

**The Union of Myanmar**

**The State Peace and Development Council**

**The Law Amending the National Archive and *Mawgun* Law, 2007**

(The State Peace and Development Council Law No 2/2007)

The 6th Waxing Day of Taboung 1368 ME

(21<sup>st</sup> February, 2007)

The State Peace and Development Council hereby enacts the following Law.

1. This Law shall be called the Law Amending the National Archive and *Mawgun* Law, 2007.
2. Section 6 of the National Archive and *Mawgun* Law shall be substituted as follows:  
“6. (a) the government departments shall transfer the records in their possession which have completed 12 years and are no longer in use to the Department. Although 12 years have not been completed if they desire to transfer them to the Department, they may do so.  
(b) the Department shall, after examining the records of the government departments which have completed 12 years, take over the records which are found to be no longer in use and which may become *mawgun*.  
(c) the government departments shall keep the records which may become *mawgun* under the examination of the Department out of the records which have completed 12 years but are still in use in accordance with the examination and direction of the Department. Such records shall be transferred to the Department when they are no longer in use.

(See page 8)

**Four political objectives**

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

**Four economic objectives**

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

**Four social objectives**

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

# Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects development of Mongshu, Mongnaung

**Gem entrepreneurs urged to carry out gem mining work to be able to contribute to development of the State economy**

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chair-

man of Shan State PDC Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Thaung Aye, arrived at the site of Myanma Gonyi Gems Company in Wamkan,

Loihsaughtauk and Konmyinthawards in Mongshu Gems Land on 19 February.

(See page 8)



*Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence inspects gem mining blocks in Mongshu Gems Land. —MNA*

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



# PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 22 February, 2007

## Proper maintenance of locomotives for smooth flow of commodities

There are different modes of transport. Travelling by train saves cost and the people prefer to travel by it as they can take along their luggages as much as possible. Therefore they have put more reliance on rail transport rather than air and road transport for its cost-effectiveness and convenience.

Now the government is building new railroads and new railway stations for ensuring smooth transport and flow of commodities from one place to another. It has also built locomotive sheds including Locomotive Shed (Insein) for production and repair of the engines. The Locomotive Shed (Insein) manufactures spare parts and rolling stocks and import-substitute parts needed by other ministries.

The factory builds and repairs locomotives and upgraded them and produces spare parts for coaches. Only when the workers are well-experienced and efficient in production of locomotives can the country save foreign exchange.

Hence, proper maintenance of locomotives, passenger carriages and cargo wagons will contribute to smooth commodity flow and uplift of the socio-economy of the people.

### နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ

လစဉ် လ၏ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည့် ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ ဖြစ်သည်။

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နှင့်  
(၂၅-၃-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့

## Peoples' 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

## USDA S-G participates in regional development tasks



Secretary-General of USDA U Htay Oo meeting with USDA members, teachers and townselders in Meiktila. — A&I

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb — Secretary-General U Htay Oo of the Union Solidarity and Development Association together with departmental officials, executives and members of Meiktila District and Township USDAs inspected a tube-well donated by members of township USDAs in Meiktila District and local people near the market of Tawma Village in Meiktila Township and fulfill the requirements on 18 February.

Upon arrival at No 178 Basic Education Primary School in Letpankhaung Village, Meiktila Township, the Secretary-General and party viewed a newly-built school collectively donated by department officials and the local people. Next, they viewed participation of the Commander of Ground Training Base and other ranks in feeding nutritious food to the children. Afterwards, they viewed a tube-well, a plantation of crops and a playground in the compound of the school.

During a meeting with members of Meiktila Township USDA, teachers and townselders, the Secretary-General called on those present to take cooperative measures in rural development tasks.

Next, the Secretary-General and party donated of-fertories to Hmankyaung Sayadaw U Tiloka in Magyipinpu Village and paid homage to Lawka Yan Naing Pagoda.

On the inspection of No 45 BEPS in Magyipinpu Village, the Secretary-General made a speech at a ceremony to present USDA membership applications. Next, he accepted 3,665 membership applications from five villages.

The Secretary-General gave instructions on efforts to be made for extension of Magyipinpu BEPS, feeding nutritious food to the children, renovation of Kaphyu library, raising the funds for enrolment of school-going age children and digging canals water availability for agricultural purpose. — MNA

## Fires break out in three towns

YANGON, 21 Feb — A total of 508 shops were destroyed by fire in Myoma Market, Ward 2, Pakokku, Magway Division, on 19 February.

The fire started from Sein Yadana general store of Daw Kyi Thein at about 5 am. It was extinguished at about 10 am.

A pickup caught fire in Leikpyakan Ward, Bago, at 1 pm the same day while the owner U Aung Khin was filling petrol. The fire destroyed the driver seat and the front part of the car. U Aung Khin and another man, U Mya Soe (a) Pauk Sa, were slightly injured by the fire.

An over heated stove in a shop in Saku, Magway Division, caused fire that burnt down two shops and goods at 9.30 pm on 20 February.

MNA

**Fire prevention is compulsory**

**Prevent outbreaks of fire**

### All this needs to be known

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



**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Russia warns of tough response to US missile defence plans**

Moscow, 21 Feb — Russian missile forces will be capable of firing at US missile defence elements in Poland and the Czech Republic if the two European countries decide to host them, a top commander said on Monday.

“If the governments of Poland and the Czech Republic make the decision, the Strategic Missile Forces could put these facilities on the list of targets,” forces commander Nikolai Solovtsov was quoted by the *Interfax* news agency as telling a news conference.

Consultations are underway and will continue so as “to create certain conditions for this

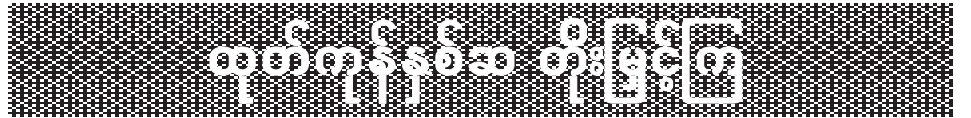
(deployment of missile defence elements in the two countries) not to happen,” Solovtsov said.

However, Czech Prime Minister Mirek Topolanek said on Monday at a joint news conference with his Polish counterpart Jaroslaw Kaczynski in Warsaw that both countries would probably agree to the deployment of the US missile defence system in their territory.

The United States wants to deploy a missile defence radar in the Czech Republic and interceptor missiles in Poland as part of a US-built shield against ballistic missiles.

The US plans have met with criticism in Russia and may prompt Moscow to withdraw from a treaty on the elimination of short — and medium-range nuclear arms.

MNA/Xinhua



*Nigeria's Vice-President Atiku Abubakar speaks at a news conference at Chatham House in London, on 20 Feb, 2007.*  
INTERNET

**Train accident leaves five dead in Zambia**

LUSAKA, 20 Feb—Five people including a five-month-old baby died of a train accident involving a trolley and a goods train in Serenje of Zambia's Central Province on Sunday, *Zambia News and Information Services* reported Monday.

Serenje District hospital medical officer Victor Kusweje said three bodies were brought in dead while the other two died on arrival at the hospital. Kusweje said four injured males in the accident were in a stable condition in the hospital. District commissioner Musonda Chunga described it as unfortunate, saying the accident could have been avoided.

MNA/Xinhua



*Rene David of Switzerland, 79, holds a typical Benin bronze horsemen statue — which he estimates was sculpted by hand in the 18th century and then cast in bronze by the lost wax process — inside his private museum in Lome on 19 Feb, 2007.—INTERNET*

**China will continue to get warmer in the 21st Century**

BEIJING, 20 Feb— Chinese meteorologists warned that in the 21st Century China will become increasingly warmer, with increased precipitation in some parts of the country.

A recent report from the China Meteorological Administration said that in the past 50 years, China's surface temperature rose 0.22 degrees

Celsius for every 10 years on average, higher than the increases in global and Northern Hemisphere temperatures. Compared with the average temperature during the 30 years between 1961 and 1990, China's annual average temperature will possibly rise 1.3-2.1 degrees Celsius by 2020, 1.5-2.8 degrees by 2030,

2.3-3.3 degrees by 2050, and 3.9-6.0 degrees by 2100.

The report also said that the country's precipitation will also be on a rising trend. By 2020, the national average annual precipitation will increase 2 to 3 per cent, by 2050, five to 7 per cent, and by 2100, 11-17 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua

**US baby as small as pen at birth to go home**

MIAMI 21 Feb — A premature baby only slightly longer than a ballpoint pen at birth was due to be sent home in the coming days from a Florida hospital after four months of neonatal intensive care, the hospital said on Tuesday.

The Baptist Children's Hospital in Miami said Amillia Sonja Taylor was born at 21 weeks and six days on 24 October, making her possibly the most premature baby on record to survive.

The claim was based on the University of Iowa's registry of the tiniest babies. The university bases its registry on media reports and medical journal reports and says it does not attempt to verify the information submitted by

contributors.

Amillia weighed just under 10 ounces (283.5 grammes) and measured 9.5 inches (24.13 cm) in length when she was born.

The tiny baby had been scheduled to go home on Tuesday but doctors “decided to keep her for a few more days observation”, according to a hospital spokeswoman.

Conceived by in vitro fertilization, she was delivered via Caesarean section after attempts to delay a premature delivery failed, the hospital said. She breathed without assistance at birth and even tried to cry.

“She's truly a miracle baby,” said Dr William Smalling, a neonatologist at Baptist Children's Hospital.—MNA/Reuters

*This handout image from 24 Oct, 2006, shows the world's most premature living baby, Amillia Sonja Taylor, just after her birth at Baptist Children's Hospital in Miami, Florida.—XINHUA*



**Seattle law firm sues over peanut butter**

SEATTLE, 20 Feb—A Seattle attorney has filed a class-action lawsuit on behalf of people who reported getting sick after eating contaminated peanut butter.

