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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



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win delivers an address at the opening ceremony of Mohnyin Degree College in Mohnyin Township, Kachin State. — MNA

Opportunities created for those who are willing to pursue higher education within their reach with emergence of universities and colleges in states and divisions Mohnyin Degree College opened

YANGON, 16 Feb— The opening of Mohnyin Degree College was held in Mohnyin on 11 February, with an address by Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win.

Also present were Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of

Northern Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Brig-Gen Khin Maung, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Chan Nyein, Deputy Minister for Education U

Myo Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Tactical Operations Commander of Northern Command Col Tin Shein, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, chairmen of Myitkyina District and Mohnyin Township Peace and Development Councils and members, the principal of Mohnyin Degree College,

professors and faculty members, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, social organizations and local people.

First, the opening ceremony of the archway of the college was held. Maung Kyaw Min, first year Botany Major student, and Ma Saw Nan Wut Yi, a first year Physics Major student, formally opened

the archway.

Next, Maung Nay Min Htwe, first year Chemistry Major student, and Ma Ei Shwe Zin, first year Myanmarsar major student, formally opened the main building of the college.

The Secretary-1 planted a star-flower sapling to mark the opening of the college. Commander Maj-Gen Maung

Maung Swe, Ministers Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein and deputy ministers planted star-flower saplings and Gangaw sapling.

Next, the Secretary-1 formally unveiled the bronze plaque of the college. The Secretary-1 and party sprinkled scented water on it. They also inspected computer training centre, stationery shop and language lab.

The Secretary-1 delivered a speech. He said the government is implementing development tasks to bring about harmonious development across the nation and to forge the Union Spirit among the national races.

(See page 8)



Newly-opened Mohnyin Degree College in Mohnyin Township, Kachin State. — MNA

INSIDE

Perspectives
For better communication services (Page 2)

Article
Traditional Festival of Sea-friendly people (Page 7)

Circulation

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PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 17 February, 2004

For better communication services

The Government is striving day in, day out for emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Thanks to the earnest efforts of the Tatmadaw Government, after its assumption of the responsibilities of the State, various national race armed groups returned to the legal fold and as a result peace prevails throughout the country.

With the implementation of the border area and national races development projects, people living in the remote border areas are now witnessing fruitful result of the projects.

For harmonious development among the states and divisions, the 24 special development regions have been designated and universities, colleges, government technological colleges, computer colleges and hospitals established with a view to raising the living standard of local people, providing better health care services and promoting the education standard.

In addition, rural development projects are being implemented for equitable development of all the regions in the country.

Now, efforts are being made in accord with the guidance of the Head of State to narrow the gap between rural and urban areas, and Myanma Posts and Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs is implementing projects for development of communication services in rural areas. On 8 February, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attended the inauguration of new digital auto exchanges in Kungyangon and Kawhmu in Yangon Division.

Similarly, the opening of electronic auto exchange in Kantbalu was held on 5 February. Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended the ceremony.

Auto exchange in Kungyangon and Kawhmu are type KX-TD 500s. They can be installed with 400 telephones each and 300 has been installed in Kungyangon and 200 in Kawhmu so far.

They can operate overseas calls. MPT is building new auto exchange in 30 townships in states and divisions. As communication services are being extended, altogether 130 auto exchange, 614 exchange and about 400,000 telephone lines have been installed throughout the country.

The Government is making arrangements for ensuring better communication services in rural areas. Moreover, TV retransmission stations have been established with the aim of enabling the people living in border areas to know the objective conditions of the State.

At a time when good foundations for strengthening the economy of the State and raising the living standard of the people are emerging, we firmly believe that the communication sector will develop with momentum.

Myanmar to attend biodiversity conservation conference

YANGON, 16 Feb — A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung left here by air for Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to attend the seventh conference on conservation of biodiversity there.

The delegation was

seen off at Yangon International Airport by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Deputy Ministers for Forestry and officials. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win visits a lecture hall of Mohnyin Degree College in Mohnyin Township, Kachin State. (News page 1). — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe addresses opening of National Seminar on WTO Trade Policy, — MNA

National Seminar on WTO Trade Policy begins

YANGON, 16 Feb — A ceremony to open the National Seminar on WTO Trade Policy, organized by the Ministry of Commerce and World Trade Organization (WTO), was held at Grand Plaza Park-royal Hotel on Alanpya Pagoda Road in Dagon Township here at 9 am today, with an address by Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun, departmental heads, advisers, officials of WTO and departmental officials. Addressing the opening of the seminar, Maj-Gen Thein Swe said: this Seminar is part of the WTO Technical Assistance and Training Plan to enhance institutional and human capacity in member countries especially for the developing and least-developed members to know more about WTO Agreements and facilitate effective participation in the Multilateral Trading System.

According to the WTO Technical Assistance Programme, the National Seminar on WTO Trade in Services was convened in Yangon in February last year, and we are also very pleased to host today's seminar on

WTO Trade Policy.

At this seminar, I found that it will focus on quite a number of topics such as WTO Agreement on Agriculture, Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, Market Access issues including on going agricultural market access negotiations, services negotiations and customs matters including customs valuation. As we are aware that, the World Trade Organization - WTO is a rule based organization which deals with the rules of trade among member countries at a global level. It is, therefore, an organization for liberalizing trade, forum for trade negotiation and for settlement of trade disputes. I was informed that, currently, there are 148 members and about 30 countries are at the observer status in the accession process to be a member. About two-thirds of the members are developing countries and their role in world trade is increasingly important because of the trend of global trade where the volume of trade among the developing countries is much more than developed.

Myanmar is one of the founder members of the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade - GATT and also a signatory to the Final Act which established the World Trade Organization.

As a member of WTO, we are quite aware that we have to implement the obligations of the WTO Agreements. Therefore, our people need to know thoroughly what are the obligations we need to follow and what are the preferences we were given according to the WTO Agreements. I believe that, this National Seminar will contribute to some extent providing wider knowledge to our people. This seminar is attended by 30 participants from relevant Ministries who are responsible for the implementation of the WTO Agreements. Therefore, I should like to urge the participants to learn more about the WTO obligations and rights and exchange your

queries and views with the esteemed resource persons. You should make good use of the opportunity for the benefit of your organizations and country and also for the full realization of the objectives of this Seminar.

In conclusion, he said that I would like to express once again my deep appreciation and profound thanks to the resource persons from the WTO for coming all the way from Geneva.

Next, Dr Raymond Krommeneck, coordinator of Training and Technical Cooperation Department of WTO, extended greetings and the opening ceremony concluded.

The seminar continues up to 19 February. MNA



Patron of DaikU Township Association (Yangon) U Maung Maung Htay presents gift to Thirithudamma Theingi Daw Khin Myint at the anniversary of the DTA.

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Iraq's neighbours pledge not to meddle

KUWAIT CITY, 16 Feb—Iraq's neighbours pledged Sunday not to meddle in Baghdad's affairs, but that promise may be difficult to keep considering their varied interests in the country.

Foreign ministers from Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey and politically influential Egypt met in the Kuwaiti capital for two days to discuss the repercussions of Iraqi developments on the Middle East.

Bahrain also attended as a representative of the Arab League.

Ministers worried that the US plan to reorganize Iraq into a federal system would empower competing ethnic groups and foster regional instability. Their chief

interest was for ethnic groups in Iraq not to agitate the minorities in their own countries.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Zebari assured the ministers that would not happen and asked them to keep out of Iraq's affairs. He told *The Associated Press* that Iraq's neighbours should "leave it for the Iraqis themselves to decide their own political future, and not dictate."

The final statement of the meeting respected Zebari's plea, but regional

analysts suggested his words were empty.

"It is impossible to keep this promise," said Walid Kazziha, a political science professor at the American University in Cairo. "It is a question of national interest." The Gulf countries, primarily Saudi Arabia, worry that the now-emboldened Iraqi Shiites — a long-repressed majority in Iraq — will strike up close ties with influential Iran and become more powerful. —*Internet*



Iraq and several neighbouring countries have pledged not to meddle in Iraq's affairs. — INTERNET

HK defends fame as "shopping paradise" for genuine goods

HONG KONG, 16 Feb—Hong Kong's Intellectual Property Department (IPD) will re-launch the "No Fakes Pledge Scheme" and invite more retail outlets, including those in the travel industry, to sign up this March, in an effort to attract more overseas travellers.

Those who have pledged to sell genuine goods under the scheme will have a "No Fakes" sticker displayed in their shop windows.

The re-launch of the "No Fakes Pledge Scheme" and the establishment of the Intellectual Property Rights Protection Alliance next month are the two major initiatives in the newly launched campaign "Hong Kong — The Real Experience".

Hong Kong Customs, IPD, tourism-related bodies, consumer protection agency and owners of intellectual property rights, showed their commitment to promoting Hong Kong's image as a shopping paradise for genuine goods by pooling their resources to roll out new measures and a series of publicity programmes starting Saturday.

The Customs will form the Intellectual Property Rights Protection Alliance

with the copyright and trademark industry. Under the alliance, different sectors of the industry will pledge to work together to protect intellectual property rights and help the Customs to combat counterfeiting and piracy through a closely knitted network built up for market surveillance, information exchange and reporting of suspected cases.

In 2004, Customs officers will step up enforcement against trademark counterfeiting through persistent and focused raids at the black spots for selling counterfeit goods as well as launching intelligence-led operations to root out the syndicates operating at source. The Customs is committed to the protection of intellectual property rights and has been taking vigorous enforcement actions against counterfeiting activities.

MNA/Xinhua

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Gunmen in Iraq open fire on US convoy

BAGHDAD, 16 Feb—Gunmen opened fire Sunday on a US convoy on a Baghdad highway, setting one vehicle ablaze, and witnesses said three foreigners were wounded.

The convoy of a military Humvee and two sport utility vehicles, the sort used by American civilians and officials in Iraq, was on a highway in western Baghdad when the gunmen attacked, hitting one of the SUVs.

Witnesses said they heard gunfire and afterward saw American soldiers pulling three wounded people from the stricken vehicle. The wit-

nesses could not tell if the casualties were dead or alive. The SUV was seen still burning later, its hood pockmarked with bullet holes.

Insurgents, thought to be

Saddam Hussein loyalists and foreign fighters, have been waging a campaign of violence against US troops and their Iraqi allies.

Internet

1,000 people stage anti-war meeting in Sydney

CANBERRA, 16 Feb—About 1,000 people participated in a meeting in Australia's largest city of Sydney Sunday to mark the anniversary of global protests against the war in Iraq.

Millions of people in over 600 cities across the world staged anti-war protests one year ago to oppose the US-led invasion of Iraq. Half a million protestors took to the streets in Sydney at that time.

The *Australian Associated Press* quoted meeting organizer Pip Hinman as saying the continuing resistance to the occupation of Iraq and the growing scandal over the government's lies about weapons of mass destruction intelligence is quelling a reinvigoration of the anti-war movement.

"There's been a huge response to this meeting which is indicative that people are still so very concerned about the war which is ongoing in Iraq and which is based on a lie," she said.

An international day of action is scheduled on March 20 to mark the anniversary of the start of the US-led invasion of Iraq. A mass rally has been planned for Sydney's Hyde Park at midday.

MNA/Xinhua

Spanish protesters call for end to Iraq occupation

MADRID, 16 Feb—Thousands of anti-war protesters have taken to the streets across Spain calling for the government to withdraw its 1,300 troops from Iraq and for the United States to end its occupation there.

The demonstrations on Sunday — in major cities like Madrid, Barcelona, Seville and Valencia as well as smaller towns — marked the anniversary of massive anti-war protests a year ago.

With the US-led forces poised to invade, millions came out a year ago, but crowds were much smaller this time.

Protestors claimed 150,000 marched in Madrid, while authorities put the figure at 9,000, according to the Spanish news agency Europa Press.

In Barcelona, organizers said a crowd of 20,000 versus an official estimate of 4,000, the website of newspaper *El Mundo* said. —*Internet*



Protesters hold anti-war banners and a picture of Spanish television cameraman Jose Couso, who was killed along with Reuters TV cameraman Taras Protsyuk when a US tank fired a shell at the media hotel where they were working in Baghdad, during a protest in central Madrid on 15 February, 2004. Several anti-war protests were held around Spain marking the first anniversary of demonstrations held around the world against the war in Iraq. —INTERNET

China sets up national employment service for professionals

BEIJING, 16 Feb—China unveiled its professional and modernized employment service Saturday for the country's professionals and skilled workers.

A spokesman for the service offered by the Ministry of Personnel said regu-

lar job sessions will be held at a physical site, including two separate job markets each week during its coming trial operation, and a larger job market one to three months after the trial operation.

The spokesman said the

service also includes an Internet-based platform for job applicants and employers in cooperation with the ministry's Internet-based job market (www.newjobs.com.cn).

It will be opened to all well-trained people, mostly

high- and medium-level calibre professionals and skilled people across the country, and those seeking to employ them, including departments of the central government and its institutions, said the spokesman.

MNA/Xinhua

Tension high in western Iraq after 27 killed in guerilla attacks

FALLUJAH, 16 Feb— Tension remained high in Iraq one day after guerillas launched twin raids on Iraqi security bases, sparking blistering battles that left 27 dead and dozens wounded.

Violence raged on, with two Iraqis killed and three others wounded Sunday when insurgents mistakenly hit a minibus with a rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) in Baghdad after trying to attack a US convoy, a hospital doctor said.

The killings rocked the northwest Shiite Muslim district of Shaawla, the source said, while another US military patrol came under small arms fire in the capital's western al-Adel suburb, a US spokesman said.

The convoy was ambushed at 9.00 am (0600 GMT), the military said, adding that no US vehicles or soldiers had been harmed.

But the ensuing exchange left the attackers' sports utility vehicle in flames. The spokesman said it was not clear if the assailants were hurt, but witnesses said bodies had been removed from the car.

Near the northern city of Kirkuk, US soldiers gunned

down two men who fired a rocket at Iraqi security forces in the village of Yaichi, police said.

