

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIII, Number 77

11th Waning of Nayon 1367 ME

Saturday, 2 July, 2005

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects efficient use of power and fuel

YANGON, 1 July — Chairman of the Supervisory Committee for efficient use of power and fuel member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and officials arrived at the main storage department-B of Petroleum Products Trading Enterprise in Maha Aungmyay Township Mandalay, this afternoon. They were welcomed there by Mandalay Division PDC Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Nay Win and officials, divisional manager Maj Zaw Naung and staff and officials.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspected arrival and dis-

tribution of fuel, keeping records of oil and fuel, storage of two oil tanks with a capacity of 1 million gallons and measures taken for keeping the environs clean and tidy.

Next, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gave instructions on reducing loss and wastage and measures to be taken for fire prevention. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win met with Mandalay Division electrical engineer U Than Naing and officials and heard a report on generation of electricity and power supplies for Mandalay industrial zones and gave instructions on systematic distribution of electricity and efficient use of power.

MNA

A&I Minister inspects agricultural tasks in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 1 July — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo donated cash to Summer Sangha Soon Donors Association on Yaytagun-1 street, Thonebinkwin ward, Hinthada on 27 June morning. Afterwards, the minister met with the secretary

of Hinthada District Peace and Development Council, the township PDC Chairman, division/district/township agriculture coordination committee members, CEC members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and departmental officials.



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo meets with farmers in Indawei Village of Hinthada Township.—A&I

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

Next, the minister gave instructions on agricultural sectors, using proper machinery, providing the necessary assistance for technologies, participation of the officials and people in the regional development tasks through cooperation.

Next, the committee members reported to the minister on cultivation of monsoon paddy strain and crops, and preparation for summer paddy.

Later, the minister went to Mogaung Pariyatti Monastery and paid respect to Sayadaw Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Indriyasabha and donated offertories including exercise books and stationery.

On arrival at Indawei village tract in Hinthada Township, the minister met with farmers who were cultivating in 400-acre model plot and gave necessary instructions.

Next, the minister proceeded to Yayle village in Danubyu township, Maubin District and met with farmers, departmental officials, USDA members and left necessary instructions.

MNA

Sales of gem lots inspected

YANGON, 1 July — Patron of Central Committee for Organizing Myanmar Gems Emporium Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint arrived at the Jade and Gems Special Sales for 2005 at Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, at 4 pm today.

The minister was welcomed by Chairman of the Central Committee Deputy Minister U Myint Thein, Secretary Managing Director of Myanmar Gems Enterprise U Thein Swe and members.

The minister viewed sales of gem lots through tender and competitive bidding systems at the auction hall and left the mart in the evening.

A total of 33 gem lots were sold today.

MNA



Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint views sales of gem lots at Myanmar Gems Mart.— MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 2 July, 2005

Serve national interest under Tatmadaw leadership

Patron of Myanmar War Veterans Organization (Central) Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance at the fourth day session of MWVO Conference 2005 at the Myanmar Convention Centre in Mayangon Township on 30 June.

Senior General Than Shwe said that some big nations, which are anxious to get the nation under their thumb, are putting pressure and imposing a series of sanctions against the nation under various pretexts. The Tatmadaw is not frightened whenever intimidated, and will continue to shoulder its duties steadfastly for shaping a brighter future of the nation in line with the objectives. So, the members, who are well-versed in military affairs and endowed with Union Spirit, are to take charge of duties whatever role they may be in under the leadership of the Tatmadaw.

The goal of the State is the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. To realize it, stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order are indispensable.

In ensuring stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order, the MWVO members, who are well-versed in military and political affairs, are to stand as an auxiliary force for the national defence under the leadership of the Tatmadaw, while serving the interests of the State and the people.

At present, the strength of MWVO membership stands at 136,156. Moreover, the strength of its reserve members is now over 50,000 as the wives and offspring of war veterans also included in the reserve members.

Being endowed with own capability and prestige, the MWVO is meeting with success in implementing tasks for national politics, national defence and security, economy, social and welfare sector and nation-building endeavours.

The MWVO Central Organizing Committee is looking after not only war veterans but also disabled war veterans. It is also conducting vocational training courses and creating local and overseas job opportunities for offspring of both the members and the disabled members.

As they have been one with the entire national people, the MWVO members are to constantly serve the interests of the State and the people with Union Spirit, while undertaking in its organizational tasks.

Nowadays, some powers have been attacking the nation by launching destructive acts under various pretexts. The Tatmadaw, which is leading the nation, without fearing the intimidation is to discharge its duties steadfastly for shaping a brighter future of the nation.

All in all, we firmly believe that the MWVO members, who are well-versed in military affairs and endowed with Union Spirit, will be able to serve the interests of the State and the people whatever role they may be in under the leadership of the Tatmadaw.

Air Bagan to extend local services with new plane

YANGON, 1 July — Air Bagan Limited has added a Fokker 100 jet to its fleet to extend local services.

The plane will run the Mandalay, NyaungU, Heho, Myeik and Sittway flights, with Yangon as the base.

Air Bagan Limited now has an ATR-72 jet and two ATR-42 jets flying from Yangon to Mandalay, NyaungU, Heho, Tachilek, Kengtung, Myitkyina, Putao, Dawei, Myeik, and Kawthoung.

The new plane arrived at Yangon International Airport today. — MNA

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

Merit sharing ceremony for donating tube-wells held in Yenangyoung



Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara shares merits for sinking tube-wells and providing eye surgery on patients.— MNA

YANGON, 1 July — The merit sharing ceremony for donating tube-wells and providing surgical treatment to those with eye complaints for free of charge by the eye specialists of Eye Hospital in Yangon took place at Yenangyoung No 1 BEHS on 25 June morning.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Ratttha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara and members of Sangha, Shweparami Tawya Sayadaw Ashin Chandadhika, local authorities, wellwishers and townselders.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Tejaniya administered the Five Precepts. Next, the wellwishers offered provisions to the Magway Sayadaw and members of Sangha and the ceremony ended with the recitation of religious verses. The wellwishers donated K 19.2 million for the tasks of water supply projects to the villages facing with a scarcity of water in Yenangyoung Township.

Donor Ashin Chandadhika and his disciples viewed round the tube-wells and presented documents related to donated items to the chairmen of village PDCs.

MNA

Copies of treaties donated to Religious Affairs Department

YANGON, 1 July — With the aim of helping Sasana purification and perpetuation tasks, the ceremony to present 3,000 sets of Jataka Atthakatha seven volumes worth US \$ 315,000 which were printed abroad, donated by wellwishers Maha Saddama Jotika Dhaja World Vipassana Instructor U Goenka, son Bandoola U Shwe family and Dhamma Jotika Meditation Group members for the monasteries at home and abroad, was held at the Ministry of Religious Affairs this morning, attended by Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung.

Also present on the occasion were Director-

General of the Religious Affairs Department U Myo Kyaw, the deputy directors-general, directors, wellwishers and guests.

The minister accepted copies treaties donated by the wellwishers and presented certificates of honour. Next, on be-

half of the donors, U Kyi Nyunt (Sagaing Kyi Nyunt) explained the purpose of the donation and expressed thanks. — MNA



Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung accepts 3,000 copies of Jataka Atthakatha donated by Sayagyi U Goenka through son Bandoola U Shwe.— MNA



New plane of Air Bagan.— MNA

India favours comprehensive eco cooperation agreement with ASEAN

NEW DELHI, 30 June— Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Wednesday said the comprehensive economic cooperation agreement with Singapore will take India a step closer to signing a similar agreement with ASEAN as trade and investment liberalization needed to be put on a faster track.

"It is necessary to place trade and investment liberalization with respect to India's neighbours and ASEAN countries on a faster track, Singh told the Trade and Economic Relations Committee (TERC) on Wednesday.

In this connection, Singh asked the TERC to come up with proposals to enable forward movement on negotiations for India-ASEAN comprehensive economic cooperation agreement.

"We must enlarge our economic interaction and integration with

SAARC, BIMSTEC and ASEAN and find creative solutions to overcome existing hurdles. We must become a partner in the economic progress of our neighbours," the Indian Prime Minister added.

The Prime Minister asked the ministries of finance, commerce and external affairs to strengthen research and policy-making capabilities in trade and economic relations, both within the government and outside.

Internet



A Chinese boy enjoys himself at the 2005 Animation Fair in Shanghai on 30 June, 2005. — INTERNET

ဆုတ်တုန်နှင်းဆီ ဝိုင်းရံခြင်း

Japanese PM downplays failure in ITER bid

TOKYO, 30 June— Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi said on Wednesday that the multinational bid for the building of the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) should lead to cooperation rather than confrontation.

His remarks came one day after Tokyo gave up its ambition to have the reactor built in Japan.

"There was competition for hosting the project. But the final result indicated we have been able to craft a framework for international cooperation," the Prime Minister said.

On Tuesday, Cadarache of France, was chosen as the site to host the reactor after six partners of the project — China, European Union, Japan, Russia, South Korea and the United States —

unanimously agreed at a meeting in Moscow. "We have agreed cooperation is more important than confrontation, after making a comprehensive judgment on various factors, such as costs and how Japan should develop its energy strategy," Koizumi said.

Following the adoption, the Japanese Government issued a statement on Tuesday, saying that "whichever side, Japan or the EU, won, both sides would in fact be winners".

MNA/Xinhua

Festival of China's waterfalls to raise curtain in August

BEIJING, 30 June— The 2005 China Huangguoshu Waterfalls Festival, with the theme "magnificent waterfalls, colourful ethical culture", will raise its curtain on 16 August in the southwestern Guizhou Province.

Wang Fuyu, vice secretary of Guizhou provincial committee of the Communist Party of China, said at the Press conference Tuesday that the festival is sponsored by the Guizhou provincial government and the National Tourism

Administration.

A seminar on the waterfall culture and tourism, shows and performances of the local ethical culture and some economic and trade talks will be held during the festival.

Huangguoshu Water-

falls, the biggest cataract in Asia, is one of the beckoning treasures of Guizhou. It is one of the first batch of key national scenic spots, which was released by the National Tourism Administration in 1982.

MNA/Xinhua

June, one of the deadliest months for US troops in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 1 July—June was one of the deadliest months of combat for US troops since the US-led invasion of Iraq 28 months ago.

At least 68 US soldiers, Marines and sailors were killed by hostile fire in Iraq, the fifth highest number since the war began, according to Iraq Coalition Casualty Count, a Web site that compiles official casualty reports. The June total could continue to rise as troops die from wounds sustained during the month.

The deaths came as Iraq's insurgency continued fighting what increasingly appears to be a war with two fronts: one targeting the US presence in Iraq and another aimed at stoking civil war through attacks on the nation's government, security forces and majority Shiite population.

In total, 1,744 US troops have died in the war, 1,349 from enemy fire.

After a lull following national elections in January, guerilla attacks have grown more deadly.

The 68 troop deaths are the highest since November 2004, when 125 US troops were killed by hostile fire, many during intense combat in Fallujah.

At the close of 2003, US commanders put the number of guerillas at 5,000. On Thursday in Baghdad, US Brig Gen. Donald Alston said there were between 15,000 and 20,000 guerillas, though he said not all of them fight every day.

As of 27 June, guerillas launched more than 70 car bombings during the month, according to the US military. While that figure was below that of the two prior months — at 81 each — it's more than any other month since the war began in March 2003.

Internet

Singapore initiates university-level maritime research centre

SINGAPORE, 30 June— Singapore inaugurated a new maritime research centre in the National University of Singapore on Wednesday, hoping it will help boost the island state's maritime industry.

"This centre will focus its research on the commercial maritime sector and serve as a platform for maritime research and analysis for both the industry and academia," said Singapore's Transport Minister Yeo Cheow

Tong at the opening.

This is the latest step of Singapore's plan to develop intellectual capital and manpower expertise in the maritime sector which started two years ago.

