

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win attends cultivation of 300 acres of physic nut in Hsenwi Station

NAY PYI TAW, 19 May — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council (North) Commander of North East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut and departmental officials left Lashio on 17 May and arrived at Narsok Village of Sanlaung Village Tract in Hsenwi Township.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win attended a ceremony to culti-

vate 300 acres of physic nut of battalions and regiments of Hsenwi Station.

Also present were Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Brig-Gen Thet Oo of Hsenwi Station, senior military officers, departmental officials, Chairman of Hsenwi Township Peace and Development Council U Thet Soe, national race leaders and local people.

Brig-Gen Thet Oo reported on arrangements for cultivation of physic nut.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win said the government has been implementing the project on cultivation of physic nut as the national duty. Concerted efforts are being made for exceeding the targets and for use in small vehicles in cooperation with authorities concerned and social organizations. It is necessary for officials to tell the growers that cultivation of physic nut can earn income and new cultivation methods are to be distributed to them.

(See page 8)



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win views thriving summer paddy plantation in Hsenwi Township.—MNA

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**For
successful
completion
of
National
Convention**

- * It is the Tatmadaw that managed to cope with the '8-8-88 unrest' smoothly and suppress the anarchists' murdering, and looting and setting fire to the public property and to restore peace and stability across the nation.
- * Taking up State responsibilities, the Tatmadaw government has been building basic foundations in the social, economic, health and education sectors, as necessary for the nation. It is a tangible proof.
- * The Tatmadaw government has dug a large number of wells and lakes and sunk tube-wells to provide adequate clean water to rural people. In addition, it has been constructing dams, large and small, and river water pumping stations to provide irrigation water. Now local people in those villages can serve their guests clean water.

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YEBAW TIN SHWE

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 20 May, 2007

Accelerate implementation of programmes to wipe out narcotics

Production, transportation and abuse of narcotic drugs go hand in hand in the world. Narcotic drugs have adverse effects on the users and their social surroundings. So, every nation and region is now taking steps to thwart the menace of narcotic drugs.

Myanmar is expediting the tasks for supply elimination, demand elimination and law enforcement with the participation of the people. In the process, the government is carrying out programmes such as exposing and destroying narcotic drugs, and taking punitive action against the perpetrators, along with the plans for eradication of poppy growing.

It is also encouraging the cultivation of poppy-substitute crops and establishment of livestock breeding farms and businesses for raising the living standard of local people of national races in the regions where poppy is grown. As a result, local poppy farmers willingly gave up poppy cultivation and entrusted the poppy seeds and dry poppy bulbs to local authorities.

In order to eliminate production of stimulant tablets, it is taking preventive measures locally and in cooperation with neighbouring countries that produce precursor chemicals.

The government is exerting all possible efforts to eradicate narcotic drugs at home, while cooperating with neighbouring countries, regional countries, sub-regional countries and international organizations in the process. Therefore, the government and the entire people have to speed up anti-narcotics drive for eradication of narcotic drugs in the nation.



U Tin Maung Htwe-Daw Thin Thin Aye, U Kaung Zaw-Daw Kaythwe Khine— sons and daughters of U Sit Kyi-Daw Mya Thin on Yuzana Street in Aye Yeikmon Ward-5, Hline Township, Yangon donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Joint-Treasurer U Maung Maung Gyi of the Home recently.—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

Customs Department holds communal ordination and novitiation ceremony



Director-General U San Thaung of Customs Department offers alms to a Sayadaw.—MNA

YANGON, 19 May — Under the patronage of Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun and wife Daw Khin Than Win, the 20th communal ordination and novitiation ceremony was held at the Minkun Tawya Monastery on Innya Myaing Road in Bahan Township this morning.

The congregation received the Five Precepts from the Theinkyaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Nana of the monastery and members of the Sangha recited the parittas. Director-General U San Thaung and wife Daw Thida Lwin and families of service personnel of Customs Department offered provisions to the members of the Sangha led by the Theinkyaung Sayadaw and they shared the merits gained.

Altogether 44 men were ordained, six boys were novitiated and 12 girls initiated into nunhood.—MNA

MPF members, security personnel honoured in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone

YANGON, 19 May — A ceremony to honour members of Insein Township Police Force who managed to arrest the persons with cable wires worth K 100 million within 72 hours was held at Kanaung Hall of Shwepyitha Industrial Zone Management Committee in Shwepyitha Township this morning.

Chairman of the Management Committee U Min Than Htay and Secretary of Insein Township Peace and Development Council U Hoke Sun gave speeches.

Next, the secretary of Township PDC, Vice-Chairman of the Management Committee U Han Win, Treasurer U Soe Aung, Joint Treasurer U Aung Aung and member U Soe Than presented prizes to Police Sub-Inspector Aung Myint Thein,

MPF members and security personnel.

Police Sub-Inspector Aung Myint Thein explained participation of MPF members, security personnel and local people in seizure of the group who stole the cable wires used at the factories and workshops in Shwepyitha industrial zones 2+3+4 and thanked for concerted efforts of the police members and the people.

MNA

Title-recipient Sayadaw honoured

YANGON, 19 May — A ceremony to honour Ovacariya of Botahtaung Kyaikdeat Pagoda Board of Trustees Abbot of Phayabyu Monastery in Pazundaung Township Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhama Jotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Narinda Bhivamsa, who was awarded Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhama Jotika, took place at the monastery this morning.

The ceremony was opened with a three-time recitation of *Namo Tassa* and the title-recipient Sayadaw administered the Five Precepts to the congregation. A lay person read out the biography of the Sayadaw and Pazundaung Township Peace and Development Council Chairman U Aung Pu supplicated on religious matters. Next, religious songs were sung to honour the Sayadaw.

Later, the congregation offered alms to the Sayadaw and members of the Sangha and the ceremony came to a close with a three-time recitation of *Buddha Sasanam Ciram Titthatu*. — MNA

Cash for construction of MANA (Head Office)

YANGON, 19 May — Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association (Head Office) building is being constructed on Kyundaw Road in Kamayut Township beginning June 2006 and 30 per cent of construction has been completed.

Chairman U Maung Ohn, Secretary U Win Thein, U San Sai Ngwe and U Thein Tun of Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association of Tachilek Township donated K 600,000 for the building to Chairman U San Thein of Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association (Head Office) on 27 April.

Those wishing to donate cash may contact Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association Room 101/102 Building 3, Myainghaywon Housing, on Kyaikwaing Pagoda Road, Mayangon Township (Tel-01-667270).—MNA

President of UMFCCI meets Laotian ambassador

YANGON, 18 May — President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint received Laotian Ambassador Mr Kouily A Souphakhet at the office of UMFCCI on 16 May.

Also present at the call were Vice-Presidents U Zaw Min Win and U Aung Lwin, General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing and executive U Myo Thant.

They discussed matters on promotion of bilateral trade, tourism and smooth transportation.—MNA



Laotian ambassador Mr Kouily A Souphakhet meets President of UMFCCI U Win Myint and party.—UMFCCI

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam discuss policy for development triangle

GIA LAI, 19 May — Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam reached unanimity in developing mechanism and policy to give incentive to their development triangle at the first meeting on the region held in Pleiku, the Central Highland province of Gia Lai, Vietnam, from 17-18 May.

The conference was jointly chaired by Cham Prasidh, Cambodian Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce; Sulivong Dalavong, Head of the Lao Committee for Planning and Development; and Vo Hong Phuc, Vietnamese Minister of Planning and Investment.

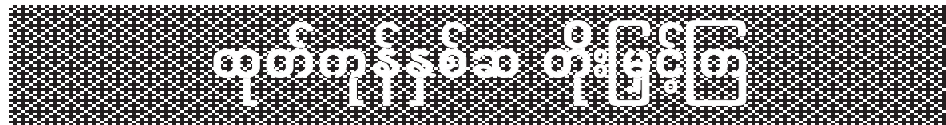
With a view to creating favourable conditions for people's activities, transport, business and trade as well as investment in the triangle, which must go hand in hand

with other regions in the process of international integration, the three co-chairmen agreed on preferential tariff for many kinds goods essential for daily life and production of the people in the three countries, facilitating cross-border transport by applying simple procedures for products produced by in the region.

The three co-chairmen also placed importance to calling for investment from outside into the triangle and promoting cooperation in various fields.

At the conference on investment promotion in the triangle held in Kon Tum province last month, Japan pledged 20 million USD to build infrastructure facilities in the region.

Internet



A girl views root carvings made by Yang Shengmao in Bo'ai County, central China's Henan Province, on 17 May, 2007. Yang, 76, has made 39 root carvings in the themed of "Preparing for Olympiad 2008". — XINHUA



An African representative, wearing national costume, attends the opening ceremony of the 2007 Annual Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the African Development Bank (ADB) Group in Shanghai, east China, on 16 May, 2007. — XINHUA

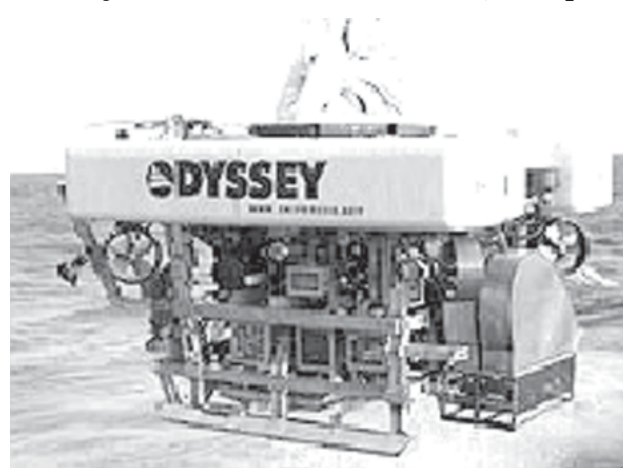
Record wreck 'found off Cornwall'

LONDON, 19 May—A record haul of half a million silver and gold coins from a 17th Century shipwreck may have been found just 40 miles from Land's End, an expert said.

US treasure hunters said the coins, worth an estimated \$500m (£253m), were recovered in the Atlantic Ocean. But Odyssey Marine Exploration, who described it as the largest find of its kind, refused to pinpoint the location.

