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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

Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Egypt

YANGON, 23 July— Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Mohamed Hosni Mubarak, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on the occasion of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt which falls on 23 July 2005. —*MNA*

Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

YANGON, 22 July— Mr Naceur Boucherit, newly accredited Ambassador of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Zeyathiri Beikman, Konmyinttha at 10 am today.

Also present on the occasion were State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and U Maung Myint, and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department.

MNA

Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of newly-accredited Algerian Ambassador Mr Naceur Boucherit at Zeyathiri Beikman.— MNA

Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of the Head of Delegation of the European Commission

YANGON, 22 July— Dr Friedrich Hamburger, newly accredited Head of Delegation of the European Commission to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Zeyathiri Beikman, Konmyinttha at 10.30 am today.

Also present on the occasion were State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and U Maung Myint, and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department. — *MNA*

Senior General Than Shwe receives newly-accredited Head of Delegation of the European Commission to the Union of Myanmar Dr Friedrich Hamburger.— MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 23 July, 2005

Towards successful implementation of economic plans

The government is putting its energies into the implementation of plans in various sectors and development tasks in various states and divisions for both regional and national development. In the time of the Tatmadaw Government, special emphasis has been placed on parallel development of all the regions across the Union and Taninthayi Division is no exception.

As Taninthayi Division is rich in terrestrial and aquatic resources, regional as well as national development would be a reality if the government, the people and the Tatmadaw pull together.

Strong economy is the name of the game if a democracy is to be established, and to strengthen the national economy, encouragement and assistance of the government and co-operation of the national entrepreneurs with capability and investment are essential. For example, the Pahtaw dam inaugurated in Kyunsu Township, Myeik District, Taninthayi Division, on 10 July is the fruit of cooperation of the national entrepreneurs.

The Pahtaw dam is an earthern one with the capacity of storing up to 70 million gallons of water and will be able to supply water to mills and workshops on the Pahtaw island besides 7,000 people. A national company spent 300 million kyats on the dam.

The government has paved the way for the national entrepreneurs in order that they can engage in various kinds of business and contribute to the national economy. Although agriculture and livestock breeding are the main pillar of the national economy, 19 industrial zones, all told, have been set up across the nation.

Made up of more than 800 islands and rich in natural resources, Taninthayi Division is the region that exports marine products more than any other region in Myanmar. Moreover, it has favourable conditions for growing rubber and oil palm and a great deal of potential for production of natural gas, oil and other minerals and for the development of tourism industry. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has hoped that Taninthayi Division is the region that can be relied on for national economic development.

Therefore, we would like to call on all those responsible, local people and national entrepreneurs not only in Taninthayi Division but also in other regions to work in concert to be able to fully realize the economic plans and meet the economic targets set for their respective regions.

ကျေးရွာတိုင်းကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များ
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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**

Advice taken from Ovadaçariya Sayadaws at Botahtaung Pagoda

Botahtaung Pagoda Board of Trustees taking the Ovada of Sayadaws. — NLM

YANGON, 22 July — Botahtaung Pagoda Board of Trustees took the Ovada concerning accomplishments during the four-month period and future tasks from Ovadaçariya Sayadaws in conjunction with the ceremony to donate Waso robes at the meeting hall of the pagoda board of trustees this morning.

Present were State Ovadaçariya Botahtaung Pagoda Board of Trustees' Ovadaçariya Phayabyu Monastery Presiding Nayaka Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Narindabhivamsa of Pazundaung Township and Ovadaçariya Sayadaws, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, departmental officials, local authorities, Alternate Member of the Pagoda Board of Trustees U Aung Hsu and members and wellwishers. The Phayabyu Monastery Sayadaw administered the Five Precepts.

U Aung Hsu of the Pagoda Board of Trustees supplicated on accomplishments in the four-month period and tasks to be undertaken. The Minister and officials received the suggestions from the Ovadaçariya Sayadaws.

The Minister and party donated Waso robes to the Sayadaws. The Phayabyu Monastery Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits. Later, they offered 'soon' to members of the Sangha.— *MNA*

Health Minister attends Food and Drug Administration Special Meeting

YANGON, 22 July — The Food and Drug Administration held a special meeting at the hall of National Health Committee of the Ministry of Health on Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Road in Dagon Township this morning.

Chairman of Myanmar Food and Drug Authority Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint delivered an address, saying that the law related to food and drug has been enacted. The Ministry of Health and Development Affairs Department observe the laws to enable the people to use quality food and drug. Yangon and Mandalay City Development Committees are responsible to take measures of food and drug, and Development Affairs Department and Township Peace and Development Councils are to cooperate in carrying out functions related to food and drug in the respective townships.

Now, the foods containing the unauthorized dyes are harmful to the health of the people. So, foods for sales must be standardized in accord with the quality norms. The Ministry of Home Affairs included in the Food and Drug Administration took severe actions against offenders under the laws by taking preventive measures of dangers of food and drug. It is necessary to expose unqualified and fake medicines in the markets as an act of providing health care service to the people. In conducting the test, differences of quality sample medicines and the disqualified ones are visible. Now, the Drug Advisory Committee authorizes the quality medicines to get registration. Ministries concerned are to cooperate with one another and perform their respective functions to be able to produce quality food and drug for the people. In doing so, food and drug supervisory committees are to perform their respective functions of food and drug administration.

Director-General Dr Tin Win Maung of Health Department reported on tasks carried out by the respective supervisory committees. Director (Food and Drug Administration) Dr Soe Myat Tun clarified matters concerning the notification on food and drug (draft). The participants took part in the discussions. Later, the meeting ended with the concluding remarks of the meeting chairman.– *MNA*

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint speaks at meeting of the Food and Drug Administration. — HEALTH

China to be more actively involved in Red Cross activities

BEIJING, 21 July— Chinese President Hu Jintao said here on Wednesday that China will be more actively involved in Red Cross activities and will conduct long-term cooperation with the Red Cross organizations of other countries.

"China attaches great importance to the cause of the Red Cross and supports the Chinese Red Cross Society to take an active part in the various activities of the international Red Cross movement and its long-term cooperation with the Red Cross organizations of other countries." Hu told Jakob Kellenberger, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

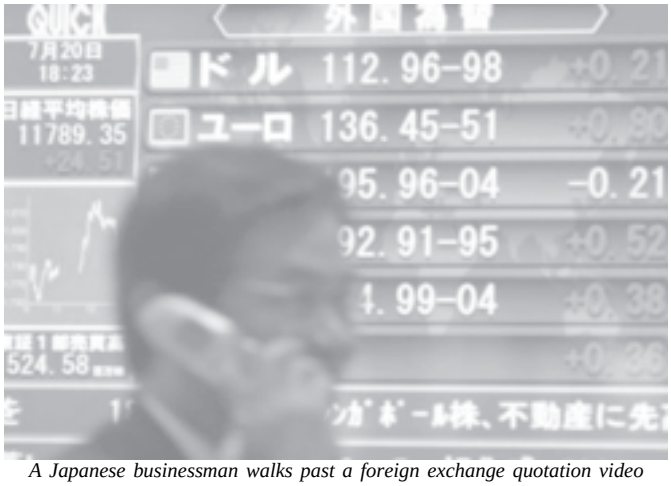
Hu, also honorary chairman of the Red Cross Society of China, said with China's economic and social development and progress, the Chinese Government is ready to make more contributions to the protection of people's life and health and the promotion of the peaceful co-existence and the harmonious development of all human beings.

The Chinese President spoke highly of the ICRC's "important role" in international humanitarian affairs and its friendly exchanges and cooperation with China's Red Cross Society.

Kellenberger said the ICRC values China's role in the international Red Cross movement and hopes for closer ties with the Chinese Government and the Chinese Red Cross Society.

On Wednesday morning, Kellenberger signed an agreement with Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing, formally announcing the establishment of an ICRC representative office in Beijing.— *MNA/Xinhua*

ကုလကုန်စည်သတ်မှတ်ချက်



A Japanese businessman walks past a foreign exchange quotation video screen while speaking on his mobile phone in Tokyo on 20 July, 2005. INTERNET

Cambodia to hold first film festival

PHNOM PENH, 21 July—Cambodia is to hold its first film festival in 15 years, local media reported on Wednesday.

The film festival featuring recent Cambodian films will take place from 28 November to 2 December, Khim Sarith, Secretary of State of Ministry of Culture, announced on Tuesday.

"The aim of the film festival is to promote Cambodia's film industry to a new high level through exchanges and learning from each other," he said.

Cambodia's films produced in 2004 and 2005 and with more than 90-minute long will be eligible for the first festival since 1990. Ministry of Culture Undersecretary Som Sokun said that 53 Cambodian films were made last year and 32 so far this year, despite lack of film or acting schools.

"The number of productions is increasing but the quality is lacking," he was quoted by *The Cambodia Daily* as saying.

Cambodia's film-making had its heyday in the 1960s and early 1970s, led by the prolific productions of former King Norodom Sihanouk, who produced, directed, wrote, acted, and scored 28 films.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Human fingerprints found on pottery pieces of 3,600 years ago

NANCHANG, 21 July— Human fingerprints were found on pottery pieces dating back to more than 3,600 years ago in Wannian County of east China's Jiangxi Province, local museum announced on Wednesday.

The discovery is of great significance to research on anthropology, sociology, and medicine in China, according to the provincial cultural relics administration.

The fingerprints were found on seven pottery pieces, which was unearthed from a cultural relics site of Shang Dynasty (1,600 BC to 1,100 BC), when employees of the county's museum sifting collections early this month, said Wang Binwan, head of the museum.

"The seven pottery pieces were all found on the knobs of several potteries and the fingerprints on three pieces can be seen clearly," said Wang.

Fingerprints were used as decoration on potteries in the Neolithic Ages in China and later they were used to as symbol of credit in the Shang Dynasty, the Western Zhou Dynasty (1,100 BC-771 BC) and the Eastern Zhou Dynasty (770 BC to 221 BC), said Wang.—*MNA/Xinhua*

World's second largest storage co expands terminal in S'pore

SINGAPORE, 21 July — Oiltanking, the world's second largest storage company for oils, chemicals and gases, began its 6th phase of expansion in Singapore on Wednesday.

Located on Jurong Island, Singapore's petrochemical centre, Oiltanking's expanded terminal is expected to be completed next year. Being the world's third largest oil hub and the top bunkering location, Singapore saw over 3,200 vessels of chemical transshipment traffic in 2004, more than double of the 1,500 tankers in 2000.

Oiltanking has become a key player in enhancing Singapore's role as one of the Asia's leading manufacturing, transshipment and trading hubs for petroleum and chemical products since its operations started here in the early 1990s.

MNA/Xinhua

1,773 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 21 July—As of Thursday, 21 July, 2005, at least 1,773 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count. At least 1,363 died as a result of hostile action. The figures include five military civilians.

The *AP* count is five higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EDT Thursday. The British military has reported 92 deaths; Italy, 25; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,634 US military members have died, according to *AP's* count. That includes at least 1,254 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.—*Internet*

Two Iraqis walk back from viewing a damaged oil pipeline engulfed in flames,on 21 July, 2005, in northern Beiji in the Makhool district 230 kms (143 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq. Wednesday night guerillas attacked an oil pipeline with explosives causing a massive explosion and fire.—INTERNET

Gunmen kidnap two Algerian diplomats in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 21 July—Gunmen seized two Algerian diplomats Thursday — including the country's top envoy to Iraq — in the latest attacks aimed at scaring away Muslim diplomats and undermining the US-backed Iraqi government.

The abductions brought to five the number of key diplomats from Islamic countries targeted in Baghdad in less than three weeks. The top Egyptian envoy was reportedly killed after being captured, and two apparent kidnapping attempts against diplomats were foiled.

The chief of Algeria's mission in Iraq, charge d'affaires Ali Belaroussi, and another Algerian diplomat, Azzedine Ben Kadi, were dragged from their car along with their driver in west Baghdad's upscale Mansour district, police and Algerian officials said.

