

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Monday, 2 May, 2005

## Secretary-1 meets officers and other ranks of Lashio Station



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein speaks in meeting with officers and other ranks and their families of Lashio Station at the North-East Command in Lashio. — MNA

YANGON, 1 May—Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein on 29 April met officers and other ranks and their families of Lashio Station at the station hall of North-East Command in Lashio and made a speech on the occasion.

Also present on the occasion were members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint and staff

officers of the command, commanding officers of Lashio Station, battalions and units, officers and other ranks and their families numbering 512.

After the meeting, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe greeted those present on the occasion.—MNA

## Peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order important for development of a region or a nation Secretary-1 tours Lashio, Hsenwi Townships

YANGON, 1 May —Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, accompanied by members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Lt-Gen

Aung Htwe, Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, the ministers, the deputy ministers, senior military officers, leaders of

special regions of Shan State (North) and special region-2 of Kachin State, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental officials, inspected regional development of Shan State National Army (SSNA) that exchanged arms for peace unconditionally on 12 April and agricultural work in Lashio and Hsenwi Townships on 30 April.

The Secretary-1 and party arrived at opium substitute corn and bee-keeping station of North East Command in Mansaw region.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing reported on annual reclamation of 500 acres of land and agricultural education to local farmers. Farm in-charge Lt-Col Nay Lin Aung reported on cultivation and bee-keeping. Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo reported on the Ministry's assistance.

The Secretary-1 said Shan State (North) is a fertile region and urged local people to engage in cultivation of various kinds of crops.

He also gave instructions on establishment of research farms in states and divisions and arrangements of Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

The Secretary-1 and party inspected bee hives, honey, other related products and corn plantation.

(See page 8)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects 35 small weapons and communication devices of Brigade-11 of SSNA. — MNA

### INSIDE

You may get many effective traditional therapies if you ask learned elderly persons. Indeed, Myanmar elderly persons are ready to share good traditional therapies with everyone.

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THAGADOE

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

# PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 2 May, 2005

## Ward off machinations of neo-colonialists with national outlook

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe on the Workers Day which falls on 1 May 2005 has sent a message to the workers.

In the message, it is stated that the entire mass of workers should clearly know the neo-colonialists, and their stooges' slanders and false accusations against Myanmar under the pretext of serving workers' interest, with the intention of breaking up unity, and should ward off the conspiracies with national awareness.

Today, every nation of the world is striving in its own way for development. Likewise, the Union of Myanmar under the correct leadership of the State Peace and Development Council is exerting self-reliant efforts for further strengthening national solidarity and for the emergence of a peaceful modern and developed nation.

As there have emerged a number of advanced factories and workshops as well as industrial areas and industrial zones in different parts of the nation, the workers themselves have now been able to skillfully operate modern machinery and electronic equipment to manufacture items of international standard.

Workers are enjoying the fruits of progress that are new job opportunities, increased income, the rights covering safe and pleasant working environment and higher living standard as the national development drive is gaining momentum.

A glance at the Myanmar history will reveal bitter experiences under colonial subjugation in which colonialists and their cohorts exploited the labour of workers resorting to unjust means to take hold of the nation's rich resources and hatched plots to sow discord and dissension among workers, peasants and national people.

At a time when systematic measures are being taken with the participation of the national people including workers for national development, the neo-colonialists using their stooges under the guise of workers are bent on applying wicked means in the international arena to jeopardize the interest of Myanmar and her workers.

Their subversive acts have tarnished and undermined the dignity of Myanmar workers and also caused loss of jobs resulting in severe economic and social dislocation.

Therefore, when the entire national people including workers are making concerted efforts for boosting production in their respective regions, all are to guard against and ward off machinations of neo-colonialists with national outlook.

## Annual General Meeting of MRMA on 7 May

YANGON, 1 May— Executive Committee of Myanmar Rice Millers Association invited its association members to attend without fail the 15th Annual General Meeting to be held at Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road on 7 May at 5.30 pm. Before the meeting, booths on rice mills will be stayed and products relating to the mill will be shown through video.

MNA

## All this needs to be known

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

## 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

## Deputy Energy Minister visits oil fields

YANGON, 1 May — Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, accompanied by the managing director of Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise and officials, inspected oil fields in Magway Division and factories under the Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise from 25 to 30 April.

The deputy minister and party met with officials of petrochemical factory (Thanpayakan), Htaukshapin oil field of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, Pahtannago main centre of the Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise from 25 to 27 April.

On 28 and 29 April the deputy minister and party visited Mann oil field and discussed energy matters in meeting with the managing director of MOGE, general managers of oil fields and officials.

In the afternoon, the deputy minister attended the opening of the workshop of Salam Bargyar Co.

MNA

## Showroom of Gold Star ceramic tiles, granite, marble & sanitary wares opened

YANGON, 1 May— The opening of showroom for ceramic tiles, granite, marble and sanitary wares of Gold Star was held this morning at the showroom at No 41/42, at the corner of Bayintnaung Road and Ayeyeikmon Street attended by officials of the showroom, retail and sole agents, journalists and invited guests.

At the opening ceremony, officials explained facts about ceramic tiles, granite, marble and sanitary wares which are displayed at the showroom.

To mark the opening of the showroom, customers will be offered discount from 1 to 5 May.

For further information, please dial phone numbers 01682959 of Yangon Showroom at No 41/42 at the corner of Bayintnaung Road and Ayeyeikmon Street in Hlinethaya Township and 0233858 of Mandalay Showroom at 261(A) on 32nd Street, between 82nd and 83rd Streets, Mandalay.— MNA

Ceramic, granite, marble & sanitary wares showroom being seen on Bayintnaung Road, Hlinethaya Township. — H



## POEM

### Future in sight

- \* A group of relatives  
Romp, dancing and singing  
With zest and zeal  
Happy and gay  
A wondrous sight  
In Mangton.
- \* O, free of distrust  
With clear conscience  
That's the current gain.
- \* Amm! Current gain  
Growing manifold  
'Tis for  
The nationalities  
It'll grow all the more.

Nwai Cho (Trs)

## Play and script basic committee formed

YANGON, 1 May—Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon formed the play and script basic committee and executive committee at the Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise (Head Office) this morning.

Managing Director of MMPE U Bo Kyi spoke on the occasion and the committee members elected the new executive committee members.

Likewise, basic committees for film producers and dramatists and editing, records and publications were formed on 29 and 30 April.

Other committees will also be formed on designated days.— MNA

## Rules announced for Olympic Sports and Literary Competitions

YANGON, 1 May—The Olympic Sports and Literary Organizing Committee will hold the Olympic Sports and Literary Competitions for students at university, degree college, college and institute level and basic education level. The competitions will be categorized into three levels—level-1 (Under-12) for 5th to

7th graders, level-2 (Aged between 12 and 18) for 8th to 10th graders and level-3 (Above-19) for university students. Any contestant may take part in the essay competition with one of the titles—excelling oneself, fair play, joy in effort, respect for others and balance between body and mind.

The level-1 and level-2 competitions will be held at basic education schools from 8 am to 11 am on 7 May 2005 and the level-3 competition at university, degree college, college and institute at 8 am to 11 am on 8 May. The essay must not exceed 7,500 words. Contestants are allowed to present only one manuscript for one level. Contestants may contact respective education centres for further information.

MNA



# China, ASEAN to further strategic partnership

SHANGHAI, 30 April — The 11th China-ASEAN (the Association of South-East Asian Nations) Senior Officials Consultation held on Friday reached a consensus deciding to further the strategic partnership between the two sides.

Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Wu Dawei, ASEAN Secretary-General Ong Keng Yong, and senior officials or representatives with foreign ministries from ten ASEAN member countries attended the consultations. They exchanged views on furthering cooperation, on current cooperation situation in the East Asia and on other international and regional issues of common concern.

During the meeting, participants discussed the implementation of the Joint Declaration for Advancing China-ASEAN Strategic Partnership, affirming that China-ASEAN relations have made positive

progress. The two sides agreed to maintain the sound momentum of China-ASEAN relations, to further consolidate and expand the strategic partnership between the two sides, to continue to increase political trust and to promote construction of China-ASEAN free trade area.

Both sides also agreed in principle to focus on enhancing cooperation in transport, energy, culture, tourism and public health, which will be five new and major cooperation fields for China and the ASEAN. Participants discussed working

principles of the China-ASEAN eminent persons group, and exchanged views on preparation for the celebration the 15th anniversary of China-ASEAN dialogue partnership. Both sides agreed to hold working group meeting soon for implementing the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea. China reiterated its willingness to join in the Protocol of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone Treaty. Both sides exchanged views on issues concerned with the East Asia Summit and the United Nations reforms. They agreed to enhance support and coordination in international and regional

affairs.

The Chinese side respects the ASEAN's consensus on the East Asia Summit, supported the ASEAN to continue its leading role in regional cooperation.

The ASEAN appreciated China's important efforts made for safeguarding peace and stability of the Korean Peninsula. The Chinese side stressed the support integration process of the ASEAN, and the ASEAN side said China's peaceful development is important for regional peace, stability and prosperity, and will bring more development opportunities for countries in this region.

MNA/Xinhua

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## Singapore, Germany to strengthen Maritime Transport Cooperation

SINGAPORE, 30 April — Singapore and Germany signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on Cooperation in Maritime Transport here on Friday, said a statement by Ministry of Transport.

"This MoU paves the way for collaborative projects between government agencies, research institutes and private sector companies in areas such as, but not limited to safety, security, navigation and training," said Permanent Secretary (Transport) Choi Shing Kwok at the signing ceremony.

Signed by Choi and Ralf Nagel, State Secretary for Transport, Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Housing of Germany, the MoU will also benefit projects in the field of maritime research and development, which have been jointly carried out by the two countries.

As encouraged by the MoU, proposals of new projects involving government institutions and universities from both sides are in the pipeline, according to the statement.

The two countries signed the Agreement on Maritime Transport in June 2000. — MNA/Xinhua



Vietnamese women in traditional 'ao dai' dresses perform during celebrations for the 30th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War at the Batinh Hall in Hanoi on 29 April, 2005. —INTERNET

## Vietnam celebrates 30th anniversary of national reunification

HANOI, 30 April — Vietnam on Friday held a grand ceremony, with participation of the country's leaders and foreign delegates, to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the national reunification.

Addressing the ceremony, Vietnamese Prime Minister Phan Van Khai said: "The great victory in the spring of 1975 booked a red mark in the series of glorious exploits of our people... 30 April is our common festival, the day we bring into full play the national strength and unity."

Thirty years ago, tanks of the Vietnam People's Army, on 30 April stormed into the presidential palace of the Saigon regime based in Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, just before the US-backed South Vietnamese Government surrendered to North Vietnam. Since the reunification, especially since the adoption of the doi moi (renewal) policy in 1986, Vietnam has seen remarkable socio-economic developments, the Prime Minister noted.

Achievements in the wartime and postwar period mainly originate from the strength of the national unity, Vietnamese people's patriotism, the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the late president Ho Chi Minh, and support of the international community, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

## Cambodia calls for regional, int'l cooperation on disaster management

PHNOM PENH, 30 April — Cambodia calls on Friday for regional and international cooperation, solidarity and partnership on disaster management.

