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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein addresses the opening of the 25th Myanmar Dental Conference. — MNA

Knowledge on AIDS prevention, control in dentistry disseminated to state/division dental associations

YANGON, 26 Jan—The opening of the 25th Myanmar Dental Conference took place in conjunction with the opening of the sixth meeting of the World Dental Federation (FDI) and the Myanmar Dental Association at the International Business

Centre on Pyay Road here this morning, with an address by Chairman of the National Health Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present were Chairman of Yangon Division

PDC Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, deputy ministers, members of the NHC, officials of the SPDC Office, departmental heads, representatives of the FDI, MDA

(See page 8)

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Myohla (Tatkon) Dam

YANGON, 26 Jan — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departments ar-

rived in Mandalay on 24 January.

They were welcomed at Mandalay International Airport by Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein, Deputy Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Nay Win

and officials.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to the site of Myohla (Tatkon) Dam project near Inkhon Village in Tatkon in Yamethin District.

Deputy Director of Construction-5 of Irriga-

tion Department U Hlwan Moe reported on data of the project, geological survey and preliminary survey Director U Ohn Gaing on construction of outlet conduit and other data.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint

urged officials to complete the project in time and according to standard set. In meeting with local people, Lt-Gen Ye Myint discussed participation in nation-building tasks.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and

party inspected the project site.

Myohla (Tatkon) Dam is being built on Myohla Creek near Inkhon Village Tatkon Township. The earth dam is 2,100 feet long and 80 feet high. Its watershed area is 20 square miles. On completion of the project, it will supply water to 400 acres of farmland.

At the hall of regional battalion, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met officers and Tatmadaw members and their families. He spoke at length on possession of three capabilities and participation in regional development tasks.

He also cordially greeted Tatmadaw members and families.—MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint views construction tasks at Myohla (Tatkon) Dam Project site.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 27 January, 2005

Constantly hone military, organizational and management skills

In building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, all the national people living in it are required to work in concert with common thoughts and beliefs. The national forces made up of united national people are the organizations lending themselves to all national endeavours with the same purpose and conviction.

Myanmar War Veterans Organization is one of the national forces as well as a reserve force for national defence. Therefore, MWVO, upholding the national policy — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty — is participating in nation-building work and national defence as a reserve force of the Tatmadaw for socio-economic development and national security.

The meeting 1/2005 of the Central Organizing Committee of Myanmar War Veterans Organization was held at its headquarters in Mayangon Township, Yangon, on 25 January and it was attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, who is also Chairman of the Central Organizing Committee of Myanmar War Veterans Organization.

In his address at the meeting, Lt-Gen Thein Sein said that Myanmar War Veterans Organization would have to build itself into a reserve force for national defence and try to be able to stand as a consolidated and prestigious organization and that members of the Central Organizing Committee were required to fulfil the needs of their fellow war veterans in all states and divisions.

For an organization to be able to stand united, it is very important to have the same basic policy, beliefs and convictions. Our Three Main National Causes are the beliefs and convictions of the war veterans. It is also vital for members of Myanmar War Veterans Organization to believe in the national policy as much as they did when they were in service. War veterans organizations at different levels, hand in hand with the government, the people, the Tatmadaw, Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Red Cross and Fire Brigades, must keep constant vigilance against and ward off the dangers of destructive elements within and without.

We would like to call on the members of Myanmar War Veterans Organization to constantly hone their military, organizational and management skills and preserve the fine traditions of the Tatmadaw.

Gems and Jade Sales of UMEHL continue

YANGON, 26 Jan — The 18th gems and jade sales of Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited 2005 continued for the third day at Myanma Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road from 9 am to 5 pm today.

A total of 571 gems merchants—434 from home and 137 from abroad — arrived at the mart and checked jade and gems lots. Gems and jade bargain forms will be put into designated tender boxes before 7 am tomorrow. The opening ceremony of the 18th gems and jade sales of UMEHL will be held at 9 am of 27 January. Lots of gems and jades will be sold through bargain and auction systems tomorrow. — MNA

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Minister inspects factories, regional development in Mandalay Division

YANGON, 26 Jan — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang yesterday morning arrived at Textile Factory (Wundwin) of Myanma Textile Industries in Wundwin.

He heard reports on the site chosen for construction of the 300-loom-capacity weaving factory and production of the textile factory presented by MTI Managing Director U Oo Thein Maung. Next, he inspected the plot for the weaving factory.

Secretariat Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister U Aung Thuang met with secretaries and executives of Meiktila, Wundwin, Mahlaing and Thazi Township USDAs at Meiktila District USDA



Minister U Aung Thuang checks Win Thuza shop in Meiktila, Mandalay Division. —INDUSTRY-1

Office.

After hearing reports, the CEC member explained participation of USDA members in implementing the seven-point Road Map.

In the afternoon, the

minister inspected sales of products from the Ministry of Industry-1 at Win Thuza Shop in Meiktila.

In the hall of Soap Factory (Yamethin), he met with secretaries and executives of Yamethin,

Tatkon, Pyawbwe, Pyinmana and Lewe Township USDAs. The CEC member heard reports on progress of rural development tasks and fulfilled the requirements.

MNA

State/division auditors meet

YANGON, 25 Jan — The work coordination meeting of the state/division

hall of the AG's Office this morning with an address by Auditor-General

ditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung stressed the need for auditors to com-

tion to their original duty and to inspect and expose whether departments and enterprises abide by rules and regulations or not.

Next, the state/division auditors reported on work carried out, findings and action taken by authorities concerned, strength of staff and acquisition of land for staff housing.

After hearing the reports, the auditor-general, the deputy auditor-general, the acting director-general and officials took part in the discussions. The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung. — MNA



Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung delivers an address at coord meeting of state/division auditors. — MNA

vision auditors and the Auditor-General's Office was held at the meeting

eral Maj-Gen Lun Maung.

In his address, Au-

plete their tasks on time, to place emphasis on work inspection in addi-

Doh Kyeywa Journal comes out

YANGON, 26 Jan — With a view to developing up-to-date general knowledge of rural people, Doh Kyeywa Journal, Vol II, No 3, carrying features on paddy-plus-fish farming, cultivation of long staple cotton for earning more income of growers, matters concerning groundnut and Bio-Super Fertilizer Liquid, natural fertilizers and others, short story, humour, movies, commodities prices, meteorology, astrology and other sectors, came out on 1 February 2005.

The journal can accept matters related to manuscripts and advertisements at No 30-32, 10th Street, Lanmadaw, Tel: 371342, 252452 and 379768. — MNA

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေ့
 လစဉ်လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန်လိုအပ်သည့် ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ့ဖြစ်သည်။
 ၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ်၊ ဇန်နဝါရီလအတွက် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) ၃၀-၁-၂၀၀၅ ရက်နေ့၊ ၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ်၊ ဖေဖော်ဝါရီလအတွက် (၁၃-၂-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့ နှင့် (၂၇-၂-၂၀၀၅)ရက်နေ့။

More foreigners come to Shanghai to seek employment

SHANGHAI, 25 Jan— More foreigners have come to this eastern metropolis to hunt for jobs in recent years, according to Shanghai Municipal Labour and Social Security Bureau (SMLSSB), which is in charge of issuing employment permission to locally-based foreigners.

At present, a total of 33,824 foreigners are employed in Shanghai and 15,537 of them received employment permission certificate from SMLSSB in 2004, up 40.2 per cent year-on-year, said SMLSSB, which had issued a total of 65,459 permissions in past few years.

The number of Shanghai-based foreign employees has been growing in double digits over the past three years.

Statistics show these foreign employees come from 112 countries and regions. The top ten countries contributing the most human resources to Shanghai are Japan, the United States, South Korea, Singapore, Germany, Malaysia, Canada, France, Australia and Britain.

One third of the overseas employees come from Japan, indicating the importance the Japanese businesses attached to the Chinese market.

Of the 15,573 arrivals in 2004, some 9,950 have been employed by foreign-funded firms and 2,220 currently work in non-foreign-funded enterprises, a rise of 63.9 and 14.3 per cent respectively. Meanwhile, representative offices and branches of foreign firms have hired 1,986 and 1,418 foreigners, accounting for 12.8 and 9.1 per cent respectively.

Over half of the foreign employees entered service industry, whereas other job opportunities come from manufacturing, architecture, and financial and insurance industries, according to SMLSSB sources.

As foreigners swarmed to Shanghai, they were contributing more taxes to the municipality. Statistics with the Shanghai municipal taxes department show that foreigners paid some 194.9 million US dollars in income taxes in 2004, or 14.28 per cent of the city's total tax income.

MNA/Xinhua

HK residents born in 1952-53 to apply for smart ID cards

HONG KONG, 25 Jan— People who were born in 1952 or 1953 and hold existing identity cards must apply for smart ID cards from January 24 to March 12 under the Hong Kong Smart ID Card Replacement Exercise, a government Press release said on Monday.

A spokesman for the Immigration Department said the Replacement Exercise covered all Hong Kong residents, whether they are permanent residents or temporary residents taking up employment, investment,

residence, study or work as foreign domestic helpers.

Failure to apply for a new ID card within the specified period without reasonable excuse is an offense, the spokesman said. Offenders could be

prosecuted and liable to a fine of about 642 US dollars. However, those who are away from Hong Kong during the specified period should apply within 30 days of their return to Hong Kong.—MNA/Xinhua

Gunmen kill judge in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 25 Jan — Gunmen killed a judge in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad Tuesday as he was leaving his home, Xinhua reports.

Unidentified gunmen

shot dead Qais Hashim al-Shameri and his son when they were in their car in eastern Baghdad.

Guerillas are targeting the Iraqi government and police officials in an attempt to derail the 30

Jan parliamentary elections.

In recent weeks, Baghdad's provincial governor and the capital's deputy police chief have been killed.

Internet



Vietnam to see more redundant workers this year

HANOI, 25 Jan— The number of people being made redundant due to restructure of state-owned enterprises (SOEs) in Vietnam in 2005 will be equal to that in 13 previous years.

Some 1,500 SOEs, including many large ones are slated for restructure this year, making over 63,000 people redundant, according to sources from the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs on Monday.

To date, nearly 63,300 people being made redundant due to SOE restructure since 1992 have received state financial assistance worth of 118.5 million US dollars.

Vietnam reduced the

number of its SOEs to 4,296 in late 2003 from over 12,000 in early 1992 mainly by equitizing, merging, dissolving and selling them. Some 13.5 per cent of SOEs were loss-making in 2003.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese hostages head home from Iraq

BEIJING, 25 Jan— Eight Chinese men abducted and then released by Iraqi guerillas began their flight home Tuesday, the People's Daily newspaper reported.

The men, ages 18 to 40, travelled to Jordan first, where a government group of rescue officials was to escort them back to Fujian Province in southeast China.

The men were kidnapped in mid-January en route to Jordan by gunmen identifying themselves as the Islamic Resistance Movement. The Chinese had apparently been seeking work as labourers in reconstruction, but had given up and were on their way to Jordan.

The Chinese government called for their immediate release and contacted the Association of Muslim Scholars, an influential religious body in Iraq's Sunni population, for help.

The men were freed Sunday and stayed one day at the Chinese Embassy in Baghdad while travel arrangements were made.

All were reported in good condition.—Internet



Representatives from ASEAN, China, Japan and the United Nations, at a meeting in Beijing to set up a disaster early warning system on 26 Jan, 2005.

INTERNET

1,379 members of US military killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 25 Jan—As of Tuesday, 25 January 2005, at least 1,379 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,080 died as a result of hostile action, the Defence Department said. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is seven higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EST Tuesday.

