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Monday, 26 February, 2007

Four political objectives

- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and
- **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
- 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

Development of the economy inviting participation in

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

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein welcomes Member of the State Council of People's Republic of China

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb — At the invitation of Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Thein Sein, a goodwill delegation led by Member of the State Council Mr Tang Jiaxuan of the People's Republic of China arrived here by special flight at 2 pm today to pay a working visit the Union of Myanmar.

The State Council member and party were welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw Airport | the State Council of PRC

by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe, Director-General Col Kyaw Kyaw Win of the State Peace and Development Council Office, officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Union of Myanmar Mr Guan Mu.

The Member of

was accompanied by Deputy Secretary-General of the State Council Mr Xiang Zhaolun, Deputy Foreign Minister Mr Wu Dawel, Vice Minister of the Public Security Mr Zhang Xingeng, Vice Governor of Yunnan Province Mr Liu Ping, Assistant Minister Mr Chen Jian of the Ministry of Commerce and officials.

Member of the State Council Mr Tang Jiaxuan and party proceeded to Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone by car.

MNA



Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein greets Mr Tang Jiaxuan, Member of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.—MNA

INSIDE

The socio-economic life of the people has improved as agricultural work gains success. The hydro-electric power projects are being implemented for distribution of power nationwide. With the early completion of the hydro-electric power projects the people will surely enjoy the benefits of the projects as early as possible.

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PERSPECTIVES

WEATHER FORECAST FOR 26-2-2007

Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas

Generally fair weather.

Yangon and neighbouring areas

Fair weather.

Mandalay and neighbouring areas

Generally fair weather.

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 26 February, 2007

Hydro-electric power projects for benefits of the people

The government exploiting abundant water resources is implementing hydro-electric power projects with all possible means to satisfy the power needs.

In the Sittoung River Basin hydro-electric power projects the government is undertaking power projects, namely, Kun, Yenwe, Khabaung, Pyu, Shwegyin, Bawgata, Thaukyaykhat, Paunglaung, Upper Paunglaung and Nancho projects. On completion of all these projects, they can generate 990 megawatts. Among them, Yenwe and Paunglaung hydro-electric power projects have been completed.

The 140-megawatt Upper Paunglaung hydro-electric power project, one of the Sittoung River Basin hydro-electric power projects, is under construction. It is being built on Paunglaung River, 15 miles from Paunglaung hydro-electric power station which is in operation.

Senior General Than Shwe and high-ranking officials inspected the site of the Upper Paunglaung hydro-electric power project in Pyinmana the other day. During his inspection tour, Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance that the nation possessed technology and experiences in implementing national development projects including hydro-electric power projects. It is necessary to find out better technology for completion of the projects as soon as possible, he

He said innovations, endeavours, goodwill and correct concept of the government can contribute to the early completion of the projects. If the Paunglaung projects and other related ones are implemented simultaneously with strenuous efforts, they will be completed ahead of schedule, he pointed out. The 40-megawatt Nancho hydroelectric power project is also being implemented on Nancho Creek, 16 miles east of Pyinmana. The government has been building hydro-electric power projects and dams utilizing water and land resources beneficially.

The socio-economic life of the people has improved as agricultural work gains success. The hydro-electric power projects are being implemented for distribution of power nationwide. With the early completion of the hydro-electric power projects the people will surely enjoy the benefits of the projects as early as possible.

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

MPBSSMA holds annual meeting

Yangon, 24 Feb — The 14th annual meeting of Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association was held at Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry Office Tower on Minye Kyawswa Road in Lanmadaw Township this morning.

Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein attended the meeting and made a speech. Chairman of the association U Tun Aung

first extended greetings.

In accord with the Four Economic Objectives, the State were rendering assistance to the farmers. The merchants also should strive to balance common interest and self interest in crops production, said the minister.

U Win Myint, President of UMFCCI also spoke on the occasion and resourse persons read out papers. The meeting ended with the concluding remark by the minister.

MNA



Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win accepts cash donated by wellwisher at 13th Annual Meeting of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Saturday. (News reported) — UMFCCI

Minister inspects construction of DaikU-Myitkyo-Sittoung railroad



Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min views production of concrete sleepers at Sleeper Factory in Pyundaza. — MR

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb—Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and Deputy Minister U Pe Than inspected the pre-stressed concrete sleeper factory in Pyundaza yesterday.

Factory Manager U Myo Htwe Win reported on production target and stockpile of raw materials. The minister gave instructions on exceeding the target and production of quality sleepers.

The factory was built in September 2003 and started operation on 6 June 2004. It produces 300 sleepers a day. The minister and party proceeded to Sittoung (Hsatthwagon)-Myitkyo-DaikUrailroad project site where Project Engineer U Zaw Min Oo reported on construction of railroad section and bridges.—MNA

Ayeyawady Division Medical Conference on 22 March

Yangon, 25 Feb — Under the aegis of Myanmar Medical Association (Pathein Branch), the 6th Ayeyawady Division Medical Conference, the opening of a new building of MMA (Pathein Branch) and the medicine and medical equipment exhibition will be held on 22 and 23 March at the new building in Pathein. Talks on latest therapies and paper-reading session will be held.

Doctors are invited to attend the conference. For detailed information, contact Chairman of the branch orthopedist Dr Kyi Pe (Ph: 042-24292) and secretary orthopedist Dr Soe Lin (Ph: 042-25235).

MNA

Cycling Race continues for Yangon-Pyay-Mandalay-Yangon

Yangon, 25 Feb — The Yangon-Pyay-Mandalay-Yangon 1000-mile men's cycling race organized by Myanmar Cycling Federation under the aegis of Myanmar Olympic Committee and Ministry of Sports continued its competition in front of Irrigation Department of Nyaunglebin Township at 6 am yesterday.

The race was launched by Chairman of Nyaunglebin Township PDC U Khin Win. The cyclists arrived at the finishing line in Htaukkyant of Mingaladon Township at 10 am. Vice-President of MCF U Moe Kyaw Thu presented K10,000 to Tun Tun (Maxxis) who stood third in the race, President of MCF U Kyaw Win K

20,000 to Aung Myo Naing (Maxxis), second, and Director-General U Thaung Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department K 30,000 and a yellow suit to Thet Naing Oo (Finance and Revenue), first.

Patron of Shwe Thanlwin Co Daw Ni also awarded cash rewards to the winners.

MNA

Dry Day inspection teams supervised

Yangon, 25 Feb — Chairman of Dry Day Supervisory Committee Yangon Station Commander Brig-Gen Myint Soe together with departmental heads supervised dry day inspection teams checking vehicles of Tatmadaw and departments at the main points of Yangon this morning and evening. The dry day inspection teams checked dry day pass, driver's licence, wheel tax and wearing of uniforms at the main points of Yangon from 7 am to 5 pm. They took action against those who violated the traffic rules.—*MNA*

INTERNATIONAL

Pakistan test fires long-range ballistic missile

ISLAMABAD, 24 Feb — Pakistan successfully test-fired a nuclear-capable, surface-to-surface ballistic missile with a range of 2,000 kilometres (1,250 miles) on Friday, the military said.

The test was witnessed by the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff committee, General Ehsan ul Haq, who described it as an important milestone in Pakistan's quest to sustain strategic balance in South Asia.

"Pakistan's strategy of credible minimum deterrence was fully in place and was a guarantee of peace in the region," he said in a military statement.

The Hatf VI is a twostage solid fuel missile which can carry nuclear and conventional warheads with high accuracy. An advanced version has a potential range of 2,500 kilometres (1,560 miles).

Pakistan conducted nuclear weapons tests in 1998, days after its neighbour and old rival, India, conducted similar tests.

The two countries nearly

went to war for a fourth time in 2002 but their relations have improved since they embarked on a peace process in 2004.

"The missile test was part of continuous process of validation and technical improvement which Pakistan follows to consolidate and verify its

various land based strategic missile systems," the military statement

Foreign ministers of Pakistan and India met in New Delhi on Wednesday and signed an accord to reduce risks of accidents linked to their nuclear arsenals.—MNA/Reuters

Russia's President Vladimir Putin (R) takes part in the wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier near the Kremlin walls in central Moscow, on 23 Feb, 2007. —XINHUA

US pilotless aircraft crashes in E Afghanistan

Kabul, 24 Feb — A US pilotless aircraft crashed due to mechanical failure on Friday in Nangarhar Province of eastern Afghanistan, a military statement said.

The MQ-1 Predator unmanned aircraft, which belonged to the US-led coalition troops, crashed at about 1:00 pm local time (0830 GMT) some 100 kilometres northeast of JalalabadCity, the provincial capital, said the statement issued by the US Central Command Air Force.