Belaroussi, a career diplomat, has been in Iraq for about two years, and served as financial director at Algeria's embassy in Paris from 1997 to 2002, Algerian officials said.

Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari pledged to increase security for diplomats but warned them to avoid going to dangerous areas. The Mansour district has been the site of a number of kidnappings, including that of Americans Jack Hensley and Eugene Armstrong and Briton Kenneth Bigley. All three were later killed.

No group claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of the Algerians.—*Internet*

A worker collects eggs at a chicken farm in Serpong in the outskirt of Jakarta, Indonesia, on 22 July , 2005.— INTERNET

စက်ဗွဲ့ဖြစ်ပွားခဲ့သော ခေတ်ဇောကျဉ်လွှာ

Quake jolts Indonesia's Aceh

JAKARTA, 22 July — An earthquake measuring 5.6 on the Richter Scale rocked the western coast of tsunami-hit Aceh Province on Thursday, but there were no reports of damage or casualties, meteorologists said.

The under-sea quake occurred at 08:42 am and its epicentre was 33 kilometres under the floor of the sea, some 17 kilometres southeast of Meulaboh, the main town in the West Aceh District, they said.

The earthquake was strongly felt in Meulaboh, which was devastated by a powerful earthquake and tsunami on 26 December. "There are no reports of damage or injuries so far," said a meteorologist from the National Meteorology and Geophysics Agency here.

Indonesia sits on the so-called Pacific Rim of Fire, where the meeting of continental plates causes high volcanic and seismic activity.

The 9.3-magnitude quake off Indonesia's Sumatra Island triggered the December 26 tsunami disaster which left at least 220,000 people dead around the Indian Ocean. Aceh, especially its coasts, was one of the hardest hit areas.

MNA/Xinhua

Sino-Indian trade up in first quarter of current fiscal

NEW DELHI, 21 July — The bilateral trade between China and India has increased 63 per cent in the first quarter of the current fiscal year, Chinese Ambassador to India Sun Yuxi said here on Wednesday.

"The bilateral trade has gained momentum since early 2005, and it is predicted that the two countries would be able to achieve their trade target of 20 billion US dollars by 2008, much ahead of schedule," Sun said at an economic seminar organized by India's PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Sun said, "It is time that we target increasing trade up to 100 billion US dollars in the next five to eight years. This is an achievable target as the two governments are in the process of negotiating for facilitating trade and investment between India and China."

Sun also underlined that China was very keen to get observer status in the South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC) regional economic group, just as India was given the observer status in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. "This would enable China to deepen economic ties with the SAARC countries," he said.

The ambassador also informed that India and China are likely to enter into Free Trade Agreement shortly.

"Given the size of India and China's economies and population, such free trade agreement would be the largest of its kind in the world. Series of consultations at various levels are being between the two countries to give a formal shape to this agreement," Sun said.

He noted that opening up of land route through Shangrila in Tibetan Autonomous Region and Nathula in India's Sikkim state primarily indicates the firm conviction to put the trade relations on fast track.

The ambassador also urged the government of India to ease visa restrictions which are acting as hindrances to free movement of people across border. He said that the figure of 330,000 people travelling between the two countries last year is too small compared to the large population size. The figure should be actually in millions.

MNA/Xinhua

World's first live TV onboard Singapore Airlines' flights

SINGAPORE, 21 July — Singapore Airlines (SIA) announced on Wednesday that live television news and sports broadcasts have been introduced onboard flights between London and the city state.

Being the first airline in the world to provide passengers with this inflight service, SIA expects to extend it to customers' individual seat-back screens next year.

Currently, only those passengers with wireless-enabled laptops can watch live broadcasts by four international channels, including BBC World, EuroNews, Eurosportnews and CNBC, with the help of Connexion by Boeing, an inflight wireless broadband service.

Launched by SIA in March this year, Connexion by Boeing enables customers to enjoy the convenience of inflight Internet connectivity such as receiving and sending emails and surfing top international news web sites.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Birmingham firefighter, Army soldier dies in Iraq

BIRMINGHAM, 21 July—A 28-year-old Birmingham firefighter has died while serving with the US Army in Iraq, city officials said on Thursday.

Jefferey J Farrow was killed this week, said Assistant Chief Ivor Brooks, of the Birmingham Fire and Rescue Service. Details of the death and his military posting in Iraq were not immediately available.

Brooks said Farrow, who was not married, had been a member of the department since February 2002.

The soldier was called to active duty on Oct. 15, 2004, according to a press release from the mayor's office.—*Internet*

Iraq mobile firm says Egypt envoy probably alive

CAIRO, 21 July — The operator of a mobile phone network in Iraq said in comments published on Wednesday that the Egyptian envoy to Iraq, who the government has said was killed by kidnappers this month, was probably alive.

Foreign Minister Ahmed Aboul Gheit was also quoted as saying there was a slim chance that Ihab el-Sherif is not dead.

Naguib Sawiris, chairman of Orascom Telecom, which owns a mobile phone network in central Iraq, said he had information that Sherif, kidnapped on 2 July, was still living. "We have some information which says the Egyptian ambassador is probably still alive and that he has not been killed," Sawiris said in an interview published in *al-Gomhuria* newspaper. He did not elaborate. Al-Qaeda's Iraq wing, led by Jordanian Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, said on 7 July it had killed Sherif.— *MNA/Reuters*

Syria says Iraq, US uncooperative on border control

DAMASCUS, 21 July —Syria said on Thursday that Iraq, the United States and Britain were not cooperating with its drive to prevent guerilla infiltrations to Iraq.

The Foreign Ministry told the heads of diplomatic missions in Damascus in a letter obtained by *Reuters* that it is doing its utmost to seal its border with Iraq in the face of foreign and Syrian guerillas.

It said Syria had prevented 1,240 militant suspects from crossing into Iraq and extradited most of them to their respective countries. About 4,000 Syrians "who left or attempted to leave to Iraq to fight there have been investigated", it added.

Internet

Iraqis attempt to purchase ice at inflated prices during electricity shortages, as temperatures rose to 47 degrees Celsius (117F) on 21 July , 2005, in Baghdad, Iraq.—INTERNET

NZ signs agreement to combat fishing pirates

WELLINGTON, 21 July — New Zealand has signed an international agreement to help combat pirate fishing, Fisheries Minister David Benson-Pope said on Wednesday.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization Compliance Agreement aims to combat illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing by putting more responsibilities on flag States to control their vessels fishing on the high seas.

Particularly, it deters the owners of fishing boats from re-flagging their vessels to another State, to avoid compliance with international fishing rules.

MNA/Xinhua

Donate Blood

ASEAN to promote cultural tourism to stimulate eco development

PHNOM PENH, 22 July — Cambodian National Assembly President Prince Norodom Ranariddh said on Thursday that promoting tourism is crucial for the social and economic development of ASEAN's less-developed member countries.

Prince Norodom Ranariddh made the remarks at the opening of the AIPO (ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization) Ad-Hoc Study Committee Meeting on Cultural and Eco-Tourism held at Siem Reap, the home of Cambodia's world famous Angkor temples.

"We have a precious heritage in Southeast Asia. We are rich in history and cultural diversity, and we possess truly breathtaking natural and cultural wonders," the Prince said.

Some experts expect that, for the decade ending in 2007, 21 million new jobs in tourism will have been created in the ASEAN region alone.

The Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam.

"Tourism is an excellent means for less-developed member countries to generate local employment opportunities and stimulate economic development without destroying their environmental endowments," he said. In order to promote the region's cultural and eco-tourism, Prince Norodom Ranariddh highlighted three important issues.

- ensuring the preservation, conservation and promotion of the natural, cultural and historical heritage;

- encouraging visitors to learn, respect and help preserve the natural, cultural and historical heritage; and

- taking stern measures to prevent tourism-related abuse and exploitation of people, particularly women and children.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese visitors to 'ChinaJoy', a three-day electronic games exhibition, look at computers, in Shanghai, on 21 July , 2005. —INTERNET

Chinese language becomes more important globally

BEIJING, 21 July — "The Chinese language has become more important globally, and China has also played a positive role in promoting its Chinese," said Canadian Ambassador to China Joseph Caron here Wednesday at the opening World Chinese Conference in Beijing.

Speaking highly of the great contribution made by China to maintain the diversity of the world's cultures and languages, Bouchenaki Mounir, assistant director-general of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, said the Chinese language is also an important part of the human heritage, and the human individuality as well.

The two-day conference, with the theme of "the Development of Chinese in a Multi-cultural World", attracted nearly 600 government officials, Sinologists and Chinese learners from 67 countries and regions.

Joel Bellassen, French chief school inspector on Chinese language teaching, said Chinese has been ranked among one of the world's popular languages of high practical value, with the country's opening up since 1980s. More and more school principals, parents and students have realized that the Chinese language had become a "trump card" for job hunting.

Statistics show that more than 30 million people are learning Chinese through various ways, and more than 2,500 universities in 100 countries are giving Chinese courses.

"China, as the Motherland of the Chinese language, will adopt specific measures to boost Chinese teaching overseas, which includes facilitating the construction of Confucius Institutes, promoting HSK, and helping overseas schools to construct Chinese language library," said Ma Jianfei, deputy director of the National Office for Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language —*MNA/Xinhua*

Vietnamese firm to join regional telecoms club

HANOI, 21 July — The Vietnamese Government has agreed in principle to allow the Vietnam Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (VNPT) to join ACASIA, the first and only telecoms alliance in Southeast Asia.

The state-owned VNPT, the country's biggest telecoms firm, will become a new shareholder of ACASIA in September, and its affiliate, the Vietnam Data Communication Company, is expected to be in charge of providing high-speed data transmission services, mainly to multinational firms' branches in the region, local newspaper Investment reported on Wednesday.

The VNPT will pour its own capital into building networks in Vietnam to serve its participation in the alliance which was established in 1997 by 6 founding members, namely the CAT Telecoms from Thailand, PT Indosat from Indonesia, Jabatan Telekom Brunei, Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company, Singapore Telecommunications and Telekom Malaysia Berhad.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Mock emergency drill to be held in Melbourne

CANBERRA, 21 July — Melbourne, capital of Australia's state of Victoria which will host 2006 Commonwealth Games, will hold a mock emergency drill in the city's underground train loop later this year to test how the emergency systems and evacuation procedures work in a real-life situation.

"I have asked for a major exercise to be planned that involves the underground loop," said Victoria Premier Steve Bracks in a ministerial statement to Parliament on Wednesday.

"The purpose of this exercise will be to test how our emergency systems and evacuation procedures work in a real-life situation," he said.

"Our public transport system must be prepared for any contingency, particularly in light of the London bombings, and commuters have a vital role to play," Bracks said.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Iraq's former hotbed simmers again

FALLUJA 21 July— Some guerillas whose bases were flattened by US air strikes are laying mines again. Residents want Iraqi forces out. Jobs are scarce.

Falluja is simmering again eight months after a US Marine offensive that crushed the nerve centre of Iraq's insurgency. There are signs guerrillas are trying to make a comeback.

"We are facing one big prison here. There are military fences and checkpoints all around Falluja. We are cut off from the rest of the world," said Fahd Suleiman, 67.

The Iraqi government was hoping the US assault in November would pacify Iraq's most rebellious town after an estimated 2,000 militants and guerillas were killed or captured.

Muslim militants no longer behead people in the basements of Falluja houses and Saddam Hussein's former agents don't operate freely in the town 50 km (32 miles) west of Baghdad.

Residents said there have only been about 10 car bombs since the offensive ended, a small number compared to the daily blasts that shook the town.

Internet

An unidentified Iraqi man claiming to be shot by US forces receives emergency medical treatment at the Yarmouk hospital, on 21 July, 2005, in Baghdad, Iraq. The man claimed he was injured and his brother was killed while traveling near US troops stationed on a major roadway in the capital.—INTERNET

US sailor dies of wounds sustained in Iraq bomb attack

BAGHDAD, 21 July—A US sailor died Thursday of wounds sustained earlier this month in a bomb attack in western Iraq, the US military said.

