

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Saturday, 12 March, 2005

### 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



NCCC Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein addresses coordination meeting of National Convention Convening Commission, Work Committee and Management Committee. — MNA

## Delegates lay down detailed basic principles of legislative sector successfully with Union Spirit National Convention Convening Commission, NCC Work Committee, NCC Management Committee hold meeting

YANGON, 11 March — The National Convention Convening Commission, the NCC Work Committee and the NCC Management Committee held a coordination meeting at the Commission meeting room at Nyaungnnapin Camp, Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, this morning, with an address by Chairman of the Commission Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

The Secretary-1 said that it was the 23rd day of the National Convention which resumed on 17 February 2005. Thanks to delegates who are actively taking part in the

Convention, with discipline and duty consciousness, the process of discussions and making decisions is gaining momentum. The detailed basic principles for the legislative sector have already been laid down at present. Of the three branches of power — the executive power, the legislative power and the judicial power — for drawing a constitution, the sector of legislation is profound and delicate and may occur differences in opinion. However, the delegates, setting aside their personal, ideological, regional and racial differences have been able to

lay down the detailed basic principles of the legislative sector successfully with Union Spirit.

The NCC Work Committee's compilations in connection with the laying down of detailed basic principles for the executive and judicial sectors have already been presented at the plenary session for the convenience of the delegates in making discussions and decisions. The Work Committee took time in making the compilation based on the facts of the 1947 Constitution and the 1974 Constitution of Myanmar and the constitutions of western and neighbouring democratic nations, which it found would be appropriate to the nation and in accord with her situation, culture and traditions. Thus, the delegates can make discussions and decisions easily. The delegates are

now holding group discussions at the respective meeting rooms to lay

down detailed basic principles for the executive and judicial sectors based

on the compilations of the Work Committee. (See page 8)

**The Work Committee took time in making the compilation based on the facts of the 1947 Constitution and the 1974 Constitution of Myanmar and the constitutions of western and neighbouring democratic nations, which it found would be appropriate to the nation and in accord with her situation, culture and traditions. Thus, the delegates can make discussions and decisions easily.**



Chairman of NCC Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung. — MNA



Chairman of NCC Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe. — MNA

### INSIDE

*Dutiful people are indeed like members of a national force, and they scatter everywhere in the nation. Providing timely information about crimes means safeguarding themselves and human means.*

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DR No

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

**PERSPECTIVES**

Saturday, 12 March, 2005

**To organize and lead national people, render cooperation in public welfare tasks**

In the Union of Myanmar, the government, the people and the Tatmadaw are making concerted efforts in harmony to ensure national stability, community peace and the prevalence of law and order while establishing economic, social, executive and transport infrastructures in the country.

Accordingly, success has been achieved in implementing the objectives of the State. This has been due to united and combined efforts the national people made under the correct leadership of the government. Thanks to this, the country has been on the right track to prosperity. With the seven-point Road Map, continuous steps are being taken to transform the country into a peaceful, modern, developed, and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

As the very first as well as the most decisive and crucial step of the Road Map, the National Convention has now been in progress with the participation of delegates of the national races of the Union.

At such a time like this, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association are rendering active and energetic cooperation and participation with the full sense of Union Spirit by doing their every bit to successfully realize the Road Map. It was made public at the rallies held in respective districts to honour the Union Day and to support the National Convention that the successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map should be adopted as an immediate national concern. The onus is therefore on USDA members to make the most of favourable conditions of organizational strength in place that can benefit the country and the people and to continue the organizational campaigns based on reality.

It is necessary to perceive that any measures being taken for the country are in public interest and to launch organizational campaigns in sync with the undertaking of regional development. By taking pragmatic approaches to higher living standard of the people as well as to regional development, the USDA will win the trust and support of national people in its objectives. By helping fulfil the wishes and solve the problems of the public, the Association will win the former's confidence and reliance all the more.

All in all, USDA members are required to keep on leading and organizing the national people, while lending themselves truly to public welfare and regional development tasks to make the seven-point Road Map a success.

**နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ့**

လစဉ်လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည်ကိုစွဲရပ်မှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ့ဖြစ်သည်။

၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ မတ်လအတွက်  
(၁၃-၃-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့  
နှင့်  
(၂၇-၃-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့

**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

**Construction Minister inspects progress of Pyapon Bridge Project**

YANGON, 11 March— Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, accompanied by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein and officials of Public Works, oversaw construction of bridges along Dalla-Kanbe-Kawhmu-Kungyangon-Dedaye-Pyapon Road this morning. On arrival at the construction site of

Pyapon Bridge Project on Ohnbinseik bank, in-charge of the project Deputy Superintending Engineer U Khin Maung Hse briefed the minister on progress of building the bridge and future tasks. After leaving instructions on timely completion of the tasks and minimizing of loss and

wastage, the minister fulfilled the requirements of the project. The main section of Pyapon Bridge will be 1,372 feet and 8 inches long. Its approach bridge on Pyapon bank will be 1,210 feet long and on Dedaye bank 1,230 feet long totalling 3,812 feet and 8 inches long. The bridge will have a 28-

foot-wide motor road and six feet wide pedestrian way on each side. It can withstand 60-ton loads. All pier works have been completed. Tasks to install steel frames at the piers are being carried out. The minister and party left the site of Pyapon Bridge Project in the evening.— MNA

**Meeting of Central Committee for Organizing 42nd Myanma Gems Emporium held**



Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint delivers an address at the meeting of Central Committee for Organizing 42nd Myanma Gems Emporium.— MNA

YANGON, 11 March — The meeting to review sales of the Mid-year Myanma Gems Emporium held in October 2004 and the first meeting of Central Committee for Organizing the 42nd Myanma Gems Emporium were held at Myanma Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda road this morning, attended by Patron of the Central Committee Minister for Mines Brig-

Gen Ohn Myint. Officials of the sub-committees reported on sales of jewellery at the mid-year Gems Emporium, lots of gems to be sold at the 42nd Myanma Gems Emporium to be held in March and preparations for organizing the Emporium. Next, the meeting approved to hold the 42nd Myanma Gems Emporium from 30

March to 7 April. Chairman of the Central Committee Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein, Secretary of the Central Committee Acting Managing Director U Thein Swe of Myanma Gems Enterprise and central committee members gave suggestions on earning of foreign currency more than the past by holding the gems emporium successfully.

In conclusion, the minister urged all to coordinate tasks for achieving success at the emporium. Also present on the occasion were Central Committee members Deputy Minister Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, departmental heads and officials. — MNA

**Tourist Maps of Myanmar (TMM-14) published**

YANGON, 11 March — With the directive of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Design Printing Services Co Ltd has published



Tourist Maps of Myanmar.— MNA

lished Tourist Maps of Myanmar (TMM-14) free of charge for the open season. The copies of Tourist Maps of Myanmar (TMM-14) will also be distributed at the ITB Berlin-2005 to be held in Berlin, Germany from 11 to 15 March.

Hotel & tourism companies and tour guides can fetch the copies from the DPS of No 165-167, first floor, 35th Street, Kyauktada Township (Tel:204020, 204092, 700541) during office hours. — MNA

**Map of Bagan (08-2005) comes out**



The Map of Bagan. — MNA

published 30,000 copies of the Map of Bagan (08-2005) free of charge for the open season. The copies of the Map of Bagan will be distributed at the ITB Berlin-2005 to be held in Berlin, Germany from 11 to 15 March. Hotel & tourism companies and tour guides can fetch the copies from the DPS of No 165-167, first floor, 35th Street, Kyauktada Township (Tel: 204020, 204092, 700541), during office hours. — MNA

### 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Armed Forces Day Objectives

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



A man walks past a ticket office of Okay Airways, China's first private airline, at Binhai International Airport in Tianjin on 10 March, 2005.—INTERNET

### HK's tourism spending increases sharply

**HONG KONG, 10 March** — Hong Kong's record-breaking achievement of 21.8 million visitor arrivals in 2004 has brought with it a substantial boost to the economy, the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) said on Wednesday.

The total expenditure associated to inbound tourism for 2004 reached 91.8 billion Hong Kong dollars (11.77 billion US dollars), according to HKTB.

Both major components of tourism expenditure also recorded strong increases. Total destination consumption expenditure, defined as the payments made by visitors for goods and services consumed in Hong Kong, grew to 69.6 billion Hong Kong dollars (8.81 billion US dollars).

Of this total, 38.6 billion Hong Kong dollars (4.89 billion US dollars) was contributed by the record 12.2 million arrivals from Chinese Mainland.

expenditure contributed by overnight visitors was 61.1 billion Hong Kong dollars (7.73 billion US dollars), while same-day in-town visitors spent 5.6 billion Hong Kong dollars (0.7 billion US dollars).

According to the Census and Statistics Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government, passenger international transportation expenditure, the receipts of Hong Kong based carriers for the cross-boundary transportation of non-resident visitors by air, sea or land, also grew to 22.3 billion Hong Kong dollars (2.82 billion US dollars).

Across all markets, the destination

MNA/Xinhua

### Chinese migrant workers succeed after returning home

**BEIJING, 10 March**— Ding Aimin, one of the 100 million Chinese rural migrant workers, toiled in the coastal city of Zhongshan in Guangdong Province two years ago. But now he is a boss of a company with 2 million yuan (about 242,000 US dollars) of annual output value and 200,000 yuan (24,000 dollars) of annual net income.

Ding came back to his home town, Liulin in southwestern Sichuan Province, in early 2003 to open a preserved food plant with the 100,000 yuan (12,000 dollars) he accumulated in Guangdong. The plant has grown into one of a few economic pillars of the small town. Like Ding, many migrant workers across the country are returning home to set up companies.

Encouraging rural migrant workers to return home to start their own businesses has become a focal experiment in exploring employment of rural workforce, and is being carried out in 26 provinces among the total 34, said China's Employment Situation and Policies

published by the State Council, April 2004.

Quite a few rural migrant workers have had the aspiration of returning home to start businesses in recent years, while they went out to cities barely to struggle for their living during the 1980s and mid-1990s, said Prof Gao Huanxi on the rural problem with Shangdong Agricultural Administrators College.

"This trend will significantly influence the rural economy if led and supported appropriately," Gao said. The returning workers has been infusing fresh momentum to the rural economic development in many places.—MNA/Xinhua

### 1,512 US troops killed in Iraq

**WASHINGTON, 10 March**— As of Wednesday, 9 March, 2005, at least 1,512 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 1,149 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defence Department. The figures include four military civilians.

The AP count is eight higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EST Wednesday. The British military has reported 86 deaths; Italy, 20; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, eight; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each. Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,374 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,040 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.—Internet

### Singapore to make "AIDS" tests for pregnant women compulsory

**SINGAPORE, 10 March**— Singapore is seeking to make Acquired Immuno-deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) test compulsory for pregnant women, announced Balaji Sadasivan, Senior Minister of State for Health on Wednesday.

Balaji said that the re-

cent efforts of making AIDS screening for foetuses opt-out instead of opt-in has shown positive result, which saved one unborn baby from being infected.

