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Seventh Meeting of Fifth Central Working Committee of Sangha concludes

YANGON, 27 Feb — Seventh Meeting of Fifth Central Working Committee of Sangha concluded at Maha Pasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hill here today.

During the afternoon session of the last day meeting, participants of the meeting reviewed the report of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee.

Afterwards, Joint-Secretary of SSMNC Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Kitti of Zeya Lankara Monastery in Myingyan also discussed the report and sought the approval for it.

Chairman of Central Working Committee of the Sangha Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Kumara of Maha Withutayama Monastery in Magway presented certificates to missionary Sayadaws.

Fifteen State Ovadacariya Sayadaws, the Chairman of CWC of the Sangha and representative Sayadaws from States and Divisions approved resolutions, approvals and minutes of the seventh meeting of the Fifth Central Working Committee of the Sangha.

The meeting ended in the afternoon with concluding remarks by Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Kumara.

Also present at the meeting were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command

Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Adviser U Arnt Maung and officials.

Vice-Chairman of Central Working Committee of the Sangha Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Kesara of Aungmingala Monastery

in Thayet, Magway Division, presided over the meeting and Joint-Secretary of Central Working Committee of the Sangha Bhaddanta Tejaniya of Shwetaung Pali University, Yenangyoung, acted as master of ceremonies.

Ovadacariya Sayadaws of the last day of the meeting were Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Yugandara of Nan Oo

Monastery in Paungde, Bago Division (West), Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Baddanta Aghiya of Mahawithudayon Zaya Maydini Monastery in Maha Aungmyay Township, Sayadaw Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Joika Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kosalla of Sinkyon Monastery in Yamethin, Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Dhamma Siri of Nagahnitkaung Monastery in Tachilek and Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Panninda of Gana Pamaukkha Monastery in Tamu, Sagaing Division.

MNA



Seventh Meeting of Fifth Central Working Committee of Sangha in progress. — MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

- Bevelopment 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

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

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PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 28 February, 2007

Expose ploys and destructive acts of saboteurs

The National Convention is now being held for the emergence of an enduring State Constitution, as aspired by the people, and it will be completed soon.

Internal and external destructive elements are making synchronized attempts to disrupt the National Convention and bring the democratization process to a halt. In addition, they are levelling slanderous accusations against the government with the intention of misleading international community into misunderstanding Myanmar.

The Strategic Consultant Committee (SCC) formed with absconders, anti-government elements and remnant armed groups held a meeting at a resort in Melmat Township in the neighbouring country from 21 to 23 February. It was attended by members of the NCGUB, NCUB, ENC, FDB, WLB, SYCB and remnant armed groups.

It adopted some subversive resolutions to make continued attempts to disrupt the government's ongoing drive for building a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline. The purpose of the meeting was just to undermine national solidarity and break up the Union.

Simultaneously, they are resorting to various means to launch anti-government activities and commit destructive acts to incite mass demonstrations in the nation.

So, the entire national people are to be more vigilant against the ploys and subversive acts of certain internal and external elements anxious to deprive the nation of stability, peace and development, while providing information as soon as possible if there is something suspicious.

Outbreaks of fire in three townships

Yangon, 27 Feb— Fires broke out in Thandwe, Pyawbwe and Padaung Townships on 24 and 25 February.

A fire started at the house of U Eisa (a) U Kyaw Shin, on Marga Street, Ward 2 in Thandwe in Rakhine State at 4.30 pm on 24 February. The fire destroyed three houses and made 13 people homeless.

Another fire occurred at the house of Ma Thet Thet Soe in Taungbyin Ward, Yindawmyoma Village in Pyawbwe Township, Mandalay Division while she was lighting a candle near the mosquito net at 1.30 am on 25 February. Ten houses were destroyed and 53 people were homeless.

Ten houses were destroyed and 42 people were homeless in the fire which broke out at 6.30 pm at Seikte Village in Padaung Township, Bago Division the same day.

The fire started from a spark of the cheroot.—*MNA*

People's Desire

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

Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspects development works



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspects construction of tank which will have a storage capacity of 1 million gallons of water in Mayangon Township. — YCDC

Yangon, 27 Feb—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin yesterday morning inspected development works in Thingangyun, Dagon Myothit (South), Mingalar Taungnyunt and Thakayta Townships and gave necessary instructions to officials concerned.

Accompanied by Joint-Secretary U Aung Than Win, committee members and officials, the mayor inspected dredging of silt and garbage out of drains for proper flow of water near the junction of Wayzayanta Road and Laydaungtkan Road in Thingangyun Township, stockpiling of concrete blocks, tarring of a road section from Pyidaungsu Bridge of Thingangyun

Township to the junction of Dagon Myothit (South) and Dagon Myothit (North), laying of C-channel on the steel-frame bridge linking Mingala Taungnyunt and Thakayta Townships and attended to the needs.

Next, the mayor inspected construction of a tank and waterworks in Mayangon Township and heard a report presented by Head of Engineering Department (Water/Sanitation) Dr Tun Than Tun on progress of placing base slab and future tasks.

After hearing the report, the mayor gave instructions on timely completion of the work, meeting the set standard and minimizing loss and wastage and fulfilled the requirements.—*MNA*

Beauty World Stationery honours sales agents

Yangon, 26 Feb — Beauty World Stationery Co Ltd (Boss Ball Pen) honoured its sales agents and introduced its new brand at the Hotel Nikko Rolyal Lake here yesterday.

Managing Director of Beauty World Stationery Co Ltd U Khin Maung Oo spoke on the occasion and Managing Director U Tin Maung Tin explained

facts about the production process.

The company awarded the outstanding sales agents and hosted a dinner to those present.

Beauty World Stationery Co Ltd has produced Boss, Jumbo, Reynolds, Smart Gl, Boss 999 and Smart correction pen. It scheduled to produce new brand of Boss Cheer, 799 Ball pen, Glory and Boss style Gl.—*MNA*



Managing Director of Beauty World Stationery Co Ltd U Khin Maung Oo delivers an address at a ceremony to honour sales agents. — MNA

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Deadly blast near Afghan base as Cheney visits Kabul, 27 Feb—A blast near the gates of the main US | heard sirens and were told by a military spokesman that the

base in Afghanistan, where Vice President Dick Cheney is visiting, killed 23 people and wounded 20 on Tuesday, a witness said.

The cause of the explosion outside Bagram airbase, 60 km (40 miles) north of Kabul was not immediately known. Cheney stayed at the base overnight after planned talks with Afghan President Hamid Karzai were delayed by weather.

"The Vice President is fine," spokeswoman Lea Anne McBride said. An official at the base confirmed the blast, but had no details. Bagram is a sprawling complex and the main gates are some distance from offices and living quarters.

An Afghan official said the explosion occurred inside a shipping container, but gave no more details.

Some containers are used as shops in the market lining the road to the base. Others are carried on trucks to br ing supplies into the base.

A Reuters correspondent travelling with the US delegation said they were not aware of the blast until they base was "under attack."

"We were told there was a 'red alert'," Caren Bohan said. "There was a commotion, but it ended pretty quickly. We didn't hear any bomb or anything like that from where we were."— Internet



Medical staff at the base have been trying to save victims. — Internet

Fire engulfs TV HQs building in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 27 Feb — At least three people died and dozens were injured on Monday in a fire that raged through a multi-storeyed building in the Bangladesh capital housing two private television channels and a newspaper office.

Two of the victims died of burn injuries in hospital while another died after leaping from the sixth floor of the building to escape the flames, doctors and witnesses

More than a hundred people have already been rescued, but still many were feared still trapped, including in the lifts.

Witnesses said fire fighters and Air force helicopters were still trying in the early afternoon to put out the blaze and rescue an unspecified number of people stranded inside.

Army, police and the elite Rapid Action Battalion force had joined the rescue effort. The cause of the fire and extent of damage caused was not immediately known. — MNA/Reuters

during a cabinet meeting,

by his foreign minister,

Sergei Lavrov, that

"predictions that strikes

will be conducted against

Iran have become more

common, and this causes

Terror fears as French men shot dead in Saudi Arabia

London, 27 Feb—The spectre of anti-western terrorist attacks returned to haunt Saudi Arabia yesterday when three French nationals were shot dead in a remote desert area in the north of the country.

Few details were available beyond a brief report on state-run Saudi television which said that some of the victims were Muslims on their way to

Medina after performing the hajj pilgrimage in Mecca. If confirmed as the work of jihadist militants this would be the first significant attack on foreigners since 2004, when the campaign launched by al-Qaida to topple the Saudi monarchy was at its height.

Major General Mansour al-Turki, a spokesman for the interior ministry, said it was too early to determine whether it had been a terrorist incident. Women and children also were with the group, but they were uninjured.—Internet



London, 27 Feb—The

President of Russia ex-

pressed concern yester-

day about a "trigger

happy" America as spe-

culation mounted about

the Bush administration's

plans to attack Iran's

nuclear sites.

