The Union of Myanmar
The State Peace and Development Council
The Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product Law
(The State Peace and Development Council Law No 5/2006)
(The 8th Waxing Day of Kason, 1368 ME)
(4 May, 2006)

The State Peace and Development Council hereby enacts the following law;

Chapter I
Title, Commencement and Definition

1. (a) This Law shall be called the Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product Law.
   (b) This Law shall come into force on the date of completion of one year from its promulgation.

2. The following expressions contained in this Law shall have the meanings given hereunder;
   (a) Cigar means any cigarette, cheroot, cigar, smoking pipe and any other similar material prepared by any means for inhalation of smoke emitted from the burning of tobacco product;
   (b) Tobacco product means any material prepared for the purpose of smoking or consumption of the whole or part of the tobacco plant, leaf or stalk of the same;
   (c) Cigar smoke means smoke emitted from the burning of cigar or smoke emitted from smoking, exhaling or inhaling of cigar;
   (d) Sale means retail and wholesale of any material or display of the same for sale;
   (e) Cigar package means a packet, bottle, card or any other similar material into which the cigar or tobacco product is collected and inserted and which packs the same;
   (f) Label means a name, sign, shape or mark denoted by any means to make known any kind of cigar and tobacco product;
   (g) Central Board means the Central Board for the Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product formed under section 4;
   (h) Supervisory Body means the Supervisory Bodies for the Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product formed under sub-section (i) of section 5 at the State, Division, District and Township levels;
   (i) Person-in-Charge means the owner or person who administers the places designated in sections 6 and 7. This expression also includes a person who has been assigned duty by the said owner or person;
   (j) School includes Basic Education High School, Basic Education Middle School, Basic Education Primary School, Nursery School, Pre-School and Monastic Education School;
   (k) Training School means a course for the teaching of educational and technical knowledge of ten or more trainees.

(See page 10)
Work hard for rural economic development

Now is the time when the government, the people and the Tatmadaw are working in concert for higher standard of living and modernization of the nation. In doing so, special emphasis is being given to the implementation of the plan for special development regions and this can lead to parallel development of all regions, especially border areas that lagged behind the others. Not only that, rural development tasks are being carried out with greater momentum.

As the majority of the population of the nation live in rural areas, the development of the entire nation would be possible only with that of rural areas. This being the case, measures are being taken for easy and smooth transport, sufficient water supply for drinking and agricultural purposes and higher education, health and economic status of people living in rural areas.

The Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council, accompanied by officials, visited Htantabin Township, Yangon Division, on 3 May and inspected the tarmacking of roads and construction of retaining walls to prevent the erosion of the circular road. Then, he instructed responsible personnel to finish all the work before the rains set in and do whatever is necessary for improvement of rural economic enterprises.

Construction of new village-to-village roads and village-to-town roads and extension of existing ones enable rural people to go from one place to another more easily. The road section between Yangon West University and Ayeyawgale Village in Htantabin Township is being expanded from 12 feet to 14 feet and tarmacked. On completion, it will improve the transportation between the town and its neighbouring villages.

Responsible personnel of regional organizations should educate rural populace and organize work on public health, education and maintenance of schools. Agriculture is the main industry for rural economic development and so farmers should give special emphasis to it by doing double and triple cropping. In addition, they should also take up livestock breeding.

At a time when the government is fulfilling sector-wise requirements for rural development, regional organizations and local people on their part are required to put their energies into their respective work for rural economic development.

Wellwishers make donations to MWAF

YANGON, 4 MAY — The donation ceremony for Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation was held at the office of MWAF on Thanlwin Road in Bahan Township this evening.

Vice-Presidents Daw Khin Lay Myint and Daw Khin Thet Htay accepted a pair of Solar System and UPS worth US$ 1,000 donated by Daw Khine Zaw, President of Earth Industrial Co Ltd; and a Hot & Water Dispenser worth K 177,400 by U Myat Thin Aung-Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Daw Khin Myint Myint (Excellent Performance in Social Field-First Class) of Group of Aung Aung Companies. CEC members of MWAF and wellwishers also attended the ceremony. — MNA

Water pouring at Bo tree of Shweponepunt Pagoda on Fullmoon Day of Kason

YANGON, 4 May — A ceremony to pour water at Bo tree will be held at Shweponepunt Pagoda in Pazundaung Township on 11 May (Fullmoon Day of Kason). A total of 50 Sayadaws will consecrate and offer ‘soon’ to the pagoda on 11 May morning. The Pagoda Board of Trustees, religious and social organizations will make arrangements for pilgrims to donate Eugenia sprigs, water pots and joss sticks to the pagoda. Wellwishers can offer soft drinks, purified water and refreshments to the pilgrims at the ceremony. Those wishing to contribute to the ceremony may contact the office of the Pagoda Board of Trustees (Ph: 290425). — MNA

Seminar on Customer Power and Satisfaction held

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Canon new models introduced

YANGON, 4 May — Latest models of Canon digital cameras were introduced by Accel International Co Ltd and Canon (Singapore) Pte Ltd today at Traders Hotel here.

First, Managing Director Mr Alvin Law of Accel International Co Ltd and President and Chief Executive Officer of Canon Singapore Pte Ltd delivered an address. Manager of Canon International Co Ltd U Philip Tun Aung introduced latest models of Canon cameras to Myanmar customers with the use of slide projector. After the introduction, lucky draw programme took place. Canon digital cameras imported by Accel International Co Ltd are available at No 422-426, sixth floor of forest Joint Venture Building on Botataung Pagoda Road, Ph 202092-96. Canon showrooms are also opened at No 7-8, front wing of Aung San Stadium in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, No 243016-38, No 6, SY Building on 78th Street in Mandalay, Ph 02-36014, 39857 and No 6/44-6/45 in the compound of Construction on Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Pyinmana, Ph 067-22347, 22801. — MNA
China to seek seat on new UN rights council

United Nations, 3 May—China on Tuesday announced its candidacy for a three-year seat on the new UN Human Rights Council.

"China is a developing country with a big population. Much work remains to be done in the field of human rights," the Beijing Government said in a note circulated at UN headquarters on Tuesday. The 191-nation UN General Assembly is due to elect the council's initial 47 members next Tuesday, choosing from among at least 65 nations that have so far formally thrown their hats into the ring.

Candidates must win the votes of at least 96 nations — an absolute majority of the assembly membership — to be elected under a requirement put in place to help keep out human rights abusers, who had come to dominate the UN Human Rights Commission the council was created to replace.

As part of a new procedure, the United Nations set up an Internet page (http://www.un.org/ ga/60/elect/hrc/) for countries to propose their candidates rather than wait to be nominated, which typically was done in the past via regional slates.

Armenian plane crashes into Black Sea, killing 113

Sochi, 3 May — Rescuers prepared to search through the night for bodies after an Armenian jet crashed into the Black Sea off Russia's coast, killing all 113 people on board and leaving relatives with a heart-wrenching wait to identify the dead.

"Boats are going to continue the search in other parts of the sea," Russian Transport Minister Igor Levitin told a news conference in the Russian Black Sea resort town of Sochi.

All the passengers and crew are thought to have died when the Airbus A320 operated by the Armenian airline Armavia plunged into the sea as it tried to land at Sochi in bad weather on a flight from the Armenian capital Yerevan.