The sailor assigned to Regimental Combat Team 2, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, was injured in a bombblast on 15 July during combat operations in Hit, some 160 km west of Baghdad, the military said in a brief statement.

The name of the sailor was being withheld pending notification of next of kin, it added.

About 1,773 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003, according to media tally.

Internet

Members of the Lanzhou Song and Dance Theatre from China dance during a media preview of the production 'Tales of the Silk Road' in Sydney on 20 July, 2005. —INTERNET

Vietnam, Hungary agree to foster multifaceted cooperation

HANOI, 21 July — Vietnamese Prime Minister Phan Van Khai and his visiting Hungarian counterpart Ferenc Gyurcsany on Wednesday agreed to beef up all-round cooperation relations between the two countries, and help each other expand ties with other nations.

During the talks, the two prime ministers reached consensus that Vietnam and Hungary will broaden and deepen their multifaceted cooperation ties, especially those in the fields of economy, trade, education, training, science, culture and tourism, according to *Vietnam News Agency*.

Khai affirmed that under the context of the two countries actively participating the globalization process and integrating in regional and international cooperation mechanisms, Vietnam always attaches importance to reinforcing and developing the friendly and all-round cooperation relations with Hungary.

After the talks, the two prime ministers witnessed signing ceremonies of four documents, including two agreements on development cooperation, and scientific and technological cooperation between the two governments, a cooperative deal between Vietnam's Ministry of Planning and Investment and Hungary's Ministry of Economy and Transport, and a three-year cooperative programme between the two countries' tourism sectors.

"Vietnam thanks the Hungarian Government for supporting Vietnam's accession to the World Trade Organization, and providing increasing amounts of official development assistance (ODA)," Khai said at a joint Press briefing after the talks, adding that his country supports Hungary's developing ties with other Southeast Asian nations. At the briefing, Gyurcsany said that Hungary treasures relations with Asian countries, especially Vietnam, and is willing to help the country step up its cooperative ties with other European nations, including its deeper penetration into the European markets.

The Hungarian Prime Minister said his country will offer ODA of 640,000 US dollars to Vietnam this year, and give a preferential credit of 35 million US dollars for construction of a thermoelectric plant in central Quang Nam Province in the coming time.

Also on Wednesday, Gyurcsany met with General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Nong Duc Manh. He is scheduled to meet with Chairman of the Vietnamese National Assembly Nguyen Van An on Thursday.— *MNA/Xinhua*

ADB to provide loan for China's urban environment, health

MANILA, 21 July— The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a 100-million-US-dollar loan to help improve the urban environment, the public health and quality of life in China's Jilin Province, said the Bank in a news release on Tuesday.

The project is aimed at increasing wastewater coverage, boosting the supply of potable water, and improving management and utilization of water resources in the upper Songhua River Basin, said ADB.

The project will improve the environment, living conditions, and public health standards in the cities of Changchun, Liaoyuan, and Meihekou by reducing water pollution, protecting water resources, and addressing water shortage through recycling effluent, said ADB.

"About three million urban residents will benefit from the improved water supply and wastewater services in Jilin," says Sangay Penjor, an ADB Principal Financial Specialist.

"The provision of clean water will lessen household spending on buying water from private sources, and reduce the incidence of waterborne diseases, such as diarrhoea and Hepatitis A, resulting in greater productivity," he said.

Aside from the direct benefits to urban households, the project will help control pollution in the rivers flowing into the Songhua River Basin.

The Yitong and Yongchun rivers in Changchun, which flow into the Songhua River Basin, are highly polluted due to inadequate wastewater treatment in Changchun, said ADB.

"This project would be the first major ADB intervention in directly addressing pollution control in the Songhua River Basin," said Penjor.

ADB said it is developing an integrated plan and an immediate action plan for pollution control in the Songhua River basin through an ongoing technical assistance project.

MNA/Xinhua

China untroubled by deflation or inflation in 2005

BEIJING, 21 July — China will not be troubled either by inflation or deflation during the later half of this year as it was in the first half year, a spokesman for China's National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said on Wednesday.

NBS Spokesman Zheng Jingping said China's macro-economic performance and its monetary supplies in the first six months of 2005 were harmonious without any major problems.

Addressing a Press conference, he said that the outstanding M2 — the broad measure of money supply — grew year-on-year by 15.7 per cent during the first half of this year.

Loans released during the period totalling 1.45 trillion yuan (about 174.7 billion US dollars), up 13.3 per cent, or 24 billion yuan (some 2.9 billion US dollars) more than the same period of last year.

"Therefore, it is hard for me to say there is such a problem as deflation, and economic trends show no signs of such problems" in the coming months of this year. The People's Bank of China, or the central bank, said last week that the outstanding M1, or the narrow measure of money supply, rose 11.3 per cent in the first half of this year. Money in circulation went up 9.6 per cent.

China has set a 15-per-cent target for money supply growth in 2005 to fuel its rising economy on one hand and rein in the growth of some overheated sectors on the other.

The spokesman described the CPI growth rate for the past six month as relatively moderate with structural imbalance.— *MNA/Xinhua*

UN projects to help southern Thailand recover from tsunami

BANGKOK, 21 July — Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations on Wednesday initiated two projects to help southern Thailand recover from last year's tsunami hit in a sustainable way.

"It is now time to move forward with medium and longer term actions to promote sustainable livelihoods of the coastal communities, integrated and participatory coastal resource management and ecosystem development," Hiroyuki Konuma, FAO's deputy regional representative for Asia and the Pacific, said at a ceremony launching the projects.

The two projects, with one million US dollars granted by the Greek Government, are aimed at recovering fishery and farming communities in the next six months in southern Thailand's coastal areas.

The fishery project will explore opportunities for the supply of boat engines and other equipment to groups of small-scale fisher folk, said a statement issued here by FAO.

The project will also conduct in-depth technical assessments, stakeholder analysis and fishing resource capacity surveys in the areas affected by last year's tsunami.

The studies are expected to identify the level of available fishing resources and ensure the limited natural resources will not be over exploited.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia confirms first bird flu deaths

JAKARTA, 21 July — Indonesia on Wednesday confirmed its first deaths from bird flu, saying tests on a father and his two young daughters who died recently showed they had the virus, a minister said on Wednesday.

"Test results from a Hong Kong laboratory which I received this morning confirmed they were positive for the H5N1 virus," Health Minister Siti Fadillah Supari told reporters. Asked if the three died from bird flu, Supari said: "Yes." "It is not yet known how they got infected, but we continue to conduct an investigation on the ground," she said.

"The results show (the virus is) a conventional one, and not a new virus. Therefore, there is no need to worry about human-to-human transmission." Authorities have taken samples of more than 300 people who had contact with the family on the outskirts of Jakarta.

MNA/Reuters

Vehicles from Japanese auto giant Honda lined up in front of the car carrier ship Celestial Wing ahead of export at a pier in Narashino, suburban Tokyo on 20 July 2005.—INTERNET

Thai anti-alcoholic campaign gaining momentum

BANGKOK, 22 July — Thailand's anti-alcohol movement is gaining momentum with more than 10,000 people rallied against the listing of a liquor company.

About 10,000 Buddhist monks, nuns, students, and social activists took part in a mass protest on Wednesday, asking the government not to allow listing of Thai Beverage Plc on the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET).

The company had planned to list on the SET earlier this year, but was forced to postpone its plans in March following strong public opposition.

It applied again on last Thursday to raise fund from the public, a move incurred strong criticism of worsening the country's drinking problem and ignited the mass demonstration. "It's a total disaster. By listing..., the company can earn 100 billion baht (2.5 billion US dollars)," leader of the rally Major-General Chamlong Srimuang was quoted by Bangkok Post as saying.

"That money would be spent on all sorts of marketing campaigns to try and get the public to consume even more alcohol," he said. The company, owned by beverage tycoon Charoen Sirivadhanabhaki of three-billion-dollar assets, hopes to raise as much as 40 billion baht (about one billion dollars) through the offering.

Having received petitions from the demonstrators, SET's vice-president Patareeya Benjapolchai said the final decision on the listing has yet to be made. The rally, organized by some 128 religious and social groups, has push the kingdom's anti-alcohol campaign to a peak.

In a recent official bid to discourage drinking, the Public Health Ministry declared last week to continued a ban on broadcast advertising of liquor and cigarettes. Media outlets are required to stop advertising goods of the two category during the restricted hours between 5 a.m. and 10 p.m., a regulation taking effect in 2003.

The regulation also prohibits cigarette and alcohol producers from sponsoring sports event or setting up advertisements for both products in public areas within 500 metres of schools and educational institutions.

The Thai Government has been serious to cut down smoking and drinking population, while various survey showing the country now faced with tough challenge in this prospect.

Thai people's consumption of alcoholic drinks had increased over the past decade, according to a report by the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization. Consumption of alcoholic drinks per head in 2000 was 13.59 litres, which made Thailand the world's fifth-largest alcohol consuming country.

"The Public Health Ministry has made it a policy to keep people away from alcohol," said Deputy Health Minister Anuthin Charnveerakul, stressing the situation calls for a policy and measures to prevent Thai youth from alcohol abuse.

MNA/Xinhua

London police kill man at subway station

LONDON, 22 July— Police shot and killed a man wearing a thick coat at a London subway station on Friday, a day after the jittery city was hit by its second wave of terrorist attacks in two weeks.

The man died after being shot by officers at the Stockwell subway station in south London, police said. Passengers said a man, described as South Asian, ran onto a train at Stockwell station in south London. Witnesses said plainclothes police chased him, he tripped, and police then shot him.

"They pushed him onto the floor and unloaded five shots into him. He's dead," witness Mark Whitby told the British Broadcasting Corp. "He looked like a cornered fox. He looked petrified."

Britain is home to many immigrants from the South Asian countries of Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, among others.

Whitby said the man did not appear to have been carrying anything but said he was wearing a thick coat that looked padded. Temperatures in London on Friday were in the 70s.

Police confirmed that armed officers entered Stockwell station in south London just after 10 am.

"A man was challenged by officers and subsequently shot," a police statement said. "London Ambulance Service attended the scene. He was pronounced dead at the scene."—*Internet*

Foreign tourists visit Yuyuan Garden, one of the most popular tourist spots in town, on 22 July, 2005 in Shanghai, China. —INTERNET

Russia's foreign trade soars in first five months

MOSCOW, 22 July— Russia's foreign trade grew by 36 per cent in the first five months of the year, compared with the same period of last year, reaching 136.2 billion US dollars, the *ITAR-TASS* news agency reported on Wednesday.

In January-May 2005, Russia's exports increased by 40.6 per cent to 92.2 billion US dollars, while imports by 27.4 per cent to 44 billion US dollars, according to the information of the Federal State Statistics Service based on the Central Bank's balance of payment estimates.

The country's external surplus amounted to 48.2 billion US dollars in the first five months as compared to 31.1 billion US dollars over the same period in 2004.

Russia's trade with countries outside the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) grew by 39.5 per cent to 104.913 billion US dollars.

The European Union-Russian trade increased by 43.5 per cent to 63.83 billion US dollars.

Russia's trade with CIS countries grew by 13.5 per cent to 18.757 billion US dollars and with countries of the Eurasian Economic Community by 2.5 per cent to 9.566 billion US dollars, said the report.

MNA/Xinhua

The full moon rises behind the ancient temple of Posseidon, in Sounio about 73 kilometers (45 miles) south-east of Athens, on on 21 July, 2005 and full moon appear bigger than usual, as the distance between the Earth and its only natural satellite was the closest until 2007, at about 357290 km (223306 miles). —INTERNET

Haiti to receive humanitarian aid from Europe

HAVANA, 22 July— Haiti, which is suffering from a severe drought, will receive 400,000 euros (about 480,000 US dollars) of aid from the European Commission (EC) for humanitarian relief, reports reaching here said on Wednesday.

The International Red Cross will also obtain 500,000 euros (about 600,000 dollars) from the EC to cope with damage caused by natural disasters in the Caribbean region.

The money will be delivered through the European Humanitarian Cooperation Office, the EC said in a statement on Wednesday.