"Initial indications are that the crash was due to mechanical failure," it said, adding "there is no indication the Predator was fired upon."

The Predator crashed into a remote and unpopulated area with no injuries to people or damage to property on the ground. Recovery

efforts have begun and no further information is available at this moment, said the statement.

The MQ-1 Predator is a medium-altitude, longendurance, remotely controlled aircraft.

A coalition Chinook helicopter crashed in eastern Afghanistan on 18 February, killing eight soldiers on board and injuring 14 others.—MNA/Xinhua

Two killed in light plane crash in Australia

CANBERRA, 24 Feb — Two people have been killed when a light plane crash-landed into a paddock Friday afternoon in the south-east of Melbourne, capital of Australia's state of Victoria.

The plane caught fire after it crashed and two people were confirmed dead, a Country Fire Authority spokeswoman said. "The cause of the crash is unknown," said the spokeswoman.

"The fire is now out and police are investigating the crash," she said. — MNA/Xinhua

Thousands join anti-war march in central London

London, 24 Nov — Thousands of people demonstrated in central London on Saturday calling for British troops to be pulled out of Iraq, the largest such protest for several years.

Protestors brandishing

Protesters march during the 'No Trident, Troops Out of Iraq demonstration in London on 24 Feb, 2007. —Internet

banners marched from Hyde Park to fill Trafalgar Square for a rally featuring politicians, entertainers and the families of some of the 132 British soldiers who have died since the 2003 invasion.

Prime Minister Tony Blair announced Wednesday that the number of British troops in Iraq would be cut by 1,600 to 5,500 in the next couple of months, with further reductions likely later in the year.

Defence Secretary Des Browne is poised to announce Monday that up to 1,000 more troops will be heading to Afghanistan.

Lindsey German, of march organizers Stop The War Coalition, said that marchers were also opposed to plans to replace the Trident nuclear deterrent.

"We know that many people are coming to the view that the government is addicted to war," she added.

"There could be some

withdrawn from Iraq, but there are more in Afghanistan."

Parliament is due to vote in March on whether to support Blair's plans to modernise the Trident missile at a cost of about 25 billion pounds (37 billion euros, 46 billion dollars).

The current deterrent consists of four Tridentbearing submarines, one of which is always on patrol.

While Stop The War claimed that 100,000 people were on the march, London's Metropolitan Police put the figure at 10,000. In February 2003, at least 750,000 people marched through London expressing opposition to military action against Iraq.

On Thursday, it was revealed that Prince Harry, grandson of Queen Elizabeth II, is to serve in Iraq with his army regiment.

Internet



Thousands of anti-war protesters march through central London, on 24 Feb, 2007. —INTERNET



Drugs help smokers quit, even if not first time

Washington, 24 Feb — Smokers who use pills to try to kick the habit should keep trying, even if the drugs do not work at first, a US researcher advised on Saturday.

It can take several weeks for many people to fully wean themselves off tobacco, the researcher at Oregon Health & Science University said in a statement.

"Our recent analysis shows smokers and clinicians should not be discouraged when total abstinence is not achieved in the first weeks of treatment with smoking cessation medications," said David Gonzales, director of the university's smoking cessation centre.

Gonzales presented his work at a meeting of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco in Austin, Texas.

Gonzales and colleagues have been studying how well the drugs Chantix or Zyban work, and published one study last year. They analyzed this and another study to see if it took some people longer to quit than others when they used the drugs.

Varenicline, marketed as Chantix by Pfizer and bupropion, marketed as Zyban or Wellbutrin by GlaxoSmithKline, can both help smokers quit and are licensed for that use. Zyban is an antidepressant

Chantix is designed to block nicotine in the brain.

Gonzales and colleagues evaluated Chantix versus Zyban in more than 1.000 smokers from June 2003 to April 2005 and found Chantix worked better to help people quit. Internet



Indian folk dancers perform during the festival of gardens in the northern Indian city of Chandigarh on 24 Feb, 2007. The festival runs in the month of February every year for three days and includes flower shows and music and dance performances. INTERNET

Folk artists perform a puppet show in a park in Lanzhou, northwest China's Gansu Province, on 23 Feb, 2007. — XINHUA

Balls used to plug Java mud flow

London, 24 Feb— Indonesian engineers have lowered the first series of concrete balls into a mud volcano to try to plug an eruption which has destroyed thousands of homes.

At least four of the giant,

chain-linked spheres were dropped into the crater, but technical problems halted work at the East Java site.

Workers plan to drop 1,500 balls, each weighing up to 250kgs (500lbs). Some scientists say the mud geyser was likely triggered

by gas drilling, but the gas company blames an earthquake. The geyser began spouting the noxious muck nine months ago at a gas drilling site in East Java.

It has since buried factories and thousands of homes, and displaced an

estimated 13,000 people. Experts warn the torrent could continue for months, if not years, to come. The Indonesian government has been working to halt the

mud with a network of dams and by channelling some of it into the sea, but with little success so far.

A team of geologists and engineers hope the plan, believed to have never been tried before, will reduce the amount of mud flowing from the site by up to 70%.

Each 1.5m-long metal chain has four concrete balls suspended from it; two with a 40cm (16 inch) diametre and two with a 20cm diametre.

The team had planned to begin slowly, dropping five to 10 chains on the first day, then increasing the number until they insert up to 50 chains per day. — Internet



Chadian PM dies in Paris hospital

Paris, 24 Feb — Chadian Prime Minister Pascal Yoadimnadji died of cerebral hemorrhage in the night between Thursday and Friday in Paris where he had been hospitalized with a cardiovascular problem, Chadian Ambassador to France Moukhtar Wawa Dahab announced on Friday morning.

Yoadimnadji, 56, was airlifted to France on Wednesday after having a cardiovascular accident. "The Prime Minister passed away at 00:44 (2344)

GMT)" in the Val-de-Grace military hospital in Paris, The ambassador said.

The body of Yoadimnadji will be transported to Chad, but the date is yet to be determined as people are preparing administrative documents, according to the ambassador.— MNA/Xinhua

Three US soldiers killed in **Iraq's Anbar Province**

BAGHDAD, 24 Feb — Three US soldiers were killed in combat on Thursday in Iraq's volatile western Anbar Province, the US military said in a statement on Friday. It gave no details of the incident, but Anbar is the main stronghold of Sunni Arab insurgents fighting US forces and the Shiite-led government of Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki. It is the deadliest region in Iraq for American troops.

Thursday's deaths brought to 3,154 the number of American soldiers killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in 2003. Seventy soldiers have died so far this month.—*MNA/Reuters*

Moderate quake hits western Indonesia

JAKARTA, 24 Feb — A moderate earthquake with magnitude of 5.6 hit western part of Indonesia on Friday, no casualty or damages reported, Indonesian Meteorology and Geophysics Agency said here.

The quake struck at 14:55 Jakarta time (0755GMT) with epicentre 183 kilometres northeast Tanjung Pinang of Riau Kepulauan Province and at 289 kilometres under sea bed, an official of the agency told *Xinhua*. Indonesian is laid on a vulnerable quake hit zone that called "the Pacific Rim of Fire," where continental plates meet causing frequent seismic and volcanic activity. — MNA/Xinhua



Residents from Loreto's village travel in a boat heading a farm to rescue cattle trapped there after the area was flooded because of heavy rains due to El Nino Phenomenon in El Beni, Bolivia, on 23 Feb, 2007.— INTERNET

ECONOMIC ЕШЅ

Chinese Health Ministry bans US-made peanut **butter brands**

BEIJING, 24 Feb — China's Ministry of Health (MOH) on Friday night issued a circular requiring consumers and food dealers not to eat and sell two brands of peanut butter made in the United States.

The MOH was notified by the World Health Organization (WHO) that the US-made peanut butter branded "Peter Pan" and "Great Value" may be contaminated with Salmonella and may have a possible link to the foodborne illness salmonella which has broken out in the United States.

The two brands of peanut butter have been imported to China, according to the ministry.

The MOH said all the imported "Peter Pan" and "Great Value" peanut butter were produced after May 2006 with product code 2111 printed on the

The MOH required customers should not buy the two brands of peanut butter and suggested they see doctors and voluntarily report their symptoms to health authorities as soon as possible if getting fever, abdominal pain or diarrhoea.

The ministry ordered the Chinese agents of the two brands to immediately recall the products. It also ordered food dealers to stop selling the peanut butter.

