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Monday, 6 June, 2005

PM urges local industrialists to try to develop their industries including foundry shops on self-reliance basis, to seek local and foreign markets

YANGON, 5 June —Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win together

with member of the State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, senior mili-

tary officers and departmental officials. They went to

Ayethaya Industrial Zone in Taunggyi Township by helicopter. The Prime

Minister met officials and industrialists.

Ayethaya Industrial Zone in-charge Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi reported on establishment of foundry plant including machine shop, warehouse, forging shop and foundry shop, machinery, power and water supply, training courses conducted for engineers and skilled workers, stockpile of materials, spare parts to be manufactured by the foundry shop, ar-

rangements for export of machinery and contribution of shares for the plant.

He also reported on vehicles assembled in Ayethaya Industrial Zone, manufacturing of farm equipment and car spare parts and production of fertilizers.

Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint reported on formation of private companies in connection with the foundry shops.

(See page 8)



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects Government Technological College in Ayethaya Industrial Zone, Taunggyi. — MNA

with member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaug, Minister for Education U Than Aung, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental officials arrived at Heho Airport in Shan State by Tatmadaw flight yesterday.

The Prime Minister and party were welcomed at the airport by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Coun-



INSIDE

The Conference (2005) of the Myanmar War Veterans Organization will be held soon. It is believed the Conference will give a significant encouragement to MWVO members, who are in harmony with the people and the Tatmadaw, to be able to lend themselves to the best of their ability to crush all dangers of the nation.

(Page 7)

CHINGYA (MAUBIN)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 6 June, 2005

Actively take part in national development tasks

The Central Organizing Committee of Myanmar War Veterans Organization held its regular meeting 4/2005 at the headquarters of the organization on Pyay Road in Mayangon Township, Yangon, the other day with an address by Chairman of the Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein in his address stressed the need for officials concerned to successfully implement tasks for organizing, training, education, economic and welfare affairs being undertaken by the MWVO, arrangements for extended agriculture and livestock breeding, establishment of war veterans model villages in accord with the five rural development tasks, construction of school buildings, sinking tube-wells, construction of village-to-village roads and the roads linking villages and highways.

In accordance with the guidance of Patron of the MWVO Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, the organization was reorganized on 21 October 1998 to enable it to stand tall among other organizations, to participate in the national political activities and to stand as a reserve force of the Tatmadaw.

Moreover, altogether 17 state/division supervisory committees, 64 district supervisory committees and 313 township organizing committees were formed with 91,172 war veterans on 27 March 1999.

At present, the war veterans organization preliminary conferences for 2005 are being held in the states and divisions. The conferences dealt with national political sector, national defence and security sectors, economic, social and public welfare sectors and sought the approval.

The MWVO members have already been imbued with defence capability, organizing capability, management capability, Union Spirit, sacrificing spirit and esprit de corps.

As a reserve force of the Tatmadaw, the MWVO members are actively taking part in the national defence and development tasks, while engaging in nation-building endeavours.

All in all, we believe that the MWVO, a reserve force of the Tatmadaw, will continue lending itself to the national development tasks, while enthusiastically participating in ensuring national security and prevalence of law and order.

သွေးတိုးရောဂါကာကွယ်ထိန်းသိမ်းပါ

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

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

People's Desire

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

Cash donated for offering gold foils to Shwedagon Pagoda

YANGON, 5 June — The cash donation for offering gold foils to Shwedagon Pagoda was held at the prayer hall on the platform of the Pagoda this afternoon.

It was graced by Lin Jiou Mountain Buddhist Society Presiding Sayadaw Shih Hsin Tao, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, departmental heads and officials.

At the ceremony, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung accepted US\$ 200,000 donated by disciples under the aegis of Lin Jiou Mountain Buddhist Society Presiding



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung accepts US \$ 200,000 for offering gold foils to Shwedagon Pagoda. — MNA

Sayadaw Shih Hsin Tao; and K 10 million by U Zaw Zaw-Daw Htay Htay

Khaing of Max Myanmar Co Ltd, and presented certificates of honour to the

wellwishers. Later, the minister expressed gratitude. — MNA

Myanmar goodwill delegation leaves for PRC

YANGON, 5 June — A five-member Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Chairman of Yangon City Development

Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin this evening left for the People's Republic of China.

Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun,

Vice-Chairman of YCDC Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, Secretary U Myint Aung, Joint-Secretary U Tin Soe and members, Ambassador of PRC to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun and officials saw off the delegation.

The delegation headed by the mayor comprises U Hla Myint Swe, Head of the Public Relations and Information Department of YCDC; U Kyaw Than, Head of the Budget and Accounts Department; U Kyaw Win, Head of Production Department; and U Win Hlaing Tun, Head of Branch of Revenue Department.



Myanmar delegation led by Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn being seen off at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

MNA

MPF Chess Competition concludes

YANGON, 5 June — Winners of Myanmar Police Force Director-General's Shield Chess Competition were awarded prizes this morning at the office of the Commander of Yangon Division Police Force.

On behalf of the director-general of MPF, Police Quartermaster-General Police Brig-Gen Win Soe presented prizes to the winners.

In the competition, Yangon Division police force won the first prize, Bago Division police force the second prize and Magway Division police force the third prize.

Director (Q) of MPF Headquarters Police Col Thein Tin also awarded prizes to five best winners.

MNA

Myanmar tennis players to compete in Asian 14/U Series

YANGON, 5 June — Myanmar Tennis Team this afternoon left for Jakarta, Indonesia, to compete in the Asian 14/U Series Jakarta Tennis Tournament to be held in Jakarta from 6 to 12 June.

The tennis team led by Chief Coach U Maung Maung Lay of Myanmar Tennis Federation comprises six tennis players.

Officials of Sports and Physical Education Department and Myanmar Tennis Federation saw off them at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

On-job training course of MPF winds up

YANGON, 5 June — The On-job training course No 2/2005 of Myanmar Police Force concluded on 3 June at MPF central training school in PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Division.

A total of 34 trainees attended the course which lasted 12 weeks.

Police Brig-Gen Khin Maung, Principal of the training school, delivered a concluding address and presented certificates to the trainees. Inspector Officer Tin Aung Kyaw won best trainee award.

MNA

All this needs to be known

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

India, Thailand sign agreement to enhance cooperation in education

NEW DELHI, 4 June — India and Thailand on Friday signed an agreement to enhance cooperation in the field of education and research as Prime Minister Manmohan Singh held talks with his visiting Thai counterpart Thaksin Shinawatra on a host of issues of mutual interest.

Human Resource Development Minister Arjun Singh and Thai Foreign Minister Kantathi Suphamongkon signed the MoU in the form of an umbrella arrangement to provide focussed attention to collaboration in the education field between the two countries.

The MoU was signed in the presence of the two prime ministers.

More specific exchanges under the programme would take place on the basis of further MoUs to be drawn by institutions in the two countries, an official release said.

The areas of cooperation under the

MoU among other things would cover organization of joint research programmes and publications, exchange of research materials, teaching aids and academics, examining possibility of mutual recognition of educational qualifications and setting up of chairs on contemporary studies.

The MoU also provides for establishment of a Joint Working Group (JWG) to oversee the arrangement and would meet alternately in India and Thailand at least once biennially to review the outcome of the arrangement, the release added.

MNA/PTI



Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra (right) has arrived in India for talks on a free-trade agreement and civil aviation liberalization on 3 June, 2005.—INTERNET

S-E Asia's biggest thermoelectric plant in pipeline in Vietnam

HANOI, 4 June — Vietnam will build a coal-fuelled power plant with a capacity of 2,400 megawatts, the biggest of its kind in Southeast Asia, according to local newspaper *Vietnam Industrial Times* on Friday.

The future four-turbine plant, expected to be built in central Phu Yen Province, will annually generate 15.6 million megawatt hour, helping ensure power supply in the country's southern region which is predicted to face electricity shortage in the next few years.

The Electricity Construction Consulting Company No 2 under the country's biggest power producer and sole distributor, Electricity of Vietnam (EVN), will work with the People's Committee of Phu Yen this month to discuss construction issues, the report said.

Recently, the Vietnamese Government offered preferential treatment to EVN, so that it will produce and import more electricity to deal with current power shortages in the country's northern region caused by prolonged droughts which result in ailing operation of hydroelectric plants.

The EVN is to enjoy bigger bank loans and more flexible investment mechanisms so that it can accelerate the construction of power plants and distribution networks as well as the purchase of electricity from China.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese top legislator calls for closer cooperation with Benin Parl

BEIJING, 4 June — China and Benin have maintained close coordination on international affairs and shown support and understanding to the other on key issues, China's top legislator Wu Bangguo said here on Friday.

Wu, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), made the remark when meeting with President Antoine Idji Kolawole of the National Assembly of Benin.

Wu said China and Benin are both developing countries that face the common task of development. He said since the two countries resumed diplomatic relations more than 30 years ago, China and Benin have kept political trust and continuously expanded trade and economic cooperation.

Wu said China appreciates the government and Parliament of Benin for their long-term adherence to the "one-China" policy.

Wu said China is ready to join hands with Benin to push forward bilateral friendly cooperative relations so as to bring benefits to the two peoples. Wu said as major players in both countries' political life, the Chinese NPC and Benin National Assembly have a great deal to do to deepen the friendship between the two peoples and promote bilateral relations.

Wu said the NPC is planning to

increase exchanges with the National Assembly of Benin at all levels, including exchanges between parliamentary leaders, special committees, friendship groups and operational institutions.

He said the two parliaments can carry out exchanges in such areas as legislative supervision and cooperation in regional and international parliamentary organizations.

Idji fully agreed with Wu's view on bilateral relations and parliamentary exchanges between the two countries. He said the people of both countries share deep-rooted friendship and the common aspiration of further enhancing bilateral relations.

He said Benin is ready to reinforce and step up cooperation with China on all fronts, especially exchanges between the legislatures of the two countries.

After their meeting, Wu and Idji signed an agreement on exchanges and cooperation between the parliaments of the two countries.

Idji said the signing of the agreement will give impetus to the friendly exchanges between the two parliaments.

MNA/Xinhua

Suicide car bomb hits Iraqi military checkpoint in Tikrit

TIKRIT (Iraq), 4 June — A suicide car bomb detonated on Friday at an Iraqi military checkpoint in Tikrit, north of Baghdad, and wounded 10 people including three civilians, police said.

"The attack took place at 4:00 p m (1200 GMT) when a suicide bomber drove an explosive-laden vehicle into a checkpoint manned by Iraqi soldiers on the northern entrance of Saddam's Presidential Palace in Tikrit," US-Iraqi liaison office in Tikrit said in a statement.

Seven soldiers and three civilians were injured in the blast that occurred near the palace which is now used as US military base, the statement said.

The US and Iraqi forces cordoned off the area preventing people from approaching the scene, it added. — MNA/Xinhua



A woman checks out a digital camera demonstration in the Causeway Bay district of Hong Kong on 2 June, 2005.—INTERNET

British soldier could face Iraq death charge

BAGHDAD, 4 June—A second British soldier could face charges over the death of an Iraqi civilian as senior army commanders brace themselves for damaging new revelations about army behaviour in Iraq.

A formal military hearing on Friday will consider evidence against Lance Corporal Barry Singleton, 23, following an investigation into claims that he fired his gun 12 times at a driver who tried to speed through a checkpoint.

A decision on whether to press charges, which could include murder, against Singleton could coincide with an announcement to Parliament by the government's most senior lawyer, Lord Goldsmith, that as many as 11 soldiers will be charged in connection with the death of another Iraqi civilian.