The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations will be responsible for the coordination of the aid for Haiti, while the Pan-American Disaster Response Unit of the International Red Cross will coordinate assistance for the Caribbean region.

Haitians are in dire need of help in their efforts to cope with a severe drought in recent months, a socio-economic crisis in the country and the aftermath of Hurricane Dennis last week, said the statement.

For the next six months, agricultural producers in southern Haiti will receive seeds and materials from the EC to resume agricultural production in the summer of this year.

The money will also be used for training and equipment supplying to help the country deal with disasters more successfully, the statement said.

As for the rest of the Caribbean, the Red Cross will reinforce coordination to reduce the impact of disasters in vulnerable areas. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Six killed by mudslide in southern Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 22 July— At least six people, including three children, were killed on Tuesday night in a landslide in Mexico's southern state of Oaxaca, the state's civil protection director Hector Gonzalez said on Wednesday.

The landslide, caused by several hours of heavy downpours, ran over a house, killing at least three women and three girls in San Pedro Quiatoni, Tlacolula District, some 70 kilometres from the state capital, Oaxaca City.

The authorities have issued warnings against possible natural disasters, especially to people living near hills and rivers. Over three past days, Hurricane Emily from the Atlantic has been plaguing the country, causing heavy flooding first in the eastern Yucatan Peninsula and now in the northern state of Tamaulipas.

Meanwhile, tropical storm Eugene from the Pacific also brought heavy rains to Oaxaca State and Lower California State.

MNA/Xinhua

Senior General Than Shwe receives Mr Naceur Boucherit, newly accredited Ambassador of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to the Union of Myanmar. (News on page 1) — MNA

Development tasks inspected

YANGON, 22 July — Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint observed the monsoon paddy at Mongkai on 19 July.

Accompanied by officials, the commander inspected the repair of the lake located in the princint of Maha Ratha Bhisa Maggi pagoda, a replica of the Shwedagon, in Panglong, Loilem. He spoke of the need to improve the inflow and outflow of water of the lake and to grow lotus.

Engineers conducted him around the pagoda construction project. The commander stressed the need to grow seasonal flowering plants, shade trees and ornamental plants in the compound to beautify it.

MNA

Chief Justice U Aung Toe receives Singaporean Ambassador

Chief Justice U Aung Toe receives Singaporean Ambassador Mr Thambynathan Jasudasen. — MNA

YANGON, 22 July — Chief Justice U Aung Toe received Singaporean Ambassador Mr Thambynathan Jasudasen at the Supreme Court this morning.

Also present at the call were Director-General of the Supreme Court U Soe Nyunt, Director U Htin Zaw and Head of Office U Myint Thein. — *MNA*

Factories and Win Thuzar shops inspected

YANGON, 22 July— Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Thein Tun inspected the Textile Factory Project in Pakokku, Magway Division, on 19 July morning.

He gave instructions on the project. Next, he inspected No 2 Cigarette Factory in Pakokku. He also visited Win Thuzar Shops in Pakokku, NyaungU and Kyaukpadaung.

In the afternoon, he inspected production processes at dyeing and printing factory (Magway), Magway soft drink and ice factory, soap factory (Magway), and umbrella factory (Magway) and instructed officials concerned to boost production of quality goods. — MNA

Drive safely

Commander inspects construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon)

YANGON, 22 July — Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye arrived at the briefing hall of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) construction site on Sagaing bank on 20 July morning.

Project in charge U Saw Tun and officials reported to the commander on progress in construction of the bridge. The commander stressed the need for timely completion of the bridge meeting the set standards and worksite safety measures.

Next, he attended the second Waso-robe offering ceremony of Sagaing District held at the town hall in Sagaing. The commander and the congregation took the Nine Precepts from Sagaing Hanthathiri Monastery Presiding Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhama Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Nandavamsa. The commander and wife and officials next offered Waso robes and rice to the Sayadaw, members of the Sangha and nuns.

After the ceremony, 'soon' was offered to the monks.

The commander visited Laykyun Myayoak Monastery in Sagaing where he paid homage to the Sayadaw of the monastery and offered Waso robes and alms to the Sayadaw and 47 members of the Sangha.

The commander attended the tree-planting ceremony of Minwun Mountain and planted a tree. Then he encouraged those present who were planting 5,000 trees. For the greening of Sagaing District, a total of over 150,000 trees of various kinds have been grown. Later, the commander attended the tree-planting ceremony of ChaungU township and inspected planting of trees.

MNA

Tree-planting ceremony held in Thanlyin township

YANGON, 22 July — Under the sponsorship of Yangon West District Forest Department, the environmental conservation work committee (Central) of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation planted trees in the princint of the Padagyi Pagoda in Thanlyin Township this morning.

On the occasion, leader of the committee Daw Nilar Thaw, deputy-leader Daw Yin Yin Lay and members, members of Kyauktan Township Women's Affairs Organization and staff of Yangon West District Forest Department planted 140 shade trees and made cash donations to the funds of the pagoda. — *MNA*˚

Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation members planting trees in the princint of the Padagyi Pagoda in Thanlyin Township .

MWAF

Yangon Division MPF holds work coordination meeting

(*from page 16*)

The commander underscored the need for the MPF to become a modern one fully endowed with patriotism and efficiency and to refrain from bribery and corruption in carrying out task for community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order.

He said that the MPF is to expose the real convicts to see that deterrent sentences are meted out and to try its best to win public cooperation.

The MPF is to prepare and practice to become a strong and capable force to shoulder the national defence duty hand in hand with the Tatmadaw, while discharging security duty, he noted.

Next, Police Col Aung Daing touched on instructions given by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, the minister for Home affairs, the deputy minister, the MPF director-general and tasks to be implemented.

After that, the heads of respective MPFs and departments reported on matters related to relevant work and Police Lt-Col Win Myint on crime reduction measures.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by Police Col Aung Daing.

MNA

FM sends felicitations to Egypt

YANGON, 23 July— On the occasion of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt, which falls on 23 July 2005, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt.— MNA

Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of newly-accredited Dr Friedrich Hamburger, the Head of Delegation of the European Commission to the Union of Myanmar. (News on page 1)— MNA

Fourth Annual General Meeting of MAWFA held

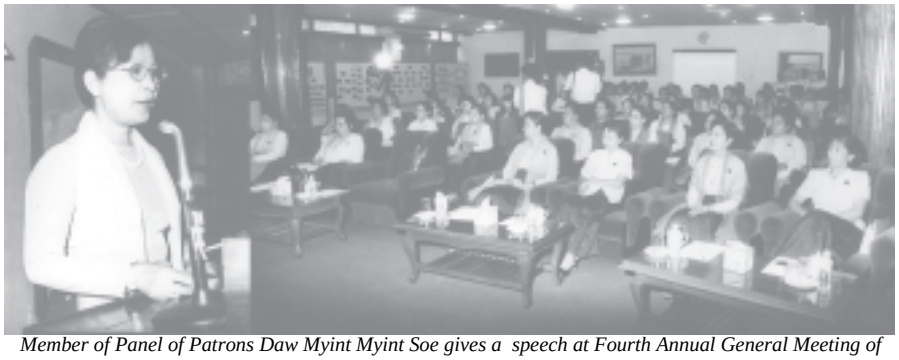
YANGON, 22 July — The Fourth Annual General Meeting of the Myanmar-ASEAN Women's Friendship Association (MAWFA) was held at the Wunzin-minyazar Hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this morning.

Present on the occasion were members of the Panel of Patrons Daw Myint Myint Soe, wife of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Daw Lai Lai Kyi and Dr Daw Khin Mya Win who are wives of deputy ministers, CEC members cum wives at Senior Officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Lady Ambassadors, wives of Ambassadors and diplomats from ASEAN Embassies to Myanmar and the members of the association. First, member of Panel of Patrons Daw Myint Myint Soe made an opening speech and Chairperson of the Executive Committee Daw Khin Hnin Nyun extended greetings. Afterwards, the secretary presented the report of the executive committee and submitted the financial statement for the year 2004-2005 which were approved by the meeting.

Next, Ambassador of the Republic of Philippines Mme Phoebe A Gomez donated K 200,000, Indonesian Embassy US $ 100, Daw Yu Yu Khaing of Sinma Furnishings Co Ltd Company K 200,000, U Tun Myint-Daw Aye Aye Nyunt of KSS Co Ltd K 195,000 for lunch, Mme Datin Hajah Juriah Mustapha, wife of Brunei Ambassador to Myanmar K 100,000, member of Panel of Patrons MAWFA Daw Myint Myint Soe donated K 100,000, Malaysian Ambassador to Myanmar Dato Cheah Sam Kip K 100,000, Mme Mayouly Bodhisane, wife of Laotian Ambassador to Myanmar K 100,000, Chairman of CB Bank U Khin Maung Aye K 100,000, Mme Dana Phany, wife of Cambodian Ambassador to Myanmar K 100,000, Mme Sukunya Dhirakaosal, on behalf the spouses of Thai community in Myanmar wife of Thai Ambassador K 100,000, Myanmar Ambassadors to Brazil, Indonesia and Thailand and their wives K 40,000, member of Board of Patrons Daw Khin Mya Win K 25,000, Mme Nguyen Thi Hoang Bich, wife of Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar K 50,000, member of MAWFA Dr Than Than Khine 30,000, Daw Thi Thi Ta, wife of the Director-General of the Planning and Administrative Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs K 100,000 and Daw Thida Nyunt, wife of the Director-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs K 10,000 each, and Patrons Daw Myint Myint Soe, Dr Daw Khin Mya Win, the wife of Brunei Ambassador, wife of Malaysian Ambassador and Chairperson of the association Daw Khin Hnin Nyunt accepted the donations. It was followed by presenting the certificates of honour to the donors.

Next, the meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the vice-chairperson.

MNA



Member of Panel of Patrons Daw Myint Myint Soe gives a speech at Fourth Annual General Meeting of the Myanmar-ASEAN Women's Friendship Association. —MNA

710,220 fish fries put into Ngawun river

YANGON, 22 July—The Ayeyawady Division held a ceremony to put fish fries into Ngawun River at the Panchan Jetty in Pathein on 14 July 2005.

It was attended by Chairman of Ayayawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, senior military officers of the command, departmental officials, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, social organizations, nurses, Red Cross and Auxiliary Fire Brigade members and local people.

At the ceremony, various kinds of 710,220 fries were put into the river.—*MNA*

Agricultural tasks inspected in Lashio

YANGON, 22 July — Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing inspected 100-acre maize plantation, Hsinshweli strain soya bean and sunflower plantations, jack fruit trees, 1,000 lychee plants of the camp commandant's office of the command on 19 July morning.

The commander also oversaw 110-acre coffee farm in the highland area near Lashio. Farm in-charge Lt-Col Hla Win reported on completion of growing over 60,000 coffee saplings and cultivation of pigeon pea as mixed cropping in the coffee plantations. The commander gave instructions on broadcasting of natural and chemical fertilizers.

In the Macadamia Nursery, the commander inspected macadamia and coffee saplings and progress of the fish ponds in the nursery compound.

He also looked into functions at the advanced pig breeding farm of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries. Afterwards, Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing oversaw Hsinshweli hybrid strain paddy plantation near Namhmyaw Creek and Humon Village.

MNA

Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport discussed

Maj-Gen Myint Swe addresses coordination meeting of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport. — YANGON COMMAND

YANGON, 22 July — The coordination meeting of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport was held at the All Bus Lines Control Committee (Yangon Division) in Tamway Township this evening.

Chairman of the Supervisory Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe delivered an address. He said that the supervisory committee holds the meeting weekly and manages to bring down traffic and car accidents.

As vehicles from the bus lines under the Yangon Division All Bus Lines Control Committee are being converted into natural gas vehicles, arrangements are to be made for completion of the conversion tasks systematically. Natural gas vehicles can give better transport service to the passengers without shortage of fuel.

Registrars, heads of departments and officials of universities and colleges in Yangon Division, Yangon Division Wireless and Traffic Police Force Commander Police Lt-Col Aung Naing, members of the supervisory committee, chairmen and officials of bus lines submitted reports on their respective sectors.

