

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Sunday, 8 May, 2005

### Four political objectives

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

### Four economic objectives

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

### Four social objectives

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

People have cultivated good habit of sharing duties with the government for regional and national development



YANGON, 7 May — Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win made an inspection tour of fertilizer plants, Umin Koepauk river water pumping project, Mann Oil Field and Thayet Cement Plant in Magway Division yesterday and today.

Accompanied by Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min, deputy ministers and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, the Prime Minister left here

for Bagan-NyaungU of Mandalay Division by air yesterday morning.

The Prime Minister and party were welcomed by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, Brig-Gen Than Tun of Kyaukpadaung Station, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe and officials.

On arrival at No 2 Fertilizer Plant

(Kyunchaung) of Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise of the Ministry of Energy in Kyunchaung, Pakokku Township, they were welcomed by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Commander of No 101 LID Col Maung Maung Ohn and officials.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi reported on facts about the plant, repairs, expected cement production, requirements of parts for repairs, parts that can be produced locally and their costs and annual cement production.

Managing Director U Kyaw Shein of MPE briefed the Prime Minister on production process of the fertilizer plant and Plant Manager U Sein Kyaw Than on condition of the plant.

(See page 16)

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win oversees drilling of Well No 654 in Mann Oil Field in Minbu Township, Magway Division.

MNA



### INSIDE

The scheme of the colonialists was to cause racial hatred and antagonism between the majority and the minorities. In reality, the colonialists granted independence, that was an unavoidable work for them during the time, together with the time bomb to break up the Union and national solidarity.

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YADANASI SAYADAW (LOILEM)

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

**PERSPECTIVES**

Sunday, 8 May, 2005

**MRCS in the service of national interests and humanitarian work**

The Myanmar Red Cross Society is a social organization made up of the offspring of the people, and it is participating in nation-building endeavours like other national forces.

The MRCS, deservedly receiving the encouragement of the State, is carrying out the humanitarian tasks in various parts of the nation. In particular, it is engaged in such humanitarian tasks as improvement of health care services of the people, prevention and control of diseases and taking care of the needy.

Being a national force on which the State can rely, it has been making relentless efforts for national and regional development as well as for improvement of socio-economic life of the people in addition to its humanitarian tasks.

Outstanding Red Cross members who have been recognized for their outstanding performance in social field and those who have brilliantly performed the relief tasks at risk to their lives are honoured annually.

The opening ceremony of the Get-together of Outstanding Red Cross Members for 2005 was held on 4 May. Red Cross members who are outstanding in social welfare and relief tasks have been chosen to attend the ceremony. This admirable programme will certainly contribute to development of the MRCS.

The get-together is not only a programme to train and nurture Red Cross members to become outstanding ones imbued with high morale and capability but also an arrangement that helps constantly produce outstanding Red Cross members.

The humanitarian tasks of the MRCS are interrelated with the spirit to carry out social welfare task out of free will, deeply rooted in Myanmar society. Therefore, humanitarian activities have been common and extensive in the nation.

With high morale, the Red Cross members are carrying out humanitarian activities as well as national development tasks.

As medals and certificates were presented to outstanding Red Cross members at the gathering, those who have been invited to attend the ceremony are worthy of honour and they will be able to further cultivate the spirit of carrying out humanitarian activities.

This being so, all the Red Cross members, who are the auxiliary force of the State, are called upon to earnestly engage in the humanitarian tasks for physical and spiritual development of the national people, while serving the interests of the State and the people in accord with its noble objectives.

**နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင်  
မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ**

လစဉ်လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည့် ကိစ္စရပ်မှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ် မသုံးစွဲရနေဖြစ်သည်။

၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ မေလအတွက်  
(၈-၅-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့  
နှင့်  
(၂၉-၅-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့

**People's Desire**

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

**Supply of clean water in Pakokku District discussed**

YANGON, 7 May — Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt and Director-General of Development Affairs Department U Myo Myint and officials inspected renovation of Myakantha Park and supply of drinking water in Pakokku yesterday.

Officials concerned reported on present condition and tasks to be undertaken. The minister gave instructions on planting of shady trees, flowers and coconut trees in the park, recreation for the public and repair of water slide.

The minister went to Magyithonbin Village and Oyinywathit and inspected sinking of tube wells and met local people.



Minister Col Thein Nyunt inspects sinking of tube-well in Oyinywathit in Mya township. — PBANRDA

The minister fulfilled the requirements during his visit to the youth training centre in Pakokku.

He also discussed supply of clean water in five months in Pakokku District at the coordination meeting at Pyithaya Hall.—MNA

**Prize presentation ceremony of Myanma Thaing Colour Photo contest held**

YANGON, 7 May — The prize presentation ceremony of Myanmar Thaing Colour Photo Contest, co organized by Myanmar Thaing Federation and Myanmar Photographic Society was held at the head office of MDG on Kyansittha Road in North Okkalapa Industrial Zone, North Okkalapa Township this morning. It was attended by Vice-President of MTF U Mya Thein, the secretary and executives, Patron of MPS U Maung Maung Gyi, the chairman of MPS and others. U Mya Thein, Vice-President of MTF, explained matters on holding the contest.

Next, the Vice-President of MTF and the chairman of MPS presented the winners prizes and the panel of judges certificates of honour.

The first prize winner, photographer U Hla Htun spoke words of thank. Later, the vice-president of MTF presented related documents of Sharp-Digital (Copier-Printer-Scanner) (AR-M 206) worth k 2 million for MPS to the chairman of MPS who spoke words of thank for the donation.—MNA



MTF Vice-President U Mya Thein presents second prize to Ko Ko Soe Nyunt (The New Light of Myanmar).—NLM

**Press Conference on Yangon International Trade Fair-2005**

YANGON, 7 May —The Press Conference on organizing Yangon International Trade Fair-2005 took place at the meeting hall of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry this morning, attended by officials of the UMFCCI and departments, Trade Fair organizing work committee members, journalists and guests.

Vice-President of the UMFCCI U Zaw Min Win and General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing explained matters on organizing Yangon International Trade Fair-2005. Next, the officials answered the queries raised by those present and the conference ended with the concluding remarks by the vice-president of the UMFCCI.

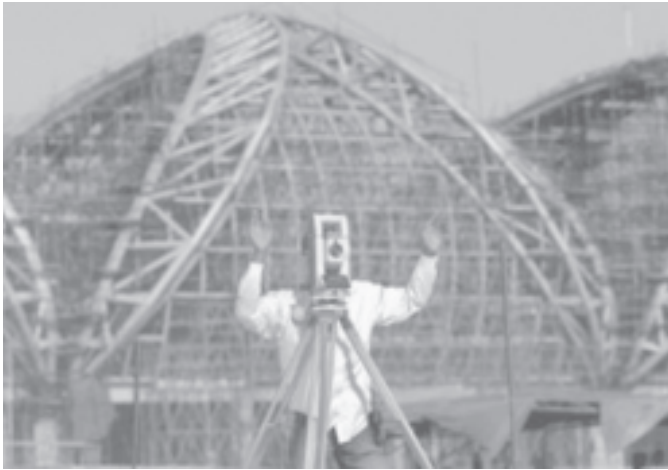
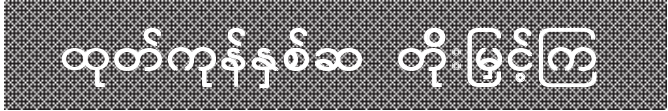
The trade fair will be held at Myanmar Convention Centre from 25 to 29 May. — MNA



U Hee Lee-Daw Tin Thu Kyaw Lee and family recently donates K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Vice-Chairman of the Management Board Lt-Col Kyaw Shein (Retd). — H

**All this needs to be known**

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



An engineer surveys the airstrip at Bangkok's new Suvarnabhumi Airport recently.—INTERNET

# Ministers of 55 countries to attend NAM meeting on women

**KUALA LUMPUR, 6 May** — Ministers or vice-ministers of 55 countries had confirmed their attendance at the inaugural Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Ministerial Meeting on the Advancement of Women, a Malaysian minister said on Thursday.

"The number of NAM member states attending the meeting is beyond expectation and is most encouraging," Women, Family and Community Development Minister Shahrizat Abdul Jalil told reporters in Putrajaya, Federal Administrative Centre near here.

"Although NAM has 114 members, not all of them have ministries or agencies in-charge of women affairs," she said.

Shahrizat, who will be chairing the two-day ministerial meeting beginning Monday, said that she did not expect the inaugural meeting to receive such good response as this was the first time in the grouping's 44-year history to discuss social issues, especially pertaining to women.

The meeting will be preceded with the senior officials meeting on 7 and 8 May, followed by the two-day ministerial meeting.

"It's clear and evident that women

development issues are no longer regarded as trivial matters. We can afford to present women issues in a critical forum," she said.

"Previously, issues deliberated on by NAM were similar to geo-political issues," she said.

On the agenda of the meeting, she said: "The meeting will discuss seven key topics. They are economic development, education, health, information and communications technology, decision-making, armed conflicts and violence against women."

The meeting themed "Empowering Women in Facing the Challenges of Globalization" will also identify projects, specific and practical programmes which can be implemented by NAM for women's development in member countries.

NAM was set up in 1961 to play a significant role as custodian of Southern interests in the world. — MNA/Xinhua

# Two workers killed in US shooting incident

**WASHINGTON, 6 May** — Two workers, including the shooter himself, were killed Thursday morning in an oil company office building in Houston, in the south-central US state of Texas, TV and wire news reports said.

One man shot a co-worker to death before shooting himself, the reports said. It appeared to be a "murder-suicide", local police was quoted as saying.

Police found two pistols near the bodies on the fifth floor of the nine-storey building in west Houston. The

building houses a division of Cooper Cameron oil services company that makes pressure control systems for oil drilling.

The fifth floor remained closed, but other parts of the building had resumed normal operations. — MNA/Xinhua

# Singapore, Indonesian leaders vow to build closer bilateral ties

**SINGAPORE, 6 May** — Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and visiting Indonesian Vice-President Jusuf Kalla on Thursday expressed their desire to build closer ties between the two countries.

According to Lee's Press secretary, the two leaders discussed the possibility of closer bilateral cooperation in tourism, civil aviation as well as trade and investments during their meeting in the afternoon.

They also talked about the ongoing reconstruction efforts in Indonesia's Aceh, which was worst hit by the tsunami of last

December, as well as Indonesia's economic prospects.

Addressing a business forum jointly organized by Network Indonesia and International Enterprise Singapore (IE Singapore) on Thursday, Kalla said that there exist many possibilities and chances for the development of Indonesia under the administration of the new

government since October last year.

He said that the government is committed to the infrastructure reconstruction in Aceh for the next two to three years.