MNA/Xinhua



An exhibitor arranges coffee beans on a stall at the India International Coffee Festival 2007 in Bangalore, India, on 24 Feb, 2007. About 600 delegates representing the global coffee industry are participating in the three-day international conference which also offers skill building workshops for coffee industry professionals.—INTERNET



Vietnam-Cambodia trade to post 27% annual growth by 2010

Hanoi, 24 Febr—Trade between Vietnam and Cambodia is expected to annually rise 27 per cent to 2.45 billion US dollars in 2010, according to a local trade agency on Friday.

Of the total trade, Vietnam is expected to export goods worth some 1.9 billion dollars to the foreign country, said the Export and Import Department under the Trade Ministry.

Vietnam, the 4th biggest exporter of Cambodia, is expected to increase the export percentage of industrial products to the neighbour country, while decreasing that of fuels and minerals, and maintaining that of agricultural, forestry and fishery products, and foodstuffs.

Specifically, the export percentages of industrial items, fuels and

minerals, and agricultural, forestry and fishery products are expected to respectively stand at 55 per cent, 37 per cent and 8 per cent in 2010, and 63 per cent, 29.5 per cent and 7.5 per cent in 2015.

For imports, the country is set to import mostly semi-processed agricultural, forestry and fishery products from Cambodia.

MNA/Xinhua

The Canon PIXMA iP90v Photo Printer empowers mobile professionals with the ability to print high quality photos or crisp text on the go. Compact and stylish, the iP90v fits easily in briefcases and carry on bags, and has an estimated selling price of \$249.99.

Internet

A Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) plane prepares to takeoff from Islamabad airport in Islamabad on 24 Feb, 2007. PIA is considering leasing passenger planes and crew due to a looming European Union ban on more than three-quarters of its ageing fleet over safety concerns, PIA officials said.—Internet

Indonesia, Iran to buy 600,000 tons of Thai rice

BANGKOK, 24 Feb — Thailand is moving closer to its target of selling 1 million tons of rice on a government-togovernment basis as Indonesia and Iran want to buy 600,000 tons of Thairice, Thai Deputy Commerce Minister Oranuch Osathanond said on Friday.

Oranuch made the statement after meeting representatives of Indonesia's Bureau of Logistics (BULOG), a government-owned company dealing with food quality and price control.

BULOG said they want to purchase 200,000 to 300,000 tons of Thai rice. Price and other details will be discussed later, Oranuch was quoted by Thai News Agency as saying. She added that Indonesia is likely to buy more rice from Thailand because their actual demand for rice in 2007 is expected to exceed 1 million tons. To meet the great demand, Jakarta must buy rice from other exporting

Oranuch also revealed that the Iranian Government is interested in buying 380,000 tons of rice from Thailand on a government-to-government basis. Price negotiation and detailed discussions are currently underway.

The orders from the two countries totals 600,000 tons, close to the government's target of selling 1 million tons on a government-to-government basis.

MNA/Xinhua

UAE, India to sign deal on food processing cooperation

Aви Dнаві, 24 Feb — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) and India have agreed to cooperate in food processing and investment, local daily Gulf News reported on

The agreement was

reached during talks between the UAE Minister of State for Finance and Industry Mohammad Khalfan bin Kharbash and visiting Indian Minister for Food Processing Subodh Kant Sahay.

Additional talks will

be held to finalize a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in this regard, said the report, adding both sides agreed that there was great scope for cooperation between the two countries.

MNA/Xinhua

Victorian Govt considers tougher water restrictions in Vic

SYDNEY, 25 Feb — The Victorian Government has confirmed if rainfall stays below average, stage four water restrictions are likely to come into effect on 1 May.

Water storages are at 34.5 per cent of capacity, with the trigger for stage four restrictions is 29.3 per cent.

The tougher restrictions would ban all lawn and garden watering, washing of cars and watering sportsgrounds, except for professional clubs.

Meanwhile, the State Government is undertaking a feasibility study to determine whether storm water taken from Dights Falls on the Yarra River, could be used to boost Melbourne's drinking water supplies.

The study is due to be completed by the end of the year.—*Internet*

China's text message writers earn more profits during Spring Festival

Beijing, 24 Feb — Chinese mobile phone users' text-message sending spree during Spring Festival made message writer a lucrative profession in the country.

It was estimated by China's top two telecommunications operators, China Mobile and China Unicom, that Chinese people would send more than 14 billion greeting text messages during the week-long Spring Festival holiday.

The figure meant excellent income for professional message writers who wrote for websites that provided downloading services to cute message seekers.

The writer could reap one cent for each sending after his or her message was downloaded. A mobile phone user was charged 10 cents for sending a text message.

In the past week, some productive text message writers earned more than 10,000 yuan (1,280 US dollars), equivalent to their average monthly income, according to an employee of China Mobile.

Subscribers want cute, ingenious messages to extend greetings and bring joy and fun to their friends, so message writers must have a good command of the language, said a text message writer surnamed Chen.

The development of the telecommunication industry also requires that message writers have basic training in art and music to produce multimedia messages, said Chen, who started to write for message providing websites three years ago.

MNA/Xinhua



In this photo released by Baptist Health South Florida, Sonia Taylor and her baby Amillia, centre, pose with the neonatal intensive care staff at Baptist Children's Hospital in Miami on 21 Feb, 2007. Amillia Sonia Taylor, who weighed less than 10 ounces when she was born last October, was released from the hospital on Wednesday.—Internet



200 model railway engines of the German company Maerklin are seen in front of a wagon in Munich, southern Germany on 21 Feb, 2007. The 200 miniature trains pulled a real InterCity railway wagon weighing 47 tons (103,400 pound) for 10 metres (33 feet) which set a new world record.— Internet

US soldier sentenced to 100 years for rape, murder

FORT CAMPBELL (Kentucky), 24 Feb — A US soldier who pleaded guilty to raping and murdering a 14-year-old Iraqi girl and killing her family was sentenced to 100 years in a military prison, the US Army said on Thursday.

Sergeant Paul Cortez, 24, was also given a dishonourable discharge under a plea agreement he reached with prosecutors prior to a court-martial that spanned three days, an Army spokesman said.

Cortez, of Barstow, California, was not eligible for the death penalty under his plea agreement, accepted by the court on Wednesday.

Colonel Stephen R

CAMPBELL Henley, the military judge, found Cortez guilty of conspiracy to commitrape, four counts of felony murder, rape, housebreaking and violating a general order. Under terms of his plea agreement, Cortez agreed to testify against the three others still facing prosecution in the case.

During the court-martial, a sometimes emotional Cortez recounted how he and his companions drank whiskey, played cards and plotted to attack the family at Mahmudiya, south of Baghdad, in March 2006. The grouppoured kerosene on the girl's body and lit her on fire in an attempt to cover up the crime.

MNA/Reuters

Car bomb hits US patrol, mortar rounds kill civilians in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 23 Feb — A car bomb struck a US patrol and mortar rounds hit a neighbourhood in Baghdad on Wednesday, killing three people and wounded ten others, an Interior Ministry source said.

A car bomb went off near a US patrol on an intersection in Baghdad's western neighbourhood of Amriyah, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

"Apparently the attack caused casualties among

the US soldiers, but we don't know exactly how many of them were killed or wounded as the US troops immediately cordoned off the scene," the source said.

The US military did not confirm the incident.

Separately, several mortar rounds landed on a residential area in the Baiyaa neighbourhood in southern Baghdad, killing three people and wounding ten others, the source said.

MNA/Xinhua

Florida International students Earl Senior Sr, left, of Manila, Philippines, and Alex Blanco, of Miami, make a yogurt and buttermilk sauce to help serve some of the 25,000 portions of food expected to be dished out at the 2007 Food Network South Beach Wine & Food Festival, on 22 Feb, 2007, in Miami.— Internet

Malaysian police destroy suspected parcel

Kuala Lumpur, 23 Feb—Malaysian police Thursday destroyed a parcel received by the Afghanistan Embassy here, which suspected it contained a bomb or anthrax.

The Kuala Lumpur police authorities destroyed the white parcel using water pressure and found it contained many cards addressed to the Afghanistan Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia's national news agency said.

The Afghanistan Embassy earlier Thursday handed over a parcel it received in its mail to police at around 1:30 pm, suspecting it contained a bomb or anthrax.— MNA/Xinhua

US soldier killed in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 23 Feb — A US soldier was killed Tuesday in armed attack in a northern Baghdad neighbourhood, the US military said in a brief statement on Thursday.

A soldier assigned to Multi-National Division-B unit was killed by small arms fire on Tuesday while his unit was conducting a "clearing operation" in Baghdad, said the statement. More than 3,145 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led war on Iraq broke out in March 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.