MNA/Xinhua



An employee of the Mikazuki hotel group poses in an 18k gold bathtub during a press preview of one of six golden bathtubs in Kisarazu, east of Tokyo on 30 June, 2005. — INTERNET

Gunmen storm northern Iraq city

BAGHDAD, 1 July— Gunmen stormed the former guerilla bastion of Samarra in northern Iraq yesterday, killing at least two elite police commandos and injuring as many as six.

Witnesses said armed men in as many as 10 civilian cars marauded through Samarra, a historic Tigris River shrine city filled with archaeological treasures. They attacked a building used by security forces with mortars and rocket-propelled-grenade launchers. The gunmen then surrounded the hospital and began shooting at it until Iraqi and US reinforcements showed up, witnesses said.

Samarra was the site of a US-led assault last summer meant to rid the city of guerillas. Residents said tensions had peaked in the city after a Tuesday raid on a pharmaceutical factory by security forces.—Internet

China, Denmark to bring bilateral ties to higher level

BEIJING, 29 June — China and Denmark should seek common ground while tolerating differences, and bring bilateral relations to a higher level, said top Chinese official Jia Qinglin here on Tuesday during a meeting with Danish Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Economic and Business Affairs Bendt Bendtsen.

It is normal that China and Denmark hold different views on certain issues because they have different history, cultural background and are at different level of development, said Jia Qinglin, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), or China's top advisory body.

"So long as we hold the spirit of respecting each other, seeking common ground while tolerating differences, and handle the differences in a prudent and appropriate manner, our relationship would proceed smoothly and healthily," said Jia, also member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee

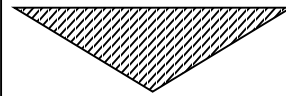
of the Communist Party of China (CPC).

China and Denmark established full diplomatic relations 55 years ago. Bilateral ties are generally on a good track as they have exchanged top level visits frequently over the past several years.

"Although we are far away geographically from each other, we share great common interests," Jia said. "We have seen vigorous growth in our cooperation in trade, science and technology, culture and education and energy."

China-Denmark trade grew 28.2 per cent in 2004 from the previous year to 3.15 billion US dollars.

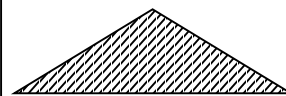
MNA/Xinhua



A 40-year-old Chinese woman, Dai Yueqin, shows off her 4.2-metre long hair during the opening ceremony of 'Decoding the Hair' show in Beijing, on 29 June, 2005.



INTERNET



New Zealand in 2nd OECD place for job growth

WELLINGTON, 29 June — New Zealand has the second highest employment growth rate among OECD countries, according to the organization's report reaching here on Wednesday.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)'s employment outlook report shows the country's labour force grew 3.4 per cent last year, up from 2.3 in 2002 and 2003.

New Zealand came in just half a per cent behind top performer Mexico and ahead of Ireland, Greece and Spain. Australia and South Korea placed sixth equal on the list of 30 countries. The Netherlands, Sweden and Czech Republic were the worst performers.

MNA/Xinhua

Cambodia's CPP emphasizes cooperation with coalition partner

PHNOM PENH, 29 June— Cambodia's ruling party, Cambodian People's Party (CPP), on Tuesday reaffirmed its continuing cooperation with its coalition partner — the royalist FUNCINPEC Party.

"The Cambodian People's Party pursues to solidify and extend closer and long-term cooperation with the FUNCINPEC Party... to jointly solve all outstanding national issues," Chea Sim, the CPP Chairman, said at the massive gathering to celebrate its 54th anniversary of the foundation.

Around 10,000 people attended the celebration at its headquarters in Phnom Penh. Besides CPP's senior leaders and a lot of party members, some diplomats as well as officials from FUNCINPEC were also present at the meeting.

Chea Sim stressed the cooperation "constitutes the firm foundation of peace, stability, democracy and social development of the nation."

"The CPP committees at every level must attach great attention to implement this cooperation at

his or her level with good result," he added.

Chea Sim made a keynote speech at the meeting, reviewing the party's history and offering an assessment of party's progress and achievement since it was founded on 28 June, 1951.

"We are growing in strength and popularity and win the wide support from the people across the nation that reflect out the party's sound and correct political line and performance as a whole," he said.

The 3rd mandated coalition government formed by CPP and FUNCINPEC Party in July, 2004 solved the 11 months of political deadlock on forming a new government since the national election was held on 27 July, 2003. FUNCINPEC was also the coalition partner of the CPP in two previous governments.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam to build more cement plants

HANOI, 29 June — Vietnam will build more large cement plants and upgrade existing facilities, which use the blast furnace technology, to meet the increasing local demand for the product, Vietnam's Construction Material Institute said on Tuesday.

Most of the new plants will be built in the central and southern regions due to advantages regarding material sources and transport.

The country also will not licence new projects on cement production using the blast furnace technology.

MNA/Xinhua

State Dept says Iraq risky for Americans yet

WASHINGTON, 29 June—The State Department called Iraq too dangerous for American travellers on Wednesday, hours after President Bush pointed to "significant progress" there.

"Attacks against military and civilian targets throughout Iraq continue," and targets include hotels and restaurants, the State Department's travel warning said. There have been planned and random killings, as well as extortions and kidnappings." The State Department issues warning against unnecessary travel to countries where internal conditions such as war, political unrest or terrorism may make American tourists, business people or other travellers targets. —Internet



A US Blackhawk helicopter flies over a cement-works factory near the northern Iraqi city of Tall Afar on 29 June, 2005. — INTERNET

China to forge closer ties with Czech Republic

BEIJING, 29 June — China's National People's Congress (NPC), or top legislature, wants to intensify exchanges with Czech Parliament to promote bilateral friendly cooperation, China's top legislator Wu Bangguo told visiting Czech Prime Minister Jiri Paroubek here on Tuesday.

Wu, chairman of the NPC Standing Committee, said that to deepen the friendly ties between China's NPC and Czech Parliament constitutes an important part of the development of bilateral relations.

He said the Chinese side would like to continue promoting exchanges and cooperation with Czech Republic at all levels so as to jointly strengthen and expand the social foundation of China-Czech friendship.

The Chinese top legislator said China and Czech share broad common interests and have no conflicts concerning fundamental interests.

"Bilateral cooperation in economy, trade, culture, education, science and technology has produced outstanding results," he said. Statistics show that bilateral trade between China and Czech Republic in 2004 reached 1.8 billion US dollars, growing nine times compared with the figure 10 years ago.

Paroubek said the two countries enjoy a great potential in further cooperation and he hoped his visit would further boost bilateral mutual-beneficial cooperation. He said his government wants to maintain the exchanges of high-level visits with China, promote mutual understanding and further improve cooperation in economy, investment, culture, sports and tourism— MNA/Xinhua

China issues commemorative stamps on ancient Chinese seafarer

QINGDAO, 29 June — A set of commemorative stamps was debuted on Tuesday in the Ocean University of China based in Qingdao, a port city in Shandong Province, to mark the 600th anniversary of maritime expeditions by Zheng He, a seafarer in the 15th century.

Zheng He, an important historical figure, commanded seven expeditions to the “Western Oceans” on royal orders between 1405 and 1433. Steered by stars and directed by the compass, his fleet

used nautical astronomy and geonavigation to visit more than 30 countries and regions in Asia and Africa, successfully extending Chinese cultural and technological influence as well as fostering trade and good will.

Zheng He’s impressive fleet comprised more than 200 ships and a crew of more than 20,000. The 100-metre-long flagships, known as “treasure ships,” sailed in convoy with a fleet of battleships,

combat billets, supply ships, water tankers and horse ships. The size of the fleets sent, the equipment used and the distance travelled all demonstrated that nautical technology in China during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) was well ahead of other maritime powers.—MNA/Xinhua

Police seize 6.3 kilos of “ice” in W China municipality

CHONGQING, 29 June — Police in west China’s Chongqing Municipality has seized 6.3 kilos of “ice” in a recent move to crack down on drug trafficking, the largest drug case in the city since 1949, the local police source said.

On 25 June, drug traffickers Shen Anquan and Fu Zhengdian were captured by police in a tea house in Yuzhong District in downtown Chongqing.

The police had followed the tracks of the drug traffickers as early as

in May when the suspects bought “ice” from overseas. On 21 June, Shen Anquan and three other men were examining their “cargo” at a crossroads of the city under the undercover surveillance of the police.—MNA/Xinhua

HK researchers find cause for HGPS

HONG KONG, 29 June — The University of Hong Kong announced on Tuesday a study which has made groundbreaking findings into the molecular mechanism responsible for Hutchison-Gilford Progeria Syndrome (HGPS).

HGPS is a disease that causes the onset of severe premature aging, which leads to elderly-like appearance and rapid deterioration of physiological functions necessary for survival and fertility. It is a rare severe form of early-onset premature aging.

Common symptoms of HGPS include hair loss, delayed teeth formation, dwarfism and retarded growth and loss of body fat etc. However, affected children have the same

mental age as normal children of similar ages. A research team led by Dr Zhong-jun Zhou from the Department of Biochemistry of the university has created a mouse model closely resembling human disorder of HGPS.

Researchers found that in cells from HGPS patients and in the mouse model that made abnormal Lamin A, which is found responsible for HGPS, the DNA could not be repaired

properly and as a result the genome became unstable. The groundbreaking results have recently been published in the leading international scientific journal *Nature Medicine* on 27 June.

Researchers said these findings are particularly important given the significant economic and human impact of a worldwide increase of the aging population.

MNA/Xinhua



Heavy rain pours over a container terminal in Hong Kong on 30 June, 2005. Traders were watching the debut of container line China COSCO Holdings Ltd, which fell nearly 9 percent from its IPO price on worries that freight rates will soon peak, the latest Chinese-related offering to succumb to weak market sentiment. —INTERNET

Poll shows Americans skeptical about gains against Iraqi guerillas

WASHINGTON, 29 June — As US President George W Bush prepares to address the nation about Iraq, a new poll finds that most Americans do not believe the Administration’s claims that impressive gains are being made against the attacks.

However, a clear majority of respondents in the *Washington Post*-ABC News Poll, which was published Tuesday, is willing to keep US forces in Iraq for an extended time to stabilize the country, in contrast with other recent polls which show a majority saying the US should withdraw part or all of its troops.

The survey found that 22 per cent of Americans say they believe that the insurgency is getting weaker, while 24 per cent believe it is strengthening. More than half — 53 per cent — say resistance to US and Iraqi government forces has not changed, a view that matches the assessment offered last week in congressional testimony by the US commander in Iraq, General John P Abizaid.

By a narrow margin, the public continues to think the war has not been worth the cost, and bigger majorities fear that Iraq has crippled the ability of the United States to respond to conflicts elsewhere in the world and

has damaged efforts to recruit young people into the military. A large majority, about six in 10 people, say the United States is “bogged down” in Iraq.

Overwhelming majorities of Americans think the Bush Administration and US military leaders fundamentally underestimated the difficulty of the war and failed to anticipate the tenacity of the insurgency in Iraq. There were some encouraging signs for Bush, however. A narrow majority — 52 per cent — believes that the war has contributed to the long-term security of the United States, a five-point increase from earlier this month.

The survey found that only one in eight Americans currently favours an immediate pullout of US forces, while a solid majority continues to agree with Bush that the United States must remain in Iraq until civil order is restored — a goal that most of those surveyed acknowledge is, at best, several years away.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysian Govt lifts ban on medical advertisement

KUALA LUMPUR, 29 June — Medical practitioners and health institutions in Malaysia are now allowed to publicize their services on newspapers, web sites or yellow pages, the *Bernama* news agency reported on Tuesday.

Basic information, including names, places and credentials, as well as pictures of the practitioners or institutions without superlative or

exaggerated statements are allowed to appear in advertisements, Health Minister Chua Soi Lek was quoted as saying.