It's one of at least three lawsuits filed against ConAgra Foods, which is recalling all Peter Pan and Great Value peanut butter made at its Sylvester, Georgia, plant.

Federal officials have linked the peanut butter to a salmonella outbreak that has sickened almost 300

people nationwide since August. No deaths have been reported.

The Seattle firm Marler Clark says it has been contacted by 25-hundred people. Attorney William Marler says the lawsuit seeks compensation for people who got sick, but were not hospitalized. Marler says the more-serious cases will be handled separately.

A ConAgra spokeswoman says the company takes consumer concerns seriously — that's why it

has recalled the peanut butter.

Internet



*EU Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas(L) speaks with Polish Environment Minister Jan Szyszko(R) prior to the Environment meeting at the European Union Headquarters in Brussels. Dimas said he would seek to block Polish plans for road construction in an environmentally protected part of the country.—INTERNET*



## Malaysia moots ban on fast food ads

KUALA LUMPUR, 20 Feb — Malaysia is mooting a ban on fast food advertisements in a bid to promote healthy lifestyles in the country.

Malaysian Information Minister Zainuddin Maidin on Monday said that his ministry supported such a proposal and was willing to stop fast food ads on Radio Television Malaysia (RTM) stations.

Zainuddin said the matter was not a question

of profits as RTM, being a government body, placed more emphasis on social responsibility.

Zainuddin said that his support did not mean that he was against fast food companies, but that he worried that the fast food culture would become more difficult to tackle in future.

Last week, Malaysian Health Minister Chua Soi Lek proposed a ban on fast food ads, describing

fast foods as “silent killers”.

Chua said that Malaysians’ poor eating habits were contributing to more lifestyle diseases, including obesity, the rate of which had increased to 37 per cent from 20 per cent a decade ago in the country.

Some consumers associations and health groups were reportedly also supported the ban.

MNA/Xinhua

## Bomb kills four in central Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 20 Feb— A bomb inside a minibus in central Baghdad killed four people on Monday, witnesses said.

A Reuters photographer saw four charred bodies lying on the street after the explosion blew out the top of the bus in the Karrada district, a religiously mixed area,

Police said the blast was caused by a bomb planted inside the bus. They said two people were killed and four wounded in the attack.

On Sunday, two car bombs tore through a crowded market area of a mainly Shiite district in eastern Baghdad, killing 60 people in the worst attack since US and Iraqi troops launched a security crackdown in the city last week.—MNA/Reuters

## Moderate earthquake rocks eastern Indonesia

JAKARTA, 20 Feb— A moderate earthquake measuring 5.4 on the Richter scale hit the eastern part of Indonesia on Monday, no casualty or damage was reported, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency said here.

The quake occurred at 18:13 Jakarta time (1113 GMT) with the epicentre on land at 455 kilometres northeast Bitung regency of North Sulawesi province and 10 kilometres under the ground, an official of the agency told Xinhua.

MNA/Xinhua



*Firefighters climb a special training structure during a training session in a fire station in Shanghai on 20 Feb, 2007. Chinese cities have been gradually loosening firework restrictions, instituted over decade ago due to fire and safety concerns.—INTERNET*

## Do more for your heart, women urged

NEW YORK, 20 Feb— The American Heart Association has updated its guidelines for preventing heart disease in women. The new guidelines urge all women to do

more specific things to protect themselves against heart disease and stroke.

The guide is published in today’s issue of Circulation, the Journal of the American Heart Association (AHA).

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death for American women.

Marking a departure from the last issue in 2004, the AHA stresses the importance of focusing on “lifetime risk”. Instead of differentiating between younger and older women with differing levels of risk, they are preferring to focus on lifetime risk, since the earlier that a woman adopts the strategies they recommend

regarding lifestyle and diet, the more likely she is to reduce her overall lifetime risk.

The panel that put together the guidelines say that the lifetime risk of heart attack or stroke is nearly 50 per cent for American women. That is one in every two American women is likely to have the disease sometime in her life.

The AHA guidelines contain advice to all women about exercise, lifestyle and diet and a specific recommendation that women over 65, regardless of their health, should consider taking a low dose (81 mg) of aspirin every day.

Internet

## Canadian soldiers injured in car accident in Afghanistan

OTTAWA, 20 Feb— Thirteen Canadian soldiers sustained minor injuries when three armoured vehicles crashed into each other in Afghanistan’s Kandahar early Sunday, Canadian media reported on Monday.

The accident occurred

before dawn as a convoy of recent arrivals moved between bases, Major Dale MacEachern, a Canadian Forces spokesperson told Canadian Press.

All soldiers are now in good conditions and expected to go back to work, he said.

The soldiers were travelling in light armoured vehicles, or LAV IIIs when the crash occurred. The LAVs incurred minor damage.

Canada has roughly 2,500 troops in Afghanistan. Four soldiers have been killed in vehicle accidents.—MNA/Xinhua



*Jet Blue airplanes are seen at JFK airport on Tuesday, 20 Feb, 2007 and were resuming flight schedules as the company announced that it was rolling out a customer bill of rights that promises vouchers to fliers who experience delays in a move it hopes will win back passengers after an operational meltdown damaged it’s brand and stockprice.— INTERNET*



## ECONOMIC NEWS

## China's service trade deficit on rise

BEIJING, 20 Feb — China's service trade deficit rose year after year because supply failed to meet demand in the country's underdeveloped service sector, according to a latest report from the China Academy of Social Sciences (CASS).

The report says China's service trade deficit grew to 9.39 billion US dollars in 2005 from 5.6 billion US dollars in 1997, a 67.7-per-cent increase within eight years.

China's rapid economic growth created strong demand for various

services but the gap between supply and demand was widening in the service sector, says the report.

China's service trade volume totalled 157.08 billion US dollars in 2005, according to previous reports—MNA/Xinhua



A brush fire burns near a residential area in Lahaina, Hawaii, on Tuesday, 19 Feb, 2007. The fire covered at least 1,000 acres above the Puamana subdivision in Lahaina, fire officials said late on Monday. No homes were burned, but a family of six had to be evacuated by air. —INTERNET

## Mexico farmers to get record \$16b cash boost

MEXICO CITY, 21 Feb— Mexico's Government will pump a record 16 billion US dollars into the countryside this year to help farmers cope when trade barriers with the United States and Canada are removed completely in 2008.

Conservative President Felipe Calderon said on Monday the most money ever to be spent on the countryside in a year would go to producers of corn, beans, sugar and milk, many of whom will struggle to compete when trade barriers are lifted.

Mexico, the United States and Canada have been gradually lifting trade barriers since 1994 through the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), under which trade between the three neighbours is due to be completely free in 2008.—MNA/Reuters



The company logo for Barclays Bank is seen at their Holborn branch in London, on 20 Nov, 2006. Barclays PLC reported on 20 Feb, 2007 that net profit rose 33 percent in 2006, and claimed that the worst was over for its Barclaycard business, which posted a sharp fall in profit. —INTERNET

## China's electronic information products export to hit \$390 b

BEIJING, 20 Feb— China's export of electronic information products is expected to grow 14 per cent year-on-year to 390 billion US dollars this year, China's Ministry of Information Industry has predicted.

Vice-Minister Lou Qinjian said the government encouraged large

electronic information companies, which include computers, surveying instruments and communications products, to carry out overseas mergers and acquisitions or invest abroad to advance their overseas presence.

China will also improve the utilization of foreign investment and

support multinationals to build research and development centres in China, Lou said.—MNA/Xinhua



A labourer marks steel bars at a steel and iron factory in Wuhan, China, on 21 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET

## UAE Armed Forces announces deals of \$211.17m

ABU DHABI, 21 Feb — The Armed Forces of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) announced four deals worth 775 million dirhams (211.17 million US dollars) during the International Defence Exhibition (IDEX) 2007, local daily *Gulf News* reported on Tuesday.

According to the report, Major General Obaid Al Ketbi, chief of logistics of the UAE Armed Forces, said that the Armed Forces signed a deal worth 127 million dirhams for 12 fast patrol boats with the Abu Dhabi Ship Building Company (ADSB).

Caracal, a UAE company specializing in defence products has also won a 18 million dirhams deal to supply the Armed Forces with a total of 10,000 pistols, Al Ketbi said.

Another local company, International Golden Group, won a contract from the Armed Forces worth 390 million dirhams to supply 120 mm mortars, he added.

According to Al Ketbi, the Armed forces were in talks with American communications supplier Harris to purchase telecommunication equipment worth 240 million dirhams.

The military spokesman also said that the Army has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with European Aeronautics Defence and Space Company (EADS) to purchase three air tankers, but stressed that the negotiation's door with Boeing still open. —MNA/Xinhua

## China to deliver first liquefied natural gas ship in September

BEIJING, 20 Feb — China has made substantial breakthroughs in shipbuilding as the first liquefied natural gas (LNG) ship made in China, one of the most advanced in the world, will be delivered in September.

Only the Republic of Korea, Japan and a few European countries have acquired the technologies to build such ocean liners.

Since natural gas can only be turned into the liquefied after the temperature dropped below minus 163 degrees Celsius, LNG ships are often dubbed as the

“maritime super freezer”.

The boat with a capacity of 47,200 cubic metres is under construction by the Hudong-Zhonghua Shipbuilding, a subsidiary of the China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC), China's top and the world's third largest shipping group.

Another four such LNG vessels also under construction would be delivered in the end of this year while the research and development for LNG ships with a capacity of 200,000 cubic meters is underway, sources with the CSSC said.

The Shanghai Wai-

gaoqiao Shipbuilding Company, one of its subsidiaries, is going to deliver a floating, production, storage and offloading vessel to the United States-headquartered oil giant ConocoPhillips in May.

