

International services of Air Bagan can help increase Myanmar's foreign exchange earnings from tourism industry

Air Bagan Ltd launches first international service

YANGON, 15 May — Air Bagan Ltd launched its first international service with its Airbus A 310-200 leaving Yangon for Bangkok at 7.30 am today.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe and U Teza formally opened the ceremony marking the launching of the international air service.

The commissioning of Air Bagan passenger services to foreign countries may help increase Myanmar's foreign exchange earnings from tourism industry as more visi-

tors will come to her, said Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe at the ceremony held at Yangon International Airport.

In its domestic air service, Air Bagan is now flying

to 17 destinations offering local and foreign vacationers convenient flights to many places of the nation and helping promote a portion of the nation's transport sector, he said.

Air Bagan Ltd is a Myanmar-citizen-owned private company.

Thanks to guidance of the State Peace and Development Council and the close supervision of

Transport Ministry for development of air services in Myanmar, the nation now has four domestic airlines including the Myanma Airways, he noted. The minister, on

behalf of the nation, honoured the company, with pleasure, as it can start to spread its wings in the region at the age of two and a half years.

(See page 8)



Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe delivers an address at Air Bagan Ltd's launching of international flights. — MNA



Visitors view Airbus A 310-200 of Air Bagan Ltd at Yangon International Airport before its maiden flight to Bangkok. — MNA

Air Bagan Ltd is now operating international flights with the aim of offering comfort and convenience to the people, enabling the people to take international and local flights at reasonable prices, attracting more foreign tourists to visit Myanmar, and making Myanmar's pleasant and peaceful conditions known to the international community.

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 16 May, 2007

Improve students' skills subject-wise

It is required to constantly produce human resources in addition to restoration of stability and peace and building national cohesion in a bid to achieve development of the nation and the people.

The government, after laying down the national education promotion plan, has been taking measures for emergence of a system that can generate a life-long learning society capable of studying constantly.

Besides it is now building education infrastructures throughout the Union so that every citizen has equal access to education. In this regard, it is conducting special refresher courses so as to enhance innovative power and teaching skills of the teachers, the major resource of the education sector.

A prosperous future of the youth of today rests on the nurturing process in the education sector. Accordingly, teachers are to exert goodwill in nurturing and teaching the students for bringing about intellectuals and technocrats.

In particular, teachers have to work harder to find out the taste, innate ability, personality and perseverance of individual student in order to improve the latters' skills subject-wise to the highest degree.

Now modern pedagogical aids, advanced teaching methods and electronic teaching and learning aids are utilized in the education sector. Teachers are therefore to sharpen the abilities of the students to their utmost in accordance with the ethics of service personnel for constantly bringing about human resources in the nation.

Medical Conference held at YCH

YANGON, 15 May — A team led by Prof Anette Jacobsen, Head of Surgery Department of KK Women's and Children's Hospital of Singapore, held discussions on treatment given to children by means of Minimally Invasive Surgery and demonstrated on surgery at Yangon Children's Hospital from 8 to 12 May.

Since 2000, the medical conference programme has been held yearly and doctors of both hospitals discussed child cancer treatment and anesthesia subject.

The Information Center is opened at No 32, Latha Street, Latha Township for those wishing to get treatments at KK Women's and Children's Hospital (Ph- 377914, 281914). — NLM

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

37 complete Buddhist culture course

YANGON, 15 May — Maha Santisukha Buddhist Missionary Monastery this morning presented certificates to the trainees who had completed the third special course on Buddhist culture (English-Myanmar) it conducted in Tamway Township here.

Chairman of Tamway Township Sangha Nayaka Committee gave an Ovadakatha to the congregation. The chairman and members of the executive committee of the monastery presented certificates to the trainees.



Thirty-seven trainees completed the course opened on 2 April.

MNA

Chairman of Board of Trustees of Maha Santisukha Buddhist Missionary Monastery Col Saw Myint (Retd) presents completion certificate to a trainee. — MNA

Free workshop on teacher training courses on 19 May

YANGON, 15 May — STI Education will conduct a workshop on English teacher training courses—Certificate in TEFL and Diploma in TESOL at the Myanmar Info-Tech Building in Hline Township here at 3 pm on 19 (Saturday) May. Experienced teachers from London Teacher Training College of UK will give lectures at the workshop. At the workshop, diploma certificates will be presented to those who have completed the course.

Those wishing to attend the free workshop may get registered at the STI

Education at Room (3) of Building (7) and Room (7) of Building (4) at the Myanmar Info-Tech Building in Hline University Campus (Tel: 507048, 507151, 507152).—MNA

Workshop on Certificate in English Communication Skills (CECS) at building of STI Education in Hline Township in progress on 11 May.—MNA



FAG/INA Roller & Ball Bearings introduced

YANGON, 15 May — Schaeffler Group (Germany) and Tractors

World Company introduced FAG/INA Roller & Ball Bearings machine

parts at Traders Hotel here on 10 May.

Adviser U Tin Win of Tractors World Company delivered an opening address.

Mr Manfred Hanninger, Regional Manager of Schaeffler Group, and Mr Tan Sing Yenn, Sale Manager (South East Asia) of the Schaeffler Group, introduced the products and replied to questions raised by those present.

Those wishing to purchase the machine parts may contact Tractors World Company Ltd, Ph 558224, 244100.

MNA



Mr Manfred Hanninger of Schaeffler Group introduces roller and ball bearings. — MNA

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Kuala Lumpur-Vientiane flights to resume in July

KUALA LUMPUR, 14 May — Direct flights from Malaysia’s capital of Kuala Lumpur and Lao’s capital of Vientiane will resume in July after nearly a decade of hiatus, local Press reported Saturday.

Malaysian budget carrier AirAsia will be operating between the two cities, Malaysian Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar told reporters.

The governments of the two countries reached an agreement at the third joint commission meeting for bilateral cooperation in the Malaysian administrative centre of Putrajaya, the *New Straits Times* reported. The decision to resume direct air links was

made as part of steps to increase cooperation in tourism and to boost trade and investment, Syed said Friday after the two-day meeting.

Malaysia Airlines, the national carrier, had offered flights into Vientiane beginning in 1996 but ceased operations since 1998 due to the Asian financial crisis.

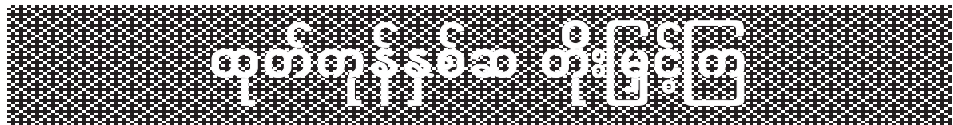
Syed said the resumption of direct flights is mutually beneficial as

Laos is keen to have more Malaysians investment.

MNA/Xinhua

President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan (R) welcomes visiting Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad at Abu Dhabi International Airport in Abu Dhabi, capital of UAE, on 13 May, 2007.

XINHUA



Walking in countryside beats depression

BEIJING, 15 May — A new study found that taking long walks in countryside could help alleviate symptoms of depression.

Mind, the leading mental health charity in UK, argues that instead of relying solely on drugs people should also receive ecotherapy.

This “green treatment” involves walking, kite-flying and gardening and should be recognized as a clinically-valid frontline treatment for mental health problems, Mind claims. The study titled, “Ecotherapy: the Green Agenda for Mental Health,” is the first one to examine the effects of the so-called green exercise in maintaining mental

health. Researchers at the University of Essex studied the effect of walking on 20 members of the charity.

The members were randomly assigned to walk for 30 minutes in a country park or in indoor shopping centre.

After a walk in the country, some 90 percent said they felt a rise in their self-esteem, while 71 percent said they felt less tense and depressed. Participants who were assigned for the shopping centre walk were not as successful. Only 45 percent said there was a decrease in depression, while 22 percent said they actually felt more depressed.

Mind’s chief executive

Paul Farmer said that ecotherapy should not replace drugs, but the

debate on its use “needs to be broadened.”

Internet



A model and children display shopping bags designed by the children for their mothers 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

\$1.5m stolen from Russia’s Sberbank

Moscow, 14 May — Bank robbers killed two guards and stole 38 million roubles (1.5 million US dollars) from a branch in Siberia of Russia’s largest bank Sberbank <SBER.MM>, news agencies reported on Saturday. The gang fled the branch in the eastern Siberian city of Chita in a car belonging to one of the dead guards. Employees of the state-controlled bank who came to work on Saturday found the two bodies with their feet tied and hands cuffed.

Anatoly Uskov, senior aide to Chita’s regional prosecutor, told *RIA* news agency the robbery, one of the biggest in Russia for many years, appeared well-planned. The robbers left few traces and took hard disks from security cameras. “The investigators are working on several versions of how the robbers got into the building — they could have stayed since the previous evening or were connected with the guards,” Uskov said.

Bank robberies are relatively rare in Russia where most banks have huge security protection. Sberbank runs an extensive network of regional branches and is the only bank providing banking services across the whole country.

