

## Crush every danger posed to the nation hand in hand with the people

Whatever political or economic system the country practices, prevalence of peace and tranquillity, prevalence of national sovereignty and security of life and property of the people are the requisites of a State. Therefore, every danger posed to the nation is to be crushed hand in hand with the people.

**Senior General Than Shwe**  
**Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council**  
**Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services**

(From address delivered at the parade of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day)



## Special Projects Implementation Committee holds meeting 1/2007

### On full completion of projects, one can guess how nation will develop in the future



*Chairman of the Special Projects Implementation Committee Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe gives guidance at the Coordination Meeting 1/2007 of the Special Projects Implementation Committee.*

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March — Chairman of the Special Projects Implementation Committee Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance at the Coordination Meeting 1/2007 of the Special Projects Implementation Committee at the Commander-in-Chief (Army)'s Military Operations Hall, here, yesterday.

Also present at the

meeting were Vice-Chairman of the Special Projects Implementation Committee Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, members of the Committee SPDC member General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary of the Committee

Sein, SPDC members Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of

(See page 8)



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

## PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 25 March, 2007

### Ensure completion of special projects on schedule

The government is paying a careful attention to ensuring equitable development of all parts of the Union. To achieve this goal, it is attending to the requirements of the region concerned. Under the correct leadership of the government, the entire people are taking part in the drive. These efforts are now yielding good returns in various sectors.

Construction projects are being implemented with added momentum, and consequently the entire nation has seen a large number of irrigation facilities, bridges, hydroelectric power stations and factories, and the people are now enjoying fruitful results of such prudent projects.

The Special Projects Implementation Committee held its coordination meeting No 1/2007 at the Commander-in-Chief (Army)'s Office the other day. On the occasion, Chairman of the Committee Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance, saying that with the concept that special projects played an important role in the drive for national development, the ministries concerned had to take measures effectively to do their bit. The projects were grouped into two categories—short-term and long-term ones. The ministries were to exert strenuous endeavours to complete the projects on schedule or ahead of schedule, he added.

In materializing the projects, respective ministries are to place emphasis on ensuring completion of the projects on schedule. As special projects call for huge investments with large work volume, allotted funds are to be used most efficiently.

Firm foundations will be laid for building a peaceful, modern and developed country if harmonious efforts are exerted to ensure completion of ongoing special projects on schedule.

### MMPA to hold talks

YANGON, 24 March — The talks on Quality of Motion Picture will be held at Myanma Motion Picture Asiayon hall at 10 am on 31 March.

U Tin Maung Win and U Kyaw Soe Lwin of Studio 35 will give talks in the first session, and U Myo Win, lec-

tures on digital movie. Any interested persons may attend the talks free of charge, and the speakers will reply to the queries of the attendants.

Myanma Motion Picture Asiayon will occasionally hold the talks and present documentary movies and videos.

MNA

## 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

### Talks on women's affairs held

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—Head of the Organizing Department of the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo, Chairperson of Sagaing Division Women's Affairs Organization Daw Mya Myint Thu and Chairperson of Hkamti District WAO Daw Ni Ni Myint gave talks and held discussions with more than 300 local women in Lahe, Naga mountain range, Sagaing Division, on 19 March.

Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo gave talks on the federation, Daw Mya Myint Thu on functions and responsibilities of the federation, Sagaing Division WAO member Daw Tin Tin Nyunt on trafficking in persons, and health staff Daw Aye Aye Kyaing of Lahe Township People's Hospital on HIV and AIDS.

Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo presented uniforms, traditional medicines and iodized salt donated by the federation to local women. Lahe Township WAO Chairperson Daw Win Mar Tu submitted membership applications to the chairperson of Sagaing Division WAO. The federation presented publications to Lahe Township WAO library.

Next, they held frank

discussions with local women.

Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo visited the monastery in the township and donated K 100,000 to the monastic education school. She also presented cash assistance to local vocational training school for women and to the hospital.—MNA



Head of Organizing Department of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo and members give talks to locals in Lahe, Naga mountain range, Sagaing Division.—MNA

### Foreign Minister sends felicitations to Hellenic Republic

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March— U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Mrs Dora Bakogianni, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the Hellenic Republic, which falls on 25 March 2007.

MNA

### Grand Royal Special Reserve Golf C'ship concludes

YANGON, 24 March — The second round of the Fourth Qualify Round of Grand Royal Special Reserve Golf Championship 2007, organized by Myanmar Golf Federation, was held at Yangon Golf Club (Danyingon), here, yesterday evening.

Executive of MPGA and MGF U Ko Ko Lay

presented gold medal to Win Tun Thein who scored hole-in-one and Saw Thiha Myint, the winner of Putting Challenge. U Aye Cho presented prizes to Nay Dun and Yan Myo Aye, Director-General U Thaug Htaik to Yan Myo Aye and Khin Maung Myint. After the qualify round, MPGA and



MGF President Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd) presented trophy and gold medal to Derek Htet Doe who stood first firing 137 net total strokes, the second prize to Yan Naing Phyo with 138 and the third prize to Win Tun Thein with 138. Officials also gave prizes to respective winners.

International Beverages Trading Co Ltd sponsored the qualify round together with co-sponsors Air Mandalay, Hotel Nikko, Srixon and Apline and organizer Han Event Management. — MNA



Winners in Fourth Qualify Round of Grand Royal Special Reserve Golf Championship. MGF

**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

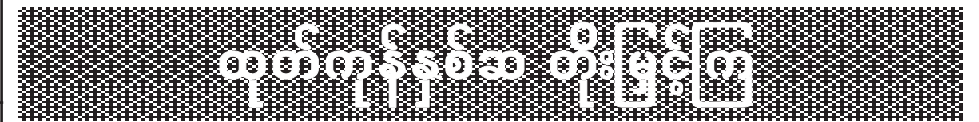
**Physicist says nuclear power essential to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions**

SYDNEY, 23 March—An Australian National University physicist says nuclear power must be considered if Australia is serious about reducing carbon dioxide emissions from electricity generation.

Professor Aiden Byrne says nuclear energy is a safe technology that has proven it can produce electricity to the levels needed by the Australian community.

Professor Byrne says the historical risks of nuclear power must be considered fairly against the number of deaths in the oil, gas and coal industries.

“Australia is really very fortunate, it has a lot of space where it can put wind turbines, a lot of sun where it can exploit solar, but it is also sitting on a good fraction of the world’s uranium resources,” he said. “In terms of opportunities, Australia does have an opportunity and also nuclear has actually proven it can meet base line load.”—*Internet*



*Girls prepare to play tea music in a tea farm recently, using the Guzheng, a stringed instrument from ancient China.*

XINHUA

**Two killed in accident on British submarine**

LONDON, 24 March — Two British sailors killed in an accident on board a nuclear-powered submarine while on exercise in the Arctic were named on Thursday.

Leading operator mechanic Paul McCann, 32, from the West Midlands, and operator maintainer Anthony Huntrod, 20, from Sunderland, died on the *Tireless* on Wednesday.

Another submariner was also hurt and was airlifted to a US military hospital. His injuries are not life-threatening.

McCann, who had recently got engaged to his fiancée Julie, was remembered by the submarine's commander as a popular and dependable crew member.

Initial investigations suggested the accident involved a piece of air purification equipment in its forward section. It caused

only superficial damage to the submarine. The submarine, which does not carry nuclear weapons,

"quickly surfaced and is completely safe", the Ministry of Defence said.

MNA/Reuters

**Smoking ages skin across the body**

LONDON, 21 March—Smoking causes damage to skin right across the body, a study has suggested.

Research in Archives of Dermatology observed the effect by looking at the upper part of the inner arm in smokers and non-smokers.

Previous studies have focused on the face, where skin can also be damaged by exposure to the sun.

But the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, team say this study shows smoking alone makes the skin age, which may help persuade some to quit.

The researchers photographed 82 people's upper inner right arms.

Participants were aged 22 to 91. Such a wide age range was used in order to

record the natural state of old and young skin.

Half of those studied had a history of smoking and had smoked, on average, for 24 years.

*Internet*

**Petroleum tank explosion kills three, injures five in Vietnam**

HANOI, 23 March — A petroleum tank exploded in Vietnam's central Da Nang City on Thursday, killing at least three local welders and injuring five others, *Vietnam News Agency* reported.

The accident happened at an oil depot of the Nuoc Man Airport in Ngu Hanh Son District when the welders were working in the empty tank.

Oil steam in the tank caught welding sparks, causing the explosion, said the report— *MNA/Xinhua*

**Storm kills 10 in Bangladesh, 100 injured**

DHAKA, 24 March — At least 10 people were killed and 100 injured in Bangladesh after the summer's first storm swept through a southern island district, police and residents said on Friday.

The storm, with winds of up to 80 kmh (50 mph), damaged around 300 houses in Lalmohan and Borhanuddin villages in the district of Bhola late on Thursday.

MNA/Reuters

*This Ministry of Defence handout picture shows British submarine HMS Tireless surrounded by ice in an unknown location. Two submariners were killed and a third injured on 21 March, 2007 in an accident on board the nuclear submarine under the ice cap in the Arctic Ocean, the Defence Ministry in London said. — XINHUA*



*German author Desiree Nick poses with her books 'Eva go home' and 'What our mothers kept secret from us' during its launch at a book fair in Leipzig on 21 March, 2007. — XINHUA*

**Earthquake jolts eastern Japan**

TOKYO, 23 March — An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 4.2 jolted eastern Japan on Thursday morning, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

Buildings shook in Tokyo, but there were no reports of damage and no tsunami warning was issued after the quake.

