YANGON, 3 June — The Work Committee for All-round Upgrading of Environments of Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon) held the coordination meeting at the briefing hall of the construction site of Water Plaza of Central Forest Zone at 1 pm today, attended by Chairman of the Work Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present on the occasion were member of the work committee Deputy Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein and members, departmental heads and guests. First, the commander gave a speech. Next, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein reported on completion of upgrading tasks and work to be done. Head of Parks and Playgrounds Department of Yangon City Development Committee U Nyunt Pe on building of relaxation zone and collection of materials for construction of rock garden and Popa Tower, Head of Engineering Department (Road/Bridge) U Bo Htay on building of the overpass to link Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon), Deputy Director-General U Hla Win of Fisheries Department on construction of fresh water fish garden in Education Zone, Chairman U Win Naing of Pyi Sone Win Naing Co Ltd on preparations for running cable cars, Chief Engineer (Mechanical) U Myo Thwin of Irrigation Department on cleaning and storage of more water in Kandawgyi Lake and officials on their respective tasks. Those present took part in the discussions. The commander gave necessary instructions.

Next, the commander and party inspected progress in building fountain plaza in Central Forest Zone, water fountain, preparation for landscape, construction of fresh water fish garden in Education Zone and sample lamp-posts to be erected on the pavements.

MNA

Coordination meeting to upgrade Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon) held

YANGON, 3 June — The National Convention Convening Management Committee held a work coordination meeting at its meeting hall at Nyaungmpan Camp in Hmauby Township this morning.

Present at the meeting were Management Committee Chairman Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Vice-Chairman Director of Supply and Transport Maj-Gen Than Htay and Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, responsible personnel of the Management Committee, chairman of subcommittees and officials. At the meeting, Major Than Htay, Secretary of the Management Committee, acted as master of ceremonies.

After hearing the reports, Maj-Gen Lun Maung fulfilled the needs through coordination. Later, those present discussed general issues. Afterwards, Maj-Gen Lun Maung called upon officials of the subcommittees to perform their duties well to make the ongoing convention a success and to report in time if there arise any difficulties. The meeting ended at 12 noon.—MNA

NCC Management Committee meets

The National Convention is the concern of all our national races.
People’s Desire

- Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Minister inspects police stations, departments in Bago, Mandalay, Magway divisions

YANGON, 3 June — Home Affairs Minister Col Tin Hlaing, together with officials, inspected Myanmar Police Force and departments under the ministry in Bago, Mandalay and Magway divisions on 29-31 May.

During his tour, the minister met with divisional/township level officers and officials of the Myanmar Police Force and departments in Bago, Taungyi, Pyinmana, Meiktila, Mandalay, Kyaukpyu and Magway and urged them to actively participate in implementing the State’s future policy programme and successful convening of National Convention.

He also inspected the central police force training school in PyinUTho Township and the police depot in Yamethin Township. The minister fulfilled the needs of families of the police stations, training schools and departments under the ministry during the tour. — MNA

POEM

Nyaunghnapin Chronicle

* One history to be made together
Collectively, for National Cause
Deliberations at Nyaunghnapin
Will in future, be history
Our water, our land, our heritage
For future of Nation, to be honourably
Known by the world
Accurately at the Convention
Jointly shoulder responsibility for nation
Coridially based on goodwill
Criticize, point out and seek consensus
Future of Myanmar, peace of mind
Will for years by the thousand be constant
For the Constitution, to be strong
With equal desire, write it
Look at the nation’s face only
No different policy, no selfishness
Completely pure —
Submit whatever is optimistic
One history, to be made together
Collectively, for national cause
Deliberations at Nyaunghnapin
Will in future, be history

Hinthada Myint Ngwe (Trs)
(In honour of the National Convention)

Cash donated to relief of storm victims

YANGON, 3 June — A ceremony to donate cash to relief funds of storm victims in Rakhine State this afternoon. Associate Coordinator Ms Aikko Mori of Bridge Asia Japan donated K 4.6 million. Acting President of MRCS Dr Tun Sein accepted the donation and presented a certificate of honour to the donor. — MNA

Film entertainment to National Convention delegates

YANGON, 3 June — The Entertainment and Welfare Subcommittee of the National Convention Convention Management Committee organizes entertainment programmes for delegates to the National Convention daily at the Nyaunghnapin Camp.

Yesterday evening, the delegates were entertained with “Acht-the Lapyay”, an academy award winning film for 2002 directed by Aung Min Thein and starred by Dway and Eindra Kyaw Zin. — MNA
810 US troops killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003

BAGHDAD, 2 June—As of Wednesday, 2 June, 810 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 594 died as a result of hostile action and 216 died of non-hostile causes.

The British military has reported 58 deaths. Italy, 18; Spain, 8; Bulgaria, 6; Ukraine, 4; Poland, 3; Thailand, 2; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia and the Netherlands have reported one each. Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 672 US soldiers have died—485 as a result of hostile action and 187 of non-hostile causes, according to the military’s numbers as of Wednesday.

Since the start of military operations, 4,882 US service members have been wounded in hostile action, according to the Defense Department’s weekly tally.

In another hostage case, an armed group released a video threatening to kill an Egyptian and a Turk if their governments did not condemn the US-led occupation of Iraq. Shells and rockets screamed into the night sky after the attack on the U.S. base at an airport on the edge of the northern oil hub city of Kirkuk.

"You can see rockets flying and landing all over the base," a Reuters correspondent said from a vantage point some 500 yards from the base’s perimeter, as thick black smoke poured over the city, some 150 miles north of Baghdad.

Loudspeaker announcements could be heard on the base warning troops to stay under cover but there was no sign of ambushes or firefighting vehicles in the city of 700,000, which was under curfew after dark because of regular guerrilla violence. Mortar and rocket attacks on US bases are almost daily occurrences across Iraq.

UN: Iraq’s government has uphill struggle

BAKU, 2 June—UN envoy al-Akhhdar al-Ibrahimi says criticism over the level of US involvement in selecting Iraq’s interim leadership is justified.

This, he stresses, is due to the fact that the US dominates the Middle Eastern country. Al-Ibrahimi defended the new Iraqi government, which was sworn in on Tuesday, but admitted it would face an uphill struggle to earn legitimacy in the wake of its turbulent formation.

"The members of this government know and should not forget that they have not been elected," he said. It will not be easy for them to prove the sceptics wrong.

Al-Ibrahimi said he had been invited to choose the new cabinet at the request of the Americans and the now-disbanded Governing Council, but as the governing power the view of the United States was certainly taken into consideration. He said that US overseer in Iraq, Ambassador Paul Bremer, had immense power.

"I don’t think he would undermine this," Bremer is the dictator of Iraq. He has the money, he has the signatory," said al-Ibrahimi. However, UN envoy al-Akhhdar al-Ibrahimi expressed optimism about the future of the political process in Iraq. The composition of the government was a result of negotiation and compromise, but he said the “overall picture is positive...very much positive.”

That assessment was shared by most countries, The European Union, through its Irish presidency, wished the government “every success” while Russia expressed hope that it would be able to ensure security and rebuild the country’s shattered infrastructure.

Kuwaiti Emir Sheik Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah, and King Hamad of Bahrain welcomed Sheik Ghaith al-Yawir’s appointment as Iraq’s interim president and said they hoped to strengthen ties with Iraq’s new leadership. King Abd Allah II of Jordan, in a congratulatory telegram to al-Yawir on Wednesday, said the government was “a step towards ending the occupation and the return of full sovereignty.”

Chinese official says SCO not ready to accept new members

BEIJING, 2 June — Chinese Assistant Foreign Minister Li Hu said here Tuesday that the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) will not take in new members before its six members make serious studies.

