate the missing civilian." —Internet



British soldiers examine the scene of a suicide car bombing near the Australian Embassy in Baghdad, on 19 Jan, 2005. —INTERNET

China's largest steel maker to increase in world ranking

SHANGHAI, 20 Jan— China's largest steel maker, Shanghai Baogang Group Company (Baosteel), said it expects to increase its rank among the world's top 500 this year, with 2004 sales revenue forecast at 165.1 billion yuan (19.94 billion US dollars).

The figure far exceeds its 120.4 billion yuan sales revenue in 2003 which made Baosteel rank the 372nd among the world top 500 for the first time, said Baosteel's President and General Manager Xie Qihua.

Xie said Baosteel aimed to go higher among the top 500 and eventually become one of the world top three steel giants.

The steel giant stands out among domestic firms in the latest rating report of Standard & Poor's Ratings Services with a credit rating of BBB+, for its successful reforms in management and production, as well as the massive potential for further expansion.

Baosteel annexed two smaller state-owned, money-losing steel companies in 1998, which decreased its rating. But the annexed companies performed well, with decreased debt, improvement in capital structure

and cash flow, strong production capacity and optimized product structure. The company produced 21.41 million tons of steel in 2004, the first steel company in China realizing an annual output of more than 20 million tons.

According to Baosteel's blueprint for the Year 2006 to 2010, the company plans to increase its annual steel output to 30 million tons by 2010.

One or two new large-scale steel factories will be built at home and abroad in the coming years, so as to further expand Baosteel's production capacity to realize the goal, said Xie.

Baosteel is China's largest iron and steel conglomerate. It now ranks sixth in the world with an annual steel output of 20 million tons.

MNA/Xinhua

First charter freight flight opens between N-W China, Europe

XI'AN, 20 Jan — A charter freight flight linking Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, and Nuremberg, a city in southern Germany, opened Monday, the first direct freight line linking northwest China with Europe.

The charter flight is operated by the Germany-based Lufthansa Airline, with only one flight each week at present, and then three flights a week since this March. Before the direct line was opened, goods from the both cities could only be airlifted via Beijing or Shanghai, which increased transport cost.

As an important high-tech district in Germany attracting many multinational companies, Nuremberg sees frequent business exchanges with Shaanxi Province, as well as with the whole China. The new freight line is expected to further boost economic ties between China and Europe, said local economic experts. —MNA/Xinhua

Hu Jintao wants to deepen links with Ireland

BEIJING, 20 Jan— President Hu Jintao said here Wednesday China is ready to further deepen friendly cooperation with Ireland and to turn "bilateral relations into a model of friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation".

Hu made the remark during his meeting with Bertie Ahern, Prime Minister of Ireland, in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing Wednesday afternoon. Hu spoke highly of the latest development of bilateral relations. He said he appreciated that Ireland adopted an "Asia strategy" and earnestly pushed forward the relations between China and Europe. He also thanked Ireland for adhering to the one-China policy and supporting China's reunification.

Hu pointed out that

China and Ireland have "no conflict of basic interests" and that they share "the sincere will of strengthening friendly cooperation". He said China welcomes the corporate circles of Ireland to participate in China's economic development in a more extensive manner, adding that China also supports competitive Chinese companies to invest and set up operations in Ireland.

Hu expressed the willingness to expand exchanges and cooperation with Ireland in all fields.

He hopes that relevant sectors of the two countries should continue to implement the important consensus that the heads of state of the two countries had reached. — Ahern said the incumbent government of Ireland has been working hard on developing relations with China. Over the past few years, he added, the two countries have achieved remarkable results in their cooperation in such fields as agriculture, trade, investment, education and tourism. —MNA/Xinhua

China, Vanuatu pledge to boost bilateral ties

BEIJING, 20 Jan — Chinese State Councillor Tang Jiakuan and Vanuatu's Deputy Prime Minister Sato Kilman held official talks Tuesday in Beijing, pledging to expand cooperative ties.

"Despite the twists and turns in 2004, China-Vanuatu relations continue to improve thanks to the joint efforts of both sides," Tang told Kilman, who is also Minister of Foreign Affairs of Vanuatu.

"China values its relations with Vanuatu and hopes the two sides will keep high-level contacts, expand mutual-beneficial economic and trade cooperation, improve coordination and communication in international and regional affairs, and push bilateral ties to new heights," Tang said.

MNA/Xinhua



Sharp's 'Healsio' oven cooks by blowing steam at temperatures as hot as 300 degrees Celsius (570 degrees Fahrenheit) — technology only available until recently for industry use. —INTERNET

Support for war in Iraq hits new low

WASHINGTON, 19 Jan— Support for the war in Iraq has continued to erode, but most Americans still are inclined to give the Bush administration some time to try to stabilize the country before it withdraws US troops, the Los Angeles Times Poll has found.

The poll, conducted Saturday through Monday, found that the percentage of Americans who believed the situation in Iraq was "worth going to war over" had sunk to a new low of 39%. When the same question was asked in a similar poll in October, 44% said it had been worth going to war. But when asked whether the United States should begin withdrawing troops after Iraq's election January 30, 52% said the administration should wait to see what the new Iraqi

government wanted. More than a third, 37%, said the United States should begin drawing down at least some of its troop strength. Americans are almost evenly divided over how long US forces should stay in Iraq, the poll found: 47% said they would like to see most of the troops out within a year, while 49% say they could support a longer deployment — including 37% who say the troops should remain "as long as it takes" to secure and stabilize the country. —Internet

Air Macao to add 137 flights during Spring Festival

MACAO, 20 Jan— In preparation for the impending travel spree during the Spring Festival, or China's Lunar New Year, Air Macao has planned to increase 137 flights to meet passenger demand. The airliner announced on Tuesday that the company has planned to increase the flights on route linking Macao to China's Mainland and Taiwan from January 31 to February 18, when passengers are either back for family reunion or on travel vacations. —MNA/Xinhua

US troops kill two civilians in Iraq

MOSUL (Iraq), 19 Jan—US soldiers opened fire on a car as it approached their checkpoint in northern Iraq, killing two civilians in the vehicle's front seats, the military said Wednesday. Six children riding in the backseat were unhurt.

US troops trying to stop the car used hand signals and fired warning shots before firing directly at the car, killing the driver and front seat passenger, a military statement said.

The shooting occurred Tuesday in the city of Tal

Afar, about 40 miles west of Mosul.

It wasn't clear from the military statement whether the two victims were the children's parents.

"Military officials extend their condolences for this unfortunate incident,"

the statement said.

The military said that so far this year, at least five suicide car bombers have struck Iraqi security troops and US military patrols and checkpoints in the area.

Internet



Bears rescued from a farm enjoy better lives at a rescue centre in Chengdu, Southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 19 Jan, 2005. —INTERNET

Vietnam to host international trade fair in Paris

HANOI, 20 Jan — Vietnam will organize its biggest annual international trade fair in April with the expected participation of over 20 countries and regions.

The 15th international trade fair, Vietnam Expo 2005, will be held here on April 6-10, featuring such products as farm produce, foodstuffs, electrical and electronic appliances, garments, furniture, handicrafts, machinery and construction materials, the country's Trade Promotion Department said Wednesday.

The five-day event with the theme "Vietnam: Potential, Opportunities and Development" is expected to result in around 300 million US dollars' worth of economic contracts.

Roughly 160 companies from 13 foreign countries and regions, including China, India, Malaysia, Thailand, Russia and the United States, and 440 local enterprises have so far registered for the event, the department said.

The last event attracted 568 foreign and local firms, which signed contracts totalling 275 million US dollars. — MNA/Xinhua



A model presents a creation of Indonesian designer Ika Butoni with title 'Celebration of Life' during Hong Kong Fashion Week for Fall/Winter 2005, in Hong Kong on 19 Jan, 2005. —INTERNET

Zambia gets \$674m debt relief from Japan

LUSAKA, 20 Jan— Japan has agreed to cancel 674 million US dollars worth of debt owed by the Zambian Government as part of its commitment to helping improve the country's economy, the official *Zambia News Agency* said Tuesday.

The debt cancellation agreement was signed in Tokyo, Japan on Tuesday between Japanese Ambassador to Zambia Masaaki Miyashita and Zambian Finance Minister Ngandu Magande, the report said, quoting a statement from the Japanese Embassy in Zambia.

Zambian President Levy Mwanawasa, who is in Japan for an official visit, witnessed the signing ceremony.

Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda was also present at the ceremony.

"The debt cancellation is aimed at contributing to the economic development and reform efforts being undertaken by the Zambian Government," the statement said.

MNA/Xinhua

Survey finds 90% of China's small-, medium-sized firms optimistic

SHANGHAI, 20 Jan— A recent survey has found nearly 90 per cent of China's small- and medium-sized businesses are optimistic about the market prospects in Asia, particularly the Chinese Mainland.

Eighty-eight per cent of the small- and medium-sized companies based in China's Mainland predicted sustained economic growth, according to the survey on Asian businesses conducted by United Parcel Service Inc. (UPS), the world's top parcel delivery group, in 12 countries and regions in the Asia-Pacific.

Meanwhile, 69 per cent of them report significant increases in business turnover during the past 12 months and 79 per cent trust their business will further expand in 2005.

The survey also found that Chinese Mainland-based small- and medium-sized firms have more

ambitious recruitment plans than their counterparts elsewhere in Asia. About 62 per cent of them plan to employ more people, compared with the average 46 per cent for businesses across Asia.

In Asia as a whole, 73 per cent of the small- and medium-sized business owners surveyed readily agreed that the Chinese Mainland economy is gathering ground and companies there are more competitive.

Their comments about China's prosperity and competitiveness as a global manufacturing centre also vary. Forty-three per cent of the businesses said it is a good sign and will

bolster the regional economic growth, 27 per cent said the impact is negative, 17 per cent said both are likely and 12 per cent said it is of little or no impact.

Eighty-eight per cent of the business leaders surveyed said information technology and telecommunications will remain as two pillar industries across Asia.

