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Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing inspects Hsinshweli sugarcane model plantation of Taungnyo Station

NAY PYI TAW, 14 May — Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence and Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin inspected Hsinshweli sugarcane model plantation of Taungnyo Station yesterday.

Commander of regional battalion Col Tin Aung Myint reported on characteristics of Hsinshweli sugarcane, the plantation and targets for cultivation of sugarcane.

Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing said Nay Pyi Taw region produced a large amount of sugarcane in the past and four sugar mills were established. Now yield of sugarcane has become less and cultivation acreage decreases. Quality sugarcane and cultivation methods will be provided for the growers.

The Hsinshweli sugarcane produces over 50 tons per acre. 'Sugarcane', one of the ten major crops is to be grown. Cultivation target of 40,000 acres of sugarcane was set.

Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, the commander and officials went to model plantation-1. Col Khin Maung Oo reported on condition of the plantation.

They went to the site of Taukpyo reservoir. Director U Myo Myint of Irrigation Department reported on progress of work.

Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and the commander inspected the construction of the dam and the site. The earth dam is 725 feet long and 40 feet high and it can store 33,345 acre feet. Altogether 400 acres of monsoon and summer paddy can be grown on completion of the dam.

MNA

Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing of Ministry of Defence and Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin visit Hsinshweli sugarcane plantation in Taungnyo Station.— MNA

INSIDE

The ASEAN has been striving with greater cooperation to serve the regional interest. However, the US has been trying to interfere in the affairs of the ASEAN countries and expel the countries it dislikes from the association.

PAGE 6+7 TEKKATHO MYAT THU

Transport Minister inspects No 3 Botahtaung Jetty, Sule Wharfs

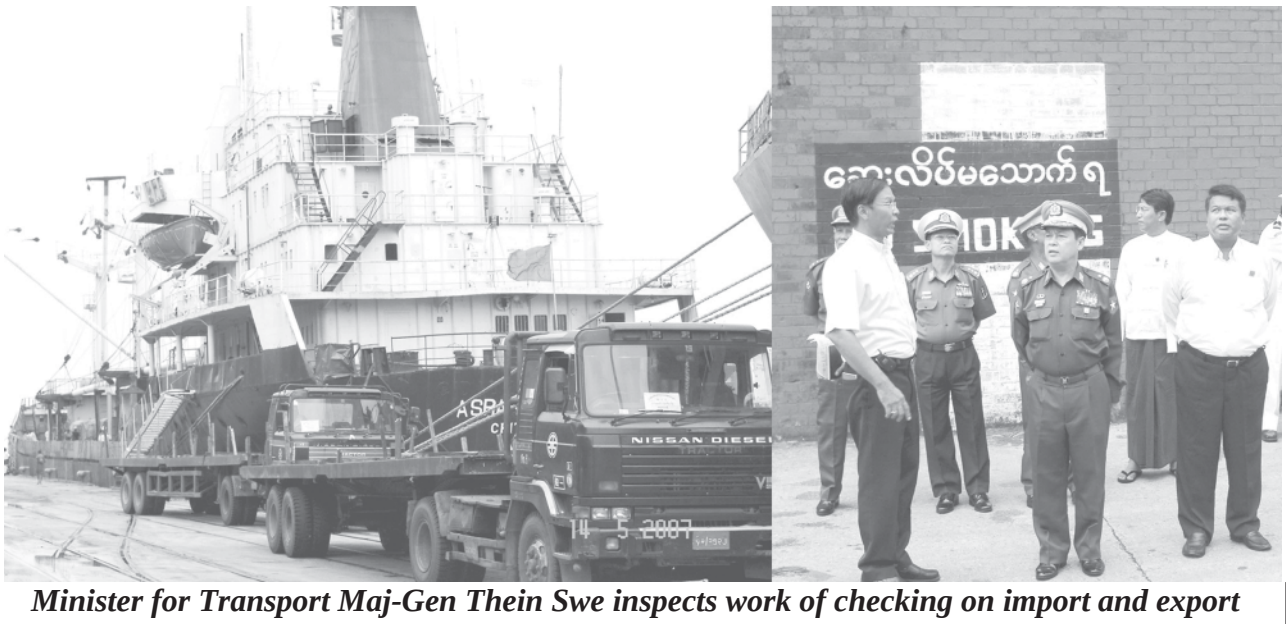
YANGON, 14 May — Chairman of the Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Speedy Freight Handling, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe accompanied by Managing Director U Thein Htay of Myanma Port Authority and officials this afternoon inspected the work of checking on export and import goods, and the containers with the use of X-ray machine in Container Yard at No 3 Botahtaung jetty. The minister gave instructions to the officials.

Later, the minister and party inspected unloading of goods from the liners along Sule Wharfs and officials reported on work being done to the minister.

Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe and party went to Myanmar Industrial Port and inspected checking on farm machinery, beans and plywood. The minister called for ensuring the work of checking on export and import goods, safety measures and timely completion of tasks.

They then inspected unloading of logs from Wailuwadi (5) vessel at Myanmar Industrial Port. On arrival at Asia World jetty in Ahlon township, the minister oversaw the work of checking on textiles, consumer and agricultural goods, and containers through X-ray machine.

The officials conducted them around the jetty and the minister left instructions.—*MNA*



Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe inspects work of checking on import and export goods at Sule Wharf.— MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 15 May, 2007

Pay special attention to warnings for safety of vessels

Monsoon has already set in. There used to be strong winds and storms at the onset of monsoon. The strong winds accompanied by heavy rains have resulted in swelling rivers, strong currents and whirlpools in rivers. This being the case, vessels are to be well aware of those possible dangers in order to set sail safely.

With a view to ensuring all vessels to travel safely the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems has issued warnings for safety of the vessels.

Moreover, different kinds of vessels are to approach river crossing bridges through the passages marking the green triangles to avoid possible dangers as the foundations of middle piers of the bridges may be under water.

Especially, vessels are not to sail in parallel while approaching the bridges.

A sudden change in weather at the beginning of monsoon can lead to strong winds and downpours as well as flooding and thunderstorms. Therefore, all vessels are to pay special attention to warnings issued by the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems as well as by Meteorology and Hydrology Department in order that they can sail free from danger.

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**

Minister receives Ambassador of Thailand

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi meets with Mr Bansarn Bunnag, Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar.— ENERGY

NAY PYI TAW, 14 May— Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi received Mr Bansarn Bunnag, Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar, at his office here on 11 May.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to the energy sector. Also present at the call were directors-general and managing directors of the departments and enterprises under the ministry and officials concerned.

MNA

Work proficiency course for IPRD officials opens

Director-General U Chit Naing speaks at opening of work proficiency course 2/2007 for IPRD officials.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 May— A work proficiency course (2/2007) for officials of Information and Public Relations Department was opened at the Ministry of Information here today.

Also present were the director-general of the IPRD, the deputy directors-general, directors and course instructors.

On behalf of the Minister for Information, IPRD Director-General U Chit Naing delivered an opening address.

A total of 56 trainees are attending the four-week course. — *MNA*

UDNR to open regular training courses on 4 June

NAY PYI TAW, 14 May— University for Development of National Races will open two years' MEd course, four years' BEd course, one-year Junior Assistant Teachership Course, two years' BEd (Bridge) course, one-year teachership diploma course on 4 June 2007.

Those wishing to attend the courses may contact the University for Development of National Races by the last week of May.— *MNA*

Donate Blood

Myanmar, India play friendly volleyball match

YANGON, 14 May— A friendly volleyball match between Myanmar and India was held at National Indoor Stadium No-1 (Thuwunna) this afternoon.

Among the spectators were officials of the Ministry of Sports, vice-presidents of Myanmar Volleyball Federation, general-secretary and executives.

In the match of second day, Myanmar Selected Volleyball Team of Myanmar Volleyball Federation won over India University Champion with 3-0.

The third match can be watched free of charge at the stadium on 15 May. — *MNA*

Tajikistan, Syria win at Davis Cup Tennis Tournament

YANGON, 14 May — Tajikistan beat Bangladesh 3-0 and Syria beat Myanmar 3-0 at 2007 Davis Cup by BNP Paribas Asia/Oceania Zone Group IV Tennis Tournament being hosted by Myanmar in Theinbyu Tennis Court here yesterday.

Among the spectators were Patron of Myanmar Tennis Federation, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Secretary of MOC U Thaung Htaik, officials and tennis fans. — *MNA*

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

China, Slovenia, Croatia hail anniversary of dip ties

BEIJING, 14 May — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao exchanged greetings with Slovenian Prime Minister Janez Jansa and Croatian Prime Minister Ivo Sanader respectively on the 15th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said Sunday.

Wen and Jansa sent each other a congratulatory message Saturday to hail the development of ties since China and Slovenia forged diplomatic relations 15 years ago.

The Chinese Premier and his Croatian counterpart exchanged the message Sunday to mark the anniversary.

The premiers spoke highly of the fruitful developments in relations between China and Slovenia and between China and Croatia, vowing to work together to further bilateral ties in the interests of their peoples. Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi also exchanged messages of congratulations with his Slovenian and Croatian counterparts Dimitrij Rupel and Kolinda Grabar Kitarovic on the development of ties.

MNA/Xinhua

From left, Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Turkmen President Gurbanguli Berdymukhamedov shake hands after their meeting in Turkmenbashi on the Caspian Sea shore, Turkmenistan, on 12 May, 2007. — XINHUA

Al-Qaida says it has captured three US soldiers

BAGHDAD, 14 May— Thousands of US troops supported by helicopters and planes were last night searching for three soldiers captured by al-Qaida near Baghdad as violence again hit dozens of ordinary Iraqis across the country.