Men carry a student of the Mustansiriya University's Economy and Administration college after he was wounded in a suicide bomb attack in Baghdad, on 25 Feb, 2007. —XINHUA

A girl, accompanied by her mother, chooses textbooks and supplementary materials in Yinchuan, capital of northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, on 25 Feb, 2007.— XINHUA

WWF says S Africa should consider elephant cull

JOHANNESBURG, Feb-South Africa needs to consider restarting elephant culls because growing numbers of the mammal now threaten local habitats, the WWF conservation group has said. "What has happened in the last 10 years is that protected areas ... had elephant numbers grow to where they are actually suppressing the habitat, the vegetation," Rob Little, acting chief executive of WWF South Africa, told Reuters late on Friday.

"We believe that the culling may be a last resort, and should usually be

regarded as a last resort, but it should be available as an option."

Little was speaking in advance of the unveiling on Wednesday of a new elephant management plan by South Africa's environmental affairs and Tourism Ministry.

MNA/Reuters

'Trigger happy' US worries Putin In a televised exchange concern". Those who are discussing this topicinclude the US Vice-Vladimir Putin was told President [Dick Cheney]

who said that he did not

exclude such an option," he added.

In off-screen comments captured by the ITAR-TASS news agency, Mr Putin later asked Mr Lavrov: "What kind of strikes are we talking about - without UN Security Council sanctions?"

Mr Lavrov replied that "nobody who is discussing this is referring to such sanctions" but added that Russia would "do everything it can to achieve a negotiated solution".—Internet

18 killed in western Iraq

BAGHDAD, 26 Feb—A total of 18 people were killed and more than 10 injured in separate incidents near and in Iraq's restive city of Fallujah, some 50 kilometres west of Baghdad, on Sunday, a local police source told Xinhua. Three members $from \, the \, same \, family \, were$ beheaded on Sunday afternoon by unknown insurgents in their house in Ameriyat al-Fallujah Village, 7 kilometres south of the city, the source said on condition of anonymity.—MNA/Xinhua

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A Brooklyn resident hurls heavy snow after shoveling it from his front steps after a winter snowstorm blanketed the metropolitan area with two to four inches of snow, in New York, on 26 Feb, 2007. —Internet

Malaysia to have special lanes for motorcycles in federal roads

Kuala Lumpur, 26 Feb — All new federal roads in Malaysia will have special lanes for motorcycles to reduce road accident fatalities involving motorcyclists and pillion riders, Works Minister Samy Vellu said on Friday.

The special lanes for motorcycles, no longer simply marked by lines on the left and right side of the road, will stay away from the main road, Samy told reporters here.

As for the existing federal roads, the motorcycle lanes will also be built if there is still reserve land at the locations and fund is available, said the Works Minister. He said the Public Works Department under the ministry has been instructed to submit a proposal on the building of special lanes for motorcycles on all federal roads and to figure out the cost of the project.— MNA/Xinhua



Two tourists pose before dolls on a street in Katsuura, Chiba-ken, Japan, on 25 Feb, 2007. — Xinhua

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Chinese, Japanese artists share history in "Lost Village"

Beijing, 26 Feb— A new stage play is bringing Chinese and Japanese theatre artists together to explore their countries' ancient past while focusing on contemporary issues.

"Lost Village", which will premier at the 35th Hong Kong Arts Festival in March and is now in rehearsal in Beijing, is a collaborative effort history have between the National unearthed. The did that the Alexander of the New Struction of a January National Theatre of the Tokyo. history have unearthed. The did that the New Struction of a January as Chine Japanese official

Co-written and codirected by Li Liuyi from Beijing and Oriza Hirata from Tokyo, "Lost Village" looks at the dialectic between man and history.

The story unfolds with news of an archaeological discovery in a remote village in China. Treasures that date back to an unknown chapter in history have been unearthed. The discovery has stopped the construction of a Japanese factory as Chinese and Japanese officials, archaeologists, students, businessmen and looters start arriving. A local tea house becomes the centre of unexpected encounters and conflicts.

"Lost Village" digs deep into the cultural record, offering insights into Sino-Japanese history while exploring the nature of humanity and the world. MNA/Xinhua

Slovak PM says use of military force worsens situation in Iraq

Bratislava, 26 Feb — Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico said here Sunday that the use of military force in Iraq has worsened the security situation there.

"A military action cannot always solve the problems," Fico told 100 Slovak troops returning from Iraq. "The use of military force in Iraq has worsened the security situation."

Slovakia deployed over 100 non-combat troops in Iraq in 2003, with most of them engaged in landmine clearing operations. Four Slovak soldiers were killed during their stay in Iraq.

Eleven Slovak Army officers will remain in Iraq to help train Iraqi armed forces.

"The security situation in Iraq is worse and worse, and it seems that other countries are also considering the same step," Fico said, referring to his government's decision to withdraw troops from Iraq.

Fico had repeatedly pledged to pull out the Slovak troops from Iraq last year. — MNA/Xinhua

delivery declines HARARE, 26 Feb—The haemorrhage of the country's precious metal, gold, continued, with

Zimbabwe's

gold

haemorrhage of the country's precious metal, gold, continued, with reports saying that Fidelity Printers and Refiners last month only took delivery of 600 kilogrammes of the yellow metal.

The figure is markedly short of the one ton that had been targeted by the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ), according to *The Sunday Mail*.

Huge conglomerates and small-scale miners alike are making representations to the authorities for the price to be reviewed upwards.

MNA/Xinhua

Mozambique hit by more flooding after cyclone rain

BEIRA (Mozambique), 26 Feb— Heavy rains from a cyclone sparked more flooding in Mozambique on Sunday, worsening a humanitarian crisis that has already killed 45 people and forced 140,000 from their homes.

The Buzi River in central Sofala Province overflowed its banks at dawn, threatening up to 145,000 people in the district, after the remnants of cyclone Favio pounded the area.

We are facing a serious flooding drama," district administrator Sergio Moyane told *Reuters* in area capital Beira. "There are many houses under water and many fields have been swamped."

The cyclone slammed into the coast on Thursday, killing five people near the southern tourist town of Vilanculos, and although it was downgraded to a tropical storm, it brought pounding rains to a region already struggling to cope with flooding.

Moyane said the storm damaged buildings as it swept through the area on Saturday, bringing downpours that filled the already swollen Buzi River.

Sugarcane fields were in danger of being damaged, he added.

Relief workers are battling to supply food and fresh water to some 140,000 people who have been displaced by flooding in four central provinces.

MNA/Reuters



A little hippo cub rests on the bank while its mother licks its body during its debut to the public at the Beijing Zoo, Beijing, capital of China, on 25 Feb, 2007. — Xinhua

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ECONOMIC E W S

Iran President says tomato price hikes an enemy plot

TEHERAN, 26 Feb-Iran's President said on Sunday the country's enemies had hatched a range of plots to push the Islamic Republic to give up its disputed nuclear programme, including driving up the price of tomatoes and other food.

But Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said such tactics would not work, Iran's ISNA news agency quoted him as saying.

Rising prices, particularly the cost of tomatoes which form an important ingredient in Iranian food, have prompted growing pub-

lic criticism of Ahmadinejad's government. The president has often dismissed complaints as media exaggeration.

"In order to harm us, they (enemies) make plots, for instance they come and push tomato prices up in the market. They think we will give up our ideals with their plots," Ahmadinejad said in a speech in which he said Iran would not reverse its atomic plans.

The West accuses Iran of seeking atomic bombs and demands Teheran halt sensitive atomic work, a step Teheran has rejected.

slapped restrictions on aspects of Iran's nuclear programme and Washington has imposed sanctions on two Iranian banks and three firms. Ahmadinejad's opponents blame price hikes on government spending policies not sanctions.

The latest official figures show inflation running at about 16 per cent but economists say official figures underplay what Iranians pay for basic food in shops because they are based on a broader basket of goods that includes some subsidised The United Nations has | items.— MNA/Reuters



Ballerinas from the Russian State Ballet of Moscow perform during a performance of Sleeping Beauty at the Jakarta's Taman Ismail Marzuki arts centre on 25 Feb, 2007. —Internet

Antarctic ice shelves' collapse unveils exotic ecosystem



Antarctica

Beijing, 26 Feb — The collapse of two mammoth ice shelves in Antarctica has given scientists a unique chance to witness an exquisite seabed ecosystem formerly hidden by ice, scientists said in a Press release on Sunday. The exotic creatures include spindly orange sea stars, fan-finned ice fish and herds of roving sea cucumbers.

This is the first time explorers have been able to catalog wildlife where two ice shelves used to extend for some 10,000 square kilometres over the Weddell Sea. Before the collapse, researchers could only peer through holes drilled deep into the ice.

The insight into Antarctica's hidden marine world came from the breakup of the Larsen A and B ice shelves, 12 and five years ago respectively, that later formed huge icebergs.

The team of 52 scientists from 14 countries collected around 1,000 species, some of which are believed to be new to science, and took what they describe as "brilliant" images of unfamiliar creatures.