Now the victims' relatives face the prospect of identifying their loved ones from photographs of the recovered bodies and with floating cranes, hauling black plastic sacks, as well as pieces of fuselage, baggage and life vests.

The tail section of the aircraft had also been raised and investigators were listening to a recording of conversations between the flight crew and ground control, news agency ITAR-TASS, said.

But with the remains of the aircraft submerged in more than 400 metres (1,300 feet) of water, there was no sign of the black box flight recorder.

"We did not find the black box in the tail of the plane," Levitin said. "We are going to continue the search in other parts of the plane or in the sea."

Sochi, 3 May — A Sochi port crane lifts the tail of the Armavia Airbus A320 plane that crashed. Rescuers prepared to search through the night for bodies after an Armenian jet crashed into the Black Sea off Russia's coast, killing all 113 people on board and leaving relatives with a heart-wrenching wait to identify the dead. — Internet

Media says Bush declined to meet Norway's PM

Stockholm, 3 May—US President George Bush has declined to meet Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg at the White House, said reports reaching here from Oslo on Tuesday. Bush's staff would not arrange the meeting because of the Norwegian left-centre coalition government's criticism of the war in Iraq, and Finance Minister Kristin Halvorsen's support for a boycott of Israeli products, according to Norwegian Broadcasting (NRK), Jan Petersen, who was Norway's Foreign Minister in the last centre-right government, told NRK that he feared a phone conversation Stoltenberg had with Bush shortly after last fall's election put a damper on relations between the United States and Norway.

In the conversation, Stoltenberg told Bush that he would order the withdrawal of Norwegian officers from Iraq. Janne Haaland Matlary, a professor at the University of Oslo, said her sources also indicate that Norway no longer is part of the "inner circle" at NATO.

US military death toll rises to 2,407

Washington, 3 May—As of Wednesday, 3 May, 2006, at least 2,407 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. The figure includes seven military civilians. At least 1,893 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The AP count is the same as the Defence Department’s tally, last updated Wednesday at 10 am EDT.

The British military has reported 104 deaths; Italy, 30; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, Denmark three; El Salvador, Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Russia, one death each. — Internet
Iran says Russia, China will not back sanctions

TEHRAN, 3 May — Iran’s Foreign Minister was quoted on Tuesday as saying that Russia and China had officially informed Teheran they would not support sanctions or military action over the Islamic Republic’s nuclear programme.

“Western diplomats say China and Russia will probably back a UN resolution demanding a halt to Iran’s fuel work, but are not yet ready to back moves towards sanctions. Iran has been hauled before the UN Security Council after failing to convince the international community that its nuclear power station programme is not a front for building a nuclear weapon,” he said in the interview.

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MNA/Reuters

28 killed in bus accident in Mumbai

NEW DELHI, 3 May — At least 28 people were killed and over 35 others injured on Tuesday when an overcrowded bus fell into a creek in Mumbai’s neighbouring Thane District, local police said.

The bus, which was carrying over 50 passengers, was on its way from western Mumbai suburb of Mira Road to Thane when it skidded off the road, rammed through the bridge’s retaining wall and plunged into the creek. “Twenty-eight people have died and nearly 35 have been injured, some of them critically, in the accident,” Indo-Asian News Service quoted Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister R R Patil as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

Humvee deaths on the rise despite armour upgrades

WASHINGTON, 3 May — Although the Pentagon has strengthened the armour on more than 50,000 Humvees and other military vehicles throughout Iraq and Afghanistan, roadside bombs have killed more US troops this year, Pentagon records show.

Most are dying in their Humvees, the workhorse vehicles the military scrambled to armour as the use of improvised explosive devices grew over the past three years.

Pentagon casualty reports say 67 US troops have died this year in attacks on their Humvees involving the so-called IEDs.

An additional 22 troops were killed when IEDs hit other military vehicles, including more heavily armoured tanks and troop carriers.

That’s up from 27 in Humvees — and an additional 38 deaths involving IED attacks on other vehicles — during the first four months of 2005, according to Pentagon reports and USA TODAY’s Iraq war casualty database.

The Pentagon reports did not say whether the Humvees were seeing more action and therefore more likely to be attacked. Military leaders and elected officials such as Sen Evan Bayh (news, bio, voting record), D-Ind, wanted the added armour to better protect the troops from the IEDs.

Guerrillas are changing their tactics, planting more powerful bombs and using different triggering methods to evade US countermeasures, say experts.

MNA/Xinhua
**Study shows film piracy costs Hollywood $6.1b**

LOS ANGELES, 3 May—Hollywood’s major movie studios lost $6.1 billion in revenues in 2005 to illegal videos, DVDs and Internet downloads, which is about 75 percent higher than previous estimates, the studios’ representative said.

In a study released late on Tuesday, the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), which represents the major studios in government affairs, said the study is the first to measure losses from Web downloading.

The study showed piracy in Asia is less a problem than in North America and Europe.

It also showed that losses stemmed not only from fewer ticket sales but also from fewer DVD sales which has been one of the growing business arenas in recent years.

“This study will help better analyze and focus our efforts to fight movie theft,” MPAA Chief Executive Officer Dan Glickman said in a statement.

For years the MPAA has said it believed the studios lost about $3.5 billion in annual revenues from the sale of illegal videos and DVDs, and it never estimated lost sales on the Web.

The study, conducted by LEK Consulting LLC and commissioned by the MPAA, showed losses in the United States alone totaling almost $1.3 billion. Mexico was No 2 on the list, accounting for $483 million in lost sales.

In the United States, illegal copying is the most prominent way to get pirated movies, whereas in other countries, downloads and bootlegging are more commonly used.

The average offending person is male, between 16 and 24 years-old and living in urban areas, according to the study.

Research was conducted in 28 countries, over 18 months.

**Poll says British find media hard to trust**

LONDON, 3 May — Britain may have a sophisticated media industry but it also has some of the most sceptical consumers, with nearly two-thirds (64 per cent) believing the media does not report all sides of the story.

A 10-country opinion poll for Reuters, the BBC and the Media Centre found British and US consumers out on a limb when it comes to public levels of trust in the media.

Overall trust in the media in Britain has bounced back over the past four years, from a low of 29 per cent in 2002 to 47 per cent today. But this is still below the 10-country average of 63 per cent.

Americans emerged as the most critical of the news media’s balance, with 69 per cent disagreeing that the media reports all sides of a story.

A similar proportion, 68 percent, thought the media covered too many “bad news” stories.

Polling company GlobeScan questioned 10,230 adults in the 10 countries — Britain, US, Brazil, Egypt, Germany, India, Indonesia, Nigeria, Russia and South Korea — and interviewed 1,000 British residents.

GlobeScan President Doug Miller told Reuters he was surprised by the poll’s findings in Britain and the US, where levels of public trust in the media appear much lower than in developing markets.

“Britain and the US were outliers across the 10 countries,” he said.

**Quake jolts area south of Tokyo, no damage reports**

TOKYO, 3 May — A moderate earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5.6 jolted an area south of Tokyo on Tuesday, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

The quake was felt in Tokyo. There were no immediate reports of damage, and no tsunami warning was issued.

The focus of the tremor, which struck at 6.24 pm (0924 GMT), was 20 kilometres (12 miles) below the ocean floor off the Izu Peninsula in Shizuoka prefecture, about 80 kilometres (50 miles) southwest of Tokyo, the agency said.