The Health Ministry aims to raise the screening rate to 100 per cent,

which is now 77 per cent.

"There is a need to balance the right to confidentiality of the AIDS patient with the right to protect those at risk," Balaji added, indicating that the government may take measures to protect spouses of AIDS patients.

As a record high of 311 new AIDS cases were reported in Singapore in 2004, 30 per cent higher than the previous year, Balaji warned that there could be 4,000 to 8,000 undiagnosed patients with HIV in the country.

MNA/Xinhua

### 25 children die after eating fried cassava balls in Philippines

**MANILA, 10 March** — At least 25 elementary school children died and close to 80 people were hospitalised on Wednesday after eating fried cassava balls in a remote village on Bohol Island in the central Philippines, local officials said.

The victims fell ill about a half-hour after eating the cassava balls, a local delicacy, during a mid-morning break, said Stephen Rances, mayor of Mabini town on Bohol island. "Several children were brought here vomiting and complaining of stomach aches," said Elpidio Bonito, a doctor at Ubay town, where 69 elementary students were taken on Wednesday noon.

Seven of the children did not reach the hospital alive, he said. Close to 50 students from San Jose Elementary School were taken to two other hospitals, including a

middle-aged woman who sold the fried cassava balls.

Rances said they suspect the children were poisoned by the cassava because the root crop, if not properly cooked, may contain cyanide, local doctors said.

"The children had nothing but cassava balls during their snack break," he told reporters. Television images showed panic-stricken parents carrying their ill children to local clinics. Inside a local clinic, dozens of children lay side-by-side as doctors appealed for supplies to deal with the sudden surge of medical cases.—MNA/Reuters



A customer tries out computers at a Lenovo outlet in Beijing recently.—INTERNET

### Thai PM officially endorsed to head new government

BANGKOK, 11 March — Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra's re-election as the head of the new Thai Government was officially endorsed by the King in a Royal command on Wednesday.

Thaksin received the Royal command confirming his re-election as the country's 23rd prime minister for the second term at the Government House here this evening in a ceremony attended by his family and his Thai Rak Thai (TRT) Party's MPs.

MNA/Xinhua

### India invites Musharraf to watch cricket match

NEW DELHI/ ISLAMABAD, 11 March — India has invited President Pervez Musharraf to watch one of the matches in the current Indo-Pakistani cricket series and Pakistan said the General was "positively thinking" of visiting India.

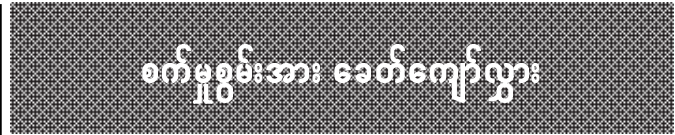
Indian External Affairs Minister K. Natwar Singh told reporters in London that the invitation for Musharraf is with the Indian High Commission in Islamabad and would be handed over to the Pakistani President on his return from a visit to Central Asia.

He said it was up to Musharraf to decide the date and venue of the cricket match he wants to watch.

In Delhi, the External Affairs Ministry spokesman said the Prime Minister would welcome a visit by the President of Pakistan to witness one of the India-Pakistan cricket matches.

"The Governments of India and Pakistan are in touch with one another in this context," he said.

"It is a friendly visit... Every visit does not have to become a State visit," Prime Minister's Media Adviser Sanjaya Baru said.— MNA/PTI



A man checks out laptop computers at an IT mall in Singapore recently. Computer sales in Aisa outside Japan rose 16 percent to 7.4 million units in the March quarter compared with the previous year, research showed.—INTERNET

### Indonesia, Italy sign debt swap for reconstruction in Aceh

JAKARTA, 11 March — Italy agreed on Wednesday to convert some 32 million US dollars Indonesian debt into a debt swap, which could be used to help reconstruction in Indonesia's tsunami-hit Aceh and North Sumatra provinces.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Hassan Wirajuda and his Italian counterpart Margherita Boniver signed the agreement here.

The step was a follow-up of the Indonesian Foreign Minister visit to Rome on 14 to 15 January, 2005, discussing assistance for Aceh Province, and of the agreement in the Paris Club III on 12-13 April, 2002, which agreed to convert Indonesia's debt into a debt swap and rescheduling between Indonesia and Italy on 4 December, 2003.

More than 230,000 people were killed or missing in the 26 December tsunami disaster in the provinces of Aceh and North Sumatra.

MNA/Xinhua

### New Zealand Reserve Bank lifts interests rates

WELLINGTON, 11 March — New Zealand Reserve Bank announced on Thursday an interest rates hike again, in a move likely to push the New Zealand dollar higher and cause more pain to exporters and borrowers.

Governor Alan Bollard in his quarter review of Monetary Policy lifted the Official Cash Rate from 6.5 per cent to 6.75 per cent, citing a stronger than expected economy and "stronger underlying inflation pressure than we expected".

Bollard said there was little scope for an easing in policy in the foreseeable future and it would be "imprudent" to rule out a further rate hikes.

"Whether there is any further tightening ahead will depend on how the risks play out over the coming period," he said.

The New Zealand dollar this week touched a post float higher of 74.07 cents of US dollar and immediately after Bollard made his announcement on Thursday the NZ dollars spiked to 73.82 cents of US dollar from 73.56 cents of US dollar.

Finance Minister Michael Cullen said on Wednesday that the level of the currency was of "real concern" and it was affecting the current account deficit that was

"uncomfortably high".

Bollard acknowledged the decision to lift rates was difficult as the economy appeared to be at a turning point. "However, not responding to the prospect of stronger inflation pressures now would create a risk that inflation expectations and wage and price setting behaviour could change in a way that would make the task of containing inflation more difficult in the future, even if growth slows," he said.

The Reserve Bank is now forecasting inflation will be at the very top of the bank's 1-3 per cent target through all of this year and next.

Bollard said the current momentum in the economy had been underlined by continuing vigorous employment growth and high levels of consumer confidence.

Bollard said the effect of last year's six rate rises had yet to be fully felt in the economy or in borrowers' pockets, most of whom have fixed rate loans.

MNA/Xinhua

### Philippine police destroy marijuana plants in Manila

MANILA, 11 March — Members of the Philippine Central Police District (CPD) in Manila destroyed several marijuana plants near the La Mesa Dam watershed in East Fairview, Quezon City, Metro Manila, reported the local television network ABS-CBN News Wednesday. Police said an informant tipped them off about the plantation of the banned plant near the entrance of the watershed.

CPD operatives said aside from the uprooted marijuana plants, they also found sachets of shabu and drug-making paraphernalia in a hut near the area.

Two suspects were arrested during the raid, said the report.

MNA/Xinhua

### Seven Poles arrested after returning from Iraq

WARSAW, 10 March— Five Polish Army officers and two civilian contractors who served in Iraq have been arrested on suspicion of taking bribes for contracts to rebuild the country, the military police said on Thursday.

Poland has 1,700 troops stationed in south-central Iraq and has been one of Washington's staunchest allies in the US-led military operations in the Gulf state. "Of the seven people arrested, five are Army officers and two work for the army," Colonel Edward Jaroszuk told private news channel TVN-24.

Internet

US soldiers attend the scene after an explosion at dawn near a hotel used by western contractors in central Baghdad on 9 March 2005. INTERNET



### Indonesia may sue US-based Co for environmental damages

JAKARTA, 11 March — Indonesian Government might sue the US-based gold-mining company PT Newmont Minahasa Raya (NMR) for up to 100 million US dollars for its pollution of Buyat Bay waters in North Sulawesi Province, Minister of Environment Rahmat Witoelar said here on Wednesday.

"The amount of damages that we will demand (compensation for) may reach 100 million US dollars," the state-owned news agency Antara quoted Rahmat as saying after a meeting with Indonesian Vice-President Jusuf Kalla.

"The amount we will demand is based on our calculations on how much money we will need to repair the damage done to the Buyat Bay coast and other expenditures," the minister said.

The minister denied PT NMR's claim that the company had regularly submitted environmental impact analysis (Amdal) reports on its mining operations to Indonesian Government.

"It's not true. They did not. There was one Amdal report in 1994 and they used it as an excuse to do anything they wanted whereas Amdal reports must be made periodically. We asked them (for the later reports) but they never complied. This will be one of the points in our legal suit," Rahmat said.

Meanwhile, the company managers Wednesday claimed that it had yet to receive court summons in relation with the government's legal suit.

MNA/Xinhua

## S Korea to have first fish hospital

SEOUL, 10 March — South Korea will soon have its first fully licensed fish hospital with specialists trained to treat trout with fin fungus and grouper with gill infections.

The Yosu Fisheries Clinic will open on Saturday on South Korea's southern coast, operated by a husband and wife team of marine biologists who are among the first to pass a Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries exam to treat fish and shellfish.

Kim Choon-sup, the husband, said he expects the fish hospital mainly to serve commercial fish and shellfish farms in the area, but he thinks he will also make tank calls for people who have sick pets.

"We have studied to treat diseases in all types of aquatic life from fish to crustaceans," Kim said by telephone.

Kim and his wife Kim Jin-suk are among 40 people who passed the first exam given by the ministry to be licensed fish doctors.

The ministry decided to implement the fish doctor scheme to support the country's farmed-fish industry. The Kims want to help stop the spread of diseases that have wiped out some fish farms.

The couple said some sceptics in the area question how they can make money as fish doctors.

"Fishermen are not sure if we can make a go of it because no one has jumped into this type of operation before," Kim Choon-sup said. "However, there are some people who also see this as a great growth industry". — *MNA/Reuters*

## Indian groups skeptical of US audits remarks

WASHINGTON, 10 March — Initial audits of US payments to Indian tribes for land held in their name has not found fraud as alleged in a multi-billion dollar lawsuit, the official overseeing the accounts said on Tuesday, but some Indian groups were skeptical.

Indian rights groups suing the US Government reacted angrily, saying the remarks were the latest in a long tradition of deception against Native Americans.

"We feel fairly confident that we are not going to find the smoking gun, we're not going to find lots of money that's missing," Ross Swimmer, special trustee for American Indians at the US Department of the Interior, told *Reuters*.

He spoke a day before hearings at the US

Senate's Committee on Indian Affairs on a class-action lawsuit by Indians who allege the Interior Department mismanaged trust accounts set up in the late 19th Century to handle proceeds from oil, gas and minerals extracted from their lands.

Lead plaintiff Elouise Cobell, a member of Montana's Blackfoot tribe, charges that the government has lost track of billions estimated as high as 176 billion US dollars.

Swimmer, a former

principal chief of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, said accounting firms auditing since 2002 had found no payment discrepancy of more than 25,000 US dollars, with some errors even benefitting Indian recipients. So far, the review has accounted for 15 billion US dollars paid to tribes and a few hundred million out of 13 billion US dollars paid to Indian individuals in funds received since 1910, he said.

*MNA/Reuters*



A Chinese boy listens during a class at the Street Children Education and Protection Centre in north China's Tianjin municipality on 8 March, 2005.