The vessel with a designed capacity of 300,000 tons is the largest and most costly vessel of its kind in China.

The CSSC will also deliver in September a 8,530 TEU container vessel and a dredger with a capacity of 13,500 cubic metres in May, both the largest of its kind in China.

MNA/Xinhua





An elderly man dances during a temple fair in Beijing held to celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year on 21 Feb, 2007. Chinese around the world on Sunday welcomed the Lunar New Year which is believed to be an especially auspicious 'golden pig year', which only comes around every 60 years. —INTERNET

## New Year firecrackers kill one, injure 270 in Beijing

**BEIJING, 20 Feb** — One person was killed and 270 others were injured in Beijing by firecrackers during Chinese Lunar New Year celebrations, according to municipal authorities.

A 25-year-old man was seriously injured in the head when igniting fireworks on Saturday and died in hospital early Sunday despite doctors' efforts, said Daxing District People's Hospital sources. Two other men, aged 21 and 30 respectively, had to have one eyeball removed because of serious injuries from fireworks, according to sources with No 3

Hospital affiliated to Peking University and No 304 Hospital.

The city reported a total of 270 fireworks injury cases between Saturday and Sunday and 249 fires caused by fireworks, said the Beijing Fireworks Administration Office.

The wounded included four children aged between six and nine, who were burnt in the face when

igniting powder extracted from firecrackers.

Fireworks are part of traditional celebrations marking the Chinese Lunar New Year, also known as Spring Festival, which fell on Sunday this year. Since Beijing lifted a 12-year ban during last year's Spring Festival, fireworks have made a loud return to the Chinese capital.

MNA/Xinhua

## Uganda free secondary education starts

**KAMPALA, 20 Feb** — Uganda began offering free secondary education to 250,000 students on Monday, which the government said would double the number of children continuing on in school.

Acting Secondary Education Commissioner Robinson Nsumba-Lyazi told Reuters the scheme meant all 380,000 of the pupils who passed their primary school exams — about 90 per cent of them — would go on to attend secondary school.

"It's a pro-poor programme that will help rural communities develop, so you can have people who are educated, who can plan and who can participate in economic activities," he said.

Encouraged by the success of its free universal primary education programme at getting poor children into school, the government has enlisted around 1,000 government and private secondary schools to absorb new students, free of charge.

Nsumba-Lyazi said only 150,000 primary school students last year went on to continue their education.

"Without USE (Universal Secondary Education) the

dropout rate is about 50 per cent. It will double enrolment," he said.

Many children yearn to continue learning after primary school but find their families are unable to afford the average 130 US dollars per year fees. Ugandans earn about 300 US dollars per person per year.

Nsumba-Lyazi said the programme would cost an estimated 30 billion Uganda shillings (17.15 million US dollars) this year. — MNA/Reuters

## British woman charged with spying in Angola

**JOHANNESBURG, 20 Feb** — A British woman working for the human rights organization Global Witness has been arrested and charged with espionage in Angola, the London-based group said on Monday.

Sarah Wykes, an anti-corruption campaigner

who was in Angola to meet with representatives of civil organizations, was detained by police Sunday morning in the oil-rich enclave of Cabinda, Global Witness said.

She was taken to a Cabinda court on Monday after spending a night in jail and prevented from consulting with her lawyers, said Andie Lambe, a spokeswoman for the group. Wykes told the BBC after her arrest she was in Cabinda meeting local groups to discuss oil-related "revenue transparency" issues.

Global Witness said there was no evidence for the espionage charge and has demanded her release.

There was no immediate comment from the Angolan government on the case. The British government said on Monday it was aware of Wykes' arrest and was discussing her case with Angolan officials.

"Our consular staff have spoken to her several times and are on their way to Cabinda," a spokeswoman for Britain's Foreign Office in London said.

MNA/Reuters

## Quake shakes Uganda, Congo, no injuries reported

**KAMPALA, 20 Feb** — An earthquake with a magnitude of 5.7 struck the Lake Albert region of western Uganda and eastern Democratic Republic of Congo on Monday, officials said, but there was no immediate word of casualties or damage.

"An earthquake passed here but it did not hurt anyone or destroy any property," Andrew Diboi, police chief for western Uganda, told Reuters by telephone. Earthquakes are common in the western Great Rift Valley — a seismically active fault line straddling western Uganda, eastern DRC and neighbouring Tanzania.

MNA/Reuters



Pierre-Auguste Renoir's paintings entitled 'Garden in the Rue Cortot, Montmartre' (L) and 'Picking flowers' are displayed at an exhibition of his work at the National Gallery in London on 20 Feb, 2007. The exhibition 'Renoir landscapes 1865-1883' runs at the National Gallery from 21 February until 20 May, 2007. —INTERNET

## Disease, hunger risk in Mozambique flood struggle

**MAPUTO, 20 Feb**—Mozambique's national disaster agency, already struggling to get food and clean water to thousands of victims of flooding, warned on Monday the worst could be yet to come as the rainy season gets under way.

Paulo Zucula, the country's top disaster official, said there was only one helicopter working to bring relief supplies to people stranded in isolated evacuation centres, raising the spectre of malnutrition and disease. "At least 4,000 people in the district of Mopeia have not received food and clean drinking water. They are starving and some diseases such as malaria and cholera are looming," he told Reuters by telephone from Caia, where the central relief office has been established. —MNA/Reuters



From left: June Bovie, Bradley Bovie, Jean Raymond, Smiley Whittington, and Gwen Kelley, all from Metairie, La., dress up as NASA astronauts wearing diapers on Mardi Gras in the French Quarter of New Orleans on Tuesday, 20 Feb, 2007. — INTERNET



# People's Park fun fair, special market festival from 28 Feb to 4 March

Article by Ahtet Minhla Nyunt Aung;  
photos by Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

Food, clothing and shelter are basic needs for man to live on. In order to have these basic needs fulfilled, people should have an access to foodstuff, clothes and construction materials, personal goods, electrical apparatus and electronic equipment at reasonable prices.

Now, market festivals of the Ministry of Industry-1, cooperatives market festivals, and market festivals of various companies are being staged for the comfort and convenience of the people to get a wide variety of items of their choice at a single place.

Min Thu Kyaw Marketing Group will conduct a fun fair and special market festival at the People's Square and People's Park from 9 am to 9 pm daily from 28 February to 4 March.

For the public information about the fun fair



**A fun fair and special market festival are scheduled to be held on a grand scale at the busy and pleasant People's Square and People's Park. (U Naing Soe, Chairman of Min Thu Kyaw Marketing Group)**

and special market festival, we media group of the Myanma Alin daily conducted an interview with Min Thu Kyaw Marketing Group recently.

When asked about the purpose of the festival, Managing Director U Myo Kyaw Swa Aung of Min Thu Kyaw Marketing Group said, "We Min Thu Kyaw Marketing Group will play a leading role in holding the firstever fun fair and special market festival at the People's Square and People's Park soon with the purposes of exporting local products, boosting production of commodities, and enabling national entrepreneurs to have their products on the market."

In connection with the items to be on sale at the festival, Marketing Manager Daw Khin Thandar Tun said, "Mainly, items to be on sale at the festival are a wide range of personal goods, foodstuff, cosmetics, electronic equipment, items for children, kitchenware, traditional and foreign medicines, and household utensils. It is scheduled to be held during the Tabaung Festival of the Shwedagon Pagoda, so we have made all necessary arrangements for it to



**Arrangements made for exhibiting a fun fair and special market festival are seen at the gate to the People's Square and People's Park on Dhamma Zedi Road.**



**Min Thu Kyaw Marketing Group will play a leading role in holding the firstever fun fair and special market festival at the People's Square and People's Park soon with the purposes of exporting local products, boosting production of commodities, and enabling national entrepreneurs to have their products on the market. (Managing Director U Myo Kyaw Swa Aung)**

be as much lively as possible. I would like to invite the people to the festival that will be held on a grand scale."

With respect to the arrangements for the festival, Chairman U Naing Soe said, "The venue of the market festival is near Myaynigon in Sangyoung Township, an economic hub and populous area. In its surrounding areas, there are Yuzana Supermarket, Dagon Centre and the Shwedagon Pagoda. So, it is a busy place. We are planning to exhibit a fun fair and a special market festival on a grand scale in the People's Square and People's Park. I would say it is a golden opportunity for various companies to advertise and exhibit their products, technologies, and

services there. Those who wish to stage pavilions at the festival may contact Min Thu Kyaw Marketing Group at the gate to the People's Park on Dhamma Zedi Road or dial 555605, 549498, 545522 (ex: 202), 095-103774 and 095-111860.

With a large area, the People's Square and People's Park can accommodate a large number of people. So, it will be convenient for both the sellers and visitors to enjoy the festival. There, adult visitors can enjoy entertainment programmes for pleasure and stay under the shady trees for recreation and relaxation, while children can enjoy themselves at the playgrounds and water-slide.

During the five-day festival, free entertainment programmes will also be staged in the afternoon and evening daily.

Translation: MS  
Myanma Alin: 21-2-2007



**I would like to invite the people to the fun fair and market festival that will be held on a grand scale. (Marketing Manager Daw Khin Thandar Tun)**



### The Law Amending the National Archive...

(from page 1)

- (d) the Department may copy the records which may become *mawgun* as such.”
- 3. Section 12 of the National Archive and *Mawgun* Law shall be substituted as follows:-
  - “12. The duties of the Director General are as follows:
    - (a) supervising the conversation and safe custody of the records and *mawguns* of the Department;
    - (b) communicating with government departments to obtain the records which are to be sent to the Department under sub-section (a) of section 6;
    - (c) receiving the records transferred by the government departments under sub-sections (a) and (c) of section 6;
    - (d) preparing the lists of *mawgun* series of the archives established by the government departments and other organi-

- zations and keeping them at the Department;
- (e) carrying out duties assigned by the Minister and the Supervisory Body.”
- 4. Section 14 of the National Archive and *Mawgun* Law shall be substituted as follows:-
  - “14. No one shall destroy, alter, add or in any manner ruin any *mawgun* or any record which may become *mawgun* under the examination of the Department as provided in sub-section (c) of section 6.”
- 5. The expression “Kyats 10000” contained in section 18 of the National Archive and *Mawgun* Law shall be substituted by the expression “one hundred thousand kyats.”