Goldsmith's statement could include

charges levelled against a British commanding officer over the death of a 26-year-old Iraqi civilian, a move that would prove highly embarrassing to the Army. Lieutenant Colonel Jorge Mendonca, 41, CO of the Queen's Lancashire Regiment, is among the servicemen investigated over the death of Baha Mousa, a hotel receptionist in Basra.

Singleton was on duty in Basra with the King's Own Scottish Borderers in August 2003 when the shooting at the checkpoint occurred three months before the regiment's tour of duty ended.

Internet

APEC willing to help western China develop recycling-based economy

YINCHUAN, 4 June — Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) is willing to provide human resource help to develop a recycling-based economy (RBE) in China, said Chira Hong Lada Rom, Director of Human Resource Development Sector of APEC.

He made the remarks at the conference on APEC Recycling-based Economy and China's Western Development, which opened Friday in Yinchuan, capital of northwestern China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region.

As an important member of APEC, China has worked hard to build a recycling society, which involves low consumption and a high rate of recycling and efficiency. This long-lasting project does good to both Asian-Pacific area and the entire world, Chira said.

Chira said that western

China is the key place for China to develop an economy based on environmental protection, however, the lack of trained professionals is western China's largest hurdle. APEC is completely capable of providing the needed help for China in this aspect because it has a large staff with plenty of experience, Chira said.

First of all, APEC can help add accessible theory and materials about RBE into textbooks of China's middle schools and universities, letting more people know and understand this definition.

Only after people make it clear what the RBE is on the earth, can they devote themselves into the environmental protective work, he said.

Advanced management system is also needed by west China to realize RBE and speed up the construction of the society based on saving resource and environmental protection. APEC can provide strong human resource for the government, enterprises and other organizations in this area, he said.

In addition, APEC also provide high-quality training and opportunities for those engaged in RBE.

Chira said he hoped to see each member nation or area of APEC undergoes a fast, but sustainable development.

MNA/Xinhua

Economists cut Singapore's GDP growth forecast for 2005

SINGAPORE, 4 June — Economists in Singapore lowered their forecast on the country's economic growth for 2005 to 3.8 per cent from an estimated 4.3 per cent three months ago, according to the result of a survey released Friday.

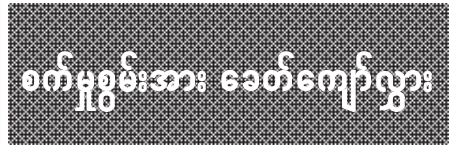
The professional forecasters expected the growth rate of the country's gross domestic product (GDP) for the second quarter of this year to slow down to 2.6 per cent, and that for the following quarters to be 4.3 per cent and 4.8 per cent, respectively.

Growth forecasts on all sectors for 2005 except financial service sector are moderated, and the private consumption growth will ease to 3.3 per cent this year from 8.6 per cent last year.

Both the unemployment rate and the consumer price index will keep at a low level this year, according to the quarterly survey conducted by the Monetary Authority of Singapore.

The Singapore economy registered a rebound of 8.4 per cent in 2004, but recorded a slower-than-expected 2.5-per-cent increase in the first quarter of this year.

MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese worker maintains a yarn spinning machine displayed at the 'Shanghaiex 2005' textile industry exhibition in Shanghai on 5 June, 2005. — INTERNET

Chinese physicists mark World Year of Physics

BEIJING, 4 June — Noted Chinese physicists gathered on Friday at Qinghua University, one of China's leading universities, to mark the World Year of Physics.

Recalling the history of Chinese physics development, Chen Jia'er, former president of China Physics Society and academician of China Academy of Sciences, said that physics has played an important role in the scientific development of China before the 16th Century.

"Although the development of China's contemporary physics lagged more than 200 years behind the world, it has achieved world-renowned progresses since the People's Republic of China was founded in 1949, including the successful tests of atomic bombs and neutron bombs," he said.

Physics in the 20th Century brought the world four technical theories of nuclear reactions, semiconductors, lasers and superconductors. It will still be the foundation of natural sciences in the future, said Lu Yongxiang, president of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Innovation is necessary to the development of sciences in modern society. The nation should provide a better environment for physics in terms of attention, support, admiration and education, said Feng Changgen, an official with the China Association for Science and Technology. "We must try to get more understanding and support to China's physics from the public by marking the World Year of Physics," he said.

In 1905, the 26-year-old Albert Einstein published five ground-breaking papers on relativity and quantum mechanics, which greatly advanced physics research around the world. The year of 1905 was thus called the miracle year of Einstein.

The United Nations General Assembly adopted a proposal to name 2005 as the World Year of Physics.

MNA/Xinhua

China's rise impacts on regional economic, political relations

SINGAPORE, 4 June — The economic rise of China, marked by an annual average growth of 9 per cent for the past 25 years, is reshaping the old relationships and balance of power in the region and the world, a senior Singaporean official said here on Friday.

Speaking at the opening of a conference on China jointly organized by Lianhe Zaobao and the Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Minister in Prime Minister's Office Raymond Lim said China's rise has brought Asia into the centre of international relations as a major actor.

"China's growth has led to a huge rise in Chinese demand for Southeast Asia goods, as can be seen in the large trade surpluses that Southeast Asian countries enjoy with China," Lim noted.

He said that the trade surplus of more than 20 billion US dollars enjoyed by the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) over China in 2004, out of the total volume of bilateral trade of 105.9 billion US dollars, is expected to double by 2010.

Apart from sharing the fruits of its economic growth with ASEAN member states by offering a free trade agreement with the bloc as a whole, China also seeks strategic partnerships with countries in the region to reassure its neighbours that it "would not throw its new-found political weight around", according to Lim. He added that China's rise will catalyze greater economic integration in Southeast Asia and ASEAN cannot afford to be closed and insular as China continues to grow and increasingly opens up to the world.

MNA/Xinhua

May is deadliest month for part-time troops from US in Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 5 June — May was the deadliest month of the Iraq War for part-time American service members.

Thirty-one of them died: 14 members of the Army National Guard, 12 from the Marine Corps Reserve, four from the Army Reserve and one Navy Reserve hospital corpsman attached to a Marine combat unit.

The overall US death toll in Iraq last month—counting active-duty as well as mobilized reserve forces—was 80. That is the highest for any month since January, when 107 died as

guerrilla attacks rose sharply prior to the Iraqi election. Fifty-two died in April and 36 in March, when it appeared the insurgency was waning.

Iraqis bore the brunt of guerrilla violence in May, but it also took a heavy toll on the approximately 140,000 US troops there. The 80 deaths compare with a monthly average of 70 over the previous 12 months.

Internet



An Iraqi soldier searches a man at a checkpoint set up as part of Operation Lightening on the outskirts of Baghdad on 4 June, 2005.—INTERNET

Annan calls for more resources, efforts to fight AIDS

UNITED NATIONS, 3 June — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan warned on Thursday the HIV/AIDS epidemic continues to outrun the global efforts to contain it and called for increased resources from governments and the private sector for the fight against the disease.

Annan made the appeal in an address to open a day-long ministerial session of the UN General Assembly, which will assess progress made toward meeting a series of targets set four years ago at a General Assembly special session on HIV/AIDS.

The meeting brought together health ministers and senior officials from 68 countries as well as ambassadors from other UN member states. It will also outline solutions and policies needed to meet the targets and roll back the epidemic.

"Four years on, the response in every key category has been significant — in political leadership, in funding, in the intensity and reach of prevention programmes, and in the availability of drug therapies," Annan said.

"But it has also been insufficient... the response has succeeded in some of the particulars, but it has not matched

the epidemic in scale," he added.

Noting that last year saw more new infections and more AIDS-related deaths than ever before, Annan stressed, "Treatment and prevention efforts were nowhere near enough. Only 12 per cent of the people in need of anti-retroviral therapies in low- and middle-income countries were receiving them."

"It is clear that the epidemic continues to outrun our efforts to contain it. If we were to reach the Millennium Development Goals of halting and beginning to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015, then we must do far, far more," he said.

Annan urged governments to build on the progress they have made and step up their efforts to fight the AIDS epidemic, including increasing resources, better planning, greater leadership and the empowerment of women and girls.

MNA/Xinhua



Indonesia's President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (2nd L, front) and his wife Kristiani Herawati (2nd R, front) smile with officials during the opening ceremony of Indonesian Handicraft Gallery 2005 in Tokyo on 3 June, 2005.—INTERNET

16 infected by HIV virus in blood transfusion in N-W China

BEIJING, 3 June — At least 16 people have been affected by the HIV virus after contaminated blood was used for transfusions at a hospital in Bei'an County, Heilongjiang Province, the Beijing-based *China Daily* reported on Thursday.

An ongoing investigation by the county court and other officials has disclosed at least five farm workers received contaminated blood from 1999 to 2004, it said. The nature of the disease, however, was undisclosed.

Four others were infected by the original five with the "mysterious" disease at the farm 330 kilometres north to provincial capital Harbin.

But the *China Daily* said "there could be as many as 16 infected by HIV".

A statement from the

Ministry of Health on Tuesday confirmed that 9 victims "were infected" because five received tainted blood from a supply at Workers' Hospital, located on a construction farm.

"We have admitted 16 AIDS patients from the farm since last September," said a nurse in the infectious disease department of the hospital, affiliated with the Heilongjiang General Bureau of State Farms in Harbin.

"Now nine patients are still hospitalized and their status is stable", the

nurse said in a telephone interview.

A farm official with Bei'an Farm, who identified himself only as Li, said victims include farm workers and peasants around his farm, because the hospital is their only medical resource.

Li also said the Harbin hospital has been treating those patients, and their medical expenses, totalling around 1 million yuan (121,500 US dollars), were covered by the farm, which the nurse also confirmed.—MNA/Xinhua

"IT" exports exceed projection, \$22.5b forecast in '06

BANGALORE, 3 June — India's software and services exports exceeded expectations and registered a 34.5-per-cent growth to clock revenues of 17.2 billion US dollars in 2004-05, and forecast for the current fiscal is a 30-32 per cent jump to touch 22.5 billion US dollars.

NASSCOM had projected a 30-32-per-cent growth for 2004-05, from 12.8 billion in the previous year. Findings of its annual survey on the performance of the Indian IT-ITES industry (excluding hardware) and the outlook for 2005-06, released on Thursday, showed a 34.5-per-cent growth for 2004-05.

At a Press conference here, NASSCOM Chairman S. Ramadorai and NASSCOM President Kiran Karnik expressed confidence that the industry would attain the projected export target of 50 billion US dollars in 2008-09.

Of the total exports, the US accounted for 68 per cent, Europe 24-25 per cent, Asia-Pacific 5 per cent and rest of the world 3 per cent, NASSCOM officials said.

Of the total IT-ITES

exports in 2004-05, IT software and services grew by 30.5 per cent, registering revenues of 12 billion US dollars; while ITES-BPO segment clocked revenues of 5.2 billion, a growth of 44.5 per cent.

According to NASSCOM findings, the overall Indian IT-ITES industry (including domestic market) grew by 32 per cent in 2004-05 registering revenues of 22 billion US dollars, up from 16.7 billion US dollars the previous year.

Meanwhile, total value of outsourcing to India (17.2 billion US dollars in 2004-05) is estimated to be 44 per cent of the worldwide total, NASSCOM said.

"The industry is in a strong position to leverage the global software opportunity and establish India as the premier IT

destination in the world," Ramadorai, who is CEO and Managing Director of Tata Consultancy Services, said.

He said: "To sustain our competitive advantage, the industry must engage closely with academia to create the right talent pool, collaborate with the hardware industry in microelectronics and embedded software, maximize employment opportunities and elevate service excellence through R&D and quality-benchmark delivery."

NASSCOM said a vast majority of SMEs registered a growth of about 20-22 per cent in revenues in 2004-05.

Revenue from product development and R&D services was 3 billion US dollars, up from 2.3 billion US dollars in 2003-04, it said.