Later, the commander gave the concluding remarks.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, military region commanders, station commanders, local authorities and officials.

MNA

Sub-Printing House (Mandalay) offers Waso robes

YANGON, 22 July—Families of the Sub-Printing House (Mandalay) of the News and Periodicals Enterprise under the Ministry of Information offered Waso robes to members of the Sangha led by Presiding Sayadaw of Wakhingon Wizayaramakyaw Kyaungtaik in Chanaye Thazan Township, Mandalay Bhaddanta Vijaya, at the sub-printing house on 20 July morning.

First, the congregation received the Five Precepts from the Presiding Sayadaw and members of the Sangha recited parittas. Next, the deputy chief editor and staff members presented Waso robes and requisites to members of the Sangha and shared merits accrued. Afterwards, '*soon* ' was offered to members of the Sangha led by the Presiding Sayadaw. — *MNA*

အပင်အာဟာရအပြည့်အဝရရှိရန် ပုလဲဓာတ်မြေဩဇာကို အကျိုးရှိရှိ အသုံးပြုရေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

၁။ ပုလဲဓာတ်မြေဩဇာသည် စနစ်တကျ အသုံးမပြုပါက ပါဝင်သည့် အပင်အာဟာရ နိုက်ထရိုဂျင် ဓာတ် (၆၀) မှ (၈၀) ရာခိုင်နှုန်းအထိ လေလွင့်ဆုံးရှုံးစေနိုင်ပါသည်။ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုကြောင့် စပါးတစ်ဧကလျှင် ပုလဲဓာတ်မြေဩဇာ (နှစ်) အိတ်သုံးပါက (၅) ပုံ (၁) ပုံသာ အပင်မှ ရရှိနိုင်ပါသည်။

၂။ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုသည် (၁) အမိုးနီးယမ်းအိုင်းယွန်း (NH_4^+) အဖြစ် စီးဆင်းရေနှင့် ပါသွားသည်။ (၂) အမိုးနီးယားဓာတ်ငွေ့ (NH_3)အဖြစ် လေထဲတွင် အငွေ့ပျံဆုံးရှုံးသွားသည်။ (၃) နိုက်ထရိုဂျင်ဓာတ် (N_2) အဖြစ် လေထဲသို့ အငွေ့ပျံသည်။ အပူချိန်နိမ့်သော နှနက်ပိုင်းတွင် စပါးခင်းများ မြေချဉ်ငံဓာတ် (pH_6) ဝန်းကျင်တွင်ရှိသော်လည်း နေ့လည်ပိုင်းအပူချိန်မြင့်တက်လာပါက မြေအချဉ်ငံဓာတ်မှာ (pH_{11}) ထိ ရှိလာပြီး၊ အမိုးနီးယားဓာတ်ငွေ့ (NH_3) အဖြစ် ပြောင်းလဲကာ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုများစေသည်။

၃။ သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ ပုလဲဓာတ်မြေဩဇာ အကျိုးရှိရှိအသုံး ပြုနိုင်ရန်အတွက် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း စနစ်တကျ သုံးစွဲရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်–

(က) စပါးပင်သက်တမ်း တစ်လျှောက်လုံးအတွက် တစ်ဧကလျှင် ပုလဲ ဓာတ်မြေဩဇာတစ်အိတ်နှင့် သဘာဝမြေဩဇာ (နွားချေး/မြေဆွေး/အမှိုက်ဆွေး/ဘိုကာရှိ) သုံးအိတ် သုံးစွဲပါ။

(ခ) သုံးစွဲမည့် ပုလဲဓာတ်မြေဩဇာနှင့် သဘာဝမြေဩဇာကို တစ်ကြိမ်တည်းမသုံးစွဲဘဲ စပါးပင်မှ နိုက်ထရိုဂျင်ဓာတ် လိုအပ်ချိန်များဖြစ်သည့် ကောက်ပင်လှန်ချိန်၊ ပင်ပွားအများဆုံး ထွက်ချိန်၊ မှို ကပ်ချိန် (သို့မဟုတ်) ရောင်စဉ်ကတ်ကို သုံး၍ အပင်လိုအပ်ချိန်တွင် ထည့်သွင်းပါ။

(ဂ) တစ်ကြိမ်လျှင် ပုလဲဓာတ်မြေဩဇာ တစ်အိတ်၏ သုံးပုံတစ်ပုံကို သဘာဝမြေဩဇာ တစ်အိတ်နှင့် သမအောင်ရောပါ။ ရောစပ်ရာတွင် အစိုဓာတ်များ မများလွန်းစေဘဲ သင့်တင့်သော အစိုဓာတ်သာရှိအောင် ဂရုပြု၍ အပေါ်မှ ပလပ်စတစ်၊ ဂုန်နီအိတ်၊ ဖျာစသည်တို့ဖြင့် လုံခြုံစွာ ဖုံးအုပ်၍ တစ်ညနှပ်ထားပါ။

(ဃ) မိုးအုံပါက နေ့လယ်ပိုင်းတွင် မြေဩဇာအရောကို ကြိုပက်နိုင်သော်လည်း နေပူပြင်းပါက နှနက်ပိုင်း (၇) နာရီမှ (၉) နာရီအတွင်းနှင့် ညနေ (၃) နာရီနောက်ပိုင်းမှ ကြိုပက်ပါ။

(င) မြေဩဇာအရောကို စပါးခင်းတွင် ကြိုပက်ထည့်ပြီးတိုင်း တမန်းပြင်အောက်သို့ ရောက်ရှိရန် မြေဖြင့်နင်းမြှုပ်၍ သော်လည်းကောင်း၊ ပေါင်းလိုက်တမန်းနှိ့ ကိရိယာအသုံးပြု၍သော်လည်းကောင်း တမန်း အောက်ရောက်အောင် ဆောင်ရွက်ပေးခြင်းဖြင့် ပိုမိုထိရောက်နိုင်ပါသည်။

လယ်ယာစိုက်ပျိုးရေးနှင့် ဆည်မြောင်းဝန်ကြီးဌာန

PBANRDA Minister attends conclusion ceremony of training courses

YANGON, 22 July — Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt attended the ceremony to conclude the Advanced Landscaping Course No 1, the Advanced Tailoring Course No 8, the Clerk Training Course No 35 and No 36 at the central training school of Education and Training Department under the ministry in Ward 51 of Dagon Myothit (North) Township this morning.

Minister Col Thein Nyunt presented best trainee awards to the respective trainees and completion certificates to the trainees.

Altogether 15 trainees attended the advanced landscaping course No 1 which lasted four weeks. A total of 105 trainees attended the advanced tailoring course and clerk training courses.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Col Tin Ngwe, the Officer on Special Duty and officials.

After the ceremony, the minister inspected practical works of the trainees of Women's Vocational Training Schools from Leshi, Lahe and Nanyun in Sagaing Division and Putao, Dunban and Dawphonyan of Kachin State in the special tailoring refresher course and their products.

The minister and party visited the refresher course of the tutors for culture sections to be extended at the Border Area Youth Development Centres and Women's Vocational Training Schools.

Later, the minister met with the tutors and staff for the culture sections and fulfilled their requirements.

MNA

Don't smoke

18th Inter-State/Division Table Tennis Tourney commences

YANGON, 22 July—The opening of the 18th Inter-State/Division Table Tennis Tournament (2005) took place at the gymnasium in Aung San Stadium here this morning.

It was attended by Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, officials, President of the Central Working Committee of the Myanmar Women's Sports Federation Daw Aye Aye and members, President of the Myanmar Table Tennis Federation U Kyaw Kyaw, General Secretary Capt Win Naing (Retd) and executives, guests, wellwishers and fans.

The MOC chairman delivered a speech. U Soe Win-Daw Phyu Pya Win (Yadana Theinkha Co) donated K 100,000; U Tin Oo-Daw Saw Thein (Aye Gabar Transportation Service), U Bo Win-Daw Cho Cho Mar (Bago), Capt Win Naing-Daw Nu Nu Myaing (High Grade Hair Style), Dr Kyaw Naing-Daw Khin Thanda, and U Myint Han-Daw The The (Forturner Aluminium), K 50,000 each to the MTF.

A total of 13 men's matches (singles), seven women's matches (singles), six men's matches (doubles), four women's matches (doubles), and four mixed doubles were held.

The tournament continues till 27 July at the same venue.

MNA

Chairperson of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Thet Htay presenting cash for the trust funds of Township MCWAs at ceremony to set up trust funds and opening of horticulture and tailoring course. — YANGON COMMAND

Giving sight, meritorious conduct

Dipa Aye Mya **(Man Tekkatho)**

The one who initiated the plan to give free treatments to patients with eye ailments or complaints in Yenangyoung was eye specialist Dr Nilar Thein. She was a native of the town where she completed her high school education. In co-operation with other eye specialists, she went to Rakhine and Mon States and Ayeyawady Division to give free treatments and operations to local people who had complaints with their eyes.

An eye specialist examines the eye of a patient.

She got such a noble idea and made up her mind to stand for all the costs of the programme and to give free medical treatments to 100 people with eye problems in Yenangyoung during Thingyan holidays. Then, she discussed with Patron of Yenangyoung Township Association (Yangon) writer Dr Ma Tin Win, Director-General of the Settlement and Land Records Department U Win Kyi, members Major Htay Lwin and U Maung Maung Myat about all the necessary arrangements for the programme. Yenangyoung Township Association decided to provide whatever was required.

Learning the programme, her teachers including Professor Dr Kan Nyunt offered that they would participate in the programme to gain merits. Dr Kan Nyunt gave an advice to her saying that Thingyan days were public holidays but it would not be suitable for the patients because of the intense heat in Yenangyoung by then. He suggested that the programme should be launched in June when the rainy season started.

Sayadaw Ashin Chandadhika and Dr Nilar Thein were old school friends who used to attend their classes in Basic Education High School No 1 in Yenangyoung, so they reached an agreement on the operation programme. The Sayadaw made a donation of K 300,000 to buy medicine and medical equipment. The Sayadaw's lay disciples such as U Shein Win, U Htay Myint and Amei Hse also made cash donations. So, the donations were more than enough for medical treatments. The specialists simultaneously performed operations on eye patients on three beds in the operation theatre of Yenangyoung Hospital from 25 to 27 June.

Those who contributed voluntary services were Professor Dr Kan Nyunt, Dr Ye Naing, Dr Chit Ko Ko, Dr Aye Aye Khaing, Dr Nilar Thein, Dr Wah Wah Khin, Dr Nyo Nyo Min, Dr Saw Thwin Mon Thein, Dr Tin Zaw Oo, and Dr Than Tun Aung.

Dr Nilar Thein originally planned to stand for all the costs of treatments for 100 patients but wellwishers were so many that she gave them a chance to donate cash. So, she had to donate the costs for only 20 patients. And the number of the patients had to be increased to 150, and the Sayadaw had to close the accounts when it was enough for 150 patients.

Yenangyoung Township Association (Yangon) donated K 1 million for transportation of the eye specialists during the five-day Yangon-Yenangyoung-Bagan-NyaungU-Yangon trip.

An eye specialist examines the eye of a patient while others wait for their turns.

Their operations were to remove the cataracts of the eyes of the patients. A person suffers cataract when his eye's lens behind the pupil is out of order and gradually loses sight.

Then, the damaged original lens had to be replaced with an intra ocular lens so that the patient can regain his sight fully. Before undergoing operations, the patients had to take antibiotics, and after the operations they had to wear sunglasses for a certain period in order not to suffer the glare of the light.

Alcon Company that produces medicine and medical equipment also donated a biometry machine that can tell the degree of an eye lens. Therefore, the specialists could find out the degrees of the eye lens of the patients precisely and they would regain their sights cent per cent.

It was the golden opportunity for those with eye problems in Yenangyoung especially those who did not have enough money for medical treatments.

When supplicated on Ashin Chandadhika's donations for water supply and the operations of the eye specialists, Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Magway Sayadaw said that he would give a sermon to acknowledge the noble deeds.