"The breakup of these ice shelves opened up huge, near pristine portions of the ocean floor, sealed off from above for at least 5,000 years, and possibly up to 12,000 years in the case of Larsen B," said Julian Gutt, the expedition's chief scientist.— Internet

Iran warns Turkey over natural gas re-export

Teheran, 26 Feb— Iran's Oil Minister warned Turkey on Sunday not to re-export the Islamic state's natural gas to other countries, the students' news agency ISNA reported. Iran has been exporting gas to Turkey since 2001 under a 23billion-US-dollar agreement signed in 1996. Teheran has been slow to develop other gas export markets.

"Based on the agreement, Turkey has no legal right to export Iran's gas to other countries," said Oil Minister Kazem

Vaziri-Hamaneh.

Earlier this month Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert visited NATO member Turkey, one of the few nations in the region to enjoy cordial ties with arch foes Israel and Iran.

Israeli officials had said an Israeli-Turkish agreement to build a pipeline to carry oil, natural gas, power, water and fibre optic cables would be among the issues discussed during the visit.

Iran's daily exports of 27 million cubic metres of gas make up around one third of Turkey's total

imports. Iran has the world's second largest gas reserves after Russia with 21 trillion cubic metres.

In January, Iran briefly cut off gas exports to Turkey as the Iranian Government struggled with a surge in domestic use during a stretch of cold weather. - MNA/Reuters

Pakistan launches new 1,000-rupee bank note

Islamabad, 26 Feb-The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on Saturday launched 1,000-rupee new design bank note with enhanced security features and

machine readability, the state-run Associated Press of Pakistan reported.

Addressing a function in Karachi, Governor of the central bank Dr Shamshad Akhtar announced that all the field offices of SBP Banking Services Corporation will start issuing new-design bank note of 1,000-rupee denomination from 26 February, 2007. Accordingly, the vignette of Islamia College of Peshawar is printed on the reverse of the new-design bank note of 1,000 rupees (about 16 US dollars) whereas vignette of Jehangir's Tomb of Lahore appears on the reverse of the old-design bank note of the same denomination.

MNA/Xinhua



Tourists from Denmark visit Baiyun temple fair in Beijing, capital of China, on 23 Feb, 2006. Many foreigners in China came to temple fairs in Beijing to experience the traditional folk custom during the Spring Festival. — XINHUA



An aircraft of Malaysian Airline System taxis on the tarmac at Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang outside Kuala Lumpur on 26 Feb, 2007. Malaysian Airline System Bhd on Monday recorded net profit of 122.04 million ringgit (\$34.96 million) for the fourth quarter to 31 Dec, its second straight quarterly profit. —Internet

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Iran fires research rocket not space missile

Teheran, 26 Feb — Iran has launched a suborbital rocket for scientific research not a missile capable of reaching space as earlier reported, an aerospace official told an Iranian news agency on Sunday.

Ali Akbar Golrou, the executive deputy of Iran's aerospace research centre, told *Fars News Agency* the rocket would not stay in orbit but could rise to about 150 kilometres (94 miles) into atmosphere before falling to earth by parachute.

State television's website had earlier

quoted the head of the aerospace research centre, Mohsen Bahrami, as saying Iran had fired a missile able to reach space.

rockets" are often used to probe atmospheric con-

ditions between 45

kilometres and 160

kilometres (28 miles and 100 miles) above the earth,

between the maximum

altitude of weather

balloons and the mini-

mum altitude of orbiting

Mostafa Mohammad

Najjar had said on Saturday

in comments published by

the daily Etemad-e Melli

that Iran was planning to

build a satellite and

launcher.—MNA/Xinhua

Defence Minister

satellites.

Iranian advances in building missiles capable of reaching space are watched closely by the West because the same technology could be used to build intercontinental ballistic missiles.

"What was announced by the head of the research centre was the news of launching this sounding rocket," Golrou said, denying the earlier report.

So-called "sounding

Pigma Augusta Panaiya najating antitlad (Wanga with a naggal and a gnall

Pierre-Auguste Renoir's painting entitled 'Woman with a parasol and a small child on a sunlit hillside' is displayed at an exhibition of his work at the National Gallery in London last week. —Internet

Iraqi official says Iranians stop giving weapons to Iraq

BAGHDAD, 26 Feb— Iranians have stopped training and providing weapons to Iraqi militants in Iraq in the last few weeks to allow a US-backed security plan in Baghdad to succeed, a senior Iraqi official said on Sunday.

National Security Adviser Mowaffaq al-Rubaie told CNN there was some evidence that Iranians had been supporting some Shi'ite militia groups fighting US troops in Iraq.

"There is no doubt in my mind that recently in the last few weeks they have changed their position and stopped a lot of their tactics and interference in Iraq's internal affairs," Rubaie said in an interview. It was unclear if he was talking of the Iranian Government.

Washington accuses Shi'ite Iran of fuelling violence in Iraq.

The United States has drafted thousands of extra troops into Iraq in an attempt to crack down on insurgency and curb sectarian conflict.

"Recently the Iranians have changed their positions and we have some evidence that they have stopped supplying arms or creating any of these shaped mines in the streets of Baghdad," Rubaie said.

MNA/Reuters

Study says garlic cannot cut your cholesterol

London, 26 Feb—This is bound to cause a stink among those who adhere to the centuriesold belief that garlic is good for the heart.

According to the latest research, consuming the wonder bulb makes no difference whatsoever to cholesterol levels.. Almost 200 volunteers were put on a garlic-rich diet for six months, but the only notable change was an increase in bad breath and body odour. The study by researchers at Stanford University's school of medicine in California, assessed the effects of raw garlic and two commercial garlic supplements on LDL, or "bad" cholesterol, and HDL, the "good variety".

Internet



used a wireless connection to surf the Web or check e-mail, according to a survey released on Sunday.— Internet said in an interview.

Study: women may have made first weapons

About one-third of Internet users in the US have

BEIJING, 26 Feb — It is commonly believed axes and spears to hunt and kill were first made by primitive men, but recent create rudimentary spears, which they use to hunt a small primate named bushbabies.



Chimpanzee—Internet

The findings are the first evidence of the systematic use of weapons in a species other than humans _ and they are intriguing because all but one of the chimps using the spears were females or immature males.

This gender imbalance has led scientists to theorize that female chimps pioneered hunting with weapons as the only way in which they

could compete with the physically stronger males to add animal protein to their diets. While males can hunt with their bare hands, females need weapons to help them.

"Females have to come up with creative ways at getting at a problem, whereas males have brawn," said Dr Jill Pruetz, of Iowa State University, who led the research.

Internet

Nina Li, of China, competes during women's World Cup aerials freestyle skiing in Apex,
British Columbia,
Canada, on 25 Feb,
2007.

Internet

research revealed the

weapons may have been

invented by women to

compensate for their lesser

Anthropologists'

observations of Western

Africa chimpanzees in

Senegal have found they

chew the ends of sticks to

size and strength.

A father and child look out to a hazy skyline in Beijing, China, on 26 Feb, 2007. —Internet

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Twantay pottery to gain foothold in global market

Article by Nyi Nyi Soe Nyunt; photos by Soe Nyunt (Kyemon)



Vases at a pottery shop in Twantay.

Twantay is well-known for its pottery industry. Pottery of various kinds serves as common containers nationwide. Now, local potters are working hard to innovate the present designs through modern art for their works to gain a foothold in the international market. The items with modern art design are now available in

Sometimes, we have to make pots according to the designs the customers place orders with.

"Twantay pottery has a good reputation for its quality, because I think Twantay clay is better than that of any other region."

It is learnt that the process of making glazed ware is the same as that of making pottery. Then, glaze is put on pieces of pottery before they are finished. In making glazed ware, yellow, brownish red and green are common in the nation. Locally common pieces of pottery are 25-viss pots, five-viss pots, edible oil pots and mortars. Now, glazed items of new designs are being made there such as glazed Buddha images, tiles, small vases, oil-lamp saucers, and statues of elephant, lion and horse.

A responsible person said that decorated glazed ware of modern designs should be made to win the customer's satisfaction to a greater degree at home and abroad. He said, "We once distributed glazed ware of new designs to the markets. Then, the customers liked the new designs we had created and they placed orders of those designs. But, we did not have enough raw materials, so we could not fulfil all



A potter taking baked pots out of the kiln.

and we have to make our products secure a market abroad so that Myanmar glazed ware will gain a foothold in the international market", he pointed out.



A potter at the work site.



One village, one product

the local market. Myanmar has been familiar with pottery since Pyu period, and Myanmar pottery is artistic. If pottery of fashionable designs is made through modern art, Myanmar pottery will become popular worldwide.

With the assistance of the Myanmar Glazed Ware Association, we media group of the Kyemon daily conducted an interview with pottery enterprises in Twantay on 28 January 2007.

Daw Yin Aye of U Nyan Tun Aung-Daw Hnin Yee Pottery Enterprise in Twantay explained the process thoroughly, saying that it took at most three to five days to make a pot.