MNA/PTI

Taller Chinese children put free-charge travel standard in question

BEIJING, 3 June — Li Yanping, a resident in Kunming City of south China's Yunnan Province, had never thought that good nutrition would bring troubles to her six-year-old daughter, who is already taller than the 110-centimetres standard for free bus rides and park travels.

Li has been very careful about the diet of her daughter, who has grown to 130 centimetres. "I hope my child grows more healthily than kids during my childhood who usually appeared thinner and smaller due to the lack of nutrition." "But a taller height is also bothering us, as my daughter is frequently asked to buy an adult ticket when taking a bus or visiting a park," Li said. The country allows any child under 110 centimetres to travel free as a preferential policy after new China was founded in 1949.

"The 110-centimetres standard is outdated in light of our children's physical development status," said Quan Zhongmin, a member of the Beijing Municipal Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

A survey by medical experts shows that the average height of Chinese children has increased by nearly 10 centimetres in

the past five decades. Five-year-old kids are now 120 centimetres tall on average, with the figure up to 130 centimetres among six-year-old kids and above 140 centimetres among seven-year-old children.

The trend of growing taller is intensifying year by year. Li Yanping does not even consider her daughter too "distinguished" in height. Many of her friends of the same age are even taller.

MNA/Xinhua



Two translucent Golden-line Barbell fish, also known as *Sinocyclocheilus hyalinus*, swim in a tank at Taiwan's Sea World on 2 June, 2005. — INTERNET

Brunei, Chile, NZ, Singapore reach Trans-Pacific agreement

JEJU ISLAND (South Korea), 4 June — Brunei, Chile, New Zealand and Singapore on Friday announced conclusion of negotiations for a Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement (Trans-Pacific SEP), which is enforced in 2006, to enhance the four countries' competitiveness in the global market.

The announcement was made at a joint Press conference held by Brunei ambassador-at-large Princess Masna, Chilean Minister of Foreign Affairs Ignacio Walker, New Zealand Minister for Trade Negotiations Hon Jim Sutton and Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry Lim Hng Kiang earlier on Friday.

The four officials are here to attend the two-day Meeting of APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) Ministers Responsible for Trade which kicked off sessions on Thursday.

"The Trans-Pacific SEP will bring strategic benefits to the four countries and effectively build a bridge between Latin America, the Pacific and Asia," said a joint Press statement issued by the conference.

The agreement helps the four countries pool their expertise, ideas, technology and resources and makes more

than 90 per cent of total trade among them duty free, the statement said.

The four countries agreed to reduce transaction costs of trade in the aspects of sanitary, phytosanitary, standards and Customs procedures.

They also decided to build a liberalizing framework that will encourage trade in services among them. Moreover, the four partners made commitment to ensure companies from other parties in the Trans-Pacific SEP region are able to compete on an equal footing with domestic suppliers for government procurement contracts.

The statement also said the four countries will make cooperation on intellectual property rights.

The four officials will recommend the results of the negotiations to their respective governments for signature.

MNA/Xinhua



Arroyo confident of moving toward eco recovery

MANILA, 4 June — Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo said on Friday she was confident that her government is working in the right direction of economic recovery and stability despite poor support ratings given to her by recent polls.

"I feel the pain when people feel pain. I ask for more patience from you because the pain we have to bear for now will be the seed of our future economic stability and prosperity," Arroyo said. She said it is inevitable that support ratings could fall before the pro-poor and pro-growth agenda can take effect through "the very painful process of increasing

revenues" which will take years.

The presidential spokesman Ignacio Bunye said tough decisions to save the economy and the rise of oil prices beyond then government's control had taken their toll on Arroyo's support ratings.

"We acknowledge the hardships of the people and the President feels their pain. But we must

keep to the economic track we have set while exhausting all means to mitigate the pressure on the cost of living," Bunye said.

He expressed his confidence that the ratings have "bottomed out" and that "rising confidence in the economy will reverse the trend as we gain more investments, jobs and revenues to support our basic services".

MNA/Xinhua

India's role in regional security to figure in Singapore talks

WASHINGTON, 4 June — India's emerging role in regional security of the Asia-Pacific rim will be one of the major issues to be discussed at the "Shangri-La Dialogue" in Singapore starting on Friday.

The meet, to be attended by about 200 defence ministers and military officers, would be addressed by US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, who will deliver a speech titled "The US and Asia-Pacific Security: Beyond the War on Terrorism".

The annual security conference, which concludes on 5 June, provides a forum for ministers to highlight security concerns and progress in the area.

Rumsfeld, US defence officials said, is scheduled to meet one-on-one with his counterparts in the region while attending the annual security conference sponsored by the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies.

US Navy Admiral William Fallon, commander of American forces in the Pacific, will also attend the conference to focus discussions on maritime security cooperation. Both Rumsfeld and Fallon are expected to touch on the international tsunami relief operations that were carried out earlier in the year, as well as plans to realign US forces in the region and beyond.

Apart from India's role in regional security, the agenda this year includes regional challenges posed by weapons of mass destruction, efforts to bring North Korea back to the Six-Party Talks, diplomacy and deterrence and Chinese military power. —MNA/PTI

Chinese NGOs to play bigger role in environmental protection

BEIJING, 4 June — Chinese non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have long pledged to play a bigger role in environmental protection, but faced with various challenges and needed more supportive hands, according to some Chinese NGOs.

Chinese NGOs need operational funds and support of governments at all levels, they said.

"The role that we want to play is a bridge between the public and the government in the aspect of environment protection and we hope to help the government do something to that effect," said An Xu, a member of the Friend of Green, based in the north China port city of Tianjin.

MNA/Xinhua



A man chats online in Singapore on 3 June, 2005.

INTERNET

China holds "positive attitude" in eco cooperation with Peru

BEIJING, 4 June — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao told Peruvian President Alejandro Toledo on Friday that China holds "positive attitude" in its cooperation with Peru on infrastructure, mining, agriculture and tourism.

"I hope we will abide by the principle of mutual benefit and keep on exploring new ways and fields for bilateral cooperation in a bid to boost economic and trade cooperation between us," Wen said in a meeting with Toledo.

China and Peru formed diplomatic ties 34 years ago. In 2004, the bilateral trade volume between the two countries reached 1.94 billion US dollars.

Wen said Peru's recognition of China's full

market economy helps create favourable conditions for bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

"China and Peru are reliable friends to each other," Wen said, adding that the two have always showed understanding and supports to the other on issues concerning the other's core interests.

"China will join hands with Peru to continue improving and deepening the comprehensive and cooperative partnership," Wen said.

Toledo said Peru expects more investments from the Chinese enterprises in the area of mining, energy and infrastructure construction.

"Peru will provide a good political, economic and legal environment for the Chinese investment," he said.

Wen and Toledo also agreed to strengthen cooperation in culture and tourism for deepening mutual understanding and friendship of the two peoples.

MNA/Xinhua



A car drives through Hai Van tunnel in the central province of Thua Thien Hue and Danang City, on 5 June, 2005.— INTERNET

MWVO, national-defence reserve force

Chingya (Maubin)

The Myanmar Tatmadaw born of anti-colonialist movements and independence struggles is made up of all national races. It had to pass two historic periods — the period of independence struggles and that of maintaining independence. During the periods, the State has allowed to retire from the Tatmadaw (1) Tatmadaw members who sacrificed their limbs while taking charge of duties in the interests of their motherland, (2) Tatmadaw members who faced health problems or reached the age of retirement, and (3) Tatmadaw members who violated military rules or laws. The Myanmar War Veterans Organization consists of Tatmadaw members of the first two kinds mentioned above.

Myanmar never formed a strong and standing or regular Tatmadaw from Bagan period to Konbaung period. It used to form groups each of which consisted of ten thousand, one thousand, one hundred, or ten Tatmadaw members on the list. Only in an emergency, it collected the members from various regions according to the list to defend the nation from the dangers. When the nation was peaceful and stable, the Tatmadawmen carried on their businesses and lived in respective regions together with the people in unity. Since then, the Myanmar Tatmadaw has well preserved a fine tradition of never committing acts of aggression against other nations, and always living in harmony with the people.

The Myanmar War Veterans Organization was formed in 1975. In August and September 1988, anarchists dominated the entire nation to full extent under the pretext of the demand for democracy. As a consequence, the people who wanted to lead a peaceful life had to live in a state of alarm. Therefore the Myanmar War Veterans Organization Headquarters with a sense of duty issued directives on 3 September and delivered a letter of directives each to Township War Veterans Organizations. The letter said the Myanmar War Veterans Organization was the force that is to exist as long as the Tatmadaw does, and it needed to be in harmony with the Tatmadaw. And the War Veterans Organizations at all levels were to implement individually or in groups the tasks for prevalence of law and order, and the security duties assigned by regional administrative bodies in cooperation with the people.

The directives could be delivered to all the township WVOs although it was rather difficult to travel from one region to another owing to the then undesirable situation. Respective township WVOs came to the headquarters to get the letter of directives, and they distributed copies of the letter to nearby township WVOs. During the period of the unrest in the nation, the MWVO took a correct stand on its tasks.

I would like to present a true story that happened in 1988 in my native town. One day during the unrest, some leaders at the time asked one person from each household of a ward to attend a meeting. At the meeting, some persons gave a speech criticizing the Tatmadaw. They said that the ones who did not want to join hands with the Tatmadaw were to stand up. At that time, two persons remained seated, while all others stood up out

of fear. One of the two who refused to stand up was a poet, a friend of mine, and the other, a war veteran of that ward.

Growing angry, the activists asked the two, one after another why they did not stand up. The poet said he assumed the Myanmar Tatmadaw was a force with military capability to defend the nation, and it would be improper not to join hands with it, so he did not stand up. The war veteran said that he retired from the Tatmadaw, and so he assumed he had to be loyal to it. Then, some senior citizens reconciled the two sides. So, the leaders left although they were not satisfied.

There were an ex-Brig-Gen who incited the 1988 unrest, and an ex-General who took advantage of the incident. There emerged a group formed on 8 September 1988 with former commanding officers and other ranks from the Tatmadaw, a demand of 15 former commanding officers issued on 23 August, and a demand of 85 former commanding officers issued on 30 August.

In fact, they used to be senior military officers in the Tatmadaw, but were totally disloyal and ungrateful to the Tatmadaw, while the war veteran, a private, was loyal to the Tatmadaw. They were the

The Conference (2005) of the Myanmar War Veterans Organization will be held soon. It is believed the Conference will give a significant encouragement to MWVO members, who are in harmony with the people and the Tatmadaw, to be able to lend themselves to the best of their ability to crush all dangers of the nation.

ones who had been removed from the Tatmadaw for their violation of military rules and laws.

Therefore, when the unrest was in full swing, they, bearing grudge, committed acts to disintegrate the Tatmadaw and to harm Our Three Main National Causes the Tatmadaw has been upholding throughout the period of maintaining independence. The MWVO's noble objectives were tarnished by the views and conceptions of various political parties.

The Tatmadaw had to take over the State's duties due to the fact that anarchy based on the 1988 unrest reigned across the nation and it was very close to harming Our Three Main National Causes. Now, the Tatmadaw is playing a leading role in the drive for building up of a democratic nation based on the multi-party system in accordance with the wishes of the people.

With the two objectives — to stand as a strong reserve force to defend the nation, and to be a force with high dignity — the Myanmar War Veterans Organization was reconstituted on 21 October 1988 under the guidance of Patron of the MWVO (Central) Head of State Senior General Than Shwe. Again it was reformed systematically on 27 March 1999 with 17 division supervisory committees, 64 district supervisory committees, and 313 township organiz-

ing committees with a total strength of 91,172 members.