The focus of the tremor was 80 kilometres (50 miles) below the surface of the earth in Saitama Prefecture, just north of the capital.

Japan is one of the world's most earthquake-prone countries, with a tremor occurring at least

every five minutes. Every year there are up to 2,000 quakes that can be felt by people. MNA/Reuters



## China's school children suffering from lack of sleep

SHANGHAI, 22 March — Chinese school children sleep 9.1 hours a day — almost an hour less than the government-recommended minimum, according to a new survey.

In the cities, 71.4 per cent of the school children suffered from a lack of sufficient sleep, which Chinese health regulations set at 10 hours a day.

The survey of more than 20,000 children aged five to 11 in nine major cities, including Shanghai and Guangzhou, was carried out by the child health research centre

of Shanghai Jiaotong University medical school. "Sleep insufficiency could result in health problems among school children and trigger a wide range of behavioral and psychological problems, as well as endocrine problems and inadequate immunity," said Shen Xiaoming, director of the

Shanghai education commission.

The survey showed that excessive use of computers, too much homework and a lack of their own bedroom were all factors affecting children's sleep.

Since 2001, World Sleep Day has been marked on 21 March.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iranian woman shows goldfish she bought for the new year's day of "Nauroz" in Teheran, capital of Iran, on 20 March, 2007. Nauroz, the new year and one of the most important festivals in Iran, falls on Wednesday. — XINHUA

## Japanese rally against Iraq war as US General visits

TOKYO, 22 March — Japanese opponents of the war in Iraq demonstrated in central Tokyo on Wednesday, as government ministers assured the top US General they would continue to provide military back-up.

About 1,500 protesters marched through the streets of the Japanese capital, holding banners reading "Stop the Occupation of Iraq" and chanting anti-war slogans to mark four years since the US-led invasion.

"I want to do whatever I can to stop the war in Iraq, as well as to stop the Japanese Government from changing the Constitution to allow troops to be sent abroad," said 40-year-old office worker Yoko Hinata.

Japan withdrew its 600 ground troops from southern Iraq last year after a non-combat reconstruction mission which lasted more than two years.

But about 200 Air Force personnel remain in

neighbouring Kuwait, from where they airlift supplies to US forces and their allies.

Itself a staunch US ally, Japan's postwar pacifist Constitution restricts its participation in military activities overseas, but Prime Minister Shinzo Abe wants to rewrite the document to make such dispatches easier.

Foreign Minister Taro Aso told the visiting top US military officer, Marine General Peter Pace on Wednesday that Japan wanted to continue the back-up mission, whose legal mandate expires in July.

MNA/Reuters

## Colombia seizes 18 tons of cocaine so far this year

BOGOTA, 22 March — Colombia has captured some 18 tons of cocaine and 2.4 tons of marijuana during the first 78 days of this year, according to a government statement released on Wednesday.

In addition to the seizure of illicit drugs, the Colombian military and police have also captured 2.5 tons of coca magma, 5.2 tons of coca leaves and more than 340 tons of materials used for drug production, the statement confirmed.

Some 12,800 suspects, 86 of whom were wanted by both Colombia and the United States for drug production, drug trading and money laundering, have been arrested by the authorities, the statement added.

Meanwhile, the Colombian Government announced the same day

that its Navy had captured six tons of cocaine on patrol in the Pacific Ocean, the nation's largest drug haul so far this year.

Colombian drug cartels produce around 600 tons of cocaine each year and ship at least 550 abroad, mostly to the United States and European markets. These statistics make Colombia the biggest producer of the drug.

The United States has granted more than 4 billion dollars in military and counter-narcotics aid to Colombia's fight against the drug trade since 2000.

MNA/Xinhua



The Sydney Harbour Bridge is lit by special lighting to highlight its design during the Australian icon's 75th birthday celebrations recently. — XINHUA

## Canada sees off second warmest winter in history

OTTAWA, 22 March — Canada has experienced the second warmest winter in recorded history in the 2006-07 season, with temperatures hovering 3 C above normal in most areas, said the country's environment agency Tuesday.

The winter of 2006-07 tied with 1986-87 as the second-warmest winter since records began in 1948, Environment Canada said in a report.

Most of the countries experienced temperatures at least 3 C above normal, while some parts saw the mercury hovering about 5 C higher than usual.

The warmest winter of Canada was

that of 2005-06, which was 3.9 C above the norm.

Even though this past winter was a bit cooler, it is still part of a trend of rising winter temperatures. Six of the 10 warmest winters on record have come in the last 10 years, scientists point out.

MNA/Xinhua



A file photo of a Berlin zoo employee feeding polar bear cub Knut in this undated picture, released on 12 Feb, 2007. Berlin Zoo rallied to the defence of Knut on Tuesday, rejecting demands that the animal be allowed to die after being abandoned by its mother. — INTERNET

## ECONOMIC NEWS

## Vietnam eyes bigger vegetable, fruit exports

HANOI, 22 March— Vietnam has targeted to raise its vegetable, fruit and flower export revenues to 700 million US dollars in 2010, and one billion dollars in 2015 from 280 million dollars in 2006.

The country has also planned to post the products' annual export growth of 29 per cent since 2016, local newspaper *Vietnam News* on Wednesday quoted Vietnamese Deputy Trade Minister Tran Duc Minh as saying.

To this end, Vietnam will boost production of

10 kinds of fruits, including orange, grape fruit, pineapple, mango, longan and litchi.

It will also intensify trade promotion, especially in traditional markets such as China, Russia and Japan, expand vegetable and fruit cultivation areas, upgrade their trademarks, and encourage relevant factories, traders and exporters to renovate technologies and pay more attention to such issues as quality and packaging.

Vietnam has targeted 550,000 hectares of vegetables, 750,000

hectares of orchards, and 10,000 hectares of flowers by 2010, which are expected to annually turn out 11 million tons of vegetables, nine million tons of fruits and 3.5 billion of flower sprigs, according to the country's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Vietnam gained 45 million dollars from shipping fruits and vegetables abroad in the first two months of this year, up 28.7 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua



Charles Simonyi (R), a former software developer at Microsoft, cosmonauts Oleg Kotov (C) and Fyodor Yurchikhin of Russia attend a news conference at Star City, outside Moscow, on 22 March, 2007. The crew is due to fly to the International Space Station from Baikonur cosmodrome on board of Soyuz TMA-10 rocket in spring. — INTERNET

## US SEC eases foreign firms' deregistration rule

WASHINGTON, 22 March— US securities regulators voted unanimously on Wednesday to ease foreign companies' withdrawal from the US stock markets, The MarketWatch reported on Wednesday.

The new rule, expected to take effect in two months later, allows a foreign company to terminate its registration if the average daily US trading in its securities amounts to no more than 5 per cent of worldwide trading, said the report.

The measure also contains investor protections, by requiring companies to wait 12 months to deregister or to

have already met the trading volume standard when they delist, the report added.

The new approach should make US markets more inviting to foreigners over the long run, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)'s Chairman Christopher Cox was quoted as saying.

The old exit plan, allowing foreign companies to terminate its registration only if they had fewer than 300 US shareholders, was "seriously outdated" and "off-putting" to companies looking for US investors, he said.

MNA/Xinhua



Women struggle through a crowd to reach a mobile water tanker in a slum area in Hyderabad, India, on 21 March, 2007. — INTERNET

## Dubai's Emirates Airline to invest \$736m in hotels

ABU DHABI, 22 March — The Dubai-based Emirates Airline will invest 2.7 billion dirhams (736 million US dollars) to develop its hotel portfolio in a bid to expand its share in Dubai's hotel industry, local newspaper *Gulf News* reported on Wednesday.

As the second largest and most profitable Arab carrier, Emirates Airline carries the largest number of passengers to and from Dubai and also takes care of their accommodation during their stopover in

the city, the report said.

"We are the largest providers of businesses to Dubai's hotel industry and will continue to be. The new division is our responsible contribution to the Emirate of Dubai," the airline's vice-president Hans E Haensel was quoted as saying.

Emirates' hotel projects include the Emirates Park Towers, a twin tower complex with 900 guest rooms and 300 serviced apartments, the Emirates Green Lakes, a 350-apartment complex, and the Emirates Marina Hotel and Residence, a complex with 261 rooms and apartments to be opened in September.

MNA/Xinhua

## Chocolate prices spike

NEW YORK, 22 March— Chocolate lovers may notice their habit is getting more expensive in the coming months, following

a rally that sent the price of cocoa close to a four-year high after a drought hit the world's key grower.

A withering dry spell that farmers called the worst in living memory has hit Africa's Ivory Coast, the main grower of cocoa beans used to make chocolate. This, combined with tight supplies, has caused price spikes in New York and London cocoa markets.

"I think [chocolate] prices may go up but I also think it will be a product-by-product increase," Erin Ashley Smith, an analyst who follows the confectionary market for

Argus Research Company in New York, told Reuters in a phone interview.