US coin expert Dr Lane Brunner said there was evidence the shipwreck was lying off the Cornish coast. So all we can do is add two and two together

Dr Brunner, from the American Numismatic Association, told Five Live there were clues about the location in a statement given to a US federal court in the autumn.



The haul was salvaged using a tethered underwater robot. — INTERNET

"They told a judge at that point that they had found the wreck of a seventeenth-century merchant ship in the Atlantic Ocean, just outside the English Channel — about 40 miles off Lands'

End. In 1641, an English ship called the Merchant Royal sank off the Scilly Islands, laden with bullion from Mexico. There is speculation that this is the wreck salvaged by Odyssey. Odyssey said it

had kept the location secret because of security and legal reasons.

"The gold coins are almost all dazzling mint state specimens," Odyssey co-founder Greg Stemm said.

The artefacts, including more than 17 tonnes of silver coins plus a few hundred gold coins, have been shipped to the US and are being examined by experts at an undisclosed location.

The mammoth haul was salvaged using a tethered underwater robot.

Odyssey, which used the code name Black Swan, said it expected the wreck to become one of the "most publicised in history". — *Internet*

Gunmen dressed as soldiers kill 15 in Kurdish Shiite town

BAGHDAD, 19 May — Gunmen dressed in Iraqi military uniforms raided Qara Lus, a town near the Iranian border Saturday morning, killing 15 men and wounding a woman, according to a Baquba police official.

The raid was in the Hamid al-Shafi district of Qara Lus, 60 miles east of Baghdad in the Diyala province, which is populated by Kurdish Shiites.

The gunmen, who claimed they were on an official military mission, ordered residents to leave their homes and then separated the men from the women and children, the official said. They then shot the men, he said. — *Internet*



A meat company in the United States is voluntarily recalling about 59,020 kgs of beef products in 15 states because of suspected contamination by the potentially deadly foodborne bacterium E coli O157:H7, according to the US Department of Agriculture quoted by media reports on Friday. — INTERNET

Iraqi town struggles under curfew

BAGHDAD, 18 May—Food and fuel supplies are reportedly running out in the central Iraqi city of Samarra because of a curfew imposed after an insurgent attack 12 days ago.

Four babies are said to have died in the city's hospital because of a lack of fuel to power their incubators. Two elderly patients have also died.

Residents have called on US and Iraqi troops to end the restrictions and allow humanitarian aid into the city.

But only some aid deliveries have been allowed through after intense searches.

One Iraqi Red Crescent worker from the nearby town of Tikrit said that three of his organisation's trucks had been turned away.

"The humanitarian situation in Samarra is terrible," he said. — *Internet*

China, Cape Verde vow to strengthen bilateral ties

BEIJING, 18 May — China values its traditional friendship with Cape Verde and will strengthen political mutual trust and economic cooperation, said Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi on Thursday morning.

Yang made the remarks when meeting with his counterpart Victor Manuel Barbosa Borges.

The bilateral relations between China and Cape Verde have maintained sound and stable develop-

ment since they established diplomatic ties 31 years ago. The two countries enjoyed fruitful cooperation in various fields and mutual support in international affairs, Yang said.

He said China will enhance reciprocal cooperation with Cape Verde within the framework of the China-Africa Cooperation Forum and the Forum on Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking

Countries.

China will also carry out closer consultations and coordination with Cape Verde in international affairs to further promote bilateral relations, he said.

Yang also said he appreciated the adherence of Cape Verde to the one-China policy and its support for China's reunification.

Borges said the government of Cape Verde will continue to support the one-China policy and work with the Chinese Government to promote world peace.

MNA/Xinhua

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A tourist takes pictures in snow on the Bashang scenic spot in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region on 17 May, 2007. A snowfall hit Bashang on Thursday, an unusual phenomenon in May in the area.— XINHUA



A view of the world's deepest geothermal sinkhole, or cenote, El Zacaton in the northwestern Mexican state of Tamaulipas on 17 May, 2007. NASA is testing an underwater robot in one of the world's deepest sinkholes to search for tiny creatures on Jupiter's icy moon Europa, speculating that the dark well on Mexico's Gulf coast may help to discover life beyond earth.— INTERNET

Police shoot man dead in London

LONDON, 18 May — A loaded weapon was recovered from a man shot dead by police in west London, investigators said on Wednesday.

The 52-year-old man, who has not been identified, died after shots were fired by police during an investigation into London's gun crime.

The Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) said the loaded weapon, along with the three police firearms, was being forensically examined.

The shooting happened outside Paolo's restaurant, near Park Royal Underground station, in Hanger Green, Ealing, at about 10:25 pm

on Tuesday.

Officers gave first aid to the shot man but he died at the scene.

MNA/Reuters

Eight US soldiers killed since Friday, including 1 searching for missing 3

BAGHDAD, 19 May — The US military announced the deaths of five more US soldiers killed in Iraq, bringing to eight the number of US troops killed since Friday.

The latest death came Saturday when a roadside bomb exploded near a patrol south of Baghdad, killing one US soldier and wounded three others along with two Iraqi soldiers, the military said. The soldiers were involved in the massive search for three US soldiers missing since an ambush south of Baghdad a week ago, the military said.

An American patrol was attacked with a roadside bomb and small arms fire in northwest Baghdad Friday, killing two US soldiers and wounding two others, the military said.

One US soldier was killed "by small arms fire while dismounted in an overwatch position during combat operations" south of Baghdad Friday, the military said.

The military also said a US soldier assigned was killed while conducting combat operations in the Anbar province Friday.

Internet

Mortar shells found at Los Angeles Int'l Airport

LOS ANGELES, 18 May — Passengers have been evacuated from the upper level of Terminal 2 at Los Angeles International Airport Wednesday night after mortar shells were found at a security checkpoint, TV Fox11 reported.

Police confirmed that at least one inactive mortar shell was found at a security checkpoint in Terminal 2 at the airport.

Los Angeles Police Department officer Jason Lee said security forces found a hollow shell that was not deemed to be a threat.

MNA/Xinhua

Bulgarian Customs seize 106 kilos of heroin

SOFIA, 18 May — Bulgarian Customs confiscated 106 kilos of heroin in Lesovo, a town on the southeastern border with Turkey, the Sofia News Agency reported Thursday.

The drugs were packaged and hidden in the spare tyres of a truck hauling cars across the border and was discovered by a sniffer dog, Customs officers told the agency.

Police estimate the confiscated drug is worth 7 million US dollars.

The Bulgarian driver of the truck has been detained.

MNA/Xinhua

Suicide bomb attack kills 3 German soldiers, wounds 2

KABUL, 19 May — A suicide bomb attack killed three German soldiers and killed five Afghan civilians Saturday in the northern Afghan city of Kunduz, NATO's International Security Assistance Force and the German military said.

In addition, two German soldiers and eight civilians suffered injuries from the blast, which ISAF spokeswoman Lt Col Angela Billings characterized as a "senseless act of violence" that "shows the barbarity of extremists and criminals." — Internet



Dancers from San Petersburg Ballet On Ice perform 'Lake of the Swans' in Cali on 17 May, 2007. — INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

Cambodia, Estonia sign agreement to improve investment, coop ties

PHNOM PENH, 18 May — Cambodia's major seaport city and travel destination Sihanoukville has signed an agreement with Estonia's tourism city Maardu to seek for mutual investment and cooperation, local media said on Thursday.

"This agreement will help improve the invest-

ment and development cooperation between the two cities," Cambodian daily newspaper the Koh Sonthephea quoted Say Hak, governor of Sihanoukville, as saying.

Details of the agreement was not disclosed. While signing the agreement on Wednesday, Georgy Bystrov, Mayor of

Maardu, highly appreciated the achievements of Sihanoukville, said the paper.

During his trip to Sihanoukville, Bystrov visited the industrial, commercial, tourism and cultural areas of the city as well as the seaport, the paper added.

MNA/Xinhua



Photo taken on 17 May shows tourists visiting the Arco Di Costantino in Rome, the capital of Italy, during the "Italian Cultural Heritage Week". National museums, places of interest, and archaeological parks all over Italy will be open to general public free of charge from 12 May to 20 May. Over 2,000 concerts and exhibitions will be held by Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Tourism during the week. — XINHUA



Iraqi boys on a scooter ride past a soldier at a checkpoint in Baghdad on 18 May, 2007.

INTERNET

Chinese cartoon to debut in international market

SHENZHEN, 18 May — Japanese broadcasting company NHK reached deal with a Chinese company here on Thursday to present a Chinese made cartoon to Japanese viewers.

"This is the first ever agreement enabling a Chinese original cartoon

to debut the international market," said Cai Daming, an official with the Yijing National Cartoon and Animation Industry Base in south China's boom city Shenzhen.

"Pacoo Fruit Tribe", produced by Dreamspace Digital Entertainment Co based in Guangzhou, features a group of colourful fruit dolls of different personalities. Pacoo flashes are already available at Pacoo.net to highlight love, humor and imagination.

The company's website describes the Pacoo community as "tasty" and "full of fun". "The characters are sweet, tasty and colourful and they represent a long and blissful life."

Insiders from the Chinese animation industry hope the Pacoo's presence in the Japanese market will be a starting point to reverse China's

heavy deficit with foreign countries in cultural trade.

"For many years, China's animation market has been dominated by imported products from European countries, the United States and Japan," he said during the Third China (Shenzhen) International Cultural

Industry Fair (ICIF) that opened here on Thursday.

The annual event is aimed at bolstering China's cultural development and promote trade of Chinese cultural products, said Liu Binjie, head of the General Administration of Press and Publications.

MNA/Xinhua

invited.

Diplomatic sources told *Reuters* on Tuesday the OECD was also considering inviting Chile, Estonia, Slovenia and Israel to start membership talks.

On Monday, Constance Morella, US Ambassador to the OECD, said there would be a roadmap decided for the membership of Russia at this week's ministerial meeting. She said this would include recognition that Moscow had a long way to go.

The 30-strong OECD, which last expanded its ranks in 2000 by letting in Slovakia, has come under pressure to admit new members.

