

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Wednesday, 25 May, 2005

## State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Argentina

YANGON, 25 May — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Nestor Carlos Kirchner, President of the Republic of Argentina, on the occasion of the anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of Argentina which falls on 25 May 2005. — MNA

## Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein receives Governor of Yunnan Province

YANGON, 24 May — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein received HE Mr Xu Rongkai, Governor of Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China, and party at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta at 6 pm today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister

for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and U Maung Myint, Protocol Department Director-General Thura U Aung Htet, Chinese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun. MNA

### 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

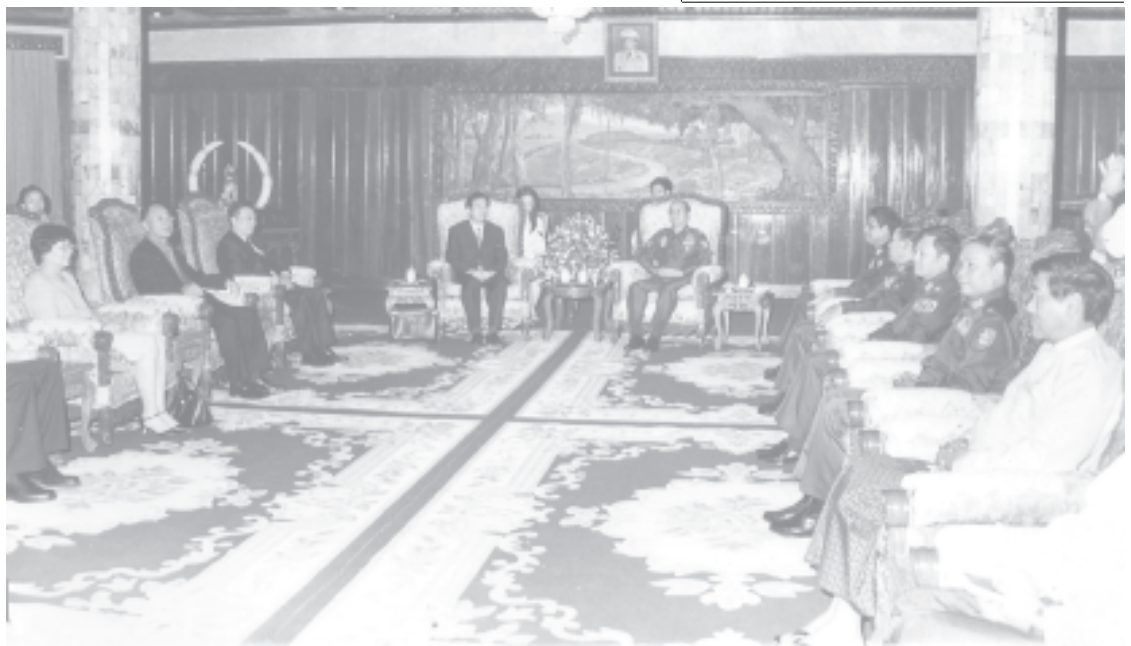
- \* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- \* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- \* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country 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

*Lt-Gen Thein Sein receives Mr Xu Rongkai, Governor of Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China, and party at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta.*

MNA



## Special sale of jade and gems on 28 June

YANGON, 24 May — A special sale of jade and gems will be held at Myanma Gems Mart as of 28 June.

The Myanmar citizens who are engaged in gem mining in accord with the Myanma Gems Law and those who are engaged in sale of gems in foreign currency will be allowed to attend the sales according to prescribed rules and regulations. Moreover, sales counters

are being arranged for national entrepreneurs who are engaged in sale of gems in accord with the Myanma Gems Law to enable them to sell gems on the ground floor of MGM during the special sales period. Those wishing to attend the special sales and those wishing to obtain sales counters are to contact Myanma Gems Enterprise commencing 26 May 2005. — MNA

## Foreign Minister sends felicitations to Argentina

YANGON, 25 May — U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr Rafael Bielsa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Argentina, on the occasion of the anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of Argentina which falls on 25 May 2005.

MNA

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

# PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 25 May, 2005

## Work for all-round development of the Union with Union Spirit

The State Peace and Development Council has been systematically implementing regional development plans for all-round development of the entire Union and all this is being done in the interests of the national people. As a result of regional development measures being taken all over the nation, roads and bridges are emerging one after another and the transport infrastructure is getting stronger and stronger.

It is heartening to see that transport and trade of hill regions have become remarkably better every time a new road or bridge has been constructed in those regions where there was less development in transport infrastructure. The government is building roads and bridges in every strategic region of Shan State and Union highways linking Shan State with other states and divisions.

Moreover, it is building new inter-city roads in Shan State and upgrading the existing ones in such a way that they can be used in all weather.

For example, in Shan State (South), as the Loilem-Pankaytu-Hsipaw road and the Shwenyaung-Yaksawk-Kyaukgu-Nawngkhio road have been upgraded, the transport between Shan State (South) and Shan State (North) has improved.

Moreover, as the Hsenwi-Kunglon-Chinshweh road on the Lashio-Muse highway and the Tapar bridge across the Thanlwin river on the Kutkai-Tarmoey-Monesi-Tashwehtan have been constructed, the national people living in Shan State (North) can easily travel up to the Myanmar-China border.

For the regions that were behind in development due to the Thanlwin river, the Tarkawak bridge, the Tarsan bridge and the Tapar bridge have been constructed. Therefore, regions on the east and west banks of the Thanlwin river are now easily accessible from each other and they are experiencing development.

The development of Shan State in such a short time is due to peace and stability prevailing in the region, measures taken by the government with full goodwill and mutual trust and respect and cooperation between national races. Therefore, we would like to call on the entire national people to cooperate with the government and work for all-round development of the Union with Union Spirit.

## 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

## C-in-C (Air)'s Championship Shield Table Tennis tourney concludes

YANGON, 24 May — Final match and prize presentation ceremony of the Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Shield Table Tennis Tournament-2005 took place yesterday at Flying Training Base in Meikhtila. Flying Training Base Team won the championship shield. Officials presented prizes to individuals. On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief (Air), Flying Training Base Commandant Brig-Gen Khin Maung Tin presented the championship shield to the Flying Training Base Team. —MNA



Commandant Brig-Gen Khin Maung Tin presents a championship shield to Flying Training Base Team. — FTB

## Myanmar-Korean entrepreneurs hold discussions



Myanmar-Korean entrepreneurs' discussion in progress. — MNA

YANGON, 24 May — Under the arrangement of Korean embassy to Myanmar, Myanmar-Korean entrepreneurs held discussions at Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road this morning. Twenty-four companies of Myanmar and ten business firms of Gyeong Buk of Korea held discussions on trad-

ing for varieties of lifts, presses and offset machines, safes and doors, regulators, voltage control, mobile games, pipe line of air conditioner and spare parts, foodstuff. Korean ambassador to Myanmar Mr Lee Ju-heum and Commercial Attaché Mr Choi Yong-tae were presented as observers. — MNA

## Workshop on drugs trade rules ends

YANGON, 24 May — The concluding of the workshop No.3 on drugs trade rules, conducted by the Myanmar Pharmaceuticals and Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs Association, took place at No 44 Theinbyu Road here this morning.

President of the association Dr Maung Maung Lay and Project Manager Dr Min Swe delivered speeches.

The association donated K 50,000 to the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of

Commerce and Industry. Next, officials presented completion certificates to the trainees.

Vice-President of the association gave concluding remarks.

MNA

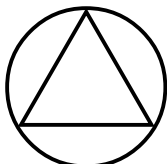


Dr Maung Maung Lay addresses the concluding of workshop on drugs trade rules. — HEALTH

ပညာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

ကျောင်းအပ်နှံရေးသီတင်းပတ်

မေလ၏ နောက်ဆုံးသီတင်းပတ်



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ပြည်သူ့အားလုံးပါဝင်ဆောင်ရွက်ပေး။

ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ဖို့၊ ပိုင်းဝန်းကူညီဆောင်ရွက်ဖို့။

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# India intensifies efforts to win support for UNSC proposals

UNITED NATIONS, 23 May — Intensifying their diplomatic efforts, India and four other countries seeking permanent membership of an expanded UN Security Council met with representatives of five regional groups and four of the current permanent members this week to win support for their proposal to expand the Council in both permanent and non-permanent categories.

The Group of Four — India, Brazil, Germany and Japan— is scheduled to have discussions on Monday with Secretary-General Kofi Annan, who supports their view that consensus on expansion is preferable but that should not come in the way of increasing its membership to bring it in tune with the present ground realities.

But the “Uniting for Consensus” group or “Coffee Club” led by Pakistan and Italy launched a counter-campaign seeking expansion only in the non-permanent category and their diplomats said they were also holding discussions with members states and had met Annan Friday.

Diplomats from G-4 group said their envoys had met with the permanent US, Russia, France and China to explain their viewpoint and plan to meet Britain next week. The United States and China have so far taken the position that consensus is necessary for

expansion and Russia says it is still studying the proposals. Britain and France are generally supportive of the G-4 position.

Envoys of Pakistan, Italy, South Korea, Spain, Mexico, Algeria and Argentina, the leading members of the “Coffee Club”, met with Annan Friday to explain their view and seek his support to scuttle expansion in permanent seats.

Pakistani Ambassador Munir Akram did not say whether Annan supported their viewpoint.

Akram told reporters that the “Uniting for Consensus” (UFC) group was looking for opening a dialogue with G-4.

“The Secretary-General was supportive of our efforts to promote a dialogue and we are very encouraged by that,” he said. The UN, however, did not issue any statement on the meeting.— *MNA/PTI*

# HK English Festival attracts 1.6 million viewers

HONG KONG, 23 May — The first English Festival organized by the Standing Committee on Language Education and Research has recorded an encouraging 20,000 participants in its various activities, and over 1.6 million viewers of its TV programme on English usage.

According to a government Press release on Saturday, Committee chairman Michael Tien said he was proud of the results by saying “what impressed us the most is not the participating figures. Rather, it is the degree of involvement of our participants.”

Tien added that “with the support of the Education and Manpower Bureau and the Legislative Council, we are now actively devising different measures to strengthen our support for language teachers and students in the pre-primary and primary levels through the use of the Language Fund”.

He said, “We would wish to focus more resources on teachers’ pro-

fessional development and to address other imminent needs of primary schools and kindergartens. The committee will also examine ways to recruit more quality young men and ladies to join the profession.” English Festival 2005 has seven activities to give students and public members of different ages and education background to learn and use English in ways that they would enjoy the most.

Tien said there are thousands of ways to improve English outside the classroom and it is open for each individual to explore and seize the opportunities. — *MNA/Xinhua*



An Iraqi woman walks past a vehicle destroyed by a car bombing in the town of Baiji, 180 kilometres (112 miles) north of Baghdad, on 22 May, 2005. —INTERNET



# Chinese surveyors reach Mt Everest for height measurement

QOMOLANGMA(Tibet), 23 May — Fifteen Chinese mountaineers on a mission to remeasure the height of the earth’s summit scaled Mount Qomolangma (Mount Everest) at about 11:08 Beijing Time, according to reports from the headquarters.

The 15 including: Pubu, 40, Ngawang, 24, Gyabu Jr and Dorji Gaesang of the Tibet Mountaineering Team, and surveyors.

They are erecting a survey beacon, GPS and radar equipment on top of the peak for height measurement. A ceremony was held at the base camp

to celebrate the successful scaling of the peak. Twenty-four Chinese researchers and mountaineers started their assault on Mount Qomolangma, the summit of the earth, which is known as Mount Everest in the West, to remeasure its height at 3:30 am on Sunday. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Chinese Mount Everest Expedition members Qimei, left, and Laji, right, wave to their friends before heading for the top of Mount Everest (which the Chinese calls Qomolangma). A team of Chinese mountaineers conquered the summit of the world’s highest mountain at about 11.08 am on 22 May, 2005.—INTERNET

# Audit criticizes Iraq’s handling of oil sales after power transfer

UNITED NATIONS, 23 May—The board monitoring Iraq’s oil revenue said Monday that Iraqi leaders mishandled about \$100 million in oil money meant for development in the six months after they took power from the US government.

The International Advisory and Monitoring Board said a new audit also found the now-defunct US Coalition Provisional Authority used questionable accounting practices with money from the Development Fund for Iraq. It also singled out the US Army Corps of Engineers for refusing to provide files for contracts that were funded with Iraqi oil revenue.

The audit, conducted by accounting firm KPMG, covered the period from the 28 June, 2004, transfer of sovereignty to the new interim government until 31 December.

While the audit makes no accusations of fraud or wrongdoing, it notes that Iraqi ministries and US agencies awarded numerous noncompetitive contracts with development money. At one point, US agencies bought armoured vehicles with \$988,000 that was supposed to be used for Iraq’s development. In one case a \$6.1 million contract “was advertised on a subscription only Web site and therefore not publicly tendered,” the report found. “Only two bids were received for the contract.”

