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Wednesday, 18 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

Secretary-1 visits bomb blast victims receiving medical treatment

YANGON, 17 May—Chairman of the National Health Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein this evening visited victims of bomb blasts who are receiving medical treatment and enquired after them and attended to the needs.

The bomb blasts were perpetrated on 7 May by terrorists who are undermining stability of the State and community peace.

Accompanied by officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein at 5.30 pm arrived at Yangon General Hospital, where he was welcomed by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Secretary of Yangon City Development Committee U Myint Aung, Secretary of Union Solidarity and Development Association U Aye Myint, Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Nu Nu Tha and others.

The Secretary-1 and party looked into the health conditions of the bomb blast victims, while Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo and physicians conducted them round.

At 6.30 pm, the Secretary-1 and party arrived at New Yangon Hospital and inspected the



Lt-Gen Thein Sein comforts the bomb blast victims at Yangon General Hospital. — MNA

health of bomb blast victims and attended to the needs and left at 7 pm.

Members of the USDA, Red Cross and Fire

Brigade members and staff of YCDC are providing the victims with food and other necessary assistance.—MNA

Commander, mayor look into Yangon City upgrading work

YANGON, 17 May—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of

Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen

Aung Thein Lin this morning inspected measures being taken for upgrading of Yangon City and fulfilled the require-

ments.

At 6 am, the commander and the mayor inspected dredging of drains along the road to

Hanthamon Housing Estate, along Bayint Naung Road, and clearing of rubbish in Kamayut Township,

Yangon West District and paving of Bayint Naung Road with heavy machinery in Hline Township, paving of Strand Road in Kyimyindine Township, and dredging of drains along 3rd Bahan Street in Bahan Township.

Next, they gave instructions on dredging of drains to make townships, wards and roads clean and enable the people to enjoy a healthy environment, systematic disposal of garbage and meeting the set standard and timely completion in building of roads and streets and attended to the needs.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin view tarmacking of Bayintnaung Road.—YANGON COMMAND

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 18 May, 2005

Strive for regional development and improvement of local people's socio-economic life

The State Peace and Development Council, always upholding "Our Three Main National Causes", has been striving for the development of border areas and 24 special regions by laying down plans and implementing them systematically. At the same time, it is also implementing the five rural development tasks.

The annual coordination meeting of Development Affairs Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs was held at the meeting hall of the department on 16 May and it was attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

In his speech at the meeting, the Secretary-1 said that non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty was the genuine Union Spirit and therefore the staff of Development Affairs Department were to carry out the tasks for regional development with national political awareness. Only then would they succeed in their work for all-round development of sectors and regions, he added.

As rural and urban development is essential to our efforts for peace, stability and development of the nation and for the establishment of a democratic state, all those responsible are required to take an active part in all rural and urban development work. For harmonious development of the entire Union, the staff of development affairs committees are placing special emphasis on two of the five rural development tasks — better transport and supply of safe drinking water. They are to regard it as a national duty to carry out development work and serve the interests of the people in accordance with the law, rules and regulations.

To be able to carry out development work successfully, it is necessary for the DAD staff to collect all revenues and use them systematically without loss and wastage and fulfil all the requirements for rural and urban development. Therefore, we would like to call on all the DAD staff to strive, with national political awareness, for regional development and improvement of the local people's socio-economic life.

သွေးတိုးရောဂါ ကာကွယ်ထိန်းသိမ်းပါ

- ၁။ ကိုယ်အလေးချိန်ပုံမှန်ဖြစ်ရန် ထိန်းသိမ်း၍ အဝမလွန်အောင် နေထိုင် စားသောက်ပါ။
- ၂။ ပုံမှန်ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှု ပြုလုပ်ပါ။ နေ့စဉ် နာရီဝက်၊ တစ်နာရီခန့် ခပ်သွက်သွက် လမ်းလျှောက်ခြင်းကဲ့သို့သော ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှု ပြုလုပ်ပါ။
- ၃။ ဟင်းသီးဟင်းရွက်၊ အသီးအနှံ များစားသုံးပါ။
- ၄။ စိတ်ဖိစီးမှုနည်းပါးအောင်နေထိုင်ပါ။
- ၅။ အငန်ဓာတ်ပါသော ငါးပိ၊ ငါးခြောက်၊ ဟင်းချိုမှုန့်၊ စသည် အစားအစာများကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- ၆။ အဆီကို လွန်ကဲစွာ စားသုံးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- ၇။ အရက်ကို အလွန်အကျွံ သောက်သုံးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- ၈။ ဆေးလိပ်သောက်ခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- ၉။ သွေးတိုးရောဂါရှိပါက သွေးပေါင်မှန်မှန်ချိန်၍ စနစ်တကျ ဆေးကုသမှု ခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

People's Desire

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

Commander inspects regional development in Lashio

YANGON, 17 May —Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council (North) Commander of North East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and departmental officials inspected site for construction of replica of Shwedagon Yantaingaug Hsutaungpyi MyoU Pagoda in Lashio on 15 May.

The commander paid respects to Padamya Myatshin Bronze Buddha image and other Buddha

images in Sasana Beikman.

The commander and party also inspected Kaukway Creek Dam project site near Manhsu Village, Hsinshweli sunflower plantation of Myanmar Police Force, paddy plantation, perennial crops, macademia, orange and seasonal crops and breeding of tilapia.

MNA

Council of Culture Universities holds meeting

YANGON, 17 May— The Coordination Meeting 1/2005 of the Council of Culture Universities took place this afternoon at the Ministry of Culture attended by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung.

Also present were members of the council Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, Director-General U Myint Thein Swe of Department of Cultural Institute, Director-General U Kyaw Win of Department of Archaeology, Director-General of Fine Arts Department U Ngwe Tun, Director-General U Saw Lwin of Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar), Member of Myanmar



Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung addresses the Coordination Meeting 1/2005 of the Council of Culture Universities.

CULTURE

History Commission Dr Khin Maung Nyunt and others.

At the meeting the minister said that approval of Myanmar

Central Council of Universities and Education Council is to be sought for work programmes of respective culture universities.

Next, a general round of discussion followed. The meeting came to a close with concluding remarks by the minister. — MNA

Refresher Course No 10 for Officers concludes



Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa presents a prize to an officer at the concluding ceremony of Refresher Course No 10 for Officers. — I&P

YANGON, 17 May—

A concluding ceremony of Refresher Course No 10 for Officers in the departments under the Ministry of Immigration and Population was held at the training hall of the Population Department on Maha Bandoola Street this morning with an address by Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Sein Htwa.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister U Maung Aung, Acting Director-General of Immigration and National Registration Department Col Maung Maung Than, Director-General of Population Department U Tin Yi, directors and officials concerned.

The minister and the deputy minister presented prizes of honour to outstanding trainees and course instructors.

MNA

MMA Conference Organizing Committee to discuss with pharmaceutical agents

YANGON, 17 May— The Organizing Committees for Holding the 52nd Myanmar Medical Association Conference and the 7th

General Medical Practitioners Conference will meet with agents of pharmaceutical companies at the meeting hall of MMA (Third

Floor) at 1 pm on 21st May.

All pharmaceutical agents are invited to attend the meeting.

MNA

China's largest-ever oceanic survey in high gear

BEIJING, 16 May — A comprehensive survey on China's vast areas of inland waters, and marine belts has gone in high gear in an attempt to sort and count the country's marine resources, said the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) here on Saturday.

The survey, or "908 Project," is a mammoth effort to check some 676,000 square kilometres of water, collect accurate information and appropriately position resources contained in these waters in the national development plan, says a written SOA news release on Saturday.

The project, approved by the State Council in September 2003 and scheduled to be carried out from 2004 to the end of 2009, in-

cludes investigations in the physical, chemical, meteorologic, geologic, biologic and optical complexions of the targeted waters.

It will also probe the coastline and islands, track ocean disasters and observe the social and economic development of the country's coastal regions.

"We are trying to count China's oceanic properties," said SOA Vice-Director Chen Lianzeng on Saturday

while defining the aims of the project, the largest of its kind since 1949.

In addition, scientists will also evaluate and use their findings to help formulate the national oceanic development strategies and make decisions concerning social and economic development of the country's coastal regions.

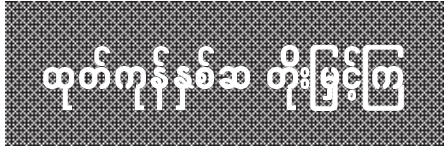
The project is considered as a rudimentary endeavour in an even-larger framework of the so-called "Digital

Oceans" scheme, featuring a comprehensive computerized three-dimensional simulation of the oceans. According to Qu Qiang, vice-director of SOA technological department, preliminary work on the "908 Project" was finished last year and core research and studies will continue through the next two years.

It is estimated that the central government will invest nearly two billion yuan (242 million US dollars) in the programme in addition to an unspecified amount from local governments.

"The specific amount of money spent will be subject to change in accordance with the annual central and local budgets," said SOA spokesman Li Chunxian here.

MNA/Xinhua



Nepal celebrates golden jubilee of Mt Makalu

KATHMANDU, 16 May — Nepal is celebrating golden jubilee of Mt Makalu, the fifth highest peak in the world, from on Sunday.

Late Lean Couzy and Lionel Terray of France expedition team led by Jean Eranco was the first to scale the 8,463 metres high peak on 15 May, 1955.

However, Franco and other climbers conquered the peak the next day, Nepal Mountaineering Association said.

On the occasion, a procession will be organized in honour of the foreign and local mountaineer in the 50 years since the first summit to the mountain, the association said.

The Nepali Government is hosting a special programme in honour of the mountaineer while commemorative stamps on Makalu will be published.

President of the association Ang Tshering Sherpa told reporters, following the successful organizing of the Golden Jubilee of the summit to the world's highest peak Mt. Qomolangma on 18 May, 2004, the Golden Jubilee of scaling of all the mountains above 8,000 metres is being observed.

The Golden Jubilee celebration of Mt. Cho-Oyu (8,201) has already been observed last October, as the Nepali Government has adopted a policy to celebrate Golden Jubilee Anniversary of ascend on all peaks above 8,000 metres height.

MNA/Xinhua

Indian, Pakistani Parliamentarians meet

ISLAMABAD, 16 May — In the spirit of the continuing efforts for peace and reconciliation in South Asia, Parliamentarians from India and Pakistan on Sunday came together here to discuss issues of common interest with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh affirming that he attached great importance to the ongoing process of engagement.

More than 30 Indian Parliamentarians representing all major political parties exchanged views on the evolving South Asian fraternity with their counterparts from Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh at the inaugural session of a six-day conference being held here and the neighbouring hill station Muree.

In a message to the conference organized by the South Asian Free Media Association (SAFMA), Prime Minister Singh said the meeting was yet another example of the earnest desire among the people for peace and friendship.

"We need to build further on this common reservoir of goodwill on both sides based on our affinities and commonalities."

The Prime Minister said that greater contact was taking place between the civil societies of the region across the spec-

trum in overwhelming numbers, which would open the door for a better appreciation of mutual viewpoints and contribute towards efforts of the governments to build a durable structure for peace and stability in South Asia. — MNA/PTI

Quakes jolt NZ islands

WELLINGTON, 16 May — An earthquake measuring 5.0 on the Richter Scale struck off the east coast of the North Island of New Zealand at 12.05 pm local time (1205 GMT) Sunday.

The quake was centred 100 kilometres east of Tolaga Bay at a depth of 12 kilometres, according to GeoNet of New Zealand.

GeoNet said it was likely to have been felt in Tolaga Bay and Tokomaru Bay.

Earlier Sunday a 3.1-magnitude quake also struck in Bay of Plenty, said GeoNet. — MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese petrol station worker fills the tank of a car in the Chinese capital of Beijing recently. —INTERNET

Supplies donated for Marines in Iraq stolen

BAGHDAD, 16 May — Hundreds of pounds of donated supplies for Marines in Iraq — eye drops, throat lozenges, DVDs and sunscreen — have been stolen from a storage unit where the Wilmington Rotary Club kept the supplies until they were shipped.

The items were valued at \$3,000 and nearly filled a 12-by-8-foot storage unit. The theft was discovered Monday.

"It was a huge amount," said Wilbur Jones, Rotary Club project coordinator. "It just jammed our storage locker."

The only things left untouched in the storage unit were Beanie Babies meant for children in Iraq.

Rotary Club members were undaunted and said they will accept donated items from Saturday at the Wilmington Athletic Club.

