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Senior General Than Shwe congratulates South African President

NAY PYI TAW, 9 May — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr. Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma on his election as the President of the Republic of South Africa.—*MNA*

True patriotism

* It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Prime Minister receives ROK delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein received a delegation led by special envoy of the President of the Republic of Korea Member of Parliament Mr Huh Tae-yeol and Mr Cho Hae-Jin at the Government Office here this afternoon.

Also present at the call were Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin, Director-General of the Protocol Department U Kyaw Kyaw and Director-General of the Political Department U Kyaw Tin.

The ROK delegation was accompanied by Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the Union of Myanmar Mr Park Key-chong.—*MNA*

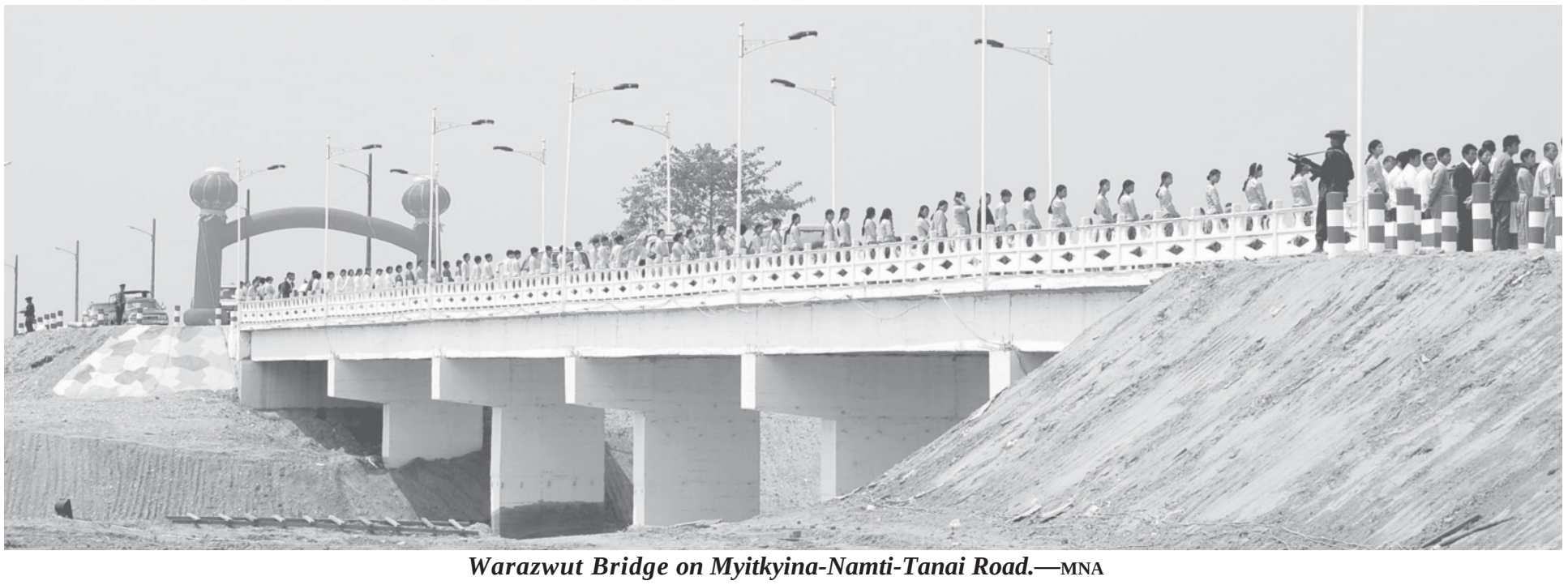
***Prime Minister General Thein Sein cordially greets special envoy of the President of the Republic of Korea Member of Parliament Mr Huh Tae-yeol.*—MNA**

Warazwut Bridge No. (2) on Myitkyina-Namti-Tanai Road commissioned

Government working hard to improve economic, education, health and transport sectors for equitable development of all parts of the Union

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—The inauguration of Warazwut Bridge No (2) on Myitkyina-Namti-Tanai Road in Phakant Township, Kachin State, constructed by Ledo Highway Co Ltd under the supervision of the Ministry of Construction, took place at the pavilion on the road yesterday morning, attended by Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

(See page 8)



***Warazwut Bridge on Myitkyina-Namti-Tanai Road.*—MNA**

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 9 May, 2009

Make relentless efforts for improvement of socio-economic status of the people

Blessed with scenic beauties and flora and fauna, Kachin State is rich in natural resources.

In the past, because of armed insurgency resulting from the divide and rule policy and difficult of access due to a series of hills and mountain ranges, Kachin State lagged behind in development.

In the time of the Tatmadaw government, it has been able to forge national solidarity, and as a result, peace and tranquility prevails and law and order has been restored.

Sharing border with the People's Republic of China and the Republic of India, Kachin State plays an important role in cementing mutual relations between the two countries and trade and commerce. The government is making all-out efforts to bring about harmonious development the length and breadth of the nation.

With better transport, the national brethren can travel easily from one region to another and have frequent contacts among them, thereby contributing to further fostering friendship and development of the economic, education and health sectors.

Meanwhile, opening of hospitals and dispensaries, upgrading of hospitals and fulfilling medical equipment and dispatching of staff abroad for training courses of international level are being carried out.

As the government has already built a large number of infrastructures for regional development, the entire people are to do their best for the improvement of socio-economic status making better use of the already-built infrastructures for regional development.

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**

Buddha Day celebrated in whole nation on Fullmoon Day of Kason

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Today is Fullmoon Day of Kason, one of the memorial days of Lord Buddha. In the entire nation, the people performed religious deeds to consecrate the Buddha images, practise the meditation and pour water at Bo trees.

The consecration of 28 Buddha images, merit sharing for Withongama Shwe ordination hall, donation of religious edifices, consecration of Withongama Shwe ordination hall, pouring water at Bo tree and releasing of animals as saving their lives were held at Hnakyeik Shithsu Bawdimyaing Garden in the precinct of Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw.

The religious associations of ministries, regiments and units and local people recited religious verses. The local people performed meritorious deeds.

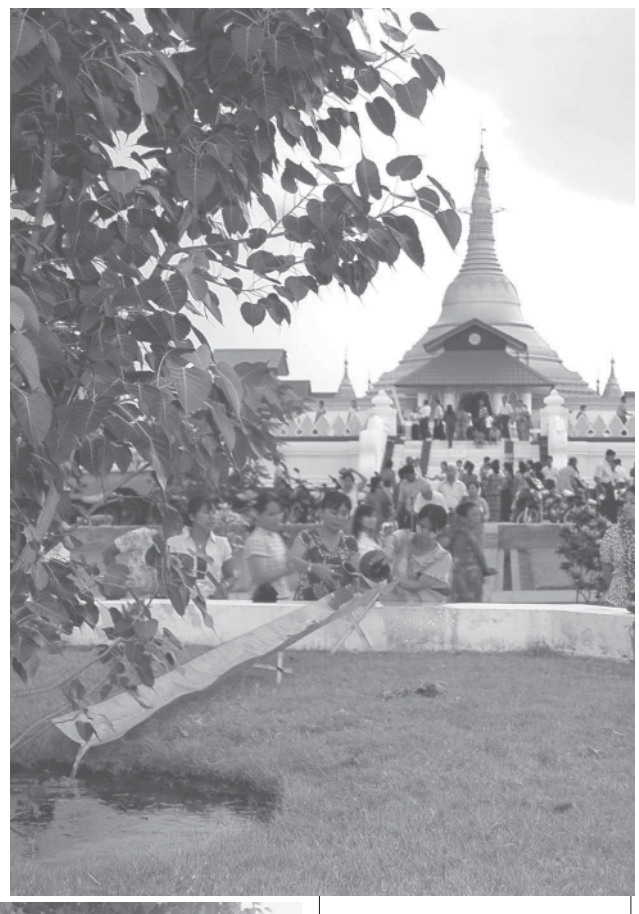
The pagodas in Bawgatheikdi Ward of Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw District, were packed with devotees, service personnel and local people.

At Shwedagon Pagoda, the 26th ceremony of water pouring at Bo tree was held this morning. State Ovadacariya Shwedagon Pagoda Ovadacariya Bahan Township Chaukhtetgyi TheingiU Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Nandobhasa administered the Nine Precepts. Next, members of the Sangha, officials and local people poured water at Bo tree on the platform of the pagoda.

Similar ceremonies were held at Botahtaung Pagoda, Maha Wizaya Pagoda, Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Pagoda, Tooth Relic Pagoda (Yangon), Kyaikwaing Pagoda, Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image and Shwephonepwint Pagoda on Fullmoon Day of Kason.

MNA

***Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw crowded with pilgrims on Fullmoon Day of Kason.*—MNA**



***Kason water pouring ceremony in progress at Datuzaya Datpaungsu Pagoda in Bawgatheikdi Ward of Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw District.*—MNA**

The 26th Kason water pouring ceremony in progress at Shwedagon Pagoda.
MNA

Firm once known as Blackwater exits Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 8 May — The American security firm once known as Blackwater ended its operations in the diplomatic hub of Baghdad on Thursday, bringing to a close a bitter chapter in US-Iraqi relations that began with a deadly shooting by its contractors.

Iraqis welcomed the departure from the capital of the company, which has protected American diplomats in Iraq since the start of the war in 2003. The company, which has changed its name to Xe, will continue to have guards in some southern areas and to run its aviation service and through September.

The end of the firm's Baghdad operations comes nearly two years after the Iraqi government first demanded it leave after the September 2007 shooting on a busy square in central Baghdad that left as many as 17 Iraqi civilians dead.

It was small consolation for Iraqis.

"As far as I'm concerned this decision should have been taken years ago. Any security firm in Iraq should have used Iraqi personnel so that they could help them know Iraqi culture," Baghdad resident Jabar Farhan said.

US Embassy spokeswoman Susan Ziadeh said Xe's contract for Baghdad ended Thursday and a new security provider, Herndon, Virginia-based Triple Canopy, was taking over.

Blackwater guards will remain protecting American diplomats in the predominantly Shiite cities of Hillah, Najaf and Karbala, all south of Baghdad, until 4 Aug, according to the State Department.

And Presidential Airways — which operates some two dozen helicopters — will continue to fly until 3 Sept, it said.