The organization is still very young and the six SCO members need to have further discussions before deciding whether or not to accept new members, Li said at a press briefing.

On June 17, the SCO will hold Tashkent summit meeting in Uzbekistan and Chinese President Hu Jintao will attend the summit.

Li said a regulation on the SCO observers will be ratified at the upcoming summit, which will give the organization a larger space in the diplomatic field.

The SCO was set up as an open and non aligned organization and it is not targeted to the third party, Li said. According to the new regulation, to have observers will be an important step for the organization to keep open, he added.

"But the expansion member ship is totally different from accepting observers and the six members need to have further discussions on accepting new members," he said. In addition, Li said Alghan Transitional Government President Hamid Karzai will, as guest of Uzbek President Islam Abduganiyevich Karimov, attend the Tashkent summit.

This was the first time that the Shanghai Cooperation Organization had invited the leader of a non-SCO member state to be present at the summit.

Abdullah calls for greater UN role in int’l affair

KUALA LUMPUR, 2 June—Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on Tuesday called for greater role of the United Nations (UN) in international affairs, he said.

"When we unilaterally arrogate to ourselves this right, we lose the sympathy and support of the large majority of the nations and peoples of the world," he said.

Abdullah said that the world should be courageous enough to embark upon a new course in the struggle against terrorism and in the attempt to resolve the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

On the issue, Abdullah said that full sovereignty is to be granted to the Iraqi people, they must indeed exercise full sovereignty over all political, economic and security matters.

He said that the international community could also welcome most warmly the United States’ initiative to seek the UN endorsement for the political plan in Iraq.

The UN’s endorsement, he said, is vital for international legitimacy and recognition of the government that is to be formed in Iraq. He said for the plan to be successfully implemented, any foreign forces that function on Iraqi soil should be part of a multinational force mandated by UN.

It was absolutely vital that Iraq develop an adequate indigenous capacity for taking care of its own security affairs as soon as possible, he said.
France, Russia, Germany say Iraq draft needs work

PARIS, 2 June—France and Russia, who both have veto power in the UN Security Council, said on Wednesday that their latest draft UN resolution on Iraq put forward by the United States and Britain needed more work.

“Judging from a first read-through a number of points were picked up that were suggested by Security Council Members to the sponsors of the resolution, the United States and Britain. That is to be welcomed and that will be the basis for further talks,” a foreign minis-

try spokesman told re-

porters in Berlin.

Germany welcomed the revised draft, but made clear it was a starting point for further discussions.

Russia again calls for meeting between new Iraqi leaders, UNSC

MOSCOW, 2 June—A top Russian diplomat reiterated Tuesday a call for convening a meeting between the new Iraqi leaders and UN Security Council members before the Council passes a new resolution on Iraq.

Yury Fedotov, Deputy Foreign Minister, also sug-

gested that Iraq’s neighbour-

ing countries take part in such a meeting.

“it would be reasonable for the new Iraqi leaders to meet with members of the UN Security Council, possibly with the participation of Iraq’s neighbouring countries, and express their specific sugges-

tions on how international community can help Iraq in the transitional period and what concrete role they see for the UN during this transitional period,” Fedotov was quoted by Interfax news agency as saying.

He expressed hope that the UN Security Council would receive a comprehen-

sive report from the UN Sec-

urity-General on the forma-

tion of the interim Iraqi government that will take over sovereignty from the US-led occupation authority on 30 June.

Poll says most Portuguese want to exit Iraq

LISBON, 2 June—Almost 74 percent of people ques-

tioned in an opinion poll published Wednesday said they want Portugal’s deployment of about 120 policemen to be withdrawn from Iraq.

The poll, published in daily paper Diario de Noticias, asked, “Should the police stay in Iraq, even amid a worsening military and political situation?”

The paper said 73.8 per-

cent of those questioned re-

plied no, while 18.1 percent responded yes. Others ei-

ther did not know or didn’t reply.

The conservative gov-

ernment, which was a vocal supporter of the US-led in-

vasion of Iraq, has said it will review the deployment June 30.

The Portuguese police have been in the southern Iraqi town of Nasiriyah under Italian command since November. No Portuguese casualties have been reported.

The government has ad-

mitted that its support for the occupation of Iraq may hurt its showing in the June 13 elections for the European Parliament, though other polls have shown that the main electoral issue for voters is unemployment.

The Diario de Noticias poll was conducted by the Market polling company. It was based on 804 telephone interviews between May 17-22. The margin of error was 3.46 percent.

Hong Kong allows Air India to levy fuel surcharge

BEIJING, 2 June—Hong Kong has allowed Air India, the state-owned long distance air carrier, to levy fuel surcharge from passengers along with seven other international carriers operating in the Chinese territory.

Apart from Air India, the other international carriers which received approval were South African Airways, Air Canada, Australian Airlines, Qantas Airways, Virgin Atlantic Airways, Emirates and Gulf Air.

Their surcharge levels range from 4 to 10 US dollars, according to a decision made by the Civil Aviation Depart-

ment (CAD) of Hong Kong government on Monday.

The CAD also approved the filings submitted by two local airlines, Cathay Pacific and Hong Kong Dragon Air-

nies to levy a fuel surcharge on passenger carriage. China’s official news agency Xinhua reported.

So far, the CAD approvals have been given to 13 passenger carriers in view of the recent increase in aviation fuel prices. The new surcharges will remain valid until August 31, 2004.

Indian govt to restore incentives to plastic exporters

CHENNAI, 2 June—The Indian government will restore the incentives provided to the exporters of plastic consumer goods to unexplored and underdeveloped countries, including Latin America and CIS countries, from April 2005.

“we will restore the in-

centives and subsidies to those who export plastic con-

sumer goods to Latin America, CIS countries, Af-

rica and ASEAN, including Australia and New Zealand,” Joint Secretary, Union Min-

istry of Commerce and Indus-

try, S Ramasundaram, said while inaugurating a seminar organized by the Plastics Exports Promotion Council.

He said the incentives to individual exporters were suspended from April 2004 due to payment backlog to them.

“We are confident of clearing the entire backlog before the next fiscal,” he assured the exporters.

Government provides incentives to plastic con-

sumer goods exporters un-

der the Marketing Develop-

ment Assistance and Market Access initiative schemes.

He said the Indian plastic-

goods exports to the US were far below the country’s potential.
**Egypt, Arab League welcome Iraq's Yawar**

Cairo, 2 June—Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak congratulated the newly chosen Iraqi President on his appointment on Tuesday and the Arab League described him as an outstanding man “with a positive history”.

In marked contrast with the Arab reaction when the United States appointed the Iraqi Governing Council last year, Mubarak and Moussa, who is also Egyptian, were quick to show support to the new transitional leader, Ghazi Yawar.

The official Egyptian news agency MENA said Mubarak sent Yawar a congratulatory message “affirming Egypt’s complete support for his future efforts to underpin the pillars of sovereignty, independence and authentic nation’s ‘jannah’.”

Mubarak sent a similar message to Iraq’s transitional prime minister, Iyad Allawi, who was named on Saturday, it said.

Arab League Secretary-General Amr Moussa, said of Yawar: “He is an outstanding and well-known man, one of the Iraqi political personalities with a positive history.”

Moussa said it was clear Yawar had majority support in the Iraqi Governing Council, which chose him as president on Tuesday to take office on 30 June.

**Nissan to cut vehicle weight for fuel-efficiency**

Tokyo, 2 June—Nissan Motor Co is to cut weight of all future models in a bid to make them more fuel-efficient, a leading Japanese economic newspaper said Tuesday.

