Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on his departure for Malaysia.

YANGON, 1 June — At the invitation of Malaysian Prime Minister Dato’ Seri bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt of the Union of Myanmar left for Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, by air this morning to pay a goodwill visit.

The Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, Vice-Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, member of State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, members of State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council the Commander, senior military officers, Dean of Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of Singapore Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz and heads of foreign missions in Yangon, representative of UN agencies, the charge d’affaires of Malaysia Embassy and officials and departmental heads. The Myanmar delegation members Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Min Aung, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and departmental heads accompanied Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt arrives at Malaysia on working visit

YANGON, 1 June — At the invitation of Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Seri bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and party, left here by air for Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on a goodwill visit from Yangon International Airport this morning. The aircraft carrying Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and his entourage landed at Kuala Lumpur International Airport at 11.30 am local standard time. Myanmar Ambassador to Malaysia U Hla Maung and Head of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia Yahaya bin Abdul Jabar welcomed the Prime Minister and party on board the aircraft.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party were also welcomed by Malaysian Foreign Minister Dato’ Seri Syed Hamid bin Syed Jaafar Albar, a (See page 8)

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and his Malaysian counterpart Dato Seri bin Haji Ahmad Badawi inspect the Guard of Honour. — MNA

The National Convention is the concern of all our national races.
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Wednesday, 2 June, 2004**

To boost production of agriculture, forest and fishery sectors

The Government has been striving on all fronts for peace, development and modernization of the Union. In doing so, it has to face a lot of obstacles within and without. However, it is determined to build all the infrastructures all over the Union. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on the use of national resources for the development of the nation the Government and the people should cooperate and explore the rich resources of the nation.

Strategic economic infrastructures are the sine qua non for the national economic growth. This being so, the Government is accelerating efforts at building economic infrastructures the length and breadth of the nation.

The agriculture, forestry and fishery sectors are the main pillars of the national economy and these sectors have a lot of potential for raising the socio-economic life of the entire people and for national development. The Government has been spending large sums of money on the construction of dams, river-water-pumping stations and underground water supply projects in order to ensure that there is sufficient supply of water so that production of the agriculture sector can be increased. Therefore, it is only necessary to make the best use of the favorable environment the Government has provided.

Ayeyawady, Bago and Yangon Divisions being the growing regions, the authorities and farmers in these regions will have to make constant efforts not only to increase the annual yield of paddy but also to extend the cultivation of cash crops such as jute, sugarcane and beans and pulses. If we study the forestry sector, one of the main economic sectors of the nation, we can see that more than 130,000 square miles of the nation’s total area is covered with forest.

Now, in accordance with the project for the greening of dry and arid regions, there emerge teak plantations in these regions and the total area of teak plantations now stand at almost 1.1 million acres. Local people should take part in teak cultivation as well as in forest conservation work. If we study the fishery sector, too, the Ayeyawady, Tanime and Rakhine States have favorable conditions for farming fish and prawn. It is only necessary to make effective use of these favorable conditions to boost the output of marine products. We would like to call upon all those responsible and local people to make effective use of these favorable conditions in order to increase the production of the agriculture, forest and fishery sectors.

**Refresher course for core peer educators opened**

YANGON, 1 June — A refresher course for core peer educators under the Improving Adolescent Reproductive Health Project was opened with ceremony at the meeting hall of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, UNICEF and International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) this morning at the MMCWA head office at the corner of Thanthama and Parami Roads in South Okkalapa Township here.

**Seminar on ASEAN Economic Cooperation held**

YANGON, 1 June — Under the project of ASEAN Information Seminar Series (Fy 2003-04), Seminar on ASEAN Economic Cooperation, sponsored by ASEAN Information Seminar Series Organizing Management Committee led by Ministry of Information was held at the meeting hall of Myanmar Information and Communications Technology Park this morning. It was attended by Chairman of the Management Committee Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein and committee members, members of ASEAN Culture and Information Sub-Committee, heads of department under the ministry and officials, those from departmental organizations and social organizations and mediamen.

Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein made a speech. He said that Myanmar has been making integrated and well-coordinated efforts together with ASEAN member countries and ASEAN dialogue partners in the interest of the whole region and itself since it has become an ASEAN member on 23 July 1997.

The Heads of ASEAN nations laid down ASEAN Vision (2020) at the Second ASEAN Informal Summit held from 15 to 17 December 1997. The aim of the ASEAN Vision is to turn the ASEAN into an organization in which nations with peaceful, tranquil and prosperous regions based on ASEAN Security Community, ASEAN Economic Community and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community. In this context, the 5-year Vientiane Action Plan has been laid down and it is being implemented to be able to continue implementing the Hanoi Plan of Action. The objectives laid down by the Heads of ASEAN nations could not be fully implemented through only cooperation among the Governments and cooperation among the peoples of ASEAN nations is imperative. The ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information has laid down and is implementing plans yearly for realization of ASEAN Awareness.

The ASEAN Information Seminar Series and the ASEAN Quiz are plans on information for ensuring successful realization of ASEAN Awareness. That is why the Ministry of Information has been participating in the tasks, taking a leading role. The ASEAN Information Seminar Series which began last year were held three times at the MICT Park, Yangon last year. To impart information and knowledge to people in Mandalay the ASEAN Information Seminar Series (Fy 2003-2004) was held at Swan Hotel in Mandalay on 2 April. The Integrating ASEAN’s New Members, the second session of the ASEAN Information Seminar Series (Fy 2003-2004) was held at the MICT Park, Yangon on 4 May and the two sessions were attended by 100.

The ASEAN Economic Cooperation, the third meeting, is held today and it is believed that those present at the meeting will be able to widen their horizons of knowledge as panel of discussions will be conducted, he said. Next, Adviser at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Maung Maung Yi reported on ASEAN Economic Community (AEC); Deputy Director-General of Customs Department Thita Thura U Tin Tun on ASEAN Free Trade Area and Myanmar; Deputy Director of AFTA Unit Daw Tin Tin Hwee on behalf of Adviser Dr Dawkhin Ohn Thant of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Establishing Free Trade Area with ASEAN Dialogue Partners; and Deputy Director-General U L Zaw Shan of Industrial Coordination and Inspection Department of the Ministry of Industry-1 on ASEAN Industrial Cooperation Scheme (AICO Scheme) and the first session of the seminar came into recess. The second session of the seminar continued in the afternoon Director-General U Khin Maung Laht of Directorate Hotels and Tourism of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism reported on ASEAN and Myanmar Tourism Development; Deputy Director-General U Thein Lwin on Energy Planning Department of the Ministry of Energy on Future Key Role of Myanmar in ASEAN Energy Sector; and Director-General U Win Pe of Transport Department of the Ministry of Transport on Current Status of ASEAN Cooperation in Transport. This was followed by a general round of discussions. The seminar ended with the concluding remarks by Adviser at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Maung Maung Yi.
Four US soldiers killed in weekend action in Iraq

Baghdad, 31 May—Four Americans are now reported dead in weekend fighting in Iraq.