Internet



Rain and a wet race track hindered preparations for the MX Satellite Radio Speedjam auto race, on 22 March, 2007 at the Homestead Miami Speedway in Homestead, Fla. — INTERNET



The world's largest passenger aircraft, the Airbus A380, takes off, on 21 March, 2007 from New York's John F Kennedy Int'l Airport. The plane visited the US this week for the first time. — INTERNET

**HAILING THE 62ND ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY:**

# Milestones of achievement in serving national interest

*Ketu Nilar*

**Only when the Tatmadaw is strong, will the nation be strong**



'National politics' is the harmonious implementation of the national task by all the people (all the national races) free from social, religious and class discrimination and ideological and factional prejudices to realize the common goal of serving the interest of the entire nation.

In 'party politics', a party formed with people of same ideology, political belief and conviction vie with rival parties for taking the leadership role in

building the nation in accord with its political system.

In essence, national politics is comprehensive, covering a wide array of areas, while party politics represents a single policy with narrow view and interest. But some parties state in their stand a principle of the national politics (whether they practise it or not is uncertain). Usually, they prescribe the principle — to give priority to party interest, when it is a matter between individual

interest and party interest, and to give priority to national interest if the matter is between party interest and national interest.

Anyhow, the fine national political traditions of Tatmadaw have been marked as a historical milestone decorated with the independence struggle covering anti-colonialist, anti-Fascist and national liberation struggles and the task of safeguarding independence and sovereignty and warding

off all internal and external dangers.

In view of the imminent danger of losing independence and Union disintegration of the resulting from political, economic and social deterioration of the nation in 1959-60, the then government entrusted the State power to the Tatmadaw. Due to unavoidable circumstances, the Tatmadaw took over the State duties from 1962 to 1974 and from 18 September 1988 up till now.

Above-mentioned events bear witness to the fact that **the Tatmadaw, the sole national force, has been discharging national duties well to serve the national interest — non-disintegration of the Union; non-disintegration of national solidarity; and perpetuation of sovereignty.** No one can deny this fact.

The successive Tatmadaw governments have been able to serve the national interest,

especially the most basic national interest — non-disintegration of the Union; non-disintegration of national solidarity; and perpetuation of sovereignty — to the best of their ability in accord with time and situation.

The nation's situation during which the Tatmadaw government took over the State duties on 18 September 1988 was much different from those of previous Tatmadaw governments. The nation's political, economic and social problems at the time were also different.

When the past Tatmadaw administrations governed the nation from 1959 to 1960 and from 1962 to 1974, there were almost no foreign interferences. But the Tatmadaw after taking over the State duties on 18 September 1988 had faced and warded off internal and external opposition and interferences. And till now it is facing and warding off such opposition and interferences. It has been building the nation, while overcoming political pressures and economic sanctions of some foreign powers. It is serving the national interest on self-reliant basis.

The 1988 unrest broke out due to the instigation of leftist and

rightist political groups from inside and outside the nation. The Tatmadaw had to stabilize the nation's political, economic and social conditions that were spinning out of control due to the unrest. It is now striving in cooperation with national races for peace, stability and progress of the nation and emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic state.

**The Tatmadaw government is practically implementing the four tasks — the rule of law and community peace; secure and smooth transport of commodities; food, clothing and shelter sufficiency; and multiparty democracy general election.** The government enacted the Multiparty Democracy General Election Commission Law on 21 September 1988 and the Political Parties Registration Law on 27 September the same year. It abolished all unnecessary laws and orders and enacted necessary laws to practise market economy. It has been striving to lay sound political, economic and social foundations. It held a free and fair multiparty democracy general election on 27

*(See page 7)*

**The government has been achieving success in implementing national development undertakings as it relies on the consolidated force of the people. It has to overcome a lot of disturbances and hardships in building the nation with united efforts.**

## Milestones of achievement in serving...

(from page 6)

May 1990. In this way, it has successfully implemented the four tasks.

**“Our Three Main National Causes” is the government’s national policy. It is also realizing the 12 political, economic and social objectives.** As the government has been able to restore peace and stability and national consolidation, 17 major armed groups and many other small groups have made peace with the government. **The government is now in the process of implementing these seven-step Road Map to achieve the goal — a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing**

**democratic state. It has been convening the National Convention, the first step of the Road Map.**

The government has been building super-structures as well as infrastructures in building a discipline-flourishing democratic state. It has been developing the agricultural sector in all aspects as the backbone of the national economy that is growing in accord with the four economic objectives. The market economy has increased foreign and domestic investments and job opportunities.

**Those are all the developments based on peace and stability which lend credence to the fact**

**that socio-economic development of a nation depends on her peace and stability and united efforts.** Those developments will lead us to a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic state.

Economic indicators and practical situation give witness to the actual developments of the nation.

**The government has been achieving success in implementing national development undertakings as it relies on the consolidated force of the people.** It has to overcome a lot of disturbances and hardships in building the nation with united efforts.

**Today’s political,**

**economic and social developments are the foundations for national unity and Union perpetuation.** We will have to further develop our nation till it becomes a discipline-flourishing democratic state. Developments are also the sound foundations for implementing the seven-step Road Map.

The Tatmadaw, a national force, has been upholding Our Three Main National Causes — non-disintegration of the Union; non-disintegration of national solidarity; and perpetuation of sovereignty — in practically serving the national interest.

It has been implementing the Road Map, the requirement of the time or the common goal of the people, with harmonious efforts of the entire nation. It has been successfully convening the National Convention, the first step of the Road Map.

**The results in serving national interest stand as milestones of the endeavours of the Tatmadaw with fine traditions. With this article, I honour the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day.**

(Translation: TMT)

## Objectives of the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day

- \* **To work in concert with the people in building a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation**
- \* **To strive for successful realization of the seven-step Road Map of the State with genuine Union Spirit**
- \* **To crush every danger posed to stability and development of the State hand in hand with the people**
- \* **To build a strong, capable and modern patriotic Tatmadaw to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes**

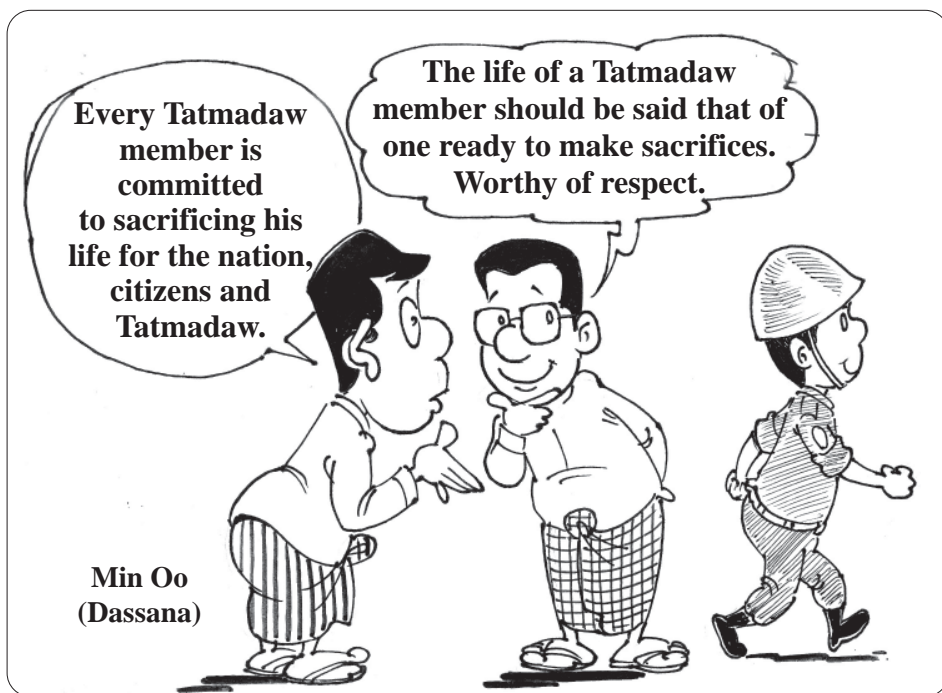
## POEM:

### Tatmadaw with fine traditions

- \* **Gives priority to national interest  
Is Tatmadaw of good sons  
Possessing goodwill  
And fine history and traditions**
- \* **Living under own monarchs with glory  
We, Myanmar, have long history  
In which good King Anawrahta  
Powerful Bayintnaung  
Alaungphaya of Konboun era  
Built First, Second, Third Empires  
Unmatched power  
Fine traditions of past  
Inherited by Tatmadaw  
Vowing to exist in unity  
As modern Armed Forces  
Possessing fine traditions**
- \* **The Tatmadaw  
Or patriotic good sons of Myanmar  
Endowed with nobility  
Famous for discipline  
Loyalty and unity  
Courage and capability  
Noble and daring spirit  
Selfless social services  
High morale  
Able to overcome hardships  
Through endurance and perseverance  
Upholding Our Three Main National Causes  
With sense of duty**

Po Yan Naing (Kyaukkyi) (Trs)

Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day



Min Oo (Dassana)

## Myanmar Futsal Team leaves for Thailand

YANGON, 24 March — Myanmar Futsal Team left here by air this morning to take part in the

Second ASEAN Futsal Championship to be held in Bangkok of Thailand from 26 to 31 March.

President of Myanmar Football Federation U Zaw Zaw, executives and relatives of

the athletes saw them off at Yangon International Airport.