The British military has reported 76 deaths; Italy, 20; Poland, 16; Ukraine, 16; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Latvia and Kazakhstan one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,241 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 971 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military: Five soldiers died Monday when an armoured vehicle rolled into a canal northeast of Baghdad, Iraq, while patrolling during a sandstorm.

Internet

New national Perodua cars are parked for sale in a garage at a car dealership in Kuala Lumpur on 26 Jan, 2005.

INTERNET

ASEAN+3 tourism ministers meet to boost cooperation

KUALA LUMPUR, 26 Jan— ASEAN tourism ministers are meeting with their counterparts from their three dialogue partners, China, Japan and South Korea, in Malaysia's north island of Langkawi on Tuesday, to step up tourism cooperation in the region.

Their meeting, part of the nine-day 24th ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) which opened on 21 January at the officials level, is expected to give a lift to the tourism industry in countries still recovering from the psychological damage inflicted by the 26 December tidal wave.

ASEAN groups Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

This year's forum, carrying the theme "Shifting Paradigm — Prospering the Region" is attended by some 1,000 participants who include government officials, representatives of tour-

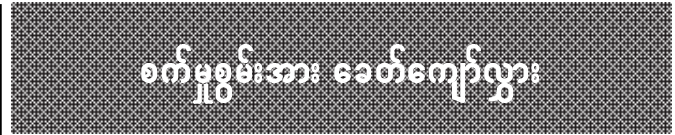
ism associations, buyers and sellers of products and services from Asia and other regions.

This is the fifth time Malaysia is hosting the forum, after 1981, 1987, 1992 and 1997.

Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi will officially open ATF 2005 at Eagle Square in Langkawi, the tourist resort.

From Wednesday, about 400 international buyers of tourism products and services are expected at the ASEAN Travel Exchange exhibition which will last for two days.

MNA/Xinhua



Tourism ministers from thirteen Asian countries attend the ASEAN+3 Tourism Ministers joint media conference in Langkawi, Malaysia, on 25 Jan, 2005.—INTERNET

Iran calls for importing high quality textile from China

TEHERAN, 26 Jan — An Iranian official has called on Iranian businessmen to import high quality textile from China, criticizing their choices of low quality goods, the official IRNA news agency reported on Monday.

"Chinese producers have the capability of producing various quality goods, but Iranian traders, instead of importing the good quality products, import the worst brands of items," Mashalloh Pirouy, member of Iran Textile and Clothing Export Association, said on Sunday.

"Curiously, this is an issue which has also been referred to by some Chinese officials," he said, referring to comments of many Chinese officials stationed in Iran in a bid for a justified image of Chinese goods.

Chinese textile and other light industry products are popular in Iran. However, due to prejudice and lack of investigation, Iranian businessmen often pay attention to the Chinese wholesale markets which only exhibit products of low price.

Trade between Iran and China is growing rapidly. According to the Chinese Embassy in Teheran, bilateral trade volumes reached seven billion US dollars in 2004, with half of the amount coming from China's crude imports from Iran. — MNA/Xinhua

Chinese police seize 11.1 tons of drugs in 2004

BEIJING, 25 Jan— Chinese police seized 11.1 tons of drugs in the nationwide anti-drug campaign between May and November in 2004, an official said here Monday.

During the period, Chinese police closed 34,851 drug-related criminal cases, toppled 2,186 gangs involved in producing, trafficking or taking drugs, and captured 34,719 suspects, said Yang Fengrui, an official with China's Ministry of Public Security at a Press conference.

Official statistics showed that of all the drugs seized by the police, there are 6.66 tons of heroin; 1.14 tons of "ice" drug, or methamphetamine hydrochloride; 549 kilos of opium; and 1.42 tons of marijuana.

Police authorities also confiscated 20 tons of poppy capsules, 61 tons of chemicals used as drug-making materials, 159.46 million yuan, 461 vehicles, and 92 small weapons used for drug

trafficking.

Four Japanese dealers were caught by the police in Shenzhen in south China's Guangdong Province in June 2004 for trading drugs between China and Japan by sea, Yang said.

Three months later, the police from Tibet and northwest China's Gansu Province shut off a trafficking route from Nepal to the Chinese Mainland by capturing four dealers.

As a main gateway from the "Golden Triangle" area to the Chinese inland, southwest China's Yunnan Province started more than 30 joint actions with the neighbouring countries and detained 33 dealers, said Dong Sheng, official with Yunnan provincial police department.— MNA/Xinhua

Democrats denounce Rice over Iraq war

BAGHDAD, 27 Jan—Senate Democrats delivered one of the sharpest critiques yet of the Bush administration's credibility and its handling of the Iraq war yesterday, as the Senate prepared to confirm Condoleezza Rice's nomination to be secretary of state today. Seizing on a nine-hour debate that Republicans had hoped to avoid, several Democrats excoriated the administration's prewar claims about Iraqi weapons and its handling of the ongoing war and transition.

Both parties agreed that Rice, 50, will be confirmed, but that did not stop a cross section of Democrats from questioning her truthfulness in terms that until yesterday were used only by liberal Sen Barbara Boxer.

Some of the most critical Democrats were centrists from states that President Bush won or nearly won in November. Their comments came as recent polls have shown growing public disenchantment with the situation in Iraq.

Too many Republican senators allow Bush's top aides "to get away with lying," said Sen Mark Dayton, a Democrat who opposed the war and will face reelection next year in the swing state of Minnesota. "Lying to Congress, lying to our committees and lying to the American people. It's wrong, it's im-

moral." The only way to stop it, Dayton said, is to keep the administration from promoting officials "who have been instrumental in deceiving Congress and the American people, and regrettably that includes Dr Rice."

Sen Evan Bayh, a possible presidential candidate in 2008 who voted to authorize the war, said Rice "has been a principal architect of policy errors that have tragically undermined our prospects for success" in Iraq. "The list of errors is lengthy and profound, and unfortunately many could have been avoided if Dr Rice and others had only listened to the counsel" of lawmakers from both parties, Bayh said. "This is no ordinary incompetence. Men and women are dying as a result of these mistakes."

Internet

Law and order improved in HK during 2004

HONG KONG, 25 Jan — Law and order improved in Hong Kong in 2004 with falls in most crimes, particularly homicide, robbery, burglary and snatching, said a senior Hong Kong police officer here Monday.

In his year-end review, Commissioner of Police Dick Lee said crime cases in Hong Kong fell 8 per cent to 81,315 in 2004, while the number of violent crimes fell 4.5 per cent to 13,890.

There were fewer robberies, homicides and burglaries. Through effective enforcement strategies, snatching cases fell 3.5 per cent.—MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese woman sells magazines and newspapers at a news stand in Beijing on 26 Jan, 2005.—INTERNET

China's total investment in fixed assets grew 25.8% in 2004

BEIJING, 26 Jan— China recorded 6.2815 trillion yuan (766 billion US dollars) in its overall added industrial value last year, up 11.5 per cent year-on-year, while its total investment in fixed assets grew by 25.8 per cent, down by 1.9 percentage points from 2003.

These figures were released by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) Tuesday. NBS also show China's major industrial firms, or firms whose annual sales revenues exceeding five million yuan (609,000 US dollars), registered a 16.7 per cent increase in its added value in the past year, down slightly from the previous year.

China's coal output grew up by 15 per cent, while power output was up 14.9 per cent. Overall product of pig iron, crude steel, rolled steel rose 24.1

per cent, 32.2 per cent and 23.5 per cent, respectively. The country's automobile sector manufactured 5.2 million units of motor vehicle.

Total profit for China's industrial sector stood at 1.1342 trillion yuan (138.3 billion US dollars), up 38.1 per cent.

The bureau said that investment in fixed assets totalled 7.0073 trillion yuan (about 854.5 billion US dollars), up 25.8 per cent year-on-year, or a drop of 1.9 percentage points from the previous year.

MNA/Xinhua

US hostage pleads for live in video

BAGHDAD, 26 Jan—Guerillas in Iraq released video footage yesterday showing an American contractor held hostage at gunpoint in an apparent attempt to put pressure on US authorities before the Iraqi elections at the weekend.

The film showed a man identified as Roy Hallums sitting cross-legged on the floor with an assault rifle pointed at his head. It is the first time Mr Hallums has been seen since he was kidnapped from his compound in Baghdad two months ago.

It is unclear when the video was recorded but the timing of its release is designed to heighten the campaign of intimidation

and violence before elections on Sunday.

Mr Hallums, 56, worked for a Saudi Arabian food contractor and was seized along with five other people on 1 November last year. Four of the others taken with him have been released but Mr Hallums and one other man, a Filipino, are still missing.

Guerillas in Iraq began kidnapping westerners last spring and have seized

around 100 people.

Often they have made political demands in return for their victims' lives, forcing foreign contracting firms to pull out of Iraq or insisting on a US troop withdrawal.

Several times ransoms have been secretly paid to secure releases but more than 30 people have been killed, including the Britons Ken Bigley and Margaret Hassan.

Internet

Samsung Electronics begins mass-producing world's fastest chip

SEOUL, 26 Jan— South Korea's Samsung Electronics said Tuesday it had started mass-producing what it called the world's fastest data-processing memory chip for multimedia applications.

The new 256 megabit XDR DRAM chip is up to 10 times faster than memory chips now widely used to run videos, game consoles, digital TVs,

servers and workstations, Samsung said in a statement.

Mueez Deen, a Samsung Electronics marketing director, said

the new product "has tremendous potential to become a leading memory solution for today's highest-performance multimedia applications".

Samsung, citing market research, said it expected the new XDR DRAM chip market to grow steadily from this year to 800 million units by 2009. Samsung said it plans to introduce an upgraded 512 megabit XDR DRAM chip during the first half of this year.

MNA/AFP

A Samsung employee unveils the new 'SCH-S310' mobile phone at the company headquarters in Seoul on 25 Jan, 2005. Samsung said it has developed the world's first mobile phone with motion-recognition capabilities, unveiling yet another technical coup.—INTERNET



China's import of crude oil in 2004 hit 122.72 million tons

BEIJING, 26 Jan— China imported 122.72 million tons of crude oil last year, up 34.8 per cent over the previous year, said a senior official with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) here on Tuesday.

Last year, China imported 37.88 million tons of refined oil, a rise of 34.1 per cent, said NBS Director Li Deshui at a Press conference.

China also exported

5.49 million tons of crude oil and 11.46 million tons of refined oil in 2004.

Statistics with China's Customs show that in 2003, China imported

91.12 million tons of crude oil valued at 19.81 billion US dollars, and 28.24 million tons of refined oil valued at 5.86 billion US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua



A man rides his tricycle past a closed Lenovo shopfront in Beijing on 25 Jan, 2005.—INTERNET

APF to cooperate in facing environmental catastrophes

KUALA LUMPUR, 26 Jan— Ministers and representatives of countries and region attending the 5th Asia Pacific Ministers Forum on Infrastructure Development have agreed to work together in facing environmental catastrophes.

In a joint communique at the end of their two-day meeting Tuesday, they acknowledged that natural disasters do not recognize national borders.

They were committed to share information and further develop early warning systems on natural disasters especially earthquakes and tsunamis.

In this regard, they agreed that infrastructure development carried out in their countries and region would inculcate the spirit of sharing of knowledge, expertise and experience for capacity building, as well as to utilize the best environmental protection practices.

The members of the forum would promote and adopt development strategies that ensure the safety of life and property in har-

mony with the environment for future sustainability, the communique said.

