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Thursday, 17 March, 2005

Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Ireland

YANGON, 17 March — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Dr Mary McAleese, President of Ireland, on the occasion of the National Day of Ireland, which falls on 17 March 2005.— MNA



NCCC Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially greets NC delegates and wellwishers. —

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

NC delegates, wellwishers donate K 14.3m hailing 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

YANGON, 16 March — As a gesture of hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the cash donation ceremony of delegates to the National Convention and wellwishers was held at Nyaungnnapin

Camp in Hmawby Township at 2 pm today, attended by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary of the Commission Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and members, members of the (See page 8)

Meetings of NC delegate groups held

YANGON, 16 March — Delegate groups of political parties and peasants held their meetings to compile the proposals to be submitted to the NCC Work Committee at designated meeting halls in Nyaungnnapin Camp, Hmawby in the morning and afternoon today. Present at the meetings were group-wise members of panel of chairmen and NC delegates.

Delegate group of Political Parties

A meeting of delegate group of Political Parties was held at meeting hall-1 at 9 am. U Phillip Sam of Wa National Development Party presided over the meeting. Deputy Director U Khin Maung Phyu acted as MC and Assistant Director Daw Yin Yin Than, co-MC.

First, the master of ceremonies declared the start of the meeting with the permission of the meeting chairman as 28 delegates out of 29 attended the meeting, accounting for 96.55 per cent. Next, U Phillip Sam of Wa National Development Party made an opening speech. (See page 8)



The delegates of peasants hold group-wise discussions. — MNA



The delegates of political parties hold group-wise discussions. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 17 March, 2005

Strive for earlier completion of irrigation projects

As agriculture is the main economic sector of the Union of Myanmar, it is striving for the development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well. For the development of agriculture, irrigation facilities such as dams and river water pumping stations are being built wherever necessary all over the nation. In building dams across the rivers and creeks with a good flow of water, systematic plans are always drawn not only to provide water for agriculture but also to generate electricity.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe on 14 March visited the construction sites of the Kunchaung Hydelpower Project in Pyu Township and the Yenwe Multi-purpose Dam Project in Kyauktaga Township in Bago Division. In his meeting with responsible personnel of the respective projects, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said that, in building dams, every effort should be made to finish them ahead of schedule so that people could benefit from them sooner and so it was necessary to carry out some stages of construction work simultaneously rather than one after another.

As all those responsible are implementing irrigation projects in accordance with the guidance given by the Head of State, a dam can be inaugurated almost every month. As a result, a total of 171 dams has been constructed since the Tatmadaw Government took over responsibilities of the State. In building dams, it is necessary to finish the construction of dams and irrigation networks at the same time. Moreover, innovative measures should be taken to locally produce electrical equipment to be used at the projects.

The Kunchaung Hydelpower Project is being implemented by Construction Group (3) of Hydroelectric Power Department and construction work of a diversion weir and an irrigation system is being carried out by Irrigation Department. On completion, the project will be able to generate 25 megawatts and irrigate about 110,000 acres of farmland.

The Yenwe Multi-purpose Dam Project is being implemented by Construction Group (1) of Irrigation Department and Construction Group (4) of Hydroelectric Power Department. On completion, this project will be able to produce 25 megawatts and irrigate about 118,500 acres of farmland. Therefore, we would like to call on all the responsible personnel including engineers and construction workers to bear in mind the guidance given by the Head of State and to put their energies into their work so that the projects can be finished earlier than schedule and local people can benefit from them sooner.



REFeree LEAVES: Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association Charperson Daw Khin Myint Myint to serve as referee for Miss ASEAN 2005 to be held from 5 to 19 March in Jakarta, left here by air for Indonesia on 15-3-2005. She was accompanied by May Nan Oo (observer) and Aung Kyi Tun (beautician).—H

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

Commander, USDA Secretariat Member tour Kachin State

YANGON, 16 March — Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and Member of the Secretariat of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Brig-Gen Thein Zaw on 11 March delivered addresses at the opening of Executive Management Course No 2 of Kachin State USDA and other summer courses at the city hall in Myitkyina.

Altogether 150 executives, organizers and members of township associations are attending the four-week management course and over 100,000 trainees, the summer courses.

The Kachin State USDA Secretary presented 2,791 permanent blood donor membership applications to Chairman of the Blood Bank Medical Superintendent Dr Ko Ko Lay. The Commander, the secretariat member and officials comforted 50 blood donors at Myitkyina General Hospital.

On 12 March, they attended the novitiation and ordination of 135 men and boys at Dhammarekkhita Wuntho Monastery in Myitkyina and paid homage to State Ovadaçariya Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Silavamsa.

On 13 March, the secretariat member toured Waingmaw and Momauk Townships. He met with local people and accepted the membership applications.

In Dawphonyan, the secretariat member and party fulfilled requirements of the region. During their inspection tour, they oversaw thriving cold season crops plantations. On arrival at Nanshayan Village of Waingmaw Township, they viewed construction of Lawkathama Pagoda.

On 14 March, the secretariat member met secretaries and executives of township, district and state USDAs and gave necessary instructions.—MNA

Armed Forces Day commemorative booths inspected

YANGON, 16 March — Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein together with Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise Col Soe Win and officials of the Ministry of Information checked booths of the ministry and those of nation-building endeavours to be displayed at Defence Services Museum to mark the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day this morning.

First, the deputy minister looked into documentary photos of the Head of State, those of present developments of the State, media performances, sector-wise



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein inspects booth of Ministry of Information.—MNA

tasks of the departments and enterprises, books on winners of National Literary Award, books on historical records to

represent the State's policy published by the NPE in the booth of the ministry and attended to the needs.

Next, the deputy minister inspected the booth of nation-building endeavours.

MNA

27th Inter-State/Division Golf Championship continues

YANGON, 16 March — Yangon Division team stood first by firing 456 strokes in total gross at the top of the leader board after the second round of the team scratch event in the 27th Inter-State/Division Golf Championship being held at Danyingon Golf Club, here, this morning.

Sagaing Division team was so close to the leader, standing at the second position with 469 in total gross. Bago Division team put its position behind the leaders with 470 in total gross.

In the team handicap event, Bago Division led with 417 strokes in total nett, followed by Yangon Division 421 and Taninthayi Division 422.

Naing Naing Lin (Yangon Division) cruised into the first place of the individual scratch by firing 144 strokes. Thant Zaw (Bago Division) and Than Naing Oo (Sagaing Division) shared third place with 153 in total gross.

In the individual handicap event, Tun Myat Oo (Taninthayi Division) fired 137 strokes in total nett. His runners-up were Kar Let (Kayah State) with 140 and Thura Kyaw (Shan State-South) with 141.

The championship continues tomorrow morning at the same venue. — MNA

Task for sufficient supply of drinking water inspected

YANGON, 16 March — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, accompanied by Head of Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation) U Thaug Yin and officials concerned inspected measures being taken for providing assistance to ensure sufficient drinking water for Yangonites yesterday morning.

During their inspection tour, they looked into installation of 24-inch diameter concrete water pipeline from Thanthuma to Upper Pazaungdaung Streets with the use of machinery and manpower, tasks to be carried out for water supply to Thuwunna and Thakayta Townships through the suspension bridge crossing Ngamoeyeik Creek, arrangements to be made for water supply to Dawbon Township by means of connecting water pipeline through the old steel bridge linking Mingala Taungnyunt and Dawbon.

Next, the mayor instructed the officials concerned to systematically carry out the tasks as it is a giant project, to step up measures for timely completion of the project in the open season and to constantly supervise and inspect the project tasks phase by phase. — MNA

60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Objectives

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



Hun Sen calls for creating better investment climate

PHNOM PENH, 15 March — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen on Monday calls on the ministries and relevant agencies to create better investment climate to attract more foreign investors.

At Monday's 8th Government-Private Sector Forum, Hun Sen put forward three practical recommendations for the further improvement of investment climate. He asked all relevant ministries and agencies to set a transparent service fees; to create a Single Window in all cases related to investment; and to impose discipline and take strict sanction on those officials who solicit or

impose unofficial fees on the private sector. The Premier called for improving investment climate and ensuring favourable environment for the private sector as an important issue for Cambodia. "In this globalized world, all countries are actively competing to attract foreign investments," said Hun Sen. "While Cambodia has made some progress in improving investment

climate, the rest of the world is also proactive. Therefore, Cambodia must show tremendous improvements in order to become attractive to investors," he said. Cambodia's development in international trade in 2004 showed that exports increased by 23.4 per cent, in which garment export increased by 24.6 per cent.

Imports also increased by 17.2 per cent compared to last year. In 2004, approximately one million tourists visited Cambodia.

Though there are concerns over Cambodia's garment industry in the aftermath of the Multi-Fibre Agreement expiration at the end of 2004, the figure provided by Council of the Development of Cambodia (CDC) shows that 27 garment manufacturers are expanding their production base in the past 19 months, which is worth about 40 million US dollars in investments and creates 42,000 more jobs.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese visitors look at an artificial flower displayed at a souvenirs and crafts exhibition in Beijing on 16 March, 2005.—INTERNET

Chinese Vice-FM meets Nauru President

BEIJING, 15 March — Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi met with visiting Nauru President Ludwig Scotty in Guangzhou on Sunday, with their discussion focusing on bilateral ties, economic and technological cooperation, sources from the Chinese Foreign Ministry said here Monday.

After conveying to Scotty regards of Chinese President Hu Jintao, Yang reviewed the development of China-Nauru diplomatic relations.

Yang lauded efforts Scotty has made to promote the friendship between the two countries and expressed the appreciation for the adherence of the Nauru Government to one-China policy.

"The Chinese Government values China-Nauru friendship and backs Nauru's drive to improve the people's livelihood and achieve the sound development of economy," said Yang.

China would like to join hands with Nauru to advance bilateral relations, Yang said.

Noting that he was deeply impressed by the development of

Guangdong and China as a whole, Scotty said Nauru's new administration is making active efforts for the economic and social development.

MNA/Xinhua

Italy says will start withdrawing troops from Iraq

ROME, 15 March—Leading US ally Italy said on Tuesday it would start withdrawing its soldiers from Iraq in September, in a fresh blow to President Bush shrinking coalition.

Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, one of Bush's most vocal supporters, said he was in talks with British Prime Minister Tony Blair about a total exit strategy from Iraq, adding people in both countries wanted their troops to return home.

"We will begin to reduce our contingent even before the end of the year, starting in September, in agreement with our allies," said Berlusconi, who faces an election next year and

went against public opinion to deploy troops in Iraq. Asked on RAI state television when a total withdrawal would take place, Berlusconi said: "It will depend on the capacity of the Iraqi government to provide adequate security." Despite strong opposition at home, Berlusconi sent some 3,000 troops to Iraq -- the fourth largest foreign contingent after US, British and South Korean forces.

But pressure has mounted on him to withdraw the troops since intelligence agent Nicola Calipari was killed earlier this month by US soldiers

shortly after rescuing an Italian hostage. The incident has strained Italy's relations with the United States and Bush has promised an investigation. "(Bush) knows that he can't let down a loyal ally," said Berlusconi, adding that the killing was a "serious mistake." "I've spoken at length about (a total exit strategy) personally with Tony Blair, saying that we should make a precise exit strategy because the public opinion of our countries expects this information," said Berlusconi.

Internet



A man looks at his wife and baby as he is searched by US Army soldiers at a traffic checkpoint in Baghdad, on 15 March, 2005. — INTERNET

Wen Jiabao urges high-level visits between China, Japan

BEIJING, 15 March — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao on Monday said China and Japan should make joint efforts to create conditions for high-level exchanges of visits in a bid to improve bilateral relations.

He also suggested the foreign affairs departments of the two countries should begin strategic study and research on strengthening and improving China-Japan relations.

Wen said since the normalization of bilateral relationship, the China-Japan relations have made great progress. Last year, bilateral trade approached to 170 billion US dollars and the number of bilateral personnel visits exceeded four million.— *MNA/Xinhua*

ADB to finance Vietnamese water supply programme

MANILA, 15 March — The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will prepare a project to improve water supply and sanitation in areas of the southern central region of Vietnam through a technical assistance grant of 950,000 US dollars, ADB said in a news release on Monday.

The assistance, which comes from the Japan Special Fund and is financed by the government of Japan, will prepare a feasibility study and design for the project, which would improve water supply and sanitation in 10-20 small and medium towns.

The region is one of the poorest areas of Vietnam with poverty levels higher than the national average. Inadequate water supply and sanitation is one of the most pressing issues facing the area's small and medium-sized towns, said ADB.