MNA/Xinhua

Survey shows most Americans unhappy with their jobs

New York, 25 Feb — Americans are growing increasingly unhappy with their jobs, The Conference Board reported on Friday.

Today, less than half of all Americans say they are satisfied with their jobs, down from 61 per cent 20 years ago.

This report is based on a representative sample of 5,000 US households, conducted for the New Yorkbased global research group The Conference Board by TNS, a leading market information company.

Today's newest entrants to the workforce

Blast in Pakistan kills 3 as bombers' bike hits bump

CHICHAWATNI (Pakistan), 25 Feb — Three members of a suspected suicide bomb team were blown to pieces on Saturday when their bike laden with explosives hit a bump outside a town in Pakistan's central province of Punjab, police said.

The men killed by the blast near Chichawatni, some 120 kilometres (75 miles) north of Multan, were believed to have been on their way to attack a prayer meeting for a policeman killed in an encounter a few days ago, according to Southern Punjab Additional Inspector-General Mirza Mohammed Ali.

"They belonged to those suicide bombers, the same people who are trying to kill as many government officials as they can," Ali said. At least two of the dead men were students at a nearby madrasa, suspected of having links to Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan, a banned Sunni Muslim sectarian militant group, according to Deputy Superintendent Bashir Ahmed.

"The head of one man has been blown off," Ahmed told *Reuters*. Another of the dead men had his legs blown off, while the third had his stomach ripped open and diedlater in hospital, police said.—*MNA/Reuters*

are the least satisfied with their jobs. Only less than 39 per cent of workers under the age of 25 are satisfied with their employment situation.

The decline in satisfaction is not just concentrated among younger workers. Satisfaction levels among all workers, regardless of age, income or even residence, have deteriorated in recent years, according to the report.

"Although a certain amount of dissatisfaction with one's job is to be expected, the breadth of dissatisfaction is somewhat unsettling, since it carries over from what attracts employees to a job to what keeps them motivated and

productive on the job," said Lynn Franco, Director of The Conference Board Consumer Research Centre.

Consumers rated bonus plans and promotion policies as the least satisfactory benefits of employment, with less than 23 per cent claiming they are satisfied with their company's policies. Satisfaction is also low for performance review processes, workload, work/lifebalance, communication channels and potential for future growth.

"Perhaps, this is why two out of every ten employees does not see himself in his current job a year from now," said Lynn Franco.— MNA/Xinhua

A boy looks at cars belonging to members of the Indonesia Ferrari Owners Club in Jakarta on 24 Feb, 2007. 35 Ferraris took part in a celebration of Ferrari's 60th anniversary. —Internet

A couple looks across Hong Kong's Victoria Harbour through thick fog and haze on Saturday, 24 Feb, 2007. Fog descends upon the city every spring, reducing visibility of the city's famous

Tornado damages Arkansas town, storm hits Midwest

LITTLE ROCK (Arkansas), 25 Feb — At least one tornado touched down in Dumas, Arkansas, on Saturday, injuring a number of people and destroying much of the small town's business district, while a strong winter storm moved across Colorado and into the Midwest.

A line of thunderstorms and at least one and possibly two tornadoes struck at about 3 pm in Dumas, about 85 miles (135 kilometres) southeast of Little Rock.

"We have lots of injuries, lots. But no reports of fatalities thus far. That's something of a miracle," said Tina Owens, spokeswoman for the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management.

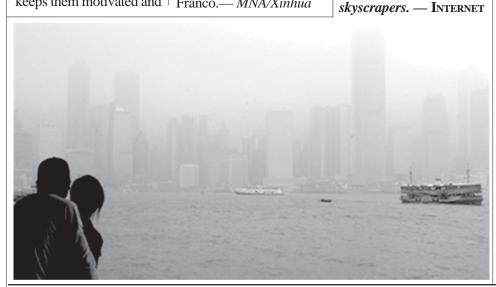
"Most of the businesses along the town's main corridor have been destroyed, and a number of homes immediately behind those businesses have been destroyed as well," she said.

An unidentified woman told a TV station that she and several friends were in a store when the storm hit.

"We all gathered in the centre of the store and got down on the floor and covered our heads and prayed. The noise was incredible and I thought, 'this is it — I'm gonna die.' But we all made it," she said.

Arkansas Lieutenant-Governor Bill Halter requested National Guard troops be dispatched to the area.

MNA/Reuters



US FDA confirms Salmonella came from peanut butter

Washington, 25 Feb — An outbreak of Salmonella food poisoning that has sickened 329 people and sent 51 of them to the hospital was definitely caused by contaminated Peter Pan and Great Value peanut butter, the US Food and Drug Administration said on Friday.

The FDA has warned consumers not to eat any Peter Pan peanut butter boughtsince May of last year and to throw out any Great Value brand—sold by Wal-Mart Inc — with the lot number 2111 on the lid.

"Product testing by several states has now confirmed that Peter Pan peanut butter and certain Great Value brand peanut butter are the sources of the foodborne illness outbreak of Salmonella Tennessee that began in August 2006," the FDA said in a statement released late on Friday.

"To date 329 individuals have become ill from consuming the contaminated peanut butter,

and 51 of those persons were hospitalized."

The FDA said the outbreak was still going on. "Potentially contami-

nated products include 3/4 ounce and 1.1 ounce single serving packs of Peter Pan brand peanut butter," the FDA said. "All of these

products contain peanut butter that was manufactured in ConAgra's Sylvester, Georgia plant.

MNA/Reuters



Champion Fernando
Montiel of Mexico
connect a right hook
during his match with
challenger Z Gorres of
the Philippines during a
WBO World Super
Flyweight
championship in Cebu
city, central Philippines
on 24 Feb, 2007.
Montiel retained the
championship title after
a split decision.
Internet

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than attends ceremony to nurture physic nut saplings in Sittway Station

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Rakhine State PDC Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Maung Shein and Brig-Gen Than Tun Aung of Sittway Station, met with officers, other ranks and family members of Sittway Station at Bandoola Hall of the station on 18 February afternoon.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on cooperation with local people in carrying out nation-building tasks and rural development tasks, and urged the officials to fulfill requirements of education and health matters of the family members.

Next, they viewed nurturing of physic nut, rubber and pepper at the nursery of Sittway Station. They inspected nurturing of 39,755 rubber saplings at the nursery.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and wife sowed physic nut seeds.

Sittway Station has put 620.4 acres of land under physic nut, 281.7 acres under rubber and 199.7 acres under pepper. So far, the station has nurtured 715,640 physic nut, 141,800 rubber and 140,225 pepper saplings.

On 19 February, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to Buthidaung and met Tatmadawmen and family members of Wakhokchaung Station and presented cash assistance to them.

At Ingyinmyaing Model Village of Buthidaung



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of Ministry of Defence views nurturing of rubber plants at Sittway Station.— MNA

matters related to the village, supply of water and power and transportation presented by the chairman of the Township PDC. The commander gave a supplementary report.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than provided Township, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on | clothes, blankets and personal goods for the local

people to Chairman of the Village Administrative Board U Than Aung.

Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected development of the village and left necessary instructions to officials.

MNA

Union Day Organizing Management Committee reviews works

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—The 60th Anniversary Union Day Organizing Management Committee held its work reviewing meeting at Paunglaung Yeiktha of Nay Pyi Taw Command this afternoon with an address by Chairman of the Management Committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin.

In his address, Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin said that the meeting is to review works of the successful holding of the Union Day; that the success can be attributed to concerted efforts of those from the 14 subcommittees; that regarding the use of funds, it was found that the fund was used much less than expected; that although the Union Day was successfully held there might be inconveniences for it was held in Nav Pyi Taw for the first time; and that the concerted efforts of the respective sub-committees however, had overcome such inconveniences. The commander urged officials of the sub-committees are to openly present strengths and weaknesses they had experienced.

This was followed by a general round of discussions.

After reviewing the presentations, Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin made concluding remarks, saying that the Union Day is held with the aim of further strengthening national solidarity and flourishing Union Spirit, and called on officials to make relentless efforts for successful holding of Union Day since the success in holding Union Day amounts to further cementing national unity.

Also present on the occasion were members of the Management Committee, heads of department, officials of the respective sub-committees and others. — MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin speaks at work reviewing meeting for the 60th Anniversary Union Day. — MNA

CEC member attends 42nd Lisu New Year Festival

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb — CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung attended the novitiation ceremony for 100 Lisu boys at Nyaungthonbin Pariyatti Monastery in Mogok yesterday.