Rotarians have been collecting items Marines cant get in Iraq as part of a project called Mission Iraq Marine. So far, the club has sent two shipments totaling 1,300 pounds to the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing.

Internet



Two melons with price card says 'Yubari melon, the highest bid price 600,000 yen (about 5,600 US dollar, each one 300,000 yen)', displayed at Chitose Airport, northern Japan, on 16 May, 2005.—INTERNET

Indian State Minister visits JAFZA to explore investment prospects

DUBAI, 16 May — The Tourism Minister of the south Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, Geeta Reddy, has visited Dubai's international trading hub Jabel Ali Free Zone Authority (JAFZA) to explore the possibility of investing in Information Technology and healthcare in its newly-opened south zone.

Reddy, who was in Dubai to attend the recently-concluded Arabian Travel Market (ATM), met with Mohammed Al Banna, regional manager —Asia, JAFZA, where they discussed the possibility of companies involved in the IT and healthcare sectors in Andhra Pradesh setting up operations in the South Zone.

“The fact that JAFZA offers 100 per cent ownership and a tax-free environment, not to mention the convenience of

a port within the zone, is a major incentive for investment. Also, the infrastructure of JAFZA, as well as the facilities it offers, is excellent,” Reddy said.

Reddy's visit is aimed mainly at preparing the ground for a trip to Dubai by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y. S. Rajashekara Reddy which could lead to greater cooperation between the State and the Government of Dubai.

MNA/PTI



A group of Shanghai children rehearse before their turn to perform on stage at a 'COSPLAY' (costume play-acting) event in Shanghai, China, on 15 May, 2005.—INTERNET

China's foreign exchange trade surges in April

SHANGHAI, 16 May — April saw dynamic trade on the inter-bank foreign exchange market in China, with a robust month-on-month growth of 40 per cent in average daily transaction volume, which reached 1.282 billion US dollars.

According to the Shanghai-based national Forex swap centre, turnover of the US dollar, the Japanese yen, the HK dollar and the euro, amounted to 28.215 billion US dollars for the 22 trading days in April.

The total included 27.71 billion US dollars in trade. The average weighted price of the US dollar remained stable, ending the trading period at 8.2765 yuan against one dollar, balancing that for the end of the previous

month, sources with the swap centre said.

The weighted price of the euro ended the trading period at 10.66688 yuan against one euro, with the turnover down 230 percentage points month on month.

The turnover of the four foreign currencies on the Shanghai-based national Forex swap centre totalled 91.397 billion US dollars in the first four months this year, with the daily transaction volume reaching 1.115 billion US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

Anti-aircraft fire blamed for Iraq plane downing: report

BAGHDAD, 16 May—Guerillas armed with basic anti-aircraft weapons likely shot down a British military plane in Iraq earlier this year, killing all 10 servicemen on board, a British newspaper has reported.

An interim report into the cause of Britain's biggest single-day loss of life in the Iraq campaign had ruled out almost everything apart from enemy fire and it was suggested that a missile or rocket propelled grenade could have brought the Royal Air Force (RAF) craft down.

A military official, however, told the Daily Telegraph that the report concluded that the C-130 Hercules had been shot down by anti-aircraft rounds, as it flew at a low altitude, possibly 46 metres.

“It was shredded by a multi-barrelled 20mm canon. They have worked out that's what caused the crash,” the anonymous official was quoted as saying in the newspaper.

If the report is accurate, it could force US-led coalition planes to fly out of range of all anti-aircraft fire, according to the daily. It said the gun is believed to have been a 1960s twin-barrel Zu-23, made in China or the Soviet Union, left over from the toppled regime of Saddam Hussein.

It has an effective range of 1.8 kilometres and can be mounted on a truck or set on wheels. The Daily Telegraph added that it was still unknown why the Hercules, which was equipped with sophisticated defensive measures, was flying at low altitude for a short journey from Baghdad airport to another military air base on 30 January, when the majority of flights climb much higher. —Internet

ဝက်ပုဂ္ဂိုလ်များအား ခေတ်တော်ကျသွား

Archaeologists unearth whole ancient village in N China

SHIJIAZHUANG, 16 May — An ancient village, apparently buried in an earthquake or flood nearly 700 years ago, has been unearthed in north China's Hebei Province.

Archaeologists from Hebei Cultural Relics Research Institute said the historic village, located near Liumengchun Village in Cangzhou, may have flourished in the Song Dynasty (960-1279) and the Yuan Dynasty (1279-1368).

Copper money from the Song and Yuan, as well as the remains of some

pottery vases, bowls, plates and jars, were found at the site, which experts think may have once been a booming commercial centre.

Archaeologists began an excavation in the area in mid-April, before a highway is built nearby.

They found cultural deposits belonging to the Song, Yuan and Jin dynasties in

20 pits distributed over a 500-square-metre area. No human remains were found from after the Yuan Dynasty. Historical records say the area suffered four floods and one earthquake at the end of Yuan.

Archaeologists believe the village was ruined in one of the natural disasters.—MNA/Xinhua

Zambia, Libya agree on major investment projects

LUSAKA, 16 May — Libya will invest to build a 10,000-hectare farm and an ultra-modern hotel in Zambia, according to bilateral agreements signed on Sunday during Zambian President Levy Mwanawasa's visit to Libya, the official Zambia News Agency reported.

The projects were agreed upon during talks held between President Mwanawasa and his host Libyan leader Moammar Kadaffi at the latter's residence in the heart of Tripoli.

By the agreements, the Zambian Government will allocate a piece of land in Serenje, Central Province, to Libya for agricultural development.

President Mwanawasa appealed to Libya to extend its expertise in irrigation farming to help Zambia move away from the rain fed farming dependency syndrome.

The two leaders also agreed that Libya will build an ultra-modern hotel in Zambia.

The hotel was originally supposed to be located in Zambia's tourism capital Livingstone, but President Mwanawasa advised that it be located to Lusaka, Central or Copperbelt Province,

saying that Livingstone is too small for the project to operate profitably.

The two governments agreed to set up a joint committee to implement the two projects.

President Mwanawasa arrived in Tripoli on Sunday from Accra after his four-day official visit to Ghana. He has since asked his host to permit him to return to Lusaka on Monday instead of the originally planned Wednesday, the report said.

President Mwanawasa is accompanied on his visit by First Lady Maureen Mwanawasa, Mines Minister Kaunda Lembalemba and other senior officials.

MNA/Xinhua



Suzuki Megumi (L) from Japan and Chu Hee-young from South Korea take a picture of themselves as they take part in a coming-of-age day ceremony in line with a traditional Confucian custom in Seoul on 16 May, 2005.—INTERNET

S Korean national assets rise 7.4% in 2004

SEOUL, 16 May — South Korea's national assets climbed 7.4 per cent last year, the biggest rise in seven years, largely thanks to an increase in the purchases of securities by state-run funds, the government said Monday.

Combined national assets, including state-owned land, buildings and securities, were valued at 217.43 trillion won (216.56 billion US dollars) at the end of last year, up 15.05 trillion won from 202.38 trillion won the previous year, according to the Ministry of Finance and Economy.

State-owned assets have been on a steady rise, reaching 188.35 trillion won in 2001 and 195.5 trillion won in 2002.

Stocks and bonds held by the government totalled 86.29 trillion won at the end of last year, up 7.91 trillion won from 78.38 trillion won the previous year to account for 39.7 per cent of total national assets.

State-owned land was valued at 81.03 trillion won, up 219 billion won, making up 37.3 per cent of the total, according to the ministry.

MNA/Xinhua

Pakistan's telecom, IT sectors to generate 300,000 jobs

ISLAMABAD, 16 May—Pakistani Federal Minister for Information Technology Awaiz Ahmed Khan Leghari Saturday night said up to 300,000 jobs are expected to be created in the country in the telecom and IT sectors within next two to three years, the Associated Press of Pakistan reported Sunday.

Talking to reporters in the southern port city of Karachi, Leghari said that the biggest job creation in terms of percentage growth is currently in the country's telecom sector but the IT will further complement it.

He said the government has extended an "open invitation" to the IT sector to incur the needed expenditure to impart training to the engineers and graduates at government's expense and then absorb them in their respective organizations.

Leghari believed that the situation in the realms of IT is very encouraging and that IT is going to be one of the major employers in the country. He said, in the telecom sector, there has been an investment to the tune of one billion to 1.5 billion US dollars in the past year and added a similar trend is expected in this field in the next four to five years. — MNA/Xinhua

Samoam PM concludes China visit

SHANGHAI, 16 May — Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi, Prime Minister of the Independent State of Samoa, left here Sunday afternoon, wrapping up his one-week official visit to China as guest of Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao.

During his stay in Shanghai, Tuilaepa visited the Pudong New District and the Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Hall. He hopes his country can learn China's successful experience in modernization construction through his current visit.

The Prime Minister appreciated Shanghai's economic progress as well as the city's environmental protection.

Tuilaepa started his China tour last Sunday, which also took him to Beijing and Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

During his stay in Beijing, Tuilaepa met with China's top legislator Wu Bangguo and Premier Wen. The two governments signed cooperation accords and issued a joint statement after the talks between the two premiers.

Tuilaepa reiterated his country's adherence to the one-China policy, adding that Samoa recognized China's full market economy status.— MNA/Xinhua



A shopper checks the prices of goods at a supermarket in Beijing on 16 May, 2005. —INTERNET

Huge Manipur drug haul suggests rebel nexus in N India

NEW DELHI, 16 May—Indian paramilitary troopers and Customs officials had seized a huge haul of marijuana worth 16.5 million rupees (380,000 US dollars) in Indian northeastern province of Manipur, suggesting a possible link between separatists and drug syndicates, Indo-Asian News Service reported.

"This is the biggest ever haul of drugs in Manipur in recent times," an official statement said. No one was arrested. Around 6,575 kilos of marijuana were recovered Saturday by a joint team of Assam Rifles and Customs officials from Sanakeithel Village, about 30 kilometres north of Manipur's capital Imphal, the statement said.

Police and Customs officials believed the

marijuana consignment was smuggled into Manipur for transportation to other parts of India and abroad.

"There are reports on drugs from this region to the Middle East and even to European countries with a

big ring involved," a senior police official said.

Intelligence officials often accuse militant groups operating in the region of being involved in a flourishing narcotics trade.

MNA/Xinhua

Heat wave sweeps Orissa in eastern India, five dead

NEW DELHI, 16 May — An unprecedented heat wave is sweeping Orissa in eastern India with officials confirming five deaths due to heatstroke over the past fortnight, Indo-Asian News Service reported.

"While the highest temperature recorded in some coastal districts was 40 degrees Centigrade Saturday, the temperature crossed 45 degree in some western Orissa towns, an official of the meteorological office in Bhubaneswar said Sunday.

"At least 63 sunstroke related deaths have been reported to us by different sources," officer on special duty at the province revenue control room S C Biswal said. — MNA/Xinhua

Zimbabwean farmers urged to protect natural resources

HARARE, 16 May — Zimbabwe Minister of Environment and Tourism Francis Nhema on Saturday urged farmers to establish fireguards around grassy areas to protect their crops and the environment from being destroyed by fires as the country approaches the dry season.

He said that burning of grass not only destroyed crops but also natural resources, thus affecting natural habitats and pasture.

"We are advising new farmers to put up fireguards to guard against fires in order to protect their harvest and the environment," he said.

He said failure to heed the call would result in the ministry invoking the Environmental Management Act, which provides for punishment of arsonists through fines of up to 500,000 Zimbabwean dollars (about 80 US dollars).

The minister urged the general public to prevent fires and conserve the fauna and flora of the country.

In Zimbabwe, most of the veld fires are started at the beginning of the winter

season.

Last year, a total of 30,000 hectares of vegetation was destroyed from fires.

MNA/Xinhua

Family of Australian hostage starts advertising blitz in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 May—The family of Australian hostage Douglas Wood has launched an advertising campaign, due to begin in Iraq, to seek help from the public in finding him.

The family has prepared a 30-second television commercial and newspaper advertisements appealing for information on the whereabouts of the contractor seized late last month.

His captors want Australia to pull its troops out of Iraq. Nothing has been heard of Wood, 63, since the kidnappers released a DVD which was broadcast on 6 May and which set a 72-hour deadline for the demand to be met.