The WVO organizing work committees at central level to township level were formed state and division-wise with ministers, deputy ministers and directors-general at the helm. And they are unremittingly implementing the five work programmes:

- (1) To enhance patriotic fervour, beliefs and conceptions (national political sector)
- (2) To carry out national-defence and security tasks (national-defence and security sector)
- (3) To effectively do businesses (economic sector)
- (4) To carry out social and welfare services (social and welfare sector), and
- (5) To effectively carry out public welfare services (public welfare sector)

Since its assumption of the State duties, the Tatmadaw has been adhering to Our Three Main National Causes and implementing the 12 political, economic and social objectives. In the process, based on national reconsolidation, it is making strenuous efforts in harness with national forces such as the MWVO, and the national people. It has constructed many infrastructures needed for national development in its bid to build a democratic nation.

The Tatmadaw Government is also implementing the 24 development regions project for ensuring equitable development of all parts of the entire nation including border regions and rural areas. The MWVO is actively participating by doing their bit in the nation-building tasks being implemented under the leadership of the State.

The national goal is the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation. To be able to realize the goal smoothly and to achieve it in a short time, the Tatmadaw Government laid down the State's seven-point Road Map. The MWVO is contributing towards speedy implementation of the seven-point programme whatever role they are in, joining hands with the entire national people.

Nowadays, the world is witnessing various types of unrest, battles, environmental degradation, and attempts for political, economic and social domination. Now is also the time when world nations have to be fully aware of the tactics and strategies of certain big nations practising neo-colonialism to entice other nations. The MWVO made up of retired Tatmadaw members upholds Our Three Main National Causes. So, it is serving as a national-defence reserve force to safeguard the country from falling into alien subjugation (being the follower of neo-colonialists).

Now, State and Division WVOs are holding preliminary conferences (2005). The Conference (2005) of the Myanmar War Veterans Organization will be held soon. It is believed the Conference will give a significant encouragement to MWVO members, who are in harmony with the people and the Tatmadaw, to be able to lend themselves to the best of their ability to crush all dangers posed in the nation.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 5-6-2005



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win holds a meeting with officials and industrialists from Ayethaya Industrial Zone in Tounggyi Township. — MNA

PM urges local industrialists ...

(from page 1)

In his discussions, the Prime Minister said the government has been fulfilling requirements for development of industrial sector. The government, on its part, is also providing necessary as-

entrepreneurs again and gave instructions on successful running of the modern foundry shop projects and plans for manufacturing products which are high demand in the market. The entrepreneurs submitted reports on production of automobiles and trucks at the zone and requirements.

Members of the Industrial Zone Supervisory

Taungpawtha paddy thresher manufactured at Ayethaya Industrial Zone, Taungpawkywe power-tiller, Taungpawthu paddy harvester and Thitseint seed grinder.

They also inspected various parts of automobile, mould, small vehicles and lorry.

They met with entrepreneurs who produce fertilizers and gave necessary instructions.

At the construction site of Government Technological College (Ayethaya) Project, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Kyaw Soe reported on academic matters of the college and turning out of BE, BTEch and AGTI engineers. Minister for Science and Technology U Thaug gave a supplementary report.

Managing Director U Chit Khaing of Edin Group Co Ltd briefed them on construction of the three-storey main building at the college. The Prime Minister oversaw progress of tasks.

Next, the Prime Minister and party arrived back Tounggyi.

MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects workshops in Ayethaya Industrial Zone. — MNA

sistance including foreign exchange for establishment of modern foundry shops and other workshops in industrial zones in Ayethaya, Mandalay and Monywa with the aims of development of both State-run industries and private ones in the long run.

The Prime Minister urged local industrialists to try to develop their industries including foundry shops on self-reliance basis and to seek local and foreign markets.

He stressed the importance of full utilization of the government's assistance with goodwill and spoke of the need to do their best for development.

Only when businessmen invest in industry, can industries develop steadily.

The Prime Minister and party inspected progress in building the Machine Shop, installation of lathes and test-running. A total of 21 lathes out of 30 have been installed at the Machine Shop.

Next, they oversaw construction of the warehouse and keeping of machines at the warehouse.

At the Forging Shop, they viewed completion of installing 23 machines out of 27.

They proceeded to Foundry Shop where officials briefed them on construction of the shop and installation of machines.

At the briefing hall, the Prime Minister met with officials of the industrial zone and industrial

Committee explained coordination with departments concerned for fulfilling requirements of the entrepreneurs. Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi gave a supplementary report.

After hearing the reports, the Prime Minister gave necessary instructions. Next, they viewed

The government, on its part, is also providing necessary assistance including foreign exchange for establishment of modern foundry shops and other workshops in industrial zones in Ayethaya, Mandalay and Monywa with the aims of development of both State-run industries and private ones in the long run.



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects paddy threshers and power-tillers. — MNA

Commander attends opening Gyobyu Model Village in Taikkyi Township

YANGON, 5 Jun — A ceremony to open Gyobyu Model Village in Taikkyi Township, Yangon North District, took place at the village this morning.

Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe formally opened the village and his wife Daw Khin Thet Htay, Chairperson of Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee unveiled the signboard of the village.

Next, the commander and wife visited Yonnadi Library in the village where they inspected the display of various kinds of books and magazines and journals and donated books to librarian U Soe Naing.

The commander and party also visited the offices of the village organization for women's



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe formally opens Gyobyu Model Village in Taikkyi Township.—YANGON COMMAND

affairs, Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Union Solidarity and Development Association.

During the visits, Daw Khin Thet Htay accepted 4000 membership applications to MCWA, and 5600 membership applications to Women's Affairs Organization.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe presented

K 100,000 for the development of the village to the Village PDC chairman. Next, Daw Khin Thet Htay explained opening of model villages in Yangon Division and implementation of five rural development tasks under the sponsorship of Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee.

After the cer-

emony, the commander and wife and officials viewed in the village wooden handicrafts, vegetable patches and paddy plantations and Win Thuza Shop of the Ministry of Industry-1.

Later, they visited Gyobyu village-tract preprimary school and inspected arrangements for supply of clean water.

MNA

Implementation of Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory Project (Thagaya) in progress

YANGON, 5 June — Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, accompanied by Managing Director U Soe Thein of Myanma Automobile and Diesel Engine Industries and officials, arrived at Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory Project (Thagaya) in Yedashe Township on 3 June morning.

Director of Myanma Industrial Construction Services U Than Aye reported on progress in construction of factory buildings, Project Director U Khin Win on supply of construction materials and storage matters, Director of MADEI U Thwin Myint Maung on growing of teak and other trees in the project area, and Adviser U Than Htut on arrival of industrial technicians from China and their works.

The minister gave instructions on timely completion of the buildings, storage of construction materials, preparations for security measures and growing of teak plants.

Next, they inspected land preparations in the project area and construction works. Officials conducted them round the project area.

After giving necessary instructions, the minister and party left the project area on 4 June and arrived back here in the evening. — MNA

Progress of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) Project inspected

YANGON, 5 June — Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Minister for Construction, looked into the scale model of the approach road of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) on Mandalay bank at the construction project site on 3 July.

Deputy Superintending Engineer U Htay Myint presented reports on progress of construction works and matters concerning the approach roads. Maj-Gen Saw Tun and party inspected construction of pier-4 and pier-5.

On Sagaing bank, Deputy Superintending Engineer U Hsan Win reported on installation of iron frames and progress in building the approach road on Sagaing bank.

The minister gave necessary instructions to officials.

The approach road on Mandalay bank except the approach structure has been completed. Iron frames have been installed at four spans out of seven at the main bridge. Piers RP4 and RP5 are under construction. — MNA

Commander on inspection tour of Hinthada District

YANGON, 5 Jun — Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South West Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung arrived at Bo Myat Tun Bridge on Patheingyi-Yangon Road on 3 June morning. After hearing reports by officials, the commander gave necessary instructions. Next, the commander inspected bridge maintenance tasks and measures being taken for development of waterways.

At the meeting hall of Danubyu Township, the commander met with departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people, and stressed the need for active cooperation in carrying out the development tasks.

Next, he inspected prevention against erosion of Ayeyawady River bank in the town and greening tasks and visited Zalun Pyidawpyan Mannaungmyin Buddha Image. Then he inspected renovation tasks at the image and made cash donations.

Later, the commander inspected measures being taken for prevention of Ayeyawady bank erosion and gave necessary instructions to officials.

MNA

Development of Thaton District inspected

YANGON, 5 June — Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing met with officers, other ranks and families of the local battalion in Bilin Township on 2 June morning.

He paid homage to Kuthinayon Shwehsandaw Pagoda in Phayasha Village in Bilin Township.

At the office of Township PDC, the commander heard reports of departmental officials and attended to their needs. At the Pre-Primary School, the commander donated cash for the children.

Maj-Gen Soe Naing met with departmental officials at Thaton District PDC Office and urged them to join hands with the local people for regional development.

Next, he met with officers, other ranks and families of Thaton Station at the local battalion.

In Thaton, he paid homage to Pobbayon Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Khemaçara.

In Paung, the commander gave instructions on regional development tasks.

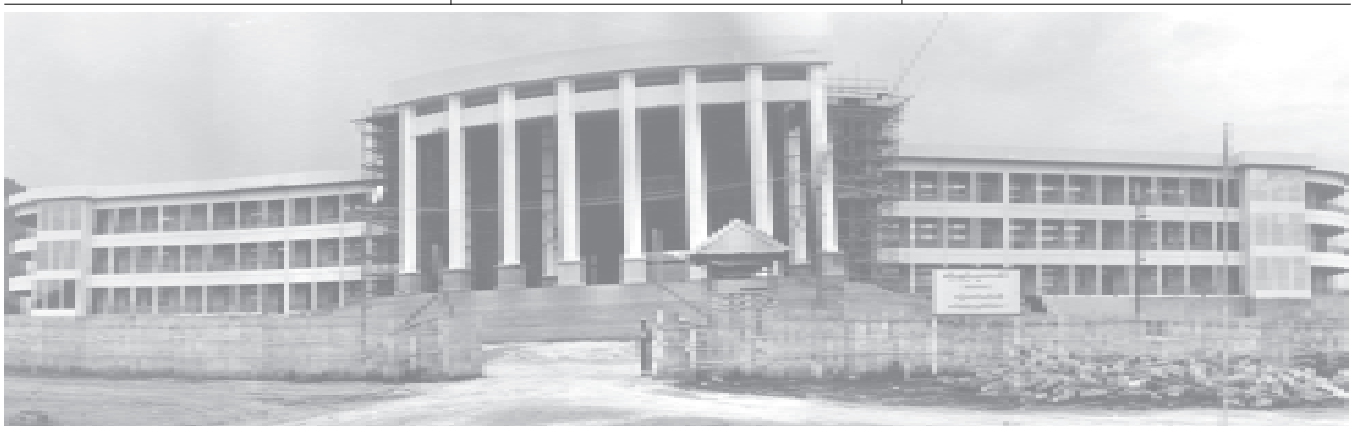
MNA

Myanmar Youth Team meets Thai Youth Team

YANGON, 5 June—The semifinals of the U-18 Football Tournament of 1st ASEM Games will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 6 June 2005 evening.

In the first semifinal, the Myanmar Youth Team will play against the Thai Youth Team while the Republic of Korean Youth Team will meet with the Czech Youth Team in the second semifinal.

MNA



Progress in construction of Government Technological College (Ayethaya) in Taunggyi. (News on page 1) — MNA

Monks who passed Tipitakadhara selection exam honoured

YANGON, 5 June — The monks who passed the Tipitakadhara selection examination were honoured this morning at Tipitaka Dhamma Rakhita building on Gyatawra Road in Bahan Township.

Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara, Nyaungdon Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Osada Bhivamsa, Chairman Sayadaw and members of Tipitakadhara Selection Board and eight Tipitaka Kovidha Sayadaws also

attended the ceremony to honour the monks who passed the 57th Tipitakadhara selection exam.

First, the congregation led by Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung received the Five Precepts.

At the ceremony, the minister and officials presented offertories to the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha.

The congregation shared merits gained and the ceremony concluded.

MNA

Course concludes at Abbot Training School

YANGON, 5 June — The closing ceremony of the Course No 11 of Abbot Training School (Yangon) and the opening ceremony of Course No 12, organized by Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana under the Ministry of Religious Affairs were held at the convocation hall of State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) on Kaba Aye Hill, here, this afternoon.

Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Dawei Sayadaw



Dawei Sayadaw Bhaddanta Arçinnabhivamsa presents a completion certificate to a monk. — MNA

Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika

Bhaddanta Arçinnabhivamsa administered the Five Precepts to the

congregation.

The principal Sayadaw of the school explained matters related to the course.

Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko supplicated on the religious affairs and offered provisions to the Sayadaws.

The vice-Chairman Sayadaw of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee presented completion certificates to the members of Sangha and the ceremony ended.

MNA



Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko offers alms to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Commander tours Mongkhat, Mongyan, Mongyu

YANGON, 5 June — Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council and Commander of Triangle Region Command, met with township level officials in Mongkhat on 30 May morning.

Chairman of Mongkhat Township Peace and Development Council U Nyein Htwe briefed the commander on progress of the township.

The commander instructed them to cooperate with local people for regional development tasks and make efforts for local food sufficiency and carrying out of five rural development tasks.

In Mongyan, the commander heard reports of Township Peace and Development Council Chairman U Kyaw Kyaw Win and gave instructions on matters concerning regional development. Next, the commander toured Mongyan.

On 1 June, the commander met with departmental officials and local people at the combined office of Mongyu General Administration Department. He heard reports on progress of the town presented by Town Administrator U Kyaw Swe Win.

Chairman of Mongphyat District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myo Nyunt and officials gave supplementary reports. Next, the commander inspected Mongyu Hospital and development of the urban area. — MNA

Construction of water treatment plant in Mandalay inspected

YANGON, 5 Jun — Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han arrived at the construction site of a water treatment plant in Aungmyaythazan township.

After hearing reports by an official on construction tasks, the commander gave necessary instructions. Next, the commander and mayor visited the site where earth work was carried out for upgrading of Strand Road and left necessary instruction.

MNA

Karamanlis unveils strategy for shipping sector

ATHENS, 5 June — The shipping industry is a “national capital” for Greece and one of the primary driving forces of the economy, Prime Minister Costas Karamanlis said on Friday.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting with Merchant Marine Minister Manolis Kefaloyiannis, the Prime Minister said that the shipping sector was a priority for the government. —MNA/Xibhua

WEF summit endorses commission for Africa proposals

CAPE TOWN (South Africa), 5 June — Business and political leaders from Africa here on Friday sent their strong support to a Britain-backed plan for massive aid to Africa, whose fate could be decided by Group Eight club of industrialized countries (G-8) one month later.

Some 700 heads of state, ministers and CEOs of big businesses, mostly from Africa, wrapped up a three-day summit by endorsing the proposal raised by British Prime Minister

Tony Blair and his Commission for Africa (CFA), which recommended a series of far-reaching interventions in Africa.

At least 350 signatures representing some 200 companies have been collected to show African business sector's strong commitment to the support of the CFA, according to the organizers of the World Economic Forum's (WEF's) 15th Africa Economic Summit.

The summit deliberately focused on the CFA

report released in March, which recommended an annual injection of 25 billion US dollars in aid, as well as complete debt relief and the drop of trade barriers, to the poverty- and conflict-prone continent.

Documents tabled at the summit said a “strong statement” of support by companies could positively influence the G-8 heads of government meeting in Gleneagles, Scotland, in July, where the report will be considered.

MNA/Xinhua

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UNGA president previews possible summit outcome on reform

UNITED NATIONS, 4 June — The president of the UN General Assembly presented on Friday an early vision of what international consensus on development, security, human rights and UN reform might look like when world leaders gather in September to commemorate the organization's 60th anniversary.

The so-called draft outcome document for the High-Level Millennium Review, set to run from September 14 to 16, 2005 was presented to a closed-door assembly session Friday afternoon by President Jean Ping of Gabon.

It had been drafted following intense consultations among UN member states in an attempt to incorporate their reactions to proposals for international action on a host of fronts outlined by Secretary-General Kofi Annan in the report "In Larger Freedom", his ambitious agenda for UN reforms.

Annan unveiled that report in late March as a five-year update on the UN Millennium Declaration, in which world leaders pledged to build a better and safer planet for the next century.

"Member states are

ready to take ambitious decisions on all fronts," Assembly President Ping said at Press briefing to preview the document. There was much possibility for consensus, he added.

With regard to development, for example, he said there was general will to increase development assistance. In the area of peace and security, member states were prepared to take collective measures, especially regarding the protection of civilian populations in cases of genocide and other war crimes.

He said that member states were also prepared to establish a peace-building commission to maintain peace, one of the Secretary-General's structural recommendations. In other areas, there were possibilities for compro-

mises that came close to the recommendations.

Member states had agreed, for example that today's Geneva-based Commission on Human Rights did not function to everyone's satisfaction, he said. However, many had balked at the establishment of a council-level body to replace it. The current draft instead proposed, the creation of a human-rights organ as a subsidiary of the Assembly, with the possibility of promoting it to becoming a principal organ.

The draft outcome document also expresses strong support for the Secretary-General's strategy to eradicate terrorism in all its forms. The adoption of a general counter-terrorism convention was proposed for no later than the middle of next year.

MNA/Xinhua

Study says global warming causes Arctic lakes disappear

LOS ANGELES, 5 June — Arctic lakes have been disappearing for the last 30 years, probably in response to thawing permafrost linked to global warming, according to a new study published on Friday.

In a paper in the 3 June issue of the journal *Science*, US researchers analyzed satellite observations of more than 10,000 lakes in Siberia.

They found the number of large arctic lakes has decreased from 10,882 to 9,712 between 1973 and 1998. A total of 125 lakes vanished completely while the rest have decreased in surface area.

Initial permafrost warming triggers the development of collapsed land formations called "thermokarsts". Additional warming degrades the permafrost further, leading to permafrost "breaching" which may greatly facilitate the drainage of nearby lakes into the subsurface, the authors suggest.

The researchers also reported an increase in total lake area in northern Siberia, suggesting a possible beginning of permafrost degradation in the future.

"This is the first paper that demonstrates the

changes we are seeing in Alaskan lakes in response to a warming climate is also occurring in Siberia," said Larry Hinzman, a co-author from the University of Alaska.

Laurence Smith, lead author of the paper at the University of California, Los Angeles, said they were surprised by the overall loss in surface water.

"We were expecting the lake area to have grown with climate change," said Smith. "And while it did do so in the north where the permafrost remains intact, lake area did not increase in the south where permafrost is warming."

In permafrost regions, summer thaw produces meltwater, which is typically unable to infiltrate into the ground because of the ice-rich frozen soils found in permafrost. Data gathered from the latest measurements indicate that warming temperatures lead to increased numbers of sur-

face water bodies in the colder permafrost regions.

Many lakes decreased in size or dried up completely, while other lakes actually increased in size. Researchers said as the climate warms, additional meltwater accumulated in the lakes located in the colder regions of thicker permafrost increase their size; however, if climate warming continues, even those lakes would eventually be susceptible to loss.

"We expect areas of continuous permafrost to continue to thin and move steadily northward, resulting in the disappearance of more lakes," said Smith. In regions with thin or discontinuous permafrost, surface soils also become drier as the permafrost degrades.

"The changing lakes are a consistent, measurable indication of the overall changes to hydrology in the Arctic," said Hinzman.

MNA/Xinhua

Chen-style Tai Chi to apply for UNESCO heritage

ZHENZHOU, 5 June — Preparations have started on the application of Chen-style shadowboxing for the title of masterpieces of oral and intangible heritage, proclaimed by UNESCO, said a local official in central China's Henan Province.

Chinese shadowboxing, commonly known as Tai Chi, or Taiji, is an internal Chinese martial art. Gentle and slow, Tai Chi is best known as the slow motion routines groups of people practice every morning in hundreds of parks across China and, increasingly, other parts of the world.

Tai Chi theory and practice was formulated in agreement with many of the principles of traditional Chinese medicine, philosophy, and aesthetics. In today's China, there are five major styles of Tai Chi, each named after the Chinese family that created it, including Chen style, Yang style, Wu style and Sun style. Chen-style is one of the most popular.

Chen-style originated in Wenxian County under Jiaozuo, a city in Henan about 700 kilometres south of Beijing. The

birthplace of Chen-style Tai Chi was traditionally, and controversially, credited to Chen Wangting (1600-1680), who developed the system of physical exercises based on the patrimonial boxing of the Chen family.

An official with Jiaozuo City said Chen-style Tai Chi is an important legacy of Chinese civilization.

One of the birthplaces of Chinese Tai Chi, Jiaozuo has hosted seven international Tai Chi games held annually. The city government of Jiaozuo has also set up a research institute for the study of Tai Chi, which the official said would help illuminate more about the Chen-style.

The official said the application of Chen-style for the title of masterpieces of the oral and intangible heritage was a good opportunity for people in other parts of the

world to better understand Tai Chi.

The title of masterpieces of the oral and intangible heritage of humanity was introduced by UNESCO, a UN agency, in 2001. That year saw the proclamation of 19 of the world's most remarkable examples of the oral and intangible heritage. Two years later, UNESCO proclaimed another 28 masterpieces around the world.

Among the 47 masterpieces, China has two, namely Kunqu Opera and the Art of Guqin Music. Kunqu, China's oldest and one of its most influential theatrical traditions, was selected and proclaimed by UNESCO in 2001. The art of guqin music, which has existed for 3,000 years and represents China's foremost solo musical instrument tradition, was selected in 2003. — MNA/Xinhua



Chinese volunteers pose near the logo for the Beijing 2008 Olympics Volunteer Programme at a hotel in Beijing, China, on 5 June, 2005. An estimated 70,000 volunteers will need to be recruited for the 2008 Olympic Games to provide assistance to athletes, officials and journalists as well as to ensure the smooth running of the games. —INTERNET

Author tries to stop leak on "Potter" book

LONDON, 5 June — JK Rowling, author of the Harry Potter series, has won a legal battle to stop details of her latest book being leaked, after two copies were stolen, the *Sky News* reported on Saturday.

Two men from Kettering, Northamptonshire in Britain, have been charged with weapons offences and handling stolen goods.

Rowling was granted a High Court injunction against two men aged 19 and 37 who are accused of attempting to sell copies.

The book, *Harry Potter And The Half-Blood Prince*, due to be published on 16 July, was offered to *The Sun* and the *Daily Mirror*. The two newspapers said they planned to meet the man in Kettering to make sure that the

books were returned to the publishers.

A Northamptonshire Police spokesman said they arrested two men after being contacted about the book.

"Two books were recovered and they are currently being held in secure circumstances as evidence," said a spokesman, adding "We have charged a 37-year-old Kettering man with possession of an offensive weapon and with handling stolen property and a 19-year-old with theft and possession of an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence." — MNA/Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT

Ministry of Industry (1) Myanmar Ceramic Industries Invitation for Sealed Tender

- 1. Myanmar Ceramic Industries invite Sealed Tender for the supply of Mechanical and Electrical Spares, locomotive spares and equipment for Cement Factories.
2. Tender documents shall be available from 6th June, 2005 at Planning Department, Myanmar Ceramic Industries, 192 Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, Myanmar for Kyats 10000 during office hours.
3. Closing date for submission of sealed tenders is 14th July, 2005 at 15:30 pm.
4. Sealed Tender shall be accepted only from the one, who officially purchased the tender document.

