

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XI, Number 357

3rd Waning of Hnaung Tagu 1365 ME

Wednesday, 7 April, 2004



Senior General Than Shwe greets Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt at the airport. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on return from Bangladesh

YANGON, 6 April—Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt arrived back here by air at 3.30 pm today after paying a goodwill visit to the People's Republic of Bangladesh at the invitation of Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Begum Khaleda Zia.

The Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt was welcomed back at the 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 General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman and 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, heads of diplomatic missions and resident representatives of the United Nations agencies, Chargé d' Affaires ai of the Bangladesh Embassy Mr Md Eusuf Ali and officials and departmental heads.

(See page 8)

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

INSIDE

Perspectives

Try to become able technicians (Page 2)

Article

Democracy: A Hard Idea to Translate (Page 7)

Article

Traditional Rakhine Thingyan Festival (Page 7)

Poem

Guest Flower (Page 11)

Circulation

22,654



Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back 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.

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 7 April, 2004

Try to become able technicians

Nowadays, science and technologies are experiencing such a rapid development that they have a great influence on education, health, defence, security, economic and social sectors of society.

At such a time like this, development of human resources is the name of the game if we want to modernize our country.

For our country to emerge as a modern and developed nation, it is a prime national requirement to produce the highly-qualified technicians, engineers, architects and scientists in accordance with the changes of science and technology in various sectors.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on laying down firm objectives on various sectors and implementation of the future plans in conformity with advanced science and technology and on establishment of respective universities to produce intellectuals and intelligentsia, construction engineers who are able to build aircraft and ships. This is why these two universities have emerged.

The main hall of the Myanmar Maritime University was inaugurated on 29 March morning at Thilawa, Thanlyin Township in Yangon South District with an address by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

In his address, the Prime Minister said that producing and training maritime officers and engineers, shipbuilding engineers and architects in the country contributes not only towards national development and strong national economic life but also towards the security of the State.

Today, marine transport plays a crucial role in trade and shipment of cargoes, oil and natural gas. Moreover, taking leisure trips in ocean liners and vessels is in vogue. It plays a critical role in defence and security.

The Union of Myanmar is teeming with many rivers and creeks with long coastal region and it is also blessed with invaluable natural resources.

With maintenance and management of rivers and creeks and building and managing of deep sea port will contribute much towards not only national development but also efforts to conquer the sea.

Hence, the inauguration of the Myanmar Maritime University will incarnate development of maritime sciences. Therefore, we would like to urge students of the university to try to the best of their abilities to become able technicians.

Measures coordinated for holding MWJA third conference

YANGON, 6 April — Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association CEC members, the chairman of work committee and secretaries met for holding the third conference of the MWJA to be held in the second week of May 2004 at the meeting hall of the association this morning.

It was attended by MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), Vice-Chairmen U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha) and U Myint Thein (Myint Thein Aung), Secretary U Hla Tun (Hla Tun-Twantay), joint secretaries and CEC members.

The MWJA chairman presided over the meeting and Joint Secretary U Myint Kywe (Maung Myint Kywe) acted as master of ceremonies.

Next, the MWJA chairman delivered a speech, followed by a general round of discussions.

The MWJA chairman gave closing remarks.

MNA

Mails to be delivered during Thingyan

YANGON, 6 April — Myanma Posts and Telecommunications will continue to deliver mails and telegraphs on 14 April, the third day of the water festival. There will also be a regular express postal and mail delivery on all days of the festival without a day off. MPT requested that during those days water should not be thrown at postmen and delivery men wearing uniforms. — MNA

Hlawga Park to be closed during Thingyan

YANGON, 6 April — Hlawga Wildlife Park of the Forest Department will be kept closed during the water festival days from 12 to 17 April. It will be reopened to the general public for recreation as of 18 April. — MNA

Participants in MWAFF Plenary Meeting honoured

YANGON, 6 April — The delegates to the Plenary Meeting of State/Organization for Women's Affairs and those who rendered assistance to the Plenary Meeting were hosted a dinner at International Business Centre (IBC) on Pyay Road here this evening.

Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe attended the dinner and spoke words of thanks. Also present on the occasion were MWAFF Vice-Presidents Prof Dr Daw May May Yi, Daw Khin Lay Thet, Daw Than Than Nwe and Daw Khin Khin Win, General Secretary Prof Dr Daw Khin Aye Win, Yangon Division Organization for Women's Affairs Patron Daw Khin Thet Htay, advisers, members of the central executive committee, leaders of working groups, departmental personnel, guests, and students from youth training schools under the Social Welfare Department. Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe presented a certificate of honour to wellwisher U Tun Myint of Kyetshasoon Biryani Shop. — MNA

People's Desire

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



MWAFF President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe presents certificate of honour to wellwisher U Tun Myint of Kyetshasoon Biryani Shop. — MNA

Policewomen task force of MPF stage skill demonstration

YANGON, 6 April — Policewomen special task force of Myanmar Police Force under the Ministry of Home Affairs staged skill demonstration at No 7 Police Battalion in Thanlyin this morning, attended by wife of the Prime Minister President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and the Vice-Presidents, Advisers, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, director-general of MPF, Directors-General of the Ministry of Home Affairs and guests.

First, adviser to Work Committee for Prevention against Human Trafficking wife of the Minister for Home Affairs Daw Khin Hla Hla extended greetings and Police Lt-Col Aung Tun Tun Lwin explained matters related to policewomen special task force of the MPF on the occasion. Next, police women of special task force demonstrated lethal weapon defence, close-range fights, mine

clearing, light weapon skill, pistol skill, marksmanship skill and other advanced techniques to launch surprise attacks against human traffickers to save the victims.

Afterwards, President of MWAFF Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe made a speech on the occasion and the ceremony ended.

Later, President of MWAFF Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe handed over K 200,000 of the MWAFF to the policewomen of special taskforce. Next, MWAFF Vice-Presidents Daw Khin Lay Thet, Daw Khin Hla Hla, Wife of the Minister for Home Affairs and Daw Khin Myint Myint of MWAFF also presented K 94,000, K 100,000 and K 200,000 respectively. The directors-general of the General Administration Department, Special Investigation Department and Prisons Department presented K 70,000 each.

MNA



MWAFF President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe views skill demonstration of policewomen task force of MPF. — MNA

Wellwishers honour MWJA third conference

YANGON, 6 April — Hailing the third conference of the Myanmar Writers and

Journalists Association to be held in May 2004, wellwishers donated cash at

a ceremony at the meeting hall of the association this afternoon. Present on the

occasion were MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), Vice-Chairmen U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha), U Than Maung (Than Maung) and U Myint Thein (Myint Thein Aung), Secretary U Hla Tun (Hla Tun-Twantay), joint secretaries, CEC members, Secretary of Fund Raising Work Committee U Soe Shein (Maung Soe Htaik-Thonze) and wellwishers. Chief Editor of Thuta Swezon Publishing House Dr Tin Tun Oo-Dr Khin Moe Moe presented K 100,000 to Chairman of the work committee U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tinkha), who then presented a certificate of honour to them. — MNA



Wellwisher Dr Tin Tun Oo hands over the cash donation to MWJA Vice-Chairman U Tin Kha. — MNA

Rioting in Iraq kills at least 61 people

BAGHDAD, 6 April— The top US administrator in Iraq declared a radical Shiite cleric an “outlaw” Monday after his supporters rioted in Baghdad and four other cities in fighting that killed at least 52 Iraqis, eight US troops and a Salvadoran soldier.

The fiercest battle took place Sunday in the streets of Sadr City, Baghdad’s largest Shiite neighborhood, where black-garbed Shiite militiamen loyal to cleric Muqtada al-Sadr fired from rooftops and behind buildings at U.S. troops, killing the eight Americans. At least 30 Iraqis were killed and more than 110 wounded in the fighting, doctors said.

Violence broke out Monday in another Shiite neighborhood of the capital, al-Shoala, where members of al-Sadr’s “Al-Mahdi Army” militia clashed with a US patrol. An American armored vehicle was seen burning, and an Iraqi man was seen running off with a heavy machine gun apparently taken from the vehicle. A US helicopter hovered overhead.

Militiamen also clashed with British troops in two southern cities, sparking fights that killed three Iraqis, witnesses said, while in several cities al-Sadr followers held sit-in protests, controlled the streets and held police stations.

Meanwhile, US troops on Monday sealed off the city of Fallujah west of Baghdad, where some 1,200 Marines and two battalions of Iraqi security forces were poised to launch an operation aimed at pacifying the city, one of the most violent places in the Sunni Triangle.

Explosions and gunfire could be heard coming from the

centre of the city, which is west of Baghdad. Streets on the outskirts were largely deserted.

A Marine was killed Monday in the Fallujah area, the military said, without providing further details. The death — along with killings of US soldiers in two northern cities and in Sunday’s violence — brought the US death toll in Iraq to at least 613 since the war on Iraq began a year ago.

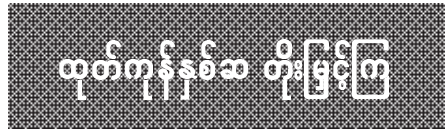
The insurgency that has plagued US troops in Iraq for months has been led by Sunni Muslims. But Sunday’s clashes in Baghdad and three other cities threatened to open a dangerous new front: a confrontation with Iraq’s powerful Shiite Muslim majority, which has until now largely avoided violence with the Americans.

Al-Sadr fiercely opposes the US occupation, but he has not had widespread support among Shiites, who see him as too young, too radical and too inexperienced to lead.

The large protests Sunday in Baghdad, Najaf, Nasiriyah and Amarah — sparked by the arrest of an aide to al-Sadr — were a show of force by his militia. But US officials said they believe his appeal among the Shiite public remained limited.

L Paul Bremer, the top US administrator in Iraq, declared al-Sadr an “outlaw” who threatens Iraq’s security.

Internet



Four more US troops killed in Iraq attacks

BAGHDAD, 6 April— Four US troops were killed in the past 24 hours in combat in Iraq, including one Marine and a soldier who died Monday in separate attacks, raising to 11 the number killed since Sunday, the US military said.

“One Marine assigned to the 1st Marine Division has been killed as a result of enemy action in Al-Anbar province today,” the military said, adding that a US soldier also died Monday of wounds received Sunday during clashes with radical Shiite militants in Baghdad.

Another seven soldiers were killed in the same clashes in the northern Baghdad suburb of Sadr City.

A US soldier was also killed near the northern oil center of Mosul on Sunday in a bomb attack, while the fourth American from the 1st Infantry Division died in a car bomb attack near the police academy of Kirkuk, also in northern Iraq.—*Internet*

Combat in Iraq dulls appetite for trade

LONDON, 6 April — Violence in Iraq is making foreign companies think twice about attending the country’s first trade expo since Baghdad fell, an event aimed at bringing foreigners together with local businesses and government officials to plan Iraq’s reconstruction.

Destination Baghdad Expo, which was supposed to start this week, was postponed Saturday until the end of the month because of security concerns. The event is expected to include the Iraqi ministers of trade, industry, finance, agriculture and planning, as well as local businesses and international conglomerates.

Although Iraq’s main natural resource is oil, many big Western oil companies said

Sunday that they were either unsure about attending or were definitely not planning to go. London-based BP has no plans to attend the event, a spokesman said. Statoil, the Norwegian oil company, had offered to advise the Iraqi Oil Ministry, but from Norway.

More than 4,000 people are registered, according to the Iraqi American Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which is sponsoring the expo.—*Internet*.

China has no plans to revalue its currency

BELING, 6 April— China will not revalue its currency anytime soon, state media said Monday, citing the need to keep labour costs low to maintain the country’s development. *China Daily* listed four reasons that would prevent China from floating its currency, despite political pressure from the United States.

— First, foreign countries’ restrictions on Chinese travel abroad placed unfair limitations on Chinese investment, spending, and technology purchases abroad.

— Second, floating mortgage interest rates are fueling inflation in the property market.

— Third, high taxes already diminish profits for export industries, and added pressure from artificially increased labour costs if the currency appreciated could drive factories from China to other countries with cheap labour forces.

— Fourth, 65 percent of China’s population, or 900 million people, are still living in poverty in rural areas. The country must invest heavily in rural education, infrastructure, technology, and medical systems to raise the population to industrial standards. China will have to keep its labour costs or currency low to compete and generate new jobs for its people.

