

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြုစိုးတတ်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



A bee is seen on a flower on the way to Sumela Monastery, northeast of Turkey. A Turkish honey called "mad honey" for its reputed ability to induce euphoria and stimulate an erection contains a poison that can cause vomiting and heart problems.—INTERNET

Construction begins on Moscow's tallest building

Moscow, 21 Oct—Although still only in its infancy, construction has begun on the building that is to be Europe's tallest, a shiny younger brother to the dour Stalinist "Seven Sisters" skyscrapers that dominated Moscow's skyline for a half-century.

The first beam was put in place last week for the "Federation", a mixed residential and office project that will consist of two soaring glass-clad buildings linked to an even taller stiletto-like tower, due for completion in 2007. From an observation deck there, visitors will be able to view a city being transformed by a booming economy and a taste for gigantism.

The taller of the two buildings is to top out at 340 metres (1,115 feet), 76 metres (249 feet) higher than the continent's current champion — Moscow's Triumph Palace apartment high-rise. In Western Europe, the tallest building is Frankfurt's 259-metre (850-foot) Commerzbank.

With the two curved-wall buildings sloping away

from the central tower, the 315 million US dollars Federation complex will "call to mind the sails of a brigantine", its developer Mirax-City claims.

The popular weekly magazine *Vsyo Yasno* came up with a different, though equally gushing analogy: Don Quixote and Sancho Panza jointly holding a spear.

The comparison may reflect Moscow's long penchant for hugely ambitious projects that often go awry, a run of bad luck dating back to at least 1737 when the Tsar's Bell, the world's largest, cracked before it could ever be rung.

In the 1930s, Josef Stalin conceived of what would have been the world's tallest building at the time, a Palace of the Soviets topped by a gar-

gantuan statue of Vladimir Lenin that would have outstripped the Empire State Building by 34 metres (112 feet).

Moscow's main cathedral was dynamited to make way for this pinnacle of official atheism, but the ground proved to be unstable and the grandiose project was abandoned in favour of a swimming pool — which itself was destroyed after the fall of the Soviet Union and the cathedral was rebuilt.

In the 1960s, an entire neighbourhood was razed to build the Rossiya Hotel, Europe's largest. It became notorious to visitors for its nightmarishly endless corridors and a seemingly limitless supply of vermin and prostitutes. It is now being prepared for destruction.

MNA/AP

Liverpool may become first smoke-free city in Britain

LONDON, 21 Oct— Liverpool could become the first smoke-free city in Britain if councillors vote in favour of a ban on smoking in public places on Wednesday.

If the move is approved, the city's council plans to petition Parliament to pass a law banning smoking in restaurants, pubs, shops, offices and other enclosed public areas and workplaces.

The council says more than 1,000 people a year die from smoking-related

diseases in Liverpool.

"We have a duty to protect employees and customers alike from this real danger," Councillor Richard Oglethorpe, the city council's executive member for green issues, said in a statement.

Under the council's plans, firms or individu-

als who flout the new law would face fines of up to 1,000 pounds.

Health experts have urged Britain to follow Ireland's example and ban smoking in public workplaces, which would include bars, restaurants and pubs.

MNA/Reuters

French President meets with Chinese Defence Minister

PARIS, 21 Oct — French President Jacques Chirac received Wednesday Chinese Defence Minister Cao Gangchuan, wishing for development of dialogue and cooperation between Chinese and French Defence ministries.

Their meeting followed talks between Cao and French Defence Minister Michele Alliot-Marie on the eve over reinforcement of defence cooperation between the two countries.

In the presence of Alliot-Marie, Chirac thanked Chinese authorities for the exceptional reception reserved for his state visit to China and "expressed the wish that dialogue and cooperation between the French and Chinese (Defence) ministries develop in the spirit of the global strategic partnership between the two countries," said Chirac's spokesman Jerome Bonnafont.

Chirac mentioned notably the medical field and the cooperation of participation in UN peacekeeping operations.

MNA/Xinhua

Jordan reduces mortality rate of children under five

AMMAN, 21 Oct— Jordan significantly reduced its mortality rate of children under five by 2.4 per cent in the last 10 years, said the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in its latest "Progress of Children" report.

However, UNICEF Health Adviser for the Middle East region Mahendra Sheth told local Press that further reducing under-five mortality and nutritional gaps require Jordanian Government's efforts over the

next five years.