MNA/Reuters

Zambia gets tough on ivory trade

LUSAKA, 18 May — Zambia has warned that anyone found selling ivory products risk being persecuted, *Zambia Daily Mail* reported Thursday.

It quoted public relations officer Maureen Mwape of Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) as saying in a statement issued in Lusaka that the ZAWA has apprehended and convicted a number of foreigners found in possession of ivory purchased from various markets in the country.

She said Tuesday that under the Zambia wildlife act No 12 of 1998, it is an offence to be in possession of ivory or a rhino horn.

She said it is an offence for anyone to be found in possession of an elephant tusk or rhino horn or any ivory artifacts without permits. Mwape said any one who imports ivory or rhino horn should within 48 hours present the products to the nearest ZAWA offices for registration.

MNA/Xinhua



Women clad in kimono take part in a parade through Asakusa district at Sanja festival in Tokyo on 18 May, 2007. — INTERNET



A screenshot from the video game "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End" that ships on 22 May, three days before the movie's theatrical launch, in an image courtesy of Disney Interactive. — INTERNET

Putin talks Merkel on moonlit Volga boat ride

SAMARA (Russia), 18 May — Russian President Vladimir Putin took German Chancellor Angela Merkel on an unscheduled, moonlit boat ride on the Volga on Thursday as they worked late into the night to smooth their choppy relations.

Putin and Merkel, in the Volga river city of Samara for a European Union-Russia summit, began their

talks over dinner then broke off for a concert of classical music, said an official in the German delegation.

"After that, Putin said spontaneously that he wanted to continue the talks. They are now doing that on a boat trip on the Volga," the official said. The two were still talking onboard the boat at around 11:00 pm (1800 GMT). The concert, at the

Volzhsky Utyos holiday resort on the banks of the Volga, was performed by the Samara symphony orchestra and soloists brought in from Moscow's Bolshoi Theatre.

It featured works by Russian composers Pyotr Tchaikovsky and Sergei Rachmaninov and the Hungarian composer Franz Liszt, as well as Russian and German folk tunes, said the official.

Merkel is representing the EU at the summit because her country holds the bloc's rotating presidency. The official said discussions over dinner had centred on a stalled EU-Russia strategic partnership pact.

The launch of negotiations on the treaty have been held up by a Polish veto, one of a number of problems besetting relations between Russia and the EU. "There was a good atmosphere," said the official. Talks will continue in a more formal setting on Friday.

MNA/Reuters

Up to 21 killed in eight car bombs in Mosul

MOSUL (Iraq), 18 May — Eight car bomb attacks, including five suicide ones, struck overnight the Iraqi city of Mosul, killing 21 people, including 15 policemen, and wounding 30 others, local police source said on Thursday.

"Five suicide car bomb attacks targeted the Naser police compound in central Mosul, where the police keep dozens of detainees inside," a police source from Nineveh Province told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The multiple attack apparently aimed to free the prisoners, but the attackers failed to pass the barriers of the heavily fortified headquarters, the source said. Three more car bombs went off in the city when a parking car bomb struck an Iraqi Army patrol in the

Ghabat area outside the city, and a second car bomb went off near the Khudir Mosque in central Mosul, the source said. The police also discovered a third booby-trapped car in the Ghazi Street in downtown the city and blew it up under control, he added.

The attacks killed a total of six policemen and wounded 30 people, including 14 policemen, the source said, adding that 15 militants were also killed in the attacks, including a Saudi national.

In separate incidents, unknown gunmen blew up two small bridges of Badoush and Aski Kalak before sunset on Wednesday, outside the city that linked Mosul with towns to the west, the source added.

MNA/Xinhua



A team member of Montagnana Citta Murata performs with flags during an Italian flag show in Tokyo on 18 May, 2007. — INTERNET

Youth arrested in Canadian school bomb threat

OTTAWA, 18 May — A 17-year-old youth has been arrested after a series of threats triggered the closure of three high schools in Canada's Atlantic coastal city of Halifax earlier Thursday.

The unnamed male was arrested at his home several hours after Cole Harbour High School was evacuated Thursday morning when a note warning of bomb attack was found in a washroom

of the school building.

A police spokesman said the young man is in custody. Meanwhile, investigations into the bomb threat in nearby Auburn High School are still going on. The school

was evacuated following another threat by a telephone call.

Both schools were searched by bomb-sniffing dogs but no explosives were found.

MNA/Xinhua

China builds 20m tombs, costing 6,700 hectares of land every year

BEIJING, 18 May — China calls for "green burials", as 20 million people die across the country every year and 6,700 hectares of land are occupied for building tombs.

A conference on urban tomb construction was told on Wednesday that people should be encouraged to scatter the ashes of family members in parks built for the purpose.

"The aim of developing 'green burials' is not to keep or store the ashes of the deceased," said Dong Yuqing, deputy head of civil affairs bureau of the coastal city of Qingdao.

Participants at the conference say every year 6,700 hectares of land is needed to build tombs or memorial halls for urns.

In Funingyuan Cemetery in east China's Qingdao City, which claims to be the country's only ecological cemetery, customers plant trees where urns of ashes were buried.

"Sea burials are also catching on. We organize three trips a year for people to scatter ashes at sea. So far we've had 3,500 sea burials," said Dong.

MNA/Xinhua



Guests play the Xbox 360 "Halo 3" Multiplayer Beta during a preview party at Quixote Studios in Los Angeles, on 15 May, 2007. Microsoft Corp's public test of its upcoming "Halo 3" video game got off to a rocky start on Wednesday after many users found they were unable to try out the science fiction-themed shooter. — INTERNET

For successful completion of National Convention

Yebaw Tin Shwe

A State constitution is the lifeblood of a nation. Since 1988, Myanmar has been in need of a constitution. The Tatmadaw government is playing a leading role in adopting basic principles through the National Convention so as to fulfil the requirement.

Representatives of national races, those from all walks of life, political parties, intellectuals and intelligentsia, other invited persons and State service personnel are holding discussions, so the drafting of a State constitution will be completed in the near future.

Nevertheless, the National League for Democracy (NLD) under the influence of external elements and some individuals with no specific aims are resorting to various ways to disrupt the National Convention.

Whatever it may be, the drive for successful completion of the NC is being implemented to fulfil the desire of the people. Thus the entire people have to crush the internal and external destructive elements.

Saboteurs are not happy with the participation of the Tatmadaw in the creation of a prosperous future of the nation.

Regarding this point, they should have a clear outlook.

No one can deny that the Tatmadaw is the only force capable of tackling any forms of crises in times of emergency, standing by the people.

Indeed, the Tatmadaw is a national force necessary for the Myanmar society.

It is the Tatmadaw that managed to cope with the '8-8-88 unrest' smoothly and suppress the anarchists' murdering, and looting

and setting fire to the public property and to restore peace and stability across the nation.

The then bubble political leaders such as Daw Suu Kyi and Min Ko Naing tried to dissuade the crowd of demonstrators committing violent acts in front of the Central Trade Office from carrying on, but their dissuasion did not work. Except the Tatmadaw, any other force in the nation is capable of handling such cases.

Taking up State responsibilities, the Tatmadaw government has been building basic foundations in the social, economic, health and education sectors, as necessary for the nation. It is a tangible proof.

I would like to present one of the Tatmadaw's public welfare tasks. That made my heart fill with delight.

I am a Pakokku native. I used to be a parliamentarian representing the eastern Yesagyo Township in the parliamentary democracy period. As the secretary of the Pakokku District Pa-Ma-Nya-Ta, I made field trips not only to urban areas but also to rural areas in the district to take organizing measures.

Witnessing the adverse condition of village life in Pakokku District, I felt sympathy for the rural folks.

Pakokku District is located in an arid zone. So, the people in the villages had to brave the scarcity of water at the time. Water was so scarce that local people could not take a bath every day, only once every several days. When they took a bath, they had to make the process in a manger so that water was not wasted and it was used in mixing feedstuff for cattle.

I very often heard many local people saying "We prefer water to gold". And

Now the majority of the members have left the party due to its acts, which are absolutely abhorrent to the people.

some told their guests, "I will serve you a meal, but no water".

The Tatmadaw government has dug a large number of wells and lakes and sunk tube-wells to provide adequate clean water to rural people. In addition, it has been constructing dams, large and small, and river water pumping stations to provide irrigation water.

Now local people in those villages can serve their guests clean water.

It has also constructed roads and bridges the length and breadth of the nation, thus bringing convenience to the people by means of smooth transport.

In the past, one who wanted to travel to Pakokku from Yangon had to take a train, a bus and a ship to reach the destination. Unlike in the past, Pakokku is now directly accessible from any part of the nation.

The people have now recognized the nation-building tasks of the Tatmadaw government.

Those who hate to recognize the role of the Tatmadaw and are confronting the Tatmadaw are not national people. They are a handful of so-called politicians under influence and control of external elements, attempting to seize State power through short cut.

Now the majority of the members have left the party due to its acts, which are absolutely abhorrent to the people.

Gradually, such persons are being sidelined and it is almost time they ended up in the ditch.

The Tatmadaw government is putting increased efforts into the public services, but such persons are destroying the interests of the people through a variety of destructive acts. Their persuasion and instigation led to the withdrawal of some foreign investments from Myanmar, and thousands of national workers lost their jobs and are getting into hardships as a result. The members are now suffering evil consequences of their negative attitude.

In fact, those whom the people want to dissociate themselves from are a handful of national traitors party leaders dancing to the tune of the neo-colonialists, not the Tatmadaw.

The forthcoming State constitution that will be approved through a referendum will help create a prosperous future of the nation and enable the nation to stand tall among the global countries.

The new nation will be a united, modern and developed one without any alien domination. So, the entire nation have to protect and safeguard the new nation.

I would like to urge the people not to let themselves fall in the deceptions of the axe-handles, and to make contribution in harmony towards the successful completion of the National Convention.

To my political experiences, I believe that there will be a modern and developed nation after the National Convention is completed and the State constitution is approved.