Pentagon spokesman Lt Col Barry Venable said he hadn’t seen the latest report and couldn’t comment on its specifics. But he said the CPA did well in difficult circumstances in Iraq, “implementing hundreds of projects to improve the quality of life for the Iraqi people.”

Internet

# Vietnam, Russia cooperate in nuclear energy

HANOI, 23 May — Vietnam and Russia agreed to boost bilateral cooperation in nuclear energy during the second session of the Joint Coordinator on Cooperation in the Field of Nuclear Energy here on 17-20 May. *Vietnam News Agency* reported Sunday.

The two sides will cooperate in ensuring the safe and efficient operation of the Da Lat reactor, which is being used for nuclear research, and upgrading a radiotherapy facility in Vietnam’s capital city Hanoi.

They will also strengthen ties in personnel training, the application of radiation technology in health care facilities.

During the session, the two sides also reviewed their cooperation activities in 2003 and 2004 and mapped out a cooperation plan for the two following years.

MNA/Xinhua

# Comprehensive regime of CBMs called for between India, Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 23 May — Highlighting the need for a comprehensive regime of CBMs between India and Pakistan to ensure a nuclear tension-free Subcontinent, parliamentarians from South Asia have asked other countries in the region to put in place a sustainable dialogue mechanism for resolving bilateral issues.

The Conference of South Asian Parliamentarians, which concluded on Friday, called on India and Pakistan to put in place a comprehensive regime of confidence-building measures that will ensure a nuclear tension-free region.

The five-day meet, organized by the South Asia Free Media Association (SAFMA), also asked other countries in the region to set up a sustainable dialogue mechanism for resolving all bilateral disputes.

Identifying energy, water and conservation as areas for cooperation in the region, it called for increased investment for economic progress, restructuring growth for faster poverty eradication and human resource development.

Attended by over 100 parliamentarians from India, Pakistan and other South Asian countries, the conference issued a declaration encapsulating the agreed vision for bringing a new era of regional partnership.

The Bhurban Declaration, issued at the end of the meeting at the hill resort of Bhurban, chartered a futuristic course of action for regional cooperation in ten different areas encompassing all facets of human development and security in the context of peaceful coexistence.

Thirty three MPs from all major political parties from India attended the meet.

The declaration identified three broad areas for deepening economic cooperation for the purpose of specific policy action, including energy cooperation and water management and conservation within South Asia.

It also said that sequential steps should be taken in realistic stages towards South Asian Free trade Area and South Asian Union, South Asian Tariffs and Customs Union, South Asian Monetary Union, South Asian Bank and Development Fund, South Asian Collective Security and South Asian Parliament.

MNA/PTI



A young boy arranges 'badami' mangoes on top of a truck at the Naroda fruit market in Ahmedabad in western India on 23 May, 2005. — INTERNET

## 1,634 US soldiers killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 23 May—As of Monday, 23 May, 2005, at least 1,634 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count. At least 1,248 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defence Department. The figures include four military civilians.

The *AP* count is seven higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 11 am EDT Monday.

The British military has reported 88 deaths; Italy, 21; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, 10; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,496 US military members have died, according to *AP's* count. That includes at least 1,139 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.—*Internet*

ဝက်ပွမ်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား

## Thai Deputy Prime Minister visits N-W China

XI'AN, 23 May — Thai Deputy Prime Minister Somkid Jatusripitak and his party Saturday arrived in this capital city of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, continuing his goodwill visit to China.

Somkid said when meeting with Shaanxi Provincial Governor Chen Deming that Thailand and Shaanxi complement each other in numerous fields. The two sides could enhance exchanges and cooperation in tourism, economy and trade and other fields, so as to bring benefits to the two peoples.

Chen briefed the Thai Prime Minister on Shaanxi's economic and social situation, especially after China imple-

mented the strategy of Western development.

Chen said he hoped that businesses from Shaanxi Province and Thailand would further increase cooperation in such fields as the fruit industry, medicine production and tourism.

Somkid also attended a signing ceremony of an agreement on exchanging agricultural products between Thailand and Shaanxi. — *MNA/Xinhua*

## S Korean actress welcomed by hundreds of HK fans at airport

HONG KONG, 23 May — Over 200 Hong Kong fans went to the Hong Kong International Airport on Friday evening to welcome South Korean star Lee Young-ae, one of the most popular South Korean stars in Hong Kong.

Lee played the leading role of Jang Geum in Hong Kong's record-breaking South Korean TV series "Jewel in the Palace", arrived at the Hong Kong International Airport on Friday evening, escorted by over 50 security guards.

Hong Kong newspapers reported on Saturday that Lee is on a four-day visit to thank the Hong Kong audience for their support for the drama,

which, with the last episode aired on TVB on 1 May, attracted a record of 3 million viewers.

In casual wear of Louis Vuitton, Lee was greeted by the screaming of fans and a bouquet of flowers presented by two Hong Kong children. With charming smiles, Lee thanked her fans for their hours waiting at the airport.

Lee was also wel-

comed by about 100 media reporters and fans at the Grand Hyatt Hotel where she resides. The welcome dinner was held at Grand Hyatt and names of the most dishes are related to the drama.

Hong Kong has over 700 South Korean companies and the personnel mastering good Korean language is badly needed in the city.

MNA/Xinhua

## Earthquake jolts Sumatra

HONG KONG, 23 May — An earthquake measuring 5.6 on the Richter Scale rocked the offshore waters of Northern Sumatra, Indonesia, at 7:07 am (Hong Kong Time) Sunday, according to the Hong Kong Observatory.

The epicentre was initially determined to be 5.5 North Latitude, 94.9 East Longitude, about 40 kilometres northwest of Banda Aceh.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi policeman searches a driver at a checkpoint along a street in a northern district of Baghdad on 22 May, 2005. — INTERNET



## Chinese State Councillor meets Japanese guests

**BELING, 23 May — China and Japan should take specific measures to implement the consensus reached by leaders of the two countries, said Chinese State Councillor Tang Jiaxuan here Saturday.**

President Hu Jintao initiated five points on developing Sino-Japanese relations during a meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi in Jakarta. The five-point proposal is of practical significance and of far-reaching historic significance, Tang said during a meeting with the secretaries-general of the two ruling parties in Japan: Takebe Tsutomu of the Liberal Democratic Party and Fuyushiba Tetsuzo of the Komei Party.

The key point for the two sides now is to jointly take specific actions to implement the consensus, Tang said.

Both sides should always adhere to the right direction of promoting Sino-Japanese friendly ties, so as to make Sino-Japanese relations better serve the common interests of both countries in long-term development, Tang said.

Both sides should correctly view and properly resolve the issues between China and Japan, and should fully mobilize positive elements to enhance the healthy and stable development of Sino-Japanese relations, he said.

The two sides should firmly grasp and resolutely safeguard the political basis of Sino-Japanese relations, and

should use concrete actions to materialize principles and spirits of three political documents signed by China and Japan, namely the Sino-Japanese Joint Statement, the Peace and Friendship Treaty, and the Sino-Japanese Joint Declaration.

Hu's five-point proposal on the development of Sino-Japanese relations include: firstly, the Japanese Government should strictly abide by the three political documents between China and Japan, taking specific actions to forge a friendly and cooperative relationship with China facing the 21st Century. Second, the Japanese Government should regard history as a mirror to reflect its wartime past. Third, the Taiwan issue should be correctly handled. Fourth, differences between the two nations need to be resolved through dialogues and peaceful negotiations. Fifth, the two countries should further strengthen communication and cooperation in various areas, encouraging friendly contacts and activities so as to increase understanding and broaden mutual benefits, pushing Sino-Japanese relations forward at a healthy and stable pace. — MNA/Xinhua

## Thailand to launch campaign against dengue fever

**BANGKOK, 23 May — The Thai Government plans to launch a "major campaign" across the country to increase public awareness of dengue fever.**

The campaign against dengue fever will be launched on 29 May, Public Health Minister Dr. Suchai Charoenratanakul was quoted by the *Thai News Agency* as saying Saturday.

The campaign will target schools, hospitals and households and encourage them to protect themselves by helping prevent an outbreak of dengue fever.

The Thai public will be encouraged to use

mosquito nets and mosquito traps, and destroy mosquito breeding grounds.

Health officials and volunteers will act as "Mr Dengue Fever" and visit targeted areas throughout the country, giving advice on dengue fever prevention. "There will be about 800,000 "Mr Dengue Fever" to support the campaign," the minister said.

The government campaign follows an official

survey which showed the number of dengue fever patients had increased by 790 in the week between 7-14 May.

The ten provinces with the highest records of dengue fever cases include Ranong, Surat Thani, Petchburi, Satun, Prachuap Khiri Khan, Trang and Nakhon Si Thammarat in the South; Rayong and Sa Kaew in the East; and Nakhon Nayok in the central region. — MNA/Xinhua



*Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Yi delivers a speech during a luncheon in Tokyo on 23 May, 2005.*

INTERNET

## Malaysia, Japan finalize negotiations for JMEPA

**KUALA LUMPUR, 23 May — Malaysia and Japan Sunday achieved a breakthrough in finalizing negotiations for a Japan-Malaysia Economic Partnership Agreement (JMEPA) to be signed at the end of this year, a minister said.**

To be signed as scheduled in December, JMEPA contains the much-awaited Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two countries, Malaysian Minister of International Trade and Industry Rafidah Aziz told reporters after meeting Japanese Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Shoichi Nakagawa here.

The discussions on JMEPA which includes FTA began in December 2003. Trade negotiators have been meeting since Tuesday last week in Malaysia to iron out differences especially in areas such as auto and steel which culminated in today's successful meeting between the ministers.

It was comprehensive covering all areas, goods, services even agriculture and economic cooperation, she said.

Rafidah said during Nakagawa's one-day visit here, both parties managed to tie-up whatever loose strings (JMEPA) that they had been negotiating.

"We have finalized everything and it will really be an economic framework agreement covering all areas that we both feel we would like to cover," she said. Apart from liberalizing trade in goods and services, JMEPA also covers agreements on tourism, standardization of regulations and intellectual property, agriculture and economic cooperation.

MNA/Xinhua

## Singh promises to make India shine for all

**NEW DELHI, 23 May — Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said Sunday his government was committed to making India shine for all but asserted this would not be possible without bold decisions on the economic front.**

"The people of our country are impatient for change, impatient for better quality of life. They are impatient for new opportunities," he said, noting that "out of box" thinking was needed to fulfil these aspirations.

The Prime Minister made the remarks while submitting a 42-page report, "A caring government: one year of the UPA (United Progressive Alliance) government," to the alliance's chairperson Sonia Gandhi.

"We need to take bold initiatives on the economic front," Manmohan Singh said. These bold initiatives, he said, were essential if India had to survive and flourish in the increasingly globalized world.

The Prime Minister also stressed the need for reducing subsidies and diverting funds to social sector schemes. "There is urgent need for restructuring of public expenditure and working of ministries."

The 71-year-old economist, who came to the top job after Italy-born Congress party chief Sonia Gandhi declined to become the prime minister, said never before had a government followed so closely the implementation of its promises and produced a report on its work.

MNA/Xinhua

## Russian ambassador concludes 13-year term in China

**BELING, 23 May—Igor A Rogachev left here Saturday for his country, concluding his 13-year term as Russian ambassador to China.**

Rogachev told *Xinhua* at the airport that Russia and China were strategic partners to each other and that he hopes China will continue its peaceful rise and bring peace and stability to the world.

The 73-year-old ambassador spent more than 20 years in China, witnessing different phases

of relations between his country and China.

Rogachev made great contributions to promoting Sino-Russian relations, from difficult situations in the past to the current establishment of the strategic cooperative partnership, Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing once made such comments on

Rogachev's efforts.

Rogachev will take his new post in the Federal Assembly of Russian Federation after returning to his homeland. Russian Vice-Foreign Minister Sergei Razov is expected to become the new ambassador to China, replacing Rogachev.

MNA/Xinhua



*A worker of the Philippine Associated Smelting and Refining Corp takes an anode sample at the copper smelting plant in Isabel town, Leyte Island in central Philippines on 20 May, 2005. —INTERNET*

# US Army faltered in investigating detainee abuse

WASHINGTON, 23 May — Despite autopsy findings of homicide and statements by soldiers that two prisoners died after being struck by guards at an American military detention centre in Bagram, Afghanistan, US Army investigators initially recommended closing the case without bringing any criminal charges, *The New York Times* reported Sunday.

Within days after the two deaths in December 2002, military coroners determined that both had been caused by "blunt force trauma" to the legs. Soon after, soldiers and others at Bagram told the investigators that military guards had repeatedly struck both men in the thighs while they were shackled and that one had also been mistreated by military interrogators.

Nonetheless, agents of the Army's Criminal Investigation Command reported to their superiors that they could not clearly determine who was responsible for the detainees' injuries, military officials said. Military lawyers at Bagram took the same position, according to confidential documents from the investigation obtained by the *Times*.