(Sd) Than Shwe  
Senior General  
Chairman

The State Peace and Development Council

### Functions of Hsinthay Dam, Hsinthay Diversion Dam inspected in Tatkon Township



Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin inspects Shwethweyin paddy cultivation at Seinsarpin Village in Pyinmana Township. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb — Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin inspected regional development tasks, cultivation of summer paddy and physic nut in the area of Nay Pyi Taw Command yesterday afternoon.

The commander and party viewed broadcasting of fertilizer in

Shwethweyin paddy plantation in Seinsarpin Village of Pyinmana Township.

They also looked into thriving summer paddy plantations and irrigation functions of Hsinthay Dam and Hsinthay Diversion Dam in Tatkon Township. The commander and party inspected nurturing and

growing of physic nut and thriving of pulses and cotton plantations in Alekyun Village of the township.

On his inspection tour, the commander heard reports on nurturing of physic nut and development of villages presented by local authorities and gave necessary instructions.

MNA

### Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects...

(from page 1)

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win heard reports on task of the gem block of the company and gave necessary instructions.

At No 5 Block of Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win instructed officials to supervise worksite safety for the workers.

In meeting with departmental officials and responsible persons of gem companies at Taungpaw Yeiktha in Mongshu, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win urged gem entrepreneurs to carry out gem mining work to be able to contribute to development of the State economy in line with the prescribed laws, rules and regulations. Departmental personnel were also urged to provide health care services and development of the education sector.

At the local battalion in Mongshu Township, they met with the Secretary of Mongshu Township Union Solidarity and Development Association and executives, and gave necessary

instructions.

On arrival at the Office of Mongnaung Township General Administration Department, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win met with departmental officials, social organizations and local people. He heard reports on donation of five sails each by Shan State PDC for the power supply of windmills presented by the Chairman of the Township PDC, and gave instructions that Mongnaung region has food sufficiency. Efforts are to be made for meeting the production target of 10 major crops. Local authorities are to set sights on uplift of education standard of the local youth for turning out well-qualified human resources.

Patron of the USDA Lt-Gen Kyaw Win also gave necessary instructions to the Secretary of Mongnaung Township USDA and executives.

Later, they inspected Mongnaung Hospital (16-bed) and fulfilled the requirements of the hospital.

MNA

### Yangon Division USDA donates desks to primary school in Tamway Township

YANGON, 19 Feb — Yangon Division Union Solidarity and Development Association donated 50 desks to No 3 Basic Education Primary School in Tamway Township this morning.

CEC member of USDA (Yangon Division in-charge) Yangon Mayor

Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin delivered an address and handed over the desks to Headmistress Daw Tin Mar Aye.

Next, the Mayor accepted 531 USDA membership applications.

Headmistress Daw Tin Mar Aye thanked the donor. — MNA

### Third Qualify Round of Grand Royal Special Reserve 3-4 March



YANGON, 21 Feb — The Third Qualify Round of the Grand Royal Special Reserve, to be or-

ganized by Myanmar Golf Federation, will be held at Ngantae Golf Club in Mawlamyine on 3 and 4 March.

Four best golfers will be selected from the qualify round in line with rules and regulations of golf tournaments.

The qualify round will be organized through the handicap system (36).

International beverages Trading Co Ltd will sponsor the qualify round together with co-sponsors Air Mandalay, Hotel Nikko, Srixon, Alpine Purified Drinking Water and organizer Han Event Management.

Those wishing to take part in the qualify round may dial 057-21831. — MNA

### Certificates of traditional medicine course presented at UM-1 (Yangon)

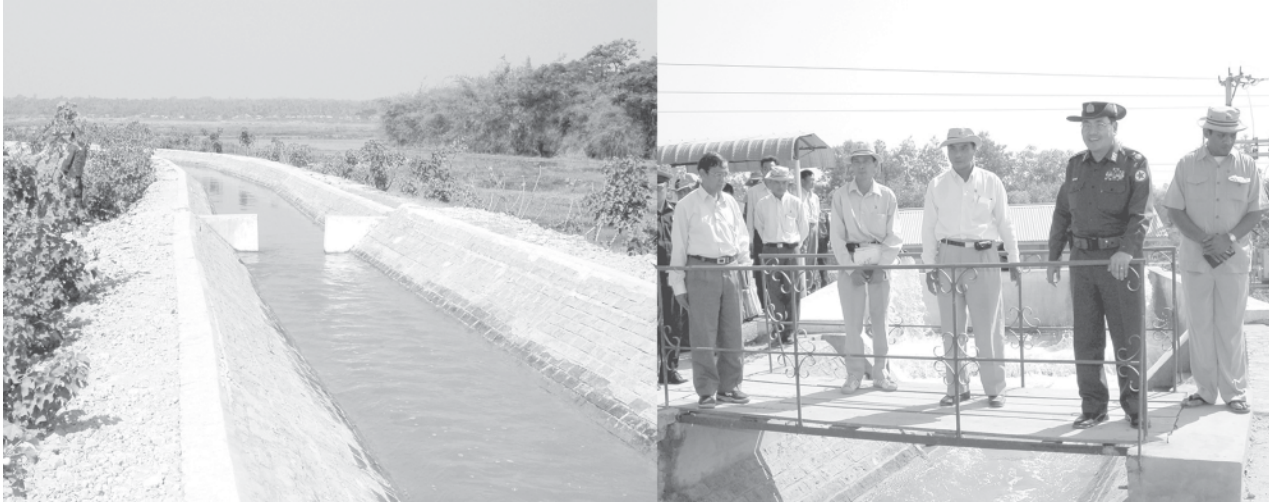
YANGON, 21 Feb — The Ministry of Health is carrying out development of traditional medicine sector in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. The subject on traditional medicine is included in the list of the training courses for Third MB at Universities of Medicine with a view to enabling fresher surgeons to

have the basic knowledge of traditional medicines.

On 21 February, a ceremony to present completion certificate of basic traditional medicine course was held for the first time at University of Medicine-1 (Yangon). At the ceremony, the certificates were presented to 213 students. — MNA



## Commander attends opening of training course on boosting maize production



**Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win inspects Sangyiwa River Water Pumping Project in Mingaladon Township. — MNA**

YANGON, 21 Feb — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win attended the ceremony to open the training course on boosting maize production at Central Agricultural Research and Training Division of Myanma Agriculture Service in Hlegu Township this morning.

A total of 65 officers and other ranks and 100 farmers are attending the course.

The commander viewed broadcasting of urea and dochetkin fertilizers and thriving paddy plantations of farmer U San Aung near Peinnegon Village.

Next, the commander inspected the site for implementation of Letpan River Water Pumping Project that will benefit 9,300 acres of

farmland.

At the site of Ngamoeyeik River Water Pumping Project, the commander viewed digging of the main canal. He also inspected supply of water along the feeder canal from Sangyiwa River Water Pumping Project in Mingaladon Township.

MNA

## Construction of Hlinethaya-Yekyi (Athoat) 230 KV power line, Thakayta power station inspected

YANGON, 21 Feb — Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, accompanied by responsible personnel went on an inspection tour of a project site of 230 KV power line crossing Ayeyawady River in Nyaungdon Township, on 19 February.

Upon arrival at Nos 145 and 144 towers in Gazintaw Village, Nyaungdon Township, the minister and party looked into connection of power lines and condition of river crossing towers and power line.

During the inspection of Thakayta power station, the minister and party viewed installation of air and gas pipelines at No 1 turbine for generating electricity at full capacity. The minister instructed officials to substitute machine parts at the turbines as soon as possible.

MNA

### Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspects Thakayta Power Station.

MNA



## Shwedagon Pagoda Buddha Pujaniya held

YANGON, 21 Feb — The Buddha Pujaniya Taboung Festival of Shwedagon Pagoda took place at Chanthagyi Dazaung (prayer hall) on the platform of the pagoda this morning.

Member of the pagoda board of trustees U Mya Thein supplicated on the festival to Members of the Sangha.

Ovadacariya Sayadaws and members of the pagoda board of trustees and officials lit the oil lamps to open the festival.

Members of the Sangha recited Maha Patthanas as a gesture of holding the Buddha, Dhamma and Members of the Buddhist Orders in high esteem.—MNA

## Maha Wizaya ordination hall consecrated

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb — A ceremony to consecrate ground for Maha Wizaya ordination hall built in the compound of Masoeyein Taikthit was held in conjunction with a birthday of the Sayadaw in Kwanmoedain model village, Kayan Township on 19 February.

CEC Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Kayan Township In-charge Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein attended the ceremony.

During the ceremony, the minister and wife donated K 10 million towards the ordination hall while donors presented K 53.6 million and 2,800 bags of cement, 30,000 bricks and 21 tons of timber and iron rods worth K 17.7 million.

An air set worth K 800,000 was donated to be used at Kayan Township People's Hospital to mark the birthday of the Sayadaw. Donors U Soe Tun Shein and Daw Kha Yay Nwe (Asia Kyeepwar Company), U Myo Aung and Daw Khin Ye Mon (Sun Myanmar Company) and U Soe Myint Aung (Eastern Power Company) and Dr Daw Aye Aye (Chein Kaung Company) offered K 4 million with the intention of building a laboratory at the hospital. The minister and responsible persons accepted the donations.