Iraqi soldiers near Yusufiya, Iraq, searching for US troops who went missing after they were attacked whilst on patrol on Saturday. —INTERNET

The Islamic State in Iraq — an al-Qaida affiliate—said on its website that it was holding "crusader" soldiers after four others and an interpreter were confirmed killed in fighting on Saturday in the Mahmudiya area in the Sunni "triangle of death" south of the capital.

Last June al-Qaida captured two American soldiers at a checkpoint in nearby Yusufiya, then killed them before they mutilated and booby-trapped their bodies. Major-General William Caldwell, spokesman for the US military, confirmed that three soldiers were missing. — *Internet*

Son of Iraqi Vice-President survives bomb attack in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 13 May—The son of the Iraqi Vice-President Tariq al-Hashimi survived a roadside bomb attack near his car in western Baghdad on Saturday, an Interior Ministry source said.

"A roadside bomb went off near the car of Ahmed Tariq al-Hashimi, son of Sunni Vice-President, in the Amriyah neighbourhood," the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

The Vice-President's son was seriously wounded in the blast and was transferred to Ibn Sina Hospital, which is run by the US troops, the source said.

Three of Hashimi's siblings, two brothers and one sister, were allegedly killed by Shiite death squads in 2006.

Separately, two more roadside bombs targeted US patrols in Saidiyah and Baladiyat neighbourhoods in southern and eastern Baghdad respectively, the source said.

It was not clear whether the US soldiers sustained any casualties as the troops cordoned off the area, he added. The US military did not confirm the two attacks yet. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Vitamin D 'may help ward off TB'

LONDON, 13 May—A dose of vitamin D may help ward off tuberculosis, research suggests.

A study of 131 people found the vitamin helped to boost the ability of the body to inhibit the growth of bacteria that causes the respiratory disease.

Researchers from Queen Mary's School of Medicine and Imperial College said it could be used to target at-risk patients or added to drinks.

The study appeared in the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine.

Vitamin D was originally used to treat TB in sanatoriums before antibiotics came in to use.

But until now no study has evaluated the effect of vitamin D on the body's immunity to mycobacteria, the family of bacteria that cause TB. During the study, blood was taken from all the participants and infected with mycobacteria.

The group was then split into two with 64 given a dummy pill and the rest a 2.5mg dose of vitamin D. After six weeks, blood was taken again and infected with mycobacteria.

The samples of blood were analysed after 24 hours, and the growth of the samples taken from people given vitamin D was 20% less than the placebo group.

The researchers said clinical trials were now needed to fully prove the findings, but they added the vitamin had the potential to help ward off the respiratory disease.

Internet

ROK vessel sinks off east China, 16 crewmen missing

JINAN, 13 May— Sixteen sailors on a cargo vessel registered in the Republic of Korea are missing when it sank off east China due to collision with a ship run by a Chinese company, rescuers said on Saturday.

The ROK vessel, *Golden Rose,* sank on the sea near Yantai, east China's Shandong Province after it collided around 3 am Saturday with Saint Vincent-registered *Jinsheng*, a ship run by Shandong Lufeng Shipping Company Ltd.

Chinese rescuers have found two life rafts and some wrecked articles confirmed to be left by the *Golden Rose.* They believed the vessel had sunk with its 16 sailors aboard missing.

MNA/Xinhua

Mourners look over the memorials of the students and faculty members who were killed on the campus of Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia on 12 May, 2007. — XINHUA

IEA says Iran's gasoline rationing a clever move

LONDON, 13 May — Iran's plans to ration gasoline and increase the price should help curb imports and raise fuel efficiency but may provoke considerable domestic opposition, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said on Friday.

Iran imports 40 per cent of its gasoline needs, making the Islamic republic vulnerable to trade sanctions in its dispute with the United Nations over its nuclear programme.

The government has put forward plans to ration gasoline and raise the price, currently among the lowest in the world, from 22May. Iran is the world's fourth largest crude exporter but a lack of refining capacity has made it dependent on gasoline imports.

"The new rationing plan should be seen as a clever move towards gradually adopting market prices, encouraging greater fuel efficiency and curbing demand," the IEA, which advises 26 industrialized nations, said in its monthly *Oil Market Report*.

"However, the change will entail considerable social and political hurdles, which will need to be overcome if it is to be a success." According to the IEA, there are 15 million cars on Iran's roads and gasoline demand is estimated at about 78 million litres per day — about 5.2 litres per day per vehicle or three-quarters above Iran's planned three litres per day quota. "On average, therefore, the quota will last around 17-18 days.

MNA/Reuters

ဓာတ်ပုံသတင်းများ

Red Bull pilot Peter Besenyei of Hungary flies past the finish gate to win the third leg of the Red Bull Air Race World Series in Monument Valley in Utah, on 12 May , 2007. — INTERNET

A local resident searches for caterpillar fungus, also known as Cordyceps sinensis, a traditional Tibetan medicine now popular in China and across the world, on the Laji mountains of Guide County, west China's Qinghai Province on 12 May, 2007. INTERNET

Seven fishermen in mishap rescued off east China

JINAN, 13 May — Seven fishermen on two boats were rescued on Saturday off east China after their boats lost control in high gales, local rescue sources said.

The engine of a fishing boat with six people aboard at the Bajiao offshore area near Yantai City, Shandong Province stopped working around 1:20 pm Saturday as its screw propeller was enlaced by aquatic plants amid sudden gales on the sea.

A helicopter from the Beihai No 1 Rescue Flying Squad was dispatched to the site and rescued the six in 20 minutes. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Iron mine accident kills three in north China

HOHHOT, 13 May — Roof collapse has killed three miners in an iron mine in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region in north China, local workplace safety officials said here Saturday.

The accident took place at Thursday night. Investigators have been sent to the spot, the regional workplace safety bureau said.

The iron mine, located in Sonid Youqi Banner, Xinlingol League, is run by the Fushanhong mining Co, Ltd. The accident occurred at the No1 shaft of the company, the officials said. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Roadside bombing kills eight policemen in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 13 May— A roadside bombing killed eight policemen in Kandahar Province of southern Afghanistan on Saturday, provincial police chief Asmatullah Alizai told *Xinhua.*

A remote-controlled bomb attacked a police van at around 6 pm (1330 GMT) in Jalai District, killing all the eight policemen in the vehicle, Alizai said, adding the van was totally destroyed.

No one has claimed responsibility, but Taleban militants have frequently carried out similar attacks.

Kandahar has been a hotbed of Taleban rebels, who attack Afghan and foreign troops frequently.

Due to rising Taleban-linked insurgency, over 1,200 people, mostly Taleban militants, have been killed in Afghanistan this year. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Three Israeli hikers killed in flood from rare cloudburst

JERUSALEM, 13 May— A flash flood killed three Israeli hikers on Saturday near the biblical Dead Sea in the occupied West Bank, an Israeli rescue worker said.

The flood, which swept over a portion of a main highway along the frontier with neighbouring Jordan, was caused by a rare spring cloudburst in parts of Israel and the Palestinian territory.

Israeli Army helicopters and Magen David Adom medics launched searches after reports that 11 hikers abseiling down a cliff in the Judean Desert had got stuck because of a flash flood in the Qumran River bed, to the east of Jerusalem.

Yinon Yerushalmi, an Israeli rescue worker, told Israel's Army Radio three hikers had been found dead and searches were being conducted for a fourth missing hiker.

"All four were attached to the same rope."

MNA/Reuters

This combination picture shows girls dressed up in costumes in Tokyo's Harajuku district, on 13 May, 2007. — INTERNET

Volcano in central Philipines threatens to erupt

MANILA, 13 May — The Bulusan Volcano in Sorsogon Province, central Philippines, exploded Saturday morning and sent ash up to four kilometers high, local radio dzBB said.

Bella Santiago Tubianosa, resident volcanologist of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology (Phivolcs) and Seismology, told dzBB in an interview that the volcano which spew ash for 35 minutes towards the southwest direction could affect several towns of the area.

MNA/Xinhua

ECONOMIC NEWS

China promotes Chinese tourism industry at world summit

LISBON, 13 May—China is using the 7th Global Travel and Tourism Summit that opened here Friday as its latest effort to promote China's tourism industry and resources.

"China has become an attractive tourist destination worldwide and a prominent tourist-generating country," said Wang Zhifa, vice-chairman of China's National Tourism Administration, when addressing the opening session of the summit.

"Last year, the number of overnight inbound tourist arrivals in China was almost 50 million, while the country's outbound tourist trips reached 35 million, and the number of domestic tourist trips was almost 1.4 billion," he said.

China is a safe tourist destination, he said, noting the Chinese Government is always attaching great importance to security and the country enjoys a peaceful atmosphere.

China's tourism industry income is expected to reach 600 billion RMB (78.2 billion US dollars) in 2007, accounting to 2.5 per cent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP), according to 2007 China Travel and Tourism Economic Research, a report released by the World Travel and Tourism Council earlier this year.

The report also predicted that in 2017 China's tourism income would jump to nearly two trillion RMB (260.8 billion dollars).