INTERNET

## China's farmers hail Govt's favourable rural, agricultural policies

BEIJING, 10 March — On hearing the news that the Chinese Government will stop imposing the agricultural taxes in 2006, migrant worker Zhang Wenlong, who leaves his hometown Baiyangdian to work in Beijing, said: "It is too good to be true."

The young man from north China's Hebei Province immediately phoned his family members, telling them with great excitement: "We will never pay the taxes since next year".

As a matter of fact, the Chinese Government has annulled the agricultural taxes in many provinces and autonomous

regions this year, but Hebei Province is still excluded.

At the ongoing Third Session of the Tenth National People's Congress, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao reiterated it is one of the central government's most important tasks to solve the problems in China's agriculture, rural areas and farmers.

The government decided to stop imposing the agricultural taxes in all the provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities since next year, achieving the goal from the originally-set five years to three years.

"I was deeply touched by Premier Wen's words because he really takes farmers' interests at

heart," said 62-year-old farmer Liu Wanquan in Tianpu Village of the city of Neijiang, southwest China's Sichuan Province.

"Exempted from agricultural taxes while receiving the government's subsidies, Chinese farmers are living a happy life today," Liu said.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Singapore to ban smoking in more public places

SINGAPORE, 10 March — Smoking will be banned in more public areas in Singapore from 1 October this year to protect non-smokers from being harmed by second-hand smoke, a high-level government official said on Tuesday.

These places include public swimming complexes, open air stadiums, community clubs, bus shelters, bus interchanges and public toilets.

"In the long-run, my ministry's intent is to do away with the need for an exhaustive list and move towards allowing smoking only in private premises, wide open spaces and designated smoking areas," Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Yaacob Ibrahim said.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Decks cleared for Musharraf's visit to India

NEW DELHI, 11 March — Decks were on Wednesday cleared for the visit of Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf to witness one of the matches in the ongoing Indo-Pakistani cricket series with the green signal coming from Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. "Prime Minister would welcome a visit by the President of Pakistan to witness one of the India-

Pakistan cricket matches," External Affairs Ministry said.

"The Governments of India and Pakistan are in touch with one another in this context," the Ministry spokesman Navtej Sarna told reporters. "It is a friendly visit... Every visit does not have to become a State visit," Prime Minister's Media Adviser Sanjaya Baru said. — *MNA/PTI*

## Foreign Ministry warns Italians to stay out of Iraq

ROME, 10 March — The Italian Foreign Ministry on Wednesday issued warnings to Italians, especially journalists, to stay out of Iraq.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman cited "specific warnings" that journalists could be the target of militants in Iraq.

"Given the present security conditions, it is impossible to authorize any visit to Iraq," said the spokesman, adding that special business trips

should be equipped with a high level of security.

In addition to 3,200 troops stationed in Iraq, about a hundred Italian citizens and other military personnel are still in the country, including experts helping train Iraqi security forces.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Baghdad police chief gunned down in violence-stricken Iraq

BAGHDAD, 10 March — A police chief was gunned down in Baghdad in an ambush that also killed two of his companions, as a wave of violence swept through Iraq one week before the newly-elected parliament meets to choose a new government.

The attack, the latest incident in 24-hour wave of violence that has left dozens dead, comes after at least 30 bodies, possibly of Iraqi soldiers, were discovered on the Iraq-Syrian border near the restive town of Qaim.

"We received the bodies of three policemen, including Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Obaiss," said a medic at Yarmuk hospital in Baghdad, who did not

wish to be identified.

Obaiss was the chief of the Salhiyah police station on the capital's west side, added the same source.

Witnesses said gunmen aboard vehicles opened fire on his convoy at about 8:00 am (0500 GMT) as it drove through Darwish Square in the Al-Saidiyah neighbourhood.

Government officials were also caught up in the violence when outgoing

planning minister Mahdi al-Hafidh escaped an assassination attempt on Wednesday evening in the capital's upscale Mansur neighbourhood that killed two of his guards and seriously wounded another.

Hafidh was member of the Governing Council installed by the previous US-led occupation immediately after the end of Saddam Hussein's rule in 2003. — *Internet*



A British soldier stands guard near a damaged Iraqi police vehicle after it came under attack by a roadside bomb in the southern city of Basra, on 9 March, 2005. — *INTERNET*

## AEMM calls for integration for common development

JAKARTA, 11 March — Integration became the key word as the 15th Ministerial Meeting of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the European Union (EU) here Thursday went through its agenda on bilateral cooperation of education, trade, biodiversity enhancement, anti-terrorism and other issues of common interests.

The ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting (AEMM), which contributes to over 30 years of dialogue and cooperation for both sides, has always been calling for integration within either body to seek for common development in various aspects, said Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs Hassan Wirajuda at a Press conference held right after the meeting.

The increase of political and economic in-

tegration in the two regions will contribute positively to strengthening of the ties between Europe and Southeast Asia, he added.

At Thursday's meeting, the ministers acknowledged the full implementation of all previously agreed cooperation, particularly in the fields of regional integration, renewable energy, higher education, biodiversity conservation, product standards and intellectual property

rights protection, according to the meeting's Press release.

They also emphasized the importance of jointly addressing the root causes of terrorism and avoiding the identification of terrorism with any particular religion or ethnic group or nationality. The meeting reaffirmed both sides' commitment to strengthen cooperation to combat terrorism as well as transnational crime.

MNA/Xinhua



## Chemistry laureate warns severe global climate change

BANGKOK, 11 March — A visiting chemistry laureate has warned people of the increasing severity of global climate change and called on governments to reinforce the efforts to cut fossil fuel use and greenhouse gas emission.

The Earth is still under grave threat of global warming caused by intensified fossil fuel use although the chlorofluorocarbons level in atmosphere had been dropping for the past 30 years, Mario J. Molina laureate in chemistry was quoted by *Bangkok Post* newspaper as saying here on Thursday.

Mario won the prestigious prize in 1995 for the development of "CFC-ozone depletion theory," which found that contin-

ued release of CFCs into the atmosphere could lead to significant depletion of ozone layer, which shields the earth's surface from the damaging ultraviolet radiation from the sun.

He said the best way to cope with global warming is a shift of energy sources from fossil fuels to renewable energy, installation of carbon-capture technology in coal-fired power plants and development of energy-saving transport system.

Fossil fuel and greenhouse gases are two main causes of global warming.

Mario urged industrialized countries to work closely with developing countries in transferring energy-efficiency and greenhouse gas-capture technologies.

He also called on the world's largest greenhouse gas emitters such as the United States to commit themselves to cut their emission to help protect atmosphere. —MNA/Xinhua

## IBM says CFIUS has completed review of Lenovo-IBM deal

WASHINGTON, 11 March — The Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) has cleared the deal for China's Lenovo to acquire the personal computer operation of International Business Machines Corp (IBM), IBM announced Wednesday.

"With the review by the US Government complete, IBM and Lenovo are moving quickly to integrate the two companies and expect to finalize the transaction in the second quarter, as planned," IBM said in a Press release. The committee convened to investigate any national security implications of the proposed sale after three members of Congress raised questions about the sale. —MNA/Xinhua



Indian models pose beside Toyota Kirloskar Motor's newly launched 'Innova' during a function in the northern Indian city of Jammu, on 9 March, 2005.

INTERNET

## 64 kilos of heroin seized in Istanbul

ANKARA, 11 March — Turkish police seized 64 kilos of heroin in two separate operations in Istanbul, semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported on Thursday.

Police stopped a truck in Istanbul's Kartal District and found 60 kilos of heroin hidden in it, said the report, adding that six

people were arrested.

In a separate operation, police found four kilos of heroin in a suitcase of a passenger who

was about to go abroad at Istanbul's Ataturk Airport and the suspect was detained.

MNA/Xinhua

## Vietnam cuts import tariff on textiles, garments

HANOI, 11 March — Vietnam has slashed its tariff on textiles and garments imported from the European Union (EU) and the United States to 5 per cent from 7 per cent, following a Vietnam-EU agreement on market access and the Vietnam-US trade agreement on textiles and garments.

Under a decision signed by the Vietnamese Ministry of Finance on Wednesday, the new rate is applicable to garments and textiles imported from the EU and the United States since 1 January, 2005, local newspaper *Vietnam Economic Times* reported on Thursday.

Vietnam imports a small volume of garments and textiles from the EU and the United States, most of which are brands favoured by local high-income earners.

The EU and the United States are two biggest importers of Vietnamese textiles and garments. Vietnam's textile and garment export revenues to the EU and the United States are expected to rise to 1.5 billion US dollars, and 2.7 billion dollars in 2005 from 700 million dollars and 2.5 billion dollars in 2004, respectively.

Vietnam has shipped abroad textile and garment products worth of 566 million dollars in the first two months of this year, up 1.4 per cent from the same period last year, according to the country's General Statistics Office.

MNA/Xinhua

## Chinese-born ballerina honoured in Canada

OTTAWA, 11 March — Chinese-Canadian ballerina Chan Hon Goh is being honoured for her achievement as a Canadian immigrant, according to a report by the Canadian Broadcast Corporation (CBC) on Wednesday.

Goh, the National Ballet of Canada's first principal dancer of Chinese heritage, is being celebrated at a Toronto gala Wednesday and presented with a New Pioneer Award for her outstanding achievement in the arts.

According to the Toronto-based organization's web site, the honour is meant to celebrate "those who have gone first and so prepared the way for others." Goh was eight years old when her family moved from Beijing to Vancouver. At the age of 15, she won the prestigious Prix de Lausanne, one of the most important international competitions for young dancers.

Goh accepted a position with the

National Ballet's corps de ballet in 1988 and soon began moving up the ranks: making second soloist in 1990 and first soloist two years later. In 1994, she was promoted to principal dancer.

Over the years, Goh has starred in many of ballet's notable lead roles, including Odette/Odile in *Swan Lake*, Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*, Tatiana in *Onegin* and Cio-Cio San in *Madame Butterfly*, a role she recently reprised in Toronto. She has also published an autobiography, entitled *Beyond The Dance*, and together with her husband, has launched a company designing and selling dancer-designed ballet slippers and pointe shoes. —MNA/Xinhua



A National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) image shows a lightning strike. Seven people, five of them women, were killed and 18 injured when they were struck by lightning in west India recently. —INTERNET

# Keep constant alertness and vigilance

Dr No

I noticed as a member of the public that the Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council held a press conference clarifying an incident in which an innocent student was killed and the people wounded due to the destructive acts of the saboteurs, acts of internal and external destructionist groups, unlicensed vehicles, and damages in some areas triggered by the strong earthquake in the Indian Ocean at the Ministry of Information on 28 December 2004.

