

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Tuesday, 28 June, 2005

### Four political objectives

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

### Four economic objectives

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

### Four social objectives

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

**MWVO a major force that serves as bridge between Tatmadaw and people, to stand as national force with high efficiency and consolidated auxiliary force of Tatmadaw**  
**It is incumbent upon MWVO to strive together with social organizations in service of national development, national defence and security tasks**

## First day session of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference (2005) held

YANGON, 27 June— (2005) was held at the Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township here this morning with an opening address by Chairman of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Organizing Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein. Present on the occasion were Vice-Chairmen of the Central Organizing Committee Vice-Admiral Kyi Min (Retd) and Maj-Gen Saw Tun (See page 8)



Members of the panel of chairmen led by Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein seen at the MWVO Conference (2005). — MNA



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

**PERSPECTIVES**

Tuesday, 28 June, 2005

**To root out danger of narcotic drugs**

The 19th Ceremony of the Destruction of Seized Drugs organized by the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control was held on 26 June in the compound of Drug Elimination Museum in Yangon. It was attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, diplomats, local and foreign journalists and guests.

The Government of the Union of Myanmar is going to extraordinary lengths to root out the danger of narcotic drugs that can cause the extinction of the human race. As a result, during the last five years, Myanmar gained greater momentum in its efforts for elimination of narcotic drugs and achieved considerable success.

Myanmar has been implementing the 15-year plan for combating narcotic drugs and reducing the cultivation and production of narcotic drugs since 1999-2000 and it has been found that the goals of the first five-year plan have been successfully implemented.

In implementing the 15-year plan for drug elimination, such approaches as elimination of production, elimination of drug abuse and enlisting public and international cooperation are being taken.

To reduce the production of narcotic drugs, the government has been implementing the New Destiny Project since April, 2002, as part of the 15-year plan and has achieved success.

According to the report of UNODC, poppy cultivation in Myanmar dropped 13 per cent in 2002, 24 per cent in 2003 and 29 per cent in 2004. The opium yield survey conducted annually in collaboration with the US has also shown 88 per cent drop in production and 81 per cent drop in cultivation during the nine-year period from 1996 to 2004.

Drastic drop in cultivation and production of narcotic drugs is due to the serious commitment and close supervision of the government, active cooperation of regional authorities, local leaders of national races and local people. Moreover, drop in cultivation and production of narcotic drugs can be attributed to the fact that the living standard of national races in border areas has become higher as a result of the government's border area development plan, 24-region development plan and five rural development tasks.

We believe that Myanmar is determined to make continued efforts for elimination of narcotic drugs under the 15-year plan through active cooperation with the neighbours, the nations in the region and sub-region and international organizations.



U Maung Maung Gyi of Hninsigon Home for the Aged accepts K 100,000 donated by Dr Thant Zin (in USA) on his birthday anniversary. — H

**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

**Garbage trucks converted into CNG vehicles**

YANGON, 27 June — Yangon City Development Committee has been converting its garbage trucks from oil to natural gas power vehicles.

YCDC Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin this morning inspected CNG (Compressed Natural Gas)-powered vehicles of YCDC at the Factory and Vehicle Department in Mingala Taungnyunt Township. The mayor this morning also went to Dawbon Township and inspected stone



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspects assembling of CNG-powered garbage trucks of YCDC at the Factory and Vehicle Department in Mingala Taungnyunt Township. — YCDC

crushing, production of tar and stone slabs by the Engineering Department of YCDC. Next, the minister attended to the needs. —MNA

**F & R Deputy Minister receives Japanese guests**



Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe receives Vice-Executive Chairman of Daiwa Institute of Research Ltd. — F&R

YANGON, 27 June — Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe received Mr Koichi Suzuki and party of Daiwa Institute of Research Ltd of Japan at his office this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein and officials. — MNA

**Bridges on Yangon-Mandalay rail road being upgraded**

YANGON, 27 June —Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Pe Than on 22 June met with senior engineers of the ministry and gave instructions on upgrading of the bridges along Yangon-Bago-Toungoo-Pyinmana rail road.

The deputy minister the next day inspected the upgrading of Pyinmana Station and construction of the level crossing at the junction of Ayela-Lewe-Kyatpyay motor road and Yangon-Mandalay rail road.

Afterwards, the deputy minister went to the construction site of Hsinthay Creek Bridge which is situated on Pyinmana-Myohaug rail road section. At the briefing hall, a project engineer reported to him on completion of approach structure and pillars of the bridge that will be 345 ft long. Next, the deputy minister inspected the construction work.

On 24 June, Deputy Minister U Pe Than arrived at the construction site of the level crossing on the approach road of Yadanabon Bridge in Mandalay.

After hearing report on construction work presented by an engineer in-charge with the use of charts, the deputy minister fulfilled the requirements.

In Mandalay, the deputy minister met with staff of the departments under the ministry. —MNA

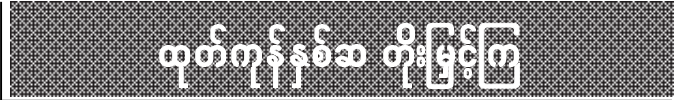
**အချို့နှင့် Monosodium Glutamate (MSG) စားသုံးခြင်း အန္တရာယ်သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်**

- ၁။ ယခင်က သန့်ရှင်းလတ်ဆတ်သော ဟင်းသီးဟင်းရွက်၊ အသား၊ ငါးတို့ကို သဘာဝအတိုင်း ချက်ပြုတ်စားသောက်ကြပါသည်။ ယခုအခါတွင် သဘာဝမဟုတ်သည့် အချို့နှင့်အစားအသောက်များ ပြင်ဆင်ချက်ပြုတ်ရာတွင် သုံးစွဲလာကြပါသည်။
- ၂။ အချို့နှင့်တွင် လူတို့၏ကျန်းမာရေးကို ထိခိုက်စေသောဓာတ်များ ပါရှိသည်ကို စစ်ဆေးတွေ့ရှိရပါသည်။ အချို့နှင့်ကို စားသုံးခြင်းကြောင့် အောက်ပါရောဂါများ ဖြစ်ပွားစေပါသည်။
  - \* ပန်းနာရောင်ကြပ်ရောဂါ
  - \* အရေပြားယားယံခြင်း၊ အပိန်ထွက်ခြင်း
  - \* နှလုံးရောဂါနှင့်တူသော ရင်ဘတ်အောင့်ရောဂါ
  - \* သွေးတိုးရောဂါ
  - \* နှလုံးရောဂါ
  - \* နှလုံးခုန်စေခြင်း
  - \* စိတ်ကယောင်ချောက်ခြားဖြစ်ခြင်း
  - \* ကျောက်ကပ်အားနည်းသူ၊ ကျောက်ကပ်ရောဂါရှိသူများတွင် ကိုယ်ဖောယောင်ခြင်း
- ၃။ သို့ပါ၍ ဟင်းသီးဟင်းရွက်၊ အသား၊ ငါးစသည်တို့ကို သဘာဝအတိုင်း ချက်ပြုတ်ပြင်ဆင်စားသောက်ကြပါရန်နှင့် အချို့နှင့်ကို ထည့်သွင်းစားသောက်ခြင်း မပြုကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



Chinese dancers perform during a ceremony to unveil the slogan for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China, on 26 June, 2005. China announced on Sunday that the slogan for the 2008 Summer Olympic Games will be 'One World, One Dream.' The slogan was chosen out of 210,000 proposals submitted in Chinese, French, Spanish, Portuguese and many other languages.—INTERNET



## Hu Jintao meets Fiji PM, vows to further bilateral ties

**BEIJING, 26 June—** Chinese President Hu Jintao said here Saturday that China will strive to expand and deepen bilateral ties with Fiji and make the Sino-Fijian ties an example of relationship between China and South Pacific countries featuring equality, friendship and mutual-beneficial cooperation.

Hu told Fijian Prime Minister Laisenia Qarase in the Great Hall of the People in downtown Beijing that Sino-Fijian relations witnessed constant growth since the forging of diplomatic ties between the two countries in 1975. Exchanges between the top leaders, parliaments and parties of the two nations became frequent and active, Hu acknowledged.

The two sides also witnessed increased trade and fruitful mutual-beneficial cooperation and growing exchanges and cooperation in culture, education and tourism. Hu ascribed all this to three main factors: In terms of politics, the two sides respect and trust each other and do not interfere with the other's internal affairs; and the two economies were reciprocal and reached common development.

MNA/Xinhua

## China's Customs seize 74 drug trafficking cases

**BEIJING, 26 June—** China's Customs across the country have seized 74 drug-trafficking cases in the first half of this year, seizing 100 suspects and captured 291 kilos of drugs of various kinds, according to latest statistics from the General Administration of Customs.

Since 17 January, the Shenzhen Customs Office launched a special campaign on the drug-related crimes. After half year of investigation, the police uncovered two drug processing and selling centres and destroyed an extra-large ring dealing with drug-trafficking in Hong Kong and Shenzhen. During the campaign, the police also seized 9.3 kilos of drugs and 300,000 Hong Kong dollars of capital used for drug trafficking.

MNA/Xinhua

## Nepali Govt opens up Malaysian labour market for women

**KATHMANDU, 26 June—**The Nepalese Government has permitted women workers to apply for the organized sector of the labour market in Malaysia, a government official said here on Saturday.

"Keeping in mind the increasing demand of Nepalese women in the foreign labour market, the government has now given women the go ahead to work in the organized sector in Malaysia," said Purusottam Ojha, secretary at the Nepalese Ministry of Labour and Transport Management, at a workshop organized jointly by the United Nations Development Fund for Women and Samanta, a Nepalese institute for social and gender equality.

However, Ojha said, women will be allowed to go for jobs in Malaysia only in groups. "A proper hostel facility in the company that employs these women is also a must to ensure their security," Ojha added.

"Skilled workers can open up opportunities for

other Nepalese women and also empower themselves for protection against every possible abuse and exploitation," said Arzu Rana Deuba, executive chairperson of Samanta.

The government is working to amend the Foreign Employment Act 1985. The amendment will include establishing a welfare fund for the rescue and rehabilitation of employees in case they land up in trouble in foreign soil, Ojha said.

Malaysia is the largest employer of Nepalese foreign-bound workers. More than 500 Nepalese are going aboard in a day and the destination of about 50 per cent of them is Malaysia, according to the Nepali Labour Department.—MNA/Xinhua

## Iceland to open diplomatic mission in Sri Lanka

**COLOMBO, 26 June —** The government of Iceland will open an embassy in Sri Lanka shortly, Sri Lanka's official *Daily News* reported on Saturday.

This was revealed when Gunnar Snorri Gunnarsson, Icelandic Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs met H M G S Palihakkara, secretary of Sri Lanka's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the paper said.

A delegation headed by Gunnarsson arrived in Sri Lanka on 20 June to sign a Development Cooperation Agreement between the International Development Agency of Iceland and Sri Lanka. The signing ceremony took place at the Ministry of Finance on Friday, according to a Foreign Ministry Press release.