(Translation: MS)

(Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 18-5-2007)

Those who hate to recognize the role of the Tatmadaw and are confronting the Tatmadaw are not national people. They are a handful of so-called politicians under influence and control of external elements, attempting to seize State power through short cut.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win attends...

(from page 1)

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win told the officials to make strenuous efforts for cultivation of double or triple cropping.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented food to those present and families of the station. He also presented physic nut seeds to per-

sonnel of departments and social organizations.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and the commander put grafts in the plastic bags and planted seedlings of physic nut.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party inspected physic nut nursery. Out of the 2,377.2 acres and

734.8 acres were grown in Hsenwi Station. They also inspected roads and bridges on Hsenwi-Kunlon Road and cultivation of summer paddy. They were conducted round by the chairman of Township PDC and officials of Myanmar Agriculture Service.

They went to special high yield paddy fields in

the township. Altogether 5,420 acres of Hsinshweli paddy were grown in 2006-2007.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party inspected 1,600 gallon-capacity tank in Wainglyan Village and water supply. It was built for local people to get safe drinking water.

Water supply projects were implemented in eight

villages in the township.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win met senior military officers of Kunlon and Laukkai Stations, local leaders and Chinese technicians conducting feasible study for Upper Thanlwin Hydropower Project.

Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut reported on scale model of

the 2,400-megawatt hydropower station and Lt-Col Maung Maung Myint of Kunlon Station on the choice of site for the project.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gave instructions on completion of the project in time. He then cordially greeted Chinese technicians.

MNA

Commander inspects proper drainage tasks



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win inspects sanitation tasks being carried out in Hlinethaya Township.—MNA

YANGON, 19 May — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win this morning inspected sanitation tasks, work for proper drainage, and preventive measures against DHF and diarrhoea in Hlinethaya Township.

First, the commander arrived at the office of the Township Development Affairs Committee and encouraged the people and members of social organizations carrying out sanitation tasks and work for proper drainage in the township. At the office,

Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint reported on outbreaks of DHF and diarrhoea in the districts and townships of the division. Township medical officer Dr Kyi San Htet of Hlinethaya Township Health Department reported on measures being taken for prevention of the diseases. U Myo Thein of the Township Development Affairs Committee also reported on arrangements being made for proper drainage. The commander called for public participation in the tasks.

MNA

Industry-1 Minister inspects textile industry projects in Pyawbwe, Myittha Townships

NAY PYI TAW, 19 May — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung accompanied by Managing Director U Aye Mauk of Myanmar General and Maintenance Industries inspected the sales of products of enterprises under the ministry at Win Thuza Shops in Yamethin and Pyawbwe Townships, Mandalay Division yesterday and gave necessary instructions.

Next, the minister inspected chosen site for construction of Pyawbwe Textile Industry (Project) and related buildings and land to be cultivated cotton plants. The minister heard reports on construction of the project and gave necessary instructions.

Later, the minister proceeded to construction site of Myittha Textile Industry (Project) in Myittha Township. The minister heard reports on construction of shimming workshop, chiller station, ground tank and machine shop presented by officials and inspected the chosen site for construction of the main building. — MNA

Vice-Mayor inspects tax free markets

YANGON, 19 May — Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa together with Head of Markets Department U Soe Myint and officials visited tax free markets in Dagon Myothit (North), Dagon Myothit (South) and Kamaryut Townships.

The vice-mayor inspected sales of rice, edible oil, groceries, fish and vegetables by Myanmar Rice Dealers Association, Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers Association, Nyaunhnabin Vegetables Cultivation Special Zone, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Kyimyindine Sanpya Fish Market and Township General Administration Departments and gave necessary instructions. — MNA



Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa visits Hanthawady tax free market.—YCDC

Banks Supervisory Committee, Myanmar Banks Association hold meeting

YANGON, 19 May — Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe delivered an address at the 89th Meeting of Banks Supervisory Committee of the ministry and Myanmar Banks

Association at the hall of the association this afternoon.

In his speech, the deputy minister stressed the need to make efforts for improvement of banking service, security and uplift of staff

efficiency with the supervision of the Central Bank of Myanmar.

Next, Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein gave a speech.

Next, Managing Director U Than Yi of

Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank handed over the Century International Quality Era Award (CQE) Gold Category for 2007 presented by Madrid-based Business Initiative Directions (BID) to the deputy minister.

Responsible persons of State-owned banks and private-run banks took part in the discussions.

In the second session of the meeting, the Deputy Minister and the Governor of CBM gave speeches. Later, those present discussed general matters.

Also present at the meeting were Vice-Governor of CBM U Maung Maung Win, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises of the ministry. — MNA



Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe addresses 89th Meeting of Banks Supervisory Committee and Myanmar Banks Association.—F&R

MIDB holds 12th annual meeting



Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin delivers an address at 12th Annual Meeting of Myanmar Industrial Development Bank.—MNA

YANGON, 19 May — The 12th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Industrial Development Bank was held at the hall of the bank on Pansodan Street this morning with an address Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Work Committee by Chairman of the Board of Directors of Myanmar Industrial Development Bank Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin.

It was also attended by members of the Board of Directors, departmental heads, officials of Central Bank of

Myanmar, members of Myanmar Banks Association, share holders and guests. At the meeting, the chairman stressed the need for the development of banking services with the concerted efforts of BOD members and bank staff.

Next, the secretary of the BOD Managing Director U Thein Aung of the bank submitted the annual report and sought the approval of the meeting. Later, new members of BOD for 2007-08 were selected and the chairman Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin made concluding remarks. — MNA

Government sets ...

(from page 16)

In conclusion, Lt-Gen Myint Swe urged the rice dealers to strive for consolidation of the association with nationalist outlook for serving the interests of the State, the people and the farmers.

UMFCCI President U Win Myint gave a speech.

Master of ceremonies Daw Khin Sandar Myint of Myanmar Radio and Television submitted the CEC report of the association and financial statement. After seeking approval from the participants, the reports were approved. Deputy Director-General U Myo Oo of Directorate of Trade announced the list of CEC members and EC members including members of the panel of patrons, Chairman U Aung Than Oo and General Secretary U Myo Aung Kyaw for 2007-09.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by Chairman U Aung Than Oo.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and departmental officials. — MNA

Minister inspects issue of Citizenship Scrutiny Cards in Kyaukse

NAY PYI TAW, 19 May — Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe accompanied by officials inspected issue of Citizenship Scrutiny Cards at the staff officer's office in Kyaukse Township yesterday.

The minister met with township level officials, social organizations and townsenders and gave instructions. He also called upon them to expedite the issue of Citizenship Scrutiny Cards in Kyaukse district.

After that, the minister inspected building of the office and its environs. Citizenship Scrutiny Cards were issued to 350 residents yesterday.—MNA

Environmental conservation discussed in Kayah State

YANGON, 19 May — Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe attended the coordination meeting of Kayah State Environmental Conservation Working Group held at the office of

Loikaw Township Development Affairs Committee on 14 May and delivered an address.

Next, officials concerned reported on progress of environmental conservation tasks in Kayah State. Later, Chairman of Kayah State Peace and

Development Council Col Nyunt Tin made a supplementary report.

After the meeting, the deputy minister and party inspected cultivation of physic nut plants and teak plantation nurtured by Forest Department at Gandayawady Nursery, watershed area of

Nwarlawo creek and protected public forest near Kontha village.—MNA

Traffic rules course concludes

YANGON, 19 May — The traffic rules course No 3/2007 for other ranks conducted by Traffic Police Force of Myanmar Police Force concluded at Thiri Myaing Driving Training School in Ward 36 of Dagon Myothit (North) Township yesterday morning.

Deputy Commander Police Col Win Naing of Police Battalions Control

Command of MPF delivered an address.

Next, Police Col Win Naing presented first, second and third prizes to Police Cpl Htet Ko Ko, Police WO Htay Win and Police Cpl Kyaw Myint Aung and certificates to the trainees through Police Sub-Inspector Tin Ko. A total of 100 trainees — two officers and 98 other ranks — attended the four-week course.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe views issue of Citizenship Scrutiny Cards in Kyaukse Township.—MNA



Police Col Win Naing speaks at conclusion of Traffic Rules Course No 3/2007.—MNA

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Google launches "Universal Search" service

BEIJING, 18 May — Google has changed its Internet searches into "Universal Search" service by combining results from its established Web search service with offerings that help users find videos, images, maps and other content.

"Universal Search" means that standard Google searches will draw results from separate properties covering books, local information, images, news, and video, according to media reports Friday quoting Marissa Mayer, vice president of search and user experience.

"It's breaking down the silos of information that have been built up. It's a broad, long-term vision that will unfold over the next few years," Mayer said. "We are really excited about what Universal Search could evolve to in the future." The combined search includes any site indexed by Google's services. On the video side, for example, it will include

YouTube, Google Video and independent sites like Metacafe.com.

The upgraded service not only provides the links of texts related to the certain queries, but also video clips or photographs by entering a query in Google's specialized services for video or image searches. Furthermore, the new navigation features at the top of every Google page will allow users quickly "drill down" to particular types of information if they wish to focus exclusively on specific categories such as news, said Mayer.

Google also said "very soon" it will launch software that translates queries from any of a dozen languages into English, scours the

internet for relevant web pages and then converts the results to a searcher's language.

"That, in effect, will make the web universal," Google vice president of engineering Udi Manber said while describing the "cross-language information retrieval" feature.

"We have been working on translating all of the web to all languages. The results are probably not perfect, but the information you want will be there," he added. Google had 54 percent of all US search queries in March, according to Nielsen/NetRatings, compared with its rivals Yahoo with 22 percent search services and Microsoft with 10 percent.

Internet



(L-R) Cast members Gregoire Leprince-Ringuet, Ludivine Sagnier, Clotilde Hesme, Chiara Mastroianni and Louis Garrel pose during a photocall for French director Christophe Honoré's in-competition film "Les Chansons d'Amour" at the 60th Cannes Film Festival on 18 May, 2007. — XINHUA

Ban urges improved access to ICT for young people

UNITED NATIONS, 19 May — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Thursday called on policy-makers and industry leaders to improve the access to information and communications technologies (ICT) for young people.