According to the project, the major Japanese automaker would produce the first light-duty vehicle in China, France, Russia, Germany and others which demanded more specific details about what Iraqi leaders could do when the US-led occupation ends. The resolution gave no date for the current coalition government to disband, now more than 160,000-strong.

But the new text, circulated to Security Council members and obtained by Reuters, said the mandate shall expire upon the completion of the political process which it said would be held in January 2005, with a permanent government envisaged to be in place in December 2005 or early in 2006.

The resolution was meant to meet objections from France, Russia, Germany and others which demanded more specific details about what Iraqi leaders could do when the US-led occupation ends.

The resolution gave no date for the current coalition government to disband, now more than 160,000-strong.

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A Shi'ite woman grieves amongst the destruction outside her house on 31 May, 2004. Clashes between the U.S. and the Mahdi Army left one of her family members dead on 30 May in Kufa, Iraq.

A wounded Iraqi boy cries while holding his father's hand in a Baghdad hospital after he was hurt in an explosion in the Iraqi capital, on 31 May, 2004.

An aunt of a Shi'ite man keeps watch behind curtains as he lays wounded in a hospital in Kufa, Iraq, on 31 May 2004.

A car is extinguished as a man looks at a crater in central Baghdad following a car bomb on 1 June, 2004.

A wounded Iraqi woman waits for a relative after she was hurt in a car bomb explosion in central Baghdad on 1 June, 2004.

A huge cloud of smoke bellows over central Baghdad, Iraq, on 1 June, 2004 after a strong blast was heard in the center of the city.

An Iraqi man carries his wounded son, who was hurt in a car bomb attack in northern Baghdad on 2 June, 2004.
New and fast developments throughout Myanmar

The photo shows the railroad and a bridge that have been built on Pakokku-Gangaw-Kalay railroad.

Progress in building 1320-foot-long Myittha Bridge (Kalewa) on Monywa-Kalay road in Kalewa Township, Sagaing Division.

Nantleik Hydel Power Plant built in Kengtung Township in Shan State (East).

The government is carrying out social welfare tasks all over the country. The photo shows a hostel of Doebinaung Kantha Youth Development School in Kangyigon Village, PynOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division.
I felt dissatisfied with myself, for, I was unable to compile articles as many as I could, despite the abundance of materials or facts within my reach such as the Government’s promotion, preparation and promotion of the succession of the nation in all aspects as in the case that the responsibility lies on the factory if it cannot produce enough finished goods, although a large volume of raw materials are available.

So, I tried to gather facts about the renovation of ancient Kekku Pagodas, the rise and development of Kungyangon and the building of railroads section-wise by the Tatmadawmen of regional battalions and units under the Eastern Command.

One day, one of my disciples, Daw Kyi Kyi Win, wife of Information Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan phoned me, making a request to write articles in the dailies. “I am going to write articles again as I now have enough raw materials for them.” I answered.

So, I started to produce a series of articles one after another, and this is the first one of them. Kekku Pagodas were built at a place near Kekku village, Kyauktalantown, Taunggyi District, southern Shan State, during the time of the First Myanmar Empire, and they were famous in Myanmar during the times when she was under her own monarchs. Unfortunately, their glory waned during the over 100-year period the nation was under colonial rule and the period of about 40 years after the independence was regained. But during the time of the Tatmadaw Government, they have become eminent again, and famous all over the nation, because of its immense goodwill towards the Sasa, emergence of donations, including foreigners resulting from the Government’s endeavours, and prevalence of regional peace and stability.

Narapati Sithu (536-573 ME), one of the good kings of the Rakhine dynasty, built the pagodas during his tour of the area. At the completion of the pagodas, King Nararapati Sithu declared that he revered them as his life. Kings and royal ministers of the later periods renovating the existing ones and added new pagodas to them till their total number became 7,623. Due to the lack of repair and maintenance during the colonial period and the period of 40 years after regaining of independence, there left only 2,487 pagodas at present.

The Tatmadaw Government has laid down the four political objectives and been trying to restore without fail the glory of the state and community tranquility; the rule of law, and the national re-consolidation. Thanks to the Government’s efforts to successfully materialize them, peace and stability is prevailing in the whole nation including the areas where the pagodas are lying, and in addition, due to the improvement of roads, bridges and railroads, more and more pilgrims are visiting the pagodas.

The Buddhist Association of Singapore led by monk Shi Fa Zhao of the Golden Buddhist Temple of the island nation donated K 40 million for the first time, and K 32 million for the second time to the pagodas. The donors presented the cash to Pa-O National Organization leader U Aung Kyaw Hla Hla Phyo. Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party and Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party visited the pagodas and looked into the requirements in renovating them. Moreover, the Government of Sri Lanka donated sacred objects for them.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San renovated the Paungdaw Hseik Pagoda, the second largest edifice of them, and attended the ceremony, held on 9 December 2003, to hoist the sacred umbrella atop it.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe also renovated a near-collapse pagoda not far from the second target one of them. The couple led in hoisting the sacred umbrella atop the pagoda on 7 February 2004. The ceremony was also attended by Buddhist monks led by Bhuddanta Chandadhika, Daw Khin Win, wife of Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Lt-Gen Aung Hlaw, Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and wife, ministers, deputy ministers, Leader of Shan State (South) Special Region 6 U Aung Kham Htii and party and national races. After paying respects to the monks, Prime Minister subjected on religious matters.

During the course of conversation with Sayadaw Bhuddanta Chandadhika, the Prime Minister stipulated that as peace and stability is prevailing in the region, trade and commerce may be flourishing and economy, developing in it.

The Sayadaw smiled and said, “The Pa-O people have become rich by cultivating various crops, and the prices of the land they own are also rising.”

We noticed that there was delight on the Prime Minister’s face. The religions procession of the sacred umbrella hoisting peace and beauty was led by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe. The congregation led by the couple hoisted the different tiers of the sacred umbrella atop the pagoda by a decorated carriage. Soon’ was also offered to the monks.

King Narapati Sithu built the pagodas, and the good Government of Myanmar and local and foreign donors have renovated them one by one to their original style. They are now famous all over Myanmar. From the religious point of view, the Kekku pagodas stand as witness to the dominating glory of the Sasa in the nation; and from the political point of view, they reflect unity of all the nations living the length and breadth of Myanmar.

(Translation: TMT)

**Efficient use of electricity**
- Use daylight as the main source of light
- Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
- Use the least possible amount of electricity required for production and service enterprises
- Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp everyday by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

**Efficient use of fuel**
- Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
- Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US$ 5.5 million in a year
- The amount, US $ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeawady River

**All this needs to be known**
- Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- Do not be softened whenever appeased
On job training course for administrative staff opened

YANGON, 3 June—The opening of the newly-built lecture hall of the Administrative Development Training Centre of the General Administration Department under the Ministry of Home Affairs was held in conjunction with the opening of On Job Training Course No 2/2004 for Administrative Staff (Grade I) at the training centre in Mingaladon this morning. Present on the occasion were Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing and wife, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Phone Swe and wife, directors-general of departments and units under the ministry and their wives, advisers, deputy commissioners, deputy commissioners, course instructors, trainees, guests and wellwishers. The minister formally opened the building and unveiled the stone inscriptions of the building. Director of the General Administration Department U Tin Myint reported on construction of the lecture hall and rendering assistance for construction tasks. Managing Director of Taw Win Family Co U Hla Din handed over the documents related to the facility to GAD Deputy Director-General U Maung Win.

The minister said that the foundation of the training centre was laid on 27 March 2003 in compliance with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe. And it launched training courses starting on 7 July 2003. During the one-year period, it has trained 436 staff at six different categories of training courses. The training centre has been producing skilled and qualified administrative staff equipped with strong morale, capability and good leadership. The purpose of conducting courses is to enhance the administrative machinery through the high qualifications and competence of service personnel with high morality in the State’s future administrative machinery.