MNA/Xinhua

## Booby-trapped dog explodes in Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 26 June —**A booby-trapped dog targeting a police patrol exploded in the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk on Sunday, injuring one police officer, police said.

Sources in the oil-rich city said the dog was apparently drugged and blew up as a police patrol was passing on a main road in eastern Kirkuk.

Guerillas have previously used animals pulling carts in targeted attacks against the US-led forces in the country as well as human suicide bombings.

The sources said another police patrol

was targeted in the same area just two minutes after the dog exploded, injuring two officers.

Three suicide attacks, mortar fire and shooting incidents on Sunday killed at least 35 Iraqis and injured more than 40, mostly in the northern city of Mosul.

Most of the casualties were Iraqi police officers.—Internet



Iraqis bring the body of an Iraqi woman from the rubble of her destroyed house after a mortar attack in Baghdad, Iraq, on 26 June, 2005. —INTERNET

## Reported AIDS cases soar in Indonesia

**JAKARTA, 26 June—**The number of reported AIDS cases in Indonesia has more than double, with injecting drug users most affected, a local newspaper reported on Saturday.

A country report to be submitted by Indonesia to next month's Asia and the Pacific 7th International Congress on AIDS in Kobe, Japan, reveals that there were cumulatively 2,682 reported AIDS cases in 29 provinces in Indonesia, a significant climb from the 1,058 figure in March 2003, said *The Jakarta Post*.

The number, however, only represents the tip of the iceberg as there are still those who keep quiet about their illness due to fear of stigmatization and discrimination.

The official estimate of people living with HIV/AIDS in Indonesia is 90,000 to 130,000 people, according to the report. The global number has grown to 38 million people in 2003 from 35 million in 2001.

While in a previous report Jakarta topped the list of provinces with the highest AIDS rate, this year the eastern province of Papua has outnumbered the capital with a rate of 24.06 cases per 100,000 of population. Other provinces with high rates of AIDS are Bali, Maluku, North Sulawesi and West Kalimantan.

Data also shows that drug injection is now the main mode of transmission for the disease.

A Jakarta survey in 2003 showed that HIV prevalence had tripled from 15.8 per cent in 1999 to 47.9 per cent in 2002. Last year, the city saw a 44.1-per cent increase in reported AIDS cases.

MNA/Xinhua

# Musharraf reiterates commitment to fight terrorism

ISLAMABAD, 26 June — Pakistani President General Pervez Musharraf on Friday said his country remained firm in its commitment to root out terrorism, according to the *Associated Press of Pakistan*.

While talking to Stephen Krasner, director for Policy Planning in the US Department of State, Musharraf said responsibility in this respect had to be shared by all concerned. Krasner arrived in Islamabad Friday on a three-day visit.

Pakistan, Musharraf added, would continue to extend support to Afghanistan in its effort to bring about peace and stability in that country.

He reiterated his vision of Pakistan as a moderate and progressive Islamic state and an anchor of peace and stability in the region.

On the Pakistan-India relations, Musharraf observed that the two coun-

tries were moving in the right direction and had brought about considerable improvements in their bilateral relations.

He noted that a number of confidence building measures had been adopted.

However, he stressed that for the dialogue between the two neighbours to succeed, they needed to resolve the core issue of Jammu and Kashmir as well as other outstanding issues.

Musharraf also expressed satisfaction with the pace and depth of the Pakistan-US relations, saying they had acquired a new strategic dimension based on shared interests.

MNA/Xinhua



# Japan urges US Govt to solve credit card data leak

TOKYO, 26 June — Japan on Friday urged the US Government to swiftly provide Japan with information on the massive theft of credit card data at a US data-processing company.

Japanese Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Shoichi Nakagawa made the request while meeting with US Ambassador to Japan Thomas Schieffer, according to *Kyodo News*. The two shared the view that the widespread card data abuse is a "very serious" matter.

The US ambassador told Nakagawa that Washington will update Tokyo with the latest available information, although

the scope of information may be limited so as not to obstruct investigations conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Kyodo* said.

The minister said he will dispatch ministry officials to the United States as soon as possible to discuss measures to deal with the card data theft with their counterparts at the US Government.

MNA/Xinhua



Pakistani youths wade in a water canal to cool down from a heat wave in Lahore on 26 June, 2005. At least 375 people have died from sunstroke and dehydration in a month-long heat wave sweeping India, Nepal, Pakistan and Bangladesh, as South Asia endures one of its hottest summers on record, authorities said. —INTERNET

# Heat wave claims over 100 lives across Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 26 June — At least 106 people have died in a blistering heat wave across Pakistan, with temperatures soaring to 50 degrees Celsius (122 degrees Fahrenheit), the highest in more than a decade, *The Nation* reported on Saturday.

Weather and health officials said on Friday that hundreds more have been left seriously ill from heat stroke and gastroenteritis, while meteorologists warned there is no let-up in sight for at least another three days.

In dust bowl central Pakistan, the death toll in the past five days reached at least 86, while in southern Sindh Province, 20 people have died, health officials said.

The mercury climbed to 50 degrees Celsius in Attock and Sargodha in central Punjab Province as well as in Risalpur in the North West Frontier Province, an 11-year record. Temperatures in the capital Islamabad hit 46 degrees Celsius, also the highest since 1994. A heat wave in 2003 left more than 230 people dead in Pakistan. — MNA/Xinhua

# Battery-powered bikes to be available in Angkor Wat

PHNOM PENH, 26 June — Battery-powered bicycles will soon be available for hire at the Angkor Wat Temples as part of the efforts of the Apsara Authority to cut down on vehicle emissions at the tourist site, *The Cambodia Daily* reported on Saturday.

Apsara Deputy-Director Tep Henn was quoted as saying that, about 300 of the Chinese-made bicycles will be offered for rent in August at a cost of 3.5 US dollars per day.

"The Apsara Authority wants to promote a better medium of transport that avoids air pollution," he added.

However, people are still able to use their own transportation. If the tourists want to ride a battery-powered bicycle, they will have them, Tep Henn said.

The idea was welcomed by some travel agencies, but reportedly criticized by motorbike taxi drivers in Siem Reap who fear the bikes will put them out of business.

Angkor Wat Temples, built between the 9th and 14th centuries AD, is a world well-known tourist site which attracts more and more tourists.

Cambodia's tourism has been boomed in recent years. In 2004, the number of visitors coming to the Kingdom reached to more than one million.

MNA/Xinhua

# US plans expansion of crowded Iraq prisons

BAGHDAD, 26 June—Faced with a ballooning prison population, US commanders in Iraq are building new detention facilities at the notorious Abu Ghraib prison and Camp Bucca near the Kuwaiti border and are developing a third major prison, in northern Iraq.

The burgeoning number of detainees has also resulted in a lengthy delay in plans for the US to transfer full control of Abu Ghraib to the Iraqi government.

Maj Gen William Brandenburg, who oversees US-run prisons in Iraq, had planned to be out of Abu Ghraib by early spring. "I believed it until mid-December, but the numbers just weren't going that way," he said. "Business is booming."

The new timeline calls for the US to stop using Abu Ghraib by February, at which point the entire prison would be turned over to the Iraqi Ministry of Justice. After the scandal over abuse of Iraqi prisoners by US soldiers, President Bush had advocated demolishing Abu Ghraib "as a fitting symbol of Iraq's new beginning."

But the Iraqi government has begun using the prison, which was a notorious torture centre under Saddam Hussein, to house prisoners convicted under its nascent criminal justice system. The prison, just west of Baghdad, is currently a joint facility, with the US Army and the Iraqi government housing detainees in separate compounds.

Internet

# Jailed Australian woman fires Indonesian lawyers

JAKARTA, 26 June — An Australian woman who has been serving her 20-year jail term in Indonesia for drug trafficking was reported on Saturday of having dismissed her local attorneys.

Schapelle Corby, a convict in the smuggling of 4.1 kilos of marijuana, has phoned the head of the four-member lawyer team from her cell in Bali to tell the dismissal, reported the *Detikcom* online news service.

Corby fired the team amid rumours that the lawyers had asked 500,000 Australian dollars to bribe judges in the Bali Court of Appeal, it said.

MNA/Xinhua



Singaporean children practise a martial arts routine in preparation for the 5 July opening ceremony of the 117th IOC Session which will pick the host city for the 2012 Olympic games on 26 June, 2005 in Singapore. —INTERNET

## Russia urges NATO to ratify key arms control treaty

Moscow, 25 June — Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov urged NATO on Friday to ratify an amended version of the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty, saying Russia sees no reason in balking at ratification.

“Now that we have signed an agreement on our military bases’ removal from Georgia, no reason remains (for delaying ratification),” Lavrov said following talks with NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, the *Interfax* news agency reported.

Russia, fearful of possible NATO military bases on its doorsteps, wants newcomers in the European Union, including the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, to commit to the treaty, but NATO has linked the treaty with implementation of the Istanbul agreements. “We have never seen this link as valid,” Lavrov said. “We don’t think it would be right to balk at enforcing this vital document for European stability,” he added.

The Russian arsenals in Moldova, manned by a small Russian contingent, could not be withdrawn after Chisinau froze talks with Moscow, Lavrov said. “Responsibility no longer rests with Russia on this issue.”

De Hoop Scheffer, however, would not budge, saying NATO clearly sees a

strong link there.

NATO agrees that ratification is extremely important, but still links the ratification of the treaty with the Istanbul commitments, de Hoop Scheffer said. “That position will not change”.

The two sides sounded more harmonious notes on other issues and talked up the Russia-NATO partnership.

“We are working actively to build a real partnership with NATO,” Lavrov told de Hoop Scheffer.

Russia-NATO cooperation is based on common interests in fighting terrorism, drug trafficking and curbing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, Lavrov said. De Hoop Scheffer said the current priorities in Russia-NATO cooperation are fighting terrorism, cooperation on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and settling regional conflicts. Russian President Vladimir Putin said after a separate meeting with de Hoop Scheffer that Russia and NATO should also cooperate in curbing drug trade in Afghanistan and Central Asia.

MNA/Xinhua



An Indian elephant cools off during a hot day in a zoo in the northern Indian city Lucknow on 25 June, 2005. —INTERNET

## Community-based disaster preparedness programmes called for

GENEVA, 25 June — Six months after the tsunami tragedy, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies on Friday underscored the importance of better community preparation when disaster strikes.

“The response of local and international Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers to this emergency was swift and decisive,” Johan Schaar, the International Federation Tsunami Operations Special Representative, said in a statement.

“However, what is abundantly clear is that more widespread community-based disaster preparedness programmes would have saved lives,” he added.

The sheer scale of the tsunami emergency has brought into stark relief the vital importance of effective, grassroots community disaster preparedness programmes, according to the Geneva-based agency.

“Having ocean-floor sensors and relying on satellites to provide information on impending emergencies is important, but this is only one part of the puzzle,” said Schaar.

“How do we then warn people? Equally crucial is access to local communities to inform them of any approaching danger, and to have plans in place for evacuations to special

shelters or to higher ground,” he noted. “Warnings can be issued by radio, or simply by cycling or driving through villages or towns using loudspeakers.”