The synchronised raids by masked gunmen on a police and a paramilitary station in Fallujah on Saturday followed back-to-back bombings that killed more than 100 people earlier last week.

The attacks left at least 23 policemen and four attackers dead, the US military said. Two of the attackers were reported to be Lebanese.

According to local police chief Hakim Jumaili, about 15 attackers stormed the police station with rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs) and automatic weapons, freeing 22 prisoners.

The assaults came just one day after the United Nations said Iraq was not ready for early elections and warned against serious dangers of civil war in the strife-torn nation.—Internet



US Military Police check a burned out vehicle that was riddled with bullets and torched in Baghdad recently.

INTERNET

Farmers benefit from new medical system in Jiangxi Province

NANCHANG, 16 Feb—Farmers of east China's Jiangxi Province have benefitted from the rural cooperative medical system, and highly praised the new mechanism, said an official with the province department of health.

So far the medical system, which is still in its pilot period, has paid 9.37 million yuan (1.13 million US dollars) worth of medical expenses for over 320,000 farmers, among whom 42 people with serious illness received over 10,000 yuan (1209 US dollars), the official said.

The new medical system is co-funded by subsidies from central, provincial, municipal and county governments and by farmers themselves.

The farmers only have to pay 10 yuan (1.2 US dollars) each year and the state will shoulder 20 to 70 per cent of their medical expenses. Luo Xiaoling, a villager of Jiangxi's Chongyi County, said that her daughter suffered from congenital heart disease, and in the past 10 years she had not received any form of treatment because she had no money.

However, the family joined the rural cooperative

medical system last October and took the daughter to receive the operation in Beijing. They paid 30 yuan (3.6 US dollars) and in return the local government reimbursed them over 10,000 yuan (1209 US dollars).

Jiangxi will go on popularizing the medical system within the province this year, and the system will cover 80 per cent of Jiangxi's rural population in 2010, according to the official.—MNA/Xinhua

Philippines to issue tamper-proof identification cards to aliens

MANILA, 16 Feb — The Philippines' Bureau of Immigration will soon issue tamper-proof identification cards to foreigners registered with the bureau in a bid to bolster its campaign against human smuggling and the proliferation of fake travel documents, a local newspaper reported Saturday.

Immigration Commissioner Alipio Fernandez Jr said Friday that the bureau will soon issue the Alien Certificate of Registration Identity Cards (ACR-I-Card) to replace the current standard paper-sized ACR that can easily be forged or tampered, Manila Bulletin reported.

He also said that aside from making the ACR tamper-proof, the project will likewise speed up the alien registration system

and the issuance of various immigration documents as the process will now be automated or done by computers.

As a result, Fernandez said an accurate and tamper-resistant identification and monitoring system will be instituted to help immigration officers at the ports of entry to check the authenticity of travel documents used by arriving and departing aliens.

MNA/Xinhua

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Vehicle crash kills US soldier in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 Feb— An 82nd Airborne Division paratrooper died of injuries suffered when his vehicle overturned near Baghdad, the US military said Sunday.

The soldier, whose name was not released, died Saturday night at the 31st Combat Support Hospital where he was taken after the accident, the statement added.

The 82nd Airborne Division, based at Fort Bragg, NC, is responsible for Anbar province and parts of Babil province west of Baghdad. The area includes the town of Fallujah, a centre of anti-American violence, and stretches to the Syrian and Jordanian borders to the west and the Saudi Arabian border in the south.—Internet

Rebuilding Iraq could take 'a very long time'

BAGHDAD, 16 Feb—The MP appointed by Prime Minister Tony Blair as a special representative on Iraq today warned that reconstructing the country could take "a very long time".

Brian Wilson, a special representative on trade and reconstruction, said he did not know how long it would take to make the country safe. "It's a long haul. We have seen for ourselves, much closer to home," the Labour MP for Cunninghame North in Ayrshire said on Scottish Television's Seven Days programme. "If you have people whose sole vested interest is in undermining a peace process, in targeting security forces, in frightening people out of operating a normal, civil society, then it can go on for a very long time."

"Ultimately, the wish of the great majority of people for a normal and stable society does prevail, but nobody can put timescales on it."

Mr Wilson claimed there could be "very rapid progress" with some rebuilding work

and also on the political front as Iraqis take control of their own affairs.

But he added: "None of that is certain, none of it is overnight, but that is the process that has to take place. "But I go back always to the point of asking: What is the alternative?"

"The alternative is that today Saddam Hussein would still be ruling Iraq, half a million corpses would still be in mass graves, and every normal citizen of Iraq would be either operating the rule of terror in the case of a very small minority, or living under the fear of terror in the case of the great majority."

"So whatever the problems and challenges that exist now, they at least offer the prospect of a future, whereas what existed before offered nothing but continuing misery and terror."—Internet

Australia to spend \$23m to upgrade missile system

CANBERRA, 16 Feb — Australia will spend 30 million Australian dollars (23 million US dollars) to upgrade its defence forces' anti-ship missiles, Defence Minister Robert Hill said Friday.

The current Harpoon Block I missiles will be replaced with Harpoon Block II technology to enhance their precision and lethality, Hill said in a statement.

The new system will be able to more effectively target ships close to shore or in congested waterways, he said.

"The combination of state-of-the-art navigational and initialization information technology allows the missile's active radar

seeker to better discriminate the desired targets from islands, other obstructions or neutral ships," he said.

"The Harpoon missile is fired from the Anzac, Adelaide and Collins Class naval platforms, and F-111, F/A-18 and AP-3C aircraft," he said.

"The Anzac class frigates will be the first to utilize this capability upgrade," he added. — MNA/Xinhua



An armoured vehicle drives through the streets of Fallujah, 35 miles south of Baghdad, on Saturday, 14 Feb, 2004 in this image taken from video.

INTERNET

Iranian official calls for WMD-free Middle East region

TEHRAN, 16 Feb — Iran has always been in favour of annihilating nuclear arms in the Middle East region, and make it free from weapons of mass destruction (WMD), a senior Iranian official said here on Sunday.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Alireza Moayeri made the remarks at the inaugural ceremony of the international Indian Ocean Region (IOR) conference in Tehran.

"The (Indian Ocean) region had been the scene of rivalry between the Americans and the ex-Soviet Union during the Cold War

era to access its diverse resources and advantages," the official told dozens of experts and researchers from Australia, India, Pakistan, Malaysia, Canada, South Africa and Nepal.

He said that regional peace and stability could only be materialized through cooperation and mutual understanding among

countries.

The two-day conference, titled "Security, Energy and IOR", would discuss regional security issues, concepts of regional energy security and cooperation with powers outside the region.

"Though the Indian Ocean region houses some 75 per cent of the world's

total oil reserves and almost a quarter of the world's population, its available economic opportunities have not yet been used properly," lamented the Iranian official.

Calling terrorism a global issue, Moayeri stressed the need for international anti-terror cooperation.

MNA/Xinhua

Spain to introduce pioneering electronic ID cards

MADRID, 16 Feb — Spain will introduce pioneering electronic identity cards to help boost Internet security by giving people unique digital signatures, Interior Minister Angel Acebes said on Friday.

The 150-million-euro (192-million-US-dollar) scheme, due to be rolled out from 2005 after a pilot version at the end of this year, will replace current identity cards with a version that looks similar but carries a small chip packed with extra information.

"The electronic (identity card) will allow people to work on public and private communications networks, registering their identity and their digital signature," Acebes said, adding that the electronic signature would carry the same legal weight as a conventional one.

MNA/Reuters

Netherlands to limit workers from new EU members

BRUSSELS, 16 Feb — The Dutch Cabinet has decided to further limit the number of workers from the new member states of the European Union (EU), who will be allowed to work in the Netherlands starting May 1, Radio Netherlands reported Friday.

The Dutch Cabinet had at first set a limit of 22,000 workers from Poland and other Eastern European countries, according to Radio Netherlands.

It said the Dutch Government will "only provide working permits when there are no Dutch personnel to fill the positions".

MNA/Xinhua



US forces patrol the streets of Baghdad, Iraq in their humvees amid the first sandstorm of the year which shrouded the capital in a yellow haze on 15 Feb, 2004.—INTERNET

African first ladies vow to fight AIDS

KIGALI, 16 Feb — The first ladies of African countries ended their meeting here Saturday, with an aim to fight HIV/AIDS and discrimination against people infected with the disease.

During the meeting, which is an initial plan of the African First Ladies Against HIV/AIDS (OAFLA), the participants reviewed some of the objectives and strategies in which the organization can be strengthened, said Rwandan First Lady Jeannette Kagame, who is also the chairperson of the organization.

"We have resolved the promotion of inter-country learning and exchange of best practices in HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support programmes in OAFLA," she added.

The meeting which gathered five African first ladies from Senegal, the Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Gabon and the hosting Rwanda also came to a consensus of making an awareness and mobilizing resources for the development of leadership, policies, strategies and actions to fight HIV/AIDS at the national, regional and international levels.

Kenyan First Lady Lucy Kibaki said that the organiza-

tion was created in Geneva in 2002 to reinforce the capacities of first ladies to respond effectively to the challenges presented by HIV/AIDS.

The first ladies' meeting, with the theme "A Mother's Face in the Fight Against AIDS," was held on the sidelines of the summit of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), which attracted over 10 African leaders to discuss a framework aimed at tackling the continent's economic issues.

The two-day summit was focused on good governance, the strengthening of African economy and democratization, among others.

According to the latest available figures, an estimated 2.3 million lives were lost to HIV/AIDS in the region alone in 2003. Meanwhile, as many as 28 million people in sub-Saharan Africa are known carriers of the disease, with prevalence rates in some countries as high as 40 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua

Beijingers' disposable income, expenditure up

BEIJING, 16 Feb — As a result of rapid and steady economic development, the per capita disposable income of Beijingers surged 11.4 per cent year-on-year to reach 13,882.6 yuan (1,786 US dollars) last year, the latest statistics have shown.

With their income rising, local residents' living expenses rose by 8.2 per cent year-on-year to hit 11,123.8 yuan (1,345 US dollars) last year.

According to the city statistics bureau, local residents spent more on communications, personal consumer goods and durable goods, but expenses on foods, medical care and recreation dropped slightly.— MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi fire fighter extinguishes a burning SUV in Baghdad on 15 Feb, 2004. Gunmen opened fire on a US convoy on a Baghdad highway, setting one of the vehicles ablaze, and witnesses said three foreigners were hurt. The convoy of a military Humvee and two SUVs, the sort used by American civilians and officials in Iraq, was on a highway in western Baghdad when the gunmen attacked hitting one of the SUVs.—INTERNET.

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Vehicle accident kills British soldier in southern Iraq

LONDON, 16 Feb — The British Ministry of Defence announced Friday that a British Army mechanic has been killed in a vehicle accident in southern Iraq.

Corporal Richard Thomas David Ivell, serving with the Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers, died on Thursday in the accident at Shaibah Logistics Base, an airfield in the southwestern outskirts of Iraq's southern city of Basra, the ministry said.

"There was no hostile action. It was an accident on the base," said a spokesman for the ministry, which declined to give further details on the accident.

The 29-year-old soldier became the 59th British serviceman to die in Iraq since the US-led war against Iraq broke out on 20 March last year.

Britain, the staunchest ally of the United States on Iraq, sent about 45,000 troops to the Gulf for the Iraq war. There are still about 9,000 British troops in Iraq, most of them serving in the Basra area.

MNA/Xinhua

Cyprus, Syria sign renewed Maritime Cooperation Agreement

NICOSIA, 16 Feb — Cyprus and Syria signed Thursday in Damascus the renewed Maritime Cooperation Agreement, said an official statement issued here Friday.

The agreement was signed by Cypriot Communications and Works Minister Kikis Kazamias and Syria's Transport Minister Makram Obeid.

It is expected to have beneficial results as far as Cyprus maritime is concerned, giving it a new dynamic in efforts to upgrade its stance and become more recognized internationally, according to the statement.

MNA/Xinhua

EU seeks to tap tomato nutrient potential

BRUSSELS, 16 Feb — Red, round and juicy, the tomato is the perfect addition to a salad but it also contains nutrients that could be used to make healthy food additives.

Scientists are trying to tap the tomato's potential and make food additives from the four million tons of tomato waste dumped in the EU a year, the European Commission said on Friday.

The EU Executive Commission is funding research into extracting proteins, sugars and oils from the tomato dregs, mostly skin and seed, without using chemicals.

Most of the tomato waste — leftovers from processing tomatoes into ketchup, pasta sauces and canned goods — ends up in animal feed.

Scientists are hoping to develop natural ways of eliminating impurities from the tomato waste.

"We have for a long time known the nutritional benefits of eating tomatoes," EU Research Commissioner Philippe Busquin said in a statement. "With this project, we are set to maximize the potential of this juicy fruit."

The Commission is funding half the total cost — 425,000 euros (547,000 US dollars) — of the two-year research project. It is hoped that the new technique would also reduce tomato waste by 30 per cent. — MNA/Reuters

British veterans in Iraq to be studied for effects of war

LONDON, 16 Feb — Britain would carry out a biggest ever study of the physical and psychological impact of the Iraq war on thousands of British troops who fought in that Middle East country the British *Observer* newspaper reported Sunday.

Funded by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and carried out by a specialist unit at London's Kings College, the study would provide the first detailed picture of the human cost of modern combat for both the troops and their families the paper said.

Early studies have already suggested that the emerging cause of trauma could be concern over "friendly fire" incidents, with at least five British personnel accidentally killed by American forces in Iraq, the paper said.

But the MoD research would cover possible triggers for illnesses, from controversial vaccinations given to protect against germ warfare to the effects of depleted uranium used in allied weapons and stress factors related to individual soldiers' experiences, the paper added.

Professor Simon Wessely, who would

lead the study, told the paper that the immediate concerns were first, whether or not there would be a repeat of the kind of physical health problems experienced by soldiers who joined the 1991 Gulf War and second the increasing concerns about psychological issues.