"Move out of Iraq or I will be killed," said an exhausted-looking Wood, pictured with two rifles pointed at his head. His head had been shaved and he had facial bruising.—Internet



Indian fishermen load their catch in Digha, 200 km (125 miles) southwest of the eastern Indian city of Kolkata on 15 May, 2005. —INTERNET

China to continue seeking long-term friendship with Cuba

HAVANA, 17 May — China's top national adviser Jia Qinglin has said here that China will continue to follow the principle of seeking long-term friendship with Cuba.

Jia made the pledge on Saturday when meeting with Raul Castro Ruz, First Vice-President of the Cuban Council of State and of the Council of Ministers.

China and Cuba, though in different continents, have formed a profound friendship during their exchanges by treating each other sincerely and sharing weal and woe, said Jia, Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

Jia said the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Chinese Government attach great importance to Sino-Cuban relations and will stick to the principle of seeking long-term friendship with Cuba.

China and Cuba have boosted their

political trust and expanded fields of cooperation in recent years, Jia said, noting that Chinese President Hu Jintao's visit to Cuba in November last year has strongly pushed the mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries toward all-around development.

China appreciates and thanks Cuba's consistent and resolute support to China on issues such as the Taiwan question in which China's fundamental interests lie, Jia said.

This year marks the 45th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Cuba, Jia said, pledging that China will take this opportunity to implement the common understanding reached by leaders of the two countries and to push forward the cooperative ties. — MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese woman checks her bag of goods inside a shopping mall in Beijing on 12 May, 2005.—INTERNET

Vietnam to promote shrimp export to US, Japan

HANOI, 17 May — Vietnam will, between 2006 and 2010, focus on shrimp trademark construction and trade promotion in the United States and Japan, the two markets it is facing difficulties, according to the Vietnamese Ministry of Trade on Monday.

Vietnam will pour some 1.4 billion Vietnamese dong (VND) (88,600 US dollars) in the activities in the period. Besides, it is improving quality of shrimps, and diversifying products.

The country is encountering difficulties in shipping shrimps to the United States, since the foreign country has required local exporters to pay bonds to insure payment of their anti-dumping duties to the US

Customs.

The formula used by the US Customs sets the bond at an amount equal to the exporting country's current anti-dumping rate multiplied by the gross amount of business done by the exporter in 2004.

For Vietnam's shrimp exporters as a whole, the 4.58-per-cent anti-dumping rate on shrimp, multiplied by the 420 million US dollars in Vietnamese export receipts in

2004 for shrimp, would equal a total bond value of 20 million US dollars.

Local exporters would receive refunds after the US Department of Commerce reconsiders the shrimp anti-dumping rates in August 2007.

Japan, another important shrimp market of Vietnam, is adopting wait-and-see attitude, which worries many Vietnamese exporters.

Japanese importers are waiting for prices of the local product to drop due to the export difficulties in the US market.

Recently, Vietnam poured 700 million VND (44,300 US dollars) in trade promotion and trademark construction for tuna to boost the product export to Japan and the European Union.

Vietnam, which earned 684 million US dollars from exporting seafood to the world market in the first four months of this year, posting a year-on-year increase of 7.4 per cent, has targeted to make seafood revenue of 2.6 billion US dollars in 2005.

MNA/Xinhua

Air-India resumes flights to Toronto after 20 years

NEW DELHI, 17 May — The first Air-India flight to Toronto in 20 years took off from here Sunday and will fly to the Canadian city via Amritsar and Birmingham, *Indo-Asian News Service* reported.

Indian Civil Aviation Minister Praful Patel flagged off Flight AI-187 that will operate from New Delhi on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.

Air-India suspended services to Canada after an aircraft on a Toronto-Mumbai flight via London was blown up in mid-air in 1985, killing all the 329 passengers and crew on board.

The new route will provide the people of Punjab "direct and convenient services to Birmingham, the heartland of industrial and economic activity in

Britain, and to Toronto, the financial capital of Canada", an airline official said here.

The service, which is part of Air-India's drive to expand its network, will take the number of flights operated by the airline to Britain from 18 to 21 per week.

Air-India at present operates 10 flights to London.

Three more flights will be launched on the Delhi-Dhaka-Kolkata-London sector effective from 18 June, said the official.

MNA/Xinhua



Yosuke Fujita, left, and Mamoru Kasahara, from Nigata Institute of Technology in Japan, bring their robot to the search and rescue exercise during the Robocup US Open Competition at Georgia Tech in Atlanta on 9 May, 2005.—INTERNET

Bun Scrambling Competition held in HK after 26 years

HONG KONG, 17 May — A unique and traditional Bun Scrambling Competition was held at Cheung Chau island of Hong Kong at midnight Sunday after 26 years' suspension.

The opening ceremony of the competition started at 11.30 pm and a dozen finalists, selected on 1 May, climbed the 14-metre steel tower to grab the buns for three minutes right after midnight. Those who grabbed the most of buns got the highest score.

The Bun Scrambling Event, a traditional activity of the Cheung Chau Bun Festival, was banned after a tower toppled in 1978, injuring 100 climbers and onlookers.

This year's event,

jointly organized by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and Hong Kong Cheung Chau Bun Festival Committee, aroused great interest of the city.

Thousands of local residents and visitors flocked to the island to join the traditional event and to watch the competition.

Besides the midnight's competition, a special parade was held in the afternoon. Children on stilts, lion and unicorn dances paraded

on the street of the island.

With the tourists pouring into the island, business runners were benefited.

According to local media reports, hotel rent on the island increased 70 per cent at the weekend.

Bakeries said more than 15,000 buns had been snapped up in the past three days, and they churned out about 10,000 more buns on Sunday to satisfy tourists' demand.

MNA/Xinhua

Pakistan to export 1,000 workers to Malaysia soon

ISLAMABAD, 16 May — Pakistan has initially received a demand of 1,000 general workers from Malaysia, which will be exported soon, the *Associated Press of Pakistan* reported Sunday. This demand is part of Malaysia's overall requirement of 100,000 workers to be exported from Pakistan in various sectors, unnamed officials were quoted as saying.

After including Pakistan in the list of manpower source countries, Malaysia has given a target of 100,000 workers to Pakistan.

MNA/Xinhua

Let us crush terrorists with people's strength

Maung Thitsa

"My God!" I shouted in shock and terror. My heart was thumping hard, and I was pressing my chest. The scene was so heartrending and terrible for me. I saw my aunt lying on a hospital bed with blood all over her body. She is nearly 80, always helpful and kind to others and a very religious person. She was at the Junction-8 buying things she needed for making a donation on her birthday, when the terrorist-planted bomb went off there.

Lying on the other bed placed beside my aunt's was my niece who was also injured in the blast. She seemed not to hear anything for she was terrified so much. She would have seen a frightening scene. She could not talk. My aunt's maid was also lying on the bed placed on the other side of hers. She had terrible injuries on her face. A wound in the rib caused by a shrapnel was bleeding.

These two girls had full of hope for their future. But the terrorist bomb has destroyed all their hopes. If the bomb disfigures them, they would have to lead a miserable life. All the beds in the ward were occupied by the bomb victims suffering from their wounds. It was heartrending to see them.

As I was in grief for the three, I had sympathy for the relatives of the other bomb victims.

We all felt like having a nightmare.

The questions that we are asking again and again are "Why have they murdered the innocent people brutally?" "Have the victims done anything wrong?" "Have they troubled the terrorists?" "Have they given trouble to the relatives of the bombers?" "Have the terrorists blown up the bomb in retaliation for the people who might have done something wrong to them?" "And if not for all those reasons, what is their motive?"

We all the people of the nation have made a firm pledge to crush the terrorists with our own united strength, and to ensure national unity and perpetuation of the Union.

Here are two more questions to ponder. "Are the terrorists brutally killing innocent people as an attack on the Government?" "Do they think that the people will turn against the Government and support them because of the terrorist attack?" If so, they will fail to realize their aim, but will meet their tragic end. Not only in Myanmar, but the whole world is collectively opposing and crushing

terrorism. The world never accepts terrorism in any form.

The Four Cardinal Values are also against terrorist acts. Hate begets hate, and so does love. The Buddha had already taught us to enhance amity and diminish enmity. His teachings are always true for us. The persons who go against the teachings will meet their tragic downfall. Their sins will continue to follow them till in their future existences. It is the law of Karma that forgives and spares nobody.

From the religious point of view, the bombers themselves will face a similar fate, and their relatives too will experience the same sufferings. And if they realize their crimes only at that time it will be too late for them. The terrorists will have to amend their way of life in time according to the teachings of Buddha. If not, they will be punished by the people and by their own fate. They cannot escape from punishment whichever country they are living in. Because of their cruelty, they cannot lead a peaceful life.

So, we all the people of the nation have made a firm pledge to crush the terrorists with our own united strength, and to ensure national unity and perpetuation of the Union.

(Translation: TMT)

Myanma Alin, Kyemon:17-5-2005

သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကြွေးရောဂါကာကွယ်နိမိတ်ဆေးရေး နှိုးဆော်ချက်

- ၁။ မိုးရာသီအတွင်း အသက် ၃-နှစ်မှ ၁၄-နှစ်အထိ ကလေးငယ်များတွင် သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကြွေး ရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်ပါသည်။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကြွေးရောဂါဖြစ်လျှင် ရင်သွေးငယ်များ အသက်ဆုံးပါးသည်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်သဖြင့် မိမိတို့၏ ရင်သွေးများ ရောဂါဘယကင်းဝေးစေရန် သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကြွေး ရောဂါ ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။
- ၂။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကြွေးရောဂါသည် ရေကြည်ရေသန့်တွင် ပေါက်ပွားသော ခြင်္သေ့ပုန်း၊ ခြင်္ကျား အကိုက်ခဲရခြင်းကြောင့် ကူးစက်ပါသည်။ သို့ပါ၍ ခြင်္သေ့ပုန်း၊ ခြင်္ကျား မပေါက်ပွားစေရန်မိမိတို့ ရင်သွေးငယ်များ ခြင်္ကိုက်ခဲရစေရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

လိုက်နာရမည့်အချက်များ

- (က) ရေစည်ရေအိုးများကို လုံခြုံစွာ ဖုံးအုပ်ထားပါ။
- (ခ) ပန်းအိုး၊ ညောင်ရေအိုးတို့မှ ရေကို နေ့စဉ်လဲလှယ်ပေးပါ။
- (ဂ) ရေစည်၊ ရေအိုးများရှိ ပိုးလောက်လန်းများအား ရေစစ်ဖြင့် ခပ်ထုတ်ပစ်ပါ။
- (ဃ) မိုးရေတင်နိုင်သော ဘူးခွံ၊ ပုံးခွံ၊ တာယာစုတ်၊ အိုးခြမ်းပဲ စသည်တို့ကို ဖယ်ရှားရှင်းလင်းပါ။
- (င) မိမိတို့ အိမ်ရှေ့ အိမ်နောက်တို့မှ ရေမြောင်းများအား ရေစီးရေလှ ကောင်းအောင် ရှင်းလင်းပါ။
လိုအပ်ပါက စည်ပင်သာယာရေးအဖွဲ့၏ အကူအညီကိုယူပါ။
- (စ) အိမ်ပတ်ဝန်းကျင်ရှိ ရေဝပ်နိုင်သော မြေခိုမ်များကို ဖို့ပါ။
- (ဆ) အလင်းရောင်ရရှိရန် တံခါးများကို နေ့ခင်းပိုင်းတွင် ဖွင့်ထားပါ။
- (ဇ) အိမ်တွင်း၊ အိမ်ပြင် သန့်ရှင်းအောင်ထားပါ။
- (ဈ) ကလေးများ နေ့လည်အိပ်ချိန်တွင် ခြင်္တောင်ဖြင့် သိပ်ပါ။
(အကျိုလက်ရှည်၊ ဘောင်းဘီရှည်၊ ထမီး၊ ပုဆိုး စသည်တို့ကို ဝတ်ဆင်ထားပေးပါ။)
- ၃။ ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာနနှင့် ပူးပေါင်းပြီး ခြင်္များ မပေါက်ပွားစေရန် ဆေးဖြန့်ခြင်း၊ အသိပညာပေးခြင်း၊ ကာကွယ်တားဆီးခြင်း လုပ်ငန်းများကို ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါရန် တိုက်တွန်းနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

G-4 circulates draft resolution on UNSC reforms

UNITED NATIONS, 17 May — Germany, Japan, Brazil and India, which have campaigned jointly for permanent seats in the UN Security Council, circulated Monday a draft General Assembly resolution calling for an increase of six permanent seats in the Council.