I would like the following conclusions from the clarifications on the terrorist acts at the press conference as follows:-

1. The neo-colonialist power will keep on giving trouble to Myanmar until its lackey and party come into power in the nation
2. The anti-government groups abroad are not capable of objectively reviewing the nation's prevailing situations and conditions
3. The Tatmadaw Government is very magnanimous to everyone and anxious for peace and stability of the State, while the aboveground and underground subversive elements cling on to committing terrorist acts
4. Destructionists are deterring the government from constructing infrastructures for national development as well as resorting to all possible ways to hinder the National Convention that is in progress in conformity with the requirements of the nation
5. The absconders disguised as refugees in a neighbouring country are inventing false news to draw the attention of international community and to get relief cash
6. They fail to take lessons from the true stories of the Burma Communist Party and the fugitives who met their tragic end

In short, the aboveground and underground destructionists at home and abroad, who have misunderstood the change in the nation in October 2004 to be an advantage, are rearing their ugly head again. So, the entire national people are to be constantly vigilant against them and their destructive acts.

If a citizen sees by chance a unscrupulous

event or a suspect with intent to commit destructive acts, they should never hesitate to inform the authorities or the nearest administrative body about what they have seen and noticed. And the entire people should be convinced that if they are quite indifferent to their surrounding areas and negligent of a criminal event near their homes, it will trouble them one way or another.

A recent official announcement concerning the border incident carried a phrase that said 'according to information given by a duty-conscious citizen'. The clarification made at the press conference held

**The government therefore had to take tight security measures and was therefore able to expose and stop some terrorist acts in time. But some had occurred in the nation. The government had received information that some local political parties under the pretext of democracy and human rights had certain connections and relations with destructive elements such as NCUB, ABSDF and drug trafficker insurgent Ywet Sit group and other destructive elements in border areas.**

on 21 December 2004 featured a phrase saying 'acting on information given by a security-conscious member of the public'.

The security forces are like the eyes and ears of the government and they need participation of the public for successful implementation of their major tasks.

Dutiful people are indeed like members of a national force, and they scatter everywhere in the nation. Providing timely information about crimes mean safeguarding themselves and human society.

The government has made peace with the 17 national race armed groups, who are now joining hands with government in carrying out nation-build-

ing tasks. So there is no need to be afraid of the fabrications and accusations made by the absconders abroad. However, the people are to be fully aware of the fact that the absconders and fugitives abroad are under alien influence. So the entire people are to be constantly vigilant against the possible dangers posed by the destructive elements.

At the press conference, it was clarified that it was a common knowledge that destructive elements inside and outside the nation were abetting and spurring the terrorist groups to commit acts to create public panic, the floating of false information in the nation through some foreign broadcasting stations, Internet Website and the distributing of pamphlets to instigate the people. The government therefore had to take tight security measures and was therefore able to expose and stop some terrorist acts in time. But some had occurred in the nation. The government had received information that some local political parties under the pretext of democracy and human rights had certain connections and relations with destructive elements such as NCUB, ABSDF and drug trafficker insurgent Ywet Sit group and other destructive elements in border areas.

In the world, there are things some are right and some wrong; similarly some are constructive and some destructive. In the past, there had been destructive acts committed by expatriate destructive elements of yesteryears. At that time, the people and the security forces concerned joined hands and crushed all the dangers posed by the destructive elements. Nowadays, the present-day destructive elements are launching terrorist acts to harm the nation-building endeavours as well as the lives and property of the State and the people through self-seeking ways. In fact, it is known to all.

Hence, the people should be vigilant against instigations and subversive acts of the destructive elements and are urged to join hands with security forces in this drive.

(Myanma Alin + Kyemon: 11-3-2005)  
(Translation: MS)

## Sanitation movement signboard erected

YANGON, 11 March—The Early-Childhood Development Centre of the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association put up a signboard that reads "Keep school compound clean" at a ceremony held at the centre at the junction of Parami Road and Thanthuma Road in South Okkaalapa Township here

this morning.

It was attended by MMCWA President Daw Khin Khin Win and CEC members, teachers and pre-primary students.

The president and the CEC members viewed the sanitation work done by the students.

The president formally unveiled the signboard. The purpose of the ceremony was to help the students cultivate a good habit of systematically throwing garbage and keeping themselves clean.

MNA



President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Khin Win formally unveils the sanitation movement signboard of Early-Childhood Development Centre.— MNA

## Delegates lay down detailed basic principles ...

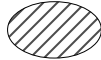
(from page 1)

The Management Committee is required to carry out security, transport, messing and health programmes for the delegates to discuss and suggest with peace of mind.

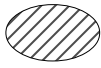
The delegates should work with goodwill for the nation's future and should carry on their endeavours, that will go down to the annals of history, with energy, unyielding spirit and courage, without paying attention to the baseless news reports of some foreign media, which were invented by the external and internal slanders on the Convention, and the destructive acts.

The studies of the Work Committee on the legislative, executive and judicial powers have already been explained by the chairman of the body, and the clarifications have already been broadcast on TV and radio and featured in the dailies not only for the delegates, but also for the people of the entire nation to know them.

Thus, the people can now imagine the shape of future Myanmar that will practise the democratic system. Despite some difficulties the delegates are facing, they should work with the belief that they can overcome them with the public support and assistance.



NCCC  
Secretary  
Minister  
for  
Information  
Brig-  
Gen  
Kyaw  
Hsan.  
MNA



Secretary of the Commission Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan explained the publishing of a book on the detailed principles for the legislative sector, distribution of the copies of the book to the delegates and administrative affairs.

Work Committee Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Management Committee Chairman Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung explained functions and future programmes of their bodies.

Director-General of Pyithu Hluttaw Office U Myint Thein acted as master of ceremonies.

The members of the Commission, the Work Committee and the Management Committee discussed and suggested sector-wise for the success of the National Convention.

The Secretary-1 gave the concluding remarks.

MNA

## Mayor inspects tarring of roads

YANGON, 11 March — Accompanied by officials, Chairman of the Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin this morning inspected the upgrading of Yangon City by the Engineering Department (Road & Bridge) of the YCDC.

First, the mayor inspected ABC tar mixer in Minglar Taungnyunt Township, production of tar and stockpiling of raw materials such as sand and gravel.

Next, the mayor and party oversaw the tarmacking of Banyadala road near Maugon Junction in Tamway Township and Strand Road in front of Theikpan Market in Ahlon Township and gave necessary instructions to the officials.

MNA

## Matters coordinated for ensuring smooth and secure transport in city

YANGON, 11 March — The Work Coordination meeting of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport was held at Yangon Command this evening, attended by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present on the occasion were military region commanders, Secretary of Yangon Division

PDC Lt-Col Myint Kyi and members, committee members and officials.

First, the commander delivered a speech. Next, officials reported on measures being taken for traffic safety and action being taken against those who violate traffic rules and regulations.

Then the meeting ended with concluding remarks by the commander.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe speaking at the meeting of Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport.— YANGON COMMAND

## Prize-distribution for inter-pre-primary school all-round physical and intellectual contest held

YANGON, 11 March—The prize-distribution ceremony for the inter-pre-primary school all-round physical and intellectual ability contest took place at Pre-primary School No 4 on Baho Street in Ahlon Township here this morning, with an address by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa.

The minister presented prizes to Pre-primary School No 1 that stood first, Pre-primary School No 5 that stood second and Pre-primary School No 4 and Kanyektha Pre-primary School that jointly stood third.

Next, Daw Khin Aye, wife of the minister, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, OSD Brig-Gen Thura Sein Thauang, Director-General of Social Welfare Department U Sit Myaing and officials presented other kinds of prizes to pre-primary schools, teachers and students.

This was followed by the cash donation ceremony.

The minister and the deputy minister accepted cash donations and presented certificates of honour to the well-wishers.

Afterwards, the prize-winning students presented a variety of entertainment programmes to those present.

MNA



Minister for SWRR Maj-Gen Sein Htwa presents prize to an outstanding student.

MNA

## Armed Forces Day parade columns entertained

YANGON, 11 March—Under the arrangements of the Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare of the Ministry of Defence, No 1 Mobile Public Relations Company and No 2 Mobile Public Relations Company of the Defence Services TV Broadcasting Unit presented entertainment programmes at the camps where military columns, which will participate in the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day parade, are staying at 7 pm yesterday.

The entertainment was performed at the Mingaladon Station, the Tatmadaw Orthopedic Hospital (500-bed) and the South Okkalapa Township Local Battalion where the parade columns are staying.

Parade commanders, battalion commanders, officers and other ranks enjoyed the entertainment.

MNA

## UMFCCI AGM Exhibition

YANGON, 11 March— The 14th Annual General Meeting of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry will be held at Myanmar Convention Centre (MCC) on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township at 1 pm tomorrow.

The export quality Myanmar products will be displayed for the people at UMFCCI AGM Exhibition-2005 at MCC from 10 am to 5 pm on 12 and 13 March.

MNA

### All this needs to be known

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



## Self-administered division...

(from page 16)

The detailed basic principles — as the self-administered division and the self-administered zones are self-administered areas they are of equal status — the self-administered division leading body is formed in the self-administered division, and the self-administered zone leading bodies are formed in the self-administered zones — have already been laid down.

As regards the delegation of legislative power to the self-administered areas, a detailed basic principle — legislative power prescribed by the Constitution is distributed to self-administered areas — has been laid down, and in connection with the distribution of executive power, a detailed basic principle — executive power prescribed by the Constitution is distributed to self-administered areas — has been laid down. Thus, the self-administered division leading body and the self-administered zone leading bodies will have the right to exercise the legislative power and the self-administrative power prescribed by the Constitution.

In the sector of distribution of the State legislative power, the National Convention has already laid down the sector-wise detailed basic principles concerning the matters within the legislative power of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the matters within the legislative authority of regions and states to be stipulated in the Constitution.

Self-administered division or self-administered zone leading bodies are vested with the legislative power within their own territories for the following matters:

- (a) Town and village plan,
- (b) Construction, repair and maintenance of roads and bridges,
- (c) Public health,
- (d) Development affairs,
- (e) Fire prevention,
- (f) Pasture,
- (g) Forest protection and conservation,
- (h) Environmental conservation in accord with the law enacted by the Pyidaungsu,
- (i) Water and electricity supply in towns and villages, and
- (j) Town and village markets.

Self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies will have to exercise the above-mentioned legislative power as necessary. But the bodies will have to be aware of the fact that the laws enacted by the self-administered division or self-administered zone leading bodies should not be contrary to the provision of the Constitution, the laws enacted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the laws enacted by the respective regions and states. The laws enacted by the self-administered division or self-administered zone leading bodies will be in force as long as they are not in contrast with the laws enacted by the Constitution, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the respective regions or states.

Self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies are the institutions that will have to play a leading role in carrying out the administrative affairs of their own division or zones. In doing so, they will have to abide by the Constitution, the Union laws and the laws of the respective regions and states. The bodies will have to ensure that the executive power exercised by them should not go beyond the matters permitted by the laws.

Thus, delegates will have to discuss and suggest whether or not the following detailed basic principles should be laid down:

**Subject to provisions of the Constitution, the self-administrative power of the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies extends to the following matters:**

- (a) with respect to which the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies has power to make laws;
- (b) with respect to which the division and self-administered zone leading body has power to make laws in accord with any law enacted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; and
- (c) with respect to which the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading body has power to make laws in accord with any law enacted by the respective region or state hluttaws.