Exhaustive medical research has produced no evidence of a recognizable Gulf War syndrome. But Wessely told the paper that it was clear that service in the Gulf had a particular effect on servicemen not experienced by those deployed elsewhere, for reasons that remain unclear.

According to the paper, troops who served in Afghanistan, Sierra Leone and the former Yugoslavia as well as Iraq would be among the 10,000 tracked over a decade to establish the long-term impact on health and well being.—MNA/Xinhua

HK pledges investment in education despite huge deficit

HONG KONG, 16 Feb — A Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government spokesman for the Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) said Sunday that the government regarded education as an important investment to Hong Kong's long-term development and this commitment was beyond question despite the tight financial situation.

In response to Press inquiries, he said "between 1996/97 and 2003/04, the recurrent expenditure on education has risen by 46 per cent to 49.3 billion HK dollars (6.32 billion US dollars). The increase in the expenditure amounted to 61 per cent if non-recurrent expenditure was also taken into account".

"We will continue to make investments in education, including a plan to launch a study on small class teaching in 40 schools in the next school year. Through the study, we can gather more information and evidence on whether and how to promote

the teaching strategy step by step when the financial situation warrants."

"In addition, the government has accepted the Education Commission's proposal to change the academic structure to three-year junior secondary, three-year senior secondary and four-year university. The EMB will launch a public consultation next month to seek views on the implementation timetable and financial arrangements, and will adopt a pragmatic approach to implementing the changes as soon as possible."

MNA/Xinhua

Mitsubishi Motors sees record sales in China in 2003

BEIJING, 16 Feb — Japan's fourth-largest carmaker Mitsubishi doubled its 2003 sales in China to sell a record 145,235 vehicles last year.

Sales rose by 106.1 per cent from 2002 with sports utility vehicles (SUVs) leading the way, company figures show.

Sales of the Pajero, including both the imported and locally-produced Pajero Sport, exceeded 11,400 units,

while the Liebao SUV zstood at almost 30,000 units.

Since unveiling the Lioncel sedan with local partner Southeast Motors last year, Mitsubishi has expanded its China range by introducing the Outlander CUV (car-based utility vehi-

cle) produced with Beijing Jeep, a joint venture between Beijing Automotive Industry Holding Corp and Mitsubishi's biggest shareholder, German-US DaimlerChrysler AG, last month.

MNA/Xinhua



The Senate Intelligence Committee has decided to expand its investigation into prewar intelligence on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction to determine whether statements made by US officials were supported by the underlying information. File photo shows a US marine in the desert in southern Iraq recently.—INTERNET



US army investigators survey the scene in front of the bombed Iraqi army recruitment centre in Baghdad on 11 Feb, 2004. A suicide car bombing killed 36 people.—INTERNET

Turkish straits reopen as weather conditions ease

ANKARA, 16 Feb — Turkey's Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits reopened to maritime traffic on Saturday after blizzards battered the key oil shipping route for two consecutive days.

A maritime official said ships were heading north through the Bosphorus towards the Black Sea and that traffic in the other direction would resume at 1430 GMT. The Dardanelles Straits, south of the Sea of Marmara, were fully open.

The two straits are the outlet to the world's oceans for Black Sea states. In normal conditions some 2.5 million barrels of Russian oil pass through the straits each day, but disruption by poor weather is common in the winter months.

A total of 42 tankers had been awaiting transit at the entrances to the two straits on Friday.

Since the blizzards began on Thursday, two ships have sunk and two have run aground in rough seas near Istanbul, Turkey's sprawling commercial capital.

Coast Guard officials said rescue workers were continu-

ing their search for 20 crew missing after their Cambodian-flagged ship *Hera*, loaded with coal, sank 7.5 miles from the Bosphorus Strait around noon on Friday.

"The rescue effort is continuing both by sea and by air, but we have no results for now," said one official.

Neighbouring Bulgaria said on Saturday that 17 of the people on the *Hera* had been its nationals. A Bulgarian Foreign Ministry spokesman said Turkish coastal authorities had so far found only a broken raft and a safety belt.

"I am sorry I cannot pass on good news, but there is still a chance the search will give some positive result," he said. Much of Turkey remained blanketed with snow on Saturday but conditions had generally eased and flights, badly disrupted by the weather, were slowly returning to normal, officials said.

MNA/Reuters

French nuclear-powered carrier to jointly exercise with India

NEW DELHI, 16 Feb — Intending to raise its military engagement with India, France will field its nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, *Charles de Gaulle*, and a SNA-type nuclear submarine in the next round of joint naval exercise, the *Hindustan Times* reported Saturday.

The 38,000-ton *Charles de Gaulle*, with *Rafale M Fighter* and *E-20* early warning aircraft on board and the accompanying naval task force, will steam into the Indian Ocean region in April.

The joint exercise, code named the Varuna series, will take place off the coast of Goa, south India, sources at the naval headquarters were quoted as saying.

"The two sides will raise the level of manoeuvres in anti-submarine warfare and anti-air warfare over what was practised on previous occasions," a naval officer said.

This is the first time that France will field nuclear-powered vessels in exercises with India. —MNA/Xinhua

Spanish police seize five tons of cocaine on ship

MADRID, 16 Feb — Spanish police have seized a fishing boat carrying five tons of cocaine in international waters and arrested all seven members of the Colombian crew, the government said on Friday.

Police also arrested five Spanish nationals and one woman from the Dominican Republic in northwest Spain this week in a crackdown on the same international drugs-trafficking ring.

A government statement said the cocaine seized on

Thursday aboard the *Lugo*, a Belize-flagged ship, was bound for Spain and had come from a Colombian drug cartel connected to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia or FARC, a Marxist-inspired guerilla army.

Proceeds from Colombia's drugs trade have fuelled

the 17,000-strong FARC's war against the Colombian state, which has lasted for four decades.

Spanish police had been investigating the drugs-trafficking ring since September and do not exclude making further arrests, the statement said. —MNA/Reuters

Traditional festival of sea-friendly people

Tin Than Yu (Myanma Travels and Tours)

Salone nationals live between 9° 40' and 13° 30' latitude and between 97° 20' and 98° 40' longitude. They can be found in Elphinstone, Ross (Donkama Creek), Lampi, Nyanr and St Matthew Islands and they also live on islands near Kawthoung Island, Katan Island, Paletaw, Meesein Island and Wah Islands. A few live in Mali island in Dawei, King Island and jetty on Myeik Beach.

Although Salone nationals feared pirates in the past, they are now safe due to the efforts of the government. As they live along the beaches, they live on the sea. They are proficient in swimming and diving. Diving in the sea, they catch fish, prawn, sea leech and green snail (something used for making beautiful lamp shade) and earn their living by selling them.

It is their custom that Salone nationals live on the beaches near the sea, using the boat made of cane called *Kavan* as their home. Their boats cannot sink easily because they are made of cane. The roof of the boat is made of thatch.

There are a few clothes and some pots for cooking in a Salone family. Every family usually raises at least a dog. During the rainy season, they do not go to the stormy sea. They are back on the beach and build houses on the beach and live there in the rainy season. The posts of their house are long. Salone families live together in unity, sharing food. After the rainy season, the families leave the beach for the sea in boats. They allow other families to stay in the house they have built. If the boat is damaged, Salone nationals live in other boats of others nearby before rebuilding a new one.

They are contented with food they have gathered. Salone nationals are monogamists. There is a practice of courting in their youth. A young man makes proposal of marriage through a go-between, using betel leaf. If the parents of the bride accept the betel leaf proposed, it is assumed that they agree to the proposal. After that the bride lives with the bridegroom in his boat. They begin to establish their separate family life after they have had the first child.

For daily food, men catch fish in the sea with a harpoon. They search food by diving and earn their living by selling what they get from the sea. Women get wages by selling oyster.

Salone nationals hand down their own traditional

tales, songs, nursery rhymes and customs to their posterity by word of mouth. Male and female Salone nationals sing nursery rhymes in lead and chorus especially in free night-time.

There were some researchers who carried out research on the life-style of Salone national race. From 1974 to date, a Kayin national linguist Naw Hse Phaw from Yangon University has been living together with Salones in Salone region and invented Salone language that consists of 22 letters based on Myanmar language. Now, Salones use their own language. Up to now, she still teaches Salone language to the children in Thayaw Thaphangyi Village, Done Pearl Awasalone Inland and Lampi Inland.

Salones are greatly pleased to live in a traditional way and they preserve this tradition. They firmly believe that the preservation of their tradition is better than wealth and riches. They do not hope for much progress and wealth. They stick to their present life-style and live on the food they have. They strictly preserve their traditions and life-style throughout centuries and so some think that Salones are far behind the world. It can be assumed that they can hold a hard and rough life with the use of their extraordinary skills and resistance. They have preserved their traditions and life-style since many centuries ago. And they prefer their life-style to that of other peoples. Their utter contentment and preservation of traditions is really amazing and they are worthy of highest praise. It is a worth-taking lesson for the world people. Now, under the patronage of the Government and with the arrangements of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism in cooperation with the officials of Taninthayi Division, the first Salone Traditional Festival 2004 or Sea Gypsy Festival is being held on a grand scale at Ma Kyone Galet Village on the other side of Lampi Island, Su-nge Barlaing Village-tract, Kawthoung Township, from 14 to 17 February. The visitors can easily and conveniently go to the festival by air, by car or by boat thanks to the active and warm help of responsible persons. Therefore, the visitors can now observe the life-style of the Salone nationals and enjoy scenic natural beauties of the seaside and archipelago in the south of Myanmar.

Translation: NY + MS
Kyemon: 16-2-2004

People's Desire

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

Efficient use of electricity

- * Use daylight as the main source of light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
- * Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp everyday by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

Efficient use of fuel

- * Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
- * Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US\$ 5.5 million in a year
- * The amount, US \$ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased

Union Day Exhibition concludes

YANGON, 16 Feb — The 57th Anniversary Union Day Exhibition, organized by the 57th Anniversary Union Day Exhibition Subcommittee, continued for last day today from 9 am to 5 pm at Tatmadaw Convention Hall.

It was visited by members of the Union Solidarity and Develop-

ment Association, monks, students and general public totalling 3089.

Students enthusiastically participated in computer quiz today, and visitors purchased a lot of books from Sarpay Beikman book shop of the News and Periodicals Enterprise being opened at the exhibition. — MNA

Prizes presented to winners in Myanmar Open Golf tournament

YANGON, 16 Feb — The fourth day 18-hole round of Myanmar Open Golf Tournament, organized by

MPGA and Asian Tour and sponsored by Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd took place at Yangon Golf Club in Danyingon here yesterday morning, and a prize presentation ceremony was held at the same venue in the evening.

Present at the ceremony were Myanmar Olympic Committee Chairman Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint

and officials, MPGA and MGF President Maj-Gen Win Hlaing, MGF General Secretary U Aung Kyi and executives, Managing Director of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd Mr Arend Ng and officials, guests and fans.

First, Tournament Director Mr Wanchai Meechai spoke words of thanks. Mr Arend Ng presented a souvenir for MPGA and MGF to Maj-Gen Win Hlaing, who also presented a gift for Yangon Golf Club to Secretary U Aye Cho.

Maj-Gen Win Hlaing presented the Silver Plate award to Aung Aung Kyaw who stood first in amateur

level tournament and Crystal Trophy to Best Myanmar Player Aung Win.

Next, winners were presented US\$ 500 by Ortagon, other prizes by MAI Air Line, Sedona Hotel and Dagon Beer. Yangon Golf Club Secretary U Aye Cho presented US\$ 300 by Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd to Aung Win.

Maj-Gen Win Hlaing presented prizes to Thongchai Jaidee of Thailand who stood first, Andrew Pitts of the United States who stood second and Unho Park of Australia who stood third. Mr Arend Ng also presented a

cheque as a cash award to Thongchai Jaidee. After the ceremony, Maj-Gen Win Hlaing and officials had a souvenir photo taken together with golfers.

At Myanmar Open 2004, Thongchai Jaidee of Thailand, the first prize winner, was awarded US\$ 32300; Andrew Pitts of the United States, the second, US\$ 22260; Unho Park of Australia, the third, US\$ 12400; Aung Win (YCDC) US\$ 4230; Kyi Hla Han US\$ 1980; Soe Kyaw Naing US\$ 550; Win Htwe Hlaing US\$ 285.18; and Yin Htwe US\$ 177.77.

MNA



Maj-Gen Win Hlaing presents first prize to Thongchai Jaidee of Thailand. — MGF



Mr Arend Ng of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar presents first prize to Thongchai Jaidee. — MGF

An official of Falcon Super Lubricants presenting gifts to a sales agent at the mid-year sales and 10th anniversary of the company. The ceremony was held at Grand Plaza Park Royal Hotel in Yangon on 12 February. H



Opportunities created...

(from page 1)

Nowadays, mutual trust and understanding among the national brethren has been fostered with the prevalence of peace and tranquillity in the whole Union including Kachin State. In addition, unprecedented national reconsolidation has been forged and Kachin State has enjoyed cent per cent peace and tranquillity.

With the prevalence of peace and tranquillity in Kachin State, the government has designated Myitkyina and Bhamo regions as special development regions and is making all-out efforts for development of economic, health, education and transport sectors in Kachin State. There was only Myitkyina degree college in Kachin State in 1988 and there are now Myitkyina university, Bhamo degree college, Myitkyina education college, Myitkyina government technological college and Myitkyina government computer college, Bhamo government computer college and Bhamo government technological college totalling seven.

Mohnyin region of Kachin State is densely populated and it is also a region where emphasis is being placed on agriculture. Therefore, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance to the effect that priority is to be given to human resources development in Mohnyin region.

That is why degree college and government technical institute have emerged in Mohnyin region. To be brief, there are one university, seven degree colleges and colleges and one institute in Kachin State. In the whole nation, there were 32

universities and colleges in 1988 and there are now 154 universities, degree colleges and colleges with about 900,000 students.

