

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XI, Number 355

1st Waxing of Hnaung Tagu 1365 ME

Monday, 5 April, 2004

## Four political objectives

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

## Four economic objectives

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

## Four social objectives

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



*Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt who will pay a goodwill visit to Bangladesh.— MNA*

## Senior General Than Shwe sees off PM General Khin Nyunt on departure for Bangladesh

YANGON, 4 April — At the invitation of Begum Khaleda Zia, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt left here for Dhaka by special flight at 10.30 am today to pay a goodwill visit to the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and delegation were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, member of the State Peace and Development Council Gen-

eral Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, SPDC members, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Yangon Division PDC chairman Yangon Command commander, the minister for Foreign Affairs, senior military officers, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore Mr Simon Tensing De Cruz and heads of diplomatic missions and representatives of the UN agencies, Charge d' Affaires a.i of the Bangladesh Embassy Mr Md Eusuf Ali and officials and departmental heads.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt was accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council

Lt-Gen Soe Win, Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Aung, Director General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein and heads of departments. — MNA



*Senior General Than Shwe and party see off Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt at Yangon International Airport.— MNA*

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





# Iraqi police, protesters clash in Basra, shots fired

**BASRA, 3 April—** Demonstrators demanding jobs clashed with Iraqi police in the southern Iraqi port of Basra on Saturday, prompting police to fire shots into the air to try to control the crowds.

Witnesses said a few hundred demonstrators smashed shop windows and attacked a post office building in the centre of the city, Iraq's second largest, while around 100 police officers tried to pacify the violence.

Police said one officer was wounded by stones lobbed by the crowd.

British troops, who have overall responsibility for security in Basra, were keeping their distance, but witnesses said around 10 armoured British military vehicles were in the area and ready to intervene if the situation deteriorated.

Basra has been relatively quiet in the year since US-led forces invaded Iraq to

overthrow Saddam Hussein, particularly in comparison to areas to the north and west of Baghdad.

But disturbances have increased in recent weeks, with the unemployed holding several marches and other protests led by Iraqi security service employees seeking monthly salaries or pension payments.

Last Monday, protesters swung iron bars and threw stones at British soldiers outside the offices of a religious organisation. At least one protester and two British soldiers were wounded.

At least one Iraqi was killed when demonstrators and police clashed on Thursday.

Late last month, protesters attacked a British armoured troop carrier and threw petrol bombs, setting several soldiers briefly on fire. Thirteen British troops were injured. —Internet



*Soldiers watch as followers of Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr protest. At least three people were killed as Spanish-led troops clashed with supporters of Sadr outside Najaf, in the most dangerous confrontation between the US-led coalition and Iraq's majority community.*  
INTERNET

## Bangladesh to set up new sugar mills

**DHAKA, 3 April—** The Industries Ministry of the government has proposed setting up of five new sugar mills and four refineries in the private and public sectors to boost sugar export to the European Union (EU) countries to help the country avail itself of the quota facility.

Under the plan, the ministry proposed establishing a sugar refinery with a capacity of 100,000 metric tons (MT) in an export processing zone under a private initiative, *The Financial Express* reported Friday.

It has also proposed setting up of three other refineries near any seaport having availability of natural gas. These would be joint venture projects involving Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation (BSFIC), a government organization, and local and foreign investors.

The BSFIC will have 49-

per-cent stake in the three refineries and the remaining ownership will be shared by private and foreign investors.

Five new sugar mills will be set up in the private sector and the ministry has planned to establish these mills in the potential areas beyond the existing mill zones.

The ministry suggested that the production capacity of these mills be above 10,000 metric tons per year.

The BSFIC's 15 state-owned sugar mills produce around 200,000 metric tons of sugar annually. The 15 sugar mills, however, incur huge losses every year that

forced the government to privatize the mills one after another.

The EU has offered a special quota facility to 49 least developed countries under the "Everything But Arms" initiative recently.

MNA/Xinhua

## China liquor aims to break the ice in American bars

**BEIJING, 3 April—** Beijing's most popular brand of firewater beloved by taxi drivers and political leaders alike may soon be the liquor of choice at fashionable US bars.

Beijing-based Red Star Co had signed a deal with an undisclosed US alcohol sales company to distribute its high-end Diamond Erguotou brand of "baijiu", a high-proof spirit made from sorghum, the *China Daily* newspaper said on Friday.

Company sources revealed the mix and packaging of Diamond Erguotou would be adjusted to accommodate American tastes.

"It may not be too long before Americans get the chance to sample a kind of erguotou that is considered the best of the best by Beijing's more discerning drinkers," the newspaper said.

Lower grades of baijiu are beloved in Beijing and across China for their spicy bite and sweet aftertaste,

but there is less domestic demand for smoother, more expensive premium brews.

Red Star already exports its product to around 10 countries in Asia and Europe.

While standard-size bottles of base-grade erguotou cost less than a dollar in Beijing, the company plans to price its top-end white bottle Diamond product at 30 US dollars in the United

States.

The company did not specify when shipments of Diamond Erguotou to the US distributor would begin.

MNA/Reuters

ထိုက်တိုက်နစ်နစ် ခိုးမြင်ကြ

## Two Iraqis killed in suicide bombing in northern Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 3 April —** Two Iraqis were killed when a suicide bomber blew himself up in the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk on Friday, Qatar-based al-Jazeera TV channel reported.

Local police were quoted as saying that the suicide bomber tied with explosives were stopped by security guards at the entrance of the City Hall and had to detonate the bomb, killing himself and two guards.

It was reported that some US soldiers were in the building at the time of the blast.

Iraq has been plagued by deadly suicide bombings, which targeted US military bases, Iraqi police stations, pro-US facilities and even mosques across the war-torn country.

US forces blamed the attacks, which had claimed lives of hundreds of civilians, on foreign terrorists and those loyal to former Iraqi regime.

MNA/Xinhua

## Two police officers shot dead in Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 3 April—** There was no let up in attacks against American soldiers in Iraq-Aljazeera correspondent said on Saturday the police chief of Kufa, Saeed Tryak, was killed and one of his escorts injured when their car was attacked at al-Adala in Najaf, south east of Baghdad.

The police chief of al-Mahmudiya in Baghdad, Usama Husayn, was also killed when he was shot at by men in police uniforms. The attack took place when he was leaving his house in al-Khadra neighbourhood of Baghdad.

Also in the capital, two people were injured when a rocket was fired at a residential area. Police said a house was damaged in the explosion and two men inside it injured. Angry residents blamed the Americans for the attack.

In Baquba, north of Baghdad, a car bomb exploded on Saturday morning near a US military patrol, wounding several people.

An Iraqi civilian wounded in the blast said it took place in al-Aswad village.

A policeman said two US vehicles were damaged and several soldiers wounded.

Also in Baquba, a member of the local council escaped an assassination attempt when armed fighters opened fire on his car, police said.

About two dozen armed men opened fire on the main road linking the city with the nearby village of Kanaan, First Lieutenant Yasir Mahmud told AFP.

Council member Abu Saida and Muhammad Saeed Kufi, an adviser to the city council president who was also in the car, escaped unharmed.

Basra also witnessed some violence on Saturday when a policeman was slightly injured when angry residents waiting to be hired at the newly established customs service attacked his car, an AFP correspondent on the scene reported.

The job-seekers also hurled rocks at policemen who were guarding the customs building after British soldiers withdrew. They also attacked photographers on the scene.

"We want jobs notably in the customs police department," said one of the demonstrators. "We decided to protest because our demands are ignored."

Internet

## China hopes US will stop fingerprinting Chinese visa applicants

**BEIJING, 3 April—** China hopes the United States will stop fingerprinting Chinese visa applicants, said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Kong Quan here Thursday.

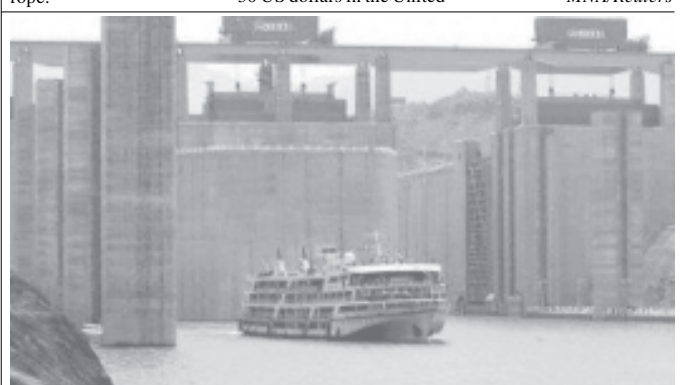
Kong made the remark at a Press conference when answering questions about the US decision on March 22 to collect the fingerprints of Chinese people who apply for a US visa.

According to the US Embassy, this practice was targeted at most visa applicants from the Middle East, Asia and Latin America, and excluded Canada and 27 countries in Europe.

China understands the US consideration about domestic security after the September 11 tragedy, but it is "totally unnecessary" to fingerprint Chinese visa applicants, said Kong.

Kong said the two countries exchanged over one million people last year, and the bilateral trade, cultural and educational cooperations are expanding in recent years.

MNA/Xinhua



*A ship passes through the permanent five-stair-canal of the Three Gorges Dam in the central Chinese province of Hubei. China's environmental watchdog has ordered the immediate implementation of pollution controls at the controversial Three Gorges Dam after it discovered environmental regulations were being flouted.*—INTERNET

# Anti-American voices get louder across Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 3 April** — The people who burned and kicked the corpses of four American contractors in the Iraqi town of Fallujah this week were not armed guerillar or foreign fighters.

Children joined in as jubilant crowds played with the charred bodies, dragging them like trophies through the streets of a town overwhelmed by hatred for the occupying forces.

Those who participated in the brutality may represent just a tiny minority of Iraqis, but across the country anti-American voices are getting louder and more insistent.

"There's an increasing feeling of anti-Americanism definitely," said Paola Gasparoli of Occupation

Watch, an independent organization that monitors the occupation.

"It's like all their hopes were destroyed. Families who had some hope the Americans would help Iraq now have sons who were killed or arrested, houses destroyed. This hope has died."

But one survey of 2,500 Iraqis released in March found that while they were happy to be rid of Saddam Hussein, 41 per cent said they were humiliated by the invasion, four in 10 had no confi-

dence in occupation troops, and one in five believed attacks on foreign soldiers in Iraq were justified.

A number of factors fuel the growing resentment.

A year since the invasion, there has been no let-up in violence, infrastructure is still poor, jobs scarce. There is often friction between civilians and occupying troops.

Raids across the country leave houses damaged and property broken. Iraqis complain that troops coming under attack are quick to fire in

self defence, but fire randomly and without regard for civilians nearby.

In Tikrit last month, US soldiers killed a three-year-old boy when they fired on a car carrying four children and three women. The troops said the car jumped a checkpoint, the Iraqis said they never saw one.

Rights groups say that in the so-called battle for hearts and minds, the occupying forces are often their own worst enemy. One tank rumbles through Baghdad with "Bloodlust" painted on its barrel. Another says "Kill them all". —MNA/Reuters

ဝက်စွမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

## Iraqis say US bid to pacify Fallujah doomed

**FALLUJA (Iraq), 3 April** — Peering down the road to the anti-American flashpoint of Fallujah, nervous Iraqi security forces said on Friday there was only one way for US troops to pacify the town — stay away.

"The Americans should think before they act. If they enter Fallujah and use force it will only be met with force and this will happen over and over," said Lieutenant Mohammad Tarik.

"This is Fallujah. Everyone is angry with the occupation and there are many tribes, which means there will be revenge. The Americans should just keep out."

The spotlight has been on Fallujah since residents burned and mutilated the bodies of four US contractors killed in an ambush on Wednesday. The US Army has promised an overwhelming response, but has not specified what that response will be. —MNA/Reuters



*Iraqis look out from their house as a US Army soldier patrols a street in Mosul, 400 kilometres (250 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 2 April, 2004. —INTERNET*

## Powell says evidence of Iraqi weapons labs may be wrong

**WASHINGTON, 4 April** — US Secretary of State Colin Powell acknowledged on Friday that the evidence he presented to the United Nations that two trailers in Iraq were used for weapons of mass destruction may have been wrong.