In a message to mark the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day, which falls on Thursday, the Secretary-General called for young people everywhere to be given "equal opportunities to rise out of poverty and illiteracy, and to realize their full potential". While young people are among the "most prolific and knowledgeable users of ICT," the digital revolution is out of reach for many of them, especially young girls and women and people living in remote and underserved

regions, he said. "I therefore urge policy-makers and industry leaders to put their minds together, and to work cooperatively with children and youth to

produce suitable technologies, applications and services to facilitate access to information and communications technologies," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

iPhone approved by FCC to market in June

BEIJING, 18 May — The US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has approved Apple's iPhone, clearing the way for the combined phone and music player to hit the shelves late June, according to US media reports on Friday.

The "grant of equipment authorization" for the device means it is on track for scheduled release next month, said Mark Siegel, a spokesman with Cingular, which will be the only US wireless carrier that will offer the iPhone when it launches.

The iPhone, which combines a smart phone with Apple's iPod music and video player, will compete with phones made by Nokia, Sony Ericsson, Motorola, LG Electronics, Samsung, Palm, and carriers Sprint and Verizon.

Two versions of these so-called smartphones will become available initially. The 4GB phone will cost 499 US dollars with a two-year contract

with AT&T, and the 8GB phone will sell for 599 dollars.

The price tag has been called spectacularly high, possibly opening the door for handset makers with similar models. But Apple, whose iPod music device and iTunes service dominate the market, still expects to sell 10 million of the phones in 2008.

Some of the FCC documents confirm the phones, sporting bigger screens, music, video and Web-surfing capabilities, will operate in the 1900MHz and 850MHz frequency bands, which means users won't be able to roam with it into Europe, where operators use different frequencies.

Internet



Subaru WRT's Petter Solberg of Norway takes a jump in his Impreza WRC during the Terranova special stage on the first day of the Rally of Italy, in Sardinia on 18 May, 2007. — INTERNET

Hong Kong boy born with foetus in stomach

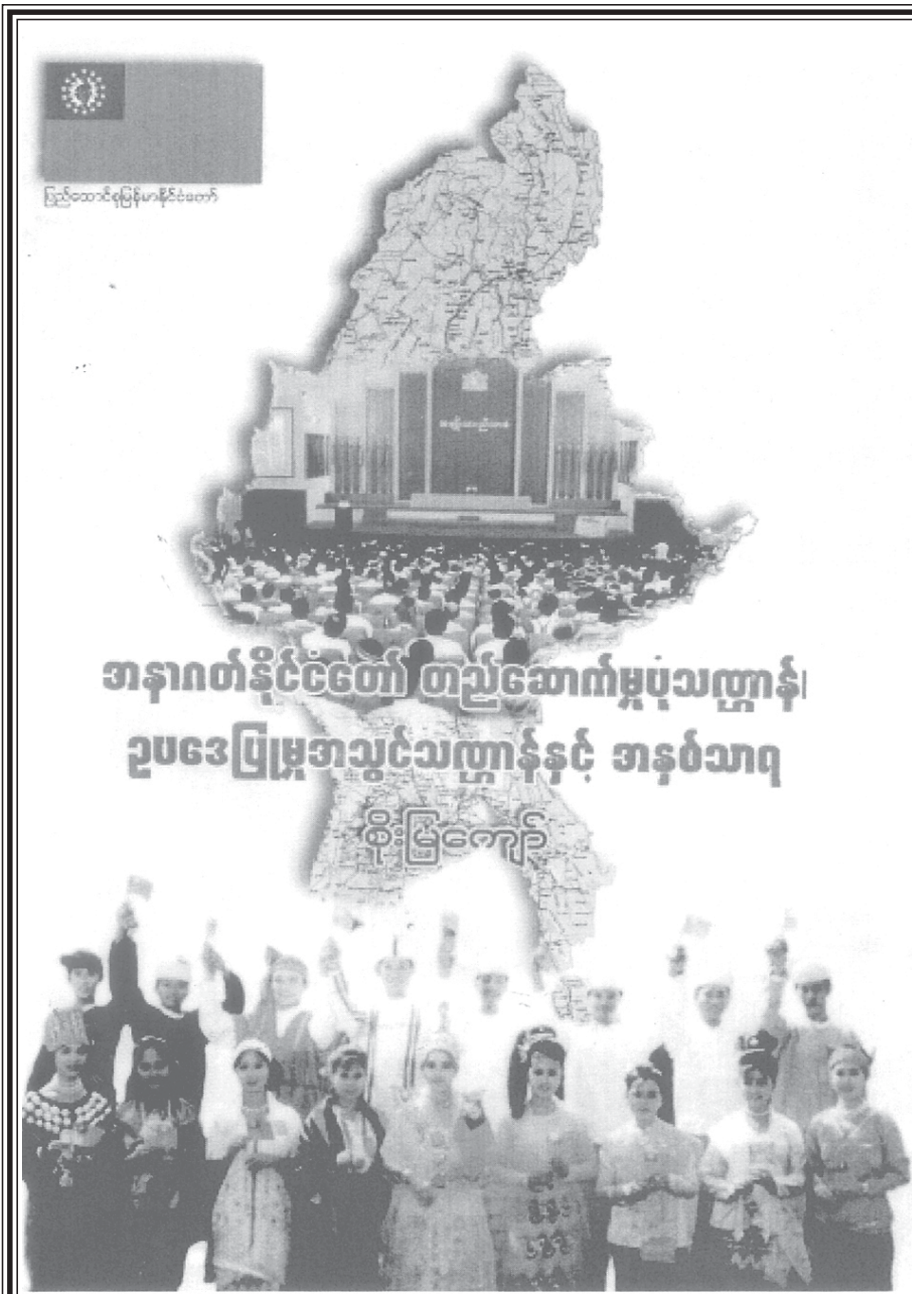
HONG KONG, 19 May — A boy has been born in Hong Kong with a foetus in his stomach in what doctors said was a rare case of "foetus in foetus" in which one twin becomes trapped inside another during pregnancy and continue to grow inside it.

Local media reported on Thursday doctors carried out a scan on the boy's mother when she was in her 25th-week of pregnancy and noticed a "tumour" in the foetus' stomach.

The "tumour", which was three to four centimeters in width, contained a torso and limb-like tissues. When the foetus grew, the "tumour" became larger as well. And in her 37th-week of pregnancy, the mother gave birth to a healthy boy weighing 3.4 kilogrammes. — MNA/Xinhua



Apple's new iPhone is seen in this handout photo released on 9 Jan, 2007. Regulators approved Apple Inc's iPhone for sale in the United States on Thursday paving the way for the much anticipated device to be sold by the wireless unit of AT&T in late June. — INTERNET



- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကို ကျင်းပကာ နိုင်ငံတော်ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံ အခြေခံဥပဒေ ရေးဆွဲရေးအတွက် အခြေခံရမည့်မူများနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အခြေခံရမည့်မူများကို အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကိုယ်စားလှယ်များက ညှိနှိုင်းဆွေးနွေး အတည်ပြုချက် ချမှတ်ပေးလျက်ရှိသည်။
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စိုးမြင်ကျော် ၏

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ထွက်ပြီ

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FDA committee votes yes for new smallpox vaccine



BEIJING, 18 May — A US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) advisory committee voted unanimously on Thursday that Acambis' vaccine is safe enough to use in special situations where people are deemed at high risk of smallpox exposure, according to media reports. UK-based Acambis, with US offices in Cambridge, Mass, has been making the vaccine for a US strategic stockpile since being awarded a contract in late 2001 amid concerns of a bio-

terrorism attack using the smallpox virus. The vaccine is considered a second-generation vaccine and is made using cell-culture lines. It is derived from Dryvax, an older vaccine made by Wyeth. Future US contracts, however, partly hinge on FDA approval of the vaccine, which is known as ACAM2000. The US ended routine vaccination against smallpox in 1971 and world health authorities declared the disease official eradicated from the wild in 1980. But after the attacks of 11 Sept, 2001, concern arose that smallpox and other infections could be engineered as weapons. That led to the stockpiling of certain vaccines in case they ever are needed — and to vaccinate some military personnel and health care workers. The nation's old

smallpox vaccine, called Dryvax, is no longer made, although there are leftover supplies. Smallpox is a contagious and sometimes fatal disease marked by fever and a progressive skin rash. The majority of patients with smallpox recover, but death may occur in up to 30 percent of cases. Many smallpox survivors have permanent scars over large areas of their body.

Internet

Two yellow diamonds fetch \$8m at Sotheby's

GENEVA, 19 May — Two huge yellow diamonds once belonging to a legendary courtesan of France's Second Empire, fetched nearly 8 million US dollars at auction, more than twice their pre-sale estimate, Sotheby's said on Friday. An anonymous telephone bidder bought the two stones, known as the "Donnersmarck Diamonds", which were given by German Prince Guido Henckel von Donnersmarck to his mistress and later wife.

Blanche La Paiva, in the 1870s. "We are pleased to have seen the two stones staying together. The results ... are testament to the current strength of the market for fine gemstones and period jewels," said David Bennett, chairman of jewellery for Sotheby's Europe and the Middle East, who conducted the Geneva sale on Thursday night. The top lot was the pear-shaped yellow diamond weighing 82.48 carats which fetched 5.7

million Swiss francs (4.66 million US dollars), while the cushion-shaped one weighing 102.54 carats netted 3.968 million Swiss francs (3.25 million US dollars), a statement said. Both stones were set by the French jeweller Chaumet. La Paiva, born in Moscow, moved to Paris where for decades she entertained a dazzling mix of society names, politicians, industrialists, financiers, intellectuals, writers and artists. MNA/Reuters

Woman held for trying to smuggle heroin via DHL

DUSHANBE, 19 May — Tajik police have arrested a woman for trying to smuggle heroin in a refrigerator through express delivery firm DHL, the Interior Ministry said on Friday. The DHL office in the Tajik capital Dushanbe grew suspicious after noticing that its transportation cost to Moscow exceeded the actual cost of the fridge by several times. It then called the police, said the Interior ministry. "We have arrested a 26-year-old woman who tried to send via DHL a refrigerator with a total of 17.4 kilos of heroin hidden in its inner cover plate," said Interior Ministry spokesman Khudoinazar Asozoda. DHL in Dushanbe said it could not comment on the matter. — MNA/Reuters

America's Cup Challenger BMW Oracle Racing of the US drops their spinnaker during their semi-final Race 4 against Luna Rossa Challenge of Italy at the Louis Vuitton Cup in Valencia on 18 May, 2007.
INTERNET



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MV SEA MERCHANT VOYNO (735)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA MERCHANT VOYNO (735) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.5.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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China has 144 million netizens by March

BEIJING, 18 May — China recorded a netizen population of 144 million by the end of March this year, Vice-Information Industry Minister said on Thursday.