Some train services including Shinkansen bullet trains in the area were briefly halted as a precaution, NHK public broadcaster said. — MNA/Reuters

**Fire erupts in Iraq’s Oil Ministry**

BAQUBIA, 3 May — A fire erupted in Iraq’s Ministry of Oil on Tuesday and badly damaged two floors, police sources said.

The cause of the blaze was not immediately clear.

The sources said the second and third floors were heavily damaged.

Guerrillas sometimes set fire mortar bombs at the nearby Ministry of Interior. — MNA/Reuters

**Turkish security forces seize over 60 kilos of heroin**

ANKARA, 3 May — Turkish security forces seized 60.6 kilos of heroin in an operation in the southeastern province of Gaziantep on Tuesday, semi-official Anatolia news agency reported.

Acting on a tip-off, security forces seized the heroin hidden in a truck which was on its way from Iran to Gaziantep, said the report, adding that six people were also detained in the operation.

A full investigation into the case was underway, the report added.

Turkish authorities have seized over 22 tons of drugs and arrested 14,009 people during anti-drug operations in 2004. — MNA/Xinhua

**Road accident kills 11 in S Nigeria**

LAGOS, 3 May — Eleven people were killed in a traffic accident which occurred at 5:00 pm (1600 GMT) along the Akure-Owo Road in Nigeria’s southern state of Ondo, the official News Agency of Nigeria reported on Sunday.

The accident involved a commercial minibus and a heavy-duty tipper truck of an Akure-based quarry company. The victims were mostly workers who were returning to Akure from a local market, Malam Ahmed Hassan, head of the Ondo State Sector Command of the Federal Road Safety Commission said, adding that only two passengers in the bus survived. — MNA/Xinhua

**Ukrainian actors perform comic diving at Suzhou Amusement Land in Suzhou, east China’s Jiangsu Province, on 2 May, 2006.**

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**Two kids make test about how wind-breaking forest functions at the Inner Mongolia science and technology hall in Hohhot on 2 May. Many children are attracted there during the seven-day “golden week” holiday from 1 May to have personal experience of scientific tests and activities.**

**A visitor touches the sculpture ‘La Lotta’ (The fight) by German artist Olof Nicolai at the Eigener+Art art gallery in the eastern German town of Leipzig, on 3 May, 2006. The sculpture has a temperature of 43 degrees celsius to suggest life.**

**MNA/Reuters**
Wellknown at home and abroad the acronym YMBA in Myanmar modern history reaches its 100 years in 2006. This originally a non-political association named Young Men Buddhists Association was formed in 1906 by the then modern educated young Myanmar Buddhists led by U Ba Pe, MA U Maung Gyi and Dr U Ba Yin who were patriots. The first headquarters of the YMBA was established in Lancaster Road (now Yaw Min Gyi Lan). The aims of the Association were to promote Myanmar nationality, to promote Myanmar Language and literature, to promote Buddha Sasana and to promote education by means of social welfare work. Because of the high patriotic spirit of the founders and followers, the YMBA branch associations emerged in major towns in the country such as Mawlamyine, Bago, Mandalay, Pyinmana, etc totalling over 400 branch associations all over the country.

In 1911 the headquarters was moved to Lewis street downtown Yangon. Then in 1920 it was moved to Sule Pagoda Road. Modern educated Buddhist Young men like U Thein Maung, U Pu, U Su, U May Aung, U Maung Maung Ohn Gaing, U Ba Si, U Thein Maung, U Ba Hlaing, U Sein Hla Aung were leading and active participants in the functions and activities of the YMBA.

The first and second YMBA conferences were held in Yangon in 1911 and 1914 respectively and followed by the third conference in 1915 in Mandalay, the fourth in 1916 in Hinthada, and the fifth in 1917 in Pyinmana continuously.

In 1917 Lord Montagu, the Minister in charge of the British Indian Affairs made a declaration in the House of Commons of British Parliament that self-government should be granted to India step by step. That declaration aroused the interest of the YMBA in and drew its attention to national politics. In December 1917 the YMBA sent to Calcutta a Myanmar delegation comprising YMBA leading members U Pe, U Ba Pe, U May Aung and U Su to meet Lord Montagu and Lord Chemsford to speak up for their mother country. But the Montagu-Chemsford Report which came out in June 1918 contained no mention of administrative reforms for Myanmar.

Therefore on 18 June 1919 the YMBA sent to London three YMBA representatives namely U Ba Pe, U Pu and U Hun Shein to put up Myanmar's case. But the British Government ignored Myanmar's demand. When another delegation with U Ba Pe, U Pu and U Thein Maung was sent to London in 1920 pressing Myanmar's demand for self-government, the British Government gave the promise that self-government be given to Myanmar on par with India. In that way the YMBA was gradually drawn into national politics. The sixth YMBA conference was held in 1918 in Mawlamyine, the seventh conference in 1919 in Pathein and the eighth conference in 1920 in Pyay. It was at the eighth conference that over 2000 YMBA branch associations were amalgamated into GCBA (General Council of Burmese (Myanmar) Association).

In 1927-28 the YMBA under the chairmanship of U Ba Si, Barat-Law, was moved to Spark Street (Now Bo Aung Gyaw Lan). In 1929, under the chairmanship of U Maung Maung Ohn Gaing it was moved to Pansodan Street where it stayed till 1935. Later, under the chairmanship of U Thein Maung, Barat-Law, it was moved to the corner of Spark street and Dalhousie Road (now Maha Bandoola Lan) where it stayed for three years. Later, in 1938 it finally found its permanent place in Yay Kyaw Lan. A new building was built in 1952.

The functions of the YMBA were specifically defined at the meeting held on 5 July 1932. The YMBA was a non-political association and it was not involved in local politics, although it did take a leading role in putting up Myanmar's case and demanding from the British Government administrative reforms on par with India. The YMBA constitution clearly states that the YMBA would promote Buddha Sasana, Myanmar Language and literature, education, public health and social welfare.

In accordance with these aims and objects the YMBA continues its functions and activities in the post-World War II and post-independence periods. For moral rearmament the YMBA holds Mangala Sutta examinations, sports for public health, publishes books, booklets and magazines pertaining to Buddha Sasana public education and general knowledge, holds talks and lectures on Myanmar culture and literature. At the end of 12th Mangala Sutta Examination the number of candidates reached 257,211. The Head of State gave award of Mingala scholarship. **

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Exposé and inform destructive acts of terrorists sent by FTUB

**NAV PHY TAW, 4 May —** Expatriate terrorists are plotting to send saboteurs to the nation with the sinister intention of disturbing peace and stability of the nation and the prevalence of law and inflicting death and injury to innocent people by planting bombs at public places and development infrastructures of the nation.

Regarding it, people have been informed through press conferences and dailies.

Acting on information received on 3 May, altogether 4 people including Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai, NDD Their Win, Min Din and former commander Shwe Sai of KNU brigade 6 met secretly at the FTUB Office in Maesot, Thailand. At their secret meeting, it was agreed that members of a destructive group Ye Thwe (a) Aung Ye Thwe (a) Than Myint Aung and Balagyi (a) Myo Gyi who were in Kyimyindine Township at the order of Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai, were to be recalled before 21 May and sent to refugee camp. Then the arrangements were to be made for them to leave for the U.S.A.