"Lack of investments and deteriorated urban water supply and sanitation facilities have heightened environmental and health risks in several towns,"

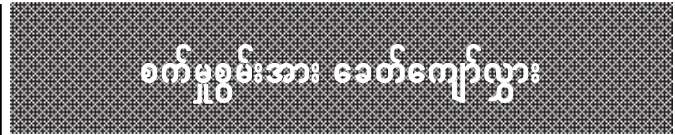
says Januar Hakim, an ADB urban development specialist.

Most towns in the region have either inadequate or no water supply system at all and a large proportion of the population uses water from contaminated or saline wells and surface sources, said ADB.

A severe lack of drainage is also evident in the towns, while waste collection and sanitation facilities are lacking.

ADB has actively assisted Vietnam's urban and water supply and sanitation sectors since 1993, with five loans approved totalling 304 million US dollars.

The Vietnamese Government will contribute 250,000 US dollars toward the programme's total cost of 1.2 million US dollars.—MNA/Xinhua



Japan's Princess Nori, whose engagement ceremony to Tokyo government official Yoshiki Kuroda is scheduled for the weekend, looks over papers at Yamashina Institute for Ornithology where she works as a researcher in Abiko, east of Tokyo, on 16 March, 2005.—INTERNET

Kathmandu-Lhasa bus service to start in May

KATHMANDU, 15 March — More than 200 people plan to enjoy the first operation of bus service between Nepal's capital Kathmandu and Lhasa of China's Tibet Autonomous Region, which will start from 1 May, an operator told Xinhua on Monday.

"Under the banner of Nepal's state-owned transport company Sajha Yatayat, Gorkha Travels Company Limited of Lhasa will ply buses from Nepal's side, and most of the passengers who are eager to go to Lhasa by bus are Nepali citizens," said Mukunda Raj Satyal, executive chief of Sajha Yatayat.

The essential process has been finalized at the Nepali Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Department of Transport Management of Nepal, Satyal noted, adding that a Chinese delegation will come to Nepal within one month to finalize the process for the operation of straight bus service.

For the 955-kilometre long route between Kathmandu and Lhasa, the fare is fixed at 70 dollars, and the currency of either side can be used on another side. Highly facilitated bus service will have comfortable seats, telephone, first aid service, toilet, fooding and lodging services as well, he revealed.—MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese visitor looks at a crystal dragon displayed at a souvenirs and crafts exhibition showcasing Chinese products in Beijing on 16 March, 2005.—INTERNET

Thai authorities urge strict enforcement of labelling regulations

BANGKOK, 15 March — Thai authorities have been urged to enforce labelling rules on food products containing genetically-modified ingredients, local newspaper reported on Tuesday.

Food manufacturers were trying to infringe the regulations on genetically modified organism labelling by printing very small label on their products to make them go unnoticed or difficult to read, said Saree Ongsomwang, president of the Consumer Federation of Thailand.

"The GMO labels on food products in the market are so tiny that you need a magnifying glass to read them," she was quoted by Bangkok Post newspaper as saying.

A regulation issued by the Food and Drug Administration required GMO labelling for products containing GM corn and soybean of more than 5 per cent in three main ingredients.

However, consumer groups claimed it was not enough to safeguard consumer rights.

They asked FDA to order food producers to enlarge their labels and amend the labelling law to cover all GM-contained products with no regard to the percentage of ingredients.

Most consumers were not aware of the wide range of products in the market which contained genetically modified ingredients due to the tiny labels, according to a survey.

Jitra Setta-udom, director of the Food Control Division, said the authorities could not force food producers to do what the consumer right advocates are demanding because no FDA regulations have been breached.

To improve the situation needs cooperation from other agencies including the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, she added.—MNA/Xinhua

1,516 US soldiers killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 18 March—As of Tuesday, 15 March, 2005, at least 1,516 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 1,156 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defence Department. The figures include four military civilians.

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

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, 1,378 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,047 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

Internet

Americans worry about casualties, costs on second anniversary of Iraq war, says poll

WASHINGTON, 18 March—Americans have conflicting views about the costs and benefits of the US-led war on Iraq nearly two years after its launch, according to a poll released.

Iraq benefits more from the war than the United States, according to those surveyed in the ABC News/Washington Post poll, many of who believed the benefits were not enough to justify the costs.

Seventy percent of those polled said the level of US casualties in Iraq was "unacceptable."

Fifty-three percent believe the war was not worth fighting, compared to 45 percent who believe the war was justified. Support for the war ran at 70 percent while US troops were engaged in active combat, according to earlier polls.—Internet

More Singapore travellers use electronic air tickets

SINGAPORE, 15 March — Almost half of Singapore travellers use electronic air tickets (e-tickets), according to Channel NewsAsia (CNA) report on Monday. Cheaper, secure and time-saving, e-ticketing frees passengers from the hassle of purchasing and keeping physical air tickets, said Abacus, a leading travel facilitator based in Singapore. As e-ticketing is heating up here, local travel agencies found that business travellers are ready to accept e-tickets while leisure travellers hold complicated attitude towards this latest service.

MNA/Xinhua



India's first Formula One driver, Narain Karthikeyan of the Jordan F1 Grand Prix Team, poses inside his team's paddock at Sepang International Circuit in Sepang outside Kuala Lumpur on 15 March, 2005. Malaysia will host the second race of the 2005 Formula One Grand Prix on Sunday.

INTERNET

Zambian First Lady visits China

BEIJING, 15 March — Zambia and China, both developing countries, should strengthen exchanges in poverty reduction and education popularization, said visiting Zambian First Lady Maureen Mwanawasa on Monday.

Mwanawasa arrived here on Monday morning on an eight-day visit to China as guest of the Soong Ching Ling Foundation.

The Soong Ching Ling Foundation was set up in Beijing in 1982 as a non-governmental organization to promote welfare of youth and children.

Mwanawasa said Zambia was willing to learn from China in such experiences as youth development, in a bid to help Zambia's young generation, which accounted for 75 per cent of Zambia's total population, to make more contribution to Zambia's economic construction.

Zambia and China should further enhance cooperation in such fields as economy, trade, science and information

technology, in a bid to get improvement in poverty reduction and education popularization, which were important for every country, she noted.

Hu Qili, chairman of the foundation, expressed his hope to strengthen exchanges and cooperation with the Maureen Mwanawasa Community Initiative, a non-governmental organization personally run by the First Lady to address the plight of the vulnerable in society. Mwanawasa paid the visit with a purpose to acquaint herself with China's non-governmental organization in promoting welfare of women and children and helping the poor and the weak, especially in HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment. — *MNA/Xinhua*

New Zealand, Norway agree on Working Holiday Scheme

WELLINGTON, 15 March — New Zealand and Norway have agreed on a Working Holiday Scheme enabling young people to work and holiday in each other's countries, New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark said on Monday.

The agreement was signed on Monday by New Zealand Foreign Minister Phil Goff and Norwegian Ambassador to New Zealand Lars Wensell, in the presence of Prime Minister Clark and her Norwegian counterpart Kjell Magne Bondevik, who is visiting New Zealand.

"This scheme will enable young New Zealanders and Norwegians to get

to know each other's countries and cultures, and build stronger people-to-people links for the future," Clark said. "We have working holiday schemes with 13 European countries now. They open doors for New Zealanders to travel and work for generally a year at a time in the countries involved," she said.

MNA/Xinhua

Nine men die mysteriously in southern Vietnam

HANOI, 15 March — Nine men from Vietnam's southern An Giang Province died of unidentified reasons within one week, local newspaper *Youth* reported Monday.

From March 6-11, the men aged between 24 and 50 from Phu Tan District died after showing symptoms of dizziness, headache, vomiting and convulsion.

The deaths might have resulted from alcohol poi-

soning, since all the victims drank frequently, the paper said. Local authorities have collected samples from alcohol produced and sold in the district as well as from the victims for investigation. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Iran offers Afghanistan support in fighting drug traffickers

KABUL, 16 March — Iran offered Afghanistan support in fighting drug traffickers on Monday by training Afghan border police, tightening borders and sharing intelligence.

Iran has lost thousands of police and enforcement officers in armed encounters with Afghan drug runners over the past two decades and has made some of the heaviest seizures of smuggled opium and its more valuable derivative, heroin.

Iranian Interior Minister Abdolvahed Mou-

savi-Lari met Afghan counterpart Ali Ahmad Jalali in Kabul on Monday to discuss joint efforts in the war against drugs and common security issues.

Afghanistan has become the world's number one producer of opium in little more than three years since US-backed forces

ousted the Taleban militia from power in late 2001.

Nearly 90 per cent of heroin sold worldwide comes from Afghanistan and, with the opium economy accounting for up to 60 per cent of GDP, there are growing fears that the country could end up being run by narco-mafia.

MNA/Reuters

Anti-war groups plan to mark second anniversary of US invasion of Iraq

NEW YORK, 18 March — Anti-war groups say they are gearing up for a series of national demonstrations, including acts of civil disobedience, to mark the second anniversary of the US invasion of Iraq, spokespeople said.

In New York, protesters are planning to march to Times Square and also have plans to picket and bar entry to three army recruitment centres, according to the War Resisters League. The planned events will also call on Washington to pull US troops out of Iraq.

"We don't expect a huge big city protest, but rather

some visible activity, in all 50 states," said Bill Dobbs, a spokesman for the United For Peace and Justice coalition which has organized other large anti-war protests. Other events being planned include beach parties, theatre and multi-religious gatherings, all of which will mark the second anniversary of the US

move against Baghdad and also call for American troops to be brought home immediately.

In Fayetteville, North Carolina, demonstrators are planning to turn out on the streets of a town which is home to the vast Fort Bragg military base and thousands of US troops and their families. — *Internet*

Earthquake jolts Koyna in W India

MUMBAI, 16 March — A moderate earthquake with a magnitude of 5.1 shook the town of Koyna in western India and was also felt in India's financial capital Mumbai on Monday, the Indian weather office said.

Police in Koyna and in Mumbai said there were no reports of damage.

The earthquake occurred at 3.14 pm (0944 GMT), said R S Dattatrayam, director of seismology in the Indian Meteorological Department in New Delhi.

Mumbai's Sensex stock index fell on news of the earthquake, extending an earlier loss to close 0.8 per cent lower on the day.

Koyna is about 200 kilometres (120 miles) south of Bombay and has a population of about 2,500. The Koyna region has a population of approximately 20,000.

MNA/Reuters

Syrian official says Iraq may be spiralling toward civil war

WASHINGTON, 18 March — Syria's US ambassador said on Tuesday that Iraq may be spiralling toward a civil war "that will have a domino effect on the whole region," and he urged the Bush administration to stop accusing his country of harbouring infiltrators.

In an Associated Press interview, Ambassador Imad Moustapha said "we are really not allowing people to infiltrate" into Iraq. He invited the United States to help secure the border.

The Syrian diplomat said his government had taken unprecedented steps to seal its border with Iraq, and that even the United States had problems guarding its border with Mexico. Moustapha said his gov-

ernment "has been very sure to not allow anyone to act from inside Syria to create any violence in Iraq." He said he knew that if Syria helped guerillas, "we will be put in direct confrontation with the United States, which I don't believe any country wants to be."

Outsiders are responsible for about 5% of the anti-US attacks in Iraq, he said. "But there are politicians in the United States who find

it politically useful to say the balance is in the hands of outsiders, and that Syria and Iran are allowing them to do this job."

"If you believe you can help us improve security on our borders, we are willing to enhance the quality of cooperation," he said. "But it takes two to tango, and we cannot do this by ourselves while you continue to bash Syria through the media." — *Internet*



US Army soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division prepare to set up a traffic checkpoint in Baghdad, on 15 March 2005. — *INTERNET*

Government and KNU in direct contact

Progress has been made in the discussions between officials concerned and KNU delegates

YANGON, 16 March — The Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council held the press conference No 2/2005 yesterday afternoon at the Ministry of Information.

Present were U Sein Win of Kyodo news agency, President of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club U Sao Kai Hpa, Secretary U Nyunt Tin and members, editors of local periodicals and guests.



Minister for Science and Technology
U Thaung.
MNA

responded to the ILO with the firm explanations. Second, as there were accusations on Myanmar, using the ILO Convention No 29 as a tool, I would like to know whether Myanmar can resign from such conventions.

Concerning the ILO Convention No 29 on forced labour, Minister for Labour U Thaung said that Myanmar has already distributed the copies of the paper under the title — Cooperation with the ILO — to the ILO, the ILO delegation that visited Myanmar and representatives of the member countries of the ILO Governing Body. In the paper, it is mentioned that Myanmar has already taken action against the matters concerning the 48 accusations of the total of 50 made by the ILO resident representative. The country is still looking into the matter concerning the remaining two accusations.