"The Cambodian Parliament strongly supports ... the effort to promote cooperation, especially in such organizations as the Asian Committee for Disaster Management, which aims at reducing the effects of disaster," said Heng Samrin, acting president of the National Assembly of Cambodia.

Heng made the remarks at his opening address on the 21st meeting of the Asian Parliamentarians on Population and Development. — MNA/Xinhua

## Four US soldiers killed by Iraq car bomb

BAGHDAD, 30 April—Guerillas launched fresh attacks in Baghdad and northern Iraq on Saturday, killing at least 10 Iraqis and wounding more than 30, officials said, in a second day of violence aimed at shaking the country's newly formed government.

At a meeting of Iraq's neighbours in Turkey, meanwhile, Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan warned the violence was "not solely the concern of the Iraqis but ours as well." Some of the worst attacks occurred in the capital, still reeling from Friday's onslaught in which at least 17 bombs exploded in Iraq, killing 50 people, including three US soldiers.

A suicide car bomb exploded Saturday near the offices of the National Dialogue Council, a coalition of 10 Sunni Arab factions that had been negotiating for a stake in

Iraq's new Shiite-dominated government. The blast killed two Iraqi civilians and wounded 18, police said.

Another suicide car bomb targeting an Iraqi army patrol exploded Saturday near the Mohammad Rasoul Allah Mosque in eastern Baghdad, killing two Iraqi women and a girl, and seriously wounding four soldiers, police Lt Col Ahmed Abboud Effait said. Two Iraqis—a policeman and a former official in Saddam Hussein's Baath Party — also died in shootings on Saturday in

Baghdad, police said. The US military also said four US soldiers were killed and two wounded Thursday when a Task Force Freedom convoy was hit by a roadside bomb in Tal Afar city, 90 miles east of the Syrian border, the military said in a brief statement. It did not explain why the casualties were not announced earlier.

Internet

A car burns in Baghdad, Iraq on 29 April, 2005, after two car bombs exploded.

INTERNET



# Asia expects to be world content provider

**SINGAPORE, 30 April — As industries like movie and computer games are booming in Asia, the region has the potential to build itself a world content provider, businessmen attending the Asia Roundtable estimated on Friday.**

John Chen, chairman, chief executive officer and president of the American company Sybase, expressed his confidence that there are a lot of chances around for Asia to present Information and Communication Technology (ICT) users novel and exciting products as the region possesses highly-trained personnel and advanced technology.

Speaking about the prospect of the Hong Kong Disneyland scheduled to open in September, Group Managing Director of the theme park Donald C Robinson hoped that stories about Hong Kong and the region around could be shown to the world so as to arouse more people's interest in visiting the fancy place to have "live" experiences.

Chairman of Japan Association of Corporate Executives Kakutaro Kitashiro saw the great potential that Asia will use its own technology to create its content since ICT engineers in China and India are competitive in software designing, a basic factor of the digitalized industry.

Azalina Said, Minister of Youth and Sports of Malaysia, stressed the important role young people play in bringing out creative ideas, saying that decisions made by young people in every sector are important to her government and deserve respect. More than 250 elites from business, government and civil society from 34 countries and regions are convening at the first Asia Roundtable in Singapore starting from Thursday.

Under the theme of "Tilting the global balance: the strategic implications of Asia's growth," the World Economic Forum hosts the two-day seminar in order to invite frank exchange on challenges and opportunities that the region focuses on.

Co-sponsored by Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB), the meeting is credited with eminent personnel like Peter Mandelson, Trade Commissioner of the European Commission, King Abdullah II of Jordan and Mongolian Prime Minister Tsakhiagiyn Elbegdorj.

MNA/Xinhua

## Thai-Japanese FTA might endanger European car maker

**BANGKOK, 30 April — Thailand and Japan should carefully consider their proposed free trade agreement (FTA) so as not to hurt other trading partner, visiting European Union (EU) Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson has said here.**

"The Thai Government will have to keep in mind that the FTA with Japan should not affect other people's interests," he was quoted by Friday's *Bangkok Post* as saying.

Mandelson made the remarks on Thursday at a forum when answering a question of Andreas von Stechow, German Ambassador to Thailand.

Stechow raised his concern that the ongoing FTA talks with Japan could wipe out the European automotive industry in Thailand once

implemented.

Thailand is considering phasing out steel tariffs in order to facilitate Japanese investment under a framework of the currently negotiated FTA, which is expected to finish in a few months.

The proposal has raised concerns from European automobile producers having local investments, who threatened to move out if Thailand yields to the demand because their cars would then be three times as expensive as Japanese products.

Mandelson said he had been in dialogue with top Thai officials, stressing that Thailand should be mindful of long-standing relations with Europe and of European business interests, which are extensive in the automotive industry as well as other manufacturing sectors. "Thailand has encouraged European companies to invest here and encouraged strong economic ties and partnership between Thailand and Europe. We would like to see there are no setbacks," he said. —MNA/Xinhua



A South Korean model shows a new DMB mobile phone capable of receiving terrestrial digital television broadcast signals in Seoul on 1 May, 2005.

INTERNET



Thai rescue workers take part in a tsunami evacuation drill on the Thai tourist island of Phuket, on 29 April, 2005.—INTERNET

## Malaysia, Thailand hold joint maritime exercise

**KUALA LUMPUR, 30 April — The navies and maritime police of Malaysia and Thailand are participating in a joint exercise code-named Seaex Thamal 2005 in the waters off Malaysia's Kelantan State and Thailand's Narathiwat Province.**

The Royal Malaysian Navy (RMN) and Malaysian marine police as well as the Royal Navy of Thailand (TLDT) and Thai marine police are involved in the exercise. Malaysian Marine Region One Commander Noordin Ali said when officially launching the exercise at the Tanjung Gelang RMN base in Kuantan, central Malaysia on Friday. "The six-day joint exercise, which started yesterday, is the first of the two series of exercises planned for this year," he said.

He said the main objective of the exercise was to enhance the co-operation and understanding between the maritime agencies of both countries.

Some 200 Navy and maritime police officers from both countries are taking part in the exercise, which involves four vessels each from both countries.

MNA/Xinhua

## Iraq neighbours fear tension will spread

**ISTANBUL, 30 April — Fears that the ethnic tensions and violence in Iraq will spread beyond its borders brought foreign ministers from neighbouring countries to Turkey for talks on Saturday.**

Turkey's Prime Minister opened the conference in a former Ottoman palace saying Iraq's stability is "not solely the concern of the Iraqis but ours as well." Jordan, Syria, Kuwait, Iran, Turkey and Saudi Arabia were represented as was Egypt.

The foreign ministers were discussing the dearth of Sunni Muslims in Iraq's new government and Iran's growing influence in Iraq. Iraq's neighbours are overwhelmingly Sunni Muslim, except for Iran, where most people are Shiite Muslims, as in Iraq.

"Iraq cannot be a place where one entity prevails over the others, nor can it be a place divided up as desired," Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan said as he opened the conference in Dolmabahce Palace.

"Such attempts will meet the reaction of the countries of the region and the international community," he said.

"It is essential that the government is fully representative," he added. Turkey, Iran and Syria, which have substantial Kurdish populations, are also deeply concerned by the growing power of Iraqi Kurds. They fear Kurds could break away to establish their own state, which could stoke similar aspirations among Kurds in the neighbouring countries.—Internet

## Bird flu vaccine lab to be set up in Thailand

**BANGKOK, 30 April — The first hygienic virus-free laboratory for developing bird flu vaccine for fowls will be built in Thailand within several months, local Press reported on Friday.**

In order to develop a vaccine prototype for fowls, a completed hygienic laboratory is needed to ensure accurate results, Yukol Limlamthong, director-general of the Livestock Development Department was quoted by *Bangkok Post* newspaper as saying.

Located in Phitsanulok, the laboratory will be the first of its kind in the kingdom.

Currently, the researchers are extracting highly virulent components from the virus' genes to obtain less harmful genes that would be developed as the initial prototype of the vaccines.

Yukol said there was no policy to apply those vaccines to animals raised in farms, but they will be needed to contain the spread of the virus in case of a major outbreak.

Livestock experts have warned against the use of vaccines for fear that it could result in the virus mutating into a more virulent strain.

As part of the department's three-year strategic plan to combat bird flu, some 1,000 new officials will be recruited to guard against a possible outbreak. MNA/Xinhua



## Asia becomes engine of world economic growth

SINGAPORE, 30 April — Asia with its rapid economic development has become the engine of the World economic growth, said a co-chair of the World Economic Forum's Asia Roundtable here on Thursday.

Jiang Jianqing, also chairman and president of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, said that average economic growth in the Asian developing countries last year was 7.3 per cent, much higher than the 4 per cent in the world, and Asia will continue leading the world economy.

Jiang pointed out that the Asian economic growth has entered into a new era. There used to be Japan and "four tigers" in Asia — Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan Province and Hong Kong. China has an annual growth rate of 9.45 per cent in the past 25 years and India began to develop fast in the 1990's. The two countries have become the engine of Asia's economic development.

Jiang said that Asian and the world economies must develop harmoniously. The slowdown of the United States and European economies, and the rise of oil prices will have some negative effect on Asia, while Asian development will

have great impact on the recovery of the world economy. So in the background of globalization, it is necessary to promote harmonious development of Asian and world economies.

Jiang also called for balanced, co-ordinary growth in the face of problems in environment, energy, natural resources, employment, gaps between rural and urban areas.

As the head of a leading Chinese bank, Jiang stressed importance of financial stability to the sustainability of economic development. He said China is reforming the financial system and he believed a healthy financial system will emerge in China soon.

Jiang was speaking at the Asia Roundtable's Forum "The Strategic Impact of Asia's Economic Growth" Thursday morning. The theme of the two-day roundtable is "Tilting The Global Balance: The strategic Impact of Asia's Growth." — *MNA/Xinhua*

## S Korea to set up storm tidal warning system

SEOUL, 30 April — South Korea plans to set up a national tidal warning system that will allow it to better cope with destructive waves caused by typhoons, a state research institute said on Friday.

The National Oceanographic Research Institute said the government plans to establish the system by 2010 at an investment of 4.8 billion won (4.78 million US dollars).

Typhoons hit South Korea on a regular basis in summer and autumn and they are often accompanied by tidal waves that sometimes cause floods in coastal regions. The waves also pose dangers for coastal maritime activities and movement of ships.

Under the project, tidal monitoring centres will be set up in eight coastal areas including Busan, Masan, Jeju and Yeosu.

The institute said the wave monitoring is to use four separate mutually complimenting systems to get a clear and accurate picture of developing situations. The systems will be ultra-high-frequency wave detecting sensors based on land, undersea equipment that can pick up the height of waves, and surface buoys tethered to the sea bottom which check the flow of currents and size of waves heading for land.

A mobile buoy system that relays information via satellite will also be adopted, the institute under the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisher-

ies said. The mobile buoys can be dropped by helicopters 300-400 kilometres from shore and can provide vital early warnings on approaching typhoons to disaster prevention authorities.

"The information can be sent in real-time to fire departments, the weather service, the Coast Guard and other related parties, like the Navy," said an official at the Incheon-based institute.