Managing Director Myanmar Ceramic Industries

မြန်မာ့အသံနှင့်ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားအတွက် လိုအပ်သော ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားထပ်ဆင့်လွှင့်စက်ပစ္စည်းများ ဝယ်ယူရန် တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ မြန်မာ့အသံနှင့်ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားအတွက် အသံပြုရန် လိုအပ်သော အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားထပ်ဆင့်လွှင့်စက်နှင့် ဆက်စပ် ပစ္စည်းများကို ဝယ်ယူလိုပါသည်-

- (က) 1KW UHF TV Transmitter
(ခ) Output Coaxial Equipment Comprising
(ဂ) Program input and monitoring equipment Comprising
(ဃ) Wiring materials Comprising
(င) Antenna for 1 KW Transmitter
(စ) RF Cable (1 - 5/8" Coaxial)
(ဆ) 4.5m TVRO Set
(ဇ) 52 meter Self - Supporting Tower
(ဈ) Back up Spare (Optional)
(ည) Test Equipment
(ဋ) Automatic Voltage Regulator (48KVA)
(ဌ) UPS 15 KVA
(ဍ) Diesel Generator (30 KVA)
(ဎ) Dehumidifier 16 Liter Per day
(ဏ) Airconditioner 4.5 HP, Split Type, Wall Mounted
(တ) PDB Board & Accessories
(ထ) Lighting Protection

၂။ တင်ဒါပေးခွင့်များကို (၁၅.၆.၂၀၀၅) ရက် (၁၆:၃၀) နာရီတွင် ပိတ်သိမ်းပါမည်။

၃။ တင်ဒါပုံစံနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို အောက်ပါ လိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက်စုံစမ်းဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်-

မြည်တွင်း/မြည်ပစ္စည်းများ ဝယ်ယူရေးနှင့်ထွဲထုတ်ရေးကော်မတီ

မြန်မာ့အသံနှင့်ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားအတွက် ၂၂၈၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၂၅၅၆၂၄၅၆၊ ၂၅၅၆၂၄၅၇

Indonesia expects self-sufficient in rice this year

JAKARTA, 4 June — Indonesian Minister of Agriculture Anton Apriyanto expressed optimism on Thursday that Indonesia would achieve self-sufficiency in rice production this year.

"We will be about to reach self-sufficiency in rice again this year so that there will be no longer a need for imports to meet domestic demand," Anton was quoted by the Antara news agency as saying.

According to data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), Indonesia first reached self-sufficiency in rice in 1984, but ever since it had to import rice to meet domestic needs.

Imports hit a record high of 6 million tons at the peak of the economic crisis in 1998, but declined to between 1.8 million tons

and 2 million tons annually over the past several years. Indonesia banned rice imports last year and a restriction on imports has been imposed since January this year and will be effective until this month.

Meanwhile, Minister of Trade Mari Pangestu said whether the ban would continue to be imposed depended on the latest data on national rice production. BPS projected that rice production will reach 53.11 million tons of unhusked rice this year, a fall of 1.8 per cent against last year's production of 54.06 million tons. —MNA/Xinhua

Thai PM defends instruction for supervision of baht

BANGKOK, 4 June — Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra has defended his instruction for his Deputy Somkid Jatusripitak to closely monitor the local currency movement, saying the move did not signal the country's economy is in trouble.

"I have made the instruction just because I want Dr Somkid to supervise the baht to ensure it reflects the real value. I have never given any signal of the economic trouble," the leader was quoted by the Thai News Agency as saying on Friday.

"Our policy never focuses on the strengthening or weakening of the baht. Actually, it stresses the baht move on its real value," Thaksin said on Thursday.

He conceded the country was in deficit because of rising oil prices. The gross domestic product (GDP) growth would be lower than targeted and inflation rates would stay high.

MNA/Xinhua

Tunisia, Malta reiterate support for Palestinian state

TUNIS, 4 June — Tunisia and Malta on Thursday reiterated their support for establishing an independent Palestinian state so as to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

According to local media reports, Tunisian President Zine Aal-Abidine Ben Ali on Thursday visited Malta and met his Maltese counterpart Edward Fenech Adami.

In the joint communique released after their meeting, the two leaders expressed their concern about the situation in the Middle East region, urging the international community, especially the so-called Mideast Quartet — the United Nations, the United States, Russia and

the European Union — which drew up the roadmap peace plan, to help promote mutual trust between Palestine and Israel and bring the two sides back to peace talks on the basis of international law and UN resolutions.

The communique said that the roadmap plan should be implemented to ensure that the Palestinians regain their legal rights and found their own independent state on their own land.

The two leaders also stressed the importance of European-Mediterranean cooperation and pledged to contribute to security and stability in the Mediterranean region.

The communique said that the two countries have signed a good-neighbourly cooperation treaty on strengthening their cooperation in the fields of trade, employment, agriculture, culture, science and technology, and transportation.

MNA/Xinhua

Nigeria imports half of petroleum consumption

LAGOS, 4 June — OPEC member Nigeria, Africa's top oil producer, currently refines 14 million litres of petrol daily but still has to import another 50 per cent of its daily consumption, the state-run petroleum corporation said on Thursday.

The capacity of the nation's four refineries only "represents more than 50 per cent of our daily consumption need put at 30 million litres per day", said Funsho Kupolokun, managing director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corp (NNPC).

Kupolokun told the News Agency of Nigeria that the production from the refineries, which now operate at 75 per cent nameplate capacity, the first in recent years, would reach 16.5 million per day before the end of the year.

He said the level of import of the products has reduced by over 50 per cent, but the country still imports about 13 million litres per day.

"We have reduced the level of import by over 50 per cent by importing only 13 million litres to make up for the daily consumption need of the country," he said.

In a bid to increase refining capacity, the Nigerian Government had sought to get oil majors operating in the country to take over management of the refineries or build new ones.

The request was turned down as the oil companies cited unfavourable business environment as excuse.

MNA/Xinhua

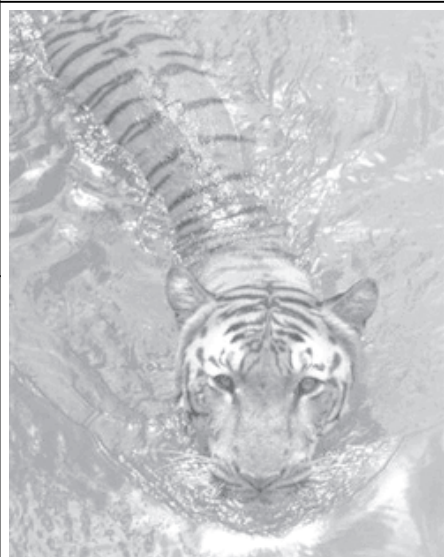
Vietnam targets economic growth of 8% for next year

HANOI, 4 June — The Vietnamese Government has just set a target of gaining gross domestic product (GDP) growth of 8 per cent next year, according to local newspaper Pioneer on Friday.

To realize the target, Vietnam will centre on giving a boost to business and production, mobilizing more investment, especially idle capital of local residents and foreign investment, boosting export with focus on trade promotion and traditional markets, especially major ones.

The government has recently asked local ministries, sectors and localities to create favourable conditions for foreign investors to have stronger participation in the development of socio-economic fields and local regions, in line with international economic integration roadmaps, as well as to pay due attention to implementation of projects on producing electricity, cement, oil and gas, fertilizers, coal, steel, chemicals, machinery and seagoing ships.

MNA/Xinhua



A Royal Bengal tiger wades in a water pond at the national zoo in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 3 June, 2005. —INTERNET

ACB to sell shares to foreign bank

HANOI, 4 June — The Asia Commercial Bank (ACB) will become the first bank of Vietnam to sell shares to a foreign bank, since the State Bank of Vietnam has just allowed it to partner with a British bank.

The state bank on 1 June permitted the ACB to issue additional shares which will be sold to London-based Standard Chartered Bank and it will help the well-performing local joint-stock commercial bank to develop further in Vietnam's international economic integration process, local newspaper Labour reported on Friday.

ACB is expected to have total assets of 20.5 trillion Vietnamese dong (VND) (nearly 1.3 billion US dollars), and profits of 370 billion VND (23.4 million dollars) this year. It gained total assets of 15,417 billion VND (over 975.7 million dollars) and profits of 278 billion VND (17.6 million dollars) last year, up 43 per cent and 50 per cent against the previous year, respectively. — MNA/Xinhua

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China reports progress in modernizing traditional medicine

GUIYANG, 4 June — China has progressed in its efforts to modernize traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) by the application of science and technology.

Information from a recent national exchange meeting on modernized TCM production bases held in Guiyang, capital of southwest China's Guizhou Province, said 448 standardized planting bases have been built in 18 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions where 933,333 hectares of medicinal herbs have been grown.

Up to now, the Ministry of Science and Technology has approved the establishment of 14 state-level modernized TCM production centres and eight standardized bases for growing medicinal herbs.

A great number of TCM enterprises have learned to solve technological problems in the process of TCM modernization via forging technical unions with scientific research organizations and universities of higher learning, which has led to an improvement in the innovative capabilities of the TCM enterprises.

Statistics from the State Intellectual Property Office of China showed there

were 4,520 applications for patents in 2004. In the same year, the State Food and Drug Administration approved 203 kinds of new TCM products for sale.

Chinese scientists have successfully developed new TCM varieties for treating diseases such as AIDS, cancer and cardiovascular or cerebrovascular diseases.

So far, at least seven kinds of TCM products are being put into clinical research or in the United States with permits granted for clinical research by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of the United States, said Wu Zhongze, Vice-Minister of Science and Technology.

TCM-related businesses now contribute more to China's gross economy along with TCM modernization.

In 2003, China's TCM industrial sector had 81 billion yuan (about 9.76 billion US dollars) in total output value and accomplished 75.1 billion yuan (about 9.05 billion US dollars) in sales revenue.

MNA/Xinhua

Vulture nesting sites in India's Katarina Ghat

LUCKNOW, 4 June — Environmentalists, concerned that the vulture in India is on the last lap of extinction, take heart that at least at one reserve the big bird is nesting under natural condition — in the Katarina Ghat wildlife sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh's Bahraich District.

Divisional Forest Officer Ramesh Pandey said "Till now there is not a single site identified in the country where the vultures form their nests and lay eggs under natural conditions."

He said that in a bid to save the vultures from being extinct, a captive breeding project is currently underway in Haryana where they are bred in cages.

"The example of natural nesting and breeding has come to light only at Katarnia Ghat," Pandey said.

He informed that of the available 19 species of vultures, eight are found in India.

Of these, five—White-Backed vultures, Egyptian vultures, Indian long-billed vultures, Rehead and Griffon — were found in Katarnia Ghat.

According to a census conducted in 2002, there were about 700 vultures in the sanctuary and as many as 32 places were identified where they nested and bred in natural environment, Pandey said.

Vultures are ecology's great health guard—scavenging and feeding on animal carcasses to keep environment clean.

Pandey said forest officials had recently identified six separate trees of "Semal" and "Haldu", where White-Backed vultures had formed their nests and bred.

Eggs were spotted in these nests, the DFO said

adding the hatchlings had come out of the shells and were ready to test their strength in air.

He said the vultures played an important role in maintaining ecological balance by eating the carcasses of animals.

Till recently the vultures were spotted in large numbers in the country but their numbers had nosedived since almost a decade, Pandey said.

Though wildlife experts had been conducting research to ascertain the reasons for the dwindling population of vultures, the death rate had risen sharply because of contamination in carcasses which was their main food, he said.