The minister and wife planted commemorative trees. The minister expressed words of thanks to the wellwishers. A total of 50 trainees are attending the 14-week course at the training hall. — MNA

Proposals read, ...

(from page 16)

was held at the meeting hall-5 at 9 am.

Present on the occasion were Dr Myo Thant Tin of Yangon Division, U Kyaw Myo Win of Bago Division, U Bo Thein of Shan State (East), U Khin Maung Aye of Sagaing Division and U Kyaw Win Tun of Mandalay Division and leaders of the proposal compilation groups. They discussed compilation of the proposals of the delegates of workers to be submitted to the plenary meeting of the National Convention.

Delegate Group of State Service Personnel

The panel of chairmen of the Delegate Group of State Service Personnel held the coordination meeting at the meeting hall-7 at 9 am.

Present on the occasion were U Ko Ko Kyaw of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, U Aung Maung of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, U Hla Tin of the Ministry of Commerce, Maj-Gen Aung Thein of the Ministry of Defence and U Myat Ko of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Deputy Director U Hla Win and Assistant Director U Hein Min of the working group-9 of the National Convention Coordinating Work Committee acted as masters of ceremonies. The panel of chairmen studied the sector-wise proposals and compiled the proposal of the delegates of State service personnel to be submitted to the National Convention. Next, the coordination meeting came to an end at 10.15 am.

Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons

The panel of chairmen of the Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons held the coordination meeting at the meeting hall-8 at 9 am. Present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman U Sai Aung Tun of Myanmar History Committee, U Aung Hkam Hti of Shan State (South) Special Region-6, Dr Manan Tu Ja of Kachin State Special Region-2, Secretary U Tun Aung Chein of Myanmar History Committee, U Paw Luik Khan of Shan State (North) Special Region-2, Deputy Director U Aung Kyi and Assistant Director U Win Myint of the working group-10. They discussed designation of the date for submitting one proposal to the group discussions and compilation of the proposal to be submitted to the plenary meeting of the National Convention. — MNA

Our brethren join hands together for the Union

ဦးကြောင်းသူ လူမျိုးတွေ့စွေ့ ကြောငွေ့သော ကြည့်အချင်

Group discussions of delegates of workers in progress. — MNA

Minister Col Tin Hlaing formally opens the newly-built lecture hall. — MNA

Exchange of ideas among those of one mind

Simple life, basically clear mind
Wearing smiles, clear expression
Speech sweet, movement cultured
Think of future, discuss, deliberate
With positivity, one and another
For everyone peace of mind
And body, in your thoughts
With that, possible in life
Can attain unanimity of views
Only such persons in this life
Meet one another, always
If that happens in human abode
As long as you live,
Your mind is clear
Happy and peaceful, you step forward
To aspired station
Surely you will arrive there

Nwe Gyo (Trs)

U Yaw Aye Hla of Lahu National Development Party presides over the meeting of delegate group of elected-representatives. — MNA

U Sai Tin Aung presides over the meeting of delegate group of peasants. — MNA

U Aung Kyi and Assistant Director U Win Myint of the working group-10. They discussed designation of the date for submitting one proposal to the group discussions and compilation of the proposal to be submitted to the plenary meeting of the National Convention. — MNA

POEM:

As long as you live,
Your mind is clear
Happy and peaceful, you step forward
To aspired station
Surely you will arrive there

Nwe Gyo (Trs)
China hopes to boost trade ties with Argentina

BEIJING, 3 June — Chinese Commerce Minister Bo Xilai said here Tuesday that China values Argentine President Nestor Kirchner’s upcoming visit and hopes to boost trade ties with this South American country.

"The Chinese Government has always attached great importance to the development of trade ties with Argentina, because both countries are members of the World Trade Organization and the Group of 20," Bo said at a seminar on Argentina-China trade cooperation.

The Chinese minister said Argentina has become one of China’s most important trade partners in Latin America. "The growth of bilateral trade has turned out to be very encouraging."

Trade turnover between China and Argentina reached 3.1 billion US dollars in 2003, up 122 per cent over the previous year, he said.

China hopes to invest in Argentina’s infrastructure, such as airports and railway lines, and encourages Argentine companies to develop businesses in the Chinese market, said Bo when arrived here Sunday after wrapping up a visit to New Zealand.

He said the two countries could step up trade cooperation in the areas of soy, edible oil, beef and dairy products.

He added both China and Argentina could tap new areas of cooperation as their economies are highly complimentary. At the seminar, Argentine Foreign Minister Rafael Bielsa also called for expansion of trade cooperation between Argentina and China.

Argentina is interested in the concrete advance of the negotiations leading to a protocol to facilitate the access of Argentine fruits to the Chinese market, like citrus, pears and apples, Bielsa said. He also said the two countries could seek cooperation in areas like electronics, transport, nuclear energy and biotechnology. — MNA/Xinhua

Nepali King reappoints former PM

KATHMANDU, 3 June — Nepal’s King Gyanendra reappointed Sher Bahadur Deuba as Prime Minister on Tuesday, the same man he sacked in 2002. The appointment came more than three weeks after a royalist prime minister resigned. “Deuba will exercise all executive powers vested by the Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal,” the royal palace said in a statement. “The King has asked him to recommend a Cabinet to all political parties to the extent possible and maintain law and order to begin elections to Parliament by mid-April 2005.”

There was no immediate reaction from the alliance of five political parties, but observers and Deuba’s appointment could lead to tensions within the alliance between supporters and opponents of the new premier. — MNA/Reuters

Jet Airways joins corporate travel payment system

NEW DELHI, 3 June — Jet Airways has become a merchant party to the internationally-recognized Universal Air Travel Plan (UATP) Programme card. The UATP card, the world’s first corporate travel solution and payment system, will be accepted at all cities and airports which figure on the Jet Airways network, a Jet Airways spokesman said Tuesday.

The UATP Programme card, established in 1936, is owned and operated by the airline industry and is designed to provide maximum benefits to the carriers that issue and accept it. As a form of payment for corporate air travel, a UATP card is issued by 15 major airlines and accepted by more than 200 airlines worldwide, the spokesman said.

Media reports malaria killed 602 people in Zimbabwe

HARARE, 3 June — At least 54 more people died as a result of malaria last month, raising the total number to 602 since the beginning of this year in Zimbabwe, local media reported on Wednesday.

Stanley Mudzi, the deputy director for disease prevention and control in the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare, was quoted as saying on Tuesday that Hwange and Gokwe North are the hardest hit areas. Mudzi said a report carried out by a team of health professionals from the Health Ministry and the World Health Organization who were sent to Hwange and Gokwe North, revealed that the deaths are attributed to late presentation of malaria symptoms. Malaria symptoms include headaches, fever, vomiting and general body aches.

"Due to the increase in malaria cases, the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare has deployed nurses trained to manage malaria in Hwange and Gokwe North for three weeks to attend to cases due to the disease in the area," said Mudzi.

He said the two areas do not have nurses trained to treat malaria cases when outbreaks occur. Environmental health officers have also been sent to Hwange and Gokwe North to inform people in the two areas about ways of detecting malaria symptoms and the importance of seeking early treatment if one suspects that one has acquired malaria,” said Mudzi.

Mudzi said the country is still in the malaria season due to the prolonged wet season. A normal malaria season starts in November and ends in early May but is this year expected to end sometime this month. — MNA/Xinhua

Militants fire at Americans in Riyadh

RIYADH, 3 June — Suspected Muslim militants shot at US citizens in the Saudi Arabian capital Riyadh on Wednesday just days after a major Al-Qaeda attack in the country killed 22 people, mainly foreigners, Western diplomats said.