MNA/Reuters



Students bury their heads into the mountain of text books at a middle school classroom in a village in Jinzhai County, east China’s Anhui Province, on 11 May, 2007. — XINHUA

55 Taliban militants killed in E Afghanistan

KABUL, 14 May — Afghan and international troops killed 55 Taliban rebels in two clashes in Paktika Province of eastern Afghanistan, provincial governor Akram Khapalwak told *Xinhua* on Sunday.

Some militants attacked Afghan border troops in Barmal District on Saturday, Khapalwak said.

Afghan and international forces fought back from the ground and in the air, killing 15 insurgents, he added.

Also on Saturday, Taliban rebels attacked Afghan forces in Gilan District, the governor said, adding Afghan and international troops returned fire and killed 40 enemies.

Two Afghan soldiers were injured in the two clashes.

Due to rising Taliban-linked insurgency, over 1,300 persons, mostly Taliban militants, have been killed in Afghanistan this year.

MNA/Xinhua



The staff members celebrate the successful launch of Nigcomsat-1 satellite at Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 14 May, 2007. — XINHUA

Blue-throated hummingbird discovered in Colombia

WASHINGTON, 14 May — A new blue-and-green-throated hummingbird species has been discovered in a cloud forest in Colombia, and already needs protection from human encroachment, the experts who found the bird said on Sunday.

Called the gorgeted puffleg, the new species is easily twice as big as the thumb-sized hummingbirds found in the eastern United States, measuring

between 3.5 inches and 4 inches (90 and 100 mm) in length, its discoverers said in answer to e-mailed questions.

The name comes from the iridescent emerald green and electric blue patch on the throat — the gorge — on males, and from tufts of white feathers at the top of the legs, a characteristic of so-called puffleg hummers.

Ornithologists Alexander Corts-Diago and

Luis Alfonso Ortega made three sightings of the hummingbird in 2005 during surveys of mountain cloud forest in the Serrania del Pinche in southwest Colombia.

After the birds were seen again in 2006, photographs were sent to the Zoological Research

Museum A Koenig in Germany for confirmation.

“Further study has shown that this is certainly the most spectacular discovery of a new hummingbird taxon during the last decade or more.”

MNA/Reuters



An undated handout photo of a gorgeted puffleg, a new species of hummingbird. XINHUA



Obesity, inactivity and cholesterol are closely linked. Data from the latest US National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) finds that 17 percent of US teens are overweight, media reports said on 14 May, 2007.

INTERNET

Indonesia reports 76th fatal H5N1 case

JAKARTA, 14 May, — Indonesia's health ministry reported today that a 26-year-old pregnant woman who died 2 days ago tested positive for H5N1 avian flu, making her the country's second fatality in as many weeks.

The woman, who was 4 months pregnant, died at a hospital in Medan in North Sumatra, a health ministry official identified as Joko told Agence France Presse (AFP).

Her death brings Indonesia's fatality count

to 76, Joko told AFP. From Indonesia's recent reports, the total number of H5N1 cases appears to be 96, including the 26-year-old woman and a 29-year-old woman who died on 3 May, also at a hospital in Medan.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has not included any Indonesian cases in its H5N1 count since the country stopped sharing H5N1 virus samples with the agency at the end of 2006.

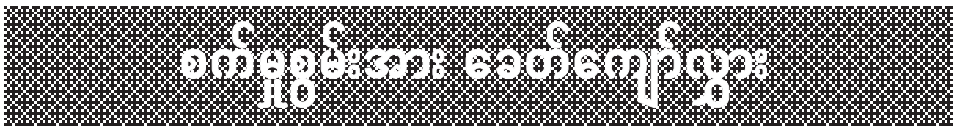
The WHO lists 81 cases with 63 deaths for Indonesia, out of a global

total of 291 cases with 172 deaths; Indonesia leads the world in the number of deaths.

The health ministry confirmed the woman's case after a second set of tests came back positive for the H5N1 virus, AFP reported.

The patient, who was thought to have eaten chickens that died of avian flu, became ill on 2 May and was treated at home before she was transferred to two different hospitals, the AFP report said.

Internet



N China chemical plant blast pollutes water

SHIJIAZHUANG, 14 May — The blast occurred on Friday at a chemical workshop in Cangzhou, north China's Hebei Province, has polluted water, but not caused toxic gas leak, according to the environmental watchdogs.

Environmental departments at state and pro-

vincial levels have designated three sites at a village near the workshop to monitor water quality.

The local environmental bureau announces every 10 minutes the contents of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, chlorine and phosgene in the air.

Thus far, all barometers of air quality are normal.

However, about 2,000 cubic metres of water used for putting out the fire and cleaning the scene of blast have been contaminated.

The polluted water has been stored in the sewage pipes and a pool at the pump station in the

chemical plant, and is banned from discharging by the city's environmental authorities.

Five workers have been confirmed dead and 14 others were seriously injured after a workshop in Cangzhou Dahua TDI Co Ltd exploded at 1:40 pm on Friday. More than 40 people with slight injuries are still receiving treatment in local hospitals, according to a spokesperson for the Cangzhou city government.

Investigations into the cause of the explosion are underway.

MNA/Xinhua

Gunmen kill five workers south of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 14 May — Gunmen shot dead five workers of a mill in the Mahmoudiyah Town, 30 kilometres south of Baghdad, and wounded four others on Sunday, a well-informed police source said.

“Early in the morning, unknown armed men stormed the al-Ahram flour factory in Mahmoudiyah and opened fire at some workers, killing five and wounding four others,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. Iraqi security forces have rushed to the scene and are carrying out investigation, the source said. Separately, the source said police patrols collected 17 unidentified bodies during the past 24 hours in different parts of the capital. The bullet-riddled bodies were bound, blindfolded, showing signs of torture, he added.

Violence persists in Baghdad despite the presence of tens of thousands of US and Iraqi soldiers across the capital in a major security crackdown aimed at curbing insurgency and sectarian violence in the war-torn country. — MNA/Xinhua



Students attend a Chinese language test for juveniles in Seoul, capital of South Korea, on 12 May, 2007. Over 3000 South Korean juveniles attended the test held by the Office of the Chinese Language Council International. — XINHUA

ECONOMIC NEWS

Cambodian Dy-PM to visit India for cultural, eco cooperation

PHNOM PENH, 14 May – Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Hor Nam Hong will pay an official visit to India from 17 to 19 May to bolster bilateral cultural and economic cooperation, said a Press release issued recently

Hor, also Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, will meet his Indian counterpart Prahab Mukerjee, said the release from his ministry.

During the visit, Hor will ink a memorandum of understanding on bilateral ties and sign an agreement for India to establish an English training centre in Cambodia, it said. — MNA/Xinhua

Tourist numbers pose green worries in Antarctica

NEW DELHI, 14 May — The number of tourists visiting Antarctica rose by 14 per cent to more than 37,000 over the last season, the Indian Government said, as concern mounts at their environmental impact on world's last great wilderness.

An international consultative meeting on the Antarctic Treaty, which concluded on Friday in New Delhi, warned that proper regulation of tourism was vital to protect the area's fragile eco-system.

Among the measures proposed at the two-week meeting were "discouraging" or "declining" authorization to tour operators to land ships that carry more than 500 passengers, and ensuring no more than one tourist vessel is at a landing site at any time.

"The issue of land-based tourism was discussed at length, which if not

regulated may lead to more than a minor or transitory impact on Antarctica," an Indian Government statement issued late on Saturday night said.

The 12-day meeting of nearly 300 delegates, including scientists from 37 nations and organizations, also wanted the number of tourists ashore to be 100 or less at any one time.

The Antarctic Treaty says most tourists visit Antarctica by ship, raising environmental issues. The tourist season runs from November to March.

E-commerce is moving "full steam ahead" and is years away from saturation, with double-digit growth expected for several years, according to an online retail industry report published on 13 May 2007.

INTERNET

Environmentalists say global warming is leading to a rapid loss of ice shelves on the continent's coast, and scientists say a boom in tourism is putting pressure on the region.

The Antarctic Treaty was signed in 1959 by 12 countries whose scientists were active in Antarctica. It now has 46 signatories.

MNA/Reuters



An overview shows Beijing's central business district on 14 May, 2007. China's gross domestic product is forecast to rise 10.8 percent in the second quarter of 2007. — INTERNET

Climate change to make one billion refugees

LONDON, 14 May — Global warming will create at least one billion refugees by 2050 as water shortages and crop failures force people to leave their homes, sparking local wars over access to resources, a

leading aid agency said on Monday.

In its report "Human tide: The real migration crisis", Christian Aid said that as the developed world was responsible for most of the climate-changing pollution, it

should bear the brunt of the cost of helping those worst hit by it — the poor.

"We believe that forced migration is now the most urgent threat facing poor people in the developing world," said lead author John Davison.