Eye specialists give health education talks to those who have recently undergone operations.

Yenangyoung residents were very pleased when they witnessed local people in the regions where water is scarce enjoying sufficient water on 25 May 2005. They were also pleased for those who regained their sights, and there was the delight of the eye specialists and those who made cash donations.

Yenangyoung Township Association (Yangon), and Magway Division and Yenangyoung Township Peace and Development Councils took part in the programme by carrying out administrative and general matters. The Ministry of Health gave permission for the operations.

The performing of free operations under the patronage of the Sayadaw was put on record.

Whenever Sayadaw U Jotika gives a sermon, he always reminds lay persons that Buddhists and those who were born in Myanmar are so fortunate that they should repay the gratitude to Myanmar and the Buddha Sasana one way or another as far as they can.

It can be found that the people who are doing well in their businesses are contributing towards the development of their native regions, and that reflects their love for the native areas, an important spirit, from which national people can cultivate a good attitude of loving and cherishing their motherland and people.

It is learnt that a nation puts into record the background histories of its villages such as establishment of a village, area, civilization, and famous villagers and so on so that the posterity would envy the successes of their ancestors.

Sumedha Hermit, would-be-Buddha, made an ultimate resolution and fulfilled his perfections to become an unrivalled one who could make supreme sacrifices and serve the interest of others more than any other person in the world.

According to the discourses of the Buddha, everybody has two bounden duties — making sacrifices and serving interests of others. The free operations performed in Yenangyoung conformed to the teachings of the Buddha. Therefore, I would like to urge those who have heard or read this article to make great donations and gain merits.

(Translation: MS)

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တနင်္လာ၊ ဗုဒ္ဓဟူး၊ သောကြာ **9.00 am to 11.30**
Multi-media style lab, audio-visual aid နှင့်
ခေတ်မီအထောက်အကူများသုံးမည်။
၁၀ တန်း၊ ဘွဲ့ရ၊ ဘွဲ့လွန်များအတွက် အကျိုးဝင်၊ အသုံးဝင်မည်။
ကမ်းနားလမ်းနှင့် ၄၃ လမ်းထောင့်၊ ဗိုလ်တထောင်မြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့
စုံစမ်းရန် ဖုန်း-၂၉၆၁၆၁

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ZHE HAI 315 VOY NO (019)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ZHE HAI 315 VOY NO (019) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24-7-2005 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 INTERASIA LINES
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ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

ရက်စွဲ၊ ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် ဇူလိုင်လ (၁၃) ရက်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ၏ လုပ်ငန်းသုံး အတွက် လိုအပ်သော အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ ပစ္စည်းများကို ဌာနအရောက် ကျပ်ငွေဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူရန် ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာများ ဖိတ်ခေါ်အပ်ပါသည်။

စဉ်	ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအမည်	အရေအတွက်
(၁)	၈၀/၁၀၀ အမျိုးအစားကတ္တရာ	(၂၀၀၀) တန်
(၂)	ခါတ်ငွေ့ပိုက်လိုင်းသုံး ပိုက်နှင့် ဆက်စပ်ပစ္စည်းများ 2" Line Pipe, Valve & Accessories	(1) Lot
(၃)	Polymer	(2) Tons

ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာပိတ်ရက်မှာ (၂၉-၇-၂၀၀၅) နေ့ (၁၆:၀၀)နာရီဖြစ်ပြီး ဈေးနှုန်းတင်သွင်းလွှာပုံစံတစ်စုလျှင် ကျပ် ၁၀၀၀/- (ကျပ်တစ်ထောင်တိတိ)နှုန်းဖြင့် ဘတ်ဂျက်နှင့် ငွေစာရင်းဌာန၊ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးဌာနစုတွင် ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။ အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို ဖုန်းအမှတ်- ၂၈၂၅၃၄, ၂၄၈၁၁၂ လိုင်းခွဲ (၂၃၅)တို့သို့ ဖုန်းခေါ်ဆိုမေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ
ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့
ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ

US hands over three Saudis from Guantanamo

RIYADH, 21 July — Three Saudi nationals held by the United States in Guantanamo Bay have been handed over to Saudi authorities, Saudi Arabia's state television said on Wednesday.

It gave no details of the three detainees but said their families had been informed of their return to the kingdom.

Saudi nationals make up more than 100 of the 540 detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Five of them were sent home in 2003 but supporters say they were jailed on their return.

Nearly all of the prisoners at Guantanamo are being without charges and some have been held there for more than three years.

The United States has designated them "enemy combatants" and denied them prisoner of war status, which brings certain rights under international law.

MNA/Reuters

Iran plans to launch first communication satellite

TEHERAN,21 July — Iran's first communication satellite is expected to be launched before March 2006, the official *IRNA* news agency reported on Wednesday.

"The communication satellite is expected to be launched within the current Iranian calendar year (which is to end on March 20, 2006)," Hassan Shafti, Deputy Minister of Communication and Information Technology, was quoted as saying.

During the first session of Iran's High Space Council, Shafti told *IRNA* that the satellite, dubbed *Mesbah,* was designed and being constructed in cooperation with Italian experts. Shafti said Iran had planned to construct five satellites, three of which would be launched to the space over the next three years.

The second one, which is multi-mission and larger than *Mesbah,* would be launched next year, and the third one, coded *Zohreh,* in three years, Shafti said.

The official added that *Zohreh,* designed and constructed by Russia under the supervision of Iran, would be the greatest communication satellite of Iran.

The first session of the High Space Council was kicked off on Tuesday. The council was chaired by President Mohammad Khatami and attended by ministers of communication and information technology. — *MNA/Xinhua*

EU, Latin America likely to talk bananas all summer

BRUSSELS, 21 July — EU negotiators look set for a tough summer dealing with Latin America over bananas if they want to stop the simmering fruit row from spoiling world trade talks at the end of the year, diplomats said on Wednesday.

Bananas are a prime export for many Latin American countries and the world's second-largest fruit market after citrus. In Europe, they have a long history as a highly sensitive area.

After losing the bitter "banana wars" of the 1990s at the World Trade Organization, the EU pledged to scrap its complex system of quotas and import duties for a tariff-only system to run from January 2006. The problem is how high to set the duty.

The EU wants 230 euros/ton as its tariff, with no quotas. For Latin American suppliers, who now pay 75 euros/ton in a set quota to get their fruit into Europe, this is far too high.

After months of wrangling, six Latin countries led by the world's largest exporter Ecuador asked the WTO to rule whether a 230-euro duty would keep their existing access to EU markets.

A verdict is due by 1 August and is widely expected to recommend that the EU propose a lower duty. It could come as early as 29 July, since 30 and 31 July fall on a weekend and 1 August is a holiday in Switzerland, where the WTO is based. If this happens, the European Commission — which negotiates foreign trade on behalf of EU states — would have 10 days to adjust its figures and "rectify the matter", in WTO-speak.

While the WTO would not suggest a new number, it should at least indicate how far the suggested duty is out of line.

But that is unlikely to be the end of the matter, diplomats say, since if the Latins were still unhappy, they would probably request a second round of arbitration, probably in September.

"There could be another arbitration round of 40-45 days, so this will probably rumble through August," one EU diplomat said.

"I would imagine it will go to a second round of arbitration as this is just too contentious. If it was so easy to sort out, it would have been solved years ago," she said. — *MNA/Reuters*

Zimbabwe seeks credit lines from S Africa, Asia

JOHANNESBURG, 21 July — Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe's government is seeking credit lines from South Africa and Asian allies to revive a sickly economy as Western donors withhold aid, a senior Zimbabwe Government official said.

The cash-strapped country — with a foreign debt of 4.5 billion US dollars as of 2003 — looked to help from neighbouring South Africa to service its international debt and breath life into its key agriculture sector, Mugabe's spokesman George Charamba told South African public radio SABC on Wednesday.

South Africa declined on Monday to comment on reports that Zimbabwe had asked for a one-billion-US-dollar loan, but the central bank said Governor Tito Mboweni had met a delegation from Harare the previous week.

"South Africa will probably be looking at helping us service our debts, our international debts, and especially with the aim to ensure that we are again in a position of creditworthiness," Charamba said. "If at all they have the resources that we are asking for, they will be looking at reinforcing our ability to recover agriculture by way of inputs, by way of infrastructural development."

He said Zimbabwe, isolated by the West over policy differences including its land seizures, was also exploring alternative lines of credit with countries like Malaysia and China, with whom Mugabe has sought to expand ties under a "Look East" policy.—*MNA/Reuters*

Chinese men work at a construction site in Shanghai on 20 July, 2005.
INTERNET

ပညာရှင်နှင့် ခေတ်စဉ်မှီပြုတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ခဲ့

Molecular link between obesity and diabetes found

LONDON, 21 July—Scientists have discovered a molecular link between obesity and type 2 diabetes that could be a potential target for new drugs to treat the disease.

They found that a protein released by fat tissue in mice causes insulin resistance, a primary risk factor for diabetes. Elevated levels of the protein had also previously been detected in patients suffering from diabetes.

"Being resistant to insulin is one of the major causes of diabetes," said Dr Barbara Kahn of Beth Israel Deaconess medical Centre in Boston, Massachusetts, and the lead author of the research published in the science journal *Nature.*

"And in the absence of diabetes, insulin resistance is a major risk factor for heart disease and early mortality".

Insulin, which is produced by the pancreas, regulates blood sugar levels. People with type 1 diabetes, which accounts for 10-25 per cent of cases, do not produce any insulin that helps glucose, or sugar, from food get into cells. Type 2 diabetes, the most common form of the disease, is caused by an inability to make enough, or to properly use, insulin. About 90 per cent of diabetes sufferers have type 2, which is linked to being overweight or obese.

About 150 million people worldwide suffer from diabetes and the number may double by 2025, according to the World Health Organization.

The scientists found the protein, called retinol binding protein (RBP4), by studying mice which had been genetically engineered to over or under produce another protein linked to insulin resistance.

They also discovered that increasing levels of RBP4 caused insulin resistance while decreasing levels relieved the condition.

In people who are obese or suffer from type 2 diabetes excess amounts of RBP4 are linked to the severity of insulin resistance.

"There is a rapidly increasing epidemic of obesity and type 2 diabetes in the Western world," said Khan.

MNA/Reuters

Estrogen gene helps explain some infertility

WASHINGTON, 21 July—Fertility drugs may not help certain women if they lack a certain estrogen-related gene, scientists studying mice suggested on Wednesday.

Mice genetically engineered to lack the gene did not ovulate in response to fertility drugs, the researchers found.

If the same is true in women, it could help explain some forms of infertility and also help steer women away from treatments unlikely to help them.

The gene is called estrogen reseptor beta, the team of National Institutes of Health researchers report in the August issue of *Endocrinology.*

"What we found is that the beta estrogen receptor plays a role in moving the egg outside the ovary so it can be fertilized," Kenneth Korach of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) said in a statement.

"We never knew before what function this receptor played in reproduction."

The NIEHS researchers treated normal female mice and genetically engineered mice with fertility drugs similar to those commonly used by women undergoing fertility treatments.

The mice bred to lack this receptor gene were more likely to be infertile, or had fewer offspring. When treated with fertility drugs the mice did not produce more egg cells.

"Dealing with infertility can be emotionally, financially, and physically draining," said Dr David Schwartz, director of the NIEHS.

"If we can help couples understand the reasons for their infertility, doctors can further define their treatment options, help them to minimize the expence and risk of taking drugs that may be less effective for them, and increase their chances of having a ... healthy child."

The NIEHS may also try to find out whether defects in estrogen receptor beta are inherited or caused by some environmental effect — and whether perhaps diet can alter the defects.—*MNA/Reuters*

"Emily" pounds northeast Mexico, US border

SAN FERNANDO (Mexico), 21 July—Hurricane Emily battered the Gulf Coast along the US-Mexico border on Wednesday, knocking down trees, kicking up huge waves and forcing entire villages to evacuate.