Powell also said he hoped a commission investigating the US intelligence on Iraq's alleged weapons of mass destruction would reveal how the CIA ended up depending on unreliable sources for key evidence he used to argue for war.

Powell's dramatic case to the Security Council that Iraq had secret arsenals of weapons of mass destruction failed to persuade the Council to directly back the US-led war. But it helped mobilize sentiment among the American people for going to war. In Iraq, UN inspectors were unable to uncover the weapons, but US Administration officials have insisted they still might be uncovered. David Kay, who led the hunt for

the weapons, showed off a pair of trailers for news cameras last summer and argued that the two metal flatbeds were designed for making biological weapons.

In face of mounting challenges to that theory, Kay conceded in October that he could have been wrong. He said he did not know whether Iraq ever had a mobile weapons programme.

In February 2003, Powell made a major presentation of the US case against Iraq at a special session of the UN Security Council, where he said the United States had several sources showing mobile chemical weapons laboratories.

MNA/Xinhua

## Mainland, HK sign agreement on cross-boundary dumping

**HONG KONG, 3 April** — Deputy Director-General of the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) Chen Lian-zeng and HK Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works Sarah Liao signed the Cooperation Agreement on Cross-boundary Marine Dumping in Guangzhou on Wednesday.

According to a government Press release, the cooperation agreement provides a foundation for closer cooperation and communication between the two sides on the management of cross-boundary dumping of dredged materials generated in Hong Kong, and the accommodation of inert construction and demolition (C&D) materials in Chinese Mainland waters.

Liao said at the signing ceremony that "the cooperation agreement will help Hong Kong to properly handle dredged materials

in the long run and to better utilize inert C&D materials, thus relieving the pressure on our marine dumping grounds and fill banks. This is of great importance to the sustainable development of Guangdong and Hong Kong".

She said that both Hong Kong and the Mainland share the common interest in oceanic protection and the handling of waste and that it would be a win-win situation for both in strengthening cooperation in these areas of work. — MNA/Xinhua

## Foreign civilians in Iraq armouring up, keeping under guard

**BAGHDAD, (Iraq) 3 April** — The four American civilian security workers brutally killed and mutilated in Fallujah on Wednesday were among thousands of ex-soldiers and others who work in the murky universe of private security firms operating in Iraq, frequently outside the control of the US military or any Iraqi authority.

Along with Blackwater USA, the elite North Carolina company that employed the victims of the Fallujah violence, more than 35 other security companies from around the globe employ an estimated 15,000 private security workers in Iraq. Dozens more companies are competing for lucrative contracts available here.

The security firms operate in a world where the military, the intelligence community and private companies merge. Many of the employees once served in elite units such as the Navy SEALs or Army Green Berets.

Those employees are also well paid, with some of the more dangerous positions reportedly garnering up to \$1,000 per day.

Their clients, activities and even the names of security firm employees are largely kept from public view. Security experts estimate that dozens of the heavily armed security workers have been killed since entering Iraq after the ousting of President Saddam Hussein nearly a year ago.

The vast majority of their work in Iraq is government-funded, either through direct contracts with government agencies or indirectly as security for firms that have contracts to help rebuild Iraq.

Blackwater's most high-profile client also is arguably the biggest target for insurgents: L. Paul Bremer III, the U.S. civilian administrator for Iraq. Despite and in large part because of the continuing violence in Iraq, the private security industry is lucrative here.

"This place is the biggest job expo going in the security world. If you can't make it here, you can't make it," said a seasoned security expert in Iraq who is working with a firm under government contract.

Security experts said business is booming because a surge in violence has come precisely as a flood of contractors is poised to roll into the country now that \$8 billion in US contracts under the Iraq aid bill have been awarded.

Internet



*A Greenpeace protestor sits on the face of London's landmark Big Ben clock tower. Two brothers who scaled the clock tower and unfurled an anti-war banner on the first anniversary of the Iraq invasion will not be prosecuted, police said. —INTERNET*



# NO LET UP IN ATTACKS AGAINST AMERICANS IN IRAQ



US soldiers patrol in Mahmoudiya, Iraq, south of Baghdad, Saturday April 3, 2004. Two attacks on Iraqi police south of Baghdad on Saturday left four people dead, officers said, in the latest of a string of attacks on local authorities linked to the US-led occupation.—INTERNET



An Iraqi police officer tries to drive away from Iraqis pelting his car with bricks and stones during disturbances in the southern city of Basra, April 3, 2004. INTERNET



Iraqi men shout at US soldiers as they walk past a US Army base in Baghdad, Iraq, Friday, April 2, 2004. INTERNET



Demonstrators run for cover as gun fire erupts near the Baghdad hotel in Baghdad, Iraq, during an anti-American protest on 4 April, 2004.—INTERNET



Iraqis demonstrate near the US Green Zone in Baghdad March 30, 2004 in response to the closure of the Al Hawza newspaper.—INTERNET



Demonstrators rally past an American tank during an anti-American protest in Baghdad, Iraq, on 4 April, 2004. In the southern city of Najaf, gunfire rang and at least four Iraqis, including two soldiers, were killed on Sunday during a protest outside a Spanish military garrison. INTERNET

## US voters favour Kerry over Bush on financial issues

LOS ANGELES, 3 April — More US voters think that Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry would better look out for their financial futures than would President George W. Bush, according to a survey released Friday.

In the survey conducted by the *Los Angeles Times*, almost half of those surveyed — 45 per cent to be specific — ranked economic issues as the most important problem facing the nation, about the same percentage put security concerns at the top.

The results suggest that the economic battleground in the presidential election campaign is taking an untraditional shape that transcends basic economic issues such as employment and price levels.

When asked to name the candidate who would be "best at protecting the financial security of the average American", 47 per cent of the respondents named Kerry, while 34 per cent picked Bush.

Among independents, a group that could play a crucial role in determining the winner of the presidential election in November, the gap was even wider: 49 per cent for Kerry and 26 per cent for Bush.

Those polled also view Bush's White House as much more aligned with business interests than the interests of ordinary work-

ers, and they express widespread doubts about the integrity of corporate America, the survey found.

A 63-per-cent majority said Bush was more concerned about corporations, while 21 per cent said he was more concerned about workers.

US voters are also concerned about corporate scandal and the integrity of the financial markets — and the way their leaders are dealing with these matters.

Half of those polled said they would describe corporate fraud as "a widespread problem" in a system that is failing, while 40 per cent said only "a few corrupt individuals" engaged in such behaviour. Three out of four Americans said they could trust executives "only some of the time" or "hardly ever".

The *Times* poll of 1,616 adults nationwide was conducted between March 27 and March 30. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percentage points.

MNA/Xinhua



*Iraqi children watch US Army soldiers patrolling a street in Mosul, 400 kilometres (250 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on Friday, 2 April, 2004. —INTERNET*

### Loud blast heard in central Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 3 April — A loud blast was heard in Baghdad on Friday afternoon, rattling windows in the centre of the Iraqi capital, witnesses said.

The cause of the blast was not immediately clear. Baghdad has been on high alert for the possibility of a step up in attacks as the anniversary of the overthrow of Saddam Hussein nears on 9 April.

Guerillas regularly fire rockets and mortars in the city, aiming for the US military and civilian headquarters in the so-called Green Zone, a heavily defended area in the city centre.

MNA/Reuters

### NZ researcher makes gene breakthrough in child health

WELLINGTON, 3 April — A New Zealand researcher has made his second landmark genetic discovery in a year, which will give hope to many New Zealand children suffering from common joint malformations, *The Southland Times* reported Friday.

Professor Stephen Robertson, chairman of Child Health Research at the Otago University, has collaborated with doctors in the United States to identify a gene that can have significant impact on research into common joint malformations in children.

The gene affects the development of the skeleton, particularly the joints, said the South Island-based newspaper.

Last year Professor Robertson, a leading paediatric geneticist successfully drew a link between faults in a closely related gene, FLNA, and complex birth defects, including holes in the heart and kidney, brain and intestinal defects.

The paper said that instrumental to the success was

the help of a large Auckland family, which had several baby boys dead with one of these conditions.

During the research, families from 15 countries were located with the same affliction. His work was published in the prestigious *Nature Genetics* magazine.

Otago University is now the world centre for ongoing research into this malformations problem, said the newspaper.

Professor Robertson's latest research result was also published in *Nature Genetics* and earned him a rare second invitation to address the European Society of Human Genetics Conference in Munich, Germany, in June.

"If we study this gene in more detail, we can hope-

fully identify what disorders it can cause when it goes awry," Professor Robertson was quoted as saying.

"When we get a bigger picture we'll know what genetic determinants lead to dislocated hips in children."

Professor Robertson, who spent part of his childhood in Invercargill, New Zealand, has been working with genetic researchers from the famous Cedars Sinai Medical Centre in Los Angeles, one of the largest, most successful genetic skeletal disorder research centres in the world.

He focused on some rare disorders, including Larsen syndrome, where children are born with dislocated hips, knees and elbows.

MNA/Xinhua

## မြို့ခြံခွေတာ၊ ထိန်းပါးလေ့ရှိ၊ ထုတ်ကုန်မြင့်



*Iraqi shepherds lead a herd of sheep next to a burning oil pipeline that was sabotaged by guerillas in Tikrit, 180 kilometres northwest of Baghdad, Iraq, on Friday, 2 April, 2004. —INTERNET*

## Blair faces new pressure over Iraq intelligence

LONDON, 3 April — Prime Minister Tony Blair came under fresh pressure over the way he took Britain to war on Iraq, after US Secretary of State Colin Powell acknowledged key intelligence no longer appeared "solid".

Powell's comments Friday referred to pre-war information he gave the United Nations on Iraq's mobile biological weapons laboratories to justify the military campaign last year led by the United States and staunchly backed by Blair.

Powell's remarks prompted calls from British critics of the war for Blair's government to explain whether claims it had made about Iraq's weapons of mass destruction (WMD)

programs in pre-war debate were also from the same source.

The failure to find such weapons in Iraq following the country's occupation has proved an embarrassment for both Washington and London.

Blair had been even more clear-cut than US President George W Bush in citing Saddam Hussein's refusal to give up his alleged pursuit of banned weapons as the main reason for taking

the nation to war.

Doug Henderson, a deputy with Blair's ruling Labour party and a former junior defence and Foreign Office minister, called for the government to make a statement to parliament.

"If the American secretary of state has misled the people of the United States, it also appears that we have been misled in this country by the same faulty intelligence," Henderson said.

Internet

### Portugal not to increase military presence in Iraq

LISBON, 3 April — Portugal will not increase the number of military effectives deployed in Iraq if the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) assumes a role in the Arab nation.

Portuguese Foreign Minister Teresa Goveia was quoted Friday by the Press as saying that she "sincerely" did not see any possibility of significantly increasing "our presence in the region".

Portugal's participation in international missions is high, the minister indicated in Brussels where she is attending a meeting of the 26 member-nations of the NATO.

Goveia said that at the moment Portugal had "pretty high" commitments in its capacity as one of the best contributors to military missions.

Among them, she pointed out the military presence in East Timor, where the Portuguese Government pledged to continue collaborating if the United Nations mandate was renewed next May. — MNA/Xinhua

## Scientists dig out 2,450-year-old civilization in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 3 April — A group of Bangladeshi scientists dug out an ancient road in northern Narsingdi, 50 kilometres northeast of the capital Dhaka, suggesting 2,450-year-old civilization which redefines the history of eastern India.

A team of archaeologists of Jahangirnagar University discovered the 18/16-metre and 27-centimetre-thick road about a month ago dating back to 450 BC.

An important trade centre flourished in Narsingdi, on the bank of might River Meghna, which maintained contemporary contacts with other countries in South Asia and Roman civilization through waterways.

The excavation of the country's oldest road, a fortified citadel and a raft of artifacts dating back to 450 BC in Wari Village of

Belabo Sub-district, about 35 kilometres from the capital, promised to redefine the history of eastern India and embolden the theory of the Brahmaputra civilization.

Dr Sufi Mustafizur Rahman, associate professor of Jahangirnagar University, who led the group of archaeologists, said Friday that examination of charcoal samples from the site in 2001 by Dutch scientists also spoke of human habitation and industry in the area in 450 BC.