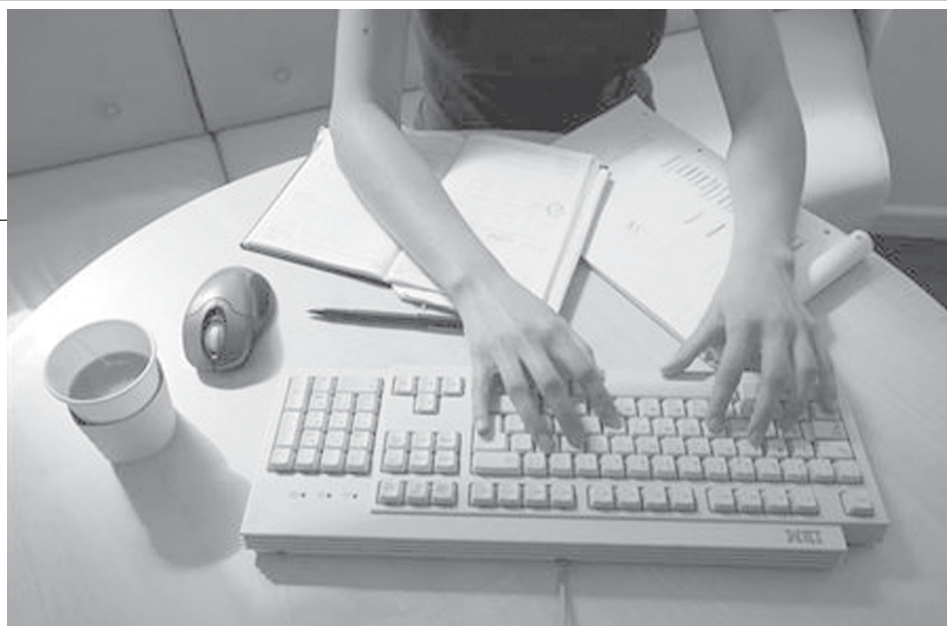
Scientists predict that average temperatures will rise by between 1.8 and 3.0 degrees Celsius this century because of greenhouse gas emissions, mainly from burning fossil fuels, causing floods and famines and putting million of lives at risk.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says that by 2080 up to 3.2 billion people — one third of the planet's population — will be short of water, up to 600 million will be short of food and up to 7 million will face coastal flooding.

"We estimate that, unless strong preventative action is taken, between now and 2050 climate change will push the number of displaced people globally to at least one billion," the Christian Aid report said.

Security experts fear that the tidal wave of forced migration will not only fuel existing conflicts but create new ones in some of the poorest and most deprived parts of the world, those least equipped to deal with them, it said

MNA/Reuters



Malaysia's palm oil exports up 5.9% in April

KUALA LUMPUR, 14 May — Malaysia's palm oil exports posted 1.12 million tons in April, up 5.9 per cent against the previous month, according to the Malaysian Palm Oil Board here on Saturday.

Palm kernel oil exports for the month rose by 54.53 per cent to 106,747 tons from 69,077 tons recorded in March.

However, palm kernel exports fell 7.0 per cent in the month to 177,161 tons compared with March.

Production of crude palm oil (CPO) in

Peninsular Malaysia recorded 609,793 tons in April, up 1.83 per cent from March.

In the eastern state of Sabah, CPO production increased by 5.45 per cent to 402,620 tons in April from 381,805 tons in March, while in Sarawak, the production rose by 12.62 per cent to 112,887 tons. Palm kernel output went up 2.13 per cent to 295,257 tons in April, while crude palm kernel oil went down 8.4 per cent to 140,710 tons.

MNA/Xinhua



A man uses a mobile phone to take photographs of a burning Danish military armoured vehicle after an ambush in Basra on 14 May, 2007. A Danish soldier was killed and five other soldiers and one interpreter were wounded in an ambush in Al Hartha, north of Basra, the Danish Central Army Command said on Monday. —INTERNET

Railway tunnel in southeast China completed

FUZHOU, 14 May — A ten-kilometre railway tunnel has been completed in southeast China's Fujian Province for a new bullet train service that will be put into operation in 2008. The railway runs

beneath the Jimian Mountain inside the county of Lianjiang.

"The Jimian Mountain Tunnel is one of the 53 tunnels required to be completed for the construction of a railway

connecting Wenzhou, a port city in east China's Zhejiang Province, and Fuzhou, capital of Fujian," said Zhang Zongyan, chairman of the board of China Railways No12 Bureau Group Corp.

According to Zhang, 76 per cent of the 300-kilometre-long Wenzhou-Fuzhou Railway is inside Fujian Province, and so far, 80 per cent of the tunnels for the railway have been completed.

MNA/Xinhua

US soldier killed in explosion south of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 14 May—An American soldier died of wounds he sustained in a roadside bomb explosion south of Baghdad, the US military said on Sunday.

The soldier was wounded when the bomb went off at about 7:15 pm (1515 GMT) on Friday south of the Iskandariyah Town, some 50 kilometres south of the capital, a military statement said.

He died in a military medical treatment facility, the statement added.

More than 3,390 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion broke out in 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.

MNA/Xinhua

Heatwave kills 36 in south Indian state

HYDERABAD (India), 14 May — Scorching heat in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh has killed 36 people in the past 24 hours, most of them elderly and destitute, officials said on Sunday.

Daytime temperatures hovered around 44 degrees Celsius (111 Fahrenheit) in many parts of the state, with the coal mining town of Kothagudem in the northeast recording a top temperature of 48 C (118 F).

Weather officials said the temperatures being recorded in May were around 3 C (5 F) above normal.

The state government has set up water distribution points in major towns so people do not get dehydrated and authorities were handing out packets of rehydration salts. Nearly 3,000 cows, buffaloes and sheep have died in the heatwave over the past 10 days.

Each summer, hundreds of people die in India due to sun stroke, especially in its northern plains and southern states. — MNA/Reuters



Plastic surgeons at work recently. Some South Korean clinics are cashing in as Japanese use their Golden Week break for cosmetic surgery overseas. — INTERNET

Bulgarian Customs officers seize 48 kilos of heroin

SOFIA, 14 May—Bulgarian Customs officers seized 48 kilos of heroin estimated to be worth some 4.3 million levs (3 million US dollars) in a truck travelling from Turkey to Macedonia, the

Customs office said on Sunday. The drug was put in 91 packages and hidden in secret compartments in the truck.

This is the fifth time Bulgaria has seized heroin at its Kapitan Andreevo border checkpoint with Turkey since the be-

ginning of the year, the Customs said.

European Union newcomer Bulgaria, which joined the bloc in January, has long served as a key route for smugglers trafficking goods and drugs to western Europe.

MNA/Reuters

Reward grows for return of missing British girl

LONDON, 14 May — British celebrities and business leaders have put up a 1.5 million British pound (2.97 million US dollars) reward to help find Madeleine McCann, a four-year-old who disappeared from a Portuguese holiday resort 10 days ago.

Harry Potter author JK Rowling, Virgin boss Richard Branson and Topshop chief Philip Green are among a host

of public figures to have offered money.

"We are praying for Madeleine's safe return," Green said in a statement released by the *News of the World*, which itself offered 250,000 pounds.

Madeleine, who turned four on Saturday, is feared kidnapped after she vanished from her bed in the Praia da Luz holiday resort on the Algarve on 3 May.

The new pledges

brought the total to 2.6 million US dollars offered in reward to find Madeleine after Scottish health spa owner Stephen Winyard put up one million pounds and a family friend offered 100,000 pounds after her disappearance.

At a church service on Saturday, Madeleine's father said her disappearance had unleashed a "tidal wave" of devastation on the family.

MNA/Reuters



A LG Philips worker checking a thin glass panel for liquid crystal displays (LCDs) at a plant in Paju, 40 kilometres north of Seoul. LG Philips LCD said on Sunday it had developed the world's first A4-sized colour electronic-paper — a paper-thin and bendable viewing panel. — INTERNET

Pilot, skydivers killed in US plane crash

LOS ANGELES, 14 May — A plane crashed Saturday morning in the northwestern Montana State, killing the pilot and four skydivers aboard.

The *Cessna 182*, operated by Skydive Prairie, went down shortly after takeoff, then burst into fire, the Federal Aviation Administration said.

Michael Morrill, the manager of Skydive Prairie, said the plane took off in good weather.

It was carrying two skydiving instructors and two trainees, all from Montana, he said, giving no names of the dead.

MNA/Xinhua



A photo of missing British girl in Portugal, Madeleine McCann, made into a poster is released on 12 May, 2007. Madeleine spent her fourth birthday still missing on Saturday, prompting a call from her parents for redoubled efforts to find her. Madeline disappeared nine days earlier from her bed in a resort hotel where she had been on holiday with her parents in the Algarve. Police say all evidence points to an abduction. XINHUA

Thamebyu salterns in Ngaputaw Township, Ayeyawady Division

Article and photos by
Nyunt Wai Maung (Kyaukpadaung)

Everybody knows that salt is an essential ingredient in cooking.