The Vice-President also noted that Indonesia and other members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) should spare joint efforts

to strengthen themselves as countries like China and India are rising in the region.

Kalla started his three-day visit to the island state on Wednesday at the invitation of Singapore Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong.

MNA/Xinhua

# India, Pakistan to hold talks on Siachen

**NEW DELHI, 6 May** — The defence secretaries of India and Pakistan will meet in Islamabad May 25-26 to discuss the demilitarization of Siachen and an end to the standoff between their troops on the world's highest battlefield, Indo-Asian News Service reported.

The talks on Siachen are among a series of meetings between the two countries announced here Thursday by Indian External Affairs Ministry Spokesman Navtej Sarma as part of bilateral confidence-building measures to carry forward their peace process.

MNA/PTI



Vietnamese shoppers check out the new Levi's shop in a modern department store in Hanoi, Vietnam on 7 May, 2005.—INTERNET

# Malaysia, Indonesia continue to reduce tension in Sulawesi

**KUALA LUMPUR, 7 May** — Malaysia and Indonesia on Friday agreed that their Armed Forces should continue with efforts to reduce tension in the disputed maritime border area in the Sulawesi Sea.

This was the outcome of talks between Deputy Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak and visiting Indonesian Vice-President Jusuf Kalla in Putrajaya, Federal Administrative Centre 40 kilometres south of here.

Referring to the Sulawesi Sea dispute, Najib told a joint Press conference with Yusuf that there was no need to remove all military presence from the area.

"So long as we do not resort to any show of strength, only having a normal presence, I believe there is no problem," he said. Najib said the situation at the maritime border area was improving and he hoped there would be no repeat of the incident last month in which two

ships belonging to the Malaysian and Indonesian navies "brushed" against each other while patrolling in the Sulawesi Sea. Jusuf pointed out that the Armed Forces chiefs of the two countries had met to discuss how "friendly patrol" could be conducted without causing conflict. Najib and Jusuf were clearly pleased with the outcome of their talks and comfortable with each other.

The dispute was sparked off early this year after Petronas, Malaysia National Oil Company, awarded an oil and gas exploration deal in the Sulawesi Sea offshore the Malaysian-owned islands of Sipadan and Ligitan to international oil company Shell.

MNA/Xinhua

# Singapore's photonics industry sees rapid growth

**SINGAPORE, 6 May** — The output of Singapore's photonics industry reached 2.1 billion Singapore dollars (about 1.3 billion US dollars) in 2004, an increase of 22 per cent over the previous year, according to Channel NewsAsia report on Thursday night.

Ahmad Magad, chairman of the Government Parliamentary Committee for Finance and Trade and Industry, attributed the robust growth of the emerging industry to the pro-business environment in the city state.

Photonics is the use of light energy for a variety of purposes in a wide range of industries such as sensing and imaging, healthcare, telecommunications and display. Singapore aims to be a photonics hub since the emerging industry is expected to revolutionize innovation in the 21st Century, the report said.

MNA/Xinhua

## India achieves another milestone in space technology

**SRIHARIKOTA, 6 May** — Indian space scientists on Thursday successfully placed the country's heaviest remote sensing satellite *CARTOSAT-1* and *HAMSAT* in orbit, achieving for the country another milestone in space technology by delivering multiple launch capability.

Launch vehicle *PSLV-C6* carried the satellites onto their polar sun synchronous orbits about 18 minutes after lift off at 0436 GMT from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in this Andhra Pradesh town.

The *CARTOSAT*, weighing 1560 kilos, is the heaviest payload that the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle had transported so far in its nine flights and it was for the first time that two Indian satellites were put in the orbit by a single launch vehicle.

President A P J Abdul Kalam witnessed the launch from the mission control centre as the *PSLV-C6* soared into the sky in a flawless lift off from the four-billion state-of-the-art second launch pad, which he dedicated to the nation Wednesday night.

Kalam, who himself had been behind many rocket launches, congratulated the scientists on their feat. "The country is proud of you," he told them.

Declaring the mission a success, ISRO Chairman G. Madhavan Nair said "It's a heartening mission. This is the first flight from the second launch pad. We were working against all odds — sun, rain and wind."

The launch was advanced by four minutes to avoid debris of old satellites in the orbit and the *PSLV-C6* lifted off with the ignition of the core first stage and four of the six strap-on motors.

The remaining two strap-on motors ignited 25 seconds after the lift off, ISRO officials said.

After the important flight events, including separation of the strap on motors, and ignition and separation of second, third and fourth stages, *CARTOSAT-1* was successfully separated 1,078 seconds after the lift off. Forty seconds later, *HAMSAT* was also separated from the fourth stage equipment bay, Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) said.

Both of them had been placed in Polar Sun Synchronous orbit at an altitude of 632 x 621 kilometres with an inclination of 97.8 degrees of equator, it said adding that the solar panels of *CARTOSAT-1* were deployed soon after its injection into the orbit.

Since its first successful flight in 1994, the capacity of PSLV, developed by ISRO, has been enhanced from 850 kilos to the present 1,600 kilos. PSLV has also demonstrated the multiple satellite launch capability. — *MNA/PTI*

ဝတ်လှမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

## Cambodia to build drug rehabilitation centre in Phnom Penh

**PHNOM PENH, 6 May** — Phnom Penh Municipality and Cambodia's National Authority for Combating Drugs plan to build a rehabilitation centre in Phnom Penh's Russei Keo District, local media reported on Thursday.

"We hope the new centre could help drug addicts and drug users to be freed of drugs by ordering them to be sheltered in the centre and do strong exercises everyday," *The Cambodia Daily* quoted Municipal Deputy Governor Mam Bun Neang as saying.

The centre, to be built on a two-hectare land and house 500 people, will include vegetable gardens and places to exercise, said Mam Bun Neang.

Lour Ramin, deputy secretary-general of the National Authority for Combating Drugs, estimated that there are more than 1,000 drug addicts in Phnom Penh and more than 5,000 nationwide.

Some drug addicts also said the best way to help them is to house them at rehabilitation centres where they don't have access to drugs or the resources to buy them.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Malaysia, Pakistan to seal FTA by end of this year

**KUALA LUMPUR, 6 May** — Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on Thursday said confidently that the proposed Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Malaysia and Pakistan would be sealed by the end of the year.

Negotiations on FTA were "progressing very well", he told a joint Press conference with his Pakistani counterpart, Shaukat Aziz, at his office in Putrajaya, Federal Administrative Centre near here.

Shaukat, who is leading a 25-member delegation, is in Malaysia for a three-day official visit beginning Thursday. The visit is a reciprocate to Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's visit to Pakistan in February.

The free trade pact was first agreed upon between both leaders during Abdullah's visit to Islamabad.

At the Press conference, the Malaysian Prime Minister described the one-and-a-half-hour meeting between Malaysian and Pakistani

ministers as successful, as it paved the way to closer cooperation between the two countries.

"I regard this (as successful) as there are some follow-ups to the bilateral meetings that we had in Islamabad in February. The meeting (in Islamabad) was a successful one. I recall many decisions that we have made in the spirit of friendship," he said.

Besides trade, Malaysia also pledged to extend closer cooperation with Pakistan in various sectors, among others, in tourism, information technology, communication, science and technology and aviation, he added.

Abdullah also noted that both countries ex-

pressed satisfaction with the progress made in their cooperation in the financial services sector, mainly banking.

On Friday, Shaukat is scheduled to present a keynote address at a Malaysia-Pakistan business and economic forum organized by the local-based Asian Strategic Leadership Institute (ASLI).

Both countries are members of the Organization of Islamic Conference. Malaysia has a cumulative investment of some 700 million ringgit (184.21 million US dollars) in Pakistan, the second biggest trading partner in South Asia for the Southeast country.

*MNA/Xinhua*



*Iraqis console each other for a relative who was killed in a car bomb explosion in the northern city of Tikrit on 6 May, 2005.—INTERNET*

## HKTB launches PDA leisure guide for business visitors

**HONG KONG, 6 May** — The Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) officially launched the personal digital assistant (PDA) version of its Leisure Guide for Business Travellers on Thursday.

The launch of this new electronic guide falls under the promotional strategies of the "2006 Discover of Hong Kong Year" campaign, which targets key segments, including high-yield business travellers, according to the HKTB.

By providing these travellers with instant access to information about Hong Kong, the PDA leisure guide will help them explore the new facets of the city, and encourage them to extend their stay and spending by taking part in more leisure activities.

HKTB Executive Director Clara Chong said that the PDA leisure guide was designed and tailor-made for business travellers.

She said it is believed to be the first PDA guide that offers so many comprehensive and user-friendly functions and is free to download.— *MNA/Xinhua*

## S Korean FM to hold fence-mending talks with Japanese counterpart

**SEOUL, 6 May** — South Korea's Foreign Minister Ban Ki-moon flew to Japan Thursday for a regional forum between Asia and Europe as well as fence-mending talks with his Japanese counterpart, according to the South Korean national news agency *Yonhap*.

Ban Ki-moon's meeting with Japanese Foreign Minister Nobutaka Machimura is to be held on the sidelines of a ministerial session of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) set for Friday and Saturday in the Japanese city of Kyoto.

Friday's talks will be their second encounters since relations between the two countries were seriously frayed over Japan's territorial claim to Dokdo, a chain of rocky South Korean islets in the East Sea, also known as the Sea of Japan. Their earlier meeting, which took place in Pakistan in early April, turned awkward after Ban publicly chastized Machimura for backing Tokyo's approval of new school textbooks accused of minimizing Japan's wartime wrongdoing and describing Dokdo as Japanese.— *MNA/Xinhua*



*Army personnel of the 1st Maratha Light Infantry blow fire while hanging from giant poles as part of the 'Know your Army' performance in Bangalore on 6 May, 2005.—INTERNET*



Chinese female workers sew shirts at a garment factory in Yuyang, south-west China's Chongqing municipality, on 6 May, 2005.—INTERNET

## Expert says Hu Jintao's Moscow tour significant

**BEIJING, 7 May** — Chinese President Hu Jintao is expected to voice China's sincere aspiration for peace and development while attending the 9 May celebrations in Moscow marking the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II, said a Chinese expert.

"Hu's Moscow tour is quite significant," said Xing Guangcheng, a fellow researcher with Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. "Hu's attendance shows that China attaches great importance to the commemorations in Moscow and the Chinese people loves peace."

Hu will attend the 60th anniversary celebra-

tion in Moscow for the victory of Russia's Great Patriotic War along with more than 50 state leaders and representatives of international organizations.

"As part of the world's celebration for the victory over the war against fascism, the celebrations will provide a platform for the heads of state to communicate on peace," said Xing.