MNA/Xinhua

A customer selects a fire engine shaped cartoon TV set at a shop in Roppongi of Tokyo, capital of Japan, on 12 May, 2007. A home appliance shop put a series of cartoon TV sets on sale recently, which attracted many customers purchasing them for their children. — XINHUA

Economists say tariff breaks seen giving little eco boost

WASHINGTON, 13 May—Tariff breaks offered by many of the world's richest countries to developing nations may be an ineffective way to fight poverty, economists said on Friday. Unilateral trade preference programmes "don't make much of a difference in many cases", Bernard Hoekman, a trade economist at the World Bank, said at a panel discussion at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, a Washington think tank.

A better solution is to reform trade policies and focus on making exporters more competitive, Hoekman and others suggested.

Under preference programmes, rich nations like the United States lower tariffs for imports from poor countries.

US programmes include the Generalized System of Preferences, which gives over 4,000 products from more than 100 countries duty-free access, the African Growth and Opportunity Act, and the Andean Trade Preference and Drug Eradication Act, which is linked to drug eradication efforts. Yet more important than duty reductions, Hoekman and other economists suggested, are poor countries' own trade liberalization, efforts to make their industries more competitive, and improvements to roads, ports and regulation.

MNA/Reuters

The special V150 French TGV high-speed train that broke the world speed record at 574.8 kilometres (357 miles) per hour in eastern France last 3 April, 2007 is transported on a barge on the Seine River in Paris on 13 May, 2007. INTERNET

Competitors run across the Millau Viaduct during the "Viaduc" race of 23,550 km (14,633 miles) from Millau and back, southern France on 13 May, 2007. — INTERNET

Indonesia has ten million unemployed workers

JAKARTA, 13 May — About 10 million people in Indonesia's work force are currently still unemployed, so it is necessary for the government and other parties in the country to engage in serious efforts to change their fate, Indonesian Manpower and Transmigration Minister Erman Suparno said.

Addressing the launching of a National Movement to Tackle Unemployment (GNPP) in the resort island of Bali on Friday, the minister said "Not only the govern-ment but all concerned parties must take part in efforts to solve this un-employment problem", *Antara* news agency reported on Saturday.

He said in 2006, the government was able to help one million jobless people find work in various fields, including in foreign countries.

He did not mention the number of Indonesian workers who had been placed overseas but said his office would ease the procedures and system so far used to send workers overseas.

In the future, people who were going to work abroad would no longer need to pay various kinds of fiscal and administrative levies before leaving the country.

MNA/Xinhua

African countries urged to boost trade ties with China

HARARE, 14 May — African countries have been urged to boost their trade ties with China whose role on the affairs of the continent has been growing steadily, *New Ziana* reported on Sunday.

Infrastructure Development Bank of Zimbabwe's chief executive Charles Chikaura said this at a conference on cooperation between Africa and China's financial institutions.

"Africa can exploit opportunities for trade and investment with China only if it is competitive," he said.

"This competitiveness depends on its ability to attract significant foreign direct investment and putting this capital to productive use."

He said trade and investment would not be competitive in countries where there was heavy dependency on primary commodities, poor incentives for exports and weak manufacturing base geared mostly on import substitution.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Men look at a clay sculpture during an art exhibit at a gallery in Baghdad on 13 May, 2007.— INTERNET

The ASEAN Charter or the backbone of ASEAN unity

Tekkatho Myat Thu

The United Nations was established on 24 October 1945 in accord with the desire of the peoples of the world to save the succeeding generations from the scourge of wars like World War II. The UN has laid down principles concerning the freedom of world peoples, their self-determination, equality among all nations, to be free from foreign interferences and intrusions, the settlement of problems through dialogue and political means avoiding the use of force and the cooperation in global peace, security and development.

The UN was founded with 51 nations, and now it has 192 member states. Purposes and principles and the structure of the organization are included in the UN Charter. The UN Charter was drawn in the early 1945, and since June that year, the member states began to sign it.

Regional organizations have been formed to serve the common interest. They are African Union (AU), Organization of American States (OAS), European Union (EU), League of Arab States (Arab League), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARI-COM), etc.

The ASEAN was established on 8 August 1967. Its aims include the acceleration of economic growth, social progress, cultural development among its members through mutual cooperation.

It was first formed with five nations — Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia. Later, Vietnam, Brunei, Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia joined it. So, it has become an association covering the whole region. The ASEAN now has ten member nations, with a total population of over 570 million. Economic scholars have predicted that the ASEAN would become a regional economic powerhouse.

Southeast Asian nations suffered from colonial occupation in the past. They launched anti-colonialist and independence struggles. They also faced WWII. When former colonialists — Britain, France, Dutch and Portugal — granted independence to Southeast Asian nations and withdrew from the region, the United States, keeping in mind the Domino Theory, tried to intrude into and dominate the region and interfere in its affairs. The result was the war in Vietnam that spread to Cambodia and Laos. Southeast Asia, especially Indochina, was burning with regional wars.

America believed that the spread of communism could have domino theory effect, saying that if one country fell under communism, others would become communist countries as well. With that belief, the US was interfering in the affairs of the countries of Asia, Africa, Middle East and North and South America. During the time, communists gained power in North Vietnam, North Korea and China. Thus, America meddled in the affairs of Asia on political, economic and military fronts.

America founded Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SAETO) in 1954 with the intention of dominating the whole Asia with its military power. Like the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) founded by the US to establish military bases in Europe, SEATO's aim was to set up military bases in Southeast Asia and to launch military attacks against the communist governments of the People's Republic of China, Vietnam and Laos and then Cambodia. Only Thailand and the Philippines from the South East Asia region were included as SEATO members. Other SEATO members were Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, the US, Britain and Canada that are nations located outside the region. Majority of Southeast Asian nations opposed SEATO as it was formed with nations from outside the region. The US intended to use SEATO as an instrument in launching aggressive wars against Vietnam and Laos in 1964 and 1973. In 1962, the problem of federal principle was brewing in Myanmar triggered by certain Shan Sawbwas who planned to join SEATO. If the scheme could be materialized Myanmar would have distintegrated into eight states. If everything went according to their plan, SEATO would exist longer and be more powerful.

America used a lot of manpower, firepower and financial power in Vietnam War. The peoples of the world including American citizens were opposing the war daily. America lost the war and had to withdraw from the country due to the armed resistance launched by the Vietnamese people with valour and determination. In 1975, the Philippines and Thailand demanded the abolishment of SEATO. The military pact was dissolved in 1977. But America has always been trying to reactivate SEATO. On the other hand, Southeast Asian nations are not interested in a military pact like SEATO dominated by an outside power. They are giving priority to reinforcing the ASEAN to serve their common interest in concert.

To the extent of my memory, the US tried hard to oppose Vietnam from entering the ASEAN. But the ASEAN accepted her. Likewise, it made all efforts to deny Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia's access to the association in 1997. ASEAN member states ignored the US interference and accepted the three new members. From that time on, the ASEAN has become a powerful organization covering the whole Southeast Asia region.

Since then the ASEAN has been striving with greater cooperation to serve the regional interest. However, the US has been trying to interfere in the affairs of the ASEAN countries and expel the countries it dislikes from the association.

(See page 9)

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The ASEAN Charter or the backbone of ASEAN unity

Tekkatho Myat Thu

(from page 6)

However, ASEAN strictly followed the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of member nations it had laid down when it came into being. Now it has been nearly four decades it has practised the principle. ASEAN has been a region that has been against military domination of SEATO or the US and deployment of US troops in it.

Now ASEAN Charter, which can be called ASEAN Constitution, is being framed. It is needed to draw a charter to make ASEAN more dynamic with rules and regulations in forming ASEAN as a regional organisation, to strengthen regional unity, to be able to overcome challenges harmoniously, to get involved in globalization process, and to ensure effectiveness in dealing with international community.

To write ASEAN Charter was one of the objectives of Vientiane Plan of Action laid down in November 2004. The heads of ASEAN members signed Kuala Lumpur Declaration in December 2005 to draft ASEAN Charter, and formed a 10-member Eminent Persons Group. Chairman of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun is one of the ten eminent persons from ASEAN member countries.

The group held discussions with ministers, parliamentarians and governmental officials of ASEAN countries, and experts of the European Union, and social organizations. The findings of the meeting were submitted to the ASEAN to help compile the charter.

High Level Task Force took responsibilities for writing ASEAN Charter based on the proposals of the EPG. The High Level Task Force consists of 10 experts from respective member countries, Director-General U Aung Bwa of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs represents Myanmar in the High Level Task Force.

Chairman of the High Level Task Force Mr Rosario G Manalo of the Philippines invited representatives of social organizations from High Level Task Force member countries and had discussions with them in Manila, the Philippines, on 27 March to seek their views, desire, stances and suggestions. Six members of social organizations from each country attended the meeting.

Myanmar delegation comprised Director-General U Hla Myint of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, U Tun Aung of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Dr Daw Thet Thet Zin of the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Dr Htay Myint of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Dr Wah Wah Maung and myself as a writer / journalist. At the opening ceremony, meeting chairman Mr Rosario G Manalo extended greetings. Dividing themselves into three groups for three chapters, the participants held discussions and compiled papers group-wise. In the afternoon plenary session, each group read the paper concerned for discussion. The meeting chairman explained that HLTF members would have to present their assessments; and that ASEAN ministerial level participants would discuss matters on human rights separately so the charter would not feature human rights and the discussions would not focus on matters on termination of charter member countries.

U Hla Myint and Dr Htay Myint took part in the discussions about political and security sector, U Tun Aung and Dr Wah Wah Maung, about economic integration sector, and Dr Daw Thet Thet Zin and I, about socio-culture sector. In the three sectors, all Myanmar representatives presented their proposals for successful compilation of the charter. All representatives placed emphasis on ASEAN spirit, ASEAN unity and successful completion of ASEAN Charter.