Several interrogators failed to file reports that are mandatory when any intelligence personnel are suspected of misconduct, including mistreatment of detainees, military officials said. They and others from Bagram were later sent

to Iraq and were assigned to Abu Ghraib Prison. A high-level military inquiry last year found that the captain who led interrogation operations at Bagram, Captain Carolyn A Wood, applied many of the same harsh methods in Iraq that she had overseen in Afghanistan.

Senior Army investigators took the Bagram inquiry away from agents in Afghanistan in August 2003, assigning it to a task force. In October 2004, the task force found probable cause to charge 27 of the military police guards and military intelligence interrogators with crimes ranging from involuntary manslaughter to lying to investigators. Those 27 included the 7 who have actually been charged.

"I would acknowledge that a lot of these investigations appear to have taken excessively long," the Defence Department's chief spokesman, Larry Di Rita, told the *Times*. "People are being held accountable, but it's taking too long."

MNA/Xinhua

# Mubarak, Abbas meet on Mideast peace process

CAIRO, 23 May — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Saturday morning met with visiting Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas in the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh and the two sides discussed the latest developments in the Middle East.

The talks focused on the expected Israeli pullout from the Gaza Strip and part of the West Bank with a view to coordinating their positions before Abbas' planned visit to the United States on 26 May, the official *MENA* news agency reported.

Abbas announced that he will also meet Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon on 7 June.

Abbas will pay his first visit to the United States since he was elected in January as the leader of the Palestinian National Authority to succeed the late Yasser Arafat, whom the US President George W Bush had refused to meet and had declared persona non grata.

Egypt has warned against the negative impact of Israeli recent equivocation in sticking to

its commitments undertaken on February 8 at a meeting between Abbas and Sharon in Sharm el-Sheikh.

Abbas arrived in Sharm el-Sheikh Friday night coming from New Delhi, India. His visit to Egypt comes after his South America and Asia tours which have also taken him to China and Japan.

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese workers work on an assembly line at CPTF Optronics Co, Ltd in Fuzhou, east China's Fujian Province, on 20 May, 2005. — INTERNET

# Consensus emerges for SAARC summit

ISLAMABAD, 23 May — There are positive indications that the twice-postponed 13th summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) will now be held in mid November, diplomatic sources said on Saturday.

The local newspaper *Dawn* reported Sunday that consensus among the seven SAARC member states is moving decisively towards convening of the summit in Dhaka in November.

It is learnt that most of the member states, including India, have indicated their preference for the summit in November instead of September when most countries will be busy preparing for the UN General Assembly session.

A number of countries have already communicated their availability for the summit in November to Pakistan, which cur-

rently holds the chairmanship of SAARC.

As soon as Pakistan receives confirmation from all member states, it will consult the host government in Dhaka.

An official announcement about a fresh summit date could be made as soon as next week, sources said.

The 13th SAARC summit was initially scheduled for 9-11 January and then rescheduled for 6-7 February 2005 due to the December 2004 tsunami disaster, later India pulled out of the summit at the last minute, causing the second put-off.

MNA/Xinhua

# Nearly half of Chinese people do not speak Mandarin

YINCHUAN, 23 May — A recent survey by the National Language Commission shows that only 53 per cent of China's 1.3 billion population speak Mandarin.

The result was published by Yuan Zhongrui, chief of the Mandarin popularization section of the Ministry of Education, at a Chinese language and character working conference recently held in Yinchuan, capital of the northwestern Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region.

Yuan said nearly half of the Chinese people cannot speak the Mandarin, or Putonghua (common speech of the Chinese language), and many of the 53 per cent who can are not frequent Mandarin users.

The official said China has a great variety of dialects, stemming from its thousands of years of a small-scale peasant economy. People did not need Mandarin to communicate because there were hardly any economic activities.

Today Mandarin is popular in the developed eastern part of China and the major cities. Yuan said popularizing Mandarin will provide a significant to boost economic development, especially in northwest China's provinces and autonomous regions.

MNA/Xinhua

# Hurricane threat incurs loss of \$12m in El Salvador

MEXICO CITY, 23 May — A nationwide work suspension in face of the threat of Hurricane Adrian has cost El Salvador about 12 million US dollars, it is estimated.

The National Private Sector Association (ANEP) said Saturday that the arrival of Adrian forced the suspension of work for half a day on Thursday and led to the absence of 20 per cent of workers nationwide on Friday.

The most affected sectors were commerce, tourism, industry, construction, foreign trade, banking and transportation, said ANEP. Adrian did not cause significant losses to agriculture, it said.

Adrian, which approached El Salvador as a low-intensity hurricane, lost strength before landing and reached El Salvador as a tropical storm. Some 29,500 people were evacuated. Authorities said nobody was killed in the storm and no considerable material damage was caused. — MNA/Xinhua



Greenpeace activists set up the e-waste sculpture at a high-tech exhibition in Beijing on 23 May, 2005. — INTERNET



# Success of democracy transition through mutual understanding and perpetual cooperation

Aung Thu Moe (Myingyan)

The study of natural science is hard, but that of the social science is harder. And when a solution is sought to the social science with reference to reality, the matter becomes more difficult. Why? "It is because of human mind that is not free from greed, anger, delusion, selfishness and excessive pride in solving a social problem", said the social science itself. So, according to the law, there will always be opposition in the field of politics.

But the social science also warns that if a person enters the field of politics without studying the political economy basically, he will be lying others, subject to other's lies and also lying himself.

Weakness in studying knowledge will lead him to becoming a person, thinking highly of the eloquent preachers giving priority only to self-interest, and echoing other's words, rather than a proactive person. The capacity to realize the truth will achieve progress. In Myanmar, the Tatmadaw Government declares the desire to build a democratic nation, and so do the National League for Democracy and other related organizations.

However, the NLD group's strategy demands the immediate transfer of power to the elected representatives according to their provisional constitution, and the Tatmadaw to stay aloof from party politics and soldiers to return to their barracks. In addition, they stay on the course of constant confrontations calling for economic sanctions against the nation, and asking tourists not to visit the nation, foreign entrepreneurs not to make investments and the World Bank not to provide loans, and laying obstacles to prevent Myanmar from taking over the alternative ASEAN chairmanship seat.

Here I come to remember a statement made by Nelson Mandela, a political leader of South Africa. He once said that although the White Government led by de Clark and ANC were able to end the civil war that lasted for many years, the nation-building endeavours did not make progress as expected despite the utmost efforts the nation had made. And when the matter was looked into, the cause of the failures was found to have been as a result of the requests made to global countries to impose economic sanctions on the White Government, and to cut off all political, economic and financial links with the country.

Whatever disturbances the external and internal opposition groups are making, the Tatmadaw Government will continue to introduce democracy in the nation according to the objectives. First, it has laid foundations of democracy, and later made peace with the armed groups and restored total peace and stability in the entire nation. It has laid down the 12

political, economic and social objectives for national development. Now, it is in the process of holding the National Convention, the first step of the Road Map, for emergence of a durable constitution. According to the Government's plan, the representatives elected by the people in accord with a new constitution will make harmonious efforts for further developing the nation.

I will now make an analysis of the Tatmadaw Government's democracy transition.

Let's start with the classic capitalist revolution of Europe. Because of the global developments and changes, many nations launched the democracy tran-

**Those perpetrators should see Tatmadaw Government's endeavours to lay foundations for drawing a new constitution according to the seven-point Road Map, holding an election, and handing over of the State power to the elected members of the parliament, the requirements for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.**

sition drive. In some European countries, the political parties representing the wealthy capitalists, intellectuals and intelligentsia, and the middle class, got stronger and stronger together with the industrial development, followed by the flourishing of the capitalist democracy system serving their interest. As all went well in the democracy transition drive of those European countries, the drive is called the classic capitalist revolution.

Meanwhile, the rulers of Japan and Prussia (Germany) had realized the backwardness of their countries. So, they themselves played the leading role in launching the democracy transition drive. Thus, the social science says that the capitalist revolutions of Japan and Prussia were launched by the ruling elite.

The main causes behind Myanmar's backwardness are the over 100 years of colonial rule the nation had faced, the spill over of the World War II, and the over 40 years of civil strife. The errors of the parliamentary democracy system and the transition to centralized economy (socialist revolution) had created economic and political hardships in the nation. In 1988, the Tatmadaw safeguarded the country and assumed the State duties to tackle all the hardships.

But Myanmar lacked the basic class of people for democracy and the organizations representing the class. However, the NLD and its allies would like to install democracy in the nation through the classic capitalist revolution. On the other hand, the Tatmadaw

Government has been in the process of installing democracy through the method used during the capitalist revolutions of Japan and Prussia.

According to the method, the Tatmadaw Government has been playing a key role in the democracy transition drive, providing assistance and encouragement to the national entrepreneurs to set up large agricultural and farming projects to build an agro-based industrial national. When the national entrepreneurs have greater financial power, the living standard of the blue and white collar workers will also rise. At the same time the constitution will enact laws for establishment of political parties representing the capitalists and workers as necessary. And the Tatmadaw Government is playing a leading role in implementing the democracy transition drive step by step. In this regard, the ones who are anxious to see immediate transition to democracy should find the answer to their question through discussions, not by making confrontation with the Government.

Ordinary people are nearer to the truth than the so-called leaders who are still sticking to their old ways of selfishness and greediness, says the social science. Thus, they should replace their old ways of thinking with the endeavours for national reconsolidation.

The persons opposing the State are trying to drive in a wedge and secede from the Union. They are also resorting to terrorism, blowing up bombs to murder and frighten the people and to cause unrest and economic and political hardships in the nation. Although the perpetrators are making conspiracies to that degree, the Tatmadaw Government has been striving to keep the nation free from all sorts of economic and political hardships. Its national drive covers various sectors and progress of border areas.

Those perpetrators should see Tatmadaw Government's endeavours to lay foundations for drawing a new constitution according to the seven-point Road Map, holding an election, and handing over of the State power to the elected members of the parliament, the requirements for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Instead of arguing with the Government, while standing on their own point of view, they should find a correct and auspicious way to greater progress through bilateral talks and mutual cooperation. Thus, I would like to say that we should try to achieve success of democracy transition through mutual understanding and perpetual cooperation.

(Translation: TMT)

Myanma Alin, Kyemon  
24-5-2005

## Earthquake jolts Johannesburg

JOHANNESBURG, 24 May — South African seismologists and mining companies were investigating a strong tremor shaking the Johannesburg area shortly after 8 a.m. (0600 GMT) on Monday.

The Council for Geoscience were taking information from their 22 observation stations around the country in order to decide the magnitude, while Mining group GoldFields' own equipment recorded the

impact of between 5.5 and 5.8 on the Richter Scale.

The council's spokesman Andrzej Kijko told the SAPA news agency that the quake was "a really strong event".

The event was felt in Johannesburg, southern Africa's biggest city, around 8:10 a.m. (0610 GMT). It was not yet known if any of the area's mines had been affected.

Two miners died and over 3,000 miners were trapped underground in a quake in Stilfontein in the North West on 9 March, which was measured 5.3 on the Richter Scale and was regarded as quite serious in South Africa, an aseismic country (not prone to earthquakes).

But underground mining activities in deeper layers can cause frequent tremors, according to local seismologists.

MNA/Xihua

## EAC HQ to start construction next January

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 24 May — The project of the East African Community headquarters will take off in Arusha, northern Tanzania, since January 2006.

According to reports reaching here on Monday, the EAC complex, estimated to cost over 10 million US dollars and to take 30 months of work, will stand close to the Arusha International

Conference Centre where EAC has its temporary headquarters.

The new headquarters will house offices of the EAC Secretariat, chambers of the EA Legislative Assembly and the EA Court of Justice.

Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda re-initiated the East African Community in the year 1999 with objects of fostering a closer cooperation in

political, economic, social and cultural fields in the region.

The trio is now considering applications of Burundi and Rwanda to step into the club.

