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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Curriculum Vitae of His Excellency Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore



Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong

His Excellency Mr Lee Hsien Loong was born on 10 February 1952. He was educated in Nanyang Primary School, Catholic High School and National Junior College. He was graduated in 1974 with First Class Honours in Mathematics and a Diploma in Computer Science from the University of Cambridge of the United Kingdom. He also obtained a Master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University of America in 1980.

He joined the Singapore Armed Forces in 1971 and served in various capacities up to the rank of Brigadier General until 1984 when he joined in politics in 1984. He was elected as a Member of Parliament from the People's Action Party (PAP) in 1984 and re-elected in 1988, 1991, 1997 and 2001. After serving as a member of Central Executive Committee, Second Assistant Secretary-General and First Assistant Secretary-General of the PAP, he has been promoted as Secretary-General of the party in December 2004.

He was appointed Minister of State in the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Defence in 1984. He was promoted to Acting Minister for Trade and Industry in 1986 and confirmed as full Minister in 1987. He became concurrently Second Minister for Defence at the same time.

On 12 August 2004, he succeeded Mr Goh Chok Tong as Prime Minister. He retains his post as Minister for Finance. His Excellency Mr Lee Hsien Loong is married to Madame Ho Ching. They have three sons and one daughter.—MNA

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of sympathy to Indonesian President

YANGON, 29 March — Messages of sympathy have been sent from Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe to President of Indonesia Dr H Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, from Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Vice-Senior General Maung Aye to Vice President of Indonesia Mr Jusuf Kalla, from Prime Minister of

the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win to President of Indonesia Dr H Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and from Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, U Nyan Win to Foreign Minister of Indonesia Dr N Hassan Wirajuda for the extensive loss of life and property suffered by Indonesia as a result of the powerful earthquake that occurred off the coast of Sumatra, Indonesia on 28 March 2005. — MNA

Delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia reads proposal papers

YANGON, 29 March—The National Convention plenary session continued at the Pyidaungsu Hall of the Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township this morning.

Delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia read papers on the proposals regarding detailed basic principles to be adopted for sharing of executive and judicial powers to be included in the drawing of

State Constitution.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Commission members, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Work Committee members, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Management Committee Auditor-Gen-

eral Maj-Gen Lun Maung and Management Committee members, chairmen of subcommittees and officials, representatives of Kokang Democracy and Unity Party, National Unity Party, Union Kayin League, Union Pa-O National Organization, Mro (a) Khami National Solidarity Organization, Lahu National Development Party and Wa National Development Party, representatives-elect of National Unity Party and

Mro (a) Khami National Solidarity Organization and independent representatives, delegates of national races from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of peasants from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, (See page 8)



The plenary session of the National Convention in progress at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 30 March, 2005

Tatmadaw and people need to work in concert for a new genuine democracy

Differences in political ideologies and mutual suspicions among national race groups led to multi-coloured insurgents in the post-independence period in Myanmar. The entire people suffered miseries caused by the insurgents and large numbers of Tatmadawmen sacrificed life and limb to safeguard the people's lives and property.

The parliamentary democracy of that period was gradually undermined by insurgencies within the nation. Ultimately, dissension among political parties led to the total collapse of the democratic political system. To avoid disintegration of the nation due to partisan politics, the one-party political system was introduced.

However, under one-party rule, due to various kinds of instigations and incitements and the lack of check and balance between one side and another or one individual and another, the whole administrative machinery of the State ground to a halt in 1988.

As instances of anarchism and brutality reigned in the country, the Tatmadaw had no alternative but to assume the responsibilities of the State in order to ensure the rule of law, community peace and tranquility. After ensuring peace and tranquility in the nation, the Tatmadaw proceeded to engage in nation-building endeavours with great perseverance, industry and diligence. Now, owing to the concerted efforts of the people and the Tatmadaw, the State is on the right track to development and implementing the seven-point policy programme for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

In his address on the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe stressed that the sovereign power of the people had to be returned to the people themselves for the emergence of a new democratic nation and that, in order to effect a systematic, peaceful and proper transfer, the National Convention, the first stage of the seven-point Road Map, had now been reconvened.

Representatives of people from all walks of life including farmers, workers, intellectuals and intelligentsia, and representatives of all the national groups have gathered together at the National Convention and are conducting free, open and fruitful discussions. So far, detailed basic principles for sharing legislative power have already been laid down. Detailed basic principles for the executive and judiciary sectors are under discussion. We strongly believe that a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democracy will surely emerge if the people and the Tatmadaw continue working hard in concert.

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 ကြည့်ရှုလေ့လာနိုင်ပါသည်။)

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

MWAF President receives adviser to JICA



President of MWAF Daw Than Than Nwe receives officials of JICA. —MNA

YANGON, 29 March — Chairperson of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Than Than Nwe received adviser to Japan International Cooperation Agency-JICA Ms Yumiko Tanaka and Ms

Takamatsu Kana of JICA Myanmar Office at the hall of the federation on Thanlwin Road here at 11 am today.

Present at the call were Vice-President of MWAF Daw Khin Lay Myint, head of organiz-

ing division Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo, head of international relation division Daw Myint Myint Soe, joint-secretary Daw Khin Htar May, second leader of international relation division Prof Daw Myint

Kyi, group leader of education Daw Min The Mon.

During their meeting, the two sides discussed functions of MWAF and cooperation with JICA.

MNA

Cash donated to Central Women's Hospital

YANGON, 29 March — Myanmar Asean Women's Friendship Association donated cash to Central Women's Hospital (Yangon) at the hospital this morning.

Present on the occasion were members of panel of patrons of MAWFA wives of ministers and deputy ministers, wives of foreign ambassadors to Myanmar led by Philippine Ambassador Mme Phoebe A Gomez, officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the medical superintendent and officials of the hospital and guests.

First, Chairperson of MAWFA Daw Khin



Officials of MAWFA presents cash donations to medical superintendent Dr Shwe Oh. — MNA

Hnin Nyunt explained the purpose of the donations of Medical Superintendent Dr Shwe Oh

accepted K 1 million presented by officials of MAWFA and gave away

certificates of honour to them.

MNA

Thingyan special train to run

YANGON, 29 March — Myanma Railways planned a Thingyan special train to run on Yangon-Mandalay-Yangon trip every other day from 26 to 31 March and Yangon-Mandalay trip from 1st to 12 April daily. The train will stop running from 13 to 16 April and then resume service from 17 to 20 April in order that people would conveniently travel with peace of mind before and after Myanma Traditional Water Festival. The train leaving Yangon at 7

pm arrives in Mandalay at 10 am the next day. The train leaving Mandalay at 7.30 pm arrives in Yangon at 11.30 am the next day. The Thingyan special train will run from Yangon on 26, 28 and 30 March and from 1st to 12 April. The train includes two upper class coaches and ten ordinary class coaches and it will stop at Bago, Toungoo, Pyinmana and Thazi stations. An upper class seat costs K 3090 and an ordinary class seat, K 1550.

MNA

MWJA meets

YANGON, 29 March — Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association held a meeting at Sarpay Beikman on Merchant Street, here today. Present were Vice-Chairman of MWJA U Than Maung (Than Maung), Secretary U Hla Tun (Hla Tun-Twantay) and others.

(Than Maung) accepted the cash and gave a speech. Secretary U Hla Tun (Hla Tun-Twantay) reported to the meeting on progress in realizing the minutes of the previous meeting.

Leaders of the respective groups also gave suggestions and proposals. —MNA

Lt-Col Ohn Maung (Rtd) (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe), on behalf of well-wisher Kyaukme District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Soe Win, presented K 100,000 for the association. Vice-Chairman U Than Maung





Greenpeace campaigner Edward Chan (L) opens up a computer in front of the media during a Press conference in Hong Kong on 28 March, 2005.—INTERNET

Maldivian President arrives New Delhi

NEW DELHI, 28 March — Maldivian President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom arrived here Sunday on a six-day visit to India, his first since 2000.

Minister of State for External Affairs E Ahamed and Foreign Secretary Shyam Saran received the Maldivian President when he arrived with his wife Nasrcena. The visit comes in the wake of India's prompt assistance in the wake of the 26 December tsunami disaster that had badly battered many of the nearly 1,200 islands in the atoll nation. The population of a little over 300,000 is distributed in some 250 islands while the rest are uninhabited.

The visit "would serve to further strengthen the friendly and cooperative ties that exist between the two countries," the External Affairs Ministry said in a statement.

MNA/Xinhua

Asia's first four-dimensional CT scanner functions in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 28 March — The Singapore Heart, Stroke and Cancer Centre is equipped with Asia's first four-dimensional computerized tomography (CT) scanner, according to Channel News Asia report on Saturday night.

The high resolution scanner with multiple detectors will divide a patient's heart into 40 layers and produce a three-dimensional image, while current scanners only divide the heart into 16 segments.

The high-tech machine can finish one scan in no more than eight seconds without causing any pain to the patient, compared with the conventional angiograms which involve inserting a small tube into the patient's blood vessel, the report said.

Bangladesh wants SAARC Disaster Management Centre in Dhaka

DHAKA, 28 March — Bangladesh has proposed to upgrade the Meteorological Research Centre of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) into a Disaster Management Centre (DMC) to face the major natural calamities with early warning system and Dhaka wants to host the DMC.

A Foreign Ministry official said here Sunday that Bangladesh has proposed the idea to the SAARC members and the tsunami that hit India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives prompted the country to float the idea. The tsunami killed around 50,000 people in the three SAARC member states.—MNA/Xinhua

What's more, the CT scanner, worth two million Singapore dollars (about 1.2 million US dollars), will save a patient not only more than half of the cost needed for the present angiogram, but also one-day time of hospitalization.

The machine may also perform the world's fastest lung scan, the report added.

MNA/Xinhua

Bulgarian Army to punish top soldier in Iraq

SOFIA, 29 March — Bulgaria will punish the head of its military operations in Iraq, the Defence Ministry said on Monday, but declined to say whether it was linked to the killing of a Bulgarian soldier by US troops earlier this month.

The NATO newcomer has blamed US forces for accidentally killing junior sergeant Gurdi Gurdev on 4 March when they fired on his patrol in southern Iraq, but it has also said poor communications with its allies played a role.

Col Geno Chepilski, Bulgaria's senior representative in Iraq was responsible for coordinating with US troops, but Defence Minister Nikolai Svinarov refused to say whether Chepilski would be recalled or whether his punishment was linked to the shooting.

"We will not comment now on the essence of the sanctions or whether or not there is a direct link with the concrete incident," he told national radio.

Local media reported on Monday that Chepilski would be replaced by a former commander of the Balkan country's 450-strong light infantry battalion. Gurdev's death — Bulgaria's eighth in Iraq since the war started in 2003 — has raised pressure against ex-king Simeon Saxe-Coburg's government ahead of summer elections to withdraw from the deeply unpopular mission.—Internet

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Chirac reassures Japan on lifting of arms embargo to China

TOKYO, 28 March — French President Jacques Chirac sought to reassure Japan on Sunday that lifting Europe's embargo on arms exports to China would not result in an increase in weapons sales, saying the move was aimed at normalizing ties.

France has led efforts to secure an early end to the European Union embargo, imposed, despite pressure from Washington to keep it in place out of fear China may get access to advanced weapons.

Japan has also expressed concern, saying that lifting the embargo could destabilize the Asian region.

Speaking after a meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, Chirac said: "I told him that arms exports to China won't take place; the same with sensitive

technology." "The conditions are not the same as when it was put in place," Chirac told a joint news conference with Koizumi. "It is no longer valid."

Koizumi said Japan remained opposed to lifting the embargo.

"We expressed our concern and our opposition," Koizumi said, noting that China's military budget has been increasing by double digits in recent years.