After finding potteries and other archaeological

treasures three years ago from Wari Village and Bateswar Village in 2000 and 2001, archaeologists suggested Buddhism dominated life in the area. The finds of the road and a citadel fortified by bunkers in the Wari Village encouraged the scientists to go on with the work of discovery.

Dr Rahman believed the citadel formed the eastern limit of Mauryan Empire.

"I think the citadel ran very organized administrative activities with business activities around it," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

# Myanmar and road transport

Aung Si Hein

Land transportation, air transportation, water transportation and pipelines are the world's four modes of transport, and every mode has its own weaknesses and advantages. Of the means of land transportation, road transport is interesting as cars can pass through every terrain whether it be a mountain, a plain, a valley or even a town road or a city road till reaching the passenger's home.

The history of road transport started with the transport of goods. In the 18th Century, the industrial countries were transporting raw materials and workers to factories, and from them finished goods were conveyed to ports and consumers. Steam engines were invented in the 19th Century, and introduction of steam-powered rollers had led to the flourishing of smooth gravel roads. The road transport sector developed with high acceleration after the advent of tarred roads together with the petrol- and diesel-powered engines in the 20th Century. For military purposes networks of transnational motor roads came into being continent-wise in Europe, America, Africa and Asia in addition to domestic roads. Moreover, the role of the transport commissions and administrative boards, road and bridge rules and laws, financial matters of the central and local governments, insurance and live saving, mechanical and technical sectors, traffic police and energy and communication become wider and more important. The following table shows some countries of the world that enjoyed sustainable development in the road transport sector during the 50-year period from 1939 to 1988 as they built roads for political, economic, military and national unity purposes:

Country	Area (sq km)	1939 Roads in km	1988 Roads in km
Britain	244,796	291,277	352,292
US	9,363,353	4,932,411	6,233,308
France	547,026	634,052	805,070
Germany	356,517	423,237	493,590
Italy	301,225	281,622	301,846
Switzerland	41,288	16,092	71,055
Australia	7,686,810	782,104	852,986
India	3,268,090	-	1,554,200
PRC	9,561,000	-	982,200
Japan	372,077	-	1,104,282
ROK	98,477	-	55,778

Note: The length of roads in East Germany are not included in the roads of Germany in 1988.

The following table shows the development of roads in ASEAN nations during the decade from 1988 to 1997:

Country	Area (sq km)	1939 Roads in km	1988 Roads in km
Indonesia	1,919,000	219,009	386,000
Thailand	514,000	77,609	256,000
Vietnam	331,000	65,000	209,000
Philippines	300,000	157,448	161,000
Malaysia	330,000	40,094	65,000
Cambodia	181,000	-	34,000

Myanmar	677000	23067	30000
Laos	237000	-	22000
Singapore	650	2644	3100
Brunei	5770	-	2470

From the two tables, we can compare the road transport development between the developed and developing countries. A gap can be seen between the nations developing at high pace and slow pace, and it indicates the differences between nations in the global political experience, the international relations, wealth and the extent of sufferings from wars. It is said that the history of roads in Myanmar started in Mogok-Thabeikkyin region. In about BC 206, Chinese and ethnic Chins of Myanmar mined amber near Mogaung. Later, jade and ruby were mined, and the flourishing of gem-based trade had led to the advent of mule, horse, elephant and cattle tracks as the animals were used in transport.

Afterwards, people used bullock-carts in transporting goods. In the later periods, the military roads of the feudal monarchs of successive eras were built. In 1894, the British government formed Public Works Department in Myanmar, and used advanced technology in building roads. During the World War II, Allied Forces extended the India-Myanmar-Yunnan (China) Road, and the Japanese upgraded a road between Myanmar and Thailand. After Myanmar regained independence, eight Union highways — Yangon-Pyinnmana-Mandalay Road, Yangon-Pyay-Magway-Myingyan Road, Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Road, Meiktila-Taunggyi-Kengtung Road, Tounghoo-Loikaw-Hopong Road, Muse-Bhamo-Myitkyna-Mogaung Road, Mandalay-Shwebo-Kalewa Road and Bago-Mawlamyine-Dawei-Myeik Road — emerged in the nation. But multi-coloured insurgency that broke out in the nation soon after the independence was restored delayed the road extension work. The road transport development of the nation excluding the length of earth roads was 23,779 kilometres in 2003 compared with 17,290 kilometres in 1987 and from 9,023 kilometres in 1951.

Myanmar is the second largest in terms of land area after Indonesia in Southeast Asia, and is sharing a common land border with five neighbouring countries. It is in the process of national modernization and development drive. Roads are like the arteries and veins of human body. Myanmar is building a network of roads reaching all parts of the nation. If we study the two above-mentioned tables, we can know the extent of roads we will have to build. The work programme to maintain and upgrade the existing roads and extend road links with ASEAN countries and also with China and India need a large volume of machinery, materials, financial power and manpower. All the national people should take Japan, which has the largest road network in the world, as an example and collectively strive for the soonest accomplishment of the State's road transport projects.

\*\*\*\*\*

(Translation: TMT)

Myanma Alin, Kyemon 3-4-2004

## အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကာကွယ်ရေးနည်းဆော်ချက်

ယခုအခါတွင် နေရာသီရောက်လာပြီဖြစ်သဖြင့် ရာသီဥတု ပူပြင်းလာပြီ ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ထိုအပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ချွေးထွက်လွန်ပြီး ခန္ဓာကိုယ်အတွင်းရှိ ရေနှင့်ဓာတ်ဆားများ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုများပြားပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ဆုံးရှုံးမှုကြောင့် မိတ်နှင့်ယားဖုများထွက်လာခြင်း၊ ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ မူးမော်ခြင်း၊ ကြွက်တက်ခြင်း၊ ချွေးခြောက်ပြီး ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းတို့အပြင် အသက်အန္တရာယ် စိုးရိမ်ရသော အခြေအနေ အထိဖြစ်တတ်ပါသည်။ သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် မလွဲလားအပ်သော အကျိုးဆက်များ မဖြစ်ပေါ်စေရန်အောက်ပါအချက် အလက်များကို လိုက်နာကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

- (၁) နံနက် (၁၀)နာရီမှ ညနေ (၅)နာရီအတွင်း လွင်တီး ခေါင်းပြင်း ဖြစ်ကမ်းနား၊ ရေဆီပ်စသည်တို့တွင် ရေချိုးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်၍ အရိပ်ရ အေးမြသောနေရာများတွင် နေပါ။
- (၂) နေပူထဲမှပြန်လာပြီး ချက်ချင်းရေချိုးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၃) နေပူထဲတွင် ပြင်းထန်သောကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုများ မပြုလုပ်သင့်ပါ။
- (၄) အရက်သောက်ခြင်းသည် အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကို ဖြစ်ပေါ်လွယ်စေခြင်းနှင့် ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ပြင်းထန်စွာ ခစားရခြင်းကြောင့်

ရှောင်ကြဉ်သင့်ပါသည်။

- (၅) နေ့ခင်းဘက် အပြင်ထွက်သည့်အခါတိုင်း အရိပ် လုံလောက်စွာ ရရှိနိုင်သည့် ထီး၊ ဦးထုပ်များ ဆောင်းပါ။
- (၆) အလင်းရောင်ပြန်သော အဖြူရောင် သို့မဟုတ် အရောင်ဖျော့ဖျော့ အဝတ်အထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၇) ပွပျော့ရောင်ရောင် ချည်ထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၈) ချွေးထွက်လွန်ပါက ကိုယ်တွင်ရှိရေနှင့်ဓာတ်ဆားဆုံးရှုံးမှုကို ပြန်လည်ဖြည့်တင်းနိုင်ရန် ဓာတ်ဆားရည် သောက်ပါ။
- (၉) ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ပါက ရေအေးဖတ် နိုင်နိုင်တိုက်ပါ။
- (၁၀) ဆီချိုရောဂါ၊ နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ သွေးတိုးရောဂါ အရှိသူများ၊ ကလေးသူငယ်များနှင့် သက်ကြီးရွယ်အိုများအနေဖြင့် နေ့လည်နေ့ခင်း တွင် အရိပ်ရ၍ လေဝင်လေထွက်ကောင်းသော နေရာမျိုး၌ နားနေပါ။
- (၁၁) မိတ်ဖုယားနာမူးထွက်ပါက ရေအေးဝတ်ကပ်ခြင်း၊ သနပ်ခါးလိမ်းခြင်းတို့ ကို ပြုလုပ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းနှင့် အတက်ရောဂါဖြစ်ပါက နီးစပ်ရာ ကျန်းမာရေးဌာန တွင် ပြသပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

## သတိပေးနည်းဆော်ချက်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော် စည်ပင်သာယာ နယ်နိမိတ်အတွင်း ဓရီသုဉ်တင်ယာဉ်(ကတ်စံကာ)များအား ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူဆောင်ရွက်ခဲ့သဖြင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှု၊ ယာဉ်တိမ်းမှောက်မှုများ လျော့နည်းကျဆင်းသွားသည်ကို တွေ့ရှိရပါသည်။ ယခုအခါတွင် ဌာနဆိုင်ရာ ယာဉ်များနှင့် တက္ကသိုလ်အဖွဲ့အစည်းများမှာလည်း ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုများ လျော့နည်းကျဆင်းလာသည်ကို တွေ့ရှိရပါသည်။ ကိုယ်ပိုင်ယာဉ်များမှာမူ ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုများ လျော့နည်းကျဆင်း လာမှု မရှိသေးကြောင်း တွေ့ရှိရပါသဖြင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှု မဖြစ်အောင် ထိန်းသိမ်းစောင့်ရှောက်မှုနှင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုဖြစ်ပွားပါက ပြစ်ဒဏ် သတ်မှတ်ချက်များအား မသိသည့်နည်းနှင့်မျှ ကင်းလွတ်ခွင့်ပြုမည် မဟုတ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးနည်းဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

## သတိပြုရန်

- (၁) မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု မဟာသင်္ကြန်ကာလအတွင်း ယာဉ်မောင်းသူများလိုက်နာရန်
- (က) မူယဉ်သောကိစ္စအဖြစ်ယာဉ်မောင်းသူများ
- (ခ) အပျော်လွန်ကျူးစည်းကမ်းမဲ့ ပြိုင်/လှမောင်းရ။
- (ဂ) ခေတ်တော်ယာဉ်၊ ခေတ်တော်ဆိုင်ကယ်များတွင် အိတ်စောပိုက်မြှတ်မောင်းရ။
- (ဃ) ယာဉ်နံပါတ်ပြားမပါရှိသည့်မောင်းရ။
- (င) ယာဉ်နံပါတ်အတုများ၊ အခြားယာဉ်နံပါတ်များကပ်ခြင်းမပြုရ။
- (စ) ယာဉ်၏ဘေးတစ်ပါးများ၊ နောက်ဖုများဖြတ်၍ မမောင်းရ။
- (ဆ) ယာဉ်မောင်းလှိုင်းစင်း၊ ယာဉ်မှတ်ပုံတင်မပါဘဲ မမောင်းရ။
- (ဇ) ဖျက်သိမ်းယာဉ်အိုးဟောင်းများ၊ ပြုပြင်ဆင်ယာဉ်များ မမောင်းရ။
- (ဈ) နိုင်ငံတကာအလံများ ယာဉ်တွင်တပ်ဆင်၍ မမောင်းရ။
- (ည) ဟွန်းသံကင်းမဲ့ရုများအတွင်း ဟွန်းလုံးဝမတီးရ။
- ၂။ ကျူးလွန်ပါက တည်ဆဲပဒေသရ ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူမည်။
- ၃။ “သင်ကြောင့် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု မဟာသင်္ကြန်ကို အကျဉ်းတန် မညှစ်နွမ်းပါစေနှင့်”