The bodies of two US soldiers were discovered in the oil city of Khobar, Saudi Arabia, the British Foreign Office confirmed on Sunday.

The soldiers were shot in their car early on Sunday morning in a continuing battle in Khobar with Iraqi militiamen. The fighting that began there on Saturday continued into this morning — straining a cease-fire that was called there last week.

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The British Foreign Office has updated its travel advice, advising against all but essential travel to Saudi Arabia. The warning is to remain in place at least until Tuesday, when it will be reviewed.

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WHO says smoking takes a heavy toll in poor countries

Washington, 31 May—Smoking and cultivation of tobacco have hit poor countries hard as people neglect food, education and health for tobacco related addiction, the World Health Organization said, urging nations to adopt stronger regulatory mechanisms and promote prevention programmes.

The world health body said. "Flights to Baghdad do not meet the essential travel to Saudi Arabia and warning visitors "to take great care". — MNA

China creates 6.92 million new jobs in 2003

Beijing, 31 May—China created 6.92 million new jobs last year, with the total number of registered employed standing at 744.32 million, latest statistics show.

Nearly half of the total employed, or 160.77 million, according to the report, while the tertiary industry, or the service sector, employs 218.09 million people, nearly one third of the total.

The number of people employed in industry accounts for 21.6 percent of the total, or 160.77 million, according to the report, while the tertiary industry, or the service sector, employs 218.09 million people, nearly one third of the total.

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Flights to Iraq virtually stopped for lack of security

Moscow, 31 May—Flights to Iraq have virtually been stopped because of lack of security, a spokesman for the Russian Transport Ministry told Tass answering the question as to how the airlift between the two countries is operated.

"Flights to Baghdad do not meet the international requirements for security," he said, recalling that a bus that carried a group of staffers of Interenergoservis company came under fire. Two men were killed and seven wounded. The representative of the Russian Transport Ministry said civilian planes "must not make flights to the dangerous zone".

Meanwhile, the Russian aviation officials have not imposed an official ban on flights to Iraq. "Flights to Iraq will depend on the concrete situation in the region", said the source.

Avialini–400 company was the country’s only air carrier that made charter flights to Baghdad. According to a representative of the company two charter flights that were scheduled for the first half of June have been cancelled. — Internet

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China build park on ruins of ancient kingdom

China, 31 May—China is seeking overseas cooperation in building a multi-million dollar cultural park at the site of the earliest and largest ruins of the ancient Shu Kingdom in southwest China’s Sichuan Province.

The expansion of the existing museum site will cost an estimated investment of 42.16 million US dollars and yield an annual profit of 300 million US dollars when it starts operation, said Li Chengyun, a leading official of the Deyang City, at the construction project kick-off meeting in Chengdu, capital of Sichuan.

The cultural park is located at the ruins of Sanxingdui, which is near present-day Guanghan City on the Chengdu Plain. Construction of the project has been approved by the State Administration of Cultural Heritage and relevant government departments and won the approval from experts.

Construction of the project was initiated in 1996 by Sichuan province, which is the largest among China’s top 10 archaeological findings of the 20th Century, has long been suspected to be the remains of the ancient Shu Kingdom that suddenly disappeared in southwest China between 3,000 and 5,000 years ago.

Some of the most striking pieces were found accidentally in 1986 at Sanxingdui, a small village in Guanhang City, when workers unearthed two pits. Archaeologists have excavated city walls, with an average height of three to five metres, with the highest being six metres, sacrificial pits, ruins of residences, tombs, jade and stone pits as well as bronze ware such as big masks and figurines at the site.

Experts estimated the number of visitors to the park would be more than 2.2 million annually and the annual profit gained from the park would be more than 2.2 million dollars. — MNA/Reuters

Saudi guards oil after attack, seeks to calm fears

KOBHAR (Saudi Arabia), 31 May—Saudi Arabia was tightly guarding its vast energy network, still running as normal after a militant attack in Khobar, as its oil minister planned on Sunday to reassure Western executives over security.

“...the company is committed to carrying out the Saudi Arabian government’s policy of providing a reliable supply of oil to meet world energy demand.”

Suspected al-Qaeda militants killed some hostages after Saudi commandos stormed a building on Sunday to rescue some 50 foreigners in a Khobar housing compound. Hostage-taking is a new twist in the wave of militant violence sweeping the kingdom.

But pledges of secure supplies from oil giant Saudi Aramco might not go far enough to soothe jittery world markets, where prices again were threatening to pierce the 40 US dollars a barrel mark. Market gains reopen on Tuesday after a long weekend holiday. — MNA/Reuters

Anti-American sentiment grows in Iraq city of Najaf

NAJAF, 31 May—Thousands of leaflets urging Najaf’s residents to hand in their weapons litter the street near a US tank parked by the governor’s office.

Almost all of them have been ripped up. “People read the leaflet and get annoyed and then deliberately tear it,” said Ahmed Musawwi, a tea boy standing opposite the fortified offices, where flyers not caught on the razor wire flutter in the air.

US troops have been able to move more freely in the holy city’s main streets since radical cleric Moqtada al-Sadr’s truce offer last week led to a reduction in violence after almost two months of clashes that killed hundreds of Iraqis.

Fighting has taken its toll on the once thriving city, scaring away hundreds of thousands of Shiites pilgrims from nearby Iran and elsewhere who flocked to its shrines, the most sacred in Shi’a Islam.

As anti-American sentiment grows, some Shiites are reassessing their deposed ruler in a more benevolent light.

“It has turned out that Saddam Hussein was more merciful than Bush. Yes, it’s true Saddam hurt us but Bush is more unjust and relies on brute force. Bush failed to understand the Iraqis,” said Sadeq Hassan, 47, a farmer.

“I expect America will lose in Iraq. God willing we will defeat them.” — MNA

Indian telecom witnesses 98.73 billion rupees FDI inflow

NEW DELHI, 31 May—Indian telecom sector witnessed inflow of foreign direct investment worth rupees 98.73 billion till January 2004 from August 1991 with the highest contribution coming from Mauritius at 72.7 per cent.

The highest amount of FDI of rupees 39.71 billion came in the Year 2001 while the Year 1998 also saw substantial FDI coming to telecom sector at rupees 17.76 billion, the Department of Telecom sources said.

In 2002, the FDI inflow was rupees 10.82 billion and it slowed down in 2003 to rupees 3.01 billion.

While in 1997, FDI worth rupees 12.45 billion had flowed in, in 1999 and 2000, it was rupees 2.13 billion and rupees 2.89 billion respectively.

Up to January this year, FDI worth rupees 90 million had already come into the sector.