The EU, eager to boost trade and diplomatic ties with China, agreed last year to aim to lift the embargo by the end of June.

It says arms exports would be more tightly regulated through a revised "code of conduct" to be agreed soon.

But Beijing's recent passage of a law sanctioning the use of force to curtail any moves towards independence by Taiwan has made some EU nations, including Britain, more wary.

In a joint statement issued after their meeting, the two leaders called for a quick restart of six-way talks on North Korea's nuclear weapons programme.

MNA/Reuters

French Impressionism attract over 170,000 visitors in HK

HONG KONG, 28 March — The unprecedented exhibition "Impressionism: Treasures from the National Collection of France" at the Hong Kong Museum of Art has allured more than 174,768 visitors since its opening on 5 February.

The number of visitors is a new attendance record for art exhibition staged at the Museum of Art, according to a Press release from the museum Friday. The exhibition, which showcases 48 masterpieces selected from the Musee D'Orsay in Paris and other major French museums, runs until 10 April.

Star exhibits include Edouard Manet's "The Fifer", Edgar Degas' "The Dance Class" and "In a Cafe, the Absinthe", Claude Monet's "Water Lilies" and some other masterpieces.

The exhibition is organized jointly by the Hong Kong Museum of Art, Association Francaise d'Action Artistique and Musee'd Orsay.

To enhance the viewers' apprecia-

tion of the exhibits and their understanding of the impressionism movement, "The World of Impressionists" education gallery with introduction text, video programmes, relevant books and specially designed games are set up. Audio guides, talks, a demonstration and workshops, as well as on-site education kits and on-site sketching activists are also available during the exhibition period.

As a highlight programme of the "Year of France in China" which is organized to enhance the cultural exchange between China and France, the exhibition has been arranged to three cities in China — Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong. — MNA/Xinhua



A general view of the centuries-old remote fishing village of Chavayan in the town of Sabtang, in the extreme northern Philippine island province of Batanes on 29 March, 2005. —INTERNET



Dragon-shaped balloons float during a ceremony to celebrate the opening of the Aichi Expo 2005 in Nagakute, central Japan, on 25 March, 2005.—INTERNET



Beijing legislates to move residents to suburbs

BEIJING, 28 March — Beijing will limit the population in its old downtown and encourage more residents to move to the suburbs, according to a new regulation.

The regulation was adopted at the 19th session of the 12th Standing Committee of Beijing Municipal People's Congress four days ago.

It is the first time Beijing has made such a decision into law, said Zhang Yin, vice-chairman of the municipal Legislative Affairs Committee. Zhang said the municipal government will speed up the construction of 11 new satellite towns on the outskirts. Experts forecast that by the year 2020, 90 per cent of Beijing

residents will live in the suburbs. According to Beijing's urban planning, the total population of Beijing will rise to 17.64 million. The urban population will drop to 1.93 million — just 10.94 per cent of the total population — while the population in the near suburbs will increase to 10.33 million, about 58.56 per cent of the total, and the population in the outer suburban areas will rise to 5.38 million, about 30.5 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua

S Korea's President to meet Koizumi

SEOUL, 28 March — A scheduled meeting between South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun and Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi in the first half of the year is still on.

Roh was quoted by an aide as saying on Sunday that there was no reason to cancel the meeting.

"It has been scheduled for the first half of this year," Roh was quoted by his aide Yoo Min-hyung as saying. "We have no reason to cancel it now."

MNA/Reuters

Conf on Environment, Development in Asia kicks off in Seoul

SEOUL, 28 March — The two-day 5th Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (MCED) kicked off here on Monday.

The theme of this year's MCED is "Achieving Environmentally Sustainable Economic Growth in Asia and the Pacific".

In a message to the MCED, Secretary-General of the United Nations Kofi Annan said the Asian and Pacific Region has achieved spectacular economic growth, while, "at the same time, economic growth is placing increasing pressure on the environmental sustainability".

"Indeed, the goals of poverty reduction and environmental sustainability are not mutually exclusive, but can and must be pursued in tandem," he said.

Moreover, Kim Hak-su, under secretary-general of the United Nations and

executive secretary of Economic and Social Commission in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), also said "fast economic growth is placing increasing pressure on the ecological carrying capacity of the region".

"Now the challenge for us is how to continue our economic growth necessary to reduce poverty while ensuring environmental sustainability," said Kim.

Delegates of 53 members of the ESCAP attended the meeting, of them 23 are ministerial officials.

On the agenda of the two-day meeting are "green house" issue, and tsunami, sustainable development issues. A ministerial declaration and regional implementation plan will be adopted at the end of the meeting.—MNA/Xinhua

18 auto-checkpoint launch operation in HK

HONG KONG, 28 March — Eighteen immigration auto-gates at Lo Wu control checkpoint have become operational and is expected to provide smooth and efficient traveller clearance during the Easter holiday.

Also known as e-channels, the gates were first launched at Lo Wu departure hall in December. Nine more opened in the arrival hall since 21 March. A total of 18 are now in operation, nine in each direction, from 8.00 am to 10.00 pm daily, according to a government Press release Friday.

So far, permanent citizens, aged 11 or the above, who hold Hong Kong smart identity cards, can use the e-channels to perform self-clearance. Up to 23 March, more than 680,000 people had used the e-channels at Lo Wu. Most were able to place their thumbs flat on the centre of the scanner and pass through the e-channel smoothly. The Immigration Department said the scanner's ability to read thumb or fingerprints will be affected if users' appendages are too dry or too moist. A moist or dry tissue should be used to clean them before scanning. —MNA/Xinhua

China Eastern Airlines Jiangsu company to buy more planes

SHANGHAI, 28 March — The China Eastern Airlines Jiangsu Subsidiary announced on Sunday that it will buy five ERJ-145 planes to meet a growing domestic air service demand.

Last Wednesday in Shanghai, the subsidiary signed a 910-million-yuan (109.64-million-US-dollar) agreement regarding the purchase of five ERJ-145 planes with representatives of the Harbin Embraer Aircraft

Industry Co Ltd (HEA), a Sino-Brazilian air plane production facility based in Harbin, capital of northeast China's Heilongjiang Province. Deliveries are scheduled to start in August 2005 and finish by next April. —MNA/Xinhua

Japan confirms 16th case of mad cow disease

TOKYO, 28 March — Japan has confirmed its 16th case of mad cow disease in a nine-year-old slaughtered cow, the Health Ministry said on Sunday.

The cow, from the northernmost island of Hokkaido, tested positive for the brain-wasting disease officially known as bovine spongiform encephalitis (BSE), which was first discovered in Japan in 2001. The government subsequently introduced testing for all cows slaughtered for food. The Health Ministry said in a statement on its web page that the carcass will be incinerated.—MNA/Reuters

Three Romanian journalists kidnapped in Iraq

BUCHAREST, 29 March — Three Romanian journalists have been kidnapped in Iraq. The news was announced by Romania's President Traian Basescu today.

"We have alerted all the secret services and the foreign intelligence services of our allies to solve the case," he told Romanian TVR1 television.

Two of the kidnapped journalists worked for Romania's Prima TV, where an editor received a phone call from them saying they had been abducted, TVR1 said. It named the two Prima reporters as Marijan Ion and Sorin Miscoci.

Also kidnapped was Ovidiu Ohannesian, of the Romania Libera

newspaper, it said.

The three had been making a short reporting trip to Baghdad from Romania. President Basescu spoke after a whistlestop visit to Afghanistan and Iraq, where Romania has some 800 troops in the US-led military coalition occupying the country. More than 150 foreigners have been seized in Iraq over the past year.

Most have been freed after negotiations or payment of ransom, but about a third have been killed. Many more Iraqis have been abducted, often for ransom.

Internet



Shoppers examine a computer at a Samsung computer store in Seoul recently.

INTERNET

Japan draws plan to halve deaths from major earthquakes

TOKYO, 28 March — Japan's government has drawn up a 10-year plan that aims to halve the deaths and economic damage from major earthquakes experts say are likely to hit western and central Japan, media said on Sunday.

News of the plan, to be adopted on Wednesday, came just a week after a powerful magnitude 7.0 earthquake hit Japan's southernmost main island of Kyushu. One person was killed, up to 400 were injured and hundreds were forced to flee their homes.

The plan would call for areas at risk of tsunami to produce tsunami hazard maps within the next five years.

According to *Kyodo News* agency and other media, it is the first time the government has set a concrete goal for reduc-

ing the number of deaths and economic damage following a major quake.

The government scenarios focus on three known earthquake zones, which experts have for years been warning are due for major earthquakes, and are based on an earthquake taking place early on a winter morning.

This is similar to the 7.3 magnitude Kobe earthquake, which struck at 5.46 am on 17 January, 1995, killing more than 6,400. Most of the fatalities were of people who died when their houses

collapsed.

As a result, a key element of the plan is boosting the number of earthquake resistant houses throughout the nation to 90 per cent from 75 per cent in fiscal 2003, Kyodo said. The number of earthquake-resistant public facilities would rise to 72 per cent from 53 per cent.

According to the plan, the predicted number of deaths in a 8.0 magnitude earthquake striking off Shizuoka prefecture in the Tokai region, some 150 kilometres (94 miles) west of Tokyo, would be reduced from 9,200 to 4,500.

The deaths in a simultaneous earthquake striking off Mie prefecture, 317 kilometres (198 miles) west of Tokyo, and the smallest main island of Shikoku 547 kilometres (342 miles) west — as has happened in the past — would be cut to 9,100 from the current projection of 17,800.

Concrete details were few, however, and the *Nihon Keizai Shimbun* daily said that no special budget has been set aside for prevention.

Officials were not available for comment.

No mention was made of a major earthquake directly hitting Tokyo, which seismologists say may be long overdue. The 8.3 magnitude Great Kanto Earthquake that struck Tokyo and the surrounding area in 1923 killed more than 140,000 people.

Last August, a government earthquake panel said there was a 70-per cent chance that a quake of around magnitude 7.0 would hit Tokyo in the next 30 years. Japan sits atop the junction of at least three tectonic plates, making it one of the world's most earthquake-prone regions.

MNA/Reuters

China's tea institutions appeal for honouring tea as "national drink"

HANGZHOU, 28 March — Eight state-level institutions in China have proposed that the government should make tea the country's national drink.

Giving tea "national drink status" would help promote traditional Chinese culture and consumption of tea.

This in turn, would help the growth of tea industry in China.

The proposal calls for efforts to further popularize tea drinking nationwide and suggests that tea be used to welcome guests from home and abroad instead of alcohol.

Moreover, the eight

institutions suggests the establishment of a National Tea Drinking Day." According to the proposal, China is the birthplace of tea and it has a 4,000 to 5,000-year history of growing and drinking tea. Tea is favoured by people of all social strata and age groups.

Currently, approximately 500,000 tons of tea is consumed in China each year.

MNA/Xinhua

S Korea to appoint "Tokto ambassador"

SEOUL, 28 March — South Korea is to appoint an "ambassador" to make an international case for its ownership of a group of tiny islands which are also claimed by Japan, *Yonhap* news agency reported on Sunday.

Quoting a South Korean official at the United Nations, *Yonhap* said President Roh Moo-hyun had chosen the country's current UN representative for the new post of "Tokto ambassador".

Roh's spokesman was not immediately available for comment.

The news agency said the envoy would work to have the international community recognize the islands, called Tokto in Korea and Takeshima in Japan, as Korean territory.

It said he would also push Seoul's case to have the world refer to the waters between Japan and the Korean Peninsula as the "East Sea" rather than the "Sea of Japan" in current usage.

In a three-page letter addressed to the South Korean public on Wednesday, Roh said the country was ready for a "diplomatic war" with Japan as tensions flared over the islands.