Myanmar is in the Group (B) with Defending Champion Thailand, Vietnam and Brunei. Myanmar will play against Brunei on 26 March, Thailand on 27 and Vietnam on 28 March.

NLM

*Myanmar Futsal team being seen off by MFF President U Zaw Zaw and responsible persons at Yangon International Airport. — NLM*



**Special Projects Implementation Committee holds meeting 1/2007...**

(from page 1)

Defence, Military Affairs Security Chief Maj-Gen Ye Myint, ministers, deputy ministers, departmental heads and officials.

Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min reported on implementation for Ayeyawady Confluence Hydel Power Project, Tarpein (1), Tarpein (2), Shweli (2), Shweli (3), Upper Thanlwin, Upper Kengtawng, Shwesaryay and Taninthayi hydel power projects.

The Ministry of Electric Power No 1 is implementing short and long term hydel-power projects to meet power demand of the country.

Ayeyawady Confluence Hydel Power

*Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min.*  
MNA



**Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint.**—MNA

**Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe.**—MNA

Project is major project. The project will be implemented at three miles downstream of Maykha-Malikka confluence, 25 miles north of Myitkyina. The power plant to be installed with 3,600 megawatt generator will generate at least 2,090 megawatts. Another project in Kachin State is Tarpein (1) hydel power project. It will be implemented on Tarpein River, 3.5 miles from Momauk. The power

plant will be installed with 240 megawatts. Tarpein (2) hydel power plant, 6 miles downstream of Tarpein (1), will be installed with 168 megawatts generator.

Shweli (2) hydel power plant, 12.5 miles downstream of Shweli (1), in Momeik Township, will be implemented. It will be installed with 460 megawatts generator. The ministry will implement Shweli (3) hydel power

project, 30 miles downstream of Shweli (2). The power plant will produce 360 megawatts.

Upper Thanlwin hydel power project will be divided into two portions — project (1) and project (2). The project (1) will be implemented on Thanlwin River, one mile upstream of Thanlwin Bridge (Tarpa) in Kunglong of Shan State (North). The power plant will be fixed with 1,160 megawatts. The project (2) will be situated on Thanlwin River, upstream of the confluence of Thanlwin River and Nannin Creek in Kunglong. The power plant will generate 1,240 megawatts.

K e n g t a w n g Hydel Power Project site

is located on Namtein Creek near Wammaw Village, 10 miles from Kengtawng in Shan State (South). On completion, the power plant will generate 60 megawatts.

S h w e s a r y a y hydel power project will be implemented with the use of water from Chindwin River in Monywa District. The project is located on Chindwin River near Shwesaryay Village in Budalin Township. The power plant will produce 660 megawatts.

Taninthayi Hydel Power Project will be undertaken on Taninthayi River, over 37 miles from Myeik and it will generate 600 megawatts.

Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen

Khin Maung Myint reported on construction of the national grid, main power stations, power lines and repairing of natural gas power stations.

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe submitted reports on completion of airports approved at the Special Projects Implementation Meeting 2/2004, construction of the runways at Hkamti, Kengtung and Dawei airports, extension of Yangon International Airport and Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.

In the civil aviation sector of the nation, there were 15 airports where F-27 flights could land and six airport where F-28s could land before 1988.

After 1988, 13 new airports including Mandalay International Airport were constructed, and 16 airports were upgraded. As a result, F-27 and ATR airplanes can land on 36 airports, F-28s on 26 airports, Y-8s on 18 airports, Boeing-737s on 14 airports, Air-Bus A-300s on 10 airports, DC-10s on eight airports and Boeing 747-400s on seven airports.

Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw presented reports on construction of the communication network of the country, progress of broadband system, implementation of Yadanabon Myothit Project, and tasks of Mekong Region Information and Communication Link Project.

(See page 9)

**Shweli (2) hydel power plant, 12.5 miles downstream of Shweli (1), in Momeik Township, will be implemented. It will be installed with 460 megawatts generator. The ministry will implement Shweli (3) hydel power project, 30 miles downstream of Shweli (2). The power plant will produce 360 megawatts.**



**Yenwe Hydel Power Plant near Myochaung Village in Kyaukdaga Township can generate 123 million kilowatt hours annually.**





**Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw.—MNA**



**Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi.—MNA**



**Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min.—MNA**



**Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung.—MNA**

## Special Projects Implementation Committee holds meeting 1/2007...

(from page 8)

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi also reported on signing of profit sharing contracts for exploration and production of oil and natural gas at the blocks offshore Tainthayi, offshore Rakhine, offshore Mottama and inland regions, laying of natural gas pipelines projects, and construction of Fertilizer Plants (Myaungdaga) and (Kangyidaunt).

Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min reported on construction of Kyangin-Pakokku Railroad, Pyawbwe—Phaya Ngasu Railroad and Sittoung-Myitkyo-DaikU Railroad and progress of work.

The minister also reported on Katha-Bhamo-

Railroad Construction Project. He said a railroad linking Katha in Sagaing Division in the west region of Ayeyawady River and Bhamo in Kachin State in the east region of Ayeyawady River. On completion of the project, economic, social and transport facilities in Katha, Shwegu, Mansi and Bhamo Township will develop. The railroad will lead to Bhamo, Katha, Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw and Dawei.

A major bridge crossing the Ayeyawady and other 65 bridges will be built on the 97 mile-railroad. The road will also benefit local people in 15 villages in Katha Township and eight villages in Bhamo Township.

Next, Minister for

Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung reported on greening projects for Bago Yoma and forest conservation in watershed areas.

The Ministry of Forestry will implement the

five-year Bago Yoma greening project in Bago, Magway and Mandalay Divisions and eight districts in Yangon Division and 31 Townships from 2004-2005 to 2008-2009.

Under the project, 526,355 acres of natural forests were conserved, 70,900 acres of forests regenerated, 69,300 acres of forests grafted and 112,773 acres of planta-

Achievements have been made due to the active participation of the ministries concerned under the supervision and coordination of the central level, he said.



**An oil rig named Karkonna (1) in Block M-9 offshore Mottama can produce 21 million cubic feet of natural gas daily.**

tions established.

The Ministry of Forestry also implemented forest conservation project in watershed areas of dams, reservoirs, lakes from 1996-97 to 2005-2006.

From 2006-2007 to 2010-2011, altogether 129,550 acres of watershed plantation will be grown and conservation of 1,161,220 acres of natural forests will be undertaken.

In his concluding address, Senior General Than Shwe said it is important to implement the special projects with seriousness as they are all-round development projects of the State.

He said the remaining projects are to be implemented through mutual coordination and active participation.

With such implementation of the projects, there will be better prospects and foundations for national development. On full completion of these projects, one can guess how the nation will develop in the future, he added.

Officials concerned should not serve their duties perfunctorily but they are to strive for national development while serving the State duties, he said.

The coordination meeting ended at 5.30 pm.—MNA



**Ponnyataung Tunnel opened on 27-1-2007.—MR**

# Ceremony to mark World TB Day held...

(from page 16)

Research is to be carried out for more potent traditional medicines.

In Myanmar, preventive measures are being taken to give treatment irrespective of region and race in accordance with the strategy practised globally so that the world will no longer see TB by 2050.

In conclusion, he called for collaborative efforts to fight against the disease.

Next, the Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint made a speech.

After that, WHO resident representative Professor Adik Wibowo read out the message sent by the Director of WHO South East Asian Region.

Next, the commander, ministers, deputy ministers and those present viewed the documentary film.

After that, they viewed the notifications on health and the ceremony ended.

After the ceremony, the commander, ministers, deputy ministers and those present looked into documentary photos on health activities and papers of paper reading session on TB.—MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin and guests view documentary photos.—MNA



**Resident Representative of WHO Professor Adik Wibowo reads out message of SEA Regional Director.**  
MNA

## Mr Rico and Ms Rina Contests held

YANGON, 24 March — Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day, Yangon Division Body-building and Physical Culture Subcommittee organized the Mr Rico and Ms Rina Contests sponsored by Grand Wynn Enterprises Ltd (Lolane Hair & Skin Care) at Aung San Gymnasium, here, this morning.

Khin Maung Kyaw stood first, Than Zaw Htaik, second and Nyi Nyi Zaw, third in the Mr Rico Contest.

In the Ms Rina Contest, the first prize went to Hay Mar Soe Win, the second prize to Khin Ei Ei Khaing and the third prize to Aye Thanda Khaing. Responsible persons presented prizes to the winners.

Afterwards, a lucky draw programme was held for the guests and enthusiasts. — MNA



General Manager U L Mein Dein of Grand Wynn Enterprises Ltd presents first prize to winner Khin Maung Kyaw.—MNA

### နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရ ဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ

လစဉ် လ၏ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်း အတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည့် ကိစ္စရပ်များမှ အပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေကြပါသည်။

- ၂၀၀၇ ခုနှစ် မတ်လအတွက်နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) (၂၅-၃-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့
- ၂၀၀၇ ခုနှစ် ဧပြီလအတွက် (၈-၄-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့
- နှင့်
- (၂၉-၄-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့

## Special sale of Panasonic (S' pore), Advanced Vision Co Ltd launched

YANGON, 24 March —With the sponsorship of Panasonic (S' pore) and Advanced Vision Co Ltd, the

special sale to mark the Myanma Atar Thingyan (Water Festival) was launched at the Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road here on 18 March evening.

Managing Director of Advanced Vision Co Ltd U Tun Wai extended greetings and explained the special sale programmes.