On the sidelines of the celebration, Hu Jintao will meet French President Jacques Chirac, President Roh Moo-hyun of South Korea, President Saparmurad Atayevich Niyazov of Turkmenistan and Romanian President Traian Basescu, as well as Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"During the World War II, the Chinese and Russian people fought shoulder to shoulder and contributed greatly to the world's victory over the war against fascism," Xing said.

"Hu and Putin will exchange views on bilateral relations and international issues of mutual concern," said Xing. "They will also recall the friendship between China and Russia which will enhance the Sino-Russian strategic cooperation partnership."—MNA/Xinhua

### CPPCC Vice-Chairman meets religions for Peace Secretary-General

**BEIJING, 7 May** — Wang Zhongyu, vice-chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), met with Religions for Peace Secretary-General William F Vendley here on Thursday.

Vendley, secretary-general of the World Conference of Religions for Peace (WCRP), is visiting China at the invitation of China Committee on Religion and Peace (CCRP).

During their meeting, Wang expressed appreciation for the WCRP's efforts to maintain friendly links with the Chinese religious circles and the CCRP.

MNA/Xinhua

## India's Cabinet clears SEZ legislation

**NEW DELHI, 6 May** — The Indian Government on Wednesday night cleared the long-awaited Special Economic Zone (SEZ) legislation providing a fiscal package, including a 15-year income tax holiday, to give a big push to exports, foreign direct investment and job creation.

The umbrella legislation approved by the federal Cabinet provides single-window mechanism for SEZs and their units, Information and Broadcasting Minister S Jaipal Reddy told reporters here.

SEZ units will be eligible for 100-per-cent tax exemption for five years, 50 per cent next five years and 50 per cent of the ploughed back export profits for the next five years.

The developers of the zones will continue to get 100-per-cent income tax exemption for 10 years in a block period of 15 years.

It may be noted that the budget had introduced an amendment in the Income Tax Act bringing in a sunset clause as per which SEZ units were to get these benefits only till 2009. The provision will be superceded if this legislation is passed by Parliament.

It provides for esta-

blishment of designated courts and a single enforcement agency to ensure speedy trial and investigation of offences committed in SEZs.

It encourages state governments to liberalize state laws and delegate their powers to the development commissioners of the SEZs to facilitate single window clearance.

India already has eight SEZs. These are the eight Export Processing Zones in Kandla, Surat, Cochin, Santa Cruz, Falta, Chennai, Vishakhapatnam and Noida, which have been converted into SEZs.

At least 36 new SEZs have been approved of which those in Indore, Salt Lake, Kolkata and Jaipur have become operational. Two more in Jodhpur and Moradabad are now ready for operation. Other SEZs are at various stages of implementation.

Regarding clearance to

Overseas Business Units and Financial Service Centre the Group of Ministers favoured India's central bank — the Reserve Bank of India as the nodal authority. The legislation also provides for establish-

ment of free trade and warehousing zones to create world-class trade related infrastructure to facilitate import and export of goods aimed at making India global trading hub.—MNA/PTI

## Pakistani PM leaves on four-nation tour

**ISLAMABAD, 6 May** — Pakistani Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz has left here for four Southeast Asian countries to further strengthen bilateral ties, official Associated Press of Pakistan reported on Thursday.

The Prime Minister will first visit Malaysia from 5 to 7 May, then Brunei from 7 to 8 May, Thailand from 8 to 10 May and Singapore from 10 to 12 May.

Speaking at the airport before his departure, the Prime Minister said his visit would promote Pakistan's relations with these Southeast Asian countries and enable Pakistan to play full dialogue partner in the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

The Prime Minister said Pakistan's political, economic and diplomatic relations with these countries would reach a new level after his visit.

He said it would also be an important step toward further consolidation of the strategic "Vision East Asia", which envisages forging multidimensional relations with the East Asian economies.

Aziz said trade ties would be further enhanced through mutual cooperation and with

more people-to-people interaction as his entourage include leading Pakistani businessmen.

The Prime Minister said these members of ASEAN had made progress in various fields and Pakistan would benefit from their experience.

Aziz said President Pervez Musharraf had visited Indonesia and the Philippines recently, and now he is visiting the other four important countries of Southeast Asia.

MNA/Xinhua

## Australian's captors set 72-hour ultimatum for Iraq pullout

**BAGHDAD, 7 May** — A militant group holding Australian engineer Douglas Wood hostage in Iraq has given Canberra 72 hours to start withdrawing its troops from the country, Al-Jazeera television said, showing footage of the captive.

"The group calling itself the Shura Council of the Mujahedeen of Iraq, which is holding Australian hostage Douglas Wood, gave Australian authorities 72 hours to start withdrawing their forces from Iraq," the Qatar-based news channel said. Al-Jazeera said the demand was made by Wood in a video, briefly showing footage of the hostage with two machine guns pointed at his head.

It did not say what the group would do if the ultimatum was not met.

One of the gunmen was seen in the footage, with his face masked.

The hostage was seen speaking sat on

the floor. He held up an identity document.

Australian Prime Minister John Howard said earlier Friday that Wood, 63, was still alive as it emerged that an influential Sunni sheikh has pleaded with the militants holding him to spare his life. Howard said the government believed that Wood, who was first filmed pleading for his life in a DVD released on Sunday, was still alive but that he did not want to comment on details.

"We are doing everything we can to secure his release — it's very hard," Howard said on local radio.—Internet



A woman makes a phone call on a Singtel phone booth in Singapore on 6 May, 2005. — INTERNET

## Cabinet approves abolition of agri products export Cess

NEW DELHI, 6 May—The Indian Government on Wednesday abolished Cess on export of agricultural products to make them more competitive by reducing the incidence of taxation.

Announcing the Cabinet decision, Infomation and Broadcasting Minsiter S Jaipal Reddy said this follows the proposal made in the annual supplement to the Foreign Trade Policy on 8 April, 2005.

Government felt continuation of such levies amounted to “anachro-

nism in today’s times” and the Cabinet decision authorizes repeal and amendment to various Acts like Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Cess Act, 1985, Spices Cess Act 1986, Coffee Act 1942, Tobacco Cess Act, 1975, and Marine Products Exports

Development Authority Act.

Necessary legislation for this would be brought in Parliament.

Reddy said the measure would also be exporter-friendly as exporters would no longer have to comply with the rigours of Customs procedures.—MNA/PTI



An unidentified young woman places a call from a Philippine Long Distance Telephone (PLDT) booth in Manila on 5 May, 2005.—INTERNET



## Australia donates Indonesia to help fight polio outbreak

CANBERRA, 6 May—The Australian Government announced on Thursday that it will donate one million Australian dollars (780,000 US dollars) to help Indonesia to fight against a polio outbreak.

Two people are known to have contracted polio in a district of Java Island. This is the first such outbreak in a decade.

Australia’s aid will help vaccinate millions of children living in the provinces near the original outbreak, Australian Parliamentary Secretary for For-

eign Affairs and Trade Bruce Billson said. Australian assistance will meet around half the anticipated costs of the immunization campaign and our expertise in mass immunization logistics has also been offered to WHO (World Health Organization) in Jakarta,” he said in a statement. — MNA/Xinhua

## Malaysia to open seven overseas agriculture offices

KUALA LUMPUR, 6 May—The Malaysian Cabinet has decided to set up agriculture representative offices in seven foreign countries, a minister said on Wednesday.

These foreign countries are Australia, China, Japan, the Netherlands, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and the United States, Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry Minister Muhyiddin Yassin told reporters after chairing the ministry’s post Cabinet meeting.

Muhyiddin said among the functions of the representative offices are to identify the potential of

agriculture products in the importing country and to determine the needs of the countries concerned.

The establishment of the offices will enable the local products to penetrate the international market and tackle bureaucracy in the agriculture trade as well as the global food problem, he said.

He said the absence of such offices in the importing countries has prevented the potentials of the local agricultural produce from being developed to the

maximum.

The Malaysian Government has identified as one of the major engine of the country’s growth. In 2004, the country remained as the largest producer and exporter of palm oil, accounting for about 55 per cent of global exports. Malaysian export value of the agricultural produce had increased from 3.45 billion ringgit (907 million US dollars) in 1990 to 9.9 billion ringgit (2.6 billion US dollars) last year.

MNA/Xinhua

## Vietnam supports Australia’s bid to attend E Asia Summit

CANBERRA, 6 May—Vietnamese Prime Minister Phan Van Khai said on Thursday that Vietnam will support Australia’s effort to attend the East Asian Summit despite Australia has not signed a regional non-aggression peace treaty.

Speaking at a joint Press conference after meeting with Khai, Australian Prime Minister John Howard said “The (Vietnamese) Prime Minister expressed to me Vietnam’s support for Australia’s involvement in the East Asian Summit.”

Khai said he did not think Australia should have to sign the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in order to gain access to

the East Asian Summit.

“I don’t think so. These are separate issues,” he said.

The failure to sign the treaty has held up Australia’s involvement in the summit, which is considered by Australia to be a good opportunity to be more involved in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Khai said cooperation between the two countries has been close, adding “Our cooperation has expanded to cover all eco-

omic, trade, investment, education, training and even security and defence areas.”

“During this visit I also would like to reaffirm to Mr Prime Minister (John Howard) about the need for the two countries to further deepen our friendship and comprehensive cooperation for the mutual benefit of our two countries and our two peoples,” he said.

Howard said Australia will support Vietnam’s

accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and will help Vietnam host next year’s Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum.

“Australia supports Vietnam’s accession to the WTO and subject to agreement on some outstanding matters, it will be possible for a bilateral understanding regarding that accession to be concluded between Australia and Vietnam,” he said.

MNA/Xinhua

## Chinese FM arrives Japan for Asia-Europe Forum

Kyoto, 6 May—Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing arrived here Thursday evening for the seventh Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Foreign Ministers’ Meeting (ASEM FMM 7) due to open here on Friday.

On the sidelines of the ASEM FMM 7, the Chinese Foreign Minister will also attend the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) plus China, Japan and South Korea (10+3) foreign ministers’ meeting on Friday and chair the third meeting of the Tripartite Commission of China, Japan and South Korea on Saturday.

Under the theme of deepening Asia-Europe dialogue to face global challenges, the foreign ministers or their representatives of Asian and European countries will discuss multilateralism, sustainable development, cultural diversity and future of the ASEM and other issues.

Focus will also be on Asian consultations about

a planned East Asia Summit and fence-mending efforts between Japan and China, as well as Japan and South Korea, through a series of talks planned on the sidelines of full sessions of the Asia-Europe Meeting.

The two-day meeting is also making preparations for the Sixth ASEM Summit Meeting to be held in Finland in 2006.