The minister planted a Bo tree on the platform of Kenaga Shwenagamin Pagoda. Next, he attended the 42nd Lisu New Year Festival and formally opened the festival. Also present on the occasion were the chairman of Township Peace and Development Council and departmental officials and Lisu nationals. — MNA

Rakhine Association (Yangon) awards outstanding students

YANGON, 25 Feb — Rakhine Thahaya Association (Yangon) and Rakhine Women's Association (Yangon) organized its prize presentation ceremony for outstanding students for the 2005/2006 matriculation examination, Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions (central level), sports competitions at international level and painting contest, at Rakhine Dhammayon on Arzani Beikman Street here vesterday.

First, Chairman of the association U Aung Shwe Oo and Chairperson of the women's association (Yangon) Daw Tin Tin delivered addresses.

Wellwishers gave awards to 50 outstanding students. — MNA

Chief of Armed Forces Training attends opening of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition



Lt-Gen Aung Htwe addresses opening of 15th Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition .— MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb—A ceremony to open the 15th Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition to mark the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day was held at the parade ground here this morning, attended by Chairman of Leading Committee for Organizing the Armed Forces Day member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day Organizing Management Committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, Chairman of the 15th Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band

Competition Observing Committee Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe senior military officers, parade commanders and column commanders, members of the Observing Committee and subcommittees, board of panel of judges, officers and other ranks to participate in the competition, artistes and others.

First, the military bands took their positions along with parade commanders.

Next, Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe took the salute of the military bands.

After that, the Tatmadawmen of the military bands took four oaths after paying tributes to the fallen Tatmadawmen.

Later, Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe made a speech.

After saluting the Chief of Armed Forces Training, the military bands left the parade ground.

Afterwards, the State military band held a demonstration and the Chief of Armed Forces Training presented cash awards to the band.

After the ceremony, the Chief of Armed Forces Training greeted senior military officers and artistes. Altogether 39 military bands will take part in the competition which runs from 26 February to 4 March.—MNA

Myanmar Engineering Society holds Annual General Meeting

MES formed with over 12,000 members stands tall as a reliable strength of the nation

YANGON, 25 Feb —Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Engineering Society at its building in Hline University Campus in Hline Township

First, Lt-Gen Myint Swe unveiled the signboard

of the society at the opening ceremony of the MES building.

At the Annual General Meeting of the MES, Lt-Gen Myint Swe said it is known to all that Myanmar engineers participated in nation-building tasks. Nowadays, the Government has opened technological

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence views booth of Myanmar Engineering Society. MNA

universities in all parts of the nation and is turning out a large number of new generation engineers.

Myanmar Engineering Society, on its part, could hold talks and seminars on improvement of engineering subject to enable MES members to share their knowledge and technologies for serving the interest of the State. The MES formed with over 12,000 members stands tall as a reliable strength of the nation. At present, the society is joining hands with departments concerned, ASEAN and BIMSTEC for undertaking development of renewable energy. In addition, the MES contributed some local companies and entrepreneurs to bag medals in the contests on energy efficiency & conservation and the renewable energy sectors organized by ASEAN. In conclusion, Lt-Gen Myint Swe urged those present to encourage new generation engineers and architects to serve the interests of the nation and the people and to develop engineering technologies to keep abreast of global nations.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung, Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, senior military officers and wellwishers.

MES Chairman U Than Myint and ASEAN Register Head Commissioner (See page 10)

MES formed with over...

(from page 9)

Dr Gue Swe See of ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organization extended greetings.

General Secretary of MES U Win Khaing reported the brief report of the society.

ASEAN Engineering Register Head Commissioner Dr Gue Swe See presented certificates of AFEO Honorary Fellow to Minister U Thaung, Pro-Rector Dr Tun Khin of Yangon University for Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein, Deputy Minister Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, MES Adviser Dr Sein Myint and Chairman U Than Myint.

AFEO Representative Engineer Mr Choo Kock Beng presented certificates of ASEAN Honorary Member to MES Patron U Kyaw Tin, MES Adviser Dr Kyaw Htin, Rector of Defence Services Technological Academy Brig-Gen Win Myint, Rector of Myanmar Maritime University U Thein Tun, Managing Director U Han Zaw of Public Works, Pro-Rector (Retd) Dr Hla Than of YTU and Rector of YTU Dr Mya Mya Oo.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave gifts to Dr Khin Shwe of National Development Company Group Ltd, Director-General U Kyaw San Win of Irrigation Department (Retd) and MES Chairman U Than Myint.

The commander presented gifts to MES Adviser Dr Sein Myint, U Win Khaing of United Engineering Co Ltd, U Tint Hsan and Dr Htay Htay Nyein (ACE Construction Co).

Minister U Thaung also gave gifts to U Aung Myint (GTI Group) and architecture Saya Thaw.

Deputy Minister Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw and MES Chairman U Than Myint presented gifts to Project Director U Ko Ko Kyi, Saya U Toe Toe Win, U Kyaw Win (Shwe Thanlwin Co) and wellwisher U Yan Hoe.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander and party had documentary photo taken.

MNA



Secretary - 1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein welcomes

Mr Tang Jiaxuan, Member of State Council of

People's Republic of China, at the SPDC

Office. (News on Page 16)— MNA

Nibban honours sales agents

Yangon, 25 Feb — A ceremony to honour sales agents of Nibban Electric & Electronics was held at Traders Hotel, here, yesterday evening.

Chairman of Nibban Group U Thein Kyi extended greetings. Managing Director of Nibban Trading and General Manager of Nibban Electric & Electronics Dr Aung Thein explained Nibban brand new products such as antenna, servo stabilizer, µ

processor control digital AVR & safeguard, auto & manual voltage regulator, auto inverter and others. Next, prizes were presented to outstanding sales agents.

Nibban Electric & Electronics has had ISO 9001:2000 certificate. At present, Nibban Electric & Electronics distributes its electronic products to the consumers. — *MNA*



Kenya blames Africa's economic woes on lack of unity

NAIROBI, 25 Feb — Kenyan Vice-President Moody Awori said on Friday that lack of unity and self-centred approach to global issues by African countries has continued to work against economic prosperity and encouraged over-dependence on donor funding.

Awori called on African countries to form close trade ties to enable the continent prosper economically.

He said there is need for African countries whose trade is agro-based to strengthen regional economic blocs such as the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and add value to their products to enable the continent have strong bargaining power in the global trade.

"The continent is endowed with enormous natural resources that if properly harnessed could earn the continent more foreign exchange," Awori said in Nairobi during a meeting with Tanzanian Ambassador to Kenya, Nyasugara Kadege.

whose trade is agro-based to strengthen regional amongst developing

countries, particularly in Africa, has led to developed economies to take advantage of the situation to exploit them in trade.

Kadege commended the cordial relations existing between Kenya and Tanzania and assured Awori of her country's support to further strengthen bilateral ties. She called for removal of non-tariff barriers to enable Third World countries compete effectively with developed ones.

MNA/Xinhua

Mayor inspects Ngamoeyeik Water Purification Plant

Yangon, 25 Feb— Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin went to Water Purification Plant of Yangon City Water Supply Project (Ngamoeyeik) this morning.

YCDC member U Kyaw Soe and officials of the project reported to the mayor on supply of 45 million gallons of water daily to the City and further tasks of the plant.

Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin called for providing of purified drinking water for the people and fulfilled the requirements of the tasks.

Not only Ngamoeyeik Water Purification Plant but also Gyobyu, Hlawga, Phugyi water supply stations and tubewells are also supplying 140 million gallons of water to the Yangon City daily. For the first phase, the plant provides 45 million gallons of water daily. On completion of the second phase, the plant will further provide 45 million gallons of water to the city daily. —*MNA*

Chairman of Nibban Group U Thein Kyi extends greetings to sales representatives.

MNA





- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကို ကျင်းပကာ နိုင်ငံတော်ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံ အခြေခံဥပဒေ ရေးဆွဲရေးအတွက် အခြေခံရမည့်မှုများနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အခြေခံရမည့်မှုများကို အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကိုယ်စားလှယ်များက ညှိနှိုင်းဆွေးနွေး အတည်ပြုချက် ချမှတ်ပေးလျှက်ရှိသည်။
- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံသတင်းများကို လေ့လာကြည့်သောအခါ အနာဂတ် နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဌာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ပုံဖော်မှန်းမျှော် ကြည့်ရှုရလာပြီ ဖြစ်သည်။
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စိုးမြကျော် ၏

အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဌာန် ဥပဒေပြုမှ အသွင်သက္ကာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ

- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော် တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဌာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အခန်း (၁) ခန်းနှင့် အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်၏ ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဌာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အပိုင်း (၁၃) ပိုင်းပါရှိသည်။
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- စာပေဗိမာန် စာအုပ်ဆိုင် ၅၂၉-၅၃၁၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။ ဖုန်း - ၃၈၁၄၄၈၊ ၂၄၉၀၃၁
- သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ ၂၁၂၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။ ဖုန်း - ၂၉၄၃၀၆

Indian-origin interpreter sues British Govt

London, 25 Feb — An Indian-origin interpreter and an Iran-born female colleague have taken the British Government to court for paying them to "do nothing" for 15 years and thereby ruining their careers.