The draft, a copy of which was obtained by Xinhua, stipulates that the six new permanent seats would be divided equally among the four regions — Asia, Africa, Western Europe as well as Latin America and the Caribbean.

The draft also proposes adding four elected non-permanent seats to the Council, with each from Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe as well as Latin America and the Caribbean region. The Council, the only UN organ whose resolutions are legally binding for the 191 UN member states, is currently composed of five permanent members with veto power and 10 elected members with two-year terms.

The draft does not contain a date for a vote on it in the General Assembly, nor does it mention any candidate countries for the proposed new permanent seats. Under the draft, countries aspiring to be a permanent member in the Council should submit their candidatures to the president of the General Assembly after the adoption of the resolution, and then the Assembly would select the six new permanent members through a secret ballot.

If the number of states having obtained the required majority fall short of the number of seats allocated for permanent membership, new rounds of balloting will be conducted for the remaining seats until six states obtain the required majority to occupy the six seats, the draft says.

Germany, Japan, Brazil and India, known as the G-4, will formally introduce the draft at a gathering of UN member states in the German mission to the world body later Monday afternoon. In a sign that the G-4 has not yet given up their demand for the veto power, the draft says the new permanent powers should have the same responsibilities and obligations as the current permanent members. The expansion of the Security Council has been one of the highest-profile part of the UN reforms, with the UN member states sharply divided over whether to expand the permanent membership.

Pakistan, Italy, South Korea and some other countries have been strongly opposed to an increase of the permanent seats on the grounds that such a change would further undermine the effectiveness of the Council.

MNA/Xinhua

A & I Minister inspects jute...

(from page 16)

Maubin Paper Factory produces 5,000 metric tons of paper per year, said the factory manager.

Afterwards, the minister and party arrived at workshop No 5 of the Agricultural Mechanization Department (AMD) in Maubin. Director-General of AMD reported to the minister on production of agricultural machinery including spare parts manufactured by the light and heavy industries under the department.

Next, an official reported on the production of a transport vehicle which is a necessity for rural areas and it was innovated based on the design of No 16 power tiller. The newly-invented ferry with a 16 horsepower engine has a speed of 18 mph and can carry 2 tons of load. It is expected that 200 vehicles will be manufactured this year.

In the evening, Secretary General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Maj-Gen Htay Oo met with members of Einme Township USDA and Maubin district/township USDA.

At the meeting, the minister called on the USDA members to actively participate in implementation of regional development tasks with Union Spirit. While implementing the five rural development tasks by joining hands with locals, USDA members are to ward off the destructive elements, he urged. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein comforts bomb blast victims at Yangon General Hospital.

(News on page 1)—MNA

Annual work coordination...

(from page 16)

Col Tin Ngwe, the directors-general and managing directors of the ministry, the directors of state and division Development Affairs Committees and officials.

In his address, the minister said that out of the five rural development tasks work is being carried out for improvement of urban and rural roads and that altogether 30657 miles and 7 furlongs of rural and urban roads and 17720 bridges have been constructed up to the end of 2004-2005 fiscal year, that under the ten-year project for potable water supply in rural areas, water supply tasks have been carried out in 14309 villages out of 23225 from 2000-2001 to 2004-2005 fiscal and thus 62 per cent of work has been completed, and that as regards rural housing project 1609 rural houses had been built up to 2004-2005 fiscal year. The minister urged officials to seek means and ways for keeping the towns clean and green.

Next, Deputy Minister Col Tin Ngwe gave instructions on engineering works. Sipinthatayay Bank Ltd Managing Director U Myo Win discussed banking services. Next, Director-General U Myo Myint of DAD presented reports about Development Affairs Committees for 2004-2005. This was followed by a general round of discussion. —MNA

MCC holds User...

(from page 16)

Myanmar Computer Industrialists Association and users.

First, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and President of MCC U Tin Win Aung gave speeches.

Next, member of MCC Chief Executive Officer U Pyi Sone of News Link Co Ltd presented Executive Support System (ESS Dash Board) and Tablet PC for e-National Task Force, CPT Ministry and Ministry of Hotels and Tourism through Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and Content Management System (CMS) designed by MCC for Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation through an official of MAAF.

Afterwards, Senior Businessman Mr Kenneth Tay, U Pyi Sone, CEO U Aung Soe Lin of SoftSys and CEO Daw Chaw Khin Khin presented SSA Global on Trend of Enterprise Competing, g.MIS Version 2.5, MCC e-Solution: Comprehensive and easiest way to Government Informatization and MCC Premium Comprehensive Customer Service Program respectively.

At the ceremony, computer programmes were explained in detail by officials. —MNA

Myanmar industry delegation visits industries in China

YANGON, 17 May — A Myanmar industry delegation led by Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin visited the People's Republic of China from 8 to 15 May.

Visiting the country at the invitation of Governor Mr Li Cheng Yu of Henan Province, the delegation studied industries and coordinated with officials to implement multi-used diesel engine factory project, bulldozer and hydraulic excavator industry project and radiator industry in Myanmar.

In Kunming on 8 May, the delegation met with Chinese officials led by President Mr Carol Auyang of South Asia Economic and Technical Cooperation Group (SACO) and Vice-President Mr Gon Kai of XJ Group Corporation and discussed export of tyres and rubber raw materials to the PRC.

Maj-Gen Saw Lwin and delegation's discussions with Vice-Governor Mr Shi Jichun of Henan Province focused on cementing bilateral relations, industrial cooperation and the on-going joint-venture projects between Myanmar and China.

During the visit, they also met with officials of

XJ Group Corporation and Henen Diesel Engine Plant, SCIVIC Engineering Corporation and discussed matters relating to implementation of multi-used diesel engine factory project. They also visited related industries. In Shangdong Province, they held talks with officials of Shantui Construction Machinery Co Ltd.

In Beijing, they held a meeting with officials of China CAMC Engineering Co Ltd and Shenzhen Hubei Baofen Industrial Co Ltd.

The five-member delegation arrived back here on 15 May.

MNA

Sports Minister encourages Myanmar athletes

YANGON, 17 May — Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint arrived at National Swimming Pool on U Wisara road here this morning and inspected training of swimmers who will take part in XXIII Sea Game to be held in the Philippines from 17 November to 5 December.

The minister also met with judo and tennis selected and encouraged them.

MNA

F&R Minister receives Chinese Ambassador

YANGON, 17 May — Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun and party at the ministry this afternoon received Chinese

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Myo Myint, Vice-Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein, the directors-general and managing directors of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue and the Ministry of Electric Power. —MNA

Mayor receives Vietnamese Ambassador

YANGON, 17 May — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin received Vietnamese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Tran Van Tung at his office this afternoon.

Present at the call were Vice-Chairman of YCDC Vice Mayor Col Maung Pa, Secretary U Myint Aung, Joint-Secretary U Tin Soe and committee members, heads of department concerned and officials.

MNA



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin meeting with Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Tran Van Tung. — YCDC

Development undertakings supervised in Ma-ei of Taungup Township

YANGON, 17 May—Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing held a meeting with service personnel in Ma-ei, Taungup Township, on 14 May afternoon.

Officials reported on the topography of the region and work progress. The commander gave instructions. He viewed the site chosen for building of a meeting hall, digging of a lake for water supply, the Ma-ei TV retransmission station project, progress of building of Township police station, and the site chosen for construction of a road in the town.

He also inspected Thanthamache, Thazintanpauk and Wanpaik bridge projects and gave necessary in-

structions and provided assistance for the projects.

Next, the commander attended the health education talks and giving medical treatments by Rakhine State Maternal and Child Welfare Association Supervisory Committee, and the specialists at the basic education high school in the town. Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, President of the supervisory committee and wife of the commander, gave an account of the association. The specialists gave educative talks.

President of Rakhine State MCWA Daw Wai Tin presented membership applications to the chairperson of the Rakhine State supervisory committee.

Afterwards, the commander visited the physicians caring for local people. — MNA

57th Tipitaka Kovida Title Recipient Offering Ceremony on 4 June

YANGON, 17 May — A ceremony to honour Tipitaka Kovida title recipient Sayadaws will be held on 4th June 2005 (13th Waning of Kason 1367 ME) instead of 8th May 2005 (6th Waning of Kason 1367 ME), announced Religious Affairs Department.

MNA

C-in-C (Air)'s trophy Table Tennis Tourney held in Meiktila

YANGON, 17 May — A ceremony to open Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Trophy Table Tennis Tourney was held at Thura Ohn Khine Hall of Shante Flying Training Base in Meiktila yesterday morning with an address by Base Commander of Flying Training Base Brig-Gen Khin Maung Tin.

Present on the occasion were Meiktila Station Commander Col Myint Maung, Ground Training Base Commander Col Thura Khin Maung Win, officers and other ranks of Flying Training Base and Ground Training Base.

After the ceremony, Ground Training Base team played against Namhsan Station team. — MNA

Consecration and merit-sharing ceremony for Shwedagon Pagoda coordinated

YANGON, 17 May — A coordination meeting on holding of consecration and merit-sharing ceremony to mark the success of gold plate and Shwethingyan offering ceremony for the Shwedagon Pagoda took place at a *Tazaung* of the pagoda this evening.

The meeting was attended by Chairman of the Leading Committee for all-round renovation of the Shwedagon Pagoda Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Work Committee Chairman Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe, Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Secretary Lt-Col Myint Kyi, heads of department from ministries, members of the pagoda board of trustees and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung said gold plates are offered to the pagoda every five years, and this year's ceremony has

successfully been held. That is why, the consecration and merit sharing ceremony will be held on a grand scale in accord with Myanmar Buddhist tradition, he said. Departmental officials, board of trustees members, committee and subcommittee members are to coordinate matters for the ceremony to become grand and prestigious one.

The work committee chairman reported on preparations being made for the holding of ceremony; Head of Yangon Division Religious Affairs Department U San Thin Hlaing on the detail agenda of the ceremony; and member of board of trustees U Thant Zin on collection of cash donations and offering of gold plates to the pagoda. Officials concerned also reported on their respective arrangements. Next, the work committee chairman gave a supplementary report.

Later, the meeting concluded with concluding remarks by the minister.

MNA

Self-reliance libraries opened in Loikaw Township

YANGON, 17 May — A ceremony to open self-reliance libraries in Loikaw Township, organ-

ized by Loikaw District Information and Public Relations Department was held on 10 May.

Kandayawady self-reliance library was opened at Minsu Ward PDC's office. It was formally opened by Chairmen of Loikaw Township PDC U Win and Minsu Ward PDC U Maung Maung.

After speeches, Staff Officer of Loikaw District IPRD Daw Myint Than Oo explained about libraries and presented varieties of books to them. Wellwishers donated 879 magazines and 483 journals for the libraries. — MNA



Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, delivers an address at the coordination meeting on holding of consecration and merit-sharing ceremony. MNA

ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ဖို့၊
ဝိုင်းဝန်းကူညီဆောင်ရွက်ဖို့။

**၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ်၊ မေလ (၁၀)ရက်နေ့ထိ နိုင်ငံအဝန်းတွင် ကျေးရွာ
ကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက် (၁၆၈၄၇)တိုက် ဖွင့်လှစ်ပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။**

ကျေးလက်နေပြည်သူများ ပညာဗဟုသုတတိုးပွားစေရန်
ကျေးရွာကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက်
သုတ/ရသစာအုပ်များကိုပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန
ခရိုင်မြို့နယ်ရုံးများသို့ လှူဒါန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန



Dr Tin Win Maung, Director General of the Health Department, delivers an address at the Launching and Training of Trainers (TOT) on Hospital Based Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV on 17-5-2005. — HEALTH



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspects the telephone exchange in Wakema on 14-5-2005. —COMMUNICATION

Europe faces challenges in new millenium

WARSAW, 17 May — Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski said here Monday that Europe is facing new challenges in the new millenium and urged more efforts to solve problems on the continent.

Addressing the opening session of the third summit of the Council of Europe in the Royal Castle, he listed terrorism, organized crime, trafficking of human beings, exploitation of minors, domestic violence, corruption, xenophobia, intolerance, racism as the main challenges facing the continent.

“Although progress is huge still, however, we are

aware of the challenges Europe faces in the new Millennium,” he said.

“One should not forget many domestic insufficiencies, as malnutrition and hunger, unemployment, lack of perspectives for personal development, inefficient social and health assistance and others,” he added.

He also urged member states of the organization to make greater efforts to tackle the listed problems.

“Lots of work is ahead of us. We need to renew democratic and good governance at all levels. We need enhanced dialogue in public life, dialogue between democratic state

institutions and citizens. We need inter-cultural and inter-religious dialogue,” he said.