He said recent disputes could be called attempts by Tokyo to justify a past he saw as colonialist and expansionist. Japan colonized the Korean Peninsula from 1910 to 1945.— MNA/Reuters



Women from a traditional dance troop read the morning newspaper before a parade for the 30th anniversary celebrations at Chi Lang Stadium in Danang, Vietnam on 29 March, 2005.

INTERNET

Tibetan antelope is front runner mascot for 2008 Olympics

BELJING, 28 March — China's endangered Tibetan antelope is in the running to become the official mascot of the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, the *China Daily* said on Monday.

The antelope, which nearly died out in China as a result of rampant poaching and habitat destruction, had the athleticism to beat rivals like the giant panda, South China tiger and the legendary Monkey King, supporters said.

"The Tibetan antelope is much more sporty than other recommended animals reflecting 'higher, faster and stronger'," Ma Peihua, vice-governor of China's western Qinghai Province, home to many of the animals, was quoted as saying. The Tibetan antelope population on China's Qinghai-Tibet Plateau plummeted from more than one million a century ago to around 20,000 in the 1990s due to poaching, but protection efforts had brought their numbers back to around 50,000, the newspaper said. The antelope, the panda, the tiger and the magical Monkey King from Chinese legend may end up sharing Olympic mascot duty. "Insiders say the emblem may be composed of two or three images," the *China Daily* said.

The 2000 Sydney Games featured three animal mascots — Olly the Kookaburra, Syd the Platypus and Millie the Spiny Anteater.— MNA/Reuters

UAE plans bold expansion of airway fleet

ABU DHABI, 28 March — The Emirates Airway in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) is planning to expand its fleet at an average rate of one new aircraft per month through 2021, the official WAM news agency reported Sunday.

The Dubai-based airway received delivery of 30 new *Boeing 777-300ERs* Sunday morning in Dubai, one of the seven emirates in the UAE, said the report.

The new arrival is part of a 30-billion-US-dollar fleet expansion programme and the airway is scheduled to make a delivery cycle of 100 pending orders.

The new *Boeing 777-300ER* will be used primarily to provide extra capacity on existing long-range services such as Manila, Bangkok, Sydney and Auckland, according to the report.

The Emirates' fleet has 30 *Boeing 777-300ERs* currently on firm order and will receive 10 of them by the end of 2005.

In addition, the airline's fleet already included 21 *Boeing 777s*, a number set to grow to 51 by late 2007, making it one of the largest *Boeing* operators in the world, reported WAM.

Launched in 1985, the Emirates Airway has developed into the largest airline in the Middle East and North Africa region, covering 77 destinations in 54 countries in the world. — MNA/Xinhua



A man walks past a signboard at a petrol station in Beijing showing the latest price of petrol on 29 March, 2005.—INTERNET

Indian Agriculture Minister in China to forge closer links

BEIJING, 29 March — India's Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar is in China to explore ways to forge closer India-China cooperation in the agriculture sector, the mainstay of two of the world's most populous nations.

Pawar, who is also Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, arrived here Sunday at the invitation of the Chinese Minister of Agriculture, Du Qinglin.

Pawar will hold discussions with Du on Monday on issues of bilateral cooperation.

Du is expected to brief his Indian counterpart on different aspects of agricultural development in China.

He will visit key facilities in Beijing including the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

Pawar's visit comes ahead of Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao's state visit to India from 9 to 12 April.

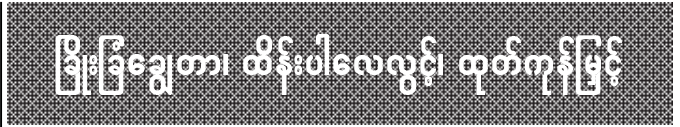
Pawar will call on Chinese Vice-

Premier Hui Liangyu on Tuesday.

Pawar, also President of the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) will meet with the Minister, International Department of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, Wang Jiarui here on Monday and discuss party-to-party affairs.

He will also visit Nanning, capital of south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Guangzhou, capital of southern China's Guangdong Province for briefings and visits to specialized facilities such as animal husbandry, pisciculture and horticulture, official sources said.

MNA/PTI



A Sri Lankan vendor prepares his vegetable stall for business in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 28 March, 2005.—INTERNET

China's measures start to take heat out of economy

BEIJING, 28 March — China's central bank said the country's efforts to cool down economic growth have started to pay off, but work remains needed to stem the overheating of certain sectors and inflation.

The People's Bank of China said in a statement Thursday that the nation's economy was enjoying stable and rapid growth but the central bank's Monetary Policy Committee acknowledged earlier that the government would adhere to its "prudent monetary policy".

The Chinese central government had introduced macroeconomic measures in 2004 to cool down growth in a number of overheating sectors, according to Friday's *China Daily*.

But, striking a note of caution, the bank warned that there still

remains the possibility of a rebound in fixed asset investment.

China's urban fixed asset investment grew 24.5 per cent year-on-year during the first two months of this year, indicated earlier figures from the National Bureau of Statistics.

The bank said earlier that it was targeting a broad money supply of 15 per cent this year, 2 percentage points lower than last year's target, in order to fuel healthier economic growth.

But China's inflationary pressures had not been rooted out, said the bank.

MNA/Xinhua

China's banks told to prevent crimes, protect depositors' interests

BEIJING, 28 March — The China Banking Regulatory Commission (CBRC) has issued a circular urging all banks in the country to exert greater efforts and adopt substantial measures to prevent and control risks, efficiently.

According to a CBRC release Sunday, some banks have encountered frequent and major fraudulent cases, causing huge losses, due to the lack of supervision, failure in punishing malfeasant activities, weakness in risk and internal control. Leading management staff and those who are held responsible must be dealt with and punished, it says.

The public should be given access to reports about the occurrence of these cases, according to the circular, which offers 13 instructions concerning the management and risk control of banks.

On the same day, *Xinhua* also published an exclusive interview with a spokesman of the CBRC, who said the 13 instructions are based on a survey among banks conducted by the People's Bank of China, the central bank.

The spokesman expressed his hopes that the circular would help the CBRC play its supervisory role in accordance with international practice, so as to prevent the occurrence of major fraudulent activities involving banks.

MNA/Xinhua

Urban Indians almost as fat as Indians in US

NEW DELHI, 29 March — Urban Indians seem to have almost caught up with those in the US in obesity but are better off in diabetes, a new study says.

"Prevalence of obesity was found to be about 10 per cent in a rural area, 40 per cent in Delhi and 45 per cent among Indians in US," Dr Anoop Misra from All India Institute of Medical Studies' (AIIMS) Department of Medicine, who is a member of a joint team of Indian and US scientists who are carrying out the study, told *PTI*.

"It indicates that we in urban India have almost caught up in obesity with Indians in US," he said. In the study, scientists from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Texas A and M University (US), and Gandhigram University (near Madurai), are evaluating risk factors, including obesity and diabetes, for cardio-vascular diseases in Indians in three settings—rural, urban and super-urban as in the US.

"However, we are far behind in diabetes — its

prevalence in rural area was 4.5, in Delhi, 9.5 and in US about 21 per cent, almost doubling in each next setting," Misra said.

The comparatively low prevalence in Delhi in comparison to that among Indians in the US may be because the disease takes some time to develop, he said warning that in the next ten years, incidence of diabetes in Delhi may almost double.

"As Indians become affluent, there is change in lifestyle, diet and physical activity. The obesity data indicates urban lifestyles in India are fast catching up with 'super-urban' lifestyles of US," he said.

Misra said a significant factor was that majority of people included in Delhi were from middle class, implying that obesity and diabetes are no longer limited to the rich. Migration and stress may

also be important factors in urban India. Stress leads to an increase in blood pressure and may lead to increase in smoking and alcohol use, Misra said.

The study, being funded by the Centre for Disease Control, Atlanta and Association of American Physicians of Indian Origin (AAP), began in May 2004 and would be completed by the end of this year.

The places included are Delhi, a rural area near Dindigul District in Tamil Nadu and five US cities—Houston, Phoenix, Washington, Boston and San Diego, he said.

Data on 500 rural, 500 urban and 700 Indians in US cities is being collected. "The aim is to know the gradient of risk factors in three settings. It is the first study involving three settings," he said.

MNA/PTI

Malaysia provides 50,000 jobs for Nepal

KATHMANDU, 29 March — Malaysian companies have sent demands for about 50,000 Nepali workers in the country's manufacturing and service sectors within the next six months.

"This includes the demand for about 10,000 women to work in hospitals and department stores," Nirmal Gurung, president of Nepal Association of Foreign Employment Agencies, told reporters on Monday. "The demands are for one to three years with the increased starting salaries of 143 to 286 US dollars per month," Gurung said.

The salaries could be even higher because the demand have come directly through the companies and not through the agents, he noted. If the government simplifies the procedures, his association can send about 30,000 Nepali workers within three months, he added.— MNA/Xinhua



Chinese dancers perform the dance 'thousand-handed Goddess of Mercy' during a show in Sanya, south China's island province of Hainan, recently.—INTERNET

March, month of triple Ws

Green

This month March is distinctive, as world days of **Women, Water and Weather** are designated in one month. International Women's Day falls on March 8, Water Day on 22, Meteorological Day on 23.

Women are mothers who swing cradles to their babies, sing lullabies and bring up them properly for a better future. They give love, warmth and mental security. They, *queens of kitchen* serve cooking every day nutritious and balanced diet. Preaches could also be gained in appropriate situations. As they devote their lives, taking care and responsibilities for their families, they are respected and reliable. Today most women are graduates well educated to provide welfare to humanity not only at home but also for the country. They are advisers, benefactors, creators, decorators and educators.

Water is essential for life. Every living being rely on adequate good water supply for survival. The UN General Assembly at its 58th session in December 2003 agreed to proclaim 2005 to 2015 as International Decade for action. World population would be 10,900 million by 2050, it is estimated. By 2015, the people without access to safe drinking water would be reduced by half.

Beginning this year World Water Day Theme: **'WATER FOR LIFE, 2005-2015'**, what we do today for water issue, i.e. preparation, management and conservation towards **water security** for human and living beings, rolls in action. Today there is still almost 1.1 billion people who have inadequate access to water and 2.4 billion without appropriate sanitation; one person in three suffers from malnutrition.

Weather influences the world. 2005 World Meteorological Day Theme is: **'WEATHER, CLIMATE, WATER & SUSTAINABLE**

DEVELOPMENT'. Socio-economic grief grows from disasters: flood, storm, earthquakes and backlash encounter-mix: desertification, acid rain, drought, famine, disease, poverty, pollution and energy problems. In December 2004, Indonesia Tsunami took over 273,000 lives of people.

World Meteorological Organization (WMO) through scientific programmes, hi-tech systems, network of its 187 countries including Myanmar, monitors and protects the environment by vital information. "It's really interesting because forecasting in itself has no intrinsic value," says

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Robert Land, director of the WMO's World Weather Watch Department. **"What value it has is how people react to it."**

Human impact: deforestation and greenhouse gases emission from vehicles; fossil-fuel burns for electricity generating process, cause global warming. They make climate changes as ozone layer thin, sea-level rise, plus heat-waves.

Trees can change climate. Forests keep lakes. If we conserve trees, we save nature (water, weather, biodiversity). Trees are *life of country, key of climate, base of natural resources.*

Protection from extinction of trees-in-hand,

including coastal Mangroves, is as equally important as planting them.

Eight Millennium Development Goals, agreed by all UN members at the Millennium Summit 2000 are:

- Goal 1:** Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Goal 2:** Achieve universal primary education
- Goal 3:** Promote gender equality and empower women
- Goal 4:** Reduce child mortality
- Goal 5:** Improve maternal health
- Goal 6:** Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- Goal 7:** Ensure environmental sustainability
- Goal 8:** Develop a global partnership for development

Ladies can help for sustainable environment to drive these goals. Daily small *help makes a difference. Happy, Healthy and Hygienic Homes* could be well-built by *Housewives and Human* skillful management. Four Cleans, self, environs, food and water are today Health-oriented activities. Every lady in each house is a key to educate her family and vicinity to keep it clean and green. She could be a greener.

