

Senior General Than Shwe sends message on Peasants Day

Mass of peasants duty-bound to arm themselves with anti-colonialist sentiment

Ward off dangers of neo-colonialists and their lackey axe-handles for ensuring perpetuation of sovereignty

YANGON, 2 March — *The following is a translation of the message sent by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe on the occasion of the Peasants Day (2007).*

Esteemed peasantry,

On this auspicious occasion of 2 March marked as the Peasants Day to honour the entire mass of the peasantry, who are striving for ensuring food security and development of the nation, I wish them physical and mental well-being and success in their farming and better serving the interests of the nation and the people.

Now, the government is implementing the political, economic and social

objectives for transforming the Union of Myanmar into a peaceful, modern and developed nation to see that it is on a par with the international level. In pursuit of this goal, it, in the economic sector, has designated agriculture as the base of the State's economy. Agriculture that covers the entire nation is major commodity production kept in the hands of the peasantry. And it brings socio-economic development to the peasants and contributes towards national economy.

(See page 9)

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing offer 'soon' to State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws, religious title recipient Sayadaws

YANGON, 1 March — Under the aegis of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing, families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) offered 'soon' and alms to member Sayadaws of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and State Central Working Committee of the Sangha, Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Sayadaws and religious title recipient Sayadaws at Zeyathiri Beikman Hall on Konmyinttha, here, this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development
(See page 16)



Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing offer alms to Sayadaws. — MNA

HONOURING THE PEASANTS DAY

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 2 March, 2007

Do meritorious deeds on Full Moon Day of Taboung

Today is Full Moon Day of Taboung 1368 Myanmar Era. Taboung, the last month in Myanmar lunar year, falls between the cold season and the hot season. Despite the beginning of the hot season, the north icy wind still passes and it is still foggy. Mountains and forests are pleasant with seasonal flowers in bloom such as Ingyin and Tharaphi and sweet songs of birds.

In 103 Great Era, King Suddhodhana, father of the Buddha, sent Kaludayi minister for Him who was then expounding sermons to the audience at Veluvan, Rajagjo. Kaludayi minister, after hearing the teachings, became Arahat and, reciting 64 verses that portrayed the pleasant month Taboung and the route between two provinces, supplicated on the king's request to Him.

To fulfil the request, Lord Buddha left Rajagjo for Kapilawut on the first Waning of Taboung and expounded sermons to the king and Gotami.

Now, the farming season is over and farmers are flushed with money gained from sales of their agricultural produce. Previously, sand pagoda-building festival was held in Taboung and Myanmar Buddhists build sand pagodas on beaches along rivers and creeks, mindful of the Supreme Attributes of the Buddha.

Today, instead of building sand pagodas, people hold Buddha Pujaniya festivals of famous pagodas in their locality and Patthana reciting ceremonies on a grand scale, and offer alms food and alms to members of the Sangha.

On the auspicious occasion of Taboung, Buddhists are exhorted to perform meritorious deeds, while contemplating the Supreme Attributes of the Buddha.

Minister meets CIE Deputy Minister, ROK

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb— Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint met with Mr Lee Jae Hoon, Deputy Minister of Commerce, Industry and Energy of the Republic of Korea, at the minister's office here on 26 February.

Also present at the call were officials of the departments and enterprises under the ministry.—MNA

UMFCCI to hold annual general meeting, trade fair

YANGON, 28 Feb— The Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry will hold its 16th annual general meeting at UMFCCI Tower at No 29, Min Ye Kyaw Swa Street, in Lanmadaw on 10 March.

The annual general meeting along with seminars and a trade fair will be launched on a grand scale.

The UMFCCI has already reminded its members, member companies and member associations from states and divisions to join the federation. Contacts can be made with the federation— (Telephone: 214344, 214345 and 214346). —H

Peoples' Desire

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

Commander attends seeding of summer paddy in Lewe Township



Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin inspects Yanaungmyin Dam in Lewe Township.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb — Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, accompanied by Chairman of Pinyinana District Peace and Development Council U Khin Maung Zaw and departmental officials, inspected sowing of summer paddy seeds and use of water from Yanaungmyin Dam near Yanaungmyin Village in Lewe Township yesterday.

They viewed sowing of summer paddy seeds on 21 acres of land in Yanaungmyin Village of Lewe Township. The commander gave instructions on efforts to

be made for ensuring food surplus, and fulfilled the requirements of the farmers.

At Yanaungmyin Dam, they viewed the spillway and the embankment. Assistant Director U Myo Myint Aung reported on matters related to the dam.

Yanaungmyin Dam has 11 square miles of watershed area and is supplying water to 2,500 acres of farmland through two canals. Later, the commander and party viewed supply of water along the canals and thriving summer paddy. — MNA

Minister urges farmers to use bio diesel as fuel, inspects Ma Mya Dam

YANGON, 27 Feb — Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo participated in the collective cultivation of physic nut plant in Kanma Township, Magway Division, on 25 February and called on residents for using bio diesel extracted from physic nut oil for running agricultural machinery.

At the tree planting ceremony held at Thabyaygaing Nursery in the township, the minister and Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe planted physic nut saplings along with members of social organizations, departmental officials and local people.

Afterwards, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo went to Padaung Township, Pyay District, and inspected arrangements for putting 4,500 acres of land under plum trees by a private company.

On his tour of Myanaung Township, Ayeyawady Division, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo also inspected Ma Mya Dam Project which is nearing completion.

Although it is not fully completed, the dam has supplied irrigation water to over 360 acres of land for summer paddy cultivation during the construction period through its completed water supply channels.

The conduit pipe and control tower are fully completed while some parts of the main dam are under construction. On his tour, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo also met with members of Ayeyawady Division Agricultural Coordination Committee and called for putting more efforts for boosting agricultural production of the region.

Secretary-General of Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htay Oo also met with executives and members of USDA in the region, and urged them to participate in implementing the regional development tasks. Thanks to the implementation of Five Rural Areas Development Tasks, people in rural areas have enjoyed the fruits of development, the minister said. — MNA



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo visits Ma Mya Dam Project.— A&I

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Italian PM survives Senate vote

LONDON, 28 Feb—Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi has won a confidence vote in the Senate, allowing him to continue in office.

The narrow victory, by 162-157, came a week after Mr Prodi lost a Senate vote on his foreign policy, prompting the centre-left

government to stand down.

President Giorgio Napolitano had asked him to stay on and put his cabinet to a confidence vote in parliament.

On Friday the PM will face another vote in lower house, where he has a large majority and is ex-

pected to win.

"I am very satisfied, now we'll go to the lower house," Mr Prodi told reporters after Wednesday's vote.

He resigned last week after nine months in office, when two Communist members of his coalition voted against him in the Senate, tipping the vote against him.

They objected to troop deployments in Afghanistan and plans to expand the Vicenza US airbase in northern Italy.

Internet



Humanoid robot HRP-2 pours green tea into a cup during a demonstration at Tokyo University, on 28 Feb, 2007. —XINHUA

Robbers kill three French aid workers in Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO, 28 Feb—One or more assailants stabbed to death three French aid workers in an apartment in the crime-ridden Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro, police said on Tuesday, describing the blood-soaked scene as "monstrous".

The bodies of two men and a woman, who worked with drug addicts, were found in the apartment in the Copacabana Beach neighbourhood after an apparent break-in and robbery.

"The scene of the crime is monstrous. Three people are dead with knife wounds and there is blood all over the place," police Lieutenant-Colonel Eraldo Rodrigues told reporters.

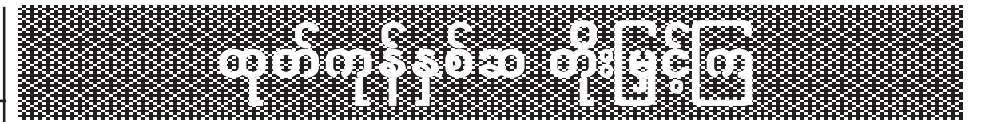
One of the victims was tied up.

Police arrested one suspect who was trying to leave the building in the morning, his clothes covered with blood and a safe box from the apartment hidden in his bag.

They said the Brazilian man, who had cuts on his hands, identified himself as an employee of the same Terra Ativa nongovernmental organization where the victims worked.

He initially denied having killed the victims, saying two other men killed them and ran away, but an investigator said he started to confess the crime at the police station. —MNA/Reuters

Chinese workers pluck tea at a pollution-free tea garden in Zhaoping County, Southwest China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 25 Feb, 2007. —XINHUA



Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Fradkov(L) and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe(R) speak to reporters after a signing ceremony for cooperation agreements with Japan at the latter's official residence in Tokyo, on 28 Feb. Japan and Russia looked on Wednesday to expand trade as they agreed to cooperate on nuclear energy. —INTERNET

Envoy says Iran could respond anywhere to US attack

MOSCOW, 28 Feb—If the United States were to attack Iran, Teheran would retaliate immediately and could attack anywhere, Iran's ambassador to Moscow Gholamreza Ansari said on Tuesday.

"Should the US make the mistake of attacking Iran, I am certain that the Iranian people will teach them a good lesson," Ansari told a news conference in Moscow, according to the Interfax news agency.

"We do not put any

limits on where we will hit — we may retaliate anywhere," Ansari added.