In connection with the second question, the minister said that a member nation of the ILO Convention No 29 can resign from it after signing the convention for 15 years. But Myanmar is still cooperating with the ILO to practically prove her tradition of cooperating with the body since the past. When all the ILO accusations are studied, they cannot be consummated forced labour. The people of Myanmar has an age-old tradition of working collectively as a family. They have the thousand-year-old tradition of helping to repair a house in a community and contributing labour in a reciprocal basis in farm works. They have the communal system of carrying out rural development undertakings covering the work of building rural roads and village-to-town roads. Every one of the national races of Myanmar takes part in the collective voluntary services of own volition and goodwill in accord with the religion and culture. Poor public relations and inef-

whole nation, is the excuse the ILO has used in launching the accusation under the heading “forced labour”. The matters concerning the accusation are all at village levels. The matters originate from a handful of villages of the over 60,000 throughout the country. But the ILO is applying pressure on Myanmar, making accusations till the problems become the State’s concern.

Daw Nwe Nwe Aye of The Myanmar Times pointed out that she has heard the taking of actions against authorities of the villages where the alleged cases of forced labour occurred. She said that she would like to know about some of the cases.

Minister U Thaung replied to her question, saying that action has already been taken against six cases under section 374 of the Penal Code. For example, a mini dam was build in Bushwemaw vil-



Director-General U Sit Myaing of Social Welfare Department.— MNA

At the question and answer session, U Aung Shwe Oo of NTV said that concerning the ILO, there are conventions and suggestions. The number of conventions observed by some nations is less than ten. As for Myanmar it has accepted and approved a number of conventions. The press meet already explained with firm evidence the cooperation of Myanmar in enacting laws concerning the conventions and formation of committees to materialize them. If we study the explanations, we can see that the ILO’s actions are above its principles and rules.

lage, Taungup Township, with collective labour for agricultural development. The collective endeavour was accepted by the entire village. But some of the villagers contributed funds for the workers who would



U Aung Shwe Oo of NTV.
MNA



U Ko Ko of Yomiuri Shimibun.
MNA



U Tin Maung Aye of Asahi Shimibun.
MNA



U Khin Maung Myint of NHK.
MNA



Daw Nwe Nwe Aye of Myanmar Times journal.— MNA



U Nyunt Tin of Fuji TV.
MNA

I have known at the press conference that Myanmar has already defended herself with solid clarifications. First, I would like to know whether Myanmar has

efficiency of some village authorities in conducting community welfare services in a handful of villages, from among the total number over 60,000 in the

take part in the work, on their behalf. But the chairman and the secretary of the Village Peace and (See page 7)



The documentary photo shows survey of opium yield being jointly conducted in 2004 by Myanmar and American opium survey team members.— MNA



The documentary photo shows survey of opium yield being jointly conducted in 2003 by Myanmar and American opium survey team members.— MNA

Government and KNU in...

(from page 6)

Development Council, instead of hiring workers, used the funds for self-interest. Thus, there arose complaints. Action has already been taken against the two.

The minister said, in another case, the department concerned hired workers of six or seven nearby villages including the Kundaung and the

learnt their intentions. The clarifications were very useful to the country, and the entire people would understand. Chairman of National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein had said recently that discussions and plenary sessions at the national convention are being held with greater

was reported that he had no right to hire a lawyer and no one was allowed to see the accused. He said in connection with this, he would like to know the true story.

In his reply to the question, Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi said U Khun Tun Oo hired two advocates.

If the client could not do so, the government can hire a lawyer under the arrangement of the Bar Council in accord with the procedures. There are documentary photos of U Khun Tun Oo talking to his two advocates on 1 March 2005, the case was heard. He was allowed to talk with them to his heart's content. The client had to sign himself whether he would like to hire an advocate or not.

ted to the court. All these matters had been done by U Khun Tun Oo himself. A lawyer could not be hired by the client's wife or husband without the approval of the client. According to the news outside, three lawyers who came to the court were illegal because they were not those hired by the client. Although they understand the law, anything said outside is not in accord with the law. The government is making arrangements for the accused to enjoy his rights in accord with the law.

U Tin Maung Aye of Asahi Shimbun Daily said that he had learnt U Khun Tun Oo and party were put on trial. He said that he would like to know which day the first hearing took place and under which section they had



A photo shown at the press conference regarding arrest of culprits related to unlicensed car.— MNA

Nantphalon to set up a teak plantation in Tamu Township. The forester who hired workers paid only a portion of the wages to the workers during the process of establishing the plantation, when he was transferred to another region. A complaint was filed against him, as he failed to pay the full amount of wages to the workers before he left the place. As there was firm evidence that the forester had misused the funds, action was taken against him.

U Khin Maung Myint of NHK said he would like to ask an encouraging news story. Some did not understand the arrest of some people from Shan State at the time of the National Convention in session. Owing to the clarifications by the Information Minister he realized why and he also

momentum. It was learnt that the KNU left for Mawlamyine for talks with the government. He would like to know whether it is true or not and the developments regarding the ceasefire and talks between KNU and the government.

In his reply to the question, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said he thanked for U Khin Maung Myint's interest and seriousness about the encouraging and good news on the country and the people as a Myanmar newsman. There is direct contact between the government and KNU. Progress has been made in the discussions between officials concerned and KNU delegates in Mawlamyine.

U Nyunt Tin of Fuji TV asked about action taken against Chairman of SNLD U Khun Tun Oo. It



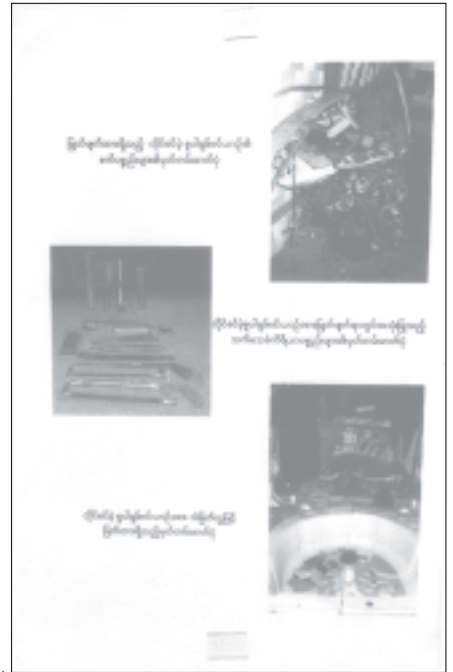
A photo shown at the press conference in connection with unfixing a licensed car into parts.—MNA

After the hiring of the advocate, the power of the advocate, was submit-

ted to the court. All these matters had been done by U Khun Tun Oo himself. A lawyer could not be hired by the client's wife or husband without the approval of the client. According to the news outside, three lawyers who came to the court were illegal because they were not those hired by the client. Although they understand the law, anything said outside is not in accord with the law. The government is making arrangements for the accused to enjoy his rights in accord with the law.

U Nyunt Tin of Fuji TV News Agency said that he would like to know if the authorities seized micro books only in Yangon, and if there were other similar seizures in other townships such as Mandalay and Mawlamyine. The MPF director-general said that the drive covered the whole country.

U Ko Ko of Yomiuri Shimbun asked how many unlicensed cars had been seized so



A photo displayed at the press conference. It shows unfixing car parts.— MNA

12th of March had been the forth trial. Then, action was taken against U Khun Tun Oo under State-owned Economic Enterprises Law and 1947 Foreign Exchange Regulation Act. The court will continue to take action against him according to the findings subsequent to further investigations. Moreover, they were also found liable to the formation of organizations and cases that create the public's disaffection to the State.

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U Ko Ko of Yomiuri Shimbun asked how many unlicensed cars had been seized so

far and what actions would be taken in that case after 31 March. The MPF director-general said that up to 15 March 2005, the number of unlicensed cars had reached 3,893. Action would be taken against those who still hold unlicensed cars until 31 March. The authorities had already warned the people against dismantling unlicensed cars into parts to wilfully change the appearance of the cars. However, some failed to heed the warning and there had been some action taken against such persons. On 9 March 2005, the authorities arrested Zaw Latt and Aung Myint Myat who were unfixing an unlicensed Super roof into parts in the garage of U Tun Tun of Kamayut. The Kamayut Police Station took action against the two under Section 201 in addition to Section 5(1)/5(3) of Export & Import Law.—MNA



A photo regarding seizure of 15.28 kilos of heroin with the culprit in Shwepyitha on 27-1-2005. It was displayed in the press conference 2/2005.

MNA



A photo displayed at the press conference. It depicts seizure of 400,470 stimulant tablets, arms and ammunition with two culprits on 17-1-2005.— MNA

NC delegates, wellwishers donate...

(from page 1)

National Convention Convening Work Committee, Chairman of the NCC Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and committee members, Chairman of the Invitation and Reception Subcommittee of the NCCMC Brig-Gen Myo Myint, members of the panel of chairmen and wellwishers.

Joint-Secretary-1 of the Management Committee Lt-Col Maung Shwe acted as master of ceremonies.

Chairman of the Parade Working Group for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Maj-Gen Aung Kyi accepted K 2

million donated by Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry; K 1 million each by NC delegates through NC delegate Dr Khin Shwe of Zay Gabar Co, NC delegate U Htay Myint of Yuzana Construction and NC delegate U Win Aung of Dagon International Ltd.

Maj-Gen Aung Kyi, Parade Commander Brig-Gen Nyi Tun, member of the Parade Working Group Brig-Gen Aung Khin Soe accepted K 500,000 each donated by U Zaw Win of AyonU Construction, U Sein Thit of Tosta Group Construction, U Tint Hsan of ACE Construction Co, Dr Zaw Tun and U Kyaw Nyunt of Shwekyarbyan Construction, U Ko Ko Htwe

of Tawwin Co, U Maung Maung of Shwe Gabar Construction, U Yan Win of A-1 Construction, U Aung Htwe of Golden Flower Co, U Maung Weik of Maung Weik Family, U Kyaw Kyaw of KY Kyaw Kyaw Co, U Win Thein of Phwint Phyo Aung Co and U Aung Zaw Win of Shine Construction Co; K 300,000 each by U Maung Maung and U Win Sein of Asia Express, U Soe Myint of FMI, U Shein Win of Tetlan Construction, U Myo Win of Win Shwe Yi Co, U Kyaw Naing Oo of Naing Group, U Kyaw Win of Shwe Thanwin Co Ltd, U Ba Tun of City Time and U Kyaw Min of MMM Construction;



Maj-Gen Aung Kyi accepts cash donations from a wellwisher.

MNA

K 200,000 each by U Than Myint (Ayeaekmon) of Aye-yeikmon Co, U Mya Han of Fortune International Ltd and U Than Myint of High Rife Construction; K 100,000 each by U Myat Min of Myanma Ahla Construction, U Maung Maung Gyi of MMG Construction and U Khin

Maung Aye of Khin Maung Aye Construction. Certificates of honour were presented to the donors.

Dr Khin Shwe of Zay Gabar Co explained the purpose of the donations. On behalf of the Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 60th Anniver-

sary Armed Forces Day Maj-Gen Aung Kyi expressed gratitude.

After the ceremony, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party cordially greeted the wellwishers.

Today's donations by 30 wellwishers amounted to K 14.3 million. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo tours...

(from page 16)

some extent due to cooperation among authorities, departments concerned and local people. Departmental personnel are to go field trips down to grassroots level.

As Taninthayi Division is rich in land and

water resources, the division must be State's reliable division on which the Head of State focused.

Therefore, all are to try their best to make development of the division. In the past, the division lagged behind de-

velopment of transport. As the whole division have been facilitated with better transport, all-out efforts can be invested at regional development tasks. And then, departmental personnel are to organize local people by showing good evidences of development in order to participate

them in the regional development tasks.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party proceeded to Kyunsu at Katan Island. At the jetty, they were welcomed by Commander of Taninthayi Naval Regional Command Headquarters Captain Win Shein, departmental officials, members of social

organizations and local people.

In meeting with the local people, Lt-Gen Maung Bo heard reports on matters related to Kyunsu Township and gave necessary instructions.

After that, he inspected development of Kyunsu and attended the opening ceremony of Katan Island circular road.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party oversaw villages along the circular road.

They arrived at the rural health care branch in Tayabaing Village and cordially conversed with local people.

Later, they went back to Kyunsu along the circular road and then left for Myeik.

MNA

Meetings of NC delegate ...

(from page 1)

Afterwards, U Khin Maung Gyi of National Unity Party, U Aung Khin of Union Pa-O National Organization, U Maung Kyaw Oo of Mro (a) Khami National Solidarity Organization, U Kyar Ha Shall of Lahu National Development Party and U Yan Kyint Kan of Kokang Democracy and Unity Party read out the

proposals of delegate group of political parties concerning the NCC Work Committee chairman's clarifications on detailed basic principles for distribution of the executive and judicial power to be included in the framing of the State Constitution. After the alternate chairman had ended the meeting with concluding remarks, the meeting went into recess

at 11.20 am.