Ziadeh would not comment on the company's other task orders, saying only that they "will come to an end once they expire, which will be soon."—*Internet*

Photo shows the remains of a car after a bomb attack in Baghdad on 6 May, 2009. A bomb planted in a parked car in the Karrada district of central Baghdad.
INTERNET

Afghan official says 147 dead in fighting

KABUL, 8 May— Sobbing relatives showed US and Afghan investigators the demolished buildings and graves in two western villages where a local official said Thursday he collected the names of 147 people killed in a disputed incident involving American forces and Taleban militants.

If local reports of the death toll are confirmed, it would be the deadliest case of civilian casualties in Afghanistan since the 2001 US-led invasion that ousted the Taleban regime.

Although the results of the joint US-Afghan investigation were not expected to be announced until Friday, Afghans blamed US bombing raids for the deaths in the villages of Ganjabad and Gerani. In the capital of Farah Province, where the fighting took place, some 150 stone-throwing protesters chanted "Death to America" and clashed with police.

The large number of civilian deaths comes at an awkward time for the Obama administration, as it steps up its military campaign here while emphasizing the importance of nonmilitary efforts to stabilize the country. President Barack Obama expressed sympathy over the loss of life in a White House meeting Wednesday with Afghan President Hamid Karzai, who contends that such killings undermine support for the fight against the Taleban.

Internet

Five Taleban militants killed in NW Afghanistan

KABUL, 8 May— At least five Taleban militants were killed in a clash between Taleban and the government forces in Badghis province, northwest Afghanistan, police spokesman in the region Abdul Rauf Ahmadi said on Thursday.

"Taleban rebels attacked police checkpoints in Balamurghab district Wednesday night and police encountered, as a result five rebels were killed and several others were wounded," Ahmadi told *Xinhua*. During the firefight, two policemen were also injured, he added.

Taleban militants have yet to make comment as the hard-line militants have vowed to launch spring offensive and speed up attacks against Afghan and US-led forces based in Afghanistan.

Internet

Suicide bombing kills 10 civilians in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 8 May — A suicide bomber blew himself up near a military convoy in Helmand Province south of Afghanistan Thursday afternoon killing 10 persons and injuring 17 others, almost all of them civilians, a local police officer Abdul Raziq said.—*Internet*

An Iraqi officer looks at a destroyed vehicle caught in a car bomb in the Karada area of Baghdad. Two bomb blasts ripped through busy areas of Baghdad on Wednesday.
INTERNET

Russian strategic bombers patrol Norwegian Sea, Arctic Ocean

MOSCOW, 8 May — Two Russian strategic bombers patrolled the Norwegian Sea and the Arctic Ocean on Thursday, an Air Force spokesman said.

"Two *Tu-95MS* missile carrying aircraft conducted a patrol over the Norwegian Sea and the Arctic Ocean on Thursday," spokesman Vladimir Drik was quoted as saying by the *Interfax* news agency.

The bombers were escorted by NATO fighter jets during the 15-hour flight, Drik said. The spokesman said the patrol was conducted in strict accordance with international rules on the use of airspace over neutral waters, without violating the borders of other states. —*Internet*

Police fire on Afghans protesting civilian deaths

KABUL, 8 May— Police fired on rock-throwing protesters angry over civilian deaths they blamed on American bombing runs in western Afghanistan, a local official said Thursday, as the US military rushed a team to the site of investigate.

In the melee outside the governor's office in the capital of Farah Province, one protester was wounded by a bullet and five more suffered other injuries after they tried to storm the main government building there, said Gul Ahmad Ayubi, a health department official in the Province.—*Internet*

A cordon is put around a pick-up truck believed to be laden with explosives and which was later detonated by the Iraqi Army following a car bomb that exploded at a wholesale produce market, near Dura in southern Baghdad.—INTERNET

Obama allocates more war funds for Afghanistan than Iraq

WASHINGTON, 8 May— US President Barack Obama allocated more war funds for Afghanistan than those earmarked for Iraq in a budget plan he unveiled on Thursday.

The president proposed 130 billion US dollars in appropriation to support overseas military operations in fiscal year 2010 that begins 1 Oct, including 65 billion dollars for Afghanistan and 61 billion dollars for Iraq, according to his budget plan released by the White House.

It marks the first time that war spending for Afghanistan overtook those for Iraq and is in accordance with the new administration's ongoing shift of war focus from Iraq to Afghanistan.

Steve Stanley, the director of force structure, resources and assessment on the Joint Staff, told reporters at a Pentagon briefing that the budget request represents "where you're going to first see the swing of not only dollars or resources, but combat capability" from Iraq to Afghanistan.

"The money requested here — about 65 billion dollars for Afghanistan — actually exceeds the 61 billion dollars that we're requesting for Iraq," he said.

"So that's the first time in our war costs request," the official added.

Stanley explained that those numbers are based on keeping between 50,000 to 100,000 troops in Iraq and 68,000 in Afghanistan.

In Iraq, US troop levels are supposed to come down gradually over the next year, and these numbers are based on plans to bring troop levels down to around 50,000 by the end of the fiscal year 2010, which is 30 Sept next year, according to the Pentagon.

Internet

Employees of Hyundai Motors India Limited at work at the auto plant in Sriperumbudur, some 45kms north of Chennai, in 2008. The South Korean car giant said Friday it may shift production of its premium i20 hatchback to Europe from India due to labour trouble, hindering an Indian plan to become a global auto-export hub.—XHIHUA

Number of dissolved Macao companies soars 41.9% in Q1

MACAO, 8 May —Number of dissolved companies in Macao reached 149 in the first quarter of 2009, significantly increasing by 41.9 percent year-on-year, with the total value of registered capital amounting to 26 million patacas (3.3 million US dollars), according to the figures released on Thursday by the city's Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

Among the companies in dissolution, 53 were operating in Wholesale and Retail, 26 in Business Services and 26 in Construction, the DSEC said.

Due to the global economic recession and weakened investor confidence, the number of new companies incorporated in the Special Administrative Region (SAR) dropped by 25.3 percent year-on-year to 547 in the first quarter of 2009, and the total value of registered capital decreased notably by 73.8 percent to 44 million patacas (5.7 million dollars). Among these new companies, 212 were operating in Wholesale and Retail, 99 in Business Services and 82 (MOP5 million) in Construction.

Internet

China's small commodities hub sees positive export signs

HANGZHOU, 8 May— East China's Yiwu City, the world's largest wholesale market for small commodities, registered a one-day record of small commodities export last month, Customs figures showed on Thursday.

The Customs at Jinhua, which administers Yiwu, said 3,810 TEU containers of small commodities were exported on 29 April, a new record. Yiwu exported 1,423 containers of small commodities daily last year. TEU, or twenty-feet equivalent unit, is the standard measure of container volume. —*Internet*

US banks need to up capital to meet 'stress tests'

WASHINGTON, 8 May— Ten major US banks need to raise a total of 74.6 billion dollars for "capital buffers" in the event of a deeper economic slump under "stress tests" unveiled by US regulators.

Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke said the results "should provide considerable comfort to investors and the public," despite the need for new capital in 10 of the 19 banks subjected to the process.

Bernanke pointed out that the Treasury "stands ready to provide whatever additional capital may be necessary to ensure that our banking system is able to navigate a challenging economic downturn."

The central bank, which conducted the tests at the request of President Barack Obama's administration, said they showed the banks can withstand an adverse economic scenario but will be required to raise fresh capital to boost their reserves against losses.

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner said in a statement the tests "will help replace the cloud of uncertainty hanging over our banking system with an unprecedented level of transparency and clarity."

Internet

Russia lifts ban on pork imports from five American states

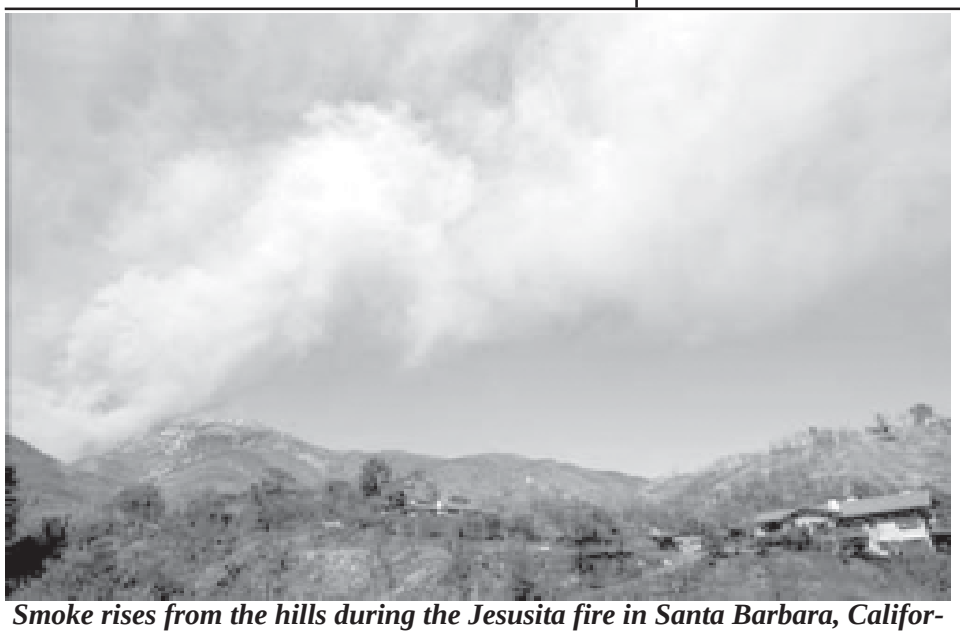
MOSCOW, 8 May— Russia has lifted a ban on pork imports from five American states that had been imposed earlier because of the A/H1N1 flu virus, the country's food safety watchdog said on Thursday.

The ban on pork imports from Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Nevada and Ohio was lifted because of "the absence of worsening epidemic/outbreak conditions," Rosselkhoznadzor, the watchdog, said in a statement.

However, the watchdog imposed a ban on pork products from Illinois. A ban on pork from seven other American states remains in effect.

Russia has also banned pork imports from some Canadian provinces, Britain and Spain, despite claims that the flu virus can not be transmitted by meat.

The World Health Organization has reiterated that there is no risk of infection by consuming well-cooked pork and pork products.—*Internet*



Smoke rises from the hills during the Jesusita fire in Santa Barbara, California on 7 May, 2009. A wildfire was still raging in Santa Barbara about 128 kilometers northwest of Los Angeles on Thursday, forcing thousands of people to flee for safety, authorities said.—XINHUA

Thousands flee from California wildfire

LOS ANGELES, 8 May —A wildfire was still raging in Santa Barbara about 128 kilometres northwest of Los Angeles on Thursday, forcing thousands of people to flee for safety, authorities said.