In terms of sector, holding companies contributed maximum of this FDI at rupees 48.42 billion (49.05 per cent) while cellular mobile telephone services provided rupees 25.86 billion or 26.20 per cent.

Manufacturing and consultancy services fetched about 16 per cent of the total actual FDI inflow during the last 13 years at rupees 15.76 billion. — MNA/PPTI

Bomb kills two US-led soldiers in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 31 May—A large bomb has killed two soldiers of the US-led coalition in Baghdad, an army spokesman says.

US Brigadier General Mark Kimmitt told a news conference one soldier was killed immediately by the 500-pound improvised explosive device and a second died later from his wounds.

Kimmitt said the attack took place in the last 24 hours. He did not elaborate. He said a member of the US-backed Iraqi Civil Defence Corps was also killed in a separate attack in the last 24 hours.

Improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, have been one of the deadliest weapons against US occupation soldiers in Iraq.

They are hidden near sidewalks and in cans, bottles and even animal carcasses and have been described by the US military as one of the biggest challenges facing American soldiers in Iraq. — Internet

Car bomb kills four near US HQ in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 31 May—A car bomb exploded Monday near coalition headquarters, killing four people and wounding 25 in violence that US authorities believe was aimed at blocking the coming transfer of power.

Four American soldiers were reported killed in other attacks.

Shiite leaders also urged US troops to halt “aggressive patrolling” in a bid to save a tattered truce with a radical cleric’s militia around Shiite holy cities south of the capital.

Monday’s blast took place in Baghdad’s Harithiyah district, about a half-mile from where the head of the Iraqi Governing Council, Izzadine Saleem, was assassinated in a May 17 car bombing. US soldiers pushed back screaming crowds as ambulances raced to tend to the wounded. US officers said no prominent political figures were in the area at the time and they were uncertain of the target.

It also was unclear whether it was a suicide attack.

However, the dead did include Subhia Aref, 72, the sister of former Iraqi President Abdel-Salam Aref and Abdel-Rahman Aref, who served as head of state in succession between 1963 and 1968. She was killed by flying glass while cooking lunch at home, a relative said on condition he not be named. — Internet

Iraqi doctors and nurses surround a woman inside a Baghdad, Iraq hospital on 31 May, 2004 after she was injured in an explosion in Baghdad. A car bomb exploded Monday near the headquarters of the US-run occupation authority, killing at least two people and injuring more than 20. — Internet

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**Iraqi killed, 12 wounded in clashes in Najaf**

Baghdad, 31 May—An Iraqi was killed and 12 others were wounded during the past 24 hours as clashes continued in the holy city of Najaf on Sunday.

Explosions and gunfire rocked the city after fierce clashes broke out at about 9:00 a.m. (0500 GMT) near Najaf’s sprawling cemetery on the 1920 Revolution Square, witness Mubshin Jawad at the scene told MNA/Xinhua.

Two sides traded fire and loud blasts were heard from US tanks and the militia’s rocket-propelled grenades, mortars and machine guns, Jawad said.

An Iraqi was killed and 12 others were injured, including two children, medical source in Najaf said.

Clashes between Shiite Muslim militiamen loyal to radical cleric Moqtada al-Sadr and US forces have broken out repeatedly in the Najaf area since the US-led coalition agreed Thursday to suspend its military operations in Najaf after Shiite leaders struck a deal with Sadar to withdraw his Mehdi Army from the holy cities.

Sadr was wanted to answer for charges in relation to those violations, the young cleric last year and the US-led coalition has been trying to isolate him and to disband his armed forces.

After the ceasefire came into force as of late Thursday, the US-led occupation authority announced a suspension in an effort to “kill or capture” the young cleric, saying the future of Sadar would be discussed among religious and political leaders.

For his part, Sadar in an interview with al-Jazeera TV late Friday that “peace would only be possible when foreign forces left Iraq.”

MNA/Xinhua

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**Hu Jintao joins children in marking Children’s Day**

Beijing, 1 June—Chinese President Hu Jintao joined hundreds of children here Monday to celebrate the International Children’s Day, which falls on June 1, chatting with the kids and even playing table tennis with them.

The President visited the China Science and Technology Museum, one of the major attractions for children in Beijing, and the Beijing Municipal Children’s Palace on Monday morning.

Hu was welcomed by jubilant children at the museum, and he took a close look at about 600 pieces of place-nal-Kindi street near the Green Zone, the US-led occupation authority’s headquarters in Baghdad.

While US occupation troops practice strict security measures within the Green Zone, it is still difficult for them to control the situation outside the massive compound.

Later in the day as it became close to Baghdad airport used by the US occupation forces as headquarters was attacked by mortar shells and columns of smoke were seen billowing from the site.

The attack took place at a US soldier on Monday of wounds sustained a day earlier in a mortar attack in northern Iraq.

MNA/Reuters

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**Britain says four Britons, Iraqi escape Baghdad attack**

London, 1 June—Four British civilians and one Iraqi escaped after their convoy was attacked in northwest Baghdad on Sunday, Britain’s Foreign Office said on Monday.

One Iraqi was killed and the body had been recovered, it said.

“Four British citizens and another Iraqi national travelling in the convoy got out of the vehicle, flagged down a passing Iraqi vehicle and drove away,” a Foreign Office spokeswoman said in a statement.

“None of the four British citizens were injured or killed,” she added. “The Iraqi was wounded — we believe not seriously.”

Witnesses on Sunday said gunmen strafed the three-vehicle convoy with small arms fire as it travelled along a highway and that two West erners were killed.

Locals and police said on Sunday the attackers had dragged away three survivors after the attack and Foreign Office spokeswoman said sources who had visited the scene did not believe that was the case.

After the attack a crowd of cheering Iraqis leapt up and down on the crippled vehicles and later set them ablaze.

MNA/Reuters

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**Cambodia declares fight against illegal tree cutting**

PHNOM PENH, 1 June—Cambodia on Monday launched a campaign against the illegal tree cutting and land grabbing and vows to take severe penalty actions against people involved.

“This is a campaign that could not wait for the new government to start, the old government still has the authority to work and to take actions on powerful officials that grab the land for their own,” Prime Minister Hun Sen said Monday at the inauguration ceremony of the new Forestry Administration building in Phnom Penh.

Prime Minister Hun Sen on Monday ordered all ministries, concerned departments and all sorts of Armed Forces, all levels of local authorities to cooperate effectively with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and the Ministry of Environment to stop the illegal cutting and burning of trees and illegal land grabbing.

MNA/Xinhua

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**Singapore receives large number of foreign tourists in April**

SINGAPORE, 1 June—Singapore received a total of 651,860 foreign tourists in April this year, up 220 per cent over the same month of last year, according to a statement issued by the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) on Monday.

The STB said that the number of foreign tourists visiting Singapore in April this year registered a 5.9-per-cent increase over the same period of 2002, which recorded 622,301 foreign tourists to the island state.