Jordan's Demographics and Health Survey said recently that the country's under-five child mortality rate still stand at 27 per 1,000 live births.

MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese Long March 3-A carrier rocket blasts off from the Xichang launching site on 25 May, 2003.

China has launched a meteorological satellite capable of monitoring natural disasters.—INTERNET

Zimbabwe exports 48 million kilos of tobacco in 9 months

HARARE, 21 Oct— Zimbabwe has exported more than 48 million kilos of tobacco worth 151.2 million US dollars in the past nine months of 2004, the Tobacco Industry and Marketing Board (TIMB) said on Tuesday.

TIMB said a total of 48.66 million kilos of both flue cured and burley tobacco were exported to different parts of the world from January to September. Of the exports, flue-cured tobacco accounted for 47.8 million kilos while burley accounted for

846,400 kilos.

The bulk of the exports in 2004 went to the European Union, which accounted for 18.8 million kilos, followed by East Asia with 14 million kilos.

The rest of Europe imported 5.8 million kilos

from the country. Africa 4.7 million kilos while the Middle East accounted for 4.2 million kilos. The statistics further show that the European Union bloc has been the largest importer of Zimbabwean tobacco over the last three years.—MNA/Xinhua

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Man Utd held 0-0 draw at Sparta

PRAGUE, 20 Oct— Manchester United were held 0-0 at Sparta Prague in their Champions League Group D match on Tuesday, the first time in 15 outings that the English side have failed to score in a European match. United's teenage forward Wayne Rooney failed to repeat his heroics of two weeks ago.

The 18-year-old, who scored a hat-trick on his United debut in the demolition of Fenerbahce at Old Trafford, showed flashes of his prowess and twice shot narrowly wide in the first half.

But Sparta came closest with two chances just before halftime. United's former winger Karel Poborsky, Sparta's captain, forced United keeper Roy Carroll into a good save with a shot from the right. Then defender Jiri Homola headed the corner kick against the top of the post.

The home side could also have gone ahead in the 72nd minute when Tomas Jun was sent clear by midfielder Lukas Zelenka's header, but with only Carroll to beat he was foiled by the goalkeeper, who saved with his feet.—MNA/Reuters

Owen scores first goal for Real

MADRID, 20 Oct — Michael Owen scored his first Real Madrid goal on Tuesday to earn the nine-times European champions an edgy 1-0 win over Dynamo Kiev and leave Group B finely poised at the halfway stage.

The England striker slid in to convert a Ronaldo cross from close-range in the 35th minute at a rainswept Bernabeu and open his account for the Spanish club following a close-season move from Liverpool.

Real went close again through Ronaldo eight minutes into the second half but there were few

other clear chances for the home side, who were barely clinging on by the end of the game.

Real, beaten 3-0 away to Bayer Leverkusen in their opening game, revived their campaign with a 4-2 comeback win over Roma last month and a second successive home win was enough to put them level with

Leverkusen and Kiev on six points.

Mariano Garcia Remon chose the most attacking line-up at his disposal for another must-win match and for the first few minutes Kiev seemed overawed at the sight of Owen, Ronaldo, Raul, Zinedine Zidane and Luis Figo bearing down on them. Ronaldo almost made them pay for hesitant defending in the fourth minute when he closed in on goal and smacked in a shot that Olexander Shovkovsky did well to turn away.

Two minutes later the keeper made a mess of a Raul cross but redeemed himself by palming clear Figo's first-time shot from the edge of the box.

Zidane struck a post with a low free kick after Figo had been fouled in the 11th minute and Raul took advantage of more artless defending to race towards goal and fire wide. Real were unable to maintain the pace of their attacks for much longer and Kiev began to go forward with menace themselves.

Kleber had good claims for a penalty when he was bundled over by Francisco Pavon and Maksim Shatskikh was only fractionally wide with a sweet shot from just inside the area after a neat move down the right.

MNA/Reuters

Deportivo hold Liverpool to 0-0 draw

LIVERPOOL(England), 20 Oct — Deportivo La Coruna rode their luck on Tuesday as they held Liverpool to a 0-0 draw that keeps their slender hopes of qualifying for the next stage of the Champions League alive.

Liverpool's Djibril Cisse, Milan Baros and Luis Garcia were all denied as the Spanish team secured their second point in Group A, although they are yet to find the net. Deportivo barely threatened Liverpool, with lone striker Walter Pandian an isolated figure in attack.