Xi Guohua said by 2010, the figure is expected to reach 200 million, with an average annual growth of 8 per cent.

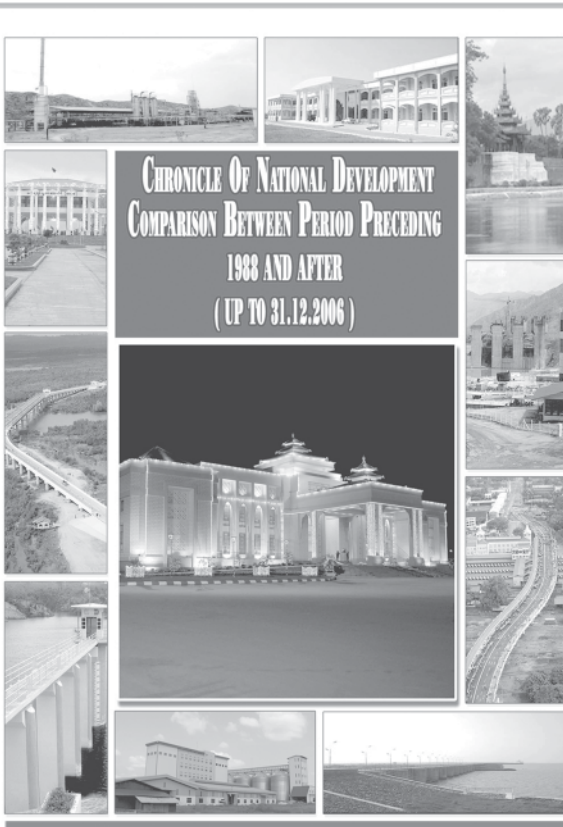
Broadband service users number 97 million nationwide at the present time, Xi added.

Of the Chinese netizens, young people, teenagers in particular, account for a large proportion.

"Unhealthy information flow on Internet will do harm to young people both physically and psychologically," Xi said.

Xi called for healthy content to be provided for Internet and net-based porn to be cracked down upon.

MNA/Xinhua



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British doctors urged to prescribe cheaper drugs

LONDON, 18 May — British doctors could save the state health system more than 200 million pounds (395 million US dollars) a year by prescribing cheaper versions of many common medicines, an influential watchdog said on Friday.

The National Audit Office report is a further sign of the pressure on drug prices around the world as health budgets are squeezed by ageing

populations and costly medical advances.

Two months ago, the Office of Fair Trading called for a radical shift to a value-based system of drug pricing in Britain, which it said could save the National Health Service (NHS) about 500 million pounds.

"There is significant scope for the NHS to improve the value for money of prescribing in primary care," Com-

ptroller and Auditor General John Bourn said in his report to Parliament.

"If GPs (general practitioners) more often followed official guidelines and prescribed generic and other cheaper

drugs where suitable, then there would be more money to treat patients and pay for expensive or innovative treatments."

This could be done without affecting patient care, he added.

MNA/Reuters

Three doctors in US charged with surgery scam

BEIJING, 18 May — Three doctors in the United States were arrested for billing insurers 30 million US dollars for unnecessary surgery performed on hundreds of patients recruited from around US, according to media reports on Friday.

Authorities said the patients received money or low-cost cosmetic procedures for participating in the "rent-a-patient" scam at Unity Outpatient Surgery Center.

More than 5 million dollars of the insurance claims were paid, authorities said.

Michael C Chan, a Cerritos obstetrician, William W Hampton, a Seal Beach surgeon, and Mario Z Rosenberg, a Beverly Hills gastroenterologist on staff at Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre, are accused of performing more than 1,000 unneeded procedures on 940 patients, then billing insurance com-

panies an estimated 30 million dollars for the work.

Each of the doctors is facing 47 felony counts, including conspiracy and insurance fraud, and could receive nearly 50 years in prison if convicted.

"We're talking about doctors who were real-life body snatchers," Dist Atty Tony Rackauckas said at a news conference on Wednesday.

"It's unfathomable that a doctor would treat patients as if they were bodies on a medical conveyor belt for profit."

The California Medical Board is pursuing suspension of their licenses.

Between July 2002 and April 2003, prosecutors said, more than 2,000 patients from more than 30 states were solicited to participate in the Unity scheme, resulting in 90 million dollars in fraudulent claims billed to more than a dozen insurance companies.

Internet

Coach: 5-year-old Indian boy to walk 500km

BEIJING, 18 May — The five-year-old Indian marathon runner Budhia Singh whose running last year sparked an outcry from rights activists is planning to walk 500 kilometers, according to his coach quoted by media reports on Friday.

"I have spoken to West Bengal DG police, Mamata Banerjee, Mithun Chakraborty and lot many IAS and IPS officers in West Bengal. They have all encouraged Budhia for this walk and are ready to give me permission," said Biranchi Das, Budhia's coach.

Budhia will begin in Bhubaneswar in the eastern state of Orissa and finish in Kolkata, the capital of West Bengal state. The walk is to begin on 6 June and should take about 10 days, said Das.

While Das argued that the boy's walk would serve as an inspiration to other young athletes, child rights advocates cried the news.

The Women and Child

Development Minister has categorically denied permission, and has declared strict action against those who will make Budhia walk such a long distance.

"Orissa High Court has given us full power to take decision for the welfare of Budhia and by no means will we allow Budhia to walk such long distance," said Pramilla Mallick, the minister.

Last year, he attempted to run a 70-kilometre marathon, but doctors stopped him after 65 kilometres when he showed signs of extreme exhaustion.

Afterward, doctors found the boy to be undernourished, anemic and under cardiac stress, and the Orissa state government banned him from running until he is older.

But Das insisted he is looking after the best interests of the boy, whose father died when he was seven months old.

His mother, unable to support him, was about to sell him to another villager for Rs800 (18 US dollars)



Budhia Singh

when the family met Das two years ago.

"I have raised him as my son and I introduced him into running after observing his endurance," Das said, adding that he is an inspiration to other children.

"The aim is to make our children and children all over the world to know that if they start now they can qualify for the 2016 Olympics," he said.

Internet

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ဆေးဝါးပြုစုတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Genome of yellow fever, dengue fever mosquito sequenced



An international team of researchers reported Thursday that they have sequenced the genome of Aedes aegypti, the mosquito responsible for transmitting yellow and dengue fevers, which are a major burden in Africa and other parts of the developing world.—INTERNET

the spread of these diseases, and they offer the opportunity to compare this genome with those of Anopheles gambiae, the mosquito that transmits malaria.

Based on the draft sequence, the researchers reported that the two mosquito genomes have much in common but differ in overall size, the amount of mobile sequences called "transposable elements," and the average lengths of "introns," which are sequences that do not code for protein. Other differences involve gene density and the composition of gene families.

These insects represent the two major mosquito subfamilies, and the differences between them should reflect inherent biological properties, such as blood feeding preferences, host-seeking behavior and individual abilities to transmit certain pathogens.

The authors also compared the A. aegypti genome to that of the more distantly related Drosophila melanogaster and identified differences that should help clarify which genes and gene activities are specific to mosquitoes. ? — Internet

WASHINGTON, 17 May — An international team of researchers reported Thursday that they have sequenced the genome of Aedes aegypti, the mosquito responsible for transmitting yellow and dengue fevers, which are a major burden in Africa and other parts of the developing world.

These findings, which will be published in the 18 May issue of journal Science, may provide new leads for controlling



A boy passes by a wall painted cartoon pictures. A kindergarten using cartoon paintings on wall to improve the environment for children in Feixi county, Anhui Province, on 18 May, 2007. —INTERNET

Vietnam's Internet rate above world average

HANOI, 18 May — Vietnam now has 15.8 million Internet users, accounting for 19 per cent of its population, higher than the world average of 16.9 per cent, local newspaper Saigon Liberation reported on Thursday.

Vietnam has seen an average annual rise of 36 per cent in Internet users since its connection to the global computer network in November 1997, and

25-35 per cent of the country's population are estimated to use the Internet in 2010, a national review conference by the Vietnamese Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications was told on Wednesday.

Of the 15.8 million Internet users, 4.4 million are subscribers, including nearly 677,000 broadband ones, the Vietnam Internet Network Information Centre told Xinhua

on Thursday, noting that the country's total international bandwidth currently stands at 8,703 Mbps.

Under the ministry's plan, all ministries, sectors and state administrative agencies at district level upward, institutes, universities, colleges and senior high schools will have broadband Internet connections by 2010.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia sets up welfare foundation for teachers

KUALA LUMPUR, 18 May — Malaysian teachers have received a special gift on the Teachers Day as the government pledges to set up a foundation to take care of their welfare, local Press reported Thursday.

Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on Wednesday night announced the setting up of the Tun Hussein Onn Teachers Foundation, which is the first one of its

kind specially established for the teachers and led by the government itself in this country.

"Its main function will be to look into the welfare of teachers and assist in times of emergencies, bereavements and many others. This is one of the efforts taken by the government to improve the teaching profession and look after the welfare of teachers," Badawi said when launching the 36th

national-level Teachers Day celebrations in Johor State.—MNA/Xinhua

Report says use of hair relaxers does not increase breast cancer risk

WASHINGTON, 17 May — The use of hair relaxers is not associated with an increased risk of breast cancer in black women, researchers from Boston University's Slone Epidemiology Centre said in a report.