Until China can successfully push at least half of its rural farming population into industrial production, the currency is not likely to budge, the article said.—*Internet*



US Marines block the entrance of the city of Fallujah, Iraq, on Monday, 5 April, 2004. INTERNET

Bashir leaves Egypt after talks with Mubarak

CAIRO, 6 April — Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir left here late Sunday after talks with his Egyptian counterpart Hosni Mubarak on Arab summit during his brief visit, MENA news agency reported.

Talks between the two presidents dealt with consultations and efforts to hold the postponed Arab summit as soon as possible, said MENA.

Al-Bashir arrived here earlier in the day.

Egyptian Information Minister Safwat El-Sherif told a local TV channel that the Mubarak-Bashir meeting came in continuation of consultations held by Cairo on holding the postponed Arab summit when the Arab world is at a crucial juncture of its history.

The talks dealt with the items of the coming summit’s agenda, he pointed out.

Asked about whether Mubarak-Bashir talks dealt with the venue and date of the coming Arab summit, Sherif said that the issue was to be decided by all Arab

leaders. Sherif noted, however, that President Bashir has welcomed the initiative floated by President Mubarak on holding the Arab summit as soon as possible. According to the minister, the two countries also signed an agreement on Sunday on cooperation in the four freedoms of movement, residence, property and work, which was aimed at activating integration between the Egyptian and Sudanese peoples.

Arab nations had planned to hold their annual summit on March 29-30 in Tunis before the Tunisian Government announced the postponement of the summit gathering at Arab foreign ministers’ preparatory meeting on March 27.

The government ex-

pressed regret about the delay because of big divisions over Arab reform and modernization as well as the escalation of violence on the Palestinian territories, a Tunisian official statement said.

Arab countries, stunned by the Tunisian decision and expressed their regret and anger and tried to coordinate their stance.

Egypt offered to reconvene the summit at the earliest possible time immediately after the Tunisian announcement of summit postponement.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak held talks with King Abdullah II of Jordan in Egypt’s Red Sea resort of Sharm El-Sheikh on Wednesday, which was later joined by King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa of Bahrain.

MNA/Xinhua



US Marines with the 2nd Battalion 1st Marine Regiment in an armoured personnel carrier patrol on the outskirts of Fallujah, Iraq, on Monday, 5 April, 2004. — INTERNET

Swiss firms weigh up risk and opportunity in Iraq

ZURICH, 6 April—Swiss companies have been weighing up the risks of bidding for potentially lucrative contracts in post-war Iraq.

Representatives from some 50 firms met in Zurich last week to explore business opportunities in a country still wracked by political instability.

The meeting was held amid ongoing fears about the safety of civilians who take up employment in Iraq.

Four United States contractors were killed last week before their bodies were mutilated and dragged through the streets of the city of Fallujah.

The incident—which came days before the US-sponsored Destination Baghdad Expo trade fair was due to open—highlighted the unstable political and security situation in the country.

The murders also served as a warning to foreign companies that setting up in Iraq is a dangerous business.

Martin Aeschbacher, who heads up the Swiss Liaison Office in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, told *Swissinfo* that the security issue was still a serious obstacle.

“We cannot recommend that representatives of Swiss firms come to Iraq because we consider there are still quite a lot of dangers,” he said.

“But having said that, the situation is in some parts of the country much better than it was last May after the war when I arrived in Baghdad. Back then it was a kind of anarchy, whereas now there are a lot of police and it seems that normal crime has gone down,” he added.

Aeschbacher points out that politically motivated crime is on the rise and that foreigners engaged in the reconstruction of the country are increasingly becoming targets.

Promoting trade

Last week’s event in Zurich was organized by Osec Business Network Switzerland, which has been promoting trade between Swiss companies and foreign markets for the past 75 years. Though it is unclear exactly how many Swiss companies are currently

doing business with Iraq, official figures show that Swiss exports totalled SFr38.4 million (\$30.24 million) in 2003. There were no imports from Iraq.

Three Swiss companies that have permanent representation in the country are the engineering concern, ABB, the world’s largest agrochemicals company, Syngenta, and technology firm Bühler, which is active in food and chemical processing.

Aeschbacher does not have any precise figures about how many other Swiss firms are already in Iraq—but believes the numbers are growing. “I think there are quite a lot of Swiss firms which do business with Iraq in one way or another,” he said.

“Some companies export, while others might have an agent in Iraq or maybe do business with the country through Kuwait or [the Jordanian capital] Amman,” he added.

Internet



Czech killed in Iraq gas explosion

PRAGUE, 6 April — A Czech national was killed Monday in a gas explosion at an oil refinery in Iraq, Czech Radio reported.

The unidentified man was said to have been part of an independent business mission. He was the first Czech to die in Iraq since the US led invasion last year. Two of his colleagues were seriously injured in the explosion, which was not thought to be terrorist related.

The blast took place near the town of Tikrit, 150 miles north of Baghdad.

The Czech Republic has sent approximately 100 police trainers to Iraq to help in that nation’s post-war reconstruction.—*Internet*

Sino-American joint venture for production of auto paint launched

SHANGHAI, 6 April— Sherwin-Williams, the largest paint company of the United States, has launched a joint venture for making car paint in Shanghai in cooperation with a local chemical company.

Shanghai SW and KNT Coating Co, which was inaugurated last Friday, is jointly financed by Sherwin-Williams and Shanghai Kinlita Chemical Co Ltd. It will require a total investment of 8 million US dollars, said corporate sources.

In accordance with the agreement, the American investor is responsible for 60 per cent of the investment in the joint venture, which is registered for a capital of 37 million yuan (about 4.46 million US dollars), while the Chinese partner will pay the rest.

The new joint venture, which has a term of 50 years, will be equipped with advanced equipment and technologies imported from the United States and will also produce decorative accessories for automobiles. — *MNA/Xinhua*

China to set up trust, investment association

BEIJING, 6 April— China’s booming trust and investment business will soon have its own industry association, sources were quoted as saying by *China Daily* on Monday.

“We received the approval from the Ministry of Civil Affairs for the launch of the association two weeks ago. Now we are only waiting for the final approval from the State Council,” said Wu Dayong, head of the industry associations’ preparatory committee.

He said the China Banking Regulatory Commission had already given the go-ahead to the industry association earlier. So if things run smoothly, the licence will be granted in two to three months.

“The association will enhance self-discipline in the industry and communication with the public,” Wu said.

MNA/Xinhua



Two American soldiers with the 2nd Battalion 1st Marine Regiment stand guard outskirts of Fallujah, Iraq, on 5 April, 2004. — *INTERNET*

World’s oldest irrigation facility marks 2,260th anniversary

CHENGDU, 6 April— A grand water discharging ceremony was held on Sunday to celebrate the 2,260th anniversary of the completion of Dujiangyan, the oldest irrigation facility in the world, located in southwest China’s Sichuan Province.

The celebration, attended by over 10,000 people, including foreign diplomats, was kicked off around 10:50 am with three ear-piercing gunshots, after which eight people in two groups carrying one pig and one goat threw the animals into the mainstream of the Minjiang River where the water irrigation facility is built.

After that, several young and strong workers, all in ancient Chinese costumes, jumped from the Baizhang Dam onto the sluice gate using sharp axes to cut off the bamboo ropes which tied three logs together for closing the river, and fastened a new rope to the logs, while another group of a dozen or so young men on the river bank all worked to pull the logs up.

Water immediately gushed out and

flowed to irrigate the famous fertile Chengdu Plain, where the provincial capital is located.

Built on the upper reaches of the Minjiang River in 256 BC, a major tributary of China’s longest Yangtze River, the Dujiangyan irrigation system, which is 50 kilometres from Chengdu is said to be the world’s oldest irrigation project still in operation.

At present, it irrigates 672,600 hectares of farmland and provides water for daily use and industrial purposes for people and enterprises in 50 large- and medium-sized cities in the southwestern province.

The water irrigation facility and nearby Mount Qingcheng were placed on the World Heritage List of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in 2000. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Chinese, Albanian FMs hold talks

BEIJING, 6 April— Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing and his Albanian counterpart Kastriot Islami held talks here Sunday.

Li said Albania is one of the countries who established diplomatic ties with China soon after the People’s Republic of China was founded in 1949 and the people of the two countries enjoy traditional friendship.

Bilateral ties are going smoothly and the two countries have had fruitful cooperation, said Li. He said he believes the bilateral friendship and cooperation will gain new achievements through the efforts of the two countries. He thanked Albania for its adherence to the “one-China” policy. Islami said bilateral relations have gone smoothly since the two nations established diplomatic ties. — *MNA/Xinhua*



A wounded Iraqi youth is carried away after clashes broke out with US forces in the impoverished Baghdad suburb of al Sadr City on 4 April, 2004. — *INTERNET*

**The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.
The second best time is now.**

US, ALLIES FACE INTENSIFIED IRAQI RESISTANCE



Loyalists of Shiite cleric Moqtada Sadr take position in the western Baghdad, district of Shula, Iraq, on Monday, 5 April, 2004, following fighting against US forces.

INTERNET



Iraqi Shi'ite supporters of cleric Moqtada al-Sadr celebrate near a burning US Army truck in the Shuala neighbourhood of Baghdad, on 5 April, 2004. —INTERNET



Sheikh Abdel al-Satar al-Bahadli, an official in radical Shiite leader Moqtada al-Sadr's Army of Mehdi, brandishes a sword after taking over the governor's office in the British-controlled port city of Basra on 5 April. —INTERNET



Spanish troops stand guard in southern Baghdad, on 5 April, 2004. —INTERNET



Radical Shiite militiamen stand on top of the governor's house they occupied in the southern city of Basra, Iraq, on Monday, 5 April, 2004. —INTERNET



US soldier with the 2nd Battalion 1st Marine Regiment digs a trench outskirts of Fallujah, Iraq, on Monday, 5 April, 2004. —INTERNET

US revives radical Shiite foe in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 6 April — Iraq's US-led authorities have reignited radical Shiite Muslim fury in Iraq with the closure of a firebrand cleric's newspaper, at a time when the administration is struggling to win over moderates.

Thousands of supporters of Moqtada al-Sadr, a prominent anti-American cleric who had gone relatively quiet for months, took to the streets near Najaf on Sunday, drawing fire from coalition troops when they tried to enter a base.

At least 19 people were killed and more than 100 wounded in the clashes. In Baghdad too, thousands of protesters marched through the streets, and the rattle of gunfire was heard.

"Sheikh Moqtada Sadr is our leader. He's going to

lead Iraq. Today we fought the occupation troops and we will keep fighting them until we take over," said 23-year-old Mohammad Hanoun, a protester wielding a chain.

Sadr's supporters have staged several marches in the past week to protest against the closure a week ago of *al-Hawza* newspaper, a mouthpiece for Sadr that US-led authorities accused of inciting anti-American violence.

The closing of Sadr's newspaper has galvanized his supporters.

The clashes may em-

bolden Sadr's fighters in an occupied country where militia groups have often flexed their muscles against coalition troops but rarely engaged them. As shots rang out, a young supporter of Sadr held up a poster of the young firebrand and his father, a deceased Shiite cleric who is still popular.

In recent days, Sadr's followers have also angrily protested against the arrest of Mustapha Yacoubi, an aide to Sadr, who they say was seized by coalition forces in Najaf on Friday.

Sadr had faded in recent months while the spotlight was on leading moderate Shiite cleric Ayatollah al-Sistani, the most powerful figure on postwar Iraq's political stage.

Though his line is much softer than Sadr's, Sistani is formidable, forcing the Americans to tiptoe around political minefields ahead of a June 30 transfer of power.

Now the Americans have revived a fierce political opponent who is much more militant than Sistani.

MNA/Reuters



British troops clash with Iraqi demonstrators

LONDON, 6 April — British troops shot and injured a number of Iraqis in Amara on Sunday after coming under attack during a protest against the arrest of an aide to a radical Shiite cleric and the closure of a newspaper, Britain's Ministry of Defence said. "We understand there are Iraqi casualties," a military spokeswoman in London said.

She said it was possible there had been deaths among the Iraqis after a fire-fight erupted during a mostly peaceful demonstration, but did not have any estimates of Iraqi casualties.

She said there were no British casualties from the clash in the southeastern Iraqi town which began when soldiers returned fire after coming under attack from rocket-propelled grenades and small arms fire.