He added that once the system is complete, the country will have better means of dealing with natural disasters caused by typhoons.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Singapore, Morocco to strengthen bilateral ties

SINGAPORE, 30 April — Singaporean and Moroccan leaders on Friday vowed to further strengthen bilateral cooperation by launching a series of negotiations, according to the Singapore Foreign Ministry.

During their meeting on Friday, Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and visiting Moroccan King Mohammed VI agreed to start talks on a closer economic partnership agreement as well as the proposed pact concerning the promotion and protection of investments.

The two countries will also exchange experiences on port management, and continue negotiating on the Agree-

ment on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income (DTA), a statement of the ministry said.

Two bilateral documents, including the memorandum of understanding on the Establishment of the Political Consultation Mechanism between the two foreign ministries and the Agreement on Economic, Technical, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation be-

tween the two governments, were signed at the witness of the two leaders on the same day.

King Mohammed VI started his first state visit to Singapore on Friday, which will last for two days.

He also had talks with President S R Nathan on Friday.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Poverty in Indonesia to decline 8.2% in 2009

JAKARTA, 30 April — Indonesian Coordinating Minister Aburizal Bakrie said that Indonesia's poverty rate would decrease by 8.2 per cent in 2009, faster than the estimation of the United Nations. Speaking after signing an agreement with the Australian Government in Yogyakarta Province on Thursday evening, Bakrie said that the prediction was based on the current development of infrastructure across the country, such as electricity, roads and sea ports, airports and irrigations.

*MNA/Xinhua*



A Chinese woman works in a yarn and fabric company in Liaocheng, in east China's Shandong Province on 30 April, 2005.—INTERNET

## Rise of Asia good for Europe

SINGAPORE, 30 April— The rise of Asia is not only good for Asia, but also for Europe and the world, said Peter Mandelson, Trade Commissioner of the European Commission, here on Friday.

Speaking Asia Roundtable's forum "Tilting the Global Balance: Asia's New Trade Growth," Mandelson said it is his responsibility to remind European people that "the renaissance of Asia is good for Asia certainly, but also good for Europe and good for the world".

The economic and strategic impact of Asia on the rest of the world raises some issues for Europe, but he did not share the view of those who regard Asian growth rates above 9 per cent as a danger, he said.

"The growing economic power of this part of the world represents a new source of competition. But it also represents a new source of economic growth and stimulus to innovation, as well as an opportunity for cooperation."

In his view, what poses the far greater danger for the future is not the rise of Asia but the introspection and

fearfulness of Europe. Europe needs to build a stronger, more dynamic relationship with the Asian countries, and also with the Asian region, the EU Commissioner said.

He called for more Europe-Asia cooperation and thought the EU model has something to offer to Asia, "Together, I would like to build a partnership between Europe and Asia to help deepen regional integration in Asia".

To do this, some reservations about each other need to be overcome, and both sides need to be realistic with each other, need to monitor economic change carefully, the commissioner said.

As to the trade between the two sides, Mandelson said, emerging Asia is, and will increasingly be the essential trade partner of choice for Europe. "There are already millions of wealthy households in China and India offering a huge future potential for EU business".

*MNA/Xinhua*



A breeder of Chengdu Panda Breeding and Research Base trains a baby panda in Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan Province recently.

INTERNET

# Time has come for Japan, India to renew "Asian identity"

**NEW DELHI, 30 April**— Declaring that time has come for Japan and India to renew and reinvigorate "our Asian identity, building on the commonalities of our interests, aspirations and values," India's Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday night said it was an opportune moment to build on past history of very cordial bilateral interaction.

Speaking at a banquet hosted in honour of visiting Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi here, he said "it is thus only befitting that we have decided during your visit to add a new strategic focus to our Global Partnership and to deepen and widen our cooperation in the New Asian Era. We see this as a many-layered initiative encompassing diverse areas of our interaction."

Recalling the supportive role played by Japan in 1991 to tide over India's economic crisis when he (Manmohan Singh) was Finance Minister, Singh said "it was as a result of such friendly support that India was able to emerge from the crisis and to subsequently embark on the path of economic reform that has changed the face of the economy."

"We want to reduce the psychological and other barriers that prevent fuller exploitation of the immense potential that lies untapped in our economic

ties," he said.

The Prime Minister said that though both nations had gone through various phases in their relationship, "in times of difficulty, we have stood by each other. It is important to recall that India refused to attend the San Francisco Peace Conference in 1951 and signed a separate Peace Treaty with Japan in 1952.

"This Pandit Nehru felt, gave to Japan a proper position of honour and equality among the comity of free nations. In that Peace Treaty, India waived all reparation claims against Japan," Singh said.

The dissenting judgement of Justice Radha Binod Pal is well-known to the Japanese people and it would always symbolize the affection and regard "our people have for your country," the Prime Minister said.

Singh said contacts between the two countries date back to ancient times and is based on the "strong

foundation of these age-old spiritual, cultural and civilizational ties" on which basis "we are striving to build a contemporary relationship, one that is based on our shared commitment to the ideals of democracy, peace and freedom."

The Prime Minister said the business communities of the two countries must be induced to invest in this relationship and be persuaded that it is an economic opportunity to do so.

He said "we share the belief that both India and Japan should play their rightful and commensurate role in international affairs.

"It is on the basis of this understanding that we have made common cause in the process of reform of the United Nations," Singh said.

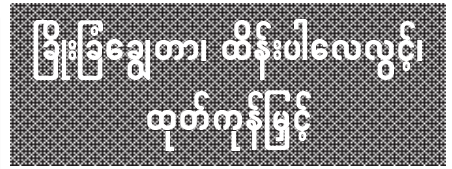
He said Japan has provided India with valuable assistance for the development of basic industries like fertilizers, petrochemicals and automobiles and "we greatly ap-

preciate the fact that India is today the largest recipient of Japan's ODA."

Singh said the "challenge we face today in India is to devise a model of strategic intervention that centres around fulfilling the basic needs and concerns of the common man but where the State places no oppressive burden on the creative spirit of free enterprise."

He said there had been a paradigm change in the political ambience of relations between the two countries in recent years.

MNA/PTI



## Singapore sees highest tourist arrival growth in March

**SINGAPORE, 30 April** — Over 732,000 visitors to Singapore, representing a 16.9-per-cent growth from a year ago, credited March with the most robust rise this year, unveiled the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) on Friday.

STB attributed the boom mainly to the double-digit increase in tourist arrivals from markets such as Hong Kong, India, Thailand and the Philippines, which registered 67-per-cent, 50-per-cent, 34-per-cent and 28-per-cent growth respectively. Singapore's top five visitor-generating markets Indonesia, the United

Kingdom, China, Japan and Malaysia contributed 49 per cent of total visitor arrivals in March.

In the same month, the island state was estimated to pool 867 million Singapore dollars (about 530 million US dollars) in tourism receipts, translating into a 19-per-cent increase over 2004 March.

MNA/Xinhua

## Japanese defence chief to visit Philippines

**MANILA, 30 April** — Japan's defence chief will arrive in Manila on Sunday for a two-day visit to strengthen bilateral military ties, the embassy said.

Shuhei Ogawa, spokesman of the Japanese Embassy in Manila, said that General Yoshinori Ono will also visit Australia on Tuesday to meet with his counterpart, Australian Defence Minister Robert Hill.

"The Philippines and Japan have not been so active in the field of defence cooperation and ex-

change considering our close ties," Ogawa said.

"Both countries have agreed to seek cooperation at various defence fields, such as rescue operation and natural disaster operations," he added.

Ono's visit is part of ongoing consultations of Japan with its Asian neighbours, Ogawa said.

But, he did not say if

certain military agreements will be signed between Manila and Tokyo.

The defence chief will meet President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and Defence Secretary Avelino Cruz on Monday. President Arroyo said the United States, China and Japan are the three countries with most influence on the country's future.—MNA/Xinhua

## Nepal launches anti-AIDS strategy for cops

**KATHMANDU, 30 April** — An anti-AIDS strategy as well as curriculum for Nepal's senior police officials have been launched, Radio Nepal reported on Friday.

"The overall objectives of the anti-HIV/AIDS strategy for Nepal Police is to halt the spread of HIV/AIDS epidemic within the police force, their partners and families, and to sensitize them to the rights of vulnerable groups and their access to HIV/AIDS services," said

Deputy Inspector-General of Police Kumar Koirala.

The programme would focus on the forces deployed to UN peace-keeping missions in countries where HIV prevalence is very high, said Koirala who was quoted by the radio.

Koirala, who is also

coordinator of the HIV/AIDS advisory team, said the Armed Forces, police and other uniformed services around the world face a serious risk of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, due to mainly the nature and characteristics of their profession.—MNA/Xinhua



Visitors to Beijing's Forbidden City are photographed in imperial costume as they celebrate the May Day holiday in Beijing, on 1 May, 2005. —INTERNET

## NZ cancer rates world third highest

**WELLINGTON, 30 April** — New Zealand men and women have the third highest cancer rates in the world, said the Cancer Society of New Zealand on Thursday.

Cancer Society medical director Peter Dady said the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), a part of the World Health Organization, compares incidence rates and the most commonly diagnosed cancers worldwide.

Male cancer rates are highest in the United States, Hungary and New Zealand, and lowest in Niger, Gambia and the Congo.

The United States also leads the world in female cancer rates, ahead of

Israel and New Zealand, with Tunisia, Gambia and Oman at the bottom of the table of 2002 data.

Internationally, 10.9 million people a year are diagnosed with cancer and 6.7 million die from the disease.

About 16,000 New Zealanders develop cancer and there are 7,500 cancer-related deaths.

Peter Dady told the NZ Press Association he had no reason to doubt the IARC's findings. — MNA/Xinhua



Miss Jumbo Queen 2005, Tarnrarin Chansawang, 18, (C) waves for the audience after being named Miss Jumbo Queen at an elephant ground at a zoo in Nakhon Pathom Province about 56 km (35 miles) south of Bangkok, on 1 May, 2005.

INTERNET



# A cup of cold green tea to resist intense heat

Thagadoe

A young man visited the home of Thagadoe. Entering the home,

**Young man:** Oh, what a feast!

**Doe:** Just a tea party, not a feast. You're welcome! Girls, make a cup of coffee for this young man.

**Young man:** I'd like to know your opinion. I think this summer's heat is a bit different from previous years. In the past, in summer, the people suffered from radiated heat. But, this summer, the people have a smarting skin. Young people do so for a little, but the elderly persons do much. This is...

**Doe:** You notice it very well. I'm sure, one or two of your family members must be elderly persons.

**Young man:** You're right. My grandpa is nearly 80, and my grandma 75.

**Doe:** In this regard, my wife and I are of the same age and we both have stinging skins this summer. You're talking about the unusual intense heat, but I don't think you've noticed the statement of the world meteorological body that this year, the ASEAN region would face drought. It also said that some parts of the ASEAN would be struck by high heat and drought, and the parts would not include Myanmar.

**Young man:** Oh, has it said so?

**Doe:** I heard it from the radio announcement. I have learnt that some regions have been overcome severely by the bad weather. Some nations are making arrangements to scatter large blocks of ice from aeroplanes. So, the people in our nation need not take serious having a smarting skin.