The decision, which

takes immediate effect, was made after consultations with Malaysian Medical Council, medical associations and medical academics to promote health tourism in the country, Chua told reporters after opening the Association of Private Hospitals Malaysia (APHM) Healthcare Conference at Seri Kembangan, near Kuala Lumpur. However, medical practitioners and health institutions must get approval from Malaysian Medical Advertisement Board before providing those information publicly, Chua noted.

Anyone found publicizing the information without prior approval from the board could risk their practices being suspended for several years, Chua added.

Previously, Malaysian Ministry of Health prohibits any forms of medical advertisements, and even pictures of medical practitioners are not allowed to appear in newspapers or web sites.

MNA/Xinhua

12,000 Lions participate in grand parade in HK

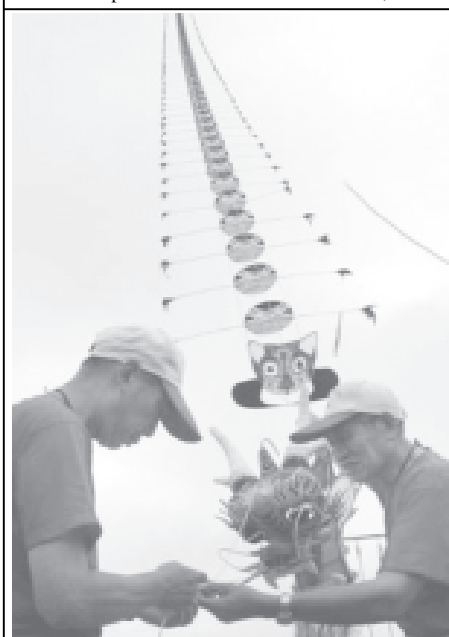
HONG KONG, 29 June — About 12,000 people paraded through streets of Wanchai in Hong Kong Tuesday evening to mark the opening of the 88th Lions Clubs International (LCI) Convention.

Lions Clubs International is the world’s largest service club organization dedicated to helping the less fortunate in the community. It has nearly 1.4 million members in 193 countries and geographic areas.

Lions members in national costume from more than 100 countries across the world together with more than 20 uniformed teams from different associations and schools in Hong Kong marched from Golden Bauhinia Square to Tamar Site between 6 pm and 10 pm. International President of LCI Clement F Kusiak and Hong Kong Secretary of Hong Affairs presided over the opening ceremony of the parade.

They participated with other officiating guests in a traditional Chinese lions “eye-dotting” ceremony to mark the beginning of the festivities

MNA/Xinhua



An eight-member team successfully fly a 2005-metre long dragon kite in Xuyi County, Jiangsu Province on 28 June, 2005. The huge dragon is composed of a dragon head and 7,888 squamas.

The team plan to fly a 2,008-metre kite in Beijing during the Beijing Olympic Games in 2008.

INTERNET

India, Singapore sign eco pact lifting investment, banking bars

NEW DELHI, 30 June—Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsein Loong signed a comprehensive economic cooperation agreement on Wednesday lifting limitation on investment, banking and Custom duty.

According to *Indo-Asian News Service*, the agreement, which will take effect on August 1, is an integrated package comprising a Free Trade Agreement, a bilateral agreement on investment promotion and protection, an improved double taxation avoidance agreement and a work programme of cooperation in healthcare, education, media and tourism.

According to the agreement, India will allow three major Singapore banks to set up wholly-

owned subsidiaries in the country. DBS Holdings, Overseas Chinese Banking Corporation and United Overseas Bank will enjoy national treatment the same as local banks in the number of branches, plaices of operation and prudential requirements.

In turn, Indian banks, which have already operated in Singapore, will get full banking status, which means they will be allowed to provide electronic fund transfer and clearance as well as use

local ATMs.

India will also allow two Singapore investment companies, Temasek and Singapore Government Investment Company, to hold 20 per cent stake of any Indian company while the government usually cap 10 per cent stake on foreign investors.

The polices are expected to help push India's foreign institutional investment rise by 300 per cent to five billion US dollars and foreign direct investment to two billion US dollars in the first year

of operation, officials said here.

The two countries also agreed to cancel duties on 506 goods that account for 80 per cent of the bilateral trade, totalling 6.4 billion US dollars in 2004-2005.

Lee said earlier Wednesday that the pact will "deepen relations" between the two countries.

It will "take India another step closer to a CECA (comprehensive economic cooperation agreement) with the ASEAN", Manmohan Singh said.

MNA/Xinhua

Designing plan for Guangzhou-Zhuhai light rail to launch soon

ZHUHAI, 30 June—The light rail track between Guangzhou, capital city of south China's Guangdong Province, and Zhuhai, a city also in Guangdong, will have a length of 140.8 metres with 18 stops.

The construction on the light rail track, which will cost 19.5 billion yuan (about 2.35 billion US dollars), will begin shortly, said information from the city government of Zhuhai.

The inter-city light rail track will consist of a trunk line which will go from Panyu of Guangzhou to Gongbei in Zhuhai, and a feeder road which will start from Xiaolan in Zhongshan City and end

at Jiangmen City, both in southern Guangdong. Fourteen stops will be built on the trunk line and four on the feeder road.

Designing of the projected light rail track is done by a number of organizations, including the Designing Institute with the Chinese Ministry of Railways.

The project is expected to be completed and go into traffic in 2008.—MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia to ban American beef imports

JAKARTA, 30 June—Indonesia will ban imports of American beef and beef products starting Thursday after the US Department of Agriculture confirmed a second case of mad cow disease there last week, web site of the *Jakarta Post* quoted official as sayign here on Wednesday.

Tri Satya Naipospos, Director of Animal Health at the Agriculture Ministry, said that beef product imports approved before 30 June will still be allowed into Indonesia. She said around 500 metric tons of US beef products are currently en route to Indonesia.

Meanwhile, Fred Kessel, agricultural counsellor at the US Embassy

in Jakarta, said the US would consider such a ban unjustified in terms of potential health risks.

"I haven't been given a rationale that makes much sense," Kessel said of the ban, adding that Indonesian authorities had not yet officially confirmed it.

The US beef industry is still suffering after international trade curbs

were imposed upon its first discovery of mad cow, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy, in December 2003. Major importers including Japan and South Korea sealed their borders to US beef, fearing damage to their domestic industries and mad cow's human variant, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, which is a fatal brain disorder.—MNA/Xinhua



South Korean visitors walk along a miniature tunnel that visualises the passage of time at an exhibition, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the publication of late German-born physicist Albert Einstein's Theory of Relativity, at a science museum in Seoul on 1 July, 2005. —INTERNET

Singapore sets up Common Criteria Scheme for cyber security

SINGAPORE, 30 June—Singapore has established a Common Criteria Scheme as the latest measure to defend the country's critical infrastructure from cyber attacks, Lee Boon Yang, Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts, announced here on Wednesday.

"Singapore will provide a cost-competitive and reliable venue for companies to obtain Common Criteria Certification for their security products," said Lee at the 17th annual FIRST conference on cyber security held here on 26 June to 1 July.

The scheme will help maintain a secure infocomm environment for the government, businesses and individuals in Singapore, according to the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore.

Singapore signed the Common Criteria Recognition Arrangement (CCRA) as a Consuming Participant in March this year, and expect to become

a Certificate Issuing Participant by the end of 2006.

More than 20 countries has signed the CCRA to maintain the Common Criteria, an international standard concerning the evaluation and certification of an information technology (IT) product or system.

To enhance the country's cyber security, Lee said, Singapore adopted a three-year Infocomm Security Masterplan as part of its national strategy in February this year, and plans to transform Infocomm Security into a distinguished profession to build a skilled workforce.

MNA/Xinhua

Thailand to create open-field zones for duck raising

BANGKOK, 30 June—Thailand has decided to create eight special zones in the country for open-field duck breeding, the department of livestock development has said.

The eight zones encompass 24 provinces in the central, lower north and eastern regions, and breeders in these zones can move their ducks within these provinces, the department director-general Yukol Limlamthong was quoted on Wednesday by *Bang-*

kok Post newspaper as saying.

More than 500 open-field duck raisers on Monday lodged protest against a compulsory measure banning relocation of ducks to avoid reemergence of bird flu. Yokul said the department would form a special

working group to study effective measures to prevent bird flu outbreaks in duck flocks.

Currently, there are 5 million ducks being raised in open fields, down from 12 million before the outbreak of bird flu in Thailand.—MNA/Xinhua



People surf the Internet in Shanghai recently. China has more than 100 million Internet users and some 358 million mobile phone users, with both areas growing rapidly as the country's economy booms, state press reported. — INTERNET

Europe needs to adapt to rise of China, India

SINGAPORE, 30 June—Europe needs to adapt itself to the rise of China and India, which represents both huge challenges and great opportunities, said Peter Stephens, regional communications manager for East Asia and the Pacific Region at the World Bank, here on Wednesday.

Speaking at an event organized by the Singapore-German Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Stephens observed that remarkable changes have taken place in Asia in recent years, especially in China and India.

He said that the rise of China and India has forced member states of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to come together and initiate dialogue on cooperation with the two countries, a process attractive to Australia and New Zealand as well.

MNA/Xinhua

Study shows Milky Way about 14.5 billion years old

LOS ANGELES, 1 July — The age of our Milky Way is approximately 14.5 billion years, plus or minus more than two billion years, according to a new study released on Wednesday.

In the latest issue of the journal *Nature*, Nicolas Dauphas, an assistant professor at the University of Chicago, reported that he has developed a new way to calculate the age of the Milky Way that is free of the invalidated assumptions that have plagued previous methods.

In this study, Dauphas has honed the accuracy of the cosmic clock by comparing the decay of two long-lived radioactive elements, Uranium-238 and Thorium-232. His new method can now be used to tackle other mysteries of the cosmos that have remained unsolved for decades, other scientists commented.

"Age determinations are crucial to a fundamental understanding of the universe," Thomas Rauscher, an assistant professor at the University of Basel in Switzerland, said in a statement.

"The wide range of implications is what

makes Nicolas' work so exciting and important."

According to this method, the age of the Milky Way generally agrees with the estimate of 12.2 billion years, nearly as old as the universe itself, as determined by previously existing methods.

Dauphas' finding verifies what was already suspected, despite the drawbacks of existing methods: "After the big bang, it did not take much time for large structures to form, including our Milky Way galaxy."

The previously estimated age of 12 billion years for the galaxy relied on the characteristics of two different sets of stars, globular clusters and white dwarfs. But this estimate depends on assumptions about stellar evolution and nuclear physics that scientists have yet to substantiate to their complete satisfaction. A more direct way to calculate the age of

stars and the Milky Way depends on the accuracy of the uranium/thorium clock. Scientists can telescopically detect the optical "fingerprints" of the chemical elements.

Using this capability, they have measured the uranium/thorium ratio in a single old star that resides in the halo of the Milky Way.

They already knew how fast uranium and thorium decay with time. If they also know the ratio of uranium and thorium when the star was formed, then calculating the star's age becomes a problem with a straightforward solution. Unfortunately, this production ratio is very poorly known until now.

Dauphas solved the problem by combining the data from the uranium/thorium observations in the halo star with measurements of the uranium/thorium ratio that other scientists had made in meteorites.

MNA/Xinhua

India's electronics market to see fast growth

LOS ANGELES, 1 July — India's electronics market will be the fastest-growing electronics market worldwide over the next several years, In-Stat reported on Wednesday.

In-Stat, a high-tech market research firm, said India's electronics market, now at 11.5 billion US dollars, is expected to grow at annual rate of 23 per cent and reach 40 billion dollars in 2010.

Though its total output will be far behind China's electronics market, worth 271.97 billion dollars in 2004, India's

promising market bears watching, the market research firm said. In-Stat said the growth of Indian electronics industry will be driven mainly by the computer and computer component sectors.