Any move we make here, affects good or bad to living beings thousands of miles afar.

By means of interdependence, ecosystem-web world wide survive.

Green actions in every nation should be set for our home, **Earth.**

Sustainable development would be well-built only by mass-united participation in wise alertness with spirit.

How people including *women* could conserve environment such as *water* for better *weather* would be *fruits of future.*

Let's go-for-green for a safer world!

About 2,000 Syrian troops pulled out of eastern Lebanon

BEIRUT, 29 March— About 2,000 Syrian troops have pulled out of eastern Lebanon over the past week, a senior Lebanese security source said on Monday, bringing Syria a step closer to ending its 29-year military domination of Lebanon.

The source said small units in the eastern Bekaa Valley were going home, leaving behind a division of the Syrian Army entrenched in the area as well as scores of intelligence agents.

A Syrian-Lebanese military committee is due to meet next week to set a timeline for withdrawing the remaining forces.

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan has said he expects Syria to complete the pull out before general elections due in May.

Facing immense

international pressure and popular Lebanese protest, Syria has promised to withdraw all military personnel, intelligence agents and equipment it poured into Lebanon early in the country's 1975-1990 civil war.

Damascus has completed the first stage of a two-phase withdrawal plan, pulling back to Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley and withdrawing more than a third of the 14,000 troops it kept in its tiny neighbour.

It pulled troops out of about a dozen positions in the Bekaa last week. On Sunday, it left its two largest and last anti-aircraft positions, the sources said.

The latest withdrawals mean there are 8,000 Syrian troops left in Lebanon.

Witnesses said

soldiers in Mashghara and nearby areas on the southwestern edge of the Bekaa were packing up and dismantling equipment on Monday. Trucks were being brought in to load the hardware.

A senior Lebanese Foreign Ministry official left for New York to attend deliberations at the Security Council over a new resolution setting up an international investigation into last month's assassination of former prime minister Rafik al-Hariri.

A UN fact-finding team said in a report released last week that Lebanon's own inquiry into Hariri's death on 14 February was seriously flawed and called for an independent inquiry, a demand long made by the Lebanese opposition.

MNA/Reuters

Ireland marks first anniversary of pioneering ban on smoking

DUBLIN, 29 March— Ireland can breathe a smoke-free sigh of relief on Tuesday when it marks the first anniversary of a pioneering ban on smoking, the success of which has inspired similar moves elsewhere.

The ban on smoking in pubs, restaurants and workplaces, introduced on 29 March, 2004, had been expected to meet with widespread resistance in a country where the pub culture of a drink and a smoke were considered part of its lifeblood.

Instead, the sight of smokers puffing away outside pub doors has become familiar across Ireland, and the only haze wafting through bars these days comes from having one drink too many.

Similar laws had been introduced in cities

and states like New York and California, but Ireland was the first country to introduce a nationwide ban. Malta and Norway have since followed suit, while Italy banned smoking in bars, cafes and restaurants.

"It's healthier", said bartender and non-smoker Paddy Martin, pouring pints at Foley's Bar, close to the Irish Parliament buildings in Dublin.

"I feel better when I go home."

Anti-smoking lobby group ASH reckons tobacco kills six times as many people in Ireland as road accidents, work accidents, drugs, murder, suicide and AIDS combined, and is a massive drain on health resources.

Professor Luke Clancy, chairman of ASH's Irish branch, has said the ban could

become the "health initiative of the century".

But not everyone has welcomed it.

Some pub owners and drinks firms blame the ban for a drop-off in sales — bar revenues fell 6.3 per cent in the first nine months of 2004. Cigarette sales dropped about 18 per cent last year compared to a 10-per-cent fall the previous year.

The subdued atmosphere in Foley's Bar — where only a handful of people were drinking quietly on Saturday night in a scene repeated in many other pubs outside Dublin's main tourist spots — seemed to back the claims. But the decline of the Irish pub has more to do with high prices and lifestyle changes than the smoking ban, locals say.

MNA/Reuters



Members of the panel of chairmen at the plenary session.—MNA



NCCC Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein signs attendance book.—MNA

Delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia reads proposal papers

(from page 1)
Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay,

mission Office, the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon City Development Committee, the Mandalay City Develop-

egates of peasants, delegates of workers, intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of State service personnel and other invited delegates signed the

Myat Myat Ohn Khin of the delegate group of State service personnel and Dr Ma Nan Tu Ja of the delegate group of other invited persons.

acted as MC and Deputy Director U Aung Kyi as co-MC. Altogether 1,070 out of the 1,081 delegates or 98.98 per cent attended

read the papers on proposals of the delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia. The session went into recess later that morning. The plenary session resumed at 11 am.



NCCC Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein seen among the NC delegates.—MNA

Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of workers from Kahcin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of State Service Personnel from the State Peace and Development Council Office, the President's Office, the Pyithu Hluttaw Office, the Government Office, the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General's Office, the Auditor-General's Office, the Multi-party Democracy General Election Com-

mittee and ministries, other invited delegates, delegates of 17 national groups who exchanged arms for peace, and representative of other organizations. Before the plenary meeting, NCCC Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Commission members, Chairman of NCCWC Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Work Committee members, Chairman of NCCMC Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and Management Committee members, chairmen and officials of the subcommittees, representatives of political parties, representatives-elect, delegates of national races, del-

attendance registers at the Pyidaungsu Hall and the recreation hall for the National Convention delegates. U Bo Thein of the delegate group of workers chaired the meeting with Member of the Work Committee U Myo Thant (Maung Su Shin), U Saw Philip (a) U Philip Hsam of the delegate group of political parties, U Law Hsin Kwan of the delegate group of representatives-elect, U Kyaw Din (a) U Htay Ral of the delegate group of national races, U Kyi Tint of the delegate group of peasants, Dr Thein Nyunt (Nyunt Wai-Katha) of the delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia, Dr

Director (Meeting) of the office of the Work Committee U Than Aung the meeting. Dr May Win Aung Khin and Dr Khin Zaw

Dr Hla Than read the paper on proposals of the group of intellectuals and intelligentsia with respect to the laying down of the detailed principles for the delegation of the executive and judicial powers to be included in the framing of the State Constitution. The plenary session was adjourned at 11.45 am. The plenary session continues tomorrow.

Dr Hla Than read the paper on proposals of the group of intellectuals and intelligentsia with respect to the laying down of the detailed principles for the delegation of the executive and judicial powers to be included in the framing of the State Constitution. The plenary session was adjourned at 11.45 am. The plenary session continues tomorrow.



Director U Than Aung and Deputy Director U Aung Kyi.—MNA

Literary & Arts Competition and Exhibition packed with enthusiasts

YANGON, 29 March — Literary & Arts Competition and Exhibition in commemoration of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day continued for the fourth day at tatmadaw Hall on U

Wisara from 9 am to 5 pm today. The competition was packed with members of Union Solidarity and Development Association, students, monks and people. In the compe-

dition, Literary and Arts Competition and Exhibition Quiz was held daily and winners were awarded prizes. The competition continues up to 4 April. —MNA



Dr Khin Zaw. MNA



Dr May Win Aung Khin.—MNA



Dr Hla Than. MNA

သတိပေးနိုးဆော်ချက်

မော်တော်ယာဉ် ဖောင်းနှင့်သူအနေဖြင့် အရက် သောက်စား မူးယစ်မောင်းနှင်မှုကြောင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုများ မကြာခဏ ဖြစ်ပွားလျက်ရှိရာ ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာ နယ်နိမိတ် အတွင်း အရက်သေစာသောက်စားမောင်းနှင်ခြင်း မပြုရန်နှင့်လိုက်နာခြင်းမရှိပါက ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် ဧပြီလ(၁)ရက် နေ့မှ စတင်၍ ခေတ်မီအရက်မူးတိုင်းကိရိယာ (ALCOHOL TESTER) ဖြင့်တိုင်းတာ၍ မူးယစ်မှုတွေ့ရှိပါက တရားဥပဒေအရထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူဆောင်ရွက် သွားမည်ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးနိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စည်ကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ



Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint addresses the second meeting of 42th Myanma Gem Emporium Central Committee. (News on page 16)— MNA

Road and bridge projects inspected

YANGON, 29 March— Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun supervised the construction of Pakokku-Pauk-Kyaukhtu-Mindat Road in Mindat on 25 March.

The minister inspected No 1 Pauk Bridge (Ohndaw) Project on Pakokku-Pauk-Htilin-

Gangaw Road in Pauk Township, Magway Division. The engineer in charge reported on work progress and future plans. The minister gave instructions on ensuring completion of the lower structure of the bridge before the coming rainy season.

He also inspected No 2 Pauktaw Bridge (Yaypya)

Project. On 26 March morning, the minister inspected Bagan-Nyaung-U-Myingyan Road. He also inspected the construction of Myingyan-Yaywun Road being undertaken by Kyaukse District Public Works. — MNA

Armed Forces Day Commemorative Exhibition being staged

YANGON, 29 March—The 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Exhibition continued at the Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda Road today.

At the booth on nation-building endeavours, a computer quiz is being held from noon to 2 pm daily, and prizes are presented to winners during the period of exhibition.

Altogether over 3,400 people including foreigners today visited the exhibition.—MNA

6th international ICT exhibition launched

YANGON, 29 March— The opening of the sixth international ICT exhibition, sponsored by the Myanmar Computer Federation and organized by the Myanmar Computer Industrialists Association and the Myanmar Computer Scientists Association took place at the Myanmar

Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road here this morning.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of the Myanmar e-National Task Force Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, members of the Task Force, departmental officials, ambas-

sadors of foreign embassies in Yangon, officials and guests.

The chairman formally opened the exhibition and presented prizes to the winners.

The exhibition opens from 9 am to 5 pm till 31 March, and admission is free.

MNA

U Soe Myint presents credentials to President of Turkey

YANGON, 30 March — U Soe Myint, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Turkey, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Mr Ahmet Sezer, President of the Republic of Turkey, on 30 March 2005, in Ankara. — MNA

Action to be taken against...

(from page 16)

educational activities and exposition and investigation. Up to 27 March 2005, the MPF has confiscated 4,781 unlicensed cars in the entire nation. Of them 3,396 cars were presented by the owners themselves as they respected the law. A total of 1,385 unlicensed cars are seized while driven on the roads after being inspected by the authorities. Members of the Sangha have also handed over 151 cars.

The illegal unlicensed cars must be handed over to the police on 31 March 2005 the latest. If any unlicensed car is found after the date, the car will be impounded and the owner will face punishment according to the law. If an unlicensed car is found donated to a religious or other organization, action will be taken against the donor and the owner. If an owner discard or dismantle a car into parts, he will face action according to law. Warnings have already been sent to workshops, spare parts shops and industrial zones where cars are assembled not to get involved in dismantling an illegal car as the persons who help the owner to dismantle, destroy or sell the unlicensed car too will face punishment according to law. Reminders about the unlicensed cars have already been sent to peace groups who own illegal vehicles. If any unlicensed cars that are still in the hands of the owner is found running on the road or being kept in a compound, or of an information from any person, the owner may face seven years imprisonment or seven years imprisonment together with a fine according to section 5 (1) of 1947 Import/Export Act, and the car will be impounded. Those involved in the case may face the same punishment according to section 5(3). Use of a fake number plate is punishable by seven years imprisonment or the punishment together with a fine according to section 420/468. As the act of dismantling an unlicensed car amounts to hiding evidence, the offender may face one fourths of the seven-year imprisonment or a fine or both.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw views booths at ICT Exhibition at MCC on 29 March. —MCA

Country Coordinating Mechanism Meeting for Global Fund for Fight against AIDS/TB/Malaria held

YANGON, 29 March —The Country Coordinating Mechanism Meeting for Global Fund for Fight against AIDS/TB/Malaria organized by the Ministry of Health was held at the Department of Health (Head Office) on Theinbyu Street this afternoon. Also present were Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, officials of the departments under the ministry, resident representatives of UN Agencies and officials of international and Myanmar social organizations.