MNA/Xinhua

## Egypt to strengthen relations with Iraq

CAIRO, 25 June — Egypt indicated on Friday that it wanted to play a bigger role in helping Iraq restore peace and stability, the official *MENA* news agency reported.

The Foreign Ministry said in a statement that noticeable actions would be taken to strengthen Egyptian-Iraqi relations in the coming period. Egypt will receive several Iraqi officials to review current developments in the country facing a tough job to draft a new Constitution by August 15 and put it to a referendum two months later, said the ministry.

During an international conference on Iraq in Brussels Wednesday, Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Zebari announced that Egypt is the first Arab nation to send an ambassador to post-Saddam Iraq. Zebari praised Egypt for “showing regional leadership by taking the decision to appoint the first Arab ambassador we hope to soon welcome in the new Iraq”. Arab nations withdrew their ambassadors from Baghdad under Saddam Hussein. Now some Arab nations, including Egypt, have diplomats in Baghdad, but none at the ambassador level. —MNA/Xinhua

## Punjab to promote religious tourism

CHANDIGARH, 25 June — North Indian state of Punjab is making efforts to boost religious tourism in the state keeping in view its tremendous potential while farm tourism is gaining popularity in neighbouring Haryana State.

The Punjab Government is contemplating development of religious tourism circuit of Sikh shrines connecting Sri Anandpur Sahib, Chamkaur Sahib, Fatehgarh Sahib, Takhat Sri Damdama Sahib and Sri Harmandir Sahib to enable devotees, particularly from abroad to undertake the pilgrimage in one go, thereby saving time and money. —MNA/PTI

## Int’l Whaling Meeting concludes in S Korea

SEOUL, 25 June — The International Whaling Commission (IWC) closed its 57th annual plenary meeting on Friday, having approved a motion that let South Korea, China, Japan and Russia conduct joint research of minke whale in the waters off the Korean Peninsula.

The meeting was closed Friday afternoon after five days of discussions over whaling at South Korea’s southeast port city of Ulsan, 414 kilometres southeast to Seoul.

Henrik Fischer, Chairman of the IWC, said the approval of the South Korea-proposed motion is a fruit of the meeting.

But IWC members failed to reach consensus on the Revised Management Scheme (RMS) on steps of resuming limited commercial whaling.

In 1982, the IWC decided by majority vote to implement a pause or “moratorium” in commercial whaling, and such decision came into effect from 1986.

But some countries wanted to remove the moratorium for commercial whaling, so the IWC decided to outline the RMS stipulates inspection and observation scheme to ensure whaling catch limits are not exceeded.

The IWC established RMS Working Group in 1994. But up to now, pro-whaling and anti-whaling groups respectively led by

Japan and Australia have serious differences over the details of the RMS.

During this week’s meeting, Japan’s proposal of increasing scientific whaling by nearly doubling its annual catch of minke whales was defeated in ballot.

Moreover, Japan’s proposal to resume limited commercial hunting of whales was also rejected by the IWC meeting in vote.

But, Japan’s official said it will increase its scientific whaling from this autumn regardless of the IWC non-binding decision.

Some 600 delegates from 66 IWC members agreed on Friday to hold the 58th IWC annual meeting in St. Kitts and Nevis, located in northeast of the Caribbean Sea in 2006. The 59th IWC meeting is to be held in Anchorage, Alaska State of the United States.

The IWC was set up under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling which was signed in Washington DC on 2 December, 1946.

MNA/Xinhua

## Two US soldiers killed, four missing in suicide attack

BAGHDAD, 25 June — Two US Marines were killed and three others missing along with a sailor when a suicide car bomber struck a US military convoy in the flashpoint city of Fallujah, the US military said on Friday.

Another 13 soldiers were wounded in the blast that occurred on Thursday night, when an improvised suicide vehicle borne explosive device struck a US military convoy in the city, the military said in a statement. Two Marines were killed and four others believed to be missing, including a sailor, the statement said.

An earlier US military statement said, a car bomber hit troops assigned to the II Marine Expeditionary Force in Fallujah. Meanwhile, a resident in Fallujah told *Xinhua* on Friday that a roadside bomb blast took place late Thursday near the main US military checkpoint at the eastern entrance of the city, destroying a US Humvee, killing and wounding the US soldiers aboard. —MNA/Xinhua



US troops secure the scene of a car bomb attack in the restive northern city of Samarra, on 25 June, 2005. —INTERNET

HAILING THE MYANMAR WOMEN'S DAY (3RD JULY 2005)

# Myanmar women on correct national path

Nan Myat Thu

As a mother, I am nurturing my children in the frame of laws and policies of the State as far as I can to shape their brighter future.

It is my conviction that a brighter future of children will bring prospects and progress to their families as well as their motherland. So, I have been looking after my children with great care for enabling them to be on the correct path. And I guide and closely supervise them with adoration to become who seek balanced interests of their own and their motherland, who have good moral conduct, who are faithful forever to the State and the nation, and who abide by laws, rules and regulations as they were born and brought up and educated in their mother country. I allow them to listen to and sing modern songs making sure that they do not discard national culture.

All our family members neither smoke nor drink to keep ourselves healthy, to curb expenses on unnecessary things, and to avoid being addicted to narcotic drugs through smoking or being an alcoholic.

Narcotic drugs cause adverse effects not only on drug addicts but also on their family members and the entire human society socially, economically and morally. In particular, such a bad habit can destroy the potential of new generation youths who will shoulder the duties of their families and their State in future. That was why I happened to study the history of narcotic drugs in the nation from the very beginning. And I inculcated my children with facts about the dangers of narcotics in detail.

Myanmar would have been free from opium, marijuana and narcotic drugs, had colonialists not introduced such substances in the nation. Now, the government has been implementing short-term and long-term plans to

ensure elimination of narcotics in the nation, and it is indeed an evil legacy the colonialists have left. Indeed, poppy is native to the Mediterranean, southern Europe, and cocoa leaves that produce cocaine, to South and Central America.

It is said that traces of poppy used 6,000 years ago (4,000 years before Christ) in neolithic villages in the area (that becomes Switzerland now) was found. At that time, it was used to pluck up courage to do something, enjoy greater amusement in festivals, and relieve pains. Later, however, it was abused and the bad habit was widespread in the world. About 5,500 years ago (about 3,400 years before Christ), poppy was grown in low-lying areas in Mesopotamia (now watershed areas of basins of Euphrates and Tigris rivers in Iraq). Sumerians abused poppy, and it later spread to Egypt. It is learnt that affluent persons and elite class in Egypt started consuming poppy about 5,000 years ago.

Arab merchants conveyed opium and introduced it in Asia. Then, European colonialists such as the British and the Dutch merchants launched opium trade on a commercial scale. Making a great profit from opium trade, they launched poppy cultivation in the Golden Crescent Region (of Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran) and the Golden Triangle Region (of Myanmar, Thailand and Laos) on a large scale.

European merchants especially the British merchants exported opium in huge amount to China with the aims of ensuring great profits and making Chinese nationals fall victim to lifelong addiction to opium so that Chinese nationals could not rise against the former. Chinese people lost their patience from the unjust trade and it culminated in the Anglo-China War, also known as opium

war, in 1840. Even though China lost the war to the British colonialists, the former rejected the latter's demand with pressure for cultivation of poppy in China. About 15 years later, the second opium war broke out because of opium between China and the British and France. China lost the war again and had to allow the colonialists to cultivate poppy in China and bring in opium into the nation. In 1917, Chinese Government banned import of opium and poppy cultivation, and opium smoking in the nation.

The British, French, Portuguese and Dutch colonialists annexed Asian nations including Myanmar, they expanded their wicked schemes to make local people addicted to opium. In consequence,

**Myanmar would have been free from opium, marijuana and narcotic drugs, had colonialists not introduced such substances in the nation. Now, the government has been implementing short-term and long-term plans to ensure elimination of narcotics in the nation, and it is indeed an evil legacy the colonialists have left.**

27 per cent of Chinese adult male population were addicted to opium in 1906. And there were a lot of opium addicts in Malaysia, Myanmar, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, Korea, and nations in Indo-China Peninsula. The British colonialists opened many bars, opium shops and opium dens with the intention of destroying the potential of local young people. In 1930, the number of licensed opium dens of the colonialists reached 6,441 in South-East Asia.

When the invaders left Myanmar, there were 48,211 registered opium addicts. They profited in the form of taxes in millions. After Myanmar regained independence, the nation had to launch the drug elimination drive, but it could make just a little headway because of growing internal armed

insurgency.

Kuomintang nationalist Chinese, who lost the war and fled China, intruded into eastern Shan State of Myanmar around 1949-1950. According to the firm historic evidences, it was CIA who masterminded the plot for the Chinese deserters to invade Myanmar, take a stronghold in the nation and fight against Mainland China.

These nationalist Chinese revived poppy cultivation, the evil legacy left by British colonialists in Myanmar. They refined all the opium produced from Golden Triangle Region to heroin grade IV. Later, the nationalist Chinese retreated from the nation due to the military operations launched by Myanmar Tatmadaw and UN resolution. However, thousands of Chinese

troops left hidden in border areas of Myanmar and Golden Triangle Region and continued production of narcotic drugs.

So, the government had to launch many operations to destroy poppy plantations and opium refineries. Hundreds of Tatmadaw members sacrificed lives in the anti-opium operations. It helped local national races grow poppy-substitute crops, and set up alternative businesses in far-flung areas. It took measures for restoration of peace and stability and also constructed roads, bridges, schools, hospitals, dispensaries, and power plants in border areas. It exposed drug producers, dealers and abusers and took serious actions against them. It registered and rehabilitated the drug addicts.

Thanks to effective implementation of the 15-year drug elimination plan (1999-2014), some regions in border areas were able to announce themselves drug-free regions. Making progress in cultivating poppy-substitute crops, local farmers handed over their poppy seeds to the government of their own volition. The government held the destruction of seized drugs many times before diplomats and local and foreign correspondents and it was known to the world.

When the drug-elimination drive is in full swing, bandit insurgents produced stimulant tablets with the use of such chemicals as ephedrine and caffeine in far-flung areas and distributed their products to the western hemisphere. In fact, such kinds of chemicals are not produced in Myanmar. But, drug-related gangs are manufacturing fabrications that Myanmar is producing such stimulant tablets. Besides, they are distributing some narcotic drugs under the names of slimming-aid medicines, refreshing medicines or tonics, misleading the youth in the nation. Thus, the Government social organizations, duty-conscious people and national peace groups and the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation have been taking preventive measures against such a deceitful attempt.

Indeed, poppy and narcotic drugs are not originated in Myanmar. And she has been implementing onerous tasks tenaciously to ward off the evil legacy intentionally left in the nation by the colonialists. The religious faiths, traditions and customs that the national people have been preserving since many years ago are totally against abuse of narcotic drugs. At a time when so many people are freely abusing cocaine, marijuana, poppy, opium and various brands of stimulant tablets, and making demands for freedom to

use narcotic drugs in the western world, the Myanmar national people are striving in unison for eradication of narcotic drugs. As is known to all the mass of Myanmar women are participating in the anti-narcotics drive.