Tension has risen over Iran's nuclear programme, pushing up the price of oil and the value of safe-haven assets such as bonds and gold. The West fears Iran is trying to build nuclear

weapons but Teheran says the programme is only for electricity.

US Vice-President Dick Cheney has said all options are on the table after Iran's refusal to heed a UN deadline for halting uranium enrichment. An Iranian deputy foreign

minister responded by saying Iran was prepared even for war. Ansari said it was "possible" that the United States would attack Iran, Interfax reported. But he added: "We believe that this (US threats) will turn out to be a psychological war." —MNA/Reuters

Explosion kills 18 outside US military base in Afghanistan

KABUL, 28 Feb—A bomb explosion believed to be suicide attack killed at least 18 people outside a US military base in Afghanistan on Tuesday as US Vice President Dick Cheney stayed unhurt inside the base, officials said.

Afghan Interior Ministry spokesman Zamarai Bashari told Xinhua that the explosion killed 18 people including three foreign soldiers at around 10:00 am local time at the gate of the Bagram US military base, some 50 kilometres north of

Kabul.

However, a police officer at the site told Xinhua that the blast killed 19 persons including three US soldiers, one Afghan soldier, two Pakistani drivers and 13 local labors.

He said at least 12 people were injured in the powerful explosion.

US soldiers cordoned off the explosion site, and US fighter planes were hovering overhead.

Richard Simenson, a Press officer at the base, said Cheney was inside the base when explosion occurred, but he was unhurt.

A Taliban spokesman, Qari Yousef Ahmadi, said the Taliban had carried out the suicide bombing and Cheney was the target.

MNA/Xinhua

UN warns of 'lethal' fake drugs

UNITED NATIONS, 28 Feb—Fake prescription medicines are swamping developing nations with sometimes deadly consequences, a report by the UN drugs watchdog has said.

The International Narcotics Control Board report says up to 50% of the medicines in these markets are fake.

It also says abuse of prescription drugs will soon overtake that of illegal narcotics worldwide.

The board said governments had to enforce existing laws and bring in

new ones on illegal internet drug sales.

Courier services, the general mail and local markets were other major means of counterfeit sales, it said.

The report said the fakes market was "increasing rapidly".

"It exposes patients to serious health risks by providing access to poorly or incorrectly labelled medicines that are ineffective, substandard and, in some cases, even lethal," it said.

The board's President, Philip Emafo, said: "Gains over the past years

in international drug control may be seriously undermined by this ominous development if it remains unchecked.

"Instead of healing, fake drugs can take lives."

The report said the UN and the World Health Organization should help member states that do not have the resources to tackle the counterfeiters and traffickers.

The Vienna-based

drugs watchdog also said prescription drug abuse had outstripped heroin, cocaine and Ecstasy in some parts of Europe, Africa and South Asia.

Only cannabis was more abused than prescription drugs in the US, it said. A recent study found that almost 90% of internet pharmacies did not require a prescription to send out controlled drugs, she says.—*Internet*

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Hamas political leader Khaled Meshaal (L) and Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov shake hands as they meet in Moscow 27 Feb, 2007.

XINHUA



A doll, known as Hina in Japan, is displayed for the upcoming Japanese Doll Festival slated for 3 March, in Katuura city, Chiba, east of Tokyo, on 25 Feb, 2007. —XINHUA

German convicted of stealing buffet for 60 people

BERLIN, 28 Feb — A jobless German has been handed a five-month suspended jail term for stealing a buffet for 60 people and eating it with friends, authorities said on Tuesday.

Using a false name, the 46-year-old from the western city of Dortmund ordered the 3,700-euro (4,890 US dollars) feast to be sent to the club house

of a garden allotment colony.

Shortly after the caterers delivered the food, he called the company to say they had made a mistake and he would return the order.

As puzzled club house guests looked on, he loaded the buffet into his car and sped off.

The food was never seen again — but the man

was recognized one day by one of the club house guests, who told the police, the presiding judge at the court in Dortmund said.

"The man said he wanted to treat his friends to something special," said Judge Gerhard Breuer. "I told him his story would make a good movie."

MNA/Reuters

Italy launches emergency plan as volcano erupts

ROME, 28 Feb — An Italian volcanic island popular with tourists has started to erupt more violently than usual, sending a flow of lava into the sea, emergency services said on Tuesday, advising locals to keep away from the danger areas.

"There's a general alert," said a member of the Civil Protection for the

Aeolian Islands, off Sicily.

"The emergency services are monitoring the situation, clearing zones at risk

... But at the moment we do not foresee an evacuation."

Stromboli, a classic

cone-shaped island, is a constantly active volcano, attracting thousands of visitors every year to climb to its summit and admire the regular blasts of molten rock, but more powerful eruptions can be dangerous.—MNA/Reuters

Bouquets of flowers and jars containing candles sit in front of a sculpture of giraffes at the main entrance to the Denver Zoo in east Denver on 25 Feb, 2007. A zookeeper was mauled to death by a jaguar on 24 Feb at the zoo. — INTERNET

China awards top science prize to scientists, enterprises

BEIJING, 28 Feb — China granted its state scientific and technological awards here Tuesday to scientists and enterprises that have made remarkable progress in technological innovation.

Senior leaders Hu Jintao, Wen Jiabao, Zeng Qinghong and Li Changchun attended the event and presented the awards.

The ceremony was jointly held by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council. — MNA/Xinhua

Ten Vietnamese sailors rescued after ship capsizes in S China

NANNING, 28 Feb— Ten Vietnamese sailors from a sunken coaler were salvaged near Qinzhou Port, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on Tuesday.

The Vietnamese

ship, with registered number of QN5489, capsized in rough seas at 3 am and its crew of ten sailors fell into water about five nautical miles from the coast, according to the rescuers.

The rescue operation

took four hours, they said.

The local government has provided food, clothes, shoes for the sailors and has taken them to hospital for medical check-ups.

MNA/Xinhua



ECONOMIC NEWS

India budget focuses on farming

LONDON, 28 Feb—India's government has unveiled its annual budget, saying agriculture "must top the agenda of policy-makers".

The finance minister said unless India could be self-sufficient in food, this could upset "macro-economic growth stability and growth prospects".

The governing Congress party also said high growth would be critical as a way to fight widespread poverty.

However, the government said that economic growth, at 8.6% in the third quarter, had also pushed inflation up.

Analysts greeted the government's 6.81 trillion

rupee (£78bn; \$153bn) budget positively.

"The good part is that the budget is not anti-inflationary," said Ras-hesh Shah, chief executive of Edelweiss Capital. However, Finance Minister P a l a n i a p p a n Chidambaram said the government still had concerns over inflation.

While India had already taken "a number of measures on the fiscal, monetary and supply sides to maintain price stability", it would take more measures if needed.

There had been fears that anti-inflation measures could limit growth in Asia's fourth-largest economy.—INTERNET

Mumbai Stock Exchange. Indian share prices fell 2.38 percent in morning trade in line with a wave of selling that has swept global markets on fears of a US economic slowdown.—INTERNET



Trucks transport wind turbine blades in Lianyungang City, East China's Jiangsu Province, on 27 Feb, 2007. The 37.5-metre blade is the biggest one on the domestic market.—XINHUA

China-Russia trade promotes mutual cooperation on equal footing

Moscow, 28 Feb—Both China and Russia have benefitted from the rapid development of bilateral trade that represents mutual cooperation on an equal footing, the Chinese Ambassador to Moscow said on Monday.

The acceleration of China-Russia trade in recent years reflects the need for and the reality of the economic expansion

of both countries, Chinese Ambassador Liu Guchang told a Press conference marking "Year of China" in Russia.

The economic and trade cooperation between the two countries enjoys broad prospects with huge potential to be tapped, he told reporters.

Both countries are at a stage of rapid development, with demand for the expansion of bilateral

trade and economic ties to further promote domestic production, Liu said.

China and Russia are highly complementary due to their differences in economic structure and business potential, he said.

Both sides have accumulated years of experience in economic and trade cooperation, and are seeing more and more opportunities, he added.

The expansion of trade and economic ties between China and Russia is a matter of course since it contributes to foundations for their strategic partnership, Liu said.

MNA/Xinhua



Indonesia eyes 20% rise in export

JAKARTA, 28 Feb—The Indonesian Government expects a 20-per-cent growth target for exports this year despite a weakening global economy and internal problems, including the high cost of doing business here.

"We will stick by the target set by the President despite the slowing down of the world economy and some internal factors," Vice-President Jusuf Kalla was quoted Tuesday by English daily *The Jakarta Post* as saying.

Kalla insisted that the 20-per-cent target could still be attained given remarkable export growth last year, when exports hit a new record at slightly more than 100 billion dollars, or 19.7 per cent higher than in 2005.

"We realize there are problems, like the overall state of our infrastructure, bureaucratic issues, concerns related to our image, energy supplies, etc. However, progress is now being made," Kalla said after a Cabinet meeting Monday.

"The financial situation is no longer an issue. We need to improve our promotion, standardization, productivity and coordination, which will have to be done jointly with business players and the banks." In order to achieve the target, the government would prioritize increased export volumes for 10 commodity groups that together accounted for 44.8 per cent of last year's total export value.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam attracts more FDI in first two months

HANOI, 28 Feb—Vietnam has lured 781 million US dollars in foreign direct investment (FDI) so far this year, a year-on-year rise of one per cent, according to a local investment agency on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the country saw FDI disbursement of 350 million dollars, up 34 per cent over the same period last year, said the Foreign Investment Agency under the Ministry of Planning and Investment.