After the ceremony, the CEC member met with officials of Kayan Basic Education High School and No 8 BEMS which were installed with multimedia and made arrangements to fulfill the needs. The USDA built 17 BEPSs, three bridges, 31 tube-wells and introduced multimedia at Kayan Basic Education High School and No 8 BEMS last year.

Next, the CEC members held discussions on digging another 10 tube-wells, construction of Kyinichauung station hospital, Paukpin village bridge and Kayan-Makathan-Kannyinaung-Kyawin road section this year. — MNA

## 1,000-mile Men's Cycling Race continues 94 miles long 9th leg

YANGON, 21 Feb — The Yangon-Pyay-Mandalay-Yangon 1,000-mile Men's Cycling Race, jointly organized by Myanmar Olympic Committee and the Ministry of Sports, continued for the 94 miles long ninth leg from Meiktila to Pynmana this morning.

At 6.10 am, Commander of Meiktila District Police Force Police Lt-Col Hla Myo Shein launched the 9th leg cycling race in front of Shwemyintin Pagoda in Meiktila.

The cyclists started the race and arrived at the finishing line in front of Paunglaung Sports Ground in Pynmana at 10.20 am. Out of 73 contestants, 72 cyclists successfully arrived at the finishing line.

The prize presentation for the 9th leg race was held at the Yeiktha of the sports ground at 11 am. MOC Chairman Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presented K 30,000 to first prize winner Myint Aye (Finance and Revenue), K 20,000 to second prize winner Kyaw Myo Hlaing (Finance and Revenue) and K 10,000 to third prize winner Yan Myo Aung (Yangon Division). Officials also awarded prizes to them.

The tenth leg Pynmana-Toungoo of the cycling race will be launched in front of Paunglaung Sports Ground tomorrow morning.

MNA



(from page 16)

of Children's Rights Foundation-CPCR) raided Ranya Paew Seafood Factory in Maha Chai, Samutsakhon District, Thailand, on 14 September 2006, and found that 66 (three males and 63 females) of 1088 Myanmar workers at the factory were victims of human trafficking and labour exploitation. They were being tortured and had to work without getting any payments. Members of the group

made cooperation to jointly enquire about the matter. Myanmar sent four police officers of MATU to the place in Thailand where the incident occurred, to make an inquiry about the matter.

The team made investigation into the case and questioned the trafficked Myanmar workers. Then, it was learnt that:—

- The 66 Myanmar workers rescued now under protection by the Human Trafficking Multi-

beyond the limit of human capacity without being paid, they deceived other national people and they were human traffickers. In addition, they had some of their relatives appointed as supervisors at the factory. The Myanmar supervisors were also helping the Thai factory owner and eight armed Thai guard men control and inhumanely torture their compatriot workers.

Three of the twelve traffickers have been arrested, and two automobiles and

the case correctly and quickly, and Thai Labour Court and Criminal Court have handed down sentences on the accused,

- to take measures for the victims to contact their family members in Myanmar on phone or by post during the investigation period,
- to get unpaid wages and compensation for the grievances of the workers, and to take punitive action against the Thai offenders.

The Myanmar Ambassador and military attaches to Thailand are visiting the victims frequently and attending to their needs. At the same time, responsible persons in the nation are visiting the houses of the victims'

## MWAF, MPF coordinating with Thai officials in Thailand to judge the case correctly and quickly, to get compensation for grievances

rescued the victims and put them under the care Bann Kredrakarn Shelter for women and Pakkret Home for Boys of Thai Social Development Department.

Moreover, another 130 Myanmar workers were also the victims of labour exploitation. Although they could be designated as victims of human trafficking they could not be protected by the current Children and Women Protection Act of Thailand as there is no anti-trafficking in persons law. Hence, the 130 workers were sent back to Myanmar through Maesot in the last week of September after they had undergone inspection at IDC.

The World Vision of Thailand (WVT) informed about the matter to World Vision Myanmar (WVM). The Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and WVM visited Thailand and inquired about the matter. After receiving information about the matter from MWAF and WVM, the human trafficking prevention group of Myanmar Police Force made contacts with Thai police force, Children, Juvenile and Women Division (CWD) and Thai special anti-human trafficking police task force to collect more information.

With the cooperation of Asia Regional Trafficking in Persons Project-ARTIPP, Myanmar Anti-Trafficking Unit (MATU) and Thai Anti-Trafficking UNIT (THATU)

disciplinary Organization of Thailand had undergone inhumane tortures from six months to seven years. They were held captive in the water tanks, underground apartments, ceilings of the rooms and partitioned rooms so that they could not get in touch with outside world.

- They had to work hard for 18 hours every day, but they were paid no wages till they were rescued.
- It was found out that the Thai factory owner was a human trafficker who directly dealt with the human traffickers in Myanmar to get workers, and paid 13,000 to 18,000 bahts for an illegal migrant worker. Then, he inhumanely



Members of Human Trafficking Multi-disciplinary of Thailand search underground of seafood factory in Maha Chai. — MNA

## Those wishing to work abroad urged to systematically follow procedures

exploited the labour, and variously tortured and threatened the workers.

Twelve traffickers who collected people in Myanmar and sent them abroad were rich persons living in Mawlamyine and its surrounding areas. Despite knowing and witnessing that many Myanmar workers were suffering various forms of tortures and working

four fine houses in downtown Mawlamyine suspected to be bought with the money realized through trafficking in persons have been confiscated so far.

For giving protective custody to national illegal migrant workers and ensuring justice in accordance with the law, authorities of the two sides are now coordinating:—

- to urgently send back two pregnant female workers among the 63 victims,
- to officially hand over the victims to Myanmar after Thai Police Force has made investigation into

parents and presenting the letters sent by the victims to and consoling their family members.

In order not to occur similar cases, responsible officials, the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and other social organizations are making field trips to border and rural areas to give talks on trafficking in persons and on increasing job opportunities in the nation. In the talks, they are also making suggestions that those who wish to work abroad are to follow the procedures.

MNA



Members of Human Trafficking Multi-disciplinary of Thailand rescue Myanmar workers hidden at a seafood factory in Maha Chai, Thailand. — MNA

**Some factories in Thailand are hiring workers who have no labour cards at very low payments, and in some cases factory owners are exploiting them or putting them under control without giving them any payments. As for most of the illegal workers, getting visa is so difficult.**



## Fine infrastructures and good prospects of job opportunities in Myanmar

(from page 16)

- \* Although summer paddy could not be cultivated in the past, a total of 3.4 million acres of land can be put under summer paddy now and other crops can be grown as double cropping thanks to the water supply projects for agricultural purpose.
- \* The cultivation capability reached 157 per cent. In this regard, sown acreage of pulses and beans increased up to 11 times, edible oil crops three times and kitchen crops four times.
- \* In the industrial sector, the government is undertaking the tasks to build new factories and workshops, extend the existing factories, establish the industrial development banks and set up 18 industrial zones for grouping private factories. As a result, there are over 42,000 worksites including 6,610 factories. Furthermore, the special economic zones are being established.
- \* Likewise, the government is bringing about development of the livestock, forestry, mining, commercial, hotels and tourism, transport, communications, electric power, energy, education, science and technology, health, road transport, tourism and civil sectors compared with that of 1988.
- \* Therefore, job opportunities have been increased while technical skills and efficiency for human resource development have also increased.
- \* In 2005-2006, there were over 34.7 million of workforce in the country.
- \* Out of the over 34.7 workforce, over 22.3 million are farmers, over 4.8 million are industrial workers and over 7.5 million are servicemen.
- \* By comparison with the work force statistics in 1988, the number of labours has reached over 200% in the agricultural sector, over 250 % in the industrial sector and nearly 200 % in the service sector. Job opportunities have increased over two firms today in comparison with 1988-89.
- \* Seventy overseas job searching agencies have been licensed, and they have contacted 14 countries and created over 30,000 job opportunities.
- \* Since 6 November 2006, temporary passports have been issued to illegal labourers who have sought jobs in Thailand.
- \* Arrangements have been made for labourers so that they can go to Thailand legally through border gates without spending too much money.

## Myanmar's endeavours for anti-human trafficking

(from page 16)

- \* Out of 624 human traffickers, seven were sentenced to life imprisonment, 104 to under ten year's imprisonment, 353 to between 5 and 10 years' imprisonment and 160 to under five year's imprisonment.
- \* On 30 March 2004, Myanmar became a member of the UN Convention on Transnational Crime and Appendix and the government is implementing activities on anti-trafficking in persons in accord with the international prescriptions.
- \* Myanmar enacted The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law on 13 September 2005.
- \* According to the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law, human trafficking is regarded as a serious crime and any human trafficker shall be punished with maximum of sentence to death.
- \* The law included protection, provision and compensation and establishment for trafficked victims.
- \* Related laws such as The Money Laundering Law and The Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Law were enacted in 2002 and 2004 respectively.
- \* In international cooperation in anti-human trafficking Myanmar is participating in the tasks of nine international agreements regarding human trafficking as a member.
- \* Myanmar practises eight-point ASEAN declaration on anti-human trafficking approved and issued by ASEAN Summit held in Laos in November 2004 and cooperates with ASEAN member countries.
- \* Anti-Trafficking Units were established in four project nations— Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia and Laos under the assistance of the Australian Government. Myanmar cooperated with criminal and judicial boards.
- \* Beginning June 2004, Myanmar Anti-Trafficking Units were formed with 40 police officers.
- \* The five-year Asia Regional Trafficking in Persons Project (ARTIPP) is being implemented from 2006 to 2011.
- \* The ministers from Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam signed an MoU on cooperation in anti-human trafficking in Mekong region in Yangon on 29-10-2004.
- \* In March 2005 Regional Plan of Action was formulated and member nations are taking part in it.
- \* Myanmar-China anti-border crimes and peace and tranquillity building agreement in border areas was signed on 15-1-2005 and future tasks were laid down.