She said, "Our family has run pottery enterprise for several generations. Pottery industry is not lucrative, but we are still engaged in it as a family business. Drinking-water pots and vases are command in downtown Yangon. Generally, huge glazed pots are used in plots with large spaces and shrimp paste farms. Pieces of Twantay pottery are distributed to Mawlamyinegyun, Kayan, Thongwa, Dedaye, Yangon, Pyapon, Kyaiklat and Dawei. Drinking-water pots and vases are of various designs.

their demands in time. It is because we have to take more time to make a modern piece of glazed ware. A potter can make roughly 30 pots a day, but if he has to embellish the pots with attractive designs, he can complete only about five pots. Due to the constraints in the supply of raw materials and high costs, we have not made a satisfactory profit from decorated pots with modern designs. We need better methods, enough raw materials and capitals



Various sizes of huge glazed pots.

Chairman of the Myanmar Glazed Ware Association Dr Myo Thant Tin said, "Now, it has been known internationally that Myanmar glaze ware industry has a fine tradition. It is in an important part in the ASEAN glazed history. The three glazed Buddha images unearthed at Tagundaing Village in Twantay in 2005 are of Pyu period design, so they were made in AD 5th Century. Many glazed objects in some pagodas in Bagan and Bago were made in 11th and 12th centuries. In the 13th Century, Mottama pottery was well-known in the nation. And in the 15th Century, Myanmar exported pottery to some Arab countries. We have found a lot of glazed objects and kilns in Twantay, Pathein and Myaungmya.

"In the nation, lead-based glaze is used to make items for decorating parks, hotels and houses only. And it is not used in making objects to hold food to avoid possible lead poisoning. Tree ash-based glaze is used to make glazed cooking utensils and dishes. We are now disseminating methods of making leadbased glaze pottery and tree ash-based glazed pottery in the nation. We have been given a Japanese archaeological glazed pot as a sample to the pottery enterprise and placed an order for some glazed items. Myanmar glazed items have had a market in France, the US and England, and it often receives orders from Japan, Singapore and Malaysia. The Myanmar glazed pottery industry has already had a good name. If pieces of glazed pottery are made based on the methods used many centuries ago, they will win the support of the customers. Then, they will be well-known in local and international markets."

> **Translation: MS** Kyemon: 23-2-2007

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Construction tasks of Ayeyawady river ...

(from page 16)

eighty-nine per cent accomplishment of upper structure of the approach bridge and ninety-four per cent completion of the main bridge, progress in building the approach road, tarring the road on the approach bridge and main bridge and seventy-nine per cent completion of the whole project.

After giving necessary instructions, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, the commander and party inspected progress in the building of the bridge on Mandalay side. Following the inspection of fixing steel at the bridge with the use of KR-500 cranes, Lt-Gen Ye Myint urged the responsible personnel to accomplish the construction tasks meeting the set standards as soon as possible.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party looked into a pre-monsoon cotton plantation undertaken by local peasant U Aung Kyi and fellow peasants in Kokkosu village, Myittha Township, Kyaukse District. Afterwards, manager Daw Sandar Lin of Myanma Cotton and Sericulture Enterprise briefed Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party on cultivation of pre-monsoon cotton during 2007-2008. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on scattering of natural fertilizer.

After inspecting 40 acres of summer paddy cultivated in Pyawbwe Township, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on measures to be taken for meeting the targeted yield and looked into thriving 3.25 acres of cotton grown by peasant U Myo Win in Kantha village/tract in Pyawbwe Township. Next, peasant U Myo Win briefed Lt-Gen Ye Myint on efforts made for cultivation of the cotton.

Upon arrival at the briefing hall of No 2 district-to-district road in Hlaingtat being built by the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, Director of Mandalay Division Development Affairs Department U Kan Hla briefed Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party on progress in building of the district-to-district road and remaining tasks. After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on timely completion of the construction tasks and clearing of rubbish in the drains.

After inspecting road works with the use of heavy machinery at mile post No 110/7 between Yamethin and Tatkon Townships, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with local peasants and made arrangements to fulfill the requirements.

At the briefing hall, director U Kan Hla briefed Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party on progress in building of Kintha-Gamonetoung road section. The No 2 district-to-district road is 213 miles long and 50 feet wide. Construction of twenty-three mile and three furlongs earth road, ten miles and three furlongs gravel road, 12 bridges, one reinforced concrete bridge and 81 conduits have so far been completed.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw in the evening. — MNA

Member of State Council of PRC leaves



Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung sees off Mr Tang Jiaxuan, Member of the State Council of People's Republic of China, at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

Yangon, 27 Feb — The visiting Chinese goodwill delegation led by Member of the State Council Mr Tang Jiaxuan of the People's Republic of China left here for China by special flight this morning. The delegation had been on a working visit here at the invitation of Secretary -1 of the State Peace and Development | off Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Before their departure, Secretariat Member of Union Solidarity and Development Asso-ciation Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung presented a documentary compact disc on the goodwill visit to Member of the State Council Mr Tang Jiaxuan of the PRC.

They were seen Yangon International Airport by USDA

Member Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Deputy Director-General U Soe Win of Protocol Department, Deputy Director-General U Paw Lwin Sein of Training, Research and Foreign Language Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chinese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Guan Mu and officials of Chinese Secretariat | Embassy. — MNA

Military band contest continues

Feb — The 15th Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, Air) Military Band Contest continued at the parade ground here this morning for the second day to mark the 62nd

Nay Pyi Taw, 27 | Forces Day, attended by members of committee for organizing military band contest, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, members of the panel of judges, officers Anniversary Armed | and other ranks.

The military bands representing Northern Command, No LID, Eastern Command, Western Command, No 77 LID and Coastal Region Command took part in the contest. — MNA

Energy Minister receives Korean delegation

Nay Pyi Taw, 27 Feb Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi received a Korean delegation led by Deputy Minister for Commerce, Industry and Energy Mr Jae Hoon Lee and President and CEO of Daewoo International Corporation Mr Young Won Kang at the office of the ministry here on 25 February. They held discussions on energy cooperation between Myanmar and Republic of Korea and natural gas project of Rakhine offshore.

Also present were Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, Director-General U Soe Myint of Energy Planning Department, Managing Director U Myint Kyi of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise,

Managing Director U Thein Lwin of Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Deputy Director-General U Soe Aung of Energy Planning Department, Director U Hla Myint Maung of Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise and officials.

Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay and officials, officials concerned of Ministry of Mines and Ministry of Electric Power No-2 and Korean delegation led by Deputy Minister for Commerce, Industry and Energy Mr Jae Hoon Lee attended the second coordination meeting of Energy and Metallurgical Natural between Resources Myanmar and ROK held at the meeting hall of the ministry here yesterday.

At the meeting, officials of Ministries of Energy, Mines and Electric Power No-2 discussed current conditions, prospects and principles of Energy and Metallurgical Natural Resources of Myanmar, Korea Energy Economics Institutes and Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy, use Energy Metallurgical Natural Resources of ROK and Korea National Oil Corporation and Korea Corporation, cooperation on oil and gas sector and natural gas projects between Myanmar and ROK.

Later, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay and Korean deputy minister spoke words of thanks and the meeting came to an end. - MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi receives Deputy Minister of Commerce, Industry and Energy of Republic of Korea Mr Jae Hoon Lee and Mr Young Won Kang, President and CEO of Daewoo International Corporation. — ENERGY

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Three roads inaugurated in Ayeyawady Div to hail 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day



Opening ceremony of a road in Pantanaw Township in progress. — PBANRDA

Yangon, 27 Feb — As a gesture of haling the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day, a new tarred road was inaugurated in Nyaungdon Township in the presence of Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt on 25 February.

The road is 2,080 ft long and 12 ft wide. The construction of the road was funded by Nyaungdon Township Development Affairs Department.

Afterwards, Minister Col Thein Nyunt also attended the inauguration ceremony of the 2,000-footlong and 12-foot-wide tarred road in Pantanaw Township constructed by the township Development Affairs Department.

Special express train to ply

YANGON, 27 Feb — The Ministry of Rail Transportation and the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism is now cooperating to seek better means to attract more foreign tourists and increase their train ride rates.

As part of the programme, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu and officials of Myanma Railways and the representatives of the Myanmar Travel Association made a Yangon-Mandalay field trip on 24 February morning.

The deputy minister held a meeting on the train with officials of the Myanma Railways and the Hotels and Tourism Service, and representatives of the Myanmar Travel Association. The representatives of MTA arrived at Pyinmana Station at 1 pm and visited hotels in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone. The officials responded to the queries raised by the guests.

Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu greets representatives of Myanmar Travel Association on RBE special express train. — MNA

Inma-Thayettaw Section of Inma-Intakaw-Khayaykan Road was also opened on 25 February. The gravel road is 7,700 ft long and 12 ft wide and links Kyonpyaw and Danuphyu. — MNA

Temporary closure of **Defence Services Museum**

YANGON, 27 Feb—The Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda Road, here, will be closed temporarily commencing 1 March to make preparations for staging the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day (2007) commemorative exhibition, which will be opened 26 March there.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than...

(from page 16)

sufficiency in the township. He spoke of the need to cultivate sesame and sunflower for oil sufficiency. He also gave instructions on cultivation of paddy, physic nut, rubber and pepper and raising of prawn and local

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party visited rubber plantation, cultivation of cold season crops in Buthidaung Township.