There has been a shooting in Riyadh against Americans this morning,” said a diplomat. “We have no word on casualties and no details at this moment.”

In a separate incident, Saudi forces killed two gunmen after clashes in the western city of Taif, security sources said.

Dubai-based Al Arabiya television said the two men were wanted ‘terrorists’ but that they were not linked to the weekend shooting and hostage-taking ramping in the eastern city of Kobar, the second major attack on the oil industry in a month.

Twenty-two people were killed in the attack, 19 of them Westerners and other foreigners. Saudi Arabia has been battling Al-Qaeda militants for over a year. The shootout in Taif, close to the holy Muslim city of Mecca, began on Tuesday when gunmen fired on a police checkpoint in the mountainous regions. Saudi forces had launched a huge manhunt for three militants who escaped after the Kobar attack, setting up checkpoints and roadblocks across the kingdom. — MNA/Reuters
Indonesia orders American researcher to leave immediately

Jakarta, 3 June — The Indonesian Government has ordered International Crisis Group (ICG) researcher Sidney Jones to leave the country immediately, citing a work permit violation, a local newspaper reported Wednesday.

A letter signed by head of the South Jakarta Office of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights Arwin Adityawarman dated June 1 says the office has revoked Jones’ stay permit and ordered her immediate exit from the country.

In a phone conversation with The Jakarta Post she received two letters regarding her expulsion and that of the other foreign ICG staff at 6 pm on Tuesday.

However, she declined to speculate on the deportation order.

“Yesterday (President) Megawati told the Press that we would not be deported, but today we are deported. I don’t understand what has happened,” she said.

Jones denied the clarification, saying her visa was set to expire on June 10.

Director-General of Labour Development and Standard Marudin SM Simanijurk told the Post the Manpower Ministry would not extend Jones’ work permit.

“She violated her work permit. She should have worked in Jakarta, but it turned out she worked in Papau, Aceh and other places outside Jakarta,” Simanijurk said.

He said she was supposed to be contributing social and cultural input only, but she made a lot of trips across the country to resolve conflicts, which is beyond her capa-

Philippines population reaches 84.2 million

MANILA, 3 June — The Philippines population rose to 84.2 million this year but Filipinos who could barely survive make up almost a third of the total number.

Young people 21-and-below make up half of the population that increases yearly by 1.8 million or four babies born every minute, the Philippines News Agency reported Tuesday.

More than five million families or 27 million individuals have income that cannot sustain their basic food and shelter needs (by World Bank standards) as they live by one US dollar a day.

Because of a huge population of childbearing age and upcoming generations reaching adolescence and young adulthood, families will continue to have many dependents that could exceed four members per household, the Philippine Commission on Population said.

For every 10 Filipinos who are in the working age group of 15 to 64, there are six others who depend on them for food and other basic needs.

Of the six, five are 15 year olds and below and one is elderly.

In many cases, dependents are children in need of basic health and education, and who will remain dependent until they complete their education and secure employment.

— MNA/Xinhua

Daewoo brand to be withdrawn from Australia

CANBERRA, 3 June — Australian local car producer Holden will withdraw the Korean built Daewoo brand from Australia by the end of this year due to poor sales.

The decision will result in the close of the distribution company General Motors Daewoo Australia (GMDA) and 110 dealers around Australia, said the company.

Holden’s director of sales and marketing Ross McKenzie said the brand had performed below expectations since Holden began to distribute Daewoo vehicles in October 2002.

“GM Daewoo participates in an extremely competitive environment in Australia, trying to make a fresh name for itself against a flood of viable competitors and aggressive price points,” Australian Associated Press on Tuesday quoted McKenzie as saying.

“It is true to say that these segments have become even more intense in their competitiveness in the past two years,” he said.

— MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam exports more pepper in first five months

HANOI, 3 June — Vietnam, the world’s biggest pepper exporter, exported 47,000 tons of pepper worth 62 million US dollars in the first five months, year-on-year rises of 19.9 per cent and 16.8 per cent, respectively.

The increase is attributed to increasing demand of North America, Africa and Asia, more direct export contracts signed with Pakistan and India, and higher quality of pepper, both black and white one, according to the Vietnam Pepper Association on Tuesday.

The export prices of local pepper, which ranged from 1,160 US dollars to 1,200 US dollars per ton during the period, now stand at 1,185 US dollars per ton. They will remain stable in the second half of this year, the association predicted.

The International Pepper Community has recently estimated the world’s pepper output this year at 362,000 tons with 85,000 tons from Vietnam that shipped abroad 73,700 tons of the product worth 104.1 million dollars last year, down 3.8 per cent in volume and 2.9 per cent in value.

Vietnam plans to increase its pepper acreage by 15,000 hectares by 2005 from around 50,000 hectares.

Its pepper is available in over 30 countries, including the European Union, the United States, Russia, China and Singapore.

— MNA/Xinhua

Philippines to slow down work application process to M-E nations

MANILA, 3 June — The Philippine Government will slow down the processing of work applications to Saudi Arabia and Iraq due to rising incidents of terrorist attacks in the two Middle East states, a senior Foreign Affairs official said Tuesday. “This is to impress prospective workers that there are dangers when they go there although Saudi Arabia is a good market. We have 800,000 workers there, about 200,000 in Alkobar,” Undersecretary for Migrant Workers Affairs Jose Brillantes said, referring to the place where a terrorist attack and hostage-taking incident took place Saturday, which left at least 22 people dead, including three Filipinos.

Although Brillantes admitted that Westerners and not Filipinos are the targets of the recent terrorist attack in Saudi Arabia, he urged Filipinos to remain vigilant and take extra precautions. Brillantes assured that the government is in constant touch with the Saudi Arabian Government to ensure the safety of all Filipinos in Saudi Arabia.

What is needed is a good common sense and a very, very strong networking and coordination between the embassy consulates and the workers,” he said. On Saturday, suspected Islamic militants seized an expatriate compound in Alkobar and held dozens of foreign hostages, mostly Americans and Europeans. A total of 22 foreigners and Saudi residents were killed during the shooting spree. The government, on the other hand, has resumed deployment of Filipino workers in Iraq but only in selected areas where large US camps are located.

In the last two months, two Filipinos have been killed in separate attacks in Iraq.

— MNA/Xinhua
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
“MV KENGTUNG VOY: NO. (26)”
Consignees of cargo carried on MV KENGTUNG Voy No (26) arrived on 3-6-2004 are hereby notified that their cargo will be discharged into the premises of their risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

The only disadvantage of such a treaty is that the Italian government may send back such a treaty is that the Italian can get job every year.

The State Minister for Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment Quamrul Islam paid a week-long visit to Rome last month and discussed the matter with Italian officials. The State Minister said that Italy has shown interest in signing the agreement with Bangladesh for official recruitment of workers in agriculture and other sectors.

According to the minister, signing of such a treaty will open up a number of new areas in Italy where thousands of Bangladeshis can get job every year. The only disadvantage of such a treaty is that the Italian Government may send back all the Bangladeshis illegally staying there, the paper said.