## The Myanmar Ambassador and military attaches to Thailand are visiting the victims frequently and attending to their needs



Members of Human Trafficking Multi-disciplinary of Thailand rescue Myanmar workers hidden at a seafood factory in Maha Chai, Thailand. — MNA

The Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and WVM visited Thailand and inquired about the matter. After receiving information about the matter from MWAFF and WVM, the human trafficking prevention group of Myanmar Police Force made contacts with Thai police force, Children, Juvenile and Women Division (CWD) and Thai special anti-human trafficking police task force to collect more information.

In order not to occur similar cases, responsible officials, the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and other social organizations are making field trips to border and rural areas to give talks on trafficking in persons and on increasing job opportunities in the nation. In the talks, they are also making suggestions that those who wish to work abroad are to follow the procedures.



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Yangon. 22 February 2007

**India police find baby bones in hospital yard**

BHOPAL(India), 20 Feb—Police in the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh recovered 390 pieces of bones of newly born babies or foetuses from the backyard of a Christian missionary hospital, officials and media reports said on Sunday.

"The question of female foeticide and infanticide is part of our investigation, as is illegal abortions," Superintendent of Police Satish Saxena said, speaking from Ratlam town where the grisly find was made on Saturday.

Ratlam is 230 kilometres (140 miles) west of Bhopal, the state capital.

Police, acting on a tip, dug up the backyard of the hospital and found the pieces of bones, some stuffed in plastic bags. Police in Ratlam have sent the remains to a government laboratory in Bhopal for forensic tests.

Meanwhile, a hospital sweeper and

two doctors have been taken into custody by police for questioning. Hospital records have also been seized.

"We are questioning both the doctors and the further course of action would depend on their statements," Saxena said.

Angry people attempted to barge into the hospital demanding stern action against hospital officials but were stopped by police.

The hospital administrators were not available for comment.

Separately, the government on Sunday said it was planning a "cradle scheme" to adopt girl children to check female foeticide.

"We want to put a cradle...in every district headquarters," Women and Child Development Minister Renuka Chowdhury was quoted on the *Press Trust of India* news agency.

MNA/Reuters

**Malaysia, India to sign new defence pact**

KUALA LUMPUR, 20 Feb—Malaysia and India are preparing to enter a new defence pact, Malaysia's national news agency *Bernama* reported on Monday.

The two countries are willing to conduct military exercises and India is also ready to train Malaysian Russia-made *Sokhoi* fighter pilots and *Scorpene* submarine personnel, *Bernama* said.

India and Malaysia shared the same military doctrine and philosophy as former British colonies and members of the Commonwealth, said Malaysian Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar after the conclusion of the fourth Malaysia-India Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) in India last Friday.

MNA/Xinhua

**Nigerian Govt awards national library project**

ABUJA, 20 Feb— The Nigerian Government has awarded an 8-billion-naira (about 61.5-million-US-

dollar) contract for a new national library in Abuja, official said here at the weekend.

Linus Ikpaahindi, director of the National Library, said the 1000 capacity library would provide wider access to Nigerians patronizing the library. He said that the new library which is expected to stock 10 million volumes of books would further standardize the services provided by

the library nationwide.

Work on the project would be completed in three years, he added.

On the state of the 22 branches nationwide, Ikpaahindi noted that in spite of the funding problems, more people were still patronizing them.

"The comments we have in writing from users of our libraries show that they are happy with the condition of our facilities," he said.—MNA/Xinhua

**Actor Ray Liotta arrested after car crash in LA**

LOS ANGELES, 20 Feb—"GoodFellas" actor Ray Liotta has been arrested in Los Angeles on suspicion of driving under the influence, police said on Sunday.

Liotta, 52, was detained after his sport utility vehicle struck two parked cars near his home in the upscale coastal suburb of Pacific Palisades on Saturday evening, said Los Angeles Police Department spokesman Mike Lopez.— MNA/Reuters

သစ်တောသစ်ပင်  
ချစ်ခင်တဲ့လူမျိုး၊  
သစ်ပင်ကို  
နှစ်စဉ်စိုက်  
ရွှေတိုက်ကိုစိုး။



ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဆက်ရေးတိုးတက်လာ နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



A plane flies over Liverpool. London's City Airport has closed its runway after a short-haul plane burst a tyre on landing.—INTERNET

## China's port city plans to build nine subways

**TIANJIN, 20 Feb—** North China's port city Tianjin will build nine subways in the coming three decades, with 234.7 kilometres long in total, according to sources with the municipal development and reform commission.

An official with the commission said that the No 1 subway in operation, together with the No 2 and No 9 subways under construction, and the No 3 subway in plan, will form the underground transport frame of Tianjin before 2010, which is 130 kilometres long in total.

In the coming five years, Tianjin will move nearly 700,000 residents from downtown area to eight satellite cities at suburb Tianjin, covering 65 square kilometres of land, to ease the traffic tension.

As the second city with subways after Beijing, Tianjin started to build subways in the 1970s. In 2001, the subway was

closed after 17 years' operation, and by then, only 10,000 took subway a day.

Tianjin restarted to build subways at the end of 2001, and the municipality has an ambitious plan of building nine subways, with a total length of 234.7 kilometres, within 30 years.

MNA/Xinhua

## Canadian PM, Bill Gates announce joint AIDS vaccine initiative

**OTTAWA, 20 Feb—**US Billionaire Bill Gates and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced Tuesday a joint plan to finance the testing of possible AIDS vaccines. The plan, named Canadian HIV Vaccine Initiative, is to receive 111 million Canadian dollars (94.3 million US dollars) from Ottawa and 28 million Canadian dollars (23.8 million US dollars)



US Billionaire Bill Gates (L) and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper shake hands. XINHUA

from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The two signed the agreement at a news conference that was held on Canada's Parliament Hill in Ottawa. "(This initiative) will allow us to accelerate the pace towards the discovery of an HIV vaccine, construct a facility to manufacture promising vaccines for clinical trials, move vaccines to the clinical trial stage more quickly, (and) improve access to an eventual vaccine," Harper said.—Internet



Two acrobats perform in London's Trafalgar Square during a ceremony for the London 2012 Olympics, September 2005. Transport planners for the London 2012 Olympics have been told to move up a gear to deliver the project on time, amid fears about a lack of detail and undeveloped back-up plans.—INTERNET

## S Africa bus collision kills 17, injures 45

**JOHANNESBURG, 20 Feb—** Two buses collided head-on, killing 17 people, in South Africa on Monday, after one swerved to avoid a donkey in the road, police said.

At least 45 others were injured in what police called the worst road accident this year in the northern Limpopo Province. "The donkey was just passing by. Animals roam around here," said Limpopo Police Superintendent Mohale Ramatseba.

Television footage showed authorities assessing damaged vehicles and placing bodies wrapped in sheets in front of hundreds of onlookers.

An investigation is unlikely to result in charges as both bus drivers died in the crash, Ramatseba said.

Limpopo Province is famous for its tropical fruits and the victims were mainly rural residents on their way to work in and around the town of Makhado.

South Africa is one of the world's most dangerous places to drive despite its vast network of paved and sign-posted roads, the envy of Africa where infrastructure is often in bad shape.

MNA/Reuters

## Russia confirms bird flu outbreak caused by H5N1

**Moscow, 20 Feb—** Russian health officials confirmed on Monday that a bird flu outbreak near Moscow was caused by the dangerous H5N1 strain that can infect humans. Poultry farms around the capital were under tight control after animal and plant health watchdog Rosselkhoznadzor said at the end of last week that several birds died from the virus in villages around Moscow.

"Laboratory tests confirmed that H5N1 bird flu found in five regions around Moscow was highly pathogenic and potentially dangerous for humans, and is probably related to the Asian type

of the virus," Nikolai Vlasov, a senior Rosselkhoznadzor official, told ITAR-TASS news agency.

No human cases of bird flu have been recorded in Russia.

The outbreak is Russia's second this year and the first ever recorded close to the capital. The highly pathogenic H5N1 strain killed poultry in three settlements in the southern region of Krasnodar last month.

Vlasov told the agency the virus could have been brought to Moscow by wild birds migrating from the Caucasus, Balkans or Asian regions.

MNA/Reuters



A zookeeper feeds a giraffe at Beijing Zoo in China's capital on 20 Feb, 2007. Beijing Zoo has an area of more than 50,000 square metres with a wide collection of animals from around the world as well as animals native to China. It has a collection of more than 600 types of animal species and more than 7,000 animals.—INTERNET



# SPORTS



**Arsenal's Francesc Fabregas(L) challenges PSV Eindhoven's Manuel Da Costa during their Champions League round of 16 first leg clash in Eindhoven. Eindhoven won 1-0.**—INTERNET

## Mendez goal enough to give PSV win over Arsenal

EINDHOVEN (Netherlands), 21 Feb — An inspired second half goal from Edison Mendez was enough to give PSV Eindhoven a slender 1-0 win over Arsenal in the first leg of their Champions League first knockout round match on Tuesday. Ecuador midfielder Mendez, set up by Arouna Kone, scored with a spectacular low drive from 25 metres which nestled in the bottom right hand corner of goalkeeper Jens Lehmann's net as the ball eluded his desperate lunge.

"This was the maximum result we could get and based on the second half I think we deserved it," PSV coach Ronald Koeman told reporters.

"We can defend and proved that today but in London Arsenal will raise the pressure and we will need to reach our second half level to get through."