On China's Mainland, however, 97 per cent of the respondents said the public sector and energy sector are playing a leading role in boosting economic growth. About 87 per cent said finance is the pillar industry, and 86 per cent believed the top pri-

ority should be given to transportation, logistics, IT and telecommunications industries.

The survey was conducted between August and September in 2004, mainly through telephone interviews. The businesses surveyed, all small- or medium-sized firms with less than 250 employees, include dealers of automobiles, electronic products, textile and garments, gifts, household supplies, healthcare products, jewellery, optical instruments, toys and sports facilities. Their annual turnover averages between 500,000 and 10 million US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

US man threatens to blow up van near White House

WASHINGTON, 20 Jan— A man who threatened to blow up a van one block from the White House surrendered to police after a four-and-a-half-hour standoff on Tuesday in an incident the FBI said was linked to a domestic dispute, not terrorism.

The threat sparked a major emergency in central Washington as stringent security precautions were being put into effect two days before the inauguration of President George W Bush.

"It ended at 7.55 pm with Metropolitan Police taking one subject into custody and they're going to charge him with one count of felony threat at this point," a Secret Service spokesman said.

Reuters witnesses saw a man in a large red van near the US Treasury building, which is adjacent to the White House. He put his hands up after being ordered to do so by police but did not get out.

Police surrounded the van and the FBI said the man claimed he had 15 gallons of gasoline inside and threatened to blow it up if he did not get his child back.

"It's domestic, not terrorism," said a spokeswoman for the FBI's Washington field office.

MNA/Reuters

Folic acid reduces hypertension in pregnant women

CHICAGO, 20 Jan — Folic acid supplements, widely used by women to prevent birth defects, also may fight hypertension in women, perhaps because they relax blood vessels, researchers said on Tuesday.

Folic acid occurs naturally in substances such as orange juice and leafy green vegetables and is added to some products, but only high-dose supplements seem to affect blood pressure, the report said.

"This is the first major study to show an association between folate intake and prevention of high blood pressure," said John Forman, a physician and researcher at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston who led the study.

"While the findings are encouraging, we are not yet ready to recom-

mend that women start increasing their folate intake until more research is conducted," he added.

The study, published in this week's *Journal of the American Medical Association*, was based on data from thousands of nurses whose health histories were tracked for years.

Among 93,803 women aged 27 to 44, those who consumed at least 1,000 microgrammes a day of total folate — in foods and supplements — had a 46-per-cent decreased risk of hypertension compared with those who consumed less than

200 microgrammes a day, the study found. In a second group of 62,260 women aged 43 to 70, those with a high total folate intake had an 18 per cent reduced risk of hypertension, it added.

None of those studied had a history of high blood pressure when the study started. It also was not known if the supplement would help men.

For women in the study who did not use any folic acid supplements, getting the substance from foods alone failed to lower the risk of high blood pressure, the study found.

MNA/Reuters



Spinnakers on Farr 40-class boats billow as they sail a downwind leg during the fourth race of the Key West 2005 sailing regatta off the Florida Keys, on 19 Jan, 2005. —INTERNET

The new strength for development of Union

Moe Htet Myint (Delta Region)

Thanks to our ancestors living in harmony, amity, humanitarian spirit, sympathy, interdependence, understanding, forbearance, common interest, farsightedness and family spirit throughout the successive eras, we, the nationalities, of the Union can live together in oneness till at present.

Myanmar also was not free from the colonialists' expansion that was threatening the whole world with their superior firepower in the 19th century. Despite their powerful guns the colonialists were not able to occupy Myanmar easily because of the people's patriotism and unyielding spirit that enabled them to face the invaders in many fierce battles, repulsing the dangers encroaching on the Union, and many landmark events stand witness to the struggles the brethren had launched to daringly fight back the intruders in any place of the nation.

The nation lies in a secure territory barricaded by mountain ranges running from north to south in the east, north-west and north, and the sea that is facing it in the south and west, and it is the gift of nature.

The glory Myanmar had enjoyed as a sovereign nation for over 2,000 years within the territorial boundary, and the independently flourishing traditions and culture, human values and art deeply rooted in the thoughts and visions of our ancestors, sprang from family spirit and patriotism, the mental strength of the people that bound the Union together.

The resolve made at the 16th Anniversary Union Day, held in Loikaw, Kayah State, in 1963, was to strive utmost for cementing national solidarity. Following the decision made at the 17th Anniversary Union Day celebrations in Mandalay, the Academy for Development of National Groups was founded in Sagaing on 20 October 1964.

Throughout history, the nation had seen itself powerful and prosperous during times when unity was strong, and in backwardness whenever solidarity broke down. Taking the lessons of history, the State Peace and Development Council laid down the national policy — non-disintegration of the Union; non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty — and striven for the consolidated national unity, while giving priority to flourishing of Union Spirit.

The ADNG was upgraded to University for Development of National Races, with a view to developing human resources the length and breadth of the nation and ensuring a proportionate progress for all regions of the nation.

During his visit to UDNR in Ywathitgyi, Sagaing Division, on 7 April 1990, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance, saying, "It was the internal armed conflict in the remote regions that made people even in their thirties illiterate and to live under the rule of insurgents. The

task of sending teachers to the regions was difficult because of the absence of roads reaching them. In this context, arrangements must be made for the locals of the backward regions, who have basic education to a certain degree, to attend a special primary education course, and to send them back to their native regions after completion of their studies."

Thanks to the guidance, the UDNR launched the special primary teachership course on 25 June 1996. The course involved two classes — a six-month course for outstanding students and a one-year course for students whose education qualification meets the required level — that were conducted as course No 1 and course No 2.

The following table shows the number of students who attended the courses and their native lands:

Region/nationality	boys	girls	total
Kachin	10	10	20
Naga	5	5	10
Akha	10	10	20
Wa	20	20	40
Shan (Mongyan)	5	5	10
Shan (Mawhpa)	5	5	10
Shan (Hispa/Mongrai)	5	5	10
Shan (Kokang)	10	10	20
Total	70	70	140

The itinerary for the courses No 1 and No 2 was from 5 to 15 December 1990. The conclusion of the course No 1 was held at the ADNG on 21 December 1990, and that of the course No 2 was also held together with the graduation of the regular course No 22 at the same venue on 14 March 1991.

A study tour programme for 125 ADNG-trained teachers working in border areas was also laid down.

The Union of Myanmar is home to over 100 national races residing in it with love and unity since time immemorial. The Government has been striving to root out the evil legacy resulting from the divide-and-rule policy of the colonialists and to let the nationalities know that they are of the same family and to end the differences in opinions among the people.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance to trainees of No 35 primary teachership course in Mingala Hall of the Pyithu Hluttaw in Yangon on 28 January 2003.

The following is an excerpt from the guidance given by the Head of State at the meeting.

"Just as various nationalities are residing in the territory of the Union of Myanmar, every region of the Union is also a mini-union where national races

are living in togetherness. As the national races are inseparable, they need to live in unity and amity."

The Union of Myanmar is home to over 100 national races residing in it with love and unity since time immemorial. The Government has been striving to root out the evil legacy resulting from the divide-and-rule policy of the colonialists and to let the nationalities know that they are of the same family and to end the differences in opinions among the people.

The aims of the UDNR are as follows:

- to strengthen the Union spirit in the national races of the Union while residing in a friendly atmosphere and pursuing education at the University,
- to preserve and understand the culture and good traditions of the national races of the Union,
- to promote the spirit of desiring to serve in order to raise the standard of living of the national races,
- to raise the quality of leadership and efficiency in carrying out the development of the national races,
- to infuse the spirit of desiring to carrying out works of research with a view to the success of the measures for the development of the national races,
- to produce good educational personnel who are free from party politics and who are of good moral character,
- to keep alive and promote the spirit of desiring to preserve the causes of non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and ensuring the perpetuation of the sovereignty of the State.

To realize the aims, the UDNR students are being trained to have the leadership ability to serve the interest of the Union and the nationalities at any place they are assigned to.

The students have to learn agriculture, domestic science, military science, first aid techniques, traditional medicine and performing arts. They have to learn one of the other ethnic languages in addition to their own native language, because they have to take the role of a junior leader in regional development undertakings.

Apart from their normal duty, the UDNR-trained students have to carry out regional development task, to organize the locals to have the correct knowledge, and to foster Union Spirit.

Beginning 2001, the three-year primary teachership course of the university has been promoted to a four-year BEd course. The BEd degree will be conferred on the students after completion of their studies. As the graduation ceremony is drawing near, the students are going to seek the guidance of the Head of State soon. As they have the opportunity to seek guidance from the Head of State, they will become the new and energetic force for the nation.

Translation: TMT

Kyemon+Myanma Alin: 19.1.2005.