It said that the forum members would adopt a scientific and technological approach in solving environmental concerns with a view to saving unrenewable resources.

They would inculcate a culture of excellence from the highest level of government, and providing guidance for the population towards the creation of a recycling-oriented society, added.

The forum's members are Japan, Colombia, Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, South Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Singapore, United States, Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia.—MNA/Xinhua

HK wins top video award in Columbus Film & Video Festival

HONG KONG, 26 Jan— Hong Kong has won a prestigious award at the 2004 Columbus Film & Video Festival in the United States, a government web site said Tuesday.

The video "Hong Kong - Asia's world city" was commissioned last year by the Information Services Department as part of ongoing efforts to promote Hong Kong internationally.

The video received the Chris Award in the Business and Industry category. To achieve the Chris Award - the highest given to a film or video production—videos must receive a "7 out of 7" rating for superior quality production. "Hong Kong - Asia's world city" was the only video in the category to receive the award, edging out 14 other productions from the United States and Canada.

The Columbus Film & Video Festival is a long-established event with a 52-year history and its Chris Award is highly respected by film and video makers around the world.—MNA/Xinhua

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



Passengers board a China Southern Airlines plane at Baiyun Airport in Guangzhou, southern China's Guangdong Province on 25 Jan, 2005. China Southern Airlines will order five A380 planes from Airbus this week, becoming the first Chinese carrier to buy the new giant superjumbo.—INTERNET

မြို့ခြံရွှေတာ၊ ထိန်းပါးလေလွန်၊ ထုတ်ကုန်မြှင့်

Vietnam to export more pepper in January

HANOI, 25 Jan— Vietnam, the world's biggest pepper exporter, is estimated to ship abroad 3,600 tons of pepper worth five million US dollars in the first month of this year, posting respective year-on-year rises of 21.1 per cent and 25, the country's General Statistics Office said on Monday.

The increase is mainly attributed to greater demand for Vietnamese pepper of its major importers, including the European Union, the United States, Singapore, Russia and the United Arab Emirates and Indonesia, and higher quality of the pepper, both black and white one. Vietnam exported 110,000 tons of pepper totalling 150 million US dollars in 2004, up 48.5 per cent in volume and 42.6 per cent in value against 2003, the office said. The country plans to increase its pepper acreage by 15,000 hectares by late 2005 from 52,000 hectares. It will strive to become a member of the International Pepper Community and establish national trademarks for its pepper products. *MNA/Xinhua*

Beijing Olympic venues construction to speed up

BEIJING, 25 Jan— Construction of Olympic infrastructure will move into overdrive this year with work starting on stadiums, the athletes village, roads and rail lines, the mayor of Beijing was quoted as saying Monday.

"We will spare no efforts to ensure a successful completion of Olympic venues and auxiliary facilities," Mayor Wang Qishan said of the 2008 Olympics in a report on the work of the municipal government.

"New venues, the National Conference Centre, the Olympic Village and the journalists' village will start construction this year," *China Daily* cited him as telling the 12th Beijing Municipal People's Congress.

"We will speed up road building and building facilities surrounding the venues and start work on scenic projects in the central area of the Olympic Park," Wang said.

Construction of four urban railway lines to cope with the influx of visitors expected to visit the Chinese capital would also be sped up, he added.

While Wang did not say which venues would

get started this year, the main 80,000-seat National Stadium is already under way, with construction of a new and cheaper version beginning last month.

Initial plans to equip the stadium with an expensive retractable steel roof have now been scrapped amid a general austerity drive. Construction of the stadium, nicknamed the "Bird's Nest" because of its giant lattice-work structure of irregularly angled metal girders, was abruptly halted in late July.

Lack of money was cited as a top reason while officials were also worried about safety and the design's overemphasis on visual effects and extravagant imagery, according to reports.

The original design was billed at about 3.9 billion yuan (470 million dollars), while the re-design should cut costs to about 2.3 billion yuan, state media reported earlier.—*MNA/AFP*

Domestic helpers in great demand in Shenzhen

SHENZHEN, 23 Jan— Demand for domestic helpers in Shenzhen, a boomtown facing Hong Kong across a river in south China's Guangdong Province, is placed at 120,000, said information from the Domestic Service Association of the city.

A survey carried out by the association stated that over some 300 home service companies show the shortage of nannies is no longer only felt around major festive seasons of a year, but all year round, so 40 per cent of domestic service companies in the city are obliged to shut

down. "Shortage of human resources has become more and more serious since early last year," said Chen Jiyu, head of the association.

Because of the shortage, seven of the eight domestic service companies surveyed in Buxin Neighbourhood, Luohu District, for instance, have closed down.

Some 70 per cent of domestic helpers in Shenzhen used to come from Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, a close neighbour of Guangdong, but in recent years, there have been a tendency that a growing number of people in Guangxi and other interior areas such as Hunan, Jiangxi and Henan could easily find jobs near their homes because of economic growth in their re-

spective regions, so the aspiration of finding employment in Shenzhen is not so strong, said Wan Mengping, deputy head of the association.

Wan also cited low pay and longer hours as two other reasons that make many labourers preferred working in other sectors of businesses instead of domestic service work.

Shenzhen, which was a tiny fishing village in southern Guangdong Province until it was named China's first special economic zone in 1980, has a population of around 7 million and serves as a gateway to the prosperous Pearl River Delta region. It is now one of the country's leading foreign trade players and a base for export-oriented processing business.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Philippine imports grew by 2.4% in November 2004

MANILA, 25 Jan— Philippine merchandise imports grew 2.4 per cent year-on-year in November, 2004, much lower than the 16.3 per cent in the previous month, the National Statistics Office said Tuesday.

The balance of trade deficit from January to November reached 924 million US dollars, lower than the about 1.37 billion dollars recorded during the same period in 2003, the NSO said. In November, 2004, the Philippines recorded a balance of trade surplus of 333 million US dollars, while it got a 193-million-US-dollar deficit during the same period in 2003. Electronics was the top import item, accounting for 43.8 per cent of the import bill and worth 1.47 billion US dollars. The balance of trade is a record of the country's transactions with the rest of the world and is an indication of the inflow of foreign currencies into the country.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Singapore's birth rate hits record low in 2004

SINGAPORE, 25 Jan— A historic low record of 36,900 babies were born in Singapore last year, 700 fewer than that of the previous year, according to the Ministry of Health on Monday.

Though 50,000 newborn babies are needed for the population replacement in Singapore, birth figures have been declining since 1990 and fell below the 40,000-mark in 2002.

MNA/Xinhua

Property prices rise due to investor confidence in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 25 Jan— Property prices in Phnom Penh is rising due to the investor confidence in political stability for Cambodia, local media reported on Tuesday.

According to estate agents and business experts, in late 2003 and 2004, property prices in Phnom Penh rose 15 per cent to 20 per cent every six months.

Following the government formation on July 15, 2004, confidence increased, and money moved from land speculation to construction work, The *Cambodia*

Daily quoted Tim Smyth, Indochina Research managing director, as saying.

Some experts predicted that in the next five years, property prices in the city will likely rise several hundred per cent, especially those land and property on downtown area and riverside.

Land on Norodom Boulevard, one of the most expensive areas, has al-

ready increased in price from about 500 US dollars per square metre five years ago to 800 US dollars to 1,000 US dollars per square metre today.

The top foreign property investors in Phnom Penh are Chinese, followed by South Koreans, said Saroeun South, managing director of Asia Real Property Co Ltd.

MNA/Xinhua



Renault Samsung, the South Korean unit of French automaker Renault SA, unveiled a new SM5 sedan model in Seoul in an effort to boost its share of a slumping domestic market on 25 Jan, 2005.—INTERNET

Foot and Mouth Disease control in border area of Upper Mekong Basin

Dr Maung Maung Kyin

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), one of the infectious diseases of cloven hoofed animals such as cattle, buffaloes, pigs, sheep and goats, is caused by *foot and mouth disease virus* which can transmit very easily by air borne infection from one place to another. It is also known as Transboundary Animal Dis-

ease (TAD) that can spread through the border area by air particles when FMD outbreaks occur. Because of great economic losses and trading problem with this devastating disease, many countries of the world are trying to control and eradicate FMD. For the developing countries of South East Asia (SEA), systematic FMD control and eradication process such as blanket vaccination, complete sero-surveillance will be very costly to afford. Therefore, the control strate-

gies of progressive zoning approach will be the best option to initiate in SEA region. According to the statistics in 2003-04, estimated FMD susceptible animals in Myanmar are 11.7 millions cattle, 2.6 million buffaloes, 4.8 million pigs and 2.2 million sheep and goats. As FMD is endemic in Myanmar, it is now necessary to concen-

trate on and accelerate in FMD control and eradication for every year's disturbances in livestock sector and animal draft power in agricultural production. For the successful implementation of FMD control and eradication in Myanmar, the first and second meeting of Myanmar Zoning Working Group for FMD control were held in Yangon and Mandalay in January and October 2004 respectively. Four zoning options have been recommended by the meetings. The priorities will be zoning approach in Rakhine

State, Myanmar-Thailand - Malaysia (MTM) Peninsular Campaign for FMD freedom in Taninthayi Division, Upper Mekong Basin buffer zone (eastern part of Shan State) and Sagaing Division in the upper Myanmar. Among these options, Upper Mekong area FMD control zone programme involves five countries bordering the Mekong River

for FMD in the Upper Mekong Basin and refinement of the proposal to develop a detailed plan for establishment of a control zone for FMD. The meetings of Upper Mekong Working Group (UMWG) also recommended to establish a buffer zone parallel to the Mekong River in Eastern Shan State, Myanmar. Tachilek and Mongyayng townships will be included in buffer zone of this FMD campaign. Primary surveillance and strategic vaccination in the buffer zone have been carried out to understand the epidemiology of the disease in this area and for the prevention of the disease. Animal movement patterns were discussed and animal checkpoint has been established at Tale between Tachilek and Monghyat townships. Kengtung Animal Quarantine Laboratory build-

ing has been constructed for the inspection of diseases that are prevalent in this region. As the meetings of the Upper Mekong Working Group for establishment of Transboundary Animal Disease control zone are to be held in rotation in the countries of Upper part of the Mekong River, the fourth meeting will be hosted by Myanmar. The meeting is to be held at the Sedona Hotel in Yangon and Kengtung Hotel in Kengtung on 26-29 January 2005. Dr Teruhide Fujita, Regional Representative of OIE (World Organization for Animal Health), Dr Ronello Abila, OIE Regional Coordination Unit for FMD Control in South East Asia, responsible personnel from FAO, JICA, AusAID and National Coordinators from P R China, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam will attend this meeting.

Nowadays every country wishes to combat the disease to prevent their economic losses in the area of livestock production, rural draft power development in agriculture and weakness in export potential of animals and animal products. By strong cooperation and harmonious efforts between neighboring countries in the Mekong River basin, disease free status may be achieved in the near future. Therefore, it is believed that Fourth Meeting of the Upper Mekong Working Group on Zoning for FMD and Animal Movement Management to be held in Myanmar would assist the improvement of regional food security and to produce more healthy draft cattle and buffaloes in South East Asia.



Blood sample collection by vacutainer for FMD sero-surveillance in Wangnaung Village, Monghyat Township.

ZONING UPPER MEKONG BASIN



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Representative of JICA Mr Takahiro Sasaki presents lab equipment to Director-General U Maung Maung Nyunt.—L&F

Clinical equipment for prevention of avian flu donated to LBVD

YANGON, 26 Jan—A ceremony to donate lab equipment, kit for disease diagnosis and other clinical equipment for prevention of avian flu to the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) was held at the ministry this morning.