MNA/PTI

World leading pulp maker eyes Vietnam's paper industry

HANOI, 4 June—The United States-based International Paper, well-known in the paper, packaging and wood product industry, is seeking investment opportunities in Vietnam with possible pouring of one billion US dollars into the country.

If the opportunities prove great, the company, which has just met with officials from the Vietnamese Industry Ministry and the Vietnam Paper Association here, is likely to invest up to one billion dollars in afforestation and pulp production in the country like it has done in Brazil, according to local newspaper *Investment* on Friday.

Vietnam, which has to

import 80 percent of its pulp and various kinds of high-quality paper, has yet to attract any foreign-invested projects in pulp production and afforestation. It imported 228,000 tons of paper worth 142 million dollars in the first five months of this year, posting year-on-year respective surges of 43.3 per cent and 87 per cent, according to the country's General Statistics Office. — MNA/Xinhua

Delhi Govt's "Bhagidari" wins UN award

NEW DELHI, 4 June — Delhi Government's "Bhagidari" programme for partnership with citizens has won the prestigious United Nations Public Service Award.

This is the first time that an entry from India has been selected for the award.

The citizen-government partnership programme has won the UN Public Service Award for 2005 for improving transparency, accountability and responsiveness in public service, according to an official release.

The awards were established by the UN in 2000 to recognize institutional contributions made to en-

hance the role, professionalism and visibility of public service. After a preliminary screening of hundreds of entries from across the globe, the public service award selection committee reviews the shortlist and submits final recommendations to the UN Secretary-General, who approves the list of winners. This year, Bhagidari was also selected for participation in the UN's sixth Global Conference on Good Governance in Korea. — MNA/PTI



Roborior glows blue while gurgling with whimsical buzzes and rings during its demonstration at a Tokyo showroom on 1 June, 2005.—INTERNET



Hong Kong film star Jackie Chan fixes his headset during an anti-counterfeit promotional event in Hong Kong on 2 June, 2005.—INTERNET

Beijing police destroy drugs

BEIJING, 4 June — Beijing police burnt 224 kilos of drugs with an estimated value of 100 million yuan, or 12 million US dollars, in the city's northwestern suburbs on Friday, *China Daily* reported.

The drugs, mostly heroin, ice, marijuana and pills, were collected during raids against drug dealers and addicts in 2002 and 2003, it said.

The drug burning move took place on the 166th anniversary of the famous Humen Opium Destruction. On 3 June, 1839, Lin Zexu, a senior official of the Qing Dynasty, ordered the destruction of about 1,000 tons of smuggled opium confiscated from foreign dealers at Humen in south China's Guangdong Province. His move was regarded as China's first battle against opium. Beijing police have burnt drugs every two years since the late 1990s. In 2003, the city destroyed more than 600 kilos of drugs.

Last year, Beijing drug enforcement agents uncovered more than 1,800 drug trafficking cases and captured more than 1,370 suspected drug dealers, confiscating nearly 74 kilos of drugs, the newspaper quoted statistics provided by the municipal public security bureau. Last November, Beijing police crashed down on a drug smuggling gang and seized nearly 14.6 kilos of narcotics, the biggest drug case it had smashed since 1949.

MNA/Xinhua

S P O R T S

Figo-captained Portugal leads group 3

LISBON, 5 June—Portugal took an important step closer to Germany 2006 by defeating Slovakia 2-0 in La Luz Stadium on Saturday, in a match that marked the return of Real Madrid midfielder Luis Figo as captain.

Portugal, which have garnered 17 points to top the group, with three more points than Slovakia and Russia, will take on Latvia next Wednesday, which lost to Russia 2-0 in St Petersburg.

The host team, coached by Brazilian Luiz Felipe Scolari, scored 21 minutes into the game through Fernando Meira who received a pass from Figo, who was about to score on several occasions during the first half.

The second goal was scored by Manchester United striker Cristiano Ronaldo,

in a match witnessed by 65,000 fans at La Luz.

With 111 matches, Luiz Figo, who had not played for the national team since Euro 2004 final loss to Greece, has become the most capped Portuguese.

Among the spectators were Portuguese President Jorge Sampaio, Prime Minister Jose Socrates and Indonesian boy Martunis, who survived last December the Southeast Asian tsunami and was found alive 19 days later wearing the Portuguese team T-shirt. —MNA/Xinhua



Guatemalan striker Mario Rodriguez (R) fights for the ball with Mexican midfielder Gonzalo Pineda during the second half of their 2006 World Cup qualifier soccer match at Mateo Flores stadium in Guatemala City, on 4 June, 2005. Mexico beat Guatemala 2-0.—INTERNET

Robben back home sealing Dutch win over Romania

BRUSSELS, 5 June—Dutch football star Arjen Robben came back home and helped the Dutch national team to seal a victory of 2-0 over Romania in a World Cup Group One qualifier held in Rotterdam on Saturday night.

Robben opened the scoring after 26 minutes when he got a long pass from Dirk Kuijt, while in return, Robben offered a marvelous pass to help the latter to seal the victory early in the second half.

The Netherlands is at top of the group with 19 points after seven matches, one more point than the Czech Republic, who thrashed Andorra 8-1 earlier.—MNA/Xinhua

Ukraine march towards first ever World Cup finals

LONDON, 5 June—Ukraine beat Kazakhstan 2-0 to make a firm step towards their first ever World Cup finals on Saturday while the Netherlands and Croatia move closer to their dreams.

AC Milan hitman Andrei Shevchenko netted Ukraine's opening goal in the 18th minute, while Kazakhstan's full back Igor Avdeyev netted an own goal.

Ukraine now have 20 points from eight matches and are five points clear of second-placed Greece and seven ahead of Turkey with only the group winners earning an automatic qualify-

ing berth to the 2006 finals in Germany.

Turkey kept a clean sheet against Greece when they held the reigning European Champions to a goalless draw.

Holland beat Romania 2-0 in Rotterdam to hold on to their lead in Group One but coach Marco van Basten was not entirely happy. "It wasn't a great match tonight. We didn't play as well as we could have but overall I'm satisfied. I have to take my hat off to young players such as Robben, Lucius and van Persie who did very well."

In Group Three, Portugal beat Slovakia 2-0 after a great performance from Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo.

VfB Stuttgart defender Fernando Meira, set up by Paris Saint Germain's Pauleta, gave Portugal the lead on 21 minutes before Ronaldo doubled the scores four minutes before the break with a 25-metre shot.

Israel kept up the pressure in Group Four as they came from two goals down to draw 2-2 with the Republic of Ireland in Dublin. —MNA/Xinhua

Albania wins over Georgia in 2006 World Cup qualifier

TIRANA, 5 June—Albania conquered Georgia 3-2 here Saturday night in one of the qualifiers of the 2006 World Cup, Group Two in Europe.

The match was played in the Qemal Stafa national stadium in Tirana behind closed doors because of a sanction imposed by the world soccer's governing body FIFA to the Albanian Football Federation due to the unruly behaviour of the country's fans in the February 9 qualifier against Ukraine at the same stadium. —MNA/Xinhua

Russia beats Latvia 2-0 in World Cup qualifier

MOSCOW, 5 June—Andrei Arshavin scored early in the second half and Dmitry Loskov later converted a penalty kick to lift Russia over Latvia 2-0 in a World Cup qualifier on Saturday.

Russia, which was playing under coach Yury Syomin for the first time, controlled the game but neither team came close to scoring in the first half.

Dynamo Kiev striker Maris Verpakovskis missed two clear opportunities early in the second half to put the visitors in the lead. Alexander Kerzhakov then dribbled past three Latvian defenders and put Arshavin one-on-one with goalkeeper Andrejs Piedels in the 56th minute.

Arshavin outplayed Piedels to score

into an empty net.

Eleven minutes later, Vladimir Bystrov rushed into the box and Piedels fouled him. Loskov left Piedels no chance, firing the penalty into the upper right corner of the net.

Russia goalkeeper Igor Akinfeyev denied Vitas Rimkus a consolation goal one minute into second-half injury time, fisting the ball over the crossbar.

Russia cemented its position in the Group 3 standings and has 14 points from seven matches. —MNA/Xinhua

Int'l Dragon Boat Races gear up in Macao

MACAO, 5 June—The ebullient atmosphere of the 2005 Macao International Dragon Boat Races flamed here on Saturday at the Sai Van Lake, with drums roaring and paddles dashing.

Some 100 teams from China's Mainland, Hong Kong, Macao and foreign nations covering Singapore, the Philippines and Thailand attended the event, which is jointly organized by Macao's Sport Develop Board and Macao's China Dragon Boat Association.

The dragon boat race, for over 2,000 years, has been a significant Chinese cultural heritage as the celebration of the Dragon Boat Festival and Macao has a long history of hosting the sports event.

MNA/Xinhua

Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

P	8	P	8	Q	8	S	8	P	8	D	8	P	
A	V	E	N	U	E	8	8	D	U	N	I	T	E
S	8	R	8	E	8	B	8	C	8	N	8	T	
T	A	F	F	E	T	A	8	C	H	E	S	T	
U	8	E	8	R	8	R	8	I	8	R	8	Y	
R	A	C	K	8	B	R	U	N	T	8	8	8	
E	8	T	8	B	8	I	S	I	8	C	8	S	
8	8	8	T	R	A	C	K	8	B	O	S	H	
S	8	B	8	I	8	A	8	U	8	M	8	U	
Q	U	E	S	T	8	D	U	S	T	M	A	N	
U	8	A	8	T	8	E	8	U	8	A	8	D	
I	N	S	U	L	T	8	F	R	I	N	G	E	
B	8	T	8	E	8	8	8	P	8	D	8	D	

Henin-Hardenne eases past pierce to regain French Open glory

PARIS, 5 June—Former winner Justine Henin-Hardenne regained her French Open title here Saturday, easing past another former champion Mary Pierce 6-1, 6-1 in just over one hour.

Henin-Hardenne hugged with 2000 winner Pierce before she buried her face into the towel in the emotional moment with capacity spectators on Court Philippe Chatrier cheered for her.

Henin-Hardenne, turning 23 Wednesday, became the lowest seed to clinch the title here when the 10th seed rushed to the victory in one hour two minutes, her shortest match in seven battles here.

Henin-Hardenne committed two double faults before Pierce's backhand returned stumbled into net to give the Belgian former world number one a much-awaited win on her second match point.

She was the more consistent player in the match, having 15 unforced errors to 29 from Pierce, surprising the field to reach the final as the 21st seed.

"I had thought maybe I could not return but I always hoped to be back here," said Henin-Hardenne in a French speech on receiving the silverware.

"I'm not at my best. I think I can do better. I want to improve my game all the time," she said after taking her 24th consecutive wins of the season. "Even if you win, you have to know what is not very good in your game so you can improve and you can be better."

"But I think I enjoy probably more my game than before my illness, so that's the biggest key. I enjoy every moment I'm on the court. Every ball I hit, it's with my heart. I really enjoy it."

Henin-Hardenne was handed an second round exit by Italian Tathiana Garbin last year. She didn't play

due to cytomegalovirus until Athens Olympic Games victory but was forced to be sidelined again because of a right knee fracture suffered during practice session in December, 2004.

Henin-Hardenne has won three titles in Charleston, Warsaw and Berlin since her comeback starting in Miami where she finished in last eight.

She contributed her strong comeback to her love of the sport and inner power gained from some tribulation in life.