FTUB which are committing the destructive acts in the nation have been declared by the State as an unlawful organization and its Secretary Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai and members as the terrorists. At present, FTUB and cohorts are making plans to commit terrorist acts in cohorts with aboveground political parties. People have been alerted to expose and inform the destructive acts of terrorists for people’s safety through the cooperation with security force members.
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye
(duty in Myanmar and his successor Brigadier-General ANM Shawkat Jamal, ndc, psc, at Bayintnaung Hall in Nay Pyi Taw City.
Also present were Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein and Commander-in-Chief (Air) Li-Gen Myat Hein. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye shakes hands with Bangladeshi Military Attache' Brigadier-General Helal Uddin, Ahmed, PSC, who completed his duties, at Bayintnaung Hall in Nay Pyi Taw City. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye shakes hands with newly-appointed Bangladeshi Military Attache' Brigadier-General ANM Shawkat Jamal ndc, psc at Bayintnaung Hall in Nay Pyi Taw City. — MNA

Cadets of DSMA visit MMCWA

YANGON, 4 May — Under the arrangements of the State, the palm oil imported from Malaysia, Indonesia, and Singapore is being sold to the public at a reasonable price.

A MT-AMA-3 sea-going vessel carrying 2900 tons of palm oil arrived at Asia World Port Terminal at noon today. The palm oil-loaded vessels will continue to arrive on 7 and 8 May. — MNA

Palm oil-loaded vessels arrive

YANGON, 4 May — Rampant in all the world nations today is trafficking in persons designed to make profits from sex trade or to exploit forced labour of the victims. With the concept that human trafficking harms the dignity of human beings as well as national prestige and integrity that Myanmar people value and preserve, the government has been combating human trafficking as a national duty in collaboration with local social organizations and international community and regional countries.

Thanks to the cooperation of Kyephan Police Force of the neighbouring country, Muse Township Special Squad for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons managed to expose a case in April in which eight young national women were enticed and brought to the neighbouring country through Muse Township with the intention of trafficking them and two culprits were arrested.

Aik Shwe, 41, and Ma Aye Li, 31, of Hsenwi Township lured eight young national race women from a village in Hsenwi Township under the pretext of finding jobs in sugarcane harvesting in Nant Owin Village, Muse Township, and took them to a lodging house in Kyephan in the neighbouring country via Pankhan jetty near Muse on 5 April evening.

On arrival at the guest house, Aik Shwe and Ma Aye Li said that the job of sugarcane harvesting was not available and they forcibly seduced the women into doing jobs unacceptable to the latter for overall transportation charges of K 100,000 for one woman each the two had spent. Then, the eight tried to escape. Five out of the eight arrived home safe and sound on 14 April.

The remaining three were held captive in the house of Aik San in Kyephan and one of them managed to escape from the captivity. The escaped one was given protective custody by Muse Township Special Squad for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons. And the squad saved the remaining two on 16 April with the cooperation and coordination of Kyephan Police Force.

Officials of respective local authorities, women's affairs organizations and the Social Welfare Department consoled and briefed the victims on evil effects of being trafficked. They also provided necessary assistance for them and sent them back to their homes.

Hsenwi Township Police Force filed a lawsuit to take action against the two human traffickers. — MNA
Industrial zones set up to enable…

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factories and workshops and they are to extend their works by seeking appropriate ways. In addition, fire prevention measures are to be taken in the industrial zone.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint viewed automobile and parts, hydel power equipment and farming machinery at the booth of the industrial zone.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and the commander attended the ceremonies to grow physic nut plants in Sakhangyi Village of Kale Township and Kyigon Station. They viewed the rubber plantation of Kyigon Station near Sawbwa Yayshin Village of Kale Township.

At Kale Station, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions toward the steps for enhancing development and knowledge of local Shan nationals and so they were in no mood to retain the membership and already sent their letters of resignation to the SNLD office concerned on 20 April; and that they resigned from the SNLD of their own volition by sending their letter of resignation so as to freely join hands with local national brethren in various sectors for the regional development.

**SNLD’s activities designed to break…**

(from page 16)

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**Minister calls for preservation of cultural heritage**

YANGON, 4 May — Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung yesterday visited Taungthaman Kyaukdaung Stupa in Mandalay and called on officials concerned to preserve the stupa’s frescos.

Afterwards, the minister inspected U Pein Bridge across Taungthaman Lake and gave instruction for preservation of the bridge.

During his tour, Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung also visited Bagaya Monastery in Amarapura and viewed 484 Buddha images and palm leaves and paapaik preserved there.

On 2 May, the minister went to the National Theatre of the Fine Arts Department (Upper Myanmar) in Mandalay and inspected the great drum which will be placed at Beikthano Museum in Taungbyon. The drum is 13 ft long and 16 ft and 3 inches in circumference.
The Union of Myanmar
The State Peace and Development Council
The Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product Law

The objectives of this Law are as follows;

3. The objectives of this Law are as follows:
(a) to convince the public that health can be adversely affected due to smoking and consumption of tobacco product and to cause refraining from the use of the same;
(b) to protect from the danger which affects public health adversely by creating tobacco smoke-free environment;
(c) to obtain a healthy living style of the public including child and youth by preventing the habit of smoking and consumption of tobacco product;
(d) to uplift the health, economy and social standard of the public through control of smoking and consumption of tobacco product;
(e) to implement measures in conformity with the international convention ratified by Myanmar to control smoking and consumption of tobacco product;

Chapter III
Formation of the Central Board of the Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product, and Functions and Duties thereof

4. The Government:
(a) shall form the Central Board of the Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product comprising Minister of the Ministry of Health as Chairman, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Health as Vice-Chairman, Director-General of the Department of Health as Secretary, a person assigned with duty to lead the task for control of smoking and consumption of tobacco product as joint secretary and service personnel and experts from the relevant government department and organizations as members.
(b) may re-organize the Central Board formed under sub-section (a), as may be necessary.

5. The functions and duties of the Central Board are as follows;
(a) laying down policy to implement the objectives of this law;
(b) carrying out measures to create tobacco smoke-free environment for protecting the public from the dangers of tobacco smoke;
(c) giving guidance to lay down and carry out tobacco cessation program;
(d) giving guidance to carry out educative work to let the public be aware extensively that smoking and consumption of tobacco product are dangerous to health;
(e) giving guidance to hold exhortative exhibitions, seminars, workshops and health talks for reduction of smoking and consumption of tobacco product;
(f) giving guidance to carry out research works in respect of smoking and consumption of tobacco product;
(g) co-operation and co-ordination with the relevant Government departments and organizations for enabling the control of smoking and consumption of tobacco product;
(h) communicating with international organizations, regional organizations, local and foreign non-governmental organizations for carrying out effectively the control of smoking and consumption of tobacco product;
(i) formation of the supervisory bodies at the State, Division and Township levels and determining the functions and duties thereof for carrying out the control of smoking and consumption of tobacco product;
(j) formation of necessary committees and determining their functions and duties to implement them.