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

## သတိ

- (၁) လေပေါင်(၁၀၀)မှ(၁၅၀)အထိ အတင်အချမြှင့်လှုပ်၍ ရသည့် ကွန်ပရက်ဆာပန်များဖြင့် ရေပတ်ကစားခြင်းကြောင့်ရေစူးအား ပြင်းလွန်၍ရေပတ်ခရေသုတွင် အသားအရေများပွန်းပဲ့စက်ထွက်နိုင်ခြင်း၊ ဖျက်စီးနာများအားထိုးမိပါကဖျက်လုံး၊ နားကန်း၊ နိုင်ခြင်း၊ အန္တရာယ်ဖြစ်စေနိုင်ပါသဖြင့် ရေကစားမဏ္ဍာပ်များ၊ ရေပတ်ခံကားများတွင် ကွန်ပရက်ဆာပန်များသုံး၍ရေမပတ်ရန် တားမြစ်ပါသည်။
- (၂) သင်္ကြန်ရေပတ်ကစားခြင်းအားသင်္ကြန်ရက်များအတွင်းနေ့စဉ် နံနက်(၇)နာရီမှညနေ(၆)နာရီအတွင်းသာ ရေပတ်ကစားကြရန်နှင့် ည(၆)နာရီနောက်ပိုင်းရေပတ်ကစားခြင်းမပြုရန် တားမြစ်ပါသည်။
- (၃) တားမြစ်ချက်အားဖောက်ဖျက်ပါက ထိရောက်စွာအရေးယူ ခံရမည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကောင်စီ

## မြန်မာ့ယဉ်ကျေးမှုသင်္ကြန်

- \* အမျိုးသားယဉ်ကျေးမှုကို ထိန်းသိမ်းပါ။
- \* သရုပ်ဖော်ယဉ်ကျေးမှုကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- \* အမျိုးဂုဏ်ဇာတိဂုဏ်ကို မြန်မာ့ယဉ်ကျေးမှုသင်္ကြန်ဖြင့် မြှင့်တင်ပါ။

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကောင်စီ

## ရေစဲထုပ်၊ ရေပူဖောင်း၊ ဆပ်ပြာရည်ဂတ်စ်ဘွဲ့ဖြင့်ကစားက

- ၁။ လက်ဝယ်ရေသု - တောင် (၁)နှစ်
- ၂။ ကစားသု - တောင် (၃)နှစ်
- ၃။ ထုတ်လုပ်ရောင်းချသု - တောင် (၅)နှစ်နှင့်ပစ္စည်းကိုသိမ်း

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကောင်စီ

## မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု မဟာသင်္ကြန်ဆင်နွှဲသူများ လိုက်နာရန် တိုက်တွန်းနည်းဆော်ချက်

- (က) မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှုလေ့စရိုက်နှင့်ဖီလာဆန်ကျင့်ပြီး မြန်မာလူမျိုးများ၏ အမြင်တွင် မတင်တယ်သည့် ဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်မှု ပြုမပြောဆိုမှုများ မပြုလုပ်ရန်၊
- (ခ) ဗုဒ္ဓဘာသာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအားအနုနှင့် ဖီလာဆန်ကျင့်သည့် အပြုအမူ၊ ပြောဆိုမှုများ မပြုလုပ်ရန်၊
- (ဂ) အချင်းချင်းဒဏ်ရာအနာတရဖြစ်စေပြီး အန္တရာယ်ဖြစ်စေသည့် ကြမ်းတမ်းသည့် ရေကစားမှုများ မပြုလုပ်ရန်၊
- (ဃ) တိုင်းရင်းသားစည်းလုံးညီညွတ်မှုကို ဖျက်ပြားစေပြီး ဆူပူမှုကို ဖြစ်စေနိုင်သည့် လူ့ဆောင်ဖန်တီးပြုမပြောဆို၊ ကြိယမဲ့မှုများကို မပြုလုပ်ရန်။

မဟာသင်္ကြန်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကော်မတီ



## Academic course for teachers in Sagaing Division opened

YANGON, 4 April—An academic course for teachers of basic education schools and monastic education schools in Sagaing Division was opened at No 3 Basic Education High School in Monywa on 2 April. Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye spoke on measures

undertaken for promotion of education and called on departmental officials and teachers to implement the projects in unity.

Deputy Director-General of No 2 Basic Education Department (Upper Myanmar) U Thaung Khaing reported on academic matters and Division Education Officer U Ohn Kyaw on conducting of the course.—MNA

## Undertakings of hotels, posts and telecommunications inspected in Rakhine State

YANGON, 4 April — Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw together with officials concerned on 2 April evening flew to Thandwe, Rakhine State. On his visit, the minister inspected Sandoway Resort Hotel at Ngapali beach.

The following morning, the minister inspected progress in construction of Amata Resort Hotel and Tamarind Beach Hotel and Ngapali Resort Hotel which belongs to Htoo Trading Co Ltd as well as Myanma Post and Telecommunication Office in Ngapali Shwewa Chaing. Moreover, the min-

ister inspected progress in construction of Jade Marina Resort Hotel, Thante Beach Resort Hotel, Lintha Oo Hotel, Bay View Hotel, Silver Beach Hotel, Amazing Ngapali Resort Hotel, Fortune Resort Hotel, Aden Hotel and Minzani Hotel.

In the afternoon, after inspecting the Ngapali Beach Hotel, the minister met with hoteliers and gave instructions on timely completion of the projects, conservation of natural environment for the beach and development of tourism and working together with family spirit. He also attended to their requirements and inspected Thandwe Post and Telegraph Office. — MNA

## Youth Education Camp Training Course opened in Kayah State

YANGON, 4 April—A ceremony to open the Youth Education Camp (1/2004) Training Course, sponsored by Kayah State Maternal and Child Welfare Association was held at the City Hall in Loikaw on 1 April morning.

It was attended by Chairman of Kayah State Peace and Development Council Col Myint Oo, the Secretary and departmental officials, Patron of Kayah State Maternal and Child Welfare Association Supervisory Committee Daw Khaing Thet Mon and committee members, commanders of Loikaw battalion and unit, social organizations, course instructors and trainees.

Chairman of Kayah State PDC Col Myint Oo made a speech.

Patron Daw Khaing Thet Mon presented commemorative pennants to Chairman Col Myint Oo and course instructors.

Next, Chairman Col Myint Oo greeted trainees and the opening ceremony ended.

Yesterday morning, Chairman Col Myint Oo attended the opening ceremony

of Naungyah Bridge held in Loikaw.

The Kayah State Superintendent Engineer presented commemorative pennants to Chairman Col Myint Oo and officials.

Next, Chairman Col Myint Oo and those present on the occasion inspected the bridge and the ceremony ended.

The bridge, 673 feet long and 6 feet wide, was built at a cost of K 3.1 million contributed by Kayah State PDC and departments concerned.

Next, Chairman Col Myint Oo inspected summer paddy cultivation at Dawpawkale, Pankan and Htayngahla village-tracts and gave necessary instructions to officials.

Later, Chairman Col Myint Oo inspected cultivation of Shweyinyay paddy at Ngwedauing Plantations in Dimawhso Township and gave necessary instructions to officials.

MNA



Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on his departure for Bangladesh at the Yangon International Airport.—MNA



Diplomats and officials of UN agencies see off Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt at the airport.—MNA



Dean of Diplomatic Corps Singaporean Ambassador Mr Simon Tensing De Cruz sees off Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt at the airport.—MNA

## Drug traffickers sentenced

YANGON, 4 April—A combined team comprising members of Yangon Special Anti-Drug Squad and Kamayut Police Station, acting on informa-

tion, on 25 September 2003, searched the house of Ma Soe Soe Myint, of Apartment 301, Building 227, Sabai Maga Street, Ward 5, Kamayut Township and arrested her and Than Soe, who was at the house, together with 39.8 grams of dried opium concealed in the house.

Action is being taken against Ma Soe Soe Myint, daughter of U Sein Han, of Apartment 301, Building 227, Sabai Maga Street, Ward 5, Kamayut Township and Than Soe, son of U San Aye, of No 300, Circular Road, Ward 3, Kalaw, under Section 15/16 (C)/20 (A) of Nar-

cotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Kamayut Police Station.

Ma Soe Soe Myint and Than Soe were sentenced to 25 year' imprisonment under Section 20 (A) by Yangon West District Court on 16 February 2004.

MNA

**Don't Smoke**



## Literary and Art Exhibition concludes

YANGON, 4 April — The 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Commemorative Literary and Art Exhibition continued today for the final day at the Defence Services

Museum on U Wisara Road in Dagon Township here.

Some 500 people including monks, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and stu-

dents visited the exhibition today.

Quiz on literary exhibitions was also held and prizes were presented to the winners. — MNA

## Myanmar Trade Fair-2004 continues

YANGON, 4 April — Myanmar Trade Fair-2004, organized by Quartz International Co Ltd, continued today for the third day at Yangon Trade Centre on Upper Pazundaung Road here, and it was packed with people.

At the trade fair, Seven Bees Trading Enterprise, Winner Plastic Manufacturing Co Ltd, Myanmar Online (MODINS) Web Solutions, Star Entertainment Co Ltd and other



Booth of Myanmar Online (MODINS) Solutions seen at Myanmar Trade Fair.— MNA

companies display their goods. It continues tomorrow from 9 am to 6 pm. — MNA

## HK chief executive approves chairmanship of HKEx

HONG KONG, April 4 — Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Tung Chee Hwa has approved the appointment of Charles Lee as Chairman of the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEx).

The approval was made under the Securities and Futures Ordinance (SFO). Lee's chairmanship takes immediate effect, and will coincide with his term as a director of the HKEx Board, which will expire

at the end of the 2006 Annual General Meeting of the HKEx.

Lee was elected Chairman of the HKEx by the directors at a board meeting held on Thursday.

Announcing the approval, Hong Kong Financial Secretary Henry Tang said on Saturday that Lee has made invaluable contributions to the local securities market over the years.

"His leadership commands general support

and respect by the industry. We are confident that with Mr. Lee's direction, the HKEx will strive to further enhance our market quality and competitiveness, and strengthen our position as the premier capital formation centre for the Mainland," Tang said.

Lee is one of the three directors reappointed earlier by the financial secretary to the Board of the HKEx on a two-year term under the SFO.

He is a lawyer by profession.

MNA/Xinhua

## China becomes largest ostrich raiser in Asia

Xi'AN, 4 April — China has become Asia's number one ostrich raiser with about 20,000 ostriches bred in captivity, according to sources attending the International Conference on the Development of Ostriches that opened Saturday in Xi'an, capital of the northwestern Shaanxi Province.

Experts say the figure is the fifth largest in the world. China started in 1992 to import and artificially breed ostriches, a species that was indigenous to Africa and has been raised around the globe since the 1980s as its feathers, meat, egg, hair and bone are all of high economic value. Ostrich breeding enjoys immense potential in China's central and western regions, whose dry climate and abundant land and fodder resources are conducive to the birds' growth, said officials with the agriculture and finance ministries at the conference.

Ostrich raising will play

a leading role in boosting the fodder processing industry, protecting the ecological environment, enriching the consumers' market and increasing the local farmers' income, according to experts with the China Ostrich Farming and Development Association, sponsor of the international conference.

The three-day event was initiated by the World Ostrich Association to promote the development of the global ostrich raising industry and showcase China's achievements in this aspect.

The conference carries the theme of "opportunities and challenges facing the global ostrich industry", and has drawn industry insiders from more than 20 countries and regions.

Participants will visit Shaanxi IKO Ostriches Co., Ltd., the largest ostrich breeding base in Asia, during their stay in the northwestern province.

MNA/Xinhua

## Fairly strong earthquake hits east Japan

Tokyo, 4 April — A fairly strong earthquake measuring 5.6 on the Richter Scale jolted eastern Japan Sunday morning.

According to Japanese Meteorological Agency, the quake, which occurred at around 08:02 am (2302

GMT), was strongly felt in Tokyo and several prefectures in east Japan. The earthquake is also measured a maximum intensity of 4 on the seven-level Japanese seismic scale, the agency said. There is no death reported so far.

MNA/Xinhua

## Rural roads opened in Mongphyat, Dawei

YANGON, 4 April — A ceremony to open Wanaung rural tarred road in Mongphyat on 21 March morning was held at the archway, attended by Director of Shan State (East) Development Affairs Department U Tin Soe and members, Mongphyat District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Myo Nyunt, members of social organizations and

local people.

The road was formally opened by Director of Shan State (East) Development Affairs Department U Tin Soe, Mongphyat District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Myo Nyunt, Joint-Secretary U Myint Naing of Shan State (East) USDA.