In 2006, Vietnam enticed 10.2 billion dollars in FDI, the biggest-ever amount in a year, and up 49.1 per cent against 2005. Of the amount, 7.8 billion dollars came from 833 fresh projects and the remainder from additional capital of 486 operational projects, said the agency.

"We have targeted FDI of 10.2 billion dollars in 2007," the agency said, noting that Vietnam is focusing on luring major

projects which "either use high technology or turn out products with high competitiveness".

MNA/Xinhua



People walk past outdoor display boards near a bank at the central business district in Singapore 28 Feb, 2007. Most Southeast Asian stocks suffered their biggest one-day declines since the aftermath of the 11 Sept, 2001 attacks as investors sold off shares in a panic, following the slump in global markets.—INTERNET



Malaysia's Army chief General Muhammad Ismail Jamaluddin, standing on right inside the jeep, inspects the armed force troops during the Malaysia's 74th Army Day celebrations in the southern town of Port Dickson, Malaysia, on 1 March, 2007.—INTERNET

Indian Foreign Secretary, UNSG discuss UN reforms

UNITED NATIONS, 28 Feb—Indian Foreign Secretary Shivshankar Menon held wide-ranging discussions with United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon during which he emphasised New Delhi's concerns on proposals to reform the UN Secretariat.

After the half-an-hour meeting last evening, Menon said that they discussed the reform proposals in UN but did not elaborate.

Asked about Ban's reaction, he said, "Let's see what comes out".

Though the Foreign Secretary did not go into the details, India is especially concerned about the proposal to bifurcate

the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO).

New Delhi has repeatedly made it clear that Ban must ensure that there is no breakdown of the command structure which adversely impacts on the peacekeepers on the ground.

India had third largest number of peacekeepers.

Ban had proposed that the Department be bifurcated into operations and support with each headed by an Under-Secretary General.

But India along with other troop contributors had expressed the concern it could lead delay in peacekeepers getting vital support

fighting equipment at crucial time.—MNA/PTI



American singer Norah Jones performs during the 'Festival di Sanremo' Italian songs contest, in San Remo, Italy, on 27 Feb, 2007. Norah Jones is one of the international guest stars featuring in the show, running on Italian State TV RAI through on 3 March. INTERNET

China calls for peaceful solution to Iran nuclear standoff

BEIJING, 28 Feb—China reiterated on Tuesday its position on Iranian nuclear issue.

"Our position is consistent," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang told a regular Press conference. "We advocate a peaceful solution through diplomatic negotiation."

The five permanent UN Security Council members and Germany met in London on Monday for further moves to make Iran comply with demands to end its nuclear programme.

When asked about

whether China will seek tougher measures against Iran, Qin said sanctions are not the purpose.

"Any move of the Security Council should help resolving the issue through peaceful and appropriate means," he

said.

Chinese Ambassador to Britain Zha Peixin attended the meeting and the six parties were still committed to seeking a negotiated solution, Qin said.

MNA/Xinhua

Hong Kong airport to limit hand carried liquids, gels

HONG KONG, 28 Feb — Hong Kong airport, the world's fifth busiest international passenger hub, will start screening liquids, gels and aerosols in carry-on baggage in March to bring it in line with international practices, the government said in a statement.

All liquids, gels, aerosols in cabin baggage must be carried in containers with a capacity not greater than 100 ml (3.520 fl oz) and the containers have to fit comfortably in a transparent re-sealable plastic bags no larger than one 1 litre, the new rules say.

Exceptions will be made for medications, baby milk and food and special dietary requirements subject to verification, it said.

The security bureau on Wednesday declined to say whether there had been any specific threats, and the police did not have an immediate comment, but the government statement, issued on Tuesday evening, said the rules were being implemented to bring Hong Kong in line with the new guidelines of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

MNA/Reuters

Peruvian police arrest five carrying undocumented gold, silver

LIMA, 28 Feb—Peru's National Police have arrested five people, who were accused of carrying undocumented precious metals, an Interior Ministry spokesman said on Tuesday. The spokesman said the suspects, who smuggled nearly 70 kilos of gold and 20 kilos of silver, were captured in Puno, a department on the Peruvian plains on Monday night.

The arrested included two members of the Quenta family: Raul, 27 and Ramon, 54; Luis Escobar, 28 and two children aged between eight and 10, whom the spokesman did not name.

Police suspected the gold was being smuggled from Bolivia to Peru's capital. In a separate

incident, Ecuadorians Luis Rodriguez, 57, and Ana Ramirez, 48, were arrested with 20 kilos of silver bars

which were to be sold in the neighbouring Peruvian city of Piura.

MNA/Xinhua

Fire destroys 15 hectares of Venezuela's national park

CARACAS, 28 Feb — Fire destroyed more than 15 hectares of the Catuche sector of the Caracas National Park El Avila, Caracas newspaper *El Universal* said on Tuesday.

National Parks Institute staff, fire brigades, national guards, volunteers and civil protection groups worked together to put out the fire, which started on Monday.

Henry Pena, the national coordinator of forest fires, said the fire was caused by a drought.

Since December 2006, a total of 19 fires, excluding the one on Monday, had burnt 25 hectares of parks in Venezuela. — MNA/Xinhua



The wreckage of a carriage is seen near the track following the train's turnover caused by sand storm in Turpan, Northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, 28 Feb, 2007. Eleven carriages were blown off the track when the train was on its way from Urumchi to Aksu, leaving four dead and over 100 injured, Xinhua reported. —XINHUA



Albert Fulp shovels snow from his driveway in Pollock Pines, Calif, on 28 Feb, 2007. Winter storms have blanketed the Sierra Nevada, bringing as much as 2 feet of snow on Tuesday. — INTERNET

Castro will resume duty in "near future"

BEIJING, 1 March — A visiting senior Cuban official said here on Wednesday that Cuban leader Fidel Castro is recovering in a "satisfying" speed and will return to his duty in "near future".

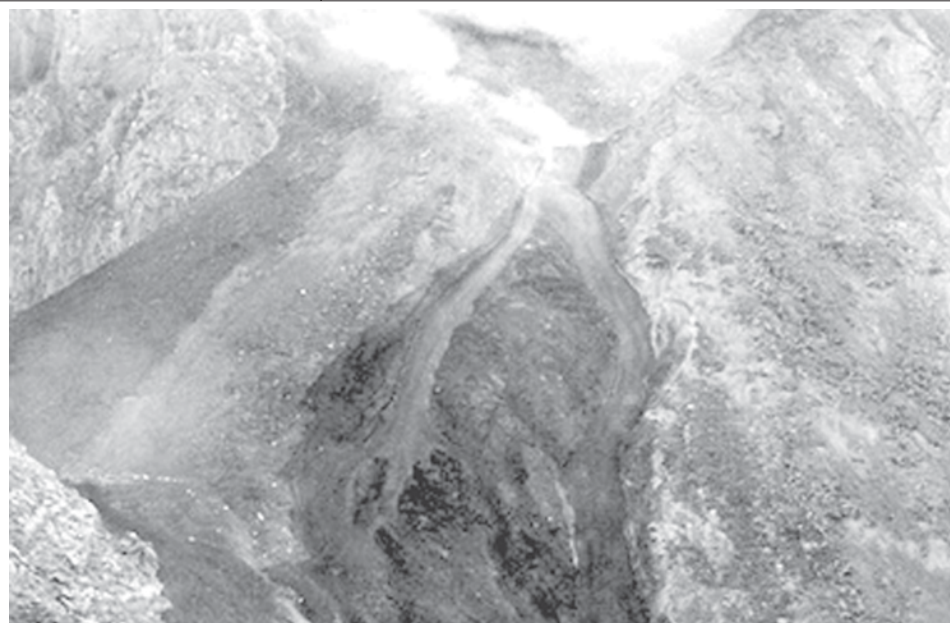
Fernando Ramirez de Estenoz, head of the ruling Cuban Communist Party's (PCC) international relations committee, made the remarks during meeting with Liu Yandong, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and vice-chairwoman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, China's top advisory body.

Cuba, its people and PCC all are faced with challenges during the period when Castro's health is in poor condition, Ramirez de Estenoz said, condemning the US Government and the Miami-based anti-Cuban "counterrevolutionists" for predicting that there would be chaos in Cuba and for their attempts to topple down the Cuban Government.

However, currently "absolute" stability is maintained in Cuba because most Cuban people hope to keep stable domestic situation,

Ramirez de Estenoz said. Fidel Castro, 80, had an intestinal operation on 27 July, 2006. Four days later he handed over power temporarily to his younger brother, Raul Castro.

"We were happy with the news that Castro is recuperating," Liu said, "and also happy to see Cuba keeping its momentum of growth under the leadership of the acting President Raul Castro." — *MNA/Xinhua*



An aerial view of the Stromboli island volcano during eruptive activity in southern Italy, on 28 Feb, 2007. Lava continued to pour down Stromboli's slopes and into the Mediterranean near Sicily as experts continued to monitor eruption activity on one of Europe's most active volcanoes. — INTERNET

Warming, sea level rise threaten 42 mln Brazilians

RIO DE JANEIRO, 1 March — The average temperature in Brazil can rise by four degrees Celsius by the year 2100 and is expected to prompt a sea level rise of half a metre and threaten 42 million Brazilians who live in coastal areas, according to a report released by the Environment Ministry on Tuesday.