The government created the opportunities to pursue the higher education in the states and divisions to meet the demand of the growing number of students in their pursuit of higher learning in the regions. In other words, the government opened more universities and colleges in the states and divisions after designating the 24-development zones. Likewise, universities and colleges were opened in highly populated and strategic Myingyan and Mohnyin regions.

Opportunities were created for those who are willing to pursue higher education within their reach with the emergence of universities and colleges in the region. This will help produce educated persons capable of safeguarding peace and tranquillity in the region.

The world is now on the path leading to the Knowledge Age and every nation is building and transforming its education system to keep pace with changes and developments. In the process, highly qualified human resources are to be produced to be able to apply modern technology.

Therefore, more universities and colleges have been opened in the states and divisions to enable everyone there to pursue the higher learning. Mohnyin degree college is to strive not only in form but also in essence for successful realization of the long-term objectives of the State.

Needs were attended to the basic education sector

to meet the demand of the higher education in Kachin State. There were 30 high schools in the past and there are now 46 high schools, nine high schools (branch) and 15 affiliated high schools while the number of middle schools has increased from 68 to 82 and the number of primary schools from 1080 to 1184 with 114 post-primary schools.

In the communication and information sector, there were 12 telephone exchanges in the past and there are now 38 telephone exchanges, 5 satellite stations, 13 microwaves, 12 rural communication centres and 18 TV retransmission stations in Kachin State.

Thus, Mohnyin degree college opened with the aim of producing highly qualified human resources needed for the State and the region is to strive for producing intellectuals and intelligentsia and for successful realization of the national objectives laid down by the State.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe spoke. He said the groundbreaking ceremony for the college was held on 5 June 2003. The college was opened on 18 December 2003. He said the government is fulfilling the needs of the education sector, the most basic and strong force for development of the nation.

He said the teachers are to make efforts for development of the education sector and the students are to learn their respective subjects to be brilliant.

Deputy Minister U Myo Nyunt said in accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe the college was opened to produce qualified human resources in the region. He urged the faculty members to teach their students to become intellectuals who will serve the interest of the State and its people. They themselves are to continue their studies as constant learners.

Ma Nan Lwin Lwin



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects a book show at Mohnyin Degree College. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win plants a tree to mark the opening of Mohnyin Degree College. — MNA

Aye, Geography Major students, thanked the government for construction of the

college. Managing Director of Ever Green Co Ltd U Than Shwe presented K 20 million for education funds of the college to the Secretary-1.

The Secretary-1 handed over the donation to Principal U Than Nyunt.

The Principal presented gifts to the Secretary-1, the commander and party.

The Secretary-1 and party inspected booths of IT companies and the book show.

They posed for photos together with local people in front of the main building.

The main building is 385 feet long and 228 feet wide and it includes 17 lecture halls, a language lab, two laboratories, a library, two offices, a theatre and multi-purpose hall.

Twelve specializations— eight major subjects and four minor ones— are available at the college where altogether 343 students are studying.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and party pose for photo together with faculties and students in front of Mohnyin Degree College. — MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects Kadonkani Station Hospital in Bogale Township. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than...

(from page 16)

Only when there is increase in per capita income will there be national development, he pointed out. Ayeyawady Division is the one that produces paddy most in the country and last year, 3.4 million acres of land were put under monsoon paddy. As 1.6 million acres of land will be put under summer paddy efforts are to be made to meet the target.

In Ayeyawady Division, over 1.3 million acres of land can be put under beans and pulses and emphasis should be placed on extended cultivation of edible oil crops. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also spoke of the need to grow Thitseint (bellaric myrobalan) as edible oil crops and pepper and raising local strain chicken.

He also urged the service personnel to strive with goodwill for regional development.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and the commander greeted those present.

Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to Kyaunghtauk camp in Meinmahlakun reserved forest in Bogale Township. They were welcomed there by officials

of Forest Department.

Director U San Lwin of the department and an official reported to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party on type of forest on Meinmahlakun, plants and herbal seen in the area, forest conservation, wild animals, birds seen in mangrove forest areas, migrant birds and breeding of crocodylus porosus, a species of crocodile thought to be on the verge of extinction. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave necessary instructions.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected breeding of crocodylus porosus.

Natural Environs and Wild animals Conservation Branch under Forest Department designated Meinmahlakun as a reserved forest in 1994 and measures have been taken for conservation of mangrove forest in delta region and promoting eco-tourism. At present, 47 crocodylus porosus are being raised in Kyaunghtauk and Hsaungchaung Camps. During the period from 1999 to 2003, altogether 93 crocodylus porosus were released for reproduction.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at No 1 Mangrove

YANGON, 16 Feb— The 58th anniversary of Myanma Radio and Television of the Ministry of Information was observed at studio-A of MRTV this afternoon, attended by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

Also present were Deputy Ministers for Information U Thein Sein and Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Director-General of MRTV U Khin Maung Htay, managing directors and directors-general of enterprises and departments under the ministry and officials.

In his address, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said observance of the anniversary brings about unity in the workplace, friendship

among the service personnel and success in their work.

He said staffs are to review how they have carried out the tasks for realization of the targets for the previous years and strong and weak points. He spoke of the need to work hard for more progress after laying down the targets in the coming year.

He said holding of such ceremony aims at arousing the sense to work hard and compete in unity in the department by presenting prizes to those who are worthy of receiving prizes.

He called on personnel of the ministry to participate in implementation of the seven-point future pro-

gramme of the State in their respective roles. He stressed the need to earn more income and practise thrift. He called for progress in related work, telecommunications development and organizing the people to know the future programme and policy of the State and participation in the tasks through the media. He spoke at length on organizing the people to realize the success of the seven-point future programme through the media, carrying out the tasks for media cover in the nation including border areas, penetration of the media abroad, making efforts for the media to become sharp and dynamic and accelerate

participation in the related work in 2004 in accord with the guidance of the Head of State.

He said the service personnel are to undertake tasks of earning more income and exercise thrift as the main duties for 2004.

Next, the minister presented prizes to Assistant Director U Kan Myint and Staff Officers (Production) Daw Yin Yin Hla, U San Win and Daw Thitagu Zeya and Daw H P Ywe Sai, Daw Khin Sanda Myint, Daw Wai Wai Hlaing and U Thein Htut who won awards in various courses. Deputy Minister U Thein Sein and Director-General U Khin Maung Htay also presented prizes to service personnel.

MNA



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan addresses the 58th anniversary of Myanma Radio and Television. —MNA

Park of Forest Department in Byonmywekyun in Bogale Township.

At the briefing hall of the camp, officials reported on measures taken for conservation of mangrove forest. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on mangrove forest conservation and action to be taken against those who indiscriminately fell trees.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected saplings of mangrove trees and viewed round the mangrove forest.

About 1.2 million mangrove trees are grown in the Mangrove Park of Byonmywekyun.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at Kadonkani Village in the afternoon and they paid

homage to Pylonchantha Pagoda. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than donated cash for the pagoda through the pagoda board of trustees.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party, next, proceeded to the station hospital in the village. Responsible personnel reported to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party on providing health care service to patients and strength of staff. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than attended to the needs. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than asked after the patients and the commander made cash donations for the patients.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than donated K 100,000 and the chairman of Pyapon District Peace and Development Council K 50,000 to the funds of the

hospital.

At Basic Education High School in the village, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected computer room and language lab.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than donated K 150,000 for the students who are going to sit matriculation examination in Bogale and the commander K 50,000 for four primary schools in the village through the headmaster.

Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party viewed round the development of the village and cordially greeted local people.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with departmental officials, local authorities and members of

social organizations at the office of Village Peace and Development Council.

First, Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing made a speech saying that they were there to provide necessary assistance for regional development. If efforts are being made unitedly the region will develop more, he said. He also pledged that he will provide assistance as much as he can.

In his speech, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that the government is making all-out efforts for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. To narrow the development gap between urban and rural areas, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has laid down the five rural development tasks namely better transportation in rural areas, ensuring potable water and water for agricultural purpose, raising education standard of rural people, providing better health care services and promoting economy of rural people.

Rural people are needed to participate in the tasks, he noted. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also urged the local people to raise chicken on a manageable scale and to make the village green and pleasant.

They spent the night in Kadonkani village.

MNA



Secretary of NCCC Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan. (News page 16) — MNA



Chairman of NCCMC Maj-Gen Lun Maung. (News page 16) — MNA



Chairman of NCCWC U Aung Toe. (News page 16) — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe addresses Yangon Division Health Committee meeting. — MNA

MoU Consultation Meeting...

(from page 16)

In doing so, the Ministry of Health is closely collaborating with UN agencies, local and international NGOs, and other partners in the country as well. As a result, Myanmar was able to declare itself free from Leprosy and Polio in 2003. These achievements clearly indicate the success of an integrated and well coordinated effort involving communities, NGOs, public and private sectors as well as international agencies.

Moreover, another outstanding achievement of proactive measures in disease prevention aspect during 2003 was the success achieved in the "First Exhibition on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Activi-

ties" at the national level that was held in Yangon during November 2003. The exhibition was attended by nearly eighty thousand individuals from various walks of life during a 10-day period, and participated not only by the Ministry of Health, but also related Ministries, UN Agencies, and National as well as International NGOs. In fact, this: the exhibition and the success, is the first of its kind in Myanmar. There has been numerous exhibitions on other topics at the national level in the past. In order to strengthen HIV/AIDS prevention and control activities in the States, Divisions, Districts, and township levels, National AIDS/STD Control Programme

and its 40 AIDS/STD teams have been conducting advocacy meetings using various types and forms of media channels. Provision and dissemination of health educational messages by using general population approach and targeted population approach is also one of the major activities. Educational activities are conducted in collaboration with other related Ministries such as, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labour, UN Agencies, and NGOs.

As we all know provision of better health care services need more resources. In attempting to mobilize external resources so as to fill the resource gap, CCM Myanmar had submitted proposals to the GFATM for the AIDS, TB and Malaria — the top three priority diseases in the country. Proposal for the TB component was approved in the second round, and Malaria as well as HIV components were approved in the third round. Being fully aware of the fact that communicable diseases know no boundaries, Myanmar has been collectively fighting against the communicable diseases with neighbouring countries with the aim to enhance better health collaboration in order to improve health of the border areas with emphasis on reduction of morbidity and mortality

from Malaria, HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis.

One of the breakthrough events in provision of care for the PLWHA is the WHO strategy of 3 by 5. The inclusion of topic addressing the incorporating of this strategy to cover mobile population in the meeting agenda is very much relevant for us since we all are preparing to implement the WHO's 3 by 5 initiatives in our countries.

In conclusion, I would like to thank member countries for allowing us to host such an important meeting in Myanmar, and UNDP for supporting this meeting. I am sure the discussions and deliberations that come out during the meeting period will not only be fruitful and valuable for the efforts in reducing the HIV vulnerability particularly among the mobile populations, but also further strengthen the existing friendship among the participating countries. I also hope that all the participants will have a chance to observe the unique Myanmar culture and for those who are here for the first time, to do some sightseeing as well. I wish you all a pleasant and enjoyable stay in Myanmar.

Next, WHO Resident Representative Dr Agostino Borra spoke.

The meeting continues until 17 February. —MNA

Narcotics seized

YANGON, 16 Feb — A combined team comprising members of local intelligence unit and Bhama Special Anti-drug Squad, acting on information, stopped and searched a motorbike with number plates Ya/72821 on the jungle street linking between Namhsanyan Village and Kalawgui Village on the border between Momaik Township and Waimaw Township on 15 January and arrested driver Lawaw, son of U Marit Gam of Marangun Village, Momaik Township, together with 147 grams of heroin from his backpack. In connection with the case, Waimaw Police Station is taking action against him under section 15/19(A) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Similarly, a combined team comprising members of

local intelligence unit, Hpa-an Special Anti-drug Squad and local battalion, acting on information, searched the house of Tun Tun Naing and Ma Soe Soe Naing of Yadana Theinkha Street in Ward-4, Phayathonzu, on 26 January and seized 1830 stimulant tablets bearing WY letters.

In connection with the case, Phayathonzu Police Station is taking action against Tun Tun Naing, son of U Mya San, Ma Soe Soe Naing (a) Kadonma, daughter of U Mya Hlaing, and their accomplices Ma Nge, daughter of U Thadu Mu of Myainggon Village in Mudon, and Yan Maung (a) Katpli, son of U Win Maung of Dhammayeiktha Street in Phayathonesu (1) Ward, under section 15/19(A)/21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. —MNA

Cash donation for State Pariyatti Sasana University on 18 Feb

YANGON, 16 Feb — A cash-donation ceremony for K 100 million-fund for State Pariyatti Sasana Uni-

versity (Yangon) will be held at 2 pm on 18 February instead of 19 February, it is learnt. — MNA

Work coordination meeting on prevention of avian flu held

YANGON, 17 Feb — The Yangon Division Health Committee held its work coordination meeting on prevention of avian flu at the meeting hall of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council this afternoon, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Patron of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association Supervisory Committee Daw Khin Thet Htay.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Health Committee Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myint Kyi and committee members, the president of Yangon Division MCWASC and members, the chairmen of the District Peace and Development Councils, heads of District and Township Health De-

partments, the presidents of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and members and guests.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe made a speech. Next, Secretary of Yangon Division Health Committee Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint explained the purpose of holding the meeting and the first session of the meeting ended.

Next, the second session of the meeting followed. Head of Yangon Division Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Dr Ohn Kyaw discussed reported preventative measures against the deadly disease while Deputy Director Dr Soe Lwin Nyein of Health Department explained measures to be taken for health in preventing the bird flu.