It also noted that a large and growing Indian middle class of 320-340 million has disposable income for consumer goods, though about 25

per cent of the Indian population lives below the poverty line.

"India's low manufacturing costs in skilled labour and raw materials, availability of engineering skills, and opportunity to meet demand in the populous Indian market, are driving its electronics market," In-Stat said.

MNA/Xinhua

Sri Lanka finds 35 new amphibian species

COLOMBO, 1 July — Sri Lanka conservationists have discovered 35 new species of the amphibians frog species, the official *Daily News* reported on Thursday.

In a decade-long study, Sri Lanka's Wildlife Heritage Trust team found evidence of 35 new frog species, confirming Sri Lanka as the world's number one spot for frogs, with more than 200 known species, ahead of rainforest-rich Costa Rica, according to a report from Sri Lanka's Wildlife Heritage Trust.

However, the Wildlife Heritage Trust in the report blamed habitat loss

for the die-off of another 19 species.

"The ravages of habitat loss in Sri Lanka's once rain-forested wet zone have been severe, and there is a compelling argument for intensive conservation management of the surviving forest," the report added.

They also found other previously unknown species which are 50 new snail species, 16 crabs, seven lizards, the paper said. — MNA/Xinhua

India for greater voice for developing states in int'l bodies

UNITED NATIONS, 1 July — Observing that decision making in international institutions remains heavily weighed in favour of developed states, India has strongly advocated giving greater voice to developing countries.

India's Minister of State for External Affairs E Ahamed, during interaction at a roundtable organized in connection with the UN General Assembly session on "Financing for Development", called for structural reform of the world financial institutions aimed at redistributing of voting power in favour of developing nations.

It is extremely important, he said, that this question be addressed at an early opportunity as the structural reforms could have "direct and beneficial impact" on the ability of developing countries to influence the multilateral trading and financial systems which do not "always take their inter-

ests into account", he said on Tuesday.

Warning the rich nations that global imbalances cannot be resolved through "independent or unilateral" actions, Ahamed asked the major countries to recognize the impact of their macro economic policies on all participants in the international economy and promote cooperation to ensure orderly resolution of the issue.

"It is, therefore, important to give shape to a coordinated approach involving major global players and we recognize in this context, the important role that IMF can, and should be encouraged, to play," he said.

MNA/PTI



Singaporean workers put up a banner in preparation for the 5 July opening of the 117th IOC Session which will pick the host city for the 2012 olympic games in Singapore recently.

INTERNET

China to forge eco cooperation forum with S Pacific countries

BEIJING, 1 July — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao on Wednesday proposed an economic development forum be established between China and South Pacific countries, including Fiji, so as to strengthen trade and economic cooperation.

"China is ready to keep contact and cooperation with Fiji for an early launch of the forum," Wen told Fijian Prime Minister Laisenia Qarase during their talks in the Great Hall of the People in downtown Beijing.

The Fijian Prime Minister said his country supported the proposal, adding such a forum would benefit the friendly cooperative ties between countries in the region and China. Wen said Sino-Fijian relations witnessed constant growth since the two countries forged diplomatic ties in 1975. Exchanges between top leaders, parliaments and political parties of the two nations became frequent and active, and mutual trust kept enhancing, Wen said. Bilateral trade also increased year by year.

"It's been proved that to develop the Sino-Fijian friendly cooperative relations accords with the two people's common aspiration and their fundamental interests, which also benefits stability and prosperity in the South Pacific region," Wen said.

Wen appreciated the Fijian government's reiteration of adhering to the one-China policy.

The Chinese Government attaches importance to and is devoted to developing "long-term friendly, mutual-beneficial and win-win" relations with Fiji, and new opportunities are there for further development of the relations, Wen said.

"China will work with Fiji to expand trade and economic cooperation, while encouraging and supporting Chinese enter-

prises to invest in Fiji to push for the implementation of cooperation projects in agriculture, fishery and infrastructure construction," Wen said.

Laisenia Qarase said Fiji and China trust, understand and respect each other, with bilateral relations and trade and economic cooperation enhanced. He said Fiji and he himself will continuously try their best to cooperate with China in achieving new progress in bilateral and economic cooperation and two-way investment. Fiji will, as always, firmly stick to the one-China policy, he added. The two prime ministers attended the signing ceremony of a China-Fiji economic and technology cooperation agreement after their talks.

MNA/Xinhua

Tree-planting ceremony held to hail Myanmar Women's Day

YANGON, 1 July — As a gesture hailing Myanmar Women's Day which will fall on 3 July, Yangon West District held a tree-planting ceremony



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe plants a tree to mark Myanmar Women's Day. —MNA

in front of Gangaw Hall on Hline Campus of Yangon University this morning.

Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay, Patron of Yangon Division Organization for Women's Affairs, attended the ceremony and planted trees. It was also attended by No 1 Military Region Commander Lt-Col Soe Win, Secretary of Yangon Division PDC Lt-Col Myint Kyi and members, Yangon West District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Kyaw Tint, chairmen of township PDCs, Yangon West District Organization for Women's Affairs Patron Daw Ni Ni Sein and members of social organizations.

First, Director of Yangon Division Forest Department U Khin Win reported on arrangements being made to plant 2.3 million saplings in the division during the rainy season in 2005 and techniques for proper growth of the trees. Next, the commander and wife distributed saplings to those present. The commander and wife and officials planted teak saplings. Next they encouraged members of MAAF, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, USDA and other social organizations who

were planting saplings.

A total of 1750 saplings such as teak, *Padauk* and *Mahawgani* were planted. — MNA



Patron of Yangon Division WAO Daw Khin Thet Htay plants a tree to mark MWD. — MNA

Matters coordinated for ensuring smooth and secure transport in Yangon



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe makes a speech at coordination meeting. —MNA

YANGON, 1 July — The work coordination meeting of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport was held at Yangon Command at 5 pm today, attended by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman, Yangon

Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin military region commanders, Secretary of Yangon Division PDC Lt-Col Myint Kyi and members, committee members and officials.

First, the com-

mander delivered an address. Next, officials reported on measures being taken for traffic safety and action being taken against those who violate traffic rules and regulations.

Later, the meeting ended with concluding remarks by the commander.

MNA

45th anniversary of Yangon University Hiking and Mountaineers Association held

YANGON, 28 June — The 10th get-together and the 45th anniversary of Yangon University Hiking and Mountaineers Association to mark Sapphire Jubilee, was held at Royal Rose Garden on Shwegondine Road in Bahan Township on 26

June.

Chairman of YUHMA U Myo Thant (Myanmar Department) extended greetings. Afterwards, Patron of YUHMA Rector of YU Dr Soe Yin and writer Theitpan Hmu Tin made speeches.

Next, the certificates of honour were presented to those who provided assistance to YUHMA and the prizes were awarded to the best mountaineers. Later, member of YUHMA Ko Tin Moe Zaw expressed thanks. — MNA



Chairman of Myintta Yeik Mon (Cancer) Foundation U Hla Tun makes a speech at the talks on "Cancer-Causes, Prevention and Cure- The Role of Anti-oxidant in fighting Cancer". — MNA



Chairman of YUHMA U Myo Thant presents a gift to Rector Dr Soe Yin. — MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivers a speech at the ceremony to mark the 35th anniversary of the Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise. — MNA

MMPE urged to always get in...

(from page 16)
has been reconstituted, so all responsible are to further cooperate and coordinate in 2005-2006 so as to raise the level of Myanmar film and video industry.

The next objective is to enable the nation's motion pictures and video to penetrate international film industry. Now, six

Myanmar film industry but towards earning foreign exchange, it benefits both those engaged in film industry and the State. So, all are to make endeavours with a sense of duty to meet the target.

The fourth objective is to ensure media coverage and regarding implementation of this objective, success has been

far-flung regions and border areas by showing greater number of motion pictures and documentary films to them.

The fifth objective is to censor local and foreign films in accord with the nation's culture, custom and character, and it has been achieved thanks to duty-conscious performances of members of film censor board and video censor board.

cinema halls.

And, the last objective is to take steps for ensuring greater success in agriculture and livestock breeding tasks for welfare of staff. Officials at all levels are to seek better ways and means to achieve this objective.

The minister said that the MMPE will have to successfully implement the task of using advanced machinery and equipment

individual efforts. The minister said he has already explained the methods for development of the film industry. But a significant volume of task is left undone. The entire ministry staff will have to work for the local media

the government is working overtime for national development. Thus, the ministry should make collective efforts to realize the targets. The ministry will be able to realize its objectives, only if all the departments do their jobs



Deputy Minister U Thein Sein presents cash assistance for uniforms for MMPE staff through Managing Director U Bo Kyi.—MNA

Myanmar films are being shown in foreign countries. As the implementation of this objective contributes not only towards the advancement of the

achieved more than expected. In this fiscal year, continued efforts are to be exerted to enhance intellectual power and knowledge of local people in



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein presents cash award and one-step promotion document to Daw Nu Nu Yin (Grade IV) through Deputy Director U Than Win.—MNA

The next one is to maintain, upgrade and supervise cinema halls. In this regard, all are to strive for emergence of modern

and applying thrifty methods, in addition to realizing its seven objectives. At present, efforts are being made to raise the standard of Myanmar films and video plays. Staff of the MMPE should always get in touch and cooperate with the members of Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayan and persons of the film profession for improving the standard of Myanmar movies and video plays.

The government has already laid down plans to render assistance for development of the movie profession of Myanmar. The task of developing the film industry must be implemented with collective endeavours, but not with



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents cash assistance and exercise books to Director-General U Chit Naing.— MNA

to cover the whole nation, the nation's media to penetrate foreign countries, the nation's media to become efficient and dynamic, development of the Myanmar movies and video plays and enabling them to penetrate the markets abroad, development of the Myanmar literary and music professions, and organizing all the public-run media to energetically take part in the national cause.

The media industry cannot be undertaken through the application of fixed methods. Officials at different levels will have to lead their subordinates to study their functions, to compete with their counterparts for their own progress, and to carry out the task in all seriousness. The staff should not lose sight of the national policy and goals in carrying out their tasks. With the leadership of the Head of State,

wells. The minister presented gifts of honour to five outstanding staff, cash assistance of K 137,450 and exercise books for children of the ministry staff, K 1,204,600 and stationery for children of MRTV staff, K 3,012,500 and stationery for children of IPRD staff, K 3,449,000 and stationery for children of PPE staff, K 3,299,600 and stationery for children of NPE staff, and K 1,019,500 and stationery for children of MMPE staff.

He also presented K 2,020,000 for the staff of the MMPE. The ministry presented K 12,122,650 and exercise books for 4,679 students.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein also presented gifts to an MMPE staff for her outstanding performance in accounting course.

MNA



Officials visits members of Union Solidarity and Development Association of Ward 1 in Mayangon Township, Yangon West District, donating blood to honour Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference (2005) at No 1 Defence Service General Hospital on 1-7-2005. — MNA

MWAF membership applications submitted

YANGON, 1 July — To hail Myanmar Women's Day which falls on 3 July, a ceremony to present membership applications of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, organized by Yangon Division Organization for Women's Affairs took place at the No 2 BEHS in Sangyoung Township here this morning.

Present on the occasion were No 3 Basic Education Department Deputy Director General U Aye Myint and officials, Director U Win Ko of the Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar), Divisional Commissioner U Hla Soe and departmental officials, Yangon West District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Kyaw Tint, Yangon



Yangon Division OWA Patron Daw Khin Thet Htay accepts membership applications of the students. — MNA

Division Organization for Women's Affairs Chairperson Daw Khin Myo Thu and members. Yangon Division OWA Patron Daw Khin Thet Htay explained the emergence of the

MWAF and facts about it. Next, Daw Khin Thet Htay accepted 50,167 membership applications of BEHS and BEMS students from the districts of Yangon Division. Daw Khin Myo Thu

and officials presented prizes to winners of university, college, institute and basic education level essay contests in commemoration of Myanmar Women's Day. — MNA

Talks on sports to mark Myanmar Women's Day given

YANGON, 1 July — Hailing Myanmar Women's Day which falls on 3 July, talks on sports, organized by Sub-working group of Young women under Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation were given at Latha Township No 2 BEHS on 27 June morning.