China continues to maintain its position as the second largest source for Singapore’s visitor arrivals.

In April 2004, the number of Chinese visitors reported a rise of 17 per cent over April 2002.

In April 2004, visitor arrivals from Indonesia, the Philippines and India were up 28 per cent, 27 per cent and 26 per cent respectively.

The average occupancy rate for hotels in April of this year is estimated to have increased 78 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua

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**A Shite Muslim Iraqi fighter of the Mehdi Army military with his rocket propelled grenade launcher on his shoulder, close to the Abbasiyah Bridge, the scene of fighting in the town of Kufa on 29 May, 2004. — INTERNET**

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**Kashmiri protesters shout slogans during an anti-American protest in Srinagar on 29 May, 2004. — INTERNET**

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**Philippines and India are key markets for Kufa. — MNA/Xinhua**

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**Red Crescent says Iraqi quake toll rises to 35**

Tehran, 1 June—The death toll from an earthquake that shook northern Iran on Friday rose to 35, most of whom were crushed in rockfalls on the road from Tehran to the Caspian Sea coast, the Iranian Red Cross said on Sunday.

Mehr News Agency, a director of public relations for the aid group, said 28 people were killed when boulders tumbled onto their cars on the road north from Tehran.

State television showed the twisted and flattened shells of cars, some of them burned out after their petrol tanks caught light.

MNA/Reuters

An Iraqi boy looks at the collapsed ceiling of his house after an overnight US air strike over the city of Najaf, on 29 May, 2004.

Iraqi children are seen through a bullet-riddled windscreen in the southern town of Amarah, 365 kms south of Baghdad, after it was hit by British troops on 30 May, 2004.

An injured Iraqi youth lies in hospital after a U.S. air strike over Najaf, on 28 May 2004.

A physician attends to an injured Shiite boy in a hospital in Kufa, near the Southern Iraq city of Najaf on 31 May, 2004. The boy was wounded after clashes between US troops and Iraqi guerrillas.

Iraqi Hamza Abbas, left, stands near his destroyed home outside of the town of Kufa, Iraq on 31 May, 2004, after a night of heavy fighting between Shiite militia members and US troops in the area.

An Iraqi Man is assisted at a hospital in Najaf after he was injured in clashes between US forces and Shiite gunmen on 30 May, 2004.

An Iraqi man carries a boy through the rubble of a destroyed house outside Kufa, Iraq on 31 May, 2004, after a night of fighting between US troops and Shiite gunmen.

Iraqi Hamza Abbas, left, stands near his destroyed home outside of the town of Kufa, Iraq on 31 May, 2004, after a night of heavy fighting between Shiite militia members and US troops in the area.
New and fast developments throughout Myanmar
Border and rural area developments

The 400-foot Yu Creek bridge on Tamu-Zedi Road in Sagaing Division is an important facility for the development of the Kahuw Valley, lying in the north-west of the nation and it will help develop the region.

To provide effective health care services to rural people is one of the five rural development tasks. The government is carrying out the tasks in rural areas including border regions. The photo shows station hospital in Honant Village in Maukmai Township, Loilem District, Shan State (South).

Transportation plays a vital role in national development. The photo shows Mongnaung-Kehsi-Hamngai-Pankaytu Road in southern Shan State.

The government is spending a large sum of money on water supply projects in rural areas. The photo shows machinery used to sink artesian wells as deep as over 1000 feet in Taungdwingyi Township, Magway Division.

To provide effective health care services to rural people is one of the five rural development tasks. The government is carrying out the tasks in rural areas including border regions. The photo shows station hospital in Honant Village in Maukmai Township, Loilem District, Shan State (South).
Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt arrives at...

(from page 1)

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party being welcomed by the Malaysian Foreign Affairs Minister at Kuala Lampur International Airport in Malaysia. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt being welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Dean of Diplomatic Corps Singaporean Ambassador Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz and ambassadors of foreign embassies in Yangon. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt being welcomed back at the airport by Dean of Diplomatic Corps Singaporean Ambassador Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz and ambassadors of foreign embassies in Yangon. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and his Malaysian counterpart Dato Seri bin Haji Ahmad Badawi take the salute of the Guard of Honour. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents a souvenir to his Malaysian counterpart Dato Seri bin Haji Ahmad Badawi. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party being welcomed by the Malaysian Foreign Affairs Minister at Kuala Lampur International Airport. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party bid farewell to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt at Kuala Lampur International Airport. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt arrives at...

welcoming party led by Deputy Minister of Internal Security Mr Chia Kwang Chye, Myanmar Ambassador U Hla Maung and wife, Myanmar Military Attaché Brig-Gen Than Aung and wife, staff and families of Myanmar embassy and military embassy.

Accompanied by the Malaysian foreign minister, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party went to Putrajaya, where the Office of Malaysian Prime Minister exists, in a special motorcade to attend a ceremony held by the Malaysian Prime Minister in honour of Myanmar delegation. On arrival there, Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Seri bin Haji Ahmad Badawi cordially welcomed Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party. Next, the two Prime Ministers went to the dais to take the salute of the Guard of Honour. At that time, the State Band played national anthems of both countries. After inspecting the Guard of Honour, they returned to the dais. The Malaysian State Band played again the national anthems of both countries. Later, the Malaysian Prime Minister presented his ministers, deputy ministers and high-ranking officials, who included in the welcoming party, to Myanmar Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt. Likewise, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt also presented his entourage to his Malaysian counterpart.

And Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greeted foreign diplomats of the embassies in Malaysia. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and the Malaysian Prime Minister posed for a souvenir photo. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt also had group photos taken together with the Malaysian Prime Minister and party. After the ceremony, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and his entourage, together with the Malaysian Prime Minister, proceeded to IOI Marriot Hotel in Putrajaya to attend a luncheon hosted by the Malaysian Prime Minister. The luncheon was hosted in Selangar Room on the first floor of the hotel at 1 pm. Also present at the luncheon were Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Hla Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to Malaysia U Hla Maung, and departmental heads. The Malaysian Prime Minister was accompanied by ministers, deputy ministers and high-ranking officials. — MNA
Myanmar, Malaysian PMs discuss…

(from page 16)

Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thu, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to Malaysia U Hla Maung, Director-General of the Government Office U Soe Tint, Director-General of the Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet, Director-General of the Political Affairs Department U Thaung Tun, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Than Aung and senior officials. Also present at the meeting together with Malaysian Prime Minister were Minister of Foreign Affairs Datuk Seri Syed Hamid bin Syed Jaafar Albar, Minister of Tourism Datuk Dr Leo Michael Toyad, Deputy Minister of Internal Security Mr Chia Kwang Chye, Deputy Minister of Internal Security Datuk Noh Omar, Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry Datuk Ahmad Husni bin Hanadzalah, Deputy Minister of Energy, Water and Communications Dato Shaziman Abu Mansor, Advisor for Foreign Affairs to Prime Minister Tan Sri Abdul Kadir Mohamad, Malaysian Ambassador to Myanmar Dato Cheah Sam Kip and senior officials.