The eye of the hurricane hit the Mexican coast about 75 miles south of the US-Mexico border as a Category 3 hurricane with winds of 125 mph (200 kph).

Powerful winds and rains spread out along the coast, knocking out power. Residents boarded up their homes and businesses and headed for higher ground in the thousands.

In the town of San Fernando near the US border, some homes were severely damaged when the eye of the storm tore through.

Maria Barrientos had to abandon her home border when chunks of the roof began to fall in. Rescue workers carried her children out of the house through ankle-deep water.

Emily lost power as it moved over land and dropped to a Category 2 hurricane, but forecasters said it could still cause chaos in the mountains of northeastern Mexico as it dumps torrential rain over the region.—*MNA/Reuters*

Justine Winter, right, applies a decal to a bicycle frame at the Trek Bicycle Corp in Waterloo, Wis. Trek is the No 1 bicycle company in terms of units sold and value of sales in the specialty market sector, and has increased its market share to 30 percent, according to the Bicycle Market Research Institute in Boston. —INTERNET

Scientists make light of micro cell separation

LONDON, 21 July—Scientists seeking a simple solution to the tricky task of separating single cells from a herd of others have found a way of making light of the problem.

The new technique dubbed the "optoelectronic tweezer" combines a relatively low intensity light source with photo electricity to allow scientists to literally corral the cells they want to study, and could have major medical implications.

"Our design has a strong practical advantage in that, unlike optical tweezers, a simple light source such as a light-emitting diode... is powerful enough," said Pei Yu Chiou, part of the team led by Ming Wu at the University of California, Berkeley.

The new technique, reported in the science journal *Nature,* could be used to quickly isolate and study foetal cells in a mother's blood sample or separate abnormally shaped organizms from healthy ones. As opposed to optical tweezers which use lazer beams to round up cells, the low intensity light source which uses 100,000 times less power than that needed for a lazer makes sure there is no risk of damage to neighbouring cells.

Currently the process is manual and time-consuming, involving a technician finding the cell of interest under a microscope and literally cutting out the piece of the slide where it is. The new process, which works on the same basis as a photocopier by attracting the wanted cells to a specific spot, can not only isolate large numbers very quickly but could in future be linked to a computer and automated.

MNA/Reuters

Super speed broadband seen over cable TV in 2006

HELSINKI, 21 July—Broadband Internet access via TV cables can reach 100 Megabits per second as early as next year, 50 times faster than the average broadband speeds now offered to cable TV homes, a Finnish firm said on Wednesday.

Similar data transmission speeds are possible over fibre networks, but these cost much more for the operators to build.

"This is a cost-efficient technology as we use the cable TV networks which are already in place," Jukka Rinnevaara, Chief Executive of small-cap Finnish broadband equipment maker Teleste, told *Reuters.*

Teleste, whose rivals include big US firms Scientific Atlanta and Cisco Systems Inc, said it would early next year bring to the market its Ethernet to the Home product which will give consumers access to 100Mb/s speed.

The sector is closely followed by big technology firms. Last month Sweden's Ericsson offered 51 million US dollars to buy Norwegian firm AXXESSIT, which makes broadband ethernet access equipment for telecom operators. To accelerate the transmission speed Teleste fits ethernet — a cheap and standard transport method for Internet data over broadband networks — into cable television networks.

It said it expects first rival technology to be on the market at the earliest in the second-quarter of 2007.

Teleste is running a field-trial with cable TV service provider Essent in Netherlands, but not yet at the top speeds it expects most homes will need in a few years time.

"Based on our research 30 Megabits per second is the absolute minimum in future homes. Just one TV programme would take 10-20 Megabits per second of this alone. So, very fast we would reach a need for 30 Megabits, and also for 50 Megabits per second," Pekka Rissanen, a Teleste executive told a news conference.

Rissanen said the cost of connecting a home with the new ethernet-to-the-home technology can vary between 50 euros (60.28 US dollars) and 200 euros (241 US dollars).

CEO Rinnevaara declined to say how much the new technology could boost Teleste's sales or profits in the next 12 months.

MNA/Reuters

S P O R T S

Robinho signs for Real Madrid

MADRID, 22 July — Real Madrid have reached a 24-million-euro (29.15-million-US-dollar) deal to sign striker Robinho from Brazilian club Santos, Spanish state radio said on Thursday.

The radio quoted "reliable Real Madrid sources" as saying that Robinho was now a Real Madrid player.

But a Real Madrid spokesman could not immediately be reached for comment and Robinho's agent Wagner Ribeiro denied the report.

He said no deal had been done yet but told *Reuters* he was prepared to take the matter to FIFA if no agreement was reached.

The radio report said Real Madrid president Florentino Perez had personally taken the decision to pay 24 million euros required to free Robinho from a buy-out clause tying him to Santos.

Robinho would join a star-studded team at Madrid that includes fellow Brazilian Ronaldo, England captain David Beckham and France's Zinedine Zidane. Real Madrid are currently in China on a pre-season tour.

Spanish media reported earlier on Thursday that Robinho had undergone a medical check-up at a clinic in Sao Paulo prior to signing for Real Madrid.

Sports daily *Marca* said that the 21-year-old international, who has been the subject of a tug-of-war transfer saga between his club Santos and the Spanish giants, was subjected to a battery of tests under the supervision of Joaquim Grava and Real Madrid chief of medical staff Alfonso del Corral.

One of Brazil's most exciting young talents, Robinho has refused to train with Santos since returning from international duty at the start of the month because he has been angry at their refusal to accept a 25-million- dollar offer from Real.

Santos president Marcelo Teixeira has accused Real of making an illicit approach for the player and said that any club wanting to sign him before his contract end in 2008 would have to pay the full 50 million dollars stipulated in his buy-out clause.— *MNA/Reuters*

Riders pedal past a field of sunflowers during the 17th stage of the Tour de France cycling race between Pau and Revel, France recently.—INTERNET

Tottenham reach Peace Cup final

ULSAN (South Korea), 22 July — Tottenham Hotspur drew 1-1 with Real Sociedad on Thursday to set up a clash with French champions Olympique Lyon in the final of the Peace Cup pre-season tournament. Mido scored from close range for Spurs in the 42nd minute before Oscar de Paula brought the Spanish La Liga club level at the beginning of the second half.

English Premier League club Tottenham finished level on points at the top of Group B but scored more goals in the group matches than second-placed Boca Juniors of Argentina, who beat Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa 3-1 in Kwangju on Thursday.

Olympique Lyon topped Group A, which also included Dutch champions PSV Eindhoven, Once Caldas of Colombia and domestic K-League side Seongnam Ilhwa.

Sunday's final will be played in the Seoul World Cup Stadium, with 2 million US dollars awarded to the winner.

MNA/Reuters

Russia notches up first gold in synchronized swimming

MONTREAL, 22 July — The first gold in synchronized swimming at 2005 Motreal World Aquatic Championships was took by hot favourite Russia here on Wednesday. In synchronized swimming circle, Russia is the most shining competitor since 1998, as the two Olympic golds and four World Championships titles in team event were bagged by their ballet dancers in the water.

On Wednesday evening, ten Russian aquatic fairies led by the wonderful "Anastasia pair" topped the field of 12 with 99.333 points, making the both defending champion Japan and Spain, the joint runner-up in Barcelona, have to stepped back one place. Japan scored 97.833 points and Spain 97.167. The top three finishes have engaged another confront in Friday's duet event, as defending champion and Olympic title holder Anastasia Davydova and Anastasia Ermakova led the preliminary, followed by Harada Saho and Suzuki Emiko of Japan and Spanish pair Gemma Mengual and Pada Tirados. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Mourinho says English player prices "crazy"

SHORT HILLS (New Jersey), 21 July — England winger Shaun Wright-Phillips cost Chelsea a "crazy" amount of money, the English champions' manager Jose Mourinho said on Wednesday.

Mourinho was asked why the 23-year-old Wright-Phillips was worth 21 million pounds (37 million US dollars).

"Because the English market is crazy," Mourinho told a news conference on Wednesday.

Chelsea may be prepared to pay even more for Olympique Lyon midfielder Michael Essien.

"Discussions are ongoing," Chelsea spokesman Simon Greenberg told *Reuters.* The French champions have placed a 45-million-euro (54.32-million-US-dollar) price tag on the Ghana international's head.

Wright-Phillips, the step-son of former Arsenal and England striker Ian Wright, made his international debut 11 months ago and hopes playing for Chelsea will earn him a place in the squad for the 2006 World Cup in Germany.

He faces stiff competition for a place in the team, however. Chelsea have two outstanding wingers in Dutchman Arjen Robben and Ireland's Damien Duff, as well as England's Joe Cole.

Mourinho believes Wright-Phillips will be versatile.

"I think he can be more a pure winger than our other players are ... and he can play from the inside as well," Mourinho said.

Mourinho brushed off suggestions he might have a surplus of wingers, saying he was prompted to buy Wright-Phillips after a spate of injuries to Robben and Duff last season.

"I felt at some moments in the last season we didn't have a pure winger on the right side," Mourinho said.

Chelsea are touring the United States for pre-season matches against AC Milan in Boston and New York, and DC United in Washington. — *MNA/Reuters*

Bayern will not break bank to keep Ballack

FRANKFURT, 21 July — Bayern Munich would be prepared to lose Germany captain Michael Ballack when his contract is up next year rather than pay the sort of huge salary on offer elsewhere in Europe.

"We insist on sporting success being tied to financial prudence," Bayern's director of football Uli Hoeness told Bavarian TV show Blickpunkt Sport.

"The point may come when we have to say no."

Ballack is Bayern's most influential outfield player and took a key role in last season's double-winning exploits.

His current deal runs out at the end of the 2005-06 season, meaning he could leave at the end of the coming campaign on a free transfer, or before then for a cut-price fee.

There have been reports that Bayern would be prepared to offer the 28-year-old midfielder a salary of 10 million euros (12.06 million US dollars) to avoid such a situation but Hoeness rejected that sort of deal outright.

"When people start talking about 10 million-plus I just don't understand the world any more," Hoeness said.

"Surely no-one believes Ballack earns more than four million or thereabouts? And we're supposed to be considering more than doubling that?"

Ballack was linked last year with a possible move to Spain, where the salaries paid by leading clubs Real Madrid and Barcelona dwarf the amounts available in Germany.

Clubs in England and Italy could also offer far more than Bayern Munich would be prepared to pay.

MNA/Reuters

Chelsea settle out of court with former player de Lucas

LONDON, 21 July — Chelsea have settled out of court with former Spanish midfielder Enrique de Lucas who sued the English champions for more than 2.5 million pounds (4.37 million US dollars) after they terminated his contract in 2003.

De Lucas began a London High Court action on Monday, seeking damages in unpaid wages, bonuses, appearance fees, accommodation and other expenses, including English language tuition.

"Chelsea FC and Enrique de Lucas are pleased to announce that they have settled their differences in relation to the High Court claim brought by Mr de Lucas," a joint statement said on Wednesday.

"The parties have reached a mutually satisfactory solution." No financial details were available.

The 27-year-old's move to English football in 2002 was a complex one involving Spanish club Deportivo Alaves.—*MNA/Reuters*

Baros to discuss with Benitez about future

LONDON, 22 July — Liverpool striker Milan Baros said on Wednesday that he will have a talk with boss Rafa Benitez about his future.

The recent arrival of Peter Crouch has cast doubt over the long-term future of Baros.

Reds boss Rafa Benitez has admitted he would let Baros leave if he received the right offer.

Baros is now set to sit down with Benitez next week to find out his plans for him.

The Czech Republic ace admits he is unhappy with all the speculation, but is ready to fight for his future at Anfield.

"Of course it is not pleasant, but I am still a Liverpool player," said Baros.

"I am working hard and trying to persuade the coach I deserve my place in the team.

"We will sit together and talk about his intentions with me.

"If he says he does not need me, then we will start solving the problem, but nothing is happening now and I am not letting it play on my mind."

MNA/Xinhua

LA doctor indicted for "subdosing" AIDS patients

Los Angeles, 22 July—A well-known California AIDS doctors accused of "subdosing" his patients—giving them less than the prescribed amount of medication to boost his profits—has been indicated on federal charges.