Chairman of Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint delivered an address. Resident Representative of UNDP Mr Charles Petrie reported on global fund and Director (Disease Control) of Health Department Dr Kyaw Nyunt Sein on tasks regarding Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM).

Next, Assistant Director (AIDS) Dr Khin Ohnmar San reported on implementation of anti-HIV/AIDS project, TB Control Project Manager Dr Win Maung on anti-TB project and Malaria Control Project Manager Dr Saw Lwin on tasks for fund.

Those present took part in the discussions and the meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the minister.—MNA

ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှော့ရောဂါ ကာကွယ်ရေးနည်းဆော်ချက်

ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှော့ရောဂါ၊ ကာလဝမ်းရောဂါ အပါအဝင် ဝမ်းနှင့် ပတ်သက်သော ရောဂါများသည် ရောဂါပိုးများပါဝင်သည့် ရေ၊ အစားအသောက်တို့ကို စားသောက်မိရာမှ ကူးစက်ပြန့်ပွားပါသည်။ ရေနှင့်အစားအသောက်များအတွင်းသို့ ရောဂါပိုးများသည် အောက်ပါအကြောင်းများကြောင့် ရောက်ရှိပါသည်။
(က) မသန့်ရှင်းသည့် လက်၊ အိုး၊ ခွက်၊ ပန်းကန်တို့ဖြင့် ချက်ပြုတ် ပြင်ဆင်ခြင်း၊ စားသောက်ခြင်း။
(ခ) အစားအသောက်များသို့ ယင်အုံယင်နားခြင်း။
(ဂ) ဖိုးရွာသောအခါများတွင် သောက်သုံးရေတွင်း၊ ရေကန်များအတွင်း သို့ မသန့်ရှင်းသောရေနှင့် အမှိုက်သမိုက်များ စီးဝင်ခြင်း။
(ဃ) သောက်သုံးရေတွင်းရေကန်များသည် အိမ်သာများနှင့် နီးကပ်စွာ တည်ရှိခြင်း၊ အိမ်သာထက်နိမ့်သောနေရာများတွင်ရှိခြင်း။

- သို့မဟုတ် ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှော့ရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားမှုမှ ကာကွယ်နိုင်ရန်—
- ရေကိုကျိုချက်၍ သောက်ပါ။
- ယင်နားစားများကိုစားပါနှင့်။
- ယင်လုံအိမ်သာအသုံးပြုပါ။
- အစာမစားမီနှင့် အိမ်သာမှအဆင်းတွင် လက်နှစ်ဖက်လုံးကို ဆပ်ပြာဖြင့် စင်ကြယ်စွာဆေးကြောပါ။
- တစ်ကိုယ်ရေ သန့်ရှင်းရေးကို အလေးထားဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- အမှိုက်သမိုက်များကို စနစ်တကျစွန့်ပစ်ပါ။
ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှော့ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားပါက နီးစပ်ရာ ကျန်းမာရေး ဌာနသို့ သတင်းပို့ကုသမှုခံယူကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day celebrated at military commands

YANGON, 30 March — The Sixtieth Anniversary Armed Forces Day was observed at the parade ground of Northern Command on 27 March. Present on the occasion were Kachin State Peace and Development Council Chairman Northern Command Commander Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and wife, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen San Tun, Commanding Officer of Myitkyina Air Base Headquarters Brig-Gen Zaw Tun, senior military officers and local people. The commander addressed the occasion, and presented prizes to the best parade companies and those who won the contests that were held in commemoration of the Armed Forces Day. In addition, dinner and fun fair were hosted to mark the occasion.

Similarly, the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces

Day was celebrated at the parade ground of North-East Command, attended by Shan State (North) PDC Chairman Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing. While military parade columns were marching into the parade ground, families of the Tatmadaw members, departmental staff, members of social organizations and local people accorded them a rousing welcome. Next, the commander, after giving a speech, presented awards to prize-winning parade companies.

Likewise, the similar celebration took place at Nanmyo Monument Park in Mandalay Division. Mandalay Division PDC Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint addressed the occasion. In the evening, dinner was hosted at Nanmyo Guest House and the commander and officials presented prizes to

winners of the Armed Forces Day commemorative contests. The 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day was observed at Shwe Nat Taung sport ground of South-East Command, with an address by Mon State PDC Chairman Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung. The commander presented prizes to prize-winning parade companies.

On the same day, the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day was celebrated at the parade ground of South-West Command. Ayeyawady Division PDC Chairman Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing attended the occasion. The commander and officials presented awards to winners of the Armed Forces Day commemorative contests, and dinner was hosted at Mya Ayar Yeiktha of the command. — MNA



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo on views Ye Nwe Dam Project being implemented by the Irrigation Department in Kyauktaga Township, Bago Division, on 27-3-2005. — ID

K 2.5 million for Women Care Centre (Mandalay)

YANGON, 29 March — A ceremony to donate cash to Women Care Centre (Mandalay) of Social Welfare Department took place at the SWD (Head Office) on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Mayangon Township here this afternoon.

It was attended by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, OSD Brig-Gen Sein Thaug, Deputy Director-General of Fire Services Department U Ko Ko

Hlaing, directors of the SWD and officials concerned.

U Hla Thein of Sri Asia Travel & Tour, on behalf of well-wisher Presiding Sayadaw of Golden Monastery in Singapore Venerable Shi Fazhao, explained the purpose of the donation and presented K 2.5 million.

The minister accepted the donation and presented a certificate of honour to the well-wisher.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa accepts K 2.5 million from U Hla Thein (Sri Asia Travel and Tour). — SWD



QUENCHING THE THIRST: A village in NyaungU Township gets thirsty as it is usual for the villagefolk at this time of the year. On 20 March, the villagers were wearing smiles because the tube-well sunk as deep as over 600 feet in 2003 was rehabilitated and a submersible pump and a generator worth over K 3 million arrived. The machines were donated by well-wishers in Yangon. Photo shows preparations under way to place the pump and the generator at the centre of Kunpala Village, 16 miles from NyaungU in NyaungU District on 20-3-2005. — NLM

Many of Russia's power plants in earthquake-prone areas

Moscow, 29 March — Russian scientists have warned that many of the country's nuclear, hydroelectric and thermal power plants are situated in earthquake-prone areas, the Interfax news agency reported Sunday.

"Approximately 40 per cent of the country's territory are earthquake-prone areas. They are high-risk zones for earthquakes measuring more than six points on the Richter Scale," experts from the Emergency Situations Minis-

try said in a recent book that addresses the danger of natural and industrial disasters and emergency situations in Russia.

"In Russia, the seismic belt extends from the Caucasus to the Kamchatka Peninsula," they said.

The Chirkei, Miatlino and Chiryutsk hydroelectric power plants are located in areas where earthquakes measuring up to 10 on the Richter Scale can occur, the scientists said. — MNA/Xinha

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

The second best time is now.

Syria denies remarks by Rice

DAMASCUS, 29 March — Syria denied on Monday remarks by US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice that Damascus did not see a need for an international investigation into the killing of a Lebanese ex-prime minister.

"Syria never said that there is no need for an international investigation. This is not true," a Syrian official source told Reuters. "Damascus emphasized that it would approve of any decision that Lebanon takes in this regard."

The Washington Post quoted Rice on Friday as saying that Syria did not see a need for an international probe into the killing of Rafik al-Hariri in Beirut last month.

"The best thing we can do is to get a full-scale investigation that is an international investigation," Rice told the newspaper

in an interview published on its Internet site.

"The only slightly different tone I heard was the Syrians and they've said they don't see why one is needed. Well, I think one is clearly needed."

The source who did not wish to be identified said Damascus did not reject the idea of an investigation.

"Agreeing (an international investigation) is a Lebanese sovereign decision," added the source.

A United Nations fact-finding team said on Thursday that Lebanon's inquiry into the killing of Hariri was seriously

flawed and an independent investigation is needed.

The team said Syrian military intelligence bore primary responsibility for a lack of security, protection and order and that Lebanese security forces showed "systematic negligence".

Hariri was killed in a February 14 bomb attack on his motorcade in Beirut. Lebanon's anti-Syria opposition have pointed a finger at Syria and its local allies.

Syria has condemned the killing as a heinous crime.

MNA/Reuters

Astronauts from "ISS" begin spacewalk to install equipment

MOSCOW, 29 March — Two astronauts began a spacewalk on Monday to install equipment to enable the European Space Agency to send its first cargo ship to the International Space Station, mission control said.

The spacewalk will leave the orbiting laboratory unmanned for about six hours while Russian cosmonaut Salizhan Sharipov and US astronaut Leroy Chiao prepare the docking mechanism for the European Automated Transfer Vehicle (ATV).

"They have opened the hatch," a spokeswoman from Russian mission control said. "The main aim of the spacewalk is to install antennae to help the future docking." The astronauts will also launch an experimental satellite — by simply "throwing it like a basketball" when they get out of the station — but the majority of their time will be taken up working on the docking equipment.

The first ATV, named the Jules Verne, is due to be launched next year and will provide a welcome helping hand as Russia struggles with the burden of having to launch all craft to the station while the US shuttles are grounded.

The ATVs are capable of carrying much bigger loads of food, equipment and fuel than Russia's Progress cargo ship, which is the only way of getting supplies to the astronauts now. Russia has launched all manned and cargo vehicles to keep the station running for more than two years since the United States withdrew its shuttle fleet after the deadly Columbia accident. NASA has said it plans to return the shuttles to service from May or June.—MNA/Reuters

At least 8 militants killed in Yemen

SANAA, 29 March — At least eight Islamic militants were killed in Yemen on Monday after they gunned down four policemen in an ambush, the official Saba news agency reported.

It said Yemeni security forces clashed with followers of slain anti-US cleric Hussein al-Houthi after the ambush in Saada Province, 150 miles north of the capital Sanaa.

Local sources said seven policemen and 10 militants died and that clashes were continuing. Houthi, leader of the Believing Youth group and a Zaidi Shiite

Muslim sect, was killed in September last year after two months of clashes with security forces in which over 200 rebels and troops died. The government of the Arab state accused Houthi of forming an armed group which staged violent protests against the United States and Israel. The group is not linked to al-Qaeda.

The official Saudi Press Agency said on Monday that Yemen handed over 25 Saudis wanted by the oil-rich kingdom for security offences. Saudi Arabia has handed over eight Yemenis to Sanaa, the agency said.—MNA/Reuters

Turkey suspends 2nd plane to evacuate its citizens from Kyrgyzstan

ANKARA, 29 March — Turkey decided to suspend sending a second plane to the Kyrgyz capital Bishkek to evacuate Turkish nationals since the situation in the Central Asian country was under control.

The Turkish Foreign Ministry said in a state-

ment that the decision was made as public order which was disrupted in Kyrgyzstan in the past two days started to be restored.

"Although ordinary crimes are committed throughout Kyrgyzstan, there is not any mass action against the Turkish citizens," the statement

said.

The statement said Metin Goker, the first Turkish Ambassador to Kyrgyzstan, met new Kyrgyz Foreign Minister Roza Otunbayeva in Bishkek on Friday and planned to meet Turkish businessmen on Sunday.

MNA/Xinhua

Putin orders Govt to prepare contingency plan for Kyrgyzstan

MOSCOW, 29 March — The Russian President Vladimir Putin Monday ordered his government to prepare a contingency plan to assist the Central Asian republic of Kyrgyzstan.