Rafael Benitez's high-tempo Liverpool side wasted several chances in the opening half, although Deportivo right back

Manuel Pablo made some crucial blocks.

He dashed back to block Cisse's shot after the ball had broken to him in the area from Garcia's tackle.

Pablo then denied Baros when the Czech forward raced on to Dietmar Hamann's defence-splitting pass and rounded goalkeeper Jose Molina.

Molina also tipped Garcia's close range shot

over the bar when the impressive Xabi Alonso's drive deflected to him behind the visitor's defence.

Despite their defensive approach, Deportivo — semi-finalists last season — did have an early chance to go in front.

Liverpool's marking failed them in the 15th minute, allowing Cesar a free header which John Arne Riise cleared off the line.

MNA/Reuters

Leverkusen beat Roma 3 -1

LEVERKUSEN (Germany), 20 Oct — Bayer Leverkusen rallied with three second-half goals to beat AS Roma 3-1 in a Champions League Group B match on Tuesday on a miserable night for the Italians who finished with nine men.

Roma began brightly when they took the lead through a Dimitar Berbatov own goal after 26 minutes.

But they ended with a third successive Champions League defeat after goals from Roque Junior (48), Jacek Krzynowek (59) and Franca (90+4) gave Leverkusen all three points and a share of the leading places with six points along with Dynamo Kiev and Real Madrid.

Roma have no points and virtually no chance of qualifying for the knockout stages and they will play the return against Leverkusen in two weeks without Christian Panucci, sent off after 61 minutes, and Daniele de Rossi, red carded three minutes from time.

"You can't play better than that," said a satisfied Leverkusen coach Klaus Augenthaler. "I just hope it wasn't a one-off and that we're going to tail off again after this. Everything seemed to work well. I hope it lasts."

Leverkusen opened strongly and were dominating until the own-goal, which shocked the team that has struggled in the Bundesliga — down in ninth place after an especially poor effort in a 3-1 loss against Hertha Berlin on Saturday. Yet with jeers in their ears, Leverkusen were revitalised at the start of the second half, scoring twice quickly, and keeping the pressure on Roma throughout.

Down one man, Roma nevertheless nearly man-

aged to equalize when Francesco Totti's free kick in the 85th minute hit the crossbar. But moments later they lost de Rossi and Franca made it 3-1 in stoppage time just ahead of the final whistle.—MNA/Reuters



Champions in Athens : Arsenal's Fredrik Ljungberg runs for the ball during a group E European Champions League football game against Panathinaikos in Athens.—INTERNET

Monaco advances to knockout stages

MONACO, 20 Oct — Last season's finalists Monaco took a big step towards the knockout stages of the Champions League with a 2-1 victory over Olympiakos Piraeus in Group A on Tuesday.

The home side made a flying start with Argentina striker Javier Saviola and Uruguay's Ernesto Chevanton scoring two goals in the first 10 minutes of a lively match.

Didier Deschamps' side lead the group with six points from three games after Liverpool were held to a goalless draw by Deportivo Coruna at Anfield. Both Liverpool and Olympiakos are on four points.

However, Olympiakos never gave up and Cyprus forward Yiannis Okkas reduced the scoring on the hour from close range. "In the first half, we were able to create movement, and they were in danger," said Deschamps. It was harder after the break as we fired, so we were unable to put any more pressure in them, but the most important thing is victory. Olympiakos looked at first as though they were never going to recover from a shaky start.

MNA/Reuters

Ajax win comfortable 3-0 victory over Maccabi

AMSTERDAM, 20 Oct— Three first-half goals gave Ajax Amsterdam a comfortable 3-0 victory over Maccabi Tel Aviv on Tuesday for their first points in Champions League Group C.

Wesley Sonck opened the scoring for the Dutch champions on four minutes as he followed up to net from seven metres after goalkeeper Liran Strauber had blocked a Wesley Sneijder shot.

Headers from Nigel de Jong (21st) and Rafael van der Vaart (33rd) sealed Ajax's win before the break to end their streak of five consecutive Champions League defeats.

Two minutes from time Sneijder hit the bar from the penalty spot after a handball by defender Marcio Giovanni. Ronald Koeman's Ajax, who lost to Juventus (1-0) and Bayern Munich (4-0) in their earlier group games, got back

on track after Saturday's 3-1 home Dutch league defeat to Heerenveen.