The fire has charred about 527 hectares of land, injured eight firefighters and forced the evacuation of more than 13,000 people, the Santa Barbara Fire Department said.

The department said the number of evacuees could double later in the day as the fire would get worse due to another round of howling winds expected later in the day.

More fire crews were called in from around the state to battle the blaze. Currently 1,394 firefighters were battling the blaze.

"We really can't do any containment lines. It's too dangerous," Santa Barbara County fire Capt David Sadecki said.

"We're doing some structure protection, but firefighters can be in a safe location one minute and in a dangerous situation the next."

Internet

Kyrgyz PM says trade ties with China develop rapidly

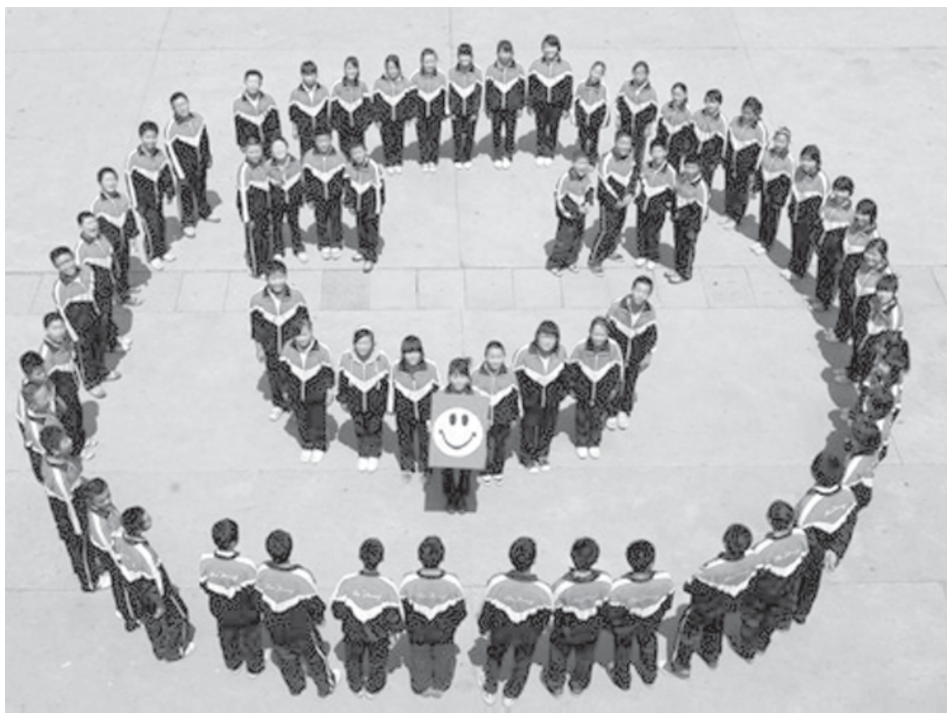
ALMATY, 8 May—Kyrgyz Prime Minister Igor Chudinov said on Thursday his country's trade and economic ties with China are growing rapidly despite the impact of the global financial crisis.

During a meeting with China's new ambassador, Wang Kaiwen, Chudinov said Chinese direct investment in Kyrgyzstan is increasing and some large projects are already underway, said news reaching here from Bishkek.

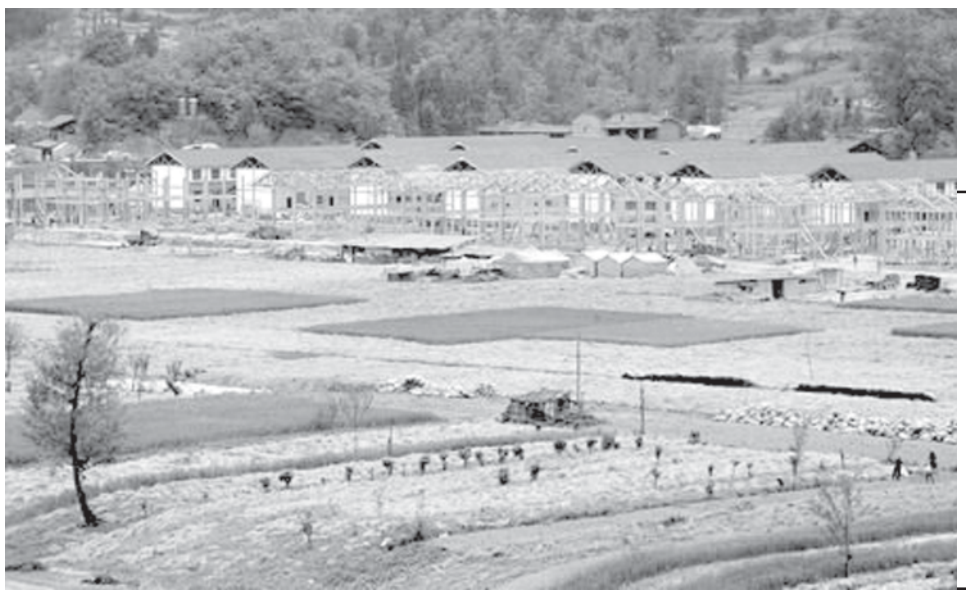
Positive progress has been made in the work with regard to construction of the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railway, Chudinov said.

He also expressed gratitude for the aid provided by the Chinese government.

During the meeting, Wang said the bilateral relations developed healthily and steadily since the two countries set up ties 17 years ago. It is China's long-term policy to deepen the political mutual trust and economic mutual beneficial cooperation between China and Kyrgyzstan.—*Xinhua*



Students form a sign of a smiling face during an activity to celebrate the upcoming World Smile Day at No 10 Middle School in Xingtai, north China's Hebei Province, on 7 May, 2009. —XINHUA



New houses are under construction in Qingchuan county, southwest China's Sichuan Province on 6 May, 2009.

XINHUA

Paraguayan president visits Brazil on power plant contract modification

RIO DE JANEIRO, 8 May—Paraguayan President Fernando Lugo started on Thursday a visit to Brazil, during which he will discuss with his Brazilian counterpart Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on modifying the contract of a joint hydroelectric plant.

In the meetings with leaders of Brazil's Senate and House of Representatives, Jose Sarney and Michel Temer, Lugo said that it is not good for Brazil to have an impoverished neighbouring country, calling on the two countries to work together for mutual development. Lugo was referring to the amendments his administration is requesting in the contract of the Itaipu Hydroelectric Plant, which was built in 1973 in the Brazil-Paraguay border with investments from both countries. By the terms of the contract, each country has the right to own half of the energy produced by the power plant. Brazil uses its entire quota, while Paraguay uses only five percent of its shares. —*Xinhua*

All items from Xinhua News Agency

At least three people died in Mexico's small plane crash

MEXICO CITY, 8 May—At lest three people died and one more was injured on Thursday when a Cessna light plane fell down near the airport Heriberto Jara, Veracruz (east), Mexican General Prosecutor's Office of Veracruz (PGJE) said.

The accident occurred on Thursday at 9:40 am local time (1440GMT), when the plane with license XBU-340 dropped in the territorial reserve Tarimoya, Secretary of Civil Protection Ranulfo Marquez said.

Based on a report from the PGJE the plane took off minutes before the accident from the airport Heriberto Jara, leading to McAllen, Texas in the US.

Experts from the PGJE and Civil Aeronautics went to the place of the accident to determine the causes of the accident.

Xinhua

China calls for joint efforts with EU against protectionism

BRUSSELS, 8 May—The European Union (EU) and China should work together to ward off potential surge of protectionism amid the global economic slump, Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan said on Thursday.

"China and the EU should stand firm against any form of protectionism for the sake of a global economic recovery," Wang said in an opening remark at a high-level economic and trade dialogue between the EU and China, two major trading powers in the world.

The EU is now China's largest trading partner, while China is the second largest of the EU. Trade volume between them grew to 425.58 billion US dollars in 2008, an increase of 19.5 percent over the previous year despite the impact of the financial crisis, according to figures from China's customs authorities.

Wang said the two sides have every reason to avoid protectionism, either for the urgent need to work out of the current crisis or due to the irreversible trend of globalization.

He warned that protectionism, featuring the pursuit of benefits for one country at the expense of others, would in the end protect nobody, but lead to retaliation and make the crisis even worse, which has been proved by the history.

The world economy paid a heavy price for the prevalence of trade protectionism during the Great Depression in the 1930s, which resulted in the contraction of global trade by two thirds.

Xinhua

Russia launches cargo spacecraft to space station

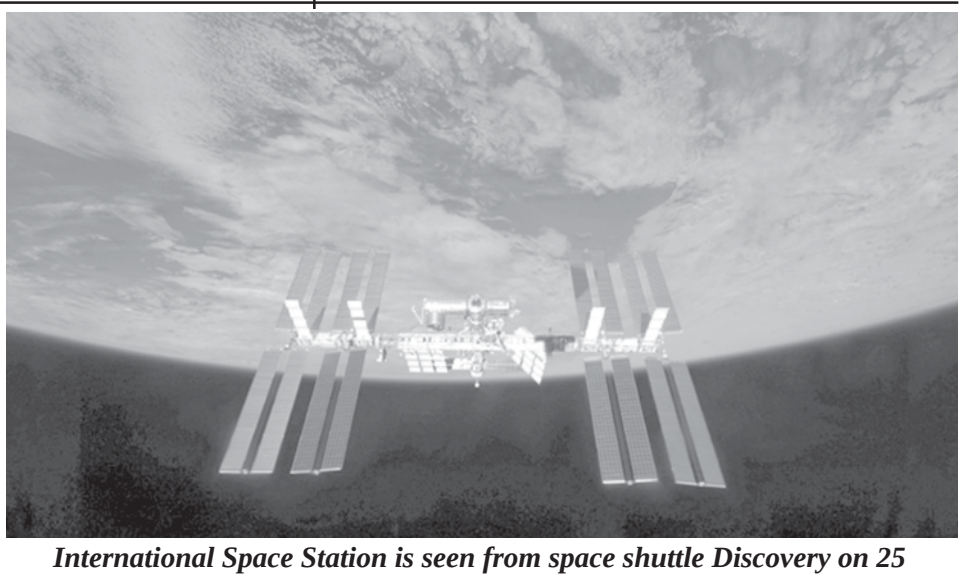
Moscow, 8 May—A Russian cargo spaceship blasted off on Thursday from the Baikonur space center in Kazakhstan, the Mission Control Center outside Moscow said.