Europe also needs open society, space for personal development, ethnic tolerance, protection of minors and national minorities, he stressed.

The third summit meeting was attended by leaders or their representatives from 46 member states of the organization.

The meeting is expected to pass a declaration and action plan for the coming years and sign cooperation agreements with the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. —MNA/Xinhua

Portugal vows to do good job as COE president

WARSAW, 17 May — Portuguese Prime Minister Jose Socrates pledged here Monday to do a good job when his country takes over the presidency of the Council of Europe (COE).

Addressing the summit meeting of the Council of Europe, he said “We shall do so full aware of the importance of safeguarding and promoting Europe’s unity, in face of all the new and multiple challenges ahead. We shall be totally committed to promoting the implementation of our values in all areas of the council’s activities.”

Portugal will take over from Poland the chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the COE at the summit.

Portugal will help expand the rule of law in the context of the new challenges facing European societies.

“In this framework,

we see the increasing legal and juridical cooperation between all member states of the Council of Europe as a positive development which, nonetheless, still needs to be furthered,” he said. At the same time, the Portuguese Prime Minister also said his country will try to consolidate social cohesion in Europe and support activities in support of European values.

In all these areas, “cooperation and coordination between the council and other relevant international organizations” will help each attain its respective goals, he said, adding that the summit meeting offers an opportunity to set a renewed pattern for all this interaction.

The Committee of Ministers is the decision-making body of COE. It runs on the basis of a rotating presidency of a six-month term.

MNA/Xinhua

Iran, EU to hold talks on 23 May

TEHERAN, 17 May — Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharazi said here Monday that the next round of nuclear negotiations between Iran and the European Union (EU) was scheduled on 23 May, the official IRNA news agency reported.

“The talks will be held at ministerial level, and Iran’s Secretary of Supreme National Security Council Hassan Rowhani is to take part in this round of talks,” Kharazi was quoted as saying. Kharazi said that the place of negotiations had not been determined yet. Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid-Reza Asefi said on Sunday that the next meeting, upon the request of the EU, the UN and some countries such as Russia and Spain, would be Europe’s last chance to save its diplomatic efforts on the Iranian nuclear issue.

Rowhani also said

France says developing countries top WTO’s priorities

PARIS, 17 May — French External Trade Minister Francois Loos on Monday said that the World Trade Organization’s (WTO) priority is to find how to bring more development in developing countries.

To reform the WTO “is not necessarily the top priority because the WTO works as what it is. What is difficult, is to find how to allow, with trade, more development in developing countries,” Loos said at BFM radio.

“Are we capable, by opening our markets in some fields, of giving a development potential to

others, and does it work in a balanced manner? We have the impression in Europe that we have much opened and given and that our American friends are much behind us in this field,” he said.

The French minister also hailed that Pascal Lamy’s nomination as head of the WTO would be “an excellent news”.

It would be “an excellent news because we know well Pascal Lamy, even though we do not always agree (with him). It is someone who has an extremely rigorous spirit, with whom we can discuss,” Loos said.

But he added that Lamy’s role was not to negotiate, his role will be let things pass smoothly. “It is not him who will make the proposals. It is not him who negotiates. He should ease the negotiation between the (148 member states) of the WTO.”

France’s Former European Union (EU) Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy was chosen Friday as the next head of the WTO. He would be officially nominated on 26 May by the member states at the general council if no one opposes to it. — MNA/Xinhua



Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo inspects laboratory of the Food and Medicine Control Department on 17-5-2005. — HEALTH

French Ex-Minister refutes US on oil-for-food report

PARIS, 17 May — Former French Interior Minister Charles Pasqua on Monday refuted a US report that accused him of taking bribe in the UN oil-for-food programme in Iraq.

“I don’t have the impression that I am a victim. I have the impression that I am being used,” Pasqua told journalists.

“I totally refute the part of the report that refers to me,” he said.

“If my name appears in certain Iraqi documents, that can only be the result of fraudulent behaviour on the part of certain people who have used my name,” said Pasqua, who is also French senator.

He accused the US Senate panel of using him as a way to discredit President Jacques Chirac.

“Probably, they think I am close to Jacques Chirac and that I am his adviser. By choosing me, they hope to get at him,” he added.

On 12 May, a US Senate committee released a report on its investigation into the UN oil-for-food programme, accusing Pasqua and the British parliamentarian George Galloway of taking millions of barrels of oil from Saddam Hussein’s government in return for their support.

The oil-for-food programme, established in December 1996, permitted Iraq to sell its oil and use those proceeds to purchase food, medicines, and other humanitarian goods, in order to ease the impact of UN sanctions on Iraqis.

“I never went to Iraq, I never met Saddam Hussein and I never met with any Iraqis,” Pasqua noted. He wrote in a letter to Chirac released to the Press on Monday: “The French authorities would be making a grave mistake if they were to take these issues too lightly.”

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

Experts call for concerted efforts to stem illicit arms in Africa

NAIROBI, 17 May — Government experts from 11 African countries awash with small arms and light weapons on Monday called for concerted efforts among the international community to address the proliferation of illicit weapons in the region.

Speaking during the opening of the five-day regional meeting in Nairobi, Kenya's Foreign Affairs Permanent Secretary Boaz Mbaya said without regional cooperation in eliminating illicit small arms and light weapons, peace and stability will remain a pipe dream in the entire region.

"The time has come for the international community to act. There is need to develop and fully implement effective partnerships between governments, regional and international organizations and the civil society," Mbaya told participants from the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa regions. Mbaya called on countries which are emerging from conflicts like Somalia and Sudan to devise ways of countering the menace and noted that security will be heightened across the East African nation's border with lawless Somalia.

"We hope that once the Somali Government relocates back to its country, it will be able to deal with demobilization and to collect these arms," Mbaya said. About 60 experts from the region are meeting to review progress that has been made so far in reducing the flow of small arms. The participants are drawn from Kenya, Burundi, the Demo-

cratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Tanzania, Uganda, Seychelles, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Djibouti and Sudan.

Coordinator of the Nairobi Secretariat on Small Arms and Light Weapons Francis Sang said around 30 million illegal arms are in circulation in sub-Saharan Africa, fueling conflicts and destroying lives and property across the continent.

"We are in the process of ratifying the Nairobi Protocol by June before the next ministerial meeting. We expect that before the next ministerial meeting in June all the countries must have been able to ratify," Sang said.

"Three countries of Eritrea, Ethiopia and Uganda have ratified. The rest are in advanced stage of ratifying. I am very optimistic that by June 20, all would have ratified," he added.

In April 2004, the 11 countries from the Great Lakes and the Horn of Africa signed an agreement in Kenya to combat illicit manufacturing, trafficking and use of small arms in the subregion.

A proliferation of machine guns, rifles, grenades, pistols and other small arms has caused the deaths of millions of civilians in Africa and the displacement of millions more. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Over 50 US law enforcement officers killed at work in 2004

WASHINGTON, 17 May — Fifty-four US law enforcement officers were killed when performing their duties in 2004, preliminary statistics released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on Monday showed.

The number was up 2 from the 52 officers killed in 2003.

The deaths occurred during 47 different incidents, with 16 of the officers killed in arrest situations, 12 when responding to disturbance calls, and seven during investigating suspicious persons or circumstances.

Six officers were ambushed, and six others were killed in traffic pursuits or stops.

Of the 52 officers who died from gunshot wounds, 36 were fatally injured with handguns, 12 were shot with rifles, and 4 were killed with shotguns.

Offenders used vehicles to kill two officers. Seven of the officers had their service weapons stolen, and six were killed with their own weapons.

In addition, 82 law enforcement officers in the United States died accidentally in the performance of their duties in 2004, an increase of one over the 2003 total of 81 officers killed accidentally.

MNA/Xinhua

Iran urges EU to seize last chance to save nuclear talks

TEHERAN, 17 May — Iran warned the European Union (EU) on Sunday that the next round of negotiations between the two sides will be the last chance to save the stalled nuclear talks.

"Iran has decided to negotiate with the European trio (France, Germany and Britain) for one more time upon their request, and the upcoming meeting will be their last chance," Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid-Reza Asefi told a weekly news briefing.

Iran's decision was made also at the behest of the international community, including the United Nations, Spain, Japan, South Africa, Malaysia and Russia, Asefi added.

Iran's Parliament, meanwhile, approved a bill to press the government to resume uranium enrichment activities, which Teheran suspended last November to pave the way for talks with the EU on its disputed nuclear programme.

Washington and the EU have threatened to refer Iran's case to the UN Security Council for possible sanctions if Iran restarts enrichment-related work.

However, Iran shrugged off the warning. "The referral does not worry us at all. If the case is taken to the Security Council, the European countries and the United States will sustain more damages than Iran," the spokesman said.

"No matter whether there is an agreement (with the EU) or not, we will resume some enrichment activities," Asefi said. "We will not give up our rights and will carry out our activities under the related regulations."

Blaming the EU for prolonging negotiations, Iran has announced that it is going to restart part of the suspended enrichment-related activities, maybe some of those in the uranium conversion facility near Isfahan.

But the exact date of the resumption has not been set yet.

The EU powers France, Britain and Germany have tried to persuade Iran to abandon its uranium enrichment programme in return for economic and political incentives.

The EU shared Washington's suspicions that Iran's uranium enrichment programme could be used to make nuclear weapons.

Teheran claims its nuclear programme is intended only for producing fuel for power plant and it will never give up its legitimate rights to own nuclear technology. — *MNA/Xinhua*

LA launches crackdown on motorists not wearing seat belts

LOS ANGELES, 17 May — Los Angeles, the second largest US city, on Monday launched a three-week crackdown on motorists who do not wear seat belts.

The Los Angeles Police Department said the "Click it or ticket" campaign was aimed at raising seat belt compliance in the western US state of California to about to 92

per cent.

Beginning today through June 5, officers will levy heavy fines on the motorists who do not fasten their seat belts, the police department said.

The maximum fine for not wearing a seat belt for people 16 and older is 89 US dollars for a first offense and 191 dollars for a second offense.

Drivers with children

under 16 not wearing seat belts can be fined up to 340 dollars for a first offense and 871 dollars for a second offense, the police department said.

California state, county and other local law enforcement agencies also will be on the lookout for motorists not wearing seat belts, according to the police department.

MNA/Xinhua

Abbas calls for fair solution to Israeli-Palestinian conflict

RAMALLAH, 17 May — Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas called on Sunday for a fair solution to the decades-long Israeli-Palestinian conflict as Palestinians mourn over the sufferings following the birth of the state of Israel.

Abbas made the remarks in a pre-recorded speech aired to the nation on Sunday noon to mark the 57th anniversary of Al-Nakba (Catastrophe) Day which commemorates the griefs of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians forced to flee homes after the Arab-Israeli war broke out on 15 May, 1948, one day after the establishment of Israel.

Abbas said "the Palestinian people will never forget their sufferings inflicted by Is-

rael's destruction of their homes and denial of their right of return".

Calling for the end of Israel's occupation, Abbas vowed to establish an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital, adding "the issue of refugees must be fairly resolved according to UN Resolution 194".

"Peace, security and settlement in the region are linked to finding a fair and just solution based on implementing the international resolu-

tions," he said. Latest Palestinian official statistics show that some three million Palestinian refugees are living in Jordan and nearly one million in Lebanon and Syria.

The United Nations has passed several resolutions calling on Israel to allow Palestinian refugees to return.

Israel, however, categorically rejected it, fearing an influx of Palestinians might shake its demographic structure.

"The international community should un-

derstand the dangers of keeping millions of refugees without hope and future," Abbas warned.

"Palestinians reject the proposal of resettling the refugees in Arab countries and their presence there is temporary," he added.