Delegate group of peasants

A meeting of delegate group of peasants was held at the meeting hall-4 at 9 am in Nyaunghnapin Camp. U Mya Aye of Yangon Division presided over the meeting together with U Sai Tint Aung of Shan State (North) and U Kan Nyunt of Sagaing Division. Deputy Director U Myint Kyaing acted as

MC and Assistant Director Daw Myint Sein, co-MC.

First, the master of ceremonies declared the validity of the meeting under the permission of the meeting chairman as there had been attendance of 97.85 per cent. U Mya Aye of Yangon Division made an opening speech.

After that, U Tun Aye Han of Kayah State, U Min Thu of Sagaing Division and U Aung Thein Tun of Ayeyawady Division read the proposals to be submitted to NC plenary session concerning the detailed basic principles for distribution of the executive and judicial power to be laid down in the framing of the State Constitution.

Afterwards, alternate chairman U Mya Aye of Yangon Division declared to approve the proposals and ended the meeting with concluding remarks and the meeting went into recess at 10.40 am.

MNA

Tatmadawmen of parade columns entertained

YANGON, 16 March — Under the arrangement of Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare, No 1 and No 2 Mobile Public Relations Units entertained Tatmadawmen of various columns with films at different camps yesterday evening.

Vocalists to the accompaniment of Myawady Music Troupe of Myawady TV Broadcasting Unit entertained the Tatmadawmen of Nawade Column in Ayeyawady Naval Regional Command Headquarters; No 1 Mobile Public Relations Unit presented songs and dances and Anyeint to the Tatmadawmen of the Tatmadawmen of the Myawady Column at Yangon Command Headquarters; and No 2 Mobile Public Relations Unit presented songs and dances and Anyeint to the Tatmadawmen of Anawrahta, Bayintnaung and Aungzeya Columns at No 1 Transit Centre (Bayintnaung). Similarly, the Aung San Column at the local battalion in South Okkalapa Township were entertained with film entitled "Yin-De-Ka-Saung-Ya-Thi", the Tatmadawmen of Hsinphyushin Column at the local battalion in Mingaladon Township with the film titled "Myint-Myat-Hna-Lon-Tha" and the Tatmadawmen of Bandoola Column at Defence Services Orthopaedic Hospital (500-bed) with "Hsan-Yay".

Column commanders, commanding officers, officers and Tatmadawmen who will to take part in the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade enjoyed the entertainment.

MNA

ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ဖို့
 ဝိုင်းဝန်းကူညီဆောင်ရွက်မိမ့်

**၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ်၊ မတ်လ (၁၅)ရက်နေ့ထိ နိုင်ငံအဝန်းတွင်
 ကျေးရွာ ကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက် (၁၃၈၈၁)တိုက်
 ဖွင့်လှစ်ပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။**

ကျေးရွာ ကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုး စာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက်
 သုတ/ရသစာအုပ်များကို
 ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေး ဦးစီးဌာန
 ခရိုင်/မြို့နယ်ရုံးများသို့ လှူဒါန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
 ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန

Alleged forced recruitment...

(from page 16)

this, three minors were sent to their parents. One person was not in the military service. Six persons remain in the military service of their own volition. Three persons were absent without leave and action is taken against two persons. According to the investigation, action was taken against the responsible



The person responsible for producing micro-books. — MNA

persons for forced recruiting of new members. Those included 17 in 2002 and five in 2003 totalling 22. In order not to recruit minors, the State Peace and Development Council formed the committee for prevention against recruitment of minors on 5 January 2004. The Chairman of the committee is Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and members are the Minister for Home Affairs, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, the Minister for Labour, the Judge Advocate-General, the Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training, the Director of Recruitment, the Deputy Chief Justice, the Deputy Attorney-General and the Deputy Director of Directorate of Recruitment as Secretary.

The committee is carrying out the tasks with the objectives of preventing forced recruitment of minors for military service, safeguarding their interest and ensuring observance of the prescribed orders and directives precisely.

In order to realize the objectives, a working committee consisting of the Minister for Home Affairs, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for Labour was formed.

To witness how the young men between the ages of 18 and 25 of their own volition are recruited for military service, UNICEF Resident Representative Ms Carroll C Long visited No 1 recruitment unit in Yangon on 3 March 2004. Ms Long and UN Coordinator Mr Charles Petrie visited No 2 recruitment unit in Mandalay. They were briefed on systematic recruitment in accord with law and directives, sending of those who were disqualified to their respective parents, action taken against those who recruited new members without observing the directives by officials of the Ministry of Defence. The two UN officials had a chance to interview three new recruits freely. They learnt that the three had already attained the required age as evidenced by their national registration cards and they joined military service of their own volition.

To study about the issuance of national registration cards concerning with evidence for age, UN Coordinator Mr Charles Petrie and UNICEF Resident Representative Ms Carroll C Long visited Sitpinkwin Village in Thanlyin Township and Myaingthaya model village in Kyauktan Township on 10 March. They observed the registration of births and deaths as well

as issuance of age-wise citizenship cards.

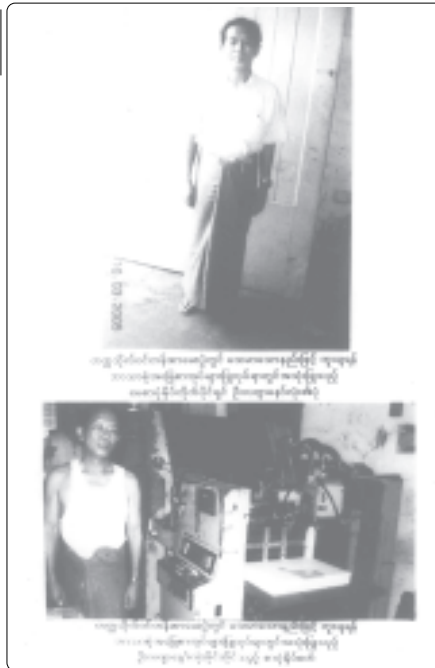
They observed the process of issuing birth / death certificates by the Health Department; birth certificates (1, 2 and 3) and death certificates (1, 2 and 3) by ward/village-tract peace and development council; enlistment of households on the basis of those certificates, issuance of temporary citizenship cards to those who have reached the age of 10 and issuance of citizenship cards to those who have reached the age of 18. They observed the procedures and asked officials and the villagers on relevant information.

So, it can vividly be seen that the alleged forced recruitment especially child conscriptions are based on false information. In Myanmar only those who have reached the age of 18 are recruited for military service. They have to show citizenship cards as evidence for age attainment.

In connection with the forced recruitment of children for military service, Myanmar signed the Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989 and became a signatory. Although it is mentioned in the convention that those who are between the age of 15 and 18 can be recruited for military service, only those who are between the age of 18 and 25 are recruited of their own volition as prescribed in the paragraph 2 (b) of the Directive No 13/73 of the Defence Council. If there were under-age persons in military service who are not in accord with the above-mentioned directive, they were permitted to resign from military service.

The clarifications show that Myanmar is observing the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. It has promulgated the Child Law and has been safeguarding the interests of the children. The Ministry of Defence has also issued rules, procedures, notifications and directives to prohibit the recruitment of those who are under 18.

If lower level organizations recruit new members by



The person responsible for producing micro-books. — MNA

mistake, the persons in question are sent back to their parents. Action is being taken against those who fail to observe the prescribed rules and regulations in connection with the recruitment. Next, Brig-Gen Khin Yi made clarifications. He said:

I will now deal with the matter in which some unscrupulous businessmen have published micro-books containing all the matriculation subjects for students to cheat at the matriculation examination.

Matriculation examination is an important qualification test for the youths who will take over the State duties in the future. Thus, the State has placed special emphasis on the examination. But greedy businessmen took advantage of the matriculation examination as a lucrative market, and published various kinds of books without permission featuring special issues for the examination, tips and spots, and answers for the possible examination questions to make profit. The worst is that they are distributing and selling computer-printed

books small enough to hide on the body of students sitting for the examination in major towns and small towns.

Their greedy acts amount to breaching the education policy of the State and ruining the moral character of the new generation youths. Thus, effective action had been taken against the persons who made the micro-books and who copied or printed them, the owners of copiers and printing machines that were being used in duplicating copies of the books, and the distributors.

The authorities arrested Win Thein, 30, of third floor, room 6, building No 1, Ward 3, Kamayut Township on 13 March 2005, while he was selling the micro-books. He was caught at Hledan traffic point junction in Kamayut together with 138 copies of the books containing all the matriculation subjects. Further interrogation had led to the arrest of Myat Thu (a) Htoo Ein Thin of room 62/B, building No 1, Ward 3, Kamayut Township, together with 447 micro-books containing all matriculation subjects.

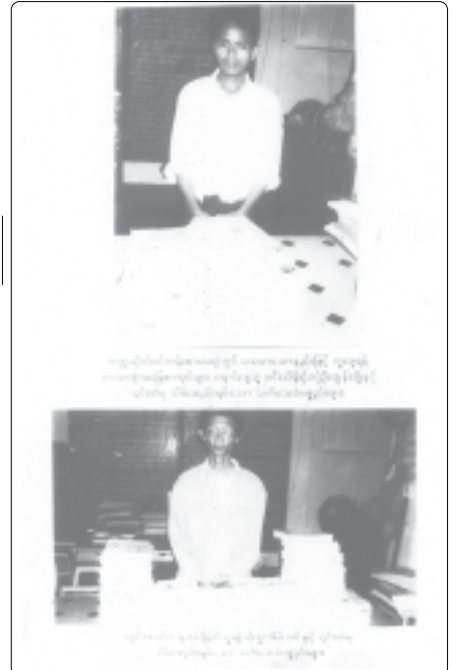
The authorities exposed more links, arresting Po Tok and wife Ma Thida of 541, Nwethaki 4th Street, Ka gyi Ward, North Okkalapa. Further information led to the arrest of Ma Yin Yin (a) Ma Yin, 55, daughter of U Tha Gya, of 930, Kanoung Street, 35th Ward, Dagon Myothit (North) on 9 March 2005. She was arrested together with 1,357 sheets of 7.5-cm by 4-cm films used in printing the books. Ma Yin Yin bought the special issues for the matriculation examination and placed an order with May Offset in Sangyoung Township to print the reduced size copies of the books. She kept the films and used them every academic year to print the books again and again.

Thus, the authorities also took action against the owner, U Labya Nawlon, and sealed the Japanese-made Oliver printing machine of the May Offset at No 8, Ingapu Street, North Linlun Ward, Sangyoung Township. He had been doing the illegal job since 2000 and making profit out of it.

Action will be taken against the culprits exploiting students under sections 17 and 20 of the Printing Act. According to the section 17 of the Act of 1962, the punishment for unauthorized printing and publishing is from one year to seven years' imprisonment and a fine ranging from K 3,000 to K 30,000. The offenders will face the punishment and fine separately or both. The section 20 also states that the offender will face punishment from one year to seven years' imprisonment and a fine from K 3,000 to K 30,000 separately or both.

Thus, I would like to warn the greedy businessmen through the journalists to stay away from committing such crimes that will ruin the students, who are the nation's future, and also the education system.

Next, officials concerned replied queries raised those present. —MNA



The person responsible for producing micro-books. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo attends opening of multimedia classrooms of BEMS in Myeik

YANGON, 16 March— A ceremony to open renovated buildings and open multimedia classrooms of Basic Education Primary School in Myitnge Ward, Myeik Township, Taninthayi Division, was held at the school on 11 March. Present on the occasion were Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hong Ngai, senior military officers, officials of the

SPDC Office, local authorities, faculty members, members of social organizations, well-wishers and students.

After the commander had formally unveiled the signboard of the school, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party viewed Video System, Computer Room, Language Lab, Reading Corner & Internet Room around the school.

Next, a schoolhead U Tin Hon and chairman of school board of trustees U Hla Than reported on all-round renovation tasks carried out for the school. Afterwards, U Hla Than handed over the related documents to Director of No 1 Basic Educa-

tion Department U Ba Ba and 19 wellwishers presented K 2.95 million to school funds through the schoolhead.

After that, Lt-Gen Maung Bo delivered an address on the occasion. In his speech he said enhancement of education is the most importance of national goal for all citizens. Measures are being taken for coming out education opportunities not only in cities but also in villages at border areas. New generation youths are to be trained to become reliable citizens of the State.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Maung Bo cordially greeted those present. — MNA



Myanmar players in action to kick the ball into the net of Brunei.— MNA

Myanmar youth win over host Brunei 6-0

YANGON, 16 March — Selected Myanmar youth team, as its second match in the Group B trounced host Brunei youth team 6-0 by retaining its ca-

pability of goal score at the Hassanal Bolkiah Trophy Under-21 Invitational Football Tournament today.