Present on the occasion were Deputy leader of Working Group of Integration and Rehabilitation on Women Daw Khin Myo Myint, the intellectuals and intelligentsia of the working group and others.

First, headmistress Daw Khin Ohn Myint ex-

tended greetings and Ma Swe Swe Thant, Myanmar Selected Wushu athlete then gave a talk on her experiences in sports.

The athletes from Myanmar Karatedo Federation and Myanmar Wushu Federation performed their skill demonstration.

The sub-working group donated cash for the school funds, to the athletes from MKF and MWF and the ceremony ended.

MNA

Sapling planting ceremony held in Tachilek

YANGON, 1 July — Hailing the Myanmar Women's Day, the sapling planting ceremony organized by Tachilek District and Township Organizations for Women's Affairs was held near Hwekhaik Village on Tachilek-Kengtung Road on 25 June morning.

Present were Chairman of Tachilek District

Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Zaw Moe Aye and officials, Patron of District OWA Daw Thu Thu Min San and members, social organization members and local people.

At the ceremony, they planted over 1,500 saplings.— MNA

Myanmar Women Force

- * To weeping boys, people say "don't" "You've got to be brave and with crying, you won't" To weeping girls, they just take for granted "A normal act to let out yourself and be chanted"
- * Illogical practice and irrational thoughts Rusty beliefs that are reflecting not What Myanmar women are today An equal and vital role, in nation building, we play
- * Construction sites and railroad ridges Condo types and gigantic bridges Open fields and projects outdoor With men we run along and take the floor
- * 'Weaker sex' are we no more Neither 'the oppressed' nor 'the controlled' Our empowerment easily seen through If only we just claim the mileage out of what we do
- * Keeping abreast with men we're now Without losing the family control we vow Stretching our wings in unison We'll strive towards a modern, developed and democratic nation

Aye Phyu

Hailing Myanmar Women's Day - 3 July 2005



MYANMAR WOMEN'S DAY

3rd July 2005

STRIVE TOGETHER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါကာကွယ်နှိမ်နင်းရေး နှိုးဆော်ချက်

- ၁။ မိုးရာသီအတွင်း၊ အသက် ၃-နှစ်မှ ၁၄-နှစ်အထိ ကလေးငယ်များတွင် သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်ပါသည်။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါဖြစ်လျှင် ရင်သွေးငယ်များ အသက်ဆုံးပါသည်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်သဖြင့် မိမိတို့၏ ရင်သွေးများ ရောဂါဘယကင်းဝေးစေရန် သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေး ရောဂါ ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။
- ၂။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါသည် ရေကြည်ရေသန့်တွင် ပေါက်ပွားသော ခြင်္သေ့ပိုး၊ ခြင်္ကျား၊ အကိုက်ခဲရခြင်းကြောင့် ကူးစက်ပါသည်။ သို့ပါ၍ ခြင်္သေ့ပိုး၊ ခြင်္ကျား၊ မပေါက်ပွားစေရန်မိမိတို့ ရင်သွေးငယ်များ ခြင်္ကိုက်မခံစေရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

လိုက်နာရမည့်အချက်များ

- (က) ရေစည်ရေအိုးများကို လုံခြုံစွာ ဖုံးအုပ်ထားပါ။
- (ခ) ပန်းအိုး၊ သောင်ရေအိုးတို့မှ ရေကို နေ့စဉ်လဲလှယ်ပေးပါ။
- (ဂ) ရေစည်၊ ရေအိုးများရှိ ပိုးလောင်လန်းများအား ရေစစ်ဖြင့် ခပ်ထုတ်ပစ်ပါ။
- (ဃ) မိုးရေတင်နိုင်သော ဘူးခွံ၊ ပုံးခွံ၊ တာယာရုတ်၊ အိုးခြမ်းပဲ စသည်တို့ကို ဖယ်ရှားရှင်းလင်းပါ။
- (င) မိမိတို့ အိမ်ရှေ့ အိမ်နောက်တို့မှ ရေမြောင်းများအား ရေစီးရေလာ ကောင်းအောင် ရှင်းလင်းပါ။ လိုအပ်ပါက စည်ပင်သာယာရေးအဖွဲ့၏ အကူအညီကိုယူပါ။
- (စ) အိမ်ပတ်ဝန်းကျင်ရှိ ရေပင်နိုင်သော မြေခွံများကို ဖို့ပါ။
- (ဆ) အလင်းရောင်ရရှိရန် တံခါးများကို နေ့စဉ်ဖွင့်ထားပါ။
- (ဇ) အိမ်တွင်း၊ အိမ်ပြင် သန့်ရှင်းအောင်ထားပါ။
- (ဈ) ကလေးများ နေ့လယ်အိမ်ချိန်တွင် ခြင်္သေ့ပိုးဖြင့် သိပ်ပါ။ (အင်္ကျီလက်ရှည်၊ ဘောင်းဘီရှည်၊ ထဘီ၊ ပုဆိုး စသည်တို့ကို ဝတ်ဆင်ထား ပေးပါ။)
- ၃။ ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာနနှင့် ပူးပေါင်းပြီး ခြင်္သေ့ပိုး၊ ခြင်္ကျား မပေါက်ပွားစေရန် ဆေးဖျန်းခြင်း၊ အသိပညာပေးခြင်း၊ ကာကွယ်တားဆီးခြင်း လုပ်ငန်းများကို ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါရန် တိုက်တွန်းနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

MWAF membership application handed over in Hliththaya

YANGON, 1 July — As a gesture of hailing the Myanmar Women's Day which falls on 3 July 2005, Hliththaya Township Organization for Women's Affairs held the ceremony to present membership applications at Hliththaya BEHS No 1 on 24 June.

Chairperson of Township OWA Daw Myint Khin explained the purpose of holding the ceremony and matters related to the MWAF.

Next, Headmistress Daw Aye Myint spoke words of thanks and handed over membership applications to the chairperson.— MNA

Let us collectively strive for development of women's social life

Khin Nilar Soe



The one who plucks a flower destroys its beauty. But a gardener nurtures the whole flower-bed for all the flowers to bloom with sweet aroma.

Likewise, the government, with the aim of forming a national force that ensures progress and security of Myanmar women with collective efforts, founded the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation (MWAFF) on 20 December 2003.

The Fourth World Women's Conference was held in Beijing, the People's Republic of China, in 1995. The conference laid down a principle to form a national level machinery in every country to gear up the women's development undertakings. In accord with the principle, the government formed the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs on 3 July 1996, and thus designated the 3rd of July as the Myanmar Women's Day in honour of the collective efforts of the Myanmar women in serving their interest. Every year, the Day is commemorated.

Representing the entire Myanmar women who constitute 50.3 per cent of the nation's population, the MWAFF is taking a firm line on further developing the women's sector. It is launching its activities including education and organizational programmes nationwide with the following objectives:

- to enhance the role of women in the building of a peaceful, modern and developed nation
- to protect the rights of women
- to ensure the economic, health, education and general welfare of women and to take measures for their security
- to nurture Myanmar women to have a greater appreciation of their national, cultural heritage and customs
- to systematically prevent violence against women and provide means for rehabilitation where necessary
- to diminish and finally eliminate trafficking in women and children as a national task
- to collaborate with international as well as local organizations, in ensuring the rights of women in accordance with the traditions and customs of the ethnic groups

In the drive to prevent violence against women, the MWAFF has been holding violence educative talks in states and divisions, districts, townships, and wards and villages in the whole nation, explaining the laws and bylaws safeguarding Myanmar women and protecting their rights.

The Consolation and Education Department of the MWAFF has been comforting woman victims of violence, rehabilitating and reintegrating them, and cooperating with the departments concerned to restore the women's rights they have lost. Its functions also involve the task of conducting seminars and training programmes on the cases of violence against women for the personnel and members of the Health Department, the Social Welfare Department, the Immigration Department, the Myanmar Police Force, the Immigration Department, judicial offices and NGOs, responsible for protecting women against violence, taking actions against the violators of women's rights, addressing such cases, and launch-

ing rehabilitation work, to do their job well. As human trafficking can lead to committing violence against women, the department has been launching educational talks on the issue at the places from the states and divisions to the districts, the townships till reaching wards and villages. In addition, it is in the process of providing assistance for women to attend technical and vocational training schools, implementing rehabilitation programmes, cooperating with the respective organizations in addressing the problem of human trafficking, and requesting help from those bodies to expose the crimes and to take actions against criminals.

In this way, the MWAFF is protecting women from violence and carrying out rehabilitation programmes for the victims in the whole nation at different levels including villages and wards.

The crime of violence against women may cause hindrance to the social development of women. But the case cannot be said a big problem for the

In accord with the principle, the government formed the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs on 3 July 1996, and thus designated the 3rd of July as the Myanmar Women's Day in honour of the collective efforts of the Myanmar women in serving their interest. Every year, the Day is commemorated.

nation. If compared with other nations, we will find that Myanmar is almost free from such cases. According to international data on 100 cities around the world, Myanmar is one of the safest places for women of all ages. It is a pride for them.

We can say that it is the result of the nature of Myanmar nationalities that is endowed with politeness, gentleness, sympathetic mind, compassion and kindness. Moreover, they also stay away from using bullying tactics against the weak as they see such a practice as an evil crime.

A Myanmar woman does not need to add her husband's name to her name after the marriage. In the nation, there is no discrimination between a woman who gave birth to a baby boy and another, a baby girl. There is no difference in wages and pay between women and men. In addition, both have equal voting rights. Such fine traditions remain unchanged in the nation throughout successive periods. Under traditions, customs, laws, criminal laws, civil laws, and cultural characters along with present laws and rules, Myanmar women and men have enjoyed rights equally. That indicates high cultural standard and social rights of Myanmar society.

In fact, Myanmar women can lead their lives in their own ways, own opinions and own decisions from birth to death. They have enjoyed all social rights fully since birth, so they do not need to ask for any particular women's rights. Such social rights have created a fine social environment that ensures development and security for Myanmar women. These situations help reduce the rate of acts of violence against women in Myanmar.

However, destructive elements under alien instigation and influence, who are opposing Myanmar and its government, are manufacturing exaggerated

news and data to misinform international community that women of national races are subject to sexual insults, violent behaviours and oppression, so women are losing their rights in Myanmar. In actual fact, such groundless accusations are totally against fine traditions and customs of Myanmar women.

It can be said that those, who were born and brought up in Myanmar and drank water and ate rice produced in the nation but are intentionally making baseless accusations to tarnish the good name, image and dignity of Myanmar people and women, are sticking to western ideas and are completely under the domination of alien instigation.

I would like to present the rate of rapes and violent assaults against women in some big nations that are claiming that their national peoples are enjoying human rights fully.

According to the data collected in 1993 by Federal Foundation, a total of 1.5 million women were raped and 7.6 million women killed in previous five years in the big nation. A report issued in 1995 by the Justice Department of that nation said that about 500,000 rapes occurred in that nation yearly, accounting for one rape per minute. The chairman of Senate Judiciary Committee of that nation disclosed that the number of rapes committed in that nation was higher than any other nations in the world.

Moreover, due to violence against women, around six million women were injured in that nation, and of them, four million women encountered violent acts that broke out in respective families. One-third of woman population of that nation faced violent acts committed by their husbands. Fifteen to twenty-five per cent of pregnant women were insulted physically, and annually 170,000 five-month to nine-month pregnant women faced physical insults in the nation.