Last year's finalists Arsenal had the better chances in the first half with Tomas Rosicky and Thierry Henry both testing goalkeeper Gomes who made good reflex saves to deny both of them. Rosicky was the outstanding player in the opening period and as well as having a shot well saved by Gomes, he dominated in midfield and went close with a curling right foot shot that went narrowly wide.—MNA/Reuters

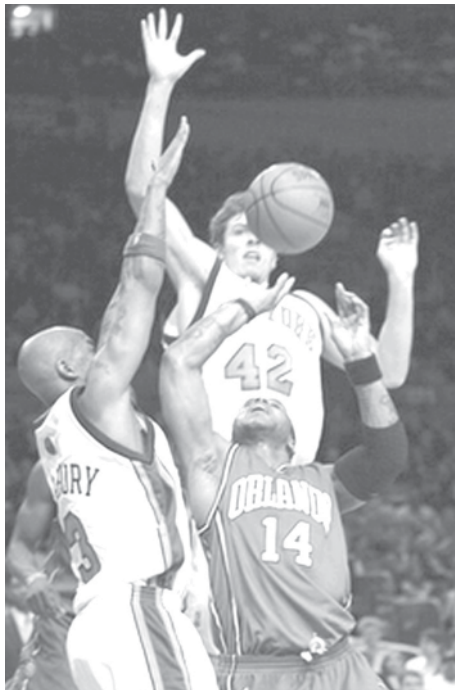
## Raul strikes twice as Real beat old foes Bayern

MADRID, 21 Feb— Skipper Raul struck twice as Real Madrid got the better of old foes Bayern Munich with a 3-2 win at the Bernabeu in the first leg of their Champions League first knockout round tie on Tuesday.

Raul took his tally to 56 goals in the competition with his double and fellow striker Ruud van Nistelrooy weighed in with another as Real went into the break with a comfortable 3-1 lead.

But former Barcelona midfielder Mark van Bommel netted with a stunning shot from the edge of the area just two minutes from time to put Bayern right back in the tie. It was the sixth time Real had beaten Bayern in 17 meetings, but after conceding two away goals the nine-times European champions still have a lot to do to make the quarter-finals.

Real coach Fabio Capello was rumoured to have handed in his resignation on the eve of the match, which the club denied.—MNA/Reuters



**New York Knicks' David Lee (42) and Stephon Marbury (3) block Orlando Magic's Jameer Nelson (14) as he goes to the basket during the third quarter of NBA basketball action on 20 Feb, 2007 at Madison Square Garden in New York. The Knick defeated the Magic 100-94.**—INTERNET

## United stun Lille with cheeky Giggs

LENS (France), 21 Feb — A controversial freekick by Ryan Giggs gave Manchester United a 1-0 win over Lille and sparked a near-walkout by the French side in the first leg of their Champions League first knockout round tie on Tuesday.

Giggs took the 82nd-minute kick while the Lille defence were organizing their wall and Dutch referee Eric Braamhaar allowed the goal to stand, incensing the French team who threatened to walk off the pitch in protest.

Lille coach Claude Puel, commenting on Giggs' goal, said: "It's not logical. The signal the referee gave was not clear for everyone, especially for us. "I don't understand. We could not express a formal complaint as we could not

find a UEFA delegate," he told Canal Plus.

United manager Alex Ferguson expressed his anger over the French club's threat to walk off saying governing body UEFA must deal with Lille on that issue.

"After we scored, it was disgraceful," Ferguson told a news conference. "It was clear intimidation and it triggered a bad reaction from the fans. (United captain) Gary Neville was hit on the head by an object thrown from the crowd." Some Lille fans, aggrieved by the award of the goal, pelted Neville with objects as he took a throw-in.

United were fortunate to be on level terms before they went ahead, Lille having had an effort disallowed just past the hour for pushing by scorer Peter Odemwingie on centre back Nemanja Vidic as he leapt forward to head the ball home from close in.—MNA/Reuters

## Mancini lauds Ronaldo skill



**Cristiano Ronaldo**

LONDON, 18 Feb— Internazionale coach Roberto Mancini has lavished praise on Manchester United winger Cristiano Ronaldo. Reports in Italy have suggested Inter could try to tempt the Premiership leaders with a mammoth bid for Ronaldo in the summer.

United have already moved to fend off interest from Barcelona, insisting the club's top scorer is not for sale at any price.

Mancini, whilst not commenting on the chances of

landing Ronaldo, admits he would relish having the player at his disposal.

A long-time fan of the fleet-footed attacker, Mancini has praised Ronaldo for his consistent level of form this season.

"He's a great, really great player," Mancini told Mediaset.

"When he was young he already showed he would have a sensational future and I was convinced of his potential a long time ago.

Internet



**Lille's Mathieu Bodmer (R) vies with Manchester's Wayne Rooney during their Champions League last 16 first leg clash in Lens. Manchester United won 1-0.**—INTERNET

## UEFA president Platini calls on Champions League teams to set example

GENEVA, 20 Feb — UEFA president Michel Platini has called on the 16 clubs taking part in this week's Champions League matches to set an example as soccer seeks to clean up an image tarnished by recent outbreaks of violence.

In a letter to the club's presidents, publicised on UEFA's Website (www.uefa.com) on Monday, Platini said this

week's matches would be taking place "under the



**Michel Platini**

shadow of the incidents that have marred European football this winter".

"I therefore urge you to make your players, technical staff and supporters aware of these responsibilities too, so that these final stages of the Champions League pass in exemplary fashion, both on the field and in the stadium, as well as outside the sports arenas." —Internet

## Kahn calls for Bayern spirit

MUNICH, 18 Feb—Oliver Kahn has urged his Bayern Munich team-mates to show some passion in a bid to arrest the club's slump.

Since the resumption of the Bundesliga after the winter break, Bayern have won just once in five league matches and also parted company with coach Felix Magath.

The reigning champions suffered a fresh setback on Saturday after slipping to a 1-0 defeat at Alemannia Aachen.

With Bayern facing Real Madrid in the last 16 of the UEFA Champions League in midweek, Kahn is aware of the need to quickly turn things around.

And the veteran keeper has called on his colleagues to show greater spirit, with the club 12 points adrift of Bundesliga leaders Schalke.

"Bayern Munich gives so much to the players and it's up to us to give something back," said Kahn.

"It's obvious that the least we can do is to fight in every match as if it were a battle against relegation.—Internet



**Oliver Kahn**



# 400-year-old Tibetan Buddhist monastery to be restored

**XINING, 21 Feb** — The Taer Monastery in northwest China's Qinghai Province, one of the six best known monasteries of the Yellow Sect of Tibetan Buddhism, will undergo a repair this year, according to local cultural heritage authorities.

Three major buildings and an exhibition museum in the monastery would be restored, said Ma Weimin, deputy director of Qinghai Provincial Cultural Heritage Bureau.

The four have not been repaired in previous restorations in the past 15 years.

A leading team for the restoration has been set up and the project will be completed within this year, according to Ma.

The Ministry of Finance will allocate ten million yuan (about 1.28 million US dollars) for the repair.

Construction of the monastery, 27 kilometres

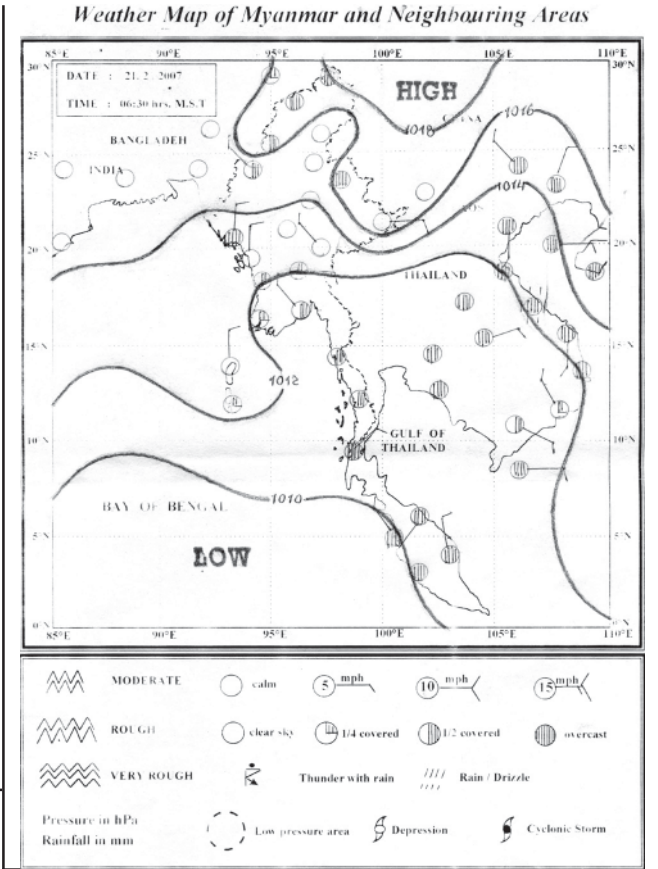
south of the provincial capital Xining, began in 1560 to honour the memory of Tson-Khapa, founder of the Yellow Sect of Tibetan Buddhism.

It is noted for the architectural brilliance of its halls and rooms and about 20,000 religious paintings, appliques and yak butter sculptures.

The monastery has undergone various damage in fires, earthquakes, landslides and foundation subsidence in the past four centuries.

A large-scale restoration project was carried out between 1992 and 1996 at a cost of nearly 40 million yuan, covered by the government and donations.

In 2001, the government allocated another 30 million yuan for the restoration of a palace in the monastery. — *MNA/Xinhua*



## WEATHER

Wednesday, 21 February, 2007

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Shan and Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Magway and Yangon Divisions, (5°C) below normal in Kachin and Kayah States, Mandalay Division, (7°C) to (8°C) below normal in Chin State and Bago Division, (3°C) above normal in Rakhine State and Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haka and Namhsan (0°C) each, Pinlaung (1°C) and Lashio (2°C).

Maximum temperature on 20-2-2007 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 21-2-2007 was 65°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 21-2-2007 was 57%. Total sunshine hours on 20-2-2007 was (9.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 21-2-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Northwest at (10:40) hours MST on 20-2-2007.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 22-2-2007:** Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas.