The Prime Ministers of the two countries cordially discussed matters relating to bilateral relations and cooperation, especially, in the trade, investment, tourism, health and technological sectors. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that Myanmar greatly values her relations with Malaysia, thanking the country for its support for Myanmar in international and regional affairs. Myanmar is glad to see Malaysia’s important role for Myanmar’s development, he said, adding that his visit is to widen and strengthen the existing bilateral relations. The Malaysian Prime Minister said that he warmly welcomed his Myanmar counterpart, expressing wish to extend economic ventures including investments in Myanmar, and hope to enhance bilateral cooperation based on common interest.

After the meeting, the Malaysian Prime Minister accompanied Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and delegation to the motorcade. At the Kuala Lumpur International Airport, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party greeted Minister of Foreign Affairs Datuk Seri Syed Hamid bin Syed Jaafar Albar, Deputy Minister of Internal Security Mr Chia Kwang Chye and party, Malaysia Ambassador to Malaysia U Hla Maung and wife, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Than Aung and wife, Myanmar embassy staff and families. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party arrived back here by air in the evening.
Group discussions of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia met for group discussions at the meeting hall No 1 starting at 10 am today. U Saw Philip (a) U Philip Hsam of Wa National Convention Convening Work Committee Group 3 emceed it together with Assistant Director U Aung Nyunt of Sagaing Division read papers on suggestions with respect to the NCC Work Committee's clarifications on the detailed basic principles for sharing of the Executive, Legislative and Judicial powers that are to be included in drawing the State Constitution. Members of the Panel of Chairmen discussed matters on presentation of papers at the group-wise meetings.

The master of ceremonies announced the start of the meeting as all 48 delegates attended the meeting. U Khin Maung Aye made an introductory address on the occasion.

Worker delegates Daw Aye Aye Thaung of Ayeyawady Division, U Poe Yai Aung Thein of Kayah State, U Sein Aung of Sagaing Division and U Aung Mon of Mandalay Division read papers on suggestions, U Than Myint of Delegate Group of Workers from Yangon Division presented a paper with regard to the social, management and legislative sectors.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the chairman at 10:20 am.

Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia held group discussions at meeting hall No 6 at 9 am today. U Thein Tun and Daw Nan Yee Than of Sagaing Division presided over the meeting together with U Khin Maung Aye of Sagaing Division and Dr Myo Thant Tin of Yangon Division. Deputy Director U Aung Min of National Convention Convening Work Committee Group 7 acted as master of ceremonies with Assistant Director U Aung Win. The delegates from Kayah, Kayin and Kayah States, Bago Division, Rakhine State and Yangon Division presented papers on suggestions. The morning session went into recess at 11.30 am. The afternoon session resumed at 2 pm. U Win Myint and Daw Yee Yee Win of Yangon Division and U Khan Kyaw Thu and Daw Nan Aye Tin of Shann State read papers. Afterwards, the chairman delivered concluding remarks, and the meeting concluded in the late afternoon.

Delegate Group of Peasants
The discussion of Panel of Chairmen of Delegate Group of Peasants was held at meeting hall No 4 at 10 am today. Present on the occasion were delegates U Kan Nyunt of Sagaing Division, U Saing Tin Aung of Shann State (North), U Tin Maung Kyaw of Magway Division and U Mya Aye of Yangon Division. Deputy Director U Myint Thein of National Convention Convening Work Committee Group 6 acted as master of ceremonies together with Assistant Director U Myint Kyaw. The delegates from Kachin, Kayah States, Bago Division, Rakhine State and Yangon Division presented papers on suggestions with regard to the social, management and legislative sectors.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the chairman at 10:20 am.

Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia held group discussions at meeting hall No 6 at 9 am today. Chairman of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences U Tin Hlaing presided over the meeting together with Chairmen of Myanmar Academy of Technicians Dr U Thein Oo Po Saw and Head of Department Professor Dr Thein Nyunt (See page 11)
Group discussions of ... (from page 10)

Nyan T. Win, Deputy Director U Thein Myint of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Group 8 acted as master of ceremonies together with Assistant Director U Than Win.

The chairman announced the start of the meeting as 55 out of 56 delegates listed accounting for 98.81 per cent were present.

The chairman delivered an opening speech on the occasion.

Head of Office of the Ministry of Rail Transportation U Hla Myint (Manaw Maya-Padamya), member of Myanmar Language Commission U Myint Kyi, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Thabin Ayasaw (Central) puppeteer U Ye Dwe, Chairman of Myanmar Architects Association Dr Hla Thin, executive member of Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science Daw Yee Yee Myint, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Thabin Ayasaw (Central) musician U Sein Hla Myaing, and Secretary of Myanmar Traditional Music Association (Central) musician U Aung Thein of the Ministry of Commerce.

Deputy Director U Htay Win of National Convention Convening Work Committee Group 9 acted as master of ceremonies together with Assistant Director U Hehin Min.

Afterwards, those present assessed the 11 papers presented by sector-wise paper compiling groups, and the meeting ended at 10.20 am.

Group of Other Invited Delegates

The Group of Other Invited Delegates held group discussions at meeting hall No 7 at 9 am today. Present on the occasion were U Maung Aung, U Kyaw Myint, U Aung Win, U Thein Win, U Hla Thin, and U Hla Aung. U Thein Win, U Hla Thin, and U Hla Aung delivered an opening speech on the occasion.

U Saing Khwan Htai delivered the opening speech.

Chairman U Aung Hkam Hti delivered an opening speech on the occasion.

The chairman announced the start of the meeting as 99 out of 105 delegates listed accounting for 98.429 per cent were present. On behalf of the chairman, U Aung Hkam Hti delivered an opening speech on the occasion.

The members of the Committee Group 9 acted as master of ceremonies together with Assistant Director U Hehin Min.

World Population Day poster, essay competitions to be held


The poster competition will be categorized into five levels. The age group for the first level will be between 6 and 8; the second level, between 9 and 12; the third level, between 13 and 15; the fourth level, between 16 and 18 and the fifth level, between 19 and 30.

The competitions will take place on 10 June in four venues in the capitals of States and Divisions on 12 June under the supervision of State/Division Immigration and National Registration Departments. Only 15 x 20” drawing papers to be issued by the Population Department are to be used in the competitions.

Those wishing to participate in the competitions from the first to four levels are to contact the offices of State/Division Immigration and National Registration Departments concerned for enrollment not later than 9 June. The fifth level is designated as an open invitation competition. Entrants can use any sort of 18”x24”- sized papers and should send their works either to State/Division Immigration and National Registration Departments concerned by 14 June or to the Population Department (Head Office Yangon) by 24 June.