Similarly, the opening ceremony of Sanchi Thukha tarred road which was built

by Dawei Township Development Affairs during 2003-2004 fiscal was held at the archway on 10 March morning. Col Kyaw Aung of Dawei Station, Chairman of Dawei District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Khin Maung Nyo and Executive Officer U Kyi Than of Dawei Township Development Affairs Department formally opened that road. — MNA

## HK health chief calls for reflecting welfare philosophies

HONG KONG, 4 April — It is timely to reflect and review Hong Kong's welfare philosophies and policy directions as new solutions are needed for the changing social, economic and demographic realities, said a health official here on Saturday.

Addressing the Conference on Social Investment and Future Partnerships, Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food Yeoh Eng-kiong said that the community as a whole should benefit from focused discussions.

The meeting, organized by the Health, Welfare and Food Bureau, aims to enhance "social capital".

It will provide a forum to initiate discussions on reviewing welfare philosophies, refocusing on an active "social investment" ap-

proach instead of passive provision of welfare services in equipping individuals and communities to help themselves and build their resilience to deal with stresses related to adversities and change.

In his 2004 Policy Address, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Tung Chee Hwa tasked the bureau with engaging relevant parties in developing strategies to enhance "social capital" and to examine ways to develop the tripartite partnership between the government, the business community and the third sector to inculcate the concept of "social capital" in the community and help it take root.

"Hong Kong is going through a period of restructuring in which the pace of change has escalated and the

movements in business and people have increased. People in Hong Kong face new opportunities and renewed challenges," said Yeoh.

"No one party, either the individual, family, community or the government can take sole responsibility or be effective in addressing every and all personal or social problems. Social problems need a society's responses and the solutions reside in the society," Yeoh said.

The conference was attended by over 400 participants mainly from the social welfare sector, including social policy makers and advisers, welfare agency board chairs and executives, relevant academia, representatives of the welfare sector, district councils and business organizations.

MNA/Xinhua

## Bach score found in Japan after 80 years

TOKYO, 4 April — Part of a 1728 musical score composed by Johann Sebastian Bach has been found in Japan nearly 80 years after it went missing, a scholar said on Saturday. The "Wedding Cantata BWV 216", composed in 1728, was found in the possessions of Japanese pianist Chieko Hara who died in December 2001, said Tadashi Isoyama, a professor of Kunitachi College of Music in Tokyo. Hara was 87 when she died.

The eight-page work contained notes and lyrics written in German, said Isoyama, who determined the authenticity of the Bach piece and whose view was shared by other researchers. "This has been missing for nearly 80 years," Isoyama said. The work was created for the wedding of a daughter of a Customs official, Isoyama said. It was passed over from his family to collectors and musicians before reaching the family of German composer Felix Mendelssohn who had it until around 1926. Experts, including Isoyama, believe Hara's Spanish husband received it from Mendelssohn's family. — MNA/Reuters

## Chinese Vice-Premier meets Saudi Arabian guests

BEIJING, 4 April — Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan met here Friday with Ali Bin Ibrahim Al-Nuaimi, Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources of Saudi Arabia.

Zeng said the two nations are complementary in economy and the Chinese Government valued friendly and cooperative relations with Saudi Arabia and hoped the two nations can keep expanding cooperation areas and enhancing the cooperation level.

Al-Nuaimi said the Saudi Arabian Government and enterprises are very confident in the bilateral economic and trade investment cooperation. — MNA/Xinhua

## CORRECTION

Please read "the 8th Special Session of the Governing Council / Global Ministerial Environmental Forum" instead of "the Eighth Special Meeting of UN Environmental Conservation Programme Management Committee / World Environmental Ministers Forum" in the news "Minister for Foreign Affairs arrives back from ROK" which appeared in this column yesterday.

Error is regretted. — Ed

## Smoking ban linked to drop in heart attacks

LONDON, 4 April — Ireland's ban on smoking in pubs and restaurants could have added health benefits if research in the United States is anything to go by.

Nearly two years before the emerald isle became the first country to outlaw smoking in public places, the city of Helena in Montana passed similar legislation and saw a sharp drop in heart attacks.

Opponents subsequently had the US law overturned but in the six months it was enforced, hospital admissions for heart attack fell by 40 per cent in the city. "The observations... suggests that smoke-free laws not only protect people from the long-term dangers of second-hand smoke but also that they may be associated with a rapid decrease in heart attacks," said Professor Stanton Glantz of the University of California, San Francisco.

Smoking is a risk factor for heart disease and stroke but Glantz' research, which is published online by the *British Medical Journal* on Monday, is the first to report a link between a ban and heart attacks.

Only 24 people were admitted to the city's heart

hospital with a heart attack during the six-month smoking ban, compared to an average of 40 during the same periods in the year before the law was imposed and after it was overturned.

Thirty-eight per cent of the heart attack patients in the study were smokers, 29 per cent had quit and 33 per cent had never smoked.

Further studies are needed to confirm the findings but Glantz said the impact is consistent with the known effects of second-hand smoke on cardiac disease.

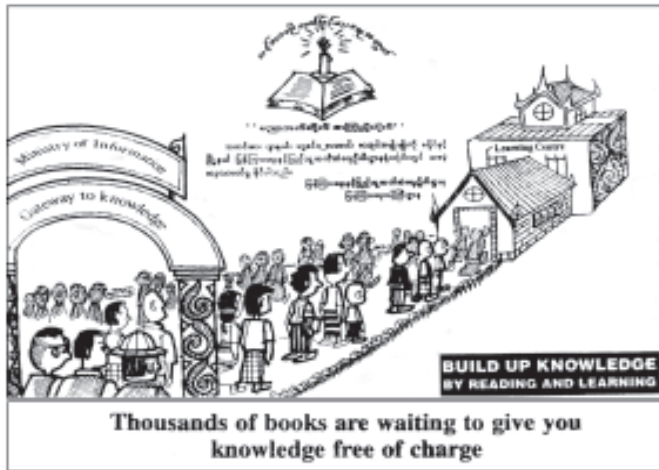
"The dramatic decrease in heart attacks in the Montana study makes sense because exposure to passive smoking can increase the risk of heart attack," a spokesman for the anti-smoking group ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) said.

"It all basically points to the need for a ban on smoking in public places and how crucial it is to public health," he added. In Ireland, which introduced the nationwide ban last week, around a quarter of deaths from heart disease are caused by smoking. Smokers have twice the risk of heart attack of non-smokers. — MNA/Reuters









## ADVERTISEMENT

### In memoriam Fell asleep in Jesus

Major Mark Htun Pe (Shwe Bo) (son of School Master Elisha U Kywe) fell asleep in Jesus on 5th April 1968 may your soul rest in peace. Sadly missed and deeply mourned by all the family.

### Spain to bring in Army to guard rail lines

MADRID, 3 April — Spain will bring in the Army to guard key rail lines after discovery of a bomb on a high-speed line that almost certainly contained the same type of dynamite used in Madrid bombings, the Interior Ministry said on Friday.

The bomb, found near the central city of Toledo, was found three weeks after suspected bombings of four packed commuter trains in Madrid killed 191 people.

The bomb, made of 26 pounds of dynamite and packed in a sports bag, was defused safely. Authorities did not say who was suspected of putting it there.

Investigators believe the bombers wanted to blow up the track and derail a train, but either the bomb was not connected properly or the attempt was aborted because they were interrupted, Interior Ministry sources said. Interior Minister Angel Acebes said police were checking the Madrid-Seville high-speed train line, where the bomb was found, kilometre by kilometre to ensure it was safe. When this had been done, the authorities would set up a "permanent system of vigilance on that line, and on the most sensitive lines," he told a news conference.

MNA/Reuters

### China's military servicemen to enjoy better medical care

BEIJING, 3 April — People in military service are expected to enjoy better medical care as the Central Military Commission (CMC) has approved a reform scheme on the Army's medical care system, which is to take effect on 1 May this year.

The average per-capita medical budget for military personnel will rise by 30 per cent and more, according to the reform plan, which promises to offer free-of-charge medical care to servicemen and preferential policies for their family members, and to include civilian workers in the military into the official medical care system.

A spokesman of the General Logistic Department of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) told *Xinhua* that it is necessary to reform the medical service in the Army as the existing military medical care system is out of date.

The new scheme gives better care to retired soldiers and officers, those stationed in remote areas or involved in special duties, and those who suffer from serious illness. — MNA/Xinhua

**TRADEMARK CAUTION**  
Megha AG., LTD., a company incorporated in Switzerland and having its registered office at Domachenstrasse 114, 4147 Aesch, Switzerland is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:

**ARTEQUIN**

Reg. No. 49221/2001  
(26.2.2001)

In respect of "Pharmaceutical products and preparations for health care purposes; disinfectants; all being goods" in Class 5.



Reg. No. 49688/2000  
(14.12.2000)

In respect of "Pharmaceutical and veterinary preparations and substances, as well as preparations for health care purposes; pharmaceutical preparations in galenic formulations and administration forms; transdermal plasters, sticking plasters treated or impregnated with pharmaceutical active ingredients; diagnostic substances for medical purposes; X-ray contrast media for medical purposes; balms for medical purposes; baby-food; dietary substances for medical purposes; medicinal tea and herb tea; resorcinolives for medical purposes; plasters; materials for dressings; disinfectants; antiseptics; medical hair shampoos and soap; all being goods" in Class 5.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use, or actual or colourable imitation of the said Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate  
For Megha AG.,  
C/o Kevlin Chia Yangon Ltd.  
Unit 223 Summit Parkview  
Yangon, Union of Myanmar  
(Tel) 957/211888; (Fax) 237992  
Dated 5 April 2004

### China to reexamine, regulate national technology standards

BEIJING, 3 April — China will reexamine and regulate its national technology standards this year so as to keep pace with the fast economic and technological development, the *Science and Technology Daily* reported Wednesday.

The move was announced by an official of the Standardization Administration of China at a national conference on standardization work held on 30 March, the paper said.

China now has more than 20,000 national standards. This year, the administration will reexamine them and some will be amended and integrated, while outdated ones will be annulled.

Standards for construction projects will not be regulated this time, and the final result will be publicized online.

MNA/Xinhua

## ပြည်တွင်းပြန်ကိုအားပေးပါ

### Indo-China trade pegged at \$20b by 2010

NEW DELHI, 3 April — Economics will be the driving factor in its relationship with China and trade between the two countries is expected to double to 20 billion US dollars by 2010, a government official said here Friday.

Bilateral trade in 2004 is pegged at 10 billion US dollars.

There are not only growth opportunities in traditional areas like steel, pharmaceuticals, automobiles and chemicals, but also export potential in sectors like foodgrains, Nalin Surie, India's Ambassador to China, said.

"I am very positive, there is a desire on both sides to take the relationship to a qualitatively new level. Economics will be a driving factor," he said in a speech to the Confederation of Indian Industries.

He said trade between the two countries had touched a significant 1.87 billion US dollars during the January-February period and could exceed 10 billion US dollars this year.

Trade will touch 20 billion dollars by 2010 provided there a change in the export basket and anything additional will be a bonus, he added.

Surie said one area in which India has so far not penetrated the Chinese market is foodgrains and agri-commodities in which that country fixes annual import quotas.

Apart from tapping the potential in agri-sector, India should also look for greater trade with China in software, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

### Gulf Air plane makes emergency landing

NEW DELHI, 3 April — A Gulf Air passenger plane made an emergency landing at the Indira Gandhi International Airport here Friday morning after one of its engines failed.

Just before the GA-133 Dubai-Delhi flight was about to land, a snag was detected prompting the pilot to send a distress message to the Air Traffic Control at 8.15 am, police and airport sources said.

Full emergency was declared with fire tenders and ambulances rushing to the tarmac, the *Press Trust of India* quoted the sources as saying.

The plane landed safely at 8.23 am, the sources said. — MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

### China becomes largest ostrich raiser in Asia

XI'AN, 4 April — China has become Asia's number one ostrich raiser with about 20,000 ostriches bred in captivity, according to sources attending the International Conference on the Development of Ostriches that opened Saturday in Xi'an, capital of the northwestern Shaanxi Province.