In the discussions about socio-culture sector, Vietnamese and Cambodian representatives urged the meeting to give priority to successful completion of ASEAN Charter through ASEAN unity spirit even if there were disagreements between one representative and another. In my speech, I said that religious faiths, languages, political affairs and cultures of 10 ASEAN countries were not the same, but all of them were Asians and ASEAN family members. And they would have to enjoy common interests equally. It was a pleasure for me to see that despite some differences, the members were working together to achieve ASEAN Vision in accordance with peaceful coexistence principle. Culture of a people is its image and entity. I expressed my belief that the charter would guarantee each member country the rights of safeguarding and promoting national culture systematically.

In the afternoon session, three papers were read, and they won the support of all representatives. The HLTF continued discussions on steps for drafting the charter. The draft is expected to be submitted to the 13th ASEAN Summit due to be held in Singapore in November 2007.

I think the emergence of ASEAN Charter will help ASEAN to be more cohesive and dynamic with positive results in the tasks, so the forthcoming charter will serve as a pillar for enhancing the unity of ASEAN members.

Translation: TMT + MS

In the discussions about socio-culture sector, Vietnamese and Cambodian representatives urged the meeting to give priority to successful completion of ASEAN Charter through ASEAN unity spirit even if there were disagreements between one representative and another. In my speech, I said that religious faiths, languages, political affairs and cultures of 10 ASEAN countries were not the same, but all of them were Asians and ASEAN family members. And they would have to enjoy common interests equally. It was a pleasure for me to see that despite some differences, the members were working together to achieve ASEAN Vision in accordance with peaceful coexistence principle. Culture of a people is its image and entity. I expressed my belief that the charter would guarantee each member country the rights of safeguarding and promoting national culture systematically.

Information Ministry seeks means…

(from page 16)

There are 13 printing presses at News and Periodicals Enterprise and seven printing presses at the PPE. Altogether 61 presses-16 rotary presses, 25 sheet-fed presses, 20 letterpresses are in operation in NPE and PPE.

Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin briefs on industrial developments.
MNA

A number of spare parts are imported for the presses. The ministry can save foreign exchange if local industrialists produce these. He hoped that the industrialists can manufacture more spare parts.

Next, on behalf of the chairman of cooperation committee on industrial development Vice-Chairman Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin said being able to produce machine parts domestically will save foreign exchange, facilitate full operation of factories and workshops, help improve technical skills of workers and employers, help realize the goal of building an industrial nation with supporting industries, create more job opportunities and improve the living standards of the people. Various ministries displaced their machines and spare parts from 1 to 25 October 2005. Out of 6650 machine items, 1275 were domestically produced and plans are under way to produce 1431 other items. Machine items displayed by various ministries included eight items — cast iron-based products, steel and alloyed products, rubber products, glass and ceramic materials, plastic and polymer materials, metal coating, composite materials and electrical and electronic goods. Next, he called for assistance for domestically producing machines and parts necessary for local factories.

Printing and Publishing Enterprise General Manager U Zaw Min Oo reported on matters related to display of samples of machines and spare parts to be domestically produced; Deputy General Manager (Printing) U Kyaw Thu on display of 315 items of machine parts of PPE; and Manager (Printing) U Yan Myo Aung of News and Periodicals Enterprise on display of 151 items of machine parts of NPE and operation of printing presses.

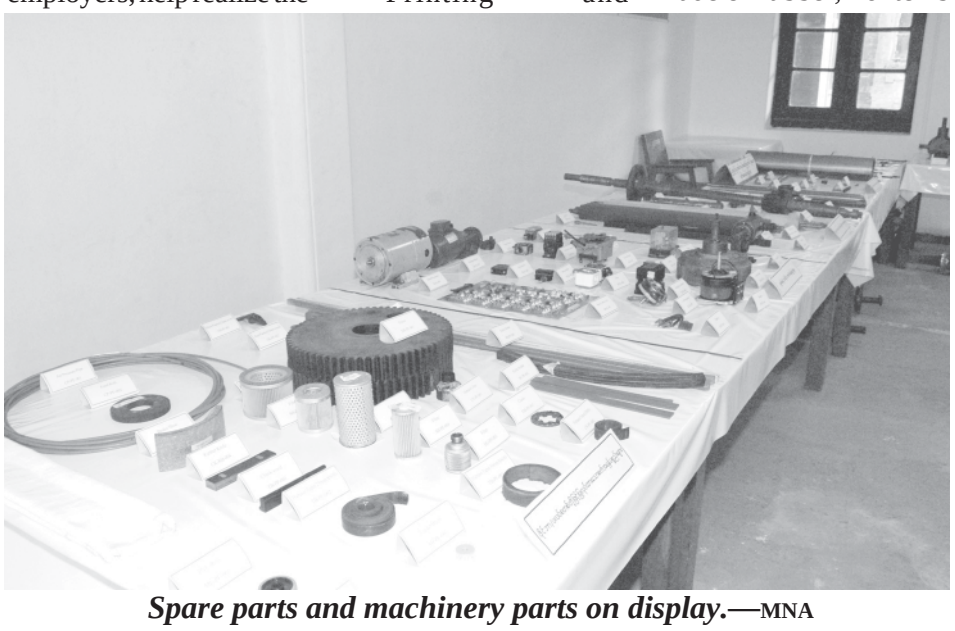
Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister Thura U Thaung Lwin and party viewed 315 items of machine parts displayed by PPE including 195 items of iron and steel machine parts, 10 items of alloy machine parts, two items of machine parts made of other kinds of mineral, 62 items of machine parts made of rubber, 26 items of fibre and wooden machine parts and 20 items of electrical goods, 151 items of machine parts displayed by NPE including 91 items of iron and steel machine parts, 9 items of alloy machine parts, 14 items of machine parts made of other kinds of mineral, 17 items of machine parts made of rubber, three items of fibre and wooden machine parts and 17 items of electrical goods and documentary photos showing maintenance tasks carried out at Sarpay Beikman Printing Press, Nay Pyi Taw Printing Press, Upper Myanmar Printing Press, GTC & Aung San Printing Press, Photolitho Press and presses of the Myanmar Alin, Kyemon and the New Light of Myanmar. Later, technicians and industrialists discussed production of spare parts in the country.

The display of spare parts and machine parts of the Ministry of Information continues up to 16 May at the meeting hall of PPE.

MNA

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and guests view display of spare parts and machinery parts.—MNA

Spare parts and machinery parts being displayed.—MNA



Spare parts and machinery parts on display.—MNA

Now the industrial zones are in a position of manufacturing new parts. Therefore, the first aim is to boost manufacturing of new spare parts. The second aim is to produce parts in cooperation with technicians of the ministry and industrialists.

Minister inspects construction of Technical Training School (Mandalay)

NAY PYI TAW, 14 May — Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin and officials inspected construction of Technical Training School (Mandalay) in Aungmyaythazan township, Mandalay on 11 May. Acting Principal U Kyaw Swa Thein reported on collection of equipment for the construction project and teaching aids, instructors for the training school and curricula and greening tasks to the minister.

The minister called upon the officials to lay the groundwork for the training school. He also urged them to manage to set the deadline, and minimize loss and wastage.

Later, the minister inspected construction of classrooms and training workshops, and officials conducted him around the training school.

MNA

Electric Power No 2 Minister attends ordination and novitiation ceremony

YANGON, 14 May — Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and wife attended a communal ordination and novitiation ceremony of the staff families of Yangon City Electric Power Supply Bard on 13 May.

The minister and wife and staff families donated alms to the Sayadaw of Aung Mingala Monastery in Ahlone Township, 10 invited members of the Sangha, 40 newly-ordained monks and six novices.

Next, the minister and party offered 'soon' (day's meals) to the members of Sangha.

The minister and wife and Col Khin Maung Soe of Yangon City Electric Power Supply Barrd offered robes and alms to the members of Sangha.

MNA

Medical treatment given to expectant mothers, residents in Mingon village

YANGON, 14 May — A medical team led by CEC member of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Than Oo went to delivery room of Mingon Model village Maternal and Child Welfare Association in Hlegu township on 12 May.

Dr Than Oo and Prof Dr Tun Yi held a meeting on dissemination of health knowledge to rural people and female reproductive cancer.

The CEC member donated medical equipment worth K 300,000 to the delivery room. Treatment was also given to 94 expectant mothers and Pap Smear treatment to 26 women.

MNA

***Dr Than Oo of MMCWA hands over medical equipment through Chairperson of MCWSC Daw San San Htay.*— MNA**

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.

The second best time is now.

Free clinic launched in Insein

***Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin formally open Phyo Cetana free clinic in Insein.*— YCDC**

YANGON, 14 May— Phyo Cetana Clinic was opened under the arrangements of Yangon Division Solidarity and Development Association and supervision of Yangon North District USDA along with cash donations presentation at Insein Township USDA on Phanset Street in Kanna Ale Ward, Insein, here, this morning.

USDA CEC Member Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, CEC Member (Yangon Division In Charge) Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Vice-Chairman of YCDC Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa opened the clinic.

The mayor and the minister made speeches.

Wellwishers presented cash donations through the minister, the mayor and the vice mayor.