MNA/Xinha



အာရှ



Secretary-I Lt-Gen Thein Sein greets Mr Xu Rongkai, Governor of Yunnan Province of the PRC. (News on page 1) MNA

### A & I Minister receives Yunnan Province Governor

YANGON, 24 May— Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo received Governor of Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China Mr Xu Rongkai and party at the ministry this morning. Also present were Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun and departmental heads under the ministry and officials. During the meeting they discussed agricultural cooperation between the two nations. MNA

### Construction Minister inspects Dokhtawady Bridge (Nawngkhio) project

YANGON, 24 May — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun yesterday visited Dokhtawady Bridge (Nawngkhio) construction project site on Shwenyaung-Yatsawk-Indaw-Kyaw-Lin-Taungkham-Nawngkhio Road. Deputy Superintendent Engineer U Khin Maung Win and Senior Engineer U Kyaw Lin of Special Construction Group-14 reported on progress in construction tasks and future work. Next, Senior Engineers U Khin Maung Aye and U Myint Thein reported on construction of approach road to Yatsawk and Nyaungcho side. The minister gave instructions on timely completion of the project meeting the set standard. Upon completion of the project, people will be able to travel easily from Nawngkhio to Shwenyaung. — MNA

### Kayin State PDC Chairman inspects agricultural and construction tasks in Hpa-an Township

YANGON, 24 May— Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Col Khin Kyu on 17 May morning inspected collective harvesting of summer paddy and earth work being carried out with tractors at Tayokhla Agricultural Education Centre in Hpa-an Township and gave instructions to officials. On 18 May morning, the Chairman attended work coordination meeting on extended cultivation of 5.5 million acres of monsoon paddy in Kayin State for 2005-2006 held at the state meeting hall and attended to the needs. On 19 May morning, the Chairman inspected paving of roads and renovation of bridges in Kamamaung, and construction of the Township Development Affairs Office. After that, he looked into paving of Kamamau-Papun Road and construction of staff quarters in Kamamaung and fulfilled the requirements. Next, he met with departmental officials, members of social organizations and officials and gave instructions on regional development. Later, the Chairman attended the concluding ceremony of basic performing arts training course and made a speech on the occasion. He then presented gifts to the course instructors. MNA

### Mass activities on prevention of diarrhoea performed

YANGON, 24 May— The Ministry of Health and the Yangon City Development Committee conducted mass activities on prevention of diarrhoea in Ward 15, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon East District, this morning. Present on the occasion were YCDC Secretary U Myint Aung, Deputy Director General Dr Ye Myint of the Ministry of Health, YCDC Joint-Secretary U Tin Soe, Member Col Aung Than Win, departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people. Officials reported on outbreak of diarrhoea, taking preventive measures, giving treatments and health education talks, supply of clean water, and use of fly-proof latrines in the township. Those present held discussions on preventive measures. The YCDC Secretary and guests visited health staff, YCDC employees and the voluntary participants carrying out preventive measures on Myintha 1st and 2nd streets in Ward 15. MNA

### Indian information delegation visits MRTV, Myanma Gems Museum

YANGON, 24 May —The visiting information delegation led by Director-General of MRTV U Khin Maung Htay and officials. Director-General U Khin Maung Htay told them about the functions of MRTV. The guests were entertained to songs by artistes of Fine Arts Department. They then had photos taken. The Indian guests met acting Director-General of Directorate of Trade Col Khin Maung Lay at the Ministry of Trade and Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise U Soe Win at the New Light of Myanmar Daily on Strand Road. The guests also visited Myanma Gems Museum on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in the afternoon. MNA

**လိပ်မျိုးများ ရေရှည်တည်တံ့ရန် ထိန်းသိမ်းစောင့်ရှောက်ရေး ပညာပေး နှိုးဆော်ချက် ၁/ ၂၀၀၅**

လိပ်မျိုးများသည် ရေအကျဆုံးနှင့် သက်တမ်းအရှည်ကြာဆုံးသတ္တဝါများ ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ယခုအခါ ကမ္ဘာပေါ်တွင် လိပ်မျိုးစိတ် အများအပြားသည် မျိုးသုဉ်းပျောက်ကွယ်မည့် အခြေအနေသို့ ရောက်ရှိနေပြီဖြစ်၍ မျိုးပြန့်တီးလှ သတ္တဝါမျိုးစိတ်တွင် သတ်မှတ်ထည့်သွင်း၍ ထိန်းသိမ်းကာကွယ်ရေးလုပ်ငန်းများ ဆောင်ရွက်လျက် ရှိပါသည်။

ပင်လယ်လိပ်မျိုးသည် အရွယ်ရောက်ရန် အနစ် (၃၀) မှ (၅၀) အထိ ကြာမြင့်ပြီး အရွယ်ရောက်လိပ်ကြီးတစ်ကောင် ဖြစ်လာရန် မမျှော်မှန်းနိုင်လောက်အောင် ခဲယဉ်းပါသည်။ ကမ္ဘာတစ်ဝန်းလုံး၌ ပင်လယ်လိပ်မျိုးစိတ် (၇) မျိုးရှိရာ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် (၅) မျိုး တွေ့ရှိရပါသည်။

သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ လိပ်မျိုးပြန့်တီးရေးနှင့် မြန်မာသက်ရှိ သယံဇာတများ ရေရှည်တည်တံ့စေရေးအတွက် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ အချက်များကို လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

- ၁။ လိပ်မျိုးကို တူးဖော်သုံးခြင်း မပြုရန်နှင့် လိပ်သားပေါက်များအား ထိန်းသိမ်းစောင့်ရှောက်ရန်နှင့် ရှင်သန်ခွင့်ပေးရန်။
- ၂။ လိပ်မျိုးကို သတ်ဖြတ်စားသုံးခြင်း မပြုရန်နှင့် ငါးဖမ်းပိုက်များတွင် မတော်တဆ ဖမ်းဆီးရမိပါက ဘေးကင်းရာ ရေပြင်သို့ ပြန်လွှတ်ပေးရန်။
- ၃။ ငါးဖမ်းရေယာဉ်ရှိ ပိုက်များ၌ လိပ်မျိုး လွတ်မြောက်စေနိုင်သော ကိရိယာ Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) များ တပ်ဆင်သုံးစွဲရန်။
- ၄။ ငါးဖမ်းပိုက်အစများ၊ ရော်ဘာစများ၊ ပလတ်စတစ်အိတ်ခွများနှင့် စက်သုံးစွန့်ပစ္စည်းများ၊ ဓာတုစွန့်ပစ်ပစ္စည်းများ ရေပြင်သို့ မစွန့်ပစ်ရန်။
- ၅။ ငါးလုပ်ငန်းဦးစီးဌာနက ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော အမိန့်ကြော်ငြာစာအမှတ် (၂/၉၃) ပါ ငါးလုပ်ငန်းဦးစီးဌာန၏ နှင့်မြေချက်မှတစ်ပါး မည်သူမျှ မည်သည့် လိပ်မျိုးကိုမဆို ဖမ်းယူခြင်း၊ သတ်ဖြတ်ခြင်း၊ အနှောင့်အယှက်ပြုခြင်း၊ သယ်ယူခြင်း၊ သိုလှောင်ခြင်း၊ ရောင်းချခြင်း၊ လက်ဝယ်ထားရှိခြင်းတို့အပြင် လိပ်မျိုးကို ရွှေပြောင်းခြင်း၊ တူးဖော်ခြင်း၊ သယ်ယူခြင်း၊ သိုလှောင်ခြင်း၊ ရောင်းချခြင်း၊ လက်ဝယ်ထားရှိခြင်းနှင့် အခြားနည်းတစ်ခုတစ်ရာဖြင့် နှောင့်ယှက်ခြင်း မပြုလုပ်ရန်၊ ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသည့် တားမြစ်ချက်များကို လိုက်နာရန်။

**မွေးမြူရေးနှင့် ရေလုပ်ငန်းဝန်ကြီးဌာန**  
ငါးလုပ်ငန်းဦးစီးဌာန



NPE Managing-Director U Soe Win meeting with Indian information delegation. — MNA



### Education Minister receives UNICEF Regional Director

YANGON, 24 May— Minister for Education U Than Aung received Regional Director Ms Anupama Rao of UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Region and Resident Representative Ms Carroll C Long at Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road this evening. Also present at the call were Deputy Ministers U Myo Nyunt and Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min and directors-general of the departments under the ministry. —MNA

### Fifty armed group members exchanged arms for peace from January to April 2005

YANGON, 24 May— The State Peace and Development Council upholding Our Three Main National Causes has been making all-out efforts to regain national reconsolidation and to ensure equitable development of all parts of the nation. Realizing the constructive endeavours and benevolent attitude of the government and their destructive acts, members of the national race armed groups are exchanging arms for peace individually or in groups.

In January, February, March and April 2005, medical officer Aung Khaing of KNPP armed group and section commander Lin Maung of ABSDF armed group bring together with an M-16 automatic rifle, an M-21 automatic rifle, three magazines and 42 rounds of ammunition, Saw Hta in charge of collecting extortion money and rations, privates Sai Thiha, Sai Aung and Saw Nu of SURA armed group with an AK-47 automatic rifle, a magazine, 20 rounds of ammunition; sergeant Sai Pan Hsai of battalion 362, privates Sai Aung and Sai Ngwe with an AK-47, a magazine, two rounds of ammunition and a walkie-talkie ex-

changed arms for peace in Eastern Command area; private Aik La of SURA armed group and private Sai Lon of battalion 368 in Triangle Region Command area; privates Htan Ti Yan and Hsway Ne Talun of CNA armed group and private Tein Khant Da of Zomee armed group, in North-West Command area; sergeant Naw Naw, privates Saw El Po, Saw La Da, Saw El Moe, Paw May Htoo and Saw Bay of battalion 10 of Brigade 4 with two M-16s, an MA automatic rifle, a rifle, three magazines, 65 rounds of ammunition, two hand grenades, three mines and a walkie-talkie, deputy section commander Ne Moe, privates Saw He Lay, Saw Po Da, Saw Kalu and Saw Tun Lin with two M-16s, a home-made gun, five magazines, 191 rounds of ammunition and two hand grenades of of KNU, and Lt Pauk Sa, privates Kyaw Min and Zaw Thein in Coastal Region Command; Pado Saw William, Lt-cpl Se Tho Moe, privates Saw Blair, Khun Aung Win, Saw Hsa Mu, Saw Ahti and Saw El El of battalion 19, brigade 7 of KNU, corporal Saw El Mu, Lt-cpl Saw El Kaw Se, privates Saw Kaw

Htoo, Saw Htoo Kar, Saw Hse Aung, Saw Aung Htoo and Soe Lwin of battalion 5, brigade 2 with a .38, two carbines, an AR-15, two revolvers, two magazines, 57 rounds of ammunition and two hand grenades, privates He Hse Htoo and Hman Zago of battalion 6, brigade 2, sergeant Saw Pha Bo and private Saw Ha Ei Ra of headquarters of brigade 2 with an M-16, an AK-47, two magazines and 72 rounds of ammunition in Southern Command area; capt Saw Htoo Kalal of battalion 17, brigade 6 of KNU with an AK-47, an M-79, a magazine, 15 rounds of ammunition, three shells, two hand grenades and a walkie-talkie, and capt Thein Lwin of ABSDF armed group, privates Saw El Htoo and Lwin Oo of commando unit of brigad 6 with three AK-47s, three magazines, 120 rounds of ammunition and a walkie-talkie in South-East Command.

Officials of respective military camps warmly welcomed the 50 members and provided assistance for them. There are more armed group members willing to exchange arms for peace.

MNA



Smt Arvind M Singh and Indian information delegation at the Myanmar Gems Emporium. — MNA

### Myanmar Travel and Tour facilitates trips for local travellers

YANGON, 24 May — Myanmar Travel and Tour is making arrangements for local travellers to go on a trip to all parts of Myanmar at a fair price in comfort. Arrangements have been made for a relaxation trip to Yangon-Ngwehsaung-Yangon and Yangon-Chaungtha-

Yangon (two nights and three days) every Friday. The first trip with a special price will start from Yangon to Chaungtha and Ngwehsaung at 2 pm on 3rd June and it will end in Yangon at 11 am on 5th June. Besides, arrangements

are being made for Yangon-Bago-Moeyu-gyinn-Yangon trip (one night and two days). Fair price is offered to groups and families. Those wishing to go on trips can contact Myanmar Travel and Tour at No 77-91 on Sule Pagoda Road (Tel-252859/387002). —MNA

### Tourist Guide course No 34 opens

YANGON, 24 May — Tourist Guide Course No 34 organized by the Directorate of Hotel and Tourism-DHT under the Ministry of Hotels and

Tourism was launched this morning at Panda Hotel in Wadan Street here. A total of 102 trainees are attending the course which will last

eight months. Deputy Director-General of the DHT U Tin Maung Shwe made an opening address. MNA

## ဥကင်နေသောရေချိုပုစွန်ထုပ်ကြီးများမဖမ်းရန် ပညာပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက် (၂/၉၇)

တန်ခူး၊ကဆုန်၊နယုန်လများတွင် ဥကင်နေသော (သို့) ဥနှင်ပြည့်ဝနေသော ရေချိုပုစွန် ထုပ်ကြီးများသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတစ်ဝန်းလုံးရှိ မြစ်ချောင်း အင်းအိုင်များတွင်ဥချရန် ပြင်ဆင် လျက်ရှိပါသည်။ ၎င်းတို့မှ မကြာမီထောင်ပေါင်းများစွာသော ပုစွန်များလည်း ပေါက်ဖွား လာတော့မည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

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သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ ရေချိုပုစွန်ထုပ်များ ရေရှည်တည်တံ့စေရန် ယခုကဲ့သို့သော ဥကင် ရာသီချိန်တွင် ဖမ်းဆီးခြင်းမပြုဘဲနေရာတိုင်းတွင် ဘေးမဲ့ပေးကြပါရန် အသိပေးနှိုးဆော် အပ်ပါသည်။

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Indian Director (News) Smt Arvind M Singh and party meet Acting Director-General Directorate of Trade Col Khin Maung Lay and party. — MNA



Rector U Win Maung briefs visiting Pakistani Principal Lt-Gen (Retd) Mr Javed Hassan and party on the Central Institute of Civil Service. — MNA

## Arroyo promises to rebuild infrastructures free of corruption

MANILA, 24 May — Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo on Monday promised the country's businessmen of a "corrupt-free process" of rebuilding infrastructures, which is key to attracting investment badly needed by the Philippines.