The demonstration by the Iraqis was against the arrest of Mustapha Yacoubi, an aide to a radical Shiite cleric, and last week's closure by US authorities of a militant Baghdad newspaper, the spokeswoman said. — MNA/Reuters

Thailand considers pulling troops out of Iraq after June 30

BANGKOK, 6 April — Thailand may get its troops out of Iraq after the United States transfers power to a transitional Iraqi authority on 30 June, a government spokesman said Saturday.

As violence against coalition forces by guerrillas might increase after June 30, the Thai Defence Ministry will conduct a review on whether the Thai troops in Iraq should come back in September as planned or sooner, said ministry spokesman Major-General Palangun Klaharn.

If other nations' troops leave Iraq, the Thai Government would have to review the policy, he said, adding that otherwise the troops will stay in Iraq for a full year as planned. — MNA/Xinhua

Three Portuguese soldiers wounded in Iraq ambush

LISBON, 6 April — Three members of Portugal's National Guard were slightly wounded in an ambush Sunday near the southern Iraqi city of Nassiriyah, the guard's command confirmed here.

The wounds were caused by flying shrapnel, a guard spokesman said.

Portugal sent 128 national guards to Iraq in November 2003 as part of US-led coalition forces which occupied Iraq last year.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi man, armed with a Kalashnikov rifle, keeps watch after clashes broke out with US forces in the impoverished Baghdad suburb of al-Sadr City on 4 April, 2004. — INTERNET

Aussie scientists get teeth into stem cell research

SYDNEY, 6 April — The baby teeth children hide under their pillows for the mythical tooth fairy may one day be used to extract stem cells for life-saving treatments, Australian scientists said on Sunday.

Infant teeth have been identified as a valuable source of the master cells and much easier to obtain than controversial embryonic stem cells, said researchers from the Hanson Institute at South Australia's Royal Adelaide Hospital.

"Stem cells in adult

tissues can be difficult to get or present in very small amounts," said Hanson Institute Director Howard Morris.

"Pulp in teeth is quite a good source of stem cells and they are very amenable to getting hold of. You lose a whole mouthful of them when

you are a young child," he told *Australian Associated Press*.

Stem cells are master cells in the body that have the capability to transform into any cell or tissue. Researchers believe they have the potential to revolutionize medicine.

MNA/Reuters

Thailand's rice exports rise 29% in first quarter

BANGKOK, 6 April — Thailand's rice exports in the first quarter this year increased 29 per cent to 2.08 million tons, reflecting Thai rice in higher demand than the previous year, the *Businessday* newspaper reported Monday.

According to the latest data released by Thai Commerce Ministry, demand for Thai rice in foreign markets in the quarter rose by 45 per cent to 543 million US dollars.

The price per ton of exported jasmine rice in March stood at 548 dollars, a 100-dollar increase from the same period last year, the price of 100 per-cent grade B rice increased 47 dollars from the previous year to

249 dollars per ton while jasmine paddy increased 2,319 baht (59.5 US dollars) to 9,250 baht (237.2 US dollars) per ton.

Jasmine rice accounts for about 227 million dollars or 27 per cent of the 2.08 million tons of rice exports, contributing 42 per cent of the rice exports earnings.

Meanwhile, the Thai Government also expected rice exports in April to grow

on the back of orders from foreign markets and from other unfinished contracts which exporters plan to complete.

The report said this year, China had ordered 100-per-cent grade B rice from Thailand, besides the jasmine rice it had been importing. The Middle East and South Africa had also ordered sticky rice and 100-per-cent grade B rice from Thailand. — MNA/Xinhua

Philippines to export corn for the first time in history

MANILA, 6 April — The Philippines will, for the first time in history, export corn in August and September to save its price from falling as the south is expecting a big harvest in the third quarter, a local newspaper reported Monday.

Roderico Bioco, chairman of the Philippine Maize Federation Inc (PMFI), told *Manila Bulletin* during the 3rd Philippine Corn Congress that the southern island of Mindanao is now preparing to export corn to Malaysia amid concerns that corn price may drop below farmers' desired level of 8.5 pesos (15 US cents) per kilo.

"We will be exporting corn to Malaysia in August to September because we have a very big crop in Mindanao. It will not be so

large — 5,000 to 10,000 tons, but it will relieve the downward pressure on price because the lack of storage facilities in Mindanao will create a glut that will push price below 8.5 pesos," he said.

He said the PMFI is also eyeing Brunei as the next export market.

Corn price in the Philippines is now at 9.5 pesos (17 cents) to 10.5 pesos (19 cents) per kilo from a higher 12 pesos (21 cents) per kilo at the year's beginning.

Mindanao, as Bioco

said, is expecting a harvest of 1.5 million tons of corn from July to September, 25 per cent up from over 1.2 million tons last year, when corn price skyrocketed to tight feed grains supply, encouraging farmers to expand planting.

The Philippines, encouraged by the high corn price in the world market, is projected to produce 5.57 million tons of corn this year, up by 20.56 per cent from last year's 4.62 million tons. — MNA/Xinhua



US troops disembark from their Blackhawk helicopter into a field near a Spanish base in the Iraqi town of Kutfa on 5 April, 2004. — INTERNET

Traditional Rakhine Thingyan Festival

(Lay-wady Kyaw)

All Rakhine people who are mostly pure Buddhists hold many festivals in auspicious days such as Thadingyut, Tazaungdine and Thingyan. They hold Traditional Rakhine Thingyan Festival in three stages, which are incense-grinding, offering of water to Buddha images and holding the water festival.

Incense-grinding is the first stage. The young Rakhine girls in the village make incense-grinding at the night of the day before pre-Thingyan day for offering water to Buddha images. At that time, young boys in the village come and join them in incense-grinding together with music and dance happily. In Rakhine State, we call it "Incense-grinding Pwe."

The second stage is offering of water to Buddha images. Rakhine people usually hold offering of water to Buddha images on pre-Thingyan day. Some young girls carry incense-grinding pots on each head and some bring alms bowls with things to offer and go to the monastery on that day. The young boys also accompany them and go to the monastery together, singing and reciting Thingyan songs and rhymes with music and dance.

When they arrive at the monastery compound, the girls fill the pots with water from the nearby ponds and wells, the boys cleanse the Buddha images, stupa and the monastery with water and offer incense-paste to Buddha images. On their return they go around the village and do manicuring, Shampooing, cleaning and bathing the elderly people.

In the Traditional Rakhine Water Festival as the third stage, Rakhine young girls sit at the pandal and wait for the boys who go round the town and come to participate in the water festival from one pandal to another.

In the village or quarters there are pandals which depend upon the Rakhine young girls who participate as pandal members. There are usually twenty to fifty Rakhine young girls in a pandal. There is a big boat filled with water in the pandal. The girls sit facing the boat with their backs to the pandal and wait for the boys who will visit one pandal after another and participate in the water festival. The boys can choose the girls they like as their

mates and chat teasingly but politely.

When the boys invite the girls to join them for water festival, they pour water on the girls' backs and ask for more water saying "please give me some more water, sister".

As soon as the girls realize that it is time to participate in the water festival, they all get up and fill the boys' buckets with water. Then they join in the water festival, pouring water facing each other, speaking politely and happily. In the Traditional Rakhine Water Festival, the boys go around the town in groups in bullock-carts or in cars. Every group brings musical instruments together with them and go round the pandals by singing and reciting Thingyan Songs and Rhymes. Thingyan revellers will praise the good, but satire the bad. This is their fine tradition practice.

There are rules and disciplines in the Traditional Rakhine Thingyan Festival. Rakhine people obey and practise these rules and disciplines. I would like to mention them:

— The Thingyan pandal-girls have to sit facing the boat with their backs to the pandal, and waiting for the boys who will come to do merry making from one pandal to another.

— The Thingyan pandal-girls have to enjoy the water festival with the boys whether they like it or not.

— Every Thingyan group has to bring buckets and water-bowls together with them, they are not to borrow them at the pandal.

— Every Thingyan group has to wait for its turn while the other group is enjoying the water festival in the pandal.

— The Thingyan groups are not allowed to bring weapons of any sorts with them, they also have to obey the pandal-discipline.

As mentioned above it is disciplined and polite Traditional Rakhine Thingyan Festival where we all can enjoy it and usher it in the good news. Therefore this is a festival to build a cultural bridge among all nationalities of the Union of Myanmar.

သတိပြုရန်

- (၁) မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု မဟာသင်္ကြန်ကာလအတွင်း ယာဉ်မောင်းသူများလိုက်နာရန်
- (က) မူးယစ်သောက်စား၍ ယာဉ်မောင်းရသူ
- (ခ) အပျော်လွန်ကျူးစဉ် ကမ်းမဲ ပြိုင်/လှမမောင်းရ။
- (ဂ) မော်တော်ယာဉ်၊ မော်တော်ဆိုင်ကယ်များတွင် အိတ်စော့ပြန်ခြင်းမပြုရ။
- (ဃ) ယာဉ်နှုတ်ပြား မပါရှိဘဲမောင်းရ။
- (င) ယာဉ်နှုတ်အတုများ၊ အခြားယာဉ်နှုတ်များ တစ်ပြိုင်မပြုရ။
- (စ) ယာဉ်၏ဘေးတံခါးများ၊ နောက်ဖုံးများဖြတ်၍ မမောင်းရ။
- (ဆ) ယာဉ်မောင်းလိုင်းစင်း ယာဉ်မှတ်ပုံတင်မပါဘဲ မမောင်းရ။
- (ဇ) ဖျက်သိမ်းယာဉ်အိုင်/ဟောင်းများ၊ ပြုပြင်ဆင်ယာဉ်များ မမောင်းရ။
- (ဈ) နိုင်ငံတကာအလံများ ယာဉ်တွင်တပ်ဆင်၍ မမောင်းရ။
- (ည) ဟွန်းသကင်းမဲရများအတွင်း ဟွန်းလုံးဝမတီးရ။
- ၂။ ကျူးလွန်ပါက တည်ဆဲပဒေအရ ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူမည်။
- ၃။ "သင့်ကြောင့် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု မဟာသင်္ကြန်ကို အကျဉ်းတန် မညစ်နွမ်းပါစေနှင့်"

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

သတိ

- (၁) လေပေါင်(၁၀၀၀)မှ(၁၅၀၀)အထိ အတင်အချုပ်လုပ်၍ ရသည့် ကွန်ပရက်ဆာပန်များဖြင့် ရေပက်ကစားခြင်းကြောင့် ရေများ ပြင်းလွန်၍ ရေပက်ခံရသူတွင် အသားအရေများ ပွန်းပဲ့စုတ်ထွက်နိုင်ခြင်း၊ ဖျက်စီးနားများအား ထိဒဏ်ပေးနိုင်ခြင်း၊ နားထန်းနိုင်ခြင်း အန္တရာယ်ဖြစ်စေနိုင်ပါသည်။ ရေကစားမဏ္ဍာပ်များ၊ ရေပက်ကစားများတွင် ကွန်ပရက်ဆာပန်များ သုံး၍ ရေပက်ပန်တားဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- (၂) သင်္ကြန်ရေပက်ကစားခြင်းအား သင်္ကြန်ရက်များအတွင်း နေ့စဉ် နံနက်(၇)နာရီမှညနေ(၆)နာရီအတွင်းသာ ရေပက်ကစားကြရန်နှင့် ည(၆)နာရီနောက်ပိုင်း ရေပက်ကစားခြင်း မပြုရန် တားမြစ်ပါသည်။
- (၃) တာ မြစ်ချက်အား မောက်ဖျက်ပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူခံရမည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ရန်ကင်းတိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မတီ

မြန်မာ့ယဉ်ကျေးမှုသင်္ကြန်

- * အမျိုးသားယဉ်ကျေးမှုကို ထိန်းသိမ်းပါ။
- * သရုပ်ဖက်ယဉ်ကျေးမှုကို ရောင်ကြည့်ပါ။
- * အမျိုးဂုဏ်စာတိဂုဏ်ကို မြန်မာ့ယဉ်ကျေးမှုသင်္ကြန်ဖြင့် မြှင့်တင်ပါ။

ရန်ကင်းတိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မတီ

Democracy: A Hard Idea to Translate

Steven Erlanger

The following is a reproduction from *The New York Times Large Type Weekly February 16-22, 2004* titled "Democracy: A Hard Idea to Translate" by Steven Erlanger.—Editor

Arkady Volsky, a Soviet apparatchik who maneuvered elegantly, for a time, in the new Russia, liked to make his political... hidden in the safety of a jest. "People say that Russia should become like Sweden," he once said. "Or like China. Or like America. But the problem is that we don't have enough Swedes. We don't have enough Chinese. We don't have enough Americans." Mr Volsky, not a subtle man, was not making a particularly subtle point. Democracy, like any other political system, grows out of a nation's history and experiences. It cannot be inserted like a silicone implant or put on like a new model of hat. Nor can it be imposed, even by the most well-meaning or well-armed.