In Ngaputaw Township, Ayeyawady Division, sun-dried salt is produced from salty waters of tributaries of Ngawun River. It was in Thamebyu salt works that I saw briny water from the nearby tributaries being stored on land to produce sun-dried salt. Salinity of water depends on weather condition and temperatures. Due to weather and geographical condition, the brackish water used at Thamebyu region is at 1.5 degrees. Thamebyu region is located near the sea.

Normally, salinity measuring equipment is used in all the processes of producing sun-dried salt. A saltern cannot

produce salt if standard salinity is not met. The process includes sun-drying brackish water in different production grounds. First, salty water from creeks is diverted into the khu-aing salt pan. When salinity reaches three degrees, the salty water is channeled into ye-yan salt pan where it passes through four different stages of sun-drying till salinity reaches five degrees. Then, salty water is conveyed to ye-lant salt pan where it is kept for about two days. Afterwards, water is kept in different salt pans for about three days till salt starts to crystalize when salinity reaches 29 degrees. Within ten days, salt can be extracted from the saltern. But if salinity reaches 30 degrees, water becomes saturated and cannot yield salt in this



Salt starts to crystalize at 29-degree salinity.

ONE VILLAGE, ONE PRODUCT

situation. The ground of the salterns of different stages of production is hardened with rollers to produce pure salt that is free from mud or silt.

Three villages — Magyibin, Thekke-thoung and Thonkhwa — are main salt producers of Thamebyu region in Ayeyawady

division. A salt entrepreneur, U Nay Lin, of the region told me that salt production was delayed due to weather condition last year, saying, “Temperatures were lower than normal during the cold season, so salinity did not reach the required level.” He also said, “Salt production increased in March and April due to the rise in temperatures during the months. All in all, salt production dropped during the previous year

due to Mala cyclone.” According to native entrepreneurs, the region has started to produce salt for the current year.

The Tatmadaw is also running salt-production businesses in the area.

An officer of a saltern of a battalion said, “We were able to produce salt in the last week of February this year thanks to systematic preparations and hard work.”

(Translation: TMT)



Salt is produced through evaporation of briny water stored in salt pans.

“Temperatures were lower than normal during the cold season, so salinity did not reach the required level.” He also said, “Salt production increased in March and April due to the rise in temperatures during the months. All in all, salt production dropped during the previous year due to Mala cyclone.”

International services of Air Bagan can help ...

(from page 1)

Air Bagan should cooperate with major airlines in running international services, he suggested, urging the company to constantly strive to run its joint-venture air services effectively till reaching the goal. The company should extend mutually beneficial co-operation with Myanmar Airways International, he said, expressing hope that the company will become a successful airline due to the increasing number of tourists visiting Myanmar.

Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin, diplomats of foreign missions in Myanmar, departmental heads, the president of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club and reporters, guests, the chairman of Air Bagan Ltd, executives and staff also attended the ceremony.

The Air Bagan Ltd established on 4 November 2004 is now flying to 17 townships with two units of Fokker F-100, three units of ARF 42, two units of ATR 72 and two units of Airbus A310. In order to spread its wings by flying to Bangkok, Singapore and Kunming, the company made necessary arrangements such as hiring foreign pilots for Airbus and foreign engineers, sending national pilots to air pilot course (Airbus-310) and conducting a course for national stewardesses and stewards.

In addition, four national man pilots and Myanmar's two first woman pilots were sent to Malaysia to attend Integrated Aviation Academy. It has



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe and Chairman of Air Bagan Ltd U Teza formally open a ceremony to launch the international flight of Air Bagan Ltd. — MNA

now made necessary arrangements for international flights such as services, purchase of ground vehicles and other services. The Ministry of Transport and the Civil Aviation Department rendered assistance to the company for international runs.

Air Bagan Ltd Chairman U Teza gave an account of international flights, and presented commemorative gifts to the commander, Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe and Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung.

The commander, the minister and the chairman

of the company formally opened the ceremony held at Yangon International Airport.

The company is now operating international flights with the aim of offering comfort and convenience to the people, enabling the people to take international and local flights at reasonable prices, attracting more foreign tourists to visit Myanmar, and making Myanmar's pleasant and peaceful conditions known to the international community.

MNA

Housewives gain knowledge on herbal plants

YANGON, 15 May —A short-term course on traditional medicines and health care services organized by Bahan Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association was concluded at Yangon Traditional Medicine Hospital here today.

The course which was aimed at educating housewives on use of herbal plants was launched on 12 May and a total of 51 trainees attended it.

At the concluding ceremony, Chairperson of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Maternal and Child Welfare Daw Mar Mar Wai delivered an address and distributed herbal plants to the trainees.

She also accepted 500 applications for



Daw Mar Mar Wai presents herbal plants to a trainee. — MNA

membership of Bahan Township MCWA presented by Chairperson of Bahan Township MCWA Daw Naing Naing Aung at the ceremony.

After the cere-

mony, Daw Mar Mar Wai and party viewed documentary photos of Bahan Township MCWA and photos which show how to use herbal plants.

MNA

Strong winds in delta

YANGON, 15 May—Roofs of 12 houses were turned up and a building of the Affiliated High School collapsed in Aleywa Village, Mayancho Village-tract, Hinthada Township, Ayeyawady Division yesterday morning due to strong winds.

The strong winds also rid off the roofs of another building of the

school.

Officials and local authorities provided rice, utensils and other necessities to storm victims.

As storm news has been issued by TV, radio and newspapers to enable people to make necessary preparations in anticipation of possible dangers of storms, said the authorities concerned.—MNA

Myanmar outclasses India 3-0 in third friendly

YANGON, 15 May — The third friendly volleyball match between Myanmar selected volleyball team and India University Champion continued in National Indoors Stadium-1 (Thuwunna) at 3pm today. Among the

spectators were Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik and officials concerned, Vice-Presidents of Myanmar Volleyball Federation U Thein Win and Director of SPED U Maung Win,

General Secretary U Nyi Nyi Lwin and executives, guests and fans.

Myanmar outclassed India with 3-0. The fourth friendly match is scheduled at the same venue on 17 May. The fans can watch the friendly match free of charge. — MNA

Deputy Minister inspects Yangon Children's Hospital

YANGON, 15 May — Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe inspected Yangon Children's Hospital this morning.

There he held a meeting with the medical superintendent and professors, lecturers, specialists, doctors and nurses. Medical Superintendent Dr Chit Ko Tin reported on the strength of the staff, organizational set-up and medical treatment, and Professor of Children Health Department Dr Aye Maung Han, on academic matters.

The deputy minister stressed the need of the physicians to give best treatment to the patients, calling for the doctors to smartly dress the clothes and sweetly deal with the patients to win the trust

and reliance. He also underscored health education and preventive measures against the diseases.

He inspected the emergency unit, outpatient department and intensive

care unit and viewed treatments given to child patients at outpatient department.

The deputy minister inspected the lecture hall and attended to the needs.

MNA



Deputy Minister Dr Paing Soe visits Yangon Children's Hospital. — HEALTH

Vaccination against measles launched in Bago Division



Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko delivers an address at the ceremony to expound on strategies for fighting measles in Bago Division. — MNA

YANGON, 15 May — Bago Division Health Department expounded on the project to implement the strategies for dealing with fighting measles in Bago Division.

Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko and wife Chairperson of Bago Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Sao Nun Khun Sam, officials concerned and members of social organizations attended the ceremony to clarify the project held in Toungoo on 11 May.

Secretary of Bago Division MCWSC Head of Bago Division Health Department Dr Htay Aung expounded on the project.

According to the project, children aged from 9 months to 5 years in the division will be vaccinated

against measles from 14 to 27 May.

After the ceremony, Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko attended the work coordination meeting on implementing plans in the division held in Toungoo and delivered an address.

Chairmen of Toungoo, Bago, Thayawady and Pyay district PDCs reported to the commander on harvesting of summer paddy for 2006-2007 and arrangements for cultivation of monsoon paddy, and cultivation and production of physic nut and rubber, and implementation of rural areas development tasks in the districts.

According to the report at the meeting, Bago Division set its target of 3 million acres of paddy in 2007-2008.

After hearing reports, the commander called for making efforts for the development of the region.

MNA

Mayor inspects proper flow of drains in Botahtaung, Mingala Taungnyunt, Bahan, South Okkalapa Townships

YANGON, 15 May—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, accompanied by Joint Secretary U Aung Than Win and officials, this morning inspected work being carried out for proper flow of drains by Engineering Department (Road/Bridge) along the Strand Road near Goods Shed in Botahtaung Township.

On his inspection tour, the mayor heard a report presented by Head of Engineering Department (Road/Bridge) U Bo Htay on unblocking drains and creeks for proper flow and future tasks, and attended to the needs.

Next, the mayor and party looked into water flow of underground drains in front of the Central Railway Station in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, clearing of silt and garbage for proper flow of drains in Bahan Township and dredging of Kyaikkasan Creek with heavy machinery for proper flow, and stressed the need for officials concerned to make constant efforts for proper flow of drains and creeks as monsoon has already set in, accompanied by heavy rains.

After giving necessary instructions, the mayor fulfilled the requirements.