Henin-Hardenne's mother passed away in 1995 due to cancer.—MNA/Xinhua



Belgium Justine Henin-Hardenne returns the ball to French Mary Pierce during their women's final match of the tennis French Open at Roland Garros in Paris. She won 6-1, 6-1.—INTERNET

မိုးရာသီတွင် ဖြစ်တတ်သောရောဂါများ ကာကွယ်ရေးနည်းဆော်ချက်

- ၁။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတစ်ဝှမ်းလုံးတွင် မိုးရာသီရောက်နေပြီဖြစ်သဖြင့် နှစ်စဉ် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သောရောဂါများ ကာကွယ်တားဆီးရေးအတွက် ပြည်သူလူထု တစ်စုလုံးမှ ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာနနှင့်ပူးပေါင်းပြီး ဆောင်ရွက်ကြရန် တိုက်တွန်းနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။
- ၂။ မိုးရာသီတွင် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သော ရောဂါများမှာ အောက်ပါအတိုင်း ဖြစ်ပါသည်။
 - (က) ဝမ်းပျက်ခြင်း၊ ဝမ်းလျှော့ခြင်း၊ ဝမ်းကိုက်ခြင်း။
 - (ခ) အဆေးမိရောင်းဆိုးခြင်းနှင့် တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ။
 - (ဂ) အသက်(၁၄)နှစ်အောက်ကလေးများတွင် သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ (ယ) အသည်းရောင်အသားဝါရောဂါ
- ၃။ ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားရခြင်းမှာ အောက်ပါအကြောင်းများကြောင့်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။
 - (က) ရေကိုကျိုချက်မသောက်ခြင်း။
 - (ခ) ပတ်ဝန်းကျင်တွင် ရေမြောင်းများပိတ်နေခြင်းနှင့် ရေဆိုးများ ရှိနေခြင်း။
 - (ဂ) ယင်လုံအိမ်သားမသုံးခြင်း။
 - (ဃ) ဝမ်းနူးစားများစားခြင်း၊ အမှည့်လွန်သစ်သီးများစားခြင်း။
 - (င) ရာသီအလိုက်ပေါသော သရက်သီး၊ နာနတ်သီး စသည့် အချို ဓါတ်ပါဝင်သောသစ်သီးများ စားကျင့်စားကျန်းမာရေး အိမ်နားတွင် စွန့်ပစ်ခြင်း။
 - (စ) ယင်နားစားခြင်း၊ လမ်းဘေးမသန့်ရှင်းသော ဈေးဆိုင်များမှ အစားအစာများစားခြင်း။
 - (ဆ) မိမိအိမ်တွင် ခြံ ဖြင့်ယင်များကို မနိမ့်နှင့်နိုင်ခြင်း။
 - (ဇ) တစ်ကိုယ်ရေသန့်ရှင်းမှု မရှိခြင်း။
- ၄။ ဤအထက်ပါရောဂါများကို ကြောက်လန့် စိုးရိမ်ဘွယ်ရာမရှိပါ။ ကာကွယ်တားဆီးလျှင် ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်ဘွယ်ရာမရှိပါ။ သို့သော် ပြည်သူ လူထုတစ်စုလုံးသည် ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာနနှင့်ပူးပေါင်း၍ ကာကွယ် တားဆီးကြရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။



Monday, 6 June
View on today:

<p>7:00 am</p> <p>1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Oattamathara</p> <p>7:25 am</p> <p>2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am</p> <p>3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am</p> <p>4. Nice and sweet songs</p> <p>7:50 am</p> <p>5. Song of National Races</p> <p>8:00 am</p> <p>6. Cute little dancers</p> <p>8:10 am</p> <p>7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:20 am</p> <p>8. နတ်သားတောရေလှောင်တံခါး</p> <p>8:30 am</p> <p>9. International news</p>	<p>8:45 am</p> <p>10. Grammar made easy</p> <p>4:00 pm</p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm</p> <p>2. Songs to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm</p> <p>3. Practice in Reading</p> <p>4:45 pm</p> <p>4. Musical programme</p> <p>5:00 pm</p> <p>5. အစားအသောက်ထိခိုက်မှုမှ ကာကွယ်ရေး (အပတ်စဉ်)</p> <p>5:15 pm</p> <p>6. Dance variety</p> <p>5:25 pm</p> <p>7. လက်ဆွဲကမ်းပေးဂီတစား</p> <p>5:35 pm</p> <p>8. Song and Dance of National Races</p> <p>5:45 pm</p> <p>9. မြန်မာ့စား၊ မြန်မာ့ကား</p> <p>6:00 pm</p> <p>10. Musical programme (The Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)</p>
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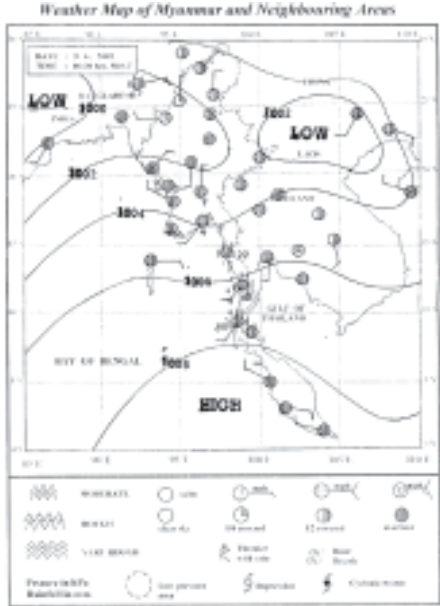
UN target requires access to basic sanitation for 2 billion people

GENEVA, 4 June — Basic sanitation must reach 138 million more people every year through 2015 — close to 2 billion in total — to bring the world on track to halve the proportion of people living without safe water and basic sanitation, the United Nations warned here on Friday.

Meeting the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target would cost 11.3 billion US dollars per year, according to a report released by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Every year, 1.9 million children under five die from diarrhoea diseases in the world's poorest countries — over 5,000 children each day — and poor water and sanitation contribute to almost 90 per cent of these deaths (1.6 million), says the report.

A baby born in sub-Saharan Africa is 500 times more likely to die from diarrhoea diseases than a baby in the developed world. Diarrhoea can lead to severe malnutrition, which contributes to 6 million child deaths every year — more than half the global toll of child mortality. "Access to basic sanitation and adequate drinking water makes people healthier and more economically and socially productive," WHO Director-General



WEATHER

Sunday, 5 June, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kayin and Mon States, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Shan and Rakhine States, Mandalay and Ayeyawady Divisions, isolated in Sagaing Division with isolated heavyfall in Mon State and Mandalay Division and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mawlamyine (4.57) inches, PyinOoLwin (1.93) inches, Hpa-an (1.82) inches, Ann and Kawthong (1.54) inches each, Yamethin (1.41) inches, Dawei (1.31) inches, Lashio (1.18) inches and Myeik (1.02) inches.

Maximum temperature on 4-6-2005 was 82°F. Minimum temperature on 5-6-2005 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 5-6-2005 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 4-6-2005 was nil. Rainfalls on 5-6-2005 were (0.08 inch) at Yangon Airport, (0.16 inch) at Kaba-Aye and (0.24 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (10.51 inches) at Yangon Airport, (10.59 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (7.48 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southwest at (16:10) hours MST on 4-6-2005.

Bay inference: Monsoon is generally strong in Andaman Sea, Central and South Bay and weather is partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 6-6-2005: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Mon and Kayin States, Taninthayi Division, scattered in Shan, Rakhine and Kayah States, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Mon State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

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

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 6-6-2005: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6-6-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).



Monday, 6 June
Tune in today:

<p>8:30 am</p> <p>8:35 am</p> <p>8:40 am</p> <p>8:45 am</p> <p>8:50 am</p> <p>9:00 am</p> <p>9:05 am</p> <p>9:10 am</p> <p>1:30 pm</p> <p>1:40 pm</p> <p>9:00 pm</p> <p>9:10 pm</p> <p>9:20 pm</p> <p>9:35 pm</p> <p>9:45 pm</p> <p>10:00 pm</p>	<p>Brief news</p> <p>Music: Should I, would I, could I</p> <p>Perspectives</p> <p>Music: I need you</p> <p>National news/Slogan</p> <p>Music: -Turn around</p> <p>International news</p> <p>Music: -After the love has gone</p> <p>News/Slogan</p> <p>Lunch time music</p> <p>-Everyday is like Sunday</p> <p>-Love is love wilcoco</p> <p>Spotlight on the Star</p> <p>Blue</p> <p>Make it happen</p> <p>Article</p> <p>Radio Magazine-Drug Elimination</p> <p>Women's Affairs</p> <p>Vocal Gems</p> <p>-Only you</p> <p>News/Slogan</p> <p>PEL</p>
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260,000 saplings planted in Taikkyi Station

YANGON, 5 June — To mark the World Environment Day which falls on 5 June 2005, the ceremony to plant the saplings was held at the local battalion of Taikkyi station under Yangon Command this morning. It was attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay.

The commander, in his speech, said that Yangon Command has been holding the sapling planting ceremonies for five times. It was undertaken in commemoration of the World Environment Day today. Our country has been covered with the forest. The trees and plants are conducive to the world environment.

Afterwards, Taikkyi Station Commander Col Tint Wai explained the progress of conservation of the forest, the regional development tasks and the purpose of holding the saplings planting ceremony.

The commander and wife viewed planting of pepper and other saplings, documentary photos of the forest conservation tasks, books and documents concerning the agriculture and forest conservation technologies, fertilizers and other materials.

Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Daw Khin Thet Htay and guests planted teak and other saplings.

The commander and wife also grew the star-flower and Gangaw (*Mesua ferra*) saplings to mark the



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe plants a sapling at Sapling planting ceremony in Taikkyi Station.—MNA ceremony.

Over 260,000 saplings were planted at today's ceremony.—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

Shan State (North) WVO Preliminary Conference (2005) held

YANGON, 5 June — Shan State (North) War Veterans Organization Preliminary Conference (2005) took place at the town hall of Lashio on 4 June.

It was attended by Patron of the organization Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Myanmar War Veterans Organizing Committee member Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Shan State (North) War Veterans Supervisory Committee Chairman Shan State (North) PDC Secretary Lt-Col Kyaw Shwe, officials and members of so-



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing addresses Shan State (North) War Veterans Organization Preliminary Conference 2005.—MNA

cial organizations totaling over 750.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and Minister Brig-Gen Pyi

Sone made speeches. Next, the commander and minister presented K 2,040,000 to the aged war veterans, disabled war

veterans and students who passed the matriculation examination.

At the conference, the sectors of national poli-

tics, national defence and security, economy, social welfare and public welfare were discussed.

Later, the conference

adopted five future work programmes, passed two resolutions, approved one matter and put five matters on record.—MNA

Myanmar commercial delegation leaves for China



Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein being seen off at the airport before departure for China.—MNA

YANGON, 5 June — At the invitation of the Government of the People's Republic of China, the Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein left here by air this evening to attend the Kunming Trade Fair-2005 to be held in Kunming, Yunnan Province, and discuss bilateral commercial matters.

The minister and party were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun, departmental heads, Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinjun and officials.

The Minister for Commerce was accompanied by Deputy Director-General U Myo Oo of Directorate of Trade and Staff Officer Daw May Thet Win.

MNA

Myanmar Sepak Takraw team cruises into three-men regu event final

YANGON, 5 June — Myanmar men's Sepak Takraw team moved into the final to meet with Malaysian team after beating Japan 2-0 in the semi-final match in the invitational Sepak Takraw Tournament, prior to the SEA Games, held in the Philippines.

In the Group A, Myanmar stood first after beating a 2-1 win over Malaysia, and 2-0 wins over Vietnam and the Philippine-B in the three-men regu event.

In the men's doubles event, Myanmar beat Vietnam and the Philippines-B 2-0 each, and Malaysia 2-1. Myanmar will play against Japan in the semifinal on 6 June.

The final matches of the three-men regu event and the doubles event will be held on 7 June.—MNA