Chapter IV
Non-Smoking Areas

6. The following compounds, buildings, rooms and places are non-smoking areas:
(a) hospital buildings, offices, compounds and other buildings in the compound except staff houses and apartments in the hospital compound;
(b) medical treatment centres and clinics;
(c) stadium and indoor playing fields;
(d) children drill sheds and playgrounds;
(e) teaching buildings, classrooms, offices, compounds and other buildings in the compound except staff houses and apartments in the school compound;
(f) teaching buildings of universities, degree colleges, colleges and institutes, classrooms and offices;
(g) opera houses, cinema halls, video halls and other buildings of entertainment;
(h) marts, department stores, stores and market sheds;
(i) museums, archives, public libraries and reading rooms;
(j) elevators and escalators;
(k) motor vehicles and aircrafts for passenger transport;
(l) air-conditioned public rooms;
(m) public auditoriums;
(n) teaching buildings and classrooms of private tuition classes and training schools;
(o) other public compounds, buildings and places prescribed through notification by the Ministry of Health.

7. Places to which the public have access in the following buildings, vehicles and crafts are non-smoking areas except the private offices and rooms. However, specific places where smoking is allowed, shall be arranged in such areas:
(a) buildings of offices and departments;
(b) buildings of factories and workshops;
(c) buildings of hotels, motels, guest houses and lodging houses;
(d) buildings of railway stations, airports, ports and highway bus terminals;
(e) restaurants;
(f) trains and vessels for passenger transport;
(g) other public buildings, rooms and places prescribed through notification by the Ministry of Health.

Chapter V
The Functions and Duties of the Ministry of Health

8. The functions and duties of the Ministry of Health relating to the control of smoking and consumption of tobacco product are as follows:
(a) implementing the policies and guidelines laid down by the Central Board;
(b) implementing the works of control of smoking and consumption of tobacco product in accordance with the objectives of this Law;
(c) determining the requirements to be arranged at the specific area where smoking is allowed as mentioned in section 7;
(d) determining the caption and marks referring to make known the non-smoking area and specific smoking area;
(e) determining the caption of warning in Myanmar language, to be mentioned on the package of cigar that smoking can seriously affect health and other necessary warnings;
(f) arranging and carrying out counselling and treatment for cessation of smoking and consumption of tobacco product;
(g) in performing the functions of the control of smoking and consumption of tobacco product, communicating and coordinating with the relevant government departments and organizations, international organizations, regional organizations and local and foreign non-governmental organizations;
(h) laying down and carrying out the necessary arrangements to enable implementing effectively the measures for control of smoking and consumption of tobacco product;
(i) submitting to the Central Board the report of actions in respect of the control of smoking and consumption of tobacco product.

Chapter VI
Functions and Duties of Person-in-charge

9. The person-in-charge shall:
(a) keep the caption and mark referring that it is a non-smoking area at the place mentioned in section 6 in accordance with the stipulations.
(b) arrange the specific place where smoking is allowed as mentioned in section 7, and keep the caption and mark also referring that it is a specific place where smoking is allowed, in accordance with the stipulations;
(c) supervise and carry out measures so that no one shall smoke at the non-smoking area.
(d) accept the inspection when the supervisory body comes to the place for which he is responsible.

Chapter VII
Actions taken by Administrative Means

10. The person-in-charge of any university, degree college, college, institute, school, private tuition class and training school may pass any of the following orders on a person who smokes or holds lighted cigar at the place mentioned in sub-sections (e), (f) and (n) of section 6:
(a) educating, warning and informing the parents or guardian for the first offence;
(b) taking action in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the relevant ministry in coordination with the Central Board, for subsequent offences.

See page 11)
The Union of Myanmar
The State Peace and Development Council
The Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product Law
(from page 10)

Chapter VIII
Offences and Penalties

11. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with a fine from a minimum of kyats 20000 to a maximum of kyats 30000 for the first offence and be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 2 years and shall also be liable to a fine from a minimum of kyats 30000 to a maximum of kyats 200000 for second and subsequent offences:
   (a) setting up signboard of advertisement, advertising by drawing, hanging the advertisement, affixing advertisement, distributing pamphlet of advertisement or advertising by other means;
   (b) broadcasting or displaying by radio, film, television and video or by communication system using high technology from the mass media channels;
   (c) describing in publishing in newspapers, journals, magazines and pamphlets or distributing the same;
   (d) distributing free of charge, handing out or giving as present containing the label of cigar and tobacco product;
   (e) sponsoring or rendering service to hold athletic game, funfair or exhibition or any welfare activity;
   (f) describing the label of cigar and tobacco product on any personal goods;
   (g) carrying out by any other means.

12. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both:
   (a) obstruction, disturbance, prohibition or commission of assault to any member of Supervisory Body who comes and inspects under this Law;
   (b) obstruction, disturbance, prohibition or commission of assault on the person-in-charge who supervises to prevent smoking at the non-smoking area.

13. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with a fine from a minimum of kyats 10000 to a maximum of kyats 30000 for the first offence and be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year and shall also be liable to a fine from a minimum of kyats 30000 to a maximum of kyats 100000 for second and subsequent offences:
   (a) production, distribution or sale of cigar without mentioning the caption of warning in Myanmar language to be mentioned on the package of cigar that smoking can seriously affect health and other necessary warnings in accordance with the stipulations;
   (b) production of cigar and tobacco product fraudulently mentioning that the toxic chemical potency is less than the amount prescribed by the Central Board in cigar and tobacco production, distribution or sale thereof in spite of knowing such fact mentioned;
   (c) production, distribution or sale of cigar and tobacco product without label for commercial purpose;
   (d) production, distribution or sale of any other goods showing the label of any cigar and tobacco product;
   (e) production, distribution or sale of toys, edibles or wares made in the form of cigar.

14. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with a fine from a minimum of kyats 10000 to a maximum of kyats 30000 for the first offence and be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year and shall also be liable to a fine from a minimum of kyats 30000 to a maximum of kyats 100000 for second and subsequent offences:
   (a) selling cigar within the compound and within 100 yards from the compound of a school;
   (b) giving in addition, giving as present or jointly giving directly or indirectly, any cigar and tobacco products in distributing or selling any goods, or any article in distributing or selling cigar and tobacco products;
   (c) selling the cigar by vending machine;
   (d) selling or giving cigar to a person who has not attained the age of eighteen;
   (e) employing a person who has not attained the age of eighteen in distributing or selling cigar;
   (f) exchanging the cigar with any goods from a person who has not attained the age of eighteen;
   (g) destroying the caption and marking the place where smoking is not allowed or where smoking is allowed.

15. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with a fine from a minimum of kyats 3000 to a maximum of kyats 10000 for the first offence and be punished with a fine from a minimum of kyats 3000 to a maximum of kyats 30000 for second and subsequent offences:
   (a) sale of cigarette singly or in a package containing less than 20 to enable easy purchase and smoking;
   (b) if being a vendor of cigar, fails to mention conspicuously at the place of sale, the caption of warning in Myanmar language that smoking can seriously affect health,
   (c) if being a vendor of cigar, fails to mention conspicuously at the place of sale, the caption informing in Myanmar language that sale is not made to a person who has not attained the age of eighteen.

16. Any person-in-charge who fails to comply with any duty contained in section 9 shall, on conviction, be punished with a fine from a minimum of kyats 1000 to a maximum of kyats 3000 for the first offence and be punished with a fine from a minimum of kyats 3000 to a maximum of kyats 10000 for the second and subsequent offences.

17. Whoever commits smoking or holding lighted cigar in any non-smoking area under sections 6 and 7, except places prescribed in sub-sections (e), (f) and (n) of section 6 shall, on conviction, be punished with a fine from a minimum of kyats 1000 to a maximum of kyats 3000.