The ASEM was officially established in 1996 at the first summit in Bangkok, Thailand. It is an inter-regional forum which now consists of the 10 ASEAN members, China, Japan and South Korea and 25 European Union (EU) member countries and the European Commission (EC).

MNA/Xinhua

## NZ women give birth older

WELLINGTON, 6 May—New Zealand women’s median age of giving birth is 30 now, two years older than in 1995, Statistics New Zealand said on Thursday.

Women aged 30-34 have currently the highest fertility rate of 119 births per 1,000 person, 13 more births than in 1995. On the other hand, the fertility rate for women aged under 30 has dropped, according to the figures. The statistics also shows that New Zealand women average 1.99 births per person and the median age of women giving birth for the first time was 28 years old. There were 57,630 live births registered in New Zealand in the March 2005 year. —MNA/Xinhua



A man leaves a poultry market with live ducks hung over his motorcycle in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 6 May, 2005.—INTERNET

# Row in harmony and unison

*Yadanasi Sayadaw (Loilem)*

Since prehistoric times, the people of Myanmar have been developing, relying on the land and water resources of the nation for food and every necessity, with patriotism strong enough to serve the interests of the motherland. Despite having differences in language, mode of dress and customs, their love for the land is high and of the same degree.

The nationalities have been indivisible and they have fine traditions throughout history, striving in harmony and unison like sailors skillfully navigating their boat on the high seas, in strengthening and safeguarding the nation which witnessed the emergence of the First, Second and Third Myanmar Empires. In any era, there has always been unity and amity among the over 100 national races, and deep inside their soul are fraternity, solidarity and the love for the nation, especially, the teachings of Lord Buddha.

After Myanmar had fallen under subjugation of the colonialists in 1885, the high level of prestige and integrity of the people shattered under the clever plots of the occupiers to suppress and enslave the nation. However, it was the reawakening of the Myanmar people that led to regaining of independence in 1948 and setting up of the Union of Myanmar, with democracy as the national policy. Unfortunately, for certain reasons, the nation failed to realize the good parts of the system, instead it plunged into confusion caused by the loopholes and weaknesses of the policy.

The truth is that the nation faced abject misery resulting from the trap of dissension the colonialists had laid in the whole nation after realizing that they had to grant independence unavoidably. And the divide-and-rule policy to separate the plains and hill regions was their weapon of destruction during colonization of Myanmar.

The scheme of the colonialists was to cause racial hatred and antagonism between the majority and the minorities. In reality, the colonialists granted independence, that was an unavoidable work for them during the time, together with the time bomb to break up the Union and national solidarity.

Hence, racial-based and ideological-based armed opposition erupted in the nation soon after regaining of the independence, and the people, even before enjoying a taste of freedom, fell victim to internal insurgency, while suffering from the bitter experiences of the instability reaching beyond their tolerance.

On 28 March 1948, which was less than two months after the regaining of independence,

the Burma Communist Party went underground and ignited the flames of internal insurgency which was later fueled by other armed opposition groups following the armed struggle line one after another, with the policy of racial prejudice and discrimination as their banner. Had not the Tatmadaw saved and restored order in the nation in time, the Union would have fallen apart in a matter of months after the date on which the nation regained independence.

When the KNDO insurgent group made a proclamation to set up a separate Kayin State in 1949 after seizing some parts in southeast Shan State, Shan sawbwas (chieftains) and their cohorts were

**The scheme of the colonialists was to cause racial hatred and antagonism between the majority and the minorities. In reality, the colonialists granted independence, that was an unavoidable work for them during the time, together with the time bomb to break up the Union and national solidarity.**

conspiring together against the Union to realize their aim of secession.

At the same time, the Chiang Kai-Shek government was defeated in China, and the Corps 93 of the Kuomintang army intruded into Myanmar territory in Shan State and stationed its troops there. The sawbwas were supporting the Kuomintang troops then as the latter was able to organize the former with gifts. The Kuomintang troops extended their occupation and put Mongmao, Mongyan, Mongyawng, Mongpan, Monghsu, Mongpuon, Pungpahkyem and Tachilek under their control.

Even the complaint filed by the ruling AFPFL government at the UN failed to push the invaders out of the country, as they were enjoying direct assistance of a certain western power. To safeguard the nation's sovereign power, the Tatmadaw launched a three-year military campaign covering Operation Naganang, Operation Bayintnaung and Operation Yangyiaung beginning 1952.

For two times, one in 1954 and another in 1957, Shan sawbwas and their cohorts held meetings in Mongrai, demanding secession of Shan State from the Union. There were open movements as

well as clandestine operations to form underground groups, causing confusion in Shan State together with the appearance of secession policy and anti-Bamar sentiments.

At the same time, the strength of people with progressive pragmatic views and Union Spirit was increasing leading to the spread of anti-feudalism and views opposing any scheme to break up the Union. Namhkam U Tun Aye, member of the parliament of southern Shan State, warned the sawbwas to stop their perpetration, demanding them to relinquish their power and to stay within the Union.

To make the matter worse, Hsenwi sawbwa, Hispaw sawbwa, Monghsu sawbwa, Laikha sawbwa, Kehsi sawbwa, Mongrai sawbwa, Monglin sawbwa and Nyaungshwe sawbwa and his wife Nang Hein Hkam (Mahadevi) formed the Shan State People's Unity Association (SSPUA), which said that there was no need for the sawbwas to give up power, issuing a firm announcement on 20 April 1957, demanding secession of Shan State from the Union ten years after regaining of independence according to the Panglong Agreement.

As a means to counter the act, the people with progressive views and Union Spirit founded the All Shan State Association and demanded the sawbwas to relinquish power and warned them not to secede from the Union.

The sad thing during the time was the ruling AFPFL's failure to effectively control and address the problem with its authority.

At the same time, Nang Hein Hkam tried to agitate and organize Shan university students who received cash assistance of sawbwas. She also organized the civil staff and police personnel offering bribes, while launching clandestine operations to organize village chieftains, gather arms and conduct military training courses.

In addition, Sao Hkun Seik, an uncle of Kengtung sawbwa, and Sai Nwe formed an armed band as a defence force under their leadership. As the then government became suspicious of them, it arrested Sao Hkun Seik under section 5. Sai Nwe escaped arrest, and fled to Mongkyut where he formed the group "Brave Shan Youth" at Hwepuhaw at the Myanmar-Thai border on 21 May 1958. When the government released Sao Hkun Seik from detention, he also fled to the place and joined the group.

*(To be continued)*

**(Translation: TMT)**

*Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 7-5-2005*

## Prizes presentation ceremony of Follow Me and Secret Beauty Products held



*Managing Director U Kyin Sein of Ta-Fa Trading Co extends greetings at the lucky draw programme of Follow Me & Secret Cosmetics. — MNA*

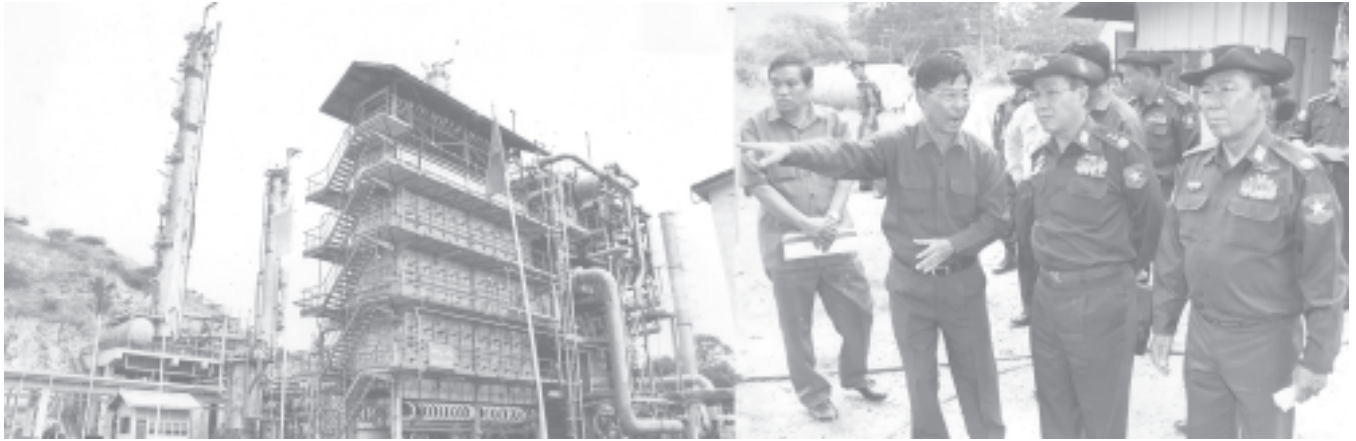
YANGON, 7 May — A ceremony to present prizes to the winners of lucky draw organized by Tohtonku Senderian Berhad and Ta-Fa Trading Co Ltd was held at Sedona Hotel on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this morning. It was attended by departmental officials, journalists, artistes and others.

Managing Director U Kyin Sein of Ta-Fa Trading Co Ltd extended greetings and made donations to various organisations on the occasion.

Prizes were given to dealers from Super Markets and grand lucky draw winners of Follow Me and Secret Beauty Products.

Executive Director U Htun Kyi spoke words of thanks.

Consolation prizes will be given at the company office at No 96, Shwe Taung Dan Street from 9 to 31 May 2005.—MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win hears reports on No 2 Fertilizer Plant (Kyunchauung) of Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise.— MNA

**People have cultivated good...**

(from page 16)

Umin Koepauk river-water pumping project will benefits over 7800 acres of farmland and the region will be able to cultivate monsoon and summer paddy despite the cultivating of only beans and pulses and sesame in the past.

The Prime Minister and party went to Mann oilfield in Minbu by helicopter. At the guest house of the field Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi reported on facts about the oilfield and its related Htaukshabin oilfield and Kanni oilfield and production of oil and natural gas. Next, MOGE Managing Director U San Lwin also reported on prospects for further exploration of oil and gas. The Prime Minister gave them necessary instructions.

The Prime Minister and party visited oil well No 654 and warehouse No 5 for oil and natural gas and checked the stockpile of oil. They then proceeded to Thayet where Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Thein Tun and officials welcomed them. On arrival at the Htontkyauk mountain of Thayet cement plant, the Prime Minister and party looked into area of the mountain and its measurement and mining of limestone from the view point. He also inspected grinding and carrying of limestone to the plant by machinery. At the briefing hall of the plant the Prime Minister heard a report by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thein Tun on brief history of Thayet cement plant, production of cement, investments, replacement

of machinery, supplies and requirements of raw materials, fuel and electric power.