A dinner was hosted to those present.

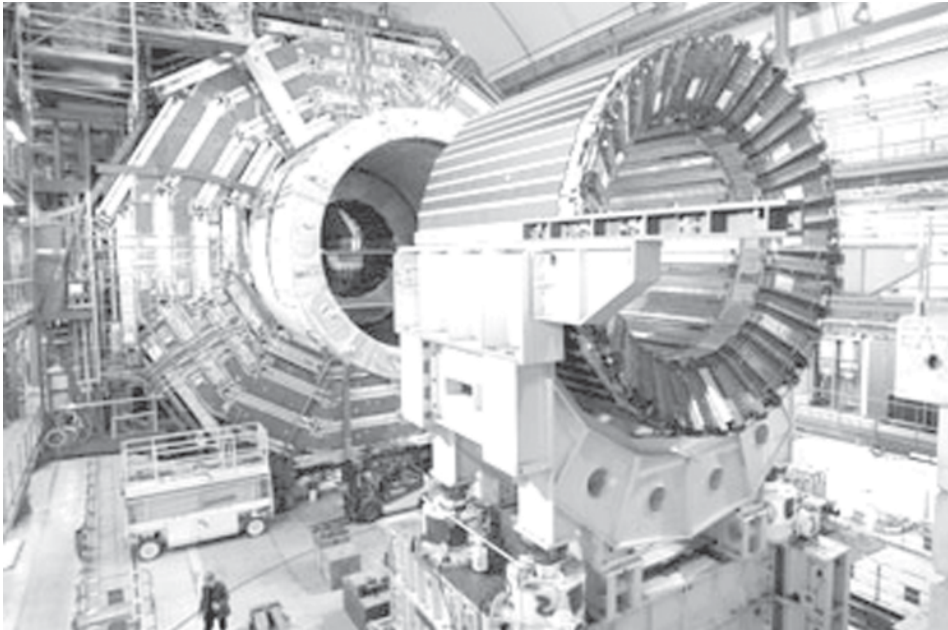
During the sale period from 18 March to 31 May, those who buy the Panasonic-brand Plasma TV, LCD TV,

Flat Color TV, DVD Home-theatre, DVD Mini-Hifi, DVD Player, Digital Still Camera, health equipment and cosmetics will be eligible for lucky draw programmes as a special privilege in addition to souvenirs.

The above mentioned electronic equipment can also be available at sale agents and super-markets in different towns, Advanced Vision Co Ltd, of No 285, Bo Aung Kyaw Street (Tel 256620 or 246513).— MNA



Managing Director U Tun Wai of Advanced Vision Co Ltd speaks at opening ceremony of special market festival.—MNA



A technician walks under the core magnet of the CMS (Compact Muon Solenoid) experiment at the European Organization for Nuclear Research CERN (Centre Europeen de Recherche Nucleaire) in the French village of Cessy, near Geneva on 22 March, 2007. CMS is part of five experiments which, from the end of 2007 on, will study what happens when beams of particles collide in the 27 km (16.8 miles) long underground ring LHC (Large Hadron Collider).— XINHUA

## Baby girl of seven months in N-E China has pacemaker implanted

CHANGCHUN, 23 March— A seven-month-old baby girl in northeast China has had a pacemaker implanted in her heart, making her the second youngest in China to have a pacemaker.

The baby, called Xinyi, was born with a heart rate of only 40 times a minute, one third of that of a healthy baby.

“Shortly after the surgery was finished, her heart rate was clocked at 60 times a minute,” said Meng Fanchao, the doctor in charge of the operation with Jilin Heart Disease Hospital. The pacemaker,

made in the United States, is as small as a matchbox, said Meng.

“The baby’s heart is scarred by the previous surgery and it is too small to have muscles. We found it extremely hard

to fix the pacemaker,” Meng said.

“When Xinyi reaches the age of ten, she will need to have a new pacemaker implanted,” said Meng.

MNA/Xinhua

## Pakistan tests nuclear-capable cruise missile

ISLAMABAD 23 March — Pakistan successfully tested on Thursday a nuclear-capable cruise missile with a range of 700 kilometres (435 miles), the military said in a statement.

The Hatf V11 Babur missile is a terrain-hugging, radar avoiding cruise missile capable of carrying a variety of warheads including nuclear, it said.

“The flight data collected validated the design parameters set for the flight test,” the military said. “It is a highly manoeuvrable missile with pinpoint accuracy.”

The missile was first tested in 2005. Since then, its range has been enhanced to 700 kilometres, from 500 kilometres previously, the military said, although it did not say how.

President Pervez Musharraf and Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz had congratulated scientists and engineers involved and assured them of complete support in development plans of all strategic projects, the military said.

Pakistan’s old rival India has cruise missiles that can be launched from a submarine.

The neighbours, who have fought three wars since 1947, both tested nuclear devices in 1998. Their relations have improved since they launched a peace process in 2004.

MNA/Reuters

## Three US soldiers killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 23 March — Three US soldiers were killed in insurgent attacks in Baghdad and western Iraq Wednesday, the US military said Thursday.

A marine, assigned to Multi National Force-West, was killed while conducting combat operations in Iraq’s western province of Anbar, the military said in a statement.

A second soldier assigned to the same unit was killed while conducting combat operations in the same volatile province, the military said in another statement.

The third soldier was killed Wednesday when insurgents opened small

arms fire on his patrol while returning to base after conducting combat operations in the Iraqi capital, the military said in an earlier statement.

The names of the killed soldiers are being withheld pending notification of next of kin, the statements said.

Since the US-led war in Iraq broke out in March 2003, more than 3,225 US soldiers have been killed in the country, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.

MNA/Xinhua



The era of laptops has finally come to China,” according to the Internet Society of China’s report on the local IT market in 2006. In the future, more and more consumers will choose laptops for their portability. Besides, laptops today are much more affordable than in the past. In 2006, nearly 47% of PC users in China were laptop users, while the figure in 2005 was only 31%. It can be estimated that laptops will take more market share in 2007, as the desktop PC market is becoming increasingly saturated. — INTERNET

## US soldier gets 27 months in Iraq gang-rape case

CHICAGO, 23 March — A US soldier who pleaded guilty in connection with the rape of a 14-year-old Iraqi girl and the killing of her family was sentenced to 27 months in prison, officials at Fort Campbell in Kentucky said on Wednesday.

Private Bryan Howard, 20, also drew a dishonourable discharge after entering a plea agreement at his court-martial, a statement from the post said.

He pleaded guilty to conspiracy to obstruct justice and being an accessory after the fact. Murder and rape charges against Howard were dismissed by the government based on his limited role in the crimes, the announcement said.

At a hearing in Iraq last year, testimony indicated Howard was at a nearby location but did not participate in the crime itself.

Howard waived his request to have his case heard by

a military panel and was tried by Colonel Stephen Henley, who imposed the sentence.

Last month, Sergeant Paul Cortez, 24, was sentenced to 100 years in prison under a plea agreement he reached with prosecutors in the same case, although he will be eligible for parole in 10 years.

The incident happened after a group of soldiers drank whiskey, played cards and plotted to attack a family at Mahmudiya, south of Baghdad, in March 2006. Some of those involved poured kerosene on the girl’s body and lit her on fire in an attempt to cover up the crime.— MNA/Reuters



A model presents a creation by Indian designer Tarun Tahiliani at a fashion show on the second day of the India fashion week Autumn/Winter 2007 in New Delhi on 22 March, 2007. — XINHUA

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P. O. Box 60, Yangon  
Dated: 26 March 2007

**Bank Holiday**

All Banks will be closed 27th March (Tuesday) Armed Forces Day 2007, being public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE**

March 27th being the Public Holiday Wharves, Warehouses and Chellan Office will be closed. Goods will be received, shipped or delivered on Payment of Holiday Fees.

**Britain rises excise duty on most polluting cars**

LONDON, 23 March — Britain raised taxes on the most polluting cars in an effort to entice drivers away from gas-guzzling vehicles which damage the environment.

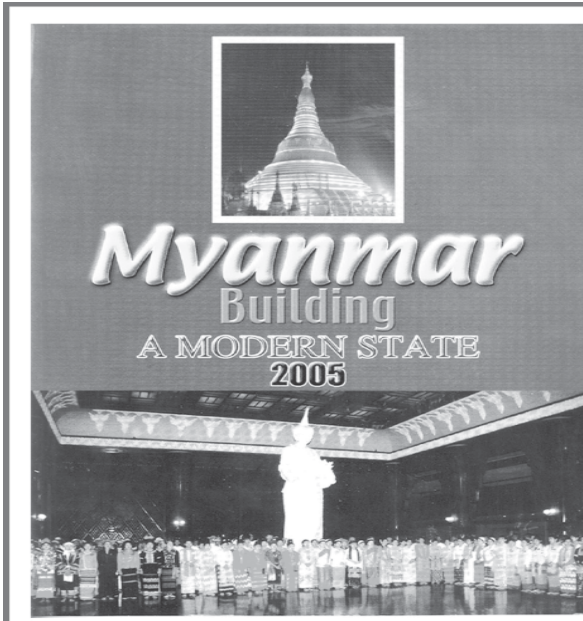
Finance Minister Gordon Brown said in his 11th and probably last budget the excise duty on heavily polluting vehicles would rise to 300 pounds from 210 pounds in 2007 and again to 400 pounds in 2008.