It was attended by Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Nobutake Odano, Resident Representative of JICA Mr Takahiro

Sasaki, directors-general and the managing director of departments and enterprise under the ministry, head of office and officials.

Director-General U Maung Maung Nyunt and Resident Representative of JICA Mr Takahiro Sasaki explained the purpose of the donation.

Next, Resident Representative of JICA Mr Takahiro Sasaki presented the donations.

Director-General U Maung Maung Nyunt accepted the donations and presented certificates of honour to the well-wishers.

MNA

Knowledge on AIDS prevention...

(from page 1)

Chairman Professor Dr Ba Myint and executives, members, delegates, resident representatives of UN agencies, representatives of NGOs at home and abroad, and distinguished guests.

The NHC chairman in his speech said that under the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, the government is widening the scope of measures for progress of border areas and health care services for national people in these regions by means of installation of modern medical equipment in the hospitals in the states and divisions, the opening of more hospitals and health care centres, and extended appointment of doctors, nurses and dental surgeons. Myanmar now has only around 1,500 dental surgeons, and the figure is not well proportionate if compared with the nation's population, he pointed out.

According to the plan for development of human resources that is under way, the government is opening more institutes of medicines and institutes of dental medicine and so the figure of the students has increased more than two times, he noted.

Based on the volume of financial allotment, teaching and learning aids have been provided for the education institutions, he said.

An academic hospital will be put into service soon in the compound of the Institute of Dental Medicine (Yangon), and the hospital will perform dental, maxillo-facial and oral operations to cleft lip and palate patients. It is indeed an honour and advancement to be proud of in the time of the SPDC, he remarked.

Medicine and medical equipment sale rooms opened

YANGON, 26 Jan — Medicine and medical equipment sale rooms of the Myanmar Dental Association were opened this morning at Traders Hotel, attended by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo, directors-general, deputy directors-general, rectors, Chairman of MDA Dr Ba Myint, CEC members, delegates of the association and guests.

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint formally opened and viewed round the sale rooms. Afterwards, the 6th FDI-MDA Joint Educational Meeting continued and chairman of MDA Prof Dr Ba Myint and Delegate of FDI (World Dental Federation) Dr Yip Wing Kong made opening speeches.

Chairman of Reception Committee Prof Dr Thein Htut extended greetings. Secretary Prof Dr Myo Win read the report of executive committee and Treasurer Dr Aye Aye Cho financial statement.

Next, the messages submitted to the 25th MDA were read out. The 25th Myanmar Dental Conference and the 6th FDI-MDA Joint Educational Meeting continue up to 29 January together with sports competitions and paying respects to elders. — MNA



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint visits a pavilion of dental medicines and equipment at the 25th Myanmar Dental Conference. —MNA

The MDSc course and dental diploma course have been opened for development of dental medicine. It is a pride for the profession to conduct doctorate degree courses including oral medicine and oral pathology Ph D course. The Government has included the primary oral health care project in the national health programmes. The project was launched in 1991, and it has now covered 87 townships. Under the project, rural health care workers are being trained to conduct primary oral health care services for the people. In-service doctors and those from the private sector of the MDA are making field tours to treat the rural people. As 70 per cent of the population are rural dwellers, the five-year rural development project has been implemented with the guidance of the Head of State. Members of the MDA are required to play a vital role in implementing the all-round development projects. AIDS is now spreading in the Asian nations as well as other parts of the world. Knowledge on prevention and control of AIDS in dentistry has been disseminated to state and division associations of the MDA. Thus, the dental doctors should strictly follow the procedures.

He said Myanmar Dental Association laid emphasis on continuing education of dental surgeons in 2004. He spoke of giving lectures on respective sub-

jects, holding of conference in cooperation with scholars from abroad and making arrangements for improvement of related fields.

The joint scientific meeting was held in Yangon last July with the help of International College of Continuing Dental Education. He said he learnt that scholars from ICCDE gave lectures on modern techniques regarding seven subjects. Last July major oral surgical and cleft lip and palate surgical repair was performed by oral surgeon Dr Myra Elliott of Singapore and dental surgeons of Myanmar under the arrangement of MDA and with the assistance of ICCDE.

In conclusion, he noted while the State Peace and Development Council is making concerted efforts for emergence of a modern developed new nation, the MDA is to carry out oral and dental health care service for the people.

He also urged the association to make attempts to catch up with the standard of neighbouring and ASEAN nations, to make arrangements for study of advanced technology on dental science and to try to stand as an organization that leads dental surgeons.

Next, the Secretary-1 cordially greeted delegates of international organizations, FDI and the chairman of MDA and its members.—MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presents prizes to winners in 14th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition

YANGON, 26 Jan — The concluding ceremony of the 14th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition to mark the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2005 was held in conjunction with the prize presentation ceremony at the People's Square on Pyay Road, here, at 7.30 am today, attended by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of the Management Committee Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun, Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Win Myint, Chairman of the Committee for Holding of the Competition Vice-Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Vice-Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Htin Aung Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, senior military officers, departmental officials, members of the Management Committee and sub-committees, members of the panel of judges, officers, other ranks and family members, bands of basic education schools in Yangon Division, Myanmar Police Force and Fire Services Department, students and guests. All the bands saluted Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, the State Flag and fallen Tatmadawmen and recited the four oaths.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented C-class Best Conductor Award, B-class Best Conductor Award and A-class Best Conductor Award to the winners. He also gave away first, second and third and seven consolation prizes in the C class Band Contest to respective bands. Likewise, he awarded seven consolation prizes and first, second and third prizes to the respective bands in the B class Band Contest.



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presents best conductor award (A Class) to the leader of the team representing the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Navy). — MNA

After the prize presentation ceremony, bands comprising students of Hlinethaya BEHS No 2 and Mingala Taungnyunt BEHS No 3, the first prize-winning bands representing No 55 LID in the C-class contest, that of Yangon Command in the B-class contest and that of the office of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Guard of Honour and the Military Band demonstrated skills demonstration.

Vice-Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe presented cash prizes to leaders of the school bands and Vice-Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Htin Aung Kyaw, cash awards to the musicians.—MNA

Customs day observed

YANGON, 26 Jan—The Customs Department marked the Customs day at its training hall on Maha Bandoola Street here this morning.

It was attended by Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, departmental heads, officials and staff.

On the occasion, the minister said that the Customs Department is an organization that has to levy taxes and to prevent illegally imported goods to the

nation, so it needs to apply simple and effective procedures for proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system and contributing towards promotion of trade with international community.

In conclusion, he exhorted the service personnel to try their best to become reliable ones with good morality. The minister, the deputy minister, Director-General Col Khin Maung Lin, and Deputy Director-General Thiha Thura U Thein Tun Tin presented gifts to outstanding staff, and outstanding students of the service personnel. — MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint on inspection...

(from page 16)

After inspecting the construction site on Sagaing bank, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to the site of the project on Mandalay bank. Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Nay Win and officials welcomed them. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party viewed round the construction site.

In the briefing hall, Deputy Superintending Engineer U Htay Myint submitted reports on progress of the project and future tasks. The com-

mander and officials gave supplementary reports. A total of 160 bored piles have been erected and cross beams installed from M1 to M16 of the approach bridge on Mandalay bank. A total of 128 girders have been built and 120 concrete beams laid. And, two spans of reinforced concrete floor have been built between RP1 and M2. At the main bridge construction site, RP1 and RP2 have been connected with cross beams. A total of 24 bored piles have been built at RP3 and 14 bored piles

at RP4. And, iron frames are being installed at the bridge on Mandalay bank.

On arrival at Mandalay General Hospital, Lt-Gen Ye Myint asked after health of Phayagyi Taik Naya Monastery Sayadaw State Ovadaçariya Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Medhiyabhivamsa, aged 95, vasa 74 being warded at ICU of the hospital. He donated alms to the Sayadaw.

This morning, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party arrived back here.—MNA



Member of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin being welcomed by Indian Ambassador Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia at the reception to mark the 56th anniversary of the Republic Day of India on 26-1-2005. — MNA

Yangon Command Commander meets UDNR trainees of excursion tour



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe cordially greets the trainees. —MNA

YANGON, 26 Jan — Chairman of the Management Committee for Excursion Tour of the BE4 Four-year Course No 36 of University for Development of National Races Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe arrived

at No 1 Transit Centre on Bayintnaung Road today and cordially greeted the trainees of the tour.

Also present during his meeting with the trainees were Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun and members, Chairman of Subcommittee for Reception and Accommodation

Commandant of Defence Services Records Office and Commander of No 2 Military Region Brig-Gen Myo Myint and officials, Rector of UDNR Col Zaw Min Thein and lecturers.

After the meeting, the commander and party inspected the arrangements for accommodation of the trainees. — MNA

UDNR trainees on sightseeing tour of Yangon downtown

YANGON, 26 Jan — A total of 254 trainees of BE4 Four-year Course No 36 of University for Development of National Races led by Rector Col Zaw Min Thein and officials, arrived in Yangon by train this morning to study latest developments of the State and pay homage to the pagodas in Yangon.

They were welcomed at Yangon Railways Station by Chairman of the Reception and Accommodation Subcommittee Commandant of Defence Services Records Office and Commander of No 2 Military Region Brig-Gen Myo Myint, Secretary of the Management Committee Director-

General U Hla Kyi of Civil Service Selection and Training Department and officials. The trainees were accommodated at No 1 Transit Centre on Bayintnaung Road.

On arrival at Drug Elimination Museum, Deputy Director of the museum Police Lt-Col Htay Aung explained endeavours of the government in striving for drug elimination. The trainees visited the museum.

They proceeded to the People's Square and the People's Park on Pyay Road where Head of Parks and Playgrounds Department U Nyunt Pe briefed them on facts about the park and square. The trainees viewed round the

booths at the Pyidaungsu Ayeyeknyeinn.

At the Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda Road, Head of the museum Lt-Col Zaw Win explained matters related to the museum. The excursion team members toured the booths at the museum.

The trainees went to the National Museum where they were welcomed by Director-General U Myint Thein Swe of the Department of Cultural Institute and officials. Director of the museum Daw Nu Mra Zan briefed them on facts about the museum. After visiting the museum, one of the trainees expressed gratitude.—MNA

Even border areas now enjoying...

(from page 16)

of the State. With this end in view, the government is implementing projects for progress of border areas and national races and in fact that can build up national unity. It has been able to realize special projects in various sectors for development of respective areas. As a result, the

he noted. The ultimate goal of the entire people is emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation with discipline-flourishing democracy, he said.

In this context, the government announced the State's seven-step Road Map on 30 August 2003. Then, it held the first session of the first stage of the

regions in states and divisions from 20 September to 19 October 2003, and the Bagan Mass Rally in Bagan Archaeological Region in Mandalay Division on 21 October 2003. On the occasions, the entire participants supported the programme with one voice, he disclosed.

In conclusion, he called



Members of the panel of chairmen at the ceremony. — MNA

entire nation has enjoyed all-round progress. He called on the national people to maintain the rhythm, to be equipped with national fervour and Union Spirit, and to uphold the national policy "non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty,

National Convention from 17 May to 9 July 2004, which had been adjourned since 1996. The seven-point Road Map is the rays of hope of the nation as well as the very policy, to which the people are looking forward. The USDA organized the mass rallies to support the seven-step programme at 17 different

on the members to safeguard the Union, to actively participate in the drive for successful implementation of the State's political programme by doing their bit, to support the National Convention, and to further contribute towards national and regional progress endeavours.