The report was based on a 2004-2006 research carried out by the Centre of Weather Forecast and Climatic Studies, together with the National Institute of Space Research. It focused on the effects of climate changes on the country's biodiversity and

pointed out Rio de Janeiro is the city that is the most vulnerable to sea level rise.

In a more pessimistic scenario in which global warming would continue at the same pace as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recently revealed, Brazil's

average temperature, which is currently 24.9 degrees Celsius, could reach up to 28 degrees in the 21st Century.

At the same time, deforestation and the emission of greenhouse gases could provoke an eight-degree Celsius increase in the temperature of the Amazon rain forests.

The study showed that the Atlantic Ocean has been

rising by an average 40 centimetres per century in the Brazilian coast. However, due to effects of global warming, sea level rise can hit 50 centimetres in this century.

Environment Minister Marina Silva said on Tuesday that Brazil must inaugurate a new civilizing process, otherwise it will be very hard to live with those effects. — *MNA/Xinhua*

WHO says neurological disorders affect 1bln people

GENEVA, 1 March — Neurological disorders ranging from migraines to epilepsy and dementia affect up to 1 billion people worldwide and the toll will rise as populations age, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Tuesday.

The number of people suffering from Alzheimer's and other debilitating dementias, currently 24.3 million people, is expected to double every 20 years, with prevalence levels rising in developing countries, it said.

In a report entitled "Neurological Disorders: Public Health Challenges", the UN agency said that neurological care should become part of basic health care so that underdetected disabilities were diagnosed and treated, especially in Africa.

"Unless immediate action is taken globally, the neurological burden is expected to become an even more serious and unmanageable threat to public health," the WHO said. — *MNA/Reuters*

US University campus shut down in anthrax scare

WASHINGTON, 1 March — A Midwestern US university campus was shut down Tuesday after suspicious white powders were found, but it finally turned out to be a scare, CBS News reported.

The powders were found in an engineering building of the University of Missouri's campus in Rolla, Missouri, according to the report.

The police first suspected that the powders could be anthrax and the campus was shut down for the day.

Later, after being tested at a state laboratory, the powders finally turned out to be sugar instead of anthrax. The university then announced that the campus will reopen on Wednesday. — *MNA/Xinhua*

German survey shows poorer people drive slowly

FRANKFURT, 1 March — The poor drive slowly on Germany's motorways while the better-off regularly drive faster than recommended and with scant regard to petrol consumption, a survey published on Tuesday showed.

Only 37 per cent of drivers with a net income below 1,500 euros (1,982 US dollars) a month drove faster than 130 kilometres (80 miles) per hour, the TNS Infratest poll said. But among motorists earning more than 2500 euros a month, almost every second person exceeded the recommended speed on German motorways and paid less attention to fuel consumption and environmental pollution.

For the survey, TNS Infratest polled 1002 people 18-years-old and over holding driving licences in February 2007 on behalf of online second-hand car dealer mobile.de. — *MNA/Reuters*

St Petersburg crane collapse kills 3

ST PETERSBURG (Russia), 1 March — A construction crane collapsed onto a building in Russia's second city of St Petersburg on Tuesday, killing three people including a baby.

The Ministry of Emergency Situations said a crane hit a 12-storey building in the northern part of the city, destroying the top four floors. All the victims were from the building. The crane had no operator.

"A man, a woman and a child aged one year and two months died," said a ministry spokeswoman. She said two people were injured. It was not clear why the crane had collapsed.

In April 2003 a crane in St Petersburg toppled onto a 9-storey building, killing one person. — *MNA/Reuters*

Greek fighter plane crashes near air base

ATHENS, 1 March — A Greek Air Force *Mirage* fighter jet crashed near the Tanagra military air base on Tuesday. The pilot successfully ejected to safety, an announcement said.

According to the Defence Ministry, the *Mirage 2000* crashed in the Evoikos Gulf Region near Mount Chitypas shortly after taking off from Tanagra.

A rescue operation has been launched to find and bring the pilot to safety. Based on the information so far, the crash is provisionally attributed to mechanical failure. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing offer 'soon' to State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws...



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing donate robes and offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA

(from page 16) the chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon Mayor and their

Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Kumara. Members of the Sangha recited Metta Sutta.



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San donate robes and provisions to a Sayadaw. — MA

wives, deputy ministers, the director-general of the SPDC Office and departmental heads.

The Senior General and wife donated robes, alms bowl and provisions to the Chair-

Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Osadha-

Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Agghiya.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife

Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Kundalajoti.

Likewise, SPDC members, senior military officers, the commander,

Nyaungdon Sayadaw delivered a sermon, and the Senior General, wife and party shared merits gained.

After the cer-



General Thura Shwe Mann donates robes and offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Daw Khin Khin Win donated robes, alms bowl and alms to Vice-Chairman Pyay Zawtikayon Sayadaw Agga Maha

the ministers, the deputy ministers and officials offered provisions to the Sayadaws.

The Secretary

emony, Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party offered 'soon' to members of the Sangha. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win donate robes and offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party took the Five Precepts from Chairman Magway Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru

man Sayadaw.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San also offered robes, alms bowl and alms to Secretary Nyaungdon Sayadaw

bhivamsa.

General Thura Shwe Mann presented robes, alms bowl and offertories to State Ovadaçariya Shwegyin Gana Sangharaja



Members of State Peace and Development Council, senior military officers, commander and ministers present offertories to Sayadaws. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe sends ...

(from page 1)

In colonial days, the imperialist government created situations for foreign capitalists and their cohorts to exploit Myanmar peasants variously such as bringing aliens into Myanmar and granting them permission for farming, giving capital to the alien loan sharks to lend money at very high interest rates to Myanmar peasants, and helping imperialist companies to purchase rice produced locally at very low prices and export it.

The acts of the colonialist government were completely intolerable. So, equipping themselves with whatever arms available, the mass of peasants launched Peasants' Uprising to oppose and rise against the colonialist government. That went down in the annals of the Myanmar history. Some time after the Peasants' Uprising, the nation managed to regain independence due to the national forces inclusive of the peasants.

Thanks to the harmonious efforts the entire national people including peasants have made under the correct leadership of the government, national reconsolidation has been achieved and the projects for national development have come to fruition at present. In addition, the National Convention, where discussions are being held to adopt basic principles and detailed basic principles to be included in the State Constitution for transition to a discipline-flourishing democratic nation, is now moving forward with gaining momentum. So, it is fair to say that the nation has a promising future. Nevertheless, certain neo-colonialist countries are resorting to various means to manipulate and dominate Myanmar at will, using lackeys and national traitor axe-handles, squeezing international organizations and misusing even the United Nations.

Hence, the mass of peasants are duty-bound to arm themselves with anti-colonialist sentiment at highest degree in accordance with their fine traditions and collectively ward off the dangers of the neo-colonialists and their lackey axe-handles for ensuring perpetuation of sovereignty and not to lose independence again.

The State Peace and Development Council is focusing on various projects for the development of the agricultural sector that can ensure food security and socio-economic development of the entire national people, and rural development. It is also taking necessary steps for supply of adequate irrigation water for growing crops, boosting the yield of the crops, conducting multiple-cropping patterns, and greening of the regions.

It is pouring huge investments into the projects for building irrigation facilities in states and divisions. And it is paying a careful attention to maintenance of the already-built dams and reservoirs and ensuring proper flow of water into the irrigation facilities and systematic supply of irrigation water. In addition to dams and reservoirs, it is constructing sluice gates, river water pumping stations and underground water tapping stations in various regions according to geographical features for supply of sufficient irrigation water.

Between 1988 to date, the government has spent more than K 153,000 million on building 196 irrigation facilities that benefit over 2.6 million acres of arable lands. It is now constructing 39 more irrigation facilities where necessary in states and divisions. Besides, it has built 305 river water pumping stations in 13 states and divisions that irrigate more than 460,000 acres. Now, it is building 37 more river water pumping stations.

The government has been taking measures unremittingly for use of more farm machinery, supply of fuel for that machinery, boosting production of crops and use of more fertilizers. It is now encouraging extensive growing of jatropha curcas (physic nut), from which bio-diesel can be extracted, across the country to fulfil the requirement of fuel for farm machinery. Here, I would like to urge farmers to grow profitable jatropha curcas plants, which can be grown easily and that are highly useful, on a commercial scale.

Esteemed peasantry,

Adhering to the correct national policy namely non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty, the State Peace and Development Council is now putting into action the State's seven-step Road Map for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline.

It is heartening to note that representatives of the peasants are now actively participating as delegates in the discussions at the National Convention held in accordance with the seven-step Road Map.

For restoration of peace and stability and modernization and development of the nation, I would therefore like to exhort the peasantry to join hands with the entire people in the tasks for;—

- the development of the agricultural sector, the major pillar of the State's economy,
- guarding against the dangers of neo-colonialists and their hangers-on axe-handles, and
- successful completion of the State's seven-step Road Map.—MNA

Sayadaws, nuns, lay persons from abroad arrive to receive religious title



Sayadaws from foreign countries being welcomed by officials on arrival at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

YANGON, 1 March — Sayadaws, nuns and lay persons from foreign countries arrived here yesterday to receive religious titles to be conferred by State Peace and Development Council.