They went in front early on when Van der Vaart set up Sneijder whose mis-hit shot was saved by Strauber only for Belgium striker Sonck to react quickly and find the net.

Ajax doubled their lead when De Jong headed home from close range after Strauber was beaten in the air by Johnny Heitinga.

A minute later Ishmael Addo had a chance to pull one back for the visitors when he stole unmarked into the area but he lifted the ball over goalkeeper Bogdan Lobont's goal.

MNA/Reuters



Boston Red Sox players celebrate after defeating the New York Yankees 10-3.—INTERNET



Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min inspects the shop of Yadanamyay Trading Cooperative Ltd in Thingangyun Township on 20-10-2004. — COOPERATIVE

L&F Minister inspects raising of ornamental fish

YANGON, 21 Oct—Accompanied by the deputy commander of Coastal Region Command, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein on 18 October arrived on Mawtongyi Island in Kyunsu Township, Myeik District, and inspected breeding of ornamental fish of Pyi Phyto Tun Co employing cage system.

The minister and party next inspected chosen sites where sea fish

and prawn can be bred, the cold storage of Pyi Phyto Tun Co and breeding process, functions of the dried fish and prawn processing factory, the crab breeding camp and saw mill of the company. Managing Director of the company U Hla Than reported to the minister on breeding tasks and future work.

The minister gave necessary instructions.

MNA

Model cooperative shops opened

YANGON, 21 Oct — Model Cooperative Shop of Yadanamyay Trading Cooperative Ltd in Thingangyun Township was opened yesterday morning and Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min inspected the shop.

Director-General of the Cooperative Department Col Soe Win, Chairman of Yangon Division Economic Cooperative Union U Ye Aung and Chairman of Yadanamyay Trading Cooperative Ltd U Than Maung formally opened the shop.

After the opening ceremony, U Ye Aung presented cash assistance

provided by Yangon Division Economic Cooperative Union for the model shop.

Later, model cooperative shop-2 of the Thakayta Township Trading Cooperative Ltd was also opened in Thakayta Township.

Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min inspected the shop and gave instructions.

Foodstuff, household goods, stationery and textiles are available at the model shops.

After the opening ceremonies, the minister went to Cooperative Bank (Head Office) and also inspected banking services. — MNA



Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein inspects 1,000-ton capacity cold storage of Pyi Phyto Tun Co in Kyunsu Township. — L&F

12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continue for eighth day



Maung Star Bo Htet and troupe of Yangon Division taking part in the basic education level (aged 15-20) dohbat contest. — MNA

YANGON, 21 Oct — The 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for the eighth day by implementing the six objectives of the competitions at the designated places, here, today.

The song contest was held at the National Museum on Pyay Road, the dancing contest at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street, the song composing

of Music and Drama on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road and the music contest at Padonma and Kanbawza Theatres.

Present on the occasions were members of the Panel of Patrons Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Director-General Lt-Col Pe Nyein of the State Peace and Development Council Office, officials of the Leading Committee, the Work Committee and sub-committees and fans.

At the National

Museum, Chairperson of the Panel of Judges Assistant Director (Music) Daw Tin Tin Mya of Myanmar Radio and Television, Secretary Assistant Engineer Daw May Pyone Khaing and members supervised the song contest. A total of 13 contestants from States and Divisions participated in the amateur level (women's) classical song contest. Next, 14 girls and boys from States and Divisions took part in the basic education level

(aged 10-15) classical song contest. Tomorrow morning, the professional level (women's) religious song contest and the basic education level (aged 10-15) boys' old/modern song contest will be held at the same venue.

The song composing contest continued at the State School of Music and Drama of the Fine Arts Department. The contestants practised singing of their songs to the accompaniment of musical instruments.

At Padonma Theatre on

Bagaya Road in Sangyoung Township, four dohbat troupes took part in the higher education level dohbat contest. Next, four contestants took part in the higher education level dohbat contest and five dohbat troupes participated in the basic education level (aged 15-10) dohbat contest. Leader of the panel of judges U Sein Ba Maw and party supervised the contest. On 22 October, the amateur level (women's) team orchestra contest, the higher education level

(women's) team orchestra contest and the basic education level (aged 10-15) girls' team orchestra contest will be held.

At the National Theatre, leader of the (See page 9)

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Ma Yadana Lin of Bago Division participates in the basic education level (aged 10-15) girls' piano contest. — MNA