King, both British nationals, are claiming more than 2.9 million US dollars as damages after accusing immigration officials of failing to utilize their services properly.

Both were paid 25,000 pounds per annum to translate for new arrivals at London's Heathrow Airport. They claimed that immigration managers failed to reassign their duties after the Home Office started outsourcing translation jobs to freelance interpreters in 1990.

Marti Khan and Odette | employment tribunal ruled on Thursday that the two women were victims of race and sex discrimination. If successful, the Home Office may have to shell out 2.5 million pounds including legal costs.

> Judge Jeremy Mc-Mullen of the tribunal criticized the immigration and nationality directorate as "one of Britain's least impressive managements" and said the farce had involved more than 100 managers and human resources staff.

Khan, fluent in various The Central London | Indian languages and King, who speaks Farsi, in their complaint to the tribunal claimed that they turned up for work for 41 hours a week butwere paid to "do nothing" or given "basic clerical duties" such as filing.

Khan is claiming 970,000 pounds in compensation including 682,000 for the loss of her career and 60,000 pounds for injury to feelings. King is seeking 550,000 pounds including 302,000 pounds for the loss of her career.

Both are also seeking an order that the Home Office must find them iobs.— MNA/PTI

H5N1 virus confirmed in Afghanistan

PARIS, 25 Feb — The World as local authorities had initially indicated. Organization for Animal Health (OIE) on Friday confirmed at its headquarter in dead out of 202 birds at two farms in Paris that the death of birds reported in Nangarhar and Kunar, the OIE said, based two Afghan regions was caused by the on information obtained from the Afghan

A total of 73 turkeys were found highly pathogenic H5N1 bird flu strain, Agriculture Ministry. — MNA/Xinhua



Filipino challenger Jimrex Jaca (C) looks at Simson Butar-Butar of Indonesia during the WBO Asia-Pacific Super Featherweight championship match in Cebu city, central Philippines on 24 Feb, 2007. Jaca snatched the championship title by knocking down Butar-Butar in the seventh round. INTERNET

Red tape to cost British business 5 billion pounds

Commerce.

The lobby group said the cumulative

London, 25 Feb — Government red | cost of regulation on business since 1998 tape is set to cost British businesses an had risen to 55.6 billion pounds (108.7 extra 5 billion pounds this year despite billion US dollars) for 2007 from 50.27 government pledges to cut a swathe billion pounds in 2006. The government through unnecessary bureaucracy, has pledged to slash the regulatory burden according to the British Chambers of on companies by a quarter but the BCC said it had a long way to go.

MNA/Reuters

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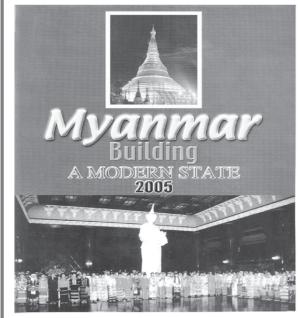
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India's booming economy brings toxic hi-tech waste

New Delhi, 24 Feb — India's booming economy is producing mountains of toxic electronic waste like discarded computers and televisions, but there are no laws to regulate its disposal, a local environment group said on Friday.

Toxics Link said while the Asian giant's economy has been growing at 8 per cent annually over the last three years, it has also resulted in the generation of 150,000 tons of electronic waste each year.

An eight-month study by the group found that India's bustling financial hub of Mumbai was the biggest source of electronic or e-waste, generating 19,000 tons every year.

"Being the hub of India's commercial activities, the banks and financial institutions in Mumbai generate huge amounts of e-waste," Ravi Agarwal, director of Toxics Link, told a news conference.

"But like the rest of India. there are no laws for its safe handling and this will lead to serious health and environmental impacts."

Agarwal said the government had to regulate the management of e-waste by setting up a central authority to collect all discarded electronic goods and put in place laws to deal with disposal and recycling.

India's economic liberalization that began in the early 1990s has seen hundreds of banks, financial institutions, electronics industries, information technology firms and call centres setting operations across the

The booming economy has also led to a growing middle class — estimated around 300 millionwhich has more disposable income and an insatiable appetite for electronic products.

"When electronics like televisions, PCs and refrigerators are discarded, it is the informal sector made up of tens of thousands of people who collect it and then break it down and recycle parts of it which can be sold," said Agarwal.—MNA/Reuters

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့် စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေး လုပ်ငန်း အတွက် လုပ်ငန်းသုံး စက်ပစ္စည်းများ ဝယ်ယူရန် တင်ဒါခေါ် ယူခြင်း

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့် စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေး သုပ်ငန်း အတွက် အသုံးပြုရန် လိုအပ်သော အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ လုပ်ငန်းသုံး စက်ပစ္စည်းများကို ယှဉ်တွဲပါ အရေအတွက်များ အတိုင်း ဝယ်ယူလိုပါသည်–

Copier (A3) (1)

Multimedia Projector (2)

(3) Pallet Truck ၆ လုံး

တင်ဒါပေးသွင်းမှုကို (9-2-1007) ရက် (၁၆း၃၀) ဂရီတွင် ပိတ်ပါမည်။

တင်ဒါ ပုံစံနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို အောက်ပါလိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက်စုံစမ်းဝယ်ယူ နိုင်ပါသည်–

ပြည်တွင်း/ပြည်ပပစ္စည်းများဝယ်ယူရေးနှင့်ထုခွဲရောင်းချရေး ကော်မတီ ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့်စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်း အမှတ်၂၂၈၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့ ဖုန်း-၃၈၀၈၀၄

Texas executes man for murder, torture of couple

Huntsville (Texas), 24 Feb — A man convicted of murdering a couple who discovered him burglarizing their home in 1999

was put to death by lethal injection on Thursday.

Newton Anderson, 30, was condemned for shooting Frank and Bertha Cobb with the victims' shotgun in their home in Tyler.

According to media reports, Anderson tied the couple up, tortured and killed them, then set the house on fire before driving away in their car.

The couple's daughter and grandson arrived as the house burned, unaware the Cobbs' bodies were inside, according to reports.

Anderson got away with about 100-US-dollar cash, clothes and electronic equipment from the house, said a brief summary of the crime on the Texas Department of Criminal Justice website.

In a handwritten note to the victim' family, Anderson apologized for his actions and said he hoped his death would give the family some relief, "some sense of justice".—MNA/Reuters

145 die in traffic accidents during Brazil's Carnival

RIO DE JANEIRO, 24 Feb— As many as 145 people were killed in traffic accidents in six days of revelry during Brazil's annual Carnival, a 15-per-cent rise in the death toll compared with last year, police said on Thursday.

A total of 2,417 accidents were registered in the 16-21 February period, up 8 per cent from 2006. The number of injured rose 13 per cent to 1,587, a 13-per-cent increase, local media reported, quoting police statistics.

Two southern states, Santa Catarina and Minas Gerais, recorded the highest number of accidents -344 and 343 respectively.

Minas Gerais also saw the worst traffic accident in which 13 people died and 25 were injured when a truck and a bus collided.

Rio recorded 227 traffic accidents, up 6.5 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua



In this photo released by New Zealand Fisheries Department on 22 Feb, 2007, shows a giant squid believed to have been caught in early February 2007 in the Ross Sea, Antarctica. The creature, known as a colossal squid (scientific name Mesonychoteuthis hamiltoni) and is thought to be the largest squid ever found anywhere in the world, weighing an estimated 450kg, 150kg heavier than the next biggest specimen ever found.—Internet

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်ခိုင္ပုံမွိတိုးတက္သညာ

Japan successfully launches H-2A radar satellite

Tokyo,24 Feb—The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency on Saturday afternoon successfully launched an H-2A rocket and put into orbit a radar satellite, the fourth and last one in its plan of building a full global information gathering system, which enables the photographing of any point on Earth once a day.