Nurtured, certainly. Even fertilized. But one need only read a few pages of Churchill's "History of the English-Speaking Peoples" to realize how tender a plant this democracy is, and how aberrant. And how much it needs protective Institutions, like independent courts and just laws, in which to flourish.

Does this state the obvious? Even so, the United States and the European Union, too, have spent billions of dollars in the name of democratization wherever American and European troops have roamed, and in lots of places where they haven't.

Democracy is a wonderful idea and scarcely needs to be force fed, but from Myanmar to Haiti. Russia to Iraq,

But democracy has also become a kind of political advertising slogan justifying intervention and cited as proof of Western altruism, a trope to reassure constituents that good will follow where evil once lurked.

Belgrade to Kosovo, many of the people who embrace it so avidly haven't any real idea of what makes it work, or the kind of collective understanding of the collective good that grows over centuries. Nor are they particularly grateful for what they perceive as American colonialism, or, at best, paternalism.

That of course hasn't stopped the democracy industry, with its grants and study projects, which is able, sometimes, to make advances in areas like media, voter registration and legal training. But democracy has also become a kind of political advertising slogan, justifying intervention and cited as proof of Western altruism, a trope to reassure constituents that good will follow where evil once lurked.

The selling and implanting of democracy faces three essential problems: institution-building, which requires time, money and commitment; how to make that effort palatable in a foreign land, so it is not dismissed as imperial; and how to make that effort sustainable in countries like Russia and China, Iraq and Pakistan, where other foreign-policy interests—the war against terrorism, the war against drugs, regional stability, nuclear weapons, immigration—trump the ability of Americans to face down an illiberal state.

"The principal struggle in all these societies is about modernization," said Fareed Zakaria, author of "The Future of Freedom: Illiberal Democracy at Home and Abroad." "The idea that you can just hold elections while everything else remains feudal, medieval, means you won't get democracy but some perversion of it. Democracy becomes a rhetorical play and a substitute for thinking, while we shy away from the real muck of modernization.

Stephen Kotkin, a professor of European and Asian history at Princeton, says simply: "It's always about the quality of governing institutions and how they work on the ground". When Boris N Yeltsin took over a post-Communist Russia in January 1992, Mr Kotkin points out, there were 6,000 judges, trained in the old regime, and a quarter-million members of the KGB (like Vladimir Putin).

Leave aside the quality of the judges and their world

views, and look at the numbers" he said. "How do you get rule of law? Only if the number of judges goes up and the number of agents down." Now, 12 years later, the number of judges has tripled, to 18,000. But there remain about 200,000 agents of the secret police.

By contrast, when the United States won independence from Britain, there were more lawyers than government bureaucrats. The society was stronger than the state; there was a foundation of individual rights and private property. The United States and Britain were liberal, but not especially democratic, Mr Kotkin... as slaves were freed and women got the vote, the liberal order has become more democratic.

But the effort to democratize an illiberal order—a Russia, a former Yugoslavia, a Haiti, an Iraq—lays elections over societies without the rooted institutions to protect democrats and democratic values. Elections themselves, while seen as a positive value and conferring legitimacy, don't translate into parliamentary rule or civilian control or an independent judiciary, or fair taxes or protections for private property and minorities.

Creating working democracies took 400 years in the West and 40 years in East Asia, said Mr Zakaria. "Now we want it in four months in Iraq."

We know what to do, but the trick is how to make it work politically," Mr Zakaria said—a federal structure, a strong central government with protections that won't oppress minorities. "The problem is how to create these institutions in a very complex political context, how you sell this package politically in a foreign country, so you're seen as a do-gooder and not a colonizer," Mr Zakaria said. "That's the part the administration got so badly wrong."

Creating working democracies took 400 years in the West and 40 years in East Asia, said Mr Zakaria. "Now we want it in four months in Iraq."



Myanmar Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets with Bangladeshi Prime Minister Begam Khalida Zia. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on return from ...

(from page 1)

Members of the delegation 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 Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, 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 department, who accompanied Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, also arrived back on the same flight. —MNA



Myanmar Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party discuss with Bangladeshi Prime Minister Begam Khalida Zia and party. — MNA



Myanmar Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents a gift to Bangladeshi Prime Minister Begam Khalida Zia. — MNA



Myanmar Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt signs in the Visitors' Book at the Bangladeshi Prime Minister's Office. — MNA

Bangladesh supports Myanmar's democracy ...

(from page 16)

cooperation. Bangladesh is desirous of further promoting her relations with Myanmar. As there are many prospects in the bilateral economic and trade sectors, efforts will

bring benefits to the peoples of both countries.

After the meeting, MoUs were signed between the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Ministers Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin and Mr MK Anwar signed and exchanged the MoU on cooperation in the field of Agriculture between Myanmar and Bangladesh; Deputy Minister U Tint Swe and the Secretary of the Ministry of Communications, on the establishment of Road

Link between the two countries; and Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win and Foreign Secretary Mr Shamsher M Chowdhury BB, on Visa Exemption for Holders of Diplomatic or Official Passports.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt signed in the distinguished visitors' book. He answered to queries raised by members of the news agencies regarding the goodwill visit. — MNA



Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe and the Bangladeshi Secretary of Ministry of Communications sign the MoU. — MNA



Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and Bangladeshi Foreign Secretary Mr Shamsher M Chowdhury BB sign the MoU. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt pays tribute to the fallen heroes at the National Martyrs' Memorial in Savar. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt being welcomed by Bangladeshi Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at Zia International Airport. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt plants a herbal plant at National Martyrs' Memorial in Savar. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt arrives in Bangladesh

YANGON, 6 April — At the invitation of Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Begum Khaleda Zia, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and members, left here by special flight of Myanmar Airways International at 10.30 am on 4 April for Dhaka on a goodwill visit

to Bangladesh.

The plane carrying Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and members of Myanmar goodwill delegation touched down at Zia International Airport at 11.45 am local time. Myanmar Ambassador to the People's Republic of Bangladesh U Thein Myint and Head of Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of

Bangladesh Mr Shameem Ahsan boarded the plane and welcomed Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and members.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt was accorded a 19-gun salute when he and his members of the goodwill delegation got down the plane.

Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Begum Khaleda Zia greeted Prime Minister

General Khin Nyunt. A young Bangladeshi girl presented a bouquet to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Begum Khaleda Zia proceeded to the saluting dais and the two prime ministers took the salute of the Guard of Honour while the State Band played the national anthems of the two countries.

The programme to inspect the Guard of Honour was not held because of the rain. Next, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Begum Khaleda Zia presented the ministers, the deputy ministers, military officers and senior officials to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greeted ambassadors led by Dean of Diplomatic Corps to Bangladesh Palestine Ambassador and Charge d'

Affaires ai of the embassies.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presented members of the goodwill delegation to Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Begum Khaleda Zia.

Myanmar Ambassador U Thein Myint's wife Daw Khin Than Nu, Military Attaché Col Han Tint and wife Dr Leh Leh Win and embassy staff welcomed Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

The portraits of the two prime ministers were hung in front of the special lounge.

Welcoming the Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and members of Myanmar goodwill delegation, the flags of the two countries were hoisted in the special lounge, near the environs of the airport, along the major roads and junctions.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and members went to National Martyrs' Memorial in Savar where they were welcomed by

Minister for Housing and Public Works Mr Mirza Abbas, State Minister for Liberation War Affairs Professor M Rezul Karim and officials.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt laid a wreath at the National Martyrs' Memorial.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt signed in the visitors' book and planted a herbal plant at the National Martyrs' Memorial.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and members went to the tomb of President Ziaur Rahman where they were welcomed by Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperative Mr Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan and officials.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt laid a wreath and paid tribute to the tomb.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and members arrived at the Hotel Sheraton in Dhaka.

MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Bangladeshi Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia take the salute of the Guard of Honour. — MNA





Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivers an address at the banquet. — MNA



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia delivers an address at the banquet. — MNA

Bangladeshi PM hosts banquet in honour of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt

YANGON, 6 April — Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Begum Khaleda Zia hosted a banquet in honour of Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt at the Hotel Sonargaon on 4 April evening.

After Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party and the Bangladeshi Prime Minister and party took positions at the Ball Room 1, the State Band played National Anthems of Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Bangladeshi Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia delivered an address. In her address, she said: It is indeed a matter of great pleasure for me to welcome Your Excellency and the members of your delegation this evening. Your visit is a clear reflection of the close bonds and excellent relations that exist between our two friendly countries.

Myanmar and Bangladesh are bound by historical ties. We have common cultural heritage and a shared stake in peace, security and progress in the region. The visit of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman to your beautiful country in July 1977 had laid the foundation on which our bilateral relations have been built. I recall with great pleasure my own visit to your country a year ago. We are confident that your visit as Prime Minister will help in further strengthening our close bonds of friendship.

Bangladesh and Myanmar are developing countries with similar economic challenges. We need to intensify our efforts to face these challenges together through closer political and economic links. Our talks today were a clear reflection of our resolve in this pursuit.

Our two countries also hold similar views in various regional and international fora. The strategic location of Bangladesh grants us a legitimate claim to act as a

bridge between South Asia and South East Asia. It is in this spirit that we want to be a part of the ASEAN Regional Forum. We seek your valuable support in our quest for membership of the ARF.

We also look forward to increased cooperation within the BIMST-EC. Bangladesh is committed to make this regional forum effective. We are confident that the BIMST-EC Summit this year will be a major landmark in bringing South and South East Asia closer.

The increase in the quantum of trade between the two countries is encouraging. However, the existing volume does not reflect our full potential. We must be prepared to take greater initiatives and encourage the business community of both the countries to do much more.

I am happy to note that both the governments have already initiated work on the proposed direct road link project between Bangladesh and Myanmar. This is a matter of high priority, as it will strengthen the existing bonds between our two peoples.

We have made significant progress in ensuring the repatriation of Myanmar refugees from Bangladesh. I am confident that with the repatriation of the residual refugees, we would have set an example of resolving a major bilateral problem through negotiations.

Before I conclude, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and members of the delegation a pleasant and enjoyable stay in Bangladesh. May I now invite you all to join me in a prayer for:

- the good health, happiness and long life of His Excellency General Khin Nyunt;
- the continued peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of Myanmar; and
- the ever-lasting friendship and cooperation between

Bangladesh and Myanmar.

—Long live Bangladesh-Myanmar friendship.

Afterwards, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivered a speech. In his speech, he said: On behalf of the Myanmar Delegation and on my own behalf, I would like to express my sincere thanks to Your Excellency for the warm hospitality extended to us since our arrival in Dhaka, and for honouring us with this banquet.

I consider it a privilege to be in Bangladesh again in just a little over two years. Our visit has only one purpose — to strengthen and expand our amicable ties.

I am also happy that I shall have the opportunity to observe the economic development of Bangladesh under Your Excellency's able leadership. The success of your poverty alleviation programme is a good example of rural development for the developing world. May I take this opportunity to wish Your Excellency and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh every success in their development endeavours.

I recall with pleasure the successful visit of the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe to Bangladesh in 2002 and Your Excellency's visit to Myanmar in March of last year. The fruitful outcome of these visits has ushered in a new chapter in our long standing relations of friendly cooperation. It is always a pleasure to visit a friendly neighbour and observe developments that are taking place.

Our two countries enjoy good neighbourly relations and there exists no big issues between our two countries. We can rightly be proud that Myanmar and Bangladesh have nurtured good relations and our border is one of peace and stability. It is also incumbent on both of us to turn our border into one of

prosperity.

In this regard, I am greatly encouraged by the cordial and fruitful discussions we had earlier this afternoon. Moreover, we were able to sign a number of agreements that would yield concrete results in our growing ties. Given the common commitment by both sides, I am fully confident that our relations will be strengthened and mutually beneficial cooperation expanded in the years to come. I would also like to state that Myanmar will continue to work closely with Bangladesh, both bilaterally and multilaterally. We also look forward to working together in bringing about development and prosperity to the region through the BIMST-EC.