The clinic opens on Fridays from 1 pm to 4 pm and on weekends from 4 pm to 6 pm, and Phyo Cetana Traditional Medicine Division, on every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday from 9 am to noon to give free treatments to the people, irrespective of race and creed.— *MNA*

Mass measles vaccination programme launched in Bago Township

YANGON, 14 May — Mass measles vaccination programme was launched in all townships of eastern and western Bago Division, Magway Division, Ayeyawady Division and lower Sagaing Division today.

Measles vaccination programme, that will last till 27 May,is the third stage of integrated measles control and prevention strategy being implemented by extended vaccination project of the Health Department in the whole nation.

Field supervisors visited the vaccination points together with UNICEF officials.

They inspected the vaccination tasks carried out by Head of Health Department Dr Htay Aung and officials at Tharyargone Village in Intagaw Village-tract, Bago Township this morning and attended to the needs.

They also inspected the other vaccination points in Bago Township.

MNA

***Field supervisors and UNICEF officials inspect measles vaccination in Kyunthaya ward in Bago.*— MNA**

All this needs to be known

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

Information Minister attends prize presentation ceremony of Fifth Dr Tin Shwe Literary Award

YANGON, 14 May — The fifth Dr Tin Shwe Literary Award presentation was held at International Business Centre this afternoon with an address by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

Also present were managing directors and directors-general of the departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Information, the chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, the vice-chairmen and EC members, literati, families of Dr Tin Shwe and prize winners.

In his address, the minister said the ceremony is held every year to foster the spirit of serving the interest of literacy in memory of Dr Tin Shwe. Dr Tin Shwe won first prize in the belles-lettres in 1963 and a consolation prize in literature on dynamism of patriotism in 1994 and the best poster award in paper reading session of medical research in 1996. Before he passed away in 2000, he compiled a lot of literary works on religion and books for children in discharging literary duties. It is the fifth ceremony. The number of Dr Tin Shwe literary awards is increasing year after year. More books are required for the development of Myanmar literature. Besides, reading power of Myanmar people should be enhanced. The Government has been providing all-out assistance for flourishing of Myanmar literature and presenting occasionally National Literary Awards, Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards, and prizes for national motto, literary and photo competitions.

In 2006, Myanmar published 11,443 kinds of books, up from 1,731 in 1988. Total circulation of periodicals reached about 26 million in 2006, while five million copies of other books were printed and distributed. But Myanmar still needs to increase circulation rate of books and the number of readers for literary development. She also needs to conduct research to categorize readers into age-wise and subject-wise. At the same time, efforts should be made to penetrate international markets. The ministry, on its part, is ready to render assistance to publishers. The Government has set up nearly 60,000 libraries in all parts of the country. Increase in the number of readers will help develop human resources and widen the literary market of the nation. The minister urged men and women of letters and publishers to follow 12 objectives of the State for the emergence of a peaceful, modern developed democratic nation.

Next, chairman of MWJA U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) made a speech on the occasion.

Afterwards, the minister presented prizes to Dr Kyaw Sein, Dr Toe Hla, Daw Saw Hmon Nyin and Dr Khin Maung Nyunt. On behalf of the prize winners, Daw Saw Hmon Nyin spoke words of thanks.

Wellwishers U Kyaw Zaw and Daw Hla family donated 100 books, Yan Aung Publishing House, 50 books and Dr Tin Shwe family, 200 books to be used at self-reliant rural libraries.

Next, the minister accepted books presented by writer Daw Aye Thant, wife of Dr Tin Shwe. After the ceremony, the minister posed for a documentary photo together with prize winners.

MNA

***Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan poses together with Dr Tin Shwe Literary award winners.*— MNA**

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan awards Dr Tin Shwe Literary award winner Dr Toe Hla.

MNA

Vietnamese delegation in town

YANGON, 14 May—Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko received a delegation headed by Chairman Mr Vu Mao of Foreign Relations Committee of Vietnam National Congress at his office at 9 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Pro-rector (Admin) Dr Myint Kyi of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University and officials, Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Tran Van Tung and officials.

Likewise, Deputy Chief Justice U Thein Soe received the visiting Vietnamese delegation at his office at 10 am today.

Also present at the call were justices of Supreme Court, Director-General U Soe Nyunt and directors.

At the meeting, Deputy Chief Justice U Thein Soe extended greetings and Chairman Mr Vu Mao of Foreign Relations Committee made a speech.

They exchanged views on experiences in judiciary.

The visiting Vietnamese delegation also called on Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin at the latter's office at 11 am today.

Also present at the call were Deputy Director-General U Kyaw Sein of Attorney-General's Office, Director Daw Kyin San of Attorney-General's Office Branch (Yangon) and Deputy Director U Alone Maung.

They exchanged views on legislative affairs and procedures practised by the AGO.—*MNA*

Players dunk in Third Inter-State/ Division U-18 Basketball Tournament 2007 at Aung San gymnasium on 14-5-2007.

NLM

China launches communications satellite for Nigeria

XICHANG (Sichuan Province), 14 May — China on early Monday morning launched a communications satellite for Nigeria, the first of its kind in Africa and the first time a foreign buyer has purchased a Chinese satellite and its launching service.

The carrier rocket, *Long March 3-B*, blasted off from Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in southwest China's Sichuan Province at 0:01 Monday and 26 minutes later, data from the northwest Xi'an Satellite Control Centre showed that the satellite had entered orbit.

The Nigerian Communication Satellite, or *NIGCOMSAT-1*, is a super hybrid geostationary satellite designed to operate in Africa, parts of the Middle East and southern Europe.

The Nigerian Government delegation present at the launching ceremony here include the Minister of Science and Technology and several other high-ranking officials.

The entire launching process and the ceremony was broadcast live from China by the Nigeria Television Authority.

Experts estimate that the satellite programme will revolutionize telecommunications, broadcasting and broadband multimedia services in Africa.

MNA/Xinhua

Endangered dolphin species spotted in Beibu Gulf

NANNING, 14 May — A research team from Peking University has found between 110 and 122 Indo-Pacific hump-backed dolphins in the waters of Qinzhou Bay in the Beibu Gulf, off the the southern coast of China.

It is the largest group of its kind to be sighted in the Beibu Gulf in recent years.

The majority of the rare dolphins we spotted were adults, said a research fellow with the Qinzhou Bay Indo-Pacific Hump-Backed Dolphins Research Centre of Peking University.

Experts say that the healthy ecological environment is a key reason for the increase in the population of the Indo-Pacific hump-backed dolphins.

Indo-Pacific hump-backed dolphins are found from northern Australia and Indonesia to southern China, and around the coastal rim of the Indian Ocean to southern Africa. The dolphins, whose colours range from black and grey to white and red, are inhabitants of tropical to warm temperate coastal waters and they can enter rivers, estuaries and mangroves.

They are listed for top state protection in China.

MNA/Xinhua

Syria, Malaysia seek to boost tourism cooperation

DAMASCUS, 14 May — Syrian Minister of Tourism Saadallah Agha al-Qalaa and his visiting Malaysian counterpart Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor held talks here Sunday, seeking to boost tourism cooperation between the two countries.

Both sides conferred on issues to activate joint investments and exchange expertise in the field of tourism and the possibility of opening direct airlines corridors between the two countries, said Syria's official *SANA* news agency.

During the meeting, Agha al-Qalaa briefed his Malaysian counterpart on the development of tourism in Syria and the steps taken by the government to improve tourist products. Syria has historical and antiquities factors which make the country an international tourist destination, he stressed.

For his part, Tengku Adnan underlined the necessity to activate the tourism cooperation among the Islamic countries in general and between Syria and Malaysia in particular to create joint and integrated tourist products.

MNA/Xinhua

Frankfurt's Trade Fair Tower (Messeturm) is pictured out of a helicopter in Frankfurt on 13 May, 2007.— INTERNET

Argentine bus crash kills 13 musicians

BUENOS AIRES, 14 May — At least 13 members of Peruvian group Nectar died on Sunday when the van in which they were travelling lost control, hit two cars and left the road, falling onto a table-tennis court before exploding.

Police said that the crash took place at 3.00 am on Buenos Aires' 25 de May Highway, close to San Cristobal, as the musicians headed for the city of La Plata, 60 kilometres south of Buenos Aires, where they had been scheduled to play a concert.

Alberto Crecenti, head of the Emergency Medical Attention System, said that not one passenger survived the accident.—*MNA/Xinhua*

At least 10 killed in Russian cafe blast

MOSCOW, 14 May — At least 10 people were killed on Sunday in an explosion in a cafe in the Russian town of Orsk at the southern edge of the Ural Mountains, Russian news agencies said.

Interfax news agency quoted an Emergencies Ministry spokesman as saying the cafe, located in the town's market complex, was completely destroyed by the blast that was followed by a fire that covered more than 150 square metres.

ITAR-TASS news agency quoted the spokesman, Viktor Beltsov, as saying at least 10 bodies had been recovered. It was not clear how many people had been in the cafe at the time of the explosion.