Myanmar Ceramics Industries Managing Director U Soe Yi also gave a report on condition of

stone crusher, maintenance and upgrading of machinery and requirements of machine parts. Myanma Electric Power Enterprise Chief Engineer U Tin Aung reported on arrangements made

the local battalion. At 6 pm Lt-Gen Soe Win met with chairmen and members of Thayet District and Township PDCs, department officials, members of USDA and social organizations and

In other words, the people have cultivated a good habit of sharing duties with the government for regional and national development, in which the government is playing a leading role in



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects crude oil containers at Mann Oil Field in Minbu Township. MNA

local people at the hall of Thayet District. District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Maung Maung San reported on area and population of the district, land resources, annual rainfall, supply of irrigation water and benefited farmlands, thriving plantations of monsoon and summer paddy, sufficiency of food and edible oil and development of fish and meat and industrial sectors and education, health and rural development affairs.

nation-building tasks with endeavours and goals. Thayet District has gained 70 per cent of local food sufficiency, and Kamma and Mindon townships of the districts have enjoyed rice surplus.

The region's paddy sown acreage has mounted to more than 112,000 acres in 2004-2005, up from about 77,000 acres of paddy in 1993-94.

In addition, total sown acreage of crops has increased from over 0.5 million acres to more than 0.94 million acres, and cultivation of crops has doubled in the period.

With increased efforts to ensure rice sufficiency and economic development of respective regions, the entire nation will be able to enjoy strong economy, and stand on its feet firmly.

It is unwise the nation places reliance on foreign (See page 9)

for supply of water for the plant, and Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi gave a supplementary report. The Prime Minister then fulfilled the needs.

Next, the Prime Minister and party viewed the development of Thayet and greeted families of

**The region's paddy sown acreage has mounted to more than 112,000 acres in 2004-2005, up from about 77,000 acres of paddy in 1993-94. In addition, total sown acreage of crops has increased from over 0.5 million acres to more than 0.94 million acres, and cultivation of crops has doubled in the period.**



Aerial view of No 1 Fertilizer Plant (Sale) of Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise in Chauk Township.— MNA

The Prime Minister in his speech said that the purpose of the meeting was to render assistance for regional development and to notice the topography of the region.

It is heartening to witness that local people of Thayet are leading a peaceful life in doing businesses, while carrying out regional development tasks in collaboration with those in charge of the region.





Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects parts to be substituted at No 2 Kiln of Thayet Cement Plant.— MNA

**People have cultivated good...**

(from page 8)

assistance for its economic development, and it does not conform to the spirit and nationalistic fervour of the people who wish to stand on their own feet.

The significant progress of the nation and the emergence of infrastructures necessary for national development are due to the combined and concerted efforts of the State and the people exerting own abilities and capabilities under the guidance of Head

of State Senior General Than Shwe.

So, the entire national people will have to strive in unison for shouldering the future nation-building tasks.

With rich natural resources and highly-qualified human resources, the nation will be able to catch up with her neighbours soonest.

It is important for the government to create opportunities for enabling the people to enjoy food sufficiency and better living conditions, and to equip them with high intellectual power to distinguish

of certain destructive elements, while striving for national development.

Only in harmony with alien instigation and dictates, the destructive elements commit acts to undermine stability of the State and cause disintegration of the Union.

So, all those responsible are to seek possible ways and means to surmount the dangers of the destructive elements, while carrying out national development undertakings and public welfare services with



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win looks into machine parts of Urea Plant and Ammonia Plant at No 3 Fertilizer Plant (Kyawswa) in Aunglan Township.— MNA

**It is important for the government to create opportunities for enabling the people to enjoy food sufficiency and better living conditions, and to equip them with high intellectual power to distinguish between the good and the bad.**

between the good and the bad.

Only then, will there flourish proper democracy that conforms with the lifestyle of the entire national people.

The Prime Minister stressed the need for the people to see through of the dangers and ulterior motive

**The significant progress of the nation and the emergence of infrastructures necessary for national development are due to the combined and concerted efforts of the State and the people exerting own abilities and capabilities under the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe.**

loyalty.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister had a cordial conversation with departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsenders.

This morning, the Prime Minister and party inspected manufacturing process at Thayet Cement Plant, kilns, machine spare parts produced by the plant.

They also inspected Thayet District People's Hospital (100-bed). Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo and officials conducted them round the facility.

The Prime Minister and party proceeded to No 3 Fertilizer Factory in Aunglan Township, and inspected control room, ammonia workshop, and urea factory.

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi reported on condition of Kyunchaung, Sale and Kyawswa fertilizer factories and requirements.

(See page 10)



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win views Limestone Quarry for Thayet Cement Plant.— MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects the X-ray room of Thayet District Hospital (100-bed). — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win meets local authorities, departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people at the Thayet District Hall. — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win meets local people in Sale region, Chauk Township. — MNA

### People have cultivated good...

(from page 9)

Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw and Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaug Lwin reported on spare parts to be produced locally for repairing the machinery of fertilizer plants, and those to be imported.

Chief Engineer U Tin Aung of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise reported on arrangements to be made for supply of electricity for the factories.

In response to the reports, the Prime Minister gave necessary instructions.

The Prime Minister and party arrived back here by helicopter. — MNA



No 2 plant (Kyunchaung) of Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise in Kyunchaung, Pakokku. — MNA



Thayet Cement Plant of Myanma Ceramics Industries in Thayet. — MNA

## USDA members on excursion tour of Mindat, Monywa, Loikaw

YANGON, 7 May — USDA members from States and Divisions under the programme to exchange visits and experiences, arrived at Mindat on 3 May. They were welcomed by Chairman of District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Sein Ya and officials.

At 8 pm, Lt-Col Sein Ya extended greetings to the USDA members at the office of the District Peace and Development Council.

On 4 May, the youth visited the office of Public Works, construction site of 12-mile Mindat-Matupi Road, the quarry and 9th mile Bawkhwi Agricultural Farm.

In the afternoon, they discussed regional development at the meeting hall of the District PDC. Next, they planted saplings in the compound of No 1 Basic Education High School. On 5 May, they visited Mt Natma Natural Park and the mythun farm of USDA.

Another excursion



USDA members study products of Yenangyoung Industrial Zone.— MNA

group in Monywa paid homage to Shwezigon and Hsutaungpyae Pagodas on 5 May.

They attended the Sagaing Division Tree Planting Ceremony. Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye delivered an opening address. Next, the commander and officials together with the USDA members planted saplings.

The youth also visited Kyaukka Shweguni Pagoda and University for Development of National Races.

In the evening, the commander hosted a dinner in honour of the excursion members at the city hall in Monywa.

Similarly, the USDA members in Loikaw attended a dinner hosted by Kayah State USDA at the city hall in Loikaw on 5 May evening.

Secretary of Kayah State Peace and Development

Council Lt-Col Tin Tun and the youth exchanged souvenirs.

Yesterday morning, the youth met with Chairman of Kayah State PDC Lt-Col Kyaw Swa Min at Kayah State General Administration Department Office. They visited Moebye Reservoir in Phekho Township.

MNA

## Myanmar wins best booth prize in Bandung Expo

YANGON, 7 May —

Myanmar Entrepreneurs Association comprising 11 members led by U Win Myint, President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, general secretary U Sein Win Hlaing, CEC U Htun Aung and U Myo Thant set up a booth representing the nation in Asian-African Summit and 50th Asia, Africa Jubilee Expo-2005 held from 20 April to 25 in Bandung, Indonesia.

The booth representing Myanmar won the first prize in the Expo, where over 70 booths took part. Myanmar booth displayed assorted beans, various kinds of commodities, furniture, sculptures and handicrafts, industrial products, garments, marine products, Myanmar jewellery and pearls.—MNA



The prize awarded for Myanmar booth out of 70 booths at Asia, Africa Jubilee Expo-2005 and Asian-African Summit in Bandung of Indonesia.

MNA

## Bomb explosions occur in Yangon...

(from page 16)

acts are terrorist groups such as KNU, SSA led by Ywet Sit, KNPP and NCGUB led by expatriate

Sein Win.

Members of the terrorist groups together with the people visited Yangon Trade Centre where the

Thailand Exhibition was being held. Explosion occurred when they planted a time bomb in a bag placed among the seats in front of the entertainment stage on the third floor of the YTC.

Another blast took place



USDA members view road construction in Mindat.— MNA



Damages at Dagon Centre in Sangyoung Township after an explosion triggered by a time bomb.— MNA



Damages at Yangon Trade Centre in Pazundaung Township where a time bomb was exploded.— MNA

at the counter where shoppers put their belongings when the members of the terrorist groups disguised as shoppers visited City Mart at the Junction-8 Centre and put a bag which contained a time bomb at the counter.

Similarly, the terrorists under the guise of shoppers entered the Dagon Centre and left a bag containing a time bomb near the ground floor escalator and the

bomb later went off.

The authorities concerned in collaboration with the people are making investigations to expose the terrorists who committed the sinister acts in crowded areas where monks and people were moving about.

As there has been information on subversive acts of terrorists who have been committing loathsome acts with every intention

of endangering the lives and property of the people, the public and monks are to exercise a constant vigilance against suspicious-looking strangers and objects with security awareness.

The people are called upon to come forward and report to the security organizations in time if they happen to find any suspicious persons or things.

MNA



Damages seen at Junction-8 Centre in Mayangon Township after an explosion.— MNA

ADVERTISEMENTS

Chinese Proficiency Test (HSK)

Host Institutions :University of Foreign Languages, Yangon; Embassy of the People's Republic of China
Sponsor :The State Commission of Chinese Proficiency Test
Date :14 May, 2005 (Saturday)
Place :University of Foreign Languages, Yangon
University of Foreign Languages, Mandalay
Application period :From 4 May, 2005 (Wed) to 12 May, 2005 (Thursday)

The TEST has three different levels; the examinee can choose the level that best matches his or her ability and training. Further information may be obtained from University of Foreign Languages, Yangon, 119-131 University Avenue, Yangon (Telephone: 513198) and University of Foreign Languages, Mandalay (Telephone: 02-32330).

France defends proposal to sell arms to China, Iran diplomacy

WASHINGTON, 6 May — France has defended the European proposal to lift the arms embargo on China and said the diplomacy being pursued by European Union was the best option to persuade Iran to give up uranium enrichment.

"I am aware of the sensitivity of the question of the embargo here in the United States,"

French Foreign Minister Michel Barnier told Washington Post about the lifting of a European arms embargo on China.

"That is a question we see as a political one. It has no quantitative or qualitative impact on arms exports to China. In fact, we tightly control any such exports ... the purpose is not to beef up or step up military trade with China but simply to

lift a measure that we consider to be an anachronism in this day and age vis-a-vis that particular country."