H-2A rocket .—Internet

The launch of the radar satellite, which is the second one of the second pair of the four-satellite scheme, was initially scheduled for 15 Feb, but was postponed twice due to bad weather conditions around the Tanegashima Space Center in southern Kagoshima prefecture.

The first pair, consists of a radar satellite and an optical one, was launched successfully in March 2003, followed by a failed launch of a second set due to rocket problems later that year.

The first one of the second pair, which is an optical satellite capable of a resolution of one meter, was put into orbit in September 2006.

The H-2A rocket launched on Saturday also carried an experimental optical satellite which will be used to test the functions of apparatus to be used to assemble a spy satellite scheduled for launch in the future to increase detection capability to objects as small as 50 centimetres at ground level, Kyodo News said.— Internet



A model gets ready for the International Festival of Beauty in St Petersburg on 24 Feb, 2007. —INTERNET

Colon cancers missed more often in office setting

New York, 24 Feb — The rate of new or missed colorectal cancers in patients undergoing colonoscopy is influenced by where the screening procedure takes place and by who performs the exam, Canadian researchers report. Cancers are more likely to be missed when the colonoscopy is performed in an office setting, instead of a hospital, and by an internist or family physician, instead of a gastroenterologist or surgeon.

Bayliner, a speed boat from the United States is on display in front of Gateway of India, seen to the left, as part of the Mumbai International Boat show in Mumbai, India, on 23 Feb, 2007. The three day boat show has more than 35 international and local boat manufacturers displaying their products.—Internet

A colonoscopy is a test that involves insertion of a lighted tube with a small camera into the bowel, which visualized detection of colorectal cancer and the type of colorectal polyps that will eventually become cancerous and should be removed.

Unless there are known risk factors for colorectal cancer, such as a family history, physicians recommend that patients undergo colonoscopy by

the time they are 50 years old. If the results are normal, it should be repeated at 5 years.

"For the delivery of colonoscopy services in Ontario, we need to further study the practice of colonoscopy in offices and private clinics," senior investigator Dr Linda Rabeneck told Reuters Health. "There is something different about the practice of colonoscopy in these settings that gives rise

to higher cancer miss rates, a worrisome finding."

Rabeneck, of the University of Western Ontario, London and colleagues report their study of 12,487 colorectal cancer patients in the journal Gastroenterology. They found that 430 patients (3.4 per cent) had a new or missed colorectal cancer that was diagnosed within 6 months to 3 years of having a colonoscopy.

MNA/Reuters



Faulty track blamed for fatal UK train crash

GRAYRIGG, (England), 25 Feb — A defective track may have caused a highspeed train crash in northern England in which an elderly woman was killed and five other people were seriously injured, according to investigators and the train company boss.

The state-of-the-art Virgin Pendolino tilting train, heading from London to Glasgow, derailed at 95 miles per hour (150 kilos per hour) on Friday evening in a remote area of Cumbria, scattering carriages down the side of a steep embankment.

Rail accident investigator Thomas Edwards said the inquiry would concentrate on a set of points.

"I've been told the line was defective," Richard Branson, the chairman of Virgin Group, told reporters. "I've been told that it was the points that failed."

Branson praised the train's driver and emergency workers who battled difficult conditions, including torrential rain, to reach around 100 passengers, some of whom were trapped in the overturned carriages.

MNA/Reuters

Two Russian tourists killed in Thai beach town

BANGKOK, 25 Feb — Two female Russian tourists were shot dead and left on lounge chairs on a beach in Thailand's eastern resort town of Pattaya, police said on Saturday. The bodies of the women, aged 25 and 30, were found at dawn around 5 am (2200 GMT) on Pattaya's Jomtien Beach, a popular destination for foreign tourists located 150 kilometres (90 miles) from the capital Bangkok.

The younger woman was shot twice in the stomach and once in a leg. The other victim was shot once in the back. "We have no idea what was the motive for the shooting," Pattaya Police Major Srettha Maklon told Reuters although he said their mobile phones and wallets had not been taken.— MNA/Reuters/Xinhua



Students dance during the street dancing competition at the Flower Festival in Baguio, north of Manila on 24 Feb, 2007.—INTERNET

Fergie praise for scorers

Alex Ferguson has thanked Ryan Giggs and Cristiano Ronaldo for 'digging Manchester United out of a hole'.

The Red Devils came from behind to beat Fulham 2-1, having been second best for much of the contest.

Giggs cancelled out Brian McBride's opener before Ronaldo netted the winner three minutes from time to take United nine points clear of Chelsea.

Ferguson has conceded his side were not at their best, but was pleased to see them dig in and take the points.

"I think that is cutting it mildly," he told Sky Sports after being posed the question as to whether United were fortunate to win.

"I think in the campaign we have had where the form has been terrific, you

London, 24 Feb—Sir | are always waiting for a game which is flat and they don't play well.

> "But they dig in and you go home and say that is a warning.

"We will play better than that, but you have to give credit to Fulham as they were aggressive and never gave us time to settle and that made it difficult for us.

"But we have to thank the two goalscorers for digging us out of a hole."

Internet



Ryan Giggs and Cristiano Ronaldo

Ryan Giggs turns Wayne Rooney's cross into the net to put the Red Devils back on level terms 12 minutes later.—Internet

Real scramble 1-1 draw at dominant Atletico

Madrid, 25 Feb— Atletico Madrid striker Fernando Torres scored his first ever goal against Real Madrid but it was not enough to earn more than a 1-1 draw against their city rivals at the Calderon on Saturday.

A dominant Atletico looked to be heading for a first home victory in nearly eight years against their neighbours when the Spain international put them in front with a coolly taken strike in the 11th minute.

But they were unable to press home their advantage and paid the price when Real's Argentine teenage striker Gonzalo Higuain equalized just after the hour with his first goal since joining the club from River Plate in the January transfer window.

Real were reduced to 10 men for the final six minutes when their outof-sorts Italy captain Fabio Cannavaro was sent off after picking up a second yellow card, but they weathered a late storm to hold on for the point.

The result meant Real moved up to third place, one point ahead of Valencia and three behind leaders Barcelona who play their respective matches on Sunday.

MNA/Reuters

Misfiring Palermo held to 1-1 draw by Atalanta

Rome, 25 Feb—Thirdplaced Palermo's indifferent Serie A form continued as they drew 1-1 at Atalanta on Saturday.

The Sicilian side have earned just six points in their last six matches but have 44 points and a comfortable nine-point cushion over fourthplaced Empoli.

Leaders Inter Milan (63 points) will extend their record winning sequence among Europe's big four leagues with a low cross into the roof

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17th successive victory if they beat Catania on Sun-

Palermo spent most of the first half pushed back into their area as the home side went on the attack.

Their keeper, Alberto Fontana, made two good saves to keep out early shots by Cristiano Doni and Antonio Bernardini, but Atalanta went ahead in the 13th minute when Riccardo Zampagna turned Luca Ariatti's

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of the net.

Palermo came out with more determination after the break, drawing level just before the hour when defender Marco Pisano burst into the area, held off his marker and slid the ball across the box for Aimo Diana to sidefoot home at the far post.

MNA/Reuters

Buffon's future still uncertain

Rоме, 24 Feb — Juventus goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon is still

unsure as to where he will be playing in the future.

The 29-year-old was one of the few players who stayed with the club following their relegation to Serie B but has not yet made a decision as to



Gianluigi Buffon

whether or not he will stay at the Delle Alpi and has been linked with a move to Internazionale.

"There is still uncertainty, I have not made a choice yet," Buffon said. "I'm discussing with Juve but the most important thing to think of at present is getting back into Serie A.

"Is my future at Inter? You can never say never as that would offend Inter. "I'm proud to be a Juve player, but in life you know nothing. But for the supporters a possible move to Inter would not be good as they have told me 'go wherever you want but not to Inter'."—Internet

Chelsea beat Arsenal to win stormy League Cup final

Cardiff, 25 Feb — Two goals by Didier Drogba earned Chelsea the League Cup with a 2-1 comeback win over Arsenal on Sunday but the main talking point of the final was an injury-time brawl that produced three red cards and two yellow.

Drogba found the net in the 20th and 84th minutes after 17-year-old Theo Walcott scored his first goal for Arsenal in the 12th.

The lively, entertaining game with glimpses of passing brilliance from Arsene Wenger's young side was marred by a serious injury to Chelsea captain John Terry who was taken to hospital after being accidentally kicked in the face by Abou Diaby.

In the extensive injury time played for that incident the two London sides were involved in brawl and both Wenger and Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho ran on to the pitch to try to separate them.