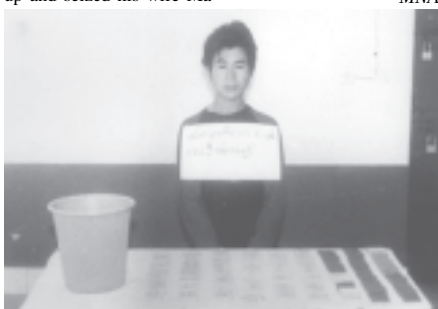
This was followed by a general round of discussions.

MNA

PBANRDA Ministry opens courses

YANGON, 16 Feb — Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs opened special financial rules course No 15 and rural planning course No 6 at its central training school in Dagon Myothit Township (North)

here today. Deputy Minister for PBANRDA Brig-Gen Than Tun delivered an address. Sixty trainees are attending the special financial rules course and 30 are attending the rural planning course. Both are six-week courses. — MNA



Wan Lauk together with 17980 stimulant tablets. — MNA



Tom Wu and Ma Kyaung Hlaing, together with 58 grams of heroin and 165 stimulant tablets. — MNA



Lawaw seen together with motorbike and seized drugs.

MNA



Four drug traffickers including Tun Tun Naing, together with seized drugs. — MNA

59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Objectives

- To strive hand in hand with the people for successful realization of the State's seven-point policy programme.
- To crush internal and external destructive elements hindering the stability and progress of the State through people's militia strategy
- To implement border area development tasks and the five rural development tasks hand in hand with the entire people
- To build up a strong and efficient Tatmadaw to uphold 'Our Three Main National Causes'

Scientists link schizophrenia with lead exposure

SEATTLE, 16 Feb — Scientists said recently they have found a link between pregnant women's exposure to lead and the development years later of schizophrenia in their children.

A research team, led by Dr. Ezra Susser of Columbia University in New York, released its finding in a report presented here at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

It is the first time that any environmental toxin has been related to the later risk of schizophrenia, Susser said.

The discovery was based on a study of blood samples taken from pregnant women in the 1960s, when lead was still widely used in

vehicle fuel.

People whose mothers were exposed to high levels of the metal in exhaust fumes were more than twice as likely to develop schizophrenia as adults.

Susser believes that lead may interfere with the growth of nerve cells in the baby's brain during the developmental period, when brain cells make frequent connections to one another.

He said his studies suggested that all levels of lead exposure are dangerous for unborn children.

"There is no level at which lead is safe. We get to lower and lower points in our studies and there seems to be no level that will not have a prenatal effect," he said. — MNA/Xinhua

Another major fire kills at least 39 people in east China

HANGZHOU, 16 Feb — At least 39 people were killed and four others injured by a temple fire in Haining City of east China's Zhejiang Province, only three hours after a blaze that killed 51 in northeast China, local officials said.

The fire at a temple at the city's Wufeng Village of Huangwan Town occurred at about 2.15 pm.

The fire was extinguished about half an hour later at 2.45 pm, police said.

By Press time, 39 bodies had been found and four injured people were rescued.

Senior officials including provincial Governor Lu Zushan, vice-governors Zhang Mengjin and Wang Yongming, and director of the Zhejiang Province Department of Public Security Wang Huizhong had rushed to the scene to investigate and guide the rescue work.

The search for survivors and clean-up work still continue while the cause for the fire is under investigation.

MNA/Xinhua

Greece returning to normal after blizzard paralyzes transport

ATHENS, 16 Feb — Conditions in Greece were gradually returning to normal Saturday after the country was all but paralyzed by an unexpected blizzard over the past two days.

"Things are getting better," said caretaker Interior Minister Nikos Alivizatos, noting that the state apparatus, though not perfect, had reacted positively and "had helped in tackling the wave of bad weather which was the worst to hit the country in recent years."

Defence Minister Yannis Papantoniou highlighted the contribution of the Armed Forces in the battle against the bad weather conditions.

Papantoniou on Saturday visited military units working to open the Athens-Lamia motorway, removing snow, freeing trapped cars and providing all necessary assistance for people affected by the heaviest snow falls in decades.

"The country's Armed Forces, always present in every social or other crisis, have stood by the citizens once again and have provided considerable services," he said. But the effects of the bad weather are still being

felt in some islands, said Yiannis Georgakopoulos, chief of Civil Protection General Secretariat.

Power supplies have been restored in most areas, but some heavily-stricken regions from Agios Andreas to Loutsas are still facing problems.

Greece came to a standstill Thursday and Friday with the international airport in Athens closed, few buses on the streets and schools across the country shut.

Hundreds of people were trapped for hours in cars on the Athens-Thessaloniki Highway since late Thursday.

Emergency services, which were working around the clock, and soldiers in armoured personnel carriers helped get drivers out. Hospitals and clinics throughout the country were on alert.

Hundreds of villages across Greece were isolated because of blocked roads.

Authorities advised people to stay off the roads

as much as possible and to drive only with snow chains. Only cars using snow chains were able to drive down many thoroughfares.

The temperature in central Athens Friday dropped to five degrees below freezing and maximum temperatures did not exceed minus two degrees. It is Greece's coldest spell in the past 100 years, said Dimitris Ziakopoulos, head of forecasts at the National Meteorological Service.

A state of emergency was declared on Crete and all vehicles except for ambulances and other emergency vehicles were banned from the roads on the island.

Gavdos, an island on the southernmost tip of Europe, saw snow for the first time in 62 years, locals said.

— MNA/Xinhua

HK to promote environmental standard in public housing

HONG KONG, 16 Feb — Steering along its course of promoting environmental standard in the provision of public housing, Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA) published its fourth environmental report to underpin its firm commitment and vision towards a greater environmental sustainability.

Assistant Director of Housing (Procurement) Ada Fung, who is also the department's Green Manager, said that the report recognized the importance of the efforts made by the authority on sustainable development.

Apart from promoting healthy living, enhancing greater environmental awareness and developing green environment in public housing estates, the authority will also ensure that all relevant environmental legislation and regulations are

strictly implemented, she said.

The report, entitled "Meeting Environmental Challenges for a Sustainable Future", highlights the authority's environmental performance in 2002/03 as well as the way forward in the next four years.

"The report illustrates the principles adopted by the authority in the implementation of its environmental policy," Fung said. "The authority is also obliged to minimize environmental

impacts to residents and the public from the HA's operations," she said, noting that continual improvement on the implementation of an environmental management system would be sought.

"Environmental concerns will be addressed while incorporating new initiatives in our core businesses, including planning and designs, construction and demolition, marketing and estate management activities," she noted.

MNA/Xinhua

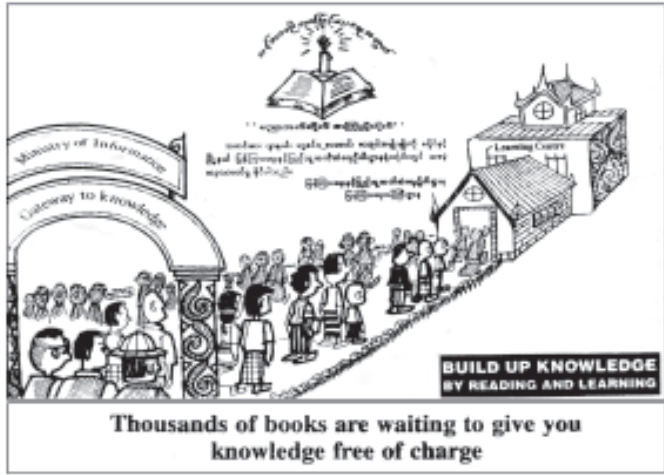


Unidentified members of the Johns Hopkins University archaeological team survey an excavated section that includes a group of round buildings on Jan 18, 2004, in Luxor, Egypt. The site, where the team has been working since early January, is part of the Temple of Goddess Mut. —INTERNET

လူတွင်ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်သော ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါကာကွယ်ရေး သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

- ၁။ ယခုအခါ အိမ်နီးချင်းနိုင်ငံများအပါအဝင် ကမ္ဘာ့နိုင်ငံအချို့၌ ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါများဖြစ်ပွားလျက်ရှိပါသည်။ ဤရောဂါသည် ဗိုင်းရပ်စ်ဖိုကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပွားပြီး ကြက်ငှက်များမှ တစ်ဆင့် လူများသို့ ကူးစက်နိုင်ခြင်းမှာ ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားစေနိုင်ပါသည်။
- ၂။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် ဖြစ်ပွားခြင်းမရှိသေးသော်လည်း ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ဝင်ရောက်မလာနိုင်ရေးအတွက် ကာကွယ်ထားရန် အထူးလိုအပ်လျက်ရှိပါသည်။
- ၃။ ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါဖြစ်စေသောဗိုင်းရပ်စ်ဖိုများသည် ဆောင်းနှင့်သွေးများ၊ ငှက်ရိုင်းများဖြစ်သောရေတွက်၊ ရေငှက်၊ ဇင်ယော်၊ ခိုအစရှိသော ငှက်များတွင် ရောဂါလက္ခဏာမပြဘဲ ရှိနေနိုင်ပြီး ငှက်တို့၏မစင်၊ အညစ်အကြေးမှတစ်ဆင့် မွေးမြူရေးကြက်၊ ဘဲ၊ ငှက်များသို့ ကူးစက်နိုင်ပါသည်။ မွေးမြူထားသော ကြက်ငှက်များသို့ရောဂါကူးစက်ပါက အချိန်တိုအတွင်း ချက်ချင်း ကြက်၊ ဘဲ၊ ငှက်များ ဖြုတ်ချွတ် ရောဂါကူးစက် သေဆုံးသွားနိုင်ပါသည်။ ဤကဲ့သို့ ကြက်ငှက်များ ဖြုတ်ချွတ်သေဆုံးမှု ဖြစ်ပွားပါက နီးစပ်ရာ မွေးမြူရေးနှင့် ကုသရေးဦးစီးဌာနသို့ အမြန်ဆုံး အကြောင်းကြားပြီး ညွှန်ကြားချက်အတိုင်း လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ရန် လိုအပ်ပါသည်။
- ၄။ ရောဂါဖြစ်နေသော ကြက်၊ ဘဲ၊ ငှက်များနှင့် အနီးကပ်ထိတွေ့နေသောသူများနှင့်ရောဂါကြောင့်သေဆုံးသွားသော ကြက်၊ ဘဲများကို ကိုင်တွယ်မိသူများထံသို့ အောက်ပါအတိုင်း ကူးစက်နိုင်ပါသည်။
 - (က) ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါဖြစ်နေသော ကြက်၊ ဘဲ၊ ငှက်များထံမှရောဂါဖိုတိုက်ရိုက်ကူးစက်ခြင်း
 - (ခ) ရောဂါဖြစ်နေသော ကြက်၊ ဘဲ၊ ငှက်တို့၏ မစင်များ၊ အညစ်အကြေးများကို လက်ဖြင့် ကိုင်တွယ်မိခြင်း
 - (ဂ) ရောဂါဖြင့် သေဆုံးသွားသော ကြက်၊ ဘဲ၊ ငှက်များနှင့် ရောဂါဖိုပါရှိနေသော ကြက်ဖြူတွက် ပစ္စည်းများကို ထိကိုင်ပြီး လက်မဆေးမီခြင်း စသည်တို့ကြောင့် ကူးစက်နိုင်ပါသည်။
- ၅။ လူများအား ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ကူးစက်ခြင်းမှ ကာကွယ်ရန်အတွက်
 - (က) ကြက်ဖြုတ်သားများသည် သတ်မှတ်ထားသော ဝတ်ရုံ၊ ခေါင်းစည်း၊ နှာခေါင်းစည်း၊ လက်အိတ်၊ လည်ရည်ဖိနပ်များ ဝတ်ဆင်ရန်
 - (ခ) မွေးမြူရေးမြူများအတွင်းသို့ မသက်ဆိုင်သူများ၊ ကလေးများ လုံးဝ ဝင်ရောက်မှုမပြုရန်
 - (ဂ) ကြက်၊ ဘဲ သယ်ဆောင်သူများ၊ ကြက်ကိုင်သူများ၊ ကြက်ခိုင်းလုပ်သားများ၊ ရောင်းသူများသည် ရောဂါကာကွယ်နိုင်သည့် လက်အိတ်၊ ဖိနပ်၊ အပူရန် ခါးစည်း စသည် သတ်မှတ်ထားသော ဝတ်စုံများ ဝတ်ဆင်ရန်
 - (ဃ) ကြက်၊ ဘဲများကို မကိုင်တွယ်မိနှင့်ကိုင်တွယ်ပြီး လက်ကိုဆပ်ပြာဖြင့် စင်ကြယ်စွာဆေးကြောရန် လိုအပ်ပါသည်။
- ၆။ ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားသောမွေးမြူရေးမြူနှင့် ထိတွေ့မှုရှိသည့် ကြက်ဖြုတ်သားများနှင့် အနီးကပ် ထိတွေ့နေထိုင်သူများတွင် တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါလက္ခဏာများ ပေါ်ပေါက်ပါက နီးစပ်ရာ ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနသို့ အကြောင်းကြားပြီး ညွှန်ကြားချက်အတိုင်း လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

မွေးမြူရေးနှင့်ရေလုပ်ငန်းဝန်ကြီးဌာနနှင့်ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



ADVERTISEMENTS

ချိပ်ပိတ်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ မြန်မာ့စက်မှုလက်မှုဗွဲ့ကြီးတို့တက်ရောက်မတီအနေဖြင့်၊ စက်မှုဇုန်များ၏ ဘတ်စ်ကားများနှင့် ကုန်တင်ထရပ်ကားများ ထုတ်လုပ်မှုတွင် အသုံးပြုရမည့် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ မော်တော်ယာဉ်စက်ပစ္စည်းအစိတ်အပိုင်းများ (Fully Reconditioned and Brand New) ကို နိုင်ငံခြားငွေအမေရိကန်ဒေါ်လာဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူလိုကြောင်း ကြေငြာအပ်ပါသည်။

အမှတ်စဉ် စက်ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအစည် အရေအတွက်

- (က) For Bus 281 Sets
- Engine with Transmission (NISSAN FE 6-185 HP/ FUSO 6D 15/HINO HO 7 C or Ho 7 D (Compressor Fitted)
 - Radiator, Front Axle, Rear Axle (Ratio 5.5:1), Servo Brake Complete Set, Propeller Shaft & Universal Joint, Power Steering Complete Set, Dash Board complete with Instrument Panel Set.
 - Makers must be FUSO or HINO or NISSAN or ISUZU.