**Young man:** How amazing it is! The entire ASEAN region is suffering from the bad weather, but Myanmar is not.

**Doe:** As you know, so many persons in the world

asked why bird flu did not break out in Myanmar. Then, regarding tsunami disaster, many people asked why Myanmar was not hit hard by the tidal waves triggered by the earthquake. In this ASEAN unusual heat case, questions have been raised concerning the fact that Myanmar doesn't suffer from the bad weather. How can we Myanmar people know the cause of this case? Maybe, God knows it.

**Young man:** I agree with you on this point.

**Doe:** Openly, certain elements have a lot of ill will towards Myanmar. In the tsunami disaster, it was a very common question why Cocogyun of Myanmar did not suffer the tidal waves that the quake had triggered although the mass of people lost their lives and a great deal of property was destroyed on the Andaman Island in the Indian Ocean. In this case, I want to shoot a question to them, why no animals were killed in the tsunami disaster that left

smarting skin in Myanmar.

**Young man:** I'd like to know that.

**Doe:** Look, here's a little green tea left in the cup. I touch my fore finger and middle finger with the green tea. And I apply it on knees and thighs. Then, I fan them gently. Follow my line.

**Young man:** Good! It really makes me feel cold and fresh.

**Doe:** You apply cold green tea on belly, legs and neck of your grandparents. Then, fan them. That makes them free from having a smarting skin and they'll be in a state of enjoyment. You can apply green tea on your whole body and stay under current of cool air of an electric fan. But, you shouldn't use a piece of cloth to apply green tea. You even may get a paralytic stroke if you use a piece of cloth and too much cold green tea. I presented a therapy to have cool plain tea to resist intense heat. I also presented a therapy to have a glass of water with two tiny pieces of Kyaukthwe to reduce body temperature. This therapy isn't based on the use of chemicals, so I don't think people will think highly of that therapy. One will realize that it's effective treatment if one tests it.

**Young man:** It's rewarding for me to visit your home today. Brother Doe, how and when you get such potent traditional therapies to ease sufferings? It's beyond my understanding.

**Doe:** You may get many effective traditional therapies if you ask learned elderly persons. Indeed, Myanmar elderly persons are ready to share good traditional therapies with everyone. They know a lot of traditional therapies. Now, you use a cup of cold green tea to remedy having a smarting skin.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin+ Kyemon: 1-5-2005

**You may get many effective traditional therapies if you ask learned elderly persons. Indeed, Myanmar elderly persons are ready to share good traditional therapies with everyone.**

hundreds of thousands of people dead. The animals foresaw the outbreak of tsunami and they moved to safe grounds before the disaster.

**Young man:** Oh, that's a good point!

**Doe:** Well, I'd say it's no use replying to all these questions. If they want to know the cause, they should ask gods. I know a traditional therapy to remedy the suffering of having

## Indian minister says Iran-India gas pipeline on its way

NEW DELHI, 1 May — Indian Petroleum Minister Mani Shankar Aiyar has said that talks on a natural gas pipeline from Iran to India via Pakistan were progressing well and mainly await a pact over price, delivery and transmission routes.

"I am looking forward to going to Pakistan in the near future. A pipeline is very much on its way," Aiyar told *Hardnews* magazine in an interview for its upcoming May issue, referring to the 4.2 billion US dollars pipeline to import gas from Iran via Pakistan. "As far as the Iran-Pakistan-India pipeline is concerned, I had two meetings with my counterpart in Iran. Then we had one techno-commercial discussion in New Delhi followed by a techno-commercial workshop in Teheran," the minister said.

"Now arrangements are being made for bilateral and trilateral talks," said Aiyar, scheduled to

visit Islamabad toward the end of next month to discuss the proposed project among other issues in the hydrocarbons sector.

"It is simply a question of arriving at an agreement over price, quality, delivery schedule and transmission routes." The Petroleum Minister made it clear that while New Delhi respected Washington's concern on the proposed pipeline from Iran, all decisions would be taken keeping in mind the national interest.

"I do not think there is any ambivalence among our neighbours. And I do not think there is any pressure from the outside world," Aiyar said. —MNA/Xinhua

## First robotic surgery for prostate cancer

NEW DELHI, 1 May — Doctors at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences on Friday claimed to have performed country's first robotic surgery for prostate cancer which is the most prevalent form of cancer among men.

"The robotic surgery was performed on a 62-year-old man," Dr A K Hemal, professor, Department of Urology at the institute, who carried out the surgical procedure told reporters here.

"It took two hours and 10 minutes with only about 50 cc blood loss," he said. While in the West, 90 per cent of prostate cancer cases are detected in early stage, while in India, 90 per cent cases are diagnosed in later stage.

Robotic surgery is superior to other forms of surgeries to remove prostate cancer as it is associated with less blood loss.

As a surgeon can see all the nerves and operate precisely, complications such as leakage of

urine, sexual dysfunction and pain are also reduced, he said.

Hemal said robotic surgery is the most advanced form of laproscopic surgery wherein a robot is used to manipulate the surgical instruments while the surgeon controls the robot's movements. Laproscopy is a technique of performing operations through small holes using miniaturized instruments.

The use of robot assistance for surgery for prostate cancer is state-of-the-art technology and is available at select centres worldwide, he said adding it marks a new era in the management of this disease in the country.

MNA/PTI

## Lion populations increasing in Gir Sanctuary in Gujarat

GANDHINAGAR, 1 May — The headcount of lions at Gir Sanctuary in Junagadh District of Gujarat has revealed that the population of lions in the protected areas has increased to 359, Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi announced here on Thursday.

This is 32 more than the census conducted in 2001, he told reporters at the Gujarat Ecological Education and Research Foundation (GEER Foundation). "The Census of lions conducted during the last few days have seen the number of lions increasing

from 327 in 2001 to 359 this year", Modi said.

He credited the rising lion numbers to the effective conservation methods followed by the Gujarat Forest Department. Modi denied allegations that animal baits were used during the census. — MNA/PTI

**ကျေးဇူးတင်၍ ကိုယ့်အားကိုးကိုင်မှုကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ရန်၊ ဝိုင်းဝန်းကူညီဆောင်ရွက်ရန်။**

၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ်၊ မေလ (၂၆)ရက်နေ့အထိ နိုင်ငံအဝန်းတွင် ကျေးဇူး ကိုယ့်အားကိုးကိုင်မှုကြည့်တိုက် (၁၆၃၁၃)တိုက် ဖွင့်လှစ်ပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ကျေးလက်နေ ပြည်သူအများ ပညာဟုသူတတ်ပွားစေရန် ကျေးဇူး ကိုယ့်အားကိုးကိုင်မှုကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက် စာအုပ်များကို ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန ခရိုင်/မြို့နယ်ရုံးများသို့ လှူဒါန်းနိုင်ကြပါသည်။

**ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန**

## Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein oversees construction of Yandaingaug Sutaungpyae MyoU Pagoda, cultivation of opium-substitute honey orange in Lashio

YANGON, 1 May — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, accompanied by SPDC members Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Shan State (North) PDC Chairman North-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, the ministers, the deputy ministers, senior military officers, officials of the SPDC Office and departmental officials arrived at the construction site of Yandaingaug Sutaungpyae MyoU Pagoda on Wizayabumi Maha Hill at the entrance to Lashio.

Chairman of the committee for construction of the pagoda Police Col Win Naing reported on construction tasks and the commander gave a supplementary report. After inspecting the site, the Secretary-1 gave necessary instructions to officials. Next, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party visited the 300-acre plantation of opium-substitute Hsinshweli honey orange of Lin Tun Co in Naungmon Village. The Secretary-1, after viewing the thriving plantation, urged the officials to export the products extensively and to build an orange juice factory.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party looked into construction of the offices of State Organization for Women's Affairs and Maternal and Child Welfare Association. Manager of Asia World Co U Win Maung reported on completion of construction work by 2005. Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspected the construction site and left necessary instructions. The Secretary-1 and party arrived back here this afternoon.

USDA Secretary General Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Secretariat member Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung and CEC members Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung



*Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects construction of the offices of State Organization for Women's Affairs and Maternal and Child Welfare Association. — MNA*

Maung Thein, and Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, who accompanied the Secretary-1, on 29 April visited the project site for reclamation of 5000-acre highland farm of the USDA (Headquarters) in Narshan region in Lashio. Project in-charge Maj Khin Maung Myint reported on construction of cattle farm and staff quarters, digging of nine fish ponds, raising of 51 cows and fish and cultivation of 7000 coffee plants, 190 acres of macadamia and 200 acres of sunflower.

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo gave necessary instructions.

Similarly, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, who accompanied the Secretary-1, inspected Myitkyina Immigration and National Registration Department and National Registration Department on 26 April and Shan State (North) Immigration and National Registration Department on 28 April. He also visited the youth rehabilitation camp and Hsinshweli home for the aged in Lashio. — MNA

### Peace and tranquillity and prevalence...

*(from page 1)*

They proceeded to Mongli model village in Hsenwi Township. The Secretary-1 met members of war veterans and presented saplings of honey orange and supplies to members of war veterans. The Secretary-1 planted a sapling of honey orange in the compound of a war veteran. Lt-Gen Ye Myint

and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe also planted saplings.

The Secretary-1 inspected the houses built for families of war veterans by North East Command and cordially met families.

The Secretary-1 and party went to basic education high school in Se-U Village in Hsenwi Township. U Kan Na of SSNA Brigade-11 that un-

conditionally exchanged arms for peace presented 35 remaining small arms and walkie-talkies to the Secretary-1.

The Secretary-1 then inspected the construction of extension building of the school. Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa presented a fire engine for the village to U Kan Na.

The Secretary-1 and party inspected the farm of U Kan Na and digging of fish breeding ponds and gave instructions. They also inspected cultivation of summer paddy and Brig-

*U Kan Na hands over 35 small weapons and communication devices to Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein. — MNA*



**Local people on their part are to make efforts to ensure regional progress and to raise their living standard.**



Gen Soe Oo and officials reported on cultivation of summer paddy and sufficiency of rice in the township. The Secretary-1 presented prizes for cultivation of Hsinshweli paddy to farmer U Sar Tun and Lt-Col Ko Ko Gyi.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party went to Mongyaw Village in Lashio Township by helicopter. They met vil-

lagers and officials concerned. Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing reported on assistance for development of Mongyaw village.

Commanding Officer U Pwan Wan of Battalion 27 of SSNA Brigade-11 reported on requirements for regional development.

In his address, the Secretary-1 said he and the ministers came to the region to fulfill the requirements for development. Mongyaw region is not far away from Lashio.

*35 small weapons and communication devices to be handed over by Brigade-11 of SSNA — MNA*

*(See page 9)*





Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein hears reports on opium substitute corn cultivation and bee keeping by Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing— MNA

## Peace and tranquillity and prevalence...

(from page 8)

As there was no peace and law and order in the past, regional development tasks could not be undertaken well. Although Myanmar regained her independence for over 50 years, local people could not be able to enjoy the independence. Now there is peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order. The more the people are in contact, the more friendly they become. Regional development tasks can be carried out without any doubt among the people.