MNA



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspects dredging of Kyaikkasan Creek in South Okkalapa Township. — YCDC

DISTRICT NEWS IN BRIEF

Model paddy field in Patheingyi harvested



PATHEINGYI, 15 May — Hsinthwelatt strain of paddy cultivated in the summer was harvested in Patheingyi District.

Chairmen of Patheingyi District and Township Peace and Development Councils and officials went to a model cultivation field in the township on 23 April and viewed the harvesting of paddy fed by irrigation water in summer.

The model field has yielded of 134.72 baskets per acre. — PATHEINGYI DISTRICT IPD



WAW, BAGO DIVISION (EAST) : Executive Officer of Waw Township Development Affairs Department U Saw Shwe and employees of the department participating in gardening by a road to Waw on 5 May 2007. The township Department has carried out beautifying tasks in the township. — WAW TOWNSHIP DAD



KYAIKTO, MON STATE : Director of Mon State Development Affairs Department U Aung Kyaw Nyein inspects machinery of Kyaukse Township DAD on 30 April, 2007. Executive Officer U Thet Aung and Junior Engineer-2 U Tun Myint reported to the director on condition and maintenance of the machinery.

KYAIKTO TOWNSHIP DAD

Iran vows “severe” response if US attacks

ABU DHABI, 15 May — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on Monday threatened “severe” retaliation if the United States attacked his country, which is locked in a standoff with the West over its nuclear programme.

“They realize that if they make such a mistake the retaliation of Iran would be severe and they will repent,” Ahmadinejad told a news conference in the United Arab Emirates. He was speaking through an interpreter.

“All people know they cannot strike us. Iran is capable of defending itself. It is a strong country,” said Ahmadinejad.

The West cannot stop

Teheran from pursuing its nuclear energy programme, he said. “Superpowers cannot prevent us from owning this energy.”

The United States, which has a strong military presence in the Gulf, accuses Iran of wanting to produce nuclear weapons and has sought tougher UN sanctions against Teheran. Iran says it wants only to generate electricity to allow more oil exports.

Using stronger language than on Sunday when he called for US troops to leave the region, Ahmadinejad said Gulf countries should “get rid of” foreign forces, which he blamed for regional insecurity. He was speaking during a visit to the UAE, a US ally which, like Iran’s other Gulf Arab neighbours, has expressed concern about Teheran’s nuclear plans.

MNA/Reuters



World record holder Huang Min from Yunnan is in the women’s 50m butterfly S7 at China’s Seventh National Games for the Disabled held in Kunming, capital of southwest China’s Yunnan Province, on 13 May, 2007. Huang won the gold medal in 37.19, grabbed the first gold medal of the 7th national games for the disabled since it officially opened on 12 May. — XINHUA



Diana Hadi, a staff member at Malaysia’s Tiara Beach Resort, poses in a swimming pool with some 20,000 apples in it in an attempt to set the national record for “The Most Number of Apples Used In Spa Therapy” in Port Dickson, 120 km (75 miles) south of Kuala Lumpur on 13 May, 2007. — INTERNET

Cyclone spawns floods in northern Thailand

BANGKOK, 15 May — Hundreds of homes and farms in Thailand’s northern provinces have been inundated due to Sunday’s cyclone in the Bay of Bengal, west of neighbouring Myanmar, and more rain is on the way heading to northern Thailand on Monday.

Hundreds of families in northern Province of Pichit were affected by floods, with homes and farmland in Photalae District and a concrete bridge destroyed by rising torrents, the state-run Thai News Agency reported.

In Nakhon Sawan Province, continuous rain has caused flooding and road links with other communities have been cut off. Some 4,000 acres of croplands were inundated. Residents of low-lying areas have been warned of imminent flash floods.

In Phrae Province, a flash flood hit three villages in Wangshin District. Hundreds of homes have been damaged, and few villagers were able to move their belongings to higher ground before the onrushing waters arrived. Many farming families reported that their livestock was swept away by the floodwaters.

Provincial authorities in Phrae warned residents of five districts to brace for more flash floods.

In Uttaradit Province, local authorities are concerned about the flood situation. Some 4,000 acres of paddy fields were under one-metre deep floodwaters. Local authorities are assessing the damage in order to compensate affected villagers.

MNA/Xinhua

Gonzales deputy resigns from Justice Department

WASHINGTON, 15 May — US Deputy Attorney General Paul McNulty, second-in-command to Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and caught in the firestorm over the firing of federal prosecutors, resigned on Monday citing family financial reasons.

In a letter to Gonzales, who faces his own calls to resign for the scandal over last year’s controversial firings, McNulty said he was stepping down “on a date to be determined in the late summer”.

McNulty is the third Justice Department official to resign since March as the Democratic-controlled Congress investigates a controversial department decision to fire eight of the country’s 93 US attorneys last year.

A ninth federal prosecutor said last week he was pushed out as well.

The administration has insisted the decision was justified, though mishandled. Congressional investigators are attempting to determine if the firings were politically motivated.

McNulty testified that only the federal prosecutor in Arkansas was let go so the job could be given to a former White House aide, with the others fired for performance-related issues.

According to documents released by the Justice Department, Gonzales aides said that the attorney general was upset by McNulty’s testimony on Capitol Hill

in February.

When later information suggested otherwise, Gonzales said both he and his deputy were misinformed by top aides.

In his resignation letter, McNulty wrote, “The financial realities of my college-age children and two decades of public service lead me to a long overdue transition in my career.”

MNA/Reuters

Seventy-two Arab journalists killed in past six years

AMMAN, 15 May — An estimated 72 Arab journalists, including 12 women, were killed between 2001 and January 2007 for reasons directly related to their work, the Amman-based Arab Archives Institute (AAI) said on Sunday.

At least one Arab journalist was killed every month in the last six years, the AAI said in a report, adding that the high number of Arab journalists killed during this period overshadowed their accomplishments and their legacies.

The most dangerous country is evidently Iraq and the main motive for the killing of these journalists was intimidation, the report said.

“It is a reminder to activists around the world of the highly dangerous circumstances Arab journalists are working in,” the report said.

Information for the report was gathered from several sources, including the AAI and the International Freedom of Expression Exchange database, as well as sources from international organizations for human rights and media freedoms. — MNA/Xinhua



The satellite is ready at Xichang Satellite Launch Center in southwest China’s Sichuan Province, on 14 May, 2007. — XINHUA



- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကို ကျင်းပကာ နိုင်ငံတော်ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံ အခြေခံဥပဒေ ရေးဆွဲရေးအတွက် အခြေခံရမည့်မူများနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အခြေခံရမည့်မူများကို အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကိုယ်စားလှယ်များက ညှိနှိုင်းဆွေးနွေး အတည်ပြုချက် ချမှတ်ပေးလျက်ရှိသည်။
- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံသတင်းများကို လေ့လာကြည့်သောအခါ အနာဂတ် နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဌာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ပုံဖော်မှန်းမျှော် ကြည့်ရှုရလာပြီ ဖြစ်သည်။
- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တွင် ပေါ်ပေါက်လာမည့် ဥပဒေပြုမှုနှင့်စပ်လျဉ်းသည့် အသွင်သဏ္ဌာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ထင်လင်းစွာ ပုံဖော်လာရေးအတွက် စာရေး သူ၏တွေ့ရှိချက်များကို တိုင်းရင်းသားပြည်သူများအား အကိုးအထောက် မှန်ကန်စွာဖြင့် လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းဝေငှထားသည်။ —

စိုးမြကျော် ၏

အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဌာန် ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဌာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ

- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော် တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဌာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အခန်း (၁) ခန်းနှင့် အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်၏ ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဌာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အပိုင်း (၁၃) ပိုင်းပါရှိသည်။
- ရောင်စုံ သရုပ်ဖော်ပုံများနှင့် စာမျက်နှာ (၁၅၀)၊ ရောင်းဈေး ၃၅၀/-

ထွက်ပြီ

- စာပေဗိမာန် စာအုပ်ဆိုင် ၅၂၉-၅၃၁၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
ဖုန်း - ၃၈၁၄၄၈၊ ၂၄၉၀၃၁
- သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ ၂၁၂၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
ဖုန်း - ၂၉၄၃၀၆

Colombia captures link between rebels, drug traffickers

BOGOTA, 15 May — Eduardo Hormanza Londono, the alleged link between the nation's largest guerilla force and drug trafficking mafia, has been arrested at Bogota's El Dorado International

Airport after being deported from Bolivia, Colombian authorities said on Sunday.

General Luis Perez, commander of the Army's 13th Brigade, said that Londono's capture would

cut off the finances to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), dealing a severe blow to the militant group.

Londono was taken to the Attorney General's jail cell under a military escort after being captured by officers from the Attorney General's Office, the Security Administrative Department and the Army.

Londono's name was first spotted in the files of a personal computer kept by a FARC chief captured in west Colombia.