Chapter IX
Miscellaneous

18. (a) Offences contained in Chapter VIII of this Law are determined as cognizable offences.
   (b) The responsible Police Officer concerned shall cause the person apprehended under section 17 to give a surety on a personal bond or other appropriate bond to appear before the relevant Court on the appointed day.

19. In implementing the provisions of this Law:
   (a) the Ministry of Health may, with the approval of the Government, issue necessary rules and procedures;
   (b) the Ministry of Health and relevant ministries may issue necessary notifications, orders and directives and the Department of Health sale in the following sections of this Law.

20. The Prohibition of Smoking at the Entertainment Buildings Act, 1959 is hereby repealed.

(Sd.) Than Shwe
Senior General
Chairman
The State Peace and Development Council

Myanmar Industrial & Commercial Directory 2006 comes out

YANGON, 4 May — Novel Light Media Ltd of 234, 40th Street, Kyauktada Township, published 7th edition of Myanmar Industrial & Commercial Directory 2006 recently. Telephone numbers of hospitals, government departments, matters related to foreign missions in Myanmar and Myanmar embassies abroad, commerce and industrial organizations are included in the directory. Furthermore, the directory carries over 500 topics of business with fast find index. Any person may put their advertisement in the directory. Complimentary copies of the directory are being distributed to associations under UMFFCI, embassies of foreign countries and Myanmar embassies abroad, air lines, UN agencies, companies, hotels, and tourism services.

Director U Hla Myint of Pedrollo Water Pump Co presents sports gear for Hockey to Headmistress of Hlegu Basic Education High School recently at the concluding ceremony of the summer sports training courses of the school on 4-5-2006.—(MYANMAR HOCKEY FEDERATION)

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.
The second best time is now.
MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
ROAD TRANSPORT YANGON DIVISION
INVITATION TO TENDER
TENDER NO. 001/ME/2006-2007

1. Sealed Tenders from eligible suppliers are invited for the supply of following Reconditioned Engine Ass’y & Rear Axle Ass’y prices to be quoted in Myanmar Kyats-
   (a) Reconditioned Engine (HINO HO 7C/HO7D) Ass’y, with Gear Box Ass’y, (HP 175) (120 Sets) (b) Reconditioned Rear Axle (HINO/ NISSAN 14 Ton) Ass’y; (120 Sets)

2. (a) Tender Documents are available at the Office of Procurement & Stores Department, Road Transport, No. 375 Bogyoke Aung San Street, Yangon, Myanmar, Commencing on the, 5th May 2006.
   (b) Tender will be closed on 22nd May 2006 at (16:00) Hours

3. Detailed Information will be available at the Office of the Procurement & Stores Department, Phone Nos -01-252574 (or) 01-376549

ROAD TRANSPORT

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PRECIOUS RIVER VOY NO (607)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PRECIOUS RIVER VOY NO (607) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.5.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie for the Claims Day.

The vessel will be arriving on 5.5.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie for the Claims Day. The vessel will be arriving on 5.5.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie for the Claims Day.

The number of threatened animal and plant species has increased to 16,119, the Swiss-based World Conservation Union (IUCN) said on Tuesday.

The ranks of those facing extinction are newly joined by familiar species like the polar bear, hippopotamus and desert gazelles as well as ocean sharks, some freshwater fish and Mediterranean flowers, according to the organization’s 2006 Red List of Threatened Species.

The IUCN’s previous Red List, which was published in 2004, estimated the number of threatened species at about 15,500.

Activities of human beings are the main cause for most species’ decline, mainly through habitat destruction, according to IUCN.

The Red List brings into sharp focus the ongoing decline of the earth’s biodiversity and the impact mankind is having upon life on earth,” it said.

IUCN says number of threatened species exceeds 16,000

UNITED NATIONS, 3 May— UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan unveiled on Tuesday his recommendations for the world’s first comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy to the 191-nation General Assembly.

In the address, Annan highlighted that the recommendations stem from a fundamental conviction shared by all that “terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purposes, is unacceptable and can never be justified”.

“All states, in every region — large or small, strong or weak — are vulnerable to terrorism and its consequences. They all stand to benefit from a strategy to counter it. They all have a role to play in shaping such a strategy, in implementing it, and in ensuring that it is continuously to respond to challenges as they evolve.”

In compiling the report, Annan was assisted by a multi-agency counter-terrorism task force, and he said that throughout the document he had built on ideas outlined in Spain in 2005 on the 1st anniversary of the train bombings that killed and maimed more than 1,600 people.

Annan unveils first global counter-terrorism strategy

GUATEMALA CITY, 3 May — Guatemalan archaeologists Hector Escobedo (L) and Juan Carlos Melendez uncover the remains of an ancient Mayan king at the EL Peru Waka archaeological site on 1 May, 2006. —INTERNET

Kuwait hangs five men convicted of rape, other crimes

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Zimbabwe relaxes exchange regulations to attract foreign investment

HARARE, 3 May — The Zimbabwean Government has relaxed its foreign exchange regulations to attract more foreign currency and investment, economic observers here said on Monday.

As one of the major targets under the New Economic Development Priority Programme launched two weeks ago, Gideon Gono, governor of the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, the country’s central bank, has announced that the country would receive over 2.5 billion US dollars in cash and investment within the next three months.

Various efforts are being pursued to ensure exporters bring in the much-needed hard currency.

Last week, the central bank abolished the sale of the 30 per cent export receipts threshold at the official 30,000 Zimbabwe dollars against the US dollar. This enables exporters to liquidate 100 per cent of their foreign earnings at the ruling interbank exchange rate of 100.193 Zimbabwe dollars versus one US dollar.

Analysts said the new policy would greatly enhance exporter viability.

The stability of the Zimbabwe dollar versus key foreign currencies over the last few months has worked in the interests and holders of foreign currency-denominated debt.

Previously, exporters were required to sell only 70 per cent of their foreign earnings at the interbank rate while the remainder was disposed using the auction rate.

Financial experts here believed that the Zimbabwe dollar is to remain stable against major currencies in the short term, although foreign currency shortages are likely to persist.

However, what the new measure has done is to submerge exporter calls for devaluation, as well as addressing to some extent the disparities between input and output costs.

Observers said that Zimbabwe continues to face foreign currency challenges due to a combination of successive droughts, a declining export base and lack of balance of payments support from multilateral lending institutions.

Zimbabwe relaxes exchange regulations to attract foreign investment

KUWAIT, 3 May — Kuwait publicly hanged on Tuesday five men convicted of various crimes including rape, murder and drug smuggling, the state news agency KUNA said.

It said the men, three Kuwaitis, an Indian and a Pakistani, were the largest number of people put to death in a single day since 1991.

MNA/Reuters

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Zimbabwe relaxes exchange regulations to attract foreign investment
Israel launches world’s first underwater museum

JERUSALEM, 3 May—Israel has launched the world’s first underwater museum from the remains of what was once the most impressive port in the Roman Empire.

Divers can now don their wet suits and tour the sign-posted remains of the magnificent harbour of Caesarea along the Mediterranean coast of Israel built by King Herod to honour his Roman patron, Caesar Augustus.

The visitors get to see some 36 different sign-posted sites along four marked trails in the sunken harbour covering an area of 87,000 square yards. A water-proof map, in Hebrew and English, provided to them describes in detail each of the numbered sites along the way.