TRADE MARK CAUTION
K & N ENGINEERING INC., a corporation incorporated in the State of California, of 1455 Citrus Avenue, Riverside, California 92507, U.S.A. is hereby notified of the following Trade Mark—

Reg. No. 2780/1996
Reg. No. 1696/2004

in respect of “Class 12: Parts and accessories for land and marine vehicles and aircraft, namely, air cleaner assemblies; replacement parts for air cleaner assemblies; air cleaner flame arrester assemblies; pre-cleaner air filter assemblies; air cleaner vent breather assemblies; air filter replacement elements; air cleaner to carburetor adapters, air cleaner and valve cover vent tube adapter kits comprised of vent tube, screws, nuts and gasket; carburetor plenum chambers; carburetor velocity stacks; carburetor replacement kits comprised of air filters, jets, needle, clips washers, springs, screws and drills; fuel filters, fuel line “T” junctions; hand brakes; handlebar hand grips; handlebar end buttons”.

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Donate blood

Salvador’s new President vows to create more jobs

MAHA, 2 June— Salvador’s new President Elias Antonio Saca vowed Tuesday in his inauguration address to create more jobs and strengthen security in the country.

At the inauguration ceremony in the capital city of San Salvador, he said he received presidency amid “an increasingly more complex and hopeful national and international situation”.

“I will bring the social agenda to the fore, I promised to be conciliatory and I will fulfill that promise from this first instant,” said Saca, who will work as president until 2009.

Vietnam allows parallel import of pharmaceuticals

HANOI, 2 June— Vietnam has allowed local enterprises to conduct parallel import of pharmaceuticals, in a move to deal with increasing prices of foreign medicines in the country, local media reported Tuesday.

According to the latest decision of the Ministry of Health, all local businesses with functions of importing and exporting pharmaceuticals and foreign suppliers of pharmaceuticals are allowed to conduct the parallel import, which means they can import medicines from different countries with prices being lower than those of the same products on offer in Vietnam.

The ministry is encouraging enterprises to actively seek sources of supplying special medicines and genetic drugs, mainly antibiotics and drugs for treatment of cancer, asthma, and mental and heart diseases, which are produced by multinational and of European origin.

The parallel import will put an end to the monopoly of some companies in the fields of manufacturing and distributing pharmaceuticals, and be very helpful when drug makers, distributors or possessors of registered drug trademarks cannot sufficiently supply the local market.

In addition to ensuring a sufficient supply of foreign medicines at reasonable prices by allowing parallel import, the ministry is striving to further develop the local pharmaceutical industry and improving state management over drug production and trade.

Donate blood

Voy No (26) arrived on 3-6-2004 are hereby notified that their cargo will be discharged into the premises of...
Total moves Saudi Arabia staff to safe location

PARIS, 2 June—International oil companies said on Tuesday they were taking precautions to safeguard their employees in Saudi Arabia but most have no staff evacuated. An Islamic group claimed weekend attacks on foreigners in the kingdom.

French oil company Total SA said it had moved its employees in Saudi Arabia to an undisclosed safe location after the suspected suicide attack on Saturday. “We deplore the violence, and we have moved our employees to a secret, secure location. But we are not evacuating the country,” said a company spokeswoman.

Royal Dutch/Shell said its employees would remain in Saudi Arabia. “Our staff will remain in the kingdom but dependents have been offered voluntary repatriation,” a company spokeswoman said, adding that the company’s joint venture in Saudi Arabia employed a total of 2,000 staff but the “vast majority” were locals.

A Simpeco spokesman said the company had just 10 staff there and no plans to evacuate them. Lukoil and Spain’s Repsol, also involved in a joint venture with Saudi state oil firm Aramco, said they had no personnel in the kingdom at all. — MNA/Reuters

IAEA chief calls for global collective security system

PRAGUE, 2 June—The chief of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on Tuesday urged nations around the world not to simply rely on nuclear deterrence, but to set up a more effective global collective security system to combat terrorism and regional conflicts, according to reports from Slovak capital, Bratislava.

Nuclear deterrent cannot contain terrorism or stop regional conflicts. It cannot drive some non-nuclear countries to try to pursue nuclear weapons, said Mohamed ElBaradei while addressing a NATO Parliamentary Assembly meeting in the Slovak capital, which ended Tuesday.

The UN nuclear watchdog chief called on the international community to discuss how to improve the current global security system in a world challenged by security crises.

ElBaradei suggested that activist in violation of international nuclear security rules should be punished, more strict and thorough investigations be carried out on nuclear exports, and the acquisition of plutonium and highly-enriched uranium used for nuclear weapons be put under international supervision. — MNA/Xinhua

Poll shows most young Britons ignorant of D-Day

LONDON, 2 June—Almost three-quarters of young Britons are ignorant of D-Day, according to a poll published in the Daily Mirror newspaper on Tuesday.

“Cigarette smoke is not only damaging on its own, it can turn the body against itself,” said Dr Rafi Nagler, of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa, Israel.

The paper polled 1,000 under-25s across Britain and found an “astonishing level of ignorance about D-Day” despite massive TV, radio and newspaper coverage of its 60th anniversary over the weekend.

One in five parents correctly answered the D-Day questions — what was it, when it took place, where it happened, the leaders at the time of Britain, the United States and Germany, and in which war it occurred. Christina Thomas, 16, of East London, was quoted as answering, “D-Day stands for Doomsday, doesn’t it?” Asked in which world war it happened, Simone Marshall, 19, of North London, said, “Was it in Iraq?”

A 20-year-old respondent answered “Was it Tony Blair?” when asked to name the British prime minister at the time. “In this country we pay lip service to our nation’s great history, do we really respect it enough?” the paper asked. — MNA/Xinhua

Study says smoking alters saliva to raise cancer risk

LONDON, 2 June—Smoking destroys protective molecules in saliva and transforms it into a dangerous cocktail of chemicals that increases the risk of mouth cancer, scientists said on Tuesday.

“Cigarette smoke is not only damaging on its own, it can turn the body against itself,” said Dr Rafi Nagler, of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa, Israel.

Cigarette smoke contains antioxidants, molecules that naturally protect the body against cancer, but Nagler and his colleagues have discovered that cigarette smoke destroys the molecules and turns saliva into a dangerous compound.

“Our study shows that once exposed to cigarette smoke, our normally healthy saliva not only loses its beneficial qualities but it turns traitor and actually aids in destroying the cells of the mouth and oral cavity,” he added.

In research reported in the British Journal of Cancer, Nagler and his team studied the impact of cigarette smoke on cancerous cells in the laboratory. Half of the cells that were exposed to saliva ex- posed to cigarette smoke and the other half just to smoke. Cells exposed to the saliva mixture had more damage and it increased along with the time of exposure. “Most people will find it very shocking that the mixture of saliva and smoke is actually more lethal to cells in the mouth than cigarette smoke alone,” Nagler added in a statement.

Pan-Pearl River Delta Region to enhance cooperation

HONG KONG, 2 June—The Pan-Pearl River Delta Regional Cooperation and Development Forum opened here Tuesday morning, indicating a new era of regional cooperation among China’s eight provinces, one autonomous region and two special administrative regions.

Experts said that the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region will become a high-growth region in China in the future.

With the establishment of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and secretary of Guangdong provincial committee of the CPC, Tung Chee Hwa, Chief Executive of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Ho Hau Wah, Chief Executive of Macao Special Administrative Region, and leaders from the region’s provinces and autonomous region and related ministers of the central government attended the opening ceremony.

The forum, focusing “cooperative development and jointly creating future”, will be held in Hong Kong, Macao and Guangzhou from Tuesday to Thursday.

The Pan-Pearl River Delta Region indicates provinces of Guangdong, Hainan, Guangxi, Jiangxi, Yunnan, Sichuan, Hunan and Fujian and Guangzhou Zhuang Autonomous Region, as well as Hong Kong and Macao.