(See page 11)



On behalf of U Bo Tint-Daw Aye Aye Thein, U Tun Yay hands over K 5 million for construction of six bridges to Wetlet Township USDA Secretary U Soe Aye. — MNA

Meeting on Foot & Mouth Disease held

YANGON, 26 Jan — The Fourth Meeting of the Upper Mekong Working Group on Zoning for FMD and Animal Movement Management was opened at Sedona Hotel on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this morning.

Present on the occasion were departmental heads under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, officials of Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation, delegation members and observers of Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam and Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China and officials of the State and Division Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Departments.

Director-General of LBVD U Maung Maung Nyunt extended greetings. Next, OIE Regional Representative Dr Teruhide Fujita, Dr Carolyn Benigon of FAO and SEAFMD Coordinator Dr Ronello Abila gave speeches.

Those present posed for documentary photo. Next, the meeting followed. Deputy Director-General Dr Than Daing of the department presided over the meeting.

Dr Ronello Abila discussed the summary of the outcomes of the previous workshop and regional progress in FMD control in SEA. Dr Teruhide Fujita of OIE, Dr Carolyn Benigon of FAO and Dr Wilai Linchongsubongkoch reported on activities concerning the FMD control.

Dr Peter Black of Australia DAFF explained surveillance strategy for upper Mekong. Next, participants took part in the discussions.

The meeting continues its next session in Kengtung of Shan State (East) on 28 January. The participants will make field trips to observe FMD control in Kengtung region. — MNA

Minister makes inspection tour of dams in Yangon, Bago (West) Divs



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects water control tower at Thonze Dam in Thayawady Township on 23 January. — A&I

YANGON, 26 Jan — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo together with Director-General of Irrigation Department U Kyaw San Win made an inspection tour of Tabuhla (Okkan) dam, Taikkyi Township, Yangon North District on 23 January, where the former checked cultivation of summer paddy and water supply. Similarly, he also looked into summer paddy

and water supply in Thayawady Township, Bago (West) irrigating from Thonze dam today.

Next, the minister met local farmers and instructed them to meet the target of per-acre yield and use the fertilizers efficiently. And he also sawover digging of canal.

At the briefing hall, when the deputy director of Irrigation Department Construction Group-9 reported current implementation on canal and tasks to be carried out, the minister gave necessary instructions on water supply for cultivation of crops. After that, he inspected main embank-

ment of Thonze dam, its storage of water, conduit and sluice gate.

Afterwards, the minister looked over water supply, cultivation of summer paddy in Minhla, Gyobingauk and Zegon Townships in Bago Division (West).

MNA

Production sharing contract inked

YANGON, 26 Jan — The Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise of the Ministry of Energy and CNOOC Myanmar Limited of the People's Republic of China signed a production sharing contract on exploration of oil and natural gas at Block No C-1 (Indaw-Yenan Region), and Block No C-2 (Shwebo-Monywa Region) in the inland areas and Block M-2 in Mottama Offshore region at the Traders Hotel yesterday evening.

Present at the signing ceremony were Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung

Maung Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Minister for Science and Technology U Thaug, Deputy Chairman of MIC Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun, Singaporean Ambassador Mr T Jasudasen, Executive Director and Chairman of CNOOC Myanmar Ltd Mr Zhou Shouwei, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of China Huanqiu Contracting & Engineering Corp Mr Wang Shihong, guests and departmental officials.

Minister for Energy

Brig-Gen Lun Thi delivered an opening address. Executive Director and Chairman of CNOOC Ltd Mr Zhou Shouwei, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of CHC & EC Mr Wang Shihong and Managing Director of MOGE U San Lwin expressed thanks.

Afterwards, the Managing Director and the Executive Director and Chairman of CNOOC Myanmar Ltd exchanged the documents.

Next, the Energy Minister and Minister U Thaug presented the permits of Ministry of Energy and Myanmar Investment Commission to the Executive Director and Chairman of CNOOC.

MNA



NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION: The National Day reception of Australia was held Wednesday. Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife Daw Myint Myint Soe being welcomed by Charge d'Affaires ai of Australian Embassy Mr Douglas Robert Trappett and wife at the reception. — MNA

Medicines and relief supplies donated to tsunami victims

YANGON, 26 Jan — The organizations under the United Nations and international social organizations donated medicines and relief supplies to victims in tsunami-hit regions of Myanmar at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Health on Pyidaungshu Yeiktha Street, Dagon Township yesterday morning.

Attendance at the

donation ceremony were Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo and officials.

Donations for the victims were US\$ 150,000 contributed by UNDP; US\$ 78,979 by WHO; US\$ 94,963 by UNICEF; US\$ 500,000 by FAO; US\$

30,000 by Humanitarian Service International; US\$ 505,000 by World Vision International and medicines and relief supplies worth US\$ 1,358,942 by Support Fund Myanmar. The ministers and officials of Myanmar Red Cross Society accepted the donations. After the donations, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint expressed thanks.

MNA

Agricultural Statistics and Information in ASEAN+3 Countries meeting continues

YANGON, 26 Jan — The Meeting of Directors-General of Agricultural Statistics and Information in ASEAN+3 Countries and the Third Focal Point Meeting of AFSIS Project continued at Kandawgyi Palace Hotel this morning.

During the meeting, representatives of Lao PDR, Malaysia and Vietnam presented as to the holding of meeting at national level and those of China, Japan and Korea held discussions giving lectures on project courses

and arrangements to be made for the project in 2005.

There had been discussions on financial report during 2004 and arrangements to be made for sharing the funds in 2005.

MNA



Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi presents permit to Executive Director and Chairman of CNOOC Myanmar Ltd Mr Zhou Shouwei.

ENERGY

All this needs to be known

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

Even border areas now enjoying...

(from page 9)

Member of Wetlet Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Mya Win said that the national brethren have been living in the Union in unity and though



Townselder U Than Tun of Wetlet. — MNA

thick and thin till now. It is the historic duty of all the nationalities to further strengthen family character and Union Spirit among them through tireless efforts. The colonialists applied various administrative systems to destroy the national unity, nationalistic fervour, patriotism and cause doubts among them. But Myanmar were able to regain independence with anti-colonialist struggle, Union Spirit, and nationalism. The doubts and disagreements resulting from the wounds the nation had suffered from the colonialist dissension was the root cause behind the doubts and disagreements that appeared among the national brethren, followed by armed insurgency that lasted for over 40 years. As the successive governments failed to address the prob-

lem, the nation lagged behind in development. Taking the lessons of the past, the State Peace and Development Council has given priority to cementing national unity, and understanding and sympathy among the national people and perpetuation of sovereignty. Even the border areas are now enjoying the fruits of national development. The Government has



Shwebo District USDA Secretary U Tun Ko Ko. — MNA

been implementing the rural development task and the 24-development zone projects for the development undertakings to reach every part of the nation. As the nation is now enjoying peace and stability, the Government is materializing the seven-point Road Map to build a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic state. The 2004 USDA Annual General Meeting has agreed to strive for the success of the Road Map, and all the USDA members will make efforts to reach this end.

The 58th Anniversary Union Day will be

observed with the following 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 spirit for its perpetual existence
- to prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining



Dabayin Township USDA Secretary U Bo Myint. — MNA

- 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 polity programme.

Townselder U Than Tun said that because of sectorial and personal prejudices and misunderstandings that appeared after the regaining of inde-

pendence, the nation lagged behind in development. The National Convention that resumed on 17 May 2004 is the first step of the seven-point Road Map. A total of 1,088 representatives from eight categories of delegate groups are attending the National Convention. It is a convention where the forces of the nation are trying to shape her future. Except Britain and New Zealand, all the 193 countries of the world have their own constitution. The National Convention is in the process to draft a constitution. It is laying down the basic principles to draw a constitution. A democratic nation will emerge only if the National Convention is successful. The delegates have already agreed the 104 basic principles. Political science says that a state cannot exist without a con-



Wetlet Township MCWA member Daw Khin Mya Win. — MNA

stitution, and that without a state there cannot be a social community enjoying systematic progress.

The National Convention has been convened with the following objectives:

- non-disintegration of the Union;
- non-disintegration of national solidarity;
- perpetuity of sovereignty;
- flourishing of a genuine multiparty democracy system;
- further burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values such as justice, liberty and equality; and
- the Tatmadaw to be able to participate in the national political leadership role of the future State.

The National Con-

4th MICT Week-2005 continues

YANGON, 26 Jan — The 4th MICT Week-2005 continued at MICT Park in Hline Township today.

Those who are interested in ICT, service personnel, entrepreneurs, teachers, students and people visited the booths.

A total of 14 booths of the ministries and 196 booths of ICT companies are being put on display. At the MICT Park, talks on IT Product Presentation were held. In the afternoon, U Thein Htut, U Wai Lin Kyaw and U Zaw Htut of Myanmar Language Research Lab gave lectures on Myanmar language at the Third Generation Myanmar Software Workshop.— MNA

vention has already designated the 15 Chapter Headings. Emergence of a constitution is a national responsibility. Delegates representing all walks of life and national groups are attending the Convention. The entire people supported the National Convention for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic state.

In connection with rural development, Secretary of Dabayin Township USDA U Bo Myint said the State Peace and Development Council has laid down five



Shwebo District USDA Executive U Myat Myo Nyunt. — MNA

rural development tasks and is implementing them for narrowing the gap between urban and rural areas. USDAs at different levels in Shwebo District in cooperation with local people carried out the regional development tasks such as power supply in villages, construction and repair of schools, installation of telephone, construction of village-to-village roads and availability of water for drinking and agricultural purpose.

Hydro-electric power and bio-gas projects were launched in four townships under the instruction of CEC member of the USDA.

Arrangements are being made for construction of bio-gas projects in three townships.

He also spoke at length on construction of primary schools and installation of telephone in six townships.

He explained about future tasks to be undertaken by Shwebo District USDA. He said the District USDA will serve the interests of the nation and its people.

In his discussions, executive U Myat Myo Nyunt of Shwebo District USDA said the Union spirit is essential for eternal peace and development in the country. Observance of the Union Day every year contributes towards national solidarity among the national races. Therefore, national solidarity leads to non-disintegration of the Union.

Though the country is rich in natural resources, people did not fully enjoy genuine peace and development.

The seven-point Road Map of national politics has emerged for development of the country as long as the world exists. The national convention, the first and the most basic factor of the Road Map, is in progress. People from all strata had discussions about detailed valuable basic principles and soon the State Constitution will emerge.

He said hydel power stations were built, canals of 12,000 feet were dug, 30 hand pumps and five lakes were built under the arrangement of District USDA. This is why he supported rural development tasks of USDA.

Next, well-wishers presented cash for construction of schools and bridges to officials. U Than Tun Aung of Hladaw Model Village presented 10,800 membership applications to Executive U Nay Lin Than of District USDA.

Next, the meeting approved the motions to commemorate the Union Day and to support the National Convention and rural development tasks. The meeting ended with shouting slogans.— MNA

Myanmar Tong Tah Trade Fair opened



Director-General U Nyunt Aye, Tong Tah Co Ltd Chairman Mr Peter Loh and Managing Director U Khin Maung Latt formally open Myanmar Tong Tah Trade Fair-2005. — MNA

YANGON, 26 Jan — With the aim of launching the import products to the people, the Myanmar Tong Tah Trade Fair 2005 organized by Tong Tah Co Ltd with the assistance of the Ministry of Commerce was opened this morning at Yangon Trade Centre on Upper Pazundaung Road in Mingala Taungnyunt Township.