The duty on more environmentally friendly cars such as the hybrid Toyota Prius was frozen at 30 pounds.

Brown, who is expected to succeed Prime Minister Tony Blair in coming months, last raised vehicle excise duty in March 2006 but ignored pleas from environmentalists for a further hike in the pre-budget report in December.

Britain's political parties have been vying for the environmental spotlight in part to tap into growing public concern about the dangers of climate change.

MNA/Reuters



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**Bangladesh gets \$326,000 export orders in Paris**

DHAKA, 23 March — Bangladesh's garment, ceramic tableware, plastic and pharmaceutical companies received confirmed export orders worth about 326,000 US dollars at the four-day 2nd edition of the single country Trade Exhibition held in Paris from 22 February, Bangladeshi news agency UNB reported Wednesday.

They also received

prospective orders worth about 800,000 dollars, said a Press release of Bangladesh's Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) on Wednesday.

Totally 24 Bangladeshi companies representing garments, ceramic tableware, pharmaceuticals, home-textile, handicraft, jute and jute products, terry towel, light engineering products, kitchenware and plastic

products took part in the exhibition.

The EPB and Bangladeshi Embassy in Paris jointly organized the exhibition in collaboration with Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Paris (CCIP).

Two Bangladeshi pharmaceutical companies — Jayson Pharma-

ceuticals and Biopharma — attracted French buyers, which is expected to help Bangladesh diversify its export basket.

Bangladesh's exports to France over the years have increased substantially, as it stood at 677 million dollars last year.

MNA/Xinhua

**Bulgaria mulls ban on mobile phones in Army**

SOFIA, 23 March — Bulgaria may prohibit service personnel from using mobile phones on duty after the exposure of a scandalous amateur web video, which revealed some Bulgarian soldiers' humiliating attitude towards Iraqis, Sofia News Agency reported Wednesday.

Defence Minister Veselin Bliznakov announced the plan as he welcomed home a group of Bulgarian troops from Iraq, said the report.

A short movie, recently posted on the Internet, shows that four soldiers, who are moving in an open car, are insulting native Iraqis by calling them "dirty Roma" in Bulgarian, which has an offensive connotation.

After an investigation into the clip, the Defence Ministry found that it was shot with a mobile phone in 2004, when Bulgarian troops carried out a mission in the Iraqi city of Kerbala, the report said.

Two of the soldiers are still serving in the Army, while the others have retired voluntarily due to health reasons, it added.

Bliznakov said he has not yet decided whether to punish the related in the scandal.

Bulgaria currently has 155 troops stationed in Iraq, where 13 Bulgarian soldiers and six Bulgarian civilians have been killed since the US-led invasion in 2003. — MNA/Xinhua

**Russian helicopter goes missing**

MOSCOW, 23 March — A Russian helicopter with six people on board went missing on Wednesday in northern Russia, a spokeswoman for the Emergencies Ministry said.

"A helicopter has gone missing," she said.

The Mi-8 helicopter, owned by a unit of gas giant Gazprom, did not return to base and has made no radio contact for over six hours, Interfax news agency reported.

At least 177 people have been killed in a trio of disasters in Russia in the past week.

Two Russian fighter jets collided on Wednesday but both pilots ejected and no one was killed.

MNA/Reuters

*A resident examines the debris of his house destroyed by a series of explosions at an arsenal in Mozambique's capital of Maputo on 22 March, 2007. — XINHUA*



ပန်းမန်သစ်ပင် လေသန့်စင်၍  
ဥယျာဉ်တောတန်း  
စိတ်ရွှင်လန်း၏။

ပညာရေးနှင့် ဆက်စပ်ပူးတွဲတိုးတက်လာ နိုင်စေရန် ကြိုးပမ်း ဆောင်ရွက်အံ့

### Discovery could increase shelf life of blood

MELBOURNE, 23 March—Melbourne scientists have discovered two molecules in humans that can increase the lifespan of blood cells.

Scientists at the Walter Eliza Institute of Medical Research in Melbourne hope the breakthrough will stop critical storages dying in blood banks before they can be used.

The current shelf life for blood cells is five days.

The Institute's laboratory head, Dr Benjamin Kile, says the discovery could help countless patients who depend on blood transfusions for survival.

"Probably the major class of patients having platelet transfusions are patients having cancer chemotherapy, which

tends to damage the body's own ability to produce platelets," he said.

"So those people are



often requiring platelet transfusions, particularly during their chemotherapy cycles."

Dr Kile says now

scientists know the cause of cell destruction, the next step is developing a drug to extend the life of

unhealthy blood cells in patients with serious diseases. "There might be situations where you'd like to switch off platelet life," he said. "Platelets are involved in cardiovascular diseases, they're also involved in the blood clots that cause strokes and heart attacks. "So in those situations it might actually be desirable to reduce the number of platelets by reducing their lifespan, so that's the flipside of the coin as it were."

He says the discovery could also enable doctors to shorten the life of

critically low blood stocks.

Internet

### Britain police hold 22 at "illegal passport factories"

LONDON 23, March — London police arrested 22 people in a crackdown on illegal passport factories and suppliers, Scotland Yard said on Thursday.

More than 100 officers took part in dawn raids at 13 addresses across the capital on Wednesday, backed by officials from the Immigration Service, the Identity and Passport Service, South Yorkshire Police and the Department of Work and Pensions.

The action came the day after the Home Office admitted that about

10,000 British passports had been issued to fraudulent applicants in the year to September last year.

Police said 19 of those arrested were accused of crimes including unlawful facilitation, identity card offences and possession and conspiracy to produce and distribute false documents. The other three were held for immigration offences.

Officers said they had also seized 40,000 pounds in cash, false passports, driving licenses and foreign ID documents.

MNA/Reuters

### Study says alcohol more dangerous than marijuana

BEIJING, 23 March — A new "landmark" British study concludes alcohol and tobacco are more dangerous than some illegal drugs such as marijuana or Ecstasy and should be classified as such in legal systems.

Professor David Nutt of Britain's Bristol University and colleagues proposed a new framework for the classification of harmful substances, based on the actual risks posed to society in research published Friday in the Lancet magazine. Their ranking listed alcohol and tobacco among the top 10 most dangerous

substances. Nutt and colleagues used three factors to determine the harm associated with any drug: the physical harm to the user, the drug's potential for addiction, and the impact on society of drug use. The researchers asked two groups of experts — psychiatrists specializing in addiction and legal or police officials

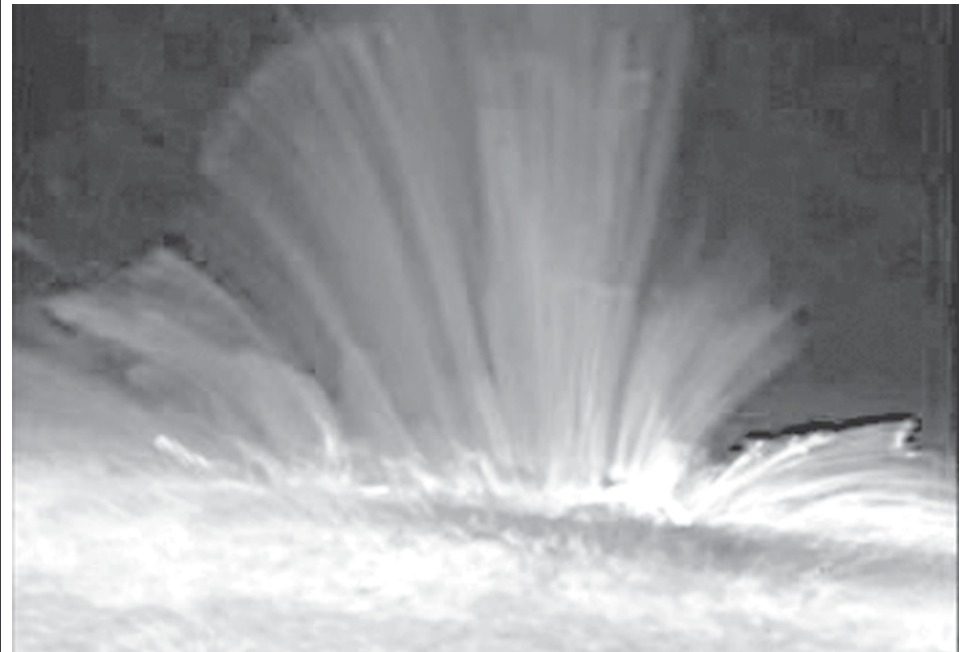
with scientific or medical expertise — to assign scores to 20 different drugs, including heroin, cocaine, Ecstasy, amphetamines, and LSD.

Nutt and his colleagues then calculated the drugs' overall rankings. In the end, the experts agreed with each other — but not with the existing British classification of dangerous substances. "The current drug system is ill thought-out and arbitrary," said Nutt, referring to the United Kingdom's practice of assigning drugs to three distinct divisions, ostensibly based on the drugs' potential for harm. "The exclusion of alcohol and tobacco from the Misuse of Drugs Act is, from a scientific perspective, arbitrary."

Experts ranked heroin and cocaine most dangerous, followed by barbiturates and street methadone.

Alcohol was the fifth-most harmful drug and tobacco the ninth most harmful. Marijuana came in 11th, and near the bottom of the list was Ecstasy.