The Progress M-02M spaceship is to deliver some 2.5 tons of supplies for the crew members on board the International Space Station (ISS).The Soyuz-U carrier rocket with the cargo ship atop lifted off at 10:37 pm Moscow time (1837 GMT), said Valery Lyndin, spokesman for the flight control center.

The spacecraft separated from the rocket about nine minutes after the launch and began an autonomous flight, Lyndin said.

The spaceship will dock with the ISS in five days and send food, water, fuel, clothes and equipment, as well as the third Orlan-MK space suit to the crew.

The Progress M-02M is equipped with a modern digital control system, which enables the spacecraft to dock with the ISS more accurately.—*Xinhua*



International Space Station is seen from space shuttle Discovery on 25 March, 2009. —XINHUA

Prime Minister meets departmental officials and local people in Tanai Township and Mohnyin District, inspects Yuzana integrated farm project

Educational staff urged to nurture healthy and fit outstanding human resources on whom State can rely

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Accompanied by Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen Soe Win, the ministers, the deputy minister and departmental heads, Prime Minister General Thein Sein yesterday morning left Nampaung Airport in Myitkyina by Tatmadaw helicopter and inspected crops plantations and tapioca plantation of Yuzana Integrated Farm Project of Yuzana Co Ltd near Bangauk Village of Phakant Township from the helicopter.

The Prime Minister and party attended the cornerstone laying ceremony for Yuzana Tapioca Starch Factory at the project site.

At the hall of the project, Chairman of Yuzana Co Ltd U Htay Myint reported on implementation of 12 aims of the project, progress of agriculture and livestock breeding tasks, construction of roads and bridges on Myitkyina-Namti-Tanai Road Section being undertaken by Ledo Highway Co Ltd.

The Prime Minister appreciated the aims of Yuzana Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Group as they contribute to development of the region and generate jobs for the local people. The Prime Minister instructed officials to organize the technicians to be able to carry out respective tasks, to cultivate various kinds of crops and to build the multi-purpose factories in line with the characteristics of a town and to take fire preventive measures against factories and buildings.

The Prime Minister viewed thriving tapioca and sugarcane plantations and tractors and harvesters manufactured by John Deere Co.

The Prime Minister inspected functions of the tapioca seeds division.

They looked into construction of staff quarters at Yuzana All-round Agriculture Village in the project area, thriving tapioca plantations and land preparations with the use of heavy machinery.

(See page 7)

***Prime Minister General Thein Sein visits Yuzana Integrated Farm Project in Phakant Township.*—MNA**

***Prime Minister General Thein Sein views tractors and harvesters imported from PRC.*—MNA**

***Prime Minister General Thein Sein urges officials to make arrangements for producing electricity with the use of bio-battery.*—MNA**

Prime Minister meets departmental officials…

(from page 6)

The Prime Minister attended the inauguration ceremony of Warazwat Bridge (2) on Myitkyina-Namti-Tanai Road Section constructed by Ledo Highway Co Ltd under the Minister of Construction.

On arrival at Tanai, they were welcomed by Col Tin Maung Win of Tanai Station and officials.

At Hukaung Hall, the Prime Minister met with departmental officials, social organization members and townselders.

Chairman of Tanai Township PDC U Nay Tun Aung reported on progress of the township in all sectors.

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said that Tanai region had bitter experiences of having to live in fear due to lack of security in the past. Thanks to prevailing peace and stability and rule of law now, regional development tasks can be carried out effectively according to plans. Therefore, local people are enjoying fruits of development, he added. Moreover, the Prime Minister urged educational staff to nurture outstanding human resources on whom the State can rely, local people to join hands with health staff for effectively realizing the national health plan and officials to widely implement the integrated farm system to create job opportunities for family members.

The Prime Minister presented clothes to the Township PDC Chairman.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye handed over a TV set to Shanbweyan Town Administrator U Tin Aung Lwin.

The ministers also presented books, uniforms, medicine, textbooks and school uniforms and sport gear for social organizations through officials.

Later, the Prime Minister cordially greeted those present. The Director-General of the Government Office introduced use of bio-battery.

The Prime Minister explained that the bio-battery can easily be made with the use of materials and instructed officials to supervise use of bio-battery at all houses.

Thanks to prevailing peace and stability and rule of law now, regional development tasks can be carried out effectively according to plans.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein greets doctors and nurses at the people's hospital in Tanai.—MNA

The Prime Minister viewed condition of Tanai Bridge in Tanai by car. He inspected erosion at the approach road of the bridge on Shinbweyan bank. Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Tun and the commander reported on digging of the diversion drain for prevention against the bank erosion.

After hearing the reports, the Prime Minister attended to the needs.

At Tanai Hospital, the Prime Minister cordially met with the medical superintendent, doctors and nurses and urged them to make field trips of health services to the grassroots level.

On arrival at Mohnyin, they were welcomed by Col Aye Min Thein and Col Myint Lwin of Mohnyin Station and officials.

At Mohnyin Technological College (Mohnyin), Principal Dr Nay Win Zaw of Mohnyin Technological College (Mohnyin) and Principal Daw Khin San Wai of Mohnyin Degree College welcomed the Prime Minister and party.

The Prime Minister instructed faculty members to nurture the students to become the outstanding persons equipped with good morale and patriotic spirit and to constantly study the progress of international affairs to be competent in the respective fields.

At Seinle Yadana Hall, the Prime Minister met with departmental officials, members of the social organizations of Mohnyin District and Township and townselders.

Chairman of District PDC U Sein Tun reported on matters related to the district and progress of tasks.

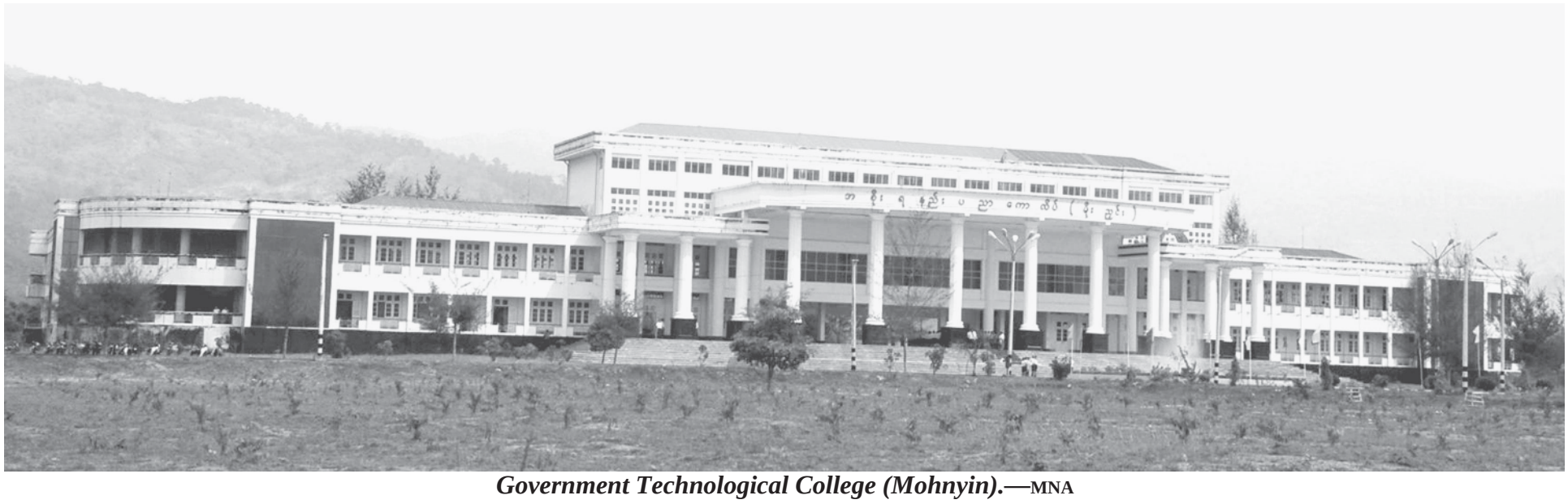
Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw submitted reports on the history of Kachin State and efforts being made for uplifting of living standard of local national people residing in the district.

After hearing the reports, the Prime Minister attended to the needs. In his instructions, the Prime Minister said that as the security has been restored in the regions, the development tasks will gain momentum. He stressed the need to maintain the already achieved security status, peace and stability of the region till posterity, to take part in the respective sectors to undertake development tasks of the nation together with the government and strive for successfully holding the election to be held in 2010 as a duty in accord with the constitution approved by the people.

The Prime Minister presented clothes to Chairman of Mohnyin District PDC U Sein Tun. Lt-Gen Tha Aye and the minister gave TV, books, uniforms for social organizations, medicines, exercise books, textbooks and sports equipment through officials.

At Mohnyin District Hospital, the Prime Minister gave instructions on making field trips to the rural areas for holding health educative talks and carrying out disease control with a view to uplifting the national health standard.

The Prime Minister left Mohnyin by Tatmadaw helicopter and arrived back in Myitkyina in the evening.—*MNA*



Government Technological College (Mohnyin).—MNA

Warazwut Bridge No. (2)…

(from page 1)

Also present on the occasion were Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen Soe Win, ministers, deputy ministers, departmental heads, service personnel, members of social organizations, teachers, students, drum and bugle corps, pom pom troupe and local people.

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint in his speech said that the bridge is the latest one among the 18 above-180-foot-long bridges constructed in Kachin State from 1988 onwards. Warazwut Bridge No (2) on the old road was 775 feet long and 12 feet wide and could withstand only 13 tons of loads. Warazwut Bridge No (2) on the new road is 354 feet long and 22 feet wide. It is of reinforced concrete type and can withstand 60 tons of loads.

The bridge is the result of the hard work the government and the private have jointly exerted for ensuring smooth transport, which is one of the five rural development tasks the government is carrying out.

In the past, Kachin State was difficult of access, and railway and airway were its major transport means. At that time, internal roads were not fine facilities in the region. Local people encountered undesirable consequences of poor Myitkyina-Namti-Tanai Road and lack of security along it for many years. In contrast, now the whole Kachin State has seen stability and peace and has developed considerably in various sectors. As a result, mutual understanding, trust and cooperation have been built among national brethren, security, peace and the rule of law have been restored, national unity has been further cemented, and development tasks can be expedited.

Upholding Our Three Main National Causes, the government is working hard in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State to improve the economic, education, health and transport sectors for equitable development of all parts of the Union.

Now, all the townships and villages are enjoying development with the characteristics of a township and a village. Border areas have seen international level cities and their development is on a par with that of border areas of neighbouring countries.