"The Ministry of Agriculture and Emergency Situations Ministry would have to work on the issue of possible assistance to Kyrgyzstan," Putin said at the regular Monday meeting of the key Cabinet members in the Kremlin.

"The people, controlling the situation in the country have requested for such help, this involves assistance in carrying out

agriculture work and restoration of infrastructural installations in capital Bishkek," he said.

Earlier on Saturday the acting Kyrgyz President Kurmanbek Bakiyev had called up Putin to help his country by supplying fuel and seeds ahead of the sowing season.

Putin declined to comment on the Kyrgyz developments.

"Stormy political

processes are underway and are not yet complete. For the time being we will not make any comments on what is going on there, but at the same time keeping in view our special relationship with the Kyrgyz people and Kyrgyzstan and moved by humanitarian considerations, if the help is required, it would be given," Putin said in his televised statement.—MNA/PTI

Surfing British tourist attacked by shark near Cape Town

JOHANNESBURG, 29 March — A British tourist was attacked by a shark while surfing near Cape Town on Monday and had to undergo surgery for bites to his right leg and foot, officials said.

The attack was the second in a week on a Briton in a coastal area where the Great White shark is a common predator.

"He was surfing with some mates (when the attack occurred)... He was bitten in the lower part of

his right leg and his foot," said Clive Mortimer, a station commander with South Africa's National Sea Rescue Institute.

"It (was) most probably a Great White."

Media reports identified the man as 32-year-old Chris Sullivan.

Last week, another British tourist had a narrow escape when a 5-metre Great White tore into a diving cage about 60 miles

southeast of Cape Town. The attack was caught on video. An elderly woman was killed by a Great White in November while she was having her daily swim near Cape Town.

The International Shark Attack File says 61 shark attacks were reported in the world last year, slightly up on the 2003 total of 57. Seven of last year's attacks were fatal.—MNA/Reuters

Two Astronauts finish spacewalk

MOSCOW, 29 March — Two astronauts finished their spacewalk ahead of schedule on Monday and installed equipment to enable the first European cargo craft to dock at the International Space Station, mission control said.

Russian cosmonaut Salizhan Sharipov and US astronaut Leroy Chiao had planned to spend six hours outside the station but finished 90 minutes early.

"The hatch has now been closed," a mission control spokesman said. "They managed to do everything — they finished early because they were very well prepared."

The orbiting laboratory was left unmanned while the astronauts installed antennas that form part of the docking mechanism for a European Space Agency cargo craft.

The astronauts also launched an experimental satellite — by simply "throwing it like a basketball" while they were outside.

The satellite will be used to gather information on earthquakes, floods and fires.

Most of the spacewalk was taken up by working on the docking system ahead of the arrival of the first unmanned European cargo craft named Jules Verne, which is due to be launched in 2006.

MNA/Reuters

India DM insists no arms race, equipments only for defence preparedness

KOLKATA, 29 March — Asserting that India had no intention to join the arms race, Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee on Sunday said the country is interested in procuring various equipment including sophisticated military aircraft for defence preparedness.

"One thing I would like to emphasize is that we have no intention of joining the arms race," Mukherjee told reporters here.—MNA/PTI

At least 4 wounded in Kabul blast

KABUL, 29 March — At least four people were wounded on Monday by a blast on a busy road running between US and British military bases in the east of the Afghan capital.

Afghan security officers at the scene said one of the wounded was a Filipino, whose car had been passing by, while the others were Afghans.

"There was an explosion. It was not a controlled explosion. There were four people wounded, one seriously," said Major Joe Bowman, spokesman for the NATO-led peace-keeping force.

No military personnel were wounded nor was equipment damaged, Bowman said.

A policeman and a Western security official said it appeared that the blast was caused by a bomb, probably hidden in a cart.—MNA/Reuters

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2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from 30.3.2005 during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 291982, 291985, 201555 (Ext-602,612)

Deputy General Manager
Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botataung, Yangon

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (375)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (375) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.3.2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

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INVITATION TO TENDER

Sealed tenders are invited by National AIDS Control Program, Department of Health, for printing and production of IEC materials on HIV/AIDS knowledge and information.

Tendered documents are available during office hours at the office of the Deputy Director, National AIDS Program, No. 87-89-91, Upper Pansodan road, Mingalar Taung Nyunt Township, Yangon, commencing from (30-3-2005).

Sealed bids are to be submitted to the office of the Deputy Director, National AIDS Program, not later than (5-4-2005) 14:00 hour, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraphic/telex proposal will be accepted.

For detail information please contacts Deputy Director, National AIDS Control Program, Phone-251973, 246704, 378651.

National AIDS Control Program
Department of Health

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

ရန်ကုန်စီးပွားရေးတက္ကသိုလ်
ယာဘွဲ့သင်တန်းများဝင်ခွင့်စာမေးပွဲအတွက်
လျှောက်လွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ ရန်ကုန်စီးပွားရေးတက္ကသိုလ်မှ ဖွင့်လှစ်သည့် စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းစီမံခန့်ခွဲမှုယာဘွဲ့ (MBA) အမှတ်စဉ် (၁၁)၊ ပြည်သူ့ရေးရာစီမံခန့်ခွဲမှုယာဘွဲ့ (MPA) အမှတ်စဉ် (၆) နှင့် မြို့ပြနယ်သွားယာဘွဲ့ (MDevS) အမှတ်စဉ် (၂) သင်တန်း အစီအစဉ်များ၏ ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံစံ ပထမနှစ် သင်တန်းများအတွက် အောက်ပါသတ်မှတ်ချက်များနှင့် ကိုက်ညီသည့် သူများသည် သင်တန်းဝင်ခွင့်စာမေးပွဲဖြေဆိုခွင့် လျှောက်လွှာများကို ဝယ်ယူတင်သွင်း နိုင်ပါသည်။

(က) အသိအမှတ်ပြုတက္ကသိုလ်တစ်ခုခုမှ ဘွဲ့ရရှိပြီးသူဖြစ်ရမည်။

(ခ) တက္ကသိုလ်တစ်ခုခုတွင် အခြားသင်တန်းတစ်ခုခုတက်ရောက်နေသူ မဖြစ်စေချေ။

(ဂ) သတ်မှတ်ထားသော သင်ရိုးအတိုင်း အချိန်ပြည့်တက်ရောက်နိုင် သူဖြစ်ရမည်။

(ဃ) လုပ်ငန်းခွင်တွင် လုပ်သက်အနည်းဆုံး(၃)နှစ် လုပ်ခဲ့သည့် အတွေ့အကြုံသူဖြစ်ရမည်။

၂။ သင်တန်းနှင့်သက်ဆိုင်သော စာရွက်စာတမ်းများနှင့် သတ်မှတ်ထားသည့် လျှောက်လွှာပုံစံများကို ဖော်ပြပါ ဌာနများ၌ ၃၁-၃-၂၀၀၅ ရက်မှစ၍ ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပြီး ၁၂-၄-၂၀၀၅ ရက် နောက်ဆုံးထား၍ အဆိုပါဌာနများ၌ပင် လာရောက်တင်သွင်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

(က) MBA သင်တန်းအတွက် စီမံခန့်ခွဲမှုပညာဌာန (ပတ္တမြားဆောင်)၊ ပါဠိဇလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်စီးပွားရေးတက္ကသိုလ်၊ (လွိုင်နယ်မြေ)။

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(ဂ) MDevS သင်တန်းအတွက် ဘောင်ဝေဌာန၊ အခန်း(၁၀၆)၊ ရန်ကုန်စီးပွားရေးတက္ကသိုလ် (ကာမရွတ်နယ်မြေ)၊ အင်းလျားလမ်း။

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(က) MBA သင်တန်းအတွက် ရန်ကုန်စီးပွားရေးတက္ကသိုလ် (လွိုင်နယ်မြေ)။

(ခ) MPA နှင့် MDevS သင်တန်းများအတွက် ရန်ကုန်စီးပွားရေးတက္ကသိုလ် (ကာမရွတ်နယ်မြေ)။

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ရန်ကုန်စီးပွားရေးတက္ကသိုလ်

New Zealand
Easter road toll
worst in 10
years

WELLINGTON, 28 March — The Easter road toll is the highest in 10 years, with five of the eight deaths blamed on speeding, police said on Monday.

Four people were killed in crashes Sunday, taking the road toll to eight, the highest since 1995. Last year, four people died during the Easter holiday period.

MNA/Xinhua

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Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Marks will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L for **SUZUKI MOTOR CORPORATION**
P.O. Box 60, Yangon.
Dated: 30 March 2005

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Ravinder Singh of Block 54 Kallang Bahu, #04-04, Kallang Basin Industrial Estate, Singapore 339336 is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademark:

HYPERMIZER

(Reg. No. 16328/2004)

Used in respect of "Energy saving device being an apparatus for regulating or controlling electricity."

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use or other infringement whatsoever of this trademark will be dealt with according to law.

Thwin Aung & Co. R.O.A. Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpp@mpiretel.net.mm
Tel 254037 G.P.O Box 666
Yangon 30 March 2005

TRADEMARK CAUTION
BLISSFUL CENTANY INTER-NATIONAL LIMITED., a company incorporated in Republic of Mauritius and having its registered office at 210 St. James Court, Rue St. Denis, Port Louis, Republic of Mauritius is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademarks:

BONKIES
Reg. No. 4/1903/2004 (24.04)

OOPS
Reg. No. 4/1801/2004 (31.3.04)

All in respect of "Candies, sweet, hot candies, chewing gum, confectioneries, peppermints, crackers, thin dry cracker, wafers, malt biscuit, bread, ginger bread, raisin bread, petite bread, cakes, pastries, tart cake, waffles, cake decorations for human consumption, baking powder, noodles, thin rice noodle, vermicell noodles; ice, ice cream, ice for human consumption, ice for refreshments; tea, bottled tea beverages, packed tea beverages; coffee, artificial coffee, unroasted coffee, coffee beverages with milk, coffee flavourings; rice, rice cake; malt; flour; flour for food, rice flour, corn flour, wheat flour, bean flour, soya flour, malt flour, mustard flour, potatoes flour for food, tapioca flour for food; chocolate, chocolate beverages with milk, chocolate products, chocolate based beverages; sugar, sugar drops for food; honey; yeast; salt; mustard; vinegar; sauces; spices, ketchup; fermented bean paste used as condiment; condiment made from pounded and fermented shrimp or small fish; condiment of the fermented fish or shrimp; chips; chips made from the fruit of the bellpepper; vanilla powder; soybean curd; pepper powder" in Class 30.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use, or actual or colourable imitation of the said Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate For **BLISSFUL CENTANY INTERNATIONAL LIMITED.**
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd. Unit 223 Summit Parkview Yangon, Union of Myanmar (Tel) 9571271888; (Fax) 227582
Dated 30 March 2005

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွံ့ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

AIDS virus destroys over half of immune cells within days

WASHINGTON, 28 March — Within days of infection, the AIDS virus destroys more than half of the immune cells that might recognize and help fight it -- a finding that may force a re-evaluation of how to tackle the deadly infection, two teams of US researchers reported on Sunday.

Two separate studies in monkeys showed that SIV, the monkey version of the human immunodeficiency virus or HIV, attacks CD4 memory T-cells right away and wipes out more than half of them.

"The findings may require a re-think of strategies to design HIV drugs and vaccines," Dr. Mario Roederer of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and colleagues said in one of two reports published in the journal *Nature*.

The findings will be difficult to replicate in people, because most people do not know the moment they are infected with the AIDS virus, which gradually destroys the immune system, leaving patients vulnerable to numerous infections.

But SIV is a good model and works in a similar way.