Internet



The never-before-seen images released by NASA on 21 March, 2007 from an international spacecraft showing that the sun's magnetic field is much more turbulent and dynamic than previously thought. "These images will open a new era of study on some of the sun's processes that affect Earth, astronauts, orbiting satellites and the solar system," said Dick Fisher, director of NASA's Heliophysics Division. — INTERNET

### Report says FBI violations may number 3,000

WASHINGTON, 23 March — The US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) may have violated the law or government policies as many as 3,000 times since 2003 as agents secretly collected the telephone, bank and credit card records of US citizens and foreign nationals residing in the country, The Washington Post reported on Wednesday.

The report, quoting Justice Department In-

spector-General Glenn A Fine at a House committee on Tuesday, said that according to the FBI's own estimate, as many as 600 of these violations could be "cases of serious misconduct" involving the improper use of "national security letters" to compel telephone companies, banks and credit institutions to produce records.

Fine's estimate of the incidence of serious abuses was extrapolated from his investigators' scrutiny of

293 national security letters, out of 44,000 letters — containing 143,074 data requests — that the FBI has reported issuing during the three-year period he reviewed.

National security letters are comparable to subpoenas but are issued directly by the bureau without court review. An FBI tally showed that the bureau made an average of 916 such requests each week from 2003 to 2005.

MNA/Xinhua



Part of a crowd of thousands of people walk across the Sydney Harbour Bridge to mark its 75th anniversary, on 18 March, 2007. — XINHUA

# SPORTS

## Chelsea chase Spanish starlet



Manzano Manzano

BARCELONA, 23 March — Mallorca have responded positively to reports that Chelsea are interested in exciting striker Emilio Nsue. Speculation in Spain claims that the Premiership champions are keen to sign the Under 21 international in a £12million (£8million) deal.

Arsenal have been past suitors of the teenager, but London rivals Chelsea are now thought to be heading the chase.

Though Mallorca have denied any contact with

The Blues, coach Gregorio Manzano has been lifted by news of their supposed interest.

"If it is true that Chelsea have paid attention to Emilio, it is a joy that a club of that size can pay attention to a player of Mallorca," Manzano told a news conference.

Meanwhile, Bolivian youngster David Suarez is hoping Chelsea follow up their reported wish to invite him to Stamford Bridge for a trial.

Suarez became the youngest player to play in the Libertadores Cup earlier this year when featuring for Blooming against Santos.

His potential has led to suggestions Chelsea want to take a close look at the 14-year-old, who is currently not paid enough to afford his travel to training with Blooming.

Internet

## Barca quiet on Gudjohnsen talk



Eidur Gudjohnsen

BARCELONA, 23 March—Barcelona have refused to comment on speculation linking Eidur Gudjohnsen with a move away from Camp Nou.

The English media had suggested that Manchester United were ready to make an £8million bid to lure the Icelander back to

England. Gudjohnsen departed the Premiership last summer when he quit Chelsea to accept the challenge at Barca. He was signed to replace Henrik Larsson and now, coincidentally, it is said that is what United want him to do at Old Trafford.

Larsson has just left United after a successful short stint on loan from Helsingborgs.

Despite still being in the running for the Treble, United have been left short of striking options in recent weeks with Larsson's departure - as both Louis Saha and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer are struggling with injuries.

Internet

## Time to perform, says Mac

LONDON, 23 March—Steve McClaren has admitted it is high time England started to deliver on the field.

The Three Lions' Euro 2008 qualification hopes are hanging in the balance, as they sit in third place in Group E behind Croatia and Russia.

McClaren's charge stake on Israel in Tel Aviv on Saturday and a defeat would see the pressure piled on both the coach and his players.

The former Middlesbrough manager is aware of the need to pick up some momentum and he is looking for three points and a good performance.

"We have done a lot of talking, but we have to deliver on the pitch," McClaren said on Sky Sports News.

"We have got eight games to go, eight games



Steve McClaren

to qualify and it is where we end up (that matters).

"We are not contemplating that (defeat), we are coming here to win the game.

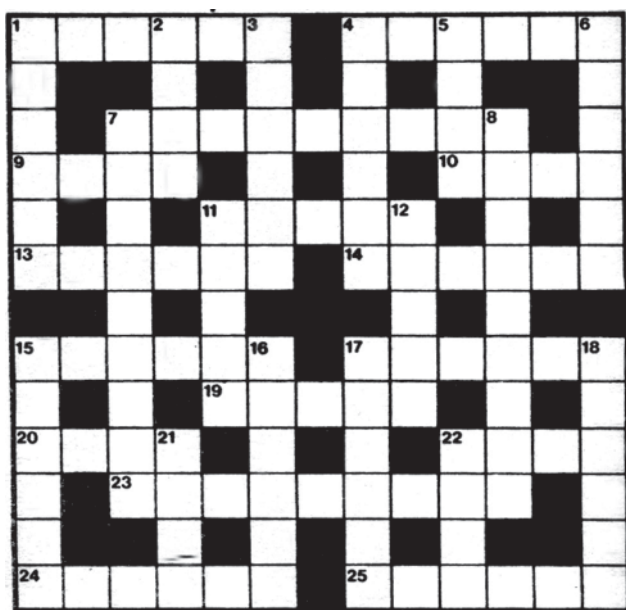
"We are determined to put on a performance, that's the key. We have to start performing.

"We want a good performance and if we get that we have got a good chance of winning.

"We will see what the result is at the end of the game, but the performance is the most important.

Internet

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

- 1 Section of poem
- 4 Long step
- 7 Every other
- 9 Formerly
- 10 Fever
- 11 Prop with foot-rest
- 13 Jibes
- 14 Commission
- 15 Drawing
- 17 Frustrate
- 19 Material for stuffing cushions
- 20 Deficiency
- 22 One
- 23 Space fenced in
- 24 Adept
- 25 Judged

### DOWN

- 1 Begin to grow
- 2 African river
- 3 Prevents
- 4 Unmarried
- 5 Duty list
- 6 Prolong
- 7 Concur
- 8 Sweet-brier
- 11 Store
- 12 Ruse
- 15 Comfort
- 16 Small village
- 17 Pickled
- 18 Loathing
- 21 Leg joint
- 22 Exhort



Aaron Baddeley hits out of the rough on the ninth hole during second round play at the WGC-CA Championship golf tournament at Doral Golf Resort, on 23 March, 2007. INTERNET

## Riquelme scores first goal since Boca return

RIO DE JANEIRO, 24 March — Midfielder Juan Roman Riquelme scored his first goal since rejoining Boca Juniors on Thursday, helping his side to a 3-0 win over Toluca in the Libertadores Cup.

Ze Roberto's stoppage-time winner gave Santos a 2-1 win at Gimnasia-La Plata and sent the Brazilians into the last 16. Paraguayan champions Libertad beat El Nacional 1-0 to stay unbeaten in Group One while Emelec beat Nacional 1-0 with a late goal to seriously dent the Uruguayan team's chances in Group Four.

Boca's win in Buenos Aires took the five-times champions top of Group Seven as they avenged last week's 2-0 defeat by their Mexican opponents.

Boca have seven points from four games, one ahead of Toluca and three clear of Bolivar.

Riquelme set up the first goal in the 16th minute when his free kick was headed in at the near post by defender Jonatan Maidana.

Riquelme, who returned for a second stint at Boca on loan from Villarreal after falling out of favour at the Spanish club, tapped in the second eight minutes later after Martin Palermo pulled the ball back.

MNA/Reuters

## Swiss enjoy comfortable win over Jamaica

MIAMI, 24 March — Euro 2008 hosts Switzerland ended a run of three successive defeats with a comfortable 2-0 friendly win over a weakened Jamaica in Fort Lauderdale on Thursday.

Playing their first match under new captain Alex Frei, the Swiss began strongly with both goals coming in the opening 12 minutes.

Frei's strike partner Marco Streller put Switzerland ahead in the seventh minute with a neat finish after skilfully turning the Jamaica defence, before midfielder Goekhan Inler smashed in his first international goal from a Tranquillo Barnetta corner.

The Swiss could have led by more goals at half time after squandering a number of further chances.

The second half offered less excitement, with both sides making a total of ten substitutions. Switzerland had been keen to make a fresh start following their recent bad run and the unexpected axing of former captain Johann Vogel, but were never in danger of a fourth successive defeat.—MNA/Reuters



Justine Henin eyes the ball before hitting a return to Vania King of the US at the Sony Ericsson Open tennis tournament in Key Biscayne, Miami, on 23 March, 2007.—INTERNET

# Chinese experts perform human spinal disc transplants

**HONG KONG, 24 March**— Doctors from China and Hong Kong have transplanted human spinal discs into five patients, offering what could be a viable alternative to treat degenerative disc disease (DDD) in the future.

The soft, compressible discs that separate the interlocking bones that make up the spine can break down with age, becoming drier, less flexible and more easily damaged.

absorbers for the spine, allowing it to flex, bend and twist, but slipped discs can affect nerve function, leading to numbness and pain in a leg or arm.

Writing in the latest issue of the *Lancet*,

researchers said they transplanted spinal discs from three young female donors who had died from trauma into five patients suffering from DDD from March 2000 to January 2001.

The article did not say whether the operation took place in Hong Kong or on the Mainland, but said the patients were closely monitored for five years.