Director-General of the Directorate of Trade of the Ministry of Commerce U Nyunt Aye, Chairman of Tong Tah Co Ltd Mr Peter Loh and Managing Director U Khin Maung Latt formally opened the fair.

Next, the guests viewed around the booths.

Tong Tah Co Ltd and 64 companies from local and abroad display their prod-

ucts at the fair with the booths of textile, cosmetics, foodstuff, electric and electronic appliances, generators and engines, domestic decoration parquet and cornice, stationery, printers and spare parts and automobiles made in industrial zones. Sales promotion programme was carried out by Star Entertainment Co Ltd in the fair. — MNA



Visitors at the booth of Great Summit Int'l Co Ltd. — H

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products, mousses, chilled desserts, drinks made from dairy products, jellies, sweet spreads, fruit sauces;

Ice, ice-cream, ice-cream products, frozen confectionery, frozen yoghurt, chilled desserts, mousses, sorbets, sherbets, drinking chocolate, dips, sauces, honey, custard, fillings, sweetening preparations, natural sweeteners, sugar, desserts, snacks;

Mineral and aerated water and other non-alcoholic drinks, syrups, preparations for making beverages, fruit drinks, drink juices, fruit concentrates for use in preparation of carbonated and non-carbonated soft drink;

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TIN OHNMAR TUN B.A (LAW), LL.B,LL.M (U.K) P.O.Box 109,Ph: 248108/723043 (For. Domnern Somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand.) Dated: 27.1. 2005

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ပြည်ထောင်စုပြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော် ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့ ရက်စွဲ၊ ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် ဇန်နဝါရီလ ၂၅ ရက် ချိပ်ပိတ်ရေးနှုန်းလွှာများပေးအပ်ခြင်း ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ၏ လုပ်ငန်းသုံး အတွက် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါပစ္စည်းများကို ဌာနအရောက် ကျပ်ငွေဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူရန် ချိပ်ပိတ်ရေးနှုန်းလွှာများ ပေးအပ်ပါသည်။ (က) သံချောင်းလုံး (အရွယ်ရှိ) (၁၅၀၀) တန် (ခ) Ready Mixed Concrete (၉၉၀၀) ကုမ္ပဏီတစ်ခုမှ ရောင်းချမှုအတွက် ရက် ၅-၂၀၀၅ နေ့ (၁၆:၀၀)နာရီ ဖြစ်ပြီး ဈေးနှုန်းတင်သွင်းလွှာပုံစံတစ်စုံလျှင် ကျပ် ၁၀၀၀/- (ကျပ်တစ်ထောင်တိတိ)နှုန်းဖြင့် ဘတ်ဂျက်နှင့်ငွေစာရင်းဌာန၊ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးဌာနထံတွင် ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။ အသေးစိတ် အချက်အလက်များကို ဖုန်းအမှတ်-၂၅၂၅၂၄၊ ၂၅၂၀၁၂ (လိုင်ဆွဲ) ၂၅၂ တို့သို့ ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ဆက်သွယ်မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။ ၂၀၀၅ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန ပြန်ဟုအသံနှင့်ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားအတွက်အသုံးပြုရန် လိုအပ်သောရုပ်မြင်သံကြားလွှင့်စက်များဝယ်ယူရန် တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ပြန်ဟုအသံနှင့်ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားတွင် အသုံးပြုရန်လိုအပ်သောအောက်ဖော်ပြပါရုပ်မြင်သံကြားလွှင့်စက် ပစ္စည်းများကိုဝယ်ယူလိုပါသည်။

(က) 100W TV TX Equipment (2) Sets

(ခ) 50 W TV TX Equipment (1) Set

၂။ တင်ဒါပေးသွင်းမှုကို (၄-၂-၂၀၀၅) ရက် (၁၆:၃၀) နာရီ တွင်ပိတ်ပါမည်။

၃။ တင်ဒါပုံစံနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကိုအောက်ပါ လိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက်ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

ပြည်တွင်း/ပြည်ပပစ္စည်းများဝယ်ယူရေးနှင့်တို့ဆောင်ရွက်ရေး ကော်မတီ

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန အမှတ် ၂၂၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း- ၂၄၅၆၂၄၊ ၂၄၅၆၂၄၊ ၂၄၅၆၂၄

MIN KYAW MIN'S SPOKEN ENGLISH CLASS သုံးလ သင်တန်းသစ်ကို ၂-၂-၂၀၀၅ ရက်တွင်စမည်။ တနင်္လာ၊ ဗုဒ္ဓဟူး၊ ဧည့်သည် 9.00 am - 11.30 Multi-media style lab, audio-visual aid နှင့် ဝေဖန်အထောက်အကူများသုံးမည်။ ၁၀ နာရီ၊ တွဲချ တွဲတွဲနဲ့များအတွက် အကျိုးခမ်း၊ အသုံးဝင်မည်။ ကမ်းနားလမ်းနှင့် ၄၃ လမ်းထောင့်၊ ဗိုလ်တထောင်ပြီနယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။ စုံစမ်းရန် ဖုန်း-၂၉၆၁၆၁

Google to branch into television with new search feature

SAN FRANCISCO, 25 Jan — Google Inc is using its popular Internet search technology to find information and images broadcast on television, continuing a recent effort to extend its reach beyond the Web.

The Mountain View-based company planned to introduce the new video service Tuesday; it will be operated separately from the search engine offered on Google's home page. The feature pinpoints content previously aired on a variety of television networks by scanning through the closed caption text that many programmers offer.

Google's service, which began storing information last month, includes programming from ABC, PBS, Fox News and C-SPAN.

"We think TV is a big part of people's lives," said Jonathan Rosenberg, Google's vice president of product management. "Ultimately, we would like to have all TV programming indexed."

Search engine analyst Charlene Li of Forrester Research said Google's latest innovation is likely to disappoint many people because it doesn't pro-

vide a direct link to watch the previously broadcast programming.

Google instead is displaying up to five still video images from the indexed television programmes, as well as snippets from the show's narrative. The search results also will provide a breakdown on when the programme aired and when an episode is scheduled to be repeated. Local programming information will be available for those who provide a ZIP postal code.

Rival search engine Yahoo Inc also has been tinkering with a product that finds video available for web casts. Hoping to counter Google's initiative, Yahoo planned to step up the promotion of its video search tools Tuesday.

If the Google and Yahoo services attract a following, more television programmers may be compelled to provide better online access to their content, Li said. "Video search is going to be a very long-term play."

The TV product represents Google's latest attempt to get a better handle on the reams of information that isn't stored on Web pages. The company recently set out to scan millions of books from several major libraries into its search engine and is offering a programme that finds material stored on computer hard drives

Romanian tabloid fires reporter for make-up story

BUCHAREST, 25 Jan — A Romanian tabloid said on Monday it had fired a reporter for making up a story about a couple who named their son Yahoo as a sign of gratitude for meeting over the Internet.

Bucharest daily Libertatea published a story this month saying two Romanians had named their baby for the popular web site and printed a picture of his birth certificate.

The news was published internationally, including by Reuters.

"It was the reporter's child's birth certificate, which he modified," said Simona Ionescu, Libertatea's deputy editor-in-chief. "We fired him."

She said Ion Garnod, who had worked for the paper for several years, had admitted inventing the story to

look good. "If it were real, it would have been a good story indeed," Ionescu said.

Garnod was not available for comment.

MNA/Reuters

Al Ain Aerobatics Show 2005 opens in UAE

ABU DHABI, 25 Jan — The Al Ain Aerobatics Show 2005 and the Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI) World Grand Prix, begins in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Monday afternoon, the UAE WAM news agency reported.

The Middle East's top aerobatic show which lasts from January 24 to 28, is organized jointly by Abu Dhabi Tourism Authority (ADTA) and UAE Air Forces and Air Defence, in cooperation with the FAI and the World Air Sports Federation.

This year, the show coincides with the centen-

nial celebrations of the FAI. More than 500 pilots and technical staff, divided into 18 teams from 36 countries, as well as over 100 military and civilian aircrafts are being present at the show. Spectators are being captivated by the exceptional skills of the pilots flying various types of aircrafts, reported WAM.

The show promises

to be bigger and more exciting than before with some of the finest military and civilian pilots in the world, performing breathtaking aerobatic displays.

The world event is part of the strategic plans by the ADTA to promote Al Ain and Abu Dhabi's tourist attractions and tourism-oriented eco-nomy, Sheikh Sultan bin Tahnoon Al Nahyan, ADTA Chairman, was quoted as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

AIDS is a national concern.

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွံ့ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Private business owners to attend Party schools in Shanghai

SHANGHAI, 25 Jan— China's largest metropolis Shanghai has decided to put private entrepreneurs alongside local officials and state firm executives in classrooms for theoretical training about Marxism and the Communist Party of China (CPC).

Beginning this year, the city will open its theoretical education institutions — including Party schools and administration colleges — to more private businessmen to remind them of Communist ideology and patriotism and keep them updated about prevailing theories about CPC's building and improvement of governance.

The classroom was open only to public servants and senior executives of state-owned companies in Shanghai, until the municipal government decided to extend the theoretical training to private businessmen in its 2005 blueprint on personnel training.

The blueprint, which was announced here Monday, requests all Party schools in Shanghai — at both municipality and district levels — to include theoretical training for private businessmen in their curricula.

Prior to Shanghai's move, several localities in China already opened Party schools to private businessmen, including the neighbouring Zhejiang Province and Heilongjiang Province in the northernmost.

Even the Party School of the CPC Central Committee, the highest institution that trains top and middle-ranking Party officials, has offered a couple of training programmes to private business owners in recent years.

According to the 2005 training blueprint announced here on Monday, personnel departments in Shanghai will also arrange study tours overseas for private businessmen and will offer tailored services to foster private businesses in ideological education, technological advancement and administration.

MNA/Xinhua



A Tasmanian Devil (*Sacropilus harrasii*) patrolls his enclosure at the National Zoo in Canberra on 25 Jan, 2005. The species are threatened by a mysterious cancer that veterinary experts have failed to identify.—INTERNET

Philippines lowers meningococemia alert in Baguio city

MANILA, 25 Jan— The Philippine Department of Health (DOH) said Monday that it has lowered

the meningococemia alert in the northern city of Baguio.

The DOH issued the latest health bulletin 10 days after the last case of the dreaded disease was recorded in the city, the report said, meaning that the incubation period for the meningococemia bacteria has lapsed.

But the alert still remains in Benguet, where 17 possible cases have been reported, three of them confirmed meningococemia cases, the DOH said.

Meanwhile, at least 19 more have been recorded in the Mountain Province, although they have

yet to be confirmed, it added.

The DOH said that its experts will not leave Baguio until they make sure the city has been cleared of the disease that has claimed over 10 lives in the last two months.

The DOH earlier issued a travel advisory to Baguio travellers in light of the spread of meningococemia.

According to the department, travellers from Baguio going to other countries need certification that they have taken antibiotics and are advised to proceed to the Bureau of Quarantine (BoQ).

MNA/Xinhua

BOCOG signs Adidas as official partner for 2008 Olympics

BEIJING, 25 Jan— German sportswear manufacturer Adidas-Salomon signed a deal with the Organizing Committee of the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games (BOCOG) on Monday, becoming an official partner of the 2008 Olympics.

Both sides refused to disclose the amount of the money involved in the deal, but experts said that it could reach 50 million US dollars.