The report, to be published in the May issue of Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers and Prevention, is the first ever science report assessing hair relaxers in relation to a cancer. Since millions of women have used hair relaxers, and the carcinogenic potential of hair relaxers is unknown, Lynn Rosenberg, associate director of Slone Epidemiology Centre, and colleagues examined the association of hair relaxer use with breast cancer



The use of hair relaxers is not associated with an increased risk of breast cancer in black women, researchers from Boston University's Slone Epidemiology Centre said in a report.— INTERNET

incidence in the Black Women's Health Study.

The Black Women's Health Study, conducted by Slone Epidemiology Center and Howard University Cancer Centre, is a follow-up study of

59,000 African-American women from across the United States. While tracking data from 1997 to 2003, researchers combed through more than 266,000 person-years of follow-up data to determine that

there is no increase in breast cancer incidence associated with hair relaxer use.

"In the present study of African American women, increases in breast cancer risk were not associated with any categories of duration of hair relaxer use, frequency of use, age at first use, number of burns experienced during use, or type of relaxer used," said Rosenberg. For younger women, who used relaxers at earlier ages and more frequently than older women, no linkage was found either, he said.

The findings prove that the use of hair relaxers are not causing breast cancer and do not contribute to a higher incidence of breast cancer, said Rosenberg.— Internet

Rising tide in Thailand's Phuket

BANGKOK, 18 May — The rising tide in southern Thai resort of Phuket was a normal condition during the monsoon season and it should not be mistaken as a sign of a looming tsunami, local authorities said Thursday.

The Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Centre in Phuket reported the sea current had risen to its highest level this year since Wednesday. Authorities insisted it was not related to the powerful quake which hit Laos on Wednesday. People living near the mangroves along Thepkasattree Road as well as vendors along the Had Sai Kaew beach were affected by the rising tide. It's been reported the tide had receded to its normal level, the Thai News Agency said. — MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS



Spain's David Ferrer reacts during his match against Swiss player Roger Federer at the Hamburg Masters Tennis tournament in Hamburg on 18 May, 2007.
INTERNET

Taekwondo World's opening ceremony gives hints to 2008 Games

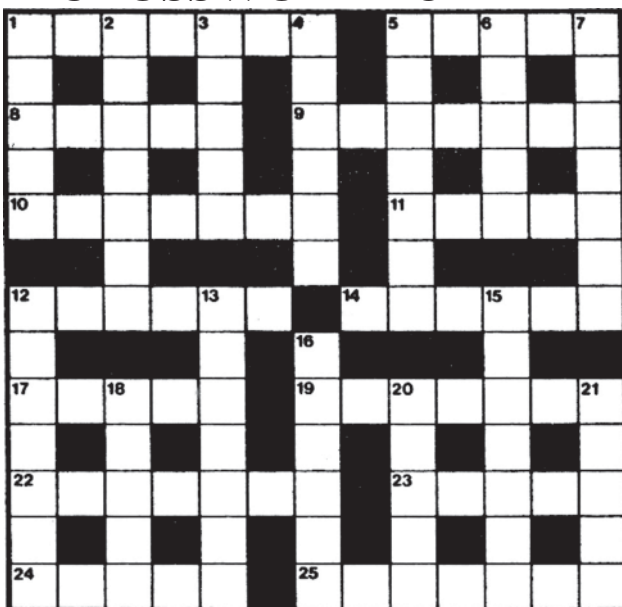
CHANGPING (Beijing), 19 May — A tiny and short opening ceremony of the Taekwondo World Championships proved the ability of the Chinese producers to make a high-expected show of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. Friday's opening ceremony, which cost about three million RMB (about 390,000 US dollars), lasted only 50 minutes with 1,290 participants.

Some high-tech electronic lights and four big screens were the centre pieces of the night show, and the Tiger Taekwondo Team of South Korea was the only known invitation for the programme.

"The opening ceremony had clear definition of the sport and the theme of the World Championships," said Lu Jiankang, one of the producers of the 2008 Olympic Games opening ceremony, on Saturday.

MNA/Xinhua

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Colonist
- 5 Notch
- 8 High-bridged, as a nose
- 9 Gain
- 10 Chide (4,3)
- 11 Pithy
- 12 Knitted garment
- 14 Crib
- 17 Greek island
- 19 Cry out
- 22 Tract
- 23 Month
- 24 Card game
- 25 Refuse collector

DOWN

- 1 Small fish
- 2 Acrobat
- 3 Musically slow
- 4 Snub
- 5 Treason (anag.)
- 6 Bid
- 7 Outermost
- 12 Full of fun
- 13 Alike
- 15 Plan
- 16 Tried
- 18 Kingdom
- 20 Disorder
- 21 Fruit

Carvalho signs five-year contract

LONDON, 18 May—Chelsea's Ricardo Carvalho has marked his 29th birthday by signing a new five-year contract at Stamford Bridge.

Carvalho joined from Porto for £19.85m in 2004 but will miss the FA Cup final after damaging medial ligaments in his right knee against Bolton in April.

"He has been a key player for us since he joined and is without doubt one of the world's best



Ricardo Carvalho

central defenders," said chief executive Peter Kenyon.

"The only shame is that he will miss Saturday's game through injury."—Internet

Ferguson banks on winning habit to lift Cup

MANCHESTER (England), 19 May — Manchester United will be as hungry as Chelsea's wounded lions to win the FA Cup final, manager Alex Ferguson said on Friday.

The first final to be played at the lavish new Wembley Stadium on Saturday pits newly crowned Premier League champions United against the team they dislodged from the throne.

It is Chelsea's opportunity for a small element of revenge but Ferguson will expect United's winning habit to be prevalent as they look to add to their record tally of 11 FA Cup wins and complete a fourth league and cup double under his command.

"I am acutely aware that on the one side you have a wounded animal who have lost the league to us," Ferguson said.

"On the other hand you have got a team with confidence, and I just have to make sure there is no distinction between the two

teams in terms of the desire to win. I think that will be important," he told reporters. "To do the double again would be fantastic for us. The big pressure was on us to win the league. That was the priority for us given the fact Chelsea had steamrollered the league the previous two years.

MNA/Reuters



AS Roma's team celebrates the with the trophy at the end of the Italian Cup second leg final soccer match against Inter Milan at the San Siro stadium in Milan on 17 May, 2007.—XINHUA

S Korean wins women's bantamweight at Taekwondo Worlds

BEIJING, 19 May — South Korean Jung Jin Kee defeated Tseng Yi-Hsung from Taipei 6-4 to grab women's under-55 kilogrammes (bantamweight) gold medal at the Beijing World Taekwondo Championships on Friday.

The two tusslers were 2-2 in the first bout before Jung Jin Kee came up to lead 5-4 in the second.

Jung soon extended her advantage to 7-4 in the third bout, and finally secured her victory 6-4 despite of one-point deduction.—MNA/Xinhua



Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia returns the ball to her compatriot Dinara Safina during their match at the Italian Open tennis tournament in Rome on 18 May, 2007. — INTERNET

Vidic feared for United future

MANCHESTER, 19 May — Manchester United defender Nemanja Vidic said he feared he would not make the grade at Old Trafford after initially struggling after joining from Spartak Moscow in January, 2006.

"My first couple of months in England were very difficult," Vidic told reporters ahead of Saturday's FA Cup final. "To be honest, I didn't think I had a future in England. I did worry that I wasn't going to make it at Manchester United.

"The football is different in England. In the summer it wasn't that I was scared but I had lost my confidence because of what happened in those first couple of months.—MNA/Reuters



Preakness Stakes hopeful C P West with exercise rider Carlos Correa up, goes through early morning workouts at Pimlico Race Track in Baltimore, Maryland on 18 May, 2007. The 132nd running of the Preakness Stakes will take place on 19 May.—INTERNET

Drogba embarks on different sort of work for UN

LONDON, 19 May — Chelsea striker Didier Drogba will end his season in Saturday's FA Cup final with Manchester United and embark on very different sort of work for the United Nations fighting poverty.

Drogba will be key to Chelsea's Cup hopes, having scored 32 goals in a season where they have fought a constant battle against injuries and a lost the Premier League title to United. The striker, who helped the Ivory Coast reach their first World Cup at last year's finals, is well aware of the sense of occasion at the first FA Cup final at the new Wembley.

"They've won the league, they've had fewer injuries than us but we're still there," Drogba told reporters.

"It's going to be a fantastic moment, a bit like the last World Cup." But he added: "It's a good moment only when you win."—MNA/Reuters

FA Cup final - Chelsea 1-0 Man Utd

LONDON, 19 May — A Didier Drogba goal late in extra time was enough to secure victory for Chelsea over Manchester United in the first FA Cup final at the new Wembley.

Drogba produced a rare moment of brilliance in a game that failed to live up to expectations and completed a cup double for the Blues.

He played a one-two with Frank Lampard before stabbing past Edwin van der Sar with the tie headed for penalties.

Ryan Giggs missed a good chance to win the game for United in normal time.

The 90,000 fans inside the stadium were treated to a fantastic pre-match build-up featuring some famous faces from Wembley's glorious past.

But aside from Drogba's late winner, the two best sides in the country produced a game that is unlikely to live long in the memory.



Chelsea captain John Terry, left, raises the trophy after his team beat Manchester United 1-0 to win the FA Cup final soccer match between Chelsea and Manchester United at Wembley Stadium in London, on Saturday 19 May, 2007. — INTERNET

A cagey opening 20 minutes set the pace for a match that at times seemed more like the Community Shield than the first FA Cup final at an immaculate new Wembley.

The first effort on target did not arrive until after the half hour with Paulo Ferreira venturing forward and slipping a pass

in for Frank Lampard, who forced Edwin van der Sar to make a smart low save.

That was about the extent of the first 45 minutes as both teams looked heavy-legged after a season in which they have each played over 60 games.

The pitch, which looked in fabulous condition at the start, began to cut up

which did not aid the footballing spectacle or the weary players.

Joe Cole looked one of the few capable of livening things up before he was surprisingly replaced at half-time by Arjen Robben.

The pace picked up slightly after the break, with United looking the more likely to get Wembley's first Cup final goal.