MNA/Xinhua



A black bear gallops in a zoo in Guilin, Southwest China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 13 May, 2007. The zoo lately started offering new performances by animal actors, including black bears riding a horse or a motorbike, to win more visitors. —XINHUA

Argentine politicians condemn attack on President's sister

BUENOS AIRES, 15 May — Argentine politicians on Sunday condemned an egg-and-flour attack on President Nestor Kirchner's sister during a protest at the weekend.

Alicia Kirchner, who serves as the Development Minister, came under attack on Saturday when teachers and municipal workers in the southern Argentine province of Santa Cruz were striking for better wages.

Mauricio Macri of the opposition centre-right party Propuesta Republicana said, "beyond the discontent that could be for years of Kirchnerism in the province, nothing justifies physical aggression".

The regional governments of Entre Rios, Formosa, Chaco, Jujuy, Tucuman and Santa Cruz also issued statements condemning the attack.

President Kirchner was born in Santa Cruz and served as its governor on and off from 1991 to 2003.

Eduardo James, acting secretary of the

Santa Cruz Teachers Association, said the attack showed the anger among local citizens, adding that the union encourages no "aggression, neither physical nor verbal".

Teachers pelted

Alicia as she was leaving a restaurant. The missile-throwers also pulled her hair and chanted anti-government slogans. She fled the scene in a minivan, local reports said.

MNA/Xinhua

eBay condemned for allowing "rampant" ivory trade

LONDON, 15 May — The elephant, the world's largest land mammal, is being threatened with global extinction by a "rampant trade" in ivory on the eBay online auction site, animal welfare campaigners said on Tuesday.

International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) said it had conducted a survey in Britain, Australia, China, Germany, the Netherlands, France, Canada and the United States and tracked more than 2,200 elephant ivory items listed on eBay websites.

It found more than 90 per cent of the listings breached even eBay's own wildlife policies.

International wildlife trade laws differ from country to country and are often complex, but according to the IFAW in general it is illegal to sell carved or uncarved ivory unless it is antique and accompanied by a proof of age certificate.

The Fund says the only way to protect elephants from poachers is to shut down the markets where illegal ivory can easily be passed off as antique. — MNA/Reuters

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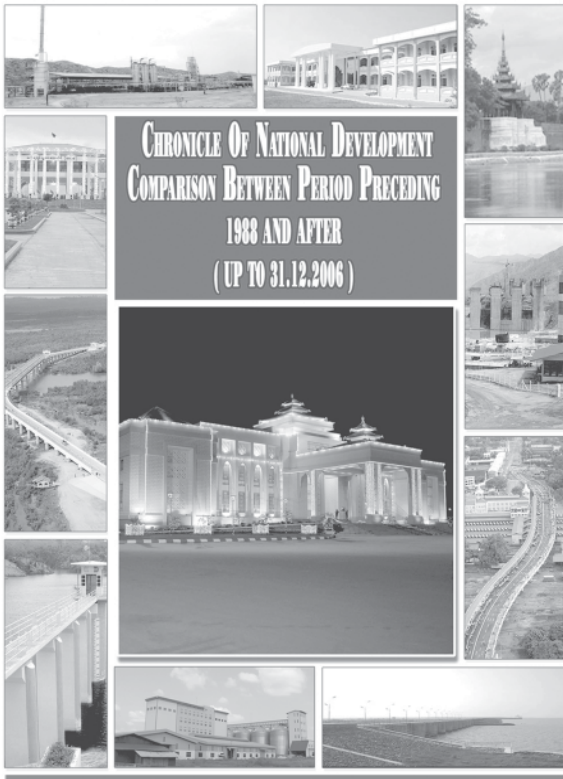
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(b) 7.50x16 - 230 Sets
(c) 10.00x20 - 250 Sets
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(e) 5.50x13 - 50 Sets
2. (a) Tender Documents are available at the office of Procurement & Stores Department, Yangon Division, Road Transport No.375/Bogyoke Aung San Street, Yangon, Myanmar Commencing on the 16-5-2007
(b) Tender will be closed on 1-6-2007 at (16:00) hours
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Actress Lindsay Lohan.
INTERNET



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MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
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i.	15(T)/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

Photographer takes legal action against Lohan
BEIJING , 14 May — Actress Lindsay Lohan is being sued by a photographer for allegedly injuring him with her mother's car.The 20-year-old was "negligent, careless and reckless" while driving a BMW on 13 March in New York, according to legal papers filed in the city by snapper Giovanni Arnold on Thursday.
Arnold claims he "sustained severe and permanent personal injuries" in the incident and was financially disadvantaged as a result.
The suit also names Lohan's mother, Dina, but doesn't specify the amount in damages being sought.
No accident report was filed at the time of the alleged incident, although police were on the scene at the time.
During an interview with talk-show host David Letterman on Wednesday, Lohan was asked if she had run over a photographer's foot.
She replied jokingly, "No, but I should. The guy completely faked it." —Internet

Private plane goes missing after taking off from N Turkey
ANKARA, 15 May — A private plane with two people on board went missing after it took off from Turkey's northern city of Trabzon for Iranian city of Tabriz, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported on Monday.
The report quoted officials as saying it is likely that the plane has had an accident.
Governor of Trabzon Nuri Okutan said the plane hailing from Turkish capital Ankara was in Trabzon on 10 May for bunkering, according to the report.
He said that the plane waited a few days at Trabzon Airport because of adverse weather conditions and left for Tabriz at noon on Sunday.
Okutan said they have been told that the plane piloted by a British and a Pakistani has not reached Tabriz yet, adding that security forces are still searching for the plane.
MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီမှု ပြုစုတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်သွား

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV XIANG FENG VOY NO (7029)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG FENG VOY NO (7029) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 16.5.2007 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 CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

INVITATION FOR TENDER

(TENDER NO. 4(T) MPE/ HSD (2)/ 2007-2008)

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by the Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of High Speed Diesel Oil (24,000 ± 10%) Metric Tons. (Gas Oil Regular 0.5%).
2. Tender Closing Date:(24-5-2007)at(12:00)hrs noon.
3. Tender Opening Date:(24-5-2007)at(13:00)hrs noon.
4. Delivery Time : Within June 2007
5. Tender Documents and detail information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing (16-5-2007)on payment of one hundred (100) FEC per set.
6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender documents officially from Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director,
Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise

Avian influenza
top on agenda of
WHO assembly

GENEVA , 14 May — The World Health Organization (WHO) on Monday opened its 60th annual assembly with avian and pandemic influenza top on its agenda. The World Health Assembly (WHA), the top decision-making body of the WHO, will discuss the latest developments of the pandemic threat posed by the H5N1 virus as well as the international response, a WHO statement said.

Issues to be discussed at the meeting include the sharing of avian flu samples for vaccine research work and the application of the global defense network of International Health Regulations.

Dr Margaret Chan, the new WHO director-general, will address the assembly later on Monday. She is expected to further elaborate her plans for improving the health of females and Africans.

Internet



The space shuttle Atlantis passes by the barge used to deliver external tanks to the Kennedy Space Centre while rolling back from launch pad 39A in Cape Canaveral, in 4 March, 2007file photo. The space shuttle and its newly repaired hail-damaged fuel tank are ready to return to the launch pad for a 8 June launch, NASA managers said on Friday, even though the tank is a bit of an eyesore. — INTERNET

“Harry Potter” star turns down teen movies

BEIJING, 14 May — Emma Watson has turned down roles in US teen movies because she doesn't want to play a rebel.

The actress admitted that she is careful about the film roles that she applies for and joked that she won't be following in the footsteps of Harry Potter co-star Daniel Radcliffe, who appeared naked in West End play “Equus.”

“I won't be appearing naked on stage with a horse!



Emma Watson.

INTERNET

But I am waiting for the right opportunity for me,”

Emma is quoted by the Daily Star Sunday as saying.

She added: “I'm not a rebel. I usually do what I'm told.

But I don't think it is worth playing the role of a teenager who wants to rebel against the world.

To be honest, that's my worst nightmare.

Auditions are really hard and being rejected is always a bad experience. But I'll keep trying.”

Internet

US okays first drug in skin patch
for Parkinson's

BEIJING , 14 May — The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved a new drug in patch form to treat Parkinson's disease symptoms, according to media reports on Monday.

The new drug known as Neupro, made by Germany-based Schwarz Pharma AG, is the first patch for Parkinson's. It is also known as the Rotigotine Transdermal System and will treat symptoms of early-stage idiopathic Parkinson's disease.

The once-daily Neupro patch contains rotigotine, a drug not previously approved in the US.

Rotigotine is designed to help treat trembling and other Parkinson's symptoms by activating dopamine receptors in the



The new drug known as Neupro, made by Germany-based Schwarz Pharma AG, is the first patch for Parkinson's.—INTERNET

brain. People with Parkinson's suffer a loss of brain cells that produce dopamine, a chemical that enables communication between cells that control muscle movement.

“This is an important step forward for the patients suffering from Parkinson's disease. Following approval and launch within Europe,

Neupro will now be available for patients in the USA,” noted Iris Loew-Friedrich, MD, PhD, Chief Science Officer of Schwarz Pharma AG. “We intend to submit a supplemental New Drug Application for the treatment of advanced Parkinson's disease to the FDA by the end of 2007.”