On 22 February, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met departmental officials in Rathedaung Township. He urged officials concerned to try to exceed the targets of major crops. He spoke of the need for the departments to provide techniques for better crop yield.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also met Tatmadaw members and families of Rathedaung Station and provided cash to them.—MNA

MWAF disseminates knowledge on sanitation, environmental conservation

YANGON, 27 Feb — To mark the National Sanitation Week, Social and Culture Work Group and Environmental Conservation Work Group of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation organized the educative talks on sanitation and environmental conservation at No 1 Basic Education High School in South Okkalapa Township today.

Dr Daw Thin Thin of Thingangyun Hospital, Member of Environmental Conservation Work Group, gave talks on four sanitation tasks, importance of sanitation and health, and environmental conservation.

Afterwards, Daw Yin Yin Lay of the environmental conservation work group donated books to the school's library. — MNA





Leader of Environmental Conservation Work Group of MWAF Daw Nilar Thaw delivers an address at educative talks in South Okkalapa Township to mark the national sanitation week. — MWAF

Book on study of the world oil crisis published

Yangon, 27 Feb— The book on the world we live in and oil crisis compiled Ambassador U Hla Maung (Economics) is published today.

It analyzes the issue of global oil shortage as a tremendous problem. It points out that energy experts have been speculating about the issue.

Will the world be

running out of oil in the near future?

- And will natural gas be running out as well?
- Will the production of oil reach the peak?
- Economists argue that "without energy economy cannot grow". If so, how will the world economy change?
- If oil production decreases, how and to

what extent will the world replace oil energy alternative energy sources such as natural gas, coal, nuclear, hydroelectric power, bio mass, wind power, solar energy, tidal power and hydrogen. The book is published

by Tun Foundation Bank Literature Committee in February 2007.



The book is available at K 2,800 per copy. MNA

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MNA

Maday Dam in Kanma Township, Magway Division, emerges 196th irrigation facility

Yangon, 26 Feb—The inauguration of Maday Dam took place at the pavilion near the facility in Kanma Township, Magway Division, yesterday morning.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo in his speech said that the government has placed emphasis on the agricultural sector for socioeconomic progress of rural people who make up more than 70 per cent of the nation's population.

To achieve the goal, it is now taking all necessary measures throughout the country. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has occasionally made field tours and given guidance on steps to be taken for improving the socio-economy of rural folks.

Maday Dam, the 196th facility of its kind to be opened in the time of the Tatmadaw Government, will be able to irrigate some 4,000 acres of farmland in Kanma Township and help green the region and its surrounding areas.



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo unveils stone plague of Maday Dam. — A & I

Thanks to the new facility, the region's cultivation capacity will increase to 218 per cent, and that is an augury of better income of local farmers, he said, calling for durability of the dam built at about K 7,000 million, efficient use of irrigation water and avoiding indiscriminate cutting down of trees in the watershed areas, and extensive cultivation of crops.

Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe also delivered a speech.

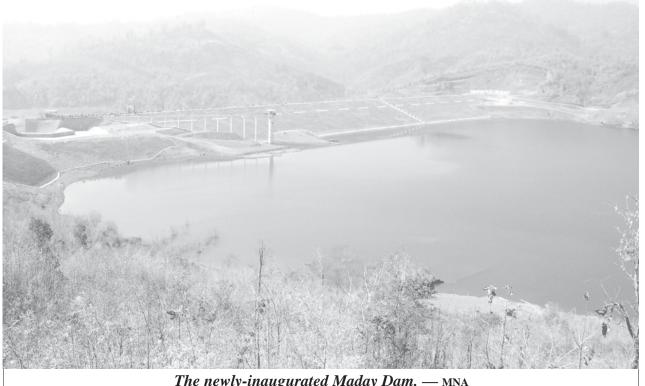
A local resident expressed thanks to the government for the facility.

The minister unveiled the stone plaque of the dam. Next, the minister and the chairman formally opened the facility.

They inspected the embankment, construction of outfall conduit and spillway, and supply of water.

The dam is located near Gyobin Village in Kanma Township, Thayet District. With a 1,920-footlong and 155-foot-high embankment, the dam is on the Maday Creek, whose water catchment area is 76 square miles.—MNA

Thanks to the new facility, the region's cultivation capacity will increase to 218 per cent, and that is an augury of better income of local farmers.



The newly-inaugurated Maday Dam. — MNA

Ministry of Forestry strives to offer correct and efficient services to the public, welcomes complaints about malpractice

Yangon, 27 Feb— As the Government has been striving to serve the interests of the State and the people for giving genuine services in accord with the instructions of the State leaders, the Ministry of Forestry is also trying to offer correct and efficient services to the public through various ways and means.

The Ministry of Forestry issued a statement that the public if they face any of personnel misconduct such as malpractice of bribery and corruption, breaking of rules and regulations or abuse of power and position for self-interest and official harassment may file complaints about them to the ministry on telephone or in person, that official inquiry concerning the cases will be swift and effective.

For any complaint the public may dial 067-405005 (the Minister), 067-405004 (the Head of Office), (fax) 067-405071 (the Ministry of Forestry) at No 28, Nay Pyi Taw, or emails to mofofficepm@mptmail.net.mm.

Quick and punitive action will be taken against staff at all levels, and public cooperation through correct ways is required in combating misconduct.

MNA

YCDC strives to offer correct and efficient services to the public,

welcomes complaints about malpractice

YANGON, 27 Feb— As the Government has been striving to serve the interests of the State and the people for giving genuine services in accord with the instructions of the State leaders, Yangon City Development Committee is also trying to offer correct and efficient services to the public through correct super-

The YCDC issued a statement that the public if they face any of personnel misconduct such as malpractice of bribery and corruption, breaking of rules and regulations or abuse of power and position for self-interest and official harassment may file complaints about them to the YCDC on telephone or in person, that official inquiry concerning the cases will be swift and effective.

For any complaint the public may dial 01-371950 and 01-249045 of the YCDC.

MNA

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အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကို ကျင်းပကာ နိုင်ငံတော်ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံ အခြေခံဥပဒေ ရေးဆွဲရေးအတွက် အခြေခံရမည့်မှုများနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အခြေခံရမည့်မှုများကို အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကိုယ်စားလှယ်များက ညှိနှိုင်းဆွေးနွေး အတည်ပြုချက် ချမှတ်ပေးလျှက်ရှိသည်။

အမျိုးသားညီလာခံသတင်းများကို လေ့လာကြည့်သောအခါ အနာဂတ် နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဌာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ပုံဖော်မှန်းမျှော်

ကြည့်ရှုရလာပြီ ဖြစ်သည်။

အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တွင် ပေါ်ပေါက်လာမည့် ဥပဒေပြုမှုနှင့်စပ်လျဉ်းသည့် အသွင်သဏ္ဌာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ထင်လင်းစွာ ပုံဖော်လာရေးအတွက် စာရေး သူ၏တွေ့ရှိချက်များကို တိုင်းရင်းသားပြည်သူများအား အကိုးအထောက် မှန်ကန်စွာဖြင့် လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းဝေငုထားသည့် —

စိုးမြကျော် ၏

အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဌာန် ဥပဒေပြုမှ အသွင်သက္ကာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ

- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော် တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဌာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အခန်း (၁) ခန်းနှင့် အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်၏ ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဌာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အပိုင်း (၁၃) ပိုင်းပါရှိသည်။
- ရောင်စုံ သရုပ်ဖော်ပုံများနှင့် စာမျက်နှာ (၁၅၀)၊ ရောင်းစျေး ၃၅၀ိ/–



စာပေဗိမာန် စာအုပ်ဆိုင် ၅၂၉-၅၃၁၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။ ဖုန်း - ၃၈၁၄၄၈၊ ၂၄၉၀၃၁

သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ ၂၁၂၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။ ဖုန်း - ၂၉၄၃၀၆

Iran rejects Rice's conditional offer for talks

TEHERAN, 27 Feb — Iran on Monday rejected US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's conditional offer that she is ready to hold direct talks with Iran if Teheran suspends uranium enrichment and reprocessing activities

In an interview with the official IRNA news agency, Iran's chief nuclear negotiator Ali Larijani said that preconditions set by the United States for holding talks with Iran are unacceptable.

"Setting conditions means indicating the outcome of talks prior to holding them. Therefore, such a policy has not been answerable yet," he was quoted as saying.

Larijani reiterated that Iran would be ready to hold talks without preconditions and asked the United States to make a formal request.

"Iran will welcome just negotiations on the issue to solve the existing discords," he said.

He stressed that if the US request is made through official channels and such talks prove to be constructive and rational, Iran will be prepared to consideritina positive way.

Rice said on Sunday that she was prepared to meet her counterpart or an Iranian representative at any time if Iran would suspendits enrichment and reprocessing activities.

The US Secretary of State has made similar offers before and stressed that the United States has no intention to have military confrontation with Iran.

However, Larijani insisted that any country willing to hold talks with Iran should declare it through an official message.

"We give no credit to such stances revealed through media, given that by talking through media the American officials pursue other goals," he was quoted as saying in the interview with IRNA.