"The neurological signs and symptoms of all the patients improved after the operation ... none of the patients had any persistent or clinically significant neck pain at rest or during neck movement," they wrote.

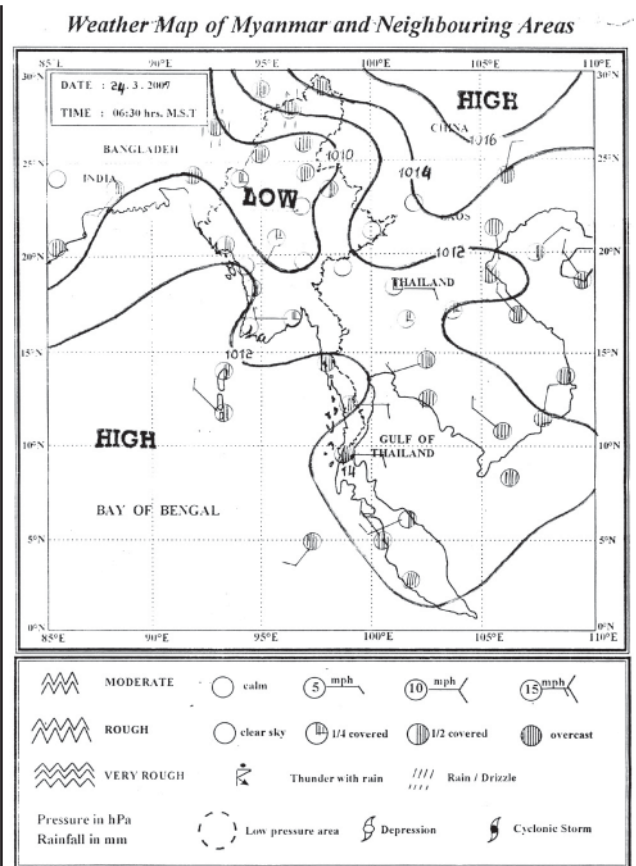
They said human spinal disc transplants could become a viable future treatment for DDD with further improvements.

In an accompanying comment published in the journal, experts not involved in the study said human disc transplantation may provide an attractive alternative to current treatments, such as spinal fusion and artificial disc transplants.

MNA/Reuters



Models display creations by Indian designer Ashima Leena during the Wills India Fashion Week in New Delhi, India, on Thursday, 22 March, 2007. — INTERNET



## WEATHER

Saturday, 24 March, 2007

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in Chin, Shan and Rakhine States and Yangon Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) below normal in upper Sagaing Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Mandalay, Magway and Ayeyawady Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Magway and Aungmye (41°C) each, Chauk and Minbu (40°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Kawthoung (0.55) inch.

Maximum temperature on 23-3-2007 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 24-3-2007 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 24-3-2007 was 77%. Total sunshine hours on 23-3-2007 was (9.5) hours approx.

Rainfall on 24-3-2007 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 Southwest at (13:20) hours MST on 23-3-2007.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 25-3-2007:** Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin, Chin and Shan States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions 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 Southern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 25-3-2007:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 25-3-2007:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 25-3-2007:** Generally fair weather.



Sunday, 25 March  
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. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈)ဖြာ မင်္ဂလာ
- 8:05 am**  
6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:20 am**  
7. (၆၂) နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 8:30 am**  
8. International news
- 8:45 am**  
9. Say it in English
- 11:00 am**  
1. Martial song
- 11:10 am**  
2. (၆၂) နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 11:25 am**  
3. Round up of the week's international news

- 11:40 am**  
4. Yan can cook
- 11:55 am**  
5. “သူရဲကောင်းများ ထွန်းကားသည်” (အပိုင်း-၂) (ကျော်သူ၊ ရန်အောင်၊ ဒွေး၊ မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊ နိုင်နိုင်၊ နေမျိုးအောင်၊ စိုင်းစိုင်းခမ်းလှိုင်၊ မေသန်းနု၊ မေသဉ္ဇာဦး၊ ပန်းဖြူ၊ စိုးမြတ်နန္ဒာ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ပန်းချီစိုးမိုး)
- 2:10 pm**  
6. (၆၂) နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုသွေးလျှံကုသိုလ်လှ
- 2:20 pm**  
7. “အန္တရာယ်ကင်းစေ တေးရှင်းစေ” (လူမင်း၊ ဟန်နီထွန်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သက်တင်)
- 2:35 pm**  
8. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ (နာမည်ကျော်ကြား စစ်ကိုင်းမြို့မှ ကြိမ်ထည်လက်ရာများ)
- 2:45 pm**  
9. International news
- 4:00 pm**  
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**  
2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**  
3. တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြု တေးသီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုရတေးများ (၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်)
- 4:40 pm**  
4. အပေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ်(သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)

- 4:50 pm**  
5. Song of national races
- 5:00 pm**  
6. (၆၂) နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 5:10 pm**  
7. Sing and Enjoy
- 6:00 pm**  
8. Evening news
- 6:30 pm**  
9. Weather report
- 6:35 pm**  
10. သီရိဇေယျာ
- 7:00 pm**  
11. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “သမားတော်” (အပိုင်း-၁၃)
- 7:45 pm**  
12. ပြည်သူ့အတွက်တပ်မတော် (စက်မှုသားငါး၊ သတ္တုသစ်တော)
- 8:00 pm**  
13. News
- 8:15 pm**  
14. International news
- 8:30 pm**  
15. Weather report
- 9:00 pm**  
16. (၆၂)နှစ်မြောက် တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုရုပ်မြင်သံကြား ဇာတ်လမ်း “အမေတူသား” (အပိုင်း-၃) (ဇင်ဝိုင်း၊ လူမင်း၊ မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊ နေမျိုးအောင်၊ ထွန်းထွန်း(Examplez)၊ ပန်းဖြူ၊ နန္ဒာလှိုင်၊ သက်မွန်မြင့်၊ မေသဉ္ဇာဦး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ပန်းချီစိုးမိုး)
- 9:15 pm**  
17. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးဝိစိတ္တ သာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ်ဆယ် မျက်နှာမေတ္တာ ဘာဝနာပွားများဖြင့် တရားတော်
- 9:30 pm**  
18. The next day's programme



Sunday, 25 March  
Tune in today

- 8:30 am** Brief news
- 8:35 am** Music: -Everybody's everything
- 8:40 am** Perspectives
- 8:45 am** Music: -All shook up
- 8:50 am** National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am** Music -Dance
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** Cultural images of Myanmar
- 9:20 am** Music: -Love for sale
- 1:30 pm** News & Slogan
- 1:40 pm** Children's delight (story) -The victory of the goose girl
- 1:50 pm** Songs for children
- 9:00 pm** Weekly news review
- 9:10 pm** Article
- 9:20 pm** Song feature -II -Military songs sung by Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan
- 9:45 pm** News & Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL

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# Prime Minister sends felicitations to Hellenic Republic

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March— General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Kostas Karamanlis, Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the Hellenic Republic, which falls on 25 March 2007. — MNA

# Ceremony to mark World TB Day held

## As there has been a widespread of HIV/AIDS that poses a threat to the world, TB has become a major health problem

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—A ceremony to mark the World TB Day jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Health and WHO was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Health here this morning with an address by Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin.

Also present on the occasion were members of National Health Committee ministers, deputy ministers, vice-presidents of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, vice-chairpersons of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and officials, Patron of Nay Pyi Taw Command MCWA wife of Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, directors-general of departments under the Ministry of Health, deputy directors-general, rectors, heads of department and medical superintendents, members of Country Coordinating Body, resident representatives of WHO, officials of INGOs, those

from National TB Control Project (Central) and Health Department, local authorities, social organizations, nurses and others. Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin made a speech. He said that the World TB Day was designated on 24 March, the day on which TB bacteria were found. The ceremo-

some potent drugs were available. But, recently there was a recurrence of TB in the world. As there has been a widespread of HIV/AIDS that poses a threat to the world, TB has become a major health problem.

At present, TB patients are accessible to free medical treatment based on DOTS method.

each and everyone needs to actively take part in TB control activities as it can spread from one person to another even in a family.

He said that social organizations and families concerned are to make sure that people carrying TB are to be found out as early as possible and they take medicine regularly.

(see page 10)



Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin speaks at ceremony to mark World TB Day for 2007.—MNA

nies to mark the World TB Day have been held yearly since 1996. He added that the incident of TB seems to be on the decrease in a period when

This was due to the development of science as well as health care services of the State and the contributions of social organizations, he noted. Under DOTS programme, members of MWAFA, MMCWA, Myanmar Red Cross Society and general practitioners are to strive together for TB patients to take drugs regularly during the period from 6 to 8 months.

The incident of TB is more frequent in developing countries. Each country and region is to take possible steps in the control of TB as it can spread from one region to another or from one country to another. Moreover,



Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint speaks at ceremony to mark World TB Day for 2007.—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

### Hailing the 62<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Armed Forces Day

#### Article



Milestones of achievement in serving national interest

(Ketu Nilar) PAGE 6

#### Cartoon PAGE 7



#### Poem

Tatmadaw with fine traditions

- \* Gives priority to national interest
- Is Tatmadaw of good sons
- Possessing goodwill
- And fine history and traditions
- \* Living under own monarchs with glory
- We, Myanmar have long history
- In which good King Anawrahta

PAGE 7