Experts say the figure is the fifth largest in the world. China started in 1992 to import and artificially breed ostriches, a species that was indigenous to Africa and has been raised around the globe since the 1980s as its feathers, meat, egg, hair and bone are all of high economic value.

Ostrich breeding enjoys immense potential in China's central and western regions, whose dry climate and abundant land and fodder resources are conducive to the birds' growth, said officials with the agriculture and finance ministries at the conference.

Ostrich raising will play a leading role in boosting the fodder processing industry, protecting the ecological environment, enriching the consumers' market and increas-

### More Indonesians buying luxurious houses in Singapore

JAKARTA, 3 April — The Singapore property market is improving, spurred by growing demand for high-end property from foreign buyers, including wealthy Indonesians, a developer said.

Justin Taylor, chief executive officer of Singapore-based McRidge Investment Pte. Ltd, said more Indonesians were now buying luxurious houses or "good-class" bungalows in Singapore either as second homes or for investment purposes.

"There has been a lot of interest in the property market because a lot of Indonesians are looking for houses to stay in," Taylor was quoted Friday by *The Jakarta Post* as saying.

McRidge is developing two good-class bungalow projects in a plush area of District 10, at the heart of Singapore.

Aside from Indonesians, other foreign buyers include those from the Chinese Mainland and Hong Kong.

The increasing number of foreigners buying houses in Singapore is partly driven by the popularity of the city island as the centre of education and business in Asia.

The close proximity between Indonesia and Singapore had prompted many Indonesians to move their families there while keeping their businesses in Indonesia, Taylor said.

"We see a lot of situations where the mother stays in Singapore where her children study, while the father lives in Indonesia and goes back and forth to Singapore," Taylor said.

Another reason for the interest in buying property in Singapore, Taylor said, was because it promised a high investment return with low taxes, favourable ownership laws and attractive government incentives. The Singaporean Government only charges property buyers 3 per cent for government tax.

In comparison, buying an apartment in Indonesia would be subject to a 10-per-cent income tax, 20-per-cent luxury tax and 5-per-cent conveyance tax.

He said the high interest from foreigners of buying property in Singapore had improved confidence in the country's market, which had been slowing down during the past couple of years due to the regional financial crisis. Economic recovery in Asian countries had also helped push property sales on the island.

MNA/Xinhua

ing the local farmers' income, according to experts with the China Ostrich Farming and Development Association, sponsor of the international conference.

The three-day event was initiated by the World Ostrich Association to promote the development of the global ostrich raising industry and showcase China's achievements in this aspect.

The conference carries the theme of "opportunities and challenges facing the global ostrich industry", and has drawn industry insiders from more than 20 countries and regions.

Participants will visit Shaanxi IKO Ostriches Co., Ltd., the largest ostrich breeding base in Asia, during their stay in the northwestern province. — MNA/Xinhua



# ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဆက်ရေးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

## HK to implement new maritime security requirements

HONG KONG, 3 April—Hong Kong's Marine Department has been working closely with other relevant government departments and the port and shipping communities to implement the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code, said the Director of Marine SY Tsui Friday.

Tsui made the remark at a presentation ceremony at which the first two batches of port facilities in Hong Kong received their Statement of Compliance certifying their fulfillment of the new security requirements adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

He said following the tragic events of September 11, 2001, the IMO had developed a new security regime, enshrined in the ISPS Code, applicable to ships and port facilities. The code would enter into force on July 1.

The primary objective of the ISPS Code, Tsui said, was to establish an international framework involving cooperation between contracting governments, government agen-

cies and the shipping and port industries to detect and assess security threats and take preventive measures against security incidents affecting ships engaged in international voyages and port facilities serving these ships. "In Hong Kong, we have a total of 31 port facilities that are required to comply with the ISPS Code. All of them have had their security assessments completed and endorsed, and their security plans are being developed," he said.

He said the Marine Department, as the Designated Authority, took into account the impact on the trade as well as port efficiency and competitiveness in taking steps towards the implementation of the ISPS Code.

MNA/Xinhua

## Russia gets no guarantees on ratification of CFE treaty

BRUSSELS, 3 April—Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said Friday he did not get "guarantees" from NATO on signing the Conventional Forces in Europe treaty (CFE) by the Baltic states, which became NATO members during recent NATO enlargement.

"I got assurances, not guarantees," said Lavrov at a Press conference after he met with all the 26 NATO old and new members, who came to Brussels for a flag-raising ceremony for seven new NATO members as well as an informal ministerial meeting.

One of Russia's chief concerns following the Eastern expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is that four

NATO members including the three Baltic states are not signatories to the CFE.

Some Russian officials fear that if they do not join the treaty limiting the deployment of weapons they could become NATO outposts for nuclear arms or Army bases.

However, NATO argues that until Russian forces and weapons are pulled back from Georgia and Moldova, the trio cannot ratify a sub-

sequently amended version of the treaty.

On the NATO expansion, Lavrov was not so indignant. "We didn't want this enlargement, and we will continue to maintain a negative attitude. It's a mistake," Lavrov said.

He said Russia and NATO should "find new ways of dealing with threats rather than set up new fences" to divide the two.

MNA/Xinhua

## Rising oil prices may revive US-Saudi tensions

WASHINGTON, 3 April—Rising oil prices are threatening to revive tensions between the United States and Saudi Arabia, even as the desert kingdom is cooperating more in the US-led war on terrorism.

Bush Administration officials and experts said here they did not expect the dispute over production levels to torpedo improving relations between Washington and Riyadh.

But opposition Democrats seeking to unseat President George W. Bush in the November election put a sharper edge on the debate.

"I think the (US-Saudi) relationship has changed. The administration hasn't realized it, but the Saudis, when it comes to oil, are no longer our friends," Democratic Senator Charles Schumer of New York told reporters on Wednesday.

Some Democrats intend to target the relationship between Riyadh and Bush, a

former Texas oilman who said during the 2000 election that a President must get "on the phone with the OPEC cartel and say 'we expect you to open your spigots'".

Saudi Arabia, OPEC's most influential member, was seen as leading a cartel move to cut production by about 4 per cent.

MNA/Reuters

## US medical school establishes obesity course

WASHINGTON, 3 April—Duke Medical School said on Friday it was setting up a course in treating obesity, saying that with nearly two-thirds of Americans overweight, doctors need specialized knowledge of the condition.

Coursework will include the underlying causes of obesity and how to treat it. "The students learn how to manage overweight and obese patients non-judgmentally and counsel adults and children to make healthy lifestyle choices," the North Carolina-

based medical school said in a statement.

"Duke is one of the first medical schools in the country to establish an obesity management course for medical students," added Dr. Jarol Boan, and assistant professor of medicine and surgery who

set up the month-long course.

"Physicians have typically had very little exposure to obesity treatment. Part of the reason for this is that obesity is not considered a disease, so students don't get training for obesity."

MNA/Reuters

## Sun Microsystems Inc, Microsoft Corp reach agreement

WASHINGTON, 3 April—Sun Microsystems Inc and Microsoft Corp announced Friday that they reached a "broad cooperation agreement" and set all outstanding litigation between the two rivals.

Sun, a computer server and software maker, said it planned to cooperate with Microsoft, a company it had branded an unpleasant monopolist.

While announcing it is cutting 3,300 jobs, 9 per cent of its total work force of more than 35,000, Sun also said its net loss for the fiscal third quarter will be wider than expected.

The agreement with Microsoft ends Sun's one billion dollars private antitrust suit against the software giant. Sun's complaints also helped spark the investigation that led to the European Union's recent record fine against Microsoft.

As part of the deal, Microsoft will pay Sun 700 million dollars to resolve the antitrust case, which was scheduled to go to trial in January 2006, and 900 million dollars to resolve patent issues. Sun and Microsoft also will pay royalties for each other's technologies.

"Our companies will continue to compete hard, but this agreement creates a new basis for cooperation that will benefit the customers of both companies," said Steve Ballmer, Microsoft's chief executive officer.

MNA/Xinhua

## Two "Jaguar" jets go missing in Kashmir

NEW DELHI, 3 April—Two Indian Air Force (IAF) jets were feared to have crashed after they went missing Friday while on a routine training flight near the Line of Control (LoC) in the Indian-controlled Kashmir, defence sources said in New Delhi.

Senior IAF officials, however, dismissed the possibility the two *Jaguar* jets might have strayed across the LoC into Pakistani airspace as they were flying away from the military ceasefire line.

The two missing jets were part of a group of four *Jaguars* that had taken off on a "routine Kashmir Valley flying mission" at 12.34 pm from the airbase in Kashmir's summer capital Srinagar, the *Press Trust of India* quoted the defence sources as said.

"Shortly after taking off, the jets ran into bad weather. Radio contact with the two jets was lost at about 1 pm when they were over a place called Gund in Sonamarg Valley," said a source.

MNA/Xinhua

## US to fingerprint British visitors, other allies

WASHINGTON, 3 April—The United States said on Friday it will fingerprint and photograph the citizens of 27 nations that do not require US visas, including visitors from close allies like Britain, Australia and Japan.

State Department spokesman Adam Ereli said the new policy would be put in place at all US airports and seaports by September 30, requiring citizens of the 27 Visa Waiver Programme countries to provide "two digital index finger scans and a digital photograph" to verify their identity.

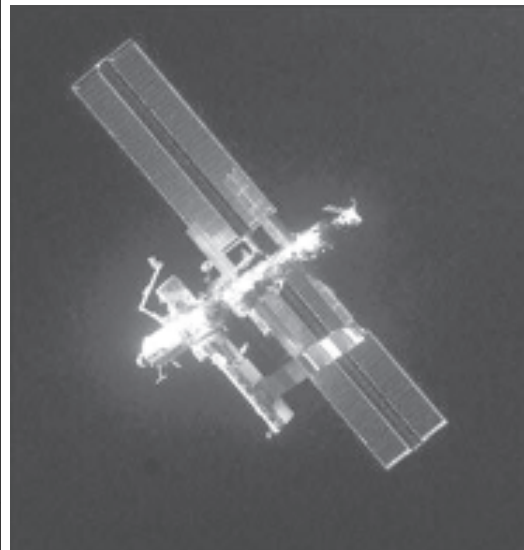
The photographs and fingerprints are already required from citizens of other nations that do require US visas and have proved unpopular among many, although US officials say the process takes a matter of seconds and is needed to protect against attacks like those of September 11, 2001.

Under US law, the 27 nations must introduce passports with "biometric" data like fingerprints by October 26 but the State Department and the US Department of

Homeland Security have asked Congress to approve a two-year extension because most, if not all, are not expected to meet the deadline.

"We believe that an extension... will avoid potential disruption to international travel and at the same time (requiring the fingerprints and photographs) will help mitigate the security concerns related to extending the deadline for biometric passports," Ereli told reporters.

The 27 countries affected are Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Britain.—MNA/Reuters



The International Space Station (ISS) is seen from the US space shuttle Endeavour. The European Space Agency is in negotiations with Russia to send a European astronaut next year on a long-term mission to the ISS.—INTERNET

## SPORTS

## Houllier hits out at Henchoz

LIVERPOOL (England), 3 April— Liverpool manager Gerard Houllier has told defender Stephane Henchoz he is "out of order" for questioning why he has been left out of the Premier League side.

Henchoz was dropped following the 2-0 league defeat at Southampton on March 14 and since then Liverpool have picked up seven points without conceding a goal.

The 29-year-old will again be a substitute when Liverpool play Blackburn Rovers at Anfield on Sunday, when Houllier's side will be hoping to hold onto fourth place.

Henchoz, who won his 60th cap for Switzerland in their 1-0 defeat by Greece in midweek, said he could not understand why he had been left out of the team, where he has been replaced by Igor Biscan. "He was out of order," Houllier told reporters on Friday.

"You have to respect your teammates. You cannot say like that, that you expect to play.

"It is a lack of respect to players now playing. He has been too spontaneous and too naive.

"What he has to do now is keep working and be ready when his time comes.

"When he was injured he was never bothered about who was playing. Now we have three clean sheets in the Premier League so he just has to wait." Liverpool are 16 points adrift of third-placed Manchester United, on 46 points and in a tight battle for the final Champions League spot with Newcastle United and Birmingham City, who have 45 points.