He said peace and tranquillity and preva-

After peace and stability has been restored well in the nation, the government launched three major projects — the border areas and national races development project, the 24 special regions development project and rural development project — to ensure equitable development of all parts of the nation. Now, the drive has borne fruitful results. The Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs was established to speed up implementation of the development projects.

Now, local people of border areas, that had poor

motion the five rural development tasks for the sake of the rural regions where the majority of the nation's population reside.

Local people on their part are to make efforts to ensure regional progress and to raise their living standard.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 stressed the importance of harmonious endeavours to ensure rice sufficiency, growing cash crops, and raising chicken, pigs and cattle on a small scale and speedy development of the region.

After the meeting, the Secretary-1 had a cordial conversation with U Kan Na, U Pwan Wan and members, departmental officials, and local



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein at a meeting with departmental heads, social organizations and local people at Affiliated BEHS in Mongyaw village, Lashio. — MNA

ence of law and order are important for development of a region or a nation. After realizing the genuine goodwill of the government, SSNA led by U Kan Na exchanged arms for peace unconditionally. Therefore, local people are now free from fear and burden. He urged U Kan Na and his group to participate in the tasks for community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order. The government would provide assistance to them as far as possible, the Secretary-1 said.

transport in the past, have enjoyed remarkable development in various fields due to prevalence peace and stability.

The 24 special regions development project covers Taunggyi region, Lashio region, Kengtung region, and Panglong region, where national solidarity necessary for independence was conceived, in Shan State. Plans are well under way to help these four regions develop at a high momentum.

Furthermore, the government is putting into

people.

Next, the Secretary-1 presented gifts to U Kan Na and U Pwan Wan.

The Secretary-1 inspected the construction of Mongyaw Affiliated BEHS and gave necessary instructions.

He also inspected Mongyaw Station Hospital and provided cash assistance for the medical staff.

In addition, the Secretary-1 viewed from helicopter the development of Lashio District, Shan State (North), progress of construction of Tangyan-Mongkaung-Mongshu road, and transport condition of the region.

The Secretary-1 arrived back in Lashio in the afternoon. — MNA

**The 24 special regions development project covers Taunggyi region, Lashio region, Kengtung region, and Panglong region, where national solidarity necessary for independence was conceived, in Shan State. Plans are well under way to help these four regions to develop at a high momentum.**



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects earth works for construction of Mongyaw village Affiliated BEHS in Lashio. —MNA



Managing Director Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd), Director Col Ba Tun (Retd) and Deputy Managing Director U Tun Kyi formally open Myanmar Bank Ltd (Bayintnaung). (News on Page 16)—MNA

## Shopkeepers of Zaycho Market presents USDA membership applications

YANGON, 1 May — A ceremony took place to submit membership applications for the Union Solidarity and Development Association by shopkeepers of Zaycho Market in Mandalay at the city hall-2 of the market yesterday morning.

Present at the ceremony were Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Mandalay Division USDA Patron Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, USDA Secretariat member Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang, Mandalay City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, Mandalay Division USDA Secretary U Tin Maung Oo and CEC members and members of district and township USDAs.

Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint explained



USDA Secretariat member Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang delivers a speech at the ceremony to submit membership applications.—MNA

the aims and objectives and future tasks of the association and public welfare services and U Khin Maung Oo, a shopkeeper of Zaycho Market explained the purpose of applying for the membership. Next, the shopkeepers presented the USDA membership applications to Secretariat member U Aung Thuang.

U Aung Thuang spoke on the occasion. He said the USDA has been formed to discharge national duties steadfastly, and its members need to be armed with concepts and confidence. Now is the time when all national brethren are cooperating in unity in the interest of the State and the people. He said the association is tak-

ing part in the successful implementation of the seven-point road map of the State as a national duty. However, U Aung Thuang said, destructive elements

are trying to undermine the efforts of the State. So members of the association are to stifle every danger posed by the destructive elements, he added.

Next, the shopkeepers donated K 500,000 for the association. U Aung Thuang held discussions with district and township USDA members. He visited Win Thuza Shop in Maha Aungmyay Township. Together with Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, U Aung Thuang inspected the foundry shop and machine shop in Mandalay Industrial Zone.

In meeting with members of the industrial zone supervisory committee and industrialists, the commander and minister heard reports on progress on construction of factories and plants, manufacturing of buses and trucks. Mandalay District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Maung Maung gave a supplementary report. Later, Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Committee Minister U Aung Thuang gave necessary instructions to officials. — MNA

## Construction Minister inspects road and bridge construction tasks in Namti

YANGON, 1 May — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, accompanied by officials of Public Works, arrived at the office of Namti road construction special Group-6 on 27 April and heard reports on road construction works of Namti-Tanai, Tanai-Shinbweyan-Tagetykha and Myitkyina-Sumprabum-Putao road sections. After hearing the reports, the minister attended to the needs. Afterwards, the minister and party inspected progress of road and bridge construction along Namti-Tanai Road.

On April 28, the minister looked into the tasks being carried out along Myitkyina-Sumprabum-Putao Road and at the briefing hall, heard reports on future tasks by the officials. Next, the minister gave necessary instructions. Later, the minister and party inspected construction of road and bridges in Momauk Township, Bhamo District. On 29 April, the minister proceeded to the construction site of Namti Creek Bridge and looked into the progress of work. At the briefing hall, the minister heard the reports on future tasks to be carried out and attended to the needs. — MNA

## CNG Filling Station No 001 opened in Mandalay

YANGON, 1 May — A ceremony to open CNG Filling Station No 001 of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise was held in front of the sale centre at the corner of 41st Street and 85th Street in Maha Aungmyay Township, Mandalay yesterday.

It was attended by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for Energy Brig-

Gen Lun Thi, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, heads of department, members of social organizations and the Union Solidarity and Development Association and guests.

Managing Director of MOGE explained the salient points of the filling station. Next, Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han formally opened the filling

station. After that, Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint unveiled the signboard of the sale centre.

Afterwards, the commander, the minister and the mayor inspected the filling station, and filling of gas into vehicles.

The filling station is the second of its kind opened in Mandalay Division and its gas is being delivered from the CNG Filling Station in Paleik to Mandalay with the use of tube trailer.—MNA



## Mines Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint inspects salt mills in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 1 May — Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint together with Managing Director U Win Htain of Myanma Salt Enterprise and officials arrived in Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Division on 23 April morning.

At the office of Myanma Salt Enterprise, the minister met with local authorities and salt entrepreneurs and gave necessary instructions on delivery of iodine salt and cooperation with local authorities, service personnel and the entrepreneurs.

The minister inspected Ngwe Thaukyan and Nay Chi Oo Salt Mills in Patheingyi in the afternoon.

On 24 April afternoon, the minister arrived at Thetmephyu salt production camp in Chaung Wa village tract in Ngapudaw Township. At the briefing hall, he heard reports on the salt production this year, health and agriculture of the staff.

Next, the minister inspected extension of salt pit and salt production and he urged them to boost salt production and the salt storage to be used in the long run.

At the briefing hall of Thingangalay salt production camp in Labutta Township on 25 April morning, camp manager reported on extension of salt pit and salt production this year to the minister. He then gave necessary instructions on the tasks of salt production.

On 26 April morning, the minister met with salt entrepreneurs in Bayintnaung hall in Labutta Township and explained the economic development of the State.

The minister then met with secretary and executives of Township Union Solidarity and Development Association and urged them to cooperate with the people in implementing rural development tasks.

In the evening, the minister met with local authorities and salt entrepreneurs at the office of Myanma Salt and Marine Chemicals Enterprise in Myaungmya Township and explained the State's economic development.

MNA

## Foreign Minister arrives back

YANGON, 1 May — Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win arrived back here this afternoon after paying a goodwill visit to the People's Republic of China from 27 April to 1 May at the invitation of Mr Li Zhaoxing, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

The delegation was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, officials from MOFA and Ambassador of the PRC to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun.

During the goodwill visit, the Foreign Minister met with Member of the State Council of PRC Mr Tang Zhao Xuan, Foreign Minister Mr Li Zhaoxing, Governor of Yunnan Province Mr Xu Rongkai and discussed bilateral cooperation in a cordial manner.

Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun and Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Myo Myint also arrived back here on the same flight. — MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Sein Htwa presents documents relating to TE-11 fire-engine to U Kan Na. (News on page 1) — MNA

## Tilapia Fish Festival 2005 continues

YANGON, 1 May — Under the leadership of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, the Tilapia Fish Festival 2005, co-organised by Myanmar Fisheries Federation and Myanmar Fisheries Entrepreneurs Association, continue in the compound of MFF at the corner of Bayintnaung Road and the road to Pharmaceutical Factory in Insein Township at 3 pm today.



Tilapia Fish Festival 2005 crowded with people. — MNA

Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein together with officials viewed round the booths of the Fisheries Department, MFF, Myanmar Fisheries Entrepreneurs Association, Myanmar Prawn Entrepreneurs Association,

Myanmar Fisheries and Export Entrepreneurs Association, feedstuff factories, fisheries-related companies, fish breeders and baby fish producers displaying at the festival. Moreover, assorted tilapia fish were sold at reasonable price

at the festival and fish curry shops also were kept open. The festival continues tomorrow from 4 to 9 pm.

MNA

## Tilapia Fish Festival extended

YANGON, 1 May — The Tilapia Fish Festival will be extended up to 2 May in addition to its original designated days, 30 April and 1 May. The festival will take place from 4 pm to 9 pm on 2 May. — MNA

## Abbas-Putin summit centres on M-E peace conference

RAMALLAH, 1 May — Talks between visiting Russian President Vladimir Putin and Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas are focusing on holding an international peace conference on Mideast peace, spokesman for the Palestinian National Authority Nabil Abu Rudeineh said.

Rudeineh told reporters as the Abbas-Putin summit was underway that Abbas was determined to push forward holding such an international conference.

After talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Wednesday, Putin suggested that an international conference be held in Moscow later this year to discuss the implementation of roadmap peace plan. The proposal drew an immediate welcome from Palestinian leaders and the European Union, but was turned down by Israel and the United States as premature. Rudeineh said the Israeli opposition "is a clear sign that Israel does not want to see any progress in the peace process". As the last leg of his Mideast tour, Putin arrived in the West Bank city of

Ramallah earlier in the day. After a high-profile welcoming ceremony, Abbas and Putin went into closed-door talks.

Rudeineh revealed that bilateral relations and an expected Israeli evacuation from the Gaza Strip and northern West Bank will also be discussed. Abbas will urge Putin to

exert more efforts to help implement the roadmap as Russia is one of the so-called Quartet committee of key mediators which also groups the United States, the United Nations and the European Union, said Rudeineh.

He expressed astonishment at Israel's opposition to Putin's offer to

give 50 armoured vehicles to Palestinian security forces and two transport helicopters to Abbas. We have officially asked the Quartet committee to press Israel to let the Palestinians rebuild security apparatuses battered by Israel over the last four years of violence," Rudeineh said. — MNA/Xinhua



President U Pyone Maung Maung of Myanmar Equestrian Federation presents award to one of the winners of equestrian competitions Sunday.

MNA



Athletes taking part in 2005 Davis Cup Asia Oceania Zone Group IV Sunday. — MNA

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## မြည်တွင်းပြန်ကို အားပေးပါ

### Cuban, Venezuelan presidents criticize FTAA

HAVANA, 30 April — The presidents of Cuba and Venezuela strongly criticized the Free Trade Area of the Americas at a mass rally here on Friday.