Up to 1988, the nation had only two large river-spanning bridges: Sagaing Bridge over the Ayeyawady River and Sittoung Bridge over the Sittoung River. The government has constructed eight bridges over the Ayeyawady River, two over the Chindwin River, five over the Thanlwin River, and one over the Sittoung River.

So far, the government has constructed 225 above-180-foot-long bridges over rivers and creeks including Warazwut Bridge No (2) in its time.

The government is trying for all-round development of the nation, bridging the development gap between one region and another, and transforming the nation into a peaceful, modern one. And it has achieved remarkable success due to the active participation of the people.

In conclusion, he called for maintenance of the facility, and sustained collaborative efforts with Union Spirit for emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation in line with the State's seven-step Road Map.

Chairman of Ledo Highway Co Ltd U Htay Myint explained the purpose of the bridge.

A local expressed thanks for the facility.

The Prime Minister and members took positions in front of the pavilion.

The commander, the minister and the company chairman formally opened the bridge.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein strolls along the Warazwut bridge No. 2.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein sprinkles scented water on the stone plaque of Warazwut bridge No. 2.—MNA

Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence unveils the stone plaque of Warazwut bridge No. 2.—MNA

Lt-Gen Tha Aye formally unveiled the stone plaque of the facility.

The Prime Minister sprinkled scented water on the plaque.

The Prime Minister and party, posed for a documentary photo together with officials and damsels of national races.

The Prime Minister and party had a stroll along the bridge.

Warazwut Bridge No (2) is of reinforced concrete type, and is 35 feet long and 22 feet wide. It can withstand 60 tons of loads, and has two three-foot-wide walkways on it.—*MNA*

Congregation led by Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin receive Nine Precepts from a Sayadaw.—MNA

28 Buddha statues, religious buildings at Uppatasanti Pagoda ...

(from page 16)

Insein Township Agga Mahapandita Bhaddanta Tiloka Bhivamsa and Presiding Sayadaw of Pha Hla Zetawun Monastery in Ye, Mon State, Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Indasiri, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, ministers, the Attorney-General, deputy ministers, senior military officers, members of the committees and subcommittees for construction of Oppatasanti Pagoda, chairmen and members of district and township PDCs, members of social organizations, donors and guests.

At 6 am, Sayadaws and Members of the Sangha consecrated 28 Buddha Statues kept in Bodhimyaing Garden in the precinct of the pagoda. At 6.30 am, a ceremony to share merits for donation of Withongama Cima (Ordination Building) was followed at the building.

The ceremony was opened with a three-time recitation of Namotassa and the congretation received the Nine-Precepts from Sayadaw of Maha Withudayama (Aletaik) Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Visara.

Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin offered alms to the Sayadaw. Next, the commander and the ministers offered alms to the members of the Sangha.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kundalajoti delivered a sermon and the congregation shared merits gained.

The Sayadaws and the members of the Sangha consecrated the building.

Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin, the commander, ministers, deputy ministers and departmental officials donated provisions to the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha.

MNA

Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin donate rice and offertories to a Sayadaw.

MNA

Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin offer provisions to a Sayadaw.—MNA

Water poured at Maha Bo tree, aquatic animals set free in precinct of Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—A ceremony to pour water at Maha Bo tree in the precinct of Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw and set aquatic animals free was held in the precinct of the pagoda here at 5 pm today, and Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin attened the ceremony and poured water at the Maha Bo tree and set aquatic animals free.

Also present on the occasion were members of the Leading Committee for Construction of the Pagoda and work committees, the chairmen of Nay Pyi Taw District and Township Peace and Development Councils, and members of religious associations.

The ceremony was opened with the recitation of Namo Tassa three times by the congregation led by the commander.

Master of ceremonies Saddhamma Jotikadhaja U Thura recited religious verses to pay homage to the Maha Bo tree.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and officials offered water to the Maha Bo tree and poured water and scented water at it.

After that, members of the religious associations poured water at the Maha Bo tree and the master of ceremonies recited religious verses.

The ceremony to pour water at the Maha Bo tree ended with the three-time recitation of Buddha Sasanam Ciramtitthatu.

The ceremony to set aquatic animals free followed at Malini Mingala Lake in the precinct of the pagoda.

The ceremony was opened with the recitation of religious verses by the master of ceremonies.

Afterwards, the commander and party set the aquatic animals free and fed them.

Next, members of the religious associations set the aquatic animals free, and the master of ceremonies recited religious verses to put the ceremony to an end.

At 4 pm, before the ceremony, members of the religious associations from ministries, battalions and regiments, and townships of Nay Pyi Taw District recited religious verses in the cave of Uppatasanti Pagoda.

Today, Fullmoon Day of Kason, the compound of Uppatasanti Pagoad was packed with Buddhist devotees from townships of Nay Pyi Taw District and other regions including those who observed precepts and offered flowers and water to the pagoda.

MNA

Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo inspects the museum, Pitakattaik and Mawguntaik.—MNA

Secretary-1 addresses meeting on Uppatasanti Pagoda…

(from page 16)

The commander reported on arrangements for formation of the pagoda board of trustees, construction of the museum, Pitakattaik and Mawguntaik and greening tasks. Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko reported on the list of Ovadacariya Sayadaws of the board of trustees, the list of members of panel of patrons and members of the board of trustees, drafting of rules and regulations of the board of trustees and plans to display booths at the museum, Pitakattaik and Mawguntaik.

Attorney General U Aye Maung reported on proposal on drafting of the rules and regulations of the pagoda board of trustees and Brig-Gen Nyan Tun of the Ministry of Defence on progress in construction of religious buildings in the princint of the pagoda and future tasks.

Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo and members of the Shwedagon Pagoda board of trustees U Mya Thein and U Sein Win Aung discussed their proposals on maintaining the durability of the Uppatasanti Pagoda.

In giving a concluding speech, the Secretary-1 stressed the need for carrying out maintenance tasks for the Uppatasanti Pagoda in accord with the times, for choosing members of the pagoda board of trustees and office staff who will work for maintenance tasks out of goodwill and patience and for participation of ministries in the construction work of the pagoda. The meeting then ended in the afternoon.

After the meeting, the Secretary-1 viewed the sample paintings of famous pagodas in states and divisions and ten Jataka stories in the cave of the pagoda. Head of Public Relations and Information Department of Yangon City Development Committee U Hla Myint Swe conducted the Secretary-1 round the cave. Next, the Secretary-1 was conducted round the museum, Pitakattaik and Mawguntaik by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko and officials. The Secretary-1 gave instructions on display of Buddhology and history of Myanmar's famous pagodas and the Uppatasanti Pagoda in the museum.

Later, the Secretary-1 viewed the materials used in the ceremony to drive stakes for construction of the Uppatasanti Pagoda in the museum and paintings of Myanmar's famous pagodas and Buddhology and treatises on Theravada Buddhism at the library and left necessary instructions.

MNA

Kalaw, Taunggyi enjoy farming progress

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence accompanied by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Yar Pyae and officials concerned on 7 May morning met with servicemen and family members at the hall in Kalaw Station.

They inspected tasks of pig farm in Heho station.

Afterwards, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing looked into chrysanthemum plantations in Ingaung village and in YehtwetU ward in Ayethaya.

At Htonpho Research Farm of Agriculture Research Department in Taunggyi, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing heard reports on progress of research works presented by the Assistant Research Officer and attended to the needs.

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing viewed sample potato and paddy strains produced by the research farm and left necessary instructions.—*MNA*

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing visits chrysanthemum plantations.—MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw tours Mon State

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence on 6 May arrived at Sittoung Bridge and was welcomed by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of Southeast Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win and departmental officers.

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw and party inspected process of the tasks, Bio-battery-used LED bulbs and finished goods in No 1 Paper Mill in Kyaikto Township.

Next, he also looked into maintenance and bank erosion at Kyonmaku bridge on district-to-district road No 2, Khawa bridge on Hsintwin-Winkan road section, Hsaungnainggyi bridge near Kyaung village in Kyaikto Township, Gadak bridge on Zikon-Hsintwin road section and Thephyu bridge on Gazai-Hngetpyawtaw road section. He then gave necessary instructions to officials and greeted the local people.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw, the commander and party proceeded to Thaton Township.

MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence inspects Kyonmaku bridge.

MNA

Egypt brushes off reports on nuclear traces

CAIRO, 8 May — Egypt said on Thursday media reports that UN nuclear inspectors found traces of highly enriched uranium at an Egyptian reactor complex addressed an old issue that had already been resolved.

A restricted International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) report, obtained by *Reuters* on Wednesday, said the inspectors found the traces but did not specify if they were weapons-grade — enriched to a high-enough level to make a bomb.

Diplomats said the traces were not enriched to that grade but their fissile concentration was higher than the level normally suited to fuelling civilian nuclear power stations.

The report said Egypt had explained to the IAEA that it believed the highly enriched uranium (HEU) "could have been brought into the country through contaminated radio-isotope transport containers." Egypt's Foreign Ministry spokesman Hossam Zaki said in a statement the media reports were "mistaken and old" and led to questions about the motivations behind such a leak.

"Egypt previously explained to the agency the circumstances of this issue and the officials in the agency agreed with the Egyptian explanation," he said, adding that the IAEA had always affirmed Egypt's nuclear plans were peaceful.

He said the issue had been first raised in 2007.

Internet

An investigator walks through a gaming hall destroyed by fire in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine, on 7 May, 2009. A fire raced through a gaming hall full of slot machines early on Thursday, killing nine people and injuring 11, the Emergency Ministry said.—INTERNET

Volvo recalls 3,136 vehicles over windshield wiper malfunction

BEIJING, 8 May— Global automaker Volvo Car Corporation decided to recall 3,136 S80 vehicles in China over windshield wiper flaws, said the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (GAQSIQ) here Friday.

In a report to the top quality supervisor, Volvo said it identified a deviation in the Central Electronic Module (CEM) software in its model S800 cars that may cause the windshield wipers to malfunction.

If this happens, the windshield wipers may not work when needed, or they may work when not activated.

The affected vehicles were all imported and produced between Jan. 24, 2006 and June 4, 2007. Volvo and its dealers will contact the owners and inspect the CEM and upgrade the software free of charge.