As the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies can simultaneously exercise both the legislative power and the self-administrative

power prescribed by the Constitution, they will have to harmoniously exercise the said powers in view of all-round development of their self-administered division or self-administered zones.

Self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies have the duty to help the Union government in its drive to ensure stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and the rule of law in the entire nation. Only then will they be able to successfully and effectively implement their all-round development tasks.

Thus, the delegates will have to discuss and suggest whether or not to lay down the following basic principle:

**Self-administered division and self-administered zone leading body has the duty to help the Union Government in its drive to ensure stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and the rule of law.**

Self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies have to draw the annual budgets to implement projects and plans laid down and approved by them. The drawing of the said budgets involves the task of estimating the tax revenues and also the income from development taxes permitted by the law.

Self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies will have to draw the long-, short-term and annual plans, subject to the policies of the Pyidaungsu Government. In drawing the plans, priority is to be given to all-round development plans and tasks covering administration, economy, health, development affairs, transport and communications, etc in the area. The bodies will have to coordinate with the respective region or state governments occasionally concerning the plans.

The bodies are to also draw the estimated expenditure for their targeted work projects and plans. Afterwards the bodies have to draw the bill on the budget which includes capital income and expenditure and current income and expenditure according to financial rules. After drawing the accounts the bodies will have to hold a preliminary coordination meeting with the respective region or state governments. The coordination includes the amounts of additional funds, loans and other financial aids.

The region or state governments will have to present the bill on annual budgets to the Financial Commission together with the bill on annual budgets of the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies. The region and state governments have to present the bill on their budgets to the hluttaw of the respective regions and states in accord with the budget law of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The bill includes the estimated funds for the leading bodies of the self-administered division or zones within their territory.

The self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies have the right to use the allotted funds, included in the budget law of the respective region or state governments, according to the financial procedures.

If a region or state hluttaw cannot enact the budget law before the end of fiscal year for certain reasons, the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies may use the fund of the current expenditure permitted within the last-enacted budget law of the hluttaw of the respective regions or states. Only then will the administrative machinery be able to run normally with momentum in a self-administered area.

Here, the delegates will have to discuss and suggest whether or not the following detailed basic principles should be laid down:

**The self-administered division or the self-administered zone leading bodies shall**

- (a) subject to the policies of the Union Government, draw work programmes for development of their territory and shall coordinate the matter with the region government or state government concerned;
- (b) draw annual budgets and shall coordinate with the region or state government concerned in accord with the provisions of the Constitution for approval;
- (c) have the right to use the allotted budget funds included in the budget law of the region or state concerned;
- (d) use the fund of the current expenditure permitted within the last-enacted budget law of the hluttaw of the region or state concerned if they cannot obtain the budget allotment in time due

**to region or state hluttaw's failure to enact the budget law in time.**

There are civil staff assigned and paid by the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies to help run their machinery covering various sectors. The self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies are required to supervise, inspect, guide, adjust, and manage the work of civil service personnel. Now, I will present the Work Committee's study on the matter.

The duties and rights of the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies originate in the provisions of the Constitution. The self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies will have duties and rights in accord with the laws enacted after the emergence of the Constitution and those enacted by the region or state hluttaws. The leading bodies may continue to observe and exercise the duties and rights entrusted to them in accord with the existing laws when the Constitution is ratified.

The self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies are to supervise, supervise and coordinate the functions of civil service personnel in the areas. In this connection, necessary laws should be enacted for ensuring work facilitation. Only then will the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies be able to carry out their duties properly in the interest of the Union.

Thus, the delegates will have to discuss and suggest whether the following detailed basic principle should be laid down:

**Self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies shall, in accord with the law, supervise and coordinate the functions of civil service organizations discharging duties in their territory.**

I have already presented that the following detailed basic principles should be laid down:

**“Subject to provisions of the Constitution, the self-administrative power of the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies extends to the following matters:**

- with respect to which the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies has power to make laws;
- with respect to which the self-administered division or self-administered zone leading body has power to make laws in accord with any law enacted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; and
- with respect to which the self-administered division or self-administered zone leading body has power to make laws in accord with any law enacted by the respective region or state hluttaws.”

In addition to the rights and duties vested in them by the laws enacted by themselves, the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies are to exercise the rights and duties entrusted to them under the provisions of the Constitution, the laws that are still in force after the ratification of the constitution, the laws enacted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, and the hluttaws of the respective regions and states. To have greater success and effectiveness in exercising the rights and duties the chairman and the members of the leading bodies will have to share the responsibilities among themselves. In doing so, the chairman and members of the leading bodies will have collective as well as individual responsibility.

I have already explained the duties of the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies. The bodies should have the right to duly inform the Union Government and the region or state government concerned about the prevailing situation of their territories, and the required additional funds and assistance on paper. Only then will the Union Government and the region or state government concerned be able to know the situation of the bodies and will provide necessary additional funds and assistance.

Thus, the delegates will have to discuss and suggest whether or not the following detailed basic principle should be laid down:

**The self-administered division or self-administered zone leading body shall submit reports stating the general situation of the territory to the Union Government and the region or state government concerned.**

The Union Government, the region or state governments, and the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies will have to timely

(See page 10)

## Self-administered division...

(from page 9)

implement their tasks to benefit the State and the people more. The Union Government from time to time will assign duties to the region and state governments in the interest of the State and the people, and the region and state governments will assign appropriate duties occasionally to the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies.

The self-administered division or self-administered zone leading bodies are to carry out the tasks assigned to them by the Union Government and the region of state government concerned.

Thus, the delegates will have to discuss and suggest whether or not the following detailed basic principle should be laid down:

**The self-administered division or self-administered zone leading bodies shall carry out the tasks assigned occasionally to them by the Union Government and region or state government concerned.**

The following are a collection of points concerning the executive power of the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies and the rights and duties related to the power that should be laid down as detailed basic principles:

**1. Subject to provisions of the Constitution, the self-administrative power of the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies extends to the following matters:**

- (a) with respect to which the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies has power to make laws;
  - (b) with respect to which the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading body has power to make laws in accord with any law enacted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; and
  - (c) with respect to which the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading body has power to make laws in accord with any law enacted by the respective region or state hluttaws.
- 2. Self-administered division or self-administered zone leading body has the duty to help the Union Government in its drive to ensure stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and the rule of law.**
- 3. The self-administered division or the self-administered zone leading bodies shall**
- (a) subject to the policies of the Union Government, draw work programmes for development of their territory and shall coordinate the matter with the respective region government or state government;
  - (b) draw annual budgets and coordinate with the region or state government concerned in accord with the provisions of the Constitution for approval;
  - (c) have the right to use the allotted budget funds

included in the budget law of the region or state concerned;

- (d) use the fund of the current expenditure permitted within the last-enacted budget law of the hluttaw of the region or state concerned if they cannot obtain the budget allotment in time due to region or state hluttaw's failure to enact the budget law in time.
- 4. Self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies shall, in accord with the law, supervise and coordinate the functions of civil service organizations discharging duties in their territory.**
- 5. The self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies shall submit reports stating the general situation of the territory to the Union Government and the region or state government concerned.**
- 6. The self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies shall carry out the task assigned occasionally to them by the Union Government and the region or state government concerned.**

The delegates will have to discuss and suggest whether or not the detailed basic principle concerning the executive power of the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies and the rights and duties related to the power should be laid down.

MNA

## State service personnel shall...

(from page 16)

need. State service personnel are to keep good discipline in discharging their duties while upholding 'Our Three Main National Causes'. The State is therefore responsible to grant the occupational security to its service personnel.

As regards the occupational security for the State service personnel, some rules and regulations of service personnel were expressed in Section 98 of the Government of Burma Act 1935, which was later abrogated and replaced with Burma Independence Act of 1947.

It is stated in Articles 150 and 151 of 1974 Constitution that:

### Article 150

'Every working citizen has the right to—

- (a) rest and recreation,
- (b) fixed working hours and leave as prescribed by law; and

### Article 151

- (a) Every working citizen shall enjoy benefits as prescribed by law for injury due to occupational accidents or when disabled or sick or old.
- (b) Heirs to any working citizen shall enjoy benefits as prescribed by law on his death.'

Article 81 of 1974 Constitution prescribes that "Bodies of public services may be constituted only by decision of the Council of State".

Therefore, the Council of State formed an 18-member commission led by U Kyaw Soe, who was a member of the Council of State, in accordance with Article 81 of the Constitution and Sections 8 and 9 of the Council of State Law, on 29 March 1975, to draw up plans for and give advice on all the matters related to white-collar and blue-collar workers.

After conducting necessary surveys, the commission submitted a report stating improved productivity and higher efficiency of service personnel, occupational regulations, higher living standard, creation of occupational welfare, and life security and insurance.

To present the commission's some surveys in brief, in time of the past parliamentary democracy, Myanmar adopted that democracy system. However, the secretariat and the bureaucratic machinery remained unchanged the same as those under the British rule.

On 2 March 1962, the Revolutionary Council addressed the deteriorating situation of the country and changed the administrative pattern.

However, it is found that the measures, though taken in line with what is stated in Book XXVII of *New Administrative Pattern*, still failed and could not solve the problems. In undertaking the matters of service personnel, the central board of civil service affairs, the ministry, the Security and Administrative Committees were set up in place of the old administrative machinery.

The economic planning committee, the committee for

service personnel affairs, the cooperation and coordination committee, and the primary people's workers council and so on were set up. Yet, the problems still remained unsolved as a result of the clashes between functions and powers. Placing emphasis on management rather than improved productivity had an ill effect on productivity. In factories and workshops, there were differences in the management, the service personnel affairs, the cooperation and coordination committee and the people's workers council. It is therefore found that the short- and long-term economic policies proved unreliable. In spite of the emergence of Pyithu councils at different levels, service organizations were still faced with difficulties in their discharge of duty.

The delegation of powers to some service personnel triggered dissatisfaction among some service personnel. In the end, they sharked from their duties without cooperating with the authorities, and they even caused disturbances.

In some departments, service personnel were appointed through the civil service selection and training board. However, other departments selected the staff by themselves and sought the approval from the board. There were mixed practices in connection with the promotion, transfer and punishment of staff. This led to confusion, disputes and depression among service personnel. In implementing the new system of administration, it cost a lot to solve some cases to extend the posts of staff. It is however found that despite much expenditure in administration, tasks could not be undertaken as much as they should have been. In some areas, it is found that the implementation of the tasks was not as effective as those in the period in which the previous administrative pattern remained the same as the condition in which the past administrative pattern had not been in practice. The creation of new posts and increase in staff population were not effective due to placing emphasis on management rather than productivity. It is therefore found that the commodity production remained ineffective.

Some department staff ignored individual responsibility shuffling the responsibility to the committees. This caused delays. At that time, it is found that some Hluttaw representatives were biting more than they could chew in details of office works.