Internet

iPod can make pacemakers malfunction



BEIJING, 14 May — “Loving your iPod and duly keeping it close to your heart might be bad for your health, especially

if you're fitted with a pacemaker,” according to a study initiated by Jay Thaker, a 17-year-old US high school student.

Thaker finds that iPods can cause cardiac implant-able pacemakers to mal-function by interfering with the electromagnetic equipment monitoring the heart.

The study tested the effect of the portable music devices on 100 patients, whose mean age was 77, outfitted with pacemakers. Electrical interference was detected half of the time when the iPod was held just 2 inches from the patient's chest for 5 to 10 seconds.

The study was held at the Thoracic and Cardiovascular Institute at Michigan State University. The results were

presented at the Heart Rhythm Society annual meeting in Denver.

Thaker, whose father is an electrophysiologist and whose mother is a rheumatologist, said he asked his dad about a potential interaction between pacemakers and iPods.

“We looked online but didn't see anything. Then, one of his patients asked him if there would be a problem, so (my father) put me in touch with Dr Krit (Jongna-rangsin),” Thaker said in a telephone interview.

Jongnarangsin, a long-time friend of Thaker's father, is the senior author of the study and an assistant professor in the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Michigan.

“ Internet

SPORTS

German soccer stars Ballack, Kahn win sex toy suit

BERLIN, 15 May — German sex shop chain Beate Uhse must pay German soccer stars Michael Ballack and Oliver Kahn 50,000 euros (67,380 US dollars) each for using their names for vibrators without permission, the company said on Monday.

The company had marketed the sex toys, dubbed "Michael B." and "Olli K.", before Germany hosted the World Cup in 2006.

Although the surnames of the two German soccer stars were not used, it was clear they referred to Chelsea midfielder Michael Ballack and Bayern Munich goalkeeper Oliver Kahn. Kahn and national team captain Ballack sued Beate Uhse in court for unauthorized use of their names and won. —MNA/Reuters



Spain's Rafael Nadal poses with the trophy after winning the men's final match against Chile's Fernando Gonzalez at the Rome Masters tennis tournament in Rome on 13 May, 2007. XINHUA

Manchester City sack manager Pearce

LONDON, 15 May — Manchester City have sacked manager Stuart Pearce with immediate effect, the Premier League club said on Monday.

City finished a disappointing season in 14th place, having scored a meagre 29 goals in their 38 league matches.

"The Board of Directors would like to thank Stuart for his hard work and service during his six years here at Manchester City and wish him well for the future," chief executive Alistair Mackintosh said in a club statement.

Former England fullback Pearce, who took over at City with eight games remaining of the 2004-05 season, had come under pressure this season with the club's dismal home form a particular cause of discontent among fans. —MNA/Reuters

Slow-burn Tevez becomes West Ham's saviour

LONDON, 15 May — Carlos Tevez took a long time to make his mark on English soccer but he ended the season as one of its key figures as his goals saved West Ham United from relegation and his transfer sparked threats of legal action.

The Argentine striker arrived, along with compatriot Javier Mascherano, fresh from an impressive World Cup. However, he failed to find the net in his first 19 matches for his new club where neither of the new men proved popular with former manager Alan Pardew.

Things eventually turned round, however, as his seven goals in the last 10 games just about coincided with West Ham's remarkable recovery

from 10 points adrift to survival on the last day. He signed off in style with an expertly-taken goal to beat new champions Manchester United at Old Trafford on Sunday to keep West Ham up and relegate Sheffield United, who lost 2-1 at home to Wigan Athletic.

The chunky forward was an overwhelming choice as the West Ham fans' player of the year and though new boss Alan Curbishley is keen to spread the plaudits there is no doubt that it is Tevez who saved the east London club from the drop. The irony is, however, that it is also the Argentine who is at the centre of a row over his transfer. —MNA/Xinhua

FAM says Malaysia to host Man Utd on 27 July

KUALA LUMPUR, 15 May — Malaysia's soccer body FAM, emboldened by support from the Prime Minister, will stand up to FIFA and the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and host Manchester United on 27 July, a FAM official said on Monday.

"The FAM respects the wishes of our prime minister, the government and the people that the Manchester United tour will go on in conjunction with celebrations of the 50th anniversary," FAM deputy president Tengku Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah said.

A friendly between United and a Malaysian

select team had been arranged in Kuala Lumpur despite it taking place only two days before the AFC's Asian Cup final in Jakarta.

Abdullah had been forced last week to cancel the game by FIFA president Sepp Blatter and AFC chief Mohamed bin Hammam, who said at the AFC Congress that United's presence in Asia would overshadow the July 7-29 Asian Cup tournament.

Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi stepped in on Friday, however, to insist the English champions' visit go ahead as part of celebrations of Malaysia's 50

years of independence.

"We would like to reiterate that Malaysia's hosting of a single Manchester United match will in no way diminish our commitment towards our host-

ing of the Asian Cup 2007," Abdullah told a news conference.

AFC representatives at the conference declined to comment.

MNA/Reuters



Barcelona's Samuel Eto'o reacts after missing a scoring opportunity against Real Betis during their Spanish first division soccer match at Nou Camp stadium in Barcelona on 13 May, 2007. — XINHUA

Wigan chairman says West Ham can still be relegated

WIGAN (England), 15 May — Wigan Athletic chairman Dave Whelan said on Monday he believes West Ham could still be relegated if Sheffield United can prove the London side registered Carlos Tevez illegally for a second time.

He was speaking in the aftermath of West Ham securing Premier League survival with a 1-0 win at champions Manchester United on Sunday.

That came just over two weeks after West Ham were fined, not deducted

points, for breaching ownership rules over Argentine signings Tevez and Javier Mascherano.

Sheffield United's 2-1 home defeat by Wigan on the last day of the season meant they dropped out of the Premier League on goal difference while Wigan survived.

Whelan accepts there is no chance of overturning the Premier League's decision to fine West Ham 5.5 million pounds (10.9 million US dollars) instead of deducting points last month when the club admitted the player's initial registration was illegal.

But he is adamant the second registration was also illegal — an assertion denied on Monday by the Premier League — and wants West Ham to face another disciplinary committee. He said Wigan and three other clubs were backing action.

MNA/Reuters

Wigan to give new manager Hutchings spending money

WIGAN (England), 15 May — Wigan will give new manager Chris Hutchings up to 20 million pounds (39.60 million US dollars) to spend in the close season transfer market, club chairman Dave Whelan said on Monday.

Hutchings was promoted from his role as assistant at the Premier League club following the surprise resignation of Paul Jewell earlier on Monday. Jewell had masterminded a final-day win over Sheffield United that saved Wigan from relegation and sent the Blades down to the Championship.

"This coming summer we will get in the region of 30 or 40 million pounds from the television money and half of that will be made available to Chris," Whelan told reporters.

Hutchings, 49, is following in Jewell's footsteps for a second time. He took over as manager of Bradford in 2000 when Jewell resigned after the club avoided relegation on the final day of the season by beating Liverpool.

Hutchings lasted just 137 days in charge and managed one league win — a victory over Chelsea.

MNA/Reuters



Germany's Philipp Kohlschreiber celebrates after defeating Marcos Baghdatis of Cyprus during their match at the Hamburg Masters Tennis tournament in Hamburg on 14 May, 2007. Kohlschreiber won the match 6-3, 7-5. — INTERNET



America's Cup Challenger Emirates Team New Zealand races upwind during their semi-final Race 1 at the Louis Vuitton Cup in Valencia on 14 May, 2007. — INTERNET

“Reuters” says US Army faces shortage of junior officers

WASHINGTON, 15 May — The US Army, stretched thin by wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, has only half of the senior captains it needs and will offer money and other incentives to keep those officers, according to a memo obtained by Reuters on Monday.

The number of senior captains, or captains closest to promotion, stands at just 51 per cent of the Army's requirements, according to a memo from Colonel George Lockwood, director of officer personnel management at the Army's Human Resources Command.

Lockwood said the strains of the US-declared "Global War on Terror" had contributed to the shortage of officers at the rank of captain.

Previous decisions to promote officers more quickly to meet targets for Army majors — the rank above captain — also had

hurt the number of junior officers available, he said.

"The Army is growing and implementing a number of programmes to increase accessions, but new lieutenants will not substitute for senior captains," Lockwood wrote. "We must retain the talented officers we have developed and are seeking an aggressive overall company grade retention rate of 95 per cent in all branches."

Captains typically command company-sized units, or units with as many as 190 soldiers.

Lockwood's memo marks the latest sign of the strain that US military operations have placed on the Army — the largest branch of the US Armed Forces.

With the Marine Corps, the Army has been most stressed by wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, which have taken a toll on manpower and equipment

and left many units unprepared for another fight.

Lockwood urged officers to encourage more junior officers to stay on active duty.

According to his memo, the Army will offer 20,000 US dollar bonuses and a limited number of slots for civilian graduate school, military school and language training.