Myanmar today is on the threshold of transition to democracy. The political programme for the transition has already been announced in the Seven-step Road Map. We are fully committed to the establishment of a democratic society that is based on the specific conditions of our nation as well as the aspirations of the people. The Road Map is on track and the National Convention that would lay down the basic principles for the new constitution will be reconvened on 17 May 2004. This represents not only the first step but also the most important step in our political programme.

We are deeply gratified that the Road Map has been welcomed by the nations of the region and I wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to all our friends and like-minded nations.

During the visit, we will also have the opportunity to visit Chittagong and Bandarban. This will give us a chance to witness at first hand the tremendous achievements being made to improve the lives of the people. I wish to congratulate the Government and People of Bangladesh for their all round achievement.

Distinguished Guests and Friends,

In conclusion, allow me to express my sincere best wishes for:

- continued progress and prosperity of the People's Republic of Bangladesh;
- lasting friendship between the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of Bangladesh; and
- good health and personal well-being of our distinguished host, Her Excellency Begum Khaleda Zia, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Next, the prime ministers and parties enjoyed the banquet.

Also present at the banquet together with Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and

Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander 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 Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Aung, Myanmar Ambassador to Bangladesh U Thein Myint, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein, departmental heads and Military Attache Col Han Tint.

Also present together with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh were ministers, secretaries, MPs, the mayor of Dhaka, senior military officers, departmental heads, ambassadors and distinguished guests.

The banquet came to a close with the playing of National Anthems of the two nations.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party arrived back at the Hotel Sheraton. — MNA



Minister for Agriculture & Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin and Bangladeshi Minister for Agriculture Mr M K Anwar sign the MoU. — MNA

Self-reliant roads and tube-well opened in Dagon Myothit (South) Township

YANGON, 6 April — Thitsarshin, Aungsupan and 6th tarred roads in Ward 19 and a tube-well in Ward 71 in Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon East District, were opened this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin.

Also present on the occasion were CEC member of the USDA in charge of Yangon Division USDA Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, No 2 Military Region Commander Brig-Gen Myo Myint, YCDC Secretary Col Myint Aung and members, local authorities, members of social organizations and guests.

The opening of Aungsupan tarred road was held at the top of the road this morning. Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the mayor and the chairman of the committee for construction of the facilities formally opened the road and viewed the facility.

Similarly, the opening of Aungsupan and 6th

tarred roads were held in Ward 19. The secretary of Township USDA reported on arrangements for opening of tarred Thitsarshin, Aungsupan, Malar Myaing, Kyaung, Khaing Thazin 1st and 2nd, Nilar and Padamyra roads in Ward 19 and the tube-well in Ward 71.

The mayor reported on the tarred roads in the townships in Yangon City jointly undertaken by the USDA and the YCDC and arrangements for construction of more tarred roads. A local spoke words of thanks.

The chairman of Township PDC reported on progress in constructing tarred roads in Ward 19 and plans for building of more tarred roads. The commander and the mayor gave instructions and fulfilled the requirements.

The opening of the self-reliant tube-well was held at Ward 71. The commander, the mayor and the secretary of Yangon Division USDA formally opened the tube-well.

The commander, the mayor and party inspected the tarring of roads being undertaken by YCDC Engineering Department (Road & Bridge) in Yedashei Lanthit, Bahan Township, Yangon West District and left instructions.

Afterwards, they looked into the Sibinthaya Market in Bahan and stressed the importance of sanitation.

MNA

Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee meets

YANGON, 6 April — The Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee held its 107th meeting at the Road Administration Department (Head Office) in South Okkalapa Township here this afternoon. The meeting was attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth Transport Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present at the meeting were Chairman of the Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee Vice-Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Hla Shwe, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Col Wai Lwin, No 4 Military Region Commander Yan Naing Oo, departmental heads, members of the Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee, local authorities, officials and guests.

On the occasion, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Brig-Gen Hla Shwe delivered addresses.

Next, Secretary of the Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee Head of Yangon Division Wireless and Police Force Lt-Col Aung Naing reported on tasks carried out from January to March in 2004. The officials of subcommittees and departments presented reports sector-wise, followed by a general round of discussions.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe delivered concluding remarks.

MNA

Wellwishers invited for sinking tube-wells

YANGON, 6 April — The Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs are making concerted efforts to sink tube-wells for sufficient safe water in rural areas in States and Divisions where water is scarce.

One 200 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 250,000; one 400 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000; and one 200 feet deep four-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000.

Those wishing to donate cash for the tube-well sinking projects for rural areas may contact the Director-General (Tel: 01-245420 & 253088), the Deputy Director-General (Tel: 01-240118), the Director (Engineering) (Tel: 01-291967), the Directors (Sagaing Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 071-21012), the Director (Magway Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 063-23164) and the Director (Mandalay Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 02-54657).

MNA



Guest Flower

* Of soldier quality, is its appearance Sun shines on it, in different eras Those Fragrant buds, the yellow padauk It's elegance, is carried forth Pride it's companion, the water festival The awaited blooms, out at their best. * As they move into the wind, rushing forward that lingers Fragrance touches the heats, and lingers The sweet smell is spread by the wind Clean and fresh, the padauk flowers Sweet as if sprinkled with scent Its fragrance, pours out unabated. * A passing shower, seems a coming And one feels cool, amid new pretty leaves Tender and young, with emerald green New pretty yellow blooms, that appear As if emerald shawl, was dotted with gold Green and yellow intermixed To create gold and emerald. * Once or twice, as if water fest Was ushered in, the sold overwhelms With pride of place, in mild fragrance As if created out of gold Like golden ornament, tooled by celestial beings Its blooms glitter, what good handicraft the golden padauk, the royal blooms So that they may feel the cold, with "Ata" water "Well welcome you, Guest flower" "Wet and pleasant, you are fresh."

Yan Naing Oo (Trs.)

(Honouring the 1365 Myanmar Traditional Thingyan)

Effectiveness of traditional medicines discussed

YANGON, 6 April — Dr Thein Swe, Director-General of the Traditional Medicine Council, met with traditional medical practitioners who advertise in daily newspapers, magazines and journals, saying that their medicines can cure HIV/AIDS and hepatitis, at the meeting hall of the department yesterday. In his meeting with them, Dr Thein Swe told them if it is certain that their medicines are capable of curing such diseases, sound evidence will be needed to prove it. Otherwise, the people will be under illusion, which will produce ill consequences. He continued careful examination will be made as to their potency to see if the medicines are really effective as advertised, adding that if the drugs are in accord with the advertisements, they will be publicized. He also said that the treatment with the medicines contrary to the advertisements will be banned. In Mandalay on 28-2-2004, Dr Thein Swe also met with traditional physicians who claimed that their medicines were capable of curing HIV/AIDS. — MNA

ကျွန်းမာပျော်ရွှင်ဘဝတစ်ခွင်

ကျွန်းမာခြင်းဆိုသည်မှာ ရောဂါဘယကင်းရှင်းရုံသာမက ကိုယ်၏ကျန်းမာခြင်းနှင့်စိတ်စိမ်းသာခြင်းနှင့် လူမှုရေးသမာ ဖြည့်ဝခြင်းကိုဆိုသည်။

ဘဝတစ်ခွင်ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင်စေရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။

- (၁) တစ်ကိုယ်ရည်သန့်ရှင်းမှုကိုဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
(၂) အန္တရာယ်ကင်း၍ အာဟာရဖြည့်ဝသော အစားအသောက်များကို စားသုံးပါ။
(၃) ပိုမိုကင်းစင်၍ သန့်ရှင်းသောရေကို သောက်သုံးပါ။
(၄) ရာသီဥတုနှင့်လိုက်လျောညီထွေစွာ ဝတ်စားဆင်ယင် နေထိုင်ပါ။
(၅) အသက်အရွယ်နှင့် လိုက်လျောညီထွေရှိသည့် သင့်တင့် မျှတသော ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုကို မှန်မှန်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
(၆) နေ့စဉ်လုပ်ငန်းဆောင်တာများ ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်းကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်မှုကိုပြေပျောက်စေရန် အနားယူပါ။
(၇) ခြင်္အန္တရာယ်မှကာကွယ်ရန် ခြင်္တောင်ဖြင့်အိပ်ပါ။
(၈) ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့်ညီညွတ်သော ယင်လုံအိမ်သာကိုသုံးစွဲပါ။
(၉) အရက်သောက်ခြင်း၊ ဆေးလိပ်ဆေးရွက်သောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ ကွမ်းစားခြင်းတို့ကိုရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
(၁၀) မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးနှင့် စိတ်ကိုပြောင်းလဲစေသည့် ဆေးဝါးများ သုံးစွဲခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
(၁၁) အပျော်အပါးလိုက်စားခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
(၁၂) ရေ၊ မြေ၊ လေ သဘာဝပတ်ဝန်းကျင်နှင့် နေထိုင်မှု၊ အသက် မွေးမှုပတ်ဝန်းကျင်တို့အား ညစ်ညမ်းစေသည့် အပြုအမူများကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Chinese journalists delegation on tour

YANGON, 6 April — The visiting six-member Chinese journalists delegation led by Editor of the Farmers' daily of the People's Republic of China Mr Liu Zhanmian, accompanied by officials of the News and Periodicals Enterprise, made a tour of Upper Myanmar on 4 and 5 April.

In the morning, they visited the Shwezigon Pagoda, the Aranda Pagoda, the Sabbanu Pagoda, the Archaeological Museum and Myanmar Institute of Lacquerware (Bagan). In the afternoon, they visited U Ba Nyein's lacquerware shop and the Lawka Nanda Tooth Relic Pagoda. Later, they enjoyed the beauty of sunset.

Yesterday morning, the Chinese delegation left Bagan-NyaungU for Mandalay, where they paid a courtesy call on Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein.

Next, they visited

the Mandalay Mya Nan San Kyaw Shwenandaw and the Shwenandaw Cultural Museum, where they were conducted round the buildings. In the afternoon, they visited the National Kandawgyi Gardens in PynOOLwin.

Next, they studied construction work at the

Yadanabon Bridge Project in Mandalay. In the evening, the mayor hosted a dinner their honour at the Oriental Hotel in Mandalay and presented gifts to the Chinese delegation members.

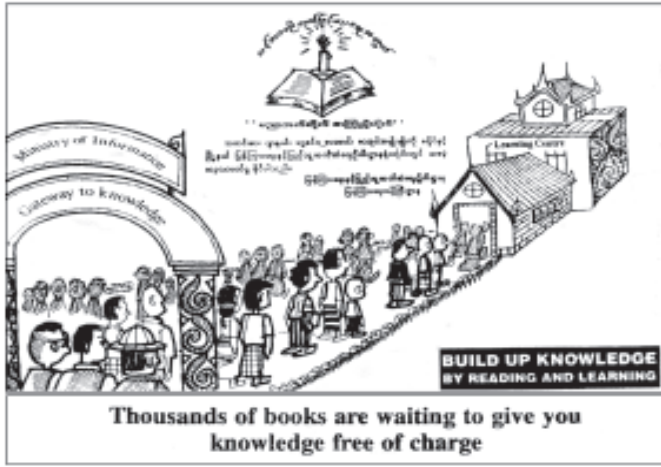
The Chinese delegation members arrived back here this morning.

The delegation visited the Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon pagoda Road here this afternoon. Next, the delegation went to Hlinethaya industrial zone and visited factories.

In the evening, they visited Kandawgyi Garden. — MNA




The Chinese journalists delegation visits the Defence Services Museum. — MNA



ADVERTISEMENT

CAUTIONARY NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that Bristol-Myers Squibb SARL, a French company with registered offices at 3, rue Joseph Monier, 92500 Rueil Malmaison, France, do solemnly and sincerely declare that we are the Owner and Sole Proprietors of the following trade marks in Myanmar.

1. CARBOPHOS
2. DEFALGAN
3. EFFERALGAN
4. GASTRALGINE
5. LUOSTYL
6. NIFLUGEL
7. NIFLURIL
8. NORMOGASTRYL
9. POLYTONYL
10. PRODAFALGAN
11. POLYSILANE
12. PLENYL
13. SEDERGINE
14.  UPSA
15. UPSA
16. EFFERALGAN ODIS
17. PERFALGAN
18. FERVEX

The said mark is used in respect of "Pharmaceutical veterinary and sanitary preparations; vitamins, dietetic substances adapted for medical use, food for babies; plasters, materials for dressings, disinfectants".