The tournament is being held in Brunei from 12 to 26 March.

The Myanmar youth team won over the Brunei youth by shooting an opening goal of Yan Paing in the 23rd minute in first half.

In the second half,

Zaw Zaw kicked second goal into the net for his team at 1st minute.

Yan Paing added his second goal at 22nd minute and Mar La, fourth at 31st minute. At 35th and four minute ahead full time, Hsan Day Thein scored two goals to his rival's net.

On 18 March, the Myanmar youth team meets with Laotian youth team. — MNA

An evidence of Ywet Sit's SURA insurgent group on producing and trafficking narcotic drugs

OPINION & ANALYSIS

Drug bust deals blow to guerrillas

The Shan State Army was dealt a heavy blow on Saturday when Tun Wiwatrungarun, a close ally of SSA leader Col Yawd Serk, was arrested in Mae Hong Son, allegedly in possession of 174 bars of heroin weighing 82kg.

and trafficking of narcotic drugs. However, it is regrettable to see that some NGOs and some groups are stealthily encouraging and supporting drug-trafficking insurgents like Ywet Sit.

He said the translated version of the news entitled "Drug bust deals blow to guerrillas" carried in the Opinion & Analysis section of Section (1) at page 11 of Bangkok Post issued on 10 March was posted on the board in the hall for the journalists. In addition, the newspapers issued yesterday inserted documentary photos of

Sai Tun (a) Tun Wiwatrungarun, with the rank of captain, of SURA insurgent group, a close

YANGON, 16 March — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan added his explanation on acts of SURA terrorist group led by Ywet Sit under cover of liberation of Shan State concerning manufacturing of narcotic drugs, drug trafficking and its related matters at the press conference No 2/2005 held by the Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council on 15 March.

At the press conference, the minister said that although the Government is striving to eliminate the drug menace, the SURA insurgent group led by Ywet Sit with its base at the border area are producing and trafficking narcotic drugs under cover of Shan State liberation movement. The minister said the journalists might have read the news on seizures of heroin produced by that group in the other country near the border. The Government is crushing terrorist acts of the insurgents who are

harming the stability, peace and development of the country.

At the same time, the Government is also suppressing the production



Leader of SURA insurgent group Ywet Sit seen together with his close ally Sai Tun (a) Tun Wiwatrungarun with the rank of captain, seized with 82 kilos of heroin by Thai anti-drug squad.

MNA



Sai Tun (a) Tun Wiwatrungarun, close ally of SURA leader Col Ywet Sit, arrested with 174 bars of heroin weighing 82 kilos by the Thai anti-drug squad in Pan Ma Pha, Mae Hong Son District of other country near the border area. — MNA

ally of SSA leader Col Ywet Sit, arrested with 174 bars of heroin weighing 82 kilos by the Thai anti-drug squad in Pan Ma Pha, Mae Hong Son District of the other country near the border area.

Bangkok Post on 10 March stated that the Shan State Army was dealt a heavy blow on Saturday when Sai Tun (a) Tun Wiwatrungarun, a close ally of SSA leader Col Ywet Sit, was arrested in Mae Hong Son, for alleged possession of 174 bars of heroin weighing 82 kilos. Chuffed police say this was the biggest ever heroin haul by local drug officers.

They say undercover cops lured Mr Tun into a net by approaching him

to buy the drugs at a price of 25 million baht.

The heroin is said to have been moved across the border from Myanmar on Saturday night into Pang Ma Pha district in Mae Hong Son where the drug was to be delivered. At a celebratory press conference held in Bangkok, police drug officers explained that Sai Tun (a) Tun Wiwatrungarun is said to be a captain in the SSA and was once a trusted bodyguard to Col Ywet Sit. One border watcher said that he was always alongside Col Ywet Sit providing him protection.

Sai Tun (a) Tun Wiwatrungarun is said to have been not that much of a surprise to SSA sup-

porters along the border as there have been suspicions for some time that the guerrilla group was dealing in drugs to support its struggle since the 1960s. Arrest of Sai Tun (a) Tun Wiwatrungarun raises suspicions that the SSA leaders are aware of the drug trade, one border watcher said. The incident has really hurt the guerrilla leader's credibility, he added.

Ywet Sit himself has made no comment on his former bodyguard's arrest. Ywet Sit cannot remain silent forever, said one SSA supporter. He has to clarify this matter otherwise the SSA's credibility as a whole would be in jeopardy.

MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects regional development tasks in Bokpyin, Taninthayi Division

YANGON, 16 March —Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, officials of the SPDC Office, heads of department, Chairman of Kawthoung District PDC Lt-Col Tin Soe, on 9 March morning, arrived at the Bankachon Palm Oil Mill of Golden Oil Palm Co Ltd 18 miles of Kawthoung-Bokpyin Union Highway and inspected oil palm plantations, bunches of oil palm and running of the palm oil mill.

On arrival at the oil palm plantation and palm oil mill of Services International Co Ltd in Khamaukyi Region, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party were briefed on installation of palm oil mill, arrival of equipment and future tasks.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party in-



Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party meet families of local battalion of Bokpyin Station. — MNA

spected construction of Modha Creek Bridge and extension of Kawthoung-Bokpyin Union Highway.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions on timely completion of the task and meeting the set standard.

In meeting with the Tatmadawmen and their families of local battalion near Hankadine Village, Lt-Gen Maung Bo called on them to ensure regional security and serve the national interest.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and

party looked into measures being taken at Annawa Tun Oil Palm Plantation, construction of a concrete bridge near Hankaphyu Village and gave necessary instructions.

Later, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met Tatmadawmen and their families of Kyauktanaung Station and presented clothes and cash to them. Next, they inspected construction of Chaungnyinaung Bridge and Annawa Tun Oil Palm Plantation near Chaungshitphar Village.

At the office of General Administration Department in Kayathuri, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met with departmental officials, social organizations and townselders and made a speech.

After the meeting, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected the GAD Office and its compound.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected land reclamation and oil palm plantations of Shewmyay Yadana Co Ltd in Tapat Village and gave instructions to officials.

On arrival at Hankaphyu Basic Education Primary School, Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented clothes and cash for local battalion of Bokpyin Station.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected crude edible oil mill of Taungdagon Oil Palm Co Ltd and arrived at Bokpyin Airport.

At the office of Bokpyin Township Peace and Development Council, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met departmental officials, social organizations and townselders and gave instructions.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected 50-bed Bokpyin Hospital and Manaung Monastic Education School in Bokpyin and gave instructions to officials concerned.

Afterwards, they paid homage to the Presiding Sayadaw of Dhammavijaya Kyaungtaik in Bokpyin and presented offertories to him.

After inspecting the Kyaungtaik, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party spent the night in Bokpyin.

MNA

Cash and kind donated to MMCWA

YANGON, 16 March — As a gesture of hailing the annual meeting of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, wellwishers donated cash and kind to MMCWA at its association building at the corner of Thanthuma and Parami Streets yesterday afternoon.

Present on the occasion were President of MMCWA Daw Khin Khin Win, CEC members, Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr T Jasudasan, guests and wellwishers.

Today's donation to the association were K 4 million by Singapore Association of Myanmar, K 2 million by U Tin Sein and Thirithudhama Theingi Daw Nan Khan Tit family of Myanmar Universal Bank, K 2 million by U Tar Wai and Daw Khin Saw Hlaing of Wai Family Company, K 1 million by U Tun Aung and Daw Than Myint family of Danalin Com-

pany, K 500,000 each by U Naw Aung and Daw Nan Phaung Hlaing family, U Kyi Oo (a) Mudon Maung Maung and Daw Than Than Oo family, U Yom Mu and Daw Pe Nan of Green Light Company, U Sai Tit Aung and Daw Nan Yon family of Naungton Company and MO Asia Company Ltd-Dumex and 40 VCDs on tailoring by New Fashion Designer Group.

President Daw Khin Khin Win accepted the donations and presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

Chairman of Singapore Association of Myanmar Mr Teddy Chia explained the purpose of the donations and President Daw Khin Khin Win expressed gratitude.

After the ceremony, President of MMCWA Daw Khin Khin Win, CEC members and wellwishers viewed photos on movements of the association displayed at the hall. — MNA

Minister meets Singaporean Sayadaw

YANGON, 16 March— Sayadaw of Buddhist Golden Temple Monastery in Singapore Maha Saddhama Jotikadhaja Ven Shi Fa Zhao and party called on Minister for Religious Affairs

Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung at the latter's office yesterday evening.

Also present were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Director-General of the Religious Affairs

Department Dr Myo Myint, Director-General of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana Lt-Col Myo Kyaw, and departmental heads. The Sayadaw

donated K 2 million for religious affairs to the minister, who then presented religious publications and a certificate of honour to the former.

MNA

Inter-State/Division Golf Championship 2005 opens



YANGON, 15 March— The opening of the 27th Inter-State/Division Golf Team Championship 2005, mainly sponsored by Isuzu Motor Ltd, took place at Yangon Golf Club in Danyingon this morning.

Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint delivered an address.

The minister and President of the Myanmar PGA, the Myanmar Golf Federation and resident representative of Isuzu Motor Ltd U Aye Cho teed off the balls to open

the tournament. After the 18-hole event, Yangon Division leads the tournament on 224 strokes (total gross) in team scratch, followed by Sagaing Division on 233

and Mandalay Division on 234. In individual scratch event, Naing Naing Lin of Yangon Division lies in the first place on 70 strokes. Aye Min Cho (Mandalay Division) puts

his place behind the leader on 74, while Than Naing Oo of Sagaing Division follows them on 76 strokes. The 18-hole event continues tomorrow.

MNA



Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint delivers an opening speech at opening of golf tournament.—MGF

TRADEMARK CAUTION

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INSPIRE THE NEXT

Myanmar Reg. No.4/1582/2000 - Dated 5 April 2000

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"Common metals and their alloys; metal building materials; transportable buildings of metal; materials of metal for railway tracks; non-electric cables and wires of common metal; ironmongery, small items of metal hardware; pipes and tubes of metal; safes; goods of common metal not included in other classes; ores; soil lime; common metal (unworked or semi-worked) and alloys of common metal; aluminum alloy casting; aluminum wire and cable; bus duct and trolley bus duct; magnesium alloy casting; chain; rolling bar; pipe fitting; malleable cast iron product; forging and cast steel product; valve of metal, other than parts of machines; tool steel; copper and oxygen-free copper product such as: bimetal, copper tube, copper strips, copper tape, copper bar, ropeway of metal, metal clad laminate, copper clad laminated sheet; molding compound of metal; mold of metal; die of metal; sintered metal part; powder metallurgy product; brass in Class 6";

"Machines and machine tools; motor and engines (except for land vehicles); machine coupling and transmission components (except for land vehicles); agricultural implements other than hand-operated; incubators for eggs; electric motor other than for land vehicles; electric generator; controlling apparatus for electric motors and generators; starter for motors and engines; capacitor production machine; alternator; robots; elevator; escalator; moving stairway; moving walkway; mining machine; civil engineers machine; cargo working machines, crane, hoist, winch, conveyor, drag scraper, loader, sheet piler, sheet feeder, lift, car dumper; pneumatic unloader; reclaim; magnetic separator; loading shovel; elevating and transporting vehicle; tunneling machine; pile driver; excavator; crawler crane; wheel loader; earth drill; rotary casing drill; reverse circulation drill; foundation machine; carrier; gas pipe tunneler; amphibious soft terrain backhoe; load sensor; steam turbine; water turbine; gas turbine; diesel engine; internal combustion engine; speed changer such as: gear, gear box, transmission; water wheel and turbine; pump, pump for oil, vacuum pump; centrifuge; compressor; blower and fan; machine tool; hydraulic hammer; hydraulic truck crane; shield machine; power driven hand-stationary tool such as: circular saw, cutter, drill, grass cutter, grinder, hammer, miter saw, planer jointer, pneumatic nailer, polisher, rotary bandsaw, sander, sander, trimmer, thickness planer; rolling mill, electric control equipment for rolling mill, strip mill, milling machine; press; crusher; electric welder; paper making machine; machines and equipment for chemical industry; electrochemical machine; electric dust collector; printing machine; offset press; CNC drilling machine; CNC routing machine; electrical discharge machine; digitizer; machining center; welding machine; water supply apparatus; mechanical screen, strainer; centrifugal separator; automatic conveying equipment; silo-plant and feed milling plant; precipitator; equipment and appliances for automobile such as: charging generator, distributor, ignition coil, spark plug, carburetor, alternator, air pump, throttle body; household electric appliances such as: washing machine, blender, juicer, can opener, dish washer, vacuum cleaner, disposer, pump; sewing machine; roll (for rolling mills, printing machine and etc.); industrial rubber such as: escalator handrail, rubber belt; carbon products such as: carbon brush, carbon fusing boat; ceramic products for machine parts; winding machine for coil and capacitor; friction products such as: drum brake lining, disc brake pad; carbon mold products for machine parts; plastic component such as: gear, bearing in Class 7";