Preparations being made at the booths of Defence Services Museum to mark the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day. — MNA

Preparations made for 60th Armed Forces Day Exhibition

YANGON, 20 Jan — The booths at the Defence Services Museum were decorated for an exhibition to mark the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day this morning. Officials concerned inspected preparations for booths to complete them on time for the exhibition daily. The booths of the 12 objectives, the ministries, Tatmadaw (Navy), Tatmadaw (Air), Military Command Headquarters and Directorate of the Ministry of Defence were decorated this morning. — MNA

Pakokku U Ohn Pe Library Award winners announced

YANGON, 20 Jan — “Myathida of Ayeyawady and other articles” of writer Moe Htet Myint (Delta), “Shwe-naingngan-ei-ahlathitsa” of writer Yuwady Khin Oo and “Akyinna-mahatadine” of writer Yuwady Khin Sein Hlaing were announced as winners of Pakokku U Ohn Pe Library Book Award today by the Library Committee. The prizes will be awarded at Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Awards Presenting Ceremony to be held in Yangon on 5 February 2005.—MNA

Myanmar Dental Conference on 26 Jan

YANGON, 20 Jan — The opening ceremony of the 25th Myanmar Dental Conference and the 6th Joint-meeting of Myanmar Dental Association and FDI will be held at International Business Centre on Pyay Road at 8 am on 26 January. The conference will continue at Traders Hotel. And, 19 dentists from home and 8 from abroad will read research papers. Booths of clinics and sports competitions as well as respects paying ceremony will be held at the hotel. Dentists wishing to attend the conference may register at the hotel from 9 am to 2 pm on 24 and 25 January. — MNA

Plantations for greening Bago mountain range inspected

YANGON, 20 Jan — Director-General U Tun Tun of Arid Zones Greening Department made an inspection tour of 200 acres of plantations in watershed areas for greening Bago mountain range in Taungdwingyi Township, fuel-substitute wood plantations in Phankhasan region of Yenangyoung Township, greening of Shinnadaung Hill and Tantkyi Hill in Pakokku District, forest plantations in NyaungU District, Shwethalyaung Hill and castor oil plantations in Kyaukse from 17 to 19 January. The director-general gave instructions to staff on emphasis to be placed on thriving plantations.— MNA

60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Objectives

- To work in concert with the people to achieve success in implementation of the seven-point Road Map for emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation
- To exert energetic efforts in carrying out the five rural development tasks
- To strive hand in hand with the people for successful realization of the twelve State Objectives while upholding Our Three Main National Causes
- To build a strong, efficient and modern Tatmadaw

Rules for Armed Forces Day commemorative poem contest announced

YANGON, 20 Jan— Hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March 2005, the Poem Contest Organizing Subcommittee under the Poem and Arts Competition Organizing Work Committee, chaired by Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, has announced to hold the Poem Contest to mark the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day. The contestants can portray objectives of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, matters related to fine traditions of the Tatmadaw, historic events occurred in the periods of Konbaung Era (AD 1824), Independence Era (1948-1988) and the State Peace and Development Council, endeavours of the State Peace and Development Council in religious affairs, construction, peace negotiation and drug elimination sectors. The entries will be scrutinized with three sectors—theme style, presentation and composing. The poem contest will be divided into two categories. Those who have won first second or third prizes in the Poem Contest to mark the Armed Forces Day and the National Motto Contest, Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Contest and the poem contest of the Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award Contest and National Literary Award winners may participate in the level-1 and those who did not win the prizes may take part in the level-2. Those who did not win the prizes can participate in the level-1. However, one contestant may take part in one level only, and the level number must be written on the entry. There will be two events at the level-1—the long poem and the short poem. The contestant can participate in both or one of them. However, it must be one entry for one event. The short poem must be between 100 and 300 stanzas and the long one between 1,000 and 2,000 stanzas. The entries must be in line with the rules. The free verse and modern poems will not be accepted. The poem must be written on one side of paper and the two copies of the entry must be submitted. And, the entry must be attached with the name of the contestant, pen-name, names of parents, education, occupation and address together with three 2" x 2.5" size colour photos. The entry must be own creation and has not featured in any publication yet. The State has authority to use the prize-winning works. The entries are to be sent to Lt-Col Ohn Maung (Retd) (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe), Chief Editor, Naingngan Gonyi Literary House, Sarpay Beikman, 531, Merchant Street, here, Tel: 374532, not later than 31-1-2005. — MNA

ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ဖို့ ဝိုင်းဝန်းကူညီဆောင်ရွက်စို့။

၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ်၊ ဇန်နဝါရီလ (၁၀) ရက်နေ့အထိ နိုင်ငံအဝန်းတွင် ကျေးရွာကိုယ်အားကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက် (၁၀၅၃၄) တိုက် ဖွင့်လှစ်ပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ကျေးရွာကိုယ်အားကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက် သုတ/ရသ စာအုပ်များကို ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေး ဦးစီးဌာန၊ ခရိုင်/မြို့နယ်ရုံးများသို့ လျှို့ဝှက် နိုင်ပါသည်။

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန



HEALTH EDUCATIVE TALKS HELD: The Health Branch of the Social and Cultural Working Group under Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation held talks on giving the vaccine at No 1 War Veterans Model Village in Dagon Myothit (South) Township today. Secretary of the branch Dr Thet Thet Zin speaking on the occasion.— HEALTH

The 58th Anniversary Union Day objectives

- For all national races to safeguard the national policy— non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty
- To keep the Union spirit ever alive and dynamic among the national people
- For all national people to defend and safeguard the Union for its perpetual existence
- To prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development, and
- For all national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven-point future policy programme

Implementation of rural development tasks picking up momentum

YANGON, 20 Jan— The township Development Affairs Committees are carrying out civil engineering projects and rural development tasks with added momentum under the supervision of the Development Affairs Department of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Affairs.

Sanpya gravel road undertaken by Shwegu Township DAC took place at the archway of the top of the road in Kachin State on 1 January. The chairman of Township Peace and Development Council and the engineer in charge formally opened the facility. The 1,120-foot road was built with the funds of the committee.

near of the DAD U Khin Latt on 11 January viewed Maheintan road undertaken by Mongyai Township DAC of Shan State (North).

Director of Shan State (North) DAC U Kye Myint and Executive U Tin Nu inspected progress of tarring Cherry Road by Nawngkhio Township DAC.

The opening of

Deputy Chief Engi-

MNA

AGM of MFF, Marine Products Exhibition to be held

YANGON, 20 Jan — The 6th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Fisheries Federation and the opening ceremony of MFF new building will be held at the office of the federation at the corner of Bayintnaung Road

and Sethmusaywa Road on 24 January.

With the aim of boosting Myanmar Fisheries and marine product exports, 34 booths of private fishery entrepreneurs and companies of the Ministry of Livestock

and Fisheries will be put on display at Marine Products Exhibition from 9 am to 5 pm beginning 24 to 26 January. Enthusiasts may visit the exhibition free of charge.

MNA

Meeting on ELF held

YANGON, 20 Jan — A ceremony to meet National Task Force for Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis was held in Insein Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were the Deputy Director-General and Directors of (Public Health and Disease Control), physicians, pharmaceuti-

cal experts, delegates to WHO for ELF Project, the resident representative of WHO, malaria specialists from states and divisions, group leaders and guests.

During the meeting, Deputy Director-General (Public Health and Disease Control) Dr Ye Myint delivered an address. He said plans

were drawn up for ELF and tasks were carried out in Sagaing and Magway Divisions as of 2001 and now extended measures are being taken in Rakhine State and Mandalay Division.

There had been discussions on work experiences for realization of ELF projects in other states and division.— MNA



CASH DONATED: A couple of Maung Min Nyi Aye and Ma Zin Myint Maung donated K 350,000 for offering 'soon' in commemoration of their wedding reception to the Rector and members of the Sangha of State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) on 20-1-2005. Director-General U Sann Lwin of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana accepts cash donations.— RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

Hlawga Wildlife Park kept open on Bakri Id Day

YANGON, 20 Jan— The Forest Department today announced that the Hlawga Wildlife Park will be kept open on 21 January (Bakri Id Day) from 8 am to 5 pm for recreation of the public.

The park opens daily but on Monday from 8 am to 4 pm.

MNA

Panpyolatt Arts Gallery extended to 23 Jan

YANGON, 20 Jan — The Third Panpyolatt Arts Gallery of teachers of the Arts Department under the Ministry of Culture (Yangon) held at the National Museum starting 14 January will be kept open on Bakri Id day without closing and it extended till 23 January in order that enthusiasts would observe it.— MNA

စတုတ္ထအကြိမ်မြန်မာ့အိုင်စီတီဂိုဏ်းပွဲတော် ၂၀၀၅ (ဇန်နဝါရီလ ၂၁ ရက်မှ ၂၇ ရက်အထိ)

ဇန်နဝါရီလ (၂၁) ရက်၊ သောကြာနေ့

- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၇:၀၀ -အကြံ ICT ပြပွဲ၊ ပြခန်းများ
- ၁၃:၀၀-၁၆:၃၀ -ဟောပြောပွဲနှင့် အလုပ်ရုံဆွေးနွေးပွဲများ
- ICT Competitions

ဇန်နဝါရီလ (၂၂)ရက်၊ စနေနေ့

- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၇:၀၀ -အကြံ ICT ပြပွဲ၊ ပြခန်းများ
- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၂:၀၀ -ICT Product Presentation
- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၇:၀၀ -ICT Competitions
- ၁၃:၀၀-၁၆:၃၀ -ဟောပြောပွဲနှင့် အလုပ်ရုံဆွေးနွေးပွဲများ

ဇန်နဝါရီလ (၂၃)ရက်၊ တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့

- ၀၈:၃၀- -ဖွင့်ပွဲအခမ်းအနား
- ၁၀:၀၀-၁၇:၀၀ -ICT ပြပွဲ၊ ပြခန်းများ
- ၁၀:၀၀-၁၂:၀၀ -ICT Product Presentation
- ၁၀:၀၀-၁၇:၀၀ -ICT Competitions
- ၁၃:၀၀-၁၆:၃၀ -ဟောပြောပွဲနှင့် အလုပ်ရုံဆွေးနွေးပွဲများ

ဇန်နဝါရီလ (၂၄)ရက်၊ တနင်္လာနေ့

- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၇:၀၀ -ICT ပြပွဲ၊ ပြခန်းများ
- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၂:၀၀ -ICT Product Presentation
- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၇:၀၀ -ICT Competitions
- ၁၃:၀၀-၁၆:၃၀ -ဟောပြောပွဲနှင့် အလုပ်ရုံဆွေးနွေးပွဲများ

ဇန်နဝါရီလ (၂၅)ရက်၊ အင်္ဂါနေ့

- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၇:၀၀ -ICT ပြပွဲ၊ ပြခန်းများ
- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၂:၀၀ -ICT Product Presentation
- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၇:၀၀ -Network Game ဖြိုင်ပွဲ
- ၁၃:၀၀-၁၆:၃၀ -ဟောပြောပွဲနှင့် အလုပ်ရုံဆွေးနွေးပွဲများ