She also expressed her hope that the privatization of the country's debt-ridden public power sector will be completed by the end of this year.

At the Philippine Infrastructure Conference in Makati City, Metro Manila, the President acknowledged the urgency for the Philippines to rebuild and modernize its infrastructure through efforts of both the public and private sectors.

"To those businessmen who want to participate in this process, I would like to assure you that your investments will be commercially sound," said Arroyo.

The infrastructure sector is reportedly one of the most corrupt fields in the Philippine economy, with bribes for obtaining some con-

struction contracts amounting to as much as 50 per cent of total investment.

"Just as we need a strong physical infrastructure, so too do we need a strong, moral infrastructure to ensure that not one peso of the infrastructure projects goes to graft and corruption as we build a new modern Philippines," Arroyo promised.

The President admitted major infrastructure projects approved by government officials have been accused of being opportunities for corrupt to make themselves fat and rich.

"We are putting controls in place, (the government) will closely monitor all projects to ensure that our taxpayers can have their money's worth and our projects are finished on

time and on budget. Our people deserve nothing less," she said.

Arroyo also cited privatizing the country's power sector as another key to attracting more investment along with infrastructures.

The President expressed optimism that the privatization of the country's public energy industry can be completed within this year.

Under the Electric Power and Industry Reform Act of 2001, the Power Assets and Liabilities Management Corp (PSALM) was created by the government to sell all assets of the National Power Corp, including its 35 power generation plants as well as several non-power assets and real estate.

PSALM is also mandated to privatize the National Transmission Corp or Transco, a spin-off firm created to take over Napocor's transmission functions.

MNA/Xinhua

## Thailand to recruit 10,000 English teachers for primary schools

BANGKOK, 24 May — Around 10,000 English speakers will be recruited to teach at government-run primary schools in Thailand, the Education ministry has said.

Applicants must hold at least one bachelor's degree.

They will be offered one-year contract and free accommodation after being selected, Education Minister Adisai Bodharamik said following a visit to a school in

Hanoi.

The teachers will mainly be sent to upcountry schools with less than 200 students and will be rotated four times to new schools in the one-year period.

The move will help improve students' command of English, although the budget for the plan had not been finalized, Adisai was quoted by The Nation newspaper as saying on Monday.

MNA/Xinhua

## Cambodia launches nationwide campaign on bird flu awareness

PHNOM PENH, 24 May — Cambodia has launched a nationwide campaign to disseminate information on bird flu to strengthen prevention of the spread of the fatal virus, local media reported on Monday.

Prime Minister Hun Sen has signed a document to demand radio and TV stations nationwide to broadcast the programme about bird flu free of charge starting from 19 May, local Chinese newspaper *The Commercial News* said.

The programme includes the introduction of bird flu's symptoms, its hazard to the health, as well as the preventive measures. It also calls the public to go to hospital

and report to authorities concerned immediately when they fall ill with bird flu-like symptoms.

The aim of the campaign is to let more people know the disease and enhance their prevention on the virus. Bird flu, which ravaged poultry farms across Asia since late 2003, has jumped to human, killing 37 in Vietnam, 12 in Thailand and four in Cambodia, the report said.

On 15 May, Indone-

sia researchers found a strain of bird flu in pigs on the densely populated island of Java, raising fears the virus could more easily spread to humans.

The World Health Organization said last week the spate of human bird flu cases in Vietnam this year suggests the deadly virus may be mutating in ways that are making it more capable of being passed between humans.

MNA/Xinhua

## China's ecological assets worth six trillion yuan

BEIJING, 24 May — A recent survey indicated that the ecological assets of China are worth six trillion yuan (about 481 billion US dollars), Beijing Normal University Vice President Shi Peijun said on Sunday.

The survey was conducted by the university and the National Bureau of Statistics. The detailed figures of the study will be unveiled early in June, Shi said at a meeting commemorating the 11th International Day on Biodiversity.

He said ecological assets are an important part of the country's fortune and competitive strength.

"Therefore they should be carefully conserved.

Otherwise, the country's economic and social development would be seriously hampered," he said.

Describing bio-diversity in terms of ecological assets, Shi called on the government to implement the green GDP cal-

culating system, which will take into account ecological factors. This should encourage localities to put biodiversity conservation high on their agenda.

China is rich in biodiversity, said Shi. The country has more than 30,000 species of high-class plants, ranking third in the world in terms of numbers. Many of China's species can be found nowhere else in the world.

However, the country's biodiversity is under increasingly serious threat mainly due to human activities, the invasion of alien species and ineffective supervision and management, said Wan Bentai, director of the Ecosystem Protection Department of State En-

vironmental Protection Administration.

To reverse the trend, the Chinese Government has taken a series of measures, including the ratification and implementation of the UN Convention on Biodiversity, he said.

By the end of last year, the country had established 2,194 nature reserves, covering almost 14.8 per cent of the country's land territory, he said.

"But we need to do more to check ecological degradation," Shi said.

China is drafting laws on nature reserves and on genetically modified organisms (GMO) and it will launch a nationwide survey on bio-resources, Shi said.

MNA/Xinhua



Deputy Director U Myint Oo explains facts about the General Administration Department to visiting Pakistani Principal Lt-Gen (Retd) Mr Javed Hassan and party. (News on page -16) — MNA



## BBC staff strike over job cuts

LONDON, 24 May — Journalists, broadcasting workers and other employees at the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) started a 24-hour strike Monday over plans to cut 3,780 jobs to make savings of 355 million pounds (663.37 million US dollars).

Members with the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) and two other unions representing technical workers participated the strike on Sunday at midnight 23:00 GMT to protest the plans announced in March by BBC Director General Mark Thompson.

The walkout, expected to be participated by some 11,000 staff, is the first of four planned strikes.

The NUJ and the two other unions voted on 12 May to authorize four strike days: 24 hours on 23 May, 48 hours over 31 May and 1 June, and a fourth day without a set date.

The strike caused disruption across its radio, television and Internet output.

BBC One's Break-

fast programme was running with a basic service and one presenter. Its flagship "Today" programme on Radio 4 was replaced by a pre-recorded programme on music and BBC 2's news programme "Newsnight" was expected to be cancelled later on Monday.

BBC television news bulletins and 24-hour channel BBC News 24 could also be badly affected.

Jeremy Dear, general secretary of the NUJ, said it would be the biggest strike against the BBC in living memory.

She also called on the BBC to "understand and respond to the anger and concern at job cuts which will undermine quality, threaten the working conditions of staff and devalue the

BBC for viewers and listeners".

BBC had played down the effects of the dispute, saying it regretted the strike action and would do everything it could to produce the best possible service.

BBC was meanwhile preparing to hire strike-busting freelance television crews to help keep its coverage of the world-famous horticultural Chelsea Flower Show on air, *the Mail* on Sunday newspaper said.

BBC employs more than 27,000 people in Britain and around the world. — *MNA/Xinhua*

## Chavez threatens to reconsider diplomatic ties with US

CARACAS, 24 May — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said on Sunday that his government would reconsider its diplomatic ties with the United States if the US Government does not extradite Luis Posada Carriles, who was a Venezuelan citizen accused of terrorism by Cuba.

If the United States does not hand over Posada to Venezuela, "we will have to consider whether it's worth having an embassy there (in the United States), and whether it's worth the United States having an embassy here," Chavez said.

Chavez said the US Government has not shown any intention of extraditing Posada to Venezuela so far and Venezuela would take actions to bring it to the International Court of Justice. Posada, 77, was born in Cuba and gained

Venezuelan citizenship in 1960. He was sentenced to jail in Venezuela after participating in a bomb attack on a Cuban airliner in 1976 that killed 73 people.

After a successful escape from prison in Venezuela in 1985, Posada was involved in a series of bomb attacks in Havana and attempts to assassinate Cuban President Fidel Castro.

Posada illegally entered the United States two months ago and tried to seek asylum there through his lawyer in April.

The Venezuelan Government asked the United States to extradite Posada to Venezuela right after Posada's appealing for the US asylum.

US Ambassador to Venezuela William Brownfield said in Caracas last Friday that the United States will apply its own laws to the case of Posada.

Washington arrested Posada for having entered US territory illegally last Tuesday, but has so far refused to hand him over to Venezuela.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## South Africa launches new on-line search engine

JOHANNESBURG, 24 May — With the launch of the new search engine, [www.funnel.co.za](http://www.funnel.co.za), South African Internet users can get faster, more accurate and more relevant results as it only indexes domestic sites, the Funnel team has said.

The newcomer will compete with the incumbents — Ananzi and Aardvark. Funnel has also introduced the country's first "pay-per-click" advertising programme, according to local media Sunday.

The main purpose of launching Funnel is to relieve Internet users of the congestion caused by overwhelming advertising, the Funnel team said.

There are more than 4 million Internet users in South Africa. "The key reason behind starting an-

other search engine is guided by the fact that South Africa requires a more advanced and efficient channel through which business and non-business people can acquire information at the click of a button," Funnel MD Gideon Galloway said. Unlike its rivals, the search engine is not cluttered with advertising banners that are time consuming to download.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Tanzania-Zambia railway to close stations

LUSAKA, 24 May — The Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA) will close nine stations on the Zambian side of the 1,860-kilometres railway that links the two African countries to shed costs, the official *Zambia Daily Mail* reported Sunday.

Sources at the TAZARA regional office in Mpika, Northern Province in Zambia, said 24 stations will also be closed on the Tanzanian side of the railway. Workers at the affected stations will be redeployed, the report said.

There were initially 42 stations on the 885-kilometres section of the Zambian side, but 12 stations were closed in 1997. — *MNA/Xinhua*

## Abdullah wraps up WEF with call for reforms

AMMAN, 24 May — Jordan's King Abdullah II wrapped up on Sunday the three-day World Economic Forum (WEF) conference held at the Jordanian Dead Sea resort of Shuneh by calling for greater economic and political reforms in the region.

"People want to move forward, they want meaningful reform, they want to see a tangible difference in their lives," King Abdullah said.

Meanwhile, the King reiterated that "real reform must come from inside the region," referring to the pressure from the West for reform in the Middle East.

The three-day WEF conference was opened on Friday. Over three days, the WEF, through 50 workshops, went over a large number of issues, including economic growth, especially in the Middle East, peace, stability, the role of the region as part of the world, reforms and change.

About 1,200 political, business and civil society leaders from 45 countries gathered on the Jordanian banks of the Dead Sea.

Among them are Egyptian Prime Minister Ahmad Nazif, Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qurei, Israeli Deputy

Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Zebari and US First Lady Laura Bush.

The forum, modelled on the WEF's annual meeting at the Swiss Alpine resort of Davos, has served as a platform to discuss political and economic reform between world and regional leaders, as well as a forum to strike business deals.

It has been held for three consecutive years on the Jordanian shores of the Dead Sea.

Egypt's Nazif on Sunday confirmed an earlier statement from a forum organizer that the next WEF conference will be held in his country's Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh.

But WEF Chairman Klaus Schwab said later that the forum will be held in Sharm el-Sheikh "only for next year" on 20-22 May and it "will return to its home here (in Jordan) in 2007".

*MNA/Xinhua*



A Danish elderly woman runs during a marathon at China's Great Wall near Tianjin on 21 May, 2005. The 6th Great Wall Marathon has attracted more than 750 marathon-lovers to gather at the Great Wall. — INTERNET

## Nigeria promises more investment in education

LAGOS, 24 May — The Nigerian Government will continue to commit huge resources to the funding of education at all levels, the official *News Agency of Nigeria* reported Sunday.

Ufot Ekaette, Secretary to the Nigerian Federal Government, was quoted as saying that the federal government was committed to arresting the decline and decay in the education sector "at all cost".

Ekaette who represented Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo at the launch of the 250 million naira (about 1.9 million US dollars) appeal fund for the Nigeria College at Sokoto, northwest Nigeria, at the weekend, told reporters that "whatever funds committed to education is an investment that will yield great dividends

in future". However, he added that the government's efforts "could only be achieved if the private sector, good spirited Nigerians and the community support its programmes".

He commended the college's alumni association for organizing the appeal fund to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the college which was established in 1905 and urged it to continue to contribute to the college's development.

Nigeria is one of the poorest countries in the world and education level in the country is very low

with 57 per cent of its primary school graduates dropping out of school yearly after primary education.

"Out of the estimated 17.5 million youths which Nigeria is endowed with, 10 million drop out of school after managing to complete primary education," said Frank Nweke, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Youths and Special Duties. In view of the disturbing situation, the Nigerian Government had decided to introduce various educational policies to reduce the number of dropouts.