MNA/Reuters

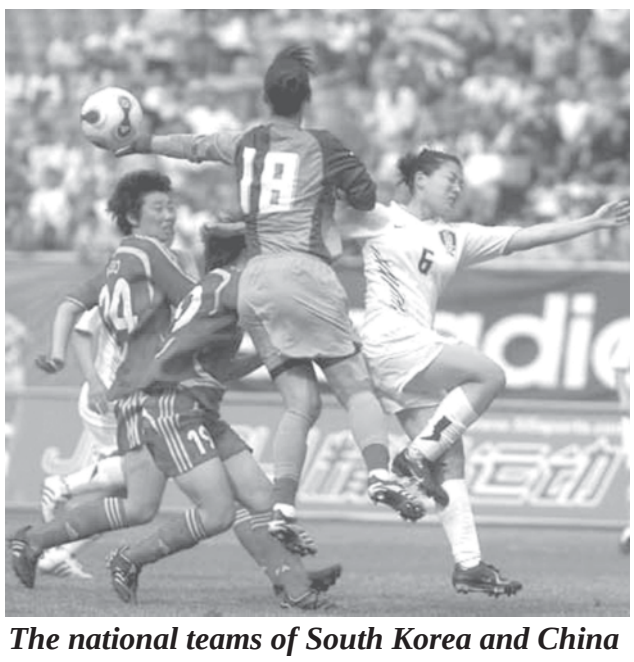
Bulgaria, Romania start second Danube bridge construction

SOFIA, 14 May — Bulgarian Prime Minister Sergey Stanishev made the symbolic first sod for the construction of the Danube Bridge II at Vidin-Kalafat on Sunday, reported *BTA* news agency.

The bridge construction is an important part of the Pan-European Transport Corridor 4 passing from Thessaloniki through Sofia and Vidin to Romania by providing connection to Central and Western Europe, Stanishev said at the official ground-breaking ceremony in Vidin.

According to the Prime Minister, the new infrastructure project is one of the biggest in the next years in Bulgaria.

The bridge is important not only for Bulgaria and Romania, but also for the European Union (EU), as it is definitely a bridge of the reunion of the European continent, said the Prime Minister. —*MNA/Xinhua*



The national teams of South Korea and China played women's soccer friendly game on 13 May in Hangzhou, China. China's women's soccer team beat South Korea with a 5-2 victory. —INTERNET

Poisonous gas sickens 112 workers in Colombian factory

BOGOTA, 14 May — At least 112 workers got sick Saturday after inhaling a poisonous gas in a garment factory in northwestern Colombia, local media reported.

Workers in the factory that makes garments for export in La Estrella City started to get sick early Saturday morning with symptoms of dizziness, headache and vomitting.

MNA/Xinhua

Bicycle bomb injures 15 in Turkish port of Izmir

IZMIR (Turkey), 14 May — A bicycle bomb exploded in a market in the Turkish port of Izmir on Saturday, injuring 15 people, two of them seriously, police said.

"The bomb exploded on a bicycle ... The injured are being treated at two local hospitals," a police spokesman said.

He said nobody was riding the bike at the time of the blast, which occurred early in the morning when there were relatively few people in the area. Most of the injured were tradespeople working at the market, in the Bornova District of the city.

Nobody has claimed responsibility for the bomb, which is thought to have been fastened to the bicycle.

MNA/Reuters

ADVERTISEMENTS

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV GATI SUVIDHA VOY NO (73307)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GATI SUVIDHA VOY NO (73307) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 13.5.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 GATI COAST TO COAST
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (153)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (153) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.5.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV GEE HONG VOY NO (709)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GEE HONG VOY NO (709) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.5.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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.

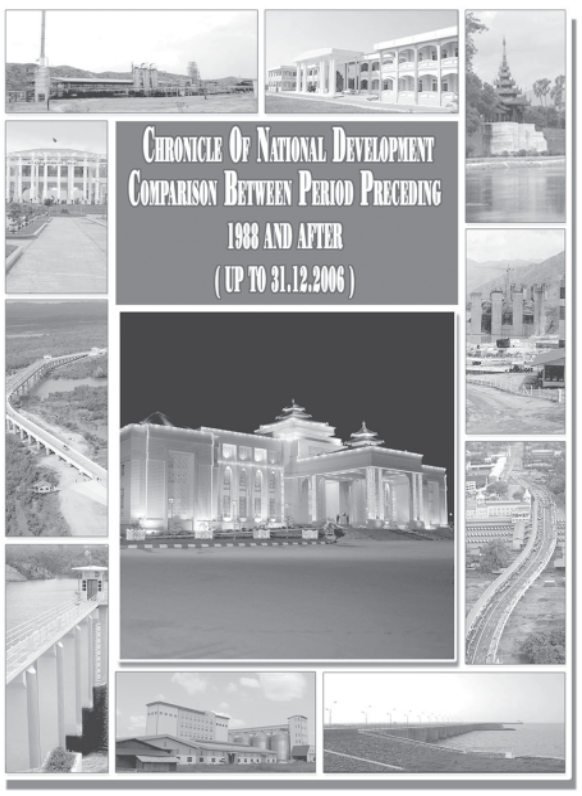
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EAGLE SHIPPING CO, LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Death toll rises to nine in car bomb in central Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 14 May—The death toll rose to nine and up to 40 people injured in a car bomb at a crowded square in downtown Baghdad on Sunday, an Interior Ministry source said.

Earlier, the source put the toll at four people killed and 10 others injured when a booby-trapped car parking near the Wathabah Square detonated at about 2:30 pm (1030 GMT). The attack took place in a crowded area close to the popular market of Sadriyah where a truck bomb explosion on 19 April killed up to 140 people and wounded some 150 others. *—MNA/Xinhua*



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News and Periodicals Enterprise Book Shop, 212, Theinbyu Street, Yangon ☎ 294306
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for **LABORATOIRE THERAMEX**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 15 May 2007

MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
ROAD TRANSPORT, YANGON DIVISION
INVITATION TO TENDER
TENDER NO. 001/ ME/ 2007-2008

1. Sealed Tenders from eligible suppliers are invited for the supply of following Reconditioned Engine Ass'y & Rear Axle Ass'y. Prices to be quoted in Myanmar Kyats -
   (a) Reconditioned HINO M 10U (Horizontal Type) Engine Assy; with Gear Box Assy; (2) Sets
   (b) Reconditioned HINO HO 7C/HO 7D NISSAN FE 6 Engine Assy; With Gear Box Assy; (54) Sets
   (c) Reconditioned HINO/ NISSAN/ FUSO Rear Axle Assy; (14 ton). Gear Ratio (6.00:1 to 6.83:1) (69) Sets
2. (a) Tender Documents are available at the office of Procurement & Stores Department. Road Transport No. 375/ Bogyoke Aung San Street, Yangon, Myanmar Commencing on the 15-5-2007
   (b) Tender will be closed on 31-5-2007 at (16:00) Hours
   (The Road Transport Reserves the right to reject any or all Tenders)
3. Detailed information will be available at the office of the Procurement & Stores Department. Phone No. 01-252574 (or) 01-376549

ROAD TRANSPORT

ပန်းမန်သစ်ပင်
လေသန့်စင်၍
ဥယျာဉ်တောတန်း
စိတ်ရွှင်လန်း၏။

MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
ROAD TRANSPORT, YANGON DIVISION
INVITATION TO TENDER
TENDER NO. 002/ TRT/ 2007-2008

1. Sealed Tenders from eligible suppliers are invited for the supply of following Tyres with Tubes And Flaps. Prices to be quoted in Myanmar Kyats -
   (a) 9.00x20 - 4300 Sets
   (b) 7.50x16 - 230 Sets
   (c) 10.00x20 - 250 Sets
   (d) 6.00x14 - 20 Sets
   (e) 5.50x13 - 50 Sets
2. (a) Tender Documents are available at the office of Procurement & Stores Department, Yangon Dvision, Road Transport No.375/Bogyoke Aung San Street, Yangon, Myanmar Commencing on the 16-5-2007
   (b) Tender will be closed on 1-6-2007 at (16:00) hours
   (The Road Transport Reserves the right to reject any or all Tenders)
3. Detailed information will be available at the office of the Procurement & Stores Department, Phone No. 01-252574 (or) 01-376549

ROAD TRANSPORT

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MINDORO VOY NO (41)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MINDORO VOY NO (41) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.5.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY 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: TOKO KAIUN KAISHA LTD JAPAN
Phone No: 256924/256914

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV RAINBOW JOY VOY NO (23)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV RAINBOW JOY VOY NO (23) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.5.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: TOKO KAIUN KAISHA LTD
JAPAN

Phone No: 256924/256914

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
MYANMA RAILWAYS
INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER

1. Sealed Tender is invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the following Stores which will be purchased in Euro;

Sr.No	Tender No.	Description	Quantity
i.	15(T)4/MR(E) 2007-2008	Concrete Sleeper Plant Complete (600 Sleepers/day)	2- Lots

Closing Date/Time - 15.6.2007 (Friday) (12:00) Hours

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon starting from 15.5.2007 during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 291982,291985(201555 Ext 601,602,605,612)

Deputy General Manager
Supply Department,Myanma Railways,Botahtaung,Yangon

Additional bird flu outbreak reported in Vietnam

HANOI, 13 May — Vietnam's central Nghe An Province, which detected an outbreak among fowls in early May, has faced a new one, a local veterinary official told *Xinhua* on Sunday.

Nearly 1,300 out of flocks of 3,800 ducks raised by three households in Hung Nguyen district, Nghe An, were found dead on 9 May, the official from the Department of Animal Health under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development said on condition of anonymity, adding that samples from dead poultry were tested positive to bird flu virus strain H5.

Earlier, specimens from ducks raised by a household in Dien Chau district, Nghe An were tested positive to H5. Among the flock of 610 ducks, 246 died from 1-4 May . Nghe An is the only locality in Vietnam currently being hit by bird flu, the official said. Bird flu outbreaks in Vietnam, starting in December 2003, have killed and led to the forced culling of dozens of millions of fowls in the country.