Under the agreement, Adidas will provide sportswear for all the staff, volunteers and technical officials of the 2008 Olympics and Paralympics. The world's number two sporting goods maker after Nike will also outfit the Chinese Olympic

teams to compete at the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin and the 2008 Summer Olympics.

In return, Adidas will retain exclusive marketing rights in the sports goods category during the four-year period from 2004 through 2008.

"In the context of the rapid growth and continuous expansion of the Chinese sports market, we believe the sponsorship from Adidas for the

Beijing 2008 Olympic Games will allow for even greater contributions to the Olympic Movement and to China's sports," said BOCOG vice-president Wang Wei at a high-profile signing ceremony.

"What is most important for us, we believe, is that it (the deal) will create a stronger bond with Chinese consumers and will help us accelerate our development in this mar-

ket," said Sandrine Zerbib, Head of Adidas Greater China.

To date, BOCOG has signed seven partners for the 2008 Games, including Germany's automobile giant Volkswagen, China Mobile, Sinopec and Bank of China.

MNA/Xinhua

Nigeria's first private refinery set to take off

LAGOS, 25 Jan— A high-powered team of American investors and state officials is visiting Nigeria to make final arrangement for the take-off of the first private refinery in Africa's top oil producer.

The visit from 24 January to 2 February is a follow-up to recent negotiations between Oil and Gas Consult International Ltd., promoters of the refinery, and its international strategic and financial partners led by US-based Premier Energy Group LLC, according to the Vanguard daily Monday.

A statement from the Oil and Gas Consult International Ltd. was quoted as saying that the delegation, comprising 14 members, will undertake site assessment of the proposed refinery, being the final stage prior to construction scheduled to begin in Feb-

ruary 2005.

According to the statement, the refinery is expected to be sited near the town of Ipokia in the southwestern state of Ogun, and refine a minimum capacity of 100,000 barrels per day (bpd).

"The partnership between Oil & Gas Consult International Ltd. and Premier will lead to the transfer of private capital for the construction of an ultra-modern petrochemical complex," it said.

This is "consistent with the government policies to liberalize the energy sector as a means of reducing dependency on imported

fuel and facilitating greater stability in refined products for both industrial and domestic use."

The delegation is also expected to hold talks with Ogun State Governor Otunba Gbenga Daniel as well as officials of the Nigeria National Petroleum Corp (NNPC) and the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR).

Nigeria produces about 2.5 million bpd, but its four state-run refineries are unable to operate normally, forcing the West African country to import fuel to meet domestic consumption over the years.

MNA/Xinhua




Apples ready for harvest in Germany
On 24 Jan, 2005.
INTERNET

David Beckham's new position paid off in Real's win

MADRID, 25 Jan— Real Madrid midfielder David Beckham says he felt a new lease of life when he was restored to his former wide position in a Primera Liga match on Sunday.

Coach Vanderlei Luxemburgo switched the England captain from his usual central berth to the right wing in a diamond formation with Thomas Gravesen in the middle, Zinedine Zidane on the left and Luis Figo slotting in behind the strikers.

The move paid off as Beckham produced an impressive display in Real's 3-1 win over struggling Real Mallorca at the Bernabeu.

"It was my best performance of the season and possibly my best performance maybe since I've been in Spain," Beckham told reporters.

"Tonight was more the position I play for

England and people have said to me that I look more comfortable in that position but whatever position I play as long as it's in the team I'm not bothered."

Beckham said the move back to his Manchester United and England spot was not the only reason for his return to form.

"I've been working hard on my fitness and this manager has helped because he is making the players work a lot harder and it proves that when you work hard and you've got fitness you play a lot better."

Real lie second in the Primera Liga, seven points behind Barcelona. — MNA/Reuters

Liverpool score gritty 1-0 win over Watford

WATFORD (England), 26 Jan— Captain Steven Gerrard sealed Liverpool's place in next month's League Cup final by scoring the winner in a gritty 1-0 victory over second division Watford on Tuesday.



Liverpool's Dietmar Hamann (R) slides in to tackle Watford's Captain Gavin Mahon (C) during the Carling Cup semi-final second leg match at Vicarage Road in Watford.—INTERNET

The England midfielder, who also scored in Liverpool's 1-0 win in the first leg of their semi-final at Anfield, struck a neat right-foot shot into the corner in the 77th minute to round off a resilient display.

In the final in Cardiff on February 27 Liverpool will face the winners of Wednesday's match at Old Trafford

between FA Cup holders Manchester United and Premier League leaders Chelsea. United and Chelsea drew the first leg 0-0.

Liverpool's victory put an end to a run of three consecutive defeats for Rafael Benitez's side, including a highly embarrassing 1-0 FA Cup loss to another second division side, Burnley.

They will be looking for their eighth League Cup success in Cardiff and match-winner Gerrard told Sky Sports television: "Watford have done really well and made it hard for us...but we had a game plan and it worked." Watford's hopes of a second major final after their 1984 FA Cup loss to Everton never looked like being realized, particularly after they had a first-half penalty appeal dismissed by referee Mike Riley.

With Iceland's Heidar Helguson starting out as a lone striker in front of a five-man midfield, Watford showed all the enthusiasm of a second division side playing on the big stage. But there was no disguising their limitations.

Promising first-half runs by Jay DeMerit and Neal Ardley and a string of other moves were let down by poor passing when it mattered while Liverpool always looked more assured in possession despite a bumpy pitch Benitez's side had to wait until midway through the first half, though, to create their first scoring chance when Gerrard put Fernando Morientes in for a shot which keeper Paul Jones turned round the post for a corner.

Liverpool followed up with a rapid breakaway led by Gerrard, who should have let fly instead of electing to pass as he steamed into the Watford area, but they too rode their luck just before the break.

Watford made a brighter start to the second half, with left back Jermaine Darlington's drive being blocked, while Morientes suffered the same fate at the other end. However, there was a dire shortage of clearcut chances on a cold night at Vicarage Road and Liverpool looked ready to settle for a draw when Gerrard smacked home his shot from the edge of the area. —MNA/Reuters

David Nalbandian reaches quarter-finals at Australian Open

MELBOURNE, 25 Jan— David Nalbandian won a late-night battle with fellow Argentine Guillermo Coria 5-7, 7-5, 6-3, 6-0 on Monday to reach the quarter-finals of Australian Open for the third successive year.

In a high-quality match which finished just after 2 a.m. (1500 GMT) local time, the ninth seed's greater weight of shot eventually proved the difference as he set up a clash with third seed Lleyton Hewitt, a repeat of the 2002 Wimbledon final, which was won by the Australian.

"It's going to be tough (against Hewitt)," Nalbandian said.

"He's playing in his own country with his crowd, quarter-final of a grand slam but it's going to be a tough match for both of us.

"When I played with him I was 20. Now I feel more confident with my game, I have more experience, so it's going to be different."

Sixth seed Coria had treatment on a troublesome groin injury, but it didn't seem to affect his movement as he came from a break down to take the first set. But as the match wore on, Nalbandian found his range and after coming from a break down to level the match, he eased through the next two sets to advance and make Coria the second-highest seed to go out. —MNA/Reuters



David Nalbandian of Argentina, ninth seed, wipes his face during his mens singles quarterfinals match against Lleyton Hewitt of Australia, third seed, on Rod Laver Arena at the Australian Open at Melbourne Park, Melbourne, Australia, on 26 Jan, 2005.— INTERNET



Lindsay Davenport returns a shot during her quarterfinal match against Alicia Molik at the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne, on 26 Jan, 2005.—INTERNET

Roddick, Davenport in Australian Open semis

MELBOURNE, 26 Jan— Andy Roddick cruised into the semifinals at the Australian Open on Wednesday when Nikolay Davydenko retired from the quarterfinal match because of breathing problems after falling behind 6-3, 7-5, 4-1.

Top-ranked Lindsay Davenport had a little more difficulty in advancing to the women's semis, but she overcame determined Australian Alicia Molik 6-4, 4-6, 9-7 and reached the final four at Melbourne Park for the first time in four years.

It was a small setback for the locals on Australia Day, the annual national holiday that marks the country's federation in 1901. But there were still high hopes for No. 3-ranked Lleyton Hewitt in his quarterfinal match Wednesday night against Argentina's David Nalbandian.

The second-ranked Roddick will face the winner in the semifinals.

"I'm just happy to be through," Roddick said. "I'm going to have a day off and I'll certainly be watching that match tonight."

Roddick got this far in the 2003 Australian Open, losing to Rainer Schuettler after clinching a draining quarterfinal win over Younes El Aynaoui 21-19 in the fifth set — the longest fifth set in Grand Slam history.

Roddick was seeded No. 1 when he lost in the quarterfinals here last year to another Russian, Marat Safin. Safin dropped the 2004 final to Roger Federer, giving the Swiss star the No. 1 ranking that he hasn't relinquished.

Roddick targeted Davydenko's backhand, his weakest shot. Serving at 3-4 in the first set, Davydenko hit three consecutive backhands into the net to set up triple break point. He saved one before sending a forehand crosscourt just wide.

Roddick held to finish off the set, losing only one point on a mis-hit that he nearly missed completely, saying "Oh, wow."

Roddick went ahead 3-2 in the second set by breaking Davydenko at love. The Russian took a medical timeout, then broke back in the next game as Roddick committed his first two double-faults.

Roddick saved one set point while serving at 4-5, then broke in the next game. Roddick had a pair of aces in the following game, then took the set as Davydenko sent a backhand wide.

It was another hot day, but a shadow crawled across the court as the match went on.

"I didn't want them to close the roof," Roddick said. "I figure Florida and Texas are a lot hotter than Russia."

Davydenko walked to the net after he'd had his serve broken for the second time in the third set and told Roddick he couldn't continue, pointing to his chest.



People seen at the booth of 4th Myanmar ICT Week-2005 at MICT Park in Hline Township. (News on page 11)—MNA

WWF urges EU to boost testing on chemicals in Baltic Sea

BRUSSELS, 26 Jan — An environmental action group urged the European Union on Tuesday to boost testing on chemicals and halt pollution in the Baltic Sea because the fish there are so toxic.

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) said chemical pollution in the Baltic Sea from the late 1980s to the early 1990s caused fish to absorb high amounts of toxic chemicals, known as polychlorobiphenyls, which can cause cancer. WWF said pollution in the Baltic Sea, a largely static sea in northern Europe where the water only changes once every 25-30 years, could be reduced by a contested EU pro-

posal to introduce safety checks on more than 30,000 commonly used chemicals. "Baltic species are thoroughly contaminated with chemicals," WWF Senior Policy Officer Ninja Reineke said in a statement. "This is not just a burden of the past but a major on-going problem." But the EU chemical industry says the extra testing requirements in the

Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals proposal will hamper growth and competitiveness while green groups urge tighter controls to protect the environment. EU states Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden all share a Baltic Sea coastline, along with Russia. **MNA/Reuters**

China-Mexico trade cooperation has broad prospects

MEXICO CITY, 26 Jan — There exist broad prospects for furthering China-Mexico economic and trade cooperation, visiting Chinese Vice-President Zeng Qinghong said here on Monday.

In a speech at the 14th China-Mexico business session that opened here Monday, Zeng said China is satisfied with the progress of the economic and trade relations between the two nations and is fully confident of future development.

The China-Mexico ties are entering an even more mature stage of growth and the two countries should join hands to score a new high of economic and trade cooperation, stressed Zeng, who flew in Sunday for a three-day official visit.