*MNA/Xinhua*

ADVERTISEMENTS

ရိုက်ကူးခြင်း

Table with 3 columns: Item description, Quantity, and Price. Includes items like Lactic Casein, Dandy Roll Wire, Oilless Air Compressor, Feed Water Pump, Rolls, and other machinery.

ပလတ်စတစ်ကုန်ကြမ်းအဝယ်တင်ဒါ

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Major fire engulfs 600 hectares of forest in Sichuan

CHENGDU, 23 May — A raging forest fire has demolished about 600 hectares of woodland in a county of southwestern Sichuan Province, with no casualties reported by Press time. A forest fire broke out at the Muli Tibet autonomous county of the Liangshan Yi autonomous prefecture in Sichuan at 8:00 p.m. last Tuesday, according to the provincial forest fire control authority. Over the past five days, the fire was not controlled totally, as the forest was located at a precipitous mountain about 3,200 metres above the sea level with complex terrains. Hot and dry weather

conditions also add to the difficulties in fire fighting, local authority said. More than 1,200 fire-fighters have been working hard night and day to extinguish the fire. And meteorologists were dispatched to the scene on Friday morning to direct efforts to induce artificial rainfall. In addition, a special working team from the State Forestry Administration reached Liangshan Prefecture on Saturday morning to direct the fire combating operation and rescue effort. Muli county boasts the largest forest area in Sichuan Province. The cause of the fire is being investigated. MNA/Xinhua

Homemade cartoons to embrace cartoon expo in China

CHANGSHA, 23 May — Chinese cartoon character Blue Cat will appear at China's first state-level cartoon exposition to boost the development of the fledgling domestic cartoon industry. The Blue Cat, a homemade cartoon brand, a rival of Mickey Mouse, is set to embrace the first international cartoon exposition in China, scheduled to take place on 1 June in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, said Yi Zhaoyuan, director of the publicity department of Changsha in Hunan Province. The Blue Cat cartoon

series, created by Sunchime Cartoon Group, based in Changsha, has been exported to the United States for one million US dollars and is likely to export to Israel and Peru next month, said Leng Xujia, vice-president of the group. Last year, the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television assumed a positive posture toward the cartoon industry by setting up a number of national animation industry bases and approving three cartoon channels to encourage development and more investment in animation films. MNA/Xinhua

မြည်တွင်းပြင်ကိုအားပေးပါ

Malawi receives loan from African Development Bank

LUSAKA, 23 May— The African Development Bank (ADB) has released an 18-million-US-dollar loan to Malawi for budgetary support, Malawi's leading newspaper The Nation reported Saturday. Treasury Secretary Milton Kutengule was

quoted as saying that the balance of payment aid will help improve the foreign exchange situation and re-enforce donor and investor confidence in the country. "The African Development Bank are very happy with the progress

we have made toward good governance," said Kutengule. Last week, Malawi also received a 32.2-million-dollar grant from the World Bank to help improve teachers training facilities at Mzuzu University, Chancellor College and the Polytechnic and build a teachers college. Kutengule said the bank was impressed with the operations of the Anti-Corruption Bureau, the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Ministry of Justice and the Legal Aid Department. The report noted that fund from the two banks came at a time when pressure on Malawi's local currency Kwacha is mounting as traditional tobacco dollars fail to save the falling local currency. MNA/Xinhua

အခြေခံပညာ မူလတန်း၊ အလယ်တန်း၊ အထက်တန်း စာသင်သားများအတွက် Student's Companion စာစဉ်ထုတ်ဝေမည်

နယူးလိုင်အေ့စ်မြန်မာသတင်းစာတိုက် စာတည်းအဖွဲ့က သင်ရိုးညွှန်းတမ်းများ နှင့်အညီ ပြုစုထားသည့် အခြေခံပညာ မူလတန်း၊ အလယ်တန်းနှင့် အထက်တန်း ကျောင်းသူ/ကျောင်းသားများအတွက် အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ အထောက်အကူပြု Student's Companion စာစဉ်များကို ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် ဇူလိုင်လဆန်းမှ စတင်၍ ပြန်လည်ထုတ်ဝေပါမည်။ ယခင်နှစ်များကဲ့သို့ပင် ဇူလိုင်လမှ ဒီဇင်ဘာလအထိ (၆)လတာ ကာလအတွင်း မူလတန်း (လူငယ်တန်းမှ စတုတ္ထတန်း) အတွက်တစ်စောင်၊ အလယ်တန်း (၅)၊ (၆)၊ (၇)၊ (၈)၊ (၉) အတွက် တစ်စောင်၊ အထက်တန်း (၉) တန်းနှင့် တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်တန်း အတွက် တစ်စောင် တစ်လျှင် တစ်ကြိမ် နှုန်းဖြင့် ပုံနှိပ်ထုတ်ဝေပါမည်။ စောင်ရေအနက် အသက်ဖြင့် ရိုက်နှိပ်ဖြန့်ချိမည့် ဖြစ်ပါ၍ နယူးလိုင်အေ့စ်မြန်မာ သတင်းစာတိုက်၊ မြန်မာ့အလင်းစာတိုက်၊ အမှတ် ၂၂/၃၀၊ ကမ်းနားလမ်း၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့၊ ဖုန်း-၂၉၄၀၉၃ သို့ ဆက်သွယ်မှာယူနိုင်ပါပြီ။

Mozambique concerned over EU sugar reforms

MAPUTO, 22 May — The Mozambican authorities are concerned about the reforms currently being pushed by the European Commission on its sugar regime, which would slash the fixed price by 37 per cent. According to reports on local media Saturday, Mozambican Minister of Industry and Trade Antonio Fernando on Friday said his country favoured liberalization of the sugar market, but this should be done gradually. To date, Mozambique, and other sugar producers of the ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific) group, have been allowed to sell sugar on the European Union (EU) market at a fixed, preferential price, and under a quota system.

Mozambique had hoped that, under EBA (Everything But Arms), the quota restrictions on the entry of Mozambican sugar into the EU market would be lifted — but it had not imagined that this might be accompanied by a sharp drop in price. Fernando argued that the country's sugar industry will not become competitive if it is suddenly faced with a drastic cut in the price paid by the EU. He warned that the EU's proposed measure could force Mozambican sugar companies to lay off staff in order to reduce production costs. It was possible that some of the mills might even have to close. Official data shows that the Mozambique's sugar industry employs about 30,000 people di-

rectly, in Sofala and Maputo provinces, while many others depend on it indirectly. Currently ACP countries can sell their sugar on the European market at the CIF price of 632 euros (about 830 dollars) a ton. This is three times higher than the current depressed world market price. If the EU, under pressure from the free trade ideologues of the World Trade Organization (WTO), and from large-scale cheap producers of sugar such as Brazil, goes ahead with the current plans, the price will fall, over a couple of years, to 398 euros a ton. Therefore, the Mozambican authorities are extremely concerned as the freight costs are around 70 dollars a ton. — MNA/Xinhua

Zimbabwean police arrest 20 illegal immigrants

HARARE, 23 May— Police in Harare have arrested 20 foreigners from eight countries for staying in Zimbabwe illegally under a clean-up operation aimed at ridding the city of criminal elements, police spokesperson Oliver Mandipaka said on Sunday. He said the 20 were arrested in Harare's Central Business District (CBD) last week when they failed to produce their identification particulars.

The arrested also failed to give satisfactory explanations on how they entered the southern African country. Mandipaka said they believed that the suspects were border jumpers, adding that the operation would continue. "They are detained at Harare Central Police Station where they are awaiting vetting," said Mandipaka. He said police carried out the operation after ob-

servating that there were a lot of illegal immigrants in the country. At least six of them are from Zambia, five from the Democratic Republic of the Congo while two are from Burundi. Two others are from Mozambique and two from Angola. A Nigerian and Liberian are among those who are detained while a Malawi national was also picked up. MNA/Xinhua

Kumaratunga advocates Buddhist philosophy to end conflict

COLOMBO, 23 May — Sri Lanka President Chandrika Kumaratunga said Monday that practising the Buddhist philosophy would help the country to find solutions for its conflict. Addressing a Wesak Day gathering here, Kumaratunga said that peace and harmony could be well achieved if Buddhist principals are adhered to by all communities and people. Kumaratunga said a solution to the ethnic problem in the country cannot be found through violence. The Wesak Day, marking the birth, attaining of the Buddhahood and the death of the Lord Buddha, is marked with widespread celebrations in this Buddhist majority Indian ocean island. Extensive illuminations and all day meritorious activities are the features of this holy Buddhist day. The state radio, the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation, said that Wesak celebrations would also be held in the northern Jaffna Peninsula, the cultural capital of the Tamil community. — MNA/Xinhua



ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွံ့ဖိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

### UN slams abuse of Afghan detainees at US detention centres

KABUL, 23 May — Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General to Afghanistan Jean Arnault has slammed the reported abuse of detainees at US holding facilities in Afghanistan.

"The circumstances involving the abuse and inhuman treatment leading to the death of two Afghan prisoners in Bagram in 2002 reported in the *New York Times* were unacceptable," Arnault said in a statement read out by Richard Provencher, the spokesman of UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), here Sunday.

Citing military investigations, the *New York Times* in its report published Friday disclosed that two Afghans namely Dilawar and Habibullah were subjected to torture and later on died at the US military detention centre in Bagram 50 kilometres north of the Afghan capital Kabul in December 2002.

"Such abuses are utterly unacceptable and are an affront to everything the international community stands for in Afghanistan," added the UN diplomat.

Over 500 Afghans, according to Afghan sources, have been held in the prison of Guantanamo Bay and 22 holding facilities at home on charge of having links with Taliban and al-Qaeda over the past three and half years.

The special envoy of UN Secretary-General in the

statement also called for the access of Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) to the US prisons in Afghanistan.

"Afghan judiciary should have a primary role in ensuring that detainees can enjoy the protection of the law and every efforts should be made towards achieving this goal. But special measures are also required and one such measure is the provision of access to prisons including coalition facilities by AIHRC," he emphasized in the statement.

However the US military time and again ruled out the permission of access to its detention centres by AIHRC, saying that International Society of Red Cross is the only recognized body entitled to have access to its holding facilities.

President Hamid Karzai on Saturday condemned the reported abuse of detainees and the death of two inmates in Bagram and urged the US Government to investigate and punish those responsible for the crime.

MNA/Xinhua

### Thai Govt to control issue of credit cards

BANGKOK, 23 May — Prime Minister of Thailand Thaksin Shinawatra said Saturday that the Thai Government planned to establish guidelines for the use of credit cards because of his concern about future individual debt and non-performing loans (NPLs).

Deputy Prime Minister Somkid Jatusripitak and the Bank of Thailand (BOT) Governor, MR Pridiyathorn Devakula, are studying the issue of credit cards by banks and non-bank institutions, the Prime Minister said during his weekly radio broadcast Saturday morning, the state-run Thai News Agency reported Sunday.

Competition between credit card companies was fierce, but proper screening of the occupations and income of the cardholders were not carried out, Thaksin said.

A government study is needed to avoid over-spending by the credit card holders and NPLs, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

### Direct China-Spain flight resumes

MADRID, 23 May — China and Spain resumed their direct flight Sunday as an Air Europa plane left Madrid for Beijing.

The Airbus 340-200 with over 280 passengers on board took off at 5:00 pm local time (1600 GMT), heading for Beijing's Capital International Airport. The non-stop journey will take 11 hours.

Air Europa's Beijing-Madrid flight is currently the only direct flight between the two countries, and the company is scheduled to launch its direct Madrid-Shanghai flight on Monday.

Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism Jose Montilla said the new routes will promote Spain-China exchanges in tourism, economy and trade.

About 36,000 Spanish tourists visited China and about 20,000 Chinese tourists came to Spain last year, he said.

There will be two round-trip flights weekly between Madrid and Shanghai and between Madrid and Beijing respectively.

China's Eastern Airlines launched its direct Shanghai-Madrid flight in June 1992 but cancelled it in November 2003 after years of losses. — MNA/Xinhua

### Nepali anti-graft panel slaps jail term to officials

KATHMANDU, 23 May — The Royal Commission for Corruption Control (RCCC) on Sunday announced a three-month jail term and 50,000 Nepali rupees (714 US dollars) penalty to each of two Forest Department officials for corruption.

A bench of RCCC members passed the sentence to Jamuna Krishna Tamrakar and Bhagiraj Ingnam, director-general and chief accountant of the department respectively, for irregularities while finalizing a ration contract, RCCC spokesman Prem Raj Karki told reporters.

Arrested by the all-powerful anti-graft panel on 31 March, the two officials were later released on bail. They were rearrested on Sunday.

Nepali King Gyanendra in February constituted the six-member Corruption Control Royal Commission, which has authority to make investigation and arrests, hear cases and give sentences to corruption convicts. — MNA/Xinhua



Workers rest at an oil production plant in Saudi Arabia on 23 May, 2005.