Both teams worked with monkeys that they infected with SIV. They

watched what happened to their immune cells.

Right away the virus attacked the CD4 T-cells that had the correct configuration for the virus. Normally during an infection such cells would recognize and latch onto an invader, helping other components of the immune system destroy it.

But HIV is different because it targets the immune system, and the two studies show how quickly it makes it impossible for its victims to launch a defence.

Roederer's team used new, sensitive tests to show just how the virus moves so quickly.

"Specifically, 30 per cent to 60 per cent of CD4 memory T-cells throughout the body are infected by SIV at the peak of infection, and most of these infected cells disappear within four days," they wrote.

MNA/Reuters

Zimbabwe not getting enough money to fight AIDS

HARARE, 28 March — Zimbabwe, one of the countries worst hit by the AIDS, is not getting enough money to fight the epidemic, the main UN agency coordinating the programme said on Sunday.

Zimbabwe, with about a quarter of its adult population infected with HIV or with AIDS received 60 million US dollars from the US government and other donor groups last year, Karl Dehne, the Zimbabwe head of UN agency UNAIDS, told *Reuters*.

But that was a trickle compared even with smaller nations in the Southern Africa region.

Dehne said Zimbabwe received nothing last year from the World Bank's Multi-Country HIV/AIDS Programme for Africa and the Global Fund against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and neither the World Bank nor the International Monetary Fund have had a programme in Zimbabwe since 1999.

No official reasons for the cash shortage have been given, but some donor officials say concerns over Zimbabwe's internal policies have been a factor in deciding on aid to Harare. Some countries in

the region last year received as much as 200 million US dollars from individual agencies to fight AIDS, Dehne said. "What is certain is that Zimbabwe has been receiving much less than its neighbours.

"We can do much more if we got more funds and we appeal to the donor community for this," Dehne said.

"Zimbabwe gets significantly less than its neighbours like Zambia or Swaziland when it has a severe AIDS crisis that requires attention."

The country will hold parliamentary elections on March 31.

While both the ruling ZANU-PF party and the main opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) pledge in their manifestos to step up the war on AIDS, politicians say little about AIDS in their public campaigns.

Carol Bellamy, head of the UN children's agency UNICEF, said this month that AIDS killed a Zimbabwean child every 15 minutes

MNA/Reuters



A panda eats bamboo leaves at a breeding-ground in China on 28 March, 2005.

INTERNET

Egyptian sentenced to 35 years in prison for spying for Iran

CAIRO, 28 March — A Cairo court sentenced an Egyptian man to 35 years in prison on Sunday for spying for Iran's Armed Forces and planning to assassinate Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Iran dismissed the trial as a sham. "From the beginning, this scenario was baseless and lacked legal proofs. (The trial) is meant for servile flattery to the Zionist regime (Israel)," Foreign Ministry Spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi said in Teheran.

Iran has not had full diplomatic ties with Egypt since the Iranian revolution in 1979, when Tehran broke off relations because Egypt had signed a peace treaty with Israel.

The court sentenced Mahmoud Eid Mohamed Dabbous to 25 years for plotting to kill Mubarak and 10 years for giving Iran's Revolutionary Guards information about

a petrochemicals plant in the Saudi oil city of Yanbu with the aim of blowing it up.

Iran's Revolutionary Guards are an ideologically driven branch of the country's Armed Forces.

Egypt's public prosecutor had previously said Dabbous, who was working in Saudi Arabia at the time, had supplied Iranian diplomat Mohammad Reza Hosseindost with information that helped orchestrate an attack on Yanbu in May last year.

A wing of the militant group al-Qaeda claimed the attack, which killed five Western engineers.

The court also sentenced in absentia

Hosseindost to 25 years in prison for recruiting Dabbous and plotting terror attacks and political assassinations in Egypt. Hosseindost worked in the Iranian interests office in Cairo.

The Iranian spokesman, quoted by the state news agency IRNA, said: "The Islamic Republic from the beginning rejected the claims of the Egyptian prosecutor and will demand explanations from the Egyptian Government."

Dabbous said during his trial that he made confessions under pressure about planning to kill the President.

MNA/Reuters



Chinese children from a welfare centre paint eggs during an Easter Day celebration at a shopping centre in Chongqing municipality, in southwest China, on 27 March, 2005.—INTERNET

Six stowaways killed in Congo train derailment

BRAZZAVILLE, 28 March — Six stowaways perched on top of a carriage carrying bananas were killed when their train derailed in Congo Republic, railway officials in the central African country said on Saturday.

"The accident happened on an old stretch of track where trees fall on to the line every time there's bad weather," Jacky Trimardeau, managing director of railway company Chemin de Fer Congo Ocean, told *Reuters*.

The train, which had both freight and passenger cars, came off the tracks near M'Foumbou, 90 kilometres (56 miles) east of the deepwater port of Pointe Noire, as it travelled towards the capital Brazzaville, Trimardeau said.

The 515-kilometre line between the main city and Pointe Noire is vital both to Congo's economy and to those of its neighbours, carrying minerals, timber and fuel to countries including Chad, Central African Republic, Cameroon and Gabon. — MNA/Reuters

Africans die in head-on crash

JOHANNESBURG, 28 March — Ten South Africans died and 69 were injured in a head-on crash between two buses, one carrying Good Friday worshippers, the other taking people home from a traditional ceremony, local media reported on Saturday.

Both drivers were killed in the smash near Hlabisa in northern KwaZulu-Natal Province on Friday evening, the South African Press Association reported.

MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Mourinho hints he did not see Rijkaard going into referee room

TEL AVIV, 29 March—Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho hinted on Monday that he had not personally witnessed his Barcelona counterpart Frank Rijkaard enter the referee's dressing room during a Champions League match at the Nou Camp.

European governing body UEFA have charged the Premier League leaders with bringing the game into disrepute after Mourinho accused Rijkaard of speaking to referee Anders Frisk at halftime in the first leg of the first knockout round tie on February 23.

UEFA specifically cited Mourinho, his assistant Steve Clarke and security man Les Miles. Chelsea, who were leading 1-0, lost 2-1 after striker Didier Drogba was sent off.

"I am the manager and I have people who assist me," Mourinho told a presentation to Israeli and Palestinian coaches.

"If something happens in the football stadium and I don't see and if some of my people arrive and tell me 'I saw this, this happened,' and then the other one comes and says, 'I saw the same' I say it's true, because I cannot work without loyalty, I have to believe my people."

Mourinho did not refer to the incident directly and said he would not comment on Chelsea matters.—MNA/Reuters



Chelsea soccer club manager Jose Mourinho

Mourinho wants to coach Portugal before retiring

TEL AVIV, 29 March—Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho said on Monday that he wants to coach Portugal before retiring.

Speaking at the conclusion of a two-day visit to Israel where he helped promote a coaching programme for Israeli and Palestinian children, Mourinho said he did not want the England job, but coaching his own country was part of his ambitions.

"My idea is to work for 13 (more) years, so... if I can spend four of them with the Portuguese national team, I have nine years in English soccer," he said.

"The England job is not for me.

"First of all the team is in good hands and secondly when Sven decides to go or when the English FA decide that it's time for Sven to go I believe that it is a job for an Englishman," Mourinho said, referring to England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson.—MNA/Reuters



Brazilian striker Ronaldo evades Peruvian goalie Ibanez during their World Cup qualifier at Serra Dourada Stadium in Goiania, on 27 March, 2005.—INTERNET

Ronaldo says club, country are different matters

RIO DE JANEIRO, 29 March—Ronaldo said last week that club and country are different matters and his troubles at Real Madrid would be cast aside when he pulled on the famous gold shirt of Brazil.

But, if anything, his recent performances at international level have been even worse. Brazil's number nine huffed and puffed his way through Sunday's 1-0 win over Peru in their World Cup qualifier in Goiania, complaining of the heat amid media speculation that he was still overweight. "The players who come from Europe are not used to this weather," he told Brazilian television during the halftime break.

Despite admitting that he found the conditions difficult, Ronaldo was kept on the pitch for the full 90 minutes by coach Carlos Alberto Parreira while the much livelier Kaka was substituted.

Ronaldo missed an open goal in the first half, wasted another chance shortly afterwards when he shot weakly at Peru goalkeeper Oscar Ibanez when he was clean through on goal and at one stage was jeered by the crowd.

His only notable contribution in the whole 90 minutes was to provide the pass from which Kaka scored the only goal—Brazil's first in competitive games for four hours and 29 minutes—in the 74th minute. Similarly, Ronaldo had blamed the high altitude of Quito for an equally uninspiring display when Brazil lost their previous qualifier 1-0 to Ecuador in November.

Yet he stayed on to the bitter end in that match as well, wasting Brazil's best chance to equalize.

Brazil's win over Peru kept them on Argentina's heels in the South American group. After 12 of the 18 qualifiers, Argentina are top with 25 points and Brazil second on 23.—MNA/Reuters

Ivory Coast gives up trying to persuade striker Kalou

ABIDJAN, 29 March—Ivory Coast have given up trying to persuade Dutch-based striker Salomon Kalou to play for them, officials said on Monday.

The 19-year-old Feyenoord striker has rejected several invitations to join the team, which is on course to reach the 2006 World Cup, even though his elder brother Bonaventure is the captain.

Ivorian Football Federation president Jacques Anouma said they had given Kalou a deadline but that he had not responded. Anouma added that Lecce defender Axel Konan would also no longer be considered.

"We are now turning the page. The deadline has passed for their decision and they will no longer be part of our plans," Anouma said.

The Ivorians beat Benin 3-0 in Abidjan on Saturday to extend their lead in World Cup Africa zone Group Three to four points.

Kalou wants to obtain Dutch nationality. Last week Voetbal International magazine reported that there were attempts to get an application for citizenship fast-tracked through the Dutch Parliament so that Kalou could play in the world youth championships, which the Netherlands are hosting in June.

Kalou has scored 14 goals in the Dutch league this season and grabbed five more in the UEFA Cup.

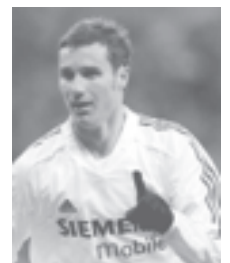
MNA/Reuters

Helguera wants to clear air with Spain coach

MADRID, 29 March—Real Madrid's Ivan Helguera says he wants to clear the air with Luis Aragonés after the Spain coach decided not to call him up to cover for injuries to two of the national side's centre-backs.

Helguera said he was mystified by Aragonés's failure to draft him into the squad after Valencia's Carlos Marchena and David Navarro were forced to drop out of Wednesday's World Cup Group Seven qualifier against Serbia & Montenegro.

"I ask myself why I haven't been called up and I just hope that it is nothing personal," Helguera told sports daily AS on Monday. "But with Marchena and David Navarro dropping out I think that the only players left in Spain who could have been called up are me and (Real



Real Madrid's Ivan Helguera

Madrid team mate Francisco Pavon and even then it didn't happen.

"I want to talk to Luis (Aragonés) because I need to know what is happening with me. I want to believe that it is nothing personal."—MNA/Reuters

Alberto determined to stay on as Azerbaijan coach

BAKU, 29 March—Brazilian Carlos Alberto is determined to stay on as Azerbaijan coach despite his team's humiliating 8-0 defeat in a World Cup qualifier at the weekend.

Azeri media reported on Monday that Carlos Alberto would resign after the 8-0 drubbing by Poland in European Group Six on Saturday, but the Brazilian said: "I wouldn't be here (in Baku) if I had resigned."

"I think one should not leave the team now but pool all the efforts and work together," he said as Azerbaijan prepare to meet group leaders England away in Newcastle on Wednesday.