Two million women were injured severely in the acts of violence in their families yearly. Every year, 2,000 to 4,000 women were killed due to violent behaviours.

Certain nations that are similar to that big nation are fabricating invented news and making accusations that in Myanmar, national races women are subject to sexual violence, so they lose human rights. Indeed, it is like a Myanmar saying "Thief is shouting thief".

The Government is taking legal actions to reduce and eliminate violence against women in Myanmar, while the MWAFF is taking measures for prevention of violence against women as its work programme. Thanks to the correct leadership and effective encouragement of the Government and combined endeavours of the nation and the MWAFF, the mass of women have fully enjoyed development of socio-economic life and security in Myanmar.

The gardeners who are unremittingly nurturing the flowery plants in the Myanmar women garden with great care are the entire national people including the State and Myanmar women, and those who are tarnishing the good reputation of Myanmar women with a promising future are destructive elements that betray their motherland. So, I would like to call on the entire national people to protect and safeguard the lives of the mass of women and to enhance their role.

Translation: TMT + MS

ADVERTISEMENTS

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V. BOUGAIN VILLA VOY: NO (086)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V. BOUGAIN VILLA VOY NO (086) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-7-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S PREMIER SPECTRUM

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V. SEA BRIGHT VOY: NO (711)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V. SEA BRIGHT VOY NO (711) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4-7-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Hu vows to boost China-Russia trade to \$60-80b by 2010

BEIJING, 30 June— Chinese President Hu Jintao vowed here to boost China-Russia trade to 60 to 80 billion US dollars by 2010.

According to statistics from China's Commerce Ministry, bilateral trade reached 21 billion US dollars at the end of last year.

Hu made the remark last week in a joint interview with Russia's *ITAR-TASS* news agency and Channel One TV station prior to his visit to Russia.

To achieve such a

goal, the Chinese President proposed the two sides make concerted efforts in five aspects:

Firstly, Hu said, China and Russia should optimize current bilateral trade structure and offer bigger market access for marketable products from their countries, especially for mechanical, electrical and high-tech products.

China and Russia should endeavour to achieve a successful transfer of growth mode for bilateral trade and take

effective measures to safeguard the trade order to create favourable conditions for the healthy development of bilateral trade, Hu said.

Secondly, China and Russia should expand cooperation with mutual benefit in the energy sector and fully implement the agreements reached between the two nations in the sector and launch relevant cooperative projects as soon as possible, Hu said.

The Chinese Presi-

dent also called on promoting cooperation in the high technology field between China and Russia and accelerating the implementation process of high-tech industrialized cooperative projects to improve the quality and level of the cooperation.

The exchange of technological personnel should also be further promoted to help improve the industrial structure and technological innovation both in China and Russia, Hu said.— *MNA/Xinhua*

ACFTA highlights importance of ASEAN-China relations

KUALA LUMPUR, 30 June— The establishment of ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA) highlights the importance that ASEAN places in its relations with China, and will be mutually beneficial to both ASEAN and China, a senior minister of Brunei told *Xinhua* on Wednesday.

"The ACFTA is the first regional FTA that ASEAN has entered into with another Dialogue Partner. Politically, this signifies the importance that ASEAN places in its

relations with the People's Republic of China," Minister of Industry and Primary Resources Abdul Rahman said.

Economically, ACFTA will provide a huge market of 1.7 billion people and the combined regional GDP will reach two trillion US dollars, Rahman said in a written statement faxed from Bandar Seri Begawan, capital of Brunei, to *Xinhua* at Kuala Lumpur.

China offers a potentially large consumer market for ASEAN exports of

goods and services, and with the rapid growth of the Chinese economy, more foreign direct investment from emerging Chinese industries and businesses will flow into ASEAN, Rahman said.

ASEAN became China's fourth largest trade partner in the first quarter of 2005, next only to the European Union, the United States and Japan. There is a large scope for Brunei and China to expand their cooperation in small and medium sized enterprises development, human resources de-

velopment, hi-tech industries, service sector and tourism, Rahman said when asked on his expectation for the economic cooperation between the two countries.

Ever since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1991, the Sino-Brunei relations and cooperation in political, economic, cultural and various other fields have been improved steadily. In 2001, the total volume of bilateral trade reached 165 million US dollars and the figure stood at 299 million US dollars in 2004.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Singaporean PM launches India-Singapore Parliamentary Forum

NEW DELHI, 30 June — Visiting Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on Wednesday launched the India-Singapore Parliamentary Forum (ISPF), which aims at building long-term ties for the governments and people of the two countries.

Speaking on the occasion, Lee said, "We need support for bilateral agreements such as the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) between Singa-

pore and India and it is forum of parliamentarians such as the ISPF which will engage itself on a wide range of issues."

The ISPF is chaired by Indian Parliamentarian Milind Deora, and has been launched under Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

India and Singapore have been cooperating on several fronts.

On matters of trade and commerce, India was

trade-reliant Singapore's 12th-largest trading partner in 2004, with 7.17 billion US dollars' worth of trade flowing between the two nations.

To enhance bilateral economic engagement, India and Singapore launched a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) during Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong's visit to India in April 2003.

The agreement will have far reaching benefits

for both nations leading to increasing investment flows, greater exchanges in knowledge-based and professional services.

Both countries also have a defence cooperation accord, which institutionalized India-Singapore military ties.

As a part of this agreement, the two countries agreed to personnel training, intelligence exchanges and regular naval exercises.

MNA/Xinhua

Global retailing drug valued at 0.9% of world GDP

BANGKOK, 30 June — Global illicit drugs valued at the retail level in 2003 was estimated to reach 0.9 per cent of the world gross domestic product (GDP), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) said here on Wednesday.

The value of the global illicit drug market for the year 2003 was estimated at 13 billion US dollars at the production level, 94 billion dollars at the wholesale level, and 322 billion dollars at the retail level, said the UNODC 2005 World Drug Report launched in Bangkok on Wednesday.

"This (measured at retail prices) is 0.9 per cent of the world entire GDP, and higher than GDP of 88 per cent of the countries in the world, higher than GDP of 163 countries," John Doyle, UNODC's regional project coordinator, told reporters at a meeting launching the report.

He noted that the largest profit of drug business was made at the retail level and the lowest at the production level, which stood

only an average 4 per cent of the final retailing value.

In economic terms, North America was the world's largest drug market, accounting for 44 per cent of the world drug sales, followed by Europe, Asia, Oceania and Africa.

"The whole sale of drugs, measured at wholesale prices, was equivalent to 1.3 per cent of all global exports... and 14 per cent of global agricultural exports," said Doyle.

The largest market is cannabis herb, followed by cocaine, the opiates and cannabis resin, valued at 71 billion dollars, 65 billion and 29 billion dollars respectively on retail level.

The amphetamine-type stimulant markets together amounted to 44 billion dollars, according to the report.

It is the first time that the UNODC has estimated the world drug market through economic terms.

MNA/Xinhua

Roh Moo-hyun expresses intention to retain Defence Minister

SEOUL, 30 June— South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun expressed his intention Tuesday to retain Defence Minister who offered resignation last week.

In a letter addressed to the whole nation, the President accused the opposition party of abusing its political rights to try to oust Defence Minister Yoon Kwang-ung.

South Korea's biggest opposition Grand National Party (GNP) submitted a non-confidence motion over Yoon to the National Assembly on Monday, saying Yoon should take re-

sponsibility for a deadly shooting rampage in a front-line unit on 19 June.

"If a non-confidence motion is politically abused, the President and Cabinet members can't operate state affairs on their own in a stable manner," Roh said in the letter.

Eight South Korean front-line soldiers were killed in the shooting spree and four others were wounded.

Yoon offered to step down last Wednesday, three days after the shooting incident, when the GNP said it would submit non-confidence bill over Roh's

administration to the Parliament.

The President did not accept Yoon's resignation last Wednesday, saying he will make decision later after consideration.

In the letter, Roh also explained he wants to retain Yoon because the military reform is in a crucial stage.

"We faced this unfortunate situation while pushing to legislate the objective, direction and schedules of military reform agendas that were discussed since the late 1980s and appointing the defence minister to these tasks to

spur them," he said.

Yoon, a former three-star Navy general, took office in July last year with a pledge to promote Roh's drive to reform the inefficient, Army-dominated South Korean military.

The centre of Yoon's reform agendas is installing civilian control over the armed services.

The Defence Ministry has a total of 725 staffs, of which the number of civilians and active-duty officers are roughly equal. But most top ministry jobs have been taken by Army officers or Army retirees.— *MNA/Xinhua*

**DONT'T
SMOKE**

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွံ့ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Kuwait ranks fourth in oil reserves for 2004

KUWAIT CITY, 30 June — Kuwait ranked fourth in terms of confirmed oil reserves for 2004 after its reserves increased by 2.5 billion barrels to 99 billion, according to the annual report of the Organization of Arab Petroleum- Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Saudi Arabia remained the biggest oil reserving country with a total of 262.8 billion barrels, followed by Iran with 125.8 billion, Iraq with 115 billion, Kuwait with 99 billion and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) with 97.8 billion. *Kuwait News Agency* quoted the report as saying Wednesday.

It said that the total world reserves for 2004 were estimated at 1.19 trillion barrels compared with 1.1003 trillion in 2003.—*MNA/Xinhua*

China suffers 3,988 water pollution accidents in four years

BEIJING, 30 June— From 2001 to 2004, a total of 3,998 water pollution accidents occurred in China and the water quality of the country's major rivers kept deteriorating, according to a report on the implementation of water pollution prevention and control law.

Sheng Huaren, vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) here on Wednesday made the report on the implementation of a water pollution prevention and control law to Chinese lawmakers.

Sheng said in his report the country's sewage discharge volume increased year on year, despite 111.5 billion yuan of national debt having been put into water pollution prevention and control.

According to statistics from the State Environmental Protection Administration, the country's annual sewage discharge volume increased to 48.2 billion tons in 2004 from 42.8

billion tons in 2001.

The report said in the 1980s, the annual sewage discharge to the Yellow River, China's second longest river, was around two billion tons, but today the figure has increased to more than four billion tons. Since 1993, more than 40 water pollution accidents occurred along the Yellow River.

The report said the water quality of the country's seven major rivers kept deteriorating. Currently more than 50 per cent of the seven rivers' water can not meet drinking standards.

The report also said some progress has been made in industrial sewage discharge control.—*MNA/Xinhua*



Pensioner Joachim Oesterreich waves from his self-made 'UFO' in Boilstedt near Gotha, eastern Germany, on 28 June, 2005. —INTERNET

Chinese official says development paramount in UN reforms

BEIJING, 30 June — Development should be paramount in the reforms of the United Nations, a Chinese Foreign Ministry official said here Wednesday.

Liu Jieyi, director general of the ministry's Department of International Organizations and Conferences, made the remark at the International Symposium on the United Nations that opened here Wednesday morning.

Liu said the UN is discussing the most comprehensive reforms ever in its 60-year history. China supports UN reforms and believes that development should be put first, Liu said.

"Development is the bedrock of security and human rights and should be the central theme of the UN reforms and the September Summit," he said.

In order to meet the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of poverty reduction, Liu called for urgent attention to five areas.

First, he said developing countries should immediately formulate comprehensive national strategies for the implementation of the MDGs. The international community should help the developing countries to do this by providing technical assistance and support for capacity building. —*MNA/Xinhua*

China quickens legislation on anti-monopoly law

BEIJING, 30 June — The draft of China's anti-monopoly law has been finished and is now under revision and deliberation, Li Dongsheng, deputy director-general of the State Administration for Industry and Commerce, said here on Tuesday.

The Anti-Monopoly Law, once approved, would cover many industries and sectors and focus on issues like regional blockades and administrative monopoly, Li said at an international symposium on competitive policies and legislation.