INTERNET

### Kenyan President calls for fair coverage of continent

NAIROBI, 23 May — A four-day International Press Institute (IPI) Summit kicked off in Kenyan capital Nairobi on Sunday with African leaders appealing to world media executives to give the continent a better coverage.

The meeting which brought together leading media executives and political leaders from across the globe saw Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki decrying western media's negative portrayal of the continent at the expense of positive issues.

Both Kibaki said western reporting of Africa, ravaged by HIV/AIDS, is skewed to pander to the interests of the West's domestic consumers.

They also complained that the stereotypes of the continent, beset with civil wars and bad governance over the ages, have made it impossible for the continent

to benefit from slices of foreign direct investments from rich European and American firms.

In his opening address, Kibaki appealed to the media to focus more on the positive changes taking place in Africa in such areas as governance, economic reforms, regional trade partnerships, political stability and improvement of the quality of the African people's lives.

Commenting on the West's skewed media definition of the continent, Kibaki cited the case of Rwanda where the media was used to turn people against one another leading to the genocide.

He said fair and accurate reporting should not just be tenets to be studied and talked about in conferences but be part and parcel of the ethics and professional guidelines of all journalists.

"It is only through observing these standards that journalism will maintain the credibility it deserves," Kibaki told the media executives.

"In some cases, hasty publication of information without first verifying its truthfulness has often led to costly and unnecessary law suits, and in some instances even riots that have led to needless loss of lives," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

### New monkey species discovered in Tanzania

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 23 May — A new species of monkey has been discovered in southern Tanzania and the species is termed as highland mangabey or *Lophocebus kipunji*.

The primate, with an estimated total population of between 500 and 1,000, lives in forests on the flanks of 2,961-meter-high Mount Rungwe.

"The discovery is the first new species of monkey in Africa for more than 20 years," said Tim Davenport, leader of a team of conservation biologists from the Wildlife Conservation Society that made the discovery.

Africa last discovered a new species of monkey in 1984 in Gabon, local newspaper Sunday Citizen quoted the specialist as saying.

The highland mangabey monkey is distinguished from other mangabeys by the colour of its fur, its long upright crest, off-white belly and tail, with a body length of about 90 centimetres.

The new species was spotted as high as 2,450 metres above sea level where temperatures often fall to below freezing and makes a loud and very distinct call described as honk-bark call.

MNA/Xinhua

# S P O R T S

## Glazer plans to delist Manchester United

LONDON, 24 May— Manchester United shareholders were told on Monday they have until Monday, 13 June, to sell their shares to majority owner Malcolm Glazer who plans to take the club private soon after.

Red Football, acting on behalf of Mr Glazer, said they currently owns about 76.2 per cent of Manchester United shares. Mr Glazer's next step will be to delist the club from the London stock market, probably on 22 June "or as soon thereafter as is practicable".

The takeover by the US billionaire has been fiercely resisted by fans.

In total, members of fan group Shareholders United say they own about 15% of the club.

Mr Glazer hopes to secure 90 per cent of the

shares he does not yet own, so that the remaining shareholders can be legally compelled to sell.

Shareholders have until 1500 (1400 GMT) on 13 June to take up the 300 pence-per-share offer. — MNA/Xinhua



Russian Evgenia Linetskaya serves during her match against second seed Maria Sharapova of Russia in the first round of the French Open tennis tournament at Roland Garros, on May 24, 2005. — INTERNET

## Moscow hopes supporting votes in its Olympic bid

MOSCOW, 24 May— The Moscow 2012 Bid Committee has set its sight on collecting 2,012,000 votes in support of the city's campaign to host the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Bid Committee Chairman Valery Shantsev will announce the target on Saturday at the ceremony of the annual Slava National Sports Awards held in the city's Russian Army Theatre.

Since the launch of the counter in November 2004, almost 1.2 million people have signed up as supporters of the bid.

"We have less than six weeks to reach our new target of 2,012,000 votes," said Shantsev, who is also Moscow vice mayor.

"On July 6 in Singapore the International

Olympic Committee will take its decision on the city that is to host the 2012 Games. "I have no doubt that we here in Moscow will not only hit our target of 2,012,000 votes by then but that the IOC will recognize that the enthusiasm of the people of Moscow and Russia to host the Games is equalled by our ability to turn it into a unique and historic event.

"We will be holding events all over Moscow in June to encourage people to sign up as supporters of our bid," he added.

The Slava National

Sports Awards recognize achievements by sportsmen and officials in sports inside and outside of the Olympic Movement.

This year's nominees include world-renown athletes such as pole vaulter Elena Isinbayeva, tennis stars Anastasiya Myskina and Maria Sharapova, gymnast Alexey Nemo and figure skater Evgeny Plyushchenko.

At the awarding ceremony they will press the Olympic counting machine, moved to the Russian Army Theatre from its usual place next to Red Square, to add their names to the mounting total of supporters.

MNA/Xinhua

## Figero not to talk yet about his situation with Real Madrid

LISBON, 24 May— Real Madrid midfielder Luis Figero said Monday he will not talk yet about his situation with his team after going to Maia (north Portugal) for the presentation of the "Sports Fair," an initiative that is part of the competition that bears his name.

"I am not going to respond but until the right moment," said the Portuguese international when questioned whether his recent summoning to the national team of Portugal will help overcome the present difficult moments with Real.

Figero said the moment is not ripe yet to talk about his situation with Real Madrid and that he is in Portugal just to support the fair that celebrates the end of the first edition of the Luis Figero Cup, to assist 271 schools all over the country.

On May 27 or 29 the Sport Fair will take place at Maia, 10 kilometres from Porto to close the first edition of the Luis Figero Cup.

The Luis Figero Foundation project, with the support of the Portuguese Education Ministry, promotes the practice of sport (basketball, athletics, swimming, judo, etc.) in schools.—MNA/Xinhua

## Gambia hailed for winning U-17 African C'ship

LAGOS, 24 May— Nigerian soccer fans have hailed the Gambia for winning the Under-17 African Championship, saying that the Gambians are reaping the fruit of "Youth Soccer Development" laid for them some years ago by Nigerian coaches Kashimawo Laloko and Femi Siwoku.

The Gambia beat Ghana 1-0 in the Youth Soccer Development programme put in place by the two Nigerian coaches when they were in the Gambia to develop their youth soccer, Joe Erico, a former Super Eagles assistant coach, said Monday in Lagos, the commercial capital of Nigeria.

"You see the Gambia has no interest in big name players and they do not even have big name players, but they went to the grassroots and developed their kids who are now giving them good results," said Erico, also a former Green Eagles goalkeeper. "I will not be surprised if in the next four years you will now be hearing of Gambian players playing in international competitions and competing favorably with other African countries in continental football," he added.

A journalist with Today Sports newspaper, Samuel Oluwalana, agreed with Erico, saying that "before long Gambia

may come to sideline Nigeria even in senior competitions because they are more focused and more determined to have their name in FIFA's book."

Prof. Lasun Emiola, director of the National Institute for Sports, echoed similar sentiments.

"This shows that every country wants to develop. Those who think they are there have to think twice now, because there is no underdog anymore in football," he said.

He added that players at the Under-17 stage had raw talent but needed good technical hands to put them through.

"At the stage, the players have raw talents, it now depends on the strategies put in place by the technical crew to harness these individual players' skill and come out with a good team," Emiola called on the Nigerian Football Association (NFA) to be alive to its responsibilities.—MNA/Xinhua

## Cuban team to play friendly matches in Europe

HAVANA, 24 May— The Cuban national soccer team will travel on 31 May to Europe for friendly matches as part of their preparation for the United States 2005 Gold Cup, the local Press said Monday.

The team coached by Armelio Luis will play several matches with important clubs from Norway and Denmark, said State-run daily Granma, which did not say the names of the Scandinavian teams, though.

The stay of the Cuban players in the Old Continent will last two weeks and they will return to Cuba for a friendly against Honduras, due June 15 at this capital.

The Cuban team recently completed a 15-day preparation period in Argentina, where it met second and first division teams. Gold Cup, the most important competition of the North, Central American and Caribbean Confederation (CONCACAF), is to be held on July 6-24 in several cities of the United States, and the Cubans will be part of difficult Group B, along with Costa Rica, Canada and the United States.

Cuba is to play against the United States on June 7, Costa Rica on the 9 (both at Seattle) and on the 12 against the Canadians, at Foxsboro, Boston.

In Group A are Honduras, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago, and guest team Colombia, with Miami's Orange Bowl Stadium as the venue.

Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico (champion of the past edition of Gold Cup) and South Africa (the other guest team) form Group C initially based on Carson and Memorial Colliseum stadiums, both in Los Angeles, and in Reliant Stadium, of Houston, Texas. —MNA/Xinhua

## Italian First Division top scorers

ROME, 23 May— Following are the top scorers of the Italian First Division soccer league after the matches on Sunday:

- 23 — Cristiano Lucarelli (Livorno)
- 22 — Alberto Gilardino (Parma)
- 21 — Vincenzo Montella (AS Roma)
- 18 — Luca Toni (Palermo)
- Mirko Vucinic (Lecce)
- 17 — Andriy Shevchenko (AC Milan)

MNA/Xinhua

## Gullit leaves Feyenoord soccer club

AMSTERDAM, 24 May — Coach Ruud Gullit has resigned from his coaching job at Feyenoord soccer club after less than a year in charge.

The Rotterdam-based club won its final match of the season 6-3 against ADO Den Haag on Sunday to finish fourth in the table, 25 points behind champion PSV Eindhoven.

Club officials said Gullit and his assistant Zeljko Petrovic had left because of the "disappointing results during the season".

"It is always depressing when trainers leave," said chairman Jorien van den Herik on the club website. "But things didn't work out at all like we had hoped."

Gullit left because he felt he did not have sufficient support from the directors, local radio said.

Gullit, a former manager of Chelsea and Newcastle United, took over at Feyenoord in July 2004.

MNA/Xinhua



Spanish Rafael Nadal celebrates after winning against German Lars Burgsmuller after their match for the first round of the tennis French Open at Roland Garros in Paris. Nadal won 6-1 7-6(4) 6-1.—INTERNET



**မိုးဦးကျနှင့် မိုးရာသီတွင် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သော ရောဂါများအတွက် နှိုးဆော်ချက်**

- ၁။ မိုးဦးကျရာသီတွင် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ ကူးစက်တတ်သော ရောဂါများ ပုံမှန်ဖြစ်ပွားလာနိုင်ပါသည်။
- (က) ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှော့နှင့် ကာလဝမ်းရောဂါများ အပါအဝင် ဝမ်းနှင့် ပတ်သက်သည့် ရောဂါများ အသည်းရောင် အသားဝါရောဂါနှင့် သင်္ကေတ ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သော ရောဂါများ
  - (ခ) သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးနှင့် ငှက်ဖျားရောဂါ
  - (ဂ) တုပ်ကွေး၊ နှာဆေးရောင်ဆိုးနှင့် အဆုတ်အဆေးမိရောဂါ
- ၂။ ဖြစ်ပွားရသည့် အကြောင်းရင်းမှာ
- (က) မိုးဦးကျလာပြီးဖြစ်၍ လျှင်လျှင်ပေါလာသည့် အချိန်တွင် ပါသော ရေတိုက်သီး၊ ပိန္နဲသီး၊ ဖရဲသီး၊ ကြက်ဖောက်သီး၊ မင်းဂွတ်သီး စသည် သစ်သီးဝလံများ၏ အနံ့၊ အစေ့ စသည်များကို စည်းကမ်းမဲ့ မဆင်မခြင် စွန့်ပစ် ခြင်းကြောင့် ယင်းပေါက်ပွား၍ ယင်းပေါများခြင်း။
  - (ခ) ရာသီဥတုအမှန်အတိုင်းမဟုတ်ဘဲ စားသုံးခြင်း။
  - (ဂ) မိုးရွာပြီး ရေတင်း၊ ရေပတ်သဖြင့် ရေအိုင်၊ ရေကန်ဖြစ်၍ ရေမြောင်း၊ ဝိတ်ခြင်းနှင့် ချုံနွယ်ဝိတ်ပေါင်း ထူထပ်၍ ခြင်းပေါက်ပွားခြင်း။
  - (ဃ) ရာသီဥတု အပြောင်းအလဲဖြစ်၍ အပူပိုခြင်း၊ 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) အမှန်အတိုင်းမဟုတ်ဘဲ စားသုံးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
  - (ခ) ယင်းနားစားများကို မဆင်မခြင် စားသုံးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
  - (ဂ) စားကြင်းစားကျန် အမှိုက်သစ်များနှင့် အညစ်အကြေးများကို စည်းကမ်းမဲ့ စွန့်ပစ်ခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
  - (ဃ) မိမိတို့ မိသားစုအတွင်း ကျန်းမာရေး အသိပညာဖြန့်ဝေပါ။ လိုက်နာကျင့်သုံးပါ။
  - (င) တစ်ကိုယ်ရည်သန့်ရှင်းရေးကို ဂရုပြုလိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
  - (စ) ရေကိုကျိုချက်၍ သောက်ပါ။
  - (ဆ) လက်ဆတ်သန့်ရှင်းသည့် အသီးအနှံနှင့် အစားအစာများကို ပူပူနွေးနွေး ချက်ပြုတ်စားသုံးပါ။
  - (ဇ) ရာသီဥတု၊ အပူအအေး အပြောင်းအလဲကို သတိရှိပါ။
  - (ဈ) ပတ်ဝန်းကျင်သန့်ရှင်းရေးလုပ်ငန်းနှင့် ခြင်း၊ ယင်း နှိမ်နင်းရေး လုပ်ငန်းများကို အမျိုးသားရေး အမြင်ဖြင့် ဝိုင်းဝန်း စုပေါင်း ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
  - (ည) ရောဂါတစ်မျိုးမျိုး ဖြစ်ပွားပျံ့နှံ့လာပါက ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနသို့ အမြန်ဆုံး သတင်းပို့ပါ။
  - (ဋ) လိုအပ်ပါက နီးရာဆေးပေးခန်း၊ ဆေးရုံများသို့ အချိန်မီ သွားရောက်ပြသ စစ်ဆေးကုသခံ ခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