I have taught my children the dangers of narcotic drugs and subsequent effects with the long history and the origin of the drugs. I have also guided them not to be diverted from the correct national path that can lead the nation and the people to progress. I read some issues of foreign dailies distributed on the days of late 1988 that featured miserable situations faced by many artless Myanmar youths who fell victim to the inhumane deceptions of unscrupulous persons, and seizure of over 80 Myanmar young girls who were sold in the neighbouring nation. Since then, I always give educative talks not only to my children but to other youngsters whenever it is opportune for enabling them to avoid being caught in such deceptions.

Now, my daughter and I have joined the MWAFF that has been undertaking development tasks and organizational measures on a wider scale for the development of the mass of Myanmar women, and we are throwing ourselves into such noble tasks. So, it is the bounden duty of the entire Myanmar people to make combined efforts in harmony to wipe out all the dangers of narcotic drugs, the evil legacy left by the colonialists, and to overcome instigation and propaganda perpetrated by neo-colonialists and their lackey internal and external destructive elements, while marching on the correct national path under the leadership of the MWAFF.

Translation: MS

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### Heroic Woman

- \* Myanmar Women, ever charming  
Carries pride of nation, ever so brilliant  
For the Union, generations  
Long duration, by the thousands.  
You of lineage, decent  
This sky and earth, are but kin  
Maintain it thus, high and honour able  
You surely are, Myanmar's Mother.
- \* Educated, feelings noble  
Around the world, you discuss  
Come abreast with others, you're matchless.
- \* Craft treatises, you're very successful  
Prepare and persevere, not resting day or night  
Active, reciting, at all times  
Outstanding action, wise as can be  
Significant success is achieved.
- \* Verse and literature, is composed  
Deep is the wave of wisdom  
Chronicled, many times  
In genres many, by this time  
Achieved all-round, learned person  
What you always stand by, is Myanmar's tenacity  
What is difficult, you overcome  
Ahead of the times, Heroic Woman.

(Trs.) Dr Htilar Sitthu  
(Hailing Myanmar Women's Day—July 3.)



MYANMAR WOMEN'S DAY

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2005

STRIVE TOGETHER FOR THE  
ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

### Talks on Myanmar Women's Day held in Thanlyin, Hmawby

YANGON, 27 June — A talk on Myanmar Women's Day organized by Yangon South District Women's Affairs Organization was held at No 1 Basic Education High School in Thanlyin Township this morning.

Present were Patron of District Women's Affairs Organization, Chairman Daw Su Su Lwin, assistant township officers, school heads, students and members of social organizations.

Chairman of Women's Affairs Organization Daw Myint Yi reported on measures undertaken by District WAO. Officials concerned gave talks on Myanmar Women's Day. The guests viewed wall magazine and documentary photos. A similar talk was held at No 1 BEHS in Hmawby Township.—MNA

### Shwe Wah Win Anyeint Troupe entertains delegates of MWVO with dances

YANGON, 27 June — Organized by Accommodation, Welfare, Entertainment and Study Sub-Committee of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference 2005, the delegates of States and Divisions to the Conference were entertained by Shwe Wah Win Anyeint Troupe with the dances at No 1 Transit Centre (Bayintnaung) this evening. The delegates presented prizes to the artistes of the troupe. Likewise, the artistes of Fine Arts Department under the Ministry of Culture and the singers of Myanmar Music Asiayone entertained the delegates to the conference with the dances and songs yesterday evening.—MNA

## Five ancient Buddha statues found

YANGON, 27 June— Five ancient Buddha images were found while digging ground in the compound of a monastery at Kanbe Model village in Twantay Township, Yangon Division, on 16 June.

The Archaeology Department confirmed that two of the statues are of the late Pyu era and the remaining three are of the Bagan era.

Of the late Pyu era statues one is 7.7 inches high and another 9.5 inches high. Both are in the abaya mudra style. The three Bagan era images are a 7.5



Pyu and Bagan era ancient Buddha statues unearthed in Kanbe Model Village in Twantay Township.—MNA

inches statue in the abaya mudra style, a 7.7 inches high cigarhatta mudra style image, and a 9.8 inches high bhumiphasa mudra style image.—MNA

## Basic Diplomatic Skills Course opens



Minister U Nyan Win delivers an address at the opening ceremony of Basic Diplomatic Skills (BDS 13/2005) course.—MNA

YANGON, 27 June — The Certificate Course in Basic Diplomatic Skills (BDS 13/2005) conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was inaugurated this morning at the ministry, with a keynote address delivered by For-

ign Affairs Minister U Nyan Win.

Various subjects including International Conferencing, International Etiquette, protocol, International Correspondence, International Law, Negotiation Techniques

are emphasized in the course. A total of 160 trainees are attending the 12-week course.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and U Maung Myint, directors-

general of the departments under the ministry, departmental officials, Myanmar Ambassadors, senior diplomats, professors of universities and institutes concerned and trainees.

MNA

## Traditional medicine course of MPF opens

YANGON, 27 June — Traditional medicine course No 8/2005 conducted by the Myanmar Police Force of the Min-

istry of Home Affairs was opened this morning at the ministry with an opening address by Police Quartermaster-General Police

Brig-Gen Win Soe.

A total of 60 trainees under the ministry are attending the four-week course.

Similarly, Mandalay Division Police Force opened a traditional medicine course in Mandalay.—MNA



Police Brig-Gen Win Soe delivers an address at the opening ceremony of Traditional Medicine Course (8/2005).—MNA

**The Central Organizing Committee is leading the MWVO as a national force to be capable of discharging public services, national defence and security duty as well as social and welfare tasks**

(from page 1)  
and committee members, representatives from states and divisions and others.

First, the chairman of the Central Organizing Committee and the vice-chairmen and members and representatives from states and divisions sang the attendance.

Chairman of the Central Organizing Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein presided over the first day session with Vice-Chairman Maj-Gen Saw Tun and Member of the Central Organizing Committee Brig-Gen

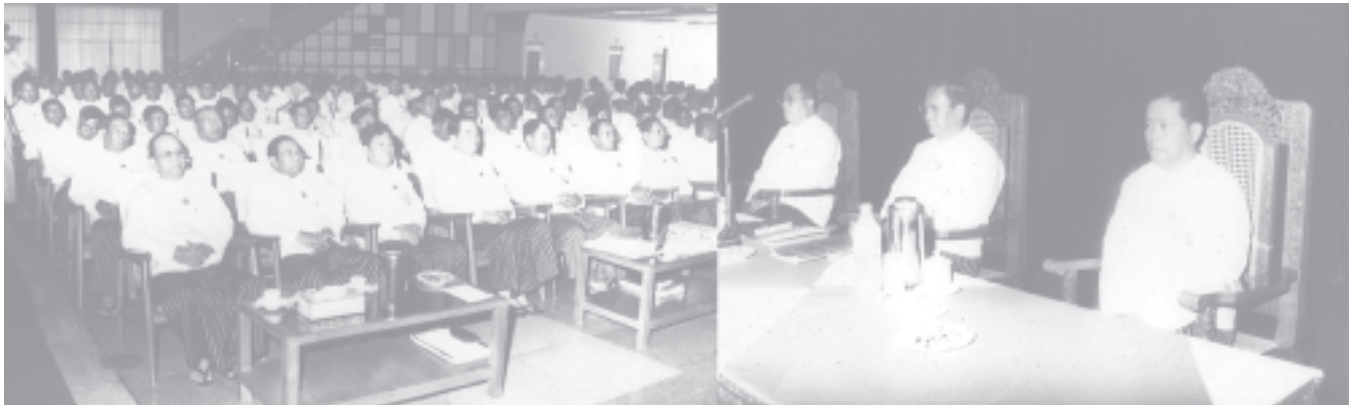
The master of ceremonies announced the first day session valid as altogether 419 representatives out of 423 attended it, accounting for 99.05 per cent and declared the meeting open with the permission of the meeting chairman.

In his address, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein said that today is the time when the State Peace and Development Council (the Tatmadaw government) is assuming the State responsibilities and it is also the time when strenuous efforts are being made for

ing in unity and amity sharing weal and woe for years countable by the thousand, and the national solidarity therefore has been accorded special priority. Hence, Our Three Main National Causes—non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty—was laid down as the national policy. In accordance with the national policy, the four political objectives, the four economic objectives and the four social objectives have been laid down and are being implemented for



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein signs the attendance register at the first day session of MWVO Conference (2005).—MNA



Member of COC for MWVO U Aung Thaung and members preside over afternoon session of MWVO Conference (2005).—MNA

Thura Aye Myint as Members of Panel of Chairmen.

WO I Mi Mi Maung Htwe of Yangon Division WVO acted as master of ceremonies and WO II Ei Shwe Sin Min as joint-master of ceremonies.

the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation, upholding Our Three Main National Causes.

In the Union of Myanmar, various national races have been liv-

ing the emergence of a modern and developed nation.

Accepting the four-point People's Desire and the six People's Resolutions laid down at the mass rally held in Bagan as the national political programmes, the seven-

point Road Map has been laid down and is being implemented.

To be able to do so, the National Convention, the first step of the seven-point Road Map, was successfully held and the meeting has been able to

deal with the fundamental principles for executive and judicial affairs in the drawing of the State constitution. At a time when efforts are being made for the emergence of a peaceful modern developed and discipline-flourishing nation, the three main forces—the government, the people and the Tatmadaw have been a crucial contributing factor. Moreover, the might of social organizations, which were established as national forces, plays an important role in this regard.

Therefore, it is incumbent upon the MWVO to strive together with social organizations in the perpetual service of national development,

national defence and security tasks.

The War Veterans Organizations were formed in 1948 in various townships. The Myanmar War Veterans Organization was formed in 1973 and its organizational set-up and fundamental principles were adopted in 1975. The fundamental principles were amended four times—in 1976, 1979, 1982 and 1986.

In 1988, the Tatmadaw had to unavoidably assume the State responsibilities. To keep pace with changes and developments, the State Law and Order Restoration Council reorganized the MWVO under its Law No (17/89) on 10 August 1989.

(See page 9)



First day session of MWVO Conference (2005) held at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayagon Township.—MNA

**Accepting the four-point People's Desire and the six People's Resolutions laid down at the mass rally held in Bagan as the national political programmes, the seven-point Road Map has been laid down and is being implemented.**





Secretary-1 Li-Gen Thein Sein addresses the MWVO Conference 2005. — MNA



## The Central Organizing Committee

(from page 8)  
As there have been weak-points or weaknesses in the execution of

15 March 2005 with 42 central organizing committee members.  
The Central Organizing

MWVO Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe met the members of the Central Organizing Committee seven times and gave Ovada and guidance on the MWVO.

Accepting the Ovada and guidance of the Head of State as work guidance, the MWVO and WVOs at different levels are implementing them.