"Hand tools and implements (hand-operated); cutlery; side arms; razors; household electric appliances such as: electric shaver, razor; electric knife sharpener; cutting tool; spray in Class 8";

"Scientific, nautical, surveying, electric, photographic, cinematographic, optical, weighing, measuring, signaling, checking (supervision), life-saving and teaching apparatus and instruments; apparatus for recording, transmission or reproduction of sound or images; magnetic data carriers, recording discs; automatic vending machines and mechanisms for coin-operated apparatus; cash registers, calculating machines, data processing equipment and computers; fire-extinguishing apparatus; controlling apparatus for electric motors and generators such as: controller, resistor, contactor, relay, automatic voltage regulator, remote controlling apparatus; machines and equipment for electric power distribution such as: transformer, electric current limiting reactor, air-supply converter, mercury rectifier, semiconductor rectifier, rotary converter, magnetic amplifier, circuit breaker, switch, switch gear, switch board and box, relay, frequency changer, lightning arrester, load dispatcher, charger; battery, battery charger, rechargeable battery, nickel cadmium battery, dry battery, battery box, battery jar; power cable, telecommunication cable, insulated cable, submarine cable, fibre-optic LAN, fibre-optic cable, bare wire, magnet wire, aluminum wire and cable, electronic wire and cable, magnetic core, magnet, electric and magnetic meter such as: power meter, ampere meter, volt meter, watt meter, watt-hour meter, insulation resistance meter; industrial measuring instrument such as: thermometer, pressure meter, flow meter, dynamometer, wave sweep oscillator, oscillograph, wave form monitor, ultrasonic inspection and imaging instrument, ultrasonic

New detector, ultrasonic instrument, ultrasonic microscope; electronic tube such as: picture tube, receiving tube, transmitting tube, pickup tube, cathode ray tube, image pickup tube, storage tube, power tube, x-ray tube, magnetron, rectifier tube, vidicon, liquid crystal display device, core memory, bubble memory, electric circuit parts using semiconductor material such as: transistor, diode, photo cell, photo conductive device, thermistor, varistor, electric condenser, I.C. (integrated circuit), L.S.I. (large scale integration), L.E.D. (light emitting diode), memory (random access memory, read only memory), stepper, microprocessor, thyristor; multilayer ceramic products; telephone set, attendant console of telephone set, telephone switchboard; semiconductor manufacturing apparatus such as: dry etching equipment, inspection equipment for dust particles, through-pit IC memory test equipment, wafermark blanks surface inspection equipment, clean bench, clean room, electronic beam lithography system; electronic applied apparatuses such as: electronic computer, computer program, data processing apparatus, data-typeewriter, line printer, cassette data reader, card reader punch, color copying machine, cathode ray tube display copier, micro fiche retriever, inventory control machine, electronic cash register, mark sheet reader, copying machine, electric plotter, optical character reader, disc (magnetic), drum memory, magnetic tape unit, automatic controlling apparatus, electron microscope, particle accelerator, radar apparatus, electronic calculator, word processor, printer; radio telephone equipment; telephone exchanger, asynchronous transfer mode; attendant console of telephone; telegraph, carrier telephone; television conference equipment; private branch exchange; wireless communication apparatus; facsimile; voice response system; field pick-up for broadcasting; interphone; wave guide; antenna; electric controlling equipment for rolling stock such as: chopper controller, rectifier, transformer, inverter; scientific measuring instruments such as: mass spectrometer, microanalyzer, microscope, magnetic resonance spectrometer, spectrophotometer, spectrometer, photometer, P.H. meter, teseluis electrophoresis apparatus, geiger counter, gas chromatograph, nuclear magnetic resonance, amino acid analyzer, fluorescence spectro photometer, atomic absorption spectrometer, liquid chromatograph, cargo working machines such as: lifting magnet, steam condenser; magnetic appliances such as: magnetic separator, magnetic strainer; electric precipitator; equipment and appliances for automobile such as: battery, relay, radio broadcasting equipment, radio receiving set, television broadcasting equipment, freeze-picture transmission system, television receiving set, television translator, television camera, video camera, industrial television equipment, wire broadcasting equipment, electric gramophone, record player, automatic sound film, strip projector, stereo equipment such as: receiver, amplifier, tuner, speaker system, speaker unit, disc cartridge, tape deck, headphones, electric cleaner for record disc, magnetic tape recorder, stereo modular combination with: 8-track player, cassette tape recorder, record auto changer, cassette tape deck, video projector, video monitor; magnetic recording tape, video tape, magnetic floppy disc; liquid crystal display and its parts, cartridge tape, video tape, video disc, audio disc, cassette tape, video tape recorder, video disc player, audio disc player, optical disc player, cassette player, cassette recorder, car radio, transceiver; household electric appliances such as: hair setter, vacuum cleaner, floor polisher, iron, timer switch; household appliances such as wiring parts in household; electronic thermometer, ferrite magnet; copper and copper alloy such as: bus bar, induction coil, graphite product such as graphite electrode; ceramic products for electric and electronic parts; measuring instruments such as: electric indicator; indicating controller, sequential controller, recorder, magnetic flow meter, insulation tester, electronic pressure transmitter, pneumatic pressure transmitter, level gauge, thickness gauge, moisture gauge, density gauge, oxygen meter, recording controller; electric and electronic parts such as: printed wiring board, capacitor, coil, resistor, printed circuit board, printed circuit board material, semiconductor material, anisotropic conductive film; wiring device; local area network apparatus; integrated service digital network apparatus; electric door bell; alarm buzzer; electric dust collector; digitizer in Class 9";

"Surgical, medical, dental and veterinary apparatus and instruments, artificial limbs, eyes and teeth; orthopedic articles; suture materials; electronic thermometer; medical equipment such as: tomograph, tomograph unit, x-ray unit, x-ray generator, ultrasonic blood flow monitor, ultrasound cardiogram unit, nuclear magnetic data processing system, radiotherapeutic microtron system, scintillation camera, bio-clean unit for operating room hospital, CT scanner, spyngnomometer, magnetic resonance imaging equipment, massager, ultrasound scanner, picture archiving and communication system in Class 10";

"Apparatus for lighting, heating, steam generating, cooking, refrigerating, drying, ventilating, water supply and sanitary purposes; nuclear power plants such as nuclear reactor; boiler, food water purifier for boiler, heat exchanger, refrigerating machine, water cooler, chiller, refrigerating display case, air conditioning equipment, electric portable water cooler, electric dehumidifier, electric furnace, air pollution control apparatus, water supply apparatus, water pollution control apparatus, sludge collector apparatus, grill collector apparatus, oil and gas range, oil and gas stove, kerosene heater, lighting equipment such as: mercury lamp, infrared lamp, fluorescent lamp, incandescent lamp, lamp fixture, flashlight, electric torch, electric lantern, underwater light; atomic furnace; household electric appliances such as: heater, warmer, toaster, electric rice-cooker, egg cooker, electric pot, roaster, microwave oven, refrigerator, ice maker, coffee, maker, fountain, water cleaner, hair dryer, electric hair brush, electric tooth brush, clothes dryer, dehumidifier, humidifier, desk fan, floor fan, ceiling fan, ventilating fan, room air conditioner, electric letter opener, electric pencil sharpener, food processor, floor heating panel; household appliances such as: home bath and bath unit, kitchen sink, disposal tank, sewage tank, home boiler, solar heater in Class 11";

"Vehicles; apparatus for locomotion by land, air or water; rolling

stock, electric locomotive, diesel hydraulic locomotive, diesel electric locomotive, diesel engine, passenger coach, electric car, diesel car, mono-rail car, cable car, ropeway, freight car, wagon, van, tank car, industrial rolling stock, industrial trailer, dump truck, trailer, hydrocoupling, hydro torque converter, automatic conveying vehicle; equipment and appliances for automobile such as: starter-dynamo, starting motor; leisure appliances such as: boat, golf cart in Class 12";

"Precious metals and their alloys and goods in precious metals or coated therewith, not included in other classes; jewellery, precious stones; horological and chronometric instruments; electric/electronic clock and watch in Class 14";

"Paper, cardboard and goods made from these materials, not included in other classes; printed matter, bookbinding materials; photographs; stationery; adhesives for stationery or household purposes; artists' materials; paint brushes; typewriters and office requisites (except furniture); instructional and teaching material (except apparatus); plastic materials for packaging (not included in other classes); playing cards; printers' type; printing blocks; bimetal, catalogue, handbook, manual, PVC stretch film for food; pencil sharpener in Class 16";

"Rubber, gutta-percha, gum, asbestos, mica and goods made from these materials and not included in other classes; plastics in extruded form for use in manufacture; packing, stopping and insulating materials; flexible pipes, not of metal; industrial rubber such as: container bag, high pressure hose; electric insulating materials such as: laminate, varnish, varnished cloth; tape, mica, ceramic, paint, film, pipe, rod, tube, bar; unsaturated polyester resin; plastics in the form of powders, liquid or paste, for industrial use such as: molding compound for electrical insulating materials, parts and etc.; adhesive film; electric and electronic parts such as: plastic molded product, polycarbonate film; friction products such as: clutch facing, synthetic resin; synthetic resin product such as: board for building, board for furniture; tape, bar, film, pipe, rod, tube, sheet; plastics in the form of: sheet, block, rod, pipe, tube, tape; weatherable thermoplastic; expandable polystyrene bead; rubber; waterproof rubber sheet; rubber hose; rubber hose for automobile in Class 17";

"Advertising; business management; business administration; office functions; organisation and business consulting, marketing research and marketing analyses; marketing and management consulting; procurement of contracts for the purchase and sale of goods; consultation, design, research and development in the field of advertisement, business management, electronic commerce, supply chain management, customer relationship management; providing a network of computers, servers, database and solution applications for the on-line exchange of goods and services; leasing and maintenance of office machines and equipment in Class 35";

"Insurance; financial affairs; monetary affairs; real estate affairs; insurance business; financial and monetary services, including payment services, leasing services and loan services, credit card related activities; issuing of credit cards, credit consulting and agencies; electronic commerce services, including electronic credit card and debit transactions, fund transfers and payment processing; financial analyses, evaluation, information, consultation, management, transaction and planning services; real estate investment services; and investment brokerage services; insurance underwriting services; all utilizing the global information network or provided by electronic means; leasing of commercial and real estate, loan services for the acquisition of offices, apartments, flats, buildings, construction facilities, commercial and real estate; package leasing combined with loans or installment plans making land, buildings facilities and equipment all available in one package, for hotels, hospitals, plants or stores, lease-purchase loans in Class 36";

"Building construction; repair; installation services; construction by engineers; rental, repair and installation services of industrial plants and machinery, construction equipment, infrastructure, environment and transportation systems, construction, installation, maintenance and repair of network systems utilizing the global information network in Class 37";

"Telecommunications; telecommunication services, including the electronic transmission of voice, facsimile, data, video and information; providing telecommunication connections to worldwide global computer networks, other computer networks, on-line services and bulletin boards; communications by computer terminals and on computer network, electric data communication and transaction services; providing multiple-user access to a global computer communication information network; leasing and rental of communication equipment and computers in Class 38";

"Transport; packaging and storage of goods; travel arrangement; logistics services; vehicle rental, rental of warehouse; providing travel information services through a global computer network in Class 39";

"Education; providing of training; entertainment; sporting and cultural activities; production and distribution of entertainment and educational programming for distribution via a global communications network, computer, television, cable and satellite broadcasting; publication and issuing of books, journals, magazines and other publications; providing information in the fields of education, training, entertainment, sporting and cultural activities via a global computer communication network; leasing and rental of equipment for educational, training, entertainment, sporting and cultural purposes, rental of photographic, cinematographic, audio and video, and lighting equipment and apparatus in Class 41";

"Providing of food and drink; temporary accommodation; medical, hygienic and beauty care; veterinary and agricultural services; legal services; scientific and industrial research; computer programming; services that cannot be classified in other classes; computer network access, administration and support services; providing multiple-user access to global computer information networks for the transfer, dissemination and exchange of a wide range of information and data; providing computer services for others in the field of electronic commerce; providing access to an electronic bulletin board in a wide variety of fields; developing, designing, updating and maintaining computer hardware and software for telecommunication net-

မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်စိမ့်ပြီးစိုးစက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

works, development and design of monitoring systems and network; development and design of products in the area of electronic information communication systems...