The recipients from Sri Lanka, Laos, the

Republic of Korea, the United States, Nepal and Pakistan arrived at Yangon International Airport and they were welcomed by Director-General of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of Sasana Dr Myo Myint and departmental officials and

diplomats.

They will also attend the provisions donation ceremony here. The Sayadaws, nuns and lay persons are conveyed from the airport to Maha Santi Sukha Monastery where they will stay during their stay in Myanmar. — MNA

Tenth Year National Sanitation Week ceremony held

YANGON, 28 Feb — Organized by Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, a ceremony to launch 10th National Sanitation Week was held at the town hall of Ahlon Township in Yangon West District this morning, attended by Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central), CEC member Daw Htwe Htwe Nyunt, Secretary Dr Daw Wai Wai Tha, Chairperson of Yangon Division MCWSC Daw Mar Mar Wai and members, departmental officials and members of social organizations.

Firstly, Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai gave accounts on holding the ceremony.

Next, Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint presented 100 apparatuses

for fly-proof latrines to Daw Mar Mar Wai.

Later, the chairperson of Yangon Division MCWSC accepted 5,000 applications presented by the chairperson of Yangon West District MCWSC and presented apparatuses for fly-proof latrines and sanitation equipment

assisted by MMCWA (Central).

Assistant Director U Aung Kyaw Kyaw of Health Department explained the motto of 10th National Sanitation Week. Later, those present viewed health education entertainment programme.

MNA



Vice-President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint hands over apparatuses for fly-proof latrines to Daw Mar Mar Wai. — MNA

Special Refresher Course No 8 for Faculty Members concludes at CICS (Upper Myanmar)

Teachers urged to effectively use educational facilities and environments government has created

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March—The Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division held the conclusion of its Special Refresher Course No 8 for Faculty Members at Yadana Hall yesterday morning. On behalf of Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein made a speech on the occasion.

Also present on the occasion were ministers, deputy ministers, Mayor of Mandalay, members of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, officials, heads of department, the rector, faculty members and trainees.

On behalf of Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein said that now is an opportune time to improve



Education Minister Dr Chan Nyein delivers an address at concluding ceremony of Special Refresher Course No 8 for Faculty Members. — MNA

advanced science and technology in various sectors and speed up the nation's development momentum through technological strength in order to achieve development take-off.

At such a time, it is required to nurture and produce human resources in all sectors such as experts in arts and science field, medical experts, physicians, engineers, architects, computer scientists, marine and aerospace engineers, and experts in the agriculture, forestry, livestock breeding and fishery fields.

Only when science and technology is making progress with enough intellectuals and intelligentsia, will it be possible for the nation to enjoy economic progress and national development.

So, normal efforts are not enough to ensure the development of the education sector. And only when the education standard is raised through national outlook will there emerge mentally and physically strong new generation youths capable of discharging duties brilliantly for the development of the nation and the people with economic progress and overcoming alien instigation, interference, pressure and coercion.

That is why the government is opening schools, universities and colleges the length and breadth of the nation to create equal access to education in rural areas and higher education in strategic regions of states and divisions for the emergence of more and more human resources in various sectors in various regions.

To ensure equal education standard of schools, universities and colleges of various regions, it is installing multimedia classrooms, e-

Learning centres, modern laboratories, practical rooms and workshops in the educational institutions. And it has created data-broadcasting system and computer network regarding education infrastructures that cover the whole nation.

At the same time, it is conducting courses on new branches and combined subjects in the universities and colleges to keep abreast of international level science and technology. It is also encouraging advanced research and establishing new universities and colleges subject-wise. According to the educational motto "Access, quality, diversification", the government is building infrastructures and creating good environments, with which diversification and specialization can be combined harmoniously.

Teachers are therefore to effectively use the educational facilities and environments the government has created and to increase the number of facilities necessary for creating more opportunities to use them.

Respective universities and colleges are to lay down and implement

short-term and long-term plans to increase the number of human resources in various fields, and expedite doing research with respect to intensive learning.

Every university or college should be the centre of human resources studying higher subjects in various fields. In that regard, it is needed to serve as a bridge between the education field and human society. And efforts are to be made to create a lively process of disseminating knowledge that serves as a network of educational fields and universities and colleges.

In conclusion the Minister said that all faculty members are to try to improve national education and nurture human resources that will

help promote the prosperity of the State and the people and ensure the perpetuity of the Union.

The Minister, next, presented awards to outstanding teachers and completion certificates through the respective group leaders.

Afterwards, the Minister accepted cash donated for Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Image, Tooth Relic Pagoda (Mandalay), renovation of ancient pagodas in Bagan, USDA, the National Convention donated by the trainee teachers and presented certificates of honour.

A total of 913 teachers—164 male and 749 female—are attending the four-week course.

MNA



Education Minister Dr Chan Nyein awards an outstanding trainee. — MNA

Military Band Competition continues for fourth day

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March — The 15th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition in commemoration of the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day continued for the fourth day at the parade ground, here, this morning.

Military bands representing No 88 LID, No 44 LID, No 2 Company of Triangle Region Command, Southern Command, South-East Command and No 33 LID demonstrated their skills.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of the Organizing Committee for the Competition Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe and members, senior military officers and members of the panel of judges. — MNA

Basic course No 1 for customs staff concludes

YANGON, 1 March—The closing ceremony of the Basic Course No 1 for Custom Staff of the Ministry of Finance and Revenues took place at Nawarat Hall of the Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Finance and Revenues Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun and members, members of Committee for Ensuring Prompt and Regular Freight-handling and Operating Full Capacity, managing directors and directors-general of enterprises and departments of the ministry, the rector of CICS and faculty members, trainees and their families.

First, the minister made a speech on the occasion and presented prizes to outstanding trainees. The course lasted for four months. A total of 405 trainees attended the course. — MNA

Workshop on ASEAN tourism industry opens



Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun delivers an address at concluding ceremony of basic course No 1 for customs staff.— F&R

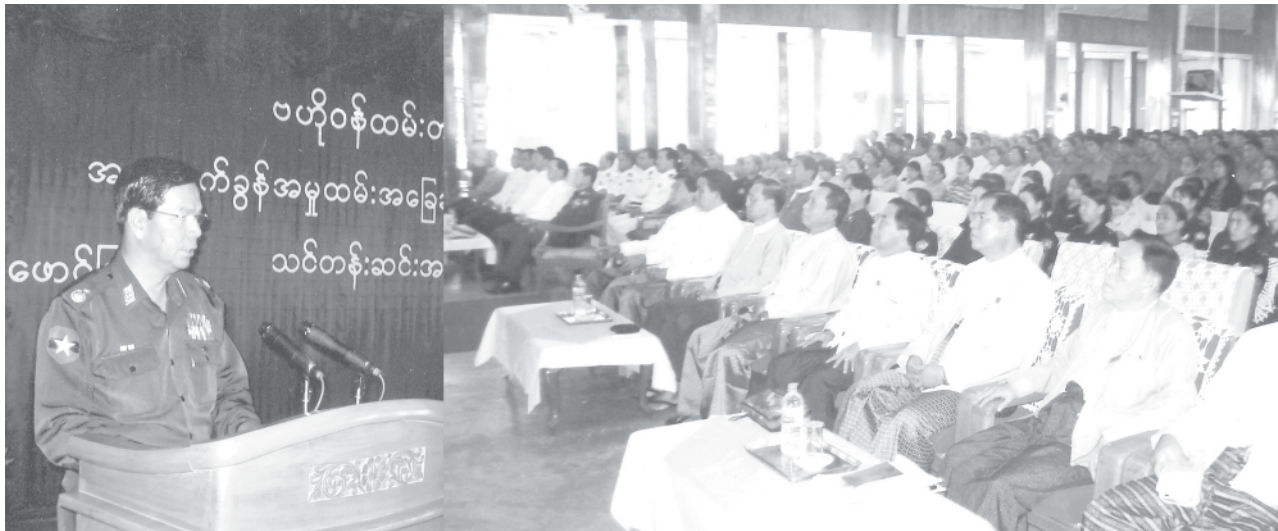
Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing delivers an address at workshop of ASEAN tourism industry. — MNA

YANGON, 1 March — The Workshop on uniformity in ASEAN tourism industry was opened here today with an address by Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing.

It was attended by Officer on Special Duty Mr Eddy Krismeid of ASEAN Secretariat, Ms Ida Trisnasari and Mr Penhall, Project Manager of Uni Quest, the chairman and executives of Myanmar Hoteliers Association, the chairman and executives of Union of Myanmar Travel Association, hoteliers, the director-general and directors of the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism and officials.

After the opening ceremony, the minister cordially greeted participants of the workshop.

MNA



Progress of hydel power plant projects inspected

YANGON, 1 March — Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min, accompanied by Director-General U Aung Koe Shwe of Hydro-electric Power Implementation Department, inspected construction of tasks and fixing of steel pipelines at the exit of the water tunnel at Khabaung Hydel Power Plant, 15 miles from Oktwin, on 27 February.