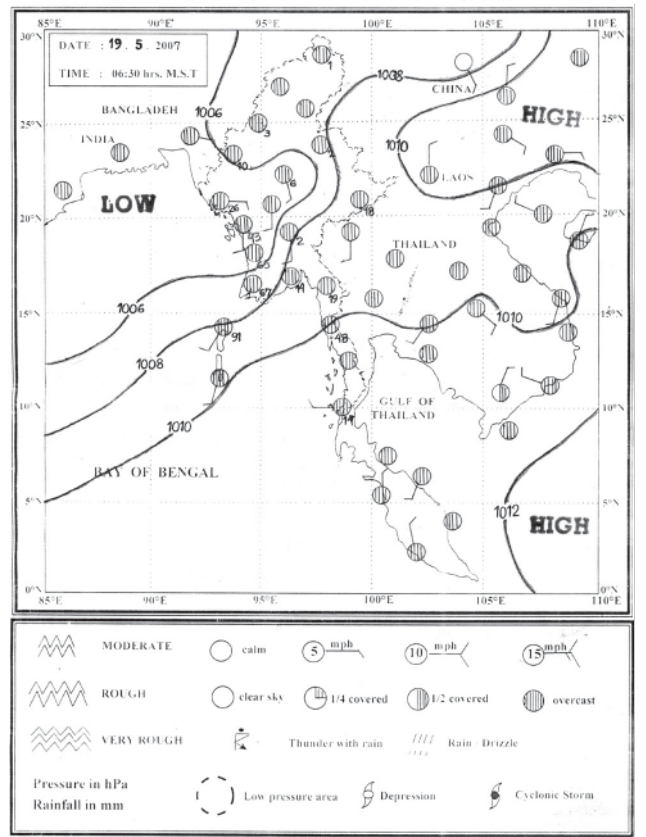
Wayne Rooney emerged from his first-half shell to bring a first save out of Petr Cech and tested Chelsea's backline with a couple of bursting runs.

Paul Scholes picked out Giggs to volley just over the top as Sir Alex Ferguson's men showed the odd glimpse of the stylish side that dominated the Premiership.

Chelsea add the FA Cup to the League Cup which they won earlier this season and manager Jose Mourinho did his job prospects no harm by securing the one domestic trophy that was missing in his collection.

Internet

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Saturday, 19 May, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, Southwest Monsoon has advanced into the Deltaic area. Rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kayah State and Magway Division, fairly widespread in Kachin State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavy fall in lower Sagaing Division, isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State, Yangon and upper Sagaing Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below May average temperature in eastern Shan, Rakhine, Mon States, Bago and Yangon Divisions, (7°C) below May average temperature in Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, (10°C) below May average temperature in northern Shan States and (5°C) above May average temperature in Taninthayi Division and about May average temperature in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.75) inch, Minkin (5.59) inches, Coco Island (3.58) inches, Thandwe (3.27) inches, Mogok (2.76) inches, Kayan and Patheingyi (2.64) inches each, Kanbalu (2.56) inches, Gwa (2.24) inches, Dawei (2.08) inches, Bago (2.05) inches, Hpa-an (2.01) inches, Thaton (1.89) inches, Namsam (1.73) inches, Mawlaik and Shwebo (1.70) inches each, Kalay and Kyaukpadaung (1.65) inches each.

Maximum temperature on 18-5-2007 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 19-5-2007 was 74°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 19-5-2007 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 18-5-2007 was (3.4) hour approx.

Rainfall on 19-5-2007 was (1.03) inches at Mingaladon, (0.59) inch at Kaba-Aye, (0.59) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (21.54) inches at Mingaladon, (24.96) inches at Kaba-Aye and (23.31) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (12) mph from Southwest at (17:30) hours MST on 18-5-2007.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the North Bay and monsoon is moderate to strong in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 20-5-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Kayah State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin and Shan States, Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of rain in Lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 20-5-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 20-5-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 20-5-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).



Sunday, 20 May
View on today

- 7:00 am
- 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မလာရာ ရှုရ၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မ ဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 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)ဖြာမင်္ဂလာ
- 8:05 am
- 6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:15 am
- 7. တံတားမြစ်ငယ်အသစ်သွယ် လူမှုစီးပွားကြွယ်
- 8:20 am
- 8. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:30 am
- 9. International news
- 8:45 am
- 10. Say it in English
- 11:00 am
- 1. Martial songs

- 11:10 am
- 2. Musical programme
- 11:25 am
- 3. Round up of the week's international news
- 11:40 am
- 4. Yan Can Cook
- 12:00 pm
- 5. Myanmar Movie: "မုန်းစကားမဆိုနဲ့ချစ်သံ" (ကောလိပ်လှိုင်နေဝင်း၊ ကျော်ဟိန်း၊ နွဲ့နွဲ့၊ မှု) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြီးမြင့်)
- 1:55 pm
- 6. အာဆီယံနိုင်ငံများ အချင်းချင်းပေါင်းစပ် ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း (အာဆီယံဒေသအတွင်း ပတ်ဝန်းကျင်ထိန်းသိမ်းရေး ပူးပေါင်းဆောင်ရွက်မှု)
- 2:10 pm
- 7. Musical programme
- 2:25 pm
- 8. ကျေးပင်အက်ရေလှောင်တံ
- 2:30 pm
- 9. "ပြေးပြေးလွှားလွှား သွားသွားလာလာ" (မောင်မောင်မြင့်၊ မအေးမြင့်၊ စိန်ဝွတ်တော်၊ မောင်မောင်မျိုးသန့်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်မောင်မြင့်)
- 2:35 pm
- 10. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေးဂီတတေး
- 2:45 pm
- 11. International news
- 4:00 pm
- 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
- 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
- 3. English for everyday use

- 4:45 pm
- 4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (အထူးပြုအားလုံး) (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ)
- 5:00 pm
- 5. Song of national races
- 5:15 pm
- 6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 5:25 pm
- 7. Sing and enjoy
- 6:00 pm
- 8. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
- 9. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
- 10. သီရိဇေယျာ
- 6:45 pm
- 11. "ဧည့်မယ်ဖျို" (ခန့်စည်သူ၊ ငှက်ပျောကြော်၊ မိုးပြည့်ပြည့်မောင်၊ တက္ကသိုလ်ဝမ်းပုံ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဖုန်းမြင့်အောင်)
- 7:00 pm
- 12. မလွန်လွန်းဘူးလား (အပိုင်း-၂)
- 7:10 pm
- 13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သမားတော်" (အပိုင်း-၂၇)
- 8:00 pm
- 14. News
- 15. International news
- 16. Weather report
- 16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်ပန်းနှင်းဆီ" (အပိုင်း-၁၈)
- 17. The next day's programme



- Sunday, 20 May
- Tune in today
- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Bop Bop baby
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -Bye bye bye
- 8:50 am National news
- 9:00 am Music: -Cloud no 9
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Cultural Images of Myanmar
- 9:20 am Music: -I'm gonna miss you forever
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40pm Children's delight (story)
- 1:50pm Songs for children
- 9:00pm Weekly news review
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Music / LIETS -Girl you're my love
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

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Government sets over 1,500m baskets of paddy as production target as national duty for food sufficiency

Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends 10th AGM of Myanmar Rice Dealers Association

YANGON, 19 May — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the 10th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Rice Dealers Association at the hall of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Minye Kyawswa Road in Lanmadaw Township this morning.

First, Chairman of the association U Aung Than Oo gave an opening speech.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe delivered an address. He said that the State Peace and Development Council had laid down and is implementing 12 political, economic and social objectives for emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Tasks for development of the agricultural sector is being undertaken in line with one of the four economic objectives — Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the



Lt-Gen Myint Swe delivers an address at 10th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Rice Dealers Association.—MNA

economy as well.

Myanmar is rich in water and land resources with favourable climatic condition. Although Myanmar had food sufficiency and could export surplus rice abroad in the past, later yield of rice declined due to various reasons. At present, the government has made efforts not only for food sufficiency but also for surplus of food.

The government had spent a large amount of money on construction of 199 dams and 305 river

water pumping projects throughout the nation to irrigate 2.6 million acres

kets of paddy were produced from 11.81 million acres of farmland. Over

1,326 million baskets of paddy in 2005-06.

In accord with the

target as national duty for the food sufficiency of increasing population in the future, and the production target of paddy can be well met.

With a view to promoting the trade sector in line with the market-oriented economic system, the Myanmar rice and paddy trading new policy was prescribed on 23 April 2003. Some persons are trading rice and paddy with avarice. Hence, the rice and paddy merchants are to do their businesses with fair price of goods.

(See page 9)

The government had spent the large amount of money on construction of 199 dams and 305 river water pumping projects throughout the nation to irrigate 2.6 million acres of farmland. In 1988-89, a total of 630 million baskets of paddy were produced from 11.81 million acres of farmland. Over 800 million baskets of paddy yielded in 1993-94, over 1,000 million baskets of paddy in 2000-2001 and 1,326 million baskets of paddy in 2005-06.

of farmland. In 1988-89, a total of 630 million bas-

800 million baskets of paddy yielded in 1993-94, over 1,000 million baskets of paddy in 2000-2001 and

guidance of the Head of State, the government set over 1,500 million baskets of paddy as the production

37 of Mawlamyinegyun Township NLD quit

They have no longer interest in party's activities

YANGON, 19 May — Thirty-seven members including U Tin Aye, U Than Maung, U Hla Soe, U Tun Aung, U Aye Lwin, U Hla Than, U Han Tin, U Thaung, U Myint Shwe and U Tha Sein of Mawlamyinegyun Township National League for Democracy of Ayeyawady Division resigned from the NLD of their own accord on 11 May.

They had sent their resignation letters to the NLD headquarters and

local authorities concerned. In their letters sent to Mawlamyinegyun Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommittee, they said they were disappointed about the acts of the party and they had no more wish to discharge the duties of the party and they had no longer interest in the party's activities. That is why they quit the party of their own accord.—MNA

Weather Forecast for (20-5-2007)

Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas

One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Yangon and neighbouring areas

One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Mandalay and neighbouring areas

One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea

Seas will be moderate to rough in Myanmar waters.