ဇန်နဝါရီလ (၂၆)ရက်၊ ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့

- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၇:၀၀ -ICT ပြပွဲ၊ ပြခန်းများ
- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၂:၀၀ -ICT Product Presentation
- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၇:၀၀ -Network Game ဖြိုင်ပွဲ
- ၁၃:၀၀-၁၆:၃၀ -ဟောပြောပွဲနှင့် အလုပ်ရုံဆွေးနွေးပွဲများ

ဇန်နဝါရီလ (၂၇)ရက်၊ ကြာသပတေးနေ့

- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၇:၀၀ -ICT ပြပွဲ၊ ပြခန်းများ
- ၀၉:၀၀-၁၇:၀၀ -Network Game နောက်ဆုံးဖြိုင်ပွဲ
- ၁၃:၀၀-၁၆:၀၀ -ICT Competitions ဖြိုင်ပွဲများ
- ဆုချီးမြှင့်ခြင်း
- ကူညီပံ့ပိုးသူများအား ဂုဏ်ပြုလွှာ
- ပေးအပ်ခြင်း
- အိုင်စီတီ ဂိုဏ်းပွဲတော်တစ်ပွဲအခမ်းအနား

(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့တွင် နံနက်(၁၀)နာရီမှ ညနေ(၅)နာရီအထိ၊ တနင်္လာနေ့များတွင် နံနက်(၉)နာရီမှ ညနေ(၅)နာရီအထိ အခမဲ့ပြသပါမည်။)

MICT Park၊ တက္ကသိုလ်များ၊ လိုင်ဒယ်မြို့၊ ရန်ကင်း



TALKS ON INDEPENDENCE HELD: The Organizational Division of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation held talks on dynamism of patriotic spirit at Kamayut BEHS No 1 on 20-1-2005. National Literary Award winner writer Dr Ma Tin Win gives lecture on sense of independence to students.— HOME AFFAIRS



Vice-Chairman of e-National Task Force U Aung Myint addresses concluding ceremony of training courses at Communications and Postal Training Centre.— COMMUNICATIONS

Training courses conclude at Communications & Postal Training Centre

YANGON, 20 Jan — The e-Government Workshop Training Course for Senior Officials and the e-Mail Operating Course concluded at Communications and Postal Training Centre of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs this morning.

The Vice-Chairman of e-National Task Force and

members, departmental heads and guests attended the ceremony.

Vice-Chairman of e-National Task Force U Aung Myint delivered an address.

Altogether 23 trainees from 23 ministries attended the one-week senior officials course and 15 trainees at the e-Mail Operating Course. — MNA

Self-reliant creek bridge opened

YANGON, 20 Jan — The opening ceremony of self-reliant Taungkhinyan creek bridge was held at the bridge near Shwebo Village in Gangaw Township on 18 January with an address by Gangaw District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Hla Swe.

The bridge was formally opened by the chairman of Gangaw District PDC and Township PDC Member

U Thein Htut.

The bridge is of wooden type measuring 198 feet in length, 6 feet in width and 18 feet in height.

As a result of opening that bridge, it can provide better transport in all seasons for the people living in Shwebo Village and its surrounding village-tracts.

MNA

Rafsanjani says Iran not a place for adventurism

TEHERAN, 20 Jan — Iran said on Wednesday it would adopt resolute and effective measures against any hostile manoeuvres in response to threatening US remarks.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, would respond strongly to any kind of unwise acts," Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid-Reza Asefi said in a statement. "The recent remarks of some American officials reveal the true nature of the United States and the objectives it pursues in global arena," Asefi said, referring to comments made by US

President George W. Bush and Secretary of State-designate Condoleezza Rice.

Bush said Monday he would not rule out military actions against Iran, and one day after Rice urged the international community to take actions to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons and refer Teheran's nuclear case to the United Nations Security Council.

Asefi stressed the remarks were made to divert people's attention from US own troubles in Iraq. Making such remarks in the present juncture when America is facing a harsh situation in Iraq pursues a particular objective," he said. Asefi said the United States has no way out of these troubles unless it reviews its policies and compensates for them.

Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Chairman of Iran's powerful Expediency Council and former president, also warned against any attack on Tuesday, saying Iran was "not a proper place for adventurism". Iran says argues its nuclear research is fully peaceful and it has effective deterrent power to confront its enemy in the region.

MNA/Xinhua

Stimulant tablets seized in Tachilek

YANGON, 20 Jan — A total of 18,000 WY-brand stimulant tablets were seized at a hotel in Tachilek, Eastern Shan State, on 11 December 2004.

A combined team of authorities, acting on information, found the ecstasy from Aik Kyaing (a) Zaw Myo Aung when they searched a room at the Regina Hotel he was staying.

Police took action against Aik Kyaing (a) Zaw Myo Aung of Pahset village, Honglek village-tract, Tachilek Township,

under section 15/19 (a) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

The team comprised

personnel of Tachilek anti-drug squad and Bureau of Special Investigation, and police.

MNA



Aik Kyaing (a) Zaw Myo Aung seen with 18,000 stimulant tablets in Tachilek.— CCDAC

Schroeder calls for new culture of science

BERLIN, 20 Jan — German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder on Wednesday called for a new culture of science in Germany. The Chancellor said at the opening ceremony of the Einstein Year in Berlin that science should be "more natural" among German people.

Science has greater importance in a modern knowledge society, said Schroeder.

MNA/Xinhua

DISTRICT NEWS

School building worth K 30m handed over in NyaungU

NYAUNGU, 10 Jan — A ceremony to hand over the new school building of Basic Education Primary School worth K 30 million was held at the school in Thantsinkyel Village in NyaungU Township on 31 December 2004.

First, Chairman of NyaungU District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Teza, Director (Education) U Aye Thein of No 2 Department of Basic Education (Upper Myanmar) and wellwisher U Nyunt Khin formally opened the school building.

Chairman of the construction committee U Aung Thein handed over documents related to the building to Director (Education) U Aye Thein.

Similarly, wellwishers Daw Than Yi, U Win Maw-Daw Ni Win, U Tin Shwe-Daw Moe families constructed the water tank and toilets worth K 1.9 million at the school.

MYANMA ALIN

Gravel road under construction in Monghsat

MONGHSAT, 3 Jan — Monghsat Township Development Affairs Committee is placing gravel on 700 feet long and 12 feet wide Thameinbayan Road, spending K 1.342 million in 2004-2005 financial year.

Director U Tin Soe of Shan State (East) DAC, Assistant Director U Aung Kyi and party supervised the construction matters on 21 December. Executive U Tint Wai and Junior Engineer-2 U Khin Maung Win conducted the officials round the construction site.

MYANMA ALIN

Eye surgical operations performed in Hsinbyugyun

Hsinbyugyun, 14 Jan — With the sponsorship of the Minbu District Union Solidarity and Development Association and officials of the Blind Control Project, eye specialist Dr Aung Hsan Win and party provided medical treatment to 575 eye patients from Salin and Hsinbyugyun from 11 to 13 January.

Furthermore, the specialist team performed surgical operations to 35 eye patients at Hsinbyugyun People's Hospital, and they transferred other 25 patients to the Ophthalmology Unit at Minbu People's Hospital.

MYANMA ALIN

Lectures on fire fighting given in Mawgyun

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 12 Jan — Talks on putting out fire was held at the Dhammayon in Manchaung Village of Kyaikpi Village-tract, Mawlamyinegyun Township, on 5 January, attended by local people from six villages.

Head of the Township Fire Services Department U Than Soe and Commander of the Township Auxiliary Fire Brigade U Kyaw Kyaw gave lectures on danger of fire and its consequences and how to participate in fire prevention measures.

Next, Head of the Township FSD U Than Soe and local authorities checked residents and shops in Kyaikpi Village.

MYANMA ALIN

All this needs to be known

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

New Zealand scientists to investigate recent quake swarm

WELLINGTON, 20 Jan — The Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences of New Zealand will look at what a swarm of earthquakes that shook the lower North Island Tuesday means for the region.

Nine earthquakes were recorded near Wellington within nine hours from Tuesday afternoon, with the biggest reaching 5.3 on the Richter Scale. Seven of the quakes were centred 40 kilometres southeast of Martinborough which is located at about 70 kilometres northeast of Wellington.

Martin Reyners, duty seismologist at the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences told *New Zealand Press Association* Wednesday that Tuesday's events were uncommon but had happened before.

"It's uncommon but there was a similar sequence about 15 years ago near Cape Palliser in Southern Wairarapa, in which a 5.3 magnitude event was the largest of them," he said.

Reyners said there was no need for concern and the institute was investigating.

"In terms of energy release these are very small, but having said that we are looking into what they mean in terms of what the plates are doing under the Wellington region.

"Each earthquake is a little fault break and we can

work out the mechanisms reasonably quickly — so we can say whether the fault went up or down or sideways," he said. Reyners said recent events in Asia had led to a heightened public interest in earthquakes.

"One thing we noticed Tuesday is we had the event west of Porirua in the afternoon, and we have a facility now on the GeoNet web site where people can give information on how they felt the earthquake, and I think in the first three hours we had over 500 people doing that," he said.

According to Reyners, The first quake, at 1:38 pm, measured 4.4 on the Richter Scale and was centred 30 kilometres northwest of Porirua at a depth of 50 kilometres. The second, at 5:19 pm, measured 3.6 and was centred 20 kilometres west of Hastings (about 40 kilometres northeast of Wellington) at a depth of 20 kilometres.

The next seven were centred 40 kilometres southeast of Martinborough and were at a depth of 15 kilometres to 25 kilometres.

MNA/Xinhua

Boao Forum for Asia 2005 meeting will prioritize energy discussion

BEIJING, 20 Jan — Energy will be a major subject of discussion at this year's meeting of the Pan-Asian economic forum, a senior Chinese official said here Wednesday.

At the annual meeting of Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) scheduled for April 22 to 24, Asian nations could explore how to stabilize energy prices and balance energy exploration and environmental protection, said BFA Secretary-General Long Yongtu at a Press conference Wednesday afternoon. The topic chosen is in response to Asian nations' increasing attention to energy. "They can also exchange views on how to establish a more reasonable and fair energy system worldwide," he said.