Prizes for the competitions from the first to four levels are K 50,000 for first prize, K 40,000 for second prize, and K 30,000 each for three consolation prizes. Detailed information about the competitions can be obtained at State/Division Immigration and National Registration Departments, and the participants from Yangon Division can obtain detailed information about the competition either at National Registration Departments or Population Department in Yangon Division.

Similar essay (Myanmar Version) competitions in commemoration of World Population Day 2004 will also be held under the title “Pyinnya-kyanma-Hkwin-lantha-Pyaee-sone-hla-pa-Main-kha-lay-bawa-Sa-yn-in-hnint-Hnoon-so-pya.”

The essay will be classified into two levels — high school level (8th, 9th, 10th grades) and middle school level — (5th, 6th, 7th, 8th grades) — held in major towns of States and Divisions from 9 to 11 am on 13 June. The prizes will be K 50,000 for first prize, K 40,000 for second prize, and K 30,000 each for three consolation prizes. First, second and third winners in central level, will be presented at the ceremony of World Population Day to be held in Yangon and consolation and prizes of essay will be sent through respective State/Division Immigration and National Registration Departments to winners.

Minister inspects preservation of cultural heritage

Yangon, 1 June — Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, accompanied by Director General of the Archaeological Department U Nyunt Han, arrived at Beikthanoe, a town in Taungdwingyi township on May 30 morning. The minister inspected the plot chosen for construction of the Beikthanoe archaeological museum and gave instructions.

The minister also visited Shweyaungdaw pagoda there and viewed round progress of renovation work at the pagoda.

Next, the minister looked into road construction works there and gave instructions on systematic measures. The minister also inspected the progress of excavation of Aungmyinzeeya stupa and heard reports. He also inspected renovation works being carried out at Shweintaung pagoda. The minister arrived at Pyay, through which he proceeded to Thayekhittaya Myoakha, where he checked the site chosen for construction of an archaeological technical training school.

MWEA OFFICIALS LEAVE: At the invitation of Myanmar-Japan Relations Centre, 25-member delegation of the Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association led by Daw Phwintbyu Tin Htut left Yangon by air on 31 May to attend the Business Messe 2004 Osaka and to discuss with Osaka Japan Women Entrepreneurs Association.

The delegation being seen off at Yangon International Airport by MWEA President Daw Khin Myint Myint and party. — MNA

MNA

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The delegation being seen off at Yangon International Airport by MWEA President Daw Khin Myint Myint and party. — (MNA)
UAE company buys 25% stake in Dutch Leaseplan

An: Dusseldorf, 1 June — A United Arab Emirates (UAE) company has joined hands with two foreign companies to buy a Dutch fleet management giant from a Dutch bank for two billion euros (2.37 billion US dollars), the official WAM news agency reported recently.

UAE’s Mubadala Development Company, Germany’s Volkswagen Group (VW) and Saudi Arabia’s Olayan Group will buy Leaseplan Corporation from ABN Amro Bank, the report said.

Under the terms of the deal, the government-owned Mubadala and Olayan Group will each own a 25-per-cent stake in Leaseplan and Volkswagen will own 50 per-cent, the report added.

This is one of Mubadala’s biggest strategic investments in a large-scale international venture. The company is a majority shareholder with a 51-per-cent stake in Abu Dhabi-based Dolphin Energy, the developer of the first integrated natural gas network in the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council (AGGCC) along with France’s Total and the US Occidental Petroleum.

Leaseplan is in the leasing multi-brand fleet management services provider in Europe and one of the leading players worldwide. It has total assets of 10.8 billion euros (12.8 billion US dollars) and 1.2 million vehicles under management in 26 countries. The company made a net profit of 193 million euros (228.7 million US dollars) in 2003 and has over 7,000 employees.

MNA/Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SEA BRIGHT VOY NO(623)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA BRIGHT Voy. NO(623) are hereby notified that the vessel arrived on 20th June 2004 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 8am to 11am and 1pm to 4pm on Claims Day and 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

MYANMAR PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: MIS ADVANCE CONTAINER

Phone No: 256098/378316/376797

Zimbabwe leads in tourist arrivals in SADC

Harare, 1 June — The Southern African Development Community (SADC) received 13.5 million tourists in 2003 with over 40 per cent of the visitors having been hosted by Zimbabwe alone, according to the Herald newspaper on Monday.

The figure represents an increase of 700,000 visitors compared to those who visited the region in 2002.

MNA/Xinhua

Investigation into fever, diarrhoea among Chinese school kids underway

Nanning, 1 June — The causes for fever and diarrhoea symptoms among 168 kids and teachers at the Junan Township Middle School in Shannxi Province, northwestern China since about two weeks ago remained unidentified by Saturday, according to a local source on Sunday.

So far, all the patients have been out of danger, noted the source. On May 17, some students and teachers in Jaijihe School in Shangnan County got symptoms of fever, bellyache and diarrhoea. As of 27 May, the number of disease sufferers increased to over 70, and rose to 168 by Saturday.

Local officials, policemen and workers from health, education bureaus and diseases control centres rushed to the scene for directing the work for rescue treatment.

Investigation into the cause of the ailment’s attack underway—MNA/Xinhua

Don’t Smoke

Read Junior Leader to improve your English.
China builds 477 million square metres of low-price houses

BEIJING, 31 May—China has built low-price houses totalling 477 million square meters from 1998 to 2003, solving the living problems for six million middle and low-income families, statistics from China’s Ministry of Construction (MOC) showed. The Chinese Government will give more support in the future to building more low-price houses for the middle and low-income families, which should be the major form of China’s housing system, according to the MOC. China’s first regulation on low-price houses for middle and low-income families took effect this May, which stipulates the standard for the building and selling of low-price houses to ensure that they meet the needs of middle and low-income families. — MNA/Xinhua

India launches military satellite

MOSCOW, 31 May—Russia successfully launched a new Cosmos series military satellite to replenish its depleted satellite cluster in space in the post-Soviet era. The Cosmos-2405 military satellite was launched by Russian Space Forces from the Baikonur space station in Kazakhstan on a Tsiklon-2 (Cyclone) rocket at 0500 GMT, ITAR-TASS reported. The final stage boosters placed the satellite on its designated orbit 47 minutes later and the Main Centre for Testing and Control of Space Satellites assumed its control, it added. This is the third launch of a military satellite this year. Russia has about 100 operating satellites and half of them are used for military purposes. Most of the satellites belong to the Soviet era. — MNA/ITAR-TASS

Indian Naval Academy cadets complete training

PANAJI, 1 June—Some 111 cadets of the Indian Naval Academy recently celebrated their transition into officers at the passing out parade here in the western state of Goa. The cadets have completed their training successfully in the 6th edition of the various courses offered by the academy. The parade was reviewed by Vice-Admiral Raman Puri, Chief of the Integrated Staff, for Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee who also presented medals to meritorious cadets. — MNA/PTI