Internet

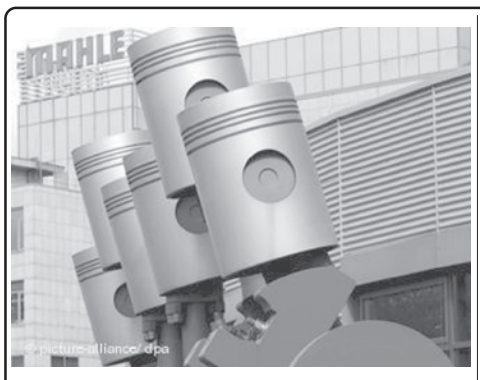
Indian warship for anti-piracy operations in Seychelles

NEW DELHI, 8 May —With sea pirates increasing their activities off Seychelles Islands, the Indian Navy has sent another warship to the region to take on anti-piracy roles in tandem with foreign navies already there.

Navy sources said here Thursday that an Offshore Patrol Vessel was sent to Seychelles recently to relieve its hydrographic survey vessel, *INS Nirdeshak,* which was diverted for anti-piracy patrol to the Island nation's waters two weeks ago.

"The offshore patrol vessel, which is escorting the Seychelles fast attack craft 'Topaz' following the latter's refit in Vishakapatnam, is likely to stay back in the Island nation's waters for a few days carrying out patrols," the sources said.

The Navy move comes due to increased pirate attacks on ships in the region, following their activities being curtailed by the increased presence of foreign warships in the Gulf of Aden. — *MNA/PTI*



Gigantic car pistons at the entrance to the Mahle production plant in Stuttgart. The firm expects to be in the red in the first half of 2009 and plans to cut more than 10 percent of its 49,000 jobs worldwide.

Man, 84, fights off carjackers with groin kick

An 84-year-old man has a black eye, but he still has his car, after fighting off two would-be carjackers. Ted Mazetier said he stopped Wednesday night to help two men with a disabled car when one punched him in the face and demanded his keys. Mazetier said he kicked the man in the groin and the other in the belly. The two men fled as a passer-by stopped to help.

Police later arrested two suspects for investigation of assault.

Mazetier said he'll think twice before stopping again to help someone on the street. He'll be 85 in June.

Boeing and Airbus to learn efficient flight from birds?

Air drag on vehicles can be reduced by outfitting them with artificial feathers, a research team believes. Real birds have been using the trick for ages.

In addition to long feathers, which birds use to take wing and keep in the air, they have smaller ones called coverts. Coverts in the back of the wing vibrate in the airflow when the bird is gliding.

An Italian team of fluid physics researchers at the University of Genoa used computer modeling to see how big an effect these feathers have on flight efficiency, reports New Scientist magazine. They used a 20-cm diameter cylinder with artificial coverts in a virtual wind tunnel.

The 4 to 6 cm long and 0.5 mm in diameter bristles covered the cylinder at a density of around three fibers per square centimeter, and orienting parallel to the wind. When the wind blew, they started to vibrate just like real coverts do, and reduced the drag on the cylinder by approximately 15%.

The effect is due to the fibers interfering with the air flowing along the surface and preventing the forming of a low-pressure zone behind the cylinder. This zone causes turbulence and increases drag. A similar process explains why fresh, fuzzy tennis balls can speed through the air faster than worn ones, says Alessandro Bottaro, head of the team.

Heartbroken woman has lived in tree for three years

A woman in Heyuan, Guangdong province, has been living in a tree ever since someone broke her heart three years ago.

Huang Meiling, 41, used ropes and wood to build a simple bed in the tree in the city's Chashan park.

She sleeps in the tree every night except during the rainy season. She's refused to give up the tree bed despite pleas from her relatives, friends and neighbours.

Huang, who speaks English, used to be a teacher, said a neighbour.

Tire marks lead police to bike thief

Police tracked down a bike thief by following tire marks on the ground that lead directly to the man's building.

The thief, in Jining, Shandong province, dragged the electric bike on the ground because he was unable to break the lock.

Police traced the tire trail to his hostel and arrested him the following morning while he was still in bed. He confessed to the crime.

NEWS ALBUM

Model Amaris Brown, right, and Kevin Carter smile in Manchester, NH after winning the International Fantasy Hair Competition with a hair style called 'Proud Peacock' designed by Carter of The Artistry of Hair from Farmington Hills, Mich.

This fearsome Frengueillisaurus Ischigualastensis can be viewed at close quarters at an exhibition that's just opened in Rosenheim, near Munich.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV XIANG XIU VOY NO (9028)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG XIU VOY NO (9028) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.5.2009 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 CHINA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

American detained in Italy over death

ROME, 8 May—A 24-year-old American studying in Florence was detained Thursday for questioning in the death of an Italian man, police and news reports said.

The American was found "covered with blood" about 200 metres (yards) from where the body of the victim, 62-year-old Riccardo Nistri, was discovered in a storefront on a quiet Florence street, said Carabinieri police Lt Col Ferdinando Musella.

The ANSA news agency, quoting unidentified investigators, named the American as Johnathan Robert Hindenach of Michigan.

Nistri's son had alerted police after he tried calling his father on the cell phone and heard an American in a "confused state" pick up, Musella said. A friend of the victim's also called police with a similar story and told police Nistri kept a second apartment on the street. *ANSA* said Hindenach had left his hotel Wednesday night in a confused state shouting that people wanted to kill him.

ANSA said he was believed to have been in Florence studying.A receptionist at the hotel, the Grand Hotel Mediterraneo, confirmed that several groups of students were staying at the hotel but said she only knew of the incident from the media.Nistri had two deep cuts in his neck, apparently cut by a broken piece of mirror, ANSA said. Hindenach also was wounded, it said.Hindenach was first taken to the hospital, then brought to the police station for questioning, *ANSA* said.—*Internet*

New Yorker imprisoned in Peru gives birth to boy

LIMA, 8 May—An American woman serving a 20-year sentence in Peru for collaborating with leftist guerrillas gave birth Wednesday to a baby boy, her father said.

New York native Lori Berenson's son was delivered by cesarean section in a civilian hospital in Lima. The boy's father is a former member of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement whom Berenson met in jail and married in 2003."

I'm just ecstatic. This child will likely be my only grandchild, and I'm going to spoil him if I can," her father, Mark Berenson, a former college professor, told *The Associated Press*. Lori Berenson, a 39-year-old former Massachusetts Institute of Technology student, was arrested in 1995 and sentenced to life in prison by a military court the following year. A civilian court retried her in 2000, convicting her of the lesser crime of terrorist collaboration and reducing her sentence.—*Internet*

Brazilians avoid deadly reptiles in fleeing floods

CORIMATA DA CIMA, 8 May—Northern Brazil's worst floods in decades have driven 218,000 people from their homes to seek refuge wherever they can, packing onto flatbed trucks and braving rivers teeming with deadly reptiles in a scramble for higher ground.

Already, 36 people have been killed in the flooding, sparked by unusually heavy rains that have been falling for two months on 10 of Brazil's 26 states. Three times the size of Alaska, the affected area stretches from the normally wet rainforest to coastal states known for lengthy droughts.

Meteorologists blame an Atlantic Ocean weather system that typically moves on by April — and they forecast weeks more of the same.Maria do Remedio Santos, whose fields of rice and manioc lay ruined underwater on Thursday, said it was time to join those fleeing for safety. Heavy rains had begun seeping into her mud-brick, thatched-roof home, where nine relatives and neighbours were camped out. Outside, the dirt road was a muddy river."

For now we're all sleeping in the living room, but we're going to have to leave," she said. "There's no other way out."—*Internet*

Residents ride on top of a truck along a flooded street in Itapecuru Mirim, in the northeast state of Maranhao, Brazil on 7 May, 2009.—INTERNET

Three missing women killed by traffickers

TIJUANA, 8 May—Mexican police say three women who disappeared in the border city of Tijuana were killed by drug traffickers who dissolved their bodies in a caustic substance.

Baja California state investigator Miguel Guerrero says the women — aged 23 to 25 — have been missing since August after they traveled from Mexicali to Tijuana, across from San Diego.

Guerrero says two alleged drug traffickers who were arrested this week confessed to the killings. A third suspect is being sought.

He said in a statement Thursday that the women were killed after one of them argued with one of the suspects in a bar.

The victims were smothered, and their bodies dissolved in a drum.

Internet

Porpoise is 2nd to give birth in captivity

THE HAGUE, 8 May—A porpoise at Harderwijk dolphin centre in the Netherlands has become only the second to give birth in captivity, the centre announced, but the happy event leaves an enigma: is it a boy or a girl?" Mum Amber and her baby, Kwin, are doing fine," the centre said in a statement on Thursday.

A first porpoise was born in captivity in Denmark in 2007." As we don't know much about newborn porpoises, a team of Danish minders has come to help us," the statement said. Visitors can already come to coo over the baby, but there's no way of discovering its sex for several weeks. Another tiny problem: who's the proud father?

Kwin's dad is not known for certain as "two males were swimming with Amber at the moment of conception," the dolphin centre said.—*Internet*

File photo shows a finless porpose at Wuhan Baji Aquarium in China. A porpoise at Harderwijk dolphin centre in the Netherlands has become only the second to give birth in captivity, the centre announced, but the happy event leaves an enigma.—INTERNET

India proposes new railway, seaport links with B'desh

DHAKA, 8 May—Proposing new railway and seaport links with Bangladesh, India has said "constructive talks" on the long-pending transit issue could be resumed once the next government takes over in New Delhi and argued that enhanced connectivity will bring "huge financial gains" to Dhaka.

"Transportation of goods through railway is cheaper than any other modes of transport," Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty told reporters after a meeting with Commerce Minister Faruq Khan here Wednesday night.

Chakravarty suggested establishment of a new railway connection between Akhaura in central Bangladesh and Agartala in Tripura for enhanced trade and said that "constructive" talks on connectivity or transit could resume after a new government takes office in India.

"Everybody now acknowledges that connectivity is necessary. If Bangladesh offers its roads and Chittagong Port for regional use, money will not be a problem for building required infrastructures," he said.

He said New Delhi would like to see the upgrading of the northeastern Chittagong Port as well as southwestern Mongla Port so India could use these to transport its goods to northeastern states. "There are many institutions to provide funding for upgrading the ports".

MNA/PTI

Drive with care

Scientist says volcanic eruption in Congo imminent

KINSHASA, 8 May — Scientists found evidence of intense volcanic activity — including tremors, pools of lava and plumes of smoke — at two volcanoes near a major city in eastern Congo, and said some residents had fled for fear of an eruption.

The volcanoes in the central African nation could be about to erupt, threatening Goma, which has a population of more than half a million people, scientists said Thursday. They made their observations on visits to the two volcanic peaks of Nyiragongo and Nyamulagira.