Vietnam is actively vaccinating fowls against bird flu viruses to prevent potential outbreaks, the official said, noting that a total of 111 million poultry in 60 cities and provinces have been vaccinated so far this year.

Internet

Map of Vietnam's central Nghe An Province.—INTERNET

The supermarket of the future

CHICAGO, 12 May — Standing in a long line at the grocer soon might get you through the checkout faster.

That's because a British company has designed a system to track and predict the movements of supermarket shoppers using thermal imaging. A computer analyzes data from infrared cameras, then advises when and where additional cashiers are needed.

"The idea is that the more pleasant the checkout experience, the more you will buy," said Nick Stogdale, senior sales manager for InfraRed Integrated Systems' SMARTLANE product. The system is being tested by two US chains.

The SMARTLANE was one of many new food-related technologies on display at this week's Food Marketing Institute show, where speed, ease, sanitation and a touch of theater ruled.

Take the case of rotisserie chicken, one of the most popular items in the fast-growing prepared foods category: The latest crop of chicken roasters — those ubiquitous ovens that endlessly twirl crisp, golden chickens at grocers across the nation — are designed not just to cook, but also to capture your attention with good looks and funky design.

Internet

China's largest astronomical telescope in operation

LIJIANG, 12 May — China's largest astronomical telescope was put into operation on Saturday in a south-western Chinese city, a spokesman with Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) said. The telescope, 2.4 metres in diametre, 8 metres tall and weighing 40 tons, is the largest of its kind both in China and in East Asia, the spokesman said, it will be used in researches of star physics and galaxy study.

The telescope will be open to astronomers from home and abroad upon the completion of the test run by the end of this year.

Internet

***The picture taken on 10 April, 2007 shows a large astronomical telescope newly developed and stationed at the Lijiang observation station in southwest China's Yunnan Province on 12 May, 2007.* —INTERNET**

China completes new power line to Vietnam

KUNMING, 14 May—A new power transmission line designed to send electricity from Wenshan in southwest China to Ha Giang in Vietnam has been completed and put into service, reported the Yunnan Power Grid.

It is the fifth power line to transfer electricity from China to Vietnam.

The newly completed line is also the second 220-kilovolt power line to be constructed between China and Vietnam. The first one runs between Honghe in Yunnan and Lao Cai of Vietnam.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Two die of mystery disease in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 13 May — Two members of a family have died while seven others been in serious conditions due to an unidentified disease in Dhading District some 50 km east of Kathmandu, website the himalayan-times.com reported on Sunday. Three-year-old Kanchhi Maya Tamang and her uncle Top Bahadur Tamang died from the disease on Saturday.

Seven other members of the same family are undergoing treatment in hospital in Kathmandu.

Meanwhile, Chief Dis - trict Officer of Dhading Ram Sharan Chimoriya said: "A team of health workers from the District Public Health Office has been sent to the site."

Earlier, one person died of similar disease in the area with symptoms like vomiting, foaming from mouth and falling unconscious a week ago.

Internet

***In this photo provided by Princess Cruises, Emerald Princess is docked at the main port of Piraues, near Athens on 13 May, 2007.*— INTERNET**

SPORTS

Sochaux's team holds the cup to celebrate the French Cup final soccer match against Marseille at the Stade de France in Saint-Denis near Paris, on 12 May, 2007.— XINHUA

Gimnastic on brink of relegation after 3-1 defeat

MADRID, 14 May — Basement side Gimnastic Tarragona were left with one foot in the second Division on Sunday after a 3-1 defeat at home to fellow strugglers Real Sociedad in the Primera Liga. First half strikes from midfielders Gaizka Garitano and Savio, and a close-range volley from defender Ion Ansotegi ensured Sociedad of a win that kept alive their hopes of survival.

But defeat for Gimnastic meant that the Catalans are now 10 points adrift of safety with just four games left to play.

Celta Vigo also suffered a major blow to their chances of avoiding the drop when they slumped to a 2-1 defeat at home to Levante in another relegation six-pointer, their fourth defeat in a row under new coach Hristo Stoichkov.

Gimnastic have 24 points from 34 games, Celta and Sociedad have 30 and Athletic Bilbao, who drew 1-1 at home to Deportivo Coruna, occupy the final place above the relegation zone on 34.

MNA/Reuters

Manchester United lifts 16th League trophy

BEIJING, 14 May — Manchester Unitedon Sunday finished the Premier League season at Old Trafford as champions, for the first time in four years and the16th in its history.

Crowned the previous weekend and treated to a guard of honour by deposed champions Chelsea in midweek, United could afford to lose 1-0 to West Ham United on Sunday and still had manager Alex Ferguson describe it "a fantastic occasion."

The result, which secured West Ham's survival, was only United's fifth defeat in a season which they ended with 89 points, six more than second-placed Chelsea.

As an added bonus, United were widely credited with having played the best football — an accolade never given in the same measure to Chelsea last term.

United veterans Gary Neville and Ryan Giggs raised the trophy in front of more than 70,00 fans at Old Trafford as fireworks exploded behind them.

Manchester United celebrate winning the English Premier League at Old Trafford Stadium, Manchester, England, on 13 May, 2007.—INTERNET

"There were times in last three years when we have been really low and inconsistent," said Neville, the United captain who has been injured for about two months. "But this year we deserved to be champions."

The team's jubilation wasn't diminished by a weakened side that lost to visiting West Ham 1-0 on the final day of the season. United manager Alex Ferguson started Sunday's match with Paul Scholes, Cristiano Ronaldo and Giggs on the bench. —*Internet*

Jose defends summer signings

LONDON, 14 May— Jose Mourinho has defended the contribution of Chelsea's summer recruits.

The Blues saw their stranglehold on the Premiership prised off by Manchester United and some have pointed the finger at Chelsea's summer signings.

Chelsea splashed out some £30million on Andrei Shevchenko, grabbed Germany star Michael Ballack on a free transfer and also brought in England full-back Ashley Cole and forward Salomon Kalou.

The quartet have shown only flashes of their true form, but Mourinho has been happy with their first seasons at Stamford Bridge.

"Young Salomon has done fantastically for a boy coming from a different culture," said Mourinho.

He is still very naive but his contribution has been very, very good.

For Ashley Cole it was not easy to change. Willie's (Gallas) season at Arsenal was also not superb.

I think it is easier to go from Chelsea to Real Madrid or from Arsenal to Real Madrid. But Ashley has played well. He is one of the heroes who has played injured the whole season and his integration has been smooth.

Ballack, even against some opinion, has contributed to the team very positively. In big moments, he scored the goal to put Chelsea into the FA Cup final and scored the goal that put us in the Champions League semi-final.

Internet

Sheffield United down as West Ham beat Man Utd

LONDON, 14 May — Sheffield United were relegated from the Premier League on goal difference after they lost 2-1 at home to Wigan Athletic and Carlos Tevez fired West Ham United to a shock 1-0 win at champions Manchester United on Sunday.

Sheffield United finished the season in 18th place with a goal difference of -23, a single goal worse than Wigan, to join already relegated Charlton Athletic and Watford in the Second Division. It was a dramatic finale at Bramall Lane, with Wigan down to 10 men after Lee McCulloch was red-carded in the 75th minute and his teammates struggling to keep the ball out of their penalty area.

Everton, who drew 1-1 at deposed champions and runners-up Chelsea, Tottenham Hotspur and Bolton Wanderers all booked spots in next season's UEFA Cup.

Third-placed Liverpool, who drew 2-2 at home with Charlton, and Arsenal, who finished goalless at Portsmouth, had already sealed their places in the Champions League qualifiers.

Liverpool will qualify automatically for the group stage, though, if they beat AC Milan in this season's final in Athens on 23 May.

MNA/Reuters

Lazio, Milan bag Champions League places

MILAN, 14 May — Lazio and AC Milan secured places in the Champions League qualifying round after Empoli's defeat in Serie A on Sunday.

Hernan Crespo scored a hat-trick to help champions Inter Milan to a 4-3 win over Lazio while Milan could manage only a 1-1 draw with Catania.

However, Empoli's 2-0 defeat at Siena means Lazio and Milan, both on 61 points, are now certain of finishing third or fourth with two rounds of matches left to play.

Siena's victory lifted them out of the relegation places and they have been replaced by Chievo. The battle to avoid the drop seems certain to go down to the last day with a host of clubs still in danger.

Ascoli, who beat UEFA Cup hopefuls Palermo 3-2, and Messina who were crushed 4-1 by struggling Parma, were relegated last Sunday.

Lazio had looked on course for an impressive away victory over recently-crowned champions Inter but conceded twice late on in a thrilling match.

Goran Pandev opened the scoring on three minutes with a deflected shot and Lazio doubled their advantage two minutes later when Massimo Mutarelli headed in at the far post.

MNA/Reuters

Liu Xiang holds up two trophies for Sportsman of the Year and the Most Popular Sportsman of the Year during the 2007 China Top Ten Benefiting Laureus Sports For Good award ceremony in Changsha, on 12 May, 2007. The awards including 10 categories, has combined the China Top Ten Athletes Award and the Laureus World Sports Award since 2004. — XINHUA

Olympique Khouribga win first Moroccan Championship

RABAT, 14 May — Olympique Khouribga won their first Moroccan league championship on Sunday, gaining the point they needed for an unassailable lead with a goalless draw away at Ittihad Tanger.