MNA/Xinhua

Winter storm kills 9 in US Midwest, moves east

Washington, 27 Feb — A strong winter storm moved into the US eastern coasts Monday after leaving nine deaths in Mideast, CBS News reported.

It hit the eastern coasts with a mix of snow, sleet and freezing rain, slowing travellers and delaying flights, according to the

The storm left behind heavy losses in Mideast.

Nine traffic deaths were blamed on the storm:

eight in Wisconsin and one in Kansas.

More than 300,000 customers were left without power in Iowa, prompting officials to open emergency shelters.

Up to two feet of snow on the upper Midwest, where a second storm was bringing more snow.

"Lingering flurries will produce another inch or two of snow across portions of the Upper Midwest and Great Lakes, while a mixture of rain, sleet and snow will make the Northeast coastline rather sloppy and icy," said meteorologist George Cullen. In the eastern coasts, highway crews scrambled to clear the roads, and hundreds of flights were cancelled.

By dawn Monday, repair crews were responding to outages affecting 2,200 power customers in Maryland, northern Virginia, and Washington DC.

MNA/Xinhua



A combo photo shows Japan's Shohhei Tochimoto (top/L), Takanobu Okabe (top/R), Daiki Ito (bottom/L) and Noriaki Kasai soaring through the air during the trial jump of the large hill team jump at the Nordic World Ski Championships in Sapporo, northern Japan on 25 Feb, 2007. — Internet

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ADVERTISEMENTS

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့်စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် လုပ်ငန်းသုံးစက်ပစ္စည်းများဝယ်ယူရန် တင်ဒါခေါ် ယူခြင်း

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့်စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေး လုပ်ငန်းအတွက် အသုံးပြုရန်လိုအပ်သော အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ လုပ်ငန်းသုံး စက်ပစ္စည်းများကို ယှဉ်တွဲပါ အရေအတွက်များအတိုင်း ဝယ်ယူ လိုပါသည်-

> (1) Copier (A3)

Multimedia Projector (2) Pallet Truck ၆ လုံး (3)

တင်ဒါပေးသွင်းမှုကို (၅–၃–၂၀၀၇) ရက် (၁၆း၃၀) နာရီတွင် ပိတ်ပါမည်။

တင်ဒါပုံစံနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို အောက်ပါလိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက်စုံစမ်းဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်–

ပြည်တွင်း/ပြည်ပပစ္စည်းများဝယ်ယူရေးနှင့်ထုခွဲရောင်းချရေးကော်မတီ ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့်စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်း အမှတ်၂၂၈၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့ ဖုန်း-၃၈၀၈၀၄

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> Win Mu Tin M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L for CATERPILLAR INC. P.O. Box 60, Yangon Dated: 28 February 2007

Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 2nd March (Friday), 2007, being public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments

Central Bank of Myanmar

သစ်တောသစ်ပင်

ချစ်ခင်တဲ့လူမျိုး၊

သစ်ပင်ကို

ရွှေတိုက်ကိုစိုး။

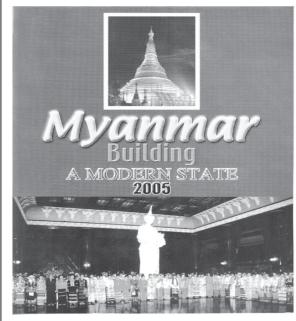
Two brothers killed in US raid in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 26 Feb—Two brothers were killed and two family members detained when US forces raided their house in a neighbourhood in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul late Saturday, a local police source told Xinhua on Sunday.

"A US forces patrol stormed a house in al-Zinjili neighbourhood, in the western city, killing two brothers and detaining two others from the same family," the source said on condition of anonymity.

However, the US military did not confirm the incident. Earlier in the day, two Iraqi policemen were killed and four others wounded in separate attacks in Mosul City, Brigadier-General Sa'eed al-Juburi told Xinhua.

A policeman was killed in a fierce clash with insurgents in al-Dawasa neighbourhood in central Mosul, while the other was killed by insurgents' gunfire near the building of passports department, in the same city, said al-Juburi.— MNA/Xinhua



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Sealed Tenders are invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the following Stores which will be purchased in US Dollar/Euro and Myanmar Kyat;

Quantity Tender No Description <u>Sr.No</u> Mild Steel for New Construction 1-Lot 1. 12(T)20/MR(ML)2006-2007 of Locomotives Mild Steel for New Construction 1-Lot 12(T)21/MR(MC)2006-2007 of Passenger Coaches 12(T)22/MR(ML&CW) Spare Parts for Locomotives and 1-Lot

Carriages & Wagons 2006-2007 Closing Date. 2.4.2007 (Monday) (12:00) Hours

Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from 1.3.2007 during the office hours.

For further details please call:291982,291985,(201555Ext 601,602,605,612) Deputy General Manager

Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botataung, Yangon

<u>ချိပ်ပိတ်တင်ဒါခေါ် ယူခြင်း</u>

၁။ အမှတ်(၁)စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ မြန်မာ့ဆေးဝါးနှင့် အိမ်သုံးပစ္စည်းလုပ်ငန်းလက်အောက်ရှိ၊ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ ဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံအတွက် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ စက်ပစ္စည်းအား ပစ္စည်းလက်ဝယ်ရှိသူထံ မှကုန်စည်ဖလှယ်စနစ်ဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူလိုကြောင်း ကြော်ငြာအပ်ပါသည်။

ပြည်တွင်းအဝယ် ဈေးနှုန်း အဆိုပြုလွှာ (၂၀၀၆–၂၀၀၇) တင်ဒါ ပေးသွင်းရက် ၁/၃/၀၇ တင်ဒါ ပိတ်ရက် ၁၂/၃/၀၇

ပစ္စည်းအမည် Automatic Powder Filling Machine With Automatic Vertical Screw Feeder

(Integratable With Automatic Conveyor Line)

၂။ ချိတ်ပိတ်တင်ဒါပေးသွင်းမှုကို အမှတ်(၁) စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ စက်မှုညွှန်ကြားရေးဦးစီးဌာန၊ နေပြည်တော်သို့ (၁၂.၃.၂၀၀၇) ရက် (၁၄:၀၀) နာရီတွင် နောက်ဆုံးပေးသွင်းရမည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ၃။ တင်ဒါပုံစံနှင့် အသေးစိတ် အချက်အလက်များကို (၁.၃.၂၀၀၇)နေ့ မှစ၍ အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ လိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက် စုံစမ်းဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

အမှတ်(၁)စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန မြန်မာ့ဆေးဝါးနှင့် အိမ်သုံးပစ္စည်းလုပ်ငန်း စီမံကိန်းဌာန နေပြည်တော်–ဖုန်းနံပါတ်–ဝ၆၇–၄ဝ၈၁၄၄

Horse carriages and their drivers race during the annual Festival of Horses in Cebu city, central Philippines, on 24 Feb, 2007. The Festival of Horses is a tourist promotion activity in the island resort of Cebu. The winner of the event will get 3,000 pesos

(*US\$62*).—Internet



<u>အရေတွက်</u>

China to need 4.8 million tons of food additive by 2010

Beijing, 26 Feb — China's food additive industry sees promising future as 4.8 million tons of food additive are in demand by 2010, said the latest report on China's biological industry development.

That is mainly fuelled by the booming food and catering industries, said the report co-compiled by the National Development and Reform Commission and the Chinese Society of Biotechnology.

China has over 1,500 food additive producers turning out 1,600 types of products. The annual output reaches 3.25 million tons worth around 3.5 billion yuan.

The global market size for food additive has reached 20 billion US dollars with annual growth rate between 2.5 to 4 per cent.—MNA/Xinhua

28-2-07NL 12 7/30/18, 10:54 PM

ပညာရေး ဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဖွဲ့ ဖြို့တိုးတက်သော နိ



A lantern exhibition lights up the Yuyuan Garden area, which was one of the city's most popular attractions during the weeklong Spring Festival holiday.—Internet

Study says hormone patches, gels better than pills

Beijing, 26 Feb — A recently released French study of hormone skin patches and gels suggests they are far less likely to cause dangerous blood clots when compared to hormone pills for women struggling with the symptoms of menopause.

Patches and gels are already known to be effective for relieving the hot flashes and sleepinterrupting night sweats that plague many women. No one knows whether they will prove safer than pills in terms of breast cancer, heart attack or stroke risk. A large study currently under way may answer that.

But if they do, it may soften some of the backlash against hormones since a landmark study in 2002 frightened many women away from their use.

Critics of that study have long contended it is the type of estrogen or progestin, the dosage, and the method of taking the hormones that may affect the health

" Part of the reason we think oral estrogens do cause clots is that they pass through the liver and can cause some clotting factors to be produced," said Dr Karen Bradshaw, director of women's health and an endocrinology specialist at UT Southwestern Medical Centre.

Hormones through skin patches are directly

absorbed into the blood stream, and therefore can be given in far lower doses to be effective, she explained.