- (ခ) For Trucks
- Engine with Transmission (NISSAN PF 290/ PF 380/ PE 6 TURBO INTERCOOLER/ RESONA) for
 - 2 Axle- 6 wheel, 4 x 2 Drive
 - Engine with Transmission (NISSAN PF 290/ PF 350/ PE 6 TURBO INTERCOOLER/ RESONA) for
 - 3 Axle- 10 wheel, 6 x 2 Drive 440 Sets
 - 3 Axle- 10 wheel, 6 x 4 Drive 50 Sets
 - 4 Axle- 12 wheel, 8 x 2 Drive 60 Sets
 - Radiator, Front Axle, Rear Axle (Ratio 5.5:1), Servo Brake Complete Set, Propeller Shaft & Universal Joint, Power Steering Complete Set, Dash Board complete with Instrument Panel Set, For each type of truck.
 - Follow Axle without crown set for 3 Axle- 10 wheel, 6 x 2 Drive
 - Makers must be FUSO or HINO or NISSAN or ISUZU.

၂။ တင်ဒါများကို ၂၇-၂-၂၀၀၄ ရက်နေ့၊ နေ့လည် (၁၂:၀၀) နာရီနောက်ဆုံးထား၍ အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ လိပ်စာအတိုင်း ပေးသွင်းရပါမည်။

အတွင်းရေးမှူး
မြန်မာ့စက်မှုလက်မှုဗွဲ့ကြီးတို့တက်ရောက်မတီ
အမှတ် (၁)စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊
အမှတ်- ၁၉၂၊ ကမ္ဘာအေးဘုရားလမ်း၊
ဗဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။

၃။ သိရှိလိုသည့်အချက်များရှိပါက မြန်မာ့စက်မှုလက်မှုဗွဲ့ကြီးတို့တက်ရောက်မတီရုံးအဖွဲ့၊ ဖုန်း-၅၆၆၀၆၃၊ ၅၆၆၂၆၂၊ ၅၆၆၂၆၃ တို့သို့ ဆက်သွယ်ရစမ်းမေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာ့စက်မှုလက်မှုဗွဲ့ကြီးတို့တက်ရောက်မတီ

Earthquakes in northern Pakistan kill 12

ISLAMABAD, 16 Feb — At least 12 people were killed and 30 others injured when two moderate earthquakes jolted northern Pakistan on Saturday, local police said.

The earthquake measuring 5.7 on the Richter Scale was centred 200 kilometres

northeast of Peshawar, capital of the North-West Frontier Province and it hit most of the northern Pakistan at 3:20 pm (1020 GMT), Farhan Hayat of the country's seismic centre told Xinhua.

MNA/Xinhua

ပြည်တွင်းပြင်ပကိုးကားပေးပါ

Nigeria to cut 52% of imported petroleum products

ABUJA, 16 Feb — Nigeria will cut 52 per cent of imported petroleum products when the country's oil refineries resume operation by May, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reported Friday.

The NAN quoted Oluwole Oluye, executive secretary of Nigeria's Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA), as saying that problems associated with refineries were

being tackled to put them back on stream by May.

Oluye made the remarks when receiving a delegation of the National Association of Road Transport Owners (NARTO), saying that importation of petroleum products would be cut down to 12 million litres per day from the current 25 million litres by May when the four oil refineries resumed operations.

The PPPRA head acknowledged that "bottle-necks" at the depots of the state-run Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation across the country had contributed to the hike in the pump price of finished oil products.

He noted that some people in the distribution chain,

especially at the depots, charged illegal tolls which forced marketers to push up pump prices.

Earlier, Executive Secretary of NARTO E. B. Kanawa appealed to the PPPRA to review the freight rate of products across the country, especially bridging cost. Kanawa said the review would enable transporters to take care of their operating costs and get "adequate returns on investments".

Hailing the recent deregulation of the downstream sector of the petroleum industry as the only way to ensure efficient products supply and distribution, he said efforts by transporters to ensure its success were being hampered by marketers. —MNA/Xinhua

Impassable roads leave one million Angolans without food aid

LUANDA, 16 Feb — The United Nations Aid Coordination Office (OCHA) said here Friday that an estimated 1.2 million Angolans were left without humanitarian aid over the recent two weeks because of impassable rain-wrecked roads and the threat of landmines.

In a report covering the January 26-February 8 period, OCHA said, "Several non-governmental aid organizations were forced to temporarily suspend humanitarian operations or withdraw personnel because of access problems."

It estimated that 1.2 million needy people had been left without food and other aid during that time.

The OCHA said recent heavy rains, downed bridges and the prevalent threat of landmines were the prime causes for the suspension of aid programmes.

The report expressed "great concern" over what it said was diversion of food aid from nutrition centres in central Huambo Province, which recently passed from the World Food Programme to Luanda's administration.

In one case, in the town of Bailundo, food aid destined for the nutrition centre, serving the most severely undernourished, had been rerouted to the local hospital, OCHA said.

MNA/Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV KOTA MUTIARA VOY NO (081)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA MUTIARA Voy No (081) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17-2-04 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.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

စားပွဲနှင့် ကုလားထိုင်များငှားရန်

အလှူ၊ ထိမ်းမြားမှု၊ အစည်းအဝေး အခမ်းအနားများတွင် ခေတ်မီ ပလတ်စတစ်စားပွဲနှင့် ကုလားထိုင်များ ရောင်းချသက်သာစွာဖြင့် ငှားရမ်းနေပါသည်။

ခုံနံ ၇၁၀ ခု ခြေခံ ၄၁၀ ခု နာရီအတွင်း၊ စက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

အမှတ် ၂၂၀-သိမ်မြောက်လမ်း၊ ဗိုလ်တောင်မြို့နယ်၊
ရန်-၂၄၆၂၀၊ ၂၄၆၂၁၊ ၂၄၆၂၂

(၇) (၈) (၉) (၁၀) စာသင်သားများအတွက်
သင်ရိုးညွှန်းတမ်းနှင့်အညီ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ သင်ခန်းစာများပါရှိပါသည်။



အတွဲ (၅) အမှတ် (၄၈) ဖြန့်ချိလိုက်ပါပြီ

သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်တိုက်၊ စာပေဗိမာန်စာအုပ်တိုက်နှင့်သတင်းစာ ကိုယ်စားလှယ်များထံတွင် လက်လီဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

The New Light of Myanmar

အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ တိုးတက်လေ့ကျင့်ရန် ဂျူနီယာလီဒါကို ဖတ်ကြည့်ပါ။
Read Junior Leader to improve your English.

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

ပုံနှိပ်စရိတ်နှင့်စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်းတွင် အသုံးပြုရန်
လိုအပ်သော ချဲ့သုံးစက်များဝယ်ယူရန် တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့် စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေး လုပ်ငန်းတွင် အသုံးပြုရန်လိုအပ်သော အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ ချဲ့သုံးစက်ပစ္စည်းများကို ဝယ်ယူလိုပါသည်။

Item	Description	Qty
(1.)	30 KVA/40 KVA Generating Set	2 Nos
(2.)	Computer (With C.D Writer)	4 Nos
	- Pentium 4-2.4/2.66 GH Processor	
	- 128 MB DDR RAM 40 GB Hard Disk	
	- AGP 32 MB 3D 15" SVGA Digital Color Monitor PS/2 Mouse. PS/2 Key Board	
	52xCD Rom Drive 800 W Multimedia Speaker	
(3.)	Printer (Colour)	4 Nos
(4.)	Flatbed Scanner	1 No
(5.)	Air Conditioner (Window Type) (1.5HP)	25 Nos
(6.)	Air Conditioner (Split Type) (1.5HP)	6 Nos
(7.)	Pallet Truck (Hydraulic Type)	3 Nos
(8.)	Type Writer (Myanmar) 18"	3 Nos

၂။ တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူသည့် မှုကို (၂၇-၂-၂၀၀၄)ရက် (၁၆:၃၀) နာရီတွင်ပိတ်ပါမည်။

၃။ တင်ဒါပုံစံနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို အောက်ပါလိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက်ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

ပြည်တွင်း/ပြည်ပ ပစ္စည်းများဝယ်ယူရေးနှင့် ကျွဲရောင်းချရေးကော်မတီ
ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
အမှတ် ၂၂၀၊ သိမ်မြောက်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
ဖုန်း-၂၄၆၂၀၊ ၂၄၆၂၁၊ ၂၄၆၂၂

မညာရေးနှင့် ဆက်စပ်ပွဲပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Study suggests good sleep helps cancer recovery

SEATTLE, 16 Feb—Sleeping well may help people fight cancer, US scientists said here recently.

A research team, led by Stanford University professor David Spiegel, presented the finding here at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The study suggested that restless nights may disrupt hormone balances and make the body more vulnerable to diseases.

One is cortisol, which helps to regulate immune system activity — including the release of certain “natural killer” cells that help the body battle cancer. Cortisol levels typically peak at dawn, after hours of sleep, and decline throughout the day.

The new study shows that how well you sleep may determine how well your body

fights cancer — and may help explain how mental well-being plays into cancer recovery and progression.

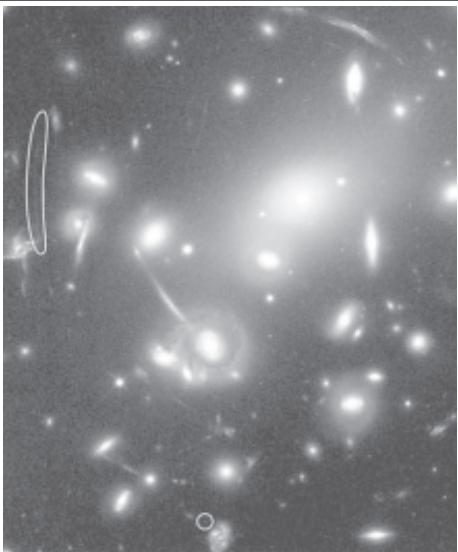
Previous studies have shown that cancer patients who have group therapy or a strong social network fare better than those who do not. According to the new study, this could be because people with stronger social support sleep more soundly, causing less disruption to the body’s hormone balances.

“Psychosocial factors affect your behaviour patterns, such as exercise, what you eat and drink, and your sleep,” Spiegel said.

MNA/Xinhua

A team of astrophysicists say they have detected a tiny galaxy, the area outlined in white at left, that may be the farthest known object from Earth at roughly 13 billion light-years away, on Sunday, 15 Feb, 2004. The team, from the California Institute of Technology and the Observatoire Midi-Pyrénées in France, uncovered the faint galaxy using two of the most powerful telescopes—one in space, the other in Hawaii—aided by the natural magnification provided by the gravitational pull of a massive cluster of galaxies.

INTERNET



Italian cycling great Pantani found dead in hotel room

ROME, 16 Feb — Marco Pantani, the Italian cycling great who fought his way back from injury to win the Giro d'Italia and the Tour de France, was found dead in a hotel room in central Italy on Saturday night, the hotel manager said.

The news of the death of the 34-year-old Pantani, who was called ‘The Pirate’ because of his trademark shaved head and bandana but was tainted by doping accusations later in his career, shocked the Italian sports world.

“This is a tragedy of enormous proportions for the whole cycling world,” said Mario Cipollini, winner of the 2002 world road race championship. “I can’t find the words.”

The cause of death was not immediately known but it appeared that no violence was involved.

The Italian news agency ANSA said police had found

medicines in the room.

Pantani, who had been suffering from depression, was found dead in a hotel in the Adriatic coastal resort city of Rimini, made famous by the late director Federico Fellini, who used it as a setting for some of his most famous films.

Pantani, a fine climber, won both the Giro d'Italia and the Tour de France in 1998. He was the first Italian to win the Tour de France since Felice Gimondi in 1965.

The last years of his life were spent in legal battles fighting to see doping bans overturned.

“He paid a very high

price. For four years he was at the centre of a storm,” said Gimondi, who was Pantani’s manager for two years.

Pantani was the subject of a major scandal in 1999 when he was thrown out of the Tour of Italy. Leading the race, he failed a test for haematocrit — an indicator, though not proof, of the use of performance-enhancing drugs.

He was also banned in 2002 for using insulin during the previous year’s Giro.

He rode in the 2003 Giro, finishing a disappointing 14th, and was later treated in a drugs and depression clinic.

MNA/Reuters

Tanzanian Govt offers food to hungry central areas

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 16 Feb—The Tanzanian Government has provided 1,250 tons of food to the central region of Singida, which is facing a food shortage, a local official said Sunday.

Singida Regional Commissioner Halima Kasungu said the food is provided through the Emergency Food Programme of the Prime Minister’s Office, in collaboration with the World Food Organization. The supplies are

to be transported from the National Food Reservation in the central city of Dodoma and to be distributed to the hunger-stricken districts, he said, adding that at least 6,000 tons of food are needed in the region.

Drought, along with other negative factors, has resulted in poor harvests in many parts of the country, making the government to seek food supplies for the affected areas.

MNA/Xinhua

“Head-On” wins best film at Berlin Festival

BERLIN, 16 Feb—A German film about Turkish immigrants won the Golden Bear best film award at the Berlin Film Festival on Saturday and South Africa’s Charlize Theron won a Silver Bear best actress award for her role in “Monster”.

“Head-On” by German-Turkish director Fatih Akin picked up the top prize at the Berlinale, which kicks off the European film contest season and is ranked just behind Cannes and alongside Venice among the world’s leading film festivals.