MNA/Reuters

Brazil coach criticizes players for lacking inspiration

GOIANIA (Brazil), 29 March—Brazil coach Carlos Alberto Parreira criticized his team for lacking inspiration in Sunday's 1-0 World Cup win over Peru, while the players blamed the heat for their mediocre performance.



Brazil's coach Carlos Alberto Parreira

Parreira, who rarely attacks his side, lost patience after the five-times world champions left it until the 74th minute to score. It was their first goal in four hours 29 minutes of competitive football.

"The team lacked happiness and inspiration," said Parreira. "Given the quality of Brazil's players, we should have created a lot more scoring chances than we did."

"The team was slow and heavy. We got it wrong by playing down the middle and we made it easier for Peru to mark us."

Ronaldo, who missed an open goal

but supplied the pass for Kaka's winner, said the players suffered in the afternoon heat of Goiania.

"The players who come from Europe are not used to this weather," said the Real Madrid player, who was jeered at one stage by the 50,000 crowd at the Serra Dourada stadium.

Midfielder Emerson echoed Ronaldo's comments. "The heat was an added difficulty," he said.

Brazil fullback Roberto Carlos criticized Peru for what he claimed was an over-cautious approach.

"All our games are difficult, like this one. All our opponents stay back," said the Real Madrid player, who was exasperated at the crowd's impatience.

"When we win 1-0 here in Brazil, it appears that it's worth nothing."

The crowd's attitude also upset Parreira, especially when they jeered Ronaldo.

"The supporters forget very easily about everything he has done for the national team," he said.—MNA/Reuters

Elephants invade town in western Zimbabwe

HARARE, 29 March—Residents in Hwange, some 800 kilometres west of Zimbabwean capital Harare, are having sleepless nights following the invasion of the town by stray elephants that are destroying property and fruit trees, according to *Sunday News*.

The elephants are running away from the nearby national park in search of drinking water.

It is believed that green trees are now scarce in the parks and the jumbos were being attracted to the residential areas by green mango trees.

So daring are the animals that Mpindani Mpala, a resident, got the shock of his life on Tuesday night when he spotted a giant elephant just two metres from his bedroom window.

Another resident, Themba Chindoro, whose three mango trees were destroyed on Thursday night, appealed to the relevant authorities to take action.

"They are having sleepless and scray nights because of the elephants. We fear for our lives and fruit trees," said Chindoro.



MOC Chairman Sports Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint greets the participants of tournament for Myanmar Weighthlifting Federation President's trophy on 28-3-2005. (News on reported)—NLM

ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ဖို့၊ ဝိုင်းဝန်းကူညီဆောင်ရွက်ဖို့။

၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ်၊ မတ်လ (၂၉)ရက်နေ့အထိ နိုင်ငံအနှံ့တွင် ကျေးရွာ ကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက် (၁၄,၅၄၁)တိုက် ဖွင့်လှစ်ပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ကျေးရွာကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုး စာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက် သုတ/ရသစာအုပ်များကို ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေး ဦးစီးဌာန ခရိုင်/မြို့နယ်ရုံးများသို့ လှူဒါန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

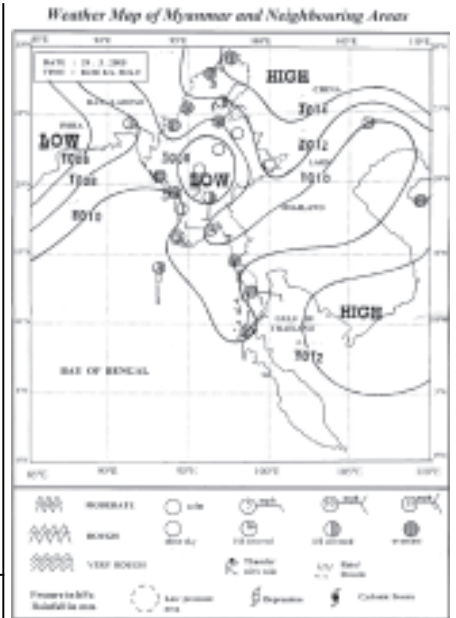
ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန

The mango fruit, which is in season, is a delicacy and good source of income at this time of the year for many people in Hwange. On Monday night, the jumbos ran riot, uprooting virtually every

tree at the St George's Primary School orchard, resulting in scores of pupils making a quick return home on Tuesday.

Two weeks ago, some National Railways of Zimbabwe employees

working on a faulty cable had to make good their escape after a herd of elephants made a surprise appearance at the work site. — *MNA/Xinhua*



WEATHER

Tuesday, 29 March, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kachin State, isolated in upper Sagaing Division and weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Hkamti (0.11) inch. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kayin and Mon States, Magway, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) above normal in Mandalay and Ayeyawady Divisions, (5°C) below normal in upper Sagaing Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Magway (41°C), NyaungOo, Minbu, Patheingyi and Hpa-an (40°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 28-3-2005 was 101°F. Minimum temperature on 29-3-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 29-3-2005 was 75%. Total sunshine hours on 28-3-2005 was (9.8) hours approx. Rainfalls on 29-3-2005 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 (4) mph from Southwest at (16:10) hours MST on 28-3-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the West and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 30-3-2005: Possibility of isolated light rain or thundershowers in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of light rain or thundershowers in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 30-3-2005: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 30-3-2005: Partly cloudy.



Wednesday, 30 March
View on today:

- 7:00 am 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:15 am 2. တိပိဋကဓမ္မ မဟာသုတ္တံ၊ ဓမ္မဘူတဂါရီ၊ အရ မဟာသုတ္တံ၊ ဘဒ္ဒသိန္နီတင်္ဂဝိသ (ဇောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော် မူအပ်သော ဥပုသ်တရားပြော
- 7:25 am 3. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am 4. Morning news
- 7:40 am 5. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am 6. မြန်မာ့ပြုကြံ့ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 8:10 am 7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:20 am 8. ဘောင်ဘင်္ဂလေရာဇဝင်တမ်း

- 8:30 am 9. International news
- 8:45 am 10. Let's Go
- 4:00 pm 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm 3. Practice in Reading
- 4:45 pm 4. အစေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ - ရတီယနစ် (ရပဓေးအထူးပြု) (ရပဓေး)
- 5:00 pm 5. Song of national races
- 5:15 pm 6. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းအစေ့
- 5:30 pm 7. Classical song
- 5:45 pm 8. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 6:00 pm 9. ရွှေဖွယ်စုံလင် အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်
- 6:15 pm 10. Discovery
- 6:20 pm 11. မုဟန့်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြဗယ်
- 6:30 pm 12. Evening news
- 7:00 pm 13. Weather report
- 7:05 pm 14. Strong and healthy Myanmar
- 7:15 pm 15. Musical programme
- 7:25 pm 16. လိုင်းစင်ပွဲတော်တော်ယာဉ်လက်ဝယ် မိုင်ဆိုင်တားသုဗျားသတိပြုဖွယ်
- 7:35 pm 17. အမျိုးသားညီလာခံဂုဏ်ပြုတေး
- 8:00 pm 18. News
- 19. International news
- 20. Weather report
- 21. မဇ္ဈာန်အေးအလင်း (အပိုင်း-၁၅) (ဇာတ်သိမ်းပိုင်း) "အရုပ်စစ်အရုပ်မှန်ဟုသည့်" ကျော်သူ၊ ဇိုးသောကြာ၊ ရီဂါ၊ ရတနာစင်၊ သုသုတ်သု၊ ရွှေဝင်းစမ်းစမ်း၊ ဘိုရီတာ-သတိတင်
- 22. The next day's programme



Wednesday, 30 March
Tune in today:

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Sweetness
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -Love and Affection
- 8:50 am National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -You gotta be
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: -Oh baby I
- 1:30 pm News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunchtime music -Saving all my love for you -Yes you do -Experience -Cassablanca
- 9:00 pm Armed Forces Daysong Feature: Military songs in Shan Version
- 9:15 pm Article/music
- 9:25 pm Music for your request -Close -More than that -When you say nothing at all
- 9:45 pm News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

Non-occurrence of tsunami in Myanmar

YANGON, 30 March — An earthquake of severe intensity 8.7 Richter Scale was registered at 22:45:06 hrs Myanmar Standard Time on 28 March 2005, about 900 miles south of Kaba Aye Seismological Observatory. However, since there was no report of tsunami occurrence along Myanmar coast up till now, Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced that there was no more threat of tsunami. — *MNA*

Arrangements for 42nd Myanma Gems Emporium previewed

YANGON, 29 March—Patron of the Central Committee for the Myanma Gems Emporium Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint previewed arrangements for the 42nd Myanma Gems Emporium (2005) at Myanma Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here this afternoon.

The minister also inspected gems shops and mosaic paintings shops on the ground floor, lots of imperial jade, commercial jade and utility jade displayed at the hall, and lots of gems and jewellery and pearls on the first floor. Members of the Central Committee conducted the minister round the emporium. The Central Committee held its second meeting at the Myanma Gems Mart at 5.15 pm. On the occasion, members of the Central Committee and officials of the subcommittees reported to the minister on arrangements made sector-wise for the emporium.

Next, the minister delivered concluding remarks. — MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint previews arrangements for the 42nd Myanma Gems Emporium.—MNA

USDA courses opened



USDA CEC Member Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint addresses the opening of the USDA courses.—SPORTS

YANGON, 29 March—The opening of organizational course (basic) No 22, computer course (basic) No 20 and first national culture and morals course took place at Dagon Myothit (East) Union Solidarity and Development Association Office this morning.

USDA CEC member Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint delivered an address on the

occasion. The CEC member (the region in-charge) presented K 50,000 for opening of the culture and morals course to the secretary of the township USDA.

Next, well-wishers presented a set of settee worth K 120,000, and K 35,000 to the CEC member.

A total of 80 trainees are attending the organizational course; 50 computer course; and 5,250 culture and morals course. — MNA

Action to be taken against persons who still own unlicensed car after the last date 31.3.2005

YANGON, 29 March — At the Press Conference held on 9 November 2004, the director-general of Myanmar Police Force had already explained that all cars can be used only if that are licensed according to the existing law of the State; that the Government is impounding the unlicensed cars; that only the vehicle will be confiscated, without taking any action against the owner and the driver and without asking them about the seller of the car and the means they had used in obtaining the car; that the best way for the owner of a unlicensed car is to hand it over to the nearest police station. At the Press Conference held on 28 December 2004, the director-general also explained that unlicensed cars should be handed over

The illegal unlicensed cars must be handed over to the police on 31 March 2005 the latest. If any unlicensed car is found after the date, the car will be impounded and the owner will face punishment according to the law. If an unlicensed car is found donated to a religious or other organization, action will be taken against the donor and the owner.

to the nearest police station not later than 31 March 2005.

In cooperation with the local authorities and respective departments including the Religious Affairs Department, the MPF has been launching the project to confiscate the unlicensed cars in two ways — (See page 9)

Diahorrea prevention project in Hlinethaya

YANGON, 29 March — The Ministry of Health and the Yangon City Development Committee jointly launched a diahorrea prevention mass movement in Hlinethaya Township, Yangon Division, today.

Chairman of YCDC Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo gave speeches at the launching ceremony.

Doctors of the Health Department explained the diahorrea prevention project and educational task in the townships in Yangon Division including Hlinethaya.

The mayor and the deputy minister cordially conversed with members of Union Solidarity and Development Association and other social organizations, staff of Health Department and YCDC and local people taking part in the project.



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspects a manual water pump. — YCDC

MNA

Monsee TV retransmission station airs programmes

YANGON, 29 March — Under the TV retransmission programme, TV relay stations are being built one after another. And construction of a TV retransmission station was completed in Monsee, Shan State on 23 March. Programmes of Myanmar Television have been on the air beginning 24 March, it is learnt. — MNA

INSIDE

Trees can change climate. Forests keep lakes. If we conserve trees, we save nature.