In the coming years, Zeng said, China's in-

vestment in Latin America will increase by a big margin following the enhancement of economic and trade cooperation between China and the region.

At present, Zeng said, the business communities of the two nations are discussing ways to further cooperate in fields of agriculture, telecommunication, energy resources, household appliances, light industry, automobile, iron and steel, and ship building.

The economic and trade ties, based on mutual trust and benefit, equality and common de-

velopment, will help ensure the state-to-state ties to develop in a lasting, stable and healthy way, he said.

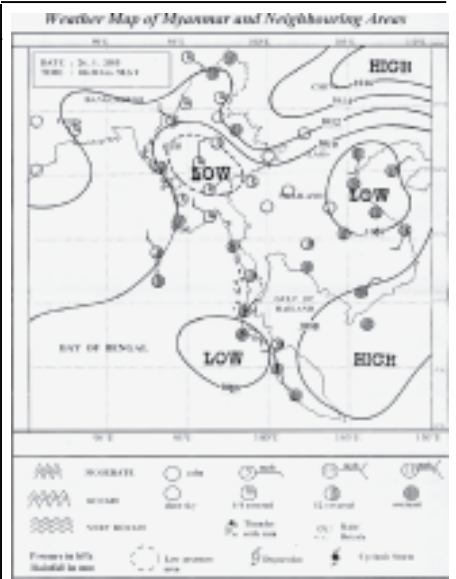
Describing the two countries as strategic partners and reliable friends, Zeng said the political mutual trust is conducive to deepening bilateral economic and trade cooperation.

China and Mexico, both in a period of fast economic growth, are complementary in technology, investment, natural resources and commodities, Zeng said, noting the two can achieve a win-win situation by

learning from each other's strong points to offset its own weakness.

The two governments attach importance to bilateral ties and the business communities of the two countries are eager to strengthen mutually beneficial cooperation against the challenges of globalization, Zeng said.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Wednesday, 26 January, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours

MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) above normal in Chin State, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Eastern Shan State, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Lashio (3°C) Namsam and Heho (4°C) each and Mogok and Pinlaung (5°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 25-1-2005 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 26-1-2005 was 58°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 26-1-2005 was 73%. Total sunshine hours on 25-1-2005 was (7) hours approx. Rainfalls on 26-1-2005 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 Northwest at (22:15) hours MST on 25-1-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is generally fair in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 27-1-2005: Generally fair weather in the whole country.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally fair weather in the whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 27-1-2005: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 27-1-2005: Fine weather.



Thursday, 27 January
Tune in today:

- 8.30 am** Brief news
- 8.35 am** Music:
-I love rock and roll
- 8.40 am** Perspectives
- 8.45 am** Music:
-Saying I love you
- 8.50 am** National news/Slogan
- 9.00 am** Music:
-My destiny
- 9.05 am** International news
- 9.10 am** Music:
-Baby keep smiling
- 1.30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm** Lunch Time Music
-Out in the open
-On and on
-Juanita
-Violet
- 9.00 pm** Aspect of Myanmar
-Myanmar Treasure Resorts Hotel
- 9.10 pm** Article
- 9.20 pm** Pourri
- 9.30 pm** Favourite songs chosen by music lovers
-Laisla Binita
-Sleeping child
-My heart will go on
- 9.45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm** PEL

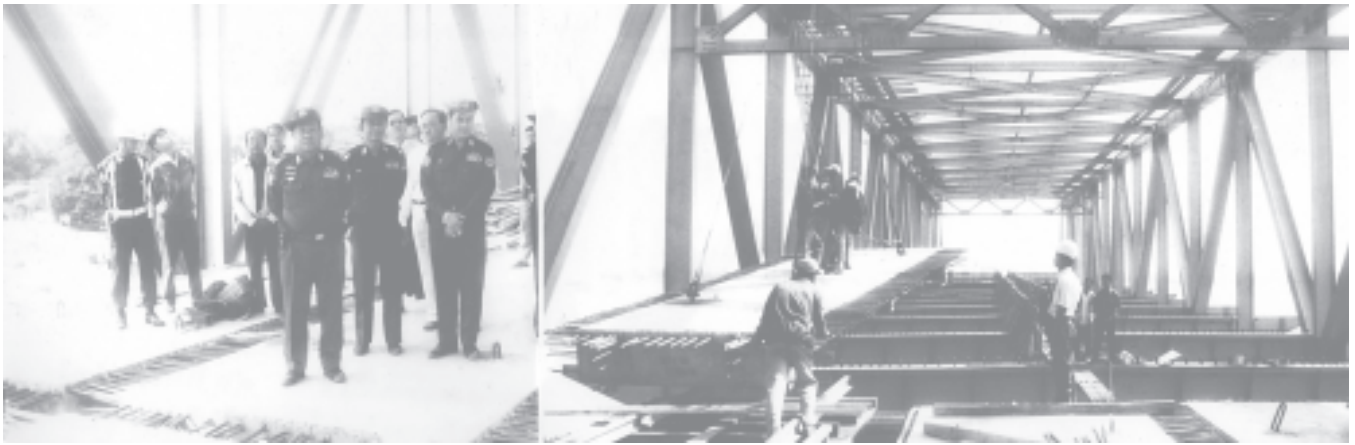


Thursday, 27 January
View on today:

- 7:00 am**
- 1.** ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်တော်စုံ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာဂရုဋ္ဌရမ္မ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာဓမ္မာယာသဒ္ဓမ္မဓာတ်ကာ၊ တိပိဋကဓရဓမ္မာယာဉ္ဇာဂါရိယ၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသဘရာဘိဝံသ၏ ဝရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:15 am**
- 2.** တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မာယာဉ္ဇာဂါရိယ၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသီရိနာသိဝံသ(ယောဆရာတော်)ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တံပါဠိတော်
- 7:25 am**
- 3.** To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
- 4.** Morning news
- 7:40 am**
- 5.** Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am**
- 6.** Dance of national races

- 8:05 am**
- 7.** Dance Variety
- 8:20 am**
- 8.** ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းစာပေအသင်း (ဇနီးမိမိရေကူ) ရေလှောင်တံခံ
- 8:30 am**
- 9.** International news
- 8:45 am**
- 10.** Let's go
- 4:00 pm**
- 1.** Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
- 2.** Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
- 3.** English for Everyday Use
- 4:40 pm**
- 4.** Musical programme
- 4:50 pm**
- 5.** အပေးသင်တန်းသို့လံပညာရေးရပ်တန့်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (ရုပ်ပေးအထူးပြု) (ရုပ်ပေး)
- 5:05 pm**
- 6.** Cute little dancers
- 5:20 pm**
- 7.** ဘေးသရုပ်စော်အစီအစဉ်
- 5:30 pm**
- 8.** "အမွေရိတ်ဆုံးလက်ဆောင်" ဓမ္မနာရင်း၊ နှင်းဥ၊ ဓမ္မနာရင်းစောနိုင်(ရှမ်းပြည်) တင်တင်လှ၊ ခါရိတ်တာ-မောင်မောင်မြင့်

- 5:50 pm**
- 9.** Musical song
- 6:00 pm**
- 10.** နိုင်ငံအခန်း သစ်တော့စွမ်းမြင့်စိမ်းလန်းရေးရည်
- 6:15 pm**
- 11.** Musical programme
- 6:25 pm**
- 12.** မြန်မာ ICT Week ရက်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 6:30 pm**
- 13.** Evening news
- 7:00 pm**
- 14.** Weather report
- 7:05 pm**
- 15.** နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းခွဲ "ရုစိသောဠိယ" (အပိုင်း-၁)
- 7:35 pm**
- 16.** ထူးထူးမြင့်မြင့်ပြတော်အပ်သည့် သာသနာ့အာဇာနည် (အပိုင်း-၃)
- 8:00 pm**
- 17.** News
- 18.** International news
- 19.** Weather report
- 20.** Myanmar Video Feature:
"မေတ္တာစိုက်တော့စိုက်လို့" (အပိုင်း-၁)
လှမ်း၊ မိုးမြတ်နုနု၊ ခါရိတ်တာ-ဟိန်းမိုး
- 21.** The next day's programme



State Peace and Development Council Member Lt-Gen Ye Myint views Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) Project.—MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint on inspection tour of Myitnge Bridge, Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon)

YANGON, 26 Jan — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint and departmental officials, after attending the opening ceremony of Textile and Dyeing Plant in Yamethin, arrived at the construction site of Myitnge Bridge Project being built by Bridge Construction Special Group-12 between Singaing and Amarapura townships this morning.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected installation of 100 feet long concrete beams between piers No 6 and No 5 and progress of construction.

The Sub Structure and piers of the bridge have been completed. The Super Structure is under construction. The construction tasks of the bridge have been completed by 75 per cent.

On arrival at Sagaing Bridge, they were welcomed by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, local LID commander Brig-Gen Tin Tun Aung and officials.

At the briefing hall of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) Project on Sagaing bank, Assistant Engineer (Civil) U Myint Kyi reported on requirements of construction materials, condition of heavy machinery, strength of staff and tasks to be carried out in 2004-

2005. Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye gave a supplementary report.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint oversaw progress of work in the bridge construction project on Sagaing bank. Now, cross beams have been installed between A1 and G1. A total of 90 RC Girders have been built. And, 90 concrete beams have been laid between A2 and G7 and G4 and RP8. Six spans of concrete floor at the approach bridge have been constructed. At the main bridge site, installation of cross beams have been completed between RP8 and RP7. Twenty bored piles were built at RP6. Iron frames were installed between RP8 and RP9.

(See page 9)

Even border areas now enjoying fruits of national development Shwebo District hails Union Day, supports National Convention



YANGON, 26 Jan— Sagaing Division Union Solidarity and Development Association organized a ceremony to hail Union Day and support the National Convention at the sports ground in Hladaw model village, Wetlet Township, Shwebo District, this

morning.

It was attended by executives of Sagaing Division, district and township USDAs, service personnel, members of the USDA, Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and

Child Welfare Association, Red Cross Society and Auxiliary Fire Brigade, and local residents totalling over 4,100.

The two columns marched into the sports ground and took positions.

Shwebo District USDA Secretary U Tun Ko Ko chaired the assembly to-

gether with Wetlet Township WVO Chairman U Than Tun, Wetlet Township Organization for Women's Affairs Chairperson Daw Wai Wai Than, Wetlet Township MCWA Joint-Secretary Daw Myint Swe, and U Kyaw Myint of Hlataw Village. Wetlet Township USDA organizer Daw Thin Thin Nwe emceed the meeting together with member of the organizational group of Wetlet Township USDA Daw Tin Tin Aye. The meeting chairman announced the start of the ceremony, and those present saluted the State Flag.

Secretary U Tun Ko Ko said that since aeons, the

national races have lived in the same Union drinking water from the same source, sharing weal and woe and keeping nest and eggs intact. The national brethren, equipped with Union Spirit, have been joining hands with each other in crushing internal and external destructive elements and carrying out national development tasks, he said.

He cited the address of USDA Patron Senior General Than Shwe at the Annual General Meeting 2004, saying that the government firmly believes that national solidarity is the most fundamental factor that affects the progress

(See page 9)



Ceremony to hail Union Day and support National Convention in progress at the sports ground in Hladaw model village, Wetlet Township, Shwebo District. — MNA

INSIDE

For the successful implementation of FMD control and eradication in Myanmar, the first and second meeting of Myanmar Zoning Working Group for FMD control were held in Yangon and Mandalay in January and October 2004 respectively.

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DR MAUNG MAUNG KYIN