Before a rally attended by thousands of students, lawyers, economists and businessmen from Latin America, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez defended his integration proposal dubbed the Bolivarian Alternative for the Americas (ALBA), and opposed the FTAA, which is driven by the United States.— *MNA/Xinhua*

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### နိုင်ငံခြားစက္ကူ (၄) ချိုးဝယ်လှူလိုခြင်း

| စဉ် | ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအစား                                     | လိုအပ်ချက်                                  | ပေးသွင်းရမည့်နေရာ  |
|-----|---|---|--|
| ၁   | ၂   | ၃   | ၄  |
| ၁   | Foreign Duplex Board (270 GSM) (31"x43") (100 Sheets) | ၂၃၀-ထပ်<br>(အထပ် နှစ်ထောင်သုံးရာတစ်ဆယ်တိတိ) | မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ ၂၅၀-ထပ်<br>အထူးစီမံအေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ (ရေခါး) ၇၈၀-ထပ်<br>(မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံတွင်ပေးသွင်းရန်)<br>အလှူကုန်ပစ္စည်းစက်ရုံ ၆၅၀-ထပ်<br>ဆပ်ပြာစက်ရုံအမှတ် (၁) ၄၀၀-ထပ်<br>ဆပ်ပြာစက်ရုံ (မန္တလေး) ဆပ်ပြာစက်ရုံ ၆၀-ထပ်<br>ဆပ်ပြာစက်ရုံ (မကွေး) အမှတ် (၁) တွင် ၆၀-ထပ်<br>ဆပ်ပြာစက်ရုံ (ရမည်းသင်း) ပေးသွင်းရန် ၆၀-ထပ်<br>ဆပ်ပြာစက်ရုံအမှတ် (၃) ၅၀-ထပ် |
| ၂   | Art Paper (85 GSM) (31"x43") (250 Sheets)             | ၆၃၅-ထပ်<br>(အထပ် ခြောက်ရာသုံးဆယ်ငါးတိတိ)    | မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ ၂၀၀-ထပ်<br>အထူးစီမံအေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ (ရေခါး) ၅၀-ထပ်<br>(မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံတွင်ပေးသွင်းရန်)<br>အလှူကုန်ပစ္စည်းစက်ရုံ ၅၀-ထပ်<br>ဆပ်ပြာစက်ရုံအမှတ် (၁) ၁၅၀-ထပ်<br>ဆပ်ပြာစက်ရုံ (မန္တလေး) အမှတ် (၁) တွင် ၆၅၀-ထပ်<br>ဆပ်ပြာစက်ရုံ (မကွေး) ပေးသွင်းရန် ၆၀-ထပ်<br>ဆပ်ပြာစက်ရုံ (ရမည်းသင်း) ၆၀-ထပ်   |
| ၃   | Sticker Paper (21"x30") (100 Sheets)                  | ၅၄၀-ထပ်<br>(အထပ် ငါးရာလေးဆယ်တိတိ)           | အထူးစီမံအေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ (ရေခါး) ၅၄၀-ထပ်<br>(မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံတွင်ပေးသွင်းရန်)   |
| ၄   | 60 GSM WoodFree Printing Paper (31"x43") (500 Sheets) | ၇၀၀-ထပ်<br>(အထပ် ခုနစ်ရာတိတိ)               | မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ ၄၀-ထပ်<br>အထူးစီမံအေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ (ရေခါး) ၆၆၀-ထပ်<br>(မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံတွင်ပေးသွင်းရန်)   |

**တင်ဒါပေးရက်** (၆-၅-၂၀၀၅) (သောကြာ) နေ့မွန်လွဲ (၁၄:၀၀) နာရီ  
**မှတ်ချက်** အသေးစိတ်အကြောင်းအရာများကို မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ (ပစ္စည်းစီမံရေးဌာနတွင် ရှိချိန်အတွင်းစုံစမ်းနိုင်ပြီး တင်ဒါပုံစံများကို ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။  
(ဆက်သွယ်ရန်တယ်လီဖုန်းအမှတ်-၆၆၃၄၁၁)

စက်ရုံမှ  
မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ

### Flash floods kill 20 in Aceh

JAKARTA, 30 April — Flash floods swept through a village in the tsunami-hit Aceh Province, leaving 20 people dead, 10 missing and 28 others wounded, according to the Media Indonesia here on Friday.

Hundreds of villagers were internally displaced to other places for safety as their houses were destroyed by the floods, it said.

Rescue workers were still sifting through the debris and mud to find survivors.

The waters also damaged infrastructures such as roads and bridges, which hampered evacuations, said Darmansyah, an official of the Southeast Aceh regent office.

Illegal logging and heavy rains were the cause of the disaster, said Director of Indonesian Forum for Environment for Aceh Province Bambang Antariksa.

Aceh Province was hit by the earthquake and tsunami disaster in December last year, which killed over 200,000 and caused widespread destruction.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Airbus to create 4th major engineering centre in China

**BELING, 1 May** — Aviation giant Airbus said on Saturday it would set up its fourth biggest engineering centre in Beijing to do aircraft design work for its super long-range passenger plane A350.

Jean-Hugues Depigny, vice-president of customer services of Airbus China, told *Xinhua* that the centre, which will be home to about 200 engineers, would be the second largest of its kind outside Europe after its engineering centre set up in the United States.

An A350 passenger plane will carry up to approximately 300 passengers, said the vice-president. According to a deal signed earlier this month by Airbus and China Aviation Industry Corporation II (AVIC II), the engineering centre will be a joint venture between the two firms, and will be located in the Tianzhu Airport Industrial Zone, adjacent to the offices of Airbus China.

Philippe Delmas, Air-

bus executive vice-president in charge of government relations, communications and external affairs, said "China has a solid foundation in aviation industry with a number of top professionals". "We believe that the Chinese engineers, together with their peers in other Airbus engineering centres in the world, will be able to contribute significantly to the design of Airbus aircraft in the future. The engineering centre will also enable China to increase substantially the contingent of world-class aircraft engineers," said Delmas. Chinese engineers have joined their partners of Airbus in Europe to design the A318 passenger plane, and five Chinese aviation firms turned out parts for Air-

bus. More than half of the 3,600-strong Airbus passenger planes in service have some of their parts made in China.

Airbus' business in China has kept expanding since it first entered the country in 1985. The Airbus fleet in service in the Chinese Mainland, Hong Kong and Macao has grown to 281 by the end of March from just 29 in 1995.

Depigny said Airbus, a leading aircraft manufacturer with the most modern and comprehensive family of airliners on the market, accounts for 53 per cent of passenger plane orders worldwide in 2004.

Earlier this month, three Chinese airlines have signed contracts for the purchase of 30 Airbus aircraft. — *MNA/Xinhua*

## Official says dengue epidemic in Malaysia over

**KUALA LUMPUR, 30 April** — The dengue epidemic that hit the country early this year is over, Malaysian Health Minister Chua Soi Lek has said.

The number of cases reported nationwide each week for the past several weeks had dropped to between 300 and 400, the normal level, Chua said during a visit to the Kangar Hospital in northern state of Perlis Friday.

The epidemic was declared in February when the number of cases shot up to about 1,500 a week in the country, he said.

Nevertheless, he said, the government would remain vigilant for any sign of another epidemic. He advised the people to maintain cleanliness as this was important to prevent a recurrence of the disease.

Chua was earlier briefed on the development of health projects in

Perlis by State Health Director Azmi Hashim.

A total of 41 people died of the disease in the first four months this year against 20 deaths in the same period last year, according to a statement released by the Health Ministry last week.

To control the disease, the Health Ministry has directed local authorities to intensify continuous control and prevention efforts to reduce sites of breeding mosquitoes, local Press reported.

The dengue fever, an infectious tropical disease transmitted by mosquitoes, is characterized by severe pains in the joints and back, fever and rash.

*MNA/Xinhua*

Don't smoke



ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွံ့မြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

### Scientists find major obstacle in developing HIV vaccines

LOS ANGELES, 30 April—Some HIV vaccines may have failed because they induce a class of antibodies that a patient's own immune system is programmed to destroy, according to a new study in Friday's journal *Science*.

This research offers new insights into how HIV evades the human immune system and new approaches for developing HIV vaccines, said researchers at Duke University who conducted the study.

The team discovered that certain broadly protective antibodies, which recognize and latch onto the HIV protein gp41, resemble antibodies made in autoimmune diseases. In most people, the immune system destroys these types of antibodies to prevent attacks against self.

The study suggests HIV vaccines may have failed partly because certain proteins on HIV's protective outer coat trigger only short-lived, self-reactive antibodies instead

of long-lasting, HIV-specific antibodies.

The results also imply that during the initial infection stage in humans, HIV may escape destruction by the immune system because these seemingly vulnerable outer coat proteins activate self-reactive antibodies.

"The fundamental problem in all of HIV vaccine research has been that when you inject the envelope of the HIV virus into people or animals, no broadly neutralizing antibodies—those antibodies that kill most HIV strains—are made. This provides a plausible explanation for why broadly protective antibodies have not been made in response to currently tested HIV vaccines," said Barton Haynes, lead author of the

study.

The antibody-producing portion of the human immune system is broadly divided into two categories. The first, innate B cell immunity, comprises fast-acting but weak antibodies that fight a broad range of pathogens. These antibodies can also attack the body itself, as in autoimmune disorders.

When viruses activate innate B cells, the body destroys the B cells to protect against autoantibodies that could cause autoimmune disease or other harm.

The second immune system category is adaptive B cell immunity, a slower response that creates powerful, pathogen-specific antibodies and provides lasting immu-

nity. The body's normal response to infection is to produce adaptive antibodies that target only the invading virus or other pathogens.

Many widely used non-HIV vaccines "train" adaptive antibodies to seek out a unique protein on the protective outer coating of viruses. HIV researchers have attempted to induce broadly neutralizing antibodies, long-lived HIV-specific antibodies that can kill all or most HIV strains, with a similar vaccine design.

MNA/Xinhua

### Food poisoning afflicts 84 people in Hubai Province

WUHAN, 30 April—Eighty-four workers were hospitalized after they ate contaminated food at a construction site in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, a health official confirmed Friday.

By Press time, 66 workers were in stable condition and 18 others were still under medical observation.

Yang Zhi, head of the Wuchang District Health Bureau, said all these workers worked at the construction site of the Century Garden in Wuchang District. The project manager had held a dinner party for 293 workers Wednesday evening to celebrate the imminent May Day holiday.

Some of the workers

reported vomiting and diarrhoea early Thursday morning and 84 workers were sent to a local hospital around dusk of the day.

Yang, the health official, said local diseases control centre had ruled out the possibility of the food being contaminated by toxic chemicals and concluded the workers were infected by bacteria. Yang said the dining hall at the construction site does not have refrigerators to keep pork fresh and safe.

MNA/Xinhua

### Annan clears Pakistani diplomat of wrongdoing

UNITED NATIONS, 30 April—UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan has exonerated his former Chef de Cabinet Iqbal Riza of any wrongdoing in shredding documents related to Oil-for-Food programme just before the start of probe by Volcker Commission which had faulted the Pakistani diplomat for his action.