The latest adventure of Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, based on the book by British author J.K. Rowling, had its world premiere on 28 May, 2004. Ma Li (R) from Trinidad and Tobago poses after winning the 16th Miss Model of the World competition in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, on 28 May, 2004. Ma Li (R) from China and Zhang Ying (L) from Hong Kong came second third respectively. — MNA/Reuters

Bangladesh allocates special funds for reducing ferry disaster

DHAKA, 1 June—The Bangladeshi Government has approved a special 14.6 million US dollars allocation for improving infrastructure and logistic support in the shipping sector in a bid to reduce ferry disaster. The allocation was made for several projects including the next annual development programme, The Daily Star reported Monday. Sources in the Ministry of Shipping said the projects include 1.7 million dollars to launch a ship model testing laboratory, 0.9 million dollars to install weather forecast centers in important places along the river routes, 4.3 million dollars to rehabilitate two dredgers under the government. The project implementation work is going to start on July 1 in the next fiscal year (July 2004 to June 2005). An unofficial estimate shows that around 4,000 passengers were killed in ferry disasters in one decade. However, official figure shows the number to be 3,000 since 1977. Faulty design, lack of government supervision and river routes without demarcation of danger zones were the main reasons of frequent launch disasters. — MNA/Xinhua

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Uganda to build more health units to check cholera outbreak

KAMPALA, 31 May—Ugandan State Minister for Primary Health Care Alex Kamugisha said here Saturday that the government would continue extending health services to the population by building more health units throughout the country to check the rampant cholera outbreak. Kamugisha made the remarks while attending a graduation ceremony in the western district of Kasese, according to the population by building more health units throughout the country to check the rampant cholera outbreak. Kamugisha made the remarks while attending a graduation ceremony in the western district of Kasese, according to Radio Uganda. He expressed concern at the increased rate of cholera in the East African country. A total of 24 people have been killed by cholera since the disease broke out in Uganda in February and about 10 died of the disease in Kasese. He blamed the rampant cholera outbreak in Kasese on local leaders, who have not taken interest in sensitizing the community on sanitation and personal hygiene. — MNA/Xinhua

China builds 477 million square metres of low-price houses

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Weight-loss surgery re-
**Danies fail to take chances, draw 2-2 in Estonia**

TALLINN, 31 May — European Championship-bound Denmark were held to a 2-2 draw by Estonia in an international friendly on Sunday after failing to convert a flick of fortune.

Denmark, who face Iceland, Bulgaria and Sweden in Group C at the Euro 2004 finals, quickly gained control of the match with some fine possession football against an Estonian side ranked 57 places below them in the FIFA rankings. Jørgen Edlund quickly opened the scoring for the visitors with a cool finish in the 28th minute after Dennis Rommedahl had worked his way into the box on the left and his pass found the AC Milan striker unmarked.

But thereafter Denmark spurned their chances in front of goal and Estonia, who had failed to create a single chance until that moment, equalized through a Kristen Vikmáe header in the 77th minute.

Danish honour looked to have been restored when substitute Kenneth Perez put them back in front three minutes later, pouncing on the rebound after Estonia’s goalkeeper Martin Kaalma had parried a Danish header. — MNA/Reuters

**Flamengo still winless after losing two-goal lead**

RIO DE JANEIRO, 31 May — Flamengo are still without a win in the Brazilian championship after the country’s most popular club threw away a two-goal lead in a 2-2 draw at Goias on Sunday.

The Rubro-Negros have only four points from eight games, are languishing 22nd in the 24-team championship and look set to spend the season fighting to avoid being relegated for the first time.

Striker Neri and midfielder Zunho, a survivor from Brazil’s victorious 1994 World Cup-winning team, scored as Flamengo strolled to a 2-0 halftime lead.

But Goias striker Alex Dias replied with two goals, the second in the 90th minute after the Flamengo midfield had given the ball away, taking his tally to eight in the championship.

Flamengo also had a goal disallowed when they were 2-1 ahead.

“It’s better for me not to say anything,” Flamengo coach Abel Braga said.

“Some players did not respect the institution of Flamengo,”

While Corinthians were happy to settle for a 4-4 draw against rivals Sao Paulo as Tite took over as their fifth coach in less than one year.

Tite replaced Oswaldo Oliveira, fired amid protests from the volatile Corinthians supporters club known as the Hawks of the Faithful, following last week’s 5-0 home defeat by Atletico Paranaense.

Sao Paulo, Brazil’s lone survivors in the Libertadores Cup and second in the table behind Ciclismo on goal difference, went ahead through Fabio Simplicio but a Renato free kick before halftime salvaged a point for Corinthians, who are a lowly 19th.

Only 17,000 fans watched the match at the 80,000-capacity Morumbi Stadium.

“The Sao Paulo supporters are focused on the Libertadores and the Corinthians fans are at home, ashamed,” Sao Paulo director Marco Aurélio Cunha said.

“Flamengo lost the history of their work,” Barcelos coach Dante said.

Police to check all cars at Euro 2004

LISBON, 31 May — Security officials will check every car at Euro 2004 soccer stadium entrances, including those of top Portugal officials, tournament chief operating officer Martin Kallen said in a report published on Sunday.

“All vehicles will be inspected, including that of the Prime Minister (Jose Manuel Durao Barroso),” Kallen told Portuguese newspaper Expresso.

The underground garages of the stadiums will be used by VIPs “and will stay practically empty,” he said.

**Police have been warned about hooliganism and possible terror attacks during the tournament, which takes place 12 June through July 4. — MNA/Reuters**

**Italy enjoy 4-0 friendly win over Tunisia**

TUNIS, 31 May — Italy completed a confident 4-0 victory over African champions Tunisia on Sunday in their final warm-up game before Euro 2004.

After an own goal from Riadh Bouazizi in the 15th minute three Italians scored their debut goals for the national side.

A header from Fabio Cannavaro in the 27th minute gave the Italians a 2-0 lead at the break.

Coach Giovanni Trapattoni made six changes at halftime but his team maintained their dominance against a weakened Tunisia with two late goals ensuring a convincing scoreline.

A brilliant curling free kick from Andrea Pirlo in the 86th minute and then a last minute strike from Gianluca Zambrotta ensured a confidence-boosting victory for the Azzurri.

Italy have a habit of struggling in pre-tournament friendlies, having lost their last three such matches but they never looked in danger of failing at a sparsely attended November 4 tournament.

Right from the outset Trapattoni’s side looked confident and determined although it took a stroke of good fortune to break the deadlock.

Francesco Totti produced a superb turn and launched the ball towards Christian Vieri and Bouazzzi’s headed intervention was di- rected past his keeper Ali Boumnijel.

Italy are investing high hopes in the Totti-Vieri partnership and it almost delivered a second minutes later when a brilliant pass from Totti put in his strike partner whose shot whizzed just over the bar.