On EU's negotiations with Iran on the nuclear issue, trying to persuade Iran to give up enrichment of uranium which could be used for power or diverted to nuclear weapons, Barnier said: "My sense is the po-

litical and diplomatic option that we have pursued is better than all other alternative options. Our main purpose is to get an objective guarantee that the Iranian nuclear programme will be exclusively focussed on and destined to civilian use. But we haven't gotten there yet."

"We are going into this with our eyes wide

open. It is a fragile, difficult negotiation for France," he said. "And we need to take whatever time is necessary."

As long as there is no setback, then in a sense we are moving forward. Whatever the language, whatever the so-called threats (by Iran), for the time being we are moving ahead."

MNA/PTI

US service sector grows at lower rate in April

WASHINGTON, 6 May — The US economy's service sector expanded in April for the 25th consecutive month, though at a slower pace than in March, the Institute for Supply Management reported Wednesday.

The private research organization said that its index measuring activity among service companies fell to 61.7 in April from 63.1 for the previous month. Still, the April reading was slightly higher than the 61 analysts had been expecting.

A reading of 50 or above 50 in the index means the service sector is expanding, while a figure below 50 represents a contraction.

Fourteen of the industries including utilities, insurance, retail trade, and real estate reported growth, said the institute. Transportation and legal services remained the same. Only entertainment reported decreased activity from March.

The institute's employment index declined to 53.3 from 57.1 in March, but it was the 19th month of growth in a row.

MNA/Xinhua

Brazilian company to start operation in Nigerian oil field

RIO DE JANEIRO, 6 May — Brazilian State-run oil firm PETROBRAS announced Wednesday that it will start this week the exploitation of a huge oil field at Akpo, Nigeria, along with other firms.

The Akpo field, with a depth of 1,100-1,700 metres, has high-quality crude and is located 200 kilometres from the southern Nigerian city of Port Harcourt, said PETROBRAS.

The PETROBRAS experts will directly participate in the drilling of 22 wells for the extraction of petroleum, after approval from the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC).

The field, discovered in 2000 in the Nigerian

continental shelf, will be exploited by a consortium consisting of French Total, as operator, as well as NNPC, South Atlantic Petroleum (a private Nigerian firm) and PETROBRAS, which has a 16-per-cent share of total exploitation rights.

The Akpo field will be capable of generating 225,000 barrels of crude a day in 2008, 80 per cent of which will be light oil, the most valued worldwide.

MNA/Xinhua

Nicaraguan Parl postpones approval of FTA

MANANGUA, 6 May — Nicaragua's National Assembly has delayed the approval of the free trade agreement (FTA) between Central America and the United States, on grounds that its population will not benefit from the deal, an official said on Wednesday.

Legislators from the Sandinista Front of National Liberation (FSLN) and the Liberal Constitutional Party (PLC) oppose the FTA, saying it will benefit neither workers nor small producers, according to Nicaraguan chief negotiator Carlos Sequeira.

Many small producers' businesses would go bust because of the FTA, which also violates the rights of workers, representatives of the FSLN say.

The official said the criticism is of a political nature and Nicaragua may turn out to be the only

country to cause difficulties for the ratification of the FTA.

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica signed the FTA with the United States last May in Washington. The Dominican Republic later joined it in August.

The Salvadorean Congress became the first Parliament to ratify the accord in December, and Guatemala and Honduras followed suit. The agreement will come into effect when the legislatures of all the signatory countries give it the green light.

MNA/Xinhua

ရိပ်မိတ်တင်ဒါအီးယူခြင်း

၁။ အမှတ်(၁)ဝက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ မြန်မာ့စတုရန်းဓာတ်လုပ်ငန်း ကြီးကြပ်မှုအောက်ရှိ စက်ရုံများအတွက် အောက်ပါ ပစ္စည်းများအား မြန်မာ့စတုရန်းဓာတ်လုပ်ငန်းမှ ချိတ်ဆောင်ပေးပါသည်။

Table with 4 columns: No., ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအမည် (Item Name), အရေအတွက် (Quantity), တင်ဒါမိတ်စဉ်ရက်/အချိန် (Tender Closing Date/Time). Rows include High Voltage Motor, Air Compressor, and Aluminium Sulphate.

မြန်မာ့စတုရန်းဓာတ်လုပ်ငန်း

Yushchenko hopes to solve demarcation dispute with Russia

KIEV, 6 May — Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said on Wednesday his country is willing to make compromises to Russia over the border demarcation of the Azov Sea, in exchange for Moscow to clarify its stance on the disputed demarcation of the Kerch Strait.

"We are ready to compromise on the demarcation of the Azov Sea in exchange for a clear stance of Russia on the demarcation of the Kerch Strait," Yushchenko said while meeting with local communities.

But he did not elaborate on what kind of compromise Kiev is going to make. Yushchenko recalled that during a recent meeting with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin, he proposed to set the settlement of the border demarcation dispute as one of top priorities in Ukraine-Russia relations in 2005.

The border demarca-

tion includes the delimitation of the land border, and the border in the Azov Sea and the Kerch Strait, he said.

Ukraine and Russia have been at odds over the border demarcation of the Kerch Strait after the disintegration of the former Soviet Union. Tensions began to run high on September 29, 2003 when Russia began to build a dyke stretching from its southern mainland toward the Tuzla Island near the frontier with Ukraine on the Kerch Strait. The crisis ended after Russia suspended the dam project and Ukraine agreed to withdraw its troops from

the Tuzla Island.

But the two sides have yet to reach agreement on the border demarcation despite hard bargaining in the past two years.

The Kerch Strait, 41 kilometres in length, 4-15 kilometres in width and 5-15 metres in depth, is not only a key shipping gateway between the Azov Sea and the Black Sea, but also rich in fishing resources.

The two countries have been divided over the border demarcation of the Kerch Strait, the Black Sea and the Azov Sea, haggling about where to draw a border line to divide the water areas.

MNA/Xinhua

WB approves loan to Egypt for water project

CAIRO, 6 May — The World Bank has approved a loan of 120 million US dollars to Egypt for an integrated irrigation improvement and management project, the official MENA news agency reported on Thursday.

The project will support the Egyptian Government to achieve more efficient and sustainable use of land and water resources by improving the management of irrigation and drainage for farmers in the Nile Delta, said the report.

Co-financed by the government of the Netherlands and the German state-owned bank KfW, the seven-year project aims to apply integrated water resource management by empowering water users in decision making at both the in-

vestment as well as operation and maintenance levels for irrigation and drainage infrastructure.

The project will fund irrigation and drainage renovations and provide water users with technical assistance.

A rapidly-growing population has posed a huge challenge for Egypt to boost the productivity and sustainability of its water use.

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွံ့မြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

### IBM to cut 10,000 to 13,000 jobs

WASHINGTON, 7 May— As part of a widely-expected restructuring move, IBM Corp on Thursday said it plans to cut between 10,000 to 13,000 jobs, mostly in Europe, reducing its workforce by about 4 per cent.

IBM has been hinting at layoffs since 14 April, when it reported disappointing quarterly earnings.

Its CEO Sam Palmisano had blamed the shortfall in part on slow sales in France, Germany and Italy. IBM has about 100,000 workers in Europe and 319,000 world-wide.

Most of the cuts — to be achieved through voluntary severance packages and layoffs — are expected to be in IBM's lucrative consulting division. The company plans to eliminate some country-specific teams and instead organize workers in groups that cross country

lines.

That will allow IBM to eliminate a layer of middle management and close some offices.

Spokesman Edward Barbini said IBM has made similar organizational changes in other parts of its consulting business.

IBM expects a pre-tax charge of 1.3 billion US dollars to 1.7 billion US dollars to cover the costs of the job cuts. It also expects to start reaping financial benefits from the smaller workforce by the second half of the year.

IBM had a revenue of 96 billion US dollars last year.

MNA/PTI

### US to tighten issuance of driver's licences

WASHINGTON, 6 May — Applicants for state-issued driver's licences in the United States will be required to produce four types of identification when the Congress approves a plan to discourage illegal immigration, the USA Today newspaper reported on Thursday.

Most who apply for new licences — and presumably, those seeking renewals — would have to prove that they are in the United States legally, possess document of their social security number and home address and show a photo ID.

Motor vehicle department employees then would have to verify the documents with federal databases, a potentially lengthy process that could mean an end to same-day licence renewals.

Each year, about 70 million people in the United States apply for new driver's licences or renewals.

In most of the states now, the new drivers are typically required to produce proof of age and one or two other forms of ID, usually including a photo. Less is required for those renewing licences, and a few states, including Maryland, allow renewals by mail.

The House is likely to pass the Real ID Act as early as Thursday and the Senate next week, as an attachment to an 81-billion-US-dollar emergency spending bill to the military in Iraq and Afghanistan.

If states did not comply within three years, their driver's licences could not be used as ID to board a plane or to enter certain federal buildings.

Along with extra security at airports and workplaces, the act could represent the most significant differences in daily lives to stem from post 11 September security concerns, according to the report.

MNA/Xinhua



Former world paragliding champion Alex Hofer from Switzerland and his Turkish friends fly over the Jiaoshan Great Wall in Qinhuangdao, north China's Hebei Province recently.—INTERNET

### 1,700-year-old fort discovered in E China province

HEFEI, 6 May— Chinese archaeologists have discovered ruins of a fort dating back to the period of the Three Kingdoms (220-280) in east China's Anhui Province recently.

This is the only ancient fort ever discovered in this eastern Chinese province. They are rare in other parts of China as well, said Li Dewen, head of the archaeological team.

The site covers an area of 80,000 square metres in the suburbs of Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui Province, the ancient territory of the Kingdom of Wei, one of the Three Kingdoms.

The castle has three gates, two on the eastern wall and the other, on the western wall.

Archaeologists have found traces of the ancient walls built with packed earth.

Other objects discovered at the site included the ruins of a smelting furnace, half of a stonemill, 2,000 arrowheads, rammers and axes, and some food containers such as basins, jars and kettles.

Archaeologists discovered a drill ground, a command platform and scores of round stones each having a diameter of between 15 millimetres and 30 millimetres near the eastern gate.

The Kingdom of Wei began building the castle in 230 and finished in 233. Wei stationed 5,000 or 6,000 soldiers in the fort for almost 50 years, Li said.

The Wei repulsed 11 military attacks launched by enemy Kingdom Wu, and the castle played an important role for Wei in defending its territory during ancient wars, Li said, adding that it was listed by the provincial government as a site of cultural relics in 1998.

During the Three Kingdoms period, the rival states of Wei, Shu and Wu existed side by side. Wei and Wu occupied each side of the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River, while Shu was located in present Sichuan Province.

MNA/Xinhua

### Vietnam stresses Navy int'l cooperation

HANOI, 7 May — Vietnamese President Tran Duc Luong urged the Navy to boost regional and international cooperation for sustainable development, especially with those countries sharing sea borders with Vietnam, Vietnam News Agency reported on Thursday.