One trail is also accessible to snorkelers, while the others, ranging from seven to 29 feet below the surface, close to the beach, are accessible for any diver just beginning to learn the skill.

The museum showcases an abrogated history of this once prominent port town from its entrance at sea, about 350 feet from the current shoreline, to the Roman shipwreck that signalled the demise of the port.

Researchers believe that it happened probably due to an earthquake about a century after its construction.

Indonesia warns Star Group against pay TV monopoly

JAKARTA, 3 May—Indonesia on Tuesday accused US-based global pay TV operator Star Group of monopolistic business and threatened to ban the company’s channels from airing in the country.

“We warned Star Group that they have misused their dominant position here,” Minister of Communication and Information Sofyan Djalil told a Press conference here.

The warning followed a dispute between Star Group and local operator Indovision, which accused the former of unilaterally terminating its six channels, including Star Sports, Star World, Star Movies, National Geographic Channel, ESPN sports and Channel V Indovision.

On Monday ran a newspaper advertisement to apologize subscribers for not airing the six channels, saying it had failed to extend its contract with Star Group.

The Star Group’s channels also disappeared from two other local operators, Telekomvision and IM2. “The government bans six Star Group channels from airing in Indonesia from this midnight until there is a decision by the Business Competition Supervisory Agency,” Sofyan said.

While terminating contracts with local operators, Star Group awarded exclusive broadcast rights to newly-established PT Direct Vision, he said.

China imports more high-grade cars

BEIJING, 3 May—Data from the Ministry of Commerce showed on Monday that the average unit price of imported cars in China reached nearly 40,000 US dollars in the first three months this year. This might indicated that China has been importing more high-grade autos.

Statistics from the General Administration of Customs showed in the January-March period, China imported 50,990 units of Vehicles (including whole sets of spare parts) which valued at 1.7 billion dollars, an increase of 103.5 per cent and 109 per cent year on year, respectively.

Among the imported automobiles, nine-seat cross-country vehicles accounted for 64.6 per cent of the total, and as of sedans, 42.4 per cent. The rest were trucks, small- and medium-sized passenger cars and vehicles for special use.

In the first quarter of this year, China imported 23,233 units of four-wheel drive cross-country vehicles valued at 672 million dollars, a rise of 202 per cent and 205 per cent from the corresponding period of 2005. The average unit price of the cross-country vehicles stood at 29,800 dollars. — MNA/Xinhua

Poll shows career and fun more important than having kids

LONDON, 3 May—Britons are putting their careers and enjoyment ahead of having a family, according to the country’s low birth rate, according to a poll on Tuesday. Prospective parents feel forced to delay having children because they are concentrating on their jobs and the problem of finding a partner, it said.

The fertility rate in Britain in 2004 was 1.77 children per woman, down from a 1960s peak of 2.95, according to the Office of National Statistics, whose figures also showed 20 per cent of women end their fertile life childless compared with 10 per cent 60 years ago.

The EU’s fertility rate in 2003 was just 1.48, well below the level of 2.1 children considered needed to replace the dying population.

According to the Guardian/ICM poll of 1,006 adults, both men (64 per cent) and women (51 per cent) said it was more important for women to enjoy themselves than to have children.

Only 32 per cent of men thought women should put children ahead of work compared with 36 per cent of women.

The survey showed 79 per cent thought the best age to give birth was under 30, in contrast to the reality that 49 per cent of mothers are now over this age when they give birth.

The poll also found that 63 per cent said the problem of combining work with family life was a deterrent to having children while 54 per cent were put off by the cost. — MNA/Reuters

Disaster families seek apology from Zambian soccer association

LUKASAKA, 3 May—Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) has been asked by families of the 1993 Gabon air disaster to apologize within one week for suggesting that 28 April be turned into a day of celebration. Families’ representative Trustdiah Chabala was quoted by Tuesday’s Daily Mail as saying the 30 families were aggrieved by FAZ’s move to celebrate the sad day, noting it was “inhuman”.

Their suggestion to turn 28 April into celebration is inhuman and we are looking forward to them to beg for forgiveness,” Chabala said. She said the families would meet this week to chart the way forward following the FAZ “error”.

Meanwhile, Chabala also asked FAZ to stop using the disaster as an excuse to raise funds. The 1993 air crash saw 30 people, including 18 members of Zambia’s national team, die on their way to play Senegal for the 1994 World Cup qualifying match. — MNA/Xinhua

Cyclists start the competition of the 1st Tour of Hong Kong-Shanghai held in Shanghai, on 3 May, 2006. About 110 athletes and 13 teams took part in the event. —INTERNET

Children jubilate among azalea on the Longquan Mountain in Danchuan County, southwest China’s Guizhou Province, on 1 May, 2006. The azalea blossoming on the mountain attracted many tourists during the May Day holidays.—INTERNET
Ulsan Horang-i reaches AFC Champions League quarterfinals

SEOUL, 4 May — Ulsan Horang-i advanced to the quarterfinals of the AFC Champions League after beating Tokyo Verdy 1-0 at home on Wednesday.

South Korea international Lee Chun-soo scored the only goal of the game with a stunning free-kick that gave Verdy goalkeeper Yoshinham Takagi little chance and guaranteed Ulsan’s place ahead of the Japanese side in the two-group F.

The K-League champion only needed to avoid defeat after beating the 2005 Emperor’s Cup winner 2-0 in Japan on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on Matchday One after the expulsion of Indonesia’s Arema Medang and glossed on

Chinese flex muscles in world team quarterfinals

Tokyo, 4 May — China moved closer to defending their titles in the Thomas and Uber Cups with easy quarterfinals victories on Wednesday.

World number one Lin Dan complained about the lights and air-conditioning but was still able to spark China’s 3-0 victory over England with a 18-21, 21-12, 21-12 win over Andrew Smith.

China also won the doubles before Bao Chunlai sealed their place in the semifinals of the men’s world team event by beating Nick KIdder 21-12, 21-15.

“I made some silly mistakes while I was ahead in the first game but it was just a case of getting used to the conditions in the gym,” Lin told reporters.

“I found some form in the next two games after I came to terms with the lights and the cold from the air-conditioning.”

China’s men take on Indonesia in Friday’s Thomas Cup semifinals after the 13 times champions overcame hosts Japan 3-1.

Olympic and world champion Taufik Hidayat was stunned 20-22, 21-16, 24-22 by Shoji Sato in the opening rubber before the Indonesia side came roaring back to win the next three. “It was always going to be difficult against the Thomas Cup,” said Hidayat, who has been struggling with a back injury.

“I will work to get back to fitness when I get home.”

Denmark eased into the semifinals with a 3-0 victory over India. — MNA/Reuters

Venus Williams earns first victory of 2006

WARSAW, 4 May — Venus Williams earned her first victory of 2006 on Wednesday when she defeated Urszula Radwanska 6-3, 6-3 to win 121-120.

Williams said of her dominating victory: “I was really eager and ready to go. It was exciting,” Williams told reporters. “All in all I’m happy. You can talk for too much more.

“At this stage every match is important to me, to get a rhythm and start dominating hopefully.

“Basically I strained a ligament in my elbow,” Williams said of her injury. “It was like a golfers’ elbow. It was a really hard place to heal and it just took time.

“I was always practising a lot but I couldn’t serve. That was a big problem, so I had to wait until my arm didn’t hurt before I could serve.