The said trade marks are the subject of Declarations of Ownership recorded with the Registrar of Deeds and Assurances, Yangon, Myanmar, in Book under Nos. IV.6037/2003,

- IV.6038/2003,
- IV.6039/2003,
- IV.6040/2003,
- IV.6041/2003,
- IV.6042/2003,
- IV.6043/2003,
- IV.6044/2003,
- IV.6045/2003,
- IV.6046/2003,
- IV.6047/2003,
- IV.6048/2003,
- IV.6049/2003,
- IV.6050/2003,
- IV.6051/2003,
- IV.6052/2003,
- IV.6053/2003,

and IV.6054/2003, all dated 24th October 2003 respectively.

Any infringement or colorable imitation thereof or other infringement of the rights of the said Corporation will be dealt with according to law.

U KYI WIN,
B.Com., B.L.,
for **Bristol-Myers Squibb SARL,**
by its Attorneys
REMFREY & SAGAR
INDIA

Dated: 7th April 2004

Matsushita to invest \$1b in "IT"

TOKYO, 6 April — Matsushita Electric Industrial Co plans to invest about 120 billion yen (1.15 billion US dollars) in the field of information technology (IT) over a three-year period through March 31, 2007, local media reported Monday.

The planned investment will focus on overseas operations, particularly in China, *Kyodo News* said, citing company officials.

Among the investment, 45 billion yen (432.69 million US dollars) will be spent in parts procurement, manufacturing and product delivery, the officials said.

The company has also earmarked about 30 billion yen (288.46 million dollars) for IT investment in product development, testing mass-production as well as integration and reconstruction of its computer systems.

MNA/Xinhua

TRADE MARK CAUTION

TAISHO PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD, a company incorporated in Japan of 24-1, Takata 3-chome, Toshimaku, Tokyo, Japan, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-

LIVITA
Reg. No. 4923/1998



Reg. No. 4924/1998

in respect of "beverages"

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

Win Mu Tin,
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for **TAISHO PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD.**
P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 7 April 2004

Colombia vows to boost relations with China

BOGOTA, 6 April — Colombian Foreign Minister Carolina Barco, who is scheduled to travel to China on 6 April, said her visit is aimed at strengthening political, economic and social relations between the two countries.

In a recent interview with *Xinhua* Barco stressed that for Colombia, the global leadership and importance of a nation like China are vital.

"This visit is of utmost importance for Colombia because we see China as a country of tremendous leadership and importance in the world, where we have been given examples of its economic and social improvements," the minister said.

"We want to strengthen our political ties and be able to carry out common projects related to political, economic

မြန်မာ့ပြန်ကြားရေး

JUNIOR LEADER

အတွဲ (၆) အမှတ် (၃) မြန်မာ့ပြန်ကြားရေး

သတင်းနှင့်စာပေဗဟိုဌာန၊ ဝန်ထမ်းများအတွက် အသုံးပြုရန် ရည်ရွယ်ချက်ဖြင့် ထုတ်ဝေသည်။

The New Light of Myanmar

အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ တိုးတက်လေ့လာရေး ဂျူနီယာလီဒါကို ဖတ်ကြည့်ပါ။
Read Junior Leader to improve your English.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SEA BRIGHT VOY NO (611)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA BRIGHT Voy No (611) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7-4-2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

TRADEMARK CAUTION
LOTTO SPORT ITALIA S.p.A of Via S. Gaviano, 200 - 31044 Montebelluna (Tovise) Italy is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademark -



(Reg. No. A/6138/1996)
In respect of - "clothing articles, belts, footwear, headwear."
All ownership rights of the above trademark have been assigned to LOTTO SPORT ITALIA S.p.A by means of the Deed of Assignment (Myanmar Reg. No. 1/15093/2002) made between LOTTO SPORT ITALIA S.p.A and LOTTO S.p.A, the principal owner of the mark.

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use or other infringement whatsoever of this trademark will be dealt with according to law.

Htein Lin Co (LL B) Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtplaw@mtplaw.com
Tel: 254037 G.P.O Box: 556
Yangon. 7 April 2004

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

NEW DELHI, 6 April — India said recently that 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.

Bilateral trade in 2004 is pegged at 10 billion dollars.

Not only are there 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 here.

"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.

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

Addressing Confederation of Indian Industries, he said that trade will touch 20 billion dollars by 2010 provided there is a change in the export basket and anything additional will be a bonus.

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.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/PTI

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲများတိုးတက်လာ ခိုင်ခံ့တော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Singapore hunts for diabetes cure with stem cells

SINGAPORE, 6 April — With rising affluence and obesity becoming a greater problem in Asia, Singapore has joined the race to find a cure for diabetes using adult stem cells.

Researchers from the National University of Singapore and a local biotechnology company said on Monday they were collaborating on a project to produce insulin-secreting cells from adult stem cells harvested from fat tissue.

“There is a race around the world to develop what we call surrogate islet cells — cells not derived from the human donor pancreas but cells from tissue, from stem cells, which can be coaxed into producing insulin and then transplanted,” said Dr John Isaac of the university’s department of surgery.

Singapore, which has positioned itself as a centre for stem cell research, joins experts in the United States and Europe researching fat tissue in adults as a source of stem cells.

The wealthy island state has one of the highest rates of diabetes in the world, with 9 per cent of adults suffering from the potentially fatal disease compared with 6 per cent

in the United States.

The disease results in the body’s failure to produce insulin and if not properly treated, can lead to heart and kidney disease, stroke, amputations, blindness and death.

The research, with an initial investment of 1.5 million Singapore dollars (893,900 US dollars), would be to examine the use of adipose tissue, but other sources of adult stem cells may also be investigated.

Dr Susan Lim, founder of the biotechnology firm Stem Cell Technologies Pte Ltd, said there was already strong evidence that cells from fat can differentiate into a variety of cell types, including fat, bone and cartilage.

Lim told a news conference that using adult stem cells from patients should pose less controversy than embryonic ones. And with the cells taken from patients’ tissues, immuno-suppressant drugs can also be avoided.—MNA/Reuters

Japan to free Chinese, ASEAN students of visa fee

Tokyo, 6 April — Japan will waive the visa commission charge for some short-term student visitors from China and ASEAN nations, the Foreign Ministry said Monday.

The policy, which came into effect the same day, is designed to promote youth exchange between Japan and other Asian countries, the ministry said.

Based on the regulation, primary and secondary students from China for school excursions and sightseeing university students from Association of South-east Asian Nations members will be exempted from the commission fee of some 3,000

yen (28 US dollars) if their stay is within 90 days.

Japan has freed visas for visitors from Brunei and Singapore and waived short-term visa fee for all travellers from the Philippines.

ASEAN members include Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Vietnam.

China waived short-term visa for Japanese visitors in

September, 2003.

According to the World Tourism Organization, 16 million Japanese travelled abroad in 2002, while Japan only treated about five million visitors. Japan is ratcheting up efforts to realize the goal of drawing 10 million visitors by 2010. Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi crusaded the campaign by starring in a TV commercial.

MNA/Xinhua

Scientists say smoking may lead to blindness

NEW DELHI, 6 April — Smoking does not just make your lungs ineffective but may also make you blind, according to new evidence. How-

ever, awareness about this aspect lags behind, says a report in *British Medical Journal*.

Smoking is associated with several eye diseases that

lead to impaired vision like degeneration of macula (the portion of retina which is important for vision) in old age and nuclear cataract (cataract that has brownish effect and is much difficult to remove), the report says.

Evidence indicates that more than a quarter of all cases of age-related macular degeneration with blindness or visual impairment are attributable to current or past exposure to smoking, it says.

A pooled analysis of data from three cross sectional studies carried out in Australia, North America and Europe, totalling 12,468 participants, indicated that current smokers had a three-fold to four-fold increased risk for this condition, it says, adding smoking was also the strongest environmental risk factor.—MNA/PTI

Pakistani boy treated in India for hole in heart

NEW DELHI, 6 April — The thaw in Indo-Pakistan ties has come as a boon of life for four-year-old Parvez Iqbal, who has become the first Pakistani child to be treated under the Indian initiative to provide free healthcare to children from across the border suffering from congenital heart disease.

Parvez, a resident of Rajanpur District of Punjab Province, was operated upon at the Escorts Heart Institute here to plug a hole between the two lower chambers of his heart, with the Indian Government sponsoring the treatment.

The surgery to plug the hole was complicated as the boy was well past the ideal age of six months for carrying out such an operation.

Landing here on March 16 with his parents, Parvez was operated upon successfully on March 22 by a team of paediatric specialists led by Dr K S Iyer to correct the ‘ventricular septal defect’.

“There was a big hole in

the heart, which ought to have been corrected early in life. The longer the wait, the more traumatic the surgery becomes as due to the hole, blood is pumped to the heart with above normal pressure,” Dr Iyer told reporters here on Friday.

“We were able to carry out a quick, successful surgery,” he said.

Parvez’s father Amir Baksh, who sat nestling the boy in his arms, said the anomaly was diagnosed when his son was three years old and doctors at Lahore Institute of Cardiology told him that the operation could be carried out there, but that it would a high-risk affair.

MNA/PTI

Australian miners may sue over uranium-tainted water

SYDNEY, 6 April — Three Australian miners who drank water contaminated with quantities of uranium feared to have been 400 times above safe levels at a mine majority-owned by Rio Tinto Ltd Plc have hired lawyers to consider legal action.

About 12 miners drank or showered in the contaminated water, which also showed high levels of acidity, on 23 March, after it was mistakenly pumped into drinking and washing water at the Ranger mine 150 miles east of the northern city of Darwin.

“The implications for our future health scares the living daylights out of me,” contaminated mine worker Paul McDonald told local media on Monday.

The mine, operated by Energy Resources of Australia Ltd, was shut down on

24 March when the contamination was discovered but has since been allowed to resume mining, though not processing, while the incident is being investigated.

“We wrote to ERA last Thursday requesting information regarding the circumstances which led to the incident and what steps ERA took in response to that incident to prevent our clients from consuming contaminated water,” lawyer Ben Hardwick, of legal firm Slater & Gordon in Melbourne, said.

“We are providing the

company with an opportunity to tell their side of the story prior to us being in a position to advise our clients as to what legal options are available to them.”

ERA has said tests of the water found “elevated levels of uranium and higher acidity”. “A preliminary assessment shows no need for concern for the small number of staff involved, although the company will continue to monitor the health issue carefully,” the company said in a statement following the contamination.—MNA/Reuters

Floods in northern Mexico kill at least 17

MEXICO CITY, 6 April — At least 17 people died and 50 others are missing after overnight flash floods swept through a town in northern Mexico close to the border

with the United States, authorities said on Monday.

Local television showed images of fast flowing water stranding people up trees and on rooftops in the town of Piedras Negras in the border state of Coahuila, across the Rio Grande from Texas.

Coahuila’s state governor told local radio 17 people were dead and 50 missing in the flooding after the

nearby Escondido River broke its banks due to heavy rainfall.

“The force of the water was incredible and the river overflowed in a few minutes. There was no time to react,” said Marcela Aguirre, spokeswoman for the municipal government of Piedras Negras, an industrial town of around 200,000 inhabitants.—MNA/Reuters

Eleven feared dead in Serbia bus accident

BELGRADE, 6 April — Eleven children were feared dead after a bus taking a party of Bulgarians home from a school trip to Dubrovnik plunged into a swollen river in a ravine in Serbia, police said on Monday.

Fast-flowing waters in the 150-foot deep gorge of the River Lim, in the mountains between Serbia and Montenegro, were hampering rescue efforts by a specialized Army unit and police divers, police said.

The bus from the Bulgarian town of Slistof had 48 children and teachers aboard with a crew of two drivers. They had been on holiday in the Adriatic resort on the coast of Croatia. The bus careered off the road on Sunday evening. Reports said the mountain road was slick with rain.

A police statement carried by BETA news agency said one body had been recovered but 10 children were still missing. A further 22 injured were in hospital in the nearby town of Prijepolje.