The study tested Wyeth's Prempro and Premarin, which contain synthetic estrogens made from the urine of pregnant horses. Some people believe estrogens from plant sources are closer to what the human body naturally produces and may be safer. The plant forms are in many competitors' pills and also in patches, creams and gels. —Internet



Momo, a 5-year-old dachshund, receives an ear massage in a pool at 'El Perro', an aqua fitness centre for dogs, in Tokyo on 25 Feb, 2007. The fitness centre has physical training and weight loss programmes and remedies for bone and sinew problems for dogs. —Internet

Breath test detects lung cancer, but dogs better

Beijing, 26 Feb — US researchers reported Sunday a simple breath test device the size of a coin detected three-quarters of the people with lung cancer who the researchers tested. But it had too many false positives — meaning it indicated lung cancer in people who did not have it.

Nonetheless, researchers said their study, published in the journal Thorax, showed such a test is possible in principle if someone developed a more accurate version.

"The unique chemical signature of the breath of patients with lung cancer can be detected with moderate accuracy by a colorimetric sensor array," the researchers wrote.

Catching lung cancer early, when it is still treatable, could save tens of thousands of lives a year in the United States alone. It is the most common form of malignant cancer and also kills the most people, in part because it is not usually detected until it has spread.

Researchers know tumor cells produce different compounds than normal cells. These volatile organic compounds should be detectable, especially in lung cancer, because people exhale air that is affected by the cells."

"The pattern of volatile organic compounds in the exhaled breath of patients with lung cancer may be unique," Dr Peter Mazzone of The Cleveland Clinic in Ohio and colleagues wrote in their report. Tests using large machines called mass spectrometers show such a test should be possible but those tests are very expensive and not viable for the average patient.

So far, the most accudetector has been dogs. In 2006, researchers found dogs could be trained to smell cancer on the breath of patients with 99 percent accuracy. — *Internet*

China's oldest handwritten copy of Koran restored

XINING, 26 Feb — Chinese experts have restored a 700-year-old handwritten copy of the Koran, the sacred book of Islam, in northwest China's Qinghai Province.

The 867-page, two-volume set, the oldest known in China, is written in Arabic and stored in the Jiezi Mosque in Xunhua County. The restoration work was done by experts from the Nanjing Museum.

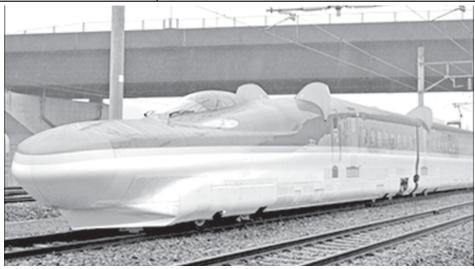
The Koran was brought to China when the Salar ethnic group moved east from Maracanda, the ancient name of Samarkand in Uzbekistan, about 700 years ago. Experts believe it was written between the eighth and the 13th century. "This copy was handwritten by Arabian Muslims, while other ancient copies in China where written by Chinese Muslim," said Ma Weimin, deputy director of the Qinghai Provincial Cultural Heritage Bureau, adding that the copy is a valuable research tool for the study of the origin and history of the Salar ethnic group.—MNA/Xinhua

Gore's 'Inconvenient Truth' wins documentary Oscar

Los Angeles, 26 Feb — "An Inconvenient Truth," the big-screen adaptation of former US vice-president Al Gore's slide-show lecture about the perils of global warming, won the Academy Award on Sunday for documentary feature.

The award went to director Davis Guggenheim and producers Lawrence Bender ("Pulp Fiction") and Laurie David, the environmentalist wife of "Seinfeld" co-creator Larry David.

But the film marked a personal triumph for Gore, the 2000 Democratic presidential nominee who left politics after narrowly losing his White House bid to Republican George W Bush and embarked on a new campaign calling attention to the threat of climate change.— MNA/Reuters



Prototype next-generation bullet train unveiled last year by East Japan Railway. China is in talks with Japanese firms about potentially lucrative orders for advanced bullet train technology for a new high-speed link to its northern cities, a report said on Monday.—Internet

28-2-07NL 13 7/30/18, 10:54 PM

Brazilian referee suspended for sending off wrong player

RIO DE JANEIRO, 27 Feb — A Brazilian referee was suspended on Monday for sending off the wrong player during a match at the weekend.

Rodrigo Martins Cintra has been banned indefinitely following his performance during the Corinthians-Rio Branco match in the Paulista championship, the head of the Paulista Football Federation's referees committee said.

"The mistake happened," Marcos Marinho told reporters. "He thought it was one player but it was a different one. He needs some time to get over it."

The incident happened during the first half when a Corinthians player was tripped by Rio Branco's Josias. However, Cintra showed a yellow card to Felipe who had already been booked and was therefore sent off.

MNA/Reuters

Lille launch appeal against Gigg's goal

Bern, 27 Feb—French side Lille will appeal against UEFA's decision to allow Ryan Giggs's goal in Manchester United's 1-0 Champions League win last week, the European governing body said on Monday.

UEFA on Friday rejected Lille's original complaint over the quicklytaken free kick in the first knockout round first leg last Tuesday.

UEFA's appeals body will now reconsider the case on Friday, just five days before the two sides are due to meet in the second leg at Old Trafford.

Lille representatives will be present at the hearing.

Lille, who had until midnight to appeal, are arguing that Giggs's 82ndminute goal should have been disallowed because it was taken while their players were still preparing for the free kick. A replay could be ordered if the appeal is successful.

"Those who have watched the match know why we are appealing the decision," Lille president Michel Seydoux told Reuters.

"This case must be examined thoroughly and UEFA have to do it. It must be known that the referee influenced the outcome of this game. We had to appeal for moral reasons.

"It is necessary to go all the way in this case and we will go all the way. Our cause is not the cause of Lille against another club or against UEFA, it is a battle by Lille...for all the other clubs, to make sure this never happens again."

Separately, UEFA started proceedings last week against Lille after their players apparently walked off in protest at the goal.— MNA/Reuters

Federer wins opener in Dubai

Dubai, 27 Feb—Roger Federer was presented with a crystal trophy to mark his record 161st consecutive week as world number one before beating Denmark's Kristian Pless 7-6, 3-6, 6-3 to reach the second round of the Dubai Open on Monday. Federer had trouble getting on top of an opponent who served well and made few unforced errors.

The Swiss failed to take advantage of a break point in each of the Dane's first two service games, but he dropped only five points on his own serve as he took the first set in a tiebreak, which he took 7-2.— MNA/Reuters



Calgary Flames forward Kristian Huselius (L) is held by Phoenix Coyotes defenceman Derek Morris during the second period of their NHL game in Calgary, Alberta, on 26 Feb, 2007.

INTERNET

BALLLEAGU

Chelsea's Frank Lampard lifts the League Cup after beating Arsenal during the League Cup final soccer match at the Millenium Stadium in Cardiff, south Wales, on 25 Feb, 2007.—XINHUA

Austria's GAK facing bankruptcy threat

VIENNA, 27 Feb -- Austrian top division side GAK are facing an uncertain future after state prosecutors filed bankruptcy charges against the club.

The move was confirmed by the club in a statement released on their official Web site (www.gak.at) on Monday.

"The board, executive committee and club president have been working intensively in recent months to save GAK following the pullout of marketing firm IMG (in August 2006)," the statement read.

"The situation now facing the club is one that the management have spent large amounts of time and personal funds trying to avoid."

GAK are the second side from the Austrian city of Graz to run into financial difficulty, following similar struggles at rivals Sturm Graz.

MNA/Reuters

Canadian businessman set to complete Marseille takeover

Marseile, 27 Feb— Jack Kachkar should become the new owner of Ligue 1 club Olympique Marseille in the next few days, a spokesman for the Canadian businessman

"The deal is being finalised," the spokesman said. "A few technical details still have to be sorted and should be in a matter

said on Monday.

of days."

Kachkar has offered 115 millions euros (151.5 million US dollars) to buy the former European champions and has delivered financial guarantees to main shareholder Robert Louis-Dreyfus.

Marseille, the most prestigious French club, lifted the European Cup in 1993 and have won

eight league titles.

They were stripped of the French championship in 1993 because of a bribery scandal.

Louis-Dreyfus took over Marseille for the symbolic sum of one franc 10 years ago but has since put about 170 million euros of his personal wealth into the club.

MNA/Reuters

Benfica beat Ferreira 3-1 to close gap on leaders Porto

LISBON, 27 Feb -- Benfica closed to within four points of Portuguese Premier League leaders Porto with a 3-1 win over Pacos Ferreira on Monday.

Porto have 46 points from 19 matches, followed by Benfica on 42 and Sporting, who lost further ground in a goalless draw at home against bottom team Desportivo Aves on Friday, on 39 in third place.

Benfica's captain Simao Sabrosa, who scored twice, put the Lisbon team ahead after eight minutes with a superb free kick from outside the area.

Benfica, unbeaten at home, doubled the lead after 32 minutes when striker Nuno Gomes headed in a cross after neat work on the left by Greek midfielder Giorgios Karagounis. It was Gomes's first goal since December.