"I have said to the players because I know what they want, when they wake up every morning it has to be in their hearts, in their legs and in their minds," Houllier said.— MNA/Reuters

## Van Nistelrooy "very doubtful" for Cup tie

MANCHESTER (England), 3 April— Manchester United striker Ruud van Nistelrooy is struggling to be fit to face holders Arsenal in Saturday's FA Cup semifinal at Villa Park.

Van Nistelrooy injured a knee as the two sides drew 1-1 in the Premier League last Sunday and missed the Netherlands' midweek friendly against France.

"The one serious doubt is Ruud. It's looking very doubtful for him at the moment," Ferguson told a news conference on Friday.

"We are hoping there can be a change in the next 24 hours. There were no problems after the game (last Sunday) but when he turned up for training with Holland there was swelling. We are having to work hard to try and get the swelling down."

Van Nistelrooy, who has scored 26 goals this season, is United's main attacking threat as Louis Saha, who scored their late equalizer at Highbury last weekend, is ineligible for the tie after joining from Fulham in January.

"He (van Nistelrooy) is a man who can win a game for us. It would be a bitter blow, but we will get on with it. We have other players who can replace him and different options," Ferguson added.

One of those options is Diego Forlan, who has been placed on stand-by following his mid-week international commitments with Uruguay.

Forlan was due to be given the weekend off but is flying back and will meet up with the United squad at their hotel. Ferguson's selection problems have not been helped by Wednesday's England international and the United manager was unhappy about the length of time Phil Neville and Nicky Butt played in the 1-0 defeat by Sweden.

Neville completed the match and Butt was used for 78 minutes when Ferguson had expected England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson to play them for just the first half.

Ferguson said he did not think the pair could play in another big game less than 72 hours later.

"They have ruled themselves out," said Ferguson. "It's changed my thinking on the team so we are probably looking at the same team as last week.—MNA/Reuters

## Coria saves four match points to reach Miami final

MIAMI 3 April — Third seed Guillermo Coria pulled off a miraculous comeback on Friday against Fernando Gonzalez, saving four match points to beat the Chilean 4-6, 7-6, 6-1 and seal a place in the Nasdaq-100 Open final.

For all Coria's grit, his win owed plenty to the attack of stage-fright Gonzalez suffered when he served for the match at a set and 5-4 up.

He missed two match points in that game to allow Argentine Coria to level at 5-5.

Gonzalez looked to have the match in the palm of his hand again in the second set tiebreaker when he mustered a further two match points, only to find himself once again paralyzed by his own nerves.

He surrendered the set on a double fault and having been handed a lifeline, Coria, 22, ran away with the third set as Gonzalez became increasingly dispirited.

Coria was a semifinalist at the French Open and is better known for his prowess on clay than on hard-courts.

Of his seven career titles, six have been won on clay -- his victory indoors in Basel in October last year being the exception.

Coria, the World No. 4, now plays either Andy Roddick or Vince Spadea in the final. — MNA/Reuters



Arsenal's Dennis Bergkamp (R) vies for the ball with Mikael Silvestre of Manchester United during their FA Cup semifinal clash at Villa park in Birmingham.—INTERNET

## Arsenal out to settle Cup score with United

LONDON COLNE (England), 3 April — Manager Arsene Wenger says Arsenal need to avoid the mistakes which cost them a potential double in 1999 when the holders face league champions Manchester United in Saturday's FA Cup semifinal.

Arsenal lost a Cup semifinal replay to United at the same Villa Park venue five years ago and Wenger is convinced the defeat had an effect on their failed league run-in and United's treble, which was unprecedented for an English team.

"It had a bearing," the Frenchman told reporters on Friday. "Maybe if we'd won that game, we would have been under a bit less pressure and done the double again.

"It was a defining moment in Manchester United's season and in ours because it gave them that plus to go on and win it."

On Saturday, a week after the two sides drew 1-1 at Highbury, Arsenal go into the tie as unbeaten league leaders and hoping for a third domestic double under Wenger after 1998 and 2002.

They face four games in nine days, including Tuesday's Champions League quarterfinal second leg against Chelsea, and Wenger is wary of their season unravelling a second time after a Cup defeat by United.

"You never know the psychological consequences of a defeat on your team," he said.

"At the moment, we're on a roll where every game is hugely important. It's important that you win the next one because it has consequences for the game after.

"We don't really know what competition we're playing in, we just want to win every game. We don't calculate too much. This is a massive game for us."

Wenger believes it will be a special one for his Dutch striker Dennis Bergkamp, who had a late penalty saved by Peter Schmeichel in the 1999 replay before United's Ryan Giggs won the tie with a wonder goal in extra time.

"He's done fantastically well this season and I'm sure he will use that opportunity tomorrow to put things right," Wenger said. "If he has to (take a penalty), I would love him to do it."

MNA/Reuters

Chivas's striker Manuel Sol (R) battles for the ball with Colombian midfielder Javier Restrepo of Cruz Azul, during the second half of their Mexican league championship soccer match at the Jalisco stadium in Guadalajara, Mexico, April 3, 2004. Chivas won the game, 4-3. —INTERNET

## Chelsea's Ranieri voted manager of the month

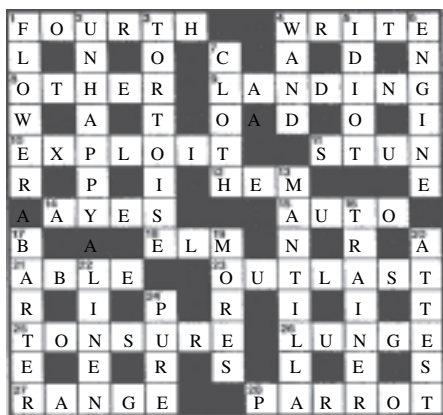
LONDON, 3 April — Under-pressure Chelsea coach Claudio Ranieri received a boost on Friday when he was voted the English Premier League's manager of the month for March.

Ranieri's future has been the subject of speculation since Russian Roman Abramovich bought Chelsea last July even though the Italian has guided Chelsea to second in the Premier League and a place in the Champions League quarterfinals. In March Chelsea won all three of their Premier League matches against Bolton Wanderers, Fulham and Wolverhampton Wanderers.

"Loved by the fans, and respected by his players, Claudio Ranieri has done a fantastic job at Chelsea under the media spotlight," said awards panel representative Nic Gault.

If Chelsea beat Tottenham Hotspur on Saturday they will close to within four points of leaders Arsenal, whom they face in the second leg of their Champions League quarterfinal on Tuesday at Highbury. — MNA/Reuters

## Answer for yesterday's Crossword Puzzle



Elena Dementieva of Russia hits a backhand against Serena Williams from the US, during their finals match at the NASDAQ-100 Open tennis tournament in Key Biscayne, Florida, April 3, 2004. Williams defeated Dementieva 6-1, 6-1. —INTERNET



**MRTV-3**
**5-4-2004 (Monday)  
(Programme Schedule)  
Morning Transmission  
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune  
Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 9:06 Memorial Stones from  
Chin Mountain Ranges
- 9:10** **Headline News**
- 9:12 Myanmar Traditional  
Food "Pone Ye Gyi"
- 9:15** **National News**
- 9:20 The Pindaya Natural  
Cave
- 9:25 MRTV-3's Thingyan  
Festival (Auspicious  
Greeting)
- 9:30** **National News**
- 9:35 Tour In Myanmar  
"Bago, Thanlyin"
- 9:40 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Feel like an  
Earthquake"
- 9:45** **National News**
- 9:50 Kambozathadi: Palace  
of Conquerors
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**5-4-2004 (Monday)  
Regular Programmes for  
Viewers from Abroad  
Evening Transmission  
(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting
- 15:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanma Pano-  
rama & Myanma Sen-  
timent"
- 15:36 Memorial Stones from  
Chin Mountain Ranges
- 15:40** **Headline News**
- 15:42 Myanmar Traditional  
Food "Pone Ye Gyi"
- 15:45** **National News**
- 15:50 The Pindaya Natural  
Cave
- 15:55 MRTV-3's Thingyan  
Festival (Auspicious  
Greeting)
- 16:00** **National News**

- 16:05 Tour In Myanmar  
"Bago, Thanlyin"
- 16:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Feel like an  
Earthquake"
- 16:15** **National News**
- 16:20 Kambozathadi: Palace  
of Conquerors
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 16:30** **National News**
- 16:35 Myanmar Eretes  
Sticticus
- 16:40 Palm Leaf Inscription
- 16:45** **National News**
- 16:50 Myanmar Gems Mo-  
saic
- 16:55 The Rakhine Dance,  
The Pride of Yoma
- 17:00** **National News**
- 17:05 The Gok Hteik Viaduct
- 17:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Bagan the Won-  
der Land"
- 17:15** **National News**
- 17:20 Green Turtle
- 17:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**Evening Transmission  
(19:30 - 23:30)**

- 19:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting
- 19:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 19:36 Welcome To Shwe-  
myaing (Mawla-  
myaing)
- 19:40** **Headline News**
- 19:42 Chin Cultural Museum
- 19:45** **National News**
- 19:50 Myanmar Movie Im-  
pact
- 20:00** **National News**
- 20:05 Glazed Earthen Pot  
Songs On Screen  
"Flourishing"
- 20:12 Unique Style of  
Kachin Dress
- 20:15** **National News**
- 20:20 Myanmar Footware  
"Ponedaw" Famed in  
Successive Eras
- 20:25 Song "A Compassion-  
ate Love Boat"
- 20:30** **National News**
- 20:35 Myanmar Orchestra  
(Thichinkhant)
- 20:40 The Royal Animal  
Weights of the  
Myanmar Empires

- 20:45** **National News**
- 20:50 A Trip to Naga Land
- 20:55 The Solo Dance
- 21:00** **National News**
- 21:05 Marvel of a Pogoda  
with Uncountable  
Buddha Images
- 21:10 Song "Myanmar"
- 21:15** **National News**
- 21:20 Three Dimensional  
Gems Studded Paint-  
ing
- 21:30 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanma Pano-  
rama & Myanma Sen-  
timent"
- 21:36 Memorial Stones from  
Chin Mountain Ranges
- 21:40** **Headline News**
- 21:42 Myanmar Traditional  
Food "Pone Ye Gyi"
- 21:45** **National News**
- 21:50 The Pindaya Natural  
Cave
- 21:55 MRTV-3's Thingyan  
Festival (Auspicious  
Greeting)
- 22:00** **National News**
- 22:05 Tour In Myanmar  
"Bago, Thanlyin"
- 22:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Feel like an  
Earthquake"
- 22:15** **National News**
- 22:20 Kambozathadi: Palace  
of Conquerors
- 22:25 Song on screen  
"Heh! Little Girl"
- 22:30** **National News**
- 22:35 Myanmar Eretes  
Sticticus
- 22:40 Palm Leaf Inscription
- 22:45** **National News**
- 22:50 Myanmar Gems Mo-  
saic
- 22:55 The Rakhine Dance,  
The Pride of Yoma
- 23:00** **National News**
- 23:05 The Gok Hteik Viaduct
- 23:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Bagan the Won-  
der Land"
- 23:15** **National News**
- 23:20 Green Turtle
- 23:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**5-4-2004 (Monday) &  
6-4-2004 (Tuesday)  
Evening & Morning  
Transmission  
(23:30 - 1:30)**

- 8:00 am
7. Song of national races
- 8:10 am
8. မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာတေးဂီတ  
ကျေးလက်တေးသံများ
- 8:15 am
9. ချစ်လိမ္မော်
- 8:30 am
10. International news
- 8:45 am
11. Let's go
- 4:00 pm
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
2. Song to uphold  
National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
3. Practice in reading
- 4:45 pm
4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm
5. အစောင့်အရှောက်သံတော်  
ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်္ဃာတော်  
(သက္ကရာဇ်၊ ဓမ္မစာအုပ်၊ ပြုစုသူ)
- 5:15 pm
6. Dance variety
- 5:30 pm
7. Musical programme (The  
Radio Myanmar Modern  
programme)
- Music Troupe)
- 5:45 pm
8. မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာတေးဂီတ  
ကျေးလက်တေးသံများ
- 6:00 pm
9. Discovery
- 6:15 pm
10. တောင်ကြားမြို့နယ်မြို့တော်  
(အပိုင်း-၂)
- 6:30 pm
11. Evening news
- 7:00 pm
12. Weather report
- 7:05 pm
13. Industrial Achievement
- 7:15 pm
14. Musical programme
- 7:25 pm
15. စည်ပင်သာယာရေး  
ယဉ်ကျေးမှု မဟာသံကြား  
တေးသံများ
- 8:00 pm
16. News
17. International news
18. Weather report
19. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတမ်းသံ  
"အချစ်ဆိုသည်မှာ" (အပိုင်း-၁၅)
20. The next day's  
programme