MNA/Reuters

France detains 15 in raid over Casablanca bombing

PARIS, 6 April — French police detained 15 people in a raid on Monday, including a number of people suspected of having links with suicide bomb attacks last year in Morocco, judicial sources said.

They said the 15 were seized in a Paris suburb and some were suspected of having links with Moroccan Islamic groups.

“Fifteen people have been detained,” an Interior Ministry spokesman said but gave no other details.

Forty-five people were killed, including the suicide bombers, in almost simultaneous attacks in Casablanca on 16 May last year. —MNA/Reuters



A visitor walks through a tunnel at the China International Clothing and Accessories Fair (CHIC) in Beijing, on 5 April, 2004. The annual fair is the biggest in Asia, according to the organizer.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Wenger wants to keep Bergkamp as squad player

LONDON, 6 April — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger believes Dennis Bergkamp could get a new contract if the Dutchman accepts being a squad player instead of a first-choice striker next season.

The 34-year-old striker's current one-year deal expires in June and he wants another season with a club he helped to league and FA Cup doubles in 1998 and 2002.

However, with Arsenal signing young Spaniard Jose Antonio Reyes as his replacement in January, there is no guarantee of a new deal despite Wenger continuing to pick him regularly this season.

Asked about a new deal for Bergkamp, Wenger told reporters: "Mentally, of course, he deserves it because he has been amazing.

"But you have to consider that, at that age, it's short term. It will depend as well on him. Will he accept that the time comes when he will not be an automatic choice? "You can still be very useful if you can adapt to coming on and making the difference."

Bergkamp has been on form as both a goalscorer and goalmaker this season.—MNA/Reuters

Inter's double over Juventus boosts AC Milan

MILAN, 6 April — Inter Milan beat champions Juventus 3-2 on Sunday, providing a helping hand for their city rivals Serie A leaders AC Milan after they were held to a 1-1 draw at lowly Modena.

Juve's defeat means that with six games of the season remaining AS Roma, who won 3-0 at Lecce, are now the only side with a realistic chance of stopping European champions Milan claiming their 17th Italian title.

Milan's second successive draw leaves them on 69 points with Roma on 60 but with a game in hand. Third-place Juventus are now 10 points behind the leaders.

Winless Ancona were relegated after their 1-0 home defeat to Sampdoria left them

on seven points at the foot of the table.

Inter, who beat Juve 3-1 at the Delle Alpi earlier in the season, completed a rare double to boost their chances of making a push for the fourth Champions League qualification spot.

Alberto Zaccheroni's side went ahead in the sixth minute when Christian Vieri fed Dejan Stankovic on the left flank and the Serb crossed low to Nigerian striker Obafemi Martins who slotted home.

But Juve levelled in the 25th minute when Inter's Argentine midfielder Kily Gonzalez headed a Mauro Camoranesi cross from the right into his own net.

Just before the break Inter were awarded a penalty when Gianluca Zambrotta brought down Stankovic and although referee Pierluigi Collina initially awarded a corner, he pointed to the spot after consultation with his linesmen.

Vieri blasted the ball straight down the middle of Gianluigi Buffon's goal to send Inter in 2-1 up at the break and shortly after the restart Stankovic added the third, converting at the back post after he lost his marker at a corner.

Juventus had Uruguayan defender Paolo Montero sent off for a second bookable offence and although Marco Di Vaio headed home in injury time it was far too late for any sort of comeback at the end of another deeply disappointing display.—MNA/Reuters



Inter Milan's midfielder Francisco Farinos (bottom) vies with Juventus counterpart Stephen Appiah during their Serie A football match at San Siro Stadium in Milan.—INTERNET

First Division Millwall reach first FA Cup final

MANCHESTER (England), 6 April — Millwall reached the FA Cup final for the first time in their 119-year history on Sunday when they beat First Division rivals Sunderland 1-0 in their semifinal at Old Trafford.

Australian Tim Cahill's 26th-minute goal set up a meeting with 10-times winners Manchester United in the final and it also earned the south London club a place in next season's UEFA Cup for the first time thanks to United's qualification for the Champions League through their league placing. Sunderland had their chances but finished with 10 men after Jason McAteer was sent off four minutes from time as Dennis Wise's team became the first club from outside the top flight to reach the FA Cup final since Sunderland in 1992.

United beat holders Arsenal 1-0 in the other semifinal at Villa Park on Saturday with a first-half goal by England midfielder Paul Scholes.

In the May 22 final in Cardiff, Millwall player-manager Wise will be aiming to become the first man to win the Cup with three different clubs, having played in the Wimbledon team that shocked Liverpool in 1988 and then for Chelsea who beat Middlesbrough in 1987 and Aston Villa in 2000.

United have been rated 1-10 favourites to win the Cup — the hottest favourites

since Liverpool in 1988 when Wise's Wimbledon pulled off a stunning 1-0 win.

The 37-year-old Wise's enthusiasm and fighting spirit have epitomized Millwall's effort throughout the competition, though they also had the luck of not having to face a top flight side in any round -- something not done since Bolton Wanderers reached the final 51 years ago. Sunday's match was Millwall's first appearance in the last four since 1937, when, as a Third Division club, they lost to Sunderland.

It was the northeast club who started the stronger at Old Trafford and they almost took the lead after seven minutes when the lively John Oster curled a free-kick against the underside of the crossbar.

Oster and McAteer both shot wide but Millwall got the all-important goal when Cahill struck a well-controlled volley from 10 yards after Sunderland goalkeeper Mart Poom had saved from Paul Ifill.

Sunderland dominated the second half, having been kept in the tie by Poom's fine save from former Sunderland striker Danny Dichio.—MNA/Reuters



Deportivo Coruna's Uruguayan player Walter Pandiani (R) and Betis' Eduardo Tais battle for the ball during their First Division soccer match in Coruna, on 4 April, 2004. The match ended 2-2.—INTERNET

Deportivo title hopes fade after draw with Betis

MADRID, 6 April — Deportivo Coruna effectively waved goodbye to their hopes of winning the Spanish title when they surrendered a two-goal lead to draw 2-2 at home to Real Betis in the Primera Liga on Sunday.

The result means that with just seven games left, the Galicians now trail leaders Real Madrid by 10 points.

Real, who claimed a somewhat fortunate 2-1 win at Albacete on Saturday, lead the table on 67 points from 31 matches, four points ahead of second-placed Valencia, who play basement side Murcia in Sunday's late match.

Deportivo are third with 57 points and Barcelona, who were held to a 0-0 draw at home by Villarreal on Saturday, are fourth on 56 but have a game in hand after last week's match against Betis was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch.

Atletico Madrid took an important step towards secur-

ing a place in next season's UEFA Cup with a 2-1 win at home to Valladolid, a victory that leaves them in fifth place three points clear of Osasuna.

Deportivo got off to a flying start against Betis as they went 2-0 up in the first 20 minutes at the Riazor.

Forward Albert Luque drilled the ball under goalkeeper Toni Prats on 14 minutes after Victor had slipped a pass across the face of the area following a neatly worked counter-attack.

Three minutes later Victor grabbed a goal himself, guiding his shot around Prats from 15 metres after fellow midfielder Aldo Duscher sliced open the defence with a superb first-time pass.

But Betis, who had not won in five outings, hit back before the break when free kick expert Marcos Assuncao, back in the starting line-up after a five-month injury lay-off, arced the ball into the top corner with a spectacular 25-metre effort.

Depor, who seemed to have their minds on Wednesday's Champions League quarterfinal at home to AC Milan in which they trail 4-1 from the first leg, eased up after the break.

They paid the price when substitute Dani bundled in 19 minutes from time after teammate Benjamin had hit the post with a powerful free kick.

MNA/Reuters

West Brom snatch injury-time win at Ipswich

LONDON, 6 April — West Bromwich Albion secured a 3-2 win at Ipswich Town on Sunday with an injury-time goal from striker Geoff Horsfield that put them level on points with Norwich City at the top of the First Division.

Norwich, who came from a goal behind three times to win 5-3 at Burnley on Saturday, lead the standings on goal difference from West Brom with both teams on 76 points.

The top two are 11 points clear of third-placed Sunderland, who have two games in hand after losing 1-0 in their FA Cup semifinal against Millwall at Old Trafford on Sunday.

Ipswich's defeat ended a run of three wins and leaves them in ninth place with 62 points, still only a point behind third-placed West Ham United in the race for the playoffs. Ipswich took the lead at Portman Road

just before the break when Tommy Miller finished a well-worked move from midfield.

It took West Brom until midway through the second half to reply but they then struck twice in quick succession.

Jason Koumas netted the first with a screaming free kick from well outside the area and Lloyd Dyer put them 2-1 ahead two minutes later.

Ipswich striker Darren Bent bundled a loose ball over the line for the equalizer five minutes later and it looked like the home side would secure a point until Horsfield grabbed the winner in the fourth minute of injury time.—MNA/Reuters

Ferguson backs Chelsea to upset Arsenal

LONDON, 6 April — Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson has rubbed salt into Arsenal's wounds by suggesting the Londoners may struggle in their Champions League quarterfinal return against Chelsea on Tuesday.

United ended Arsenal's hopes of a treble on Saturday when Paul Scholes' first-half goal gave them a 1-0 victory over the holders in a tense FA Cup semifinal at Villa Park.

Arsenal, whose Premier League lead was cut to four points after Chelsea won 1-0 at

Spurs, have only three days to recover before the Champions League showdown with Chelsea at Highbury.

Chelsea have not beaten Arsenal in their last 17 meetings and Wenger's team will start firm favourites after the first leg finished 1-1 but Ferguson told reporters: "I think it will be a difficult game on Tuesday night." "I think (Chelsea head coach Claudio) Ranieri is due luck, (after) the season he's had, the pressure he's been under. "I think it's a difficult game for them (Arsenal). I think

they will win the league, I'm sure of that. They should not throw that away, that's a great position they are in there.

"But I wouldn't bet on them on Tuesday night. It's a difficult game. It's not an easy one."

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger was angry at some of United's tackling in Saturday's game which left Spanish striker Jose Antonio Reyes facing three weeks out due to knee ligament damage and Swedish midfielder Freddie Ljungberg nursing a broken hand.

MNA/Reuters



7-4-2004 (Wednesday) (Programme Schedule) Morning Transmission (9:00 - 10:00)

9:00 Signature Tune Greeting
 9:02 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
 9:06 Myanmar Traditional Bronze Casting
 9:10 **Headline News**
 9:12 Ayeayawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-II)
 9:15 **National News**
 9:20 MRTV-3's Thingyan Festival (Thingyan Drizzle !)
 9:30 **National News**
 9:35 Uplifting Health and Fitness for All
 9:45 **National News**
 9:50 The Ancient City of Myanmar (Bagan)
 9:58 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

7-4-2004 (Wednesday) 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 Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
 15:36 Myanmar Traditional Bronze Casting
 15:40 **Headline News**
 15:42 Ayeayawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-II)
 15:45 **National News**
 15:50 Tour in Myanmar "Pathein"
 15:55 MRTV-3's Thingyan Festival (Thingyan Drizzle !)
 16:00 **National News**
 16:05 Uplifting Health and Fitness for All
 16:10 Song "Wonderful Country"
 16:15 **National News**
 16:20 The Ancient City of

Myanmar (Bagan) Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
 16:25 **National News**
 16:35 Safari In Style
 16:40 Naga Traditional Cultural Showroom
 16:45 **National News**
 16:50 SA-LE Monastery Decorated with Handicrafts
 16:55 Vran Naga Harvest Dance
 17:00 **National News**
 17:05 Solar car for energy saving
 17:10 Song "Follow me Let's go"
 17:15 **National News**
 17:20 The beautiful green ice
 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 "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
 19:36 Putao Surrounded by Natural Scenic Beauty
 19:40 **Headline News**
 19:42 Ayeayawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-II)
 19:45 **National News**
 19:50 Golden Mandalay Hill
 19:55 MRTV-3's Thingyan Festival (Dance and be Beautiful)
 20:00 **National News**
 20:05 New, Modernized Myanmar Food
 20:10 Song "Sagawa Flowers Land"
 20:15 **National News**
 20:20 Myanmar Traditional Flower Arrangements (Decoration with Lacquer)
 20:25 Myanmar Modern Song "Two, Together"
 20:30 **National News**
 20:35 Myanmar Tapestry Artist
 20:40 Mong La Says "Bye Bye Opium"
 20:45 **National News**
 20:50 Baungte: My village
 20:55 Dancing Duo
 21:00 **National News**