The rights set for government employees according to the fundamental rules and regulations promulgated in the time of the British government and the rights set for workers of private factories were intricate. Powers were mostly in the hands of superior bodies. Duties were assigned unequally. Punishment given to wrong-doing employees was not indecisive. In solving the problems, settlement was made on individual problems instead of taking into consideration the whole cause. In consequence of it, there sparked dissatisfaction among the folk of employees.

Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, gave guidance on mat-

ters related to employees at the Meeting on National Economic Development held at the meeting hall of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) on 9 October 1992. In his guidance, he said that now is the time when the country is in the process of transition to a new era and system. To achieve success in this process, it is necessary to analyze the service personnel sector. Some employees work hard, while others cling to the red-tape system. Employees are needed to work dynamically and energetically with sound and correct thought and vision.

What needs amending should be amended in the procedures of the red-tape system. If an employee delays the work, disturbs it, has no respect for it, and works recklessly, he should be removed and sacked sooner rather than later. The procedures in use should be reviewed. If any of them proves inapplicable, they should be amended. Working hard with good will is a must in developing the country. It is impossible to shirk the responsibilities. Work should be accomplished even without the supervision of the minister concerned. Employees at different levels are responsible to provide supervision.

The heads of staff at different levels should avoid giving instructions from his seat in the office room. They are to make field trips down to grass-roots level and provide effective management and supervision. Care should be taken not to make the country suffer losses on account of one's own fault in serving the country. It is therefore necessary for all the staff at different levels to gear themselves up for serving the interest of the country, the Senior General said.

State service personnel take up the duty with the aim of working for the development of the country and the race. It is natural that employees work hard at the start. With the passage of time, they give ordinary performance in their work. This being the case, it is necessary to always try to keep their momentum steady as it has been at the start.

As regards the State service personnel, there are two parts: the State part and the service personnel part. The State is responsible to assist the service personnel with everything they deserve. And the service personnel, on their part, must be loyal to the State and the citizens, and carry out their responsibilities with full qualification. In carrying out their responsibilities, the service personnel should be honest and should uphold their moral.

It is therefore assumed that the Constitution should prescribe qualification and dutifulness, honesty, emergence of law-abiding employees capable of implementing the tasks, and occupational guarantees.

As regards the occupational security for service personnel, the matters such as appointment, promotion, retirement, enforcement of rules, and the taking of action against them should be carried out in accordance with law. In case the need arises to take action against any of the State service personnel for a certain cause, the right of appeal should be granted to that person, when the laws are thus promulgated.

(See page 11)

## Government rendering...

(from page 16)

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint arrived at the local battalion of Nanyun township, where he met with officers, other ranks and their families. Lt-Gen Ye Myint, in his meeting with them, gave instructions on the undertaking of agriculture and livestock on a manageable scale, cooperation with local people in the implementation of the five-point rural development task, and the fulfilment of the needs of education, health and welfare of the families. On the occasion, Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and Maj-Gen Tha Aye gave additional instructions.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint also presented one sewing machine, clothes, and K 100,000 to the Maternal and Child Welfare Association of the battalion.

Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe presented one sewing machine, clothes and K 100,000 to the leading committee of Kachin State MCWA.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye presented sports gear and traditional medicines to the local battalion and K 100,000 and compass boxes to the MCWA of the battalion.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to the basic education high school of Nanyun, where they inspected the computer room, the language lab, and the e-education learning centre. Officials concerned conducted them round the school. Lt-Gen Ye Myint also cordially greeted departmental staff, teachers, members of social organizations, and local people.

At the hall of the school, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with teachers and encouraged them.

In his meeting with departmental officials of Panhsaung, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard reports on regional data about Panhsaung, land utilization, local food sufficiency, agriculture and livestock undertakings, and conditions of education, health, religious affairs, social affairs, and transport. After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave some suggestion.

In Panhsaung, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the station hospital, the basic education high school and the downtown area.

At Naungyan Hall, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with departmental staff, members of social organizations, local people, and traditional cultural troupes of national races. On the occasion, an official briefed on the necessities of the town. Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and Maj-Gen Tha Aye presented additional reports.

In response to the reports, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said he came there to see to the requirements of the town in line



Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun inspects construction of Pyapon Bridge.— CONSTRUCTION

with the guidance of the Head of State. He expressed his delight at witnessing hard-working service personnel. He continued that the government was rendering assistance to the all-round development of Panhsaung. He also urged departmental staff to cooperate among departments and with local people.

On the occasion, Lt-Gen Ye Myint donated one sewing machine and clothes, which were accepted by the traditional cultural troupes of national races. He also donated a computer set to the high school of Panhsaung and K 100,000 to the funds of regional development.

Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe donated 50 blankets, 50 facial towels, 20 logs of cloth, and 500 textile fibres for two looms. Kachin State Women Affairs Committee and the leading committee of Kachin State MCWA donated K 100,000 each and foodstuff to Panhsaung Town Committee for Women's Affairs and Panhsaung Town MCWA; K 215,000 to education and health staff of the town; and garments, trousers, and caps.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye presented a computer set, a 21-inch television set, 150 cotton blankets, K 500,000 for the education, and K 500,000 for the health funds to the high school of the town. Director Dr Kyaw Nyunt Sein of the Ministry of Health donated medicines.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party visited a monastery, where they paid obeisance to the Sayadaw and offered provisions to him. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party also donated K 500,000 to the Sayadaw for the construction of a brick tank in the compound of the monastery.

After leaving Panhsaung, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party stopped over at Tanai in Myitkyina district.— MNA

## State service personnel shall...

(from page 10)

It is also found that the Legislative Hluttaws should promulgate necessary laws for the food, clothing and shelter needs of employees; maternal rights for married women employees; and the welfare of retired employees.

State service personnel should not be dogmatic about sectarianism. They should be honest and well-rounded individuals.

Under any government of any party in democratic system, they are also responsible to keep the State machinery running without interruption. If service personnel are sectarians, it can be detrimental to unity among themselves as well as to the smooth running of the State machinery.

Also the members of the Tatmadaw (armed forces) are the State service personnel discharging the duty of State at risk to their lives.

It is found that the nature of their responsibilities differs from that of civilian service personnel. It is therefore necessary to enact laws relevant to the nature of the responsibilities of the Tatmadaw members.

The members of Myanmar Police Force are civilian service personnel. However, MPF is an armed institution. Therefore, 'Rule Enforcement Law of Myanmar Police Force' has been promulgated to ensure the enforcement of law, given the type of its functions. It is therefore necessary to enact separate laws, given the responsibilities and the type of functions of MPF members.

The post-independence Constitutions do not mention precisely the matters related to the occupational security for State service personnel. Therefore, the delegates to the National Convention should lay down appropriate detailed basic principles concerning the occupational security and welfare.

In connection with the State service personnel, it is therefore necessary to discuss and suggest as to whether or not detailed basic principles should be adopted as follows:

1. State service personnel shall be free from party politics.
2. Matters as to the appointment of employees, promotion, retirement, the enforcement of rules, the designation of service rules, and taking of action against service personnel in accordance with law.
3. As to occupational security for State service personnel; the sufficiency of food, clothing and shelter needs; maternal rights for married women service personnel; and the provision of food, clothing and shelter assistance to the retired, necessary laws shall be enacted.
4. Given the unusual nature of the responsibility of the Tatmadaw members, who are State service personnel, they shall be dealt with according to military laws.
5. Given the unusual nature of the responsibility of Myanmar Police Force members, who are State service personnel, separate laws shall be promulgated for them.

Clarification on judicial sector presented, on behalf of the chairman of National Convention Convening Work Committee, by National Convention Convening Work Committee Secretary U Thang Nyunt and Work Committee member Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein will be published in the newspapers to be issued on 13 March.—MNA

## UN Coordinator, UNICEF Resident Representative tour Thanlyin, Kyauktan

YANGON, 11 March — UN Coordinator Mr Charles J Petrie and UNICEF Resident Representative Ms Carroll C Long yesterday morning observed issue of death and birth certificates and age-wise National Registration Card in Sitpinkwin Village in Thanlyin Township and Myaingthaya Model Village of Nyaungwaing Village-tract in Kyauktan Township.

Accompanied by Director-General U Win Mara of International Organizations and Economic Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and officials, the UN coordinator and UNICEF resident representative were welcomed in Sitpinkwin Village by Secretary of Committee for Prevention of Recruitment of Minors Col Aung San Tin of the Ministry of Defence, local authorities and people.

At the office of Sitpinkwin Village Peace and Development Council,



UN Coordinator Mr Charles J Petrie and UNICEF Resident Representative Ms Carroll C Long observe issue of death and birth certificates in Sitpinkwin Village of Thanlyin Township.— MNA

Assistant Director U Khaing Phone of Yangon South District Immigration and National Registration Department briefed them on numbers of household at the village, population, age-wise groups, religions, occupations, nationalities, persons from Sitpinkwin Village joining Tatmadaw, religious, social, administration, education, health and agricultural sectors, and District Health Depart-

ment Head Dr Zaw Win on tasks of the Health Department for registrar of births and deaths.

The two UN officials observed maintaining of the registrar of births and deaths at the rural health care unit in Sitpinkwin Village.

They proceeded to Myaingthaya Model Village in Nyaungwaing Village-tract in Kyauktan Township. At the Village

PDC Office, Head of Kyauktan Township Health Department Dr Nyi Nyi Min and Deputy Head of Yangon Division HD Dr Nwe Ni Ohn explained maintenance of registrar of births and deaths of the local people. While in Myaingthaya model village, the UN officials viewed round Alantant Thuta Yeikmyon Library and the rural health care unit.— MNA

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV SEA BRIGHT VOY: NO (695)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA BRIGHT Voy No (695) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-3-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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**McDonald's touts healthy lifestyle campaign**

WASHINGTON, 10 March — McDonald's Corp Tuesday launched a worldwide campaign to promote healthy lifestyle in response to increasing criticism on its food and business.

The campaign including television ads, new packaging, an updated web site and new Ronald McDonald videos, taught children how to eat well and stay active.

The world's largest restaurant chain has been criticized for its innutritious fast food, which is partly responsible

for America's overweight problem.

Last month, it settled an 8.5 million-US dollar lawsuit that accused it of not informing consumers of delays in a plan to reduce fat in the cooking oil used for its popular French fries and other food.

After introducing new food options in recent years, such as fresh fruit for children's Happy Meals, the company is planning to add new salads to its menus, and is working to remove trans fats from food.

MNA/Xinhua

**Russia's foreign debt falls to \$110.5b**

MOSCOW, 10 March — Russia's state foreign debt has dropped to 110.5 billion US dollars by 1 January of this year from 119.7 US billion compared with the same date last year, the Finance Ministry reported on Wednesday.

At the same time debt volume figured in euros also decreased to 81.1 billion euros from 95.7 billion euros, according to the *ITAR-TASS* news agency. Debt to members of the Paris Club of sovereign creditors fell to 43.1 billion US dollars from 47.7 billion US dollars and debt non-Paris Club members fell to 6.6 billion US dollars from 7 billion US dollars.