According to Li, its preparation work was initiated in 1994 in an effort to fill the country's lacuna in competition-related legislation.

Currently, only the Anti-Unfair Competition Law enacted in 1993 and a few articles of Trademark Law, Advertising Law and Price Law contain elements against unfair competition.

To secure the smooth development of China's market economy, some experts hold that promulgation of a sound anti-monopoly law is a must.

MNA/Xinhua

China, Japan to tighten ties via financial dialogue

BEIJING, 30 June — Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao said here on Tuesday that China and Japan had agreed to establish a bilateral financial dialogue mechanism and would discuss about details at the working level.

"The two sides expressed the hope that the first ministerial dialogue could be held at the earliest possible time" after Chinese Finance Minister Jin Renqing met with his Japanese counterpart Tanigaki Sadakazu in Tianjin last Saturday, Liu told a regular Press conference.

In a bid to implement Chinese President Hu Jintao's proposals on promoting Sino-Japanese ties, the two

finance ministers met on the eve of the Sixth Asia-Europe Finance Ministers' Meeting held in the northern China port city of Tianjin on Sunday, Liu said.

To further promote financial cooperation between China and Japan, the two ministers agreed to enhance cooperation between the two finance ministries, which "will help promote prosperity in Asia and the world at large", Liu said.—*MNA/Xinhua*

NASA chief says shuttle ready for July launch

WASHINGTON, 30 June — NASA is ready for the July launch of space shuttle on the first flight mission since the 2003 Columbia disaster, the NASA Administrator Michael Griffin said on Tuesday.

"Based on what I know now, we are ready to go," Griffin told the House Science Committee.

Griffin expressed the confidence one day after the task force overseeing NASA's return-to-flight preparations concluded the US space agency has failed to fully meet three of the 15 safety recommendations put forth by investigators of the Columbia accident.

The task force said NASA has not eliminated the possibility of debris falling off the external fuel tank and striking the shuttle on liftoff. In addition, NASA has not managed to sufficiently toughen the shuttle's shell in order to resist damages from striking, and has failed to develop the capability to make emergency repairs in space.

However, panel members noticed the significant progress NASA has made elsewhere, and believed NASA's unfulfilment of the three requirements would not threaten shuttle flight. NASA officials will meet on Wednesday and Thursday to give a final review on shuttle flight readiness and determine a launch date for *Discovery*. The launch window runs from 13 to 31 July. —*MNA/Xinhua*



Japanese customers read comics at an Internet cafe in Tokyo recently. People in Japan are spending more time browsing the Internet than reading newspapers. — INTERNET

S P O R T S

Man Utd's Bobby Charlton reassured by new owners

LONDON, 1 July — Manchester United's Bobby Charlton said he was impressed and reassured by the club's new American owners on Thursday, a day after angry fans forced them to flee the stadium in a police van.

The former playing great, now a board member, said he had apologized to Joel, Bryan and Avi Glazer who returned to Old Trafford on Thursday morning for a meeting with Manchester United officials.

The US businessmen — sons of Florida-based millionaire Malcolm Glazer — were conducting a fact-finding tour in the wake of their father's 790-million-pound (1.42-billion-US-dollar)

takeover of the Premier League club.

"I spoke to them as forthright as I could be and they gave me all the answers that I wanted really," Charlton, 67, told *Sky News* outside the ground.

"I think the well-being of Manchester United is paramount in their thinking. I apologized if there was anything wrong last night."

He told reporters later

a lot of his fears had been allayed, saying: "I'm not as worried as I was this morning".

An adviser to the Glazers told Reuters the three sons were pleased with the morning meeting.

Furious supporters threatened the new owners on Wednesday night with chants of "die Glazer, die" and erected makeshift barricades around the stadium in an attempt to stop the brothers leaving.

Police used batons and dogs to clear an exit and the Americans were forced to abandon the blacked-out people carriers they had arrived in and leave instead in a decoy police van.

MNA/Xinhua



China's Lin Dan returns a shot from Singapore's Ronald Susilo during their men's singles third round match at the Singapore Open badminton championship on 30 June, 2005. Lin won 15-6, 15-7. — INTERNET

Lin Dan beat Susilo to avenge Athens Olympic loss

SINGAPORE, 1 July — Chinese world number one Lin Dan avenged his shock Athens Olympic loss to Singapore's Ronald Susilo with a straight sets win in the third-round of the 170,000-dollar Singapore Open on Thursday.

Lin eased past Susilo, who has struggled for fitness since taking six months off after the Olympics, 15-6, 15-7 to cruise into the quarterfinals.

"I took this match very seriously. I know what Susilo can do and even though he was not in peak fitness, it was a good match," said a generous Lin, speaking through an interpreter.

Thursday's other third-round matches featured only two surprises, with Malaysia's seeded pair of Mohammad Hafiz bin Hashim and Lee Chong Wei bowling out.

Ng Wei of Hong Kong ousted Mohammad, the sixth seed, 15-12, 8-15, 15-12 to earn a quarterfinal spot against Lin, and fourth-seeded Lee lost 13-15, 15-6, 4-15 to Korea's Lee Hyung-II.

MNA/Xinhua

China's Shenzhen to play Barcelona in soccer friendly in August

MACAO, 1 July — China's Shenzhen Jianlibao, champion of the 2004 Chinese Super League, is to play Spanish soccer giant Barcelona here in August, organizers said on Thursday.

Cheung Lup Kuan, president of the hosting Macao Football Association, told a Press conference here that the two teams will draw on 3 August to mark the reopening of the Macao Stadium.

The sports venue has been under reconstruction for the forthcoming East Asian Games, scheduled for October.

MNA/Xinhua

Venus Williams beat Sharapova to reach final

LONDON, 1 July — Venus Williams displayed a nearly perfect power game on Thursday when she beat defending titlist Maria Sharapova 7-6 (2), 6-1 to reach the final for a fifth time.

The other semifinal, disrupted by rain when top seed Lindsay Davenport led Amelie Mauresmo 5-3 in the third set, was put off to Friday.

Williams, 14th seed who won here in 2000 and 2001, was in outstanding form taking the challenge to Sharapova and putting the pressure on the defending champion with relentless

ferocity.

Second-seeded Sharapova looked shaky from the start as she found herself trailing 0-40 in her first service game. The Russian blonde managed to stave off three break points and hold her serve with some sharply-angled strokes.

The first break came in the sixth game to give

Williams a 4-2 lead, but Sharapova broke back in the ninth game when she launched a strong counter-attack to win four points in a row.

Williams went into the tie break with a distinct advantage in terms of clear winners and immediately she was helped by Sharapova missing her first two serves. Williams kept building her attack. With her high pressure game paying dividends, she gained four set points and won on the next rally when Sharapova hit long. Williams remained in command with a break of serve to love in the opening game of the second set with Sharapova failing to win a point.

Sharapova's task looked increasingly difficult. The pressure of defending the title made little difference to her attitude but as the points mounted up for Williams there was no question that Sharapova was clinging on to all that she could — and it was still not enough.

In the final game, as an indication of her declining situation, Sharapova double faulted twice, having done so only six other times in the Championships. She then held two game points before Williams moved on to a second match point when the defending champion missed a forehand to hand Williams a place in the final. — MNA/Xinhua



Venus Williams of the US jumps to celebrate winning her women's singles semi-final match against Russia's Maria Sharapova at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, on 30 June, 2005. Williams won 7-6, 6-1. — INTERNET

Robinho sends farewell message to Santos' fans

RIO DE JANEIRO, 1 July — Brazilian striker Robinho believes his transfer from Santos to Real Madrid is a fact and that is the reason why he sent a message on Thursday to the fans of the Brazilian club in an interview with a Brazilian television station.

"I am very thankful with Santos, where I won two Brazilian titles, for what it did for me. I would have liked a lot to have reached the Copa Libertadores final, but that was not possible. Now we have to see the future," said Robinho while in Frankfurt (Germany) where the Brazilian national team Wednesday won the Confederations Cup 4-1 over Argentina.

Robinho asked the fans of Santos to understand his decision to play in Europe, as he is thinking on personal security factors and his dream to play in the best soccer of the world.

He also said he wants to play in Real because in Spain there is soccer that is "very similar" to that of Brazil, and because the

Spanish club has as its coach Vanderlei Luxemburgo, who last year led Santos to win the national league.

Santos and Real Madrid do not agree on the

amount to pay for the transfer of the 21-year-old player, because the Brazilian club wants 50 million dollars, and the Madrid club is to pay half of that amount. — MNA/Xinhua

Real Madrid to play 6 friendlies in US, Japan, China, Thailand

MADRID, 1 July — Real Madrid announced on Thursday the dates of the six friendlies it will play on its 16-day pre-season tour of the United States, Japan, China and Thailand.

Madrid sets off on 14 July and will play

Mexico's Chivas in Chicago two days later.

It then meets Los Angeles Galaxy at Carson, California on 18 July.

Madrid moves on to China on 19 July where it will meet Beijing Guoan at the Workers' Stadium

on 23 July in a game marking the 20th anniversary of the twinning of the cities of Beijing and Madrid.

The Spanish team plays Tokyo Verde on 25 July and Jubilo Iwata on 27 July, with both games at Tokyo's Ajinomoto Stadium. Madrid ends the tour with a match against a Thailand All-Star team in Bangkok on 29 July before returning to Madrid the next day.

Madrid has won 29 Spanish league titles and nine European championships, but has not won a major trophy in the past two seasons despite a roster featuring David Beckham, Ronaldo, Zinedine Zidane and Luis Figo.

MNA/Xinhua



Andy Roddick has the reputation for being one of the friendliest players on the circuit, but the American says he has a hard streak that is key to his successes. — INTERNET

US new case of BSE found in Texas

WASHINGTON, 1 July — The second US case of mad cow disease happened in a beef cow from Texas, which was killed last November at a plant for pet food, the US Department of Agriculture said on Wednesday.

DNA test results helped identify the infected cow, which "was born and raised in a herd in Texas and was approximately 12 years old," USDA chief veterinarian John Clifford said in a statement.

Clifford said the source herd was currently under a hold and the USDA would also test the offspring of the infected cow and other cows of its age or born

one year before or after it. According to him, the infected cow was born before August 1997 when the United States banned the use of cattle parts in cattle feed, which is how the mad cow disease is believed to spread.

"I emphasize that this animal did not enter the human food chain," he said, adding that the plant at which the cow was sampled is a "pet food plant that does not han-

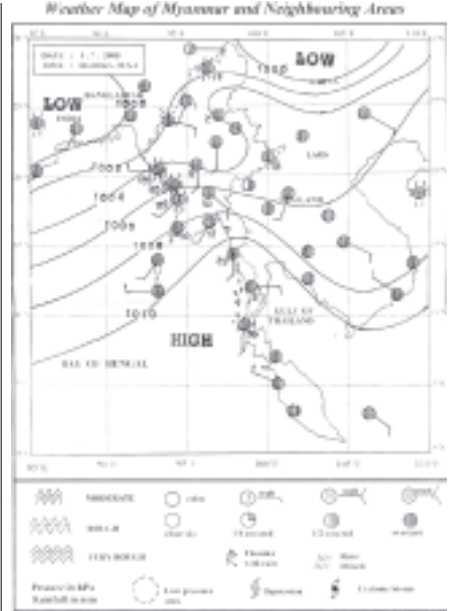
dle animals for human consumption and, in this case, did not use the animal in the production of pet food. The animal remains were incinerated."

The USDA chief veterinarian said the discovery of the new case of mad cow disease showed the USDA's "interlocking safeguards" in place are effective. The safety of our food supply is not in question." The sec-

ond US case of mad cow disease was announced on 24 June after being confirmed by tests at an internationally recognized laboratory in England. Previous US tests produced conflicting results, prompting the verification.