John Obi Mikel of Chelsea and Kolo Toure and Emmanuel Adebayor of Arsenal were sent off. It was a distasteful end to a fine match which until then had been played in good spirit. —Internet



Chelsea's Didier Drogba, right, scores against Arsenal during their League Cup Final soccer match at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, Wales, on Sunday, 25 Feb, 2007. — INTERNET

Premiership

25 Feb, 2007

Tottenham	4-1	Bolton
Blackburn	3-0	Portsmouth
Wigan	1-0	Newcastle

Internet

Barclays Premiership Table

25 February 2007

23 1 coldary 2007					
			P	GD	PTS
	1	Man Utd	28	46	69
	2	Chelsea	27	29	60
	3	Liverpool	28	25	53
	4	Arsenal	26	26	49
	5	Bolton	28	1	47
	6	Reading	28	6	43
	7	Everton	28	11	42
	8	Portsmouth	28	7	41
	9	Tottenham	28	-4	39
	10	Blackburn	28	-5	37
	11	Newcastle	28	-3	36
	12	Middlesbrough	28	-2	35
	13	Aston Villa	27	-5	32
	14	Fulham	28	-13	32
	15	Man City	26	-12	30
	16	Sheff Utd	28	-16	30
	17	Wigan	28	-15	29
	18	Charlton	28	-23	23
	19	West Ham	28	-28	20
	20	Watford	28	-25	19
					Internet

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Answers to yesterday's

Crossword Puzzle

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Italian President turns down Prodi's resignation offer

Rome, 25 Feb — Italian President Giorgio Napolitano on Saturday turned down Romano Prodi's offer to resign as prime minister and asked him to face a confidence vote in Parliament.

President Napolitano announced his decision after two days of talks with parliamentary speakers, party leaders, whips and former heads of state to decide how to resolve the crisis.

After meeting with Prodi at the presidential palace on Saturday, Napolitano said most party leaders agreed that

holding early elections is pointless and there is no alternative to sending Prodi's government back to Parliament for a vote of confidence.

He said that the confidence vote would be held "very quickly" to "immediately restabilize normal government and parliamentary activity".

"My concern and

hope is that the country can be governed in a stable and credible way, with constructive relations between the majority and the opposition," the President added.

Napolitano admitted that the crisis had been "particularly complex and difficult" but stressed that fresh elections were not required.

Prodi told reporters after his meeting with Napolitano that "I will present myself Parliament for the confidence vote as soon as possible with the renewed impetus of a coalition which is united and determined to help the country in this difficult stage and boost its economic recovery".

He also thanked the President's support for him and the centre-left coalition.

Reacting to Napolitano's decision, conservative opposition leader and former prime minister Silvio Berlusconi said that the agony will continue and the centreleft coalition will never be able to find consensus to carry out the reforms the country needs.

Prodi lost a vote on foreign policy in the Senate, including the government's plan to keep troops in Afghanistan.

Local media reported that the President was willing to give Prodi another chance to consolidate his grip on power but had warned him that he would call elections if the government is defeated again in the Senate.

MNA/Xinhua



Monday, 26 February

Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news **8:35 am** Music:

-Forever & for always .. Shania

Twain 8:40 am Perspectives **8:45 am** Music:

-It's got a hold on

my heart..Steps 8:50 am National news/

Slogan 9:00 am Music:

-Tell to your heart..

MLTR

9:05 am International

news 9:10 am Music:

> -To me you're everything..98'

1:30 pm News / Slogan

1:40 pm Lunch time

music -Girls I'm gonna get you.. The Moffatts

-The colours of blue..S Club 7 -Just for

you..Peter Andre -Lilac wine..

Fixie Brooks **9:00 pm** Spotlight on the star:

> Blue -Make it happen -Back to you -Best in me, if you come back

9:10 pm Article 9:20 pm Drug/Women

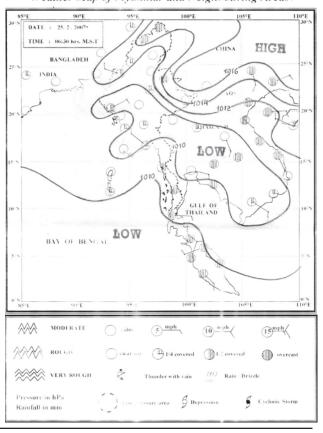
Affairs 9:35 pm Golden Land

melody / Vocal gems -A thousand

miles 9:45 pm News / Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Sunday, 25 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 Chin State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature wa Haka (3°C).

Maximum temperature on 24-2-2007 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 25-2-2007 was 73°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 25-2-2007 was 63%. Total sunshine hours on 24-2-2007 was (9.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 25-2-2007 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 (5) mph from West at (16:15) hours MST on 24-2-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 26-2-2007: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Chin and Rakhine States, Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight increase of night temperatures in the Lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 26-2-2007: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 26-2-2007: Fair weather

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 26 -2-2007: Generally fair weather.

Fireworks explode behind the Novodevichy Monastery marking Defender of Fatherland Day in Moscow on 23 Feb, 2007.—Internet

Monday, 26 February

View on today

1. Recitation of Parittas

by Missionary

U Ottamathra

2. To be healthy exercise

4. Nice and sweet song

5. Song of national

6. Cute little dancers

8. International news

3. Morning news

Sayadaw

7:00 am

7:25 am

7:30 am

7:40 am

7:55 am

8:05 am

8:15 am

8:20 am

7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

races

8:45 am

9. Grammar Made Easy 4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. Practice in Reading

4:45 pm 4. Musical programme

4:55 pm 5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်

ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား –ဒုတိယနှစ်(မြန်မာစာအထူးပြု)

5:10 pm

6. Dance variety 5:20 pm

7. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား 5:30 pm

8. Song and dances of national races.

5:40 pm

9. "ဟွန်းသံ" (ဧရာနှင့်ယာဉ်ထိန်း ရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့ဝင်များ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သက်တင်) 5:45 pm

10. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

5:55pm

11.ရူဖွယ်စုံညီမြန်မာပြည် (အပိုင်း–၁)

6:00pm

12. Evening news 6:30pm

13. Weather report

6:35pm 14. အလုရာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်

7:00pm 15. စက်မှုထုတ်ကုန်မုံရွာစက်မှုဇုန်

7:10pm 16. နိုင်ငံခြားဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

ချစ်ညီမငယ်ပါသေး' (အပိုင်း–၁၉)

8:00 pm

17. News

18. International news

19. Weather report 20. နိုင်ငံခြားဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ 'တကယ်သဘောကျတယ်"

(အပိုင်း–၂၇) 21. The next day's programme

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Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein meets with Member of State Council of PRC

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb —Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Thein Sein held a meeting with Member of the State Council of the People's Republic of China Mr Tang Jiaxuan at the meeting hall of the State Peace and Development Council Office, here, at 4.30 pm today.

Also present at the meeting were Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe, Director-General Col



Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein meets with Mr Tang Jiaxuan, Member of State Council of the People's Republic of China, at the SPDC Office. — MNA

Kyaw Kyaw Win of the | Office, Director-General SPDC Office, Director-General Col Thant Shin

U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department of the of the Prime Minister's | Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Director-General U Nyan Lin of the Political Department and Chinese Ambassador Mr Guan

At the meeting, they exchanged views on

tween Myanmar and China and mutual cooperation. friendly relations be-

MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint attends opening of Fifth ICT Week

YANGON, 25 Feb — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence on 23 February morning attended the opening of the Fifth ICT Week, organized by

Mandalay Division Computer Professionals Association and Computer Industrialists Association, at City Hall-1 of Mandalay City Development Committee.

Also present on the occasion were Mandalay



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence inspects production machine parts at Mandalay Tawwin Industrial Co Ltd in Pyigyidagun. — MNA

Division PDC Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, MCDC Chairman Mayor of Mandalay Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, departmental officials, the chairman and members of Mandalay Division CPA and guests. Altogether 56 booths are kept open at the ICT Week, which continues tomor-

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the extension of the rim of Taungthaman lake in Amarapura Township and cultivation of 159 acres of summer paddy. They also looked into a thriving six-acre paddy plantation in Pyigyidagun Township and paddy plantations in Yekan village-tract in Amarapura Township. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party visited Mandalay Tawwin Industrial Co Ltd in Pyigyidagun Township. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met industrialists from Mandalay Industrial Zone at the company.

Officials reported on production process and Lt-Gen Ye Myint stressed the need for boosting production of dynamos, motors and machines for crushing physic nut, production of import-substitute items and selling of products at reasonable prices.

Later, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected tarring of a six-lane road at Kanaungminthagyi and Taguntaing road section and paddy plantations. —MNA