On completion, Khabaung Hydel Power Plant installed with two 15-megawatt generators will produce 120 million kwh yearly.

At Kunchaung Hydel Power Plant Project, nine miles from Pyu, the minister inspected construction of the power intake, the water control tower, the main spillway, construction of the gravel-filled embankment, laying of steel pipelines, progress of the power intake building and installation of steel pipelines.

The plant will be installed with three 20-megawatt generators.

Therefore, the plant will generate 190 million kwh yearly.

On arrival at Shwegyin Hydel Power Plant Project, six miles from Shwegyin, the minister inspected progress of construction tasks.

On completion, the power plant installed with four 18.75-megawatt generators will generate 262 million kwh annually. — MNA

LBVD issues warning against bird flu

YANGON, 1 March — Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department confirmed today that bird flu was detected at a small chicken farm in Mayangon Township, Yangon Division.

LBVD of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries confirmed the outbreak of H5N1 virus after testing dead chickens the farm had sent to its laboratory on 27 February 2007.

LBVD officials are still trying to know the root cause of the outbreak of the virus at the farm that was raising 1,300 chickens. During their inspection of the farm, the officials found that the virus might spread to chicken from native crows and sparrows that frequented the farm buildings whose partly damaged walls have hollows for the wild birds to enter. The officials found that the farm also raised ducks in the ponds where domestic fowls were intermingling with crows.

Under the risk prevention programme, chickens of the firm were culled and buried, and the whole farm was sprayed with pesticide.

LBVD designated a restricted zone including all areas that are lying within one kilometre from the farm where the virus was found. But there are no other poultry farms in the restricted zone.

In the control zone covering all areas lying in a ten-kilometre-radius circle, with the infected farm at the centre, authorities closed all domestic fowl meat depots and shops for three weeks and

limiting and restricting transport of the farmed fowls.

The authorities have warned farms in Yangon Division to prevent outsiders from entering them and to keep farm buildings from wild bird intrusion.

The authorities warned people against sleeping in farm buildings or depots where live domestic fowls were sold and indiscriminate dumping of dead fowls. They also said that any person seeing or hearing any suspicious bird deaths should inform LBVD or Myanmar Livestock Federation soonest; that people who are packaging or selling domestic fowls or eggs should keep themselves from cuts or open wounds and should wash their hands properly.

LBVD will assist breeders to use harm-free pesticide sprays and to keep their farms from man and animal encroachment.

H5N1 virus broke out in Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions for about one month from 8 March to 7 April 2006. Myanmar was able to totally control the virus on 4 September the same year.

Avian flu is a Zoonosis virus that can cause animal-to-man infection. Beginning December 2003, the virus has spread to 56 Asian and European countries, and up to 27 February this year, 275 persons in 12 countries were infected, and of them 167 died.

MNA

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(TENDER NO. 19(T)/LBO (3)/ 2006-2007.)

1. Sealed Tenders are invited for the Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of (1,500 ± 10%) Metric Tons Lube Base Oil & Additives.
2. Tender Closing Date : (20-3-2007) at (12:00) noon.
3. Tender Opening Date : (20-3-2007) at (13:00) hrs.
4. Delivery Time : Within April/May 2007.
5. Tender Documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing (5-3-2007) on payment of the One Hundred (100) FEC per set.
6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director,
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

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LL.B, D.B.L, LL.M (UK)
For **Hyundai Motor Company**
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Dated: March 2, 2007

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Developing nations hit back on climate change

ROME, 28 Feb— Developing countries, including emerging economic giants China and India, are not prepared to take the blame for climate change, the head of the G-77 group of developing nations said on Tuesday. Some countries in Europe and North America want developing countries to accept limits

on their emissions of greenhouse gases when the first phase of the Kyoto Protocol runs out in 2012, but the G-77 looks likely to oppose that.

"Most environmental degradation that's happened has been historically caused by the industrial world," said Munir Akram, Pakistan's permanent representative

to the United Nations and chairman of the G-77 group in New York.

"China, India and others are at the stage where they are now taking off and it's quite natural that their emissions of carbon are increasing," he told a news conference after a two-day meeting of G-77 diplomats in Rome. "There's a sort of

propaganda effort to try to shift the blame for environmental degradation on to these fast-growing economies, and the motives are not very well disguised."

One of the main reasons US President George W Bush pulled his country out of Kyoto was that the 1997 UN treaty only imposed emissions limits on developed countries. The European Union remained in the pact but wants developing countries included in a second phase treaty which will be discussed at a UN climate change meeting in Bali, Indonesia in December.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) latest report, released earlier this month, predicted global temperatures would rise by between 1.8 and 4.0 Celsius (3.2 and 7.8 Fahrenheit) this century due to the greenhouse effect.— *MNA/Reuters*

China to use \$6.88b to settle problems in Three Gorges region

BEIJING, 28 Feb— The Chinese Government will invest 55 billion yuan (6.88 billion US dollars) to settle residents relocated by the Three Gorges Project and support local industries to provide enough job opportunities in the next five years. The fund will also be used in infrastructure construction, environment protection and social development under-takings in the region, said a senior official of southwest China's Chongqing Municipality.

Investigation shows the unemployment rate in areas around the Three Gorges Reservoir was as high as 11.5 per cent last year, despite a drop of 1.3 percentage points from 2005, said Wang Hongju, mayor of Chongqing.

Over a million residents have bid farewell to their hometowns and resettle because of the construction of the three gorges project.

The municipality has joined hands with the China Development Bank

to invest 2 billion yuan to establish a guaranty company which offers guarantee to private enterprises in the areas, said Wang at a Press conference on Tuesday.

Special funds have been set up by the municipality to support new private enterprises, including foreign-funded ones, that enter the areas, while the country has designated coastal economically developed provinces to help districts of the reservoir

area. "We must make sure that the life of the relocated residents will get better day by day instead of stagnating at the same level," said Wang.

In the reservoir area, out of 1.13 million residents who have been relocated, 1.02 million have been settled by the end of 2006, said Zhang Baoxin, a senior official with the Office with the Three Gorges Project Construction Committee of the State Council.

MNA/Xinhua

Large bioethanol project announced in Germany

HAMBURG (Germany), 1 March — A project to build a 130-million-euro (172-million-US-dollar) plant to produce 200,000 cubic metres of bioethanol annually was announced by three German groups on Tuesday.

The plant will consume about 600,000 tons of wheat annually and when operational in the first half of 2009 should provide about a third of Germany's estimated bioethanol requirements.

The partners are Epuron, a subsidiary of German renewable energy firm Conergy, German agricultural cooperative Agravis Raiffeisen and MAN Ferrostaal,

part of German engineering group MAN.

It will be built in Buelstringen in East Germany and construction should start this year, said Epuron spokesman Clemens Thoma.

He said the partners believed use of bioethanol for blending in fossil fuels will increase substantially as the issue of global warming intensifies.

"We expect a very strong market for bioethanol," he said. "Currently blending is at a very low level in Germany but it will rise every year because of the government's compulsory blending rules."

MNA/Reuters

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Picasso paintings stolen from grand-daughter

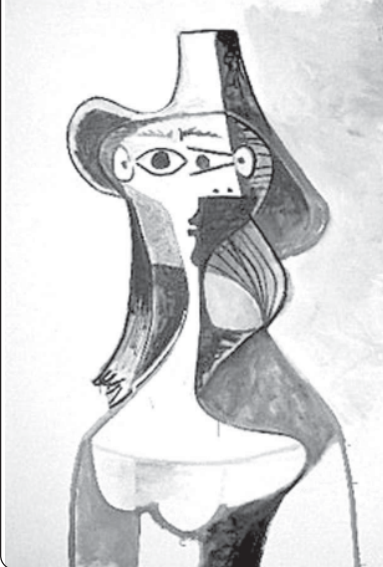
BEIJING, 28 Feb— Several Picasso

paintings and drawings have been stolen from the

artist's grand-daughter's house in Paris, the director of the city's Picasso Museum said Wednesday.

There was no immediate estimate of the value of the stolen works, but museum director Anne Baldassari said "it was a very large theft."

The pieces were stolen from the home of Diana Widmaier-Picasso overnight Monday to Tuesday, she said. — Internet



Pablo Picasso's portrait of his second wife Jacqueline—one of two paintings worth a total of 50 million euros that were stolen from Diana Widmaier-Picasso's apartment in Paris' upmarket seventh district. XINHUA

Singapore scientists discover risk gene for breast cancer

SINGAPORE, 28 Feb— Singapore's Scientists have discovered a risk gene for breast cancer, according to a local media ChannelNewsAsiareport.

Scientists from the Genome Institute of Singapore and the Karolinka Institute, together with over 20 other international collaborating research groups, made the discovery from a research involving 30,000 women, half of whom have breast cancer.

The report said that the discovery could pave the way for a more targeted

research and clinical treatment of the disease.

Working on the same set of genetic targets in breast cancer samples, the scientists pooled their results to reach the significant findings.

The research focused on the Caspase 8 gene, which is present in all humans. It appears as different variants in certain people.

Out of nine previously

reported breast cancer susceptibility variants, only a particular one was found to have a significant association with breast cancer, said the report.

This variant, present in approximately 25 per cent of Europeans, reduces their risk of breast cancer by as much as 10 per cent.