"The eruption could be tomorrow, or the day after — or at any other time," said Dieudonne Wafula, the head of Goma's Volcanological Observatory.

The Nyiragongo crater is only 11 miles (18 kilometres) north of Lake Kivu, where Goma is located. Wafula estimates that 1.3 million people are threatened by the two volcanoes, including the residents of Goma, the villages surrounding it and the inhabitants of Gisenyi, located across the Rwandan border.

"The villagers living near Nyiragongo have already left their villages after they saw the volcano shake today. They thought it was already erupting," Wafula said.

He said government agencies and Red Cross workers were making preparations, although the country's infrastructure has been destroyed by decades of civil war.

Nyiragongo is listed as one of the eight most dangerous volcanoes in the world and its lava can flow at up to 24 miles (40 kilometres) per hour, according to Wafula.

Internet

***A major volcano in the central African nation could be about to erupt and threaten a town with a population of more than half a million people, scientists said on 7 May, 2009.*—INTERNET**

Two rare elephants found dead in Indonesian jungle

PEKANBARU, 8 May— Two rare Sumatran elephants believed to have been poisoned with cyanide-laced pineapples were found dead in the jungles of northwestern Indonesia with their tusks removed, a conservationist said.

The giant males aged 16 and 23 were discovered Thursday near Pekanbaru, Sumatra, about 560 miles (900 kilometres) from the capital, Jakarta, said Muslino, a spokesman for the Conservation and Natural Resources Agency. Like many Indonesians, he uses just one name.

Four pineapples spiked with cyanide were scattered on the ground near the carcasses and two sets of bloodied tusks had been hidden in the underbrush, said Muslino.

Police were searching for poachers believed responsible, he said.

Internet

Cleveland bridge to be moved 4 inches

CLEVELAND, 8 May — Construction workers in Cleveland face a Herculean task — moving the 70-million-ton Inner Belt Bridge 4 inches to the west, officials say.

The west end of the span, which carries Interstate 90 over the Cuyahoga River, will be raised off its piers, set on greased plates and then jacked the inches necessary to get it realigned properly, The Plain Dealer reported on Wednesday.

Once in place, the bridge will be re-bolted to the piers.The project is to start Friday night and take several days to complete.

Most of the work is to be done at night so traffic interruptions should be minimized, officials say.

"Basically we are going to pick it up and open it up," said Tom Hyland, a Ohio Transportation Department construction engineer.

The project is being undertaken for safety reasons, Hyland said. Relocating the bridge will help an expansion joint to work as designed.

The joint is closed so tightly now that summer heat could cause it to jam or shut, putting more stress on the span.Ultimately, the bridge needs major repairs and likely replacement, the Cleveland newspaper said.

Internet

Britain to remove some DNA profiles from database

An assistant forensic scientist extracts DNA from crime scene samples, at The Forensic Science Service in south London.
INTERNET

LONDON, 8 May — Britain bowed to a court ruling and promised Thursday to remove the DNA records of hundreds of thousands of innocent people from its vast national database of genetic information — but many will have to wait up to 12 years for their details to be deleted.People arrested on suspicion of a vast range of minor offenses, from shoplifting to public drunkenness, will have their DNA profiles held for six years even if they are not charged.

Critics accused the government of flouting the spirit of a European Court of Human Rights ruling and undermining the legal presumption of innocence in British law. The court in December rejected Britain's "blanket and indiscriminate" storage of genetic information."People in Britain should be innocent until proven guilty," said Chris Grayling, law and order spokesman for the opposition Conservatives. "Ministers are just trying to get away with as little as they possibly can instead of taking real action to remove innocent people from the DNA database."

Internet

Brazil, Argentina confirm first cases of swine flu

SAO PAULO, 8 May—Brazil and Argentina have confirmed five swine flu cases within their borders as the virus affects more nations in South America.

Brazilian Health Minister Jose Gomes Temporao says four young adults contracted the flu outside the country, which is home to the continent's largest population.

He says three of them caught the virus in Mexico, and one in Florida. Only one remains hospitalized and is reported in good condition.

Argentine Health Minister Graciela Ocana says the first person sickened by the virus in her country is a man who returned from Mexico on 25 April.

He has already been released from the hospital.

Before Thursday, Colombia was the only South American nation to confirm swine flu with its borders.—*Internet*

WHO confirms 2,371 human A/H1N1 flu cases worldwide

GENEVA, 8 May— Twenty-four countries have officially reported 2,371 cases of A/H1N1 influenza infection as of 18:00 GMT Thursday, the World Health Organization (WHO) said in a latest update.

Mexico has reported 1,112 laboratory confirmed human cases of infection, including 42 deaths. The United States has reported 896 laboratory confirmed human cases, including two deaths.

The following governments have reported laboratory confirmed cases with no deaths: Austria (1), Canada (201), Hong Kong, China (1), Colombia (1), Costa Rica (1), Denmark (1), El Salvador (2), France (5), Germany (10), Guatemala (1), Ireland (1), Israel (6), Italy (5), Netherlands (2), New Zealand (5), Poland (1), Portugal (1), Republic of Korea (3), Spain (81), Sweden (1), Switzerland (1)and Britain (32).

Internet

H1N1 genes dissimilar to past outbreaks

LIVERMORE, 8 May — US researchers failed to find most genetic markers of influenza infection severity identified from past outbreaks in the current H1N1 flu.Jonathan Allen and Tom Slezak of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory published their analysis identifying 34 conserved amino acid markers from past pandemic flu strains two weeks ago.

They have since studied sequences from the new virus and found that only about half of their 34 markers are present."This lack of similarity does not necessarily mean that the current H1N1 virus is not going to be a major problem, but it does suggest that it lacks many of the attributes that have made previous outbreaks deadly," Slezak said in a statement.

However, the researchers stress that, although their work appears to suggest the current virus may not be as dangerous as feared, more studies are required before any firm conclusions can be drawn.

Internet

SPORTS

Bremen edge Hamburg to brave into UEFA Cup final

BERLIN, 8 May — German football powerhouse Werder Bremen staged an incredible comeback victory in Hamburg as they edged local rivals Hamburg 3-3 on aggregate to brave into the UEFA Cup final on away goals.

Playmaker Diego, Claudio Pizarro and Frank Baumann hit the net for Werder, with Hamburg's Ivica Olic scoring the first and last of the game.

Werder Bremen thus overturned a 1-0 home deficit from the first leg to beat Hamburg 3-2 and qualify for the final of the UEFA Cup on the away goals rule.

Bremen will now meet Ukrainian side Shakhtar Donetsk in the final in Istanbul on May 20th - unfortunately without Diego, who is suspended after picking up a booking.

Thomas Schaaf's men are rapidly becoming something of a bogey team for their northern German rivals, having beaten them on penalties, also in Hamburg's back yard, in the DFB Cup semi-final just over two weeks ago.

The match was a pulsating encounter from the off and the first clear chance fell to Bremen, Claudio Pizarro heading a cross from Sebastian Boenisch over the bar in the 12th minute.—*Xinhua*

Werder Bremen's Mesut Oezil (L), Claudio Pizarro (C) and Hugo Almeida celebrate a goal against Hamburg SV during their UEFA Cup semi-final return soccer match in Hamburg on 7 May, 2009.—XINHUA

Arsenal defender Clichy out for rest of season

LONDON, 8 May — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger confirmed on Thursday that defender Gael Clichy will be sidelined for the rest of the season due to a back injury.

The 23-year-old French full-back sustained the injury during the Champions League quarterfinal first leg at Villarreal on 7 April and has missed Arsenal's last 10 matches.

"It is finished for Gael. We would have put a little more pressure on the recovery period had we gone to the Champions League final, but now we will not take a gamble," Wenger told the club's website.

Arsenal, knocked out of the Champions League by Manchester United on Tuesday, are fourth in the Premier League with three matches remaining. —*Xinhua*

Safina, Venus advance, Jankovic loses at Italian Open

ROME, 8 May —Russia's world number one Dinara Safina clawed back to beat Spanish player Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez 4-6,6-3, 6-0 on Thursday and reached the Italian Open semifinals, while American Venus Williams eased through Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland 6-1, 6-2.

Two-time defending champion Jelena Jankovic lost to Russia's Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-1, 7-6(3). Safina is seeking her first title since climbing to the top of the rankings last month, but was pressured in the first set by the48th-ranked Martinez Sanchez, who mixed up her game with a number of drop shots and net winners.

The Russian trailed 3-1 in the second set before turning her game around, winning 11 consecutive games to clinch the set and then the decider. Safina next plays Williams, who took just a little over an hour to defeat a listless Radwanska. Kuznetsova, eighth ranked in the world, continued her strong form by ousting Jankovic in straight sets. —*Internet*

A coach (R) instructs the players of the new Chinese women's national volleyball team during their training in Chenzhou, central China's Hunan Province, on 7 May , 2009. —XINHUA

UEFA to rule on Drogba next week

GENEVA,8 May — UEFA said Friday it will decide next week whether or not to take action against Chelsea striker Didier Drogba for his onslaught on the referee at the end of the Chelsea-Barcelona Champions League tie on Wednesday.

Drogba faces potentially severe sanctions over his furious confrontation of Norwegian referee Tom Henning Ovreba after Barcelona's injury time goal sent the London side crashing out of the competition at the semi-final stage.

His case was further aggravated by him screaming into a television camera that the official had been a "fucking disgrace."A UEFA spokesman told that UEFA has received the referee's report and that the "disciplinary body is examining the referee's report to see if they will open a disciplinary case or several cases."

Internet

UEFA said Friday it will decide next week whether or not to take action against Chelsea striker Didier Drogba for his onslaught on the referee at the end of the Chelsea-Barcelona Champions League tie.—INTERNET

Samba stars send Shakhtar Donetsk into UEFA Cup final

DONETSK,8 May — Shakhtar Donetsk thanked their Brazilian contingent's eye for goal as they saw off fellow Ukrainians Dynamo Kiev 2-1 to reach the UEFA Cup final for the first time on Thursday.

Donetsk's 3-2 semi-final aggregate win gave them a May 20 final date in Istanbul against Werder Bremen who put out German rivals Hamburg on the away goals rule.Shakhtar coach Mircea Lucescu praised his team.

"We are now a part of the history of European football," he said. "It was a tough game as Dynamo were at their best as well."