The land space of the eight provinces and one autonomous region account for one-fifth of China’s Mainland’s total space. Its economic strength accounts for one third of the Chinese Mainland’s total. — MNA/Xinhua

Some 160 young Chinese pianists take part in an outdoor recital in the eastern Chinese city of Hangzhou to kick off a week-long music festival in the popular tourist city. — internet

Forget splitting the atom, split a banana for energy

SYDNEY, 2 June—Australian scientists have discovered what sportsmen and women around the world have known for years: bananas are a great source of instant energy.

A new government-funded study is investigating the possibility of harnessing banana waste products — deemed not worth selling to consumers — to provide energy for 500 homes.

“It’s not a hoax,” Australian Banana Growers’ Council Chief Executive Tony Heidrich said on Tuesday.

Reminiscent of the pig-powered town in the futuristic movie “Mad Max: Thunderdome”, bananas would be combined with bacteria to produce methane. Pipes would take the gas to a turbine which could be plugged into the main electricity grid.

“It’s like a big stomach. You open the lid, you put the stuff in and seal the lid and...away you go,” said Heidrich by telephone from the nation’s banana-growing state of Queensland.

“Essentially it’s just like a big composting bin. It’s a waste product and currently we’re not doing anything else with it. This would harness the electrical capacity that it can bring,” he said.

However, Heidrich said other fruit-powered homes, such as apricot, pineapple or kiwi-fruits, were unlikely anything like bananas.

“Initially I think they’d stick to bananas but potentially you could use other fruits,” Heidrich said.

Ethanol from sugar cane has already been tested for commercial energy use and the haws of Australia’s native Macadamia nuts have been used as fuel to make electricity. — MNA/Reuters

A new advertising medium that turns subway tunnel walls into colourful motion picture commercials as trains pass debuts this week in the Japanese capital, capitalizing on one of its most plentiful assets — miles of subway routes. — Internet
Brazil's Ronaldo (L) swerves past Javier Zanetti (C) and Facundo Quiroga of Argentina during their 2004 World Cup qualifier in Belo Horizonte on Wednesday.

Thus, Brazil has accumulated 13 points from six games to top the South American zone World Cup qualifying tournament. Argentina lost its unbeaten record to rank second with 11 points.

Top four teams of the double round-robin tournament qualify directly for Germany in 2006, with the fifth playing against the winners of the Oceania group.

Ronaldinho, the Real Madrid striker, put the world champions ahead in the first half with a twice-taken penalty after being upended by Gabriel Heinze. He made his second in the 68th minute after being tripped by Javier Mascherano and completed his penalty hat-trick into injury time after being floored by goalkeeper Pablo Cavallero. In between, Juan Pablo Sorin pulled one back in the 88th minute.

Beckham thanks Japanese for World Cup welcome

MANCHESTER (England), 2 June — Captain David Beckham says the warmth of England's reception by Japanese people during the 2002 World Cup will remain with him forever.

Writing in the programme notes before England's friendly against Japan in Manchester, Beckham said: "Japan will always be special to me. "The depth of emotion that the Japanese people showed to us is something I'll never forget. "It's a great pleasure to welcome them to our country and I'm sure we'll extend them the same kind of warmth that they showed us." Beckham, along with striker Michael Owen, were hugely popular with young people in both Japan and tournament co-hosts South Korea during their run to the World Cup quarter-finals.

For England, Tuesday's game is a warm-up for Euro 2004 in Portugal, where Beckham is keen to make amends for their last eight defeat by eventual world champions Brazil at Shizuoka. "I honestly believed that we were going to go on and win the 2002 World Cup, so to go out at the quarter-final stage, even to such a talented team as Brazil, was a bitter pill to swallow. "The desire not to experience that kind of feeling again in Portugal will be a huge driving force for us as we try to go all the way this time around."

BOLIVIA beat Paraguay in winning start for Blacut

LA PAZ, 2 June — Bolivia gave coach Ramiro Blacut a winning start to his third stint in charge by beating Paraguay 2-1 at home in a World Cup qualifier on Tuesday.

Substitute Roger Suarez headed the winner in the 72nd minute, 12 minutes after Bolivia had been reduced to 10 men when defender Juan Manuel Pena was sent off. Veteran Luis Cristaldo, a survivor from Bolivia's last World Cup finals appearance in 1994, fired the Andean team ahead after 60 minutes and Jose Cardozo equalized in a rare Paraguay attack in the 33rd.

Bolivia, beaten 2-0 at home by Chile last month, depend heavily on the advantage of playing their home matches at 3,600 metres above sea level in La Paz and could afford to drop more home points.

The win took them off the bottom of the South American group with six points. Paraguay stayed second with 10 points, one more than Brazil who are at home to leaders Argentina on Wednesday.

Blacut, 60, replaced Nelson Acosta, who was fired after the defeat by Chile. The coach, previously in charge from 1979 to 1983 and 1991, brought back several stalwarts including Cristaldo.

The move immediately paid off as Cristaldo fired home from a rebound following a goalmouth scramble. Bayern Munich striker Roque Santa Cruz, who had made little impact, set up the equalizer when he was tripped by Javier Cardozo, the only Paraguay player in the area, who scored clinically.

The win will give Blacut hope of qualifying for Euro 2004 in Portugal, where Bolivia are in the group of death alongside Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay.

Tourist, 2 June — Georgian club Sioni have been banned from taking part in their next season's UEFA Cup following crowd violence in the championship decider against WIT Georgie Tbilisi last weekend.

But the Georgian soccer federation found Sioni guilty of instigating crowd trouble during the match. They were fined 5,000 US dollars, banned from competing in Europe and ordered to play their next 10 games at a neutral ground.

Sioni, whose place in the UEFA Cup is likely to be taken by fourth-placed finishers FC Tbilisi, said they would appeal.

Capriati hopes history will repeat itself

PARIS, 2 June — The last time Jennifer Capriati beat Serena Williams in the French Open quarter-finals she went on to win the title.

The year was 2001 and she beat Paris as Australian Open champion, world number one and a player having staged one of the most remarkable comebacks in the sport's history.

"I don't want to say anything. But history repeats itself sometimes," she said after her 6-3, 2-6, 6-3 victory over the player who had gradually become her bete noire.

But Capriati, who is slowly regaining the pace and consistency that led her to the very top, warned she still had a way to go to win her fourth grand slam title.

"The tournament is not over. I have two more matches to play," she said.

Capriati, who reached her first semi-final at Roland Garros 14 years ago, said she was not really surprised.

"These days, it's not that shocking to see the Williams lose at that stage and Myskina is a good player, very consistent," she said.

The win must have come as a relief for the 28-year-old as she had lost eight matches in succession against Serena before beating her in the Italian Open semi-finals last month.

Capriati said that the hard work she had done in recent months with her new fitness trainer had been the key as she was more physically consistent and tenacious than her opponent.

Dutch beat Faroes but fail to impress

AMSTERDAM, 2 June — Three days after a 1-0 home defeat against Belgium, the Netherlands disappointed again on Tuesday by failing to impress in a 3-0 victory over the Faroe Islands in a Euro 2004 warm-up match in Lausanne.

Coach Dick Advocaat paired strikers Ruud van Nistelrooy and Patrick Kluivert up front together for the first time since the 1-0 play-off first-leg defeat against Scotland in November, with Rafael van der Vaart supporting as an attacking midfielder.

The front two failed to click, with an out-of sorts Kluivert producing a performance that could persuade coach Dick Advocaat to leave him out for the Netherlands' first Group G game against Germany on June 15.

Van der Vaart opened the scoring after an hour with a shot from just outside the box. Advocaat made 10 substitutions at halftime and his new-look side carried a greater threat after the break with wings Marc Overmars and Andy van der Meyde providing much-needed width.