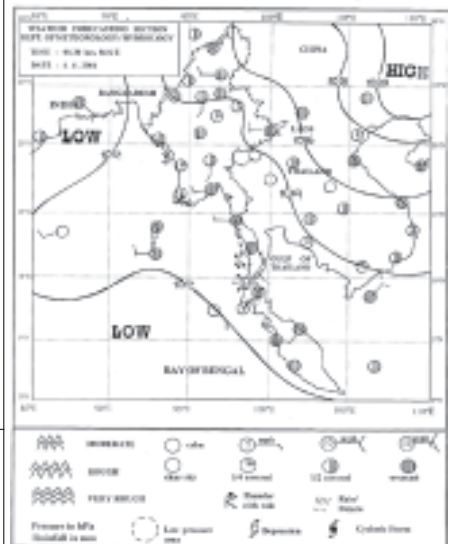
- 23:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting
- 23:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanma Pano-  
rama & Myanma Sen-  
timent"
- 23:36 Memorial Stones from  
Chin Mountain Ranges
- 23:40** **Headline News**
- 23:42 Myanmar Traditional  
Food "Pone Ye Gyi"
- 23:45** **National News**
- 23:50 The Pindaya Natural  
Cave
- 23:55 MRTV-3's Thingyan  
Festival (Auspicious  
Greeting)
- 24:00** **National News**
- 00:05 Tour In Myanmar  
"Bago, Thanlyin"
- 00:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Feel like an  
Earthquake"
- 00:15** **National News**
- 00:20 Kambozathadi: Palace  
of Conquerors
- 00:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 00:30** **National News**
- 00:35 Myanmar Eretes  
Sticticus
- 00:40 Palm Leaf Inscription
- 00:45** **National News**
- 00:50 Myanmar Gems Mo-  
saic
- 00:55 The Rakhine Dance,  
The Pride of Yoma
- 01:00** **National News**
- 01:05 The Gok Hteik Viaduct
- 01:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Bagan the Won-  
der Land"
- 01:15** **National News**
- 01:20 Green Turtle
- 00:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**6-4-2004 (Tuesday)  
Morning Transmission  
(03:30-07:30)**

- 03:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting
- 03:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 03:36 Welcome To Shwe-  
myaing (Mawla-  
myaing)
- 03:40** **Headline News**
- 03:42 Chin Cultural Museum

- 03:45** **National News**
- 03:50 Myanmar Movie Im-  
pact
- 04:00** **National News**
- 04:05 Glazed Earthen Pot  
Songs On Screen  
"Flourishing"
- 04:10 Unique Style of  
Kachin Dress
- 04:15** **National News**
- 04:20 Myanmar Footware  
"Ponedaw" Famed in  
Successive Eras
- 04:25 Song "A Compassion-  
ate Love Boat"
- 04:30** **National News**
- 04:35 Myanmar Orchestra  
(Thichinkhant)
- 04:40 The Royal Animal  
Weights of the  
Myanmar Empires
- 04:45** **National News**
- 04:50 A Trip to Naga Land
- 04:55 The Solo Dance
- 05:00** **National News**
- 05:05 Marvel of a Pogoda  
with Uncountable  
Buddha Images
- 05:10 Song "Myanmar"
- 05:15** **National News**
- 05:20 Three Dimensional  
Gems Studded Paint-  
ing
- 05:30 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanma Pano-  
rama & Myanma Sen-  
timent"
- 05:35 Memorial Stones from  
Chin Mountain Ranges

- 05:40** **Headline News**
- 05:42 Myanmar Traditional  
Food "Pone Ye Gyi"
- 05:45** **National News**
- 05:50 The Pindaya Natural  
Cave
- 05:55 MRTV-3's Thingyan  
Festival (Auspicious  
Greeting)
- 06:00** **National News**
- 06:05 Tour In Myanmar  
"Bago, Thanlyin"
- 06:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Feel like an  
Earthquake"
- 06:15** **National News**
- 06:20 Kambozathadi: Palace  
of Conquerors
- 06:25 Song on screen  
"Heh! Little Girl"
- 06:30** **National News**
- 06:35 Myanmar Eretes  
Sticticus
- 06:40 Palm Leaf Inscription
- 06:45** **National News**
- 06:50 Myanmar Gems Mo-  
saic
- 06:55 The Rakhine Dance,  
The Pride of Yoma
- 07:00** **National News**
- 07:05 The Gok Hteik Viaduct
- 07:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Bagan the Won-  
der Land"
- 07:15** **National News**
- 07:20 Green Turtle
- 07:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

*Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas*

**WEATHER**
**Sunday, 4 April, 2004**

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:**  
During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers has been scattered in Chin State and upper Sagaing Division and weather has been generally in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Mon State, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeiawady Divisions, (4°C) below normal in upper Sagaing Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperature was (41°C) in Aungmye.

Maximum temperature on 3-4-2004 was 37.0°C (100°F). Minimum temperature on 4-4-2004 was 21.5°C (71°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 4-4-2004 was 81%. Total sunshine hours on 3-4-2004 was (9.5) hours approx. Rainfall on 4-4-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 3 mm (0.12 inch) at Yangon Airport and nil at Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 20 mph from South at (14:30) hours MST on 3-4-2004.

**Bay inference:** Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 5-4-2004:** Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin, Shan, North Rakhine State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon, Ayeiawady 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 moderate in Myanmar waters.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Slight decrease of day temperature are likely in upper Myanmar areas. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 5-4-2004:** Possibility of isolated light rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 4-4-2004:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).


**Monday, April 5  
View today:**

- 7:00 am
1. ကျေးဇူးတင်စာအုပ်အား  
ကြိုး နိုင်ငံတော်သံသယဟောသော  
အဖွဲ့အစည်းအား အားပေးစာ  
ရသင့်ရ၊ အားပေးစာဟောသင့်မှု  
စောတင်၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ ဓမ္မဘူတာ  
ဂါရုတ၊ ဆရာတော် အဋ္ဌကထိက  
သာဓကသံသယ၊ ပရိတ်တော်
- 7:15 am
2. တိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ ဓမ္မဘူတာဂါရုတ၊  
အဋ္ဌကထာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ အဋ္ဌကထာပဏ္ဍိတ  
(ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်  
မူပိုင်သော ဥပါသတိပါဠိတော်
- 7:25 am
3. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
4. Morning news
- 7:40 am
5. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am
6. Cute little dancers

## Merits shared for completion of Chanaye Kyitha Sankyaung in Thingangyun Township

YANGON, 4 April — A ceremony to share merits for completion of two-storey Chanaye Kyitha Sankyaung in Thingangyun Township was held at the monastery this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Tipitaka Selection Ovadaçariya Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Mawlamyine Sasana Manaung Webyan Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vijayabhivamsa and members of the Sangha, No 2 Military Region Commander Brig-Gen Myo Myint, Deputy Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Police Brig-Gen Zaw Win, Chairman of Yangon East District Peace and Development Council Lt-



Maj-Gen Myint Swe shares merits gained for construction of two-storey building of Chanaye Kyitha Sankyaung in Thingangyun Township.— YANGON COMMAND

Col Maung Maung Shein, township authorities, wellwisher U Ko Latt-Daw Tin Tin May (Kyitha Yadana Gold Shop) and guests.

After reciting three times of Namo Tassa in the opening ceremony, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vijayabhivamsa adminis-

tered the Five Precepts. Next, members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

Afterwards, the commander and officials, the wellwishers and family donated provisions to the Sayadaws.

Member of the Tipitaka Selection Ovadaçariya Committee Mandalay

Paukmyaing Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Aggavamsabhivamsa delivered a sermon.

Later, Pro-Rector of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University Agga Maha Pandita Dr

Bhaddanta Kumara-bhivamsa shared merits gained.

MNA

## Provisions donated to monks who sit Pahtamabyan Examination in Mawlamyine

YANGON, 4 April— A ceremony to offer 'soon' to members of the Sangha who set the Pahtamabyan Examination was held at the two-storey Aung Yadana Building of Minkyaung Pariyatti Monastery in Pabedan Region, Mawlamyine, on 1 April morning.

Present were Minkyaung Pariyatti Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Naginda and Sayadaws, Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Secretary Lt-Col Soe Myint Aung and members, departmental officials and wellwishers.

The congregation received the Five Precepts

from the Minkyaung Sayadaw. Next, members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

The commander, officials and wellwishers donated rice, edible oil and grams to the Sayadaws.

Commissioner U Thein Swe of General Administration Department accepted K 300,000 for the Sayadaws donated by Mon State Peace and Development Council; K 300,000 and 10 bags of rice by Mawlamyine District Peace and Development Council; K 300,000, five bags of rice and 100 viss of salt by Mawlamyine Township Peace and Development Council; K 300,000 and 100 viss of edible oil by markets in Mawlamyine; K 300,000 each by Mawlamyine Vehi-

cle Discipline Enforcement and Supervisory Committee; Mon State Union Solidarity and Development Association; and Arrow Myanmar family; and donations by others.

Next, the Minkyaung Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits. After the ceremony, the commander and officials offered 'soon' to members of the Sangha.

Altogether 1,357 members of the Sangha are sitting the examination which will last till 8 April.— MNA

## Spring Art Show continues for second day

YANGON, 4 April— The Spring Art Show comprising works of artists from Dawei continued for the second day at the National Museum on Pyay Road from 9 am to 4 pm today.

Leading Patron of the art show Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung visited the show. Paintings of Alinka Kyawswa Artist U Ngwe Gaing, other well-known artists and their successive new generation artists can be seen at the show.

Anyone may view and purchase the works of the artists till 7 April.

MNA

## Commander inspects construction of road in Lashio

YANGON, 4 April— Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint and officials inspected construction of Road to Wizaya Hsutaungpyi Pagoda in Lashio yesterday.

Director of Shan State Development Affairs Department U Kyee Myint reported on paving of road.

The commander gave instructions on growing of flowers and perennial trees

on both sides of the road.

The commander went to lake No-8 that supplies water to Lashio. Deputy Director of Shan State (North) Development Affairs Department U Myo Naing Aung reported on progress of work and tasks to be undertaken.

The commander inspected summer hybrid paddy cultivation. He proceeded to ancient Yanaungmyin Hsutaungpyi Pagoda and paid obeisance to the Buddha image.

Shan State Additional Superintending Engineer of

Public Works U Kyaw Min Thein reported on construction of replica of Shwedagon Pagoda which is 63 feet in height.

The commander gave instructions on early completion of the project and decoration with Myanmar artistic works.

The commander paid obeisance to Monsalinda Nagayon Pagoda on Wizaya Maha Aungmye Mingala Hill in Lashio. He inspected construction of Yantaingaug Hsutaungpyi MyoU Pagoda.

MNA



Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun unveils signboard of Myanma Economic Bank (Hmawby Branch).— MNA

### INSIDE

#### Perspectives

**Towards total elimination of narcotic drugs**

Page 2

#### Article

**Myanmar and road transport**

Page 7

### Circulation

22,457

## Myanma Economic Bank branch in Hmawby opens

YANGON, 4 April— The opening ceremony of Myanma Economic Bank branch was held at the building in Hmawby, this morning, attended by Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun.

Managing Director U Soe Tin of Myanma Economic Bank presented documents related to the bank to Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun and Deputy Min-

ister Col Hla Thein Swe.

Next, the minister formally unveiled the signboard of the bank branch.

Afterwards, Hmawby Station Commander Lt-Col Tin Oo and the Managing Director formally opened the new building. Later, the minister visited the bank branch. Also present were Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, officials and guests. — MNA



Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung views works of artists at Spring Art Show.— MNA