Meanwhile, thousands of Palestinians took to the streets in the Gaza Strip and West Bank, waving Palestinian flags and chanting slogans "no for settling refugees, yes for right of return". — *MNA/Xinhua*



Chinese actress Bai Ling poses with a R2D2 robot as she arrives for the premiere of 'Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith' in Los Angeles' Westwood area on 12 May, 2005. — INTERNET

ADVERTISEMENTS

ပြည်တွင်းပြန်ကိုအားပေးပါ

ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော် ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့ကြော်ငြာစာအမှတ် ၁၀/၂၀၀၅ (၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ မေလ ၁၁ ရက်)

လျှောက်လွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

ပို့ဆောင်ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ မြန်မာသင်္ဘောကျင်းလုပ်ငန်းတွင် လစ်လပ်လျက်ရှိသော အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ ရာထူးများအတွက် လျှောက်လွှာများအလို့ရှိပါသည်-

စဉ် ရာထူး ပညာအရည်အချင်း လစ်လပ် (က) အလုပ်ရုံစွဲမှူး စက်မှုအင်ဂျင်နီယာဘွဲ့ ၄ နေရာ (ခ) အလုပ်ရုံစွဲမှူး လျှပ်စစ်စွမ်းအားအင်ဂျင်နီယာဘွဲ့ ၂ နေရာ

၂။ လျှောက်ထားသူသည်- (က) ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံသားဖြစ်ရမည်။ (ခ) ၇-၆-၂၀၀၅ နေ့တွင် အသက် ၃၅ နှစ် (ဝန်ထမ်းဖြစ်ပါက အသက် ၄၀ နှစ်) ထက် မကျော်လွန်သူဖြစ်ရမည်။ (ဂ) လုပ်ငန်းသဘာဝအရ အမျိုးသားဖြစ်ရမည်။

၃။ လျှောက်လွှာကိုဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့ရုံးသို့ ၇-၆-၂၀၀၅ နေ့ အရောက်ပေးရမည်။

၄။ လျှောက်လွှာတွင် ဖော်ပြရမည့်အချက်များ၊ မှု့ပေါ်ရှိရမည့် စာရွက်စာတမ်းများ၊ ဝင်ကြေးငွေ ၂၀၀/- ပေးသွင်းရမည့်နည်းလမ်း၊ ရေဖြေ နှုတ်ဖြေစစ်ဆေးမှုအတွက် လေ့လာရန်လိုအပ်ချက်များနှင့် စပ်လျဉ်း၍ ဤအဖွဲ့ကြော်ငြာစာအမှတ် ၁/၉၁ ဖြင့် ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့ကြော်ငြာစာအမှတ်များနှင့် လျှောက်လွှာတင်သွင်းသူများအတွက် လမ်းညွှန်စာစောင်ပါ သတ်မှတ် ချက်များနှင့်အညီ လိုက်နာ ဆောင်ရွက်ရန်ဖြစ်သည်။

၅။ ရန်ကုန်မြို့နှင့် မန္တလေးမြို့များတွင် ရေဖြေစစ်ဆေးမှုစာစစ်ဌာနများထားရှိမည်။ မိမိဖြေဆိုလိုသော စာစစ်ဌာနကို လျှောက်လွှာတွင် ရှင်းလင်းတိကျစွာ ဖော်ပြရမည်။

၆။ ဝန်ထမ်းများသည် မူရင်းလျှောက်လွှာတစ်စောင်ကို မိမိတာဝန်ထမ်းဆောင်သည့် ဌာနအကြီးအကဲမှ တစ်ဆင့် ဝန်ကြီးဌာန၏ နှစ်ပြုချက်ရယူပြီး ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့ရုံးသို့ ၇-၆-၂၀၀၅ နေ့အရောက်ပေးပို့ရမည်။ လျှောက်လွှာတစ်စောင်ကို ဓာတ်ပုံနှင့်အတူ ဤအဖွဲ့ရုံးသို့ တိုက်ရိုက်ပေးပို့ရမည်။

၇။ ၂-၇-၂၀၀၅ နေ့နှင့် ၃-၇-၂၀၀၅ နေ့များတွင် အရည်အချင်း စစ်ဆေးဖြေ စာစစ်ပေးမည်။ ၃-၆-၂၀၀၅ နေ့မှစ၍ မန္တလေးတိုင်း အထွေထွေအုပ်ချုပ်ရေးဦးစီးဌာနရုံး နှင့် ဤအဖွဲ့ရုံးတို့တွင် ဖြေဆိုခွင့် တာဝန်ပြုများကို ထုတ်ပေးမည်။

၈။ စုံစမ်းမေးမြန်းလိုပါက ဤအဖွဲ့ရုံးသို့ လူကွယ်တိုင်ဖြစ်စေ၊ တယ်လီဖုန်းအမှတ် (၃၇၈၀၆၃)သို့ ဖြစ်စေ ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။ ၉။ ဤကြော်ငြာကို ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့၏ Website လိပ်စာ csstb.imis.com.mm တွင်လည်း ဖော်ပြထားပါသည်။

Clinical test of China's AIDS vaccine enters second phase

BEIJING, 16 May — Six Chinese volunteers Saturday received shots AIDS DNA vaccine, starting the second phase of clinical test of a vaccine developed by Chinese scientists, the state media reported.

The medicine is composed of two gene vaccines, one contains DNA of AIDS virus and the other carries pox virus. The volunteers in south China's Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region will receive the pox virus vaccine in three months, director of the cell laboratory under the Institute for the Control of Drugs and Biological Products, Wang Youchun said. The AIDS DNA vaccine helps human antibodies and cells to form the immunity against AIDS virus, and the pox virus vaccine helps strengthen the immunity, Beijing Youth Daily reported.

The safety of the two gene vaccines have been tested respectively in the first phase in previous months. The second phase of test is to examine their combined safety, which means to vaccinate each volunteer of the two vaccines in two times, Wang said. The clinical test of the vaccine began on March 12 this year. As of today, 28 volunteers have received the vaccine. All of them are in sound health condition, the report said. China now has 840,000 HIV carriers including 80,000 AIDS patients with rapid spread from high-risk to other sections of the population. MNA/PTI

means to vaccinate each volunteer of the two vaccines in two times, Wang said. The clinical test of the vaccine began on March 12 this year. As of today, 28 volunteers have received the vaccine. All of them are in sound health condition, the report said. China now has 840,000 HIV carriers including 80,000 AIDS patients with rapid spread from high-risk to other sections of the population. MNA/PTI

Ugandan official urges developing countries to shun donor aid

KAMPALA, 16 May — A senior Ugandan Government official has urged developing countries to shun donor aid, arguing that it has negative consequences to their development. The Minister of General Duties in the Office

of the Prime Minister, Mondo Kagonyera, was quoted on Sunday by local media as saying that developing countries must run away from donor aid, which has grave effects. "To hell with foreign aid. Aid has got both positive and negative effects.

WITH DEEPEST CONDOLENCES

We express our deepest sympathy to U Soe Win and family for the demise of their mother, Daw Su on 15th May, 2005.

Board of Directors and Staffs SPA / FMI Group of Companies

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CANCELLATION OF ENGAGEMENT

I hereby announce the cancellation of my engagement to Alfred Aung Lwin which appeared in the New Light of Myanmar on 7 Jan 2005. The cancellation was made on my part and please do not make further inquiries.

Swe Swe Min

Philippines rejects comparison of its eco with Argentina

MANILA, 16 May — Philippine Government Sunday rejected the statement made by Tom Byrne, Moody's Investors Service analyst, who compared the Philippines' economic situation to that of Argentina.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said the comparison is faulty and based on wrong premises. "We have had tough fiscal times but they have to give us credit for the overall gains in the economy," Bunye said. "We have hurdled Phase One of our agenda by passing key revenue measures. There is renewed interest among investors especially in the mining sector."

During Asian Development Bank's annual meeting last week in Istanbul, Byrne said the economies of the Philippines and Argentina are comparable. The Moody's institu-

tion cut the Philippines' sovereign ratings by two steps in February to four rungs below investment-grade, causing protest from the Philippine Government. Philippine Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima said comparing the economies of the Philippines and Argentina was "much like comparing apples with oranges."

Philippine economic growth had been on an uptrend since 2001, unlike Argentina, which suffered a three-year recession before it defaulted on its obligations, Purisima said in a statement. MNA/Xinhua

President says OPEC to keep output at current levels

KUWAIT CITY, 16 May — Kuwait's Minister of Energy Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad, who is now president of the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC), said on Sunday the oil bloc will keep its current output of 27.5 million barrels per day (BPD), the official KUNA news agency reported.

Speaking on the sidelines of a joint workshop co-sponsored by the OPEC and the International Energy Agency (IEA), Sheikh Ahmad said the present oil prices are viewed as appropriate and acceptable by all. But he expected production to rise during the fourth quarter of the year to meet a projected rise in global demand.

OPEC members decided to raise production by 500,000 BPD to 27.5 million BPD during a meeting in Isfahan, Iran, in March. But the actual output by the 11-member oil cartel is estimated to top 29 million BPD. Oil prices have stood at about 50 US dollars per barrel, with a record high of 58.28 dollars in early April. — MNA/Xinhua

Kuwaiti oil refining capacity to reach 1.2 million BPD by 2010

KUWAIT CITY, 16 May — A senior Kuwaiti oil official predicted the country's oil refining capacity will be 1.2 million barrels per day (BPD) by 2010, the Kuwait News Agency reported Saturday.

Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) Sami Fahd Al-Rashid said that this capacity requires new installations worth 8.5 billion US dollars, including the construction of a fourth new refinery and the development of two existing ones in Al-Ahmadi and

the Abdullah Port. The new refinery's architectural plans would be ready by next year and "by 2010, the new refinery would be finished", Al-Rashid said. At a cost of up to 5 billion dollars, the new refinery will have a capacity of production between 450,000 to 600,000 BPD. The total oil production of the Kuwaiti oil refineries is up to 930,000 BPD at present. MNA/Xinhua

DRIVE SAFELY

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဒ်များတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Kuwait's oil reserve jumps by 818 million barrels

KUWAIT CITY, 16 May — Kuwait's oil reserve increased in 2004-2005 by around 818 million barrels while production reached record levels to 2.4 million barrels per day (BPD), the *Kuwait News Agency* reported on Sunday.

Kuwait's oil reserve, following the increase, reaches around 97.3 billion barrels from 96.5 billion barrels in 2003, Ali Al-Shammari, assistant managing director for administration of the Kuwait Oil Company (KOC), was quoted as saying.

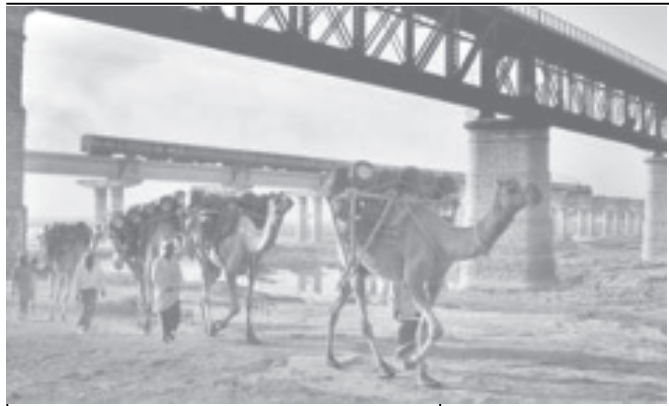
Al-Shammari said Kuwaiti oil barrel's production cost was around one US dollar, the lowest worldwide, adding in addition to the high oil output, Kuwait was producing some 1.1 billion cubic metres of gas.

The official, meanwhile, pointed out that future challenge for KOC was in-

creasing production capacity to 4 million bpd by 2020, amidst anticipation that global oil demand would jump to 114 million bpd within 15 years.

The KOC would also sign a one-billion-dollar agreement at the end of this year to develop its exporting facilities to increase Kuwait's export capabilities, said Al-Shammari.

Kuwait is the fourth largest in the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) after Saudi Arabia, Iran and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in terms of oil reserve, according to the report. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Indian farmers carry watermelons from their fields on the bank of the River Ganges, for selling in the market in Allahabad, India, recently.—INTERNET

Dengue cases increase in northeastern Thailand

BANGKOK, 16 May — Public health officials have warned the dramatic increase of dengue haemorrhagic fever cases in Thailand's northeastern region this year, local Press reported Monday.

In the northeastern Nakhonratchasima Province, the number of dengue haemorrhagic fever cases this year was three times higher than last year, and 134 patients have been treated in hospital, Deputy Public Director Waranyu Sattayawongthip was quoted by *The Nation* newspaper as saying.

Orders have been issued for all public health units to cooperate with local authorities to prevent the disease by spraying insecticide to kill mosquitoes, and enhancing the campaign to kill mosquito larvae.

Between January and 12 May, 274 people were affected by dengue haemorrhagic fever in Sisaket Province, the highest number of cases recorded. Among them, one has died, said the province's Public Director Pravi Amphan.

Schools, especially those located near the Cambodian border, were asked by authorities to ensure that water containers were larvae-free. Students meanwhile were urged to kill larvae around their homes.