Under the leadership of the Tatmadaw, the MWVO is making relentless efforts for realization of the objectives—to go hand in hand with the people, in collaboration with the national defence and security organiza-

ship organizing committees and a membership strength of 136,156 — 3,871 retired officers and 82,114 retired rankers.

sources development projects, Our Three Main National Causes, 12 objectives, the seven-point Road Map, the four-point

The Minister for Homes Affairs is the leader of the group of the national defence and security sector. It has one



Secretary of MWVO COC Brig-Gen Phone Swe reads out the report of the COC.

MNA

duties, the State Peace and Development Council reformed the MWVO Central Organizing Committee on 21 October

ing Committee is leading the MWVO as a national force to be capable of discharging public services, national defence



Delegates to MWVO conference sign in the attendance book.

MNA

**Under the leadership of the Tatmadaw, the MWVO is making relentless efforts for realization of the objectives—to go hand in hand with the people, in collaboration with the national defence and security organizations, to engage in the welfare of WVO's members and its families and to strive together with social organizations for national development.**

1998 under its Order No (3/98) with 31 central organizing committee members, and amended and reformed it again on

and security duty as well as social and welfare tasks of families of the latter.

Patron of the

tions, to engage in the welfare of WVO's members and its families and to strive together with social organizations for national development. In the process, the central committee was formed with ministers, deputy ministers, directors-general, senior military officers and WVO members who are currently in the service to effectively carry out the seven future work programmes and the five major duties laid down at the MWVO Conference (2001).

Now, the MWVO has 19 state/division supervisory committees, 65 district supervisory committees, and 308 town-

The MWVO conference 2001 was successfully held from 2 to 5 June 2001. According to the guidance of the Central Organizing Committee of MWVO, the 19 state/division supervisory committees held preliminary meetings from 22 April to 5 June, presented papers, held talks on the five major tasks, laid down future work programmes, made decisions and approved them.

The political sector group is implementing the task with the Secretary-1 as the leader. The group has one deputy leader and three members. The group has sponsored 30 advanced courses, 36 short-term courses, 243 war veterans courses at the respective military commands. A total of 20,395 war veterans attended the courses. The courses gave lectures on IT, international political, economic and social developments, rapid political, economic and social developments in Southeast Asian nations and Myanmar, human re-

People's Desire, and the six resolutions of Bagan mass meeting. The aims of the courses is to uplift and strengthen the national conviction of the veterans. At present the government is in the process of building a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing nation. With the leadership of the Tatmadaw, the WVOs at all levels are cooperating with social organizations with similar aims and the people in carrying out the task with full confidence and conviction.

deputy leader and three members. The group has been forming war veterans battalions and units according to age brackets. It has also laid down work programmes. The Secretary-1 is the head of the leading economic committee comprising two vice-chairman, one secretary and four members. The aims of the committee is to make investments in the profitable businesses and to provide assistance to the WVO welfare bodies and to take part in (See page 10)



WO-I Yi Yi Soe and Sergeant Nyein Nyein Myat act as Master of Ceremonies. — MNA



WO-I Mi Mi Maung Htwe and WO-II Ei Shwe Zin Min. MNA



*Lt-Col Myo Swe of Kachin State.—MNA*



*Lt-Col Win Maung of Kayah State.—MNA*



*Lt-Col Aung Maw Maw of Kayin State.—MNA*



*Lt-Col Sein Ya of Chin State.—MNA*



*Lt-Col Tin Aung of Mon State.—MNA*



*Lt-Col Myo Tin of Rakhine State.—MNA*

## The Central Organizing Committee...

(from page 9)

the government's social undertakings to the most possible degree. The committee formed four subordinate bodies — production work group, trade work group, services work group and industrial work group.

The Minister for Transport is the leader of social affairs and welfare group. It has one deputy leader and three members. With the leadership of the central organizing

sponsorship of state/division and district supervisory committees, and township organizing committees.

The central committee has been providing cash assistance to disabled veterans, veterans of age over 75, amputee veterans, children of veterans, the reserve force of MWVO, who are attending classes in institutions of higher learning, and children of veterans who passed the matriculation

It is now making plans to provide cash assistance for burial services, health care services, and children of veterans attending classes at the defence services academies. It also provided an assistance of over K 587 million in townships for ten different purposes.

He said for community welfare services a committee led by Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development

and Welfare Association and other social organizations. Members of War Veterans Organizations actively participated in the government's major projects with the aim of raising the living standard of the people and early completion of the projects, he said.

He spoke at length on implementation of projects on community welfare services 8,144 times including five rural development tasks, environmental preserva-

and urged them to take part in the sector-wise, state/division-wise and group-wise discussions. After reviewing the discussions, MWVO can lay down the future tasks, he added.

He said the conference offers a reunion for war veterans who are living at different places of the nation. He believed that cordial discussions would be made successfully among the colleagues while discharging the duties at the confer-

force with high efficiency and consolidated auxiliary force of the Tatmadaw hand in hand with related social organizations and the people and to carry out national development tasks, defence, security and national political task based on patriotism and Union spirit.

In conclusion, he spoke of the need for the MWVO to possess strong economic foundations for effective implementation of social, welfare and



*Lt-Col Aung Maung of Shan State (South). MNA*



*Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw of Shan State (East).—MNA*



*Lt-Col Kyaw Shwe of Shan State (North). MNA*



*Lt-Col Myo Myint of Sagaing Division.—MNA*



*Lt-Col Khin Maung Kywe of Taninthayi Division.—MNA*



*Lt-Col Tin Myint (Retd) of Bago Division (East).—MNA*

committee, the group is attending to the health, education and welfare needs of the members and families. It is also helping solve the difficulties of the entire people.

examination with distinctions, providing low-cost houses for retired Tatmadaw members and disabled veterans. It is generating job opportunities in the nation and

Affairs was formed with one deputy leader and three members. The committee undertook the measures which benefited the people directly or indirectly in cooperation

tion, the tasks of making townships and villages clean and pleasant, pure drinking water supply project and construction of monasteries and pagodas.

He said the secretary of Central Organizing Committee of MWVO would submit the report of the committee regarding the successful implementation of five major tasks after following the guidance of patron of MWVO Senior General Than Shwe under the leadership of the Tatmadaw. He spoke of the need for the delegates to discuss the report with constructive suggestions

ence.

He urged the MWVO to make efforts for successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map after accepting Our Three Main National Causes, Twelve Objectives, four-point People's Desire and six resolutions of the people as the national political way in building a nation to be a peaceful modern developed one, to become an organization with own dignity on which the people rely, to organize the people as the MWVO is a major force that serves as a bridge between the Tatmadaw and the people, to stand as a national

community welfare services, to undertake the economic enterprises successfully for fulfilling the social needs and welfare of the members and auxiliary members of MWVO, to penetrate the international market, to assign duties from the central to the grassroots levels, to provide assistance to disabled soldiers and undertake the community welfare tasks with strong belief and conviction for the country and the people upholding Our Three Main National Causes. MWVO COC Secretary Brig-Gen Phone Swe read the report of the committee.

Next, representatives from states and divisions reported on work implementation of the WVO supervisory committees of states and divisions in a year. Kachin State Myitkyina District WV Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Myo Swe, Kayah State Loikaw District (See page 15)

**The central committee has been providing cash assistance to disabled veterans, veterans of age over 75, amputee veterans, children of veterans, the reserve force of MWVO, who are attending classes in institutions of higher learning, and children of veterans who passed the matriculation examination with distinctions, providing low-cost houses for retired Tatmadaw members and disabled veterans. It is generating job opportunities in the nation and abroad for veterans. It has provided over K 513 million to build public roads, bridges, village dispensaries, and schools.**

The group has two tasks — one under the direct sponsorship of the central organizing committee and the other under the

abroad for veterans. It has provided over K 513 million to build public roads, bridges, village dispensaries, and schools.

with the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Fire Brigade, Myanmar Maternal



*Lt-Col Ohn Myint of Bago Division (West). — MNA*



*Lt-Col Zaw Thein of Magway Division.—MNA*



*Lt-Col Kyi Thein of Mandalay Division. MNA*



*Major Maung Win (Retd) of Yangon Division.—MNA*



*Major Myo Thein (Retd) of Ayeyawady Division.—MNA*

## Wen Jiabao proposes on further ASEM financial cooperation

**TIANJIN, 26 June**—Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao on Sunday put forward a five-point suggestion to further Asia-Europe financial cooperation at the opening ceremony of the Sixth ASEM Finance Ministers' Meeting (FMM).

Wen firstly suggested Asian and European nations strengthen dialogue and coordination on macro-economic policies, saying it is of great importance for Asian and European countries to regularly exchange economic and policy information through increased dialogue, communication and equal-footed consultation to jointly deal with risks and challenges facing the world economy.

"The Chinese Government proposes to establish an ASEM Contingency Dialogue Mechanism for Emergent Economic and Financial Events within the framework of the ASEM FMM for the purpose of safeguarding economic and financial security," he said.

Secondly, Wen urged countries of the two con-

tinents to increase exchanges on development experience. Later this year, China and United Kingdom will co-sponsor a Fiscal Policy and Public Debts Forum within the framework of the ASEM FMM.

"All the finance ministers of Asian and European countries and members of their financial communities are most welcome to take part in this Forum," Wen said.

Thirdly, Wen said he hoped Asian and European nations would deepen substantive cooperation in fiscal and financial sector.

Asian and European countries should actively explore and advance fiscal and financial cooperation between the two continents to develop the Asian regional bond market and support the role of

the euro in maintaining international financial stability and promoting development, so as to enhance the international standing of Asia and Europe in the monetary and financial field.

Fourthly, the Chinese Premier suggests Asia and Europe strengthen technical assistance and financial capacity building.

He said, "Given the uneven development between Asian and European countries, we should render greater support to the poor countries in the region through vigorous technical assistance so as to promote the realization of UN Millennium Development Goals."

Lastly, Wen suggests Asian and European nations foster an environment for win-win international economic cooperation.—MNA/Xinhua

## China, Mozambique mark 30th anniversary of diplomatic ties

**BEIJING, 26 June** —Chinese President Hu Jintao and his Mozambican counterpart Armando Emilio Guebuza on Saturday sent each other congratulations on occasion of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

Hu said in his message that bilateral relations between China and Mozambique have developed smoothly over the past three decades, with continuous deepening of mutual understanding and trust and fruitful bilateral cooperation.

The two countries have kept consultation and coordination in regional and international affairs, jointly safeguarding the interests of the developing countries, he said.

The Chinese Govern-

ment and people cherish the traditional friendship with Mozambique, willing to work together with the Mozambican side to push the friendly and cooperative Sino-Mozambican relations to a new high, Hu said.

For his part, Guebuza said the mutually beneficial cooperation with China has been remarkably enhanced over the past 30 years with the intensification of exchanges in various fields, which has greatly promoted the

mutual beneficial cooperation, and the two countries have also coordinated closely in safeguarding world peace and security.

Mozambique is grateful to the Chinese Government and people for their support and aid to Mozambique's development over a long period of time, Guebuza said, adding that he hopes the friendly cooperative relations between the two governments and two peoples will be further promoted.