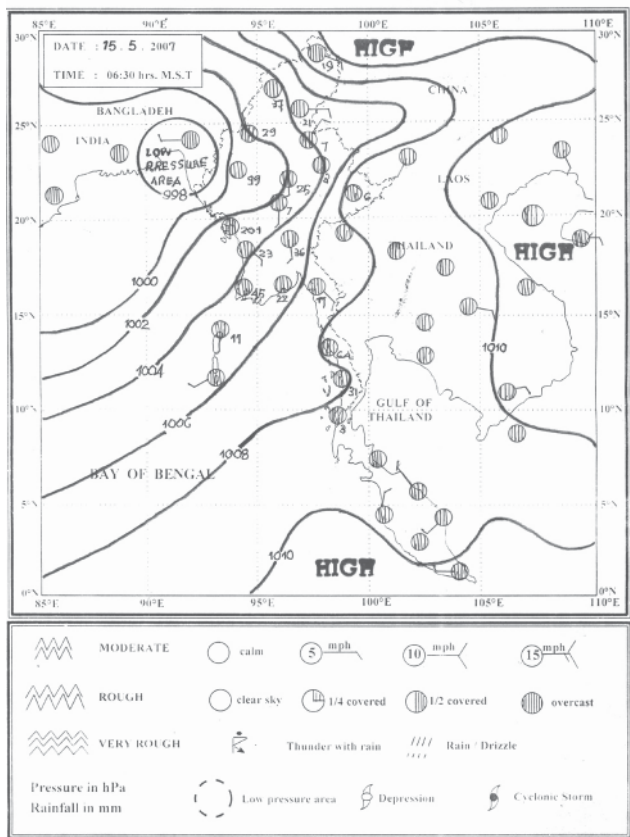
"If you're in a leadership position, you must scan your officer's records and identify those eligible for this programme, and counsel them as soon as possible," Lockwood wrote.

MNA/Reuters



A national competition for the role of Xue Baochai, one of the heroines in pop TV series adaption of Chinese classical novel "The Dream of Red Mansion", is down to its final three contestants on Saturday. — INTERNET

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Tuesday, 15 May, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in the whole country with locally heavy falls in Chin and Rakhine States and upper Sagaing Division. Day temperatures were (13°C) below May average temperature in Sagaing Division, (10°C) below May average temperature in Magway Division, (7°C) to (8°C) below May average temperature in Kachin and Eastern Shan States and Bago Division, (5°C) to (6°C) below May average temperature in Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) below May average temperature in Northern and Southern Shan, Rakhine States and about May average temperature in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyaukpadaung (8.07) inches, Mindat (5.94) inches, Hakha (5.55) inches, Kalewa (4.09) inches, Minkin (4.02) inches, Kalay (3.94) inches, Mawlaik (3.86) inches, Falam (3.31) inches, An (3.03) inches, Dawei (2.56) inches, Hpa-an (2.52) inches, Shwegyin (2.48) inches and Maungdaw (2.40) inches.

Maximum temperature on 14-5-2007 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 15-5-2007 was 74°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 15-5-2007 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 14-5-2007 was (nil).

Rainfall on 15-5-2007 was (1.10) inches at Mingaladon, (0.87) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.84) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (19.45) inches at Mingaladon, (23.43) inches at Kaba-Aye and (21.18) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (18) mph from Southeast at (13:15) hours MST on 14-5-2007.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, the cyclonic storm "AKASH" over the North Bay has moved to North-Northeast direction and has crossed the coast between Maungdaw (North Rakhine State) and Chittagong (Bangladesh) in the early morning and weakened into a low pressure area. Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weather is partly cloudy to cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 16-5-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin, Chin, Rakhine, Northern Shan and Mon States, Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Tanintharyi Divisions scattered to fairly widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are at likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of thunder conditions in Deltaic areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 16-5-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 16-5-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 16-5-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).



Wednesday, 16 May
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music:
-Best friend
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music:
-Give it to you
- 8:50 am National news / Slogan
- 9:00 am Music:
-Baby it is you
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music:
-Stay
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch time music:
- The colour of blue
-I specialize in love
-If I don't love you
-On & on
- 9:00pm Variations on a tune
-Always on my mind
- 9:15 pm Article
- 9:25 pm Music at your request
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Wednesday, 16 May
View on today

- 7:00 am
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am
5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:00 am
6. မြေးမြူကြည့် ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 8:15 am
7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:25 am
8. နမူနာတံတား(ကံလှ)
- 8:30 am
9. International news
- 8:45 am
10. Happy and Educational English Summer Course MRTV
- 4:00 pm
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
3. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့လှည့်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)
- 4:45 pm
4. Song of national races
- 5:00 pm
5. Classical song
- 5:15 pm
6. ရုက္ခသိပ္ပံလင် အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်
- 5:25 pm
7. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်
- 6:00 pm
8. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
9. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
10. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေညက်ရှင်
- 7:00 pm
11. Discovery
- 7:10 pm
12. အသွင်ပြောင်းဒီပလိုမေစီ၏ ဇာတ်ကောင်များကိုအထူးသတိပြု (အပိုင်း-၂)
- 7:25 pm
13. “အမှန်ချစ်မှန်အချစ်မှန်” (ပြီးစေ့စိုး၊ ထက်ရှား၊ မေနှင်းခေါင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုး)
- 7:35 pm
14. အာဆီယံနိုင်ငံများအချင်းချင်း ပေါင်းစပ်ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း (အာဆီယံပညာရေး ကဏ္ဍပူးပေါင်းဆောင်ရွက်မှု)
- 8:00 pm
15. News
- 16. International news
- 17. Weather report
- 18. Myanmar video feature
“ဒုတိယမြောက် ခုံတန်းလျားလေးမှာ” (ဒွေး၊ နန္ဒာလှိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-တာဝံး)
- 19. The next day's programme

CPT Minister inspects construction of PyiOoLwin Auto Exchange, Yadanabon new town

NAY PYI TAW, 15 May—Accompanied by officials, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspected the site chosen for construction of a new building of post office, telegraph office and auto exchange in Padetha Myothit in PyinOoLwin yesterday morning and called for completion of the building on schedule with the set standards.

Next, the minister arrived at PyinOoLwin Auto Exchange, where the engineer in charge reported on installation of communications system and their operation. The minister gave instructions on effective and systematic use of communications equipment.

He inspected progress in building roads in Yadanabon Myothit Project and attended to the requirements.

On arrival at the teleport building site under

Yadanabon Myothit Project, the minister heard reports by officials on construction work and future tasks. Then he inspected the internal structure in the Teleport Building and arrangements for installation of machines. He visited the site for construction of incubation centres. After hearing the reports on progress of construction work, the minister stressed the need for timely completion of the project. At the briefing hall of the project, the minister met responsible persons of the project who reported on water supply tasks, construction of buildings and roads. The minister fulfilled the requirements, calling for timely completion.

Later in the afternoon, the minister visited Meiktila Auto Exchange and Pyawbwe Auto Exchange and fulfilled the needs.

MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

F&R Minister inspects banking services in Nay Pyi Taw, Pyinmana

NAY PYI TAW, 15 May — Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun together with Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe met with trainees attending the Basic Computer Course No 1/2007 organized by Myanmar Economic Bank under the ministry, here, this afternoon. He viewed learning and teaching process of the trainees and gave a speech. The minister and party also looked into Banking Services of Pyinmana Township Myanmar Economic Bank where officials reported to the minister on the tasks being carried out, and the minister left necessary instructions.

Next, the minister and party inspected the Internal Revenue Department in Pyinmana Township. Officials reported on the tasks being carried out and future plans. The minister gave instructions.

Then, they inspected Division Manager's Office of Myanmar Insurance in Nay Pyi Taw and after the reports of officials on progress of work, the minister made necessary instructions.— MNA

**Minister
Maj-Gen
Hla Tun
visits Basic
Computer
Course No
1/2007 of
Myanmar
Economic
Bank.
F & R**



INSIDE

One Village, One Product

Three villages — Magyibin, Thekke-thoung and Thonkhwa — are main salt producers of Thamebyu region in Ayeyawady division.



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New rainfall record

NAY PYI TAW, 15 May — The amount of rainfall (151) mm (5.94 inches) observed at (9:30) hours MST on 15 May in Mindat is the 24 hours new maximum rainfall record at the station for the amount of May during last 43 years. The former record was (140) mm (5.51 inches) on 20 May 2004.— MNA

Storm News

NAY PYI TAW, 15 May — According to the observations at (6:30) hrs MST today, the Cyclonic storm "AKASH" over the North Bay has moved to North-Northeast direction and has crossed the coast between Maungdaw (North Rakhine State) and Chittagong (Bangladesh) in the early morning and weakened into a low pressure area.

Under the influence of the low pressure area, rain or thundershowers are likely to be widespread in Kachin, Chin, Rakhine and Northern Shan States, Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Divisions, scattered to fairly widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States and upper Sagaing Division.

MNA