Olympique Khouribga, from the phosphate-producing area of the North African country, had needed only a single point from their last three matches after second-placed Royal Armed Forces were beaten 2-1 at Hassania Agadir on Saturday. — *MNA/Reuters*

Tiger Woods hits from the trees on the ninth hole during the third round of play at The Players Championship golf tournament in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida on 12 May, 2007. XINHUA

Mogadishu blast kills 3 as top UN aid official visits

MOGADISHU, 14 May — An explosion near the UN compound in Mogadishu killed three people on Saturday, shortly after the United Nations' top aid official arrived to tour the shattered capital.

A security source said a senior intelligence official was killed when gunmen detonated an explosive device planted in his car shortly after UN emergency relief coordinator John Holmes landed in Mogadishu where he met President Abdullahi Yusuf.

The source said the attack, the latest targeting senior officials in Mogadishu, was unrelated to Holmes' visit.

"Ibrahim Mohamed Ahmed, a senior intelligence officer who was in charge of the airport died along with two others," the security source told *Reuters*.

"He had many enemies because of his work. We can't point a finger now, but certainly it's his enemies who are behind this."

There has been relatively calm in Mogadishu since the interim government and its Ethiopian military allies declared victory over insurgents two weeks ago, in a move that has encouraged small numbers of Somalis to return home. — *MNA/Reuters*

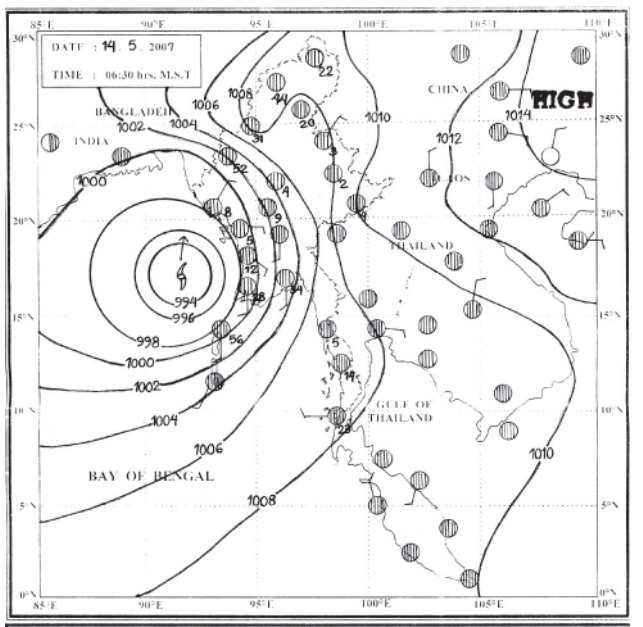
Key Taleban commander killed in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 14 May — A key Taleban commander Mullah Dadullah was killed in Helmand Province of southern Afghanistan, an officer of the National Directorate of Security told *Xinhua* on Sunday.

He was a member of the Taleban's 10-man leadership council before the US-led invasion in 2001, and also was a close aide to Mullah Omar, the top Taleban leader.

MNA/Xinhua

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Two families make cakes for the Mother's Day scheduled on 13 May in Hong Kong, China, on 12 May , 2007. A series of celebrative activities were staged on Saturday in Hong Kong for the upcoming Mother's Day which falls on 13 May .

XINHUA

TV Myanmar

Tuesday, 15 May
View on today

7:00 am
1. Recitation or Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am
5. ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်

8:00 am
6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am
7.Song of yesteryears

8:20 am
8. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:25 am
9. ပုလင်းရေလှောင်တမံ

8:30 am
10. International news

8:45 am
11. Let's Go

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm
3. English for Everyday Use

4:45 pm
4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ –ပထမနှစ် (သန်ကာ အထူးပြု) (သန်ကာ)

5:00 pm
5. Dance of national races

5:15 pm
6. ခံစားနားဆင်တေးဂေတ်ဝင်

5:25 pm
7. "ချစ်သောမြေချစ်သောရေ" (ရာဇာနေဝင်း၊ ခိုင်နှင်းဝေ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–ခင်နွဲ့.ခွဲ.မူ)

5:30 pm
8. Sing and Enjoy

6:00 pm
9. Evening news

6:30 pm
10. Weather report

6:35 pm
11.ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

6:50 pm
12.အသွင်ပြောင်းဒီပလိုမေစီ၏ ဇာတ်ကောင်များကိုအထူး သတိပြု (အပိုင်း–၁)

7:00 pm
13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သစ္စာ ဘဝပင်ခြားသော်လည်း" (အပိုင်း–၁၉)

8:00 pm
14. News
15. International news
16. Weather report
17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရေသူမလေးခုတိယချစ်ပုံပြင်" (အပိုင်း–၁၀)
18. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာမေတ္တာ ဘာဝနာပွားများခြင်းတရားတော်
19. The next day's programme

Radio Myanmar

Tuesday, 15 May
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news
8:35 am Music:
-Something tells me
8:40 am Perspectives
8:45 am Music:
-Stronger enough
8:50 am National news / Slogan
9:00 am Music:
-She is not there
9:05 am International news
9:10 am Music:
-You got what you give
1:30 pm News / Slogan
1:40pm Lunch time music:
- Until you come back
-True colour
-Leave me alone
9:00pm English Speaking Course
9:10 pm Article
9:20 pm Weekly sport reel
9:30 pm Music at your listening pleasure
-True colours
-Don't dream it over
9:45 pm News / Slogan
10:00 pm PEL

WEATHER

Monday, 14 May, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, the Southwest Monsoon has advanced into Southern Myanmar areas. Rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in Mon State, Magway Division and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Mandalay and Magway Divisions and isolated heavyfalls in upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions. Day temperatures were (8ºC) below May average temperature in Mandalay Division, (9ºC) below May average temperature in upper Sagaing Division and about May average temperature in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Minkin (6.46) inches, Thayawady (5.28) inches, Mindat (4.37) inches, Hakha (3.03) inches, Pathein (2.84) inches, NyaungU (2.44) inches, Kalewa (2.36) inches, Mawlaik (2.29) inches, Coco Island (2.20) inches, Magway (2.16) inches, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (2.09) inches, Gwa (2.01) inches, Hkamti (1.93) inches, Yamethin and Chauk (1.69) inches each.

Maximum temperature on 13-5-2007 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 14-5-2007 was 75°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 14-5-2007 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 13-5-2007 was (2.7) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 14-5-2007 was (1.93) inches at Mingaladon, (2.09) inches at Kaba-Aye and (1.29) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (18.35) inches at Mingaladon, (22.56) inches at Kaba-Aye and (20.34) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (15) mph from Southeast at (15:30) hours MST on 13-5-2007.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (12:30) hrs MST today, the tropical storm in the East Central Bay further intensified into a cyclonic storm. It is centred at about (200) miles Southwest of Sittway and forecast to move Northeast direction and cross between Sittway and Kyaukpyu (Northern Rakhine). Moonsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and South Bay. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 15-5-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Chin, Rakhine and Mon States, Taninthayi, Bago, Ayeyawady, Yangon and upper Sagaing Divisions and scattered to fairly widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Chin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady, Bago and Yangon Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Detaic and Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (60) to (75) mph. Seas will be moderate to rough elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain in Central Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 15-5-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 15-5-2007: Some rain or thundershowers . Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 15-5-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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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

Information Ministry seeks means to manufacture spare parts in nation

Foreign exchange can be saved through producting spare parts locally

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan addresses the ceremony to display spare parts and machinery parts for manufacturing them in the country. — MNA

YANGON, 14 May — A ceremony to display spare parts and machinery parts of the printing presses under the Ministry of Information for manufacturing them in the country was held at Printing and Publishing Enterprise on Theinbyu Street, here, this afternoon.

Present were Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin, heads of departments and enterprises under the ministries concerned, chief-editors, deputy chief-editors, technicians, experts and industrialists.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said the display of spare parts and machinery parts was held with the two aims. Industrialists produced a large number of spare parts and the Ministry of Information purchased them. Now the industrial zones are in a position of manufacturing new parts. Therefore, the first aim is to boost manufacturing of new spare parts. The second aim is to produce parts in cooperation with technicians of the ministry and industrialists, he said. He said continued efforts are to be made for development of the industrial sector based on agriculture.

(See page 8)

Technicians and industrialists visit display of spare parts and machinery parts.— MNA

Special Storm News

NAY PYI TAW, 14 May—According to the observation conducted at (18:30) hrs MST today, the Cyclone centered at the east-central part of the Bay of Bengal advanced to the northern wards. It is now centered in the sea, about 70 miles west of Sittway. It is now advancing to the northeast wards, and is expected to pass through the coast between Maungtaw of Rakhine State and Chittagong of Bangladesh in 12 hours commencing from this afternoon.

Under the influence of the storm, rain will be widespread in Kachin, Chin, Rakhine and Mon States, Taninthayi, Bago, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Sagaing Divisions and scattered to fairly widespread in the remaining states and divisions with heavyfalls in specific parts of Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady, Bago and Yangon Divisions.

Squalls with rough sea are likely at times off and along Deltaic and Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 80 to 100 mph during heavy rain and strong winds. The tide is likely to rise from 8 to 10 feet from the current water level. — *MNA*

New rainfall record

NAY PYI TAW, 14 May —The amount of rainfall (164) mm (6.46 inches) observed at (09:30) hours MST on 14 May in Minkin is the 24 hours new maximum rainfall record at the station for the amount of May during last 23 years. The former record was 160 mm (6.30 inches) on 12 May 2007.— *MNA*