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U Than Maung, Advocate For Kabushiki Kaisha Hitachi Seisakusho, (d.b.a Hitachi, Ltd.) C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd Unit 223 Summit Parkview 350 Ahlone Road, Dagon Township Yangon, Union of Myanmar kelvin.chia.yan@comcast.net

Dated 17 March 2005

လူ့စွမ်းအားအရင်းအမြစ်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးမှုဌာန (ရန်ကုန်နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာတက္ကသိုလ်)

နေရာသို့ နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာစကား အခြေခံသင်တန်း ဖွင့်လှစ်ရေးအစီအစဉ်

လူ့စွမ်းအားအရင်းအမြစ်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးမှုဌာန(ရန်ကုန်နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာတက္ကသိုလ်) က အသက်(၉)နှစ်မှ (၁၃)နှစ်အရွယ်အထိ ကျောင်းသား၊ ကျောင်းသူများအတွက် နေရာသို့ နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာစကား အခြေခံသင်တန်းများ ဖွင့်လှစ်မည်-

- ၁။ ဖွင့်လှစ်မည့်သင်တန်းအမည် - Elementary Japanese, Elementary French, Elementary Chinese, Elementary German

- ၂။ သင်တန်းရက် - တနင်္လာနေ့၊ ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့၊ သောကြာနေ့
၃။ သင်တန်းချိန် - နံနက် ၈:၀၀ နာရီမှ ၁၂:၀၀ နာရီထိ
၄။ သင်တန်းကာလ - ၁-၄-၂၀၀၅ မှ ၂-၅-၂၀၀၅ ထိ (၇) ပတ်
၅။ သင်တန်းဆင်းလက်မှတ် - Certificate
၆။ သင်တန်းကြေး - ၁၀၀၀/- (ကျပ်တစ်သောင်းတိတိ/-)
၇။ လျှောက်လွှာအဖိုး - ၅၀/- (ကျပ်ငါးဆယ်တိတိ/-)
၈။ လျှောက်လွှာလက်ခံမည့်ရက် - ၁၈-၃-၂၀၀၅ (သောကြာနေ့) (သင်တန်းတက်ရောက်လိုသူများသည် မိဘ/အုပ်ထိန်းသူများကိုယ်တိုင် ရန်ကုန်နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာတက္ကသိုလ်တွင် လျှောက်လွှာပေးပို့ရမည်)
၉။ လျှောက်လွှာပို့ရက် - ကန့်သတ်ထားသောသင်တန်းသားဦးရေပြည့်သည့်နေ့
၁၀။ လိုအပ်ချက် - စိတ်ချ (၃) ပုံ လက်ရှိကျောင်းသားစာရင်းမိတ္တူ (သို့) အိမ်ထောင်စုစာရင်းမိတ္တူ

British women voters chastise Blair

LONDON, 14 March — A group of British women chastised Tony Blair on issues from the Iraq war to dirty hospitals and youth crime on Sunday as the Prime Minister seeks to woo female voters at May's expected election.

Blair, helped by youthful looks and a down-to-earth style, transformed Labour in the mid-1990s into a party that appealed to women and the middle classes, carrying it to a landslide victory in 1997.

But polls show Britons feel he has lost touch with ordinary people and neglected schools and hospitals for the war in Iraq. Women are particularly disillusioned. "You heralded a new breed of politician and gave me a great deal of hope for the future... today you've lost my respect and I need a reason to vote for you," Katherine Moss said in an all-female audience with Blair on ITV's Jonathan Dimbleby show.

An ICM poll in Sunday's News of the World showed only 28 per cent of women described Blair as honest, down from 54 per cent in 1997. One third said he should quit immediately.—MNA/Reuters



Three villagers were trampled to death and seven wounded by a wild Asiatic elephant searching for home-made rice beer in India's northeastern state of Assam on 15 March, 2005. — INTERNET

Elephant tramples three to death in N-E India

NEW DELHI, 15 March— Three people were trampled to death and seven more wounded by a wild Asiatic elephant in India's northeastern province of Assam, Indo-Asian News Service reported.

A forest official said the tusker strayed away from a big herd and entered a village, about 70 kilometers west of Assam's main city of Guwahati, early Sunday morning. "The elephant went on a rampage tearing apart huts and attacking sleeping villagers. It killed three and

seriously injured seven," the official said. The injured villagers were shifted to a local hospital with multiple wounds. "The elephant herd probably came near the village looking for home brewed rice beer. One of the animals strayed away from the herd and did the damage."

During the past fortnight, herds of wild elephants have been wreaking havoc in several parts of Assam with the pachyderms fancying harvested rice stalks known as paddy and the paint-peeling moonshine that many of the villagers brew from fermented rice.

MNA/Xinhua

Clinton released from hospital after surgery

NEW YORK, 15 March — Former US President Bill Clinton was released from the hospital on Monday, four days after surgery to remove fluid and scar tissue that accumulated in his chest after his heart-bypass operation last year.

Clinton, 58, left New York-Presbyterian Hospital. He had checked in on Thursday for a follow-up procedure to his quadruple heart-bypass surgery in September.

MNA/Reuters

Iran will never give up N-fuel programme

TEHERAN, 14 March — Iran defiantly insisted on Saturday it would never give up its nuclear fuel programme despite a new united policy of incentives and threats from Washington and the European Union.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran is determined to use peaceful nuclear technology and no pressure, intimidation or threat can make Iran give up its right," Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi said.

Teheran says its nuclear facilities will only be used to generate electricity and never diverted to weapons production.

MNA/Reuters

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Reg. No. 7692/2004 in respect of "non-medicated chocolate confectionery".

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Win Mu Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L for CADBURY LIMITED. P.O. Box 60, Yangon Dated: 17 March 2005

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. Second best time is now.

SPORTS

Juventus beat Chievo Verona 1-0

MILAN, 14 March— A late strike from Uruguayan Ruben Olivera gave Juventus a controversial 1-0 win at Chievo Verona on Sunday to leave them level with Serie A leader AC Milan, who hung on for a 1-0 win over Sampdoria.

A 65th-minute header from Brazilian Kaka left Milan level with Juventus on 63 points, while third-placed Inter Milan trailed 16 behind following a 1-1 at Lazio on Saturday. David Di Michele scored a hat-trick for Udinese as they enjoyed a shock 5-1 win at Palermo while Gianfranco Zola inspired Cagliari to a 3-0 victory over AS Roma scoring his side's opener and creating the second.

Juve's victory was hotly disputed with Chievo having a 'goal' ruled out and substitute Olivera and Chievo defender Alessandro Potenza both sent off two minutes from the end.

Following a poor first half, Chievo felt they should have had the lead five minutes after the restart when Sergio Pellissier rattled a shot against the underside of the cross-bar.

Although television replays showed the ball had clearly crossed the line, the referee and linesman ignored Chievo's demands for a

goal. Three minutes from the end, substitute Olivera, on for Alessandro Del Piero, pounced after poor Chievo defending to first home a left-foot shot and give Juventus the lead.

Olivera's celebrations were cut short though a minute later when he clashed with Potenza, twice grabbing his head, and both players were sent off.

The Pellissier shot is bound to re-open the debate about the use of electronic detectors in Italian football where there have been calls to introduce 'tennis style' line sensors.—MNA/Reuters



Juventus' forward Ruben Olivera is congratulated by teammates after scoring against Chievo in an Italian Serie A match.—INTERNET

Beckham tips either AC Milan or Chelsea to win UEFA C' ships

LONDON, 15 March— David Beckham, whose Real Madrid side were knocked out of the Champions League last week after losing to Juventus, has tipped either AC Milan or Chelsea to go on and win this season's competition in Istanbul in May.

"AC Milan especially have really caught my eye, they cause a lot of problems for the opposition, they are strong in every part of the field and they are so good defensively with (Paolo) Maldini and Cafu playing as well as ever," said Beckham.

The England skipper was speaking to journalists on a visit to London to launch the David Beckham soccer Academy.

"Chelsea, though, are also a major contender. They have Roman Abramovich's money, a new young manager who is full of confidence and keeps the pressure off his team, some very, very good players maturing well, and some good young English players there. They will take some beating too."

The draw for the Champions League quarterfinals takes place on Friday at UEFA's headquarters in Nyon.

After losing 2-1 to Getafe on Sunday, Real are also 11 points behind Barcelona in La Liga with virtually no chance of catching their arch-rivals in the Spanish title race. "Of course, it is incredibly frustrating because I want to win trophies with Real Madrid but, unless something happens to Barcelona's form, we won't win La Liga and we are out of Europe."

"A club like Real Madrid needs to win trophies but that is not going to happen this season. There may be a number of reasons why it has happened, we have to accept it, look at it, but I don't like it."

Despite the lack of silverware at Real, the England captain confirmed he is happy at the club and has no intention of returning home for the foreseeable future. He is also certain about what he wants to do once his playing days are over.—MNA/Reuters



David Beckham meets pupils from his old school during the launch of his own football academy in Greenwich. England captain Beckham stressed the academy was about children enjoying themselves and not just about producing future stars.—INTERNET

River Plate beat Racing Club 1-0

BUENOS AIRES, 15 March— River Plate beat derby rivals Racing Club 1-0 on Sunday to go top of the Argentine Clausura Championship in place of Rosario Central, who were held 3-3 at home by Lanus.



River Plate's Carlos Diogo, right, battles for the ball with Sebastian Romero of Racing Club on 13 March, 2005, during their Argentine first division soccer match in Buenos Aires. River won 1-0.—INTERNET

Central, coached by 76-year-old Angel Zof, twice led but the visitors were lifted by a hat-trick from striker Claudio Graf.

River, who have 82 wins in the derby series against Racing's 34, continued their historic dominance thanks to a goal by Argentina midfielder Luis Gonzalez immediately after half-time.

Gonzalez latched on to an incisive pass from former Racing midfielder Gaston Fernandez and smashed a first-time shot under the arms of goalkeeper Cristian Luchetti.

Unbeaten River led

the table with 13 points from five games, two more than second-placed Central. Central received the perfect start when Emiliano Papa scored after two minutes, only for Graf to open his account in the 20th.

Graf put Lanus in front early in the second half and also snatched a 72nd-minute equalizer after Marco Ruben and a Paulo Ferrari penalty had put the home side 3-2 ahead.

Champions Newell's Old Boys went fourth with a 1-0 triumph at Banfield, despite another lacklustre performance from expe-

rienced forward Ariel Ortega.

Fernando Belluschi finished off a quick counter-attack with a superb left-foot drive in the 18th minute for unbeaten Newell's.

Independiente, 13th in the table with six points, continued their indifferent form under Argentina's 1978 World Cup-winning coach Cesar Luis Menotti when they were held 1-1 at home by Olimpo.

Sebastian Carrizo gave the Red Devils a 25th-minute lead with a swerving 25-metre drive but Olimpo always looked more dangerous and Uruguay striker Alvaro Mello grabbed a deserved equalizer midway through the second half.

Rolando Zarate, who netted for Argentina in their 1-1 friendly draw with Mexico in Los Angeles last Wednesday, was on target again, scoring from a free kick as Velez Sarsfield won 2-0 to hand San Lorenzo their fourth defeat in five matches.

Leandro Gracian had put Velez ahead after two minutes.—MNA/Reuters

Anja Paerson clinches women's World Cup ski title

LENZERHEIDE (Switzerland), 15 March— Sweden's Anja Paerson clinched the women's overall World Cup title on Sunday after one of the most dramatic finishes in the history of ski racing.

Finishing Sunday's season-ending giant slalom in 17th place after an unusually nervy second run, the 23-year-old defending champion was unable to pick up any points of her own and was instead forced to rely on the performances of her fellow skiers. Only the top 15 finishers in the finals earn points.

With four racers remaining, Paerson's Croatian rival Janica Kostelic was lying fourth and needed only a seventh-place finish to snatch the title.

But Nicole Hosp, Tanja Poutiainen, Elisabeth Goergl and Maria Jose Rienda Contreras all managed to better Kostelic's time, handing the title back to Paerson by a winning margin of just three points.

It was the second smallest margin in World Cup history — beaten only by Annemarie Moser-Proell's two-point win over Hanni Wenzel in 1979 — and easily the smallest since the introduction of the current scoring system in 1992.

Paerson's poor second run did cost her a lesser trophy on Sunday, with Poutiainen's second place enough to earn the 24-year-old Finn victory in the giant slalom discipline.