In a Wednesday meeting with the participation of exemplary members of naval units to mark the force's 50th founding anniversary on 7 May, the President said international cooperation should be based on the principle of respecting one another's independence and sovereignty.

He also appealed the naval force to make greater contribution to national construction and defence.

MNA/Xinhua

### Greece, Albania to enhance in fighting organized crime

ATHENS, 6 May — High-ranking officials from the Greek and Albanian police met in the north-western Greek city of Ioannina on Thursday as part of an ongoing cooperation in fighting organized border crime, Athens News Agency reported.

The meeting aims to strengthen cooperation in fighting organized crime and trafficking of drugs, people and weapons.

MNA/Xinhua

### NZ wins tourism web site "Oscar"

WELLINGTON, 7 May— Tourism New Zealand's www.newzealand.com site has been awarded the Internet world's version of an Oscar — a "Webby," said the Tourism Minister on Thursday.

The International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences has recognized the site as the top tourism site in the world.

Tourism Minister Mark Burton congratulated Tourism New Zealand on their win.

"The Webby awards are the leading international prizes honouring excellence in the online field. It is a very prestigious award and re-affirms that New Zealand tourism is at the top of its game," said Burton.

He said winning the Webby will encourage more and more people to visit the site and see what New Zealand has to offer as an overseas destination and as a place to do business.

www.newzealand.com is designed to market New Zealand as a holiday destination to prospective international visitors and helps them plan their trip.

The website championed leading international tourism sites such as Yellowstone Park, the Italian Tourism Commission and Puerto Rico Tourism.

Thousands of sites enter into the awards, but only five are chosen to battle it out in each category. The five sites are then judged by content, structure and navigation, visual design, function-

ality, interactivity and overall experience.

This is not the first award Tourism New Zealand has received for its world-leading web site. In 2003, it was named the best travel and tourism site at the NetGuide awards. The site also won two of the top Telecommunications Users Association of New Zealand (TUANZ) awards in 2004.

MNA/Xinhua

# S P O R T S

## Mourinho to introduce three newcomers

LONDON, 6 May — Chelsea boss Jose Mourinho confirmed on Thursday that he would add three players to his squad for next season.

Mourinho already boasts a top-quality squad at Stamford Bridge but he is determined not to rest on his laurels after ending the club's 50-year wait for the title.

The Portuguese tacti-

cian, who signed a new contract with The Blues on Wednesday, is keen to use Roman Abramovich's millions again in the summer.

But Mourinho is not planning a major overhaul of his squad following the UEFA Champions League semifinal exit to Liverpool but is merely looking to tweak his options.

He has trained his sights on bringing in a left back, a midfielder and a striker and is now likely to be linked with a string of the globe's biggest names.

While he has confirmed he wants to inject some extra quality into his squad, Mourinho also accepts that it could lead to departures from Stamford Bridge.

Mateja Kezman has already voiced his discontent at playing only a peripheral role this term and Mourinho's desire to boost his attacking options places a huge question mark over the Serb's future in West London.

Mourinho acknowledged that players will be unhappy at not having played regularly this season but it will not stop his pursuit of new signings.

"There are always one or two who are not very happy with their personal situation," Mourinho told Chelsea TV.

"Of course they are happy with the success and they belong to the success but some of them are not very happy because they are not my first choice.

"They didn't play so much as they believed they should and they prefer to change their lives—that's normal at the end of the season.

"I think it's normal that one or two players, they will want to leave and it is normal we are looking for three players who can improve our squad.

MNA/Xinhua



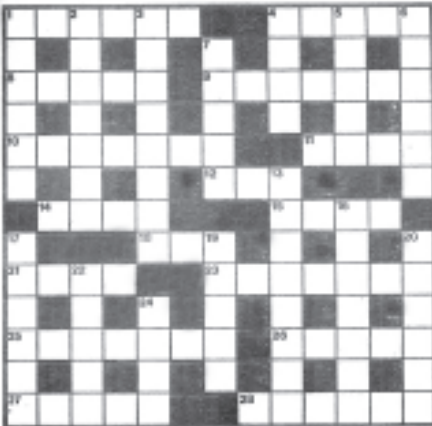
China's Niu Jianfeng, right, plays a shot during the womens' doubles final in the 48th World Table Tennis Championships in Shanghai on 6 May, 2005. The pair were beaten 4-1 by compatriots Zhang Yining and Wang Nan.—INTERNET

## List of English Football Writer's Association winners

LONDON, 7 May — Following is the list of English Football Writers' Association winners after Chelsea's Frank Lampard was voted FWA Footballer of the Year on Friday.

- 1948 Stanley Matthews Blackpool
- 1949 Johnny Carey Manchester United
- 1950 Joe Mercer Arsenal
- 1951 Harry Johnston Blackpool
- 1952 Billy Wright Wolverhampton Wanderers
- 1953 Nat Lofthouse Bolton Wanderers
- 1954 Tom Finney Preston North End
- 1955 Don Revie Manchester City
- 1956 Bert Trautman Manchester City
- 1957 Tom Finney Preston North End
- 1958 Danny Blanchflower Tottenham Hotspur
- 1959 Syd Owen Luton Town
- 1960 Bill Slater Wolverhampton Wanderers
- 1961 Danny Blanchflower Tottenham Hotspur
- 1962 Jimmy Adamson Burnley
- 1963 Stanley Matthews Stoke City
- 1964 Bobby Moore West Ham United
- 1965 Bobby Collins Leeds United
- 1966 Bobby Charlton Manchester United
- 1967 Jack Charlton Leeds United
- 1968 George Best Manchester United
- 1969 Tony Book Manchester City
- Dave Mackay Derby County
- 1970 Billy Bremner Leeds United
- 1971 Frank McLintock Arsenal
- 1972 Gordon Banks Stoke City
- 1973 Pat Jennings Tottenham Hotspur
- 1974 Ian Callaghan Liverpool
- 1975 Alan Mullery Fulham
- 1976 Kevin Keegan Liverpool
- 1977 Emlyn Hughes Liverpool
- 1978 Kenny Burns Nottingham Forest
- 1979 Kenny Dalglish Liverpool
- 1980 Terry McDermott Liverpool
- 1981 Frans Thijssen Ipswich Town
- 1982 Steve Perryman Tottenham Hotspur
- 1983 Kenny Dalglish Liverpool
- 1984 Ian Rush Liverpool
- 1985 Neville Southall Everton
- 1986 Gary Lineker Everton
- 1987 Clive Allen Tottenham Hotspur
- 1988 John Barnes Liverpool
- 1989 Steve Nicol Liverpool
- 1990 John Barnes Liverpool
- 1991 Gordon Strachan Leeds United
- 1992 Gary Lineker Tottenham Hotspur
- 1993 Chris Waddle Sheffield Wednesday
- 1994 Alan Shearer Blackburn Rovers
- 1995 Jurgen Klinsmann Tottenham Hotspur
- 1996 Eric Cantona Manchester United
- 1997 Gianfranco Zola Chelsea
- 1998 Dennis Bergkamp Arsenal
- 1999 David Ginola Tottenham Hotspur
- 2000 Roy Keane Manchester United
- 2001 Teddy Sheringham Manchester United
- 2002 Robert Pires Arsenal
- 2003 Thierry Henry Arsenal
- 2004 Thierry Henry Arsenal
- 2005 Frank Lampard Chelsea — MNA/Xinhua

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

- 1 Plant with aromatic seeds
- 4 Culinary herb
- 8 Advantage
- 9 Type of bean
- 10 Captivated
- 11 Commotion
- 12 Female sheep
- 14 Torn
- 15 Designation
- 18 Before
- 21 Gown
- 23 High churchman
- 25 Frenzied
- 26 Constellation
- 27 Spring flower
- 28 Amalgamation

### DOWN

- 1 Opportunity
- 2 Communication
- 3 Familiar
- 4 Sharp-tasting
- 5 Cathy (anag.)
- 6 Whole
- 7 Ghost
- 13 Wrapper
- 16 Significance
- 17 Gain
- 19 Era
- 21 Discoverer of vaccination
- 22 Affray
- 24 Cease

## Henry back to training

LONDON, 6 May — Thierry Henry returned to training on Thursday but is still doubtful for Arsenal's FA Cup final date with Manchester United as he struggles to regain fitness.

The Premiership's top scorer has missed the Gunners' last four games due to a groin injury and will also be absent for the next two league fixtures.

Henry is recovering steadily from the injury and was rated last week as having a 30-70 chance of being fit for the cup final on 21 May.

The France international appears to be improving but Gunners boss Arsene Wenger is concerned Henry will be short of sharpness for the final. Freddie Ljungberg is also being hampered by a hip complaint and, like Henry, will not play against Liverpool and Everton.

Both players have a chance to feature in the final day clash against Birmingham City but Wenger remains less than upbeat about the duo's condition.

"Thierry Henry and Freddie Ljungberg will

both be out for the next two games," Wenger told the club's official website.

"It is difficult to say (when they will be back).

"Freddie has not even started training whereas Thierry has but even then we have to wait a little bit to see how he responds.

"Ideally you would want them to be available before and at least play a game but we have to be cautious.

"It just depends who is available on the day," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

China's Wang Liqin holds his trophy after winning the mens' singles final at the 48th World Table Tennis Championships in Shanghai on 6 May, 2005. Wang beat compatriot Ma Lin 4-2 to take the gold medal and trophy.—INTERNET



## Water-saving more urgent than ever in China

**BEIJING, 7 May** — Water conservation will have become a way of life across the nation by 2020 to match a relatively well-off society, said on Friday's *China Daily*.

"The crux of building a water-saving society in China will depend on what we are going to do in the next 15 years," said Suo Lisheng, Vice-Minister for Water Resources.

He noted that "building a water-saving society is the best strategy for China to tackle an ever-increasing water crisis a problem facing the country since last century".

The ministry responsible for water will host the Water Expo China 2006 from 26-29 April next year at the Beijing Agriculture Exhibition Centre, focusing on "guaranteeing drinking water security and building a harmonious society," according to Suo.

The expo will showcase the latest products and technology related to water conservation.

A high-level forum

on water use will be held on the sidelines of the main conference.

Suo believes there is a large potential market for water-saving products in the years ahead.

"With China's rapid industrialization and urbanization, the shortage of water resources has become one of the major sectors restricting the country's economic development and progress of society," Suo said.

Options include grand plans for usage, a revision of payment systems and reasonable pricing to limit consumption quotas for different regions and purposes.

Meanwhile, water recycling, pollution control and more efficient technology for industries and farming must be further developed to make full use of the existing water supply infrastructure.