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the Northern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 22-2-2007:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 22-2-2007:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 22-2-2007:** Generally fair weather.

## Indian police release sketches of two bomb suspects

**NEW DELHI, 21 Feb** — Police in India released sketches on Tuesday of two men believed to have jumped off a train bound for Pakistan shortly before two suitcase bombs exploded, sparking a fire that killed 68 people.

“Around 11:30 (pm), these people got down, and the blasts happened 15 minutes later,” police Inspector-General Sharad Kumar told a televised news conference in Panipat town, close to the site of the blasts some 80 kilometres (50 miles) outside New Delhi.

One of the men was around 35 or 36 years old, “plumpish” and dark, with a moustache, the second around 26 or 27, wearing a scarf wrapped around his head, Kumar said. Both men were speaking the local Hindi language.

— *MNA/Reuters*

ဒေါ်နုနုမြတ် (သီပေါ)  
(၇၃)နှစ်  
ကျောင်းအုပ်ဆရာမကြီး (ငြိမ်း)  
အထက (၇) မင်္ဂလာတောင်ညွန့်၊  
အထက (၂) ကလေး  
အလက (၃) တောင်ကြီး  
အထက (၂) တောင်ကြီး  
အောင်ဆန်းသူရိယာလှသောင်းကျောင်း  
အထက (၂) ပုဇွန်တောင်

(ဦးအောင်မြတ်၊ ဒေါ်စိန်)တို့၏သမီး ဦးသာဒင်၊ (ဒေါ်ကြည်ခင်)တို့၏ သမီးရွှေမ၊ ဒေါ်မမလေး၊ ဦးမြင့်သောင်း၊ ဒေါ်မြမြ၊ တို့၏ ညီမ၊ (ဦးကိုကိုလေး)၊ ဒေါ်မိမိရီတို့၏အစ်မ၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့အမှတ်-၅၀၀၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်းနေ လူထု ဦးစိန်ဝင်း၏ဇနီး၊ (ကိုရဲဝင်းဇော်)၊ မညိုညိုသန်း၊ မချောအိဝင်းဇော်တို့၏ မိခင်၊ မောင်ရဲရင့်ဝင်းဇော်(ခ) Alex ၏ အဘွားဖြစ်သူ ဒေါ်နုနုမြတ်သည် (၂၁-၂-၀၇) (ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့) နံနက်(၅း၁၅) နာရီတွင် ကွယ်လွန်အနိစ္စ ရောက်ရှိသွားပါသဖြင့် ကွယ်လွန်သူ၏ဆန္ဒအရ ယင်းနေ့ညနေ (၃း၀၀)နာရီတွင် ရေဝေးသုသာန်၌ မီးသင်္ဂြိုဟ်ပြီးစီးပါကြောင်း ရုပ်ဝေးရုပ်နီးနေ မိတ်ဆွေသင်္ဂဟအပေါင်းအား သိစေအပ်ပါသည်။  
ကွန်လွန်သူအား ရည်စူး၍ (၂၇-၂-၀၀၇) အင်္ဂါနေ့တွင် နေအိမ်၌ နံနက် (၈း၀၀)နာရီမှ (၁၀း၀၀)နာရီအထိ ဆွမ်းဆက်ကပ်လှူဒါန်းမည် ဖြစ်ပါသဖြင့် ကြိုရောက်တရားနာယူပါရန် လေးစားစွာ ဖိတ်ကြားအပ်ပါသည်။  
ကျန်ရစ်သူမိသားစု



Thursday, 22 February  
View on today

- 7:00 am  
1. ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂူရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာတိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am  
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am  
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am  
4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am  
5. Dance of national races
- 8:05 am  
6. Dance variety

- 8:20 am  
7. မန်းချောင်းတံတား
- 8:30 am  
8. International news
- 8:45 am  
9. Let's Go
- 4:00 pm  
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm  
2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm  
3. အပေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ပထမနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒ၊ ဓာတုဗေဒ၊ သင်္ချာအထူးပြုများ) (ရူပဗေဒ)
- 4:45 pm  
4. Cute little dancers
- 5:00 pm  
5. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေးဂီတတေး
- 5:15 pm  
6. “သတိတစ်ချက် တစ်သက်အမှား” (ကျော်မင်းနောင်၊ ကြည်လှလှဦး၊ နန်းကလျာလှိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စောစန္ဒာလှိုင်)

- 5:30 pm  
7. Musical programme
- 5:45 pm  
8. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ
- 6:00 pm  
9. Evening news
- 6:30 pm  
10. Weather report
- 6:35 pm  
11. သီရိဓမ္မာ
- 7:00 pm  
12. Discovery
- 7:15 pm  
13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “အချစ်ဆိုသည်မှာ” (အပိုင်း-၂၄) (ဇာတ်သိမ်းပိုင်း)
- 8:00 pm  
14. News
15. International news
16. Weather report
17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “အကြင်နာနေဦး” (အပိုင်း-၁၄)
18. The next day's programme



Thursday, 22 February  
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news  
8:35 am Music:  
8:40 am Perspectives  
8:45 am Music:  
8:50 am National news/Slogan  
9:00 am Music  
9:05 am International news  
9:10 am Music:  
1:30 pm News / Slogan  
1:40 pm Lunch time music:  
-Pray..take that  
-Tearing up my heart  
-Another day  
-Endless love  
9:00 pm Aspects of Myanmar  
9:10 pm Article  
9:20 pm Pourri  
9:30 pm Favourite songs chosen by music lovers  
-How do I live  
-Love is strange  
-Tonight is my night  
9:45 pm News / Slogan  
10:00 pm PEL

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## Some illegal Myanmar workers in Thailand facing labour exploitation

**Traffickers, Thai factory owners control and coerce illegal Myanmar workers into working for no payments**

**Human Trafficking Multi-disciplinary group rescues 66 Myanmar victims of labour exploitation after raiding a seafood factory in Maha Chai**

**MWAF, MPF studying the case to take swift actions against traffickers and present compensation to victims**

**Migrant workers urged to go through formal procedures as some illegal workers face confinement and torture for seven years without receiving any payments**

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb — Myanmar is extending bilateral cooperation with her neighbours based on common interest, developing its trade, economy and tourism in border areas.

Taking advantage of the increase in the number of arrivals and departures and trade volume in border areas, unscrupulous persons are committing the crime of human trafficking with false promises of finding lucrative jobs in the other countries. Hence, officials concerned are extending their task of preventing human trafficking, taking actions against traffickers and educating the public.

The Myanmar government has been generating more and more job opportunities as it has been successfully implementing national development

projects on a wider scale. It is also permitting the citizens to work abroad in accord with the procedures.

It has issued licences for 70 agencies that are finding job opportunities for Myanmar people abroad. It has made contacts with 14 nations and generated 30,000 jobs abroad for Myanmar.

Beginning 6 November 2006, the government is issuing temporary passports for Myanmar workers who in the past worked illegally in Thailand so that they will become legal guests workers.

Under bilateral cooperation between governments of the two countries, collective arrangements are being made for new workers to travel to Thailand through border points at low cost.

Of about 300,000 migrant Myanmar workers

in Thailand, only 80,000 hold official labour cards issued by Thai Ministry of Labour. About 120,000 have only stay visa, and the rest or 100,000 are living in the country without having any legal documents.

Some factories in Thailand are hiring workers who have no labour cards at very low payments, and in some cases factory owners are exploiting them or putting them under control without giving them any payments. As for most of the illegal workers, getting visa is so difficult.

Because of the said information, Human Trafficking Multi-disciplinary group (Foundation for Child Development-FCD, Policies of Immigration Detection Centre-IDC, the Centre for the Protection

(See page 10)

## Fine infrastructures and good prospects of job opportunities in Myanmar

- \* Vacant and virgin lands and wetlands are being reclaimed to extend cultivable land in the agricultural sector of Myanmar.
- \* Dams and reservoirs are being built one after another.
- \* The government is carrying out cultivation of double and mixed cropping, growing of annual and perennial crops, conversion of farmland cultivation through terrace cultivation, applying modern agricultural technologies, and invitation to private entrepreneurs to invest in the agricultural sector. In addition, the agricultural banks and the seeds banks have been opened one after another.
- \* For development of the agricultural sector, over 190 dam projects and 298 river water pumping station projects have been implemented.
- \* A total of 999 rural dams have been constructed, while sinking of artesian wells and dredging of small-scale water ponds have been undertaken in various areas.
- \* The number of net sown acreage increased up to 29.3 million compared with 19.9 million in 1988.
- \* The annual sown acreage rose to 46.9 million acres from 23.8 million acres.
- \* There were 11 million acres of monsoon paddy in the past. At present, 16.8 million acres of land can be put under monsoon paddy.

(See page 11)

## Myanmar's endeavours for anti-human trafficking

- \* In order to carry out Myanmar women's development processes, Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs was formed on 3-7-1996.
- \* Myanmar National Work Committee for Women's Affairs was formed on 7-10-1996.
- \* National Task Force comprising delegates from various government departments was formed in 1997 for prevention of women against violence and rehabilitation.
- \* In 1997, National Plan of Action was enacted for prevention, taking action, protection and rehabilitation.
- \* On 18-2-2002, the reception camp was opened in Myawady, Kayin State for those who went abroad for various reasons to return to the country safely.
- \* Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation was formed on 20-12-2003. The objective to prevent women and children from being trafficked was laid down and tasks are being undertaken.
- \* The Myawady reception camp in cooperation with the combined team comprising six government departments had accepted 21,325 persons up to 10-2-2007 and they were sent to their respective homes.
- \* The committee for suppression of trafficking in persons was formed. Altogether 868 cases of human trafficking were exposed and action was taken against 1,764 human traffickers.

(See page 11)