Breast cancer is the number one cancer killer among women in Singapore.—MNA/Xinhua

Some prostate cancer treatments better than others

NEW YORK, 28 Feb— An analysis of men with early prostate cancer treated at the Cleveland Clinic found that those treated with external beam radiation therapy had poorer overall survival than those treated with radioactive seed implants (brachytherapy) or by surgical removal of the prostate (radical prostatectomy).

"These findings indicate that the three major forms of treatment for early-stage prostate cancer are not necessarily equivalent in terms of overall survival," said Dr Jay Ciezki of the Cleveland Clinic in a statement.

He reported the results on Saturday in Orlando at the Prostate Cancer Symposium.

From 1996 to 2003, over 2000 men with low- or intermediate-risk prostate cancer were treated at the Cleveland Clinic and have been followed for an average of 59 months.

The overall survival rate 5 years after treatment was 93.8 per cent for men treated with external beam radiotherapy, compared with 95.7 per cent for men treated with brachytherapy and 97.7 per cent for those treated with surgery.

"Overall survival rates for patients treated with external beam radiation were 2 per cent lower across the entire length of follow up," Ciezki said during a Press briefing. — MNA/Reuters

Liz Taylor celebrates 75th birthday in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS, 1 March — Film legend Elizabeth Taylor celebrated her 75th birthday on Tuesday night with a New Orleans-themed party flanked by her four children and famous friends spanning the generations from model Kathy Ireland to former rival Debbie Reynolds.

Taylor, who suffers chronic back pain, made a cheerful entrance to the Ritz-Carlton Lake Las Vegas Hotel in a wheelchair escorted by her sons, Michael and Christopher Wilding, and daughters, Maria Burton and Liza Todd, en route to her party at a restaurant in the property.

The two-time Academy Award winner and dame of the British Empire was adorned by a white fur and satin robe and resplendent in an icicle-design pearl and diamond necklace from her jewellery line called Frost.

MNA/Reuters



A zoo worker dressed as an orang-utan pretends to attack a zoo worker as part of an animal escape drill at a zoo in western Tokyo February on 27, 2007. Zoo workers practised surrounding the escapee with nets before pretending to shoot it with a tranquilising dart and returning it to its enclosure. XINHUA

Canadian foundation recovers Nazi-looted painting

OTTAWA, 28 Feb— A Canadian foundation trying to track down artworks looted by the Nazis said Tuesday it has recovered a portrait by Renaissance artist Nicolas Neufchatel.

Portrait of Jan van Eversdyck by Flemish-born Neufchatel was found in a collection in Spain, said the Max Stern Art Restitution Project based in Montreal.

A Concordia University professor who worked for the foundation located the Neufchatel in the collection of the Yannick and Ben Jakober Foundation of Mallorca, Spain.

After being contacted, the Jakober Foundation made prompt plans to return the painting, which was sold at least twice between the end of the Second World War and today.

MNA/Xinhua



Snow envelops the hill station of Shimla, India, on 28 Feb, 2007. Rain and snow lashed Shimla and other parts of Himachal Pradesh state intensifying the cold front conditions in the state Wednesday, according to a news agency.

INTERNET

SPORTS

Wasteful Gunners upset Arsene

LONDON, 28 Feb—Arsene Wenger could not contain his disappointment at Arsenal crashing out of the FA Cup to Blackburn thanks to Benni McCarthy's late strike.

The pair were evenly matched at Ewood Park with the visitors having the better of the opportunities, although they were wasteful in front of goal.

Rovers made them pay with substitute McCarthy lashing home late on, a goal Wenger believes was harsh on his side.

"We were never under pressure and we had the chances to score goals and we didn't do it," he told Sky Sports. "Then of course we made a fatal mistake and McCarthy scored a great goal.

"Overall it's difficult to take, because I don't believe over the two games, if you looked at what



Arsene Wenger
Blackburn created, it's difficult to go out.

"Football is a job where you need to be ruthless. I believe we were a bit unlucky with some decisions over the two games.

"I felt Freddie Ljungberg was in front (of Emerton). I'd need to see it again on the tape, from out front it looked a clear penalty. He's adamant.

"We can not do anything about that. We could have scored despite that. When you don't score and they score with four minutes to go it's difficult." — *Internet*

Haas cruises through to last 8 in Dubai

DUBAI, 1 March — Tommy Haas showed little sign of his gruelling schedule, reaching the Dubai Open quarterfinals with a 7-6, 6-3 win over Florent Serra of France on Wednesday. The fifth-seeded German flew from Memphis after beating Andy Roddick on Sunday to win his 11th career title, taking the court 18 hours after arriving here to beat Radek Stepanek on Tuesday.

Haas was in action again when he took on Serra. The duo struggled to settle with breaks in the first four games but the contest then went with serve until Haas took the tiebreak 7-5.

A break for 2-1 in the second set deflated Serra for a time, allowing the German to break again for 4-1.

MNA/Reuters



Martina Hingis of Switzerland serves to Maria Kirilenko of Russia during their match at the Qatar Open tennis tournament in Doha, on 28 Feb, 2007.
INTERNET

Wenger sorry for Arsenal part in cup final Fracas

LONDON, 1 March — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger has made a rare apology for his players' part in the mass brawl that marred last Sunday's English League Cup final against Chelsea.

Wenger, known for a reluctance to admit to seeing his players' wrongdoings, or for saying sorry, told his club's website: "Overall, we are sorry for what happened. We should not have reacted at all."

Two Arsenal players, Ivorian defender Kolo Toure and Togo striker Emmanuel Adebayor, and one from Chelsea, Nigerian midfielder Jon Obi Mikel, were sent off after the injury-time fracas. Chelsea won the final 2-1.

"When you do not behave like you want to, then you have to apologize," said Wenger. "We want to focus on playing football well. We want to deal well with the frustrations of the game and we want to be exemplary.

"But we also want to remind people that we have been top of the Fair Play League twice in the last few years...what happened was a one-off for us in the last three years and we are sorry for that." — *MNA/Reuters*



Arsenal's Julio Baptista (C) has a shot at goal during their FA cup fifth round replay football match against Blackburn Rovers at Ewood Park, Blackburn, North-west England. Blackburn won 1-0. — *INTERNET*

Roma held 2-2 by relegation battlers Chievo

ROME, 1 March — AS Roma risked losing more ground on Serie A leaders Inter Milan after they were held to a 2-2 draw by relegation-threatened Chievo Verona on Wednesday.

Trailing to goals by Erjon Bogdani and Franco Semioli, second-placed Roma clawed level thanks to captain Francesco Totti, who scored each side of halftime to give his side 53 points from 25 matches.

Inter will extend their lead at the top of the division to 16 points if they beat Udinese at the San Siro Stadium later (kickoff 1930 GMT).

AC Milan's drive for a Champions League place also suffered a setback. The Italian giants drew 0-0 at third-placed Palermo (45 points) to slip back to sixth on 37 points.

Albanian striker Bogdani pun-

ished Roma's slow start by heading home Chievo's opening goal after 17 minutes at Verona's Bentegodi Stadium.

It was only after Semioli put the home side 2-0 up in the 33rd minute that the visitors found their rhythm and began to put Chievo under pressure. They grabbed their first goal barely a minute later, Totti diving on to Marco Cassetti's nod-on to head the ball into the net.

The Italian international struck again three minutes into the second half, when he chested down a high pass and fired a shot under advancing keeper Lorenzo Squizzi.

Milan arrived in Palermo on the back of seven wins in eight games. They dominated the early stages of the game at the Barbera Stadium but were frustrated by home keeper Alberto Fontana.

MNA/Reuters

Mancini refuses to commit



Internazionale boss Roberto Mancini.

ILAHY, 28 Feb — Internazionale boss Roberto Mancini has refused to be drawn on speculation about a contract extension and instead called for focus on the team's results.

There has been much speculation about Mancini's future in recent months, with the coach rumoured to be considering opportunities abroad

and he has been linked on numerous occasions with a switch to Chelsea.

And while Inter president Massimo Moratti is believed to have offered Mancini a long-term extension to his current deal, he remains unwilling to make clear his current position.

"Inter must concentrate on winning our upcoming games," he told the Italian press.

"I don't know if I'll renew my contract. As I have already said, it's not a problem. I still see Moratti - we saw each other in Cesena, and it's quite normal we meet.

"When there is something concrete, the club will announce it to the press." — *Internet*

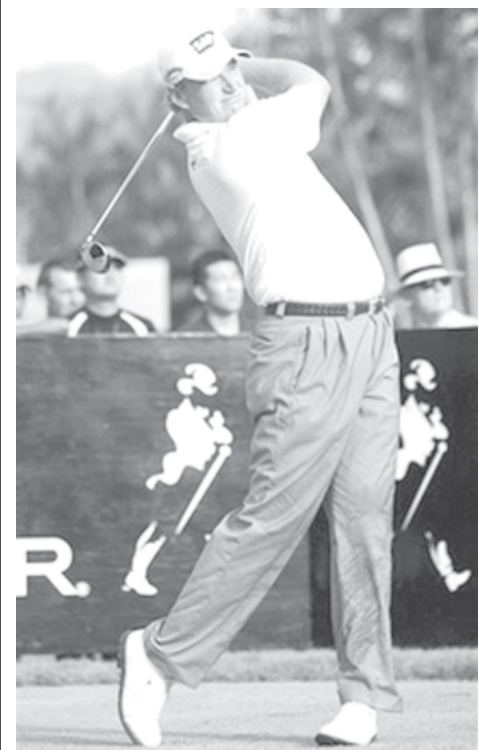
Vietnam defeat Lebanon 2-0 in Olympic Soccer qualifier

NAM DINH (Vietnam), March 1 — Two local strikers scored one apiece to help hosts Vietnam gain a 2-0 victory over stronger Lebanon in an Olympic qualifying match in Vietnam's northern Nam Dinh Province on Wednesday.