Poutiainen was also the winner of this season's slalom title. Her strong performances in the two technical categories took her to fifth in the overall



Overall Ski World Cup winner in all disciplines, Anja Paerson from Sweden, kisses her trophy during the Alpine Ski World Cup finals in Lenzerheide, Switzerland, on 13 March, 2005.—INTERNET

standings behind Paerson, Kostelic and the Austrian speed specialists Renate Goetschl and Michaela Dorfmeister.

Almost overshadowed by the effect of her performance on the overall title, Rienda Contreras secured the day's victory, storming down as the last racer with a total time of two minutes 20.18 seconds — 0.30 seconds ahead of Poutiainen and 0.51 in front of Hosp.

It was only the second win of the 29-year-old Spaniard's career, and also her second in a row, following her maiden victory at last month's giant slalom race in Are.

MNA/Reuters

Prize winners announced

YANGON, 16 March — The list of winners in the Myawady colour photo contest and those who won the best manuscript prizes of Myawady and Ngwetayi magazines for 2004 were announced today.

In the contest of Myawady colour photo, Mar Lar Win (Myithasi) and Ko Ko Sunny (Theingi Shweyi) stood second and third.

T a w k y a u n g - oupok by Ko (Tatkatho) won the best poem prize in the anniversary of Myawady magazine, Cartoon Nihmu the best cartoon, Minletwe-Nawrahta and Zartiman

Sarpay by Nyunt Han (Kyutaw) the best article, Katipa-hteka-art-ta-chaung by Sein So Oo the best short story and Thudo-bawa-ahla-kosi by Maung Yi Thwe the best novel respectively.

Myelat Min Lwin won the prize for the best poem of Ngwetayi magazine anniversary, Cartoon Maung Tin Yu the best cartoon, Tin Htun Oo (Culture) the best article, Maubin Lwint Kyaw the best short story and Win Le Phyu the best novel respectively.

The date and place for prize presenting will be announced soon.

MNA

Exhibition booths inspected

YANGON, 16 March — Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min together with Deputy Minister Thura U Thaug Lwin, this morning, arrived at the Defence Services Museum in which the booths are to be displayed for the 60th Anniversary Armed Forced Day Exhibition.

The minister and party were welcomed by officials of the departments and enterprises under the ministry. The minister viewed the booths arranged for the exhibition

and left necessary instructions.

MNA

Foreign Minister sends felicitations to his counterpart of Ireland

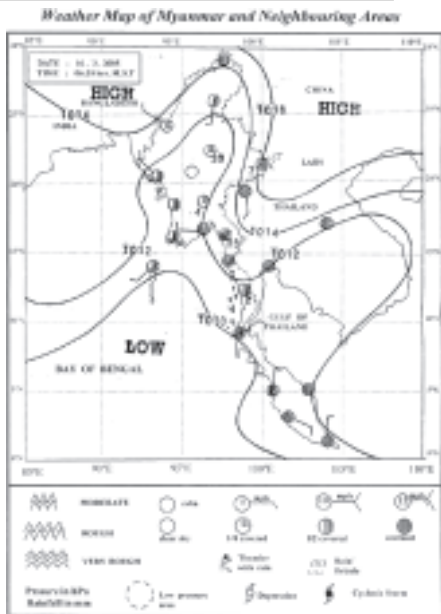
YANGON, 17 March — U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Dermot Ahern, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ireland, on the occasion of the National Day of Ireland, which falls on 17 March 2005.—MNA

Talks on general knowledge of MWAFF held

YANGON, 16 March — With the aim of enhancing efficiency of MWAFF members and developing their knowledge, the talks on international general knowledge took place at the federation on 14 March, attended by the president, the vice-president, the general secretary and the joint-general secretary and official of the MWAFF.

Head of the International Relations Department Daw Myint Myint Soe extended greetings. Afterwards,

Director-General Daw Myo Nwe of the Foreign Economic Relations Department gave a lecture on the activities of the agencies of the United Nations, Professor Dr Daw Myint Kyi of the Yangon University on that of the UN and Myanmar, and Director of the Department of Cultural Institute Daw Nanda Hmoon on the measures being taken between Myanmar and ASEAN.—MNA



WEATHER

Wednesday, 16 March, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Chin, Mon States and Mandalay Division, isolated in Kachin, Rakhine, Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy to cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mandalay (1.54) inches, PyinOoLwin and Mawlamyine (1.34) inches each, Pinlaung (1.26) inches. Day temperatures were (6°C) to (7°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division and Shan State, (3°C) above normal in Kachin State, (6°C) below normal in Bago Division, (3°C) below normal in Yangon. Mandalay and Upper Sagaing Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Magway and Minbu (38°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 15-3-2005 was 34.0°C and 93°F. Minimum temperature on 16-3-2005 was 19.0°C and 66°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 16-3-2005 was 70%. Total sunshine hours on 15-3-2005 was (5.0) hours approx. Rainfalls on 16-3-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (0.59) inch at Yangon Airport, (1.54) inches at Kaba Aye and nil at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (13:55) hours MST on 15-3-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 17-3-2005: Isolated to scattered rain or thundershowers are likely in the whole country. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thundershowers are likely in Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-3-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-3-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

New Rainfall Record

(Issued at 16th March 2005)

The amounts of rainfall observed at (09:30) hours M.S.T today at the following stations set the new maximum (24) hours rainfall records for the month of March.

No Station	New rainfall Record		Previous Record		Date (Years)	Record Period
	(mm)	(inches)	(mm)	(inches)		
1 Pyinoolwin	34	1.34	33	1.30	28-3-96	(13)
2 Pinlaung	32	1.26	31	1.22	26-3-96	(38)

OBITUARY

U Htay Tin (OLD ALBERTIAN) 61 Years C.E.O. FISCA Enterprises

U Htay Tin, son of the late U Kyaw and Daw Hla Shin, son-in-law of the late Mr and Mrs M.R Yu, beloved husband of Marianne Yu of 65/B, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, brother of (Daw Khin Htay), U Thaug Htay, Daw Ni Ni, (U Mg Mg) and Mi Mi Naing, peacefully passed away at 10:30 am on 15 March at Thukha Gaba Medical Centre. Cremation will take place at 3:00 pm on Thursday, 17 March 2005 at Yayway Crematorium. Buses will leave the above address at 2:00 pm.



Thursday, 17 March Tune in today:

- 8.30 am** Brief news
- 8.35 am** Music: -I feel love
- 8.40 am** Perspectives
- 8.45 am** Music: -Sugar cane
- 8.50 am** National news/Slogan
- 9.00 am** Music: -Remember you
- 9.05 am** International news
- 9.10 am** Music: -Queen of your fantasy
- 1.30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm** Lunch time music
- Miss you like crazy
- Back in your arms again
- Keep on loving you
- One kiss at a time
- 9.00 pm** Article
- 9.20 pm** Pourri
- Who says global health treaty can save millions of lives
- World's first tube camel born in UAE
- New species of crocodile 40m years ago discovered in Australia
- Framework convention on tobacco control becomes law
- Three Georges power project to generate 48.6 b kwh this year
- Song feature: Military songs sung by Bamar nationals
- 9.45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm** PEL



Thursday, 17 March View on today:

- 7:00 am**
- 1. Recitation of parittas by missionary sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:25 am**
- 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
- 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am**
- 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am**
- 5. Dance of national reaces
- 8:10 am**
- 6. Dance variety
- 8:20 am**
- 7. ရန်ကင်းမြို့နေသူတို့၏ အကဲဖြတ်ပေးခြင်း (အကဲဖြတ်ပေးခြင်း)
- 8:30 am**
- 8. International news
- 8:45 am**
- 9. Let's Go

- 4:00 pm**
- 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
- 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
- 3. English for Everday Use
- 4:45 pm**
- 4. တစ်ဖက်တစ်ချက်ပြောဆိုခြင်း (တစ်ဖက်တစ်ချက်ပြောဆိုခြင်း)
- 5:00 pm**
- 5. အဝေးသင်တန်းအတွက် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်တန်း (အဝေးသင်တန်းအတွက် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်တန်း)
- 5:15 pm**
- 6. Musical programme
- 5:30 pm**
- 7. Cute little dancers
- 5:45 pm**
- 8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 5:55 pm**
- 9. "အားနည်းလို့တာ" (အားနည်းလို့တာ)
- 6:05 pm**
- 10. Musical programme
- 6:15 pm**
- 11. မိုင်းခတ်နန်း သစ်တောစွမ်းမြင့် စီမံကိန်းရေးရာပညာ
- 6:30 pm**
- 12. Evening news
- 7:00 pm**
- 13. Weather report
- 7:05 pm**
- 14. မိုင်းခတ်နန်းသစ်တောစွမ်းမြင့် "မိုင်းခတ်နန်း" (အပိုင်း-၁၅)
- 7:30 pm**
- 15. ရန်(ဝေ)ပြည်တစ်ဖက်တစ်ချက် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားအစဉ်
- 7:45 pm**
- 16. အမျိုးသားညီလာခံရုပ်မြင်သံကြား
- 8:00 pm**
- 17. News
- 18. International news
- 19. Weather report
- 20. Myanmar movie
- "မေ့မိလား" (အပိုင်း-၁) (မေ့မိလား) (အပိုင်း-၁) (မေ့မိလား)
- (မေ့မိလား) (အပိုင်း-၁) (မေ့မိလား)
- (မေ့မိလား) (အပိုင်း-၁) (မေ့မိလား)
- 21. မင်းထွန်းအောင်တော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးစီးဦးစွာကော်တော်ဝင်အစဉ် အစဉ်အဆက် ဖွားမြင်နေ့တော်
- 22. The next day's programme

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win sends felicitations to his counterpart of Ireland

YANGON, 17 March — Lt-Gen Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Bertie Ahern, Prime Minister of Ireland, on the occasion of the National Day of Ireland, which falls on 17 March 2005.—MNA

As Taninthayi Division is rich in land and water resources, the division must be State's reliable region on which the Head of State focused.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo tours Myeik, Kyunsu Townships



Lt-Gen Maung Bo meets division and district level departmental officials of Taninthayi Division.—MNA

YANGON, 16 March — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence gave instructions on economic, social, transport and regional development of Taninthayi Division to officials at the hall of Coastal Region Command Headquarters in Myeik on 11 March.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hong Ngai, local authorities and departmental officials.

Departmental officials reported on their respective sectors.

Next, the commander submitted a review report based on departmental presentations. After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Maung Bo delivered an address, saying that Taninthayi Division could make progress to

(See page 8)

Alleged forced recruitment of soldiers especially child conscriptions are based on false information

YANGON, 16 March — The Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council held the press conference (2/2005) yesterday. Matters relating to accusation of Myanmar to be one of the countries conscripting child soldiers were clarified by Director-General U Sit Myaing of Social Welfare Department of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and on exposing of those who published and sold micro-books for some students to cheat at matriculation examination by Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yi of Myanmar Police Force.

In his clarification, Director-General U Sit Myaing said:

At the press conference, clarifications were made on how the all-round well-being of the entire people including children are brought about in Myanmar. The Government is safeguarding and promoting the rights and interests of the children.

In a report submitted to the UN in February, some points based on false information were mentioned to the effect that in the world some nations were conscripting child soldiers and Myanmar was on the list of such nations.

In Myanmar society, children are highly valued, cherished and brought up properly with loving kindness according to the traditions. Myanmar society is made up of closely-knitted families, where not only

the parents but also grandparents and relatives nurtured and take care of the children. From birth till death, citizens are registered accordingly and provided with identification certificates by the Ministry of Health, the Immigration and Population Department, and ward/village-tract administrative bodies,

no one under 18 is recruited.

In spite of the regulations on recruitment of soldiers, sometimes some minors were recruited due to inefficiency of recruiting personnel.

When minors were found later, they were sent back home immediately. Altogether 213 such per-



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan answers the queries raised by journalists.—MNA

according to procedures.

Myanmar signed the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on 16 July 1991. To safeguard the rights of the children as mentioned in the UN Convention, the Child Law was promulgated on 14 July 1993. The Law stands witness that priority is given to welfare of children and protection given.

Under the directive No 13/73 of the Defence Council dated 8 April 1974, the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air Force) shall recruit persons who are citizens of Myanmar; are between the ages of 18 and 25; are physically sound for military service; and must have prescribed education qualification.

It is prescribed that new soldiers are to be recruited from those who are over 18 years old. Hence,

sons were sent home—85 in 2002, 75 in 2003, 50 in 2004 and three in February 2005.

An ILO liaison officer reported 15 accusations on recruitment of minors. All the accusations had been investigated and dealt with. In connection with (See page 9)

INSIDE

The Kunchaung Hydelpower Project is being implemented by Construction Group (3) of Hydroelectric Power Department and construction work of a diversion weir and an irrigation system is being carried out by Irrigation Department.

(Page 2)

PERSPECTIVES



Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi.

MNA