On Sunday, a 12-year-boy from Phichit Province was admitted to hospital with dengue-like symptoms. Doctors were keeping close watch on him, said the newspaper.

MNA/Xinhua

Yangtze River faces flood threat in coming months

NANCHANG, 16 May — The Yangtze River areas will receive more rain this year than last year and will be under threat in the coming June-August flood season.

Cloudy and rainy weather has lingered at the middle and lower reaches of the river since the beginning of spring, and several hydrological stations have reported record high levels of water, said Cai Qihua, director of the Yangtze River Water Resources Committee.

He made the remarks at a meeting on flood control of the Yangtze River Sunday in Nanchang, capital of east China's Jiangxi Province.

The Yangtze River, historically rampant with flooding, was spared slightly last year. But typhoons, mud-rock flows and landslides still occurred in some flooded areas.

MNA/Xinhua

Iran rules out compromise on nuclear right

TEHERAN, 16 May — Iran's chief nuclear negotiator Hassan Rowhani said Sunday that Iran is ready to continue negotiations with the European Union (EU) but will not compromise on its legitimate nuclear rights, the official *IRNA* news agency reported.

Rowhani reiterated Iran was determined to resume part of enrichment-related activities as the nuclear talks came to a standstill.

"Iran's decision to resume activities in uranium conversion facility still holds," he said. "We are willing to hold negotiations, but we cannot negotiate under the present conditions."

Iran suspended its uranium enrichment activities last November to pave the way for talks with the EU trio Britain, France and Germany on its disputed nuclear programme.

However, Iran refused to permanently freeze the uranium enrichment in the following talks, insisting it will never give up its legitimate rights on peace-

ful nuclear technology.

Instead, Teheran proposed to keep limited enrichment uranium activities under supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), a suggestion turned down by the EU.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid-Reza Asefi warned the EU on Sunday that the next round of negotiations between the two sides will be the last chance to save the stalled nuclear talks.

"Iran has decided to negotiate with the European trio for one more time upon their request, and the upcoming meeting will be their last chance," he told a weekly news briefing.

Iran's Parliament, angry at EU for dragging out negotiations, passed a bill on Sunday to press the government to resume uranium enrichment activities.

Washington and the EU have threatened to refer Iran's case to the UN Security Council for possible sanctions if Iran restarts enrichment-related work.

The EU shared Washington's suspicions that Iran's uranium enrichment programme could be used to make nuclear weapons.

Teheran claims its nuclear programme is intended only for producing fuel for power plant.

MNA/Xinhua

Polio vaccine administered to millions of India's children

NEW DELHI, 16 May — Millions of children across India Sunday were administered anti-polio drops in continuation of a drive to completely eradicate the disease from the country, *Indo-Asian News Service* reported.

The focus of the current round of the immunization programme was in 44 districts, from where 136 fresh polio cases have been reported as of 9 May.

Besides regular health centres, immunization camps were organized at bus stands, religious centres and other public platforms to reach out to a larger population. Of the 14 new cases reported so far this year, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh reported five and four cases respectively. Among the 44 polio-infected districts, Siwan district of Bihar is the most affected one.

MNA/Xinhua



A blue hummingbird sits near a flower in a park on the outskirts of New Delhi on 12 May, 2005.

INTERNET

Kuwait signs deal with Hyundai for LNG plant

KUWAIT CITY, 16 May — The Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) signed a deal on Sunday with the Korean company Hyundai to increase liquefied natural gas (LNG) production at the Ahmadi Gas Liquefaction Refinery, the *Kuwaiti News Agency* reported.

The project worth 117 million Kuwaiti dinar (398 million US dollars) is scheduled to kick off in June and due to be completed within 30 months, KNPC's chairman and managing director Sami Al-Rushaid said. Following the development project, the rate of liquefied natural gas (LNG) will jump from 55 per cent at present to 96 per cent.

Al-Rushaid stressed that the Hyundai company would be "directly in charge of the construction part as well as the design and execution of the project together with all the fittings". Hyundai is now constructing a 100-million-dinar pier (340 million dollars) for KNPC.

MNA/Xinhua

S P O R T S

Federer, Holmes win top Laureus awards

LISBON, 17 May— World number one tennis player Roger Federer and Britain's double Olympic athletics gold medallist Kelly Holmes won the two top individual honours at Monday's annual Laureus World Sports Awards ceremony.

Federer, who swept three Grand Slam tournaments in 2004, and Holmes, who won 800 and 1,500 meters gold in Athens, were joined as award winners by the Euro 2004 soccer champions Greece and Chinese Olympic gold medal-winning hurdler Liu Xiang.

There were also awards for Italian racing driver Alessandro Zanardi, Canadian Paralympic athlete Chantal Petitclerc and record-breaking British yachtswoman Ellen MacArthur.

Greece won the team award, Liu Xiang the newcomer prize, and Zanardi, who lost both legs in a racing accident in 2001, but completed a full touring car season last year, took the comeback of the year award.

Petitclerc, winner of five wheelchair gold medals in Athens last year, who lost both of her legs in an accident when she was 13, won the disabled sportsperson's award.

MacArthur took the alternative sportsperson's award after breaking the world record for a round-the-

world solo voyage.

The Boston Red Sox, who last year won baseball's World Series for the first time in 86 years, received a special Spirit of Sport Award.

A celebrity audience included the England soccer coach Sven-Goran Eriksson, his captain David Beckham, together with wife Victoria, Hollywood actresses Teri Hatcher and Joely Richardson and actor Cuba Gooding Jr.

Also present were legendary sports figures such as tennis great German Boris Becker, Australian cricket captain Ricky Ponting and former world drivers' champion Emerson Fittipaldi of Brazil.

Federer beat off, among others, Lance Armstrong and Michael Schumacher to the World Sportsman of the Year title.

He said: "Now my main ambitions are to win the French Open for the first time and to stay as world number one."

Holmes, named World Sportswoman of the Year, picked up her 27th award since her double triumph at the Olympics last August.—MNA/Xinhua

Giggs, Howard sign new deal with Manchester United

LONDON, 17 May— Manchester United announced on Monday that they have agreed two-year extensions with Ryan Giggs and Tim Howard over their contracts.

There had been doubts about the future of Welsh winger Giggs, whose contract had only one more season to run.

But a club statement said: "This will keep Ryan and Tim at the club until June 2008 and June 2009 respectively."

Giggs, 31, made his United debut in 1990, while keeper Howard, 26, joined from the New York/New Jersey Metrostars in July 2003.

Manager Sir Alex Ferguson said: "Ryan has been a fantastic servant and it is comforting to know that he will be here for another three years, possibly ending his career at United."

"To think Ryan joined as a 13-year-old boy - and to be at a club for 20 years is unique in this era."

Giggs has continually stressed his desire to stay at Old Trafford and he added: "I have been here since I was a young boy and I have grown very fond of the club and the fans, they have been an integral part of my life."

"I always wanted to stay and I am happy that everything has worked out."

Howard has shared the number one jersey with Roy Carroll this season. But with Carroll out of contract in the summer and seemingly unlikely to be kept on, Ferguson clearly sees Howard as part of his long-term plans.

The manager added: "Tim is a young, gifted goalkeeper who is progressing all the time and needs experience playing in our league.—MNA/Xinhua

China to boost sports undertakings for public

BEIJING, 17 May— China has witnessed rapid development of sports undertakings in recent years, but its per capita sports venues, sports consumption and the population engaged in regular physical exercises are far lower than developed countries, said a senior Chinese sports official here on Monday.

Liu Peng, head of the State Administration of Sport, said that the first two decades of the 21st Century are a critical period for China's social undertakings, including sports undertakings.

With China's surging economy and people's rising living standards, the public demand for sports infrastructure is also growing, which is in sharp contradiction to the current low usage of existing sports facilities, said Liu at the sports round-table meeting of the Ninth Fortune Global Forum.

"We need to broaden our vision so as to boost the development of sports undertakings with wider mass participation," he said. He hoped that the 2008 Beijing Olympics, a historic event to the

whole country, will serve as an impetus to the comprehensive, harmonious and sustainable development of China's physical culture sector.

China now has more than 30,000 professional athletes, some of whom have performed excellently in many international competitions, and more than 400 million common people participating in physical exercises.

China will also promote international exchanges in the field of physical culture, Liu said, adding that the country has joined the global cooperation in prompting the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to draft an international convention against doping.—MNA/Xinhua

Everton coach named manager of the year

LONDON, 17 May— Everton's David Moyes has been named manager of the year after guiding his team to fourth in the Premier League and a place in the Champions League, Sky Sports News reported on Tuesday.

Moyes won the League Managers Association (LMA) award after beating off strong competitors Chelsea's Jose Mourinho, whose team won their first league title for 50 years, and Rafael Benitez who has steered Liverpool to the Champions League final.

The LMA annual award goes to the manager, who can be from any division, "deemed to have achieved the most taking into consideration the resources available to him".

Everton struggled in the 2003/04 season and sold England striker Wayne Rooney to Manchester United for 27 million pounds (49.59 million US dollars) in August last year but Moyes remained optimistic.

He had limited funds to strengthen his squad before the 2004/05 campaign, signing only Australian midfielder Tim Cahill and striker Marcus Bent for modest fees.

Moyes suffered another blow in January when in-

fluent Danish midfielder Thomas Gravesen left to join Real Madrid and the team's form dipped initially.

Despite the loss of key players Moyes created an impressive team spirit to defy the critics and took great satisfaction in finishing a place above arch-rivals Liverpool in the league.

"There's absolutely no doubt that Everton are the best team in the city this season," he said after Liverpool's defeat at Arsenal

this month handed Everton a Champions League place.

Moyes, 42, joined Everton from Preston North End in March 2002 as the successor to Walter Smith.

Born in Scotland, where he started his playing career with Celtic, Moyes also played for Cambridge United, Bristol City, Shrewsbury and Dunfermline, making over 550 league appearances.

MNA/Xinhua

Casillas renews contract with Real Madrid for 5 seasons

MADRID, 17 May— Real Madrid goalkeeper Iker Casillas reached Monday an agreement with his club to extend his contract for another five seasons until 2011, according to radio station Cadena Ser.

The contract of Casillas, who entered in Real in the 1990-1991 season, was to expire on June 30, 2006, and there were already offers from European clubs, like England's Manchester United.

The net wage of Casillas, who turns 24 on Friday, will amount to five million euros a season, similar to the salary received by Roberto Carlos (Brazil), but less than that of Ronaldo (Brazil), Raul (Spain), Zidane (France), Figo (Portugal) and Beckham (England), according to Cadena Ser.—MNA/Xinhua



England's Amir Khan, left, celebrates after his points win over Cuba's Mario Kindelan, right, at the Reebok Stadium at the end of their lightweight boxing contest, Bolton, England, on 14 May, 2005.—INTERNET

Khan aims for boxing world title in three years

LISBON, 17 May— Britain's Olympic boxing silver medallist Amir Khan plans to be fighting for a world title in three years and retired from the sport in eight years.

Khan, 18, turned professional on Saturday after beating Cuban's Mario Kindelan to avenge his defeat in last year's Olympic lightweight final.

"There is a plan. I want to try and get a title fight in three years' time, so now I am going to train hard for that. I feel ready for it," said Khan, who is in Estoril for the Laureus World Sports Awards where he has been nominated for newcomer of the year.

"I will have to change my style a bit, I think, I'll have to be ready for the longer rounds — and more rounds. It is going to be harder."

"But I adapted quickly from being a cadet to going senior, I missed junior

out. I did that well, so I don't expect it to be a problem," added the teenager.

Khan said he wanted to have retired from the sport by the age of 26.

"I don't want to stay in the game too long. After that age, you start getting hurt. Eight or nine years as a professional is enough I think," he said.

Khan's promoter Frank Warren has said he expects the boxer to make his professional debut in July.

"It could be in July," Khan said. "If I am ready for that, it might be the one. Let's see if I feel okay for it."