21:05 Rakhine State Cultural Museum
 21:10 Song "Rice Flowing Like a Canal"
 21:12 An Umbrella For Style
 21:15 **National News**
 21:20 The World's Biggest Book
 21:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
 21:35 Myanmar Traditional Bronze Casting
 21:40 **Headline News**
 21:42 Ayeayawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-II)
 21:45 **National News**
 21:50 Tour in Myanmar "Pathein"
 21:55 MRTV-3's Thingyan Festival (Thingyan Drizzle !)
 22:00 **National News**
 22:05 Uplifting Health and Fitness for All
 22:10 Song "Wonderful Country"
 22:15 **National News**
 22:20 The Ancient City of Myanmar (Bagan)
 22:25 Song "The Art Winning Post"
 22:30 **National News**
 22:35 Safari In Style
 22:40 Naga Traditional Cultural Showroom
 22:45 **National News**
 22:50 SA-LE Monastery Decorated with Handicrafts
 22:55 Vran Naga Harvest Dance
 23:00 **National News**
 23:05 Solar car for energy saving
 23:10 Song "Follow me Let's go"
 23:15 **National News**
 23:20 The beautiful green ice
 23:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

7-4-2004 (Wednesday) & 8-4-2004 (Thursday) Evening & Morning Transmission (23:30 - 1:30)

23:30 Signature Tune Greeting
 23:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"

23:36 Myanmar Traditional Bronze Casting
 23:40 **Headline News**
 23:42 Ayeayawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-II)
 23:45 **National News**
 23:50 Tour In Myanmar "Pathein"
 23:55 MRTV-3's Thingyan Festival (Dance and be Beautiful)
 24:00 **National News**
 00:05 Uplifting Health and Fitness for All
 00:10 Song "Wonderful Country"
 00:15 **National News**
 00:20 The Ancient City of Myanmar (Bagan)
 00:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
 00:30 **National News**
 00:35 Safari In Style
 00:40 Naga Traditional Cultural Showroom
 00:45 **National News**
 00:50 SA-LE Monastery Decorated with Handicrafts
 00:55 Vran Naga Harvest Dance
 01:00 **National News**
 01:05 Solar car for energy saving
 01:10 Song "Follow me Let's go"
 01:15 **National News**
 01:20 The beautiful green ice
 01:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

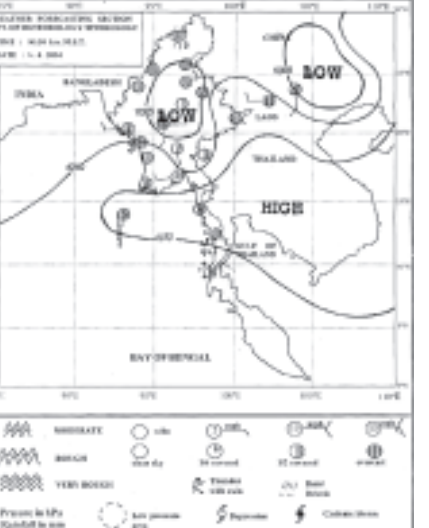
8-4-2004 (Thursday) Morning Transmission (03:30-07:30)

03:30 Signature Tune Greeting
 03:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
 03:36 Putao Surrounded by Natural Scenic Beauty
 03:40 **Headline News**
 03:42 Ayeayawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-II)
 03:45 **National News**
 03:50 Golden Mandalay Hill
 03:55 MRTV-3's Thingyan Festival (Dance and be Beautiful)
 04:00 **National News**
 04:05 New, Modernized

04:10 Myanmar Food Song "Sagawa Flowers Land"
 04:15 **National News**
 04:20 Myanmar Traditional Flower Arrangements (Decoration with Lacquer)
 04:25 Myanmar Modern Song "Two, Together"
 04:30 **National News**
 04:35 Myanmar Tapestry Artist
 04:40 Mong La Says "Bye Bye Opium"
 04:45 **National News**
 04:50 Baungte: My village
 04:55 Dancing Duo
 05:00 **National News**
 05:05 Rakhine State Cultural Museum
 05:10 Song "Rice Flowing Like a Canal"
 05:12 An Umbrella For Style
 05:15 **National News**
 05:20 The World's Biggest Book
 05:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
 05:35 Myanmar Traditional Bronze Casting
 05:40 **Headline News**
 05:42 Ayeayawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-II)
 05:45 **National News**

05:50 Tour in Myanmar "Pathein"
 05:55 MRTV-3's Thingyan Festival (Thingyan Drizzle !)
 06:00 **National News**
 06:05 Uplifting Health and Fitness for All
 06:10 Song "Wonderful Country"
 06:15 **National News**
 06:20 The Ancient City of Myanmar (Bagan)
 06:25 Song "The Art Winning Post"
 06:30 **National News**
 06:35 Safari In Style
 06:40 Naga Traditional Cultural Showroom
 06:45 **National News**
 06:50 SA-LE Monastery Decorated with Handicrafts
 06:55 Vran Naga Harvest Dance
 07:00 **National News**
 07:05 Solar car for energy saving
 07:10 Song "Follow me Let's go"
 07:15 **National News**
 07:20 The beautiful green ice
 07:28 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Area



Wednesday, April 7 View today:

7:00 am
 1. ဓမ္မာနုပဋိပက္ခိယကောသလသုတ္တံ
 2. ဝိပဿနာသုတ္တံ
 3. To be healthy exercise
 7:30 am
 4. Morning news
 7:40 am
 5. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am
 6. အထိပျဉ်း
 8:05 am
 7. ကျောက်ကြီးပေါက်တံတား
 8:15 am
 8. မိသားစုအချိန်အကွဲ
 8:30 am
 9. International news
 8:45 am
 10. Happy and Educational English Summer Course MRTV.
 4:00 pm
 1. Martial song
 4:15 pm
 2. Song to uphold National Spirit
 4:30 pm
 3. မိသားစုအချိန်အကွဲ
 4:45 pm
 4. Song of national races
 5:00 pm
 5. အစားအသောက်အကျင့်အပြစ်များ
 5:15 pm
 6. Classical song

5:30 pm
 7. ဓမ္မာနုပဋိပက္ခိယကောသလသုတ္တံ
 5:45 pm
 8. ဝိပဿနာသုတ္တံ
 5:55 pm
 9. Discovery
 6:15 pm
 10. တောင်အရပ်မြို့တော်များစွေစိုက် (အပိုင်း-၁)
 6:30 pm
 11. Evening news
 7:00 pm
 12. Weather report
 7:05 pm
 13. Strong and healthy Myanmar
 7:20 pm
 14. တေးဂီတအစီအစဉ်
 7:35 pm
 15. ဓမ္မာနုပဋိပက္ခိယကောသလသုတ္တံ
 16. News
 17. International news
 18. Weather report
 19. နိုင်ငံတော်အားလုံးတွင် "အချစ်ဆိုသည့်မှာ" (အပိုင်း-၂၁)
 20. The next day's programme



Wednesday, April 7 Tune in today:

8:30 am Brief news
 8:35 am Music
 8:40 am Perspectives
 8:45 am Music
 8:50 am National news/Slogan
 9:00 am Music
 9:05 am International news
 9:10 am Music
 1:30 pm News/Slogan
 1:40 pm Lunch time music
 -Bring it all back (S Club 7)
 -Give me love (DJ Date)
 -Big big world (Emilia)
 -Baby don't you hurt me (Atomic Kitten)
 Variations on a tune :
 -"Jamaica Farewell"
 -Nina Frederik / Michiko Hamamura
 -Brothers four
 Article/Music
 9:15 pm Weekly sports reel
 9:25 pm Music for your request
 -Eternal flame
 Human Nature
 -Let me be -Britney Spears / Inside thing -Lu Lu + Paul McCartney
 -Don't wanna love you now - BSB
 9:45 pm News/Slogan
 10:00 pm PEL

WEATHER

Tuesday, 6 April, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:
 During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin, northern Shan, Chin and Kayin States, Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in northern Shan State, Mandalay, Magway, Ayeayawady and Taninthayi Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperature was (42°C) in Magway.

Maximum temperature on 5-4-2004 was 36.5°C (98°F). Minimum temperature on 6-4-2004 was 20.8°C (69°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 6-4-2004 was 65%. Total sunshine hours on 5-4-2004 was (9.2) hours approx. Rainfall on 6-4-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, 12mm (0.47 inch) at Kaba-Aye and 3mm (0.12 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 3 mm (0.12 inch) at Yangon Airport and 12mm (0.47 inch) at Kaba-Aye and 3 mm (0.12 inch) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 14 mph from Southwest at (17:30) hours MST on 5-4-2004. **Bay inference:** Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 7-4-2004:** Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin, Chin, Shan and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Ayeayawady 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: Continuation of rain or thundershowers in upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 7-4-2004: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-4-2004:** Partly cloudy.

EARTHQUAKE REPORT
 (Issued at 08:30 hours M.S.T on Today)
 An earthquake of strong intensity (6.6) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside of Myanmar about (2150) miles Northwest of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (03) hrs (59) min (46) sec M.S.T on 6-4-2004.



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt calls on Bangladeshi President Professor Dr Iajuddin Ahmed. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt calls on Bangladeshi President Professor Dr Iajuddin Ahmed

YANGON, 6 April—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt called on President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Professor Dr Iajuddin Ahmed at Bangabahan Presidential House at 5 pm on 4 April.

On arrival at the Presidential House, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party were welcomed by President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Professor Dr Iajuddin Ahmed.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt had a docu-

mentary photos taken together with the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Also present on the occasion together with Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt were 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, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to the People's Republic of Bangladesh U Thein Myint, and also present together with the

President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh were Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr M Morshed Khan and the high-ranking officials. In meeting with the President, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt conveyed a message of good wishes of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe to the President.

After the meeting, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt signed in the visitors' book.

MNA

Bangladesh supports Myanmar's democracy drive and nation-building tasks General Khin Nyunt and Begum Khaleda Zia hold talks

YANGON, 6 April — Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt on a goodwill visit to the People's Republic of Bangladesh held cordial discussions with Prime Minister of the host country Begum Khaleda Zia and party at the Prime Minister's Office in Dhaka on 4 April.

Present at the meeting together with General Khin Nyunt were 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, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and Myanmar Ambassador to Bangladesh U Thein Myint.

After the discussions, the two Prime Ministers posed for documentary photos.

At 3.30 pm, they held a meeting at the same venue. Present on the Myanmar side together with Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt were Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win, Commander Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Min-

ister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Aung, Ambassador U Thein Myint, Director-General of State Peace

and Development Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein, Director-General of Government Office U Soe Tint, Director-General of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office U Myint Thein, Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet and Director-General of Consular, International Law and Treaties and Research Department U Nyan Lin.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia was accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr M Morshed Khan, State Minister for Home Affairs Mr Lutfuzzaman Babar, Minis-

ter for Finance and Planning Mr M Saifur Rahman, Minister for Communications Barrister Nazmul Huda, Minister for Agriculture Mr MK Anwar, Home Secretary Mr Muhammad Omar Farooq, Foreign Secretary Mr Shamsheer M Chowdhury BB, Secretary to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr AHM Nural Islam, Advisor for Commerce Mr Md Barkat Ullah Bulu and Bangladeshi Ambassador to Myanmar Mr AB Manjoor Rahim.

The two sides cordially discussed matters relating to bilateral relations.

During the meeting, the two Prime Ministers cordially discussed means to further strengthen relations between the two countries and enhance bilateral cooperation, especially, in the international issues, trade, and maritime and land transportation.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt explained the seven-point future policy programme of the State and the national development undertakings, expressing satisfaction to see progress in the Myanmar-Bangladesh friendly relations and wish to further extend the scope of bilateral relations and cooperation, and thanking Bangladesh for her role in always supporting Myanmar in the international field.

In her discussions, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia welcomed and supported the drive for the flourishing of democracy in Myanmar.

She said that the goodwill visit of Chairman of the Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe to Bangladesh in 2002 and her goodwill visit to Myanmar in 2003 have helped strengthen friendly relations between the two countries, while expressing belief that the present visit of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt will also promote bilateral relations and

(See page 8)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party pose for a documentary photo together with Bangladeshi Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and party. — MNA