Soviet-era commercial debt decreased to 2.9 billion US dollars on January 1 from 3.8 billion US dollars on 1 January, 2004.—MNA/Xinhua

Debt to international financial organizations fell to 9.7 billion US dollars from 12.1 billion US dollars, including debt before the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

Debt on sovereign Eurobonds fell to 35.4 billion US dollars as of 1 January, 2005 from 35.7 billion US dollars on 1 January, 2004.

MNA/Xinhua

**German "IT" products export exceeds import**

BERLIN, 10 March — Germany exported more IT products such as mobile phones, computers and TV sets than imported last year for the first in six years, the German Statistics Office reported on Tuesday.

In 2004, the German exports of IT products were valued at 76.2 billion euros (100.6 billion US dollars), or an

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**Two bank robbers killed in robbery in Costa Rica**

SAN JOSE (Costa Rica), 10 March — Two bank robbers died in a failed robbery in Costa Rica on Tuesday but a third took about 10 people hostage inside the branch in a remote town in the Central American nation.

Red Cross official Arnoldo Alpizar told *Reuters* a bank guard killed two robbers outside the branch in the town of Santa Elena, about 60 miles (100 kilometres) northwest of the Costa Rican capital.

A third armed bank robber inside the branch was holding around 10 people hostage and had made a telephone request for 40,000 US dollars and food, according to Alpizar.

Talks with the hostage taker were ongoing and he had already released two injured people in the failed robbery, the Red Cross official said.

MNA/Reuters

**US, German scientists sequence oldest fossil human protein ever**

LOS ANGELES, 10 March — An international research team reported on Tuesday that it has extracted and sequenced protein from a Neanderthal dating to approximately 75,000 years ago.

It is the oldest fossil human protein ever sequenced. The study led by scientists at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany, and Washington University in St Louis, is published in the latest on-line early edition of *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

This research opens up an exciting possibility of extracting and sequencing protein from other fossils, including earlier humans, as a means of determining the relationships between extinct and living species, and to better understand the phylogenetic relationships, scientists said.

"This research opens up the possibility of getting detailed protein

information from past human populations, to make inferences about the evolution of human diet and physiology," said Erik Trinkaus, co-author of the paper and a professor at Washington University in St Louis.

Trinkaus, an influential scholar of Neanderthal, has conducted extensive field work to excavate the fossils from Shanidar Cave, Iraq. It is rare to recover a protein of this age and remarkable to be able to determine the amino acid sequence of this protein, he said.

Similar to the DNA sequences, protein sequences may be used to provide information on the genetic relationships between extinct and living species. As ancient DNA rarely survives, this new method opens up the possibility of determining these relationships in much older fossils which no longer contain DNA.

The research presents the sequence for the bone protein osteocalcin from a Neanderthal from Shandivar Cave as well as osteocalcin sequences

from living primates (humans, chimpanzees, gorillas and orangutans). The team found that the Neanderthal sequence was the same as modern humans.

The team also found a marked difference in the sequences of Neanderthals, humans, chimpanzees and orangutans from that of gorillas and most other mammals.

This sequence difference is at position nine where the amino acid hydroxyproline is replaced by proline.

The authors suggest that this is a dietary response, as the formation of hydroxyproline requires Vitamin C, which is ample in the diets of herbivores like gorillas, but may be absent from the diets of the omnivorous primates such as humans and Neanderthals, orangutans and chimpanzees.

Therefore, the ability to form proteins without the presence of Vitamin C may have been an advantage to these primates if this nutrient was missing from their diets regularly.

MNA/Xinhua

**Former New Yorker editor to write book about Diana**

NEW YORK, 10 March — Former New Yorker Editor Tina Brown has signed a major deal to write a book about Diana, Princess of Wales, and her impact on the monarchy and the media, US publisher Random House said on Wednesday.

Random House Spokeswoman Suzanne Herz declined to comment on reports the deal was worth two million US dollar, but said the book would be published in 2007 to coincide with the

10th anniversary of the Princess's death in a car crash in Paris.

Diana's death in 1997 sparked an unprecedented outpouring of public grief in Britain and sparked a backlash against the royal family, which was accused of being aloof and out of touch.

A string of books have been written about the late Princess, often with deeply personal revelations about her unhappy marriage to Prince Charles, her

bulimia and her affairs with other men.

"Tina Brown will examine the effect that the Princess had on the monarchy, the public and the Press," Herz said.

British journalist Brown became a media darling when she moved from *Tatler* magazine in London to New York, taking over at *Vanity Fair* and then *The New Yorker*. But her star waned with the demise of her *Talk* magazine.

MNA/Reuters



Sharks swim inside an aquarium. In a virtually unprecedented warning, British maritime agencies warned surfers, divers and others thinking of braving the North Sea to be on the alert for a possible shortfin mako shark.—INERNET

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### BBC launches inquiry how "Doctor Who" has been leaked

LONDON, 10 March — The BBC said on Tuesday it had launched an inquiry into how a new episode of cult British TV sci-fi series "Doctor Who" has been leaked on the Internet.

The classic programme, which has been off air since 1989, makes a much-anticipated return to the small screen later this month with Christopher Eccleston starring as the time-travelling hero and former pop star Billie Piper as his sidekick. However, the BBC — which was due to trumpet the show's regeneration at a celebration launch on Tuesday — said one of the 13 new 45-minute episodes had been posted on the Internet.

"This is a significant breach of copyright which is currently under investigation," a BBC spokeswoman said.

"The source of it appears to be connected to our co-production partner," she added, referring to the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. According to the *Daily*

*Mirror* newspaper, the leaked clips show Piper's character working in a London department store when it comes under attack by evil aliens, the Autons.

Enter the Doctor, who routs the invaders despite their sneaky trick of taking the form of plastic household objects.

"We would urge viewers not to spoil their enjoyment and to wait for the finished version which airs at the end of the month," the BBC spokeswoman added.

"Doctor Who" first appeared in 1963 and became a huge hit, despite its unconvincing monsters and wobbly sets. The new series features Eccleston as the ninth reincarnation of the Timelord and will also see the return of the Doctor's arch enemies, the Daleks. — *MNA/Reuters*



Chinese workers clean the glass walls of a skyscraper in Xi'an of Shaanxi Province on 10 March, 2005.— INTERNET

### 26-year-old Hungarian charged with corporate espionage

STOCKHOLM, 10 March — A 26-year-old Hungarian was charged with corporate espionage on Tuesday for hacking into telecom equipment maker Ericsson's computer network and retrieving secret information, a prosecutor said.

The information, which the man lifted off servers at Ericsson and its joint venture Sony Ericsson over a two-year period starting in 2002, contained some defence-related data, chief prosecutor Tomas Lindstrand said. "He has been sitting in his home in Budapest and accessed their internal servers over the Internet and collected information," Lindstrand said. "He claims to have done it to show the flaws in Ericsson's security systems which could help him get a job there."

*MNA/Reuters*

### "Cassini" images reveal Saturn moon as active, Earth-like

LOS ANGELES, 10 March — Saturn's largest moon Titan has a surface shaped largely by Earth-like processes of tectonics, erosion, winds, and perhaps volcanism, US scientists reported on Wednesday.

The findings, based on the images collected by NASA's *Cassini* spacecraft over the last eight months, are published in this week's issue of the journal *Nature*.

The *Cassini* imaging team includes re-

searchers at the University of Arizona, Tucson, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), and the Goddard Institute for Space Studies. Titan, long thought to be a frozen analog of the early Earth, has liquid methane on its cold

surface, unlike the water found on Earth. Among the new discoveries is what may be a river, roughly 1,500 kilometres long. Scientists also concluded that winds on Titan blow a lot faster than the moon rotates, a fact

long predicted but never confirmed until now. Tectonism has clearly played a role in shaping Titan's surface. "The only known planetary process that creates large-scale linear boundaries is tectonism, in which inter-

nal processes cause portions of the crust to fracture and sometimes move either up, down or sideways," said Alfred McEwen, *Cassini* imaging team member at the University of Arizona, Tucson.— *MNA/Xinhua*



Actors perform during the main rehearsal of the opera "The Tale of Tsar Saltan" with music written by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov in Mariinsky Theatre in St Petersburg recently.—INTERNET

### Hundreds evacuated as landslide hits Italian town

ROME, 10 March — Some 330 people have been evacuated from a small town in Italy's southern region of Calabria where a landslide has wrecked more than 100 homes, local media reported on Wednesday.

The inhabitants were evacuated from Cerzeto near Cosenza and local authorities said more people are expected to be affected by the landslide which began several days ago amid freak rain and snow storms. The first batch of fami-

lies were evacuated on Monday. Civil protection personnel are helping those affected salvage belongings from damaged homes about to collapse and others standing in the path of the advancing landslide. Local officials said little could be

done to stop the landslide whose destructive progress has been hastened by a heavy snow storm on Tuesday when the snow turned to water. The authorities are seeking a site to set up makeshift shelters for the homeless. — *MNA/Xinhua*

### More than 80,000 Black Americans die every year

WASHINGTON, 10 March — More than 80,000 Black Americans die every year because of continuing disparities in health care, former US Surgeon General Dr David Satcher said on Wednesday.

Although the government, public and insurance companies know Blacks get shortchanged in health care, little has been done to improve the situation, Satcher and other health experts said.

Satcher examined US mortality rates for Blacks and Whites between 1960 and 2000 and found that 40.5 per cent more Blacks died each year than would have been expected if they were White. That adds up to 83,570 deaths a year, he reported in a special issue of the journal *Health Affairs*.

Many studies have looked at the gap between Blacks and Whites in health care, and find a variety of factors contribute to the problem, including economic status, education, prejudice and access to doctors and clinics. Many US Blacks also say they mistrust doctors and hospitals.

In 2002, the Institute of Medicine, an independ-

ent group, reported that members of racial and ethnic minorities are given lower quality health care than Whites even when they make as much money and carry the same insurance.

In January, the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention reported that Black people in the United States are far more likely than Whites to die from strokes, diabetes and other diseases.

Sociologist David Williams of the University of Michigan and colleagues reported in the same issue of *Health Affairs* that Blacks had 30 per cent higher death rates from cancer and heart disease than Whites did in 2000. In 1950, Blacks and Whites were equally likely to die from heart disease and Blacks had lower death rates from cancer.

But the opposite happened with flu and pneumonia, the seventh-leading cause of death. "The

virtual elimination of a racial disparity in death rates from flu and pneumonia is a result of the ready availability of treatment facilitated by Medicare and Medicaid," said Pamela Braboy Jackson of Indiana University, who worked with Williams.

Satcher, who advocates for a national health care system not based on private insurance, said such a system would help, as would having more Blacks in the health care professions.

Neighbourhoods that are safe and designed to encourage exercise would also help, he said. "We need to rethink what constitutes health policy in this country," Williams said.