In terms of energy, Asia is a mix. Long said that he thinks it is essential for oil importers and suppliers to closely collaborate. "Asia includes big oil importers like Japan, China, South Korea and India, while it also boasts oil-rich countries in Middle East and middle Asia," Long said.

A special session will focus on energy cooperation between Australia and Asia, the first of its kind since the inception of the forum, Long said. Australian Prime Minister John Howard has confirmed that he will attend.

Monetary policy, exchange rates and innovations of information technology will also be the major subjects of the conference, Long said.

Approximately 1,000 prestigious entrepreneurs, high-ranking officials,

economists and scholars from around the world will attend the session, he said. The forum has always been involved in energy issues, and just chose to highlight the issue this year, Long said. Last year, in conjunction with the Iranian Government, it hosted a seminar on energy in Iran's capital Teheran. Established in 2001, the forum was named after a small scenic town in China's southernmost island province of Hainan.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia to export over 300 military helicopters by 2010

Moscow, 20 Jan — Russia plans to sell more than 300 military helicopters to foreign customers in six years, an official with the Economic Development and Trade Ministry said on Wednesday.

Between 2005-2010, Russia will be able to deliver up to 250 attack helicopters, about 70 reconnaissance and anti-submarine helicopters and about 10 cargo and landing helicopters to the world market, the *Interfax* news agency reported. Russian experts estimate that about 300 military helicopters will be annually sold on the world market until the end of the decade.

Russia is expected to contribute 13 per cent to 16 per cent of the

amount, while the United States accounts for 41 per cent to 43 per cent, and Western Europe about 32 per cent, according to the official.

The official said Russia will be able to offer a wide range of helicopters including *Mi-28* and *Ka-50/Ka-52* attack helicopters, *Mi-8/Mi-17*, *Mi-26* and *Ka-60* cargo and landing helicopters, *Ka-31* and *Ka-252SV* reconnaissance helicopters and *Ka-28* anti-submarine helicopters. — MNA/Xinhua



A cowboy on horseback attempts to cross the flooded Virgin River near Mesquite, Nev., on 13 Jan, 2005. Dozens of heads of cattle were left stranded by the flooding and cowboys were trying to reach them.

INTERNET

Amway to increase production capacity by 56% in China

BEIJING, 20 Jan — Direct-selling giant Amway will increase its production capacity from 16 billion to 25 billion yuan (1.93 billion to three billion US dollars) in China, *China Daily* reported Thursday.

The company, experiencing an especially good performance in China, will complete its expansion in April this year, Audie Wong, president of Amway (China) Co Ltd, was quoted by the paper as saying.

Besides boosting its production, he said, the company will open 40 to 50 new stores in China this year. Currently it has 140 stores in the country.

Amway will have a budget of 250 million yuan (30 million US dollars) this year in advertising and brand-building activities in China when its spending in 2004 totalled about 150 million yuan (18 million US dollars), he added.

Amway's nutrition food brand Nutrilite continues to be an important part of its business while its skincare arm is to have a greater presence in its brand-building efforts.

The firm's ambitious action was pushed by fast growing sales revenue in Chinese market.

Wong estimated the company's sales revenue will soar by 50 per cent in 2004 though the figures have not been released.

The company's sales reached 10 billion yuan (1.21 billion US dollars) in 2003, up from six billion yuan (725 million US dollars) in 2002.

Amway's move comes after China prepares to lift its ban on direct-selling and will soon issue rules on direct-selling.

China banned direct sales in 1998, saying it was hard to differentiate these from so called "pyramid sales", which had led to widespread fraud, consumer losses and social instability.

Ten foreign-funded direct-selling companies including Amway were allowed to continue their business after 1998, but they had to change their sales mode by selling goods through retail outlets and "non-employee" sales representatives.

MNA/Xinhua

Changi Airport handles record volumes of passengers, cargo in 2004

SINGAPORE, 20 Jan — Singapore Changi Airport has enjoyed unprecedented growth in the past year by handling record-breaking volumes of passengers and cargo.

According to a statement by the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) on Wednesday, the airport hosted 30.35 million passengers in 2004, a 23.1-per-cent increase over the previous year.

As for air cargo, 1.78 million tons of cargo passed through the airport last year, up 10.2 per cent from a year ago.

Speaking at a rewarding ceremony at the airport on Wednesday, Minister for Transport Yeo Cheow Tong said that the operations of the low cost carriers, which contributed 7 per cent to the total flights through Changi Airport in 2004, are bringing in new passengers. The CAAS has set aside 24.7 million Singapore dollars (about

15.1 million US dollars) for designing and building a low cost terminal at Changi Airport with an initial passenger handling capacity of 2.7 million per year.

The construction work is expected to start in the first quarter of this year and finish in early 2006.

"To differentiate ourselves from our competitors, Changi must continue to enhance its people-centred skills and service. Over the years, this has become our distinguishing trademark," said Yeo.

Changi Airport is now served by more than 70 airlines, which operate over 3,700 scheduled flights every week to 175 cities in 55 countries.

MNA/Xinhua

TRADE MARK CAUTION
Campina, a trademark of the
Holding B.V., of Hogeweg 9,
6301 LB Zeilsummet, The
Netherlands, is the Owner
and Sole Proprietor of the
following Trade Mark
"COMPINA"; the name
"COMPINA" and the COMPINA
logo, the latter Trade Mark
consist of the name
"COMPINA" combination with
a fancy oval device in white
and several shades of green:



Reg. No. B/1889/2004
Reg. No. B/1889/2004
in respect of "Class 29: Milk;
fermented milk; dehydrated
milk; milk powder; (flavoured)
milk drinks; milk; mature
beverages; condensed milk;
evaporated milk; cheese;
curd; (flavoured) fresh
cheese; (flavoured) yogurt;
(flavoured) yogurt drink;
(flavoured) whey drink; sour
cream; (flavoured) cream;
coffee creamers; butter;
edible oils and fats;
components of milk, milk
serum and cheese whey;
baking food ingredients;
cereal; proteins for human
consumption; milk-based
ingredients for foodstuffs;
included in this class; fruit
sauces; ready to use
breakfast drinks; desserts
included in this class; meat;
meat extracts; meat
replacements; meat soup;
fat; preserved fruits and
vegetables; jellies; jams;
concomers; eggs.
Class 30: Cocoa-based
drinks; chocolate milk; coffee-
based drinks; puddings;
mousses (desserts); edible
ice; custard; desserts
included in this class; coffee;
tea; sugar; rice; tapioca;
sago; honey; treacle; yeast;
powdered yeast; salt;
mustard; vinegar; spices".
Any fraudulent imitation or
unauthorized use of the said
Trade Mark shall be dealt with
according to law.
KHINE KHINE U, Advocate
LL.B., D.B.L., LL.M (UK)
For Campina Nederland
Holding B.V.,
620, 6 Fl., Traders Hotel
Yangon, January 21, 2005

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (370)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (370) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21-1-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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: M/S EAGLE CORPORATION
Phone No: 256908/ 378316/ 376797

ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV "MAWLAMYINE" VOY NO ML 114/N
Consignees of cargo carried on MV "MAWLAMYINE" VOY NO ML 114/N are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived at Yangon Port on 21-1-2005 and will be berthing on about 22-1-2005 and cargoes will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the by-laws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.30 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.
CONTAINER FEEDER SERVICE
MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE
Phone No: 293147, 296507, 295754

MIN KYAW MIN'S
SPOKEN ENGLISH CLASS
သုံးစွဲ သင်တန်းသစ်ကို
၂-၂-၂၀၀၅ ရက်တွင်စတင်
တနင်္လာ၊ ဗုဒ္ဓဟူး၊ သောကြာ ၉.၀၀ am - 11.30
Multi-media style lab, audio-visual aid နှင့်
ခေတ်မီအထောက်အကူများသုံးမည်။
၁၀ ဝန်း၊ ဘွဲ့ရ၊ ဘွဲ့လွန်များအတွက်
အကျိုးဝင်၊ အသုံးဝင်မည်။
ကမ်းနားလမ်းနှင့် ၄ လမ်းထောင့်၊ ဗိုလ်တထောင်မြို့နယ်၊
ရန်ကင်းမြို့။
စုံစမ်းရန် ဖုန်း-၂၉၆၁၆၁

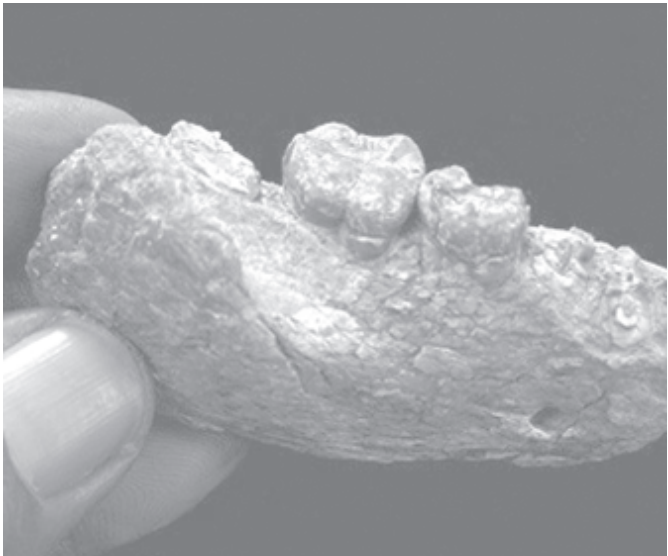
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (543)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (543) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23-1-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
Phone No: 256908/ 378316/ 376797