Theron, who also won a Golden Globe and an Academy Award nomination for her stirring performance as a homeless prostitute serial killer in “Monster”, was voted top actress by the seven-member jury. A total of 23 films were in the competition.

Struggling to pick a single actress in a field crowded with strong contenders, the jury took the unusual step of awarding another Silver Bear best actress prize to Catalina Sandino Moreno for her role

in the US-Colombian film “Maria Full of Grace”.

The festival’s Silver Bear for best actor went to Uruguay’s Daniel Hendler for his role as an idle young Jewish architect in the low-budget Argentine film “Lost Embrace” (“El Abrazo Partido”).

Set against Argentina’s economic crisis, the film follows Hendler’s character as he tries to get a Polish passport to go to Europe, where his grandparents only just escaped the Holocaust.

“Head-On” (“Gegen die Wand”), only the seventh German film to win best film in the 54-year history of the Berlin festival, tells the story of Sibel, a young German of Turkish origin trying to escape her strict Muslim home by convincing an older, depressed German-born Turk

to marry her.

“I love this film,” jury president Frances McDormand told Reuters. “It said in a wonderful way so many things that a lot of the other films said as well. ‘Head-On’ told them in a most powerful and most modern way.”

The festival featured some 400 films in its various competitions and sold more than 400,000 tickets to the general public. Berlin hosts one of Europe’s most important film rights markets.

There was also plenty of glamour with stars including Renee Zellweger, Jack Nicholson, Diane Keaton, Robin Williams, Jude Law, Ethan Hawke, Julie Delpy and Claudia Schiffer traipsing across the frosty red carpets.

MNA/Reuters

Poor children deprived of basic cancer care

LONDON, 16 Feb—Cancer groups on Sunday demanded that basic life-saving cancer drugs be made available to poor children who they said were suffering and dying because of lack of funds.

Each year, of the 250,000 children diagnosed with the disease worldwide, up to 80 per cent die because treatments that have increased survival rates in rich countries are not available, or affordable, in poor nations.

Cancer charities and patient groups said one way to help poor children would be to put basic cancer drugs on the World Health Organization (WHO) essential drug list so they can be given to children who need them. “The same sort of model that is being used for AIDS drugs should apply to these,” said Professor Tim Eden, the president of the International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP), referring to moves to reduce prices and access to anti-AIDS drugs.

“There’s an assumption that treating cancer is expensive, but it doesn’t have to be. For some types (of cancer) it can cost as little as 20 pounds (37 US dollars) to cure a child,” he added.

Geoff Thaxter, of the International Confederation of Childhood Cancer Parent Organizations (ICCCPO) which represents families of children with cancer around the world and works to improve access to care and treatment, said only 20 per cent of children with cancer worldwide receive drugs that could save their lives.—MNA/Reuters



Over six kilos of drugs seized in N-W China city

LANZHOU, 16 Feb — Police in Lanzhou, capital of northwest China’s Gansu Province, seized some 6.298 kilos of heroin between late December and the end of January, in a series of operations to crack down on drug trafficking, officials said Sunday.

The Lanzhou Municipal Public Security Bureau said that a total of 22 suspects involved in 20 drug smuggling cases were captured during the period. Among the total, some 2.795 kilos of heroin was seized in a single case on 24 January.

Acting on a tip, the Lanzhou police, in cooperation with police from east China’s Shanghai Municipality, seized 1.5 kilos of drugs and captured two suspects on a train from Lanzhou to Shanghai on 25 January.

On January 29, police from Lanzhou and northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region captured 340.7 grammes of heroin hidden inside the body of two female drug smugglers in a joint operation.

MNA/Xinhua

American pop music diva Mariah Carey poses with her trophy at the MTV Asia award at the Indoor Stadium in Singapore. Carey received a special Lifetime Achievement Award.

INTERNET

SPORTS

Lazio beat Empoli 3-0 to go fourth in Serie A

ROME, 16 Feb—Lazio recorded their third win in seven days to climb to fourth in Serie A with a 3-0 win over struggling Empoli on Saturday. Having beaten Parma 3-0 in the league last weekend and AC Milan 4-0 in the Italian Cup in midweek, Lazio wasted little time breaking down Empoli's defences at the Olympic Stadium.

Portuguese defender Fernando Couto opened the scoring in the fifth minute, heading Sinisa Mihajlovic's cross into the net.

Empoli striker Antonio Di Natale nearly equalized when his shot flew narrowly wide but seconds before halftime midfielder Luciano Zauri doubled Lazio's lead, beating goalkeeper Daniele Balli at his near post.

Lazio's dominance continued after the break with Couto and Claudio Lopez both going close before defender Jaap Stam sealed the points in the 71st minute with a deflected free kick.

Later on Saturday, winless Perugia host Chievo Verona while on Sunday league leaders AC Milan will try to extend their seven-match winning streak at lowly Lecce.—MNA/Reuters

Arsenal's Henry ruled out of Chelsea Cup match

LONDON, 16 Feb—Arsenal striker Thierry Henry has been ruled out of Sunday's FA Cup fifth-round tie against Chelsea with a foot injury, the Premier League club said on their website on Saturday.

The prolific Frenchman, who suffered bruising during Tuesday's league victory over Southampton, has also pulled out of his country's friendly international against Belgium on Wednesday.

Arsenal defender Sol Campbell will have a late fitness test on a groin injury before manager Arsene Wenger names his team to play Chelsea at Highbury.

MNA/Reuters



Real Sociedad's Argentine player Gabriel Schurrer, right, kicks the ball from Athletic de Bilbao's Carlos Gurpegi during a Spanish league soccer match in San Sebastian, Spain, on 14 Feb, 2004.—INTERNET

Bochum stun champions Bayern with rare victory

BERLIN, 16 Feb—Surprise package VfL Bochum recorded their first home win over champions Bayern Munich in nearly 20 years with a 1-0 Bundesliga victory on Saturday.

Denmark striker Peter Madsen hit the winner on eight minutes for the Ruhr Valley side, who remain fifth in the table and on course for a UEFA Cup berth.

Bayern, who had not lost a league game in Bochum since a 3-0 defeat in 1985, looked nervous and short of ideas on their way to their third Bundesliga defeat of the season.

The Munich club, who face a daunting task against Real Madrid in the first knockout round of the Champions League, held on to second place, ahead of VfB Stuttgart on goal difference.

The four-times European champions have 39 points from 20 games and stay six points behind leaders Werder Bremen, who entertain Kaiserslautern on Sunday.

"The early goal was the result of a couple of bad defensive mistakes and it gave Bochum wings," said Bayern coach Ottmar Hitzfeld.

"You have to give them credit. They played really well."

Bochum were clearly the better side in the first half. Bayern, missing playmaker Michael Ballack through sus-

pension, woke up after the break but were denied by a string of great saves from Bochum goalkeeper Rein van Duijnhoven, who was playing with a broken finger.

Bayern kept pushing and Brazilian midfielder Ze Roberto found the net with a header in added time, but it was disallowed for offside.

Stuttgart, warming up for

their Champions League clash with Chelsea, stayed third after a 1-1 draw with strugglers Borussia Moenchengladbach.

Stuttgart started well in a tense game in which each team had a man sent off, opening the scoring through Hungary striker Imre Szabics on five minutes.

MNA/Reuters

Rangers' title hopes fade after draw at Aberdeen

GLASGOW, 16 Feb—Rangers' hopes of retaining the Scottish Premier League title continued to fade despite Frank de Boer's late goal salvaging a 1-1 draw at Aberdeen on Saturday.

Alexander Diamond's second-minute goal had put Aberdeen on course for their first win against Rangers since 1998, but defender De Boer found the net with a header to equalize three minutes from time.

Leaders Celtic can go 13 points clear of Rangers, who are second on 57 points from 24 games, if they can beat Dundee United at home later on Saturday.

"The point is of little use to us but at least we started to get forward a little more in the second half," said Rangers manager Alex McLeish.

Aberdeen struck early when Diamond netted from Scott Morrison's free-kick and the home side dominated the rest of the first half without getting a second goal, Rangers goalkeeper Stefan Klos coming up with a couple of excellent saves. "It's the best Aberdeen have done against us here in the first half but we had something to do with that and were absolutely inept in the first half," McLeish added.

MNA/Reuters

Ten-man United knock out City in FA Cup thriller

LONDON, 16 Feb—Manchester United overcame the sending-off of England defender Gary Neville to beat neighbours Manchester City 4-2 in an action-packed FA Cup fifth-round match on Saturday.

Two goals by Ruud van Nistelrooy and one each for Paul Scholes and Cristiano Ronaldo put United, who played with 10 men for nearly an hour, into the quarterfinals for the first time since 1999.

The victory lifted United, who suffered an embarrassing 3-2 home defeat by Middlesbrough on Wednesday to damage their chances of retaining the Premier League title.

"In the first half we were outstanding and should have been three or four up," United manager Alex Ferguson told Sky Sports. "The sending-off changed the nature of the game but in the second half our counter-attacking was outstanding. Our character and discipline were very good."

United dominated the first half and went ahead after 34 minutes when midfielder Scholes tapped the ball in from close range after a slick move involving Roy Keane, van Nistelrooy and Ryan Giggs.

But the champions were reduced to 10 men within minutes, Neville appearing to head-butt City's Steve McManaman after the United defender had fallen over in the penalty area.

The incident prompted angry exchanges involving players from both sides before referee Jeff Winter dismissed Neville.

"It was uncharacteristic of Gary and he let himself down," Ferguson said.

City, who recovered from 3-0 down at halftime with 10 men to beat Tottenham Hotspur in the last round, sensed a rare victory over their local rivals and United goalkeeper Tim Howard made brilliant saves to deny McManaman and Joey Barton.

But United, record 10-times FA Cup winners, rode the storm and increased their lead after 71 minutes through the prolific van Nistelrooy.

The Dutch striker pounced at the far post to tap in a teasing cross by Ronaldo and the Portuguese winger then turned the ball in from a tight angle after Giggs' firm volley was well parried by goalkeeper Arni Arason.

City defender Michael Tarnat pulled one back 12 minutes from time with a powerful angled strike but van Nistelrooy settled the match with a simple tap-in after Keane, an inspirational captain throughout, headed back a deep cross.

Striker Robbie Fowler scored another late consolation with a quickly taken free kick four minutes from the end but United held on and City, 16th in the Premier League table, were left to concentrate on their struggle to avoid relegation.

MNA/Reuters

French leaders Monaco crash to first home defeat

PARIS, 16 Feb—French Ligue 1 leaders Monaco slumped to their first home defeat of the season on Saturday, losing 1-0 to Lille.

A blunder by Italian goalkeeper Flavio Roma helped Matt Moussilou score a shock winner in the 79th minute.

Paris St. Germain moved into second with a 1-0 win at lowly Toulouse, giving them 46 points to Monaco's 51, while AJ Auxerre and Olympique Lyon, two points further back with a game in hand, clash in the big game of the weekend on Sunday.

Monaco dominated throughout but lacked their usual brilliance and flair, the absence of injured playmaker Ludovic Giuly proving costly.

To add to the principality team's woes, they lost another key player in international defender Sebastien Squillaci, who left the pitch early on a stretcher.

PSG's win came courtesy of a 28th-

minute goal by Serb Danijel Ljuboja, hired from Strasbourg during the winter transfer window. The Parisians are now unbeaten in 12 games. Sochaux and Olympique Marseille, both held to draws by Girondins Bordeaux and Le Mans respectively, lost a little ground in the title chase.

Le Mans' coach Thierry Goudet resigned on Monday after a bad run of results and his successor, Swiss Daniel Jeandupeux, started with a goalless draw against sixth-placed Marseille.

Montpellier, languishing like Le Mans in the bottom three, also took on a new coach in former Ivory Coast manager Robert Nouzaret, but his new charges were beaten 1-0 at home by Metz. Montpellier have claimed one point in their last 10 league games.—MNA/Reuters

Hosts Tunisia clinch first African Nations Cup

RADES (Tunisia), 16 Feb—Hosts Tunisia won the African Nations Cup final on Saturday, beating Morocco 2-1 to spark wild scenes of celebration.

Ziad Jaziri got the winning goal in the second-half, profiting from a bad error by the Moroccan goalkeeper Khalid Fouhami who spilt a tame cross into his path.

Tunisia had begun at a frenetic pace and were ahead after five minutes when Francileudo dos Santos headed home a cross by his Brazilian-born compatriot Clayton. But Morocco fought back strongly to equalize through Youssef Mokhtari, whose fourth goal of the tournament was a diving header from Youssef Hadji's 38th-minute cross.