"After reviewing the findings in the latest Volcker report and consulting the Office of Legal Affairs as well as the Office of Human Resources, the Secretary-General has found there is no ground for disciplinary action against him," UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

The panel had found Riza had acted imprudently and did not follow his own directive against shredding the documents relating to the programme when he granted permission to his assistant to destroy three years of chronological

files. But it found no violation of staff rules, the world body said, announcing Annan's decision.

Earlier, the United Nations had defended Riza's action, saying that they were copies of the documents the originals of which were available elsewhere in the system and described it a normal practice. It had said Riza allowed the files to be shredded as the assistant had complained to shortage of storage space. Annan informed Riza in a letter of the decision and said he has accepted Riza's apology for his actions,

Dujarric added.

The Volcker report had said in light of the Secretary-General's initiation of a formal investigation into the (Oil-for-Food) programme, Riza should have been "aware, at the time he authorized the destruction, of his files" potential materiality to an inquiry into the programme. "The shredding of the documents continued until December 2004, well after the Secretary-General's preservation instruction of 1 June, 2004, though Riza denies knowing this continued destruction," it said.—MNA/PTI



A fashion house buyer looks for materials for the new 2005/2006 Winter collections in Lille, Northern France at a textiles exhibition recently.—INTERNET

### 5,000 more teachers to be recruited in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 30 April—The Nepali Government will appoint at least 5,000 more teachers in state-aided schools and upgrade one third of the total schools next year, an official said here Friday.

"There are about 26,000 state-aided schools across the country, and about 8,000 among them will be upgraded to lessen overcrowding of students and improve the quality of teaching," Mahashram Sharma, deputy director of the Education Department, told reporters.

Low-cost school buildings will be constructed from the next fiscal year beginning from July 16,

2005, Sharma said.

He said that 10 districts in far-western Nepal have been initially selected for the construction of these school buildings, which will be constructed on the basis of school enrollment rate and teacher-student ratio.

The increasing number of students and limited space in schools have severely upset the teacher-student ratio. For

instance, he said, in Dhanusha District, the ratio is 1:90, while it ought to be 1:40.

A revision of policy regarding teachers is also under the government's consideration. When implemented, it will enable the transfer of government school teachers from one district to another to bring about uniformity in the teacher-student ratio, he added.—MNA/Xinhua



A Siberian Husky sports a pair of sunglasses as it sits in the passenger seat of a van stopped at traffic lights in Sydney recently.—INTERNET

SPORTS

### Luxemburgo hails Real Madrid's win over Real Sociedad

MADRID, 1 May— Brazilian Vanderley Luxemburgo, the coach of Real Madrid, was satisfied with the result obtained by his team which was preceded by "a demanding work in the first half" and the search for victory at the end of the game against Real Sociedad.

"They controlled the ball longer but could not score, whereas in the second half we were superior, although this effort took its toll on the physical condition of the players. We endured 90 minutes, not 60," said Luxemburgo after the game.

On the other hand, Real Sociedad coach Jose Maria Amorortu, thought the same happened with his team saying "they had a control of the game, but Real Madrid were more effective," and did not complain about the victory of the Madrid club.

Finally, Luxemburgo said the League is not over "and Barcelona will have to work hard to win it". — MNA/Xinhua

### China eyes clean sweep as table tennis world c'ships opens

SHANGHAI, 1 May— Chinese table tennis players launched their attack at another title-sweep as the five-event individual world championships opened here on Saturday.

Wu Bangguo, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress, declared open the tournament that runs through May 6 in the super-modern and sports-crazy Chinese city. A total of 574 players from 140 countries and regions, both a record for the world championships, will compete in the sport's showcase event.

When last time China held the world championships in 1995, host players walked away with seven top honours including two team titles. The biennial championships was split into two tournaments — team and individual — since 1999 except for 2001 when Japan's Osaka

hosted the last unified championships.

China made it seven out of seven in Osaka but the country which regards table tennis as its "national game" lost the precious men's singles gold in the 2003 championships in Paris and suffered a heavier blow in the Athens Olympic Games when South Korean Ryu Seung Min stunned Chinese Wang Hao in the men's singles final.

"Table tennis may be just a sport in other parts of the world, but it is about the national pride in China," said Cai Zhenhua, director of the Administration Centre of Table Tennis and Badminton. — MNA/Xinhua

### Moya leads in Estoril Open

LISBON, 30 April— Former French Open champion Carlos Moya led fellow Spanish Tommy Robredo and Guillermo Garcia-Lopez into the semifinals at the Estoril Open Friday as Argentine Gaston Gaudio occupied one last four berth.

Top seed Moya, 2000 tournament champion, broke once in the first set and twice in the second to quell the upset hopes of France's Paul-Henri Mathieu 6-4, 6-2 in the 532,000 euro event. Moya has been successful in a reconstruction effort this week on his game after losing in the first round at Monte Carlo and the third round last week in Barcelona.

Current Roland Garros holder Gaudio followed the form book with an easy win over Spain's eighth seed Feliciano Lopez 6-2, 6-2.

Gaudio beat countryman Guillermo Coria in an all-Argentine final for the Grand Slam championship in Paris 11 months ago. Robredo beat Italian vet-

eran Davide Sanguinetti 6-2, 6-2 and Garcia-Lopez put out Juan Antonio Marin of Costa Rica 6-1, 2-6, 6-3.

On the women's 140,000-US-dollar side of the draw, Dinara Safina reached her second semi-final in as many appearances, rolling over American Jill Craybas 6-4, 6-2.

The Russian second seed was stopped in a 2002 last-four showing by German Anna Barna.

Safina, younger sister of men's Australian Open winner Marat Safin, will face a tough challenge Saturday from China's Li Na, the fourth seed who turned in another straightforward victory on the clay.—MNA/Xinhua

### Chelsea beat Bolton to win title

LONDON, 1 May— Chelsea clinched their first-ever Premiership title, the second league title in club's history, when they beat Bolton 2-0 away on Saturday.

Frank Lampard turned out the hero for Chelsea with both goals in the second half to seal their first title success in 50 years.

The Blues were made to work hard for the victory with their resilient defence paving the way for the victory after Bolton dominated the first half.

Bolton missed a golden opportunity to break the deadlock on 22 minutes when Kevin Davies got on the end of Bruno N'Gotty's free kick unmarked six yards from goal, but he got his header all wrong sending it wide of the target.

Chelsea came out for the second with renewed vigour and Tiago volleyed over the crossbar from the edge of the area on 55 minutes.

The visitors then grabbed the breakthrough they were so desperately seeking on the hour mark with Lampard netting his 17th goal of the season.

The England international shrugged off the challenge of Vincent Candela inside the box to collect Didier Drogha's flick on and he kept his cool to cut inside Tal Ben Haim before drilling his shot past Jussi Jaaskelainen to send the away fans into raptures.

With Bolton pushing more and more men forward they were leaving gaps at the back and on 76 minutes Chelsea caught them on the break through Lampard to seal the win and the championship. — MNA/Xinhua

Claude Makelele picked the ball up inside his own half sending Lampard racing clear on goal with a great through ball down the middle and Lampard coolly rounded Jaaskelainen before tapping the ball into the empty net and spark wild scenes of celebration among the Chelsea players. Liverpool, Chelsea's Champions League semifinal rival, was held to a 1-1 home draw by Middlesbrough.

The Merseyside played the first half as if the Champions League was on their mind, they face Chelsea in the second leg of their semifinal on Tuesday.

Middlesbrough looked hungry for a UEFA Cup place as in-form Szilard Nemeth ran through the defence to curl in a superb opener after four minutes.

Liverpool looked more interested in the second half and Steven Gerrard grabbed a deserved equalizer with a fantastic long-range drive seven minutes after the restart.

Birmingham City beat Blackburn Rovers 2-1 thanks to an 80th minute goal from Emile Heskey. Jonathan Stead put the Rovers ahead after 13 minutes, but City substitute Robbie Blake came on in the 59th minute and equalized with almost his first touch two minutes later.

Everton continue to do their best to throw away a place in the Champions League with another off-beam performance as they lost to Fulham in London. — MNA/Xinhua

### Bayern clinch German 1st Division title with Makaay hat-trick

BERLIN, 1 May— Roy Makaay made a brilliant hat-trick to send Bayern Munich to their 19th German First Division soccer champion with a 4-0 win over Kaiserslautern on Saturday.

With Schalke 04's challenge fizzling out in a 3-3 draw against Bayer Leverkusen, Bayern's win gave them an unassailable 11-point lead at the top of the standings with three games to play.

Bayern's fifth Bundesliga title in seven years came in their first season under new coach Felix Magath.

With 31 games played, Bayern lead with 68 points, followed by

Schalke on 57 after they squandered a 3-1 lead at home to Leverkusen and failed to take advantage of the sending-off of Roque Junior with over 20 minutes still to play.

Bayern will seal a domestic double if they beat Schalke in the Cup final in Berlin on May 28.

Michael Ballack set Bayern on their way with a top-class finish.

Ballack, captaining the side in the absence of injured goalkeeper Oliver Kahn, pounced on a backheel from Makaay

and drilled in at the near post in the 19th minute.

Makaay's flick header from a Willy Sagnol cross made it 2-0 in the 35th minute and the Dutch international smacked in the third three minutes into the second half after nodding an Owen Hargreaves through ball past the keeper to set up the chance.

Makaay completed his hat-trick in the 67th minute when he took a long ball forward from Ballack and steered the ball past the keeper.—MNA/Xinhua

### Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | U | R | N | E | D | U | P | 8 | C | 8 | A |   |
| R | 8 | E | 8 | V | 8 | N | 8 | K | N | O | W | S |
| O | L | D | P | E | R | S | O | N | 8 | N | 8 | U |
| O | 8 | R | 8 | R | 8 | U | 8 | I | 8 | G | I | N |
| P | E | E | L | 8 | G | R | O | T | T | O | 8 | D |
| 8 | 8 | S | 8 | B | 8 | E | 8 | T | 8 | 8 | 8 | E |
| G | O | S | S | I | P | 8 | Z | E | P | H | Y | R |
| O | 8 | 8 | 8 | D | 8 | V | 8 | D | 8 | O | 8 | 8 |
| U | 8 | R | E | D | D | E | N | 8 | T | R | A | P |
| L | I | E | 8 | I | 8 | L | 8 | A | 8 | A | 8 | A |
| A | 8 | A | 8 | N | A | V | I | G | A | T | O | R |
| S | P | R | I | G | 8 | E | 8 | E | 8 | I | 8 | I |
| H | 8 | M | 8 | 8 | S | T | U | D | I | O | U | S |

### Beattie admits struggling in Everton

LONDON, 30 April— James Beattie, whose transfer cost Everton six million pounds, admitted on Saturday that his form has been a major disappointment since his arrival at Goodison Park from Southampton.

Beattie has scored only two goals in nine appearances and was criticised for a head-butt on Chelsea's William Gallas that earned him a three-match ban.

He said: "There's nobody more disappointed with the start to my Everton career than myself.

"I'm a big self-critic and I know that there are better times to come."