US Senator Bill Frist, a Tennessee Republican and doctor, said Congress is addressing many of the issues in encouraging electronic-based medical records and other legislation.— *MNA/Reuters*

**AJ Auxerre defeat Lille 1-0**

PARIS, 11 March — A first-half goal by striker Kanga Akale handed in-form AJ Auxerre a 1-0 win at Lille in the first leg of their all-French UEFA Cup second knockout round tie on Thursday.

Akale slotted home from 20 metres after the Lille defence failed to clear a corner by midfielder Philippe Violeau seconds before halftime.

It was struggling Lille's third consecutive defeat after they lost 3-1 at Bastia in a Ligue 1 match and were eliminated by Second Division Grenoble in the French Cup last week.

The team from northern France, who were once the main rivals of leaders Olympique Lyon in the title race, are without a win since they beat the French champions 2-1 on January 23.

The hosts came close to an equalizer when Matt Moussilou forced Auxerre goalkeeper Fabien Cool into a superb save four minutes from time.

Auxerre have lost only once this season at home and will be firm favourites to seal their place in the last eight in next week's second leg. — MNA/Reuters



Lille's Milenko Acimovic (R) challenges Auxerre's Philippe Violeau (L) during their UEFA Cup Round of 16, first leg soccer match at Lille Metrople Stadium in Villeneuve d'Ascq, northern France, on 10 March, 2005.— INTERNET

**Argentina draw 1-1 with Mexico in friendly**

LOS ANGELES, 11 March — A second-string Argentina drew 1-1 with Mexico in a friendly international at the Los Angeles Coliseum.

Argentina defender Fabricio Fuentes put the ball into his own net after a cross from the left by midfielder Ramon Morales in the 22nd minute to give the Mexicans the lead in Wednesday night's game.

Striker Rolando Zarate equalized in the 67th for Jose Pekerman's experimental side made up entirely of home-based players. Mexico dominated the first half and were denied chances to increase their lead by German Lux, Argentina's Olympic gold medal-winning goalkeeper and one of the many debutants in the team.

Argentina took control after the interval and deserved to pull level when Zarate shot into the top corner following a fine one-two between Rodrigo Palacio and Fernando Belluschi. — MNA/Reuters

**Mourinho fined \$9,600 over comments**

LONDON, 11 March — Headline-grabbing Chelsea boss Jose Mourinho has been fined for accusing rival Alex Ferguson of trying to influence the referee of January's League Cup semifinal against Manchester United.

The controversy-courting Portuguese manager was fined 5,000 pounds (9,600 US dollars) on Thursday by the English Football Association.

Mourinho, whose team are eight points clear at the top of the Premier League, said Ferguson had tried to influence referee Neale Barry at halftime in the 0-0 Stamford Bridge draw.

Chelsea won the second leg of the semifinal 2-1 at Old Trafford and went on to beat Liverpool 3-2 in last month's final.

As well as fining Mourinho, the FA disciplinary panel warned him about his future conduct.

Mourinho left the FA's Soho Square headquarters by the rear exit following his hearing and did not make any comment.

The outspoken manager is also in hot water with European soccer's governing body UEFA after accusing Barcelona boss Frank Rijkaard of trying to influence referee Anders Frisk in the first leg of their Champions League match two weeks ago. UEFA have begun disciplinary proceedings of their own after Mourinho's players were late for the second half of that match and the Portuguese snubbed the post-match news conference.— MNA/Reuters

**Newcastle beat Olympiakos Piraeus 3-1 to reach UEFA quarters**

ATHENS, 11 March — Newcastle United took a huge step towards the UEFA Cup quarterfinals when they beat nine-man Olympiakos Piraeus 3-1 at an intimidating Karaiskakis Stadium on Thursday.

The Greek side, who were hoping for something better to celebrate the club's 80th birthday, played the entire second half with nine men after Grigoris Georgatos and Thanassis Kostoulas were sent off in the opening 42 minutes.

Georgatos was given a straight red in the 11th minute when he appeared to bundle over Kieron Dyer as the Newcastle player was angling in on goal.

Former England captain Alan Shearer fired home the penalty to give Newcastle the lead.

Four minutes later, however, Newcastle's Andy O'Brien was penalized for a shirt-pull in his own area and Predrag Djordjevic equalized from the penalty spot.

Newcastle regained the lead in the 34th minute when Laurent Robert was fouled on the edge of the Olympiakos area. The Frenchman got up and curled a superb free kick into the top left-hand corner of the net.

Things got worse for Olympiakos just before the break when Kostoulas was sent off for a second yellow card offence.

In spite of their numerical advantage, Newcastle never totally dominated the second half although Patrick Kluivert added a third in the 69th minute from close range to give them a comfortable cushion for the second leg at St James' Park.

However Newcastle coach Graham Souness said he was not taking anything for granted.

"Who can say what the result would have been if it had stayed 11 against 11? All I can say is that we have put ourselves in a very strong position for the return leg although nothing has been decided," he said.

"I have been in professional football for 37 years and I know that it's not over until it's over."

Olympiakos coach Dusan Bajevic agreed that his team were still in with a shout.

"I respect my colleague's comment about it not being over yet," he said. "I am



Newcastle United's Jermaine Jenas (R) challenges Giovanni of Olympiakos Piraeus in a UEFA Cup football match at the Karaiskaki stadium in Piraeus. Newcastle won 3-1. — INTERNET

not sure he believes in it but maybe I would say the same thing in the same position.

"However we are not going to England just for the trip, we have the history of the club and the prestige of the club at stake so we will give it our best effort."

MNA/Reuters

**Clijsters returning to former self**

INDIAN WELLS (California), 11 March — Kim Clijsters, playing in her second tournament following a long injury lay-off, crushed Australian Nicole Pratt 6-2, 6-1 in the first round of the 2.1 million US dollars Pacific Life Open on Wednesday.

Former world number one Clijsters injured her wrist here last year in a second-round win over Germany's

Angelika Roesch and was forced to pull out of the competition.

The 21-year-old Belgian only played two more events in 2004 as she was twice forced to undergo surgery for bone and ligament damage.

Clijsters, who won the title here in 2003, had little trouble with Pratt, serving well, moving quickly and dominating the court with her forehand.

Clijsters, who now faces 16th seed Shinobu Asagoe of Japan, said she had been unsure about her tennis future after suffering a recurrence of her wrist injury at the Belgian Open in October.

Four players who survived qualifying won first-round matches on Wednesday.

Russia's Maria Kirilenko routed Tatiana Perebinyis of Ukraine 6-0, 6-1 while Croatian Slivija Talaja beat Spain's Arantxa Parra Santonja 6-2, 6-0.

Eva Birnerova of the Czech Republic put out Thai Tamarine Tanasugarn 6-4, 6-2 and Argentina's Mariana Diaz-Oliva defeated Puerto Rican Kristina Brandi 6-4, 6-2. Lidsay Davenport is the top women's seed, followed by Amelie Mauresmo and Maria Sharapova.

Tha men's event begins on Friday. Defending champion Roger Federer is the top seed, followed by Lleyton Hewitt, Andy Roddick and Marat Safin.

MNA/Reuters



Kim Clijsters of Belgium celebrates match point over Nicole Pratt of Australia during the Pacific Life Open at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden in Indian Wells, California. Clijsters defeated Pratt 6-2, 6-1.—INTERNET



# Government rendering assistance to all-round development of Panhsaung

## Lt-Gen Ye Myint tours Nanyun and Panhsaung



YANGON, 11 March— Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, arrived at the monastery in Nanyun, Khamti District, Sagaing Division, on 8 March. He was accompanied by Kachin State PDC Chairman and Northern Command Commander Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Sagaing Division PDC Chairman and North-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, and departmental heads and officials.

They offered provisions to Presiding Sayadaw of the monastery Saddhammajotikadhaja Bhaddanta Tejinda. On the occasion, Lt-Gen Ye Myint donated K 100,000 to the funds of the construction of a refectory at the monastery. To the funds, Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe donated K 100,000; the Northern Command, the Ministry of Religious Affairs, and the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, K 500,000 each.

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*Lt-Gen Ye Myint pays homage to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kesara of the monastery in Panhsaung, Hkamti District. — MNA*

# Self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies shall, in accord with the law, supervise and coordinate functions of civil service organizations discharging duties in their territory

YANGON, 11 March — *The following is the clarification made by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe on the executive power of the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies included in the executive sector for laying down detailed basic principles for the sharing of executive and judicial powers to be included in the State Constitution, at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, on 8 March.*

I have already explained the Work Committee's study on the matters in connection with executive power and the related powers and functions of the Union Government and the executive power of the region or state governments and the related authority and duties for the delegates to discuss and suggest whether or not to lay down detailed basic

principles concerning the matters.

I will now present the study on the allocation and delegation of the executive power to the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies and the related authority and duties.

According to the already-laid-down detailed basic principles, the self-administered division and the self-administered zones have been designated as follows:

- (a) Naga Self-Administered Zone (Sagaing Division);
- (b) Danu Self-Administered Zone (Shan State);
- (c) Pa-O Self-Administered Zone (Shan State);
- (d) Palaung Self-Administered Zone (Shan State);
- (e) Kokang Self-Administered Zone (Shan State);
- (f) Wa Self-Administered Division (Shan State);

(See page 9)

*Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe.*  
MNA



# State service personnel shall be free from party politics

YANGON, 11 March — *The following is the clarification made by Vice-Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Attorney-General U Aye Maung, on behalf of the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, on State service personnel included in the executive sector for laying down detailed basic principles for the sharing of executive and judicial powers to be included in the State Constitution, at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, on 8 March.*

I will present what the Work Committee has found in connection with the adoption of detailed basic principles for State service personnel.

As regards the occupational guarantee for State service personnel, neither 1947 Constitution nor 1974 Constitution embodied precise provisions.

Therefore, the National Convention has laid down basic principles for State service personnel as follows:

- (1) State service personnel shall be free from party politics;
- (2) The State shall enact necessary laws for State

service personnel to have due security in service and sufficiency of food, clothing and shelter, for married women in service to get maternity benefits, and for welfare to ease livelihood of persons who have retired from service.

All nations adopt two sectors: one is to lay down the policy and the other is to implement it in accordance with law. No matter whatever changes in policy-making organs and persons, the smooth running of the State machinery at different stages alone will bring with it the rule of law and the prevalence of peace and stability in the country, whereupon the public life will prosper and be secured. In the multi-party democracy system, essential is a disciplined State service organization which has the right to act in accordance with law to work for the government regardless of whichever party in office. A study shows that the government machinery will be out of order at the collapse of harmonious relations among the State service personnel, if State service personnel are not free from party politics.

With this end in view, the National Convention has adopted a detailed basic principle that State service

*Vice-Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Attorney-General U Aye Maung.*  
MNA



personnel shall be free from party politics.

As we are going to practise the discipline-flourishing multi-party democracy system, the State machinery at all levels should remain robust regardless of any government change. Therefore, disciplined, law-abiding and qualified service personnel are in

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