Tanzania to introduce air patrols on Lake Victoria
DAR-ES-SALAAM, 19 Jan — Tanzanian Minister of Natural Resources and Tourism Zakia Meghji has said that the government is to introduce air patrols in the next two months on its part of Lake Victoria to curb rampant fish smuggling.
Minister Meghji was quoted by local newspaper *The Guardian* as saying on Tuesday that it is the first time for Tanzania to involve airplanes in the combat against fish smuggling on Lake Victoria, the world's second largest freshwater lake.
According to statistics available here, 36,000 tons out of 170,000 tons of the Nile perch netted in the Tanzanian part of Lake Victoria are smuggled into neighbouring countries annually due to price differences. Nile perch accounts for around 70 per cent of the fishery output of the lake in Tanzania.
A lot of the fish processing plants in Tanzania, which owns more than half of the lake, have to close down due to lack of Nile perches caused by illegal exports.
Apart from air patrols, authorities also plan to deploy three modern speed boats that will operate daily patrols across the lake and to provide sufficient working gears to all the 250 beach management units along the shores of the lake.
MNA/Xinhua

Norway, Britain reach agreement on framework energy treaty
OSLO, 20 Jan—A long-awaited energy treaty between Norway and Britain is likely to be finalized and ready for signing soon, a spokesman for the Norwegian Oil and Energy Ministry said on Wednesday.
"There are still some small matters that need to be cleared up," spokesman Lars Nermoen said. No firm date has been set for signing the treaty, but Nermoen said it would be "soon."
Norwegian Oil and Energy Minister Thorhild Widvey told a conference on Tuesday that Norway and Britain had reached agreement on a framework treaty, which is for cross-border energy cooperation in the North Sea.
"This is a good foundation for cooperation going ahead," she said, according to the text of her speech.
UK Energy Minister Mike O'Brien, speaking at the same event, said all outstanding issues had been resolved.
"We are in the last stage of tidying the text, which will pave the way for unprecedented co-operation between Britain and Norway and major new opportunities in terms of trade and exploitation of North Sea reserves," he said, according to the text of his speech.
No details were available on the content of the agreement, which the governments of Norway and Britain have been negotiating for over three years but which has repeatedly been delayed.
In November, Widvey had said that she expected the treaty to be finalized by the end of 2004. — MNA/Ruters

Kenyan Airways introduces electronic ticket
NAIROBI, 19 Jan—Kenya Airways, the national carrier of the east African country, has launched a 7.4 million shillings (about 95,000 US dollars) e-ticketing system to boost its operations worldwide, local newspaper *The Standard* reported on Tuesday.
The new system that was launched Monday is expected to remove paperwork from the ticketing process, and passengers will only be required to carry a valid passport for international travel or a national identification card for local flights, the report said.
MNA/Xinhua

Costa Rica's flood loss reaches \$25m
SAN JOSE, 19 Jan—Heavy rains and floods hitting Costa Rica's Caribbean coast last week caused 25 million US dollars in damage, the National Emergency Commission (CNE) said Tuesday.
The commission said that in the agricultural sector alone, the loss amounted to 20 million dollars, as 6,643 hectares of banana and pineapple plantations, which are the main export crops of the country, were damaged by floods.
About 119 bridges, 27 dikes and 202 road sections were destroyed, causing five million dollars in damage.
The Costa Rican Government has decided to establish a commission to aid those who were evacuated and pay for rebuilding work.
The government also planned to offer subsidy to about 1,200 agricultural workers, who lost their jobs due to the destruction of plantations.
Costa Rica declared a state of national emergency on January 11. So far, floods have killed at least four people, left five missing and forced the evacuation of 8,500 others along Costa Rica's Caribbean coast. Heavy rains have been pounding the region since January 8 with a record-high downpour of more than 300 millimetres a day. — MNA/Xinhua



Indiana University Bloomington paleoanthropologist Sileshi Semaw holds the fossil of a hominid mandible (lower jaw bone) believed to be about 4.5 million years old.—INTERNET

DONATE BLOOD

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲများတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့



A woman dressed in a traditional Dutch costume poses in front of the Brandenburg Gate during a promotional event advertising Dutch cheese as part of the international food and agriculture Green Week 2005 trade fair, in Berlin on 19 Jan, 2005.—INTERNET

Obesity-related deaths in US overstated, but still increasing

CHICAGO, 20 Jan—A widely reported study released earlier this year overstated the increase in obesity-related US deaths by about 35,000, a US Government health agency said on Tuesday in admitting the miscalculation.

“Through an error in our computations we overestimated the number of deaths caused by poor diet and physical inactivity,” the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention said.

“Our principal conclusions, however, remain unchanged: tobacco use and poor diet and physical inactivity contributed to the largest number of deaths, and the number of deaths related to poor diet and physical inactivity is increasing,” it added.

The correction was published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, where the original report appeared in March 2004.

In the statement the agency said the number of obesity-related deaths in 2000 increased by 65,000 over 1990 levels, not 100,000 as originally calculated.

The original study originally concluded that in 2000 there were nearly as many obesity-related deaths, at 400,000, as there

were deaths related to tobacco use, at 435,000.

It said at the time this provided evidence that obesity could overtake tobacco use as the leading cause of preventable US deaths. The correction did not address that projection except to say the principal conclusions remained unchanged.

The CDC launched an internal review of the study after researchers criticized its methodology in letters published in the journal *Science*.—MNA/Reuters

Gastroenteritis affects 94 on Caribbean cruise

WASHINGTON, 20 Jan—Some 89 passengers and five crew members were affected by gastroenteritis during their Caribbean voyage, said a statement of the *Princess Cruises* on Tuesday.

The outbreak of gastroenteritis was found on the second day of the ten-day voyage that started on January 8, it said.

“In our investigation to discover the sources of the illness, we found that the first passenger who reported ill had falsely filled in her health status form prior to boarding,” said the statement.

MNA/Xinhua

Newly discovered virus causes childhood ailments

WASHINGTON, 20 Jan—A newly discovered virus related to the SARS virus may cause several mysterious childhood ailments, including Kawasaki disease, US researchers reported on Tuesday.

The new virus is a coronavirus, a family of viruses that cause common colds, animal diseases and severe acute respiratory syndrome, a new disease that emerged in China in 2003, killing 800 people globally and causing a worldwide panic before it was contained.

Two studies in the *Journal of Infectious Diseases* link this new virus to Kawasaki disease, the most common cause of acquired heart disease in children in developed countries.

Jeffrey Kahn and colleagues at Yale University

in Connecticut identified what they call the New Haven coronavirus.

They tested 895 ill children under age 5 who had tested negative for other viral infections.

They found 79 of them, or 9 per cent, had the New Haven coronavirus. Symptoms included fever, cough, runny nose, rapid breathing, abnormal breath sounds, and low blood oxygen levels. And 11 babies infected with the new coronavirus were newborns in intensive care units.

The Yale team found genetic evidence of the vi-

rus in respiratory secretions taken from an infant with classic signs of Kawasaki disease. They analyzed respiratory secretions from 11 children diagnosed with Kawasaki disease and 22 children without the disease. Eight of the 11 Kawasaki patients tested positive for the New Haven coronavirus but just one child without Kawasaki symptoms tested positive.

Kawasaki disease can be marked by an eye infection, redness of the mouth or throat, rash, redness or swelling of the hands or feet, and swollen lymph nodes. In some cases the heart is damaged, causing heart disease.—MNA/Reuters

Greek police seize over 1 ton of ephedrine

ATHENS, 20 Jan—Greek police on Tuesday seized more than a ton of ephedrine, the chemical stimulant used in synthetic drug production, enough to make 70 million pills of ice or speed, officials said on Tuesday.

The drugs haul at the port of Piraeus comes just days after police raided a nearby warehouse, arrested a Briton and found more than 6 tons of hashish.

“The containers (with the ephedrine) were addressed to a fake name who had rented the same warehouse where the 6 tons of hashish were found,” the drugs squad said in a statement.

It said 27 bags of ephedrine weighing about 40 kilos each were hidden among sacks of rice inside two containers that had arrived in Greece from Pakistan.

“Ephedrine is used in illegal labs to produce the synthetic drug methamphetamine, known as ice or speed,” it said. Methamphetamine, or crystal meth, is one of the fastest growing and most readily available drugs in western Europe and the United States.

Greece lies on the crossroads of the international drugs trade from Asia to central and northern Europe and has recently increased port and airport checks in a bid to stamp out the flow of drugs through its borders.

MNA/Reuters

Bus collision with truck in southern Iran kills 14

TEHERAN, 20 Jan—A total of 14 people were killed and 11 others injured when a bus collided with a truck and plunged into a river 40 metres below in southern Iran, the official *IRNA* news agency reported Wednesday.

The accident occurred Tuesday of evening on a road between Shiraz, capital city of the southern province Fars, and Kazeroun, the report said. Hamid Taqi-Zadeh, an official of local natural disasters headquarters, was quoted as saying that rescuers rushed to the scene and took the injured to the nearest hospital.

MNA/Xinhua

Digital radio gaining ground in US

LOS ANGELES, 20 Jan—Digital satellite radio’s subscriber base will see fast growth in the United States, adding three million net new subscribers annually through 2008, In-Stat, a US high-tech market research firm said Tuesday.

In-Stat said a recent survey found a growing awareness of digital satellite radio services, with half respondents having heard of satellite radio and feeling they had a good idea as to what it offers.

However, price is still a barrier for many consumers, particularly with new HD radios, said Michelle Abraham, In-Stat Analyst.

The study found most consumers want to spend less than 200 US dollars and HD radio receiver prices must decline before

they are of interest to many consumers.

The features offered by digital radio that were most appealing to survey respondents were the ability to receive news, weather, and traffic information on demand, along with more programming choices.

The study also found the monthly subscription fee was the primary deterrent for purchasing a satellite radio for those who were familiar with satellite radio but did not own one.

MNA/Xinhua



Paula Valdes, Juan Miguel Mas and Kenia Caceres of the Voluminous Dance group dance during a rehearsal, on 17 Jan, 2005, in Havana, Cuba.—INTERNET

S
P
O
R
T
S

Real Madrid salvage 1-1 draw with Valladolid

MADRID, 20 Jan — Real Madrid were dumped out of the King's Cup by Valladolid on away goals on Wednesday after the Second Division side claimed a deserved 1-1 draw at the Bernabeu.