MNA/Xinhua



Acehnese traditional dancers perform during the opening ceremony of reconstruction projects in Aceh at Baiturrahim mosque in Ulthee Lheu village in Banda Aceh, Indonesia, on 25 June, 2005. —INTERNET

## Iran urges US to respect Iranians' choice

**TEHERAN, 26 June**—Iran strongly condemned the United States' comments on its presidential election on Saturday, urging Washington to "respect Iranians' choice", the official IRNA news agency reported.

"The American Administration which claims to be an advocate of democracy should respect the Iranian nation's choice and stop intervening in Iran's internal affairs," Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid-Reza Asefi was quoted as saying.

Asefi said the massive participation of Iranian voters in two rounds of presidential elections proved their interest in determining their own destiny. "Iranians' votes

also demonstrated their strong opposition to US policies," he said.

Asefi said that the US policies towards Iran were based on interfering in Teheran's internal affairs, which he said is utterly "incorrect".

Asefi also made fun of US officials' contradictory remarks.

"Though the Americans had already referred to Iranian presidential elections as having quite 'known' results, now the US State Department

spokesman describes the results as being quite 'unpredictable' and 'accidental'," he said.

The spokesman concluded that the recent elections should teach a lesson to the American officials to be more cautious and avoid making unfounded remarks. US State Department spokeswoman Joanne Moore said earlier in the day that Iran was out of step with the rest of the region and the currents of freedom and liberty.—MNA/Xinhua

## Microsoft establishes technology centre in central China

**ZHENGZHOU, 26 June**—Microsoft Corp opened a technology centre in China's most populous province of Henan on Friday, the sixth of its kind in the Mainland that further consolidates Microsoft's presence in the huge market.

The Microsoft Technology Center (Henan), located in a software zone in the provincial capital of Zhengzhou, will serve as a platform for market-oriented technological ex-

changes, training and con-

sultation, and developed customized software products and solutions based on Microsoft and partner technologies.

"We hope the centre will bring into play Microsoft's technologi-

cal advantage and management experience in information technology, especially in software field," said Microsoft Corporate Vice-President Timothy Chen, also CEO of Microsoft Greater China Region, at the centre's opening ceremony.

Calling the new centre a "great step forward", Su Fugong, director of the provincial information technology department, said the local government has always encouraged multinationals to participate in the construction of the local IT industry.

"We believe the new technology centre will advance the capabilities of Henan-based software developers who are using Microsoft's technologies," Su said.

MNA/Xinhua



The Space Shuttle Discovery atop the crawler transporter recently. INTERNET

## "Made in Italy" food promotion held in HK

**HONG KONG, 26 June** —A special food promotion, involving over 1,000 authentic Italian food products, was launched here on Friday in some Parkshop and Watson Group's food halls.

The event, from 24 June to 14 July, aims to increase Hong Kong consumers' awareness of the Italian gastronomy through the consumption of the most representative products.

The promotion features six categories including basic groceries, Ital-

ian staples like pasta and pasta sauce, olive oil and vinegar, as well as biscuits and cake, chocolates and delicatessen items.

Besides the typical Italian food, a comprehensive range of Italian lifestyle products will also be introduced during the event. —MNA/Xinhua

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**Pakistan rejects Russian FM's claim on terrorist camps**

ISLAMABAD, 26 June — Pakistan Saturday rejected Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov's statement that terrorists are being trained in camps in Pakistan and Afghanistan with the help of former Taleban. "There are no terrorist training camps in Pakistan. Pakistan would not allow anyone to use its soil for terrorist activities against any other country," Foreign Office spokesman Jalil Abbas Jilani told the

state-run television. "We have made tremendous sacrifices in fighting the menace of terrorism and our sacrifices and efforts have not only been praised but also acknowledged by the international community," Jilani said. "I can say with full confidence that Pakistan has been rid of such elements to great extent," the spokesman said, adding Pakistan condemns all forms of terrorism.—MNA/Xinhua

**China says EU can overcome difficulties, further integration**

BEIJING, 26 June — President Hu Jintao said here on Saturday that China believes the European Union can overcome difficulties and press further ahead with its cause of integration.

"China attaches great importance on Sino-EU relations....We hope to see that the European Union will play a still more important role in regional and international affairs," Hu told visiting Czech Prime Minister Jiri Paroubek.

Sino-EU relations were in a "most active and fruitful" period since the two sides established their diplomatic relations and the exchanges and cooperation between the two sides in all fields were wide-ranging in contents and laden with achievements, he acknowledged.

On Sino-Czech relations, Hu Jintao hailed the friendship between the people of the two countries, saying the bilateral ties have witnessed constant, steady progress with expanding cooperation fields despite great changes in international situation and domestic situations of both countries in recent years.

The leaders of the two countries maintained a frequent exchange of visits, and the two sides' political mutual-trust was enhanced, trade and economic cooperation kept soaring and exchange and cooperation in culture, education, science and technology were increasingly active, he said.

He acknowledged that the two countries have carried out sound coordination in international organizations such as the United Nations.

China appreciates the Czech Government's adherence to the one-China policy and its positive policy on developing Sino-Czech relations.

China will further increase its cooperation with Czech under the principles of mutual-respect, seeking the common ground while reserving differences, equality and mutual-beneficial and pursuing common development, the Chinese President said.

Paroubek said his country was satisfied with the sound growth of Czech-China relations and surging bilateral trade. —MNA/Xinhua

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**Pakistan welcomes new Iranian President**

ISLAMABAD, 26 June — Pakistan Saturday welcomed the election of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad as the new President of Iran and expressed the hope that the relations between the two countries would continue to strengthen in future, according to the *Associated Press of Pakistan*.

Foreign Office spokesman said "Pakistan is happy to see presidential election held in the Islamic Republic of Iran in a peaceful and orderly manner."

"We welcome the election of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad as the new President of Iran," the spokesman noted.

He expressed the hope that the relations between Pakistan and Iran would continue to strengthen to the mutual advantage of the two countries.

MNA/Xinhua

မြန်မာ့ရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာနနှင့် ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့် စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်းတို့အတွက် လိုအပ်သောပစ္စည်းများ ဝယ်ယူရန် တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

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(က) မြန်မာ့ရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေး ဦးစီးဌာန	
(၁) 35 mm Film Camera	- ၄၅ လုံး
(28 to 80 mm Wide Zoom Lens with Case)	
(ဂ) Flash Gun	- ၄၅ ခု
(၃) Television Receiver (29") (Multi Colour)	- ၁၀ လုံး
(၄) Video Compact Disc Player (Multi Colour)	- ၂၀ လုံး
(၅) Digital Camera (18 to 70 mm Wide Zoom Lens)	- ၂ လုံး
(၆) Flash Gun (For Digital Camera)	- ၂ ခု
(၇) Lens (24 to 120 mm Digital Wide Zoom Lens)	- ၂ ခု
(၈) Mini-DV Camera-Recorder (NTSC)	- ၅၁ လုံး
(၉) Video Cassette Player (DV Mini Tape)	- ၁ လုံး
(ခ) ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့်စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်း	
(၁) Duplex Board (အဖုံးစတူပို) (ပြည်တွင်းဖြစ်)	- ၃၀၅၀၀ ထုပ်
(၁၈၀ ဂရမ်) (၃၂' X ၄၀') (ရွက်ရေ ၁၀၀ ပါအထုပ်)	

၂။ တင်ဒါပေးသွင်းမှုကို (၅-၇-၂၀၀၅)ရက် (၁၆:၃၀)နာရီတွင် ပိတ်သိမ်းပါမည်။

၃။ တင်ဒါပုံစံနှင့် သေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များ အောက်ပါ လိပ်စာတွင်လာရောက်ပုံစမ်းဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

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**Thailand's 75% drug patients under rehab get rid of addiction**

BANGKOK, 26 June — Some 75 per cent of almost 400,000 Thais who underwent drug rehabilitation in the past two years have successfully kicked addiction permanently, said the Public Health Minister Suchai Charoenrattanakul.

Some 385,408 drug addicts had sought treatment at 818 public hospitals across the kingdom since the government started its war on drugs on 1 February, 2003, *Bangkok Post* on Saturday quoted Suchai as saying.

The rest 25 per cent of the drug users had turned to alcohol and solvents, said the Minister.

land started various campaigns against drugs before the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking which falls on Sunday.

He noted a sharp increase in the number of people receiving rehabilitation for alcoholism this year. Many drug addicts who once used methamphetamine had turned to alcohol.

MNA/Xinhua

ဝဠာရူးပြင် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြုစိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့



Chinese paramilitary officers practise martial art with wooden sticks in Beijing, China, on 27 June, 2005. Thousands of these young Chinese officers serve as security for China's leadership, foreign emissaries in the Chinese capital and large scale public events such as sporting competitions and concerts.—INTERNET

### Drought threatens northern Italy

ROME, 26 June— Northern Italy appears to be heading for a severe drought this summer with potentially disastrous effects on the region's agriculture, local media reported on Saturday.

The water in rivers, lakes and reservoirs is only about half of what it normally is in June, and production of fruit, vegetables and rice are all in danger, according to Italian farmers' union Coldiretti.

A similar drought caused havoc for farmers in 2003 but this year Coldiretti says the impact could be even greater because the water shortages have started

a month earlier. Water levels in the River Po, which cuts across northern Italy from west to east, feeding irrigation channels on the fertile Po plain, are rapidly approaching record lows.

If they sink any further, fields will start running dry. As it is, Italian farmers have already begun autonomously reducing their water usage for irrigation by up to 30 per cent.

Tributaries on the northern side of the river are bringing little water this year because it snowed less than usual this winter in the Italian Alps so there is less to melt.

In Lake Como, north of Milan, the water has dropped to 15 centimetres below the zero mark on measuring sticks. In late June it is normally about 100 centimetres above zero.

MNA/Xinhua

### NASA officials see risk low enough for planned shuttle launch

WASHINGTON, 26 June— NASA officials said Friday the risk from falling ice damage is low enough to allow *Discovery* to be launched as planned in July, marking the first shuttle flight since the *Columbia* disaster in 2003.

The conclusion came after a day-long meeting at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida, at which NASA managers and engineers reviewed analysis of the potential damage to shuttle by falling ice from the shuttle's external fuel tank on liftoff.

Ice can form on the tank when it is loaded with

supercold liquid oxygen and hydrogen fuel.

Shuttle programme manager Bill Parsons said the risk level at this particular time is acceptable for the shuttle launch planned for 13 to 31 July.

The US space agency grounded its shuttle fleet after *Columbia's* destruction during re-entry and the deaths of seven astro-

nauts in February 2003.

The tragedy was attributed to a suitcase-sized insulation foam falling off the external fuel tank on liftoff. It damaged the shuttle's wing, leading to the shuttle's disintegration.

In April, NASA found ice breaking off the fuel tank on liftoff could do more harm than foam if it smacked into the shuttle.

Safety concerns delayed the shuttle launch from mid-May to July. To prevent ice buildup, the shuttle has been installed with a heater on the tank.