MNA/Xinhua

## Ethiopia launches broadband Internet network

**ADDIS ABABA, 7 May** — The Ethiopian Telecommunication Corporation (ETC), the country's only Internet service provider, inaugurated on Thursday broadband Internet network that transfers multimedia content, including large data, audio, and video files.

The company said in a Press release that broadband Internet is an information technology which is believed to bring about far-reaching societal development both in developing and developed countries.

At the inaugural ceremony, Minister of Infrastructure Kassu Ilalla said information communication technology (ICT) facilitates effective communication for people through overcoming time and space limitations.

Kassu said ICT empowers people by providing information and knowledge, generates income through learning, improve productivity, and promote good governance and democracy.

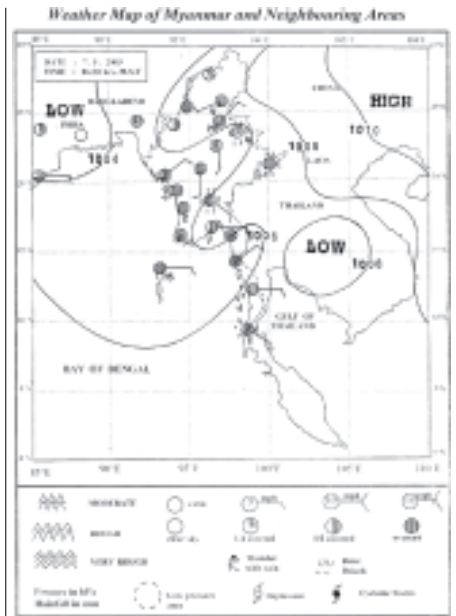
Unfortunately, over 85 per cent of the country's population in rural areas cannot get access to telecom services, and this should not continue any

more, the minister said.

The national development programme fully recognizes ICT as a distinguishing imperative in the poverty alleviation and economic transformation, the minister said, adding that encouraging broadband infrastructure development programmes were executed over the past two years.

Speaking at the occasion, ETC Chief Executive Officer Tesfaye Birru said broadband Internet has brought about a paradigm shift in the communication sector. Currently there are only 30,000 Internet lines in this country of 71 million people, making it one of the lowest users of information technology in the world, according to a study by the World Bank. But within six months that figure will be expanded to 500,000 lines.

MNA/Xinhua



### WEATHER

Saturday, 7 May, 2005

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Chin State and lower Sagaing Division, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin and Shan States, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, isolated to scattered in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Bago (2.09) inches, Khayan (1.69) inches, Pyin Oo Lwin (1.57) inches and Yangon (Hmawbi) (1.38) inches. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin and Kayah States, lower Sagaing Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in Shan and Rakhine States, Mandalay and Bago Division, (7°C) to (8°C) below normal in upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions, (6°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas.

Maximum temperature on 6-5-2005 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 7-5-2005 was 66°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 7-5-2005 was 87%. Total sunshine hours on 6-5-2005 was (2.1) hours approx. Rainfalls on 7-5-2005 were (0.43) inch at Yangon Airport, (0.31) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.44) inch at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were 1.97 inches at Yangon Airport, 2.32 inches at Kaba-Aye and 0.87 inch at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from North at (14:15) hours MST on 6-5-2005.

**Bay inference:** Weather is generally fair in the West Central Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 8-5-2005:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, scattered in Mon, Kayin and Rakhine States, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**State of the sea:** Seas will be slight in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers in the lower Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 8-5-2005:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-5-2005:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

### Special Weather News

(Issued at 16:00 hrs MST on 7-5-2005)

According to the observations at (15:30) hours MST today, a low pressure area has formed over Southeast Bay of Bengal. It is forecast that the low pressure is likely to become well marked. Due to the influence of low pressure area scattered rain or thundershowers are likely in Rakhine, Mon States, Ayeyawady, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas.

Squalls with moderate sea will be experienced at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph.



Sunday, 8 May  
View on today:

- 7:00 am**  
1. Recitation of Parittas by missionary Sayadaw U Oaktamathara
- 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. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈) ဇြာမင်္ဂလာ
- 8:05 am**  
6. အတူညီညွတ်
- 8:15 am**  
7. တံငါတံတား
- 8:30 am**  
8. International news
- 8:45 am**  
9. Say it in English
- 11:00 am**  
1. Martial song
- 11:10 am**  
2. Musical programme
- 11:25 am**  
3. Round up of the

- Week's international news
- 11:40 am**  
4. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ  
"အာရှတိုက်နှင့် မိတ္တူစွမ်းစား"  
(အပိုင်း-၁)
- 12:20 pm**  
5. မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာဇာတ်လမ်းအားကစား
- 12:30 pm**  
6. Myanmar Movie:  
"အနှိုင်းမဲ့ရင်စွမ်း"  
(ရွေး၊ ညွှန်ဝင်း၊ စင်သန်းနု၊ နန္ဒာလှိုင်)  
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-မလိမ္မော်ထွန်းအောင်)
- 2:20 pm**  
7. Musical programme
- 2:35 pm**  
8. အတီးပွဲငါးပွဲ
- 2:45 pm**  
9. International news
- 4:00 pm**  
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**  
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**  
3. English for Everyday Use
- 4:45 pm**  
4. သာယာချိုအေး (၃၈) ဇြာမင်္ဂလာ
- 5:00 pm**  
5. အစားအသောက်တက္ကသိုလ်ညွှာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ဒုတိယပုဒ် (အတုစား)

- အထူးပြု (အတုစား)
- 5:15 pm**  
6. Dance of national races
- 5:30 pm**  
7. မြန်မာ့စာပေ၊ မြန်မာ့ကဏ္ဍ
- 5:45 pm**  
8. ကဏ္ဍကြက်မြေခိုနေ့စားဈာ
- 6:00 pm**  
9. Sing and enjoy
- 6:30 pm**  
10. Evening news
- 7:00 pm**  
11. Weather report
- 7:05 pm**  
12. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ  
"ချစ်နန်းမြေသီတစ်ရာတစ်ထိ"  
(အပိုင်း-၂၀)
- 7:30 pm**  
13. တီးလားပီးယားငါးမျိုးပွဲတော်
- 7:40 pm**  
14. Agricultural Source Country's development
- 8:00 pm**  
15. News
- 8:00 pm**  
16. International news
- 8:00 pm**  
17. Weather report
- 8:00 pm**  
18. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ  
"အချစ်သံဈာ"(အပိုင်း ၃၉)
- 8:00 pm**  
19. The next day's programme



Sunday, 8 May  
Tune in today:

- 8.30 am** Brief news
- 8.35 am** Music: I feel so fine
- 8.40 am** Perspectives
- 8.45 am** Music:  
-Baby It's you
- 8.55 am** National news/Slogan
- 9.05 am** Music:  
You make me a betterman
- 9.10 am** International news
- 9.15 am** Cultural images of Myanmar: Myanmar Marionette
- 9.25 am** Music: Come on everyday
- 1.30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm** Story for children:  
-Helping others brings success
- 1.50 pm** Songs for children
- 9.00 pm** Weekly news review
- 9.10 pm** Music
- 9.15 pm** Article
- 9.25 pm** Music
- 9.45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm** PEL

**People have cultivated good...**

(from page 1)

Next, the Prime Minister inspected the air compressor and its parts, the gas plant, fire bricks to be used at the plant, the Urea Plant, Ammonia Plant, ammonia tank and carbon dioxide tank.

They oversaw functions of the central maintenance workshop.

No 2 Fertilizer Plant (Kyunchaung) had the capacity to produce 207 metric tons of urea fertilizer a day in its early period. Performance of the plant declined after over 30 years of operation. Therefore, efforts are being made for boosting production after renovation of the plant.

At 11 am, the Prime Minister and party flew to No 1 Fertilizer Plant (Sale) in Chauk Township. They were welcomed there by Magway Division Police Force Commander Police Col Hla Min and officials.

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi presented re-



ports on facts about the plant, requirements of natural gas and electricity, major repair of the plant, production capacity and annual production, ratio of annual cost and income, machines for repairing the plant and local-made machinery and parts.

Managing Director U Kyaw Shein of MPE submitted reports on the ammonia workshop and urea workshop of the plant and production process.

At No 2 Fertilizer Plant (Sale), the Prime Minister and party inspected the ammonia plant and the urea plant. He then inspected the urea plant and the ammonia plant at the factory (B), ammonia compressor and control room.

At No 1 Fertilizer Plant (Sale), the factory (A) can manufacture 205

metric tons of urea fertilizer a day and the factory (B), 260 metric tons of urea fertilizer a day. At Sale Yokson Kyaungdaw monastery, the Prime Minister and party viewed statues and ancient handwork and paid homage to Buddha images.

On arrival at Umin Koepauk river water pumping project in Sale region of Chauk Township, Assistant Director U Tin Lin of Magway Division Water Resource Utilization Department reported on implementa-

tion of the project and supply of water to the farmlands. Chairman of Magway District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyi Tun and officials briefed the Prime Minister on cultivation of summer paddy with the use of irrigation facilities from the project.

In response to the reports, the Prime Minister said the State, by spending a huge amount of money, has been implementing river-water pumping projects like this one in the region to increase

the income generation of local people by cultivating their crops with the use of river water.

Administrative bodies and departmental officials are to fulfil the requirements of local farmers for the extension of crops cultivation such as sesame and paddy, he urged.

Next he inspected the project site and cordially greeted local people urging them to grow more paddy and other crops in the interest of their own region and the State.

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**Umin Koepauk river-water pumping project will benefit over 7800 acres of farmland and the region will be able to cultivate monsoon and summer paddy despite the cultivating of only beans and pulses and sesame in the past.**

**Bomb explosions occur in Yangon due to inhumane acts committed by terrorists**  
**Bomb blasts at crowded sites left innocent people dead, injured**  
**Terrorist groups: KNU, Ywet Sit-led SSA, KNPP, and fugitive Sein Win-led NCGUB commit brutal acts in collusion**



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win comforts victims of bomb blasts being warded at Yangon General Hospital.— MNA

YANGON, 7 May—A series of bomb explosions occurred in Yangon today — at the Yangon Trade Centre in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, at 2.50 pm, at the Junction-8 Centre in Mayangon Township at 2.55 pm, and at the Dagon Centre in Sangyoung Township at 3 pm — owing to the despicable acts perpetrated in collusion by the terrorists undermining stability of the State and community peace and tranquillity.

A total of 11 innocent people and members of the Sangha lost lives, while 162 were injured in the blasts.

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of Yangon Division PDC Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and officials rushed to the scenes of the incident and Yangon General Hospital and provided necessary assistance and made arrangements for giving treatments to the victims. According to the evidences, those who committed the inhuman

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