Valladolid forward Xavi More grabbed the all-important goal when he cut inside defender Roberto Carlos and fired a low shot into the far corner 12 minutes from time to cancel out a Michael Owen strike and put his side into the quarterfinals.

Athletic Bilbao comfortably avoided a similar upset in their tie against Third Division Lanzarote when they recovered from a 2-1 defeat in the first leg to claim a crushing 6-0 win over the Canary Islanders at San Mames.

The performance of the night came from Bilbao youngster Fernando Llorente who scored a hat-trick and set up another as his side cruised to their 7-2 aggregate victory. Earlier, Osasuna survived a stern test from Getafe to book a place in the quarterfinals with a 4-3 aggregate win. — MNA/Reuters

Agassi sweeps into third round of Australian Open

MELBOURNE, 20 Jan — Andre Agassi swept into the third round of the Australian Open on Wednesday, thrashing German Rainer Schuettler 6-3, 6-1, 6-0.

The seasoned American, who at 34 is the oldest man in the singles draw, raced to victory in less than an hour and a half in a replay of his

straight sets win over Schuettler in the 2003 Australian Open final.

Despite playing on a blustery centre court, Agassi showed off his full

repertoire of skills and played just one poor shot in the entire third set, which he wrapped up in 18 minutes.

"I felt like I was playing good tennis... and that's a great feeling," Agassi said.

"It's only the second match, but it's certainly a great one for me."

Agassi, already a four-times champion at Melbourne Park, said he had almost completely recovered from the hip injury he picked up in a warm-up event last week and was feeling good about his prospects.

"I felt as the match went on I was getting more comfortable with my movement, and that's a good thing," he said. "To say it was 100 per cent would probably be overstating it but to be able to have the time to get it better up to this point is a great sign that it will be 100 per cent."

Agassi plays Taylor Dent in the next round after the big-serving American beat Czech Michal Tabara in straight sets but is already casting an eye towards a possible quarterfinal showdown with Roger Federer.

The Swiss world number one is a hot favourite to retain his Australian Open title but Agassi said he would still have to be on his game.

"It would be nice to play against him because that means a couple more matches I would have won," Agassi said. "All these guys are real talented and if you don't show up and aren't at your best then anybody can beat you — and that includes Roger.

MNA/Reuters



Austria's Barbara Schett plays a shot while playing her second round match against Slovakia's Daniela Hantuchova, the number 26 seed, at the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne on 20 Jan, 2005.—INTERNET

Osasuna survive stern test from Getafe

MADRID, 20 Jan — Osasuna survived a stern test from Getafe to book a place in the quarterfinals of the King's Cup with a 4-3 aggregate victory after losing the second leg of their tie 3-2.

The Navarrans, who won last week's first leg 2-0, were put under severe pressure throughout the all Primera Liga tie, but a fine double from midfielder Inaki Munoz allowed them to scrape through against the modest Madrid-based side. Real Betis did the bare minimum to go through, drawing 0-0 with Third Division Mirandes after a comfortable 3-1 victory in the first leg.

Last season's losing finalists Real Madrid host Second Division Valladolid while 23-times winners Athletic Bilbao entertain Third Division Lanzarote in Wednesday's late games.

Ambitious Getafe made a fast start against Osasuna, taking the lead after 11 minutes when Romanian forward Gica Craioveanu snapped up a loose ball on the edge of the area and fired an unstoppable shot past keeper Ricardo Sanzol. Osasuna hit back against the run of play on the half hour when Munoz scored with a thundering shot, but Getafe kept their hopes alive with goals either side of halftime.

Midfielder Daniel Kome stabbed home from close range after Craioveanu had cut back a fine pass from the byline and Mario Cotelos beat Sanzol with an angled shot.— MNA/Reuters



Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo, left, is congratulated by team mate Eric Djemba-Djemba after scoring against Exeter during their FA Cup third round replay soccer match at Exeter's St James' Park ground in Exeter, England, on 19 Jan, 2005.—INTERNET

Man Utd beat minor league Exeter City 2-0

LONDON, 20 Jan — Holders Manchester United were given an FA Cup fright before beating minor league Exeter City 2-0 in a nervy third round replay on Wednesday.

Portugal winger Cristiano Ronaldo scored after nine minutes but the Conference side put United under pressure midway through the second half and had a potential equalizer disallowed before Wayne Rooney killed the tie in the 87th minute.

United, whose second string side were held to a shock 0-0 draw at Old Trafford on January 8, will now host Premier League

Middlesbrough in the fourth round.

Two other Premier League clubs made it through their replays against Second Division opponents, with Fulham beating Watford 2-0 and Blackburn Rovers seeing off Cardiff City 3-2.

Fulham's reward is a tie at Second Division Derby County on January 29, while Blackburn host Third Division Colchester

United.

The comfortable scoreline at Exeter belied the fact that Manchester United had to scrap for their win in the blustery conditions at St James's Park.

Hugely embarrassed by the draw at Old Trafford, United manager Alex Ferguson wheeled out the big guns in Devon with Rooney, Ronaldo and Ryan Giggs thrown into the attack from the start, backed by Paul Scholes.

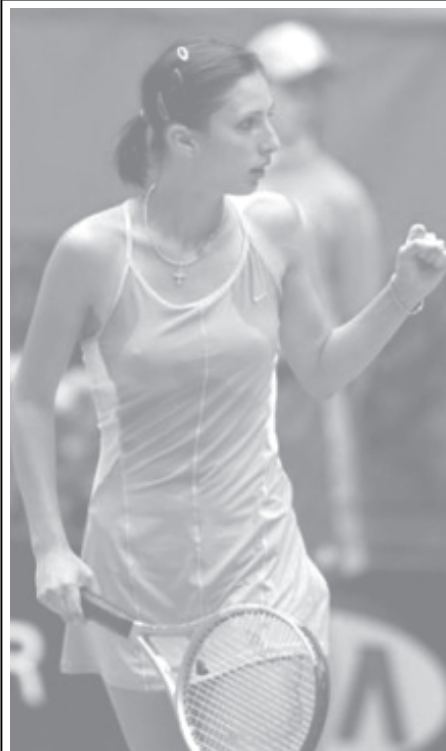
There was an early dividend when Ronaldo was put through by Scholes and his angled shot got beneath Exeter's teenage keeper Paul Jones.

But the expected avalanche of goals from United never materialized as Exeter matched their millionaire opponents for sheer effort.

They could even have been level in the 61st minute when unmarked striker Sean Devine volleyed their best chance wide from the edge of the six-yard box. Devine did find the United net in the 75th minute but his strike was offside.

Rooney, who had been denied by Jones all night, finally got the upper hand and eased the pressure on the holders when he rounded the keeper and slotted home into an empty net.

Third Division Hartlepool beat Fourth Division Boston United 1-0 in the night's other replay.— MNA/Reuters



Anastasia Myskina of Russia celebrates upon winning her second round match against Tzipora Obziler of Israel at the Australian Open Tennis Championships in Melbourne, on 20 Jan, 2005. Myskina won the match 6-4, 6-2.

INTERNET

Zimbabwe, Iran sign cooperation agreements

HARARE, 20 Jan — Zimbabwe and Iran on Wednesday signed several business and economic agreements to enhance ties between the two countries.

The agreements include the Avoidance of Double Taxation, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on cooperation between the two countries' ministries of home affairs, an MoU on the construction of an urban commuter electrified railway line between Harare and Chitungwiza, and an MoU on cooperation in the field of telecommunications and postal services.

Other agreements signed were Financing Agreement between the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) and Central Bank of Iran and an agreement between the Commercial Bank of Zimbabwe and Iran Import and Export Bank. The Central Bank of Iran increased its 10 million euros (13.08 million US dollars) line of credit to the RBZ to 45 million euros (58.87 million dollars) following the signing of the agreement.

Respective government ministers and representatives of organizations signed the agreements on behalf of the two countries, while Iranian President Seyed Mohammed Khatami and Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe watched.

Zimbabwe and Iran

enjoy good bilateral relations, and the visit by Khatami as well as the signing of the agreements will further cement ties between the two countries, said Zimbabwean media on Wednesday. The visit by Khatami comes at a time when Zimbabwe has adopted the "Look East" policy aimed at enhancing relations with countries in the Middle East and Asia.

President Khatami has been to Nigeria, Senegal, Mali, Benin, Sierra Leone and will proceed to Uganda to complete his tour to the seven African nations. The Iranian leader arrived in the country on Monday for a three-day visit and left on Wednesday afternoon.

MNA/Xinhua

India's ONGC keen on building Ecuador refinery

NEW DELHI, 20 Jan — India's Oil and Natural Gas Corp is keen on building a 200,000 barrels per day refinery in Ecuador and participating in the prized ITT oil field.

"ONGC has interest in setting up the refinery which may entail an investment of 2.5 billion dollars," Ecuador's Energy Minister Eduardo Lopez Robayo told reporters here on the sidelines of the Petrotech 2005 conference.

Ecuador plans to call for bids in May 2005 to build a new refinery un-

der the ITT (Ishpingo-Tambochocha-Tiputini) oilfield-cum-refinery project in the north of the country.

ITT oil field, located in Ecuador's eastern Amazon jungle near the Peruvian border, holds 909 million barrels in reserves and can produce 190,000 barrels of oil per day.

MNA/PTI

U Kyin Maung Gyi @ Kong Kyin Loon Aged 87 years

Son of the late U Pu + Daw Ami Soe of No 185, Kyone Gyi Street, Lanmadaw Township, devoted husband of Daw Sein Nyunt, beloved father of U Tejaniva of Shwe Oo Min Dhamma Sukha Yeiktha, Mingaladon Township. (U Aye Kyi) + Daw Nyunt Nyunt Swe, Dr Daw Hla Kyi, Dr U Thein Kyi + Dr Than Than Htay, Dr U Tin Kyi + Dr Daw Nu Nu, U Myint Kyi + Daw Yee Yee Myint, Dr U Soe Kyi + Dr Daw Khin Khin Htwe, Dr U Aung Kyi @ Dr Steven and Shirley Kong, Daw Aye Thet Mon, Dr U Yin Kyi + Daw Than Than Lwin, Dr U Tun Kyi @ Dr Alvin and Vivienne Kong, beloved grandfather of 18, passed away at 12:41 pm on 19-1-2005, Wednesday, and was cremated at 4:30 pm on the same day at Yayway Cemetery in accordance with his wish.