NASA plans to hold another meeting on Wednesday to make a final decision on whether to launch the shuttle as scheduled.

MNA/Xinhua

### WFP buys 61,000 tons of food in Uganda

KAMPALA, 26 June— The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has bought 61,000 tons of locally grown food in Uganda at a cost of 16 million US dollars in the last six months.

According to a Press release from the WFP office in Uganda issued on Friday, the food aid agency will purchase another 50,000 tons worth 10 million dollars in the coming two months. "We are heading for record local procurement this year," the WFP Uganda Country Director Ken Noah Davies was quoted as saying.

Davies said the WFP bought 12 million dollars worth of maize, three million dollars worth of beans, one million dollars worth of unimix (a blend of maize grains and soya beans used for feeding malnourished children) and 80,000 dollars worth of salt.

He said the food helped feed 1.4 million people displaced by the 19-year old rebellion in northern Uganda in addition to thousands of refugees, drought-affected Karimojong, HIV/AIDS affected people, school pupils and other vulnerable people. Previously, the most amount of local food WFP purchased in a single year was 115,000 tons worth 28 million dollars last year. Local procurement is a strategic programme to support the Ugandan economy and to cut down on WFP transport costs. The programme has boosted production for the market and the government's Modernization of Agriculture and Poverty Eradication Action Plan. — MNA/Xinhua

### Russia puts communications satellite into orbit

Moscow, 26 June — A Russian telecommunications satellite was lifted into orbit on Saturday from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, Russia's Federal Space Agency said.

The *Express-AM3* telecommunications satellite, carried by a *Proton K* rocket, was launched at 23:41 Moscow time (1941 GMT) Friday and placed into orbit six and a half hours later, the *Interfax* news agency reported, citing an official of the Federal Space Agency.

A new-generation communications satellite, the *Express-AM3* is designed to provide such services as digital television and radio, telephone and video communications, data transmission and Internet access.

MNA/Xinhua

### Nigerian deputy governor impeached over misconduct

LAGOS, 26 June — A deputy governor from the southern Nigerian state of Akwa Ibom has been impeached by the state house of assembly over allegations of gross misconduct, Nigerian newspapers reported on Friday.

All but two of the 25-member assembly voted for the removal of Chris Ekpenyong, following the acceptance by the house of the report of a seven-man panel set up to investigate the allegations.

It was alleged that Ekpenyong bought a house in Houston, United States, in the name of his 12-year-old son with public funds, which was not declared before the Code

of Conduct Bureau as requested.

The former deputy governor was also said to slap a lady many times in January 2003 when she visited him to solicit for assistance.

Ekpenyong's ouster is coming as President Olusegun Obasanjo intensifies its anti-graft war recently which led to the removal of two ministers and the country's former police chief this

year.

Obasanjo has warned that high-profile corruption was doing harm to the country's pleas for the relief of the 35-billion-dollar debt, the heaviest on the world's poorest continent. Nigeria ranks in the top three in the 2004 annual corruption perception index in the world, according to Transparency International, a Berlin-based graft watchdog.

MNA/Xinhua

### 8.7 million children hearing-impaired in Nigeria

LAGOS, 26 June — Some 8.7 million children under 18 years in Nigeria are hearing-impaired and an estimated 27,000 of the 4.8 million Nigerian babies born yearly are likely to be affected with the same sickness, Nigeria's Health Minister Eytayo Lambo was quoted as saying on Saturday.

Lambo said that some of these children are born with loss of hearing while others lose their hearing as a result of an attack or treatment of infections such as measles, mumps and meningitis, use of ototoxic medications and excessive exposure to noise, *This Day* newspaper reported. The minister revealed this while launching the Pilot Newborn Hearing Screening Programme organized by Hearing International Nigeria and the Federal and Lagos state health ministries on Friday. He noted that several adverse pre-natal conditions that account for high infant and child mortality rates such as pre-term birth, low birth weight, prolonged and obstructed labour, neonatal jaundice, birth asphyxia and birth trauma also causes disabling hearing loss.—MNA/Xinhua



A rare Bengal white tiger yawns in its enclosure at Singapore Zoo. The struggle to protect Asia's endangered wildlife has enjoyed rare progress over recent years but government inaction means many species are still doomed to extinction, activists meeting last week in Singapore said.—INTERNET

## SPORTS

## Argentina to meet Brazil in Confederations Cup final

HANOVER, 27 June— Argentina beat Mexico in the tournament's first penalty shootout to set up a "dream final" against Brazil at the Confederations Cup on Sunday.



Argentina's goalkeeper German Lux saves a penalty by Mexico's Ricardo Osorio during the Confederations Cup semi-final match in Hanover on 26 June, 2005. Argentina won the match 6-5 on penalties.—INTERNET

The two teams played to a 1-1 draw after 120 minutes and in the penalty shootout, Esteban Cambiasso converted the winning kick after German Lux had blocked Ricardo Osorio's attempt. In a tight match which ended with both teams down to ten men, Mexico opened the scoring 14 minutes into extra time as Carlos Salcido fired a shot which deflected off Fabricio Coloccini and looped over Lux into the net.

Luciano Figueroa pulled Argentina back from the brink of defeat at the 110th minute when the striker turned a low shot through the legs of Mexico goalkeeper Oswaldo Sanchez.

The two teams had to play the entire extra time with 10 men each. Javier Saviola of Argentina and Rafael Marquez were sent off in quick succession in the closing minutes of normal time.

Saviola was dismissed in the 90th minute after kicking at Gonzalo Pineda. Italian referee Roberto Rosetti showed a second yellow to Marquez for a foul on Pablo Aimar in the injury time.

Mexico coach Ricardo Lavolpe said: "It was a keenly contested game, and both sides kept hold of the ball very well, but in the end it all came down to individual moments. We played the ball around nicely in tight triangles and we were well on top, but it's just a shame we couldn't push home our advantage."

"We didn't seem to re-

cover from Rafael Marquez's sending-off. I thought one goal would be enough to settle it and we should have pushed on a bit more, but after Carlos Salcido scored we ran out of steam and our work rate dropped," Lavolpe said.

Argentina coach Jose Pekerman said his team did not play well: "but we did lots of the things you have to do to win. We went for it in the second half and in extra time and we never settled for the draw. As for losing, well it never came into our minds. Our first job was to get level and then go on and win it, despite the fact we weren't playing too well."

Mexico played an aggressive game from the very beginning and got the first real chance of scoring three minutes into the game. After a fine build-up, Jaime Lozano tested Argentine goal-keeper Lux with an angled drive.

Lux palmed out the shot and from the resulting corner, Marquez's header went narrowly wide.

Lux was again tested midway through the first half. He pushed Zinha's shot out for a corner and then made a reflex save to keep Pavel Pardo's corner from sailing directly into the net.

Failing to gain advantage in ball possession, Argentina found it difficult to build up attacking momentum. But still they managed to create several chances.

Figueroa narrowly failed to connect with a Juan Riquelme cross and Riquelme sent his 20-metre free-kick high over the cross-bar.

After the first half, Argentina looked sharper. Riquelme, together with Sorin and Zanetti began to take over the game. The created three chances in a span of four minutes. But Mexican goal-keeper put up superb saves to keep his team in the game.

Both teams made two substitutions in the second half, hoping to break the stalemate. But it was still 0-0 after 90 minutes of play.

After Salcido opened the scoring for Mexico, the Argentine suddenly woke up. They pressed forward, forcing Mexico to desperate defence with their area.

MNA/Xinhua

## Brazil, Japan keep winning in World Grand Prix volleyball

TOKYO, 26 June— Defending champions Brazil defeated European champions Poland for their second straight win in the World Grand Prix women's volleyball tournament on Saturday.

The Brazilian women, fourth in the Athens Olympics, scored a 25-22, 25-10 and 25-23 win in the preliminary four-team Group A competition.

"We lost our concentration in the third set, because we took the first two sets easily. We must be careful not to do that in the upcoming matches," said Brazilian captain Valeska Menezes.

In the second match of the day, Japan defeated arch rivals South Korea 26-24, 25-14 and 25-18 for their second straight win.

Winless Poland and South Korea will face each other Sunday, while Brazil will take on Japan.

Twelve teams were taking part in three preliminary groups and the top five teams will join hosts Japan in the final round to be held in Sendai, north of Tokyo, on 13-18 July. —MNA/Xinhua

## Japan wins Int'l Women Volleyball Tournament in Vietnam

NAM DINH PROVINCE (Vietnam), 27 June— Japan beat host Vietnam 3-1 in the gold medal match while China downed Kazakhstan 3-2 to finish third at the 2nd International Women's Volleyball Tournament — VTV Cup 2005, which wrapped up here on Saturday.

The Denso Airy Bees club from Japan maintained its unbeaten record for six matches at the tournament with a gold cash prize of 5,000 US dollars, while the Honghe club from China, winner of the first edition, had a hard-earned triumph over the Zhetysay team from Kazakhstan after losing 3-2 to the host team in a semifinal on Friday.

Against the national team of Vietnam, Japan lost its first set 20-25, its first loss at the week-long tournament. With fierce spikes and solid back defence, the Japanese women won the next three sets 25-22, 25-21 and 25-18 to seal the victory.

Earlier, Honghe and Zhetysay underwent a life-and-death struggle, vying for every single point in all sets,

except the decisive fifth.

The Chinese women repeatedly launched blitz attacks against their Kazakhstan opponents who were not very good at blocking and moved relatively slowly.

Zhetysay won the first and fourth sets 25-21 and 25-23, while Honghe secured triumph 25-21 in the second, 25-19 in the third and 15-7 in the fifth set.

The VTV Cup 2005, featuring five teams from China, Thailand, Japan, Kazakhstan and Vietnam, took place from June 19-25 in Vietnam's northern Nam Dinh Province.

After five-day actions on a round-robin format, the top four teams entered semifinals on Friday. —MNA/Xinhua

## Uzbeks crowned as Asian Junior Boxing kings

ISLAMABAD, 27 June— Uzbekistan was crowned inaugural Asian Junior Boxing kings with Pakistan grabbing two gold medals including Ali Mohammad's debatable victory over Uzbek Shayimov Orzubeek on Saturday in Karachi, southern port city of Pakistan, Dawn reported on Sunday.

Not only the Uzbeks scooped up five gold, the highest number, apart from a silver and three bronze, they were at the top of the points table with 20 points followed by Kazakhstan who snatched three gold, one silver and one bronze, while Pakistan finished third with two gold, one silver and three bronze.

The two powerhouses Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan met twice during the finals but eventually the Uzbeks proved their superiority both times and won the bouts with ease. The six-day Asian Junior Boxing started on June 20. A total of 19 teams participated in the mega event.

MNA/Xinhua

## Serena upset at Wimbledon as champions advance

LONDON, 27 June— Former Wimbledon champion Serena Williams suffered her earliest exit in eight years at the pretigious grasscourt Grand Slam event Saturday as she crashed out in the third round. 2002 and 2003 winner Serena never got going against her obscure compatriot Jill Craybas, losing 6-3, 7-6.