It was the first Nations Cup triumph for Tunisia, hosting the tournament for the third time.—MNA/Reuters



Lazio's Aparecido Cesar (R) challenges Manuel Belleri of Empoli during their Serie A soccer match at the Olympic Stadium in Rome on 14 Feb, 2004.—INTERNET

MRTV-3
**17-2-2004 (Tuesday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 9:06 Journey to Mogok
(The Ruby Land)
- 9:10 **Headline News**
- 9:12 How to Cook "The
Nga-paine Fish Curry"
- 9:15 **National News**
- 9:20 Scenic Ngwe Taung
Beach
- 9:25 The Rakhine Dance,
The Pride of Yoma
- 9:28 Tour In Myanmar
"Bagan, Papa"
- 9:30 **National News**
- 9:35 Innwa Ancient Capital
- 9:40 Myanmar Modern
Song "We'll be Wait-
ing For You"
- 9:45 **National News**
- 9:50 Unique Biodiversity of
Indawgyi Lake
(Part-II)
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**17-2-2004 (Tuesday)
Regular Programmes for
Viewers from Abroad
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 15:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 15:36 Journey to Mogok
(The Ruby Land)
- 15:40 **Headline News**
- 15:42 How to Cook "The
Nga-paine Fish Curry"
- 15:45 **National News**
- 15:50 Scenic Ngwe Taung
Beach
- 15:55 The Rakhine Dance,
The Pride of Yoma
- 15:58 Tour In Myanmar
"Bagan, Papa"
- 16:00 **National News**
- 16:05 Innwa Ancient Capital

- 16:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "We'll be Wait-
ing For You"
- 16:15 **National News**
- 16:20 Unique Biodiversity of
Indawgyi Lake
(Part-II)
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 16:30 **National News**
- 16:35 A New Tourist Desti-
nation "Myanmar"
- 16:40 Ah Lin Ga Kyaw Swa
Cartoonist U Ba Gyan
- 16:45 **National News**
- 16:50 Kayin Traditional
Weaving Industry
- 16:55 Myanmar Traditional
Marionette
- 17:00 **National News**
- 17:05 Kengtaung Waterfall
- 17:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "To a Silvery
Seagull"
- 17:12 Historical Shwe Inpin
Monastery
- 17:15 **National News**
- 17:20 Pottery, A Home In-
dustry
- 17:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**Evening Transmission
(19:30 - 23:30)**

- 19:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 19:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 19:36 Around Bagan by
Pony Cart (Ananda
Temple)
- 19:40 **Headline News**
- 19:42 Chaungtha Beach
Resort
- 19:45 **National News**
- 19:50 All Lives Under The
Sky: "Catch of Fish by
Cooperation of Fisher-
man and Dolphin"
- 20:00 **National News**
- 20:10 Song "Dear Myanmar"
- 20:12 Shwe Nan Daw Cul-
tural Museum
- 20:15 **National News**
- 20:20 Unique Biodiversity of
Indawgyi Lake
(Part-I)
- 20:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Feel like an
Earthquake"
- 20:30 **National News**
- 20:35 Myanmar Orchestra
(Thichinkhant)

- 20:40 Myanmar Profile
"Book Store"
- 20:45 **National News**
- 20:50 Recreation at Inlay
Lake
- 20:55 Lon Yuu Festival
Dance
- 20:57 Let's meet at the cafe!
- 21:00 **National News**
- 21:05 How to make Chinlone
- 21:10 Song "What love is?"
- 21:15 **National News**
- 21:20 Spirulina (or) Blue
Green Algae
- 21:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 21:35 Journey to Mogok
(The Ruby Land)
- 21:40 **Headline News**
- 21:42 How to Cook "The
Nga-paine Fish Curry"
- 21:45 **National News**
- 21:50 Scenic Ngwe Taung
Beach
- 21:55 The Rakhine Dance,
The Pride of Yoma
- 21:58 Tour In Myanmar
"Bagan, Papa"
- 22:00 **National News**
- 22:05 Innwa Ancient Capital
- 22:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "We'll be Wait-
ing For You"
- 22:15 **National News**
- 22:20 Unique Biodiversity of
Indawgyi Lake
(Part-II)
- 22:25 Songs on Screen
"Flowers Lover"
- 22:30 **National News**
- 22:35 A New Tourist Desti-
nation "Myanmar"
- 22:40 Ah Lin Ga Kyaw Swa
Cartoonist U Ba Gyan
- 22:45 **National News**
- 22:50 Kayin Traditional
Weaving Industry
- 22:55 Myanmar Traditional
Marionette
- 23:00 **National News**
- 23:05 Kengtaung Waterfall
- 23:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "To a Silvery
Seagull"
- 23:12 Historical Shwe Inpin
Monastery
- 23:15 **National News**
- 23:20 Pottery, A Home In-
dustry
- 23:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

- 17-2-2004 (Tuesday) &
18-2-2004 (Wednesday)
**Evening & Morning
Transmission
(23:30 - 1:30)**
- 23:30 Signature Tune

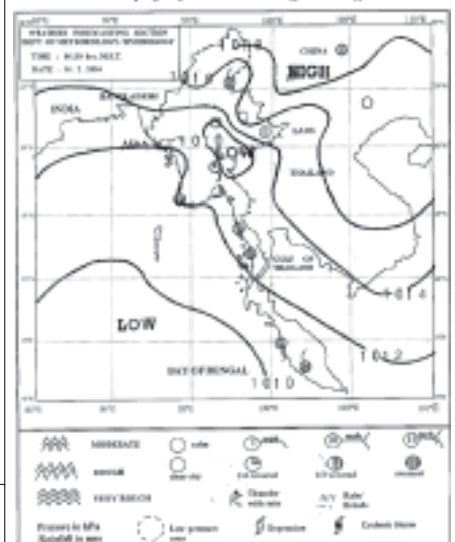
- Greeting
- 23:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 23:36 Journey to Mogok
(The Ruby Land)
- 23:40 **Headline News**
- 23:42 How to Cook "The
Nga-paine Fish Curry"
- 23:45 **National News**
- 23:50 Scenic Ngwe Taung
Beach
- 23:55 The Rakhine Dance,
The Pride of Yoma
- 23:58 Tour In Myanmar
"Bagan, Papa"
- 24:00 **National News**
- 00:05 Innwa Ancient Capital
- 00:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "We'll be Wait-
ing For You"
- 00:15 **National News**
- 00:20 Unique Biodiversity of
Indawgyi Lake
(Part-II)
- 00:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 00:30 **National News**
- 00:35 A New Tourist Desti-
nation "Myanmar"
- 00:40 Ah Lin Ga Kyaw Swa
Cartoonist U Ba Gyan
- 00:45 **National News**
- 00:50 Kayin Traditional
Weaving Industry
- 00:55 Myanmar Traditional
Marionette
- 01:00 **National News**
- 01:05 Kengtaung Waterfall
- 01:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "To a Silvery
Seagull"
- 01:12 Historical Shwe Inpin
Monastery
- 01:15 **National News**
- 01:20 Pottery, A Home In-
dustry
- 01:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

- 18-2-2004 (Wednesday)
**Morning Transmission
(03:30 - 07:30)**
- 03:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 03:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 03:36 Around Bagan by
Pony Cart (Ananda
Temple)
- 03:40 **Headline News**
- 03:42 Chaungtha Beach
Resort

- 03:45 **National News**
- 03:50 All Lives Under The
Sky: "Catch of Fish by
Cooperation of Fisher-
man and Dolphin"
- 04:00 **National News**
- 04:10 Song "Dear Myanmar"
- 04:12 How to Cook "The
Nga-paine Fish Curry"
- 04:15 **National News**
- 04:20 Unique Biodiversity of
Indawgyi Lake
(Part-I)
- 04:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Feel like an
Earthquake"
- 04:30 **National News**
- 04:35 Myanmar Orchestra
(Thichinkhant)
- 04:40 Myanmar Profile
"Book Store"
- 04:45 **National News**
- 04:50 Recreation at Inlay
Lake
- 04:55 Lon Yuu Festival
Dance
- 04:57 Let's meet at the cafe!
- 05:00 **National News**
- 05:05 How to make Chinlone
- 05:10 Songs "What love is?"
- 05:15 **National News**
- 05:20 Spirulina (or) Blue
Green Algae
- 05:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 05:35 Journey to Mogok
(The Ruby Land)
- 05:40 **Headline News**
- 05:42 How to Cook "The
Nga-paine Fish Curry"
- 05:45 **National News**

- 05:50 Scenic Ngwe Taung
Beach
- 05:55 The Rakhine Dance,
The Pride of Yoma
- 05:58 Tour In Myanmar
"Bagan, Papa"
- 06:00 **National News**
- 06:05 Innwa Ancient Capital
- 06:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "We'll be Wait-
ing For You"
- 06:15 **National News**
- 06:20 Unique Biodiversity of
Indawgyi Lake
(Part-II)
- 06:25 Songs on Screen
"Flowers Lover"
- 06:30 **National News**
- 06:35 A New Tourist Desti-
nation "Myanmar"
- 06:40 Ah Lin Ga Kyaw Swa
Cartoonist U Ba Gyan
- 06:45 **National News**
- 06:50 Kayin Traditional
Weaving Industry
- 06:55 Myanmar Traditional
Marionette
- 07:00 **National News**
- 07:05 Kengtaung Waterfall
- 07:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "To a Silvery
Seagull"
- 07:12 Historical Shwe Inpin
Monastery
- 07:15 **National News**
- 07:20 Pottery, A Home In-
dustry
- 07:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

**WEATHER**

Monday, 16 February, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:
During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (4°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Chin, Rakhine States and Yangon, Ayeyawady, upper Sagaing Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. Significant night temperature was (1°C) in Hakha.

Maximum temperature on 15-2-2004 was 36.2°C (97°F). Minimum temperature on 16-2-2004 was 16.2°C (61°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 16-2-2004 was 76%. Total sunshine hours on 15-2-2004 was (7.8) hours approx. Rainfall on 16-2-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 3 mm (0.12 inch) at Yangon Airport, and nil at Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 7 mph from North at (08:00) hours MST on 16-2-2004.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 17-2-2004: Possibility of isolated light rain in Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Mon, Kayin States, Yangon and Bago Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated light rain in extreme southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-2-2004: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-2-2004: Fair weather.



Tuesday, February 17

View 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. တနင်္ဂနွေညာနွေ
- 8:05 am
6. အတိတ်ပြန်
- 8:15 am
7. Song of yesteryears

- 8:30 am
8. International news
- 8:45 am
9. Grammar Made Easy
- 4:00 pm
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold
National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
3. Dance of national races
- 4:40 pm
4. အစောဆုံးတက္ကသိုလ် ယဉ်ကျေးမှု
ရပ်ပြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ
ပထမနှစ် (စုစုပေါင်း၊ သတ္တမာရ)
အထူးပြုစု (သတ္တမာရ)
- 4:55 pm
5. (၅၇)နှစ်မြောက် ပြည်ထောင်စုနေ့
ဂုဏ်ပြုအခမ်းအနား
- 5:10 pm
6. စောဒါနာဆင်တေးဂီတသံတော်
- 5:20 pm
7. Sing and Enjoy

- 6:30 pm
8. Evening news
- 7:00 pm
9. Weather report
- 7:05 pm
10. Milo success in soccer
- 7:10 pm
11. ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း စာတတ်ရေးစာတတ်ရေး
(အပိုင်း-၂)
- 7:30 pm
12. သားငါးဖွားမြင်ပြည့်အထိ
- 7:40 pm
13. The mirror images of the
musical oldies
- 8:00 pm
14. News
15. International news
16. Weather report
17. မိုင်းခတ်တိုင်းစာတတ်ရေးစာတတ်ရေး
"တုံ့မပုလွန်" (အပိုင်း-၂၀)
18. Calcio Serie A highlight
19. The next day's
programme



Tuesday, February 17

Tune in today:

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music
- 8.50 am National news/
Slogan
- 9.00 am Music
- 9.05 am International news
- 9.10 am Music
- 9.15 am News/Slogan
- 9.20 am Lunch time music
- 9.25 am -Something like you
(N'sync)
- 9.30 am -The hardest thing
(98)
- 9.00 pm English Lesson:
Look Ahead (7)
- 9.15 pm Article/Music
- 9.25 pm Weekly sports reel
- 9.35 pm Music for your
listening pleasure
- Careless whisper
(George Michael)
- 9.45 pm News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL



Chairman of National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivers an address at the Commission's meeting. — MNA

National Convention Convening Commission meets

YANGON, 16 Feb — The National Convention Convening Commission held its meeting at Kyaikkasan Grounds here today.

Chairman of NCCC Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Commission members, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe,

Vice-Chairman Attorney-General U Aye Maung, secretaries, Chairman of National Convention Convening Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Vice-Chairman Maj-Gen Than Htay and secretaries were present.

The Secretary-2 explained matters pertaining to the convening of the National Convention.

Secretary of NCCC Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan explained accommodation and other arrangements for the delegates.

Chairman of NCCWC U Aung Toe and Chairman of NCCMC Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung reported to the meeting on the functions of the respective bodies. The Secretary-2 delivered the concluding address.

MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets departmental personnel and members of social organizations in Bogale Township. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than tours Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 16 Feb — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, on 14 February, met with departmental officials and members of social organizations at the office of Bogale Township Peace and Development Council.

Also present were, Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, chairmen and members of district, township,

ward and village PDCs, departmental officials and members of social organizations.

Chairman of Bogale Township Peace and Development Council U San Htay reported to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than on location and area, economy, agriculture and livestock breeding of the township and departmental officials on work being carried out department-wise. The commander gave a supplementary report.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than made a

speech. He said that prevalence of law and order, strong economy and human resource development are sine qua non for emergence of a peaceful, modern and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Nowadays, peace prevails in the country and arrangements are being made based on the agriculture and meat and fish sectors to gain strong economy, he said. He continued to say that Intellectuals and intelligentsia are produced for human resource development.

(See page 9)

MoU Consultation Meeting on Joint Action for Mobility and HIV commences

YANGON, 16 Feb — The opening of the MoU Consultation Meeting on Joint Action Plan for Mobility and HIV was held at the Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road this morning, with an address by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

Also present were Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, WHO Resident Representative Dr Agostino Borra, the directors-general of depart-

ments under the Ministry of Health, medical superintendents, officials of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Association, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Myanmar Medical Association, delegates of embassies in Mekong regions, delegates from UN Agencies, delegates of countries in Mekong valley region and guests.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint delivered an address. He said: It has been two years since we all

agreed and signed an MoU that enabled us to facilitate and support collaboration in the implementation between and among ourselves in line with Greater Mekong sub-regional Joint Action Programme on reducing HIV vulnerability among the mobile populations. Today, we now gather here to update and share the activities implemented according to the MoU, review the previous MoU that already expired in December 2003, and draft and then propose an updated version of MoU with a recommended time-frame of three to five years.

May I now take the opportunity of briefing you of health care services in Myanmar. Under the guidance of the State Peace and Development Council, the Ministry of Health, Myanmar, is striving to raise the health status of the nation and to ensure the highest attainable level of health for the entire nation by systematically developing and implementing Health Plans that will lead to achieving the "Millennium Development Goals".

(See page 10)



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint addresses the opening of the MoU Consultation Meeting on Joint Action Plan for Mobility and HIV. — MNA