“I really didn’t want any more Australian Opens where I wasn’t playing at 100 per cent with preparation or health. I just didn’t want to come back until I knew I could do that.”

MNA/Reuters

Draw sends Gamba crashing out of AFC Champions League

Tokyo, 4 May — Gamba Osaka’s hopes of becoming the first J1 League side to progress to the quarterfinals of the AFC Champions League evaporated on Wednesday when it drew 1-1 with Jeonbuk Hyundai Motors.

The draw, coupled with a defeat against Jeonbuk in the teams’ first meeting in South Korea in March, means the J.League champion can finish no better than second in Group E.

Last week’s 2-0 defeat left the hands of Dalian had left Gamba needing to win both of its remaining games and relies on other results to have any chance of qualifying for the knockout phase.

Playing before a crowd of 12,470 at Expo “70 Stadium, the Osakans tried to play their usual passing game but they lacked their usual sharpness and were unable to score a significant breakthrough against the Jeonbuk defence.

The home side, though, did create the best of the early openings, but neither Magnus Alves in the ninth minute nor Masafumi Maeda’s 15th minute attempt caused Jeonbuk goalkeeper Kwon Sun-tae any serious concern.

As the game approached the half-hour mark, the tide started to turn against Gamba as Akira Nishino’s side carelessly started to give away possession. Two minutes into time added on at the end of the first half, the South Koreans finally struck. Ze Carlo beat Gamba midfielder Hides Hashimoto to the ball before feeding Botti, whose long ball found Cho Jin- soo and he beat Tsukeyasu Miyamoto before firing home.

MNA/Xinhua

Oraje beat Siroki Bjeg to win Bosnian Cup

SARAJEVO, 4 May — Oraje won their first Bosnian Cup on Wednesday to earn a UEFA Cup qualifying spot beating Siroki Bjeg 3-0 in the second leg of the final.

After goalless first leg, Oraje broke the deadlock in the second half thanks to two goals by Ivo Pejic and one by Slavko Kobas.

Last month Siroki won their second Bosnian title in three years and earned a place in the preliminary round of UEFA Champions League.

MNA/Reuters

Lee back on track after winning Downpatrick 6-3, 6-3 to win 121-120.

Venus Williams earned her first victory of 2006 on Wednesday when she defeated Urszula Radwanska 6-3, 6-3 to win 121-120.

Williams said of her dominating victory: “I was really eager and ready to go. It was exciting,” Williams told reporters. “All in all I’m happy. You can talk for too much more.

“At this stage every match is important to me, to get a rhythm and start dominating hopefully.

“Basically I strained a ligament in my elbow,” Williams said of her injury. “It was like a golfers’ elbow. It was a really hard place to heal and it just took time.

“I was always practising a lot but I couldn’t serve. That was a big problem, so I had to wait until my arm didn’t hurt before I could serve.

“I really didn’t want any more Australian Opens where I wasn’t playing at 100 per cent with preparation or health. I just didn’t want to come back until I knew I could do that.”

MNA/Reuters

LeBron James (top) of the Cleveland Cavaliers goes up for two points as Antawn Jamison of the Washington Wizards attempts to block shot in the fourth quarter of their Eastern Conference First Round, Game 5 NBA action in Cleveland, Ohio on 3 May, 2006. James scored the winning basket in overtime play to win 121-120. — INTERNET

Oranje reach the final of the UEFA Under-21 Championship in Sweden

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Indian Air Force denies “MiG-29” deployment in Tajikistan

NEW DELHI, 4 May — The Indian Air Force (IAF) has denied reports that it proposes to deploy its MiG-29 multi-role fighter jets at an air base in Tajikistan that India is helping to build and which is likely to be completed by the year-end, Indo-Asian News Service (IANS) reported Wednesday. Responding to a recent report, an IAF spokesperson claimed that the hangars being constructed by the quasi-military Border Roads Organization (BRO) at Aini, close to the Tajik capital Dushanbe, were not being built to accommodate Air Force aircraft of any sort, including trainers.

The IAF said it was also not helping Tajikistan retrofit its Soviet-era aircraft. Earlier Press reports had said the IAF was planning on “parking” a fleet of MiG-29s for “varying periods” in two of three hangars being constructed by the BRO. These hangars are capable of accommodating between 12 to 14 aircraft.

Indian defence sources have also said that the IAF is considering posting an officer of the rank of group captain to Aini to supervise the air base’s completion as per the Tajik National Day on 9 September. Presently a contingent of around 40 Indian Army and Air Force personnel, including around six officers commanded by an Army colonel, were overseeing the air base’s refurbishment, according to IANS. — MNA/Xinhua

Weather

Thursday, 4 May, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thunder-showers have been isolated in Kachin, Shan and Chin States, upper Sagain, Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in upper Sagain and Ayeayawady Divisions, (6°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperature was Minbu (40°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mogok (0.39) inch, Myitkyina and Hkamti (0.12) inch each.

Maximum temperature on 3-5-2006 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 4-5-2006 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 4-5-2006 was (71%). Total sunshine hours on 3-5-2006 was (10.2) hours (approx).

Rainfalls on 4-5-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (5.87) inches at Mingaladon, (6.65) inches at Kaba-Aye and (5.51) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (17:25) hours MST on 3-5-2006.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Southwest and Westcentral Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 5-5-2006: Rain or thunder-showers are likely to be isolated in Kachin, Rakhine and Chin States, Mandalay, Yangon, upper Sagain and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of thundery conditions in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw City and neighbouring areas for 5-5-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 5-5-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thunder-showers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 5-5-2006: Partly cloudy.

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Industrial zones set up to enable entrepreneurs to share technologies

Lt-Gen Ye Myint tours townships in Kale, Tamu Districts

YANGON, 4 May — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, together with patrons of Kale Industrial Zone Supervisory Committee Chairman of Sagaing Division PDC Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Brig-Gen Kyaw Oo Lwin of Kale Station, inspected Kale Industrial Zone in Kalay on 1 May morning. Officials reported on organizational set-up of the industrial zone. Lt-Gen Ye Myint said that industrial zones were set up to enable the entrepreneurs to share technologies. Kale Industrial Zone is to fulfil requirements of Chin State. Under the arrangements of the Government, industrialists can visit State-run (See page 9)

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects oil palm plantations, roads, bridges in Kawthoung District

YANGON, 4 May — Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence met Tatmadawmen and family members of regiments and units of Kawthoung Station at Bayintnaung Hall in Kawthoung on 1 May. Accompanied by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region (See page 9)

SNLD’s activities designed to break up national unity and push the Union to collapse

Nine members of SNLD resign of their own volition

YANGON, 4 May — Nine members of Shan Nationalities League for Democracy in Nawnghkio Township, Shan State (North) collectively signed the letter of resignation of their own accord and sent it to the Nawnghkio Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Sub-Commission on 1 May. In the letter, they said they joined the SNLD of Nawnghkio Township in 1988 with the aim of serving the interests of national races and local people; that they found that the activities of the SNLD were designed to break up national unity and push the Union to collapse; it was also found dealing with armed insurgency groups with the intention of harming stability of the State and peace; that SNLD was not capable of contributing towards nor did participate in regional development undertakings; that they had been aware of the fact that SNLD failed to join hands with local residents in the Tatmadaw’s launching the drive in collaboration with (See page 9)