The mid-table visiting team pulled a goal back through Brazilian midfielder Fahel in a goalmouth scramble in first half stoppage time.—MNA/Reuters

New York Knicks guard Jamal Crawford (R) celebrates with guard Quentin Richardson after he hit a three-point shot against the Miami Heat, with seconds left in the fourth quarter of their NBA basketball game in New York's Madison Square

Garden on 26 Feb, 2007.—Internet

US to play with China in friendly

CHICAGO, 27 Feb—The United States cellent lead in to the Gold Cup," said will face China in an international friendly on 2 June in the team's final tuneup ahead of the CONCACAF Gold Cup, the US Soccer Federation (USSF) announced on Monday.

Games have already been scheduled against Ecuador on March 25 in Florida and Guatemala on March 28th in Texas before China visit Spartan Stadium in San Jose. The US is currently 2-0 this year under interim head coach Bob Bradley, who replaced Bruce Arena as coach of the men's team following last year's World Cup.

"The match against China is an ex-

India's Sania Mirza returns the ball to Romina Oprandi from Italy during the Qatar Open tennis tournament in *Doha on 26 Feb*, 2007. — Internet

Bradley. "The fans in San Jose, and the Bay Area in general, have always been extremely supportive and we're looking forward to getting our busy summer schedule underway with a good warm up for our regional championship."

The US is expected to field a top squad for the defence of its Gold Cup crown from June 6-24 at venues across the United States.— MNA/Reuters



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Saudi royal says US' oil independence claim a myth

JEDDAH (Saudi Arabia), 27 Feb — The Bush Administration's talk of breaking its dependency on foreign oil is a political myth, Saudi Arabia's former envoy to Washington and royal family member said on Sunday.

"It has become very fashionable for (US) politicians to use the word 'energy independence' or 'independence from foreign oil', and that is basically a political canard politicians and technocrats use," Prince Turki al-Faisal told an economic forum.

Energy has been made into "a sensitive and a controversial political issue particularly in countries like the United States," Prince Turki said in his first public appearance after ending a relatively brief mandate in Washington.

"There is no way that people, whether in the United States or in the world, other countries that consume oil, would simply give up using oil in the next few decades at least, if not more than that," he

US President George W Bush said in the 31 January State of the Union speech the US was "addicted to oil" and should cut Middle East oil imports by 75 per cent by 2025.

Saudi Arabia, which has about a quarter of the world's oil reserves, is one of the top three crude suppliers to the United States.



Volunteers show their green "Smile Wristlets" for Olympic volunteers in a weekend volunteer environment beautification campaign in Beijing, capital of China, on 24 Feb, 2007. Over 1,000 people joined the campaign on Saturday, aiming at promoting the idea of "Green Olympics". The campaign is a part of "Smile Beijing" volunteer project.— XINHUA



Wednesday, 28 February View on today

7:00 am

1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw

U Ottamathara

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise 7:30 am

3. Morning news 7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song 7:55 am

5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:05 am

6. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

8:15 am 7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:25 am

8. နတ်သားတော ရေလှောင်တမံ

8:30 am

9. International news 8:45 am

10. Let's Go 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. အလေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်

ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ

–စတုတ္ထနှစ်(ဥပဒေပညာ အထူးပြု) (ဥပဒေပညာ) 4:55 pm

5. Song of national races

5:05 pm

6. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား 5:15 pm

7. "အရေးကြီးလို့ပါ" (ခင်လှိုင်၊ခင်နွဲ့နွဲ့မှု) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–ခင်နွဲ့နွဲ့မှု)

5:20 pm 8. Classical song

5:30 pm 9. ရှဖွယ်စုံလင်အာ အစီအစဉ်

5:45 pm 10. ရသပေါ် လွင်

သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင် 6:00 pm 11. Evening news

6:30 pm 12. Weather report

6:35 pm 13. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေဉာဏ်ရှင် 7:05 pm

14. Discovery

7:10 pm

15. "မင်းမသိသေးပါဘူးကွာ" (ဧရာ၊ငှက်ပျော်ကြော်၊ ချစ်စရာ၊ကြူကြူသင်း၊ အေးအေးခိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–ဆွေဇင်ထိုက်)

7:15 pm

16. ရှုဖွယ်စုံညီမြန်မာပြည် (အပိုင်း–၃)

7:25 pm

17. The mirror images of the musical oldies

7:35 pm

18. (၁၀)ကြိမ်မြောက်အမျိုးသား ပတ်ဝန်းကျင်သန့်ရှင်းရေး ရက်သတ္တပတ်လှုပ်ရှားမှု အထိမ်းအမှတ်ဆွေးနွေးခန်း 7:45 pm

19. တွေ့ဆုံဆွေးနွေးရေး တွေ့ဆုံဆွေးနွေးရေးဟုဆိုကာ (အပိုင်း–၇)

8:00 pm 20. News

21. International news 22. Weather report

23. လပတ်မိုးလေဝသနှင့် **ဧလဗေဒခန့် မှန်းချက်**

24. Myanmar movie: 'ကျွန်တော်ကခန့် ချော" (ကျော်ဟိန်း၊ခင်သီတာထွန်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–ဧမ္မူထွန်း မြတ်ထွန်းနိုင်)

25. The next day's programme

MNA/Reuters

Wednesday, 28 February Tune in today

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

-Iron horse **8:40** am Perspectives

8:45 am Music: -Kissy Kissy 8:50 am National news/

Slogan 9:00 am Music:

-Ain't live

without your love 9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music:

-Jump for my love

1:30 pm News / Slogan 1:40 pm Lunch time

music -Evergreen -Could this be

love

-Do you remember 9:00 pm Variations on a

tune -Right here

waiting

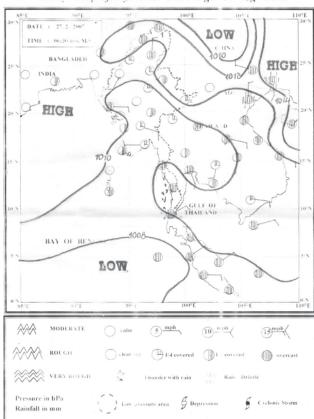
9:15 pm Article 9:25 pm Music at your

request -Radio heart

-Pretty baby

9:45 pm News / Slogan **10:00 pm** PEL

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Tuesday, 27 February, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Rakhine and Mon States and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Lashio and Heho (6°C) each. The noteworthy amount rainfalls recorded was Putao (0.04) inch.

Maximum temperature on 26-2-2007 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 27-2-2007 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 27-2-2007 was 77%. Total sunshine hours on 26-2-2007 was (9.5) hours approx.

Rainfall on 27-2-2007 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 (3) mph from Southwest at (15:15) hours MST on 26-2-2007.

Bay inference: Weather will be partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 28-2-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin, Northern and Eastern Shan States and upper Sagaing Division and weather will be partly cloudy in lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Northern Myanmr areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 28-2-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 28-2-2007: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 28 -2-2007: Partly cloudy.

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Construction tasks of Ayeyawady river crossing bridge (Yadanabon) inspected



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence inspects construction of road linking Yamethin and Tatkon townships. — MNA

and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council | struction project on Mandalay side on an inspection

Mandalay, 27 Feb — Member of the State Peace | Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and responsible personnel arrived at the briefing hall of Ayeyawady river crossing bridge (Yadanabon) con-

tour yesterday. First, Director U Htay Myint of Ayeyawady river crossing bridge (Yadanabon) construction project briefed Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party on (See page 8)

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than on inspection tour of Buthidaung, Rathedaung townships



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of Ministry of Defence inspects cultivation of winter crops in Buthidaung Township. — MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 27 Feb — Member of the ment Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Maung Shein and officials met with Tatmadaw members and families at Naymyo hall of border areas immigration control command in Maungtaw on 21 February.

Than told them to serve by the State, to undertake agriculture and livestock breeding tasks and to be loyal to the country. Next, he greeted the Tatmadaw members.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected cultivation of physic nut. meeting with Tatmadaw members and families of the regional battalion, he called for cooperation in regional development tasks and he

Lt-Gen Khin Maung | provided cash to them.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung State Peace and Develop- the five duties laid down Than inspected cultivation of summer paddy and cold season crops at the station. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party went to Buthidaung Township Peace and Development Council Office and met officials concerned. Commander Brig-Gen Maung Shein and officials reported on work done in the township.

> Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said there is rice (See page 9)

Twelve members quit NLD

YANGON, 27 Feb—U Nyan Thaung, U Daung Nyo, U Win Shwe, U A Wan Maung, U Tun Tun, U Tin Soe, U Hla Shwe, U Thein Naing, Daw Tin Sein, Daw Aye Aye Naing, Daw Kyaw Thu Ma and Daw Tint totalling 12 from Thaungyin Village, Sagaing Township, Sagaing Division, resigned of their own accord as members of the National League for Democracy.

Of their own volition, they wrote a collective resignation letter and sent it to the NLD Headquarters and local administrative organs on 13 February.

In the letter they sent to Sagaing Township Multi-Party Democracy General Election Sub-commission, they said that they resigned of their own accord from the NLD as they grew weary of the party and no longer took interest in party politics due to its lack of specific political policies, disunity among the party leaders, failure to participate in regional development tasks, party leaders' attention to seizing power and own interests, lack of qualification in politics and seeking political gains.

MNA

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