Vietnamese striker Le Cong Vinh scored the opening goal of the game in the 33rd minute by converting a penalty his team gained after Lebanese defender Al Haf used his hand to block the ball.

In the 89th minute, in a blitz counter attack, unmarked striker Huynh Phuc Hiep, latching onto a long high pass from Cong Vinh, delivered a powerful low shot, defeating Lebanese goalie Moughnieh, sealing the victory for his team.

MNA/Xinhua



South Africa's Ernie Els tees off from the 11th hole during the first round of Johnnie Walker Classic golf tournament in Phuket, Thailand on 1 March, 2007.

INTERNET

Over 700,000 homeless in US

WASHINGTON, 1 March — There were an estimated 754,000 homeless people in the United States, in shelters or living on the streets on a single night in January 2005, US officials said in a report to Congress released on Wednesday.

The snapshot of a "point in time" and a second count over a three-month period of the same year are results of a US Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) estimate of the homeless population in the United States.

According to the study, from February to April 2005, an estimated 704,000 people in the United States used homeless shelters or transitional housing.

During that period, 47 per cent of people living in homeless shelters were single adult men. Nearly one quarter were children 17 or younger. Less than 2 per cent of the homeless population was 62 or older, compared with 15 per cent of the total US population.

Among other findings, the report said about 59 per cent of the people in homeless shelters were members of minority groups. Forty-

five per cent of the homeless were African Americans, the report said.

Based on a sampling of communities across the United States, the study concluded that 24 per cent of all adults in homeless shelters were disabled.

HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson said the data can be used as a tool to gauge the extent of homelessness and help communities develop solutions.

MNA/Reuters

S Korean soldier killed in Afghan blast

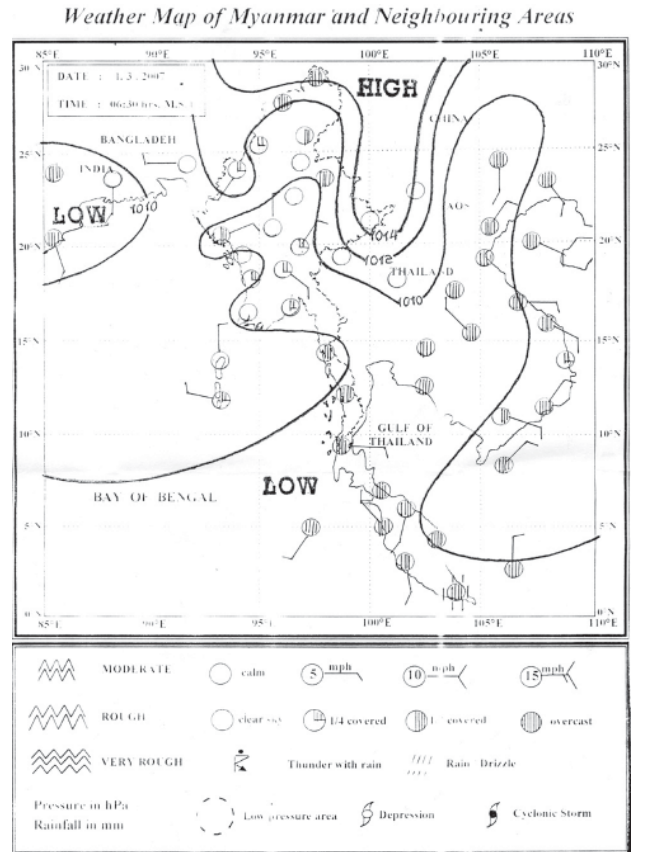
SEOUL, 1 March — A South Korean soldier was among those killed in a bomb attack outside a US military base in Afghanistan where US Vice-President Dick Cheney was visiting, South Korea's Defence Ministry said on Tuesday.

Sergeant Yoon Jang-ho was on guard duty outside the main gate to the base and was killed in the suicide blast, a South Korean Defence Ministry official said by telephone.

NATO put the toll from the attack at four, including the bomber. Local police say 10 people died.

South Korea has about 150 troops in Afghanistan on a peace and reconstruction mission. It also maintains a military presence in Iraq.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Thursday, 1 March, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Day temperatures were (3°C) above normal in Kachin, Rakhine and Kayin States, (5°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperature were Nay Pyi Taw, Minbu, Tharrawady, Hpa-an and Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (38°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 28-2-2007 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 1-3-2007 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 1-3-2007 was 76%. Total sunshine hours on 28-2-2007 was (6.2) hours approx.

Rainfall on 1-3-2007 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 (6) mph from Northeast at (11:35) hours MST on 28-2-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 2-3-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin State, upper Sagaing, Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine and Mon States 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 isolated rain or thundershowers in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 2-3-2007: Generally fair.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 2-3-2007: Generally fair.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 2-3-2007: Generally fair.


"STRONG WIND WARNING"

(Issued at 10:00 Am, on 1st March 2007)

During the hot dry season, beginning from now to May, as day temperatures rise markedly all over the country, towering clouds are expected to form and strong winds are likely at times in the afternoon/ evening over most of the area. Surface wind speeds may reach (40) to (50) mph and it may also be accompanied by isolated heavy rain and hails in some places.



Visitors observe a turtle inside a sealife aquarium in Hanover last week. The sealife aquarium with the first tropical water pool in Germany open on 24 Feb, 2007.—Internet



Myanmar TV

the musical oldies

8:30 am
8. International news

8:45 am
9. English for everyday use

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:15 pm
2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm
3. တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုတေးသီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲဆုရတေးများ (၂၀၀၄ခုနှစ်)

4:45 pm
4. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ် (စိတ်ပညာအထူးပြု) (စိတ်ပညာ)

5:00 pm
5. Song of national races

5:15 pm
6. "ရောင်ပြန်ဟပ်ခြင်း" (မင်းအုပ်စိုးကုသိုလ်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ခင်နွဲ့နွဲ့မူ)

5:25 pm
7. Song of yesteryear

5:30 pm
8. ဓမ္မပူဇော်တေးအစီအစဉ်

5:45 pm
9. ရှုဖွယ်စုံညီမြန်မာပြည် (အပိုင်း-၅)

6:00 pm
10. Evening news

6:30 pm
11. Weather report

6:35 pm
12. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေညောင်ရင်

7:05 pm
13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သစ်ရွက်ကလေး၏ ရင်ခုန်သံ" (အပိုင်း-၃)

8:00 pm
14. News

15. International news

16. Weather report

17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အကြင်နာနေဦး" (အပိုင်း-၁၇)

18. သီတဂူဆရာတော် အရှင်ညောင်သာရ၏ နေဦးဆောင်နှောင်းလတပေါင်း (အပိုင်း-၂)

19. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီးဦးဝိစိတ္တသာရာ ဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာ ဓမ္မတ္တာဘဝနာယူးများခြင်း တရားတော်

20. The next day's programme



Radio Myanmar

Friday, 2 March

Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music:
-Dandelion

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music:
-I like your style

8:50 am National news/
Slogan

9:00 am Music:
-Fallen angel

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music:
-On the horizon

1:30 pm News / Slogan

1:40 pm Lunch time music:
-Anyone of us
-Stuck in my heart
-On love

9:00 pm WOM
-Vietnam, Brunei, China, Laos

9:10 pm Article

9:25 pm Music at your request
-Forgiven not forgotten
-All you wanted

9:45 pm News / Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing offer 'soon' to State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws, religious title recipient Sayadaws

(from page 1)

Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, Members of the SPDC Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and Maj-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, the Chairman of Yangon Division PDC Commander of Yangon Command, ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General,

(See page 8)



Congregation led by Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing receive Five Precepts from Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Kumara. — 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

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

Four social objectives

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

Three hospital exam centres to be opened in Yangon

YANGON, 1 March — Under the arrangements of the Department of Health and the Myanmar Board of Examinations, three hospital exam centres will be opened from 14 to 23 March — Yangon General Hospital, Central Women's Hospital and Waibagi Specialists Hospital for the students receiving medical treatment.

Those students (inpatients) wishing to sit for the matriculation examination may contact public relations officers assigned duties at the hospitals.

MNA

Identity cards for matriculation students

YANGON, 1 March — The Myanmar Board of Examinations today announced that students who will sit for the matriculation examination to be held from 14 to 23 March 2007 can take out their identity cards from the supervisors of respective examination centres as from 6 March.

Lists of roll numbers and examination centres for the students in Yangon municipal area will be announced at the offices of respective township education officers as of 7 March.

The students of basic education high schools and affiliated BEHSs in Yangon municipal area can get their identity cards from respective principals, and external candidates, from the supervisors of respective examination centres beginning 9 March.

MNA

NEWS ON WARNING AGAINST BIRD FLU ON PAGE (11)