Overmars played a major part in the second goal and scored the third.
Friday, June 4, 2004

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Friday, June 4, 2004

WEATHER

Thursday, 3 June, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:00 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayin State and Tanintharyi Division and rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Bago Division, Rakhine, Mon and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in Kachin State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myittaya (3.19 inches), Phayaon (1.65 inches) and Pathein (1.61 inches).

Maximum temperature on 2-6-2004 was 30.8°C (87°F). Minimum temperature on 3-6-2004 was 20.0°C (68°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 3-6-2004 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 2-6-2004 was (3.7 hours) approximate. Rainfall on 3-6-2004 was 19mm (0.75 inch) at Yangon Airport, nil at Kaba-Aye and Nn (4.03 mm) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 15 m/s from West at (15:35) hours MST on 2-6-2004.

According to the 09:00 hours weather observations at 09:30 hrs MST today, yesterday’s low pressure area over West Central Bay has become insignificant. Monsoon is weak to moderate in Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 4-6-2004: Rain or thunder showers will be widespread in Magway Division, Kachin, Chin, Rakhine and Shan States, scattered in Mon and Kayah States, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Bago and Tanintharyi Divisions and isolated in Prome and Mrauk-U areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in upper Sagain Division, Kachin and Chin States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the Sea: The Swell will be light to moderate in Myanmar waters. Outlook for subsequent two days: Inclement weather is likely in Some Places.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 4-6-2004: One or two rains or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Magway and north-western area for 4-6-2004: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

4-6-2004 (Friday) Programme Schedule Morning Transmission (9:00 - 10:00)

8:05 am 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayarudd U Ottamathara

7:15 am 2. မြန်မာဆောင်းရာတွက် သိမ်းပို့မှု နှင့် သာသနာ (Myanmar Cultural and Scientific Greetings)

7:30 am 3. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am 3. To be healthy exercise

7:40 am 4. Morning news

7:40 am 4. Morning news

7:55 am 5. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am 5. Nice and sweet song

8:05 am 6. သာမန်ကြန်း (Phra Reddhow) (Myanmar National Anthem)

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7:55 am 5. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am 5. Nice and sweet song

8:05 am 6. သာမန်ကြန်း (Phra Reddhow) (Myanmar National Anthem)

7:00 am 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayarudd U Ottamathara

7:15 am 2. မြန်မာဆောင်းရာတွက် သိမ်းပို့မှု နှင့် သာသနာ (Myanmar Cultural and Scientific Greetings)

7:30 am 3. To be healthy exercise

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Talks on Myanmar Women's Affairs

Yangon, 3 June—Organized by Working Group for Education of Myanmar Women’s Affairs, Federation, talks on MWAFF was held at Convocation Hall of Yangon University this morning, attended by President of MWAFF Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Presidents of MWAFF Professor Dr Daw May May Yi, Daw Khin Lay Thet, Daw Than Thaw Nwe and Daw Khin Khin Win, General Secretary Professor Dr Daw Khin Aye Win, Advisers to Working Group for Education Daw Win Shwe and Daw Marlar Thein, CEC Members, rector, pro-rectors, professors, associate professors and faculty members of Yangon University, Dagon University, University of East Yangon, University of West Yangon, University of Distance Education, Institute of Education, Institute of Economics and University of Foreign Languages under the Ministry of Education.

First, President of MWAFF Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe gave talks on MWAFF with the aid of video tapes.

Next, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe answered the queries raised by those present.

Awards, Pro-Rector of Yangon University Dr Pe Maung Than presented the souvenir to the president of MWAFF. After the talks, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe greeted those present.

Yangon, 3 June—Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, accompanied by officials of Public Works, arrived in Kengtung on 29 May.

The minister heard reports presented by engineers in-charge on progress in upgrading Meiktila-Taunggyi-Kengtung-Tachileik Union Highway at the briefing hall and attended to the needs for timely completion of the tasks.

Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Chairman Triangle Region Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and the minister inspected completion of the highway on 30 May.

Next, the commander, the minister and party inspected completion of extension of Mongyin-Tongtah road section.

On 31 May morning, the commander, the minister and party inspected laying of roads, trimming and drainage, extension of Takaw-Pankhin road section and that of Takaw-Kunghing-Namhsan-Hopong-Taunggyi road.

MNA

Four-Nation Trade Fair to be held in Yangon

Yangon, 3 June — The second coordination meeting on holding of the first Four-Nation Trade Fair-2004 was held this afternoon at the Ministry of Commerce here with an opening address by Commerce Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone.

Director General of the Directorate of Trade U Nyunt Aye reported on matters related to the trade fair and those present took part in the discussions. The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by Brig-Gen Pyi Sone.

It was also attended by Chairman of the Yangon City Development Committee Yangon City Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun, director-general and the managing director of the departments which will participate in the trade fair, and work committee members.

Yangon, 3 June—The proposals presentation of delegate groups of elected-representatives and peasants and coordination meeting of panel of chairmen of delegate groups of workers, State service personnel and other invited persons to the National Convention were held at the designated meeting halls of Nyangunnhpan Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, this morning, attended by members of the panel of chairmen and delegates.

Delegate Group of Elected-representatives

Proposals of the Delegate Group of Representatives were read at the meeting hall-2 at 9 am today.

U Yaw Aye Hla of Lahu National Development Party presided over the meeting together with U Maung Gyi of Union Pa-O National Organization and U Law Hsin Kwam of Kokang Democracy and Unity Party. Deputy Director U Maung Maung Phyu Tin of working group-4 of the National Convention Convening Work Committee and Assistant Director Daw Tin Tin Nwe acted as masters of ceremonies.

First, the master of ceremonies announced the start of the meeting with the permission of the chairman as there were 86.67 per cent of the delegates. Next, the chairman gave a speech.

Independent elected-representative Dr Hmu Hng of Htunlaw Township Constituency of Chin State and Independent elected-representative U Aung Thein of Ywangan Township Constituency of Shan State (South) presented their combined proposal concerning detailed basic principles to be laid down for sharing of power in legislative, executive and judicial sectors to be included in drawing the State Constitution.

Afterwards, the Independent elected-representatives of Ywangan Township Constituency handed over the combined proposal compiled by the two independent elected-representatives of Htunlaw and Ywangan Township Constituencies to the alternate chairman. Later, the chairman gave the concluding remarks and the ceremony adjourned in the morning.

Delegate Group of Peasants

The Delegate Group of Peasants held the group discussion at the meeting hall-4 at 9 am. U Sai Tin Aung of Shan State (North) presided over the discussions together with U Tin Maung Kyaw of Magway Division and U Mya Aye of Yangon Division. Deputy Director U Myint Thein and Assistant Director U Myint Kyaw of working group-6 acted as masters of ceremonies.

First, the master of ceremonies announced the start of the meeting with the permission of the chairman as there were 91 delegates out of 93 listed accounting for 97.85 per cent of the delegates.

Chairman U Sai Tin Aung of Shan State (North) delivered an opening speech.

U Tun Aye Han of Kayah State read out the proposal submitted by delegates of Kayah State. U Than Shwe and U Thaung Myint of Bago Division, the proposal submitted by Bago Division; and U Shwe Hla of Rakhine State, the proposal submitted by Rakhine State. At 10.20 am, U Tun Oo and U Tin Nyant of Yangon Division presented the proposal submitted by Yangon Division; and U Sai Nu of Shan State, the proposal by Shan State. The chairman gave the concluding remarks and the discussions adjourned at 11.05 am.

The Delegate Group of Peasants will present the proposals tomorrow.

Delegate Group of Workers

The coordination meeting between the panel of chairmen and leaders of proposal compilation groups of Delegate Group of Workers

(See page 9)