Dr George Kooshian, who has twice been sued over subdosing claims and settled both cases out of court, was indicated on Wednesday on 25 counts of health-care fraud, three-counts of making false statements and one count of conspiracy.

"It's pretty egregious because you are talking about people's health here," Assistant US Attorney Jeame Joseph said of the accusations against Kooshian, 54, who has been ordered to appear in court on 1 August.

Kooshian's former assistant, 45-year-old Virgil Opinion, was also named in the indictment but indicated a willingness to cooperate with prosecutors, she said.

The indictment charges Kooshian with ordering Opinion and other employees at two clinics he operated in Los Angeles and Orange Counties to subdose patients he was treating for AIDS, HIV and hepatitis.

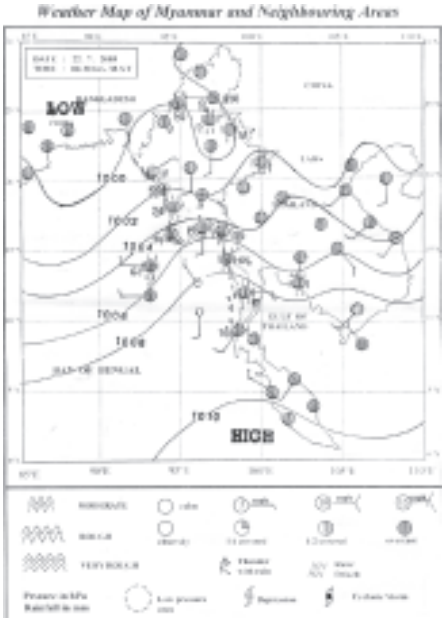
According to the indictment, patients received one-half to one-quarter of the doses they were prescribed and in some cases were given only saline or water. Kooshian then billed insurance companies for the full doses and continued to submit cliams even after patients stopped taking the medication, the indictment said.

It was Opinion who first alerted authorities to the suspected subdosing coming forward after he was fired.

"He claimed his conscience was killing him," Joseph said. Opinion and one of Kooshian's patients each sued the doctor, who settled both cases out of court. Kooshian and Opinion each face a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison for each of the 25 health-care fraud counts and five years in prison for the conspiracy count and each of the false statement counts.

MNA/Reuters

CASH DONATED: Dr Tin Wa, Dr Daw Ahar Nar and family presented K 500,000 to build a three-storey hospital at Hninzigon Home for the Aged to Vice-Chairman of the Administrative Board of the Home Lt-Col Kyaw Shein (Retired).—(H)



WEATHER

Friday, 22 July, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain has been isolated in Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kayah State, Sagaing, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Mon State and Taninthayi Division and isolated heavyfalls in Kachin State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Lounglon (7.24) inches, Myitkyina (5.91) inches, Dawei (5.00) inches, Yay (3.42) inches, Mudon (3.27) inches.

Maximum temperature on 21-7-2005 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 22-7-2005 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 22-7-2005 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 21-7-2005 was nil. Rainfalls on 22-7-2005 were (0.67 inch) at Mingaladon, (0.35 inch) at Kaba-Aye, (1.26 inches) at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (39.21 inches) at Mingaladon, (36.96 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (42.28 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (16:20) hours MST on 21-7-2005.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 23-7-2005: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Chin and Shan States and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Kachin and Mon States and Taninthayi Division. Degree of certainty is 80%.

State of the sea: Temporary squalls with rough seas are likely Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally Strong monsoon.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 23-7-2005: Some rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 23-7-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Weather outlook for last weekend of July 2005: During the coming weekend, rain will be widespread in Yangon Division and isolated in Mandalay Division.

TV Myanmar

Saturday, 23 July
View on today:

7:00 am
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Uttamasara
7:15 am
2. တိပိဋကရေး မေဘာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တ သီရိနွဘိဝံသ(ယောဆရာတော်)ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပဂုတသန္တိ ပါဠိတော်
7:25 am
3. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am
4. Morning news
7:40 am
5. Nice and sweet song
7:55 am
6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
8:10 am
7. Musical programme
8:20 am
8. ကချင်ပြည်နယ်မိုးကောင်းတံတား
8:30 am
9. International news
8:45 am
10. Grammar made easy
11:00 pm
1. Martial song
11:10 pm
2. Musical programme
11:30 pm
3. News
11:40 pm
4. Games for children
12:05 pm
5. Round-up of the week's TV local news
12:25 pm
6. နိုင်ငံခြားဧာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဧရာဒီစွာနှင့်မိန္ဒာခွင်းဧား" (အပိုင်း-၂၂)
1:05 pm
7. ကြားမြင်သုတ ပြည်ဝဧရော ဧာဧဧသာ
1:20 pm
8. မြန်မာ့ဧလေ့ "ဝါဆိုလဘွဲ့များ" (ဒီန်ဒိုလ်တဉ်စီစဉ်တင်ဆက်သည်)
2:00 pm
9. Musical programme
2:15 pm
10. (၂၃)ကြိမ်မြောက် အရှေ့တောင်အာရှအားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲအတွက်ပြင်ဆင်ကြိုးစား လေ့လော့်အားကစား
2:30 pm
11. Dance of national races
2:40 pm
12. သုံးဆယ်ရေလောင်တမ်
2:45 am
13. International news
4:00 pm
1. Martial song
4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
4:30 pm
3. English for everyday use
4:45 pm
4. Musical programme
5:00 pm
5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းဧာ -တတိယနှစ် (သရုံးအထူးပြုများ) (သရုံး)
5:15 pm
6. Cute little dancers
5:30 pm
7. နာဧဝင်ပီယံသူလက်သံ
5:35 pm
8. Musical programme
5:45 pm
9. "ဒီဇိုတီအက်စ်" ဖိုးဖြူကျော်ထူး၊ မိုင်သင်းကြည်၊ ကြူကြူသင်း (ဒါဇိုက်တာ-သိန်းဟန်)
5:50 pm
10. Games for children
6:20 pm
11. Musical programme
6:30 pm
12. Evening news
7:00 pm
13. Weather reports
7:05 pm
14. နိုင်ငံခြားဧာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်ခွန်းခြွေသီတစ်ရာတစ်လီ" (အပိုင်း-၄၁)
7:40 pm
15. Musical programme
8:00 pm
16. News
17. International news
18. Weather report
19. နိုင်ငံခြားဧာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်သံသရာ" (အပိုင်း-၆၀)
19. The next day's programme

Radio Myanmar

Saturday, 23 July
Tune in today:

8.30 am Brief news
8.35 am Music:
-Breathe
8.40 am Perspectives
8.45 am Music: One & One
8.55 am National news/ Slogan
9.05 am Music:Offshore
9.10 am International news
9.15 am Music:
-Unbreak my heart
-Pump up
-Inside of my guitar
-I'm in love again
9.00 pm ASEAN report
9.10 pm Article/Music
9.20 pm Myanma culture by Dr Khin Maung Nyunt
9.30 pm Souvenirs
-Until it's time for you to go
9.45 pm News/Slogan
10.00 pm PEL

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Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects Myetto Sub-power station in Pathein

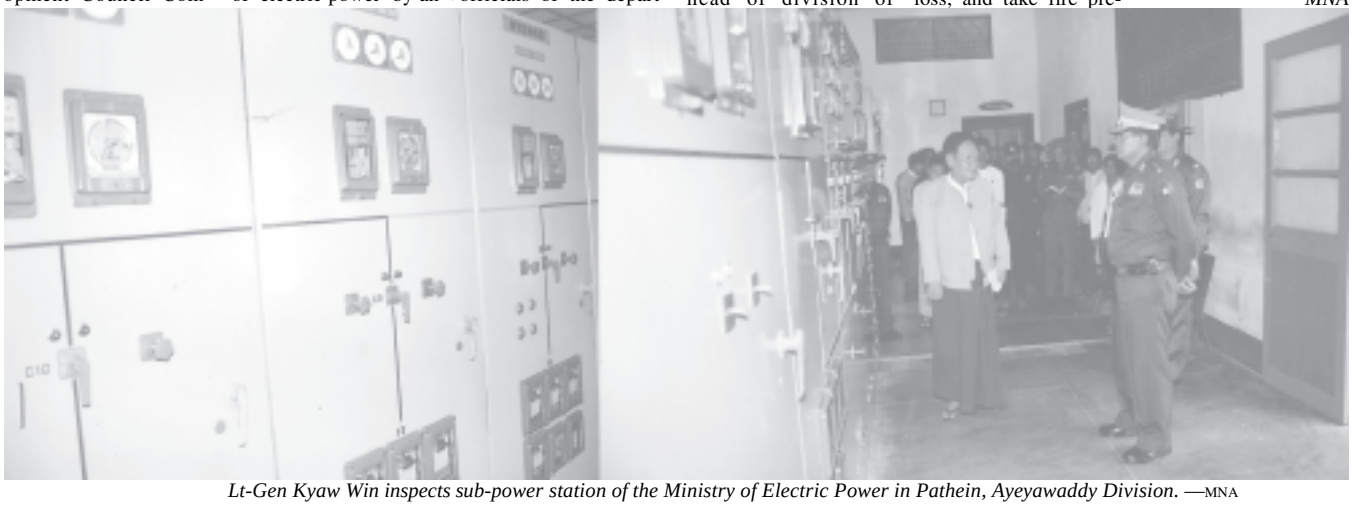
YANGON, 22 July — Chairman of Power and Fuel Utilization Supervisory Committee member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, accompanied by Chairman of Ayeyawaddy Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and officials arrived at Myetto Sup-power station under the Ministry of Electric Power in Pathein, Ayeyawaddy Division this morning and heard reports on progress of daily and monthly supply of electric power by an official.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win then made a speech, saying that the officials are to strive for fully supplying electric power to the public and the factories. The State is establishing more hydel-power plants so as to sufficiently supply the electricity and the officials of the department are to cooperate with others in the tasks of minimizing power loss, added Lt-Gen Kyaw Win.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win met with head of division of Myanmar Petroleum Products Enterprise U Than Tun Oo and officials of the Ministry of Energy and urged them to minimize waste and loss, and take fire preventive measures.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party also inspected the sub-power station and fulfilled the requirements.

MNA



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects sub-power station of the Ministry of Electric Power in Pathein, Ayeyawaddy Division. —MNA

Prime Minister felicitates Egyptian counterpart

YANGON, 23 July— General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr Ahmed Nazif, Prime Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on the occasion of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt which falls on 23 July 2005. —*MNA*

Yangon Division MPF holds work coordination meeting

Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe addresses work coordination meeting of Yangon Division Myanmar Police Force. — MNA

YANGON, 22 July— The Yangon Division Myanmar Police Force held its work coordination meeting at the meeting hall of the Police Force this afternoon with an address by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary of Yangon Division PDC Lt-Col Myint Kyi and members, Head of Yangon Division MPF Police Col Aung Daing and division level departmental officials, the chairmen of the District Peace and Development Councils, the heads of District MPFs, the heads of departments and the heads of the Township MPFs.

In his address, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe said that the MPF, an armed organization, is engaged in ensuring community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order. It is also an organization which has constant touch with and deal with the people.

The MPF Management System Reforming Committee was formed in 1994 with six sub-committees with the aim of properly changing the MPF both in form and essence, of enabling it to become disciplined one, winning the love of the people and of enabling it to become a national defence force, he stressed.

(See page 9)

INSIDE

Yenangyoung residents were very pleased when they witnessed local people in the regions where water is scarce enjoying sufficient water on 25 May 2005. They were also pleased for those who regained their sights, and there was the delight of the eye specialists and those who made cash donations.

PAGE 11

DIPA AYE MYA (MAN TEKKATHO)

Industry-1 Minister receives Chinese guests

YANGON, 22 July — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung received Chairman Mr Li Zhixin of China National Pharmaceutical Foreign Trade Corporation and party of the People's Republic of China at the ministry at 5 pm today.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thein Tun, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry.

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