The Bereaved Family

Dr B.P Game Aged 92 PynOoLwin

Dr B.P Game, husband of late Mrs Molly Game, father of Miss Christine Game passed away on the 10-1-2005 at 4 am at his residence 137 B, Forest Lane, PynOoLwin. Funeral service was conducted at St. Mary Catholic Church and thence to Christian Cemetery at 8th mile on 11-1-2005.

The Bereaved Family

Japan opens travel visa to all Chinese for upcoming exposition

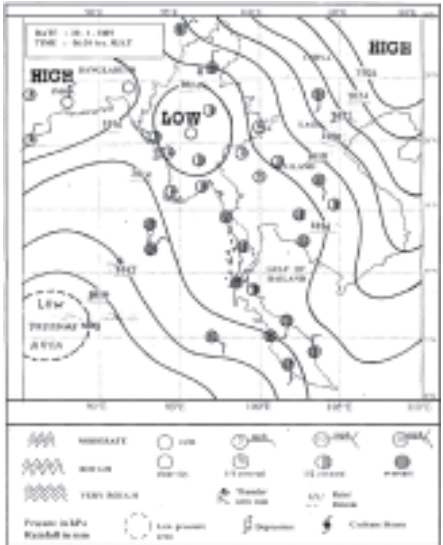
BEIJING, 20 Jan — A visiting Japanese Minister said here Tuesday that the Japanese Government plans to give all Chinese citizens the ability to apply for a travel visa to attend an upcoming exhibition.

Kitagawa Kazuo, Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport said this is an interim measure, which will only be valid during the upcoming Aichi Exposition. Japan said that it hopes this measure may enhance the communications between the two countries, and attract more people to visit the exposition.

Until now, only Chinese citizens in Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, Guangdong

Province, Shandong Province, Zhejiang Province, Liaoning Province and Jiangsu Province could apply for travel visas to Japan. He said the Japanese side has informed the Chinese side about this policy, and hopes concrete measures would be implemented as soon as possible.

Kitagawa Kazuo is invited by the Chinese National Tourism Administration. — MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Thursday, 20 January, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain has been scattered in Kachin State, isolated in upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) below normal in Chin State, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin, Northern Shan and Kayah States, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Southern Shan State, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Pinlaung (3°C), Heho and Moegok (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 19-1-2005 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 20-1-2005 was 61°F. Relative humidity at 9:30hrs MST on 20-1-2005 was 83%. Total sunshine hours on 19-1-2005 was (6.9) hours approx. Rainfalls on 20-1-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 5 mph from West at (00:30) hours MST on 20-1-2005.


Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hours MST today, the low pressure area over Southwest Bay persists. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 21-1-2005: Possibility of isolated light rain in Kachin, Eastern Shan and Mon States, Yangon and Bago Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight increase of night temperatures in Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 21-1-2005: Possibility of isolated light rain. Degree of certainty is (40%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-1-2005:** Partly cloudy.



Friday, 21 January
View on today:

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

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am
5. အထွဋ်ပွဲ

8:05 am
6. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies

8:15 am
7. နဂါးရေလှောင်တံ

8:30 am
8. International news

8:45 am
9. English for Everyday Use

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm
3. Practice in reading

4:45 pm
4. Musical programme

4:50 pm
5. အဝေးသင်တန်းသို့လိပ်စာပေးရန် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (ရလှစောအလှူပြုများ) (ရလှစော)

5:15 pm
6. Song of national races

5:30 pm
7. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေး ဂီတပေး

5:45 pm
8. ရည်စူးစာအုပ်များ အားတမ်းအစဉ်

5:55 pm
9. "သစ်ကောင်းတစ်ပင်"

6:00 pm
10. Musical programme

6:20 pm
11. Discovery

6:30 pm
12. Evening news

7:00 pm
13. Weather report

7:05 pm
14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "လူ့စွန့်လွှဲကောင်း" (အပိုင်း-၄၈)

7:30 pm
15. ဒီမိုကရေစီ ခေတ်ပြောင်းတော်လှန်ရေးရဲ့အဖျက်အနှစ်ဆုရသံ

7:45 pm
16. Myanmar ICT Week ရုတ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:00 pm
17. News

8:15 pm
18. International news

8:30 pm
19. Weather report

8:45 pm
20. Myanmar video feature: "ကောင်းမွန်လေးရဲ့ရူးစာရင်" လွင်စုံ၊ ဇေယျာဝင်၊ နန္ဒာလှိုင် (အပိုင်း-၂) ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကိုဇော်(အမှတ်ပိုင်း)

8:55 pm
22. The next day's programme



Friday, 21 January
Tune in today:

8.30 am Brief news
Music: Yellow River

8.40 am Perspectives

8.45 am Music: Lucky you

8.50 am National news/Slogan

9.00 am Music: My baby

9.05 am International news

9.10 am Music: -Why not

1.30 pm News/Slogan

1.40 pm Lunch time music
-Forget me not
-If I let you go

9.00 pm World of music
Songs from: 'Japan'

9.15 pm Article/music

9.25 pm Music at your request
-Anyone of us
-Running

9.45 pm News/Slogan

10.00 pm PEL

Ukrainian PM sends felicitations to Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win

YANGON, 20 Jan—*The following is a message of felicitations from Mr Victor Yanukovich, Prime Minister of Ukraine, to Lt-Gen Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, on the occasion of the 57th Anniversary Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar:*
Your Excellency,
On behalf of the Government of Ukraine and on my own part let me express the warmest congratulations and best greetings to Your Excellency,

the government and the people of the Union of Myanmar on the occasion of the Independence Day.
I am convinced that relations of friendship and cooperation between Ukraine and Myanmar will further develop and strengthen for the benefit of our peoples.
Availing myself of this opportunity I wish Your Excellency good health, happiness and success in your state activity as well as wealth, peace and prosperity to the people of Myanmar.—MNA

Home Affairs Minister inspects construction of Police Housing Estates

YANGON, 20 Jan — Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, accompanied by Deputy Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Col Zaw Win, Police Quartermaster-General Police Brig-Gen Win Soe and police staff officers, inspected progress in building Lanmadaw Police Station at the corner of Maha Bandoola and Phonegyi Streets in Lanmadaw Township on 18 January.

Chairman of Naing Group Construction U Kyaw Naing Oo reported on construction matters.

The minister looked into construction of Police Housing Estates on Maha Bandoola Street in Kyauktada Township being undertaken in joint venture by Shine Construction and another joint venture work by Yuzana Construc-

tion in 38th Street. Chief Engineer U San Tun of Shine Construction and Director Daw Myat Myat Mon of Yuzana Construction submitted reports on progress of work.

At Maha Myaing Police Housing Estate in Sangyoung Township, worksite, in-charge of Tawwin Construction U Aung Naing briefed the minister on completion of the buildings. The minister and party oversaw construction of Hline Police Housing Estate on Station Road in Hline Township. Yesterday, accompanied by Director-General of MPF Brig-Gen Khin Yi, Deputy Director-General Col Zaw Win, Police Quartermaster-General Police Brig-Gen Win Soe and officials, the minister visited Special Investigation Department of MPF at Manaung Police



Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Minister for Science and Technology and for Labour U Thaung receives Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinjun and Vice-Governor Ms Shang Yuyin of Shanghai Pudong New Area People's Government.—INDUSTRY-1

Housing Estate in Tamway Township and the No 9 Police Battalion in Hlinethaya Township. The minister inspected training, administration, welfare tasks and units of the battalion. Next, the minister met with members of the battalion and gave necessary instructions.—MNA

Four Ministers receive Chinese Ambassador, technicians

YANGON, 20 Jan — Mr Li Jinjun and Vice Governor of Shanghai Pudong New Area People's Government Ms Shang Yuyin and technicians at the hall of the Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development on Bogyoke Aung San Street, here, on 18 January.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein, Director-General of the Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development Col Aung Win and officials of the Ministry of Industry-1 and Ministry of Construction.—MNA



Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo inspects progress in building Lanmadaw Police Station at the corner of Maha Bandoola and Phonegyi Streets in Lanmadaw Township on 18-1-2005.—HOME AFFAIRS

Tatmadawmen taking part in Military Band Competition

YANGON, 20 Jan — The 14th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition in commemoration of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2005 continued at the People's Square, here, this morning.

The bands comprising students from Dagon Basic Education High School No 2 and Kamayut Institute of Education Practising School performed skills demonstration by playing band instru-

ments.
Next, the bands representing the No 9 Basic Military Training Depot and South-East Command, the band company-2 representing North-East Command, the band company-2 representing Coastal Region Command, the band of the No 7 Basic Military Training Depot and the band company-1 representing Western Command took part in the competition.
Afterwards, Secretary of the Leading

Committee for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day member of the Committee for Observance of the Military Band Competition Deputy Adjutant-General Col Khin Soe presented cash prizes to leaders of the bands of the schools.

Senior military officers, members of the panel of judges, guests, Tatmadaw family members and students enjoyed participation of the band competition.

MNA



A band participating in 14th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition in progress.—PRPU

Free transport during MICT Park Week 2005

YANGON, 20 Jan—The fourth Myanmar ICT Week 2005 will be held on a grand scale at the park in Hline Township from 21 to 27 January. It will include ICT booths, talks, workshops, ICT products presentation, and ICT contests.
The MICT Park during the period will offer free transport to the visitors between the junction of Parami Road and Insein Road and the park, and between the junction of Parami Road and Pyay Road and the park.—MNA