The first US case was reported in December 2003, in a Washington State dairy cow imported from Canada.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Friday, 1 July, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State and Magway Division and rain has been isolated in Sagaing Division, Chin and Kayin States, scattered in Shan State, Mandalay and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfall in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Sittway (8.42) inches, Kyaukpyu (6.42) inches, Thandwe (5.63) inches, Ann (4.88) inches and Maungtwaw (2.87) inches.

Maximum temperature on 30-6-2005 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 1-7-2005 was 66°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 1-7-2005 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 30-6-2005 was (0.4) hour approx. Rainfalls on 1-7-2005 were (0.55) inch at Mingaladon, (0.67) inch at Kaba-Aye and (1.34) inches at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (29.88 inches) at Mingaladon, (26.06 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (26.42 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (14) mph from Southwest at (15:35) hours MST on 30-6-2005.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong in North and Central Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 2-7-2005: Rain will be isolated in Chin and Kayah States, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan and Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Rakhine State. Degree of certainty is 80%.

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally strong monsoon.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 2-7-2005: Some rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-7-2005: During the coming weekend, rain will be widespread in Yangon Division and isolated in Mandalay Division.

အပင်အာဟာရအပြည့်အဝရရှိရန် ပုလဲဓာတ်မြေဩဇာကို အကျိုးရှိရှိ အသုံးပြုရေးနည်းဆော်ချက်

၁။ ပုလဲဓာတ်မြေဩဇာသည် စနစ်တကျ အသုံးပြုပါက ပါဝင်သည့် အပင်အာဟာရ နိုက်ထရိုဂျင် ဓာတ် (8၀) မှ (၈၀) ရာခိုင်နှုန်းအထိ လေလွင့်ဆုံးရှုံးစေနိုင်ပါသည်။ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုကြောင့် စပါးတစ်စက်လျှင် ပုလဲဓာတ်မြေဩဇာ (နှစ်) အိတ်သုံးပါက (၅) ပုံ (၁) ပုံသာ အပင်မှ ရရှိနိုင်ပါသည်။

၂။ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုသည် (၁) အမှိုက်ယစ်အိုင်ယွန်း (NH₄⁺) အဖြစ် စီးဆင်းရေနှင့် ပါသွားသည်။ (၂) အမှိုက်ယစ်ယားဓာတ်ငွေ့ (NH₃) အဖြစ် လေထဲတွင် အငွေ့ပျံသွားသည်။ (၃) နိုက်ထရိုဂျင်ဓာတ် (N₂) အဖြစ် လေထဲသို့ အငွေ့ပျံသည်။ အပူချိန်နိမ့်သော နံနက်ပိုင်းတွင် စပါးခင်းများ မြေချဉ်ဓာတ် (pH₄) ဝန်းကျင်တွင်ရှိသော်လည်း နေ့လယ်ပိုင်းအပူချိန်မြင့်တက်လာပါက မြေချဉ်ဓာတ်မှာ (pH₇) ထိ ရှိလာပြီး အမှိုက်ယစ်ယားဓာတ်ငွေ့ (NH₃) အဖြစ် ပြောင်းလဲကာ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုများစေသည်။

၃။ သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ ပုလဲဓာတ်မြေဩဇာ အကျိုးရှိရှိ အသုံးပြုနိုင်ရန်အတွက် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း စနစ်တကျ သုံးစွဲရန် နှိုင်းအော်အပ်ပါသည်။

(က) စပါးပင်သက်တမ်း တစ်လျှောက်လုံးအတွက် တစ်စက်လျှင် ပုလဲဓာတ်မြေဩဇာတစ်အိတ်နှင့် သဘာဝမြေဩဇာ (နွားချေး/မြေဆွေး/အမှိုက်ဆွေး/ဘိုကာရီ) သုံးအိတ် သုံးစွဲပါ။

- (ခ) သုံးစွဲမည့် ပုလဲဓာတ်မြေဩဇာနှင့် သဘာဝမြေဩဇာကို တစ်ကြိမ်တည်းမသုံးစွဲဘဲ စပါးပင်မှ နိုက်ထရိုဂျင်ဓာတ် လိုအပ်ချိန်များဖြစ်သည့် ကောက်ပင်လှန်ချိန်၊ ပင်ဖွားအများဆုံး ထွက်ချိန်၊ မြို့ကပ်ချိန် (သို့မဟုတ်) ရောင်စဉ်တက်တိုက် သုံး၍ အပင်လိုအပ်ချိန်တွင် ထည့်သွင်းပါ။
 - (ဂ) တစ်ကြိမ်လျှင် ပုလဲဓာတ်မြေဩဇာ တစ်အိတ်၏ သုံးပုံတစ်ပုံကို သဘာဝမြေဩဇာ တစ်အိတ်နှင့် သမအောင်ရောပါ။ ရောစပ်ရာတွင် အစိတ်စိတ်များ မများလွန်းစေဘဲ သင့်တင့်သော အစိတ်စိတ်အောင် ဂရုပြု၍ အပေါ်မှ ပလပ်စတစ် ဂုန်နီအိတ်၊ ဖျာစသည်တို့ဖြင့် လုံခြုံစွာ ဖုံးအုပ်၍ တစ်ညနှစ်ထားပါ။
 - (ဃ) မိုးအုပါက နေ့လယ်ပိုင်းတွင် မြေဩဇာအရောကို ကြိတ်နိုင်းသော်လည်း နေပူပြင်းပါက နံနက်ပိုင်း (၇) နာရီမှ (၉) နာရီအတွင်း နှင့် ညနေ (၃) နာရီနောက်ပိုင်းမှ ကြိတ်ပါ။
 - (င) မြေဩဇာအရောကို စပါးခင်းတွင် ကြိတ်တည့်ပြီးတိုင်း တမန်းပြင်အောက်သို့ ရောက်ရှိရန် မြေပြင်နှင့်မြှုပ်၍ သော်လည်းကောင်း၊ စပါးခင်းတစ်ဖက်မှ နှိုင်း ကိုရိုလာအသုံးပြု၍ သော်လည်းကောင်း တမန်း အောက်ရောက်အောင် အောင်ရွက်ပေးခြင်းဖြင့် ပိုမိုထိရောက်နိုင်ပါသည်။
- လယ်ယာဦးစီးဌာန ဓာတ်မြေဩဇာဌာန

Saturday, 2 July
Movie on today:

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံသမဟာ နာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာပဟာဂဠာ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာပဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မအဘိဓမ္မာ၊ တိပိဋက ရေး၊ ဓမ္မာက္ခယာဂါရိ၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိညာသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ဝရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

5. အတီးဖြင့်ပွဲ

8:05 am

6. မြန်မာအမျိုးသမီးများနေ့ဂုဏ်ပြု အစီအစဉ်

8:20 am

7. နဂါးရေလှောင်တစ်

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

10. Grammar Made Easy

11:00 am

1. Martial song

11:15 am

2. Musical Programme

11:30 am

3. News

-တတိယနံ (သတ္တဇောအထူးပြု (သတ္တဇော))

11:40 am

4. Games for Children

12:05 pm

5. Round up Of The Week's TV Local News

12:35 pm

6. နိုင်ငံခြားဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "စောရီဗွာနှင့် မိစ္ဆာရွင်းခါး" (အပိုင်း-၁၆)

1:00 pm

7. မြန်မာအမျိုးသမီးများနေ့

1:15 pm

8. လောကနီတိ(၄) "လှပပြင်းစိုက် အစိပုယယ်" အကယ်ဒမီမင်းမိုင်း၊ နိုင်းနိုင်း၊ နိုင်းနိုင်း၊ ရတနာမင်း၊ ဒါရိုက်တာ-မင်းမော်

1:55 pm

9. Dance of National Races

2:15 pm

10. တန်ခိုးရှိလှလှလှလှလှ ဇူးယစ်ကင်းမင်း ကျွန်းမာမာ (အပိုင်း-၁)

2:30 pm

11. တန်ခိုးရှိလှလှလှလှလှ ဇူးယစ်ကင်းမင်းကျွန်းမာမာ (အပိုင်း-၂)

2:45 am

12. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. English for Everyday Use

4:45 pm

4. Musical programme

5:00 pm

5. အစားသက်တော့ထူးလှည့်ရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်နေ့ဇာ

Saturday, 2 July
Tune in today:

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music: Take your chance

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music: Move that body

8:55 am National news/Slogan

9:05 am Music: ABC&D

9:10 am International news

9:15 am Music: -Love is all around -Go

1:30 pm News/Slogan

1:40 pm Lunch time music
-To be with you
-Loving you

9:00 pm ASEAN Review

9:10 pm Article

9:20 pm Myanma culture by Dr Khin Maung Nyunt

9:30 pm Souvenirs
-You're my sunshine
-My favourite things

9:45 pm News/Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

Japan Self-Defence Forces Day marked



Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint and wife being welcomed by Japanese Ambassador Mr Nobutake Odano and wife and Military Attaché Col Yoshihiko Izaki at the reception to mark Self-Defence Forces Day.

MNA

MMPE urged to always get in touch and cooperate with MMPA, film industry to enhance standard of Myanmar movies, video plays Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise marks its 35th anniversary



YANGON, 1 July—Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise under the Ministry of Information celebrated its 35th anniversary in conjunction with the presenting of cash assistance to students of its staff at the office of the ministry on Theinbyu Road here this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Minister for In-

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents cash assistance for students of staff to PPE Managing Director Col Aung Nyein.— MNA

formation Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Ministers U Thein Sein and Brig-Gen Aung Thein, departmental heads, officials, and guests.

The minister delivered an address, saying that the Ministry of Information has been organizing anniversary celebrations of its departments and enterprises with two aims — to review previous performances to be able to find out strengths and weaknesses, and to make progress through healthy competition. Of the seven objectives of the enterprise, the first is to

raise its income. The enterprise could exceed the target in local currency, but still fall behind with earning foreign exchange. The second objective is to elevate the standard of local film industry, and it was launched in 2004-2005. In order to achieve

greater success this year, the ministry, the enterprise, Myanma Motion Picture Asiayon and those from the nation's film world are to make combined efforts.

Now, the Myanma Motion Picture Asiayon (See page 9)

The media industry cannot be undertaken through the application of fixed methods. Officials at different levels will have to lead their subordinates to study their functions, to compete with their counterparts for their own progress, and to carry out the tasks in all seriousness.

Hydro-electric Power Department and YMEC ink MoU for upper Paunglaung hydro-electric power project

YANGON, 1 July — Hydro-electric Power Department of the Ministry of Electric Power and Yunan Machinery & Equipment Import & Export Co Ltd (YMEC) of the Republic of China signed the MoU to implement Upper Paunglaung Hydro-electric Power Project at the ministry on 30 June.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Deputy Minister U Myo Myint and officials, Chairman of YMEC Mr Feng Ke and officials.

Director-General of Hydro-electric Power Department U Win Kyaw and the YMEC chairman signed the MoU.

According to the MoU, the Hydro-electric Power Department will buy the necessary machinery and equipment for the project worth US \$ 800 million from

YMEC of PRC. The Upper Paunglaung Hydro-electric Power Project is situated in the east of Pyinmana, Mandalay Division. At the plant, two 70-megawatt generators will be installed and they can generate 411

kwh a year. On completion, due to more water storage in upper Paunglaung Dam, the existing Paunglaung hydro-electric project will be able to generate 969 kwh a year. — MNA



Director-General U Win Kyaw of Hydro-electric Power Department and Chairman Mr Feng Ke of YMEC Co Ltd of China sign MoU in presence of Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut.— MNA

INSIDE

The government formed the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs on 3 July 1996, and thus designated the 3rd of July as the Myanmar Women's Day in honour of the collective efforts of the Myanmar women in serving their interests. Every year, the Day is commemorated.