**အလွှာရှင်မြတ်အမိန့်တော်ခံယူခြင်း**  
**Sayard. Mohd. Eshark**

ဦးအေး  
အသက် (၇၀) နှစ်  
(ကျွမ်းကျင်ပညာရှင်၊ မြန်မာ့အသံနှင့် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား)

ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ တိုက် (၂)၊ အခန်း (၇)၊ နားကတ်တော်လမ်း (၇) ရပ်ကွက်၊ ကမာရွတ်မြို့နယ်၊ မြန်မာ့အသံဝန်ထမ်းအိမ်ရာခန်း (ဦးဟာမြစ် ဒေါ်အေး) တို့၏ သား၊ ဒေါ်မိမိကြီး (ကျောင်းဆရာမ-မြစ်)၏ ချစ်လှစွာသော ခင်ပွန်း၊ ဦးမောင်မောင်တင် (ဆည်/မြောင်း-မြစ်)၊ ဦးစိန်ထွန်း (စည်/ပင်-မြစ်) + ဒေါ်ခင်ခင် (ဦးစိုးဝင်း)၊ ဒေါ်ညွန့်ညွန့်စိန်တို့၏ အစ်ကို၊ မယဉ်မျိုးအေး (MRTV-3)၊ မောင်စိုးမင်းအေး (NU LIFE Int's Myanmar)၊ တို့၏ ချစ်လှစွာသောမင်း၊ ဦးအေးသည် (၂၄-၅-၂၀၀၅) နေ့နံနက် (၀၆:၃၅) နာရီတွင် အလွှာရှင်မြတ်အမိန့်တော်ခံယူသွားပါသဖြင့် ယင်းနေ့ နေ့လည် (၁၃:၀၀) နာရီတွင် ရေပေးကာရံစောင့်တွင် ၁၂ နာရီဖြစ်ပါကြောင်း။

ကျန်ရစ်သူမိသားစု

**Jordan, Israel, Palestinians agree to save Dead Sea**

AMMAN, 24 May — Jordan, Israel and the Palestinians agreed on Sunday to save the Dead Sea from disappearing with a project feasibility study.

Officials from the three parties announced the study of 15 million US dollars at a joint Press conference on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum (WEF) held in Shuneh on the Jordanian shore of the Dead Sea, reports reaching here said.

The study, which will investigate the social and environmental impact of transferring water from the Red Sea to the Dead Sea through a 200-kilometre conduit between them, would start this year and is expected to finish in 2008.

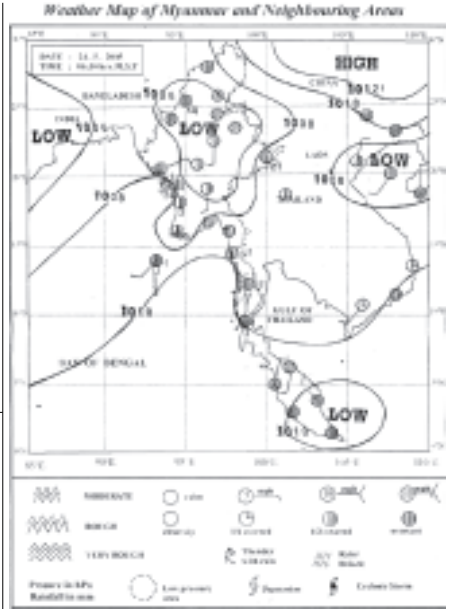
If the project is finally implemented, the desert area between the two seas would benefit

from the fresh water and the region would be turned into an agricultural centre for the benefit of local people .

The Dead Sea is the lowest sea in the world and shared by Jordan, Israel and Palestine.

Experts said an estimated 250 to 300 million cubic metres of fresh water evaporated annually which directly causes the dramatic drop of its sea level. If the current drop trend is not curbed, the Dead Sea could disappear years later.

MNA/Xinhua



**WEATHER**

Tuesday, 24 May, 2005

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Rakhine and Mon States, isolated in Kachin, Shan, Chin and Kayin States, Bago and Yangon Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Dawei (1.62) inches, Thaton (1.50) inches and Kengtung (1.06) inches. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan, Kayin and Mon States, Sagaing, Mandalay, and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Kachin and Rakhine States, Magway, Bago and Yangon Divisions, (10°C) above normal in Ayeyawady Division and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperature were Minbu and Magway (42°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 23-5-2005 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 24-5-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 24-5-2005 was 78%. Total sunshine hours on 23-5-2005 was (9.1) hours approx. Rainfalls on 24-5-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (5.04 inches) at Yangon Airport, (5.62 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (3.11 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (14:20) hours MST on 23-5-2005. **Bay inference:** Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weather is partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 25-5-2005:** Rain or thundershowers are likely to be widespread in Mon State and Taninthayi Division, scattered in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, isolated in Shan and Kayin States, Mandalay, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Thundery conditions in Deltaic areas.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 25-5-2005:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 25-5-2005:** Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

**Earthquake report**

(Issued at 15:00 hours MST on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2005)

An earthquake of slight intensity (3.3) Richter Scale with its epicenter inside of Myanmar about (7) miles Southwest of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at (14) hrs (17) min (14) sec MST on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2005.



**Wednesday, 25 May**  
**View on today:**

- 7:00 am
- 1. Recitation of Parritas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:15 am
- 2. တိပိဋကဓရဓမ္မသတ္တဝါရိတ၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသီရိဓာတ်သ (ဓယာစရာဓာတ်) ဟောကြားတော်မူ အပ်သော ဥပုသ်သင်္ဂြိုဟ်တော်
- 7:25 am
- 3. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
- 4. Morning news
- 7:40 am
- 5. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am
- 6. မြေမြေကြွေကြွေယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 8:10 am
- 7. အရေးကြိမ်

- 8:20 am
- 8. သုံးဆယ်ရေလှောင်စာမ
- 8:30 am
- 9. International news
- 8:45 am
- 10. Let's Go
- 4:00 pm
- 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
- 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
- 3. Practice in Reading
- 4:45 pm
- 4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm
- 5. အဆောင်ကုသမှုပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (သတ္တဓာအထူးပြု) (သတ္တဓာ)
- 5:15 pm
- 6. Song of national races
- 5:30 pm
- 7. လက်ဆက်ကမ်းပေးဂီတတေး
- 5:40 pm
- 8. Classical song
- 5:55 pm
- 9. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 6:05 pm
- 10. ရုရှယ်နုလင်အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်

- 6:15 pm
- 11. Discovery
- 6:20 pm
- 12. မူလန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမ်းမယ်
- 6:30 pm
- 13. Evening news
- 7:00 pm
- 14. Weather report
- 7:05 pm
- 15. လူငယ်တေ့ ဆုံပွဲနှင့် နီးနေစလှယ်ပွဲ (ပုန်) (အပိုင်း-၃)
- 7:20 pm
- 16. Musical programme
- 7:35 pm
- 17. Strong and healthy Myanmar
- 7:45 pm
- 18. Musical programme
- 8:00 pm
- 19. News
- 20. International news
- 21. Weather report
- 22. ၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ် ချစ်ခင်မေကြော် (၁) ကြိမ် မြန်မာ့နိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီး ဖြစ်ပွဲ (ရုပ်သံ) "မဟော်သစာ ဓာတ်တော်ကြီး" (ရတီယကျ) (ဧရာဝတီတိုင်း)
- 23. The next day's programme



**Wednesday, 25 May**  
**Tune in today:**

- 8:30 am
- Brief news
- 8:35 am
- Music: -Why oh Why Perspectives
- 8:40 am
- Music: Tell me what you want
- 8:45 am
- National news/Slogan
- 8:50 am
- Music: Dr Jones
- 9:00 am
- International news
- 9:05 am
- Music: -Can't stop
- 9:10 am
- News/Slogan
- 1:30 pm
- Lunch time music
- 1:40 pm
- I feel it -I'm so in love -Smile -Leave me alone
- 9:00 pm
- Variations on tune
- When you say nothing at all
- 9:15 pm
- Article/Music
- 9:25 pm
- Music at your request
- I miss you -Yes you do -Big boy don't cry -Pretty boy
- 9:45 pm
- News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm
- PEL

**Commander attends competitions to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking**

YANGON, 24 May—The painting, cartoon and poster competitions to mark the eighth International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking which falls on 26 May 2005 took place at the Aeyashwewa Hall in Patheingyi on 21 May morning, attended by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing.

Altogether 60 contestants are taking part in the competitions.

In the afternoon, the commander attended the ceremony to honour the Ayeyawady Division Women Football Team which participated in the 10th Inter-State and Division Women Football Tourney and made a speech on the occasion.

Next, the commander presented prizes to the outstanding footballers and the ceremony ended.

MNA

**SWRR Minister receives UNICEF Regional Director**



Regional Director of EARR Ms Anupama Rao Singh calls on SWRR Minister Maj Gen Sein Htwa.— MNA

YANGON, 24 May—Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa received Regional Director Ms Anupama Rao Singh of UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Region and party at his office in Mayangon Township this afternoon.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, OSD Brig-Gen Thura Sein Thuang,

Director-General of Social Welfare Department U Sit Myaing, Deputy Director-General of Fire Services Department U Ko Ko Hlaing, Acting Director-General of Relief and Resettlement Department U Maung Maung Khin and Head of Office U Maung Pi.—MNA

<b>Noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded</b>	
<b>(24-5-2005)</b>	
<b>Dawei</b>	<b>1.62 inches</b>
<b>Thaton</b>	<b>1.50 inches</b>
<b>Kengtung</b>	<b>1.06 inches</b>

**Mon State War Veterans Organization Preliminary Conference 2005 held**



Deputy Commander of South-East Command Brig -Gen Myo Hla addresses the Mon State War Veterans Organization Preliminary Conference 2005.—PUPR

YANGON, 24 May—War Veterans Organization Preliminary Conference 2005 of Mon State took place at the city hall of Mawlamyine yesterday morning. It was attended by Patron of Mon State War Veterans Organization Deputy Commander of South-East command Brig-Gen Myo Hla, member of Central Leading Committee for Organizing the Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference 2005 Director-General Lt-Col Win Maw (Rtd) of Agricultural Mechanization De-

partment, Chairman of Mon State WVO Supervisory Committee Lt-Col Soe Myint Aung and military officials, departmental heads, executive committee members of District and Township WVO and those from social organizations.

Patron of Mon State WVO Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Myo Hla and wellwishers donated K 8.8 million for Mon State WVO Preliminary Conference 2005 through Chairman of Mon State WVO Supervisory Committee Lt-Col Soe

Myint Aung. Next, participants submitted the report to the Mon State WVO Preliminary Conference 2005. Those present discussed national and political sector, national defence and security affairs, economic, social and public welfare sectors.

The meeting approved the five future work programmes, passed three resolutions, approved one matter and put three matters on record. The conference ended with the concluding remarks by the meeting chairman.—MNA

**INSIDE**

*Those perpetrators should see Tamadaw Government's endeavours to lay foundations for drawing a new constitution according to the seven-point Road Map, holding an election, and handing over of the State power to the elected members of the parliament, the requirements for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.*

(Page 7) AUNG THU MOE (MYINGYAN)

**Pakistani delegation visits CICS**

YANGON, 24 May — Pakistani delegation led by Principal Lt-Gen (Retd) Mr Javed Hasan of Pakistani Administrative Staff College (PASC) of Islamic Republic of Pakistan this morning visited the Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi).

Officials concerned briefed them on the institute.

In the afternoon, the delegation proceeded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Director-General U Thuang Tun of the Political Department briefed them on the ministry.

The Pakistani delegation also visited the Ministry of Home Affairs. — MNA



Director-General U Thuang Tun briefs the Pakistani delegation on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.— MNA