Asked about Kindelan, who had beaten him twice before, Khan said he hoped to see more of the Cuban.—MNA/Xinhua

မိုးဦးကျနှင့် မိုးရာသီတွင် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သော ရောဂါများအတွက် နှိုးဆော်ချက်

- ၁။ မိုးဦးကျရာသီတွင် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ ကူးစက်တတ်သော ရောဂါများ ပုံမှန်ဖြစ်ပွားလေ့ရှိပါသည်။
 - (က) ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှော့နှင့် ကာလဝမ်းရောဂါများ အပါအဝင် ဝမ်းနှင့် ပတ်သက်သည့် ရောဂါများ၊ အသည်းရောင် အသားဝါရောဂါနှင့် သံသောင်း၊ တုပ်ကောင်ရောဂါများ
 - (ခ) သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးနှင့် ငှက်ဖျားရောဂါ
 - (ဂ) တုပ်ကွေး၊ နှာစေးရောင်၊ ဆိုးနှင့် အဆုတ်အဆေးမိရောဂါ
- ၂။ ဖြစ်ပွားရသည့် အကြောင်းရင်းမှာ
 - (က) မိုးဦးကျလာပြီးဖြစ်၍ လှိုင်လှိုင်ပေါလာသည့် အချို့ဓာတ် ပါသော သရက်သီး၊ ပိန္နဲသီး၊ ဖရုံသီး၊ ကြက်ဓာတ်သီး၊ မင်းဂွတ်သီး စသည့် သစ်သီးဝလံများ၏ အခွံ၊ အစေ့ စသည်များကို စည်းကမ်းမဲ့ မဆင်မဖြင် စွန့်ပစ် ခြင်းကြောင့် ယင်ဆက်ပွား၍ ယင်ပေါများခြင်း။
 - (ခ) ရာသီဥတုအပြောင်းအလဲများကို စားသုံးခြင်း။
 - (ဂ) မိုးရွာပြီး ရေတင်း၊ ရေဝပ်သဖြင့် ရေအိုင်း၊ ရေဖွတ်ဖြစ်၍ ရေဖြောင့်ပိုတိုခြင်းနှင့် ချိုနွမ်းပိုတိုပေါင်းထူထပ်၍ ခြင်ဆက်ပွားခြင်း။
 - (ဃ) ရာသီဥတု အပြောင်းအလဲဖြစ်၍ အပူရပ်ခြင်း၊ အအေး ပတ်ခြင်း။
 - (င) ပတ်ဝန်းကျင် သန့်ရှင်းမှုနှင့် တစ်ကိုယ်ရည် သန့်ရှင်းမှု နည်းပါးခြင်း။
 - (စ) ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့် ညီညွတ်သည့် အသိပညာနှင့် အလေ့အကျင့် အားနည်းခြင်း။
- ၃။ အောက်ဖော်ပြပါတို့ကို လိုက်နာကျင့်သုံးခြင်းဖြင့် ဖော်ပြပါ ရောဂါများ ကူးစက်ပျံ့နှံ့ခြင်းမှ ကာကွယ် တားဆီးနိုင်မည်ဖြစ်ကြောင်း တိုက်တွန်း နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။
 - (က) အမှည့်လွန်အသီးများကို စားသုံးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
 - (ခ) ယင်နားစားများကို မဆင်မဖြင် စားသုံးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
 - (ဂ) စားကြွင်းစားကျန် အမှိုက်သရိုက်များနှင့် အညစ်အကြေးများကို စည်းကမ်းမဲ့ စွန့်ပစ်ခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
 - (ဃ) မိမိတို့ မိသားစုအတွင်း ကျန်းမာရေး အသိပညာဖြန့်ဝေပါ။ လိုက်နာကျင့်သုံးပါ။
 - (င) တစ်ကိုယ်ရည်သန့်ရှင်းရေးကို ဂရုပြုလိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
 - (စ) ရေကိုကျိုချက်၍ သောက်ပါ။
 - (ဆ) လတ်ဆတ်သန့်ရှင်းသည့် အသီးအနှံနှင့် အစားအစာများကို ပူပူနွေးနွေး ချက်ပြုတ်စားသုံးပါ။
 - (ဇ) ရာသီဥတု၊ အပူအအေး အပြောင်းအလဲကို သတိရှိပါ။
 - (ဈ) ပတ်ဝန်းကျင်သန့်ရှင်းရေးလုပ်ငန်းနှင့် ခြင်း၊ ယင် နှိမ်နင်းရေး လုပ်ငန်းများကို အမျိုးသားရေး အမြင်ဖြင့် ပိုင်ဝန်း စုပေါင်း ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
 - (ည) ရောဂါတစ်မျိုးမျိုး ဖြစ်ပွားပျံ့နှံ့လာပါက ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနသို့ အမြန်ဆုံး သတင်းပို့ပါ။
 - (ဋ) လိုအပ်ပါက နီးရာဆေးပေးခန်း၊ ဆေးရုံများသို့ အချိန်မီ သွားရောက်ပြသ စစ်ဆေးကုသ ခံယူပါ။

Int'l media urged to take just attitude when covering China's stories

BEIJING, 17 May — International media should abide by the principles of objectivity and justice when they report news stories about China, said a senior official with the State Council Information Office (SCIO) here Monday.

China is unsatisfactory about some foreign media's news coverage on China, which was biased and exaggerated, Zhao Qizheng, head of the SCIO, said at the Fortune Global Forum round-table meeting for cultural issues, which was held on Monday in Beijing. Some of the media took rumours as official information when they report on China, Zhao said.

Some foreign media used to "exaggerate China's growth and help fabricating a theory of 'China Threat,'" and commentaries for such purpose were even more biased than related news, said Zhao. From ancient times to nowadays, China has never had the thoughts, needs and abilities to encroach on other peoples in the world, he said.

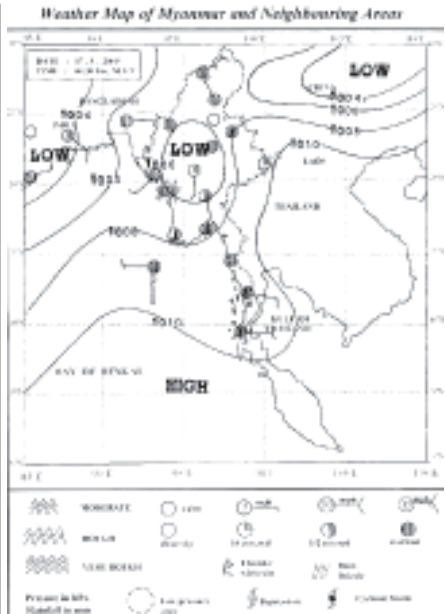
"As for critiques about China's shortcomings, including those in human right issues, China would like to consult

them, if they are accurate and well-intended," Zhao said.

"But we are afraid that some media, out of negative considerations, attempt to dig out the so-called facts, yet inaccurate at all, to prove the conclusion that China is not good, which they've already kept in mind," Zhao said. He said that when he met some foreign friends, more of them expressed their hope for understanding the development trend of China's economy and what opportunities they could share from them.

"The Chinese Government always encourages domestic media to cover China's progress and shortcomings and inspires them to tell the truth and let the readers to make their own judgment," Zhao said.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Tuesday, 17 May, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Taninthayi Division, isolated in Mon, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Myeik (1.22) inches and Co Co Island (0.83) inch. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, Taninthayi Division. (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Shan and Kayah States, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions. (7°C) to (8°C) above normal in lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Ayeeyawady Divisions, (9°C) above normal in Magway Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Magway (45°C), Monywa, Mandalay, Nyaungoo, Minbu and Pakokku (44°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 16-5-2005 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 17-5-2005 was 75°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 17-5-2005 was 74%. Total sunshine hours on 16-5-2005 was (10.5) hours approx. Rainfalls on 17-5-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were 2.84 inches at Yangon Airport, 3.46 inches at Kaba-Aye and 1.89 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (9) mph from Northwest at (04:05) hours MST on 17-5-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 18-5-2005: Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Yangon, Ayeeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Thunder conditions in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 18-5-2005: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 18-5-2005:** Generally fair weather.



Wednesday, 18 May Tune in today:

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music: How did I fall in love with you
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music: Girl you shine
- 8.50 am National news/Slogan
- 9.00 am Music: One in love
- 9.05 am International news
- 9.10 am Music: I lay my love on you
- 1.30 pm News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm Lunch time music
- Good morning sunshine
- Say a little prayer
- Co Co Jambo
- I'm gonna be
- Variations on a tune "Love me tender"
- 9.15 pm Article/Music
- 9.25 pm Music at your request
- My heart will go on
- Truely, madly, deeply
- How do I live
- You're still the one
- 9.45 pm News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL



Wednesday, 18 May View on today:

- 7:00 am
 - 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကျွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံသယဟော နာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာဟောရတနာ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာ အရမဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဓာတ်က၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ ဓမ္မဘာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိမိတ္တသာရာ ဝိသံသမီ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
 - 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
 - 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
 - 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am
 - 5. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 8:05 am
 - 6. အတီးမြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:15 am
 - 7. မြူးဇာတ်တော်

- 8:30 am
 - 8. International news
- 8:45 am
 - 9. Let's Go
- 4:00 pm
 - 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
 - 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
 - 3. Practice in Reading
- 4:45 am
 - 4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm
 - 5. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့လှည့်လည်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)
- 5:15 pm
 - 6. Song of national races
- 5:30 pm
 - 7. Classical song
- 5:45 pm
 - 8. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 6:00 pm
 - 9. "ဓာတ်ကုန်ဆိုင် လုပ်ငန်းတွင်" အကယ်ဒမီ စစ်ပိုင်း၊ အကယ်ဒမီ မင်းမော်ကျွန်း၊ အကယ်ဒမီ မိုးမိုးမြိုင်အောင် (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဝင်းထွန်းထွန်း)
- 6:05 pm
 - 10. ရွယ်ရုံလင်အာပီယံအစဉ်
- 6:20 pm
 - 11. Discovery
- 6:30 pm
 - 12. Evening news
- 7:00 pm
 - 13. Weather report
- 7:05 pm
 - 14. လူငယ်တွေ့ရုံနှင့် နီးနားပလ္လာယွမ် (ဂုဏ်)
- 7:20 pm
 - 15. Musical programme
- 7:30 pm
 - 16. တိုင်းသူပြည်တော် လုပ်ရပ်အား ဆန့်ကျင်မှု နှုတ် (ရှမ်းပြည်နယ် တောင်ပိုင်း လဲချားမြို့)
- 8:00 pm
 - 17. News
- 18. International news
- 19. Weather report
- 20. ဒွါဒေသအကြိမ် (ဒွါ ကြိမ်) မြန်မာ့နီးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆိုအက၊ အရေး၊ အတီးဖြိုင်ပွဲ (ရာမယဉ်ကျေးမှုအကကြီးဖြိုင်ပွဲ) (ပထမပိုင်း) (ဒုတိယပိုင်း) (ရန်ကင်းတိုင်း)
- 21. The next day's programme

A & I Minister inspects jute factory in Myaungmya, river water pumping project, paper mill in Maubin

YANGON, 17 May — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo on 15 May inspected the jute factory of the Myanma Jute Industries in Myaungmya, Ayeyawady Division.

In meeting with staff of the factory, the minister gave instruction on production of marketable products meeting with the set standard and cultivation of jute.

In the evening, the Minister and party went to Kyonsote river water pumping project in Maubin Township and inspected construction of the main canal and channels. On completion, the project will supply irrigation water to Kyonsote Village and it is expected that it will benefit 9,000 acres of farmland.

At the meeting, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo discussed with officials concerned construction of channels and arrangement for supply of irrigation water and cultivation.

Afterwards, the minister proceeded to Maubin Paper Mill in Maubin Township and inspected the production process.

At the briefing hall, the factory manager reported on production of the factory, arrangements for higher production and cooperation with China Yunnan Corporation.

(See page 8)



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects transport vehicle manufactured by the Agricultural Mechanization Department.— A & I

Annual work coordination meeting of Development Affairs Committees held



Minister Col Thein Nyunt delivers an address at the annual work coordination meeting of Development Affairs Committees. — PBANRDA

YANGON, 17 May— Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt addressed the annual work coordination meeting of Development Affairs Committees at the meeting room of Development Affairs Department on Thanlyetsoon Road here this morning.

Also present were Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Than Tun and (See page 8)

MCC holds User Conference 2005

YANGON, 17 May — Get-together of users of programmes of Myanmar Computer Company (MCC) took place in conjunction with introduction of new programmes and User Con-

ference 2005 at MICT Park in Hline Township, here, this afternoon.

Chairman of e-National Task Force Minister for Communications,

Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw delivered a speech on the

occasion. Also present were members of e-National Task Force, officials

of ministries, Myanmar Computer Federation, (See page 8)



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw addresses the User Conference of MCC. — MNA

INSIDE

All the beds in the ward were occupied by the bomb victims suffering from their wounds. It was heartrending to see them.

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MAUNG THITSA