Beattie was hoping his move to Everton would reignite his England career, but a struggle for form has also not been helped by a knee injury.

He said: "With lack of matches between now and the end of the season, and for the fact that I haven't played many games since I signed, it's probably going to be next season before the fans see me at my best. — MNA/Xinhua

### Jones wins 100 metres in Martinique

WASHINGTON, 1 May— Marion Jones won her first race in 11 months Saturday, sprinting to victory in the 100 metres at an IAAF Grand Prix meet at Forte-de-Fance, Martinique.

Jones led from the start and paced an American sweep in the event, finishing in 11.28 seconds, ahead of Wyllesheia Myricks and Melissa Barber, who each finished in 11.35. France's Sylviane Felix was fourth in 11.36, according to reports.

The winning time at the Meeting du Conseil General was well off Jones' personal best of 10.65, set in 1998.

Jones got off to a slow start this season, finishing last in the 400 metres at the Mount San Antonio College Relays 55.03. At the Kansas Relays, Jones' 800 relay team was disqualified after a poor handoff. — MNA/Xinhua



## Zimbabwe calls for expansion of trade links with Mozambique

**HARARE, 1 May—** Zimbabwe Minister of Industry and International Trade Obert Mpofu has called on business people in Zimbabwe and Mozambique to take advantage of good relations to expand trade ties.

He was speaking on Friday at the 46th edition of the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF) in Bulawayo which was officially opened by Mozambican President Armando Guebuza. Mpofu said the two countries had signed a number of bilateral agreements that seek to boost trade.

"Business communities in both Zimbabwe and Mozambique should take advantage of efforts by our respective governments to put in place a conductive framework to enable them to do business and so increase the level of economic cooperation," he said. Mpofu said the bilateral Preferential Trade Agreement between the two neighbouring countries, which became operational on 1 March this year, and the Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement, would serve as a basis for increasing the volume of trade and investment. "The resuscitation of discussions on the

intended memorandum of understanding on the Beira Development Corridor also presents immense business opportunities that can be exploited for the mutual economic benefit of Zimbabwe and Mozambique," he said.

Other memorandum of understanding signed by the two countries include one on Labour and Social Security signed last year in February, another on information exchange between media houses and on rail transportation between the National Railways of Zimbabwe and Mozambican Ports and Rail Authority to provide for the use of locomotives on both sides of the rail network, Mpofu said.

Guebuza becomes the second Mozambican President to open the ZITF after Joachim Chissano, who retired last year. About 600 exhibitors are participating in the ZITF, which ends on 30 April.

MNA/Xinhua

## U Soe Myat Oo @ Shri Tapan Naha

Age 61 years

U Soe Myat Oo beloved son of late Dr BC Naha & late Daw Soe Myint No.12, Mingalar Street Kha Ward, Thingangyun, beloved elder brother of Dr Soe Myat Tun Director (DOH), Daw Marlar Soe, Daw Soe Nandar (BEMS No 3) Thingangyun, Daw Myint Myint Soe, U Soe Win (AE, Copper Mining Project), Daw Aye Aye Soe (BEHS No 3, Pabedan), U Soe Hnaung has passed away at his residence on 1st May 2005 and his remains will be cremated on 2nd May 2005 at Yay Way Hindu Cemetery at 2:00 pm. The buses will leave the above residence at 1:00 pm.

## Runaway US bride turns up 1,200 kms away from home

**WASHINGTON, 1 May—** A bride-to-be in the southeastern US state of Georgia who had disappeared days has turned up alive in the southern state of New Mexico, police said on Saturday.

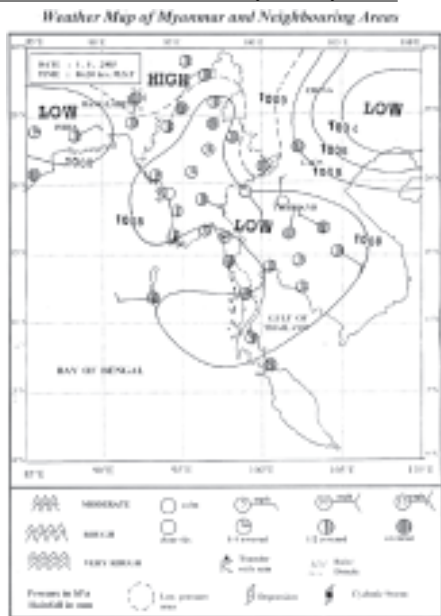
The woman, Jennifer Wilbanks, who disappeared on Tuesday while jogging around the house where she was living with her fiancé in Duluth, Georgia, travelled to Las Vegas, in the western state of Nevada, by bus before going to Albuquerque, the capital city of New Mexico, some 1,200 kilometres from her home, said Ray Schultz, chief of police in Albuquerque. It was in Albuquerque that she found herself broke and called her fiancé from a pay phone late Friday that she had been kidnapped while jogging, he said.

She admitted after being

questioned by police that she had gotten cold feet about the scheduled wedding on Saturday and decided she needed some time alone, Schultz said.

Wilbanks, a nurse, was now in police custody in Albuquerque, and her relatives were on their way there to pick her up. Her disappearance has been widely reported in national newspapers and TV news programmes and caused a nationwide hunt.

MNA/Xinhua



## WEATHER

Sunday, 1 April, 2005

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayin State, upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Minbu (0.08) inch. Day temperatures were (6°C) above normal in Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin, Rakhine and Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Magway and Minbu (41°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 30-4-2005 was 103°F. Minimum temperature on 1-5-2005 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 1-5-2005 was 69%. Total sunshine hours on 30-4-2005 was (10.3) hours (approx). Rainfalls on 1-5-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (1.46 inches) at Yangon Airport, (1.93 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (0.32 inch) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southwest at (13:15) hours MST on 30-4-2005.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 2-5-2005:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Kachin State, upper Sagaing, Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Continuation of thundery conditions in Upper Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 2-5-2005:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-5-2005:** Partly cloudy.

## Strong wind warning

(Issued on 1st May, 2005)

As the day temperatures rise markedly all over the country till the onset of Southwest monsoon, local strong winds are likely in the afternoon/evening over most of the areas. Surface winds speeds may reach (40) to (50) mph, accompanied at times by squalls and hails in some places.



Monday, 2 May  
View on today:

7:00 am

1. ဂေဟဗေဒ: ရှင်မင်းထွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံယဇ္ဇာ နာယကအဖွဲ့အဝန်ထောက်အောင်စွယ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာဟောရှင်ဂုဏ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာ အရမဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိယ၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာ တိပသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

5. Song of National races

8:10 am

6. Cute little dancers

8:20 am

7. ရွှေလောင်းတံတား

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. Grammar made easy

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. Practice in Reading

4:45 pm

4. Musical programme

5:00 pm

5. အထူးသင်တန်းထုတ်လုပ်သော ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ - ခုတ်ယူရန် (ရှုကွဲဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရှုကွဲဗေဒ)

5:15 pm

6. Dance Varities

5:30 pm

7. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

5:45 pm

8. Song and Dance of National races

5:50 pm

9. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music

Troupe)

6:05 pm

10. Discovery

6:10 pm

11. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဗျောက်မင်းဂူစုန်း" (အပိုင်း-၁၉)

6:30 pm

12. Evening news

7:00 pm

13. Weather report

7:05 pm

14. Musical programme

7:20 pm

15. Industrial achievement

7:35 pm

16. Musical programme

7:45 pm

17. ဂေဟဗေဒ: ရှင်မင်းထွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

8:00 pm

18. News

8:00 pm

19. International news

8:00 pm

20. Weather report

8:00 pm

21. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဗဟုဗျူဟာ"၏ ရုပ်သံစဉ်" (အပိုင်း-၁၃)

8:00 pm

22. The next day's programme

**Four political objectives**

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

**Four economic objectives**

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

**Four social objectives**

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

## Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects Kaukkway Creek Dam Project, agricultural services in Lashio

YANGON, 1 May — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, accompanied by SPDC members Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Shan State (North) PDC Chairman North-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, ministers, deputy ministers, senior military officers, officials of the SPDC Office and departmental officials, arrived at the Kaukkway Creek Dam Project site near Manhsu village in Lashio on 29 April afternoon.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo and officials welcomed the Secretary-1 and reported to him at the briefing hall on im-

plementation of the project. Next, Deputy Director of Irrigation Department U Kyaw Win reported on facts about Kaukkway Dam, clearing of weeds and bushes, earth work, construction of embankment and canals and arrival of fuel and machinery, and the commander gave a supplementary report.

Lt-Gen Thein Sein gave instructions on measures to be taken for completion of earth work before the rainy season, use of machinery at full capacity, effective use of fuel, minimising loss and wastage and requirements to be presented if any. Next, he viewed the undertaking of the project from the view point of the briefing hall.

At 2 pm, the Secretary-1 and party attended the ceremony to release fish fries into Sanpya fish pond of the Shan State (North) PDC near Manhsu Village.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party and Chairman U Ma Htu Naw of Shan State (North) Special Region-5, Chairman U Aik Mone of Special Region-7 Palaung Peace Group and Vice-Chairman U Nyi Lone put the fingerlings into the pond. Lt-Gen Thein Sein next greeted those present at the ceremony.

Later, the Secretary-1 and party visited the five-acre plantation of Hsinshweli paddy where they viewed thriving paddy and broadcasting of fertilisers.—MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein puts fish fries into Sanpya fish pond of the Shan State (North) PDC near Manhsu Village.—MNA

## New building of Myawady Bank Ltd (Bayintnaung) opened

YANGON, 1 May — A new building of Myawady Bank Ltd (Bayintnaung) was opened on Nwethagi Road in Bayintnaung Brokerage, Mayangon Township this morning, attended by Chairman of Myawady Bank Ltd member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye. Also present were

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Managing Director of Myawady Bank Ltd Maj-

Gen Win Hlaing (Retd) and members of the board of directors, heads of departments, officials and staff.

Next, Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd), Director Col Ba Tun (Retd) and Deputy Managing Director U Tun Kyi formally opened the new building.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye

formally unveiled the stone plaque of the building and inspected it.

In his address, Lt-Gen Tin Aye said the government is building a peaceful, modern developed nation in accord with the four political, four economic and four social objectives. Only when there is economic progress, will there be political and social developments and

will the defence power be high.

After the introduction of market-oriented economic system in Myanmar, private banks were allowed to open in accord with directives, rules and regulations of Central Bank of Myanmar. With the increase of deposits at the bank, loans are disbursed to entrepreneurs, he said.

Banking services contribute much towards the development of agriculture, industries, trade and other services. With the economic development, there will be job opportunities for the people, he added. Myanmar is cooperating with regional countries and participating in the tasks of ASEAN Financial cooperation. Myawady Bank Ltd is making efforts for progress of banking services in Myanmar, he said.

Next, Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun spoke on the occasion. Deputy Managing Director U Tun Kyi reported on the new building. In commemoration of the opening of the new building, alms were offered to ten members of the Sangha led by Bhaddanta Indobhasa of Kyaku Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Dagon Township.



SPDC Member Lt-Gen Tin Aye presses the button to open stone inscription of Myawady Bank (Bayintnaung) new building.—MNA