Since losing on her US Open debut in 1996, 30-year-old Craybas had managed to win only seven matches in majors heading into Wimbledon. But as night fell, she proved too consistent for an erratic 23-year-old Serena.

Defending champions Roger Federer and Maria Sharapova proved their Wimbledon worth by scraping victories without ever hitting top form.

Federer, who had been due to play on Friday before rain wiped out that day's schedule, failed to stamp his authority on Nicolas Kiefer but had enough in reserve to advance 6-2, 6-7, 6-1, 7-5.

He plays former world number one Juan Carlos Ferrero next after the Spaniard beat Germany's Florian Mayer 3-6, 6-2, 6-1, 6-1. Sharapova posted a scrappy 6-2, 6-4 win over Slovenia's Katarina Srebotnik.

Britain's last chance for a first men's champion in 69 years evaporated as Scottish teenager Andy Murray blew a two-set lead and lost to 2002 runner-up David Nalbandian 6-7, 1-6, 6-0, 6-4, 6-1.

Women's top seed and 1999 champion Lindsay Davenport and twice champion Venus Williams advanced safely. Fourteenth seed Venus beat Daniela Hantuchova 7-5, 6-3.

Champion in 2000 and 2001, Venus faces Serena's conqueror Jill Craybas next. Davenport strolled through 6-2, 6-1 against Russia's Dinara Safina and faces former world number one Kim Clijsters next.

The Belgian beat Italian Roberta Vinci 6-3, 6-4.

Men's second seed Andy Roddick pounded his way past Russian Igor Andreev to reach the last 16. Last year's runner-up, Roddick cranked up his grass-burning serve to devastating effect winning 6-2, 6-2, 7-6 in one hour 54 minutes.

MNA/Xinhua



Serena Williams of the US reacts to losing a point to Jill Craybas of the US during their match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, on 25 June, 2005. Former Wimbledon queen Williams has vowed to battle on but the signs are there that at just 23 years old her best years in tennis may be behind her.—INTERNET

# The Central Organizing Committee...

(from page 10)

WV Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Win Maung, Kayin State WV Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Aung Maw Maw, Chin State Mindat District WV Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Sein Ya, Sagaing Division WV Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Myo Myint, Taninthayi Division Myeik District WV Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Khin Maung Kywe, Bago Division (West) WV Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Ohn Myint, Bago Division (East) DaikU Township WV Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Tin Myint (Retd) and Magway Division WV Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Zaw Thein reported their respective tasks of the committees in states and divisions during the year.

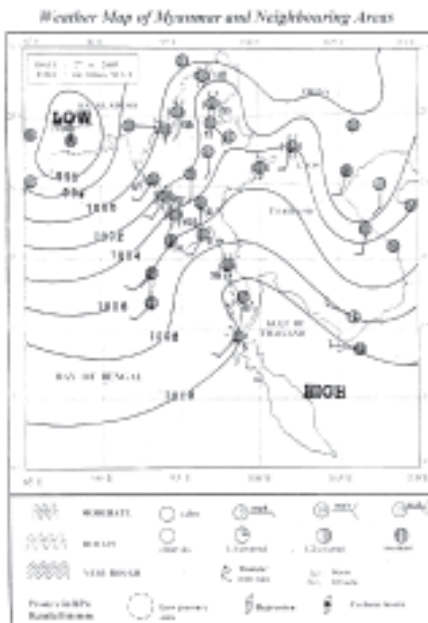
Then the first day session of the conference went into recess at 11.30 am. The session resumed at 12.15 pm. It was presided over by MWVO Central Organizing Committee member U Aung Thuang together with Ayeyawady Division WV Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Thein Hlaing and Kayah State WV Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Tin Tun. Warrant Officer Yi Yi Soe of Yangon Division WVO acted as MC and Sergeant Nyein

Nyein Myat as co-MC.

Mandalay Division WO Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Kyi Thein, Mon State Mawlamyine District WO Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Tin Aung, Rakhine State Kyaukphyu District WO Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Myo Tint, Yangon Division Dagon Township WO Supervisory Committee Chairman Major Maung Win (Retd), reported their respective tasks of the committees in states and divisions during the year. The meeting went into recess and when it resumed, Shan State (South) Lankio District WO Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Aung Maung, Shan State (North) WO Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Kyaw Shwe, Shan State (East) WO Supervisory Committee Chairman Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw and Ayeyawady Division Hinthada District Hinthada Township WO Supervisory Committee Chairman Maj Myo Thein (Retd) reported their tasks of the committees during the year. Then the first day session of the conference concluded.

Seminars on respective sectors of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference (2005) will take place at designated places tomorrow.

MNA



## WEATHER

Monday, 27 June, 2005

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain has been isolated in Chin State, scattered in Shan and Kayah States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Rakhine State and upper Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Hkamti (6.73)inches, Katha (6.26)inches, Kyaukpyu (5.98)inches, Maungtaw (5.76)inches, Thandwe (4.41) inches and Kyauktaw (3.11)inches.

Maximum temperature on 26-6-2005 was 87°F. Minimum temperature on 27-6-2005 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 27-6-2005 was 97%.

Total sunshine hours on 26-6-2005 was (4.5) hours approx. Rainfalls on 27-6-2005 were (0.16) inch at Yangon Airport, (0.24) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.35) inch at central Yangon.

Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (25.32 inches) at Yangon Airport, (22.29 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (20.23 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (12) mph from Southwest at (15:00) hours MST on 26-6-2005.

**Bay inference:** Monsoon is strong in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 28-6-2005:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan State and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine and Mon States. Degree of certainty is 80%.

**State of the sea:** Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Strong monsoon.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 28-6-2005:** Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 28-6-2005:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

## Greece aims to become regional energy centre

**ATHENS, 27 June** — Greece, a Mediterranean country, is set to become a regional energy hub in the near future as the Greek Government announced on Saturday to start construction of a Greek-Turkish natural gas pipeline from the beginning of next month.

Also in the day, Greek Development Minister Dimitris Sioufas and Italian Productive Activities Minister Claudio Scaiola signed a protocol expressing their political will to support the construction of an underwater natural gas pipeline between the two countries.

The two initiatives came nearly two months after the governments of Greece, Russia and Bulgaria signed a multi-million-euro agreement for the construction of a 285-kilometre-long trans-Balkan oil pipeline which will allow Russia to export oil through the Black Sea while bypassing the busy Bosphorus

Straits in Turkey.

At the sideline of the conference of ministers and representatives of chambers of commerce from the countries of southeastern Europe's energy community, which was attended by the European Union's Energy Commissioner Andries Pilsdags, Greek Development Minister Dimitris Sioufas told reporters said Greek Prime Minister Costas Karamanlis and his Turkish counterpart Tayyip Erdogan will inaugurate the construction work of the Greece-Turkey natural gas pipeline at the border on 3 July.

MNA/Xinhua



Tuesday, 28 June  
Tune in today:

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာ နာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ခံဆောင်ရွက်ပြီး အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာရဋ္ဌာရုံ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာ အရပ်ဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇာတိက၊ တိပိဋက ဝေပု ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တ ဝိမိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ဝရိတိ တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

- ကဗျာပန်းညွှန်

8:00 am

- Song of yesteryears

8:10 am

- အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am

- ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းဒေသကြီး (ဝန်းကျင်) ရေကူးရေလှောင်တံဆိပ်

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Let's Go

10:00 pm

- Martial song
- Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:15 pm

- English for Everyday Use

4:30 pm

- Musical programme

5:00 pm

- အထူးသတင်းတက်ပွဲလမ်းညွှန်ရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ - ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရတနာအကျိုးပြု) (ရတနာ)

5:15 pm

- Dance of national races

5:25 pm

- လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေး ဂီတတေး

5:30 pm

- မြန်မာ့စာ၊ မြန်မာ့စကား

5:45 pm

- ခံစားနားဆင် စကားစာတံစင်

5:55 pm

- Sing and Enjoy

6:30 pm

- Evening news

7:00 pm

- Weather report

7:05 pm

- ထာဝစဉ်နုလှ မြန်မာ့ဂီတ (အရေးဘာသာရပ် ဆွေးနွေးခန်း) (အပိုင်း-၁)

7:25 pm

- The mirror images of the musical oldies

7:35 pm

- သားငါးစုံဖြူ ပြည့်အကျိုး

8:00 pm

- News

- International news

- Weather report

- နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းထွဲ

- “ဟောမန်ဆောင်၏ ချစ်သံစဉ်” (အပိုင်း-၃၀)

- The next day's programme



Tuesday, 28 June  
Tune in today:

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music: -Love is blind (A.T.C)
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music: Gotta tell you
- 8.50 am National news/Slogan
- 9.00 am Music: Where-ever you go
- 9.05 am International news
- 9.10 am Music -In this life
- 1.30 pm News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm Lunch time music -Where you are? -Have you ever been in love?
- 9.00 pm English Lesson
- 9.15 pm Article/Music
- 9.25 pm Weekly Sports Reel
- 9.35 pm Music for your listening pleasure -Something like you
- 9.45 pm News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL

## Japan to provide human resources development assistance to Myanmar

YANGON, 27 June — The Japanese government has agreed to provide stipends for human resources development, and assistance for setting up plantations in dry zone and building a Myanmar-Japan centre in Myanmar.

Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha and Japanese Ambassador Mr Nobutake Odano today signed four MoUs cover-

ing the stipend provision and Myanmar-Japan centre projects for human resources development and dry zone regeneration project.

Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt, Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin, staff of Japanese embassy and officials of the respective departments were also present at the ceremony held at the ministry. — MNA



Minister U Soe Tha and Japanese Ambassador Mr Nobutake Odano signing the MoUs. — MNA

## Minister inspects Jade and Gem Special Sale 2005



Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint addresses the meeting of the Central Committee for Jade and Gem Special Sale for 2005. — MNA

YANGON, 27 June — Patron of Central Committee for Jade and Gem Special Sale for 2005 Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint arrived at Myanmar Gem Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road

this evening. The minister was welcomed at the Mart by Chairman of Central Committee for the Special Sale Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein, Deputy Chairman Deputy Commander of Yangon

Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, Managing Director U Thein Swe of Myanmar Gems Enterprise and central committee members.

First, Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint viewed round display of the spe-

cial sale at Myanmar Gem Mart where the central committee members conducted him round.

Later, the minister attended the second meeting of Central Committee for the special sale 2005.

The central committee members and officials from sub-committees reported on progress of the

special sale display. The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the minister. — MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint viewing round display of the special sale at Myanmar Gem Mart. — MNA

### Noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded

(27-6-2005)

Katha	6.26 inches
Kyauktaw	3.11 inches
Kyaukpyu	5.98 inches
Hkamti	6.73 inches
Maungtaw	5.76 inches
Thandwe	4.41 inches

### INSIDE

Myanmar would have been free from opium, marijuana and narcotic drugs, had colonialists not introduced such substances in the nation. Now, the government has been implementing short-term and long-term plans to ensure elimination of narcotics in the nation, and it is indeed an evil legacy the colonialists have left.