Brazilian Ilsinho netted a goal fit to win any game, finishing with aplomb at the end of a flowing move two minutes from time to send his teamates into a May 20 final in Istanbul.—*Internet*

Luiz Adriano of Shakhtar Donetsk (L) fights for the ball with Ayila Yussuf of FC Dynamo Kiev during semi-finals, on the second leg football match of UEFA Cup in Donetsk, Ukraine.—INTERNET

Hammam wins election to retain FIFA committee seat

KUALA LUMPUR, 8 May — Mohamed Bin Hammam will retain his seat on FIFA's executive committee, winning by just two votes on Friday at the Asian Football Confederation Congress.

After two ballots were deemed spoiled and inadmissible, the 46 nation AFC Congress voted in favor of the AFC president 23 votes to 21 against his Bahraini opponent, Sheik Salman bin Ebrahim Al-Khalifa.

"You have really shown the world the meaning of democracy," Hammam said."It was really a close competition. To those who supported me, I promise I will do more than I have done," he said. "To those who didn't support me, I promise I will do more to gain your trust and confidence."

The Qatari businessman had said he would resign as head of the AFC if he had lost the election.Sheikh Salman accepted Friday's outcome, with no dispute over the spoiled ballots, but said the narrow margin of victory put the president on notice to improve his performance.

Internet

Asian Football Confederation (AFC) President Mohamed bin Hammam speaks during the 23rd AFC Congress at a hotel in downtown Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 8 May , 2009.
INTERNET

Hewitt, Berdych advance at Munich Open

BERLIN, 8 May — Australia's former world number one Lleyton Hewitt and fourth-seeded Tomas Berdych both made it through to the quarterfinals of the Munich Open on Thursday.

Hewitt, who is coming back after hip injury, dropped the first three games but won the next six in the opening set against Dutch qualifier Thiemo De Bakkera.

Hewitt, a wild card entry, won the second set at 6-4. Czech player Berdych rallied to beat Germany's Andreas Beck 1-6,6-4, 7-6(4).—*Xinhua*

US soldier found guilty in Iraqi rape, deaths

LOUISVILLE, 8 May—A former US soldier was convicted on Thursday of raping an Iraqi girl and killing her and her family near Baghdad in 2006 and now faces a possible death sentence. The federal court jury that delivered guilty verdicts on all 16 counts against former Private 1st Class Steven Green will decide his fate in the trial's death penalty phase beginning on Monday.

Green, 24, was tried in federal court as a civilian on murder, rape and obstruction of justice charges since his arrest came after he was discharged from the US Army later in 2006 for a "personality disorder". The trial, which lasted eight days before 1-1/2 days of jury deliberations, featured prosecution testimony by Green's former comrades in which they detailde the brutal assault, one of several incidents involving American soldiers that enraged Iraqis and strained US relations.

MNA/Reuters

Students wearing masks attend a class at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (NAUM) in the Mexico City, 7 May 2009.

XINHUA

MRTV-3
Programme Schedule
(9.5.2009) (Saturday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am ~ 10:00am) MST
Europe	- (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm) MST
North America	- (23:30pm ~ 07:30am) MST

Local Transmission

* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
* Parabaik writings
* Slates for decoration with striking natural perfection
* Music icon: Violinist U Tin Yee
* Rakhine Traditional Festivals in the Month of Kason
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
* Nyaung Yethun Festival
* Beauty of Myanmar Women's Costume in Twelve Seasons (Kason)
* Four Greatest Places of Lord Buddha "Lumbini-Birth Place of Buddha"
* Let's Decorate with Enchanting Toys!
* Bottled Buddha Image
* Honourable Composer Myoma Nyein " Royal Palace "
* Variety Dances of Marionette "Dance of the Zawgyee"
* Everyone has a life
* Myanmar Modern Song
* Parabaik writings
* Slates for decoration with striking natural perfection
* Music icon: Violinist U Tin Yee
* Rakhine Traditional Festivals in the Month of Kason
* A creator of collage
* The royal animal weights of the Myanmar empires
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

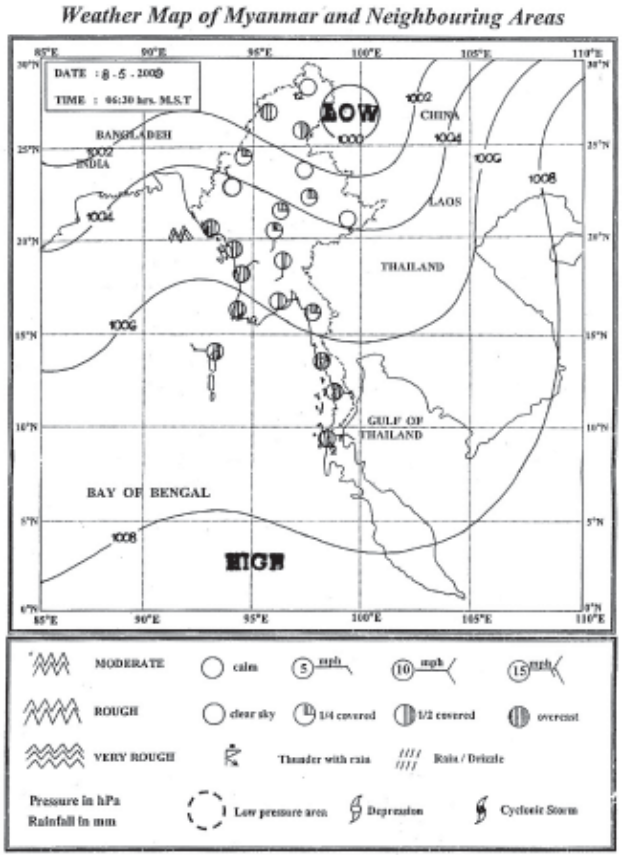
Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

TV Myanmar

Saturday, 9 May
View on today

7:00 am
1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြု ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်၊ ယောဆရာတော်ဘုရား၏ ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်
7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am
3. Morning news
7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song
7:50 am
5. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
8:00 am
6. ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်
8:15 am
7. "သတိတစ်ချက်တစ်သက်အမှား" (ကျော်မင်းနောင်၊ ကြည်လဲ့လဲ့ဦး၊ နန်းကလျာလှိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စောစန္ဒာလှိုင်)
8:30 am
8. International news
8:45 9. Musical programme
11:00 am
1. Martial song
11:10 am
2. Musical programme
11:20 am
3. Game for children
11:45 am
4. Round up of the week's TV local news
12:25 pm
5. Yan can cook
12:45 pm
6. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အားကိုးချစ်သူကျေးတောသူ" (အပိုင်း-၄၃)
1:20 pm
7. ဆန်းကြယ်ထူးခြားပြိုင်ပွဲများ "Telematch"
2:15 pm
8. Dance of national races
2:30 pm
9. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
2:45 pm
10. Interational news
4:00 pm
1. Martial song
4:10 pm
2. Musical programme
4:25 pm
3. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
4:35 pm
4. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
4:45 pm
5. အဇေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ပထမနှစ် (သခ္ခါ၊ ဓာတုဗေဒ၊ ရူပဗေဒအထူးပြုများ) (ရူပဗေဒ)
5:00 pm
6. Songs to uphold National Spirit
5:10 pm
7. Musical programme
5:25 pm
8. ချစ်စရာအရွယ်ကစားကြမယ်
5:50 pm
9. သဘာဝပတ်ဝန်းကျင်နှင့် ကြွပ်ကြွပ်အိတ်
6:00 pm
10. Evening news
6:30 pm
11. Weather report
6:35 pm
12. အလှရှာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်
6:50 pm
13. ပဥ္စလက်ကျောင်းတော်
7:10 pm
14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သူ့သက်ထား" (အပိုင်း-၁၁)
8:00 pm
15. News
16. International news
17. Weather report
18. ကာတွန်းအစီအစဉ် "ဒိုင်နိုဆောမိသားစုစွန့်စားခန်း" (အပိုင်း-၅)
19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကျေးဇူးတင်ပါတယ်" (အပိုင်း-၈)

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 8 May, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in Kachin State, scattered in Taninthayi Division, isolated in Shan and Chin States, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above May average temperatures in Shan State, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above May average temperatures in Kachin State and Sagaing Division and about May average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were Monywa and NyaungU (44°C) each, Chauk (43°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Machanbaw (0.51) inch, Putao (0.48) inch, Sagaing (0.28) inch and Yamethin (0.24) inch.

Maximum temperature on 7-5-2009 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 8-5-2009 was 74°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 8-5-2009 was 71%. Total sunshine hours on 7-5-2009 was (9.9) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 8-5-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (2.40) inches at Mingaladon, (3.62) inches at Kaba-Aye and (5.63) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southwest at (18:30) hour MST on 7-5-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 9th May 2009: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 9-5-2009: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 9-5-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 9-5-2009: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Weather outlook for second weekend of May 2009: During the coming weekend, Likelihood of rain or thundershowers are isolated in Yangon Division, possibility of rain or thundershowers are isolated in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division.

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The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

28 Buddha statues, religious buildings at Uppatasanti Pagoda consecrated

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May — A ceremony to consecrate 28 Buddha statues, to share merits gained for construction of Withongama Ordination Hall and religous buildings in the compound of Uppatasanti Pagoda was held at the pagoda here today (on Full Moon Day of Kason).

Chairman of the leading committee for construction of Uppatasanti Pagoda Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin attended the ceremony.

It was also attended by 108 members of the Sangha led by State Ovadacariya Sayadaws including Sayadaw of Maha Withutayama (Aletaik) in Pakokku Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Visara and Presiding Sayadaw of Maha Withudayama Zaygon Kyaungtaik in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Kavisara, Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Zawtikayon Pali Tekkatho in Pyay Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Kundalajoti, Joint Secretary Sayadaws of SSMNC Presiding Sayadaw of Ywama Pariyatti Sarthintaik in

(See page 9)

***28 Buddha statues being consecrated.*—MNA**

Secretary-1 addresses meeting on Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May —A coordination meeting on Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw took place at the office of the pagoda board of trustees here at 10.30 am today with an address by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Construction of the Uppatasanti Pagoda Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo.

Present at the meeting were Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, members of the leading committee and work committee and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, the Secretary-1 said the meeting was held with the aims of forming the pagoda board of trustees responsible for maintenance of the already-built Uppatasanti Pagoda, of carryin out the remaining tasks for the pagoda and of considering necessary things in the maintenance of the pagoda and continuing the future tasks.

Next, the Secretary-1 invited discussions and advice on related sectors.

(See page 10)

***Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo speaks at the coordination meeting of Uppatasanti Pagoda.*—MNA**

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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