Poor defending allowed Italy’s second when an unmarked Cassano rose to head in a Totti corner.

**Euro 2004 teams to get paid for wins and draws**

GENEVA, 31 May — UEFA will give the 16 teams at Euro 2004 extra financial rewards for wins and draws, European soccer’s governing body said.

UEFA announced that total income from the tournament would be 1.250 million Swiss francs (817 million euros). The 16 teams will be awarded a definite fixed payment of 7.5 million Swiss francs, a 56-per-cent increase on Euro 2000.

An extra one million Swiss francs will be paid out for every victory and 500,000 Swiss francs for every draw in the group phase, replacing the previous system which based prize money on final positions.

Quarterfinalists will pick up an additional three million Swiss francs, a further four million payment for reaching the semi-finals and the winners and runners-up will be awarded 10 million and six million respectively.

If the eventual champions won all three group games they would pick up total prize money of 27.5 million Swiss francs, almost double the 14.4 million Swiss francs France earned when winning Euro 2000.

A total figure of around 200 million Swiss francs will be paid out to the 16 nations in prize money, UEFA said.

“We have moved on to a higher level and this is visible in the commercial results,” said UEFA’s chief executive Lars-Christer Olsson.

The total expenditure of UEFA and Portugal to host the tournament is around 350 million Swiss francs.

A further 300 million Swiss francs will be banked by UEFA in order to cover its own costs for the next three years, the major- ity of which will go into financing youth and women’s tournaments. — MNA/Reuters

**Italy’s Christian Vieri (R) looks back for the ball, stripped away by Anis Ayari of Tunisia, during their friendly match in Tunia, May 30, 2004. — Internet**
Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects development tasks in Kyaukhtu, Pauk, Pakokku

YANGON, 1 June — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected extension of Matupi-Mindat Road on 29 May.

Accompanied by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, he visited the Tammadawmen digging a drainage canal of the road. He also inspected the durability of Mone Creek Bailey Bridge, building of a road session passing through the rocky terrain, earth moving work at a place where soil erosion took place, a rural road to Aung village at the border of Htilin Township from the Mindat-Matupi Road.

At the 30th mile camp, he met with drivers of passenger buses and trucks, inquiring them about the passenger and freight situation. Officials reported to him on the number of buses running daily on the Pakokku-Mindat Road and development of rural roads. He inspected the different sections of the road. In Kyaukhtu, he visited delivery room, operation theatre, X-ray room, and solar room at the town hospital round the clock. The turbine is run by the water from Yawmningyi Creek. Later, he inspected durability of Gonbo Bridge on Yaw Creek that is 440 feet long and 12 feet wide, monsoon paddy cultivation, and digging of 18,500-foot long diversion canal of the Minlwe daw Diversion Weir. The weir is irrigating 935 acres of crops.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint also inspected sections of Kyaukhtu-Pauk-Pakokku and Mindat-Pakokku roads and Pauk Township People’s Hospital. At his meeting with departmental personnel, social organizations and local elders, he said that Pauk Township is still weak in agriculture and livestock breeding. Thus, there is still weakness in the regional undertakings. Departmental personnel are required to find water resources and build dams and lakes to extend paddy cultivation. Although there is progress in agriculture, more efforts are still needed. Departmental personnel are required to make extra efforts to develop the economy of the town. They will have to work in harmony and with goodwill.

In Pakokku, he met with departmental personnel, social organizations and local elders, and said that Pakokku has already been designated as the capital of the west bank of Ayeyawady River, efforts are being made for all-round progress of the town. Road transportation network has been upgraded and extended to supply required materials for progress of southern Chin State via Pakokku. Efforts are required to ensure food sufficiency for the township. Officials and experts should help farmers to reclaim more land for cultivation. Local authorities will have to look into the requirements of development of the regional industrial zone and health, education and social requirements. The township development affairs committee will have to build more recreation centres and parks to beautify not only the township but also the whole Pakokku District. Government employees are required to implement the border areas development project, 24-zone development project and five rural tasks with the help of local people and social organizations.

WEATHER

Tuesday, 1 June, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Sagaing and Magway Divisions and rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayin State and Mandalay Division, scattered in Shan and Rakhine States and Taninthayi Division and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thandwe (5.87 inches), Gwa (2.90 inches), Yangon Airport (2.52 inches) and Mawlamyine (2.13 inches). Maximum temperature on 31-5-2004 was 29.5°C (85°F). Minimum temperature on 1-6-2004 was 19.5°C (67°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 1-6-2004 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 31-5-2004 was nil. Rainfall on 1-6-2004 was 64mm (2.52 inches) at Yangon Airport, 31mm (1.22 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 27mm (1.06 inches) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 497 mm (19.57 inches) at Yangon Airport and 454mm (17.87 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 556mm (21.89 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 10 mph from southeast at (16:40) hours MST on 31-5-2004. Bay influence: According to the observations at (12:30) hrs MST today, yesterday’s depression over East Central Bay has moved into Southeast Bay and is centred about (550) miles East of Chennai (India). It is forecast to move westward slowly and expected to be weakened as a low pressure area within next (24) hrs commencing noon today. Monsoon is weak to moderate in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 2-6-2004: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in upper Sagaing, Division, Kayin, Shan, Chin and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%). State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Gulf of Mottama. Deltas and Rakhine coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Outlook for subsequent two days: Thundery conditions in the central Myanmar areas. Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 2-6-2004: One or two rains or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%). Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-6-2004: Partly cloudy.
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

YANGON, 2 June — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, extended felicitations to Italian President Mr Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, President of the Republic of Italy, on the occasion of the Anniversary Day of the Proclamation of the Republic of Italy, which falls on 2 June 2004. — MNA

Myanmar, Malaysian PMs discuss cooperation in trade, investment, tourism, health, technology sectors

YANGON, 1 June — Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt held talks with Malaysian Prime Minister Dato’ Seri bin Haji Ahmad Badawi at Putrajaya, Malaysia, this afternoon. The Malaysian Prime Minister welcomed the Myanmar delegation.

First, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt signed in the visitors’ book of the Malaysian Prime Minister’s Office.

Special meeting of General Khin Nyunt and Dato’ Seri bin Haji Ahmad Badawi was held at the office of the Malaysian Prime Minister.

It was also attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to Malaysia U Hla Maung and Director-General of the Political Affairs Department U Thaung Tun, Foreign Affairs Minister of Malaysia Datuk Seri Syed Hamid bin Syed Jaafar Albar, Deputy Minister of Internal Security Mr Chia Kwang Chye, Malaysian Ambassador to Myanmar Dato Cheah Sam Kip and senior officers.

Afterwards, the meeting between two countries followed at the meeting hall of the Prime Minister